



ROCKY
MOUNTAIN
Flycasters
30 Years



October 2013 Edition

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Greetings and happy fall to all,

I hope I am not understating the obvious but, "Enough Already". Fires, floods!! Can pestilence and plague be far away? I will reserve comment about hordes of locust because fly fishing people have mixed opinions about gigantic bugs.

With complete sincerity, Rocky Mountain Flycasters extends our heartfelt sympathy to anyone who suffered loss during last month's floods. Even before floodwaters receded, RMF and TU representatives were in contact with various agencies, organizations and individuals to discuss ways in which TU can assist with any necessary ecological restoration following the floods. At this time there is no definite information to share but we will keep our membership informed as we process through the recovery and restoration process.

On a brighter note, don't forget the general meeting next week. It will be an evening of Tenkara. I know it will be very entertaining and informative! Also you might want to mark on your calendar the 20th of November, our annual guest night. We are extremely excited to present an evening with noted author, fly tier and all-around fly fishing guru, Ed Engle! You don't want to miss this program and it will be a great time to invite a guest, or two, or three, or

Tight lines everyone !

[Dick Jefferies](#), President
Rocky Mountain Flycaster

[Chapter Event Calendar](#)

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PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

[Brad Kiehne](#), Program Director

October 18 Membership Meeting

Our speaker/presenter for the October 16 membership meeting will be our own Adam Omernick, Owner of Zen Fly Fishing Gear and [NoCoFlyFishing.com](#). Adam is a Federation of Fly Fishers Certified Casting instructor and the 2013 Rocky Mountain Flycasters Youth Camp Camp Coordinator. He will speak about and demonstrate "Tenkara".

Tenkara what? This fly fishing method was specifically designed by professional fishermen in the high mountain streams of Japan and is perfect for our rivers here in Northern Colorado. It was made to be streamlined, efficient and easy to transport. The traditional fly used with a tenkara rod is called a *kabari* fly and is tied with a minimum of materials. With the gear down to a minimum the focus then becomes the presentation of the fly. A 12 foot rod yields easy drag-free drifts and is perfect for pocket water. Come cast some rods, check out the gear, see the flies and experience what tenkara fishing is all about.

The program begins at 7:00 PM at the senior center. Come early (6:30) to watch Ben Zomer tie *kabari* flies and for conversation.

2013 RMF Fishing Trips: "Let's Go Fishing"

You can still sign up for the remaining 2013 fishing trips by email or phone. These are our last two trips of the year, so get out there and catch a few!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Waters</u>	<u>Host</u>
Oct. 19	Colorado River Main Stem: "Trout Potourri"	Mark Miller
Nov. 9	Big Thompson Canyon: "Bows-Brownies Bash"	Mark Miller

2014 RMF Fishing Trips

Listed below are some trips we hope to take in 2014. Please consider joining us for some fun and exciting fishing. You can sign up for trips at our monthly meetings, or by email or phone. How better to ensure you get in all those fishing days you want, than to start planning them now. And who better to fish with than RMF friends, both old and new. So take a look below and "get started"! For the convenience of those who might be familiar with all of our scheduled destinations, descriptive information about these waters is also provided.

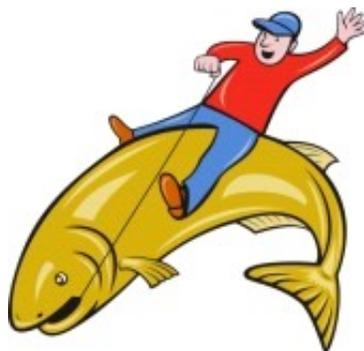
As you can see from the preliminary schedule, we do need some volunteers to act as Trip Hosts. If you have been to one of these areas once or twice, you qualify! As a Trip Host, your duties would simply be to arrange a meeting place and time, and possibly carpooling for the longer trips. Oh yeah, and duty number one is to keep the rest of us from getting lost—it is that simple!

Additionally, if anyone would like to host a trip elsewhere, please feel free to let me know and I will add your trip to the list. Contact: Mark Miller at flytyer.miller@gmail.com or 970-744-8229 (cell).

<u>Date</u>	<u>Waters</u>	<u>Host</u>
March 28	Upper Poudre	Mark Miller
April 12	Middle Poudre	Host Needed
April 25-27	Gray Reef/North Platte Float Trip	Mark Miller
May 17-18	Lake John	Host Needed
June 14	Laramie Plains Lakes	Frank Cada
June 21	Joe Wright Reservoir	Host Needed
July 12	Lake Agnes	Ben Zomer
July 19	Encampment River Wade Trip	Host Needed
August 9	Blue Lake Indian Peaks	David Morse
August 16	Colorado River Headwaters	Dennis Cook
September 20	Blue River	Host Needed
October ??	Poudre Canyon	Ben Zomer
November ??	Cheesmen Canyon	Mark Miller

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Fall 2013: Trout in the Classroom Coordinator Needed



This fall RMF will have two TIC projects happening...a repeat at Front Range Community College, and a new installation at Rocky Mountain High School.

Timing is perfect! We need a volunteer now (or even two can share the role) to understudy RMF's two projects with Dennis throughout this next school year...and then handle the project(s) after that. Most activity takes place mid-afternoon when school is letting out.

It's really an enjoyable activity - neither difficult nor highly time consuming - and like me you'll

probably learn a lot of interesting fishy stuff. Peak involvement (a couple partial days) occurs during project startup; then it becomes maintenance during the school year with a day at the end overseeing cleanup of the equipment for summer storage.

Contact Dennis Cook 372-9229 or rkymtnangler@Q.com if you even think you might be interested and want to discuss what's involved in more detail...and then either decline or come aboard.

YOUTH OUTREACH

[Dennis Cook, Coordinator](#)

Event Report: Trout in the Classroom

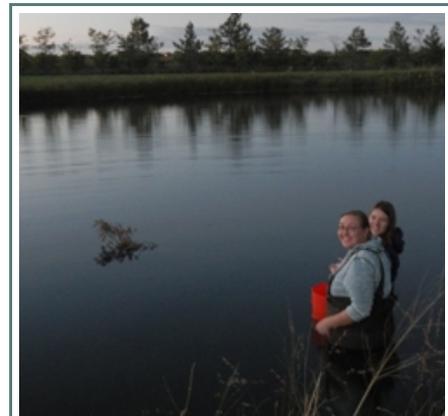


Instructor Heather Dannahower with TIC Crew

The Front Range Community College Career Pathways high school class completed its Trout in the Classroom project Monday evening, September 23rd. Twenty eight months old rainbow fingerlings between 1.88 to 3.25 inches length remained alive and healthy after having enjoyed extended life during the summer, and were released at Swift Ponds southeast of Fort Collins. The fish were transported in a bucket equipped with a battery powered air bubbler to enrich the water with oxygen to a pond where the class had constructed a small in-water habitat.

Before release, the bucket water had to be warmed from its approximately 55 degrees to about the same temperature as the 67 degrees pond by gradually adding more pond water. Tempering the bucket water took longer than expected, and it was well toward dark before two students dressed in waders could carry the bucket into the pond and release the fish close to the habitat.

After cleaning the equipment this year's new Career Pathways high school class will also conduct another TIC project, and eggs are expected to be delivered around mid-October.



Crew Members Wade into Pond to Release Fish

Event Report: Day for Kids Festival



September 21st was a beautiful Colorado Saturday, and nine RMF members opted to spend part of their day volunteering to support Larimer Boys & Girls Clubs 'Day For Kids' Festival. This is RMF 4th year of participation. "Thank you" to this year's volunteers Bruce Rosenthal, Alan Jones, Dick Jefferies, Cullen Emsing, Milt Mays, Bob Streeter and Dennis Cook, and also to fly tiers Jake Ruthven and Mark Miller. More than 500 youths enjoyed the festival and the free admission for the new Discovery Museum. This years RMF booth expanded its entomology exhibit and added a fishing pond for toddlers.

CONSERVATION NOTES

[Dave Piske](#), Coordinator

Major Poudre River Improvement Receives Funding

A grant of \$300,000 from the Colorado Water Conservation Board to the Colorado Water Trust, was awarded by unanimous consent of the CWCB on September 24. The grant will provide funding for removal of a major barrier to fish passage in the Poudre River just upstream of the North Shields Street bridge.

The Colorado Water Trust and the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department are partnering to remove the Josh Ames Diversion dam, a six-foot-high bank-to-bank concrete barrier, unused for any beneficial purpose since 1960. To read the full story of the need for removal, and the resultant improvements in fish passage, aquatic habitats, riparian wetlands, and flood water management, go to

www.fcgov.com/naturalareas/pdf/nsp-dam-project.pdf

The Josh Ames removal project is one of more than 25 ongoing and planned Poudre River improvements within the Natural Areas Department's Poudre River Improvement Program.

TU Chapters Coordinate Flood Recovery Plans for Coldwater Fisheries

On October 4, representatives from four Front Range Trout Unlimited chapters and guests from several involved government agencies met to explore coordinated strategies and objectives for participating in the restoration of trout fisheries and related resources that were damaged during the September floods. The major streams involved include Boulder Creek, St. Vrain River, Big Thompson River and Cache la Poudre River.

Colorado TU Executive Director David Nickum chaired the meeting. Contacts with Colorado state government and federal agencies have been initiated, and their assessments of flood damages will provide guidance on priorities, substance, and estimated costs of restoring trout-related resources in those four watersheds.

Specific post-flood actions for TU chapters will be determined as damage assessments become available and potential funding sources are better clarified. The urgency of certain restoration actions was identified. The need for coordination of TU chapter efforts was identified, and Colorado TU is taking the role of the central office for such coordination.

Citizen's Inputs Sought as Colorado Officials Tackle Intractable Puzzle

The puzzle, simply stated, is: Given a limited amount of water that Mother Nature supplies to Colorado, what's the best way to utilize that supply to meet the needs of diverse stakeholders and a population expected to double in size by the year 2050?

It's generally conceded that the needs for water will exceed supplies long before the year 2050 arrives. And there is a growing realization that changes to Colorado laws will likely be needed as part of a solution to the puzzle.

Recognizing the need to find a solution, Governor Hickenlooper has decreed a new Colorado Water Plan is to be completed by the end of 2014. Locally on September 28, State Senator John Kefalas and Assemblyman Randy Fischer sponsored a public forum seeking inputs from local citizens and organizations as the legislators consider new laws yet to be proposed. Five members of Rocky Mountain Flycasters' leadership team attended the forum. The forum included a panel of five persons representing diverse viewpoints of vitally interested stakeholders. The Trout Unlimited panelist was Drew Peternell, Trout Unlimited's director of the Colorado Water Project.

Drew described TU's five "Core Values" successfully employed in West Slope water issues. He suggested they are similarly appropriate in developing a state-wide water plan. A description of TU's Core Values can be seen at: www.ourcoriver.com, then click "Core Values" on the home page.

Summarized, TU's Core Values are:

- Cooperation, not conflict among all affected interests.
- Protect Colorado's quality of life, including healthy, flowing streams.
- Modernize aging irrigation infrastructure to conserve water used in agriculture.
- Explore innovative new ways of managing water resources.
- Leave water in its natural basin and do not create new trans-basin diversions.

GIVE US YOUR BEST SHOT

We're always looking for pictures germane to fly fishing, rivers, lakes, and watershed conservation, volunteers doing that work, fly tying, sharing fishing with youngsters and others, so the options are varied. Most suitable would be local with RMF members, but some other destinations will be considered. Having permission to publish on our website will be implicit for submitted photos so make certain you have permission from anyone in your pictures.

Photographers will be acknowledged in a caption with the picture so rush those pictures in. Send your pictures to webmaster@rockymtnflycasters.org.

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