



## October 2017

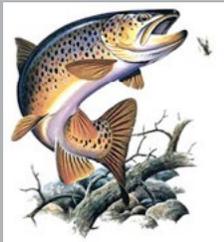
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## RMF Quick Link



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## From the President

Of all the great benefits of membership in TU and Rocky Mountain Fly Casters, one of my favorites is the opportunity to build relationships with other fly fishing addicts. Some of my favorite fishing buddies have come through my participation in RMF.

A few days ago as fall fell (it went from summer to fall in a heartbeat didn't it?), I was invited to go on a day trip with three other friends from RMF to an undisclosed mountain lake that was supposed to be "the place." I had fished multiple times with two of the guys and knew the third from our chapter meetings.



Coy Wiley, 2016-2017 President  
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

I knew it would be cool in the high country so I wore an under-layer and carried an extra fleece top and a jacket. What I didn't take into consideration



was the fact that it would not get above 38 degrees (in September!) that day on the lake. I dug in the back of my truck for every article of clothing I could find including a beanie and wool gloves.

The plan was to float tube the lake before winter iced it in. So we inflated our boats, strung our rods and braced ourselves for the frigid water as our little flotilla set out from shore.

The plan was to float tube the lake before winter iced it in. So we inflated our boats, strung our rods and braced ourselves for the frigid water as our little flotilla set out from shore.

Our host assured us that these fish were still taking dries and he didn't lie. I had hits within the first five minutes! In fact in the first couple hours I hooked so many fish that my biggest worry and greatest time-consumer was applying floatant to the double dry fly rig I was fishing.

Fog settled on the water and the colors of the quaking aspens through the mist were indeed beautiful. Gorgeous scenery and eager trout notwithstanding, my feet felt like ice cubes. As I flipped my way back to the truck I noticed two of my companions had the same idea. We got the vehicle heaters going and at lunch in relative comfort.

After thawing out a bit, our mania to catch more of those hungry trout got the better of us and we once again entered the chilly lake. The fish seemed more interested in chironomids for an afternoon snack. We caught several and decided it was enough for one day.



I doubt I'll ever forget that September day when I feared frostbite on my toes but had fantastic fishing with great friends. If you need a fishing partner, just ask around at our meetings. Or ask me, I'm always up for a day on the water.

Coy Wylie, President  
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

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

## Filling up the Calendar

Our calendar pages are 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](#)



## October Membership Meeting

### Long Draw Greenback Restoration

Please join us October 18th at 7:00 PM for our monthly membership meeting to hear plans for the largest native fish restoration project in Colorado history. Matt Fairchild, Forest Fish Biologist for the Arapaho and Roosevelt Forest and Pawnee National Grasslands, will share plans for reintroduction of native Greenback trout in the Long Draw basin.

The meeting, as usual, will be at the Fort Collins Senior Center, located on Raintree off Shields Avenue between Prospect and Drake. Please enter from the main entrance. The north entrance is now routinely locked for security reasons. The Program begins at 7:00 PM, but all are welcome to join us for a social half hour at 6:30 PM.



Immature Colorado Greenback Cutthroat Trout



## From the Membership Chair



Linda Jefferies, Membership Chair

The Rocky Mountain Flycasters' Volunteer Management System (VMS) is now online and ready for you! This new application will allow members to create volunteer profiles, sign-up for activities, projects, and fishing trips, create a personal volunteer calendar and keep track of their volunteer hours.

To create your volunteer profile, use the link for the Volunteer Application at <https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll/ap?ap=763710236>

I hope you will all sign up on the VMS system. Since this is a new system, please be patient, but do contact me, Linda Jefferies, at [membership@rockymtnflycasters.org](mailto:membership@rockymtnflycasters.org) if you have problems logging in or otherwise. You can also send me emails once you are in the system if you need help working with the system.

I appreciate your help with making the VMS a success!  
Linda Jefferies

P.S. Our meeting next month (November) is **Guest Night**. More about that in *The Flypaper* for November.



## October Conservation Notes



Dave Piske, Conservation Chair

### Embrace-A-Stream Grant Awarded to Rocky Mountain Flycasters

Reported by Dave Piske and Tracy Wendt

The RMF-TU chapter has been informed it is one of several TU chapters that were awarded grants in this year's nationwide competition for **Embrace-A-Stream** funds.

This year there were 49 TU chapters nationwide competing for grants not to exceed \$10,000 in any single grant. RMFTU was awarded a grant of \$2,300 to help fund an Environmental Learning Station adjacent to the new fishing pier to be installed on the Big Thompson River at Mile Marker 72, a short distance upstream from the Waltonia Bridge, and within a special regulation area that fosters sustainable in-stream re-production of wild trout.

Funds acquired through this EAS grant will be combined with funds contributed by the sponsoring Trout Unlimited Chapters (Rocky Mountain Flycasters and the Alpine Anglers) to design, produce, install, and pay for interpretive signage that will comprise the new Big Thompson River Environmental Learning Station.

The Learning Station will include three to four interpretive signs that include messages to educate the public and encourage users to engage their senses through tactile features and text that directs their learning experience at the site. The Learning Station components will complement the historical sign currently at the site that commemorates the original building of the fishing pier in 1976. Supplemental components of the Learning Station are expected to include a map of the Learning Station layout and photographs of the overall site. Learning Station components will be resilient to environmental conditions and will adhere to U S Forest Service regulations pertaining to signage.

Conceptual designs of the Learning Station are planned for late 2017. Detailed design and implementation of the Learning Station will take place in early 2018. On-site work will be coordinated with installation of the new and nearby fishing pier.

Implementation of the Learning Station will be managed by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC), a non-profit 501(c) corporation. BTWC is also the manager/coordinator of the fishing pier replacement and more than a dozen flood recovery projects in the Big Thompson Watershed.



Tracy Wendt,  
Big Thompson Water Coalition

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### From Dan Omasta: Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Greenback Numbers 2017

**Spawning:** A total of 210,805 eggs were taken this year. Zimmerman accounted for 54,986; Leadville 155,237; Bear Creek 582. To date we've have an average survival rate for those fish of 16%. The breakdown by spawning operation for survival rate is Zimmerman= 15.2%, Leadville= 4.23%, Bear Creek= 28.7%. This is on par with what we have been experiencing in recent years.

**Stocking.** For Age I fish (2016 year class; average length= 5.5") we stocked 946 into Zimmerman Lake, 980 into Herman Gulch, 416 into Sand Creek on Larimer County's Red Mountain Open Space, and 360 into Dry

Gulch. For Age 0 fish (2017 year class) we stocked 9,664 into Herman Gulch.

Reclamation. In Rock Creek, a temporary barrier was constructed immediately upstream of the confluence with Black Canyon Creek, and we conducted a rotenone treatment from the natural barrier on wilderness downstream to the new temporary, adding approximately 2 miles of future habitat for greenbacks. Plans are underway for the Phase 3 treatment of Black Canyon Creek, the next phase of the Rock Creek project. In George Creek, the contractors should start working on constructing the Phase I temporary barrier sometime next week, and I have begun preparing for the 2018 phase I reclamation of George Creek.

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## A Big Thanks to Jasper Lake Revegetation Project Volunteers

From Phil Wright, Conservation Volunteer Coordinator: Photos by Guy Turenne.



Phil Wright

On Tuesday, September 19, 2017 volunteers from Rocky Mountain Flycasters planted container plants on the Jasper Lake reach of Big Thompson River near the Cherry Store and Narrows Park on US 34. RMF volunteers partnered with the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition and AloTerra Restoration Services to revegetate the restored banks of the Big T by planting willows, pines and other container plants. Thanks to **AloTerra** for providing plant materials, tools, and technical direction.



The Big Thompson Watershed Coalition's river restoration project between Jasper Lake Bridge and the entrance to Narrows canyon encompasses 2600 linear feet of river restoration and approximately 1 acre of floodplain area. The project uses federal, state and private funding, including funds from the Rocky Mountain Flycasters Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Trout and Salmon Foundation. This project is led by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition with design consultants, Stantec, and construction contractor, RMC consultants. It is producing significant improvements for one of the highest priority reaches for restoration on the Big Thompson River, including stabilizing the river banks and bed, improving floodplain access, and revitalizing native vegetation and aquatic and fish habitat.

A multi-stage channel was constructed throughout the project area to restore the river processes that were lost as a result of the flood and subsequent emergency repairs. Multi-stage channels provide many overarching benefits including habitat improvement during low flows and floodplain relief during storm/runoff events. The multi-stage channel implemented through the Jasper Lake reach included a low-flow channel with a design discharge of 30 cfs and a bankfull channel with a design discharge of 650 cfs.

Through most of the project reach, a floodplain was created and extends 15 to 30 feet outward from the bankfull channel. This floodplain provides appropriate flood relief and hydrologic access during high water events, and reduces the rate of increase in shear stress as the river stage rises. As such, providing appropriate floodplain access will reduce erosion potential through this reach. During the late summer and early fall when flows are typically low, the low-flow channel will provide deeper water and improved fish habitat. In-channel features, including rock grade control and stabilization structures, boulder toe, woody debris toe protection and soil lift bank protection, were installed to provide stabilization for the channel bed and banks. These structures reduce potential bank erosion and channel down-cutting that could impact stream function and threaten infrastructure. In addition, these channel and bank features help maintain the appropriate riffle/pool morphology and improve channel and floodplain habitat complexity.

Upon completion of the channel grading and installation of stabilization features, the site was revegetated with native seed mixtures, live-stakes and brush-layered willows, container-grown plants, and bare-root trees and shrubs. Successful vegetation establishment will provide further stabilization for the channel banks and floodplain areas as well as improve riparian and aquatic and fish habitat. As the photo above shows, RMF volunteers can make a difference by assisting with the revegetation process.

Shayna Jones of the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition thanked the volunteers stating: "Thanks so much (volunteers)! On behalf of the Coalition, we are so thankful to you all for your excellent and hard work planting along the Jasper Lake reach. The only way these projects can be successful over the long term is with the help of dedicated folks ...to help steward the river and help maintain the project's trajectory toward a healthy, functioning river! We will continue to monitor the progress of this project, and will look to invite you all out to view the results and potentially help with some additional stewardship in the late spring, once the road re-opens."

- Phil Wright.



## ***The Flypaper's Video of the Month***

**This month's video is from The New Fly Fisher and focuses on using streamers to catch big fish. Most of us will be using streamers in October!**



# October Youth Outreach Notes

## Fishing Survival Skills

What do Junior High students do on their day off from school? Some attend an Outdoor Survival Skills day camp at CSU- Environmental Learning Center. Members from TU were asked to teach a two hour “Fishing Survival Skills” class as part of that day. On Friday, September 29th, Wil Huett, Paul Wehr, Dennis and Amy Galyardt presented the class.



The Flycasters' Amy and Dennis Galyardt teach fly tying skills

Activities included:

- Tying flies to imitate insects & small fish
- Demonstrating the making of a rod out of a willow branch
- Learning and tying fishing knots to assemble their “willow rod outfit”
- Casting with a fly rod
- How to catch and fight a fish (Paul was the big one!)

Each student was given a Fishing Survival Kit, which included: line, leader, hooks, tying thread, flies, strike indicators, nippers, hook file and a fishing direction sheet.

The students had a lot of fun and learned many different skills that will enable them to survive in the outdoors.





### Swap Flies?

At each TU meeting, a group of fly tyers share versions of the Fly of the Month with each other and with the evening raffle. This month's fly is "Your Favorite Streamer". It is streamer time above many reservoirs at this time of year. We hope to have at least 6 or 8 folks participate each month, but are off to a slow start with a small list of signups from our September meeting. If you would like to contribute, please contact **Dave Morse** now for the October Swap. Submissions should include a "toe tag" with the fly recipe. The exact number of flies needed depends on signups and will be sent to you about a week before the monthly meeting.



### Support Our Vets?

Our TU Chapter supports local vets with fly tying, rod making and fishing trips at no cost to participants, through the Platte Rivers Program of Project Healing Waters. This no-cost policy is made viable through donations, sponsorships and fundraisers. In preparation for our November 2nd Fall fundraiser, called, "Thankful Thursday", RMF will accept donations of cash, offers of company or personal sponsorships, and quality auction items of sporting gear, fishing/hunting gear or trips, sports memorabilia, artwork, weekend rentals, gourmet food and wine items, etc. These will be auctioned on Nov 2nd at Amvets, 3839 Lincoln Way in Cheyenne, 5-9pm. Dinner, raffles, live and silent auctions comprise this fun and critical event that sustains our Vet support. Also, we are seeking teaching and support volunteers for our Fly Tying and Rod Making classes in Loveland, and coming to Greeley in January. Fly tying demo leaders and support mentors provide beginner and intermediate level classes. Come once or be a regular attendee. Loveland fly tying classes begin in Late October on Thursday evenings. Rod making classes start in January on Saturday mornings. Contact **Dave Morse**, your RMFC TU Veterans Support Coordinator for details or donations. Consider how YOU can help to heal the scars of the service men and women who have sacrificed for our country. Thank you.



## How about a Driftboat?

50% ownership opportunity: 2004 Hyde Low Profile Series Driftboat: \$2500.00 for 50% ownership.

Buyer would also share annual costs such as insurance, trailer registration, and storage. If interested, please contact Mark Miller (970-744-8229).



## 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!!



## 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 chapter (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?

Treasurer - need an experienced accountant/bookkeeper with knowledge of QuickBooks. Ideal for a retired accountant/bookkeeper who would like to donate those skills to a great organization. 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).



## Let's Go Fishing



Mark Miller, *Let's Go Fishing Coordinator*

Please see our one remaining fishing destination for 2017 below.

### **Here is our RMF 2017 line-up for the rest of the summer and fall:**

**Oct 21 - Kokanee Trip - S. Platte / Dream Stream - Host: Mark Miller** (weather dependent). As it stands, this trip is full - we have 5 people and only have hotel lodging for 5. Even if the weather cooperates, this is one of those trips that are hard to predict. It is really hard to time the Kokanee run, but if we miss them, there should be large browns running up river from 11 Mile Reservoir. Who knows what could happen!

**Next season:** I'm always open to suggestions if anyone has a special fishing hole they would like to share with our chapter members. If you do, please give me a call and I can help you make it happen.

It seems our local trips to the Poudre have not been very popular. And some of our lake trips have drawn no interest (Delaney Buttes, Twin Buttes, etc). So, I am on the lookout for other destinations that may have more appeal to our members. Please let me know if you have a spot you would like to see on our chapter trip list for 2018.

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



# Sustaining Donors

## Rocky Mountain Flycaster Sustaining Donors



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