



October 2011

The Flypaper

News and Events from the Rocky Mountain Flycasters Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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RMF Quick Links



Dear Bryon,

It seems I am your president again. At the last general meeting (while I was fishing the Snake with my boys) you voted to change the bylaws to allow a third term for the president. Immediately after the meeting, a special meeting of the Board was called to order by Dick Jefferies, vice president, and I was appointed president for the remainder of the term. I am honored that you all wanted me to continue and will give it my best. In all honesty, the job is not too hard since I have a great board and volunteer leadership team to help out.

Our chapter hosted the Colorado Trout Unlimited (CTU) Fall Rendezvous on October 1. About 30 members from around the state came to Fort Collins and conducted business in our neck of the woods. It always pleases me to see the work the CTU is doing on our behalf and to hear what is happening in other chapters. We had seven of our leaders there and we all took things away from the meeting that we will be able to use. It was reported that the mitigation at Long Draw Reservoir is likely headed back to the courts, and our hopes of restoring a Greenback Cutthroat habitat is riding along. We will begin to consider options that we can accomplish on our own, and hope to make a long standing project in the area. Greenback restoration is still a worthy activity for our chapter, and we'll get the ball rolling. Stay tuned for ways you can help.

I'm stoked about this month's speaker, Bryan Maddox. He's been a teacher for years, and will make a great presentation about fishing in Argentina and Chile. We like to hear about destination trips, and this one is exciting and doable. I hope you can make it to hear what Bryan has to say. Also, we will hear from Eric Gardunio, this year's recipient of the Robert J Behnke Rocky Mountain Flycasters' scholarship. He will speak briefly about his work for his Masters degree.

I hope you've been fishing this fall. It is always the best time

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of the year, even though you'll miss some strikes because you're looking at the fall colors, the blue sky, and gorgeous place we live in.

See you on Wednesday, October 19,

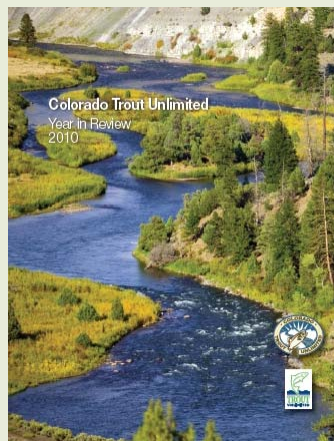
[Lee Evans](#), President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

"I sense that Dad doesn't have to catch fish to enjoy this trip!" ~ Johnny the Guide as we floated the Snake in the shadow of the Grand Tetons and my son caught a big Snake River Cutthroat.

Colorado TU's Annual Report for 2010

Courtesy of [Colorado TU](#)

"Between the energy and involvement of the chapters, the savvy and experience of the state council, and the expertise and dedication of National TU staff, Colorado TU has had a banner year in terms of the number of accomplishments, the rise in member involvement, and the strategic importance of the successes. As you read this year's annual report, I hope you feel some pride in being a part of this success, because it certainly does not happen without you." Sinjin Eberle, President, Colorado TU



Founded in 1969, Colorado TU is Colorado's leading non-profit, grassroots sportsmen's conservation organization providing a voice for Colorado's rivers. Colorado TU leverages the power of its 10,000 members from 23 chapters who contribute over 55,000 volunteer hours annually to restoration, education, and advocacy, equivalent to the power of a full-time staff of 26.

[Click here to read Colorado TU's Annual Report for 2010.](#)

Youth Programs Coordinators Needed

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

RMF has multiple youth programs established, and continues to receive requests from community organizations for additional RMF involvement. RMF hopes to develop a leadership team to work together and to oversee each of the following youth programs as coordinator. Dennis will continue as Youth Chair, supporting the Coordinators. Please contact Dennis via [email](#) or telephone (970-372-9229) to discuss possible interest.

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) - Eric Pettine has

Dennis Cook

Ed Cady Estate

Eiscapes - Ken Eis

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Lee Evans

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volunteered to assist as TIC Coordinator for the 2011-'12 Windsor High School TIC activity. "Thank you!" Eric.

Youth Day Camp (YDC) - The YDC Coordinator will help with set up preparations, and will participate throughout the 2012 Day Camp activities together with the Camp Director and staff. We're hopeful to appoint a fulltime Day Camp Director as early as for the 2013 Camp.

Fort Collins Boys & Girls Club - The LBGC/FC Coordinator will assist in preparing for and presenting (along with other volunteers) the six-session, 2012 April/May classroom & outdoors curriculum, and also with probable field trips to a hatchery, river bugs collection and/or fishing destinations. The B&G Club provides staff, presence and van drivers.

CSU Fly Fishing Club - The CSU/FFC Coordinator will assist establishing rapport by occasionally representing RMF at CSU/FF Club meetings or activities, and encouraging members to participate in RMF activities. The Club is newly reformed after a five-year hiatus, and RMF is hopeful that we can be helpful providing some continuity to increase chances for the Club to continue uninterrupted across future school years.

Day for Kids Festival

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

The Larimer Boy's & Girls Clubs Festival was held September 17th at the Centerra Shopping Mall, which provided more space for exhibits and attendees. "Many Thanks!" to RMF volunteers, Dennis Martin, Dick Jefferies, Wil Huett, Cullen Emsing and Dennis Cook. A good time was had by all, and as the photo shows...everybody, including the Colorado Ice Mascot 'Glacier', got into the act!



Windsor Charter Academy Presentation

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

Lee Evans presented a discussion of "Fly Fishing vs. Spin Fishing, plus Rules, Regs and Ethics" to a group of about 30 middle school students in Lisa Eastin's environmental class at [Windsor Charter Academy](#). The students were all given a copy of the DOW's fishing regulations and spent some time learning how to use the pamphlet. Some in the group had fished with a flyrod and others expressed a desire to learn. The group went to the Poudre Learning Center a few days later and met with DOW (now CPW) folks who helped the kids fish. Each kid was given a complete spinning rod. Some of these students expressed an interest in RMF's Youth Camp.

Trout in the Classroom (TIC)

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

[Windsor High School](#) will again participate having a [TIC](#) program during the 2011-2012 school year. They have selected their student team that feeds the fish, samples daily water chemistries, performs daily tank cleaning



and other related activities...and the eggs are scheduled to arrive on Thursday, October 13th! We look forward to another exciting program year and developing more TIC curriculum content that emphasizes natural habitat and conservation awareness.

Nominating Committee

[Dennis Cook](#), Nominating Committee Chair

The annual Chapter Board of Trustees elections will take place at our May 16, 2012 meeting. The Board of Trustees consists of the four elected officers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer), the Immediate Past President, and two Trustees at Large. The President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary offices, and also the two Trustees-at-Large, are re-electable every year.

President Lee Evans will complete his maximum three terms, so we will need a successor nominee for that position. Based upon our awareness at this time we expect the Vice President to be available to succeed into the Presidency, which will create a vacancy at Vice President.

The Nominating Committee is inviting members who may want to discuss an interest for any of the Board positions (either for 2012 or a future time) to contact a member of the Nominating Committee as early as possible before March 14, 2012.

RMF's recently revised bylaws that include Board of Trustees position descriptions can be downloaded as a [PDF file](#) or viewed on the [RMF website](#).

Nominating Committee members:

[Dennis Cook](#)

[Lee Evans](#)

[Stephanie Mullins](#)

[Bob Streeter](#)

OHV "Ride Right" Pledge

[Dennis Cook](#)

Your Rocky Mountain
Flycasters Board
approved signing onto

a sportsmen's coalition pledge supporting TU's "OHV Ride Right" campaign. Both extremes within the OHV community are active and vocal on the issue, and TU's Sportsmen's Conservation Project recently started this coalition campaign and pledge initiative as a means for average sportsmen to be heard and active in the issues regarding ORV/ATV access. The campaign is doing PR work, educating, and seeking others' sign-ons for TU's work of habitat protection, and has about thirty other groups signed already. The major issues will be enforcement of regulations and ways to identify those who break the law with their ORVs/ATVs.



[Click here for more information.](#)

Poudre Headwaters Native Trout Recovery Project Update

[Dave Piske](#), Conservation Chair

The October 2010 edition of this newsletter carried an article headlined: "Historic Water Settlement on Hold for Poudre River Headwaters". A tempting headline for today's update might be, "This Glacier is Not Melting". But the better part of the news is that it is moving ahead, albeit some aspects more slowly than others.



The best of the better news is that, for the second consecutive year, detailed stream surveys in the headwaters streams of the Poudre have continued on schedule and the field work has progressed well. U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist Chris Kennedy says:

"The focus of the work in the Long Draw area over the last two years has been to locate and map areas where fish reside or may reside during a reclamation project. This part is almost complete with over 23 miles of stream in the Poudre River, Chapin Creek, Hague Creek, Hazeline Creek, Mummy Pass Creek and Willow Creek watersheds being investigated. In addition water flows, pH readings and fish disease testing have also been conducted on most waters within the project area. The main focus for next year will be

time of travel studies to determine the amount of time it takes water to flow down these streams."

These stream surveys have produced minutely detailed data on stream flows and GPS-based location and dimensional data describing the Poudre headwaters streams. These databases are essential lead-ins to more detailed project planning for restoration and stabilization of a native cutthroat trout population in the upper Poudre watershed.

The surveys conducted by Chris were made possible with the assistance of many volunteers from Rocky Mountain Flycasters and Alpine Anglers chapters of TU. Your "thank you for your help" greetings when you see these volunteers at RMF meetings or elsewhere will certainly be appreciated by: Dave and Josie Dargatz, Caitlin Davis, Leonard Ewy, Garrett Hanks, George Lederle, Stephanie Mullins, Dave Piske, Psyche Spangler, Guy Turenne, Scott Vanderveer, Stan Woodring, and especially Phil Wright who also was the coordinator in recruitment of these volunteers.

Moving at a much slower pace are the regulatory actions that would enable the native trout recovery project to progress into an implementation phase. The pertinent regulatory instrument is a new Water Facility Easement to be issued by the U.S. Forest Service (FS). Upon payment of annual land use fees and compliance with numerous other terms and conditions specified in the easement, the Water Supply and Storage Company (WSSC) would be authorized to continue to operate and maintain the expanded Long Draw Dam and Reservoir located on FS land. WSSC is an irrigation water supplier to farmers on the plains in Larimer and Weld Counties. The principal regulatory issues include the terms and conditions by which WSSC would mitigate environmental damages to La Poudre Pass Creek that a Federal Court upheld as being caused by expansion of the Long Draw Reservoir some years ago.

Following the Federal Court's decision, the FS issued an Environmental Impact Study and a Decision that identified the native trout restoration project as the preferred mitigation for the environmental damage. Although both WSSC and TU supported that mitigation, they also found serious deficiencies in the way the project was ordered to be implemented.

[Click here to read the full press release.](#)

[Click here to read more about the Long Draw Reservoir controversy.](#)

Subsequent to the FS Decision issued on September 2, 2010, WSSC and TU each filed appeals through separate administrative channels within the FS. Both of those appeals were rejected by the FS Rocky Mountain Regional office and the 2010 Decision was upheld. On September 12, 2011 the FS sent WSSC a draft Water Facility Easement that contains numerous terms and conditions substantially the same as those in the Decision that was appealed by WSSC and TU.

As of this date, the ball is now in WSSC's hands as to what the next move will be.

Bills in Congress Threaten Local Trout

[Dave Piske](#), Conservation Chair

Two bills now being considered by U.S. Congressional Committees, if passed into law, would undermine existing protections of backcountry areas in Larimer and Jackson Counties.

The local impact of passage of these bills into law would be a significant degradation of trout habitats and populations in our nearby fisheries. More broadly, these bills would remove current restrictions on building new roads within more than 41 million acres of Forest Service and Bureau of Reclamation lands throughout the western United States.

The Federal lands so threatened include Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRAs) within National Forests administered by the U.S. Forest Service and Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) administered by the Bureau of Reclamation. These lands are now protected from new road building and new development by the [2001 Roadless Conservation Rule](#). The bills now under consideration, [H. R. 1581](#) and [S. 1087](#), both titled Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act of 2011, would undo those existing restrictions.

Locally, in Larimer County, the affected IRAs include Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest lands adjacent to the Cache la Poudre Wilderness and Comanche Peak Wilderness Areas, plus IRAs in the vicinity of Greyrock, Hewlett Gulch, Stevens Gulch, and along the North Fork of the Poudre River. In Jackson County many of the WSAs are in North Park.

Removal of the road building and development restrictions currently in place would no doubt be seriously detrimental to the trout habitats both within and downstream of these now-protected areas. Stream sedimentation from road construction and subsequent maintenance (or lack thereof), and particularly from unpaved roads, is known to be a major cause of trout habitat and population degradation. Studies have shown the negative effects on trout range from stress, to altered behavior, to reductions in growth, and even to direct mortality.

As a trout angler you have good and sound reasons to be concerned about passage of H. R. 1581 and S. 1087 into law. Currently, these bills are being considered by Congressional committees for introduction to the full houses of Congress. Your Congressman, Representative Cory Gardner, is not a member of the considering committee, and has not taken a position on the proposed legislation. However, after meeting with Rep. Gardner's local staff, they are now aware of the concerns of RMF TU and Colorado TU and our opposition to the bills as written. If H. R. 1581 is referred to the House floor for action, it will then be in your

personal interest to make your opinions known to your Congressman.

The bottom line today is: stay alert and stay tuned for information on the progress of H. R. 1581.

Youth Education and Outreach

Courtesy of [National TU](#)



One TU Report of Youth Education and Outreach

We are proud to present a new report of all the types of youth education and outreach work done by TU across the country. More than 60 councils, chapters, and staff shared their efforts, which have been captured in this 38-page document. The shared stories and ideas are truly inspiring! In each of eight sections, the basic program described, and then vignettes and lists detail all the variations that already exist. Maybe a shared program add-on or modification will be a perfect fit for your chapter or council as well? Take a look! [You can read the report in the Tacklebox](#). The eight program areas described are:

- Stream Explorers Membership
- Trout and Salmon in Schools
- Meaningful Watershed Education Experiences
- Fishing Education Programs
- Summer Conservation Youth Camps
- Working with Scout Troops
- TU's Five Rivers College Program
- Public Outreach Events

This is a living document. Over this year, the NLC youth workgroup is working to define the core values of TU youth education, which will be added to the report. In addition, if your chapter or council does some type of program that is not yet described, please contact [Rochelle Gandour](#) to let her know. Eventually, this document will become better integrated into the website, and navigable via links. Through the rest of this fiscal year, we'll be featuring highlights from the report and specific aspects of TU's Headwaters Youth Education Program. In each month's edition of *Lines to Leaders*, look for the youth section!

Got content? Thank you for taking the time to read our monthly newsletter. Your suggestions and comments are always welcome and can be sent to the [Editor](#). We also welcome your content and fishing stories!



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