



TIGHT LINES November 2005 Newsletter of

Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

Editor – Doug Adams edadams1@alltel.net

"Nothing makes a fish bigger than almost being caught."

THE CHAPTER MEETING PLACE!

Clayton Presbyterian Church (Located behind the Post Office) - Clayton, GA
3rd Tuesday of the Month 6:30 pm - Fellowship 7:00 pm – Program & Meeting

At every regular chapter meeting there will be a raffle for fishing or camping items to help pay the cost of mailing the newsletter to members without E-mail. Bring an item to donate and a dollar or two for raffle tickets - you might win something.

"Every day I see the head of the largest trout I ever hooked, but did not land."

Theodore Gordon

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates - See you there!

Nov 1 (Tues) Start of Delayed Harvest Season: Chattooga River and Smith Creek in NE Georgia. For details, click on:

<http://www.gofishgeorgia.com/content/displaycontent.asp?txtDocument=7&txtPage=12>

Nov 5 (Sat) Tailwater TU Banquet: For details & RSVP to duanespc@earthlink.net

Nov 10 – 13 (Thurs – Sun) Fishing & Camping at Chattooga DH with Camping in Long Bottom (SC) (w/outhouse). Contact person – Terry Rivers: Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net

Nov 15 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Clayton Presbyterian Church
Program – Kyle Burrell & Butch Martin: "WY Fishing & the Green River Guest Ranch"

Nov 17 (Thurs) Public Meeting - Upper Chattooga River Boating Ban; 5 p.m. at the Clayton (GA) Baptist Church's Ministry Activities Center

Nov 22 (Tues) Board of Directors meeting, Location TBD

Dec1 (Thurs) Public Meeting - Upper Chattooga River Boating Ban; 5 p.m. Walhalla (SC) First Baptist Church, 403 East Main Street

Dec 3 (Sat) GA TU Council Meeting, 9 AM, USFS Office, Gainesville

Dec 13 (Tues) Family Christmas Dinner, 6 PM, The 'Rock House' at the Dillard House

Remember the 19th Annual Rabun Rendezvous will be Jan. 21, 2006

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



THE WOOLLY BUGGER

THE WOOLLY BUGGER IS OFTEN USED AS A STREAMER, BUT TIED IN THE RIGHT SIZES AND COLORS, IT MAKES A GREAT CRAYFISH, DRAGONFLY NYMPH, EGG CLUSTER, OR LEECH IMITATION. IT'S THE ONE FLY THAT HAS PROBABLY HOOKED MORE BIG FISH THAN ANY OTHER. YOU'LL WANT TO HAVE A VARIETY OF THESE FISH CATCHING MORSELS IN YOUR FLY BOX AT ALL TIMES ESPECIALLY DURING THE UPCOMING DELAYED HARVEST SEASON. ADD BLACK, GOLD, OR COPPER BEADS TO THE HEAD FOR A SWIMMING ACTION THE FISH CAN'T RESIST.

HOOK: STREAMER 2XLONG MUSTAD 2672
TAIL: MARABOU - BLACK, OLIVE, BROWN, OR ANY OTHER COLOR DESIRED
BODY: CHENILLE ANY COLOR YOU WISH; BUT BLACK, BROWN, AND OLIVE ARE MOST COMMON
HACKLE: SADDLE OR NECK TO MATCH THE BODY IF DESIRED
THREAD: 3/0 COLOR TO MATCH BODY
RIB: WIRE (GOLD, SILVER, OR COPPER)

"More flies are tied to attract fly fishers than are tied to attract trout."

Jimmy D Moore

NOVEMBER HATCHES

The Bugs	Time of Month	Time of Day	Suggested Flies
Small Dun Caddis	Early	Mid AM to Late PM	18 Brown Elk or Deer Hair Caddis 18 Grey Caddis Pupa
Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill	All Month	Late AM to Mid PM	16-18 BWO, Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-18 BWO nymph or Pheasant Tail
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa

TU Chapter 'Website-of-the-Month': <http://tucohutta.org/>
(Take a look at their Chapter newsletter - 'THE KORN DUNKER')

Q & A: What's in Your vest?

Some good suggestions from Rabunites based on the October newsletter vest contents survey:

Vest Contents I Leave Out:

1. Too many fly boxes to carry at once – I always carry 1 medium size dry box with all purpose parachute and attractor patterns, 1 medium size nymph/wet/emergence box and 1 small elk hair caddis/Xcaddis/yellow stone box. If I'm fishing a larger stream or river and/or expect rain, I'll also carry a small streamer box. Depending on the season, I'll supplement this with one or more of the following specialty boxes - small terrestrial box (May – October), small sulphur/cahill specialty dry fly box (May – June), small early/late season specialty dry box with olives, blue quills and midges (September - April), and Green Drake box in May. All are lightweight plastic, never metal.
2. Fly line dressing / cleaner. The newer lines don't need it and the older lines can be treated at home or at the car before using.
3. Small scissors – use nippers, or see #4
4. Small pliers – forceps work just as well mashing down the micro barbs on the Japanese hooks. I now use a multi tool that has both forceps and scissors
5. Landing net – only on larger streams and rivers with big fish potential. Not needed on small streams
6. Small sinkers – if I need weight, I use bead or cone head flies. If I need more weight, I use a tung bead fly either alone or in a two fly rig with a large and small fly, or a small lead head jig. Tung bead flies are heavier than lead and are much easier to cast.
7. Extra spool/specialty line – I now use the RIO sinking leaders as an instant sink tip, so there is no need to carry an extra sink tip line anymore. I usually bring a back-up reel and leave it in the car or carry it in if I'm going in the backcountry

Vest contents to add:

1. Fishing license in a plastic slipcase – I always keep this in my vest, not my wallet
2. Fly dry desiccant (this is so essential to me that I carry several different kinds)
3. Compact first aid kit with antiseptic, Band-Aids, pain reliever and antivenom for bee stings (benadryl) – carried in a small zip loc bag or zippered case. Again, this is always with me in my vest
4. Compact emergency poncho – so I don't have to carry a rain jacket on fair weather days. I only carry a rain jacket into the backcountry or when I anticipate rain

Be Prepared Gear:

I would also recommend a whistle, butane lighter instead of matches, nylon rope and a fire-starter (fatwood stick and/or candle). I always carry my emergency survival kit into the backcountry and keep it in my duffel bag at all other times. D.H.

Fly Fishing Gear:

I do not usually carry: extra spool & special fly line, scissors for fly trimming; in addition to those listed, I do carry a small first aid kit

Be Prepared Gear:

I do not carry: my billfold (leave it in the truck), camera & film (unless my primary mission is taking pictures of the scenery), space blanket (I think I will add this one), collapsible cup

As an aside, I have two active vests. One has a mesh back that I use in the summer; the other is with the solid back. I am switching out now and trying to put stuff in pockets located in similar spots as the summer vest! T.L.

Our thanks to Rabunites Doug Hickman and Tom Landreth for sharing these excellent weight reduction and be-prepared suggestions.

Lo, the fisherman's wife. All she wants is the spare bedroom back. It's covered with rods and reels, flies and vests, waders, rain gear, hooks and leaders, etc., for a trip six months from now. Not a safe place to step or sleep or rest! But honey! I want to be prepared, he says. So Lo the fisherman's wife.

Jody Moore

The Winner of the 2005 Dream Trip Raffle had *"the most fantastic trip . . . spectacular!"*

From: Diane Minick [mailto:dianeminick@msn.com]

Sent: Friday, August 19, 2005 9:37 AM

Subject: Dream Fly-fishing Trip

Dear Charlie and TU Council,

My dream vacation has come and gone. Even now, it feels like it was a dream. It was the most fantastic trip thanks to you and especially to Duane Stalnaker. From the moment that Duane picked Ronny and me up until the time he brought us back, this trip was spectacular! You can't beat the scenery, that goes without saying. Rick and Traci of the Green River Guest Ranch were so wonderful and gave us a really nice cabin up next to the woods. I think it was the honeymooners cabin. Umhmmmm. The food was great and the people were so nice. Rick and Traci really liked the statue of a cutthroat that you gave them in thanks for being part of this trip. Duane took us to a different stream every day. It was amazing to see the beautiful streams and how full of wild fish they were. Those cutthroats were exciting to catch. Ronny and I caught between us about 200-250 fish, many of which were between 12 - 17 inches long and fat as butterballs. I even hung a 22-24-incher that gave me a momentary thrill and a taste of what it will be like to catch a monster. Under Duane's great teaching techniques, my skills improved 300% and I can proudly say that I am a real fly-fisher now. To me, fly-fishing is the purest sport there is today. Duane taught me how to read the water, plan the hunt and put the sneaky sneak on those fish. We fished from morning til night each day and each day; I could hardly wait to get out there. Thank you doesn't begin to cover how I feel. Thanks Georgia T.U. Council for making this possible. Thanks Mack Martin for building the sweetest rod I have ever fished with. Now I understand why people speak with down right reverence when discussing the virtues of a Winston boron rod. The Orvis Battenkill reel worked flawlessly. Ronny and I both have so many wonderful memories. The idea for the trip was a great one, providing money to support the youth fly fishing camp and other worthy projects and a truly wonderful dream fly-fishing trip of a lifetime. The pictures won't tell the whole story, but will give you a peek into our special experience.

Most sincerely, Diane Minick



It could be YOU in the 2006 Dream Trip Pictures!

The 2006 Raffle of the Dream Fly Fishing Vacation Package for 2



The winner and their partner will each receive: 5 days of guided fly fishing and 6 nights food and lodging at the **Green River Guest Ranch** in Cora, Wyoming <http://www.grquestranch.com/>. The trip will take place from July 22 to July 28, 2006 (NON NEGOTIABLE). A 9ft 5wt Winston Boron II X custom made fly rod. An Orvis Battenkill Barstock reel with Scientific Angler line. A fly box and flies (approximately 5 to 7 dozen per box) for the trip.

The winner will also receive \$650 in travel expenses (this is total, not per person) to cover airfare. Travel arrangements will be the responsibility of the winners and they must arrive together to be picked up at the Jackson airport. Fishing licenses, gratuities, and alcoholic beverages will be the responsibility of the winners during their stay.

Winner will be drawn at the Georgia Foothills Chapter of Trout Unlimited annual banquet in March 2006. One winner will be drawn and the winner will choose a partner to accompany them on the trip. **Ticket price is \$10 each** and proceeds will go to the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited to help fund the annual Georgia Trout Camp and the Back the Brookie campaign for helping brook trout restoration and educational projects.

Contact Terry Rivers to order your raffle tickets: Ph 706 782 7419 or E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net

The Third in a Series:

Stream Habitat Protection and Enhancement



Betty Creek before

Tree and brush stream bank revetments provide several benefits. They can stabilize a bank that is being undercut, caving-in, and producing in-stream siltation. They provide overhead cover and an ideal substrate for aquatic organisms. They trap silt, serve as deflectors, and constrict wide channels. On this bank revetment project, trees and brush were cable clinched by a backhoe and attached to a dead-man. The dead-man was then buried in a deep trench.

Notice in the photos where the trees and brush utilized was harvested from outside the riparian area.



Betty Creek after - Photos provided by Monte Seehorn

If you are aware of a section of public stream in need of restoration or enhancement, please report it to the local USFS office or tell us here at TIGHT LINES. If you know a private owner that wants some help with stream restoration or enhancement, put him in touch with:

Monte E. Seehorn, 5292 Clarks Bridge Rd., Gainesville, GA 30506, Phone 770 983 3019, E-mail mseehorn@adelphia.net

Scenes from the Waters Creek In-stream Workday

Behind every successful in-stream projects can be found good supervision (here avoiding dishpan hands).



Russ Frazee, Josh Barnett, and Don Davis



Duane Stalnaker and Charlie Breithaupt

Q & A: Just who is a Rabunite TU'er anyway?



The Rabunite Self Image

You might be a RABUNITE TU'er if you...

Back the brookie. - Love Bill Kelly's cooking. - Don't care about 'ball scores' when out in the woods. - Are sure a can of beanie-weenies with crackers and a box drink beside a trout stream is the perfect lunch. - Know who has NEVER burned the sausage. - Hate the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. - Will ask, "Where's Frank?"

Know the name of the official 'chapter bear dog'. - Enjoy a Swisher Sweet more than a Cuban cigar. - Are proud our Charlie is the GA Council Chairman. - Have walked 'the turnpike' down to 'the gauge rock'. - Know how Russ is about the last cake. - When asked 'Where was that?' answers, "I don't believe I said." - Are always ready to eat and drink. - Know that 'nice fish' is a flatlander's term for 'goodun'. - Will limit your kill, not kill your limit. - Know how to mix-up a light Cahill as well as how to tie one. - Understand that a light Cahill works better with more floatant. - Have climbed up out of the Sims Fields after dark by flashlight. - Would much rather attend *The Rabun Rendezvous* than an orgy. - Will lie, cheat, and steal to go West of Hiawassee just once a year. - Believe the Burrell's Ford Road should never be completely paved. - Know Jimmy's \$8 Las Vegas story. - At some time or another have fished with a Georgia nymph or corn.

- Would rather own one Landreth painting than several by Rembrandt. - Want to see total enforcement of all erosion and sedimentation laws. - Would rather shop at Reeves Hardware in Dillard than Bass Pro Shops. - Know the true location of Double Bit. - Believe a fly reel is just a device to hold line and shouldn't cost much more than the fly line itself. - Enjoy hearing the same ole campfire stories again, and again, and again. - Believe that *The Foxfire Boys* are the finest bluegrass band in the world. - Understand how Doug feels about the Upper Chattooga River backcountry. - Want to avoid conflicts between trout stream anglers and whitewater boaters. - Know there is no trout stream anywhere prettier than the Upper Chattooga River. - Want to do what's best for the Upper Chattooga River.

Will work in a stream, sit under a tarp in the rain, and say he's having a good time. - Know it's OK to keep a few 'dumplings' because Jeff said the GA WRD would make more of them. - Believe the best beer in the world is in the icebox at the end of the trail out of Big Bend. - Know how "Nugget" got his name and love to hear him sing, especially songs about Kelly. - Have seen Doc's 'First Aid' slideshow. - Want to give back something to the coldwater resources that have given so much joy to you. - Have a mental image of Martha Ellen when she was 'Sweet 16' (about 60 years ago). - Like sleeping on foam rubber near trout waters. - Look forward to Ray's chili recipe. - Bring 'Jack' or 'George' or 'Crow' on campouts. - Know why Kyle's nickname is "Hoover". - Are thankful that 60% of Rabun County is Forest Service lands and think there should be more. - Know (without being reminded) when Kelly speaks 'you don't have to believe it, if you don't want to'. - Keep a Chattooga River Fishing Diary each year to help the GA WRD & USFS biologists manage the fishery. - Will holler like a wild man when landing a good'un, hearing a bluegrass song, or just for the fun of hollerin'. - Know there is no I-3 corridor through NE GA capable of avoiding the destruction of some of Georgia's precious trout habitat. - Are sure that Boones Farms apple wine, served chilled, is the perfect complement for freshly grilled trout. - Know that Prez Terry can fix anything mechanical or electrical. - Believe that teaching conservation and stream ecology is the most important mission of the GA Trout Camp. - Know who usually wins the flies at the meeting raffles. - Believe that after a day in the stream *it don't get no better than* crispy critters, hushpuppies, and 'taters with bluegrass music beside a campfire. - Will share the Rabunite TU'er traditions and stream knowledge with the next generation of conservationists. - Will take a kid fishing; today's kids will be the watershed protectors of tomorrow.

Waaaah Whoooo!!



The True Rabunite Image

OLD FISHERMEN NEVER DIE; THEY JUST SMELL LIKE THEY DID!

"BACKCASTING"

Sept 29 – Oct 2 (Thurs – Sun) Fishing Holcomb Creeks & Camping at the Blackwell Place: Participated in the good times were about 15 Rabunites (plus Larry W's Dixie and Sophie - the Chapter's bear dog) and 1 Flatlander (Larry V; a Rabunite wannabe). And we had 4 visitors to whom Terry sold each person a Dream Trip raffle ticket! Nice work Mr. Prez! The menu was superb (thanks Charlie) and the food preparation was excellent (thanks Tom, Ray, Charlie, Kelly, and Terry). The fishing (as usual) was always good and the catching (as usual) was variable. We will do it again Nov 10 – 13 (Thurs – Sun) with Fishing in the Chattooga DH and Camping in Long Bottom (SC) (w/outhouse). You don't want to miss it! **Waaaah Whoooo!!**

Oct 1 (Sat) Goldrush TU Family Fun Day & Cook-out: Rabunites Charlie, Kathy, Ralph, and Sandy attended this fund raising event at beautiful Camp Glisson on Cane Creek near Dhlonega. Rabun TU donated several items for their raffle. Another **Waaaah Whoooo!!**

Oct 13 (Thurs) USFS Public Meeting on Upper Chattooga Boating Ban: Report filed by Tom L. on the NGTO message board: *"About 100 attended the first (4:00 PM) meeting at the Lutheran Church in Walhalla on October 13th. A second meeting was to begin at 5:45. Difficult to say who had the best representation among the user groups. Another Rabun TU member and I sat at a table with three guys who were boaters. The Forest Service was so intent in heading off any confrontations they did not entertain questions or comments from the floor. We discussed our concerns with our tablemates and made notes on a giant pad. These concerns and comments were collected and will be posted on the Forest Service's web page. "The Process" will probably require about two years and will consist of several public meetings, and, I would hope some positive action. While I didn't hear of a user group head count it was pretty obvious that TU and The American Whitewater folks were in a huge majority. AW even had two of their attorneys there along with the head of the organization. Steve Burch and Trout Tackler of Georgia Outdoor News, were there and I am sure will have something in their paper shortly. All in all, it was a most cordial meeting...the next one may not be that civil! As Don says, the fat lady ain't sung yet!"*

Oct 18 (Tues) Chapter Meeting: About 17 folks attended the monthly Chapter meeting. Metrela Brown of Unicoi Outfitters and the Blue Ridge Mountain TU Chapter provided an informative program on the Toccoa River. She had an excellent slide presentation of both the upper river (above Blue Ridge Lake) and the tailwater. Metrela shared her knowledge of the access points, wadeable areas, stocking locations, and plenty of other good info. Now Prez Terry wants to plan a Chapter trip to the Toccoa next year. **Raffle:** There were 11 really neat items for the bucket raffle at this meeting, including three fly assortments (as usual, Lea R. won 2 of them). The raffle raised \$75. A special 'thank you' goes to those members that contributed items.

Oct 25 (Tues) Board of Directors meeting: Only 5 attended. Terry got PO Box 371 in Clayton for the Chapter. Terry & Doug are authorized with Regions Bank to sign the Chapter checks. We postponed the fly tying demos in Reeves Hardware to the start of fishing season. Terry met with the local Boy Scouts Troop. Several scouts and their parents may join us for our Nov 11 & 12 Chattooga Campout in order to work on their fishing merit badge. Charlie had a meeting with GA Aquarium folks about a Back the Brookie display and they want to do it. It is time to start asking for donation of items for the Rendezvous. Terry & Doug will attend the SC Tri-Chapter Meeting on 11/5 to sell raffle tickets. Tom will attend the Tailwater TU Banquet on 11/5 with \$100 worth of items for their auction/raffle. Terry, Ray, & Bill are getting the logs & rebar for the 10/27 Betty Creek/RGNS stream structures. USFS is loaning us the tools. Rabun TU will not take a position on Poss-USFS land exchange.

Oct 27 (Thurs) Install Stream Structures in Betty Creek with RGNS students: On a cold frosty morning, 9 Rabunites installed 4 cover logs in beats #3 and #4. After a lunch provided by Kelly, about 2-dozen students and faculty constructed rock flow diverters and deepened the channels at each cover log. Habitat for trout is now much improved.

A SHARED MEMORY - MADE IN THE SOLITUDE OF THE UPPER CHATTOOGA

----- Original Message -----

From: David Sarratt

Sent: Friday, September 23, 2005 5:22 PM

Subject: Re: Public Meeting Scheduled for Oct. 13 About Upper Chattooga River Management

I have strong feelings about the Chattooga above the 28 Bridge. One night this past February, I could not sleep. It was about 3 a.m., and the weather in the upstate was threatening rain, sleet, and snow. I logged on to weather.com and saw the radar was clear in the vicinity of the Chattooga. I woke my wife to tell her I was going, grabbed my fly-fishing gear and left St. Matthews at 3:30 a.m.

As I was driving up the mountain from Walhalla, I saw the sunrise, and when I arrived at the bridge the temperature was 24, the river was clear and slow, and the sky was a gray-lighted mist all the way

to the ground. By 2 p.m. that afternoon, the sun broke through again only for a short time, the temperature made it to 52, and there was a hatch.

I spent the whole day on the river, and saw only two Canada geese floating down the river toward me. They stopped on a small sand bar and watched me fish for an hour or so. In fact, they are the only witnesses to my catch and release of a beautiful 16" brown trout, on a 2 wt. I might add.

Anyway, that day holds special meaning for me. There was a certain peace and even a reverence that some would not understand. I truly believe that if God ever wanted to fly fish, he would choose that stretch of the Chattooga. I would hope that it remains undisturbed, so others can experience what I did that winter day.

David Sarratt – SRTU Columbia, SC



"I caught ten rainbows, five browns, three brookies and seven cutthroats and was savoring the "grand slam" that I'd been trying for all my fly fishing life. I was basking in my success and getting ready to post my report to the VFB, FFW, and Hill Country Fly Fishing Lists, when my wife woke me up with, 'Jimmy, you promised me you'd fix the shower drain this morning.' Ah, retired life, ain't it great!" Jimmy D Moore

Visitor Use Capacity Analysis

Boating Ban on the Upper Chattooga River

A team of Forest Service employees is working on a capacity analysis and has developed a [proposed timeline](#) based on a process known as Limits of Acceptable Change. While the appeal decision does not direct that boating be allowed in the Upper Chattooga, it does direct the Forest Service to conduct additional analysis regarding **social and natural resource impacts** on the river and to involve affected and interested parties (that's where we come in). You can read the details here: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/chatt.shtml> Here is what some other folks are saying (none of these folks are members of Rabun TU – reprinted with permissions):

I am a resident of Rabun County, a whitewater paddler, fly fisherman, and life-long outdoorsman. Part of the reason I moved here to Rabun County is the Chattooga River and its wild and scenic status. The status wild and scenic is akin to a wilderness status, therefore it should be set aside for modern man to experience it in its pristine beauty, the Upper Chattooga should be a place for fishermen and backpackers to have this type of experience, there is quite a large portion of the river that is used by the whitewater community and it shows the scars and human impact of such. Please keep the upper areas in their pristine form and maintain the integrity of this watershed. Also consider the remoteness and inaccessibility of this area - rescue operations create a whole other set of circumstances that should be considered. "Stewardship is not a popularity contest."
George Custer -GA

I've only been fly fishing since March, and I spent many days on THE RIVER in the spring learning the basics and realizing the importance of a drag-free drift in the middle of a prolific Cahill hatch. Having a few miles of river almost completely to myself gave me a sense of freedom I don't think I've ever felt before. It was really like stepping back in time. If not for the small trail that runs along side the river, I would've believed you if you told me that I was in a place that no one had ever been before. It's one of the few places in Georgia that I know of where you don't hear a passing car or motorcycle, or have a power line hanging over your head.

The boaters say that the issue is their legal right to be a user of the river, yet they are against allowing other similar user groups such as tubers or commercial boaters using the river. I still may be just a "dumb kid," but I see a glaring double standard here, and it seems to be the foundation of their argument.

I know that the issue here is the usage of a public resource, but there aren't many resources more valuable than solitude. And with the ever-growing population of the Southeast, it's a resource that will become more and more scarce by the year.

God willing, I'll be going back to the Chattooga to fish for a long time. It's a one of a kind, especially in our state, because of the scenery, the wildlife, the fishing and the solitude. I hope that in the coming years, when the Cahill's start to come off the water and the trout start looking up, they won't be scared off by a bright red kayak going over their head.... I hope they're scared off by a 6'4" lanky guy! David Cannon - GA

The current management scheme for the Chattooga River has stood the test of time. Managing the upper section (above Highway 28) for the wilderness experience, not increasing non-walking recreational usage, is appropriate. Segregating boaters who are already allowed access to the 30 miles of river below Highway 28 should be continued in light of the initial and continuing conflicts from that heavy usage, including commercial operations. The current USFS policy is no different from many other wise management decisions made over the years for 'multiple use' that has segregated for example, horse and motorcycle access from walking access trails. But, most of all the wilderness aspect of the Chattooga above highway 28 must be protected and opening the

river there to boating of any kind at any flow level would degrade, not enhance or protect the solitude of this nationally significant wild and scenic river corridor. Malcolm Leapheart - SC

The Rock Gorge area is essentially a southern extension of the Ellicott Rock wilderness, albeit a de facto one. It's wilderness qualities-- for fishermen, hunters and hikers--will be mostly gone if these measures go through. ...that area is a wildlife refuge of inestimable worth as a place where humans do not much go. I go there a lot, and it is in many ways the finest, wildest area in the whole Chattooga watershed, to my mind. If they facilitate easy human access via new boating rules, those wilderness wildlife refuge values are gone forever.... No matter whether you call it wilderness or not.... Rock Gorge area IS wilderness...and we're fighting an end-sum game trying to protect it. But fight is what I intend to do... Butch Clay - SC

Last summer, friends of ours from Colorado came to visit. Lee and Marcia are both outdoor enthusiasts, and at age 64, Lee is now a member of the Fourteeners Club, those who gone to the summit of all the 14,000 + foot mountains in Colorado. I took them hiking from Burrell's Ford to Ellicott's Rock one afternoon, and they both told me it was the most scenic river hike they had ever been on!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Chattooga Plan. As an angler and backpacker, I have greatly enjoyed the Chattooga corridor above the Highway 28 Bridge. It presents a unique opportunity for a semi-wilderness experience that is within an easy drive of millions of people. The original restriction on boating was made to reduce user conflicts in the corridor. Since that time, the potential number of users has grown at an exponential rate. Even with just anglers, hikers and campers, it is easy to see the impact to the trails, vegetation and camping areas. If boating is re-instituted, the number of corridor users will climb dramatically and the impacts will deepen.

My personal recommendation is that the current and proven restrictions be maintained to protect the corridor or this very special resource. I think it naive to believe that boating will have no additional impact. Boaters will have to drive and park on both ends of the corridor generating additional traffic and parking congestion. Currently, on weekends, the parking lots overflow onto the roads and this will only worsen.

If the boating community were totally restricted from the river I could better appreciate their position. However, as recreational activities such as horse back riding, ATVs and angling have restrictions and limits, there is clear precedent for the boating restrictions on the upper Chattooga. John C. Kies – NC

To read more public comments received by the USFS, click on:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/forest/projects/chattcomments.shtml>

The objective of this process is to address impacts of public use and to preserve the environmental setting and resources for future recreational use – and the public is an integral part of this process. Now it is your turn.

The USFS want you to help: **Identify those public issues and managerial concerns that relate to distinctive features and characteristics of the Upper Chattooga River.**

Take a few minutes, help to preserve and protect the solitude and uniqueness of the only section of the Chattooga that has not been damaged by conflict and management for too many user groups. Do it for your grandchildren. Do it because it is what's best for the Upper Chattooga River.

Send your comments to:

Project Coordinator - John Cleaves, USDA Forest Service,
4931 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212
E-mail jcleaves@fs.fed.us

Visitor Use Capacity Analysis

Boating Ban on the Upper Chattooga River

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 17, in Clayton, GA (see below for time & location)

Proposed Time Line

TASKS	DATES
1. Develop a Preliminary Action Plan	Sept. 2005
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Planning Process ➤ Public Involvement Process ➤ Determine Skills Needed ➤ Determine Work Plan - Budget 	
2. Public Meeting	Oct. 13, 2005
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collaboration with the Publics ➤ Review Appeal Decision ➤ Design of Visitor Capacity Analysis ➤ Design of Public Inv. Process 	
3. Public Meetings (w/ small work groups)	Thursday, Nov 17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Define Zones above Highway 28 ➤ Define Opportunities in Each Zone ➤ Define Desired Conditions by Zone ➤ Suggestions for Indicators ➤ Suggestions for Data Needs and Data Techniques for Collection 	5 p.m. at the Clayton Baptist Church's Ministry Activities Center, 87 South Church Street, Clayton, GA. (Third Meeting for last 2 items Scheduled for December 1 in Walhalla, SC)
4. Data Needs/Techniques, Indicators, Standards, and possible Action Items.	January – August 2006
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collect all necessary data through user surveys, focus groups, user trials, or proxy analysis. ➤ Finalize Indicators ➤ Finalize Standards ➤ Develop possible action items ➤ Develop Monitoring Items 	
5. Public Meeting	Oct. 2006
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Present Indicators and Standards ➤ Present at least 3 options for managing river above HWY 28. This will be based on action items. 	
6. Public Meeting	Nov. 2006
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Open house interactive discussion ➤ Last chance to get individual public reactions to options, indicators, and standards in order to make a decision ➤ Possible Mitigation Measures 	
7. Start NEPA process	Dec. 2006
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Present the proposed action ➤ Scoping letter 	
8. Complete NEPA documents and make final decision	April 2007

A

Rabunite Remembers When the Boaters Took Over the Lower Chattooga

(From the NGTO message board - Oct. 17, 2005 <http://www.georgia-outdoors.com/forum/showthread.php?t=52674&page=2&pp=10>)

rafters/kayakers !! We are touching on a touchy subject here! Before the "infamous" movie **Deliverance**, these parts were ... relatively unknown to many. The movie was played at the local drive-in theatre. Everybody was excited about it. I was there, with some friends of mine who had relatives in it as extras. The place was packed!! This movie, as they called it, caused a lot of ... hurt on the local people. It betrayed them as a people that are so far from being truth/reality; it ain't funny (although it was just a movie!)!! It has been a joke on the movie screens ever sense then!! Then the rafters came.. then the USFS started closing the road access to the river that had created so many memories for so many!! That is when things got ugly. The locals felt as though they were being invaded and kept from something that they had cherished for generations. The woods were set on fire. Trees were cut

across the river at the narrows. Shots were fired at rafters (just close ones to my knowledge). Barbed wire was stretched just beneath the surface of the water to flatten the rafts. All in all ... the folks here have grew to accept what history/government has done to them. Today, people as more organized and don't do the things they would have done years pasted. But in my opinion, who ever has the best lawyer with the best gift of gab will prevail. Never forget that all rafting companies are part of a "commercial" empire!! Down river, as a fisherman/camper/hiker, if you are on the river, to them, you ain't supposed to be there!! I suspect the same will happen above the 28 bridge. If it is not to happen, the fisherman or woman/hiker/camper, everyone one with an interest will have to step up, and step up in force to detour the way this is going to be!!

Greg N Clayton (reprinted with permission)

What's New?

The Clayton Tribune - Erosion Cases in Rabun County Magistrate Court

October 6, 2005 - Wright Brothers Construction, a grading and hauling company under contract with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for work on Highway 76 West, was charged with allowing sedimentation into Acorn and Jones Branch creeks, which feed Lake Burton, and to the lake itself from its dirt fill sites adjacent to or near the highway. - Two violations of allowing sedimentation into state waters: \$2,500 fine per charge, plus court costs.

Jeff Eller, Tiger - Failure to have/maintain erosion control measures: \$2,500 fine.

Alice Dolan, Stafford, Va. - Failure to have/maintain erosion control measures and sedimentation into state waters: \$3,000 in fines, plus court costs.

John Burgess, Athens - Failure to have/maintain erosion control measures and sedimentation into state waters: \$3,000 in fines, plus court costs

GDOT also has been fined \$1,000 by the Environmental Protection Division for allowing sedimentation into state waters, said GDOT spokeswoman Terry Pope.

October 20, 2005 - Developer J. T. Williams, noted for his Waterfall Country Club and Kingwood Resort developments, pleaded no contest to 3 counts at Waterfall C. C. and 2 counts at Kingwood of violating the county soil erosion and sedimentation ordinance, failure to have/maintain erosion control measures and sedimentation into state waters: Total \$7000 in fines and fees.

Q & A

Q: I'm just getting into fly-fishing, what are the basic flies I should buy for trout fishing the streams in NE GA?

A: An informal survey of some of the 'old timer' Rabunites produced the following list of favorites:

Dry Flies (most frequently used size or color in **bold**):

1. Parachute Adams – 12, **14**, 16, **18**
2. Parachute Light Cahill – 8, 10, 12, **14**, 16, **18**
3. Stimulator (**ginger**, red, & green body; **light** & dark wing) – 10, **12**, **14**, 16
4. Parachute March Brown (or Parachute Red Quill) – **12**, 14
5. Parachute Mosquito – 16, **18**, 20
6. Parachute Blue Wing Olive – 16, **18**, 20
7. Griffith's Gnat – 18, **20**, 22
8. Elk Hair Caddis (**ginger**, dark, & black) – 12, **14**, **16**, 18
9. Irresistible – 12, **14**, 16, 18

Nymphs (most frequently used size or color in **bold**):

1. Prince – 10, 12, **14**, 16 (a few without weight for emergers and most with weight &/or beads for dredging)
2. Gold Ribbed Hairs Ear – 12, **14**, 16 (a few without weight for emergers and most with weight &/or beads)
3. Pheasant Tail – 12, **14**, 16, 18
4. All Purpose Stone Fly (i.e. **Golden**, **Brown**, Black, Montana, Bitch Creek, etc) – 8, **10**, 12
5. All Purpose Soft Hackle Emerger – 10, **12**, 14
6. Cased Caddis (i.e. Peeking Caddis, CK, Anytime/Anywhere, etc) – 10, **12**, 14

Streamers (most frequently used size or color in **bold**):

1. Woolly Bugger (**olive**, **black**, brown, purple) 8, **10**, 12, 14 (with & without beads; **with** & without flash)
2. Muddler Minnow – 8, **10**, 12
3. Mohair Leech (**olive**, black) - **10**

Other (most frequently used size in **bold**):

1. San Juan Worm (**pink**, red, & tan) – 10, **12**
2. Glow Bug Egg Pattern (yellow, orange, pink, green, **Y2K**, etc) – 12, **14**
3. Ant &/or Beetle Pattern – 12, **14**

TIGHT LINES is making another survey of the Rabunites. Results will be in the next newsletter. Please click 'reply' and advise: What would you leave out of the above list? What would you add?

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite welcome to **5 new members** this month: **Julie Kilby**, 307 OV Justice Road, Rabun Gap, GA 30568; **John Lewis**, 118 Spring Lake Lane, Ellijay, GA 30536; **Cari Westbrook**, 929 Woods Rd, Clayton, GA 30525; **Chris Shackelford**, 11569 Findley Rd, Duluth, GA 30097; and **Larry Walker**, 321 Hawk Hill Lane, Lakemont, GA 30552

Thanks for re-upping: **Tommy James**, **Jim Kidd**, and **Chip Woodlee**

It is time to renew your membership: **Doug Hickman**, **W. R. Wainwright**, **Anthony Nunley**, **Paul Barnes**, **Lindsey Gilbert**, **Donald MacLeod**, **Daniel Wall**, and **Andrew Wylie**,

Rabun TU Officers & Directors

President - Terry Rivers, 281 Coy Lane, Clayton, GA 30525

Vice President - Ralph Morgan

Treasurer (w/Newsletter) - Doug Adams

Secretary - Tom Matthews

Past President (w/Membership) - Ray Kearns

Director (w/Programs) - Bill Kelly

Director (w/Website) - Kathy Breithaupt

Director (w/Campouts & USFS Work-outsings) - Charlie Breithaupt

Director (w/Publicity & Hospitality) - Tom Landreth

Director at Large - Jimmy Whiten

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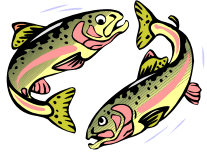
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News from the President..... **Terry Rivers**

Hello All,

Well after being in office for a month I guess I've not did to bad, they have not mention impeachment. Just want to say that those of you who missed the last campout miss some great fishing and social times together with the ones who share the same ideas. We also had a few fly fishermen to stop by the camp to say Hello, share some experiences, and buy some Dream Trip Raffle Tickets, the sales are doing well, and I also would like to thank Larry W. for the great grilled duck he prepared, see what you missed.

Those of you that missed the last meeting miss a great presentation by Metrela Brown of the Blue Ridge Mountain Chapter I personally want to thank her for a great slide show also I think it would be a great place for a chapter campout, keep that in mind, I would tell you where but I don't believe I said, you should have been there.

Just want to remind everybody that the Rendezvous is approaching fast. Get those items donated for the auctions. Also remember the next campout is just around the corner, would love to see a great turn out. I will close for now and say be safe on THE RIVER and looking forward to fishing with you. Remember the D.H. is a great place to be this winter.

Terry

Have a great day - Hope you catch a lot of fish!

For pictures and more info, visit the Rabun TU website: <http://www.rabuntu.com/>

Georgia TU Council website: <http://georgiatu.org/> or National TU Website: <http://www.tu.org/index.asp>

We would love getting your suggestions, stories, articles, and questions for our panel of experts in the Q & A section, or your comments about our Website and Newsletter.

Send them to: edadams1@alltel.net Or to: Rabun TU, PO Box 65, Rabun Gap, GA 30568

Please tell us if you have E-mail, it will
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