



November 2011

# The Flypaper

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

### Table of Contents

[Holiday Party -  
December 9, 2011](#)

[Defend the Upper  
Colorado](#)

[Trout in the  
Classroom - Windsor  
High School](#)

[Youth Coordinators  
Opportunities](#)

[Recap of 2011  
Conservation  
Activities & Outlook  
for 2012](#)

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### Dear Reader,

I need your help. We are having Guest Night Wednesday, November 16 at our regularly scheduled meeting. We need guests. I am asking each of you to bring one or more guests to this meeting.

We take the November meeting each year to talk about what Rocky Mountain Flycasters and Trout Unlimited are all about with the hope of getting new members who also want to help with the conservation, restoration, and protection of cold water fisheries and their watersheds.

This meeting is shaping up to be another great evening for all of us. Our speaker, Bill Edrington, is very well known in the state and beyond for his contributions to trout. He is the owner of Royal Gorge Anglers, is a fantastic guide, and is the author of many books and articles. You've read his Let's Go Fishing articles in CTU's High Country Angler. He will be talking about fishing the Arkansas, and he is the expert on that river. We are pleased to have him speak at our meeting.

We will also hear a short report from Connor Murphy about his experiences as a competitor in the International Fly Fishing Tournament at Vail this past summer. Connor is a student at Fossil Ridge HS and is very active in our chapter.

Any person who joins TU at this meeting will get 5 free raffle tickets. The introductory rate to join is only \$17.50.

I'm looking forward to meeting you and talking a bit about what we're all about. Please plan to attend, and bring a friend.

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Thanks for all you do,

Lee Evans, President  
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

P.S. Some upcoming dates you should have on your calendar are December 9, our annual Holiday Party, January 18, learn about Czech nymphing to increase your catch, and February 15, our annual Fly Tying Expo and Silent Auction.

*If I'm not going to catch anything, then I'd rather not catch anything on flies. ~Bob Lawless*

## Holiday Party - December 9, 2011

[Lee Evans](#), President

Please make plans to attend the RMF Holiday Party on Friday, Dec. 9 at C.B. & Potts on West Elizabeth. We will start socializing at 6:30, eat from 7:00 to 8:00, then have the white elephant gift exchange and drawings for the fly trees and the rod.



Cost this year will be \$15.00 per person and everyone will get heavy hors-d'oeuvres from the C.B. & Potts kitchen and raffle tickets. We ask that you bring a few flies to put on the trees as we will raffle two trees this year. If you wish to participate in the White Elephant exchange, bring a wrapped white elephant gift. (Who will go home with the UGLY Fish?!?) Because of our larger attendance, please bring only one gift per couple. We always have a great time at these parties, and it is especially good to meet and socialize with our significant others.

In order to better predict the amount of food to order, we ask that you order your tickets online via our website. We will send an email out early next week with all of the details. I really hope you all can attend!

## Defend the Upper Colorado

Courtesy of [Colorado TU](#)

Soon, 80% of the Colorado's water could be diverted from its headwaters to the sprawling cities and suburbs of the Front

Range. Only a trickle would be left for fish, wildlife, recreation and the small headwaters communities. We need your help to make sure that the needs of the Colorado River are met before any more water is taken.



[Join the fight to protect the Colorado and Fraser rivers and our Colorado way of life.](#)

Here's four simple ways that you can get involved:

1. [Like Defend the Colorado on Facebook >>](#)
2. [Visit the website](#) and sign the petition to Defend the Colorado
3. [Follow @DefendTheCO on Twitter >>](#)
4. Forward this email to friends and family who love the Colorado River as much as you do.

## Trout in the Classroom - Windsor High School

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

170 Bellaire rainbow strain eggs arrived October 13th by FedEx and the TIC student team had the tank, food and supplies all in readiness for counting and handling. The eyed eggs arrived in a Styrofoam container packed in



ice. Seven of the eggs were dead so the remaining eggs were placed into the hatching basket and the tank was darkened for hatching. The eggs hatched the last few days of October, into tiny sac fry referred to as alevins (see basket inset photo) and on the 26th were released to dive and hide among the gravel on the tank bottom where they fed on their sacs until they surfaced seeking food on the 31st, and began being fed very fine granular fish food. Nineteen eggs and fish are known to have died during the hatching basket and gravel phases, so currently there are 144 approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$ " long remaining living fish. The TIC student team has been trained to take water samples, run water chemistry tests, observe fish behaviors and record their findings in a detailed daily log manual.

## Youth Coordinators Opportunities

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

Members interested in discussing opportunities to be part of the various youth chapter programs listed below, please contact Dennis Cook at 970-372-9229 or by email.

- Youth Day Camp
- Trout in the Classroom
- Fort Collins Boys & Girls Club

## Recap of 2011 Conservation Activities & Outlook for 2012

Dave Piske, Conservation Chair

Two snowfalls during the past two weeks added emphasis to the realization that our conservation activities at the higher elevations have ended for another year. It was a fruitful set of projects that RMF volunteers can be proud of accomplishing.

During 2011 RMF added three new projects that are expected to continue during 2012, and continued to support three long standing activities. New projects were formal adoption of grounds and stream cleanups at Narrows Park (Larimer County); trail maintenance at Gateway Natural Area (City of Fort Collins); and collection of waste fishing line from receptacles along the Poudre River within the City of Fort Collins.



RMF volunteers also continued to support the US Fish and Wildlife Service biologist assigned to Rocky Mountain Park in conducting field research on greenback cutthroat trout populations within the Park, and also in conducting pre-restoration surveys on the headwaters of the Poudre River and its tributaries in the northern section of the Park. These surveys are in anticipation of a long-term project to restore native trout to these streams during years to come. Additional similar surveys will be conducted during 2012.

Alternating-year annual stream cleanups of the Big Thompson and Poudre Rivers continued with this year's stream being the Big T downstream of Drake. Upstream of Drake, cleanups are conducted by Alpine Anglers TU based in Estes Park. In 2012, RMF's river cleanup will focus on the Poudre Canyon.

RMF volunteers also continued to help maintain the trails along the North Fork of the Poudre within the Phantom Canyon Preserve of The Nature Conservancy. This is a long-standing cooperative project that is expected to continue well into the future.

Many kudos to all the volunteers who contributed their time and labor to these activities during 2011.

If you missed participating during 2011, and would like to volunteer for any of these projects during 2012, each activity will be publicized in the Flypaper and on the web-site as the time for it approaches.

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