

# The Flypaper

September 2021



A LEADER IN COLDWATER CONSERVATION

Renew Membership

Volunteer

Join RMFTU

## From the President

### In-Person Meeting, September 15:

Our first chapter meeting of the fall will be at the Northside Aztlan Community Center (NACC) in Fort Collins, September 15, Wednesday, starting at 6:30 p.m.

About 90 of our members responded to our recent survey, and the great majority indicated they have been vaccinated and would like to meet in person. Our new meeting location is the **Northside Aztlan Community Center** (NACC), 112 E. Willow Street, in Fort Collins (see article below for more information). Abundant parking is available behind the main building. The road to the parking lot is just east of the main building. Please enter the front door on the south side of the building and come to **Eagle Rooms 1 & 2** down the hallway to the right.

A highlight of the evening will be our featured speaker, **Danny White**, a chapter member many of you may know, who will be speaking about his work on his PhD fisheries project at Colorado State University (CSU). Additionally, **St Peter's fly shop** will have a short presentation on Fall fly fishing alternatives in northern Colorado since the Poudre river is in pretty rough shape.



If you would like to attend but have not been vaccinated, I encourage you to please wear a mask. Those who have been vaccinated do not need to mask, but feel free to do so if you wish. I will

also ask the Community Center to spread out the seating so we don't feel like a bunch of sardines.

A word of caution: as you surely know, the Covid Delta variant has raised its ugly head with a vengeance. In late August, northern Colorado ICU beds were 95-100% full at all four hospitals. New data suggest that Delta is 30–60 percent more transmissible than the Alpha variant. So we all need to be careful and take the right precautions. We are and will continue to monitor all health-related information and guidance from the Larimer County Health Department and City of Fort Collins and will send you an email update before September 15, if things change. As of today, we plan to meet in person!

It will be great to see your friendly faces again!



### **Volunteers are our strength:**

In my article last month I said that every time I volunteer, it fills me with enthusiasm and hope for the future.

Well, it happened again two weeks ago while volunteering on the Big South project (and many thanks to **Dick Jeffries** for all his work to organize the Big South project and get volunteers). On two days I had the pleasure of hiking, fishing and working with some of the

most positive, upbeat, and passionate people that I've ever met. *(Photo above; Volunteers fishing the Big South Fork of the Poudre River during USFS fish survey).*

And let me tell you, the going was not easy. To reach one section of stream we climbed in and out of a very steep canyon, which included climbing over downed timber in a heavily burned area. Another section of stream required a 3 mile hike one way to reach our designated sampling area, again hiking through some severely blackened burn areas.

Some of the volunteers were longtime members of Trout Unlimited and Rocky Mountain Flycasters. At least two volunteers were brand new members, and several volunteers were not members but were just as passionate about conservation and so happy to be helping with the Poudre Headwaters Project.

Many, many smiles were seen, many fish were caught, weighed and measured, and many of the volunteers said they were really excited to help in the future.

Other volunteers assisted **Dr Kanno** (CSU professor) with fish survey work in the Poudre Headwaters, Upper Big Thompson and Upper Colorado River basins, over a five day period in August. The project involves studying how the Cameron Peak Fire has changed stream environments and whether and how trout populations have been affected.

And more volunteers are helping with our Stream Temperature Monitoring project led by **Phil Wright** (thank you Phil).

So, like I said last month, every time I volunteer, it fills me with enthusiasm and hope for the future. And this project was no exception!

**Thank you to our volunteers.** With your passion for conservation, you make great things happen!

### **Fort Collins Poudre River Fest – Sat Aug 21<sup>st</sup>:**

Six of our trusty RMF members staffed our brand new booth at the annual River Fest in Fort Collins. This was our first in-person event (held outdoors) in a long, long time. It was really great to meet lots of conservation minded people and get the chance to tell them who we are and what we do, to include lots of discussion about the Poudre Headwaters Project (PHP).

You can see our Kiddie Fishing Pond in the lower left-hand corner of the photo. It was a huge hit with the little ones. After they caught a fish or two, they received a prize of a little bag of Goldfish crackers. Lots of fun!

Many people seemed excited about the idea of reintroducing our native Greenbacks back into their original range in the upper Poudre headwaters. I hope that some of this excitement will mean new members, or new volunteers in the future.

Many thanks to those that staffed our booth: **Colin Glover, Mickey McGuire, Dennis Cook, Marty Leeke, Paul Bunker, and Mark Miller.**

### **Trek the Thompson- October 2<sup>nd</sup>:**

This year, for the first time in recent memory, we have the opportunity to participate in the Trek the Thompson event organized by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (more information and website link in the article below). This is a major fundraiser for the Coalition and we are sponsors of the event. The event will take place **October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 am to 12 noon** and will include seven education stations spread from the Old Fairgrounds Park to the Rivers Edge ponds. As people walk along the path between the stations, they will receive a playing card and at the end will receive prizes for the poker hands they can muster. In other words, a family-friendly poker run.



We hope to offer fly casting lessons for those interested, and of course, talk about the Poudre Headwaters Project.

This effort will be led by **Mickey McGuire**, our past president (thanks Mickey!). Mickey has agreed to organize our brand new RMF booth which will be at the Fairgrounds Park itself. We will need at least four people to help, more would be better. To volunteer please email Mickey McGuire at [m McGuiremr@gmail.com](mailto:m McGuiremr@gmail.com).

### **Here's a Great Quote from Hatch On-line Magazine:**

Love it. Love your time on the water. Love the fish you catch. Feel the passion; revel in it. Recognize that you are blessed to spend time on the stream, and that fishing for trout is about as cool a thing as you can do. Honestly, the more you love it, the better you'll get - and the better you get, the more you'll love it.

Oh, and don't forget to fight for your trout fishing. If you cherish the places you fish, and the trout you love, then it's time to stand tall. Fight for our rivers and streams, and vote for politicians who will protect our fisheries and leave something wonderful for future generations. It's the very least we can all do (and nobody does it better than Trout Unlimited)!

### **Opportunities to make a difference!**

We still have several leadership opportunities, as listed below. Motivated chapter members are sorely needed to help us keep moving forward. Together, we can make good things happen!

1. Chapter Historian needed
2. Membership Committee chair-person needed
3. Leadership Development Committee chair-person needed
4. Trout in the Classroom volunteers needed – 3 positions available

That's it for this month. Hopefully we will have our typically beautiful Fall weather, and have time to fool some fish with our fly rods while the aspens turn yellow and gold. So, get out there and make September a great month!

Mark Miller  
President, RMF  
[president@rmtu.org](mailto:president@rmtu.org)



## New Location for Chapter Meetings



### New location for chapter meetings in 2021 - 2022, beginning September 15

The Northside Aztlan Community Center (NACC), 112 E. Willow Street in Fort Collins is the new in-person meeting location for Rocky Mountain Flycasters (RMF). Our 7 monthly chapter meetings (the 3rd Wednesday of each month), the holiday event December 15, 2021, and the annual Fly Tying Expo, February 16, 2022 will be held at this new location

(website: <https://www.fcgov.com/recreation/northside#cb-29611-5600>) .

The NACC replaces the Fort Collins Senior Center to expand our space, to help facilitate greater attendance, and to encourage more and younger members to participate in our Chapter's monthly events. The NACC is centrally located relative to the distribution of RMF membership in NoCO and has free parking behind the facility, adequate rooms for monthly chapter meetings and the holiday event, a kitchen for staging meals, and a large (3-court) gymnasium space for our Expo — all in the same facility.

(photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fortcollinsgov/sets/72157665424173069/>).

Dave Beede, vice-president of RMF



## Temperature Monitoring Project



The **Rocky Mountain Flycasters Stream Temperature Monitoring Project** held a mini Workshop on August 23, 2021. **Mike Andrews, Ryan Hogan, Mike Kehl, John Koss, and Tony Popp** received training in the field on Pennock Creek and Fish Creek during a mini Workshop led by Dennis **Cook and Phil Wright** (photo left). The group's visit to Pennock Creek to download data and repair the sensor installation went well. The Pennock Creek sensor site is outside the Cameron Peak Fire burn area. However, Fish Creek is adjacent to the burn area and the site was heavily impacted by a recent debris flow. The sensor installation could not be located and

was likely underneath debris or flushed away. The sensor at Fish Creek is likely not going to be recovered. A future decision will be made on whether to install a new sensor on Fish Creek. I would like to thank the volunteers who received and provided training on August 23 at the mini Workshop.

We have visited 16 of our 26 temperature sensor sites so far this field season. The sites visited in 2021 are Trap Creek lower, Sheep Creek (above Eaton Res.), Panhandle Creek, George Creek, Cornelius Creek, Fall Creek (Chambers), Sawmill Creek, North Fork Joe Wright Creek, Beaver Creek, Pennock Creek, Fish Creek, Seven Mile Creek, Gordon Creek, Roaring Creek, East Fork Roaring Creek, and Williams Gulch. These sites include some of the highest priority sites that we wanted to visit early in the field season to repair and/or replace installations in the Cameron Peak Fire burn area.

We have several remaining sites to visit including some that are a priority owing to the Cameron Peak

Fire. If you would like to visit a temperature sensor site, please email me at [philwright@ieee.org](mailto:philwright@ieee.org) so we can arrange to handoff equipment and match you with a partner if needed.

The Fall 2021 data retrieval push will commence in late September and continue into October. During that period after stream temperatures have begun to fall and before ice in, we want to retrieve stream temperature data from all monitoring sites. This will require visiting 26 sites in a relatively short time period. If conditions (such as covid, etc.) permit, we would like to organize the volunteers into teams based on the sensor site location groups.

It has been suggested that we organize a rally type of event over a few weekends (weekdays would be ok also). Remember that fall is a good time to swing streamers, so you may want to plan on combining stream temperature data retrieval with some fishing this fall. I would like to ask folks to volunteer to be location group leaders to direct operations at specific sensor site location groups. If you would like to volunteer to lead a sensor site location group please email me at [philwright@ieee.org](mailto:philwright@ieee.org). More details of the fall data retrieval plans will be forthcoming.

See you on the stream – *Phil Wright*



## Conservation News



**Big South Angling Survey** – A big shout out of thanks to everyone that volunteered to help with the Big South Angling Survey. A great turnout created some good data for fisheries managers to use as they work on completing Poudre Headwaters barrier designs. Many anglers worked hard to catch fish and most were successful! Monitors worked even harder to help the USFS staff record weight, length and species of the fish that were successfully caught.

Four angling categories (single day results) will be awarded. They are:

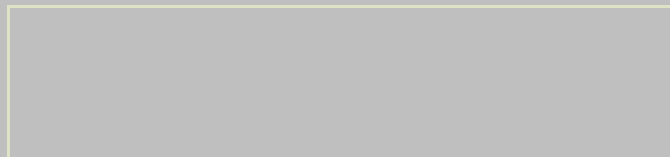
***Most Fish caught and recorded; Biggest Fish (Brook Trout); Biggest Fish (Other than Brook Trout); Smallest Fish (because it is brookie water).***

We want to specifically recognize the monitors for their extra effort – **Rylee Aksamit, Alex Breeden, Shane Brubaker, Adam Havens, Cat Johnson, Mickey McGuire, Mark Miller, Tony Popp, Bill Rosquist, Nick Ross, and Phil Wright.**

A tip of the RMF cap goes to multi-day volunteers: **Mark Miller, Jason Sagen, Colby Sterling, Eric Swanson, and Matthew Wynalda.**

To the remaining angling volunteers: **Parker Applegate, Rob Bartell, Andrew Bumpas, Dan Crego, Cory D'Antonio, Matt Davis, Greg Davisson, TC Dinkins, Jim Drobnick, Yvonne Fromm, Jay Harlan, Kevin Heimann, Mike Kehl, Kenny Kesting, Josiah Kinch, Patrick McCray, Patrick Nelson, Chan Park, Nick Parks, AJ Patti, Patrick Philbin, Mike Pilla, Skip Pitts, Jason Sagen, Jason Slotter, Travis Smith, George (Austin) Stamper, Jack Stamper, Colby Sterling, Eric Swanson, Rod Traff, Liam Wood, and Matthew Wynalda;** you and the monitors caused the Big South Angling Survey to be a successful data collection project for the US Forest Service and, in doing so, have helped us take one more step forward towards restoring the largest-ever Greenback Cutthroat Trout fishery in the history of Colorado.

To all of you, our thanks!





Many of you sent in pictures and those pictures can be found [here](#). Enjoy!

### Post-Fire Fish Survey

**Dr. Yoichiro Kanno** and his team have completed their survey of streams that could have been impacted by last year's Cameron Peak Fire. This is our third year of working with Dr. Kanno in his ongoing research efforts that will provide critical information about trout habitat and more specifically, his outcomes will be used as part of the overall research that is guiding implementation of the Poudre Headwaters Project. Dr. Kanno's research this year was specific to selected streams that could have realized impacts from the Cameron Peak Fire. We would like to extend our thanks to this year's field volunteers who assisted Dr. Kanno and his team in their efforts.



Volunteers this year were: **Dennis Cook, Gary Fornay, Kevin Sheehan, Eric Swanson and Kristin Whitten**. We had one additional volunteer that had to cancel last-minute due to illness and we hope for a speedy recovery! To all of you from us at RMF, thank you! We couldn't do what we do without your 'boots-on-the-ground'!



### Rocky Mountain National Park

**Chris Kennedy**, with the US Fish And Wildlife Service, continues his main Summer project and needs more volunteers to complete it. The project is on Upper Ouzel Creek and will involve electrofishing to remove the fish that are present prior to restoring native federally threatened native Greenback Cutthroat trout. These projects are multi-day, pack-in/ pack-out trips. If you are looking for an end of summer outing, this work will take you to some of the most beautiful areas

in Rocky Mountain National Park. Chris needs about five people per day and the remaining weeks are: September 7-10 and September 13-16.

The campsite for the duration of the project is right below the Upper Ouzel Creek campsite (5.5-mile hike with 2500 feet of elevation gain). Volunteers will be helping by netting stunned fish, collecting data and other miscellaneous activities. You will be responsible for all your own personal gear (camping, food, raingear, etc.) and you will need disinfected waders and polarized sunglasses as well. Mules are scheduled the first day of each week (9/7 and 9/13) as well as a final pack out on 9/16. The mules can pack some of your personal gear (camping gear, food, waders, etc.).

If you would like to assist on this project, please reach out directly to Chris at [chris\\_kennedy@fws.gov](mailto:chris_kennedy@fws.gov)

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### **Poudre Headwaters Capture and Mark**

We need volunteers to assist biologists in capture, mark and relocate project! US Forest Service and US Fish and Wildlife staff will provide any needed training on site. Following up on the recent data collected during the Big South Angling Survey, USFS and USFWS biologists will collect more localized data regarding Brook Trout above the Poudre Headwaters lower barrier.

This project will involve electrofishing, data recording, tagging and relocation of Brook Trout. Access to the project area will be from Long Draw Road. Register [here](#) for any of the days available and additional information will be provided to you as it becomes available. This critically important data helps the Lower Barrier Design Team finalize the design prior to construction. Personal items needed will be: decontaminated waders and wading boots, polarized sunglasses, lunch, water, sunscreen, rain jacket, appropriate layers, and other items necessary for personal comfort during the day.

[Register Here for Poudre Headwaters Capture and Mark](#)

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### **Big Thompson Restoration Coalition**

Volunteers are still needed for the Cameron Peak Fire recovery effort in the Big Thompson drainage. Several dates are available. You can find the information, and register at: [https://www.nocovolunteers.org/need/detail/?need\\_id=590840](https://www.nocovolunteers.org/need/detail/?need_id=590840)

[Register for Big Thompson Restoration Coalition](#)

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# BIG THOMPSON WATERSHED COALITION

PRESENTS



SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 2ND  
9AM TO 12PM

FAIRGROUNDS  
PARK IN  
LOVELAND

WALK - LEARN - WIN

PHOTO CREDIT: CITY OF LOVELAND

Your Rocky Mountain Flycasters (RMF) Chapter of Trout Unlimited is an integral part of the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition. We are proud sponsors of Trek The Thompson, a fundraiser for the Coalition that will be held Saturday October 2 from 9:00 am – noon. This is a family event that will have several learning areas as you walk from the old Fairgrounds Park in Loveland to the Rivers Edge Ponds on First Street. At each station, you will receive a playing card and your poker hand may receive one of some really nice prizes! RMF will have a station at the Park, and if you are interested in helping out, please let **Mickey McGuire** ([mcguiremr@gmail.com](mailto:mcguiremr@gmail.com)) know. We could still use a few folks. If you want to learn more about this event or to register go to: <https://www.trekmanadventures.com/trek-the-thompson-event.html>

Hope to see you there!!

Trek The Thompson Information and Registration



## Youth Day Camp Director

RMFTU has an excellent opportunity to leisurely transition into this exciting position. The 2020 and 2021 Camps were cancelled out of COVID-19 caution, and the 2018 & 2019 Camp Coordinator relocated back to New England, so we have an opening. This presents a relaxed opportunity to prepare everything for the 2022 Day Camp. We're seeking a member to lead the camp for at least several years who enjoys high school age youths, loves fly fishing, and who will coordinate with and perhaps enlarge the core team. Routine involves creating publicity and managing applicants, administering schedule, and recruiting volunteer mentors and guest presenters. All this has been done before and good records exist, so much is repetition, update and refinement, plus there is a previous Day Camp Coordinator and also numerous members and leaders who are familiar and will be supportive and very willing to help the selected person.

The Day Camp is a fast paced six days of education, participation, and great fun. We'll learn how to fly fish, and also about responsibility for the watersheds, riparian habitat, river ecology, and the trout. Other topics include fly fishing equipment, knots, regulations, water safety, local and regional conservation issues, invasive species, entomology, trout anatomy and behavior, and casting and line control.

Please contact **David Haeusler** for more information.

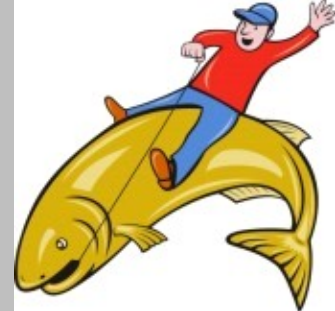
David Haeusler





## Trout in the Classroom Program Coordinator

RMF's TIC Coordinator is part of RMF's Education Committee team led by Committee Chair **Dave Haeusler**. RMF's current TIC Coordinator retires at the end of the incoming 2021-2022 schoolyear, and this opportunity provides overlap for the incoming TIC Coordinator(s) to get up to speed. It's also possible that up to three TIC Coordinators can train to job-share with each having responsibility for a designated school. Colorado TU also provides virtual training and a comprehensive TIC Manual covering all necessary information and instructions.



Trout in the Classroom is a teacher led, conservation-oriented, environmental education program in which students raise rainbow trout from eggs to fry while monitoring and controlling water quality chemistry and engage in a variety of stream habitat studies, projects and some also in field activities. RMF provides the equipment and supplies and provides support including any requested guest speakers and field activity leadership. Our objective is to help students appreciate water resources, begin to foster a conservation ethic and learn to understand ecosystems. School activity begins in mid-late August and most programs conclude by releasing their trout in a state-approved nearby stream or watershed. Each school's program is unique and tailored to fit the teacher's curriculum needs. TIC Coordinators assist the teacher to set up the tank, consult regarding teachers' questions, occasionally visit the school to confer or address the class, facilitate acquisition of necessary supplies, and provide encouragement with programming suggestions, etc.

TIC has been a large part of Rocky Mountain Flycasters youth program since 2010 and there are approximately a dozen other Colorado chapters that also sponsor TIC programs. This fall RMF Chapter will support TIC tanks in science classrooms at Windsor Junior High, Severance Junior High and Greeley West High School. There are more than 800 Trout in the Classroom installations across the United States.

Interested chapter members are encouraged to visit <https://coloradotu.org/trout-in-the-classroom> for more information about Trout in the Classroom and its virtual training program, and also to contact either Education/Youth Committee Chair **Dave Haeusler** [d.haeusler@gmail.com](mailto:d.haeusler@gmail.com) and/or current TIC Coordinator **Dennis Cook** [rkymtnangler@gmail.com](mailto:rkymtnangler@gmail.com) to learn more about this opportunity before deciding if you wish to proceed.



## Member Profile

### Meet Ryan Laudermilch

I'm one of the many East Coast transplants who couldn't get enough of Colorado after my first introduction. I moved to Fort Collins in April of 2020 with my wife, Amanda, and daughter, Laney. In 2021 we added Nathan as the first Colorado native in the clan. A career move into construction management for Risk Removal, an environmental services company in Timnath, helped get the family here fulltime after several visits over the years.

Growing up in Hershey, Pennsylvania, I was lucky to have access



to some stocked streams and solid smallmouth bass fishing in the Susquehanna River and its tributaries. On summer vacations in North Carolina, I would disappear for an entire day to hike a cast net and surf rod to the end of the island. Catching baitfish, shrimp, all sorts of creatures in a cast net was a fun, physical task that still piques my interest since first starting it 20 years ago. Sacrificing a couple baitfish was the cost of hooking bluefish, drum, and even some unknown monsters that spooled a medium-heavy rod with 20-pound test.

Flyfishing seemed impossible, but after being gifted an 8-weight rod for fishing the backwaters of the North Carolina coast, I was intrigued by the constant movement and mystique of the cast. Knowing nothing about the sport my dad took me to some guy's house to buy a few flies he tied and get some tips. A while later I came to learn the flies were Clouser minnows and the guy with

the shop was the inventor, Bob Clouser. I've pulled the remaining Clouser originals from the rotation, but still find success with the pattern on still waters.

My first introduction to the Rockies was the summer of 2008 when I was hired as a hiking guide at the Cheley Camp in Estes Park. My day job was to lead campers through the Rocky Mountain National Park and the surrounding area. That summer I racked up ~400 trail miles in the RMNP. These days I move a bit slower while showing the family my favorite hikes and hidden gems in the park. During a weekend trip that summer I discovered Fort Collins (and New Belgium) and it was decided that the city would someday be my new hometown.

After spending my 20s as a rowing coach in Pennsylvania, I developed a fishing habit with all the access to water. Class A trout streams were on my way to work while coaching the Penn State Crew. Later in grad school I consulted for the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission. The countless interactions with flycasters formed my opinions on how to be a better steward of coldwater fisheries and lead me to TU. Tying flies and catching trout while pursuing fish on the narrow streams soon became a constant obsession.

Casting on Northern Colorado rivers and streams has been a very rewarding experience after learning on finicky Pennsylvania trout. Fishing the Poudre and RMNP provides entertainment for the whole family. Anymore, my three-year-old expected an entomology lesson is expected by my three-year-old whenever we approach a stream. While the fishing expeditions have slowed, the family and I still get out for some riverside hammock hangs and hikes where casting a fly line can still be the main event.

Coming into the Fall of 2021 I will be the Raffle Coordinator for RMF. **Jeannie Weaver** and the fundraising subcommittee have set up an excellent raffle program I look to continue at monthly general meetings. We are always looking for gear that can be used as raffle prizes to help fund RMF conservation efforts. Please reach out if you'd like to contribute.



## RMF Receives Donation

### Generous Donation from the William Austin Estate

Rocky Mountain Flycasters greatly appreciate the generous donation of Fly Fishing Equipment from the **William Austin Estate**, former Endangered Species Coordinator for the National Park Service in Fort Collins. The donated equipment included Fly Rods, Fly Reels, Fly Line, Leaders, Tippet Materials, Fly Tying Equipment & Tools, Flies, and Fly Fishing Vests & Packs. This equipment will be put to good use in support of our Adult Education & Youth Outreach classes and summer camp.



## From the Editor

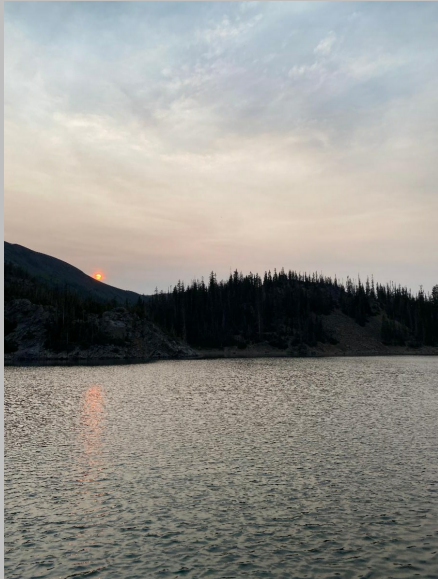
### Deadline for articles now the first of each month.

My former life as a teacher ran by calendars and clocks. When I started as the newsletter editor, I reverted to "teacher mode" and set the publication target as the first day of each month. Unfortunately, this created a moving deadline at the end of the previous month for our contributors. To standardize the submission process and make life easier for our contributors, all future deadlines will be the first of each month. Look for monthly publications during the first week of each month rather than on the first. Thank you to our newsletter contributors - keep the articles coming!

Dave Handshue  
Editor - The Flypaper  
[news@rmftu.org](mailto:news@rmftu.org)



## Vince Herrera's St. Peter's Fly Fishing Report for September



August was a tough month. Not only for the fish but for us anglers as well. With a combination of the landslide that took place in Poudre Canyon and the amount of low water and hot temperatures that have settled into the Front Range we have been scrambling to find some new waters to fish. Hopefully we all had the chance to go up to some high alpine stillwaters and streams when it got too hot down here in Fort Collins. We only have a couple of more weeks before it starts to cool down in the high elevations so try to get up to a lake before it's too late. These seasons come incredibly quickly and when it is about mid-September some of these lakes will begin the process of fall turnover where fish will push deep in order to stay warm during the winter. Needless to say the high lakes and streams have been phenomenal lately but now that we arrived in September, our options will begin to open up again when the daily temperatures begin to drop. In just the last couple of weeks I have had the chance to meet some of you guys in person.

I did not know at the time that you read my article every month and I just wanted to say thank you for including me in your monthly updates. I'm glad I can be here to help.

Mornings and Evenings are still going to be the game plan for targeting the most active trout. I like to imagine that it's their time to eat breakfast and dinner but it's honestly just because the water is cool once the sun stops exposing them from above. Fish like a cool environment where they are not easily seen by predators but can easily access food. The sunlight will expose these fish so they will find areas with protection from above. Once they establish this spot they will continue to feed. If you are out from the hours of 10am-5pm look for places like overhanging trees, shade, submerged rocks, and logs. These locations offer fish the protection they need with constant food until the sun changes angles and then they can spread out and feed in several spots. This is a great time of year to wrap up dry-dropper fishing and dry flies rigs too. Nymphing will always catch fish anywhere but we can do that all winter. You'll want to look at being fully equipped with flies like the Tilt Wing PMD #14, Film Critic PMD #14-16, PMX #16, E/C Caddis #14, Chubbies #16, and The Ext. Body BWO #16-18. These are the flies that I rely heavily on to catch some fish during the last few weeks of summer. I don't carry many nymphs but I will make sure to have things like Tickets #14, Poxyback PMDs #14, Micro Girdle Bug #16, Mini Leeches, Split Back Shady BWOs and Thin Mints as my droppers. You will regularly see the caddis larvae and pupa, BWO, and PMD nymphs this time of year. The leeches will give the fish a high protein

meal before winter so they will actively be on the hunt for larger meals. The Blue Winged Olives will get you through those cool morning/evening hatches while the PMD's and Caddis will be flying around during the afternoon. This is a smooth transition into fall. Like when you have to use your heater in the morning but your A/C in the afternoon. Fish might see small bugs in the morning but they know to hold tight to banks in the afternoon for when the small hoppers and caddis come out. Trout are a lot smarter than what we think and they are probably smarter than us when it comes to being on the water. That is part of the beauty when it comes to fly fishing. Aside from catching a fish, fly fishing is a never ending process of learning. Whether it be streamer fishing, dry fly, or nymph fishing there is always other rabbit holes to jump into. I promise.

We are coming up to the end of the summer season and still have the opportunity to get new folks invested with our Intro to Fly Fishing Course (\$125) and Fly Fishing School (\$150). The intro class will be 4 hours long in a classroom setting learning the fundamentals and basics of fly fishing. Fly Fishing School is an 8 hour day with 4 hours in the classroom and 4 hours in Poudre Canyon applying the concepts on running water. Our final dates of the year for Intro to Fly Fishing are set on Sunday September 12th and 26th. The last FFS classes will be Saturday September 11th, 25th, and October 9th. We hope to see some new faces. A large portion of successful fly fishing is knowing exactly what the fish are eating. This can make or break your day on the water. I remember there was a time where I was putting anything on my line just to catch nothing and it was because you have to use the correct offerings during certain times of the year. On September 4th you will have the opportunity to learn about and see trout food up close in our On the Water Entomology class. This is probably my favorite part about fishing. Once you know these insects you will want to look for them everytime you go fishing. Going to new water will be that much more exciting and sometimes I don't know whether to fish or flip rocks. I highly recommend this class if you are looking to improve your fishing skills. It's 75 dollars and you'll feel so confident when you get to the water. The European Nymphing Rig has really started blowing up along the front range. I will admit it is a deadly technique for fishing as well as other methods of nymph fishing and I have studied this method of fishing for a number of years. If you are looking for a way to not only clear the air but also improve your nymphing skills we have a class on September 11th in Poudre Canyon. I will cover everything from what a nymph is to setting up your rig to have success on the water. This class is fun and we'll get some time to fish and ask questions. If you are looking to sign up you can call the shop. The class is \$100 and it fills quickly!

That'll do it for the month of September. Please holler if you have any questions. If we are in the shop, our satisfaction comes from teaching and watching you guys progress so never be afraid to stop by or ask questions. We can only do so much in the shop but you can depend on us to always be here with answers. Catch you guys out there!



## Upcoming Events

[RMF Calendar](#)

**First Thursday** Pub & Dub

**September 8** RMF Board Meeting

**September 15** General Membership Meeting



## RMF Merchandise

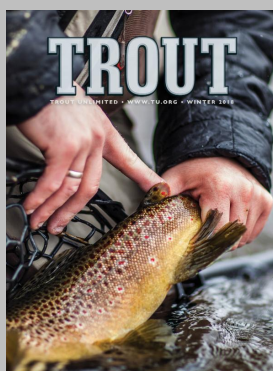
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