



June 2017

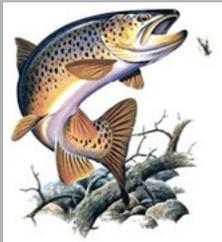
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From the President

They were new clients from Florida in for a final job interview with the Fort Collins Police Department. A friend who does short term rentals on one of his condominiums referred them to me to help them find a home in the city (I sell real estate to finance my fishing adventures!)

We set up a meeting at my office to go through the normal procedure of learning a bit about them and what they were looking for in their new house. During this conversation I learned that they were both earnest fly fishers and outdoors people and that is one of the reasons they had chosen to apply in Fort Collins. Their inquisitive eight-year-old son was very interested in my office fishing decorations. While mom and dad were interested in finding a house, he told me he was interested in finding fish.

The next day we toured a few homes in west Fort Collins but none of them fit their needs. As the tour concluded, I asked them what they planned to do with the rest of that bluebird day. They said they'd like to go fishing but didn't know where to go.

It just so happened that two days before I had been up the Poudre canyon with Mickey and we had found a run that was literally filled with rainbows. This was early May, just as run-off was beginning. I gave them very specific directions to that spot and handed them a couple of Pat's Rubber Legs and a fly of my own creation that Marty has dubbed "The Fashion Show." These flies had literally killed it earlier in the week.

We parted and I went back to work. However, later that afternoon, I received this photo in a text message. As they say, "A picture is worth a thousand words."



Coy Wiley, 2016-2017 President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters



Pat's rubber legs hits the spot.

Later that week, we found their new Colorado home. Mom told me she had called her father and said, "What a great town! We not only found the perfect house, our real estate agent put us on fish!"

It's no secret that Northern Colorado is growing and more and more people are coming here to enjoy our slice of Paradise. That's why it is all the more important to educate newcomers about the conservation and perseveration of our rich natural resources. This is why we are members of Trout Unlimited and Rocky Mountain Flycasters. I hope to see this family come alongside us.

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



Election Results

During the May General Meeting of the Flycasters, the membership elected the following persons to second (or third) terms:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| President | Coy Wylie |
| Vice President | Mickey McGuire |
| Treasurer | Tom Culbertson |
| Trustee at large | Linda Jefferies |
| Trustee at large | Domingo Rodriguez |
| Past President | Wil Huett |

In addition, **Ruthie Ketola** was elected for the first time to serve as our Secretary. Congratulations to Ruthie and many thanks to our continuing leaders!



Ruthie Ketola outdoors.

Ruthie attended CSU as a biochemistry major, and then received her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Northern Colorado. She thinks she is very fortunate to have the best job in the world, employed as an RN and nurse manager for a busy family practice here in Fort Collins. She is an active member of Colorado women's fly fishers in addition to RMF. However, she considers her most important life role as being a mother to four and grand mother of 5—so far!



Kudos: Children's Water Festival

The common thread of extraordinary volunteers that weaves through every Rocky Mountain Flycasters project and makes each one a success was clearly present as our small band of volunteers expertly completed another year of Children's Water Festivals. The well seasoned volunteers for the 2017 Children's Water Festivals include: Lee Fritz, Paul Wehr, Domingo Rodriquez, Wil Huett, Jane Vajrt, and Jerry Pelis. This year's programs were presented to 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders at Greeley, Loveland, and Ft. Collins, reaching a total of 407 students and 25 teachers with a simple but fun and entertaining cold water conservation message. The 21 presentations that we gave were the culmination of efforts by this group which also included stuffing 500 give-away bags with pertinent materials provided by Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Rocky Mountain Flycasters. Smiles were plentiful both on the faces of the students and the faces of the volunteers as they fielded some pretty strange questions as they explained what aquatic insects are, that a trout isn't just a trout, and the differences between predators and prey.

Rocky Mountain Flycasters presents a program called "Who Eats Who at the Stream". We conduct an interactive, hands (and feet) on skit type of activity where the students role play and learn about three of the main characters found in a typical stream - aquatic insects, trout, and terrestrial predators, including fishermen. Through enacting the roles that the three main characters have in the stream, students learn how each one interacts with and is dependent upon the other and how each of the life cycles overlap and benefit the others. Most importantly, the crucial role that cold, clean water plays in the survival and well being of all the stream creatures is emphasized. A brief discussion follows to point out what all of us can do to help conserve water and insure a flow of cold, clean water in our streams. Each student in each class participates in the sometimes chaotic scenarios.

2017 marked the sixth year that Rocky Mountain Flycasters has been involved with the regional Children's Water Festivals making us a familiar presence and a bit of a fixture at these events. A few of the teachers that regularly take their classes to the Festivals have chosen to attend our presentation multiple times. Surely this is a tribute to the excellent volunteers who donate their time, energy, and passion and enhance the community footprint of Trout Unlimited-Rocky Mountain Flycasters.

Please consider joining us next year.

—Jerry Pellis

June Conservation Notes



Dave Piske, Conservation Chair

Watershed Conservation

This month there are several remaining opportunities to learn more about the waters we all love to fish. The scope of these learning opportunities varies from personal interests in streamside properties, to watershed-scale interests, and even to broad-based state-wide interests.

On June 17, the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition, with assistance from the Colorado Watershed Institute at CSU, and hosted by Northern Water at its main office, conducted a seminar titled, "A Watershed Moment". It brought together about 65 people with diverse interests, but all related to the Big Thompson watershed; and it revealed their interests in discovering how to better employ common aspects for mutual benefits. As the next step in that process, the participants are now being surveyed to better understand where and how future relationships may be developed in positive ways.

On June 29, at the Denver Botanic Gardens, there will be an all-day series of presentations collectively named Watershed '17 Summit (conservationcenter.org).

Session contents include:

The Importance of Watershed Health and Outdoor Recreation

The Importance of Climate Change

Agriculture's Role in Colorado's Water Future

The Evolution of Conservation

There is a \$50 fee for registration, but that includes food, drinks, and a free tour of the Botanic Gardens.

News of Greenback Cutthroat Trout Restoration

May 2017 saw a good deal of activity related to the restoration of Colorado's state fish, the Greenback cutthroat trout. The multi-agency Greenback Trout Recovery Team held its annual meeting on May 11 in Denver with Guy Turenne of Rocky Mountain Flycasters (RMF) in attendance. On May 15, Colorado Trout Unlimited (CTU) held its Greenback Recovery Working Group in Englewood with Mickey McGuire, Dave Piske and Phil Wright attending on behalf of RMF.



Phil Wright

Several restoration projects in Larimer County of interest to RMF members were discussed at both meetings including ongoing projects on George Creek, Sand Creek, Zimmerman Lake, and Long Draw Reservoir. For example, Zimmerman Lake continues to be a main source for Greenbacks raised in the two hatcheries. Growth rates of fish in Zimmerman are about twice that of fish raised in the hatcheries (2-3 years to spawning size vs. 4-5 years in hatcheries).

Greenbacks brooded at hatcheries were first stocked in Zimmerman in 2014. As the fish grow out at Zimmerman, they have become the primary "wild" brood source. In 2016/17 Zimmerman accounted for 80% of the 12,126 Greenbacks produced by all efforts.

Restoration efforts on George Creek began in 2016 with volunteer efforts to obliterate several unauthorized roads in the area that are sources of sediment deposits in George Creek. Road obliteration projects on George

Creek will continue in 2017 with volunteer projects planned for Sep. 16-17 and Sep. 30-Oct. 1 organized by our partners Wildland Restoration Volunteers (WLRV.org).

As was reported by Dave Piske in the May Conservation Notes , a final agreement was concluded among the parties with regard to Long Draw Reservoir. The National Park Service (NPS) has authorized US Forest Service (USFS) to be the lead agency on NPS land in addition to Forest Service land. The restoration project area when complete will result in 37 miles of recovery streams as well as restoration of the 106 acres of Long Draw Reservoir. A total of 54 miles of stream will be treated to recover 37 miles of Greenback-suitable habitat.

This large scale cutthroat restoration project is expected to extend for 15 years. All of our prior years of volunteer efforts on greenback restoration in Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP) have already contributed to this project and we can continue to contribute in 2017. Chris Kennedy, US Fish and Wildlife, Fish Biologist, has published his 2017 RMNP volunteer project schedule which can be accessed by contacting Austin Condon at awcflash@aol.com. Austin will also include you on the email distribution list for project updates during the field season.

Chris Kennedy has also asked for assistance with his work on projects at the Leadville National Fish Hatchery. He is in need of additional help through the cutthroat trout spawning season in June. Primarily this work will be with greenback cutthroat trout, but they may also be spawning another cutthroat lineage. Chris is still in need of 1-2 people for June 6th, June 20th and June 21st. We have enough help for all the other dates.

If you are interested in helping Chris Kennedy at Leadville or have any questions please contact Chris Kennedy directly by email at chris_kennedy@fws.gov.

Finally, Chris Kennedy will be speaking about the upcoming RMNP field season at the Alpine Anglers annual banquet on June 21st at the American Legion in Estes Park. The featured speaker will be Nick Molle who is a local producer/host/writer/documentarian, who will be showing his film Rivers of the Rockies. See below for additional information on the banquet.

— Phil Wright

The Flypaper's Video of the Month

The video of the month for May was submitted by Mark Miller and produced by Todd Moen. Mark first introduced us to Moen's wonderful camera work in the March issue of The Flypaper. Hope you enjoy!



June Youth Outreach Notes



Dennis Cook, Youth Outreach Coordinator

Upcoming Youth Volunteer Opportunities

Hey everyone, its time to sign up for the Rocky Mountain Flycasters Youth Day Camp! The camp is from July 31 to August 5. We have made it much easier for you to sign up this year. **Simply click here**, review the days available, the activities for the day and select from the menu of activities for each day you would like to help out. That's it! You will receive a confirmation letter from me directly.



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.



Or Send Us a Video

Just send a link think to **The Flypaper Editor**. It will be considered for a future video of the month.

Share a few experiences or a laugh. Did you see something online or did you record a great Experience? Share it!!



How About Adopting a Trail?

Our second, and final, work project of the year for the Fort Collins Natural Area Department will be at Gateway Natural Area in the Lower Poudre Canyon, on July 15th. Save The date!!!

We will conduct trail maintenance, such as grading, pruning brush, and rebuilding portions of the two overlook trails. We will meet at the Gateway parking lot located back by the old water plant at 8:30 a.m. and work 'til about 11:30. You will not need to pay the entrance fee because you are on the work project. Just tell the entrance guard.

TU will provide lunch and the Natural Areas Staff will provide assignments, tools, water and instruction. Bring work gloves, sun protection, and your rod and waders for fishing. You are free to stay at Gateway after the work project and fish til dusk.

Please contact **Dave Morse**, or call 217-418-9386, if you will be coming. We need an accurate head count to plan for meals. We are hoping for a dozen folks.

See you there!



Want a fishing buddy?

I created FindAFishingBuddy.com a couple of years ago. I recently launched FindAFishingClub.com, the largest directory of active fishing clubs in the US. Your club (RMF) is including on our roster. Thanks, Chuck Christopher.



Donate Your Gear

For the third month, RMF will be collecting donated fishing gear so we can equip needy veterans participating in our Healing Waters program. This can include serviceable waders, boots, nets, vests, rods and reels, etc. There will be a collection box at the May TU meeting, or call Dave Morse to arrange a pick-up. (217-418-9386). Thanks for your support!



Or, would you like to be the RMF Treasurer or Secretary?

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 Culbertson** or 970-541-7029 or 970-685 1401 (cell). Secretarial applicants can contact **Coy Wiley**.



Let's Go Fishing



Mark Miller, *Let's Go Fishing* Coordinator

Please see our line-up of fishing destinations for 2017 below and Dennis Cook's description of the forthcoming Yampa River trip. Hopefully some of these trips will appeal to a lot of you!

I'm always open to suggestions if anyone has a special fishing hole they would like to share this coming summer. If you do, please give me a call and I can help you make it happen.

If you haven't fished Joe Wright Reservoir before, it is a rewarding experience! It's one of the few places in Colorado where we can catch Arctic Grayling. Fishing can be good, especially this time of year! We will start off the day by hiking into Lake Agnes on Cameron Pass, then head to Joe Wright in late afternoon to catch the evening fishing. See the more complete description by host Dave Morse below and the description of the September Yampa trip by Dennis Cook.

Please call Mark Miller if you can offer to host this trip. Thanks much!

Here is our RMF 2017 line - up:

June 24 - Lake Agnes (day) and Joe Wright Reservoir (late afternoon and evening for grayling)-Host: Dave Morse

July 15 - Upper Poudre River - Host: Cameren Shinabery

Aug 26 - RMNP Small Stream - Dry Fly Fishing - Hosts: Mark Miller and Bill Gillett

Sept 15-17 - Yampa River, Steamboat Springs - Host: Dennis Cook

Late Sep- Frying Pan - Dates to be determined - Host: Ben Zomer

Oct 7 - Poudre River - Host: Mark Miller

Oct 21 or 28 - Possible Kokanee Trip - S. Platte / Dream Stream - Host: Mark Miller (weather dependent)

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

Lake Agnes/Joe Wright Reservoir (June 24)



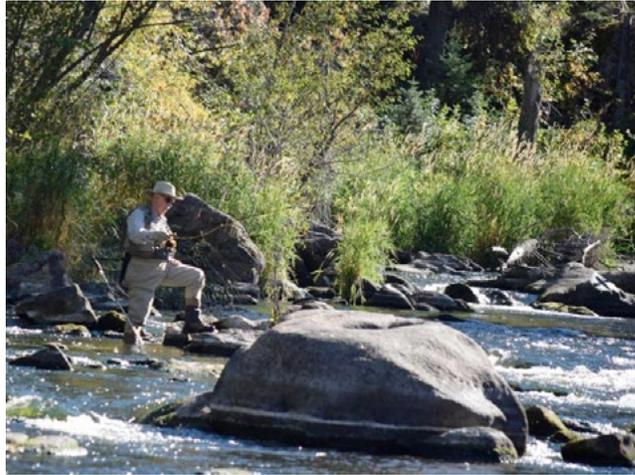
We are going to Lake Agnes, near Cameron Pass, and then to Joe Wright Reservoir on Saturday, June 24th. We will leave/carpool from the NW corner of the King Soopers parking lot on North College Ave at 6:30 a.m. and drive up Rt. 14. Turn left into the State Park about 3 miles past Cameron Pass, pay the daily car fee of \$7.00 (cash) and drive up to the Lake Agnes trail head. From there we will hike about 0.7 miles, gaining about 500 feet elevation to the gorgeous alpine lake.

About 3:00, those who want to fish Joe Wright for Grayling, will hike back to the parking lot and drive over to the inlet at Joe Wright. You must fish in the reservoir because the stream there is off limits to protect the migrating Grayling. We will fish as late as anyone wants to. If you want to keep your own schedule, you will know where we are.

Recommended flies for Agnes include #18 Parachute Adams, beetles, and Chubby Chernobyl ants for dries, and small nymphs such as Pheasant Tails, Copper Johns, Midge larva. These are very selective fish. For Joe Wright, #14-18 nymphs, scuds, PT's, Copper Johns will work well. The Grayling will also take medium to small dries. They are not very fussy. Expect crowded conditions at Joe Wright. Bring lunch, rain gear and hiking gear. Waders are optional for Agnes, but Agnes, but very helpful for Joe Wright. Contact [Dave Morse](#) for questions.

Yampa River & Tailwaters - Steamboat Springs (September 15th-17th)

The Yampa River has become known for its large fish, both rainbows and browns! The river through the town of Steamboat Springs, just a few steps from the fly shop and restaurants, boasts many holding areas for these giant fish. The famous tailwater stretch is nearby below Stagecoach Reservoir - almost a mile of world class waters that rival the Frying Pan, Taylor River and South Platte Dream Stream. These tailwater is very technical, where fish demand tiny flies and good presentations, and fight like demons when they are hooked. Many get off, but those you land are truly prize specimens for great selfies! There also are two sizeable state wildlife areas, both first class fisheries, one near the tailwater and the other only about ten minutes from our lodging facility. Steamboat Springs rivals any other Colorado location as one of our state's best angling destinations.



Last year we had eight in our group, and imagine this year's group will be a similar size. Car pooling will be arranged as participants sign up, and lodging estimates range about \$50 to \$75 each per night. Meal arrangements will be ad hoc reflecting individuals' preferences.

Sign up asap and join us to fish each of these truly fun and exciting locations:

Register before September 1st with trip host **Dennis Cook** at 372-9229.



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