



September 2016

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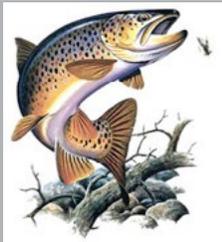
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RMF Quick Link



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From the President

Elk are bugling; geese are beginning to form up for their southward migration; evenings and morning are discernably cooler and the trees are taking on a bit of color. Yes, fall is on its way. It's my favorite time of year in the mountains. However, fall also signals the return of our monthly chapter meetings.

I hope you will join us again on Wednesday, September 21 for the first meeting of the new season. Shayna Jones and Tracy Wendt of the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition will be sharing information on current and future projects for river and habitat restoration as well as update on access via Highway 34. RMF is working on grants for two major Big Thompson Canyon projects in the near future.



Coy Wiley, 2016-2017 President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

From my perspective, RMF has three overarching areas of activity: conservation, fishing and education. We've been at the forefront of conservation activities in recent years because of the fire and flood damage to our watersheds. This will continue to be a high priority. Fishing trips have always played an important role in our chapter and that was how I was first introduced. We've done an exemplary job in fishing education with youth through our day camp and other campus activities both with public schools and CSU. However, we realize we've done little to help our own RMF members further their own fly fishing skills.

So if you are new to our sport and need some instruction, guidance, a tune-up or maybe a mentor, get ready, it's coming. Domingo Rodriguez, along with several other seasoned fly fishers are heading up a wide variety of instructional opportunities including casting, fly presentation, nymphing techniques and fly tying. These opportunities are free to all RMF members.

We realize that our local fly shops also offer detailed classes and guide services. Our aim is not in anyway to be in competition with them. We encourage you to take advantage of all they have to offer and give them complete support as they are integral to our community.

Thank you for all you do and I look forward to seeing each of you at the September meeting.
Coy Wylie, President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

[Chapter Event Calendar on our web site](#)



Filling up the Calendar

Our calendar pages are some of the most frequently visited on our web site. Wouldn't it be great to see your own pictures displayed there? There are many opportunities for months into the future. Pictures that are well-lit, in focus, on TU topic, and a minimum of 530 pixels wide and 400 pixel in height. Send a copy of fishing or conservation-related pictures to:

[Paul Wehr, Webmaster](#)



Welcome Back!

We are particularly pleased to have Shayna Jones and Tracy Weld from the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition as our first program of the year. Shayna is the Watershed Coordinator and Tracy is the Assistant Coordinator. The date is Wednesday, September, 26 at 7:00 AM.

The Big Thompson Watershed Coalition is a non-profit organization that facilitates projects and partnerships to restore and maintain the resilience and ecological health of the Big Thompson River. Our partners include CDOT, Larimer County, the City of Loveland, countless private landowners, and many agencies and organizations who are also concerned about the well-being of the watershed.

Shayna and Tracy will be discussing generalities of our work - What is river restoration? What is resilience? - as well as describing some of our specific projects. One of our goals for the watershed is to restore habitat for fish and aquatic life, and we'll be talking to RMF about some of the things we are doing to accomplish this. Recently, RMF and the Coalition were awarded funds to reconstruct the fishing pier in the canyon. We are excited to partner with your organization on this and to discuss more ways we can work together in the future.

Shayna was hired by the Coalition in June 2015 and has been responsible for laying the groundwork for the projects currently underway - from fundraising to planning to building relationships with project partners. She has a long history working on conservation issues in Colorado, including endangered species issues and stream and wetland mitigation.

Tracy has worked on river restoration projects in Wyoming and Montana and as a fisheries technician on the Blackfoot and Clark Fork Rivers. She has been involved with Trout Unlimited as an employee, a board member, a volunteer, and a long-time member.



Domingo Rodriguez, Program Chair and RMF Trustee

As always, social hour begins at 6:30 pm at the Fort Collins Senior Center, and the program follows at 7:00 pm. Admission is free and the public is welcome. The Fort Collins Senior Center is located at 1200 Raintree Drive off Shields Avenue between Prospect and Drake.



Coming In October On The Poudre

Fly Fishing Team USA

Friday October 7th:

Competitor and Controller Meeting 7 p.m., location TBA (in Fort Collins)

Saturday October 8th:

Competition Sessions 1 and 2: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday October 9th:

Competition Sessions 3 and 4: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Awards and Raffle - 7 p.m., location TBA (in Fort Collins)

Volunteers are needed to serve as controllers. Basically they will be combination referees and scorekeepers. They will ensure that all fish are not foul-hooked, competitors are following all established equipment rules (more info to come), keep track of session time, as well as measure and record every fish caught. Each controller will be in charge of a given 'beat' (section of bank) for each session.

Competitors will be divided into 4 groups of 6 anglers each. Each group will travel together and fish each venue. Example: Group A may fish Poudre 1, Poudre 2, Horsetooth, Barnes Meadow, and Group B may fish Horsetooth, Poudre 2, Barnes Meadow, Poudre 1.

Venues:

Cache la Poudre River near Mountain Park Campground (wade)

Cache la Poudre River near Indian Meadows (wade)

Barnes Meadow Reservoir (wade)

Horsetooth Reservoir (boat)

For information, or to register, email us at:

Ed Mulhern: emulhern14@gmail.com

Kirk Lewis: KLEWIS105@hotmail.com



August Youth Outreach



Dennis Cook, Youth Outreach Coordinator

Day Camp Heros!

RMF's seventh consecutive River Conservation & Fly Fishing Day Camp is now in the history books, and it was another successful outing for a full camp of fifteen teenagers ages 14-17 with our 28 RMF member volunteer mentors. The six-day camp is always held during the week that spans the last few days of July and the first few days of August.

The objectives of camp are to provide youths with new or increased awareness of cold water conservation and ecology principles, contemporary water issues and development of an appreciative natural outdoors ethic, and to introduce them to fly fishing as a lifelong natural outdoors recreational activity. We are fortunate to have extraordinary support from the Wildlife Section of Colorado Parks & Wildlife, the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, CSU Warner College of Natural Resources.



Campers and activity mentors following a day of fishing on Cub Creek in RMNP and the brief graduation ceremony

Each year camp includes a half-day conservation project in which campers labor to improve habitat with new plantings, land contour refinements and other habitat restoration improvements. This year campers replanted woody plants and grasses that had been stripped from the North Fork of the Big Thompson's natural channel. It was hard work and they did admirably, and their efforts received unexpected recognition in the Loveland Reporter-Herald newspaper that was reprinted in the Fort Collins Coloradoan and Denver Post and also selected by Governor Hickenlooper as his sole "Hick's Pick" on Facebook for August 15th. [See the article reprint.](#)

Camp is a high point of our chapter's many youth engagements, and is always a popular activity for RMF members who serve with behind-the-scene preparations, as activity instructors and as one-on-one mentors at all on-water events. These twenty-eight volunteers (20 veterans and 8 first-timers) for the 2016 camp are: Troy Anderson, Lance Asherin, Bobby Bottles, Frank Bub, Bob Castner, Dennis Cook, Cullen Emsing, Amy Galyardt, Dennis Galyardt, Scott Gould, Bob Green, Wil Huett, Dick Jefferies, Linda Jefferies, Alan Jones, Phil Keller, Tim Meyer, Ed McConaughy, Dave Morse, Dave Mosnik, Tim O'Connell, Jerry Pelis, Dale Rellas, Domingo Rodriguez, Bob Simmons, Paul Wehr, Phil Wright, Ben Zomer. A huge "Thank you" to each and all for your youth commitment!



September Conservation Notes



Dave Piske, Conservation Chair

Greenback Cutthroat Season Opens

Didn't know there is a greenback cutthroat season? That may be a leap or two away, but on-stream greenback-related restoration activities are definitely open along the Front Range this month and next. And the project most in need of help from readers of this newsletter is a rehabilitation to create in-stream habitat suitable for greenbacks at the headwaters George Creek.

Never heard of George Creek? It's a tributary of the North Fork of the Poudre, just south of the Colorado-Wyoming state line and west of the Cherokee Park State Wildlife Areas. In our local interests, it is foremost among the streams identified by the team of Colorado Parks and Wildlife and U S Forest Service fishery biologists managing the greenback recovery activities.

The September 24 and 25 project will prevent erosion from user-created roadways into the waters of George Creek by obliterating unauthorized off-highway routes. The tasks will consist of de-compacting, re-contouring, stabilizing, and re-vegetating about 2 miles of unauthorized routes. These tasks are rated as family friendly including adult-accompanied teenagers of age 16 or older, and the tasks are of intermediate difficulty

This project is organized and lead by Wildlands Restoration Volunteers, a local non-profit organization with whom we frequently combine efforts involving fishery resources. It is being financed in part by a grant RMF TU received from the Leo Gomolchek Memorial Fund administered by Colorado TU. For this project we are looking for at least 10 volunteers from among you, dear readers of this newsletter.

To enroll as a volunteer, go online to www.wlrv.org. Scroll down the "Projects" list to where you can register for this project identified as "Canyon Lakes Unauthorized Road Obliteration". In the registration process, identify yourself as a RMF-TU volunteer by clicking on the "Rocky Mountain Flycasters" tab.

Because travel time from Fort Collins area to the project site is about 2 hours, much of it on gravel roads, free overnight camping will be available near the work site on Friday and Saturday nights. Friday evening arrival is strongly encouraged, as is Saturday evening for volunteers who register only for Sunday. You may register for both days or for just one of the days. On Friday afternoon there may be a caravan from Fort Collins to the camp site. Hot meals will be provided at the campsite by WVRV 's culinary volunteers. Further details will be available to registered volunteers closer to the scheduled date, but please don't wait, and do register now.

Other Front Range greenback trout projects

Here are two opportunities in early September to help in relocating live trout into more suitable waters. Both are in the Clear Creek watershed west of Denver. Interested volunteers should contact Stephanie Scott not later than September 8.

Stephanie Scott
Outreach Coordinator
Colorado Trout Unlimited
cell: (720) 354-2647
www.coloradotu.org

The projects are:

Herman Gulch Stocking, 9/13/16

Number of Volunteers Requested: 10

Description: We will be stocking 4,000 young of year Bear Creek greenback cutthroat trout into Herman Gulch. To the best of our ability we would like to evenly spread these fish across the approximately 4 miles of habitat in Herman Gulch. We will need volunteers in good physical condition to hike a bag of fish (approximately 20 pounds of fish and water) in a backpack to a pre-determined location (1 to 4 miles hiking distance), and release the fish into the stream.

Dry Gulch Colorado River cutthroat trout salvage, 9/15/16

Number of Volunteers Requested: 15

Description: Prior to chemical treatment of Dry Gulch to insure complete removal of the current fish population in preparation for a greenback reintroduction, we will be salvaging as many of the Colorado River cutthroat trout out of Dry Gulch as possible. At the end of the day the salvaged fish will be transported to a stream in the headwaters of the Yampa River basin, where Colorado River cutthroat trout are native.

Big Thompson Flood Recovery Projects in October and November

After completing multiple re-vegetation projects on the North Fork of the Big Thompson this past Spring, the autumnal cooling in October and November will provide the needed temperatures for seed germinations. Four projects are scheduled, again under the leadership of Lukas McNally, WVRV employee and RMF member.

These projects will be further upstream in the mid-section of the North Fork. Three are scheduled on Saturdays. The dates are: October 1, 15, 29, and November 9.

Volunteers can register now on the web site: www.wlrv.org using the same procedures mentioned above in the lead article.

Adopt-a-Trail

Our RMFC Adopt-a-Trail joint project with the Fort Collins Natural Areas Department had a successful outing at Gateway Natural Area on July 23rd. We trimmed bushes and re-graded the trail surface on the two paths that lead up to great vista points of the Poudre River. I thank Ed McConnaughey, Jerry and Susan Pellis, Dave Piske, Dale Rellas, Tim Meyer, Phil Keller and Ruth Ketola for their assistance. A few of us went fishing afterward on the Poudre at Gateway and were rewarded with great dry fly action. We will have our next project in the Spring of 2017.

---Dave Morse, RMFC Adopt-a-Trail Coordinator





Tell us your favorite fishing stories.

Every time I fish or socialize with RMF members and friends, I hear wonderful captivating stories about fishing adventures. We all have them-- you're not an angler if you don't. Why not have one or more published in The Flypaper? If you are interested or have questions contact Bob Green, The Flypaper Editor bobgreen250@gmail.com.



Or, would you like to be the RMF Treasurer?

Tom Culbertson, our current treasurer, has agreed to serve until we can recruit someone to take his place. The treasurer job requires some fundamental accounting skills. If you are a practicing accountant or a CPA, this will be an excellent place for you to make a contribution. If you are interested in the position or merely want more information, please contact Tom at srrealty45@gmail.com or 970-541-7029 or 970-685 1401 (cell).



Are you looking to buy a fishing vehicle?

1995 Jeep Grand Cherokee

“Oldie, and....Goodie! My outdoors/fishing car past 18 years--Well maintained-- Very good condition--No known mechanical problems--No body damage -Garage-kept (Never used off-roading)- 228440 miles--Almost new tires: Michelin LTX- 85% brake pads - Front & rear--New battery--Leather seats--Extra full size spare Call: (970) 372-9229



How about a canoe?

I have a canoe for sale. It is getting to be a bit much for me to get on and off my car and has seen little use in the past couple of years. It is an L L Bean, Old Town Discovery Sport which I believe is 16' 9" in length. It is a square end canoe with a wooden motor mount which is rated for up to a 5 hp motor. It has oar locks and oars, two paddles, can comfortably seat four people and is rated for 850lbs (people, motor and gear).



There is also a 3.5hp Tohatsu outboard motor (canoe is rated for up to 5 hp), and an electric trolling motor that has been used with the canoe also for sale. Located in Fort Collins. Contact **Guy Turenne**, phone **970-377-2814**



Let's Go Fishing 2016

The Remaining 2016 "Let's Go Fishing" Trips

Listed below are our remaining trips for 2016. If interested, please sign up online on our chapter website (<http://www.rockymtnflycasters.org>) or email Mark Miller below.

The Yampa River at Steamboat Springs, and the Frying Pan and Roaring Fork rivers near Glenwood Springs are still upcoming. We hope you will join us for all the fun!

Questions? Email **Mark Miller** or call 970-744-8229 (cell).

- **20 August** - RMNP Colorado Headwaters - Host: Dennis Cook
- **16-18 September** - Yampa Tailwater - Host: Dennis Cook
- **30-Sep - 2 Oct** - Frying Pan / Roaring Fork - Host: Ben Zomer (only 6 spots for this trip, two of the best streams on the western slope)



Mark Miller, Let's Go Fishing Coordinator

Questions? Contact: Email **Mark Miller** at or call 970-744-8229 (cell).

Sustaining Donors

Rocky Mountain Flycaster Sustaining Donors



St. Peter's Fly Shop



2016-09-01

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- Eric Reckentine
- Domingo Rodriquez
- Steve Schweitzer
- Thomas VerStraate
- Yampa Valley Anglers
- Paul Wehr
- CooperSmith's
- Mawson Lumber
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- Sonny Lubicks
- The Kitchen
- Wabi Sabi