



TIGHT LINES July 2007 Newsletter of the

Rabun Chapter (522) of Trout Unlimited

Editor – Doug Adams edadams1@alltel.net
Visit the Rabun TU website: <http://www.rabuntu.com/>

Fishing is great discipline in the equality of men -- because all men are equal before fish!
President Herbert Hoover

THE JULY MEETING is the ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC!

Kelly's Water Falls Park – Dillard, Tuesday, July 17th, 6:00 pm

Directions: Travel north on US-441, on the north side of Dillard turn right at the traffic light on GA-246, go about 1.7 miles, turn right on Wayfarer Lane, then go 1/4 mile to the end of the gravel road.

The Chapter will provide the soft drinks, the fried chicken, plates, etc. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish, veggies, salad, chips, or a desert.
There will not be a raffle at the Family Picnic.

"A trout lives in a secret world. It is a small world in which many dramatic events are played out in watery obscurity, veiled from the keenest eyes." Vincent Marinaro

"FORWARD CASTING" Important Dates - See you there!

July 10 (Tues Noon) USFS Public Hearing – Visitor Use Capacity Analysis, Upper Chattooga River - Sign-in: 12:00 Noon, Hearing: 1:00 – 5:00 pm St John's Lutheran Church, 301 W. Main Street, Walhalla, SC The hearing will provide the public with an opportunity to provide comment directly to the agency. Members of the public will have up to 3 minutes to share their perspective on a first-come, first-served basis. Written statements can also be handed in at this time. The Forest Service will analyze and consider all comments in preparation for future public involvement activities and through the environmental analysis. For details, click [\(HERE\)](#)

July 10 (Tues Night) Campout at Cherry Hill C.G. for those volunteering to help sample Wednesday morning. Location: Off SC Hwy 107, 1.5 mile south of Burrell's Ford Rd intersection. You need to contact Terry Rivers Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net He plans the menu and buys the grub!

July 11 (Wed) Annual Electro-Shock Sampling of Chattooga River (USFS, SC DNR & GA DNR) We will sample the Spoonauger area just above Burrell's Ford (meet 9:00 AM at Burrell's Ford Bridge). Lots of Volunteers needed!

July 14 (Sat) USFS LAC Workshop: Identifying Standards & Management Actions - Upper Chattooga River Capacity Use Analysis; All Day; St. John's Lutheran Church, 301 W. Main Street, Walhalla, SC For details, click [\(HERE\)](#) page 8

July 14 (Sat) Rabun TU's Fly Fishing School for Adults; Rabun County Recreation Center A half-day fly-fishing for trout seminar for adults (male and female age 16 years and older). The seminar will cover equipment, casting, knots and entomology. For more info, visit [\(HERE\)](#)

July 17 (Tues) Family Picnic, 6 PM, Kelly's Water Falls Park (see above for details)

July 24 (Tues) Board of Directors 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

Aug 17 & 18 (Fri & Sat) Workday with Campout Back the Brookie Workday on North Prong of Moccasin Creek

Aug 21 (Tues) Chapter Meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust; **Program -** Dr. Gary Grossman "A Different View of Trout"

Aug 28 (Tues) Board of Directors 6:30 PM, Community Bank and Trust

2008 Rabun Rendezvous - Sat, Jan 26 – Program by Sally Armstrong

FLY OF THE MONTH

by Terry Rivers



Sizes #12 - 18

PARACHUTE BEETLE

IF YOU ARE HEADED OUT WEST THIS SUMMER TO FISH SOME OF THE WESTERN STREAMS OR RIVERS, I HIGHLY RECOMEND THIS PATTERN. IT WAS VERY EFFECTIVE FOR ME ON SOME OF THE SMALLER STREAMS I FISHED THERE IN THE PAST.

HOOK: 12 TO 18 DRY FLY 2X

ABDOMEN: PEACOCK HERL

WINGCASE: TURKEY QUILL OR CRAFT FOAM

POST: FLOIRESENT ANTRON (A COLOR YOU CAN SEE)

HACKLE: COLOR TO MATCH WING CASE

"You say also that the dressing seems so very thin and would not show against the light. That is an advantage in fine weather. The more indistinct a fly the better, so I find."

A.H.E. Wood

July Hatches

The Bugs	Time of Month	Time of Day	Suggested Flies
None at all	Can happen any time on any day		Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT
Brown Stonefly	All Month	Early to Mid AM	10-14 Brown Stimulator 10-12 Brown Stonefly Nymph
Golden Stonefly	All Month	Early AM	8-12 Ginger Stimulator 6-10 Golden Stonefly Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly	All Month	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Trico Mayfly Trico Spinner Fall	Early	Mid AM Late PM	20 Parachute Trico 20-22 Poly Wing Black Spinner
Midges	All Month	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
Terrestrials – Ants, Beetles, Crickets, Inch-Worms, Hoppers, Etc			Various Times & Sizes

TU Chapter 'Website-of-the-Month': <http://www.crctu.com/>
Check out the Fly Tying Class: <http://www.crctu.com/FlyTying2007.htm>

Visitor Use Capacity Analysis, Upper Chattooga River

Status Update June 1, 2007 ([HERE](#))

This month's update features one new report and three summaries of components of Step 4 of the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) process. These components have recently been completed. Reports previously posted may be found on the [reports](#) page. These results will also become the building blocks for completing [Steps 5, 6 and 7 of the LAC process](#).

Biophysical Impacts – Gives information about current conditions in the corridor including maps of existing trails and a summary of other biophysical related information. [Summary](#)

Flow Monitoring - This report summarizes recreation-relevant hydrology information for the Upper Chattooga River. [Report](#)
Proxy River Information – A summary of management and flow related information for "similar-type" rivers to the Chattooga River as identified through public input. [Summary](#)
Use Estimation Workshop – A summary of the workshop conducted with resource agency personell to help consolidate and summarize use information. [Summary](#)
Integrated Report ([HERE](#)) - This report will be the backbone for developing alternatives in [Step 8 of LAC](#).

Open Houses and Related Documents ([HERE](#)) - [Current and Future Management Standards](#)

The Path Forward – [Q&A](#) , [Time Line](#) , [Citizen's Guide to Public Involvement](#) , [NRLI Report](#) , [Public Hearing Information](#)

Tuesday, July 10th - USFS Public Hearing ([HERE](#)) Sign-in: 12:00 pm, Hearing: 1:00 – 5:00 pm; St John's Lutheran Church, 301 W. Main Street, Walhalla, SC

Questions to Consider - The Forest Service invites all public comment. We hope that the following questions help to stimulate thought about the desired future of the upper Chattooga River:

- What values / issues of local or national significance are important for the Forest Service to consider?
- Keeping in mind your answer to the above and realizing that various resources (water quality, wildlife, recreation, etc.) must be weighed together, how would the upper Chattooga River be managed and what would it look like if you were managing it?
- What are the benefits (environmental, social, recreational, economic, etc.) that your vision provides?
- What current or potential environmental effects are you concerned about?

Saturday, July 14th – USFS - LAC Workshop: Identifying Standards & Management Actions ([HERE](#)) (Steps 5 & 7) This

- The Forest Service can make changes to the land, the way people use the area, or how it is administered. What changes would you recommend the Forest Service make in current management of the upper Chattooga River to ensure your vision succeeds?
- What alternative or alternatives to current management would you recommend that, in your opinion, would best respond to all the various public interest while maintaining the outstandingly remarkable values of the Chattooga Wild & Scenic River?
- Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning the upper Chattooga River.

Where to Submit Written Comments - If you are unable to attend, we still need your comments! Please send written comments to: John Cleeves, 4931 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212, jcleeves@fs.fed.us

workshop will center public discussion on developing a list of priority standards (LAC Step 5) and potential management

actions (LAC Step 7) that reflect the desired resource and social conditions for the upper Chattooga River. In order to accomplish this, participants will draw heavily on previous work done in public meetings to describe existing and potential recreation opportunities (LAC Step 2), the results of the Phase 1 data collection efforts (LAC Step 4), and the current management prescription for the river. The outcome of this workshop will be a table that specifies acceptable conditions or standards for the upper Chattooga and realistic management actions for potential alternatives.

Collaboration Goal: The workshop will provide a forum for participants to work with one another and across user groups to determine standards and management actions for recreational opportunities that are key to defining the quality of the

experience as well as protecting the natural resource conditions. The input provided at this workshop will enable the Forest Service to evaluate where proposed management actions may be feasible along the upper river (Step 6) and develop a range of potential alternatives (LAC Step 8) that will later be evaluated by the public.

Objectives:

- Review existing and potential recreational opportunities
- Compare existing conditions with desired conditions
- Provide the public with a forum to revise and propose standards and management actions for the upper Chattooga River

Participants: All members of the public are invited to attend the workshop.

#

Excerpts from the [Integrated Report](#) - Chapter 8 - Management Actions

Pg 95 Separating uses to address conflicts: Earlier chapters document the potential for conflict between boaters and other users (if boating were allowed), and the most important impacts (on-river encounters and interference with angling). The opening section in this chapter describes use conflicts and the ways they are usually addressed (separating uses by space or time, or modifying norms about acceptable uses). Examples of conflict-reduction actions include:

Separating uses by space: The year-round boating closure above Highway 28 used this approach, essentially managing for boating on the lower river and non-boating activities on the Upper Chattooga. Variations might include closures for shorter segments and/or shorter time periods. Given current impacts and use patterns, the most beneficial **segment separation options** focus on the three frontcountry areas and the Nicholson Fields (DH) reach (if boating is allowed on the longer reaches):

- A boating closure at Sliding Rock (particularly in warmer months) could prevent conflicts between boaters and swimmers at this site (if boaters were otherwise allowed to use the segment). This is unlikely to have a substantive effect on boaters running the Chattooga Cliffs reach, even if boaters used the pool below the slide as a starting point for their trips (which would only occur if the river though private land below Grimshawes Bridge was adjudicated in favor of public access).
- A boating closure for ¼ mile on either side of Burrells Ford Bridge. This could require boaters to take out above (when running the Ellicott Rock reach) or to put-in below (when running the Rock Gorge reach) that area. This involves a longer “carry” to the launching areas, but boaters currently portage similar distances at most Lower Chattooga launches. It would slightly increase trail use in the Burrells Ford area, but many of those trails are heavily used already, and could be redesigned to handle the boater traffic if necessary.
- A boating closure from Lick Log Creek or Reed Creek to Highway 28 (particularly during DH season). If boaters were allowed to use the Rock Gorge Reach but were required to takeout at Lick Log Creek (the ¾ mile trail to Thrift Lake), all boater-angler encounter and interference impacts would be eliminated in the Nicholson Fields or DH reach, arguably the “highest-value” fishing reach. This reach is mostly flat or Class I water, and less interesting to whitewater boaters, but such a closure would eliminate potential scenic boating (canoeing, boat-based fishing, or tubing) opportunities during periods when it is in place.

Separating uses by space (zoning) is among the most common ways of addressing use conflicts in land-based settings; for example, most national forests include distinct areas where motorized and non-motorized uses can occur. In river settings, segment zoning is also common, particularly for separating motorized and non-motorized uses (dozens of WSRs or

segments have been designated non-motorized). Zoning by space to address conflicts between non-motorized boating and other uses is more rare, but examples include non-motorized boating closures on all rivers in Yellowstone National Park, segments of the Merced and Tuolumne in Yosemite National Park, and the North Umpqua in Oregon (with a five mile reach closed to boating during peak steelhead season). The North Umpqua closure is by recommendation rather than formal regulation, but appears to have near complete compliance. We are unaware of non-motorized segment closures (aside from the Upper Chattooga) in the southeast.

Separating uses by time: An alternative approach is to separate uses by time, which includes seasonal, day of the week, or time of day closures. Given current impacts and use patterns, the most beneficial timing options would focus on the DH season, the higher use summer and fall color seasons, or certain times of day:

- A boating closure on the Nicholson Fields reach during the DH season would prevent conflict between anglers and boaters in the “highest-value” fishing reach during the “highest-value” fishing season.
- A boating closure in summer and early fall would address conflicts between boaters and hikers during the “highest-value” hiking season.
- Limiting boating to the middle of the day (e.g., 10 am to 5 pm) could reduce angler-boater interaction during late spring, summer, and early fall (when better fishing is in mornings or evenings). However, both groups prefer the middle of the day from November to about February (the majority of likely boatable days).

Several WSRs have timing restrictions. For example, the North Umpqua has boating time of day restrictions to minimize impacts on anglers (who tend to fish mornings and evenings). Similarly, the motor/non-motor segment closures on Hells Canyon vary by season, Grand Canyon has a “no motors” season, and segments of the North Fork Virgin in Zion National Park are closed to whitewater boating and tubing during parts of the year.

Separating uses by flow: Separating uses by flow level is away of separating uses by time, allowing natural flow regimes to dictate boatable times. Two rivers where variations of this concept have been used include the North Fork of the Virgin River in Zion National Park (whitewater boaters are allowed to boat the river by permit during high flow periods of the year) and a segment of the Rio Grande near Albuquerque NM (commercial use is allowed on this segment only during higher flows).

As discussed in Chapter 7, the conflict between boaters and anglers is probably only relevant on the Upper Chattooga in the two “overlap ranges,” and separation by flow thresholds offers one way that high quality opportunities for both groups might be addressed.

There are challenges to a flow-based separation, beginning with the lack of a real-time gage at Burrells Ford. In addition, the river's "flashy" hydrology means that "boating/no boating" decisions will sometimes be "wrong" in hindsight. It is also challenging to "split" overlap ranges. For example, for the "low flow overlap" (which provides optimal fishing and lower quality technical boating), the options appear to be:

- Prohibit boating on these days.
- Determine the flow splits the 77 days in overlap period; boating could be allowed above that flow.
- Choose the middle flow in the range (288 cfs at Burrells Ford); boating would be allowed above that flow.
- Allowing boating all days in this range.

POINT > and < COUNTERPOINT

Boater's Point: At least one boater believes zoning of conflicting activities is discrimination. A quote from the 6/19 public meeting in Highlands, *"For the last 30 years, the U.S. Forest Service and fishermen have basically used the equivalent of a Jim Crow law to ban boaters on the Upper Chattooga,"* said Mark Hoffman, a Raleigh-based boater. (An excerpt from an Asheville Citizen-Times article. To read the complete article, click [HERE](#))

Counterpoint: Zoning of conflicting uses is good stewardship, not discrimination. Stewardship encompasses far more than picking up litter; it includes the protection of the aesthetic values of natural resources such as remoteness and wildness, the proper regard for the rights of others to solitude, and the responsibility of preserving these values intact for future generations.

See the list of organizations below that agree.

Organizations Supporting Unrestricted Boating of the Chattooga's North Fork:

1. American Whitewater <http://www.americanwhitewater.org/>
2. American Canoe Association <http://www.americancanoe.org/>
3. Georgia Canoeing Association <http://www.georgiacanoe.org/>
4. Atlanta Whitewater Club <http://www.atlantawhitewater.com/mambo/index.php>
5. Western Carolina Paddlers <http://boatingbeta.com/~wcp/>
6. Foothills Paddling Club (SC)

Organizations Opposing Unrestricted Boating of the Chattooga's North Fork:

1. Wilderness Watch (of Missoula, MT) <http://www.wildernesswatch.org/>
2. National Trout Unlimited <http://www.tu.org/site/pp.asp?c=7dJEKTNuFmG&b=275410>
3. Georgia ForestWatch <http://www.gafw.org/>
4. Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited <http://www.georgiatu.org/>
5. Georgia Wildlife Federation <http://www.gwf.org/>
6. Chattooga Conservancy <http://www.chattoogariver.org/>
7. Atlanta Fly Fishing Club <http://www.atlantaflyfishingclub.org/>
8. South Carolina Council of Trout Unlimited
9. South Carolina Wildlife Federation <http://www.scwf.org/>
10. Highlands Plateau Audubon Society (NC) <http://main.nc.us/nas-hpc/>
11. Highland Biological Station (NC) <http://www.wcu.edu/hbs/Home.htm>
12. Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance (NC) http://www.highlandschamber.org/?p=member&member_id=196
13. North Carolina Council of Trout Unlimited <http://www.nctu.org/>
14. North Carolina Wildlife Federation <http://www.ncwildlifefederation.org/>
15. The Over The Hill Hiking Club (NC)
16. Whiteside Cove Association (NC)

The Boater's demand of "unlimited use" at any water level equals "unlimited growth". Just look at what has happened to the lower Chattooga! Then factor in future growth of 'extremely low flow' boating (what boaters call ELF).

To see ELF, click [HERE](#) and to read about ELF boating on the lower Chattooga at 1.2 feet, click [HERE](#)

Obviously, however this issue is resolved it will be precedent setting with far reaching consequences into the future and across all federal agencies that manage and zone recreational waters. You need to share your views NOW.

Have you experienced user conflict or interference from whitewater boating on a mountain trout stream?

Is it worse now than it was 20 years ago? What's it going to be like in another 20 years?

Do we need more stream sections zoned like the North Fork of the Upper Chattooga, for "foot travel only"?

If you have an opinion, please take a few minutes and tell the Forest Service.

SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO: PROJECT COORDINATOR – JOHN CLEEVES, E-MAIL jcleeves@fs.fed.us

USDA FOREST SERVICE, 4931 BROAD RIVER ROAD, COLUMBIA, SC 29212

FOR MORE INFO ON THE VISITOR USE CAPACITY ANALYSIS, Click: [HERE](#)

Q & A

Q - Where can I learn more about the flora, fauna, geology, natural history, and human history of the Chattooga River headwaters?

A - Start with a book titled *A Guide to the Chattooga River* by Butch Clay (1995) Chattooga River Publishing. 64 p.

To read a review of this book, click [HERE](#)

Those are not water moccasins on THE RIVER – This article is still timely today

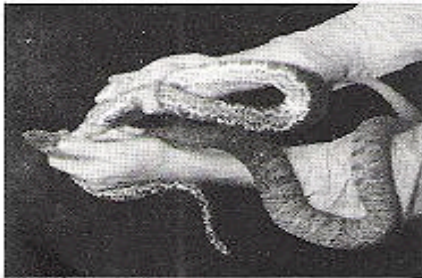
The snake that anglers encounter most often on the Chattooga's North Fork is the common water snake. The following article was published 66 years ago in the *Outdoor Georgia* magazine written by our long time friend and Rabun TU member, the late **Dr. CHARLES WHARTON (1923 – 2003)** when he was only 18 years old. Charlie, a resident of Tate City at the head of the Tallulah River, was adjunct research associate at the University of Georgia's Institute of Ecology.

Harmless Water Snake Faces Destruction

By CHARLES D. WHARTON

OF ALL the reptilian inhabitants of Georgia, the water snakes are probably the most persecuted and least understood. They seem to receive the brunt of man's hatred against snakes. Being easily located, by reason of their preference for water, they provide a target for many unthinking people who presume they are ridding the community of a great pest. Some kill them solely for the reason that they are snakes; others kill water snakes because they "destroy fish"; others fear for their personal safety.

It has been shown in other fields that to interfere with nature's setup is to invite evil results. Discard prejudices a moment and consider the good points of water snakes. Actually they render several definite services. Probably the most important is the



consumption of weak, dead and diseased fish. Were diseased or biologically unfit fish allowed to breed or infect others, one could soon see the disastrous consequences that would result.

Most trout fishermen realize every hooked trout turned back into the stream will not recuperate. Should a trout fail to recover quickly enough from often unnoticeable injuries, it would be extremely liable to an attack by harmful bacteria, producing a condition detrimental to fish in good health.

I do not say a water snake doesn't eat healthy fish. Even if not to press the theory of natural selection, this can be beneficial. To overstock a pond or stream has been proven a worse deed than understocking one. Certainly water snakes were intended to eliminate, to a certain degree, the excess produced or introduced, thus quickly permitting fish to attain

breeding size by way of the more abundant food. Granted that these above points are true, it is still necessary to control water snakes in certain areas, as an overabundance of any wild creature will tend to be a hazard.

"Sure, there's plenty of moccasins down there on the creek. You fellows catch them?"

How many times have I heard some farmer or store owner make those remarks. He believes all water snakes to be poisonous. Here, again, is another reason why aquatic reptiles are slaughtered unnecessarily.

ALMOST everyone calls a water snake a "moccasin." The word itself undoubtedly has a sinister ring but the only snake deserving of this title is the cottonmouth, or true water moccasin, a snake found in the coastal and south-central parts of Georgia. This snake is the one and only poisonous water snake found in Georgia. Nowhere is it abundant, save certain desolate regions on the coastal plain and the Savannah River. The cottonmouth will probably never be encountered above Macon. If anyone believes that they can give conclusive evidence to the contrary, I would be pleased to hear from them.

There are approximately seven species of harmless water snakes in Georgia. This is given not to confuse the reader, but to give information to those interested. Three of these species are found in the coastal region; two in the central-southern part of the state and two are distributed over the entire state. These last two are more likely to be encountered in north-central Georgia than any of the other species. They are the Common Water Snake and the Queen Snake. The former is the recipient of the name moccasin, the latter is responsible for the plunges from overhanging limbs that sometimes startle the unsuspecting fisherman. The Queen Snake, however, it might be interesting to note, has such a small head that to eat any but the tiniest fish is impossible—they feed principally on crayfish and salamanders.

Briefly, we find water snakes as a rule are not destructive to fish life; they are beneficial in most cases; and the one true moccasin is encountered but rarely, and only in the southern half of Georgia.

It is difficult to make snake state-

ments acceptable; to change the views of people who have grown up with certain beliefs but the point of this article is an appeal to the sportsmen of Georgia to view the water snake situation with an open mind, and, in a different light. Let's give water snakes a chance to help nature.

OUTDOOR GEORGIA will be glad to answer any questions concerning snakes. Write Charles Wharton.

OUTDOOR GEORGIA • August 1941

Our "Thanks" to Rabunite **TOM LANDRETH** for discovering this 1941 article and sharing with **TIGHT LINES** readers.

Stekoa Creek Update

Stekoa Creek is classified as primary trout water, and should be capable of supporting trout reproduction. Stekoa Creek is also infamous as a major, very polluted tributary to the National Wild & Scenic Chattooga River. The City of Clayton is entirely in the Stekoa Creek watershed. Persistent lack of corrective and preventive actions to address excessive fecal coliform and sediment levels has been responsible for the continued deterioration of the stream for over 30 years.

DRIVING FOR TROUT

Seventeen (17) members of Rabun TU have volunteered their time and vehicle expenses to drive the weekly Stekoa Creek Monitoring water samples to the certified lab in Jefferson, GA (132 mile round trip) on Tuesday mornings. The volunteer schedule through the summer is as follows: Larry Walker (7/2), Eedee Adams (7/10), Terry Rivers (7/17), Tom Landreth (7/24), Lea Richmond (7/31), Russell Johnson (8/7), Ray Gentry (8/14), Ray Kearns (8/21), Gary Deal (8/28), Doug Adams (9/4), Bill Kelly (9/11), Jimmy Whiten (9/18), Charlie Breithaupt (9/25), and Fritz Vinson (10/2). If you can volunteer to be a driver of samples to the lab, contact Doug Adams, Ph 706 746 2158; E-mail edadams1@alltel.net

To see a spreadsheet with the weekly fecal coliform counts for all sample sites, click on <http://www.rabuntu.com/>

Q & A

Q –Has monitoring Stekoa Creek and tributaries with weekly water sampling really made a difference?

A - Absolutely, just read the below front page Clayton Tribune article.

City sewer system fails again

By Donald Fraser Staff Writer - The Clayton Tribune <http://www.theclaytontribune.com/> (6/28/2007)

Clayton has seen yet another major sewage spill. Sewage coming from a manhole behind the former Clayton Elementary School on Friday was described as a "fountain" by Buzz Williams, executive director of the Chattooga Conservancy. He reported the spill to city officials. Williams said he observed sewage surging from the manhole, then into Scotts Creek, which flows behind the closed school. Scotts Creek then merges with Ginger Creek, and they subsequently flow into Stekoa Creek. The spill occurred near the end of a greenway walking trail that the Conservancy helped create. In a June 8 letter to City Manager Cissy Henry, Stan Donehoo, an environmental specialist with the Cartersville office of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, "recommended that the city evaluate the collection system" for possible leaks in the area of the spill. Donehoo's letter stated the Conservancy's stream-monitoring data showed elevated readings for fecal coliform between April 17 and May 29 "in the areas of City Housing and Marsengill Street." Donehoo's letter was based on fecal coliform stream-testing data the Conservancy had submitted to the EPD. Donehoo asked the city to respond by Aug. 15 with its findings. Williams said the area had been a focus of attention for the Conservancy's water sampling and monitoring program. The program includes weekly creek water sampling at a variety of locations in and around Clayton. High levels of fecal coliform have been detected at sampling sites near Marsengill Drive and upstream at Cool Spring Lane. Fecal coliform tests determine water quality by looking at the number of bacterial colonies in a water sample. A reading of over 200 bacterial colonies per milliliter presents safety concerns for swimming. In May, the Conservancy detected fecal coliform readings ranging from 218 to 4,080, for an average of 1,178 at the Marsengill testing site. Four fecal coliform tests at the Cool Spring site during the same time frame produced readings from 120 to colonies "too numerous to count," Williams said. Testing conducted on June 14 saw readings had dropped to 180 colonies per milliliter at Cool Spring, while Marsengill was still high at 769. Another sampling site, on Stekoa Creek near Dairy Queen had colonies

"too numerous to count." Scott Dills, city compliance officer, attributed the increase in water quality at Cool Spring to a sewer line repair on private property upstream of the testing site. Mayor Tom Ramey Sr. acknowledged that the sewage spill occurred, but said the city was already tackling the problem. "There was a sewer leak," Ramey said Monday. "We're trying to get permission to fix it." Moody Barrick, public works director, reported the leak to EPD, although Ramey said: "We don't think it was major." "Less than 10,000 gallons" was spilled, Henry said Tuesday. Part of Clayton's response to the spill "is to test (the spill site) every day for a week, then once a week for a month, then once a month for a year," she said. A sign will also be posted at the spill site to warn the public, Henry said. Repairing the manhole where the leak occurred is part of a two-phase sewer line and manhole replacement project, Ramey said. The manhole cannot be fixed without receiving a special variance from EPD to work within 50 feet of a creek or stream. The first phase involves replacing almost 3,000 feet of sewer line running roughly parallel to Highway 76 West from the old elementary school to a point near Clayton Welding and Supply, Ramey said. Phase two is "putting in about 10 manholes." Ramey estimated the project would cost about \$75,000. The city has applied for an "imminent threat and danger grant" through Gov. Sonny Perdue's office. To Williams, the sewer line replacement project is another example of Clayton's "need to study the problem and zero in on priorities." Replacing the line and installing manholes may be marshaling resources toward just one part of the problem, Williams said. "We continue to get high (fecal coliform) readings in that one area." Williams said the city needed "to do some more detail work and find where the main problems are with this antiquated (sewage collection) system." He said the city must address the problem before it considers expanding the sewage treatment plant's capacity. "It's causing health hazards and environmental concerns." Clayton is currently planning to expand its sewage plant capacity from 800,000 gallons per day to 1 million gpd. (Underlining added)

So far this year, the Stekoa Creek Monitoring Project has received cash donations from anglers totaling over \$5,600. **These funds are used to pay the fees of the certified testing laboratory.** The donations came from the **National TU Embrace-A-Stream Grant** [HERE](#), the **GA Council of TU** [HERE](#), the **Rabun TU Chapter** [HERE](#), the **Upper Chattahoochee TU Chapter** [HERE](#) (Roswell, GA), **Oconee River TU Chapter** [HERE](#) (Athens, GA), and the **Atlanta Fly Fishing School** [HERE](#).

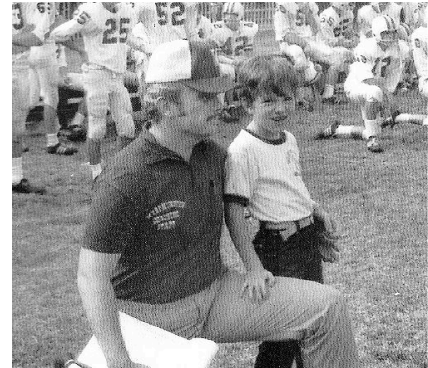
There have been additional personal donations from individual TU members. For info on where you can send a personal donation, visit <http://www.chattoogariver.org/index.php?req=stekoa> Click on, [We All Live Downstream](#)

Who were these 2 Future Rabunites?

Last month we published this 1971 photograph of 2 future members of the Rabun TU Chapter and asked our readers if they could identify them.

Prez Terry was the only person to submit a guess and he got it right! The coach is GA TU Council Chairman, Rabunite Charlie Breithaupt, a former Coach, Teacher, and the Principal at Westminster Schools in Atlanta. The young lad beside him is his son Chuck (also a Rabunite), now a Coach and Teacher at Westminster Schools.

"The apple doesn't fall far from the tree."



A pastor, a priest and a rabbi were out for a day of fishing.

After getting into the boat they had just pulled away from the dock when the rabbi said stop the boat I forgot the coffee. The pastor, who was driving the boat, said, *"I will turn around and take you back to the dock"* and the rabbi said, *"Oh no need I will be right back."* The rabbi quickly jumped out of the boat and ran across the water to shore and then to his car to fetch the coffee and then ran back across the water and got back in the boat.

Well the pastor not wanting to be shown up by the rabbi said, *"Oh my I forgot the sandwiches"* and quickly jumped out of the boat to attempt running across the water like the rabbi but instead sank quickly to the bottom of the lake.

With that the priest looked angrily at the rabbi and said, *"You should have shown him where the rocks were."*

What's New Elsewhere?

USFS –GA Chattahoochee-Oconee NF has a new Acting Forest Supervisor: George Bain from Daniel Boone NF in KY has been named the acting supervisor until a permanent replacement is selected to replace Kathleen Atkinson. Ms Atkinson was recently promoted to USFS Headquarters in Washington, DC. Congratulations, Kathleen and Welcome to GA, George.

GA WRD – Drought impacts north GA streams, forces trout stocking changes (5/15/2007) GAINESVILLE, GA Extremely low stream flows and rapidly rising water temperatures are causing changes in Georgia's trout stocking program (a cooperative effort between the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). Given the drought situation and the direct effect on north Georgia trout streams, WRD trout stocking managers will likely alter this year's stocking program, resulting in accelerated stocking efforts on some streams and discontinued stocking efforts on others. "It looks like we may be headed for a repeat of last summer," says WRD Trout Stocking Coordinator Perry Thompson. "We typically expect July and August to be very hot and dry, but this year conditions have grown steadily worse since May. We're gearing up to stock more trout in June while we still have adequate stream flows and less trout in July and August. This will make for some good fishing in the next month. It will also allow us to hold only the number of trout that our hatcheries can support, given the warmer water and lower flows." For more information on fishing in Georgia including a list of stocked trout streams, visit www.gofishgeorgia.com.

"Some folks are saying it isn't ever going to rain again. But it will. It always has." Former county agent Wilber Maney

NPS - Smokies Announces Status of North Shore Road Environmental Impact Statement (5/25/2007) BRYSON CITY

– Great Smoky Mountains National Park Superintendent, Dale A. Ditmanson, has announced that the National Park Service (NPS) has begun preparation of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) which was undertaken to resolve the long-standing issues regarding the proposed North Shore Road in the Swain County, NC area of the Park. As currently drafted, the FEIS will call for a monetary settlement to Swain County as the National Park Service's Agency Preferred Alternative. The Park expects to publish a Notice of Availability of the FEIS in The Federal Register in September and then will accept public comments for a 30-day period prior to publishing a Record of Decision. To read the complete News Release, click [HERE](#)

Stop I-3 Update: The June Newsletter has been posted at www.stopi3.org. There is much to read on the website, and we encourage you to take a few minutes and have a "good read".

USFS - April's Frost Damage Will Have Year-Long Impacts on Georgia's Wildlife and Wildfire Danger (5/18/2007) The following are excerpts from an article by Ron Stephens, Forester with the U.S. Forest Service's Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forests: On Easter weekend, April 7th and 8th, 'green-up' or the green appearance of hardwood trees as winter buds open and new leaves start to unfurl, was well advanced in the Chattahoochee National Forest below about 2500 feet elevation. Spring comes with a rush in any year but this year 'green-up' seemed to occur in only about five days. But Easter weekend in Georgia was one of nearly unprecedented cold. The effect to 'green-up' was devastating. The frost-killed vegetation created an unusual fire and fuels situation. Oak trees of all kinds were particularly hard hit because they were blooming when the freeze hit. Numerous species of wildlife that depend on acorns as a mainstay of their fall and winter diets will have hard times next winter. Those with small home ranges such as gray squirrel are in serious trouble. To read the complete article, visit [HERE](#)

"Even when trout take the nymph it is difficult to time the strike so as to hook him, as most of the time the nymph is invisible and one must acquire that sixth sense which the experienced fisherman gets after years of practice of when to tighten the line."

From Nymph Fly Fishing by Edward R Hewitt

The Night of the Chattooga River Fairy Catch By Patsy P. Lewis-Gentry

Motoring through the darkness of the backwoods of the Chattahoochee National Forest to the Ellicott Rock Wilderness in search of fairies, you would think two 60-plus year olds were definitely headed for long term care...if you didn't know any better. It was a dark night full of mystery. For an entire year, I had waited. It took forever driving into the backwoods of the forest, but we were on a mission and nothing could stop us. "It is supposed to rain tomorrow. So, we must drive over to the Chattooga River late tonight for this sighting." Ray said as he turned his bright lights on in our SUV steering around a mountainous curve. "I've been told they come out after only 9:30 pm at the same time each year and only for two weeks. Once we get deep into the forest you will have to be extremely quiet. I think we'll have to walk about fifteen or twenty minutes into the forest along the trail before we get to the spot Doug mentioned." Like a school child, I was excited, but scared at the same time. Reared on a farm, I wasn't worried about the walk down a long narrow trail into the forest as much as I was about the wild animals lurking behind one of the trail's bends in the dark. "What if the panther that chased the Forest Service employee into the Chattooga River last January shows up? What if one of those black bears or huge rattlesnakes lay in waiting on our darkened pathway? Did you bring your gun, Ray? And, oh, yes, there was Deliverance!" My mind was racing a mile a minute.

It was almost a year ago that I was sitting around a campfire listening to my husband, Ray's fisherman cronies speak of "Fairies and Twinkies" near the Chattooga River in the Ellicott Rock Wilderness (SC side). At first, my husband's look was a bit comical when his rough and tough fly fisherman buddies were discussing sightings of fairies along the Chattooga. Doug Adams, one of the foremost river historians and fly fishermen in the area, told a most interesting tale. It seems that for decades they have observed a strange natural phenomena occurring in the Chattooga River valley and especially in the Ellicott Rock Wilderness. "They always arrive around the middle of May each year in the dense forest along the Chattooga River in the thousands," Doug said as he related the story. My ears perked up wanting to know more while my husband was having his doubts. I could hear my husband's mind churning, "Twinkies and Fairies.....hum...." For many, many years the mountain folks spoke of tiny little lights hovering above the ground in the depths of the forest. Many ghost stories have been woven by the campfires at night when suddenly pin size lights begin whirling around and around campers' tents. Fishermen, on their three-mile night trek by flashlight out of the wilderness, were often amazed by the realization of tiny flickering lights surrounding them. Could there actually be fairies in the wild wilderness area along the Chattooga River? According to Doug's findings, from out of nowhere, in the cloak of total darkness, thousands and thousands of tiny insects with continuous blue lights rise above the blanket of evergreens and ferns in the forest around the middle of May each year in their mating ritual. To his knowledge this occurs all along the upper Chattooga River and tributaries. And, it occurs in abundance in open areas laden with ferns and low ground cover a short distance from the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River. Some of the best and easiest spots to access for viewing are in the Ellicott Rock Wilderness.

Feeling somewhat at ease, I had asked Ray an hour earlier if he had let anyone know that we were going to dash off into the wilderness area alone. Thank goodness he had promptly called one of his friends before turning off the highway miles down the road while we had cell coverage. At least someone would know where we were. So, with flashlights, a backpack, a loaded pistol, walking sticks and one chair (for me), Ray and I promptly descended from our vehicle and headed into the darkness of the forest. The Chattooga River rumbled along its banks bordered by

Georgia on the west side and South Carolina on the east. We could not see one inch in front of us without Ray's mini-super charged flashlights. Accustomed to the outdoors my sports minded husband was barreling "full stream ahead" leaving me in his "wake". All I could do was push forward while pointing my flashlight from one side to the other and from front to back. Could that panther be behind me?

After about fifteen or twenty minutes we came to a more level grounded area. "This must be the spot, Ray," I whispered. The terrain was definitely different; flatter and with an abundance of ground cover, lots of ferns and with fewer thickets. Walking just a few feet further, Ray dropped his backpack and set up my chair. I was ready.....and, I might say "tight lipped." Quite honestly, I was scared to death! "Turn you flash light out!" Ray whispered softly. Reluctantly, I pressed the button to my only hope for survival in this creepy maze of forest and thickets. All was quiet and oh, so, dark. "Honey, would you like some water?" Ray asked as he fumbled with his backpack. "Shoosh....," I whispered. Afraid he would drive off the fairies or worse yet, bring on the panther. "No, thank you!" In moments, we both noticed a few weird tiny lights ascending from the floor of the forest. More and more drifted above the ground and began to hover all around. I had never seen anything like this in my life. I felt immensely blessed for having the privilege of watching such an event. Ray was totally captivated. Within minutes there were hundreds of tiny glowing lights skirting all around us. One came close to our feet. "Get it, Ray!" I whispered. "I can't see it." He chimed quietly. "It's a tiny bug, honey, can you catch it!" With one swift swoop, Ray had caught one of the fairies. He quickly placed the bug in his writing pen securing the top over the tip with the insect inside. I was elated. I could add it to my bug collection for my grandchildren.....besides this was a rare occurrence in my lifetime of adventures. I had the ultimate catch; a Chattooga fairy.

I really don't know who enjoyed this special flash in our lives more, Ray or me? Sitting in the quietness of the remote Ellicott Rock Wilderness in the blackest of nights watching thousands of tiny lights whirl about us in frenzy was truly a profound experience. All the while I was carefully listening to the night sounds within the depths of this desolate place. "Ray, do you think it is time for us to walk back out?" I asked reaching for my flashlight. Turning on the light, the fairies retreated into hiding. I quickly extinguished the light and within seconds, the tiny little lights began to flutter. Taking camera in hand, I took one flash photo capturing seven little lights within the forest. Dark again, I was really ready to go. By now, I knew the panther was planning his next meal; me. Helping Ray position his gear and the chair, we began the hike out of the wilderness toward the highway. "Let, me go ahead of you," Ray says pushing beside me. "Un-huh, no, I am going to walk beside you!" I exclaimed.

Before I knew it, I was ahead of my husband and I heard him calling out, "You are going faster than a "big tail bird." Wait up! Don't you know more accidents happen when you are in a hurry in the wilderness or anxious? Besides, I will be one who will have to carry you out!" Slowing down, I just couldn't lag behind for fear of the unknown eyes watching back of me whether two legs or four. Too ashamed to show my husband how scared I was I chose to push on ahead falling just in front of him. Having walked this path dozens of times before, I knew he would laugh. Relief came for me when we were both in our vehicle and began our drive down the dirt road out of the wilderness area home.

As for the fairies; I wouldn't take anything for this opportunity to observe God's glorious handy work in the darkness of the forest. To witness such a phenomenon in my lifetime is truly a blessing.....and I have the Chattooga Fairy Catch (thanks to my husband) and the panther didn't catch me.

"Thank You" to Sandy and Ralph Morgan for their cash donation used for the 2007 GA Trout Camp.

Georgia Trout Unlimited is a Member of



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Letters - To and From the Rabunites

Sent: Friday, June 08, 2007

Subject: Re: Visitor Use Capacity Analysis, Upper Chattooga River
Some trails are designated "foot travel only" while others allow horses, bikes, That seems to be a pretty good precedent for zoning.

From: Bob Ruby – Atlanta, GA

Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Subject: Newsletter

You have a great newsletter. Thanks.

From: David Nichols - Commerce, GA

Sent: Saturday, June 16, 2007

Subject: 2007 GA Trout Camp

I wanted to let you know how much our son Mitchell enjoyed the Trout Camp this past week. THANK YOU! He learned a TREMENDOUS amount!! My best,

From: Mary Ann Hardman – Clayton & Athens, GA

Sent: Monday, June 18, 2007

Subject: Chattooga article, Asheville Citizen-Times Friends. FYI. <http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=200770617052>

From: Joe Gatins – Clayton, GA

Sent: Monday, June 18, 2007

Subject: Re: Visitor Use Capacity Analysis, Upper Chattooga River

I realize there are many legal angles to this, but the sticking point seems to be the unfortunate choice by the Forest Service many years ago to introduce the term "user group" into the lexicon. The term makes it very easy to couch a discrimination argument against "users" of the resource - and users are people - when in fact it is not "user groups" that are being excluded but "activities," and the activity of boating is only one of many that are excluded.

All "users" are welcome, but only certain "activities" are allowed.

If it is possible to redefine the argument in terms of activities, it would be very helpful.

Also - inasmuch as there was only one rain event (to my knowledge) that provided a test of boating/fishing compatibility, I am somewhat amused that the Forest Service claims to have sufficient data to make a decision, and even more amused that the boaters would want access to a river that is so rarely useable for their purpose.

It's sort of like having to wait for the locust to hatch to go fishing, is it not?

From: Gordon Fowler – Clayton, GA

If you have a comment or an opinion to share with the readers of TIGHT LINES, please submit it in 250 words or less to edadams1@alltel.net

"When you are too busy to go fishing, it's time to go fishing!"

The Rev. Jimmy. Cannon (1933 – 2007)

Fishing Reports - Kinda

[YouTube - Redneck Fishing Tournament](#)

[YouTube - Asian Carp Invasion Part I](#)

[YouTube - Asian Carp Invasion Part II](#)

Our Thanks to Rabunite Tom Shirley for passing on these websites

Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2007

Subject: TROUT: Chattooga DH's "shocking" results

A small army of interagency staffs and volunteers engaged the Chattooga River about two miles upstream from the Hwy 28 bridge on Tuesday, June 19. Our goals were to 1) assess the abundance of holdover trout in the Delayed Harvest (DH) section of river and 2) assess the species composition and relative abundance of other game and nongame fish in this section.

This area of the river is usually too large and deep to sample effectively during normal flows, but we took advantage of drought conditions. We grabbed some extra Gatorade, young and strong agency interns, and every backpack electrofishing unit owned by US Forest Service, SC DNR, and GA DNR staffs in the NE GA region. We survived a tough 430-yard wade up the river, thru bedrock ledges and some chest-deep pools, slightly muddy from the previous night's shower. It was excellent trout habitat that had provided fine catches during cooler months.

In summary, trout abundance was very low. Overall fish

diversity was high, as we caught redeye bass, bullheads, chubs, darters, and many species of suckers and minnows. Water temp ranged from 70 to 74F, which shows that this section becomes marginal coldwater habitat during these very hot and dry summers. We also sampled Reed Creek. but did not find an abundance of river trout using that creek as a thermal refuge. All troops survived our engagement.

Bottom line: there are a few trout left in the DH section, including at least one real nice brown of 18 inches or so, but your better bet will be to fish for redeye bass and redbreast sunfish in the river downstream from Hwy 28 until the water cools. The H part of DH seemed to work well, as most trout have apparently been harvested before these waters likely get too warm for their survival during this summer.

This cooperative fisheries coalition, led by USFS biologist (emeritus) Monte Seehorn, has combined forces to sample and manage the river fishery since 1986. Hopefully some of you have had better angling as a result of the coalition's partnership

efforts.

For more info on the Chattooga River fishery, contact WRD fisheries biologist Lee Keefer at 706-947-3112. Our three agencies would like to thank the large group of Trout Unlimited volunteers from GA and SC who helped with fish netting, bucket toting, and other support duties that allowed this sample to happen.

PS- "Dark-thirty" was still happening for Oconaluftee rainbows this past weekend about two miles upstream from the GSMNP Cherokee visitor's center, right along Rt 441. Nice consolation prize after two hours of zero bites from smallmouth bass in a muddy section of the Little T.

Pass the Motrin!

From: Jeff Durniak www.gofishgeorgia.com

Photo courtesy of Larry Walker, Rabun TU.



"BACKCASTING"

May 29 (Tues) GA TU Council Meeting at Bass Pro Shops in Lawrenceville. 6 Rabunites attended. Items discussed included: Treasurer's Report, dream trip report and winners, Trout Camp, council work day on Betty Creek, Chattooga River zoning update; Forest Service changes; Southeastern TU Rally; Back-the-Brookie update; education for leaders by National TU; National Access Policy; additional year-round stream &/or DH streams; Stekoa Creek monitoring project update; Farm Bill conference; GA DNR board appointments; Strategic Plan update; and Bass Pro Shops & Cabela's updates.

May 31 (Thurs) Back the Brookie Stream Sampling: 7 Rabun TU volunteers collected water samples from 14 Rabun County brook trout streams. The samples were kept on ice and rushed to the laboratory at North GA Technical College for analysis. The same streams will be sampled again immediately after a 1+ inch rain event.

June 10 - 15th (Sun - Fri) 2007 GEORGIA TROUT CAMP "With Trout Camp a week behind us, I've just about recovered. This year's camp was as good, if not even better, than the previous three years. We opened up with a full roll of 21 boys and three girls. Unfortunately, one boy became unhappy and homesick so he left after Wednesday. This was the first camper to ever leave; after 4 years and 96 campers I guess that's not bad but I wish, for his sake, he had stayed. This year all 12 chapters found campers and some chapters helped with the cost of camp. Volunteers and mentors were there from 8 of our 12 chapters. Some folks took a week's vacation, stayed in the dorm and helped with every event during the week. You can't ask for more than that. Others came and helped when they could and all help was needed and appreciated. A special thanks goes to Doris Whiten for being our dorm mom for the week. For the first time we had "young mentors"...boys and girls who had completed Trout Camp previously and volunteered to help. Elizabeth Farquharson (Kanooka), Gavin Carson (Cohutta) and Kevin Lash (Rabun) added a new dimension to the camp and proved to be a valuable part of our program. They certainly have more energy than most of us. I don't know exactly what made this year's camp so good. The weather did cooperate as we got some much-needed rain, including a hail storm that will be talked about for years to come. Betty Creek fished well and the stocking of and fishing the Tallulah River was a great evening. Thanks to Perry Thompson and Mark Lancaster of DNR's staff at Lake Burton Hatchery for coordinating the stocking efforts. The presentation by Shelia Humphrey at Smithgall Woods always gets across the importance of clean water and a good bug population. The day we did stream restoration and shocking on a brook trout stream was also successful, as the campers worked along side folks from DNR and USFS in creating habitat for the brookies. Lee Keefer and Leon Brotherton from DNR and Mitzi Cole and Mike Brod from the USFS, along with a host of interns (some paid for by Trout Unlimited), taught the campers about stream structures and the life of a brookie. We get wonderful support from the agency folks. Also, fly fishing gurus Jimmy Harris and Jeff Durniak gave generously of their time and talent to pass on their love of this sport. The kids got a full dose of knots, casting, fly tying, reading the water, stream etiquette, trip planning, equipment and a lot of fishing. All of them caught at least one trout; several caught many. All campers left with all the equipment they need for some serious fishing. TU National added a couple of good books and a fly tying kit for each camper, along with a membership in TU. The campers all felt they had hit the mother lode of fishing gear; they were correct!! What about next year...Kathy and I are ready if all of you are. We've got a good thing going and need to keep it moving. Check out the Council website www.georgiatu.org for more and invite your campers to a chapter meeting for a report. To all who participated as instructors, mentors, bus drivers, line-untanglers, hollerers, encouragers, yarn spinners and good role models for young folks. All of these are needed to make Trout Camp what it is. Thank you; thank you; thank you!!!" Charlie Breithaupt



GOING FISHING



GETTING RIGGED



IN BETTY CREEK

Editors notes: A big "Thank You" to the 37 Trout Unlimited members from 8 Chapters all across GA who volunteered to be camp mentors, 20 were from the Rabun Chapter. Some took off from work or used vacation time and spent the entire week.

To read The Clayton Tribune article about camp, click [HERE](#).

June 18 (Mon) USFS Open House Meeting (Clayton) - **Visitor Use Capacity Analysis, Upper Chattooga River** About 70 to 75 attended this information meeting, about 9 or 10 were members of Rabun TU. There were 5 stations with information where attendees could ask USFS specialists about various aspects of the data that has been gathered in the analysis. Doug Whittaker, the consultant hired to prepare the [Integrated Report](#), gave a PowerPoint overview presentation of the report. This was followed by a Q&A session. The meeting concluded with more visitations to the information stations.

June 19 (Tues Morning) In-stream Workday - GA and SC DNR and the USFS wanted to take advantage of the low water situation and sample fish populations in the DH section of Chattooga and lower Reed Creek. They asked for TU volunteers to help with the electro-fishing. TU volunteers from GA and SC joined the professional and summer interns (some interns are sponsored by Rabun TU) for a total crew of about 38, 7 were Rabun TU members. This sampling will give the biologists an idea of how many of the stocked trout have survived as they enter the critical summer period. The biologists may want to come back again in early fall to see how many trout made it through the summer. In the afternoon a smaller group hiked up to Reed Creek to sample it for use as a cold water sanctuary by trout escaping the warmer river water. All fish captured were measured, weighed, and released unharmed



June 19 (Tues Evening) Chapter Meeting – 23 folks attended. **Allison Hughes**, from GA DNR, gave us an excellent PowerPoint presentation on the DNR Adopt-A-Stream program. The program is the statewide water-monitoring program conducted by individual volunteers and organizations. The Connection: Healthy waters = healthy fish & happy anglers. The Partnership: DNR provides the tools & training; anglers become the certified monthly monitors. The Action: There are 71,000 miles of waterways in GA so if we don't do it, who will? For more info, click [HERE](#). Next science teachers **Jeff Weaver** and **Tony Tichler** gave us a PowerPoint presentation about the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) project which just completed a successful first year at the Fannin County Middle School. For details, click [HERE](#). The Meeting Raffle had 10 buckets with some really neat items, including 3 fly selections, a backpacker's cook kit, a ChildSafe gun lock and 2 cast iron "fish" corn bread pans! The raffle raised \$134 to be used toward the cost of mailing newsletters to members without E-mail and for the meeting hospitality expenses. A BIG "thank you" goes to all the Rabunites who donated the items and to those who purchased raffle tickets.

June 21 (Thurs) USFS Open House Meeting (Walhalla) – Same set-up as 6/18 in Clayton. 2 Rabun TU members attended.

June 26 (Tues) Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting – 9 were present. Items discussed included: Sage Z Axis 9 ft 5 wt 4 pc Fly Rod Raffle for the Chapter (details in Aug newsletter or contact Prez Terry Ph 706 782 7419 E-mail tlr1121@alltel.net); Nomination of Patsy Lewis-Gentry as a Director; GA Trout Camp; Half Day Fly-Fishing workshop; Stekoa Creek project; sampling water from 14 brookie streams; Adopt-A-Stream, Trout in the Classroom; Sept, Oct, & Nov meeting programs; election of 2008 chapter officers; treasury report; USFS 7/10 Chattooga hearing; 7/10 campout; 7/11 Chattooga sampling; USFS 7/14 LAC Workshop; 7/17 family picnic; 8/17 & 18 campout and in-stream workday on another brook trout stream; and 8/21 meeting program.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A Big Rabunite "WELCOME" to new **2 members** this month: **John Duncan** (transfer), 1024 Lakeside Drive, Franklin, NC 28734 and **Thomas Johnson III**, 4032 Powers Ferry Road, Atlanta, GA 30342

Thanks for re-upping: **Pat Hopton, Larry Walker, Ralph Morgan, Dale Powell, Jake Shelton, Maria Rodeghiero, Allison Adams, and Kyle Burrell.**

It is time to renew your membership: **Hugh Thompson, Mike Fuller, George Custer, Terrell Dodgins, Edwin Wayne Clark, Gary Breece, Dylan Bradley, Dwayne Hunnicutt, Adam Wilkerson, Reid Cannon, Greg Roane, James Friedman, David Cannon, David Bentley, Rachael Davis, Brooks & Amanda Adams, Virlyn Florence, and Duane Campbell.**

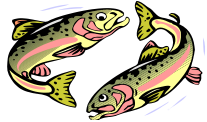
We wish continued speedy recoveries to **Tom Landreth** following his chemo treatments, **Eedee Adams** from her recent rotator cuff surgery and **Ray Kearns** from being rekneed. We are happy to report **Bill Kelly** is on the mend following having 3 stint implants to correct a 90% artery blockage. Congratulations to Rabunite **Pat Gorman**, selected by his high school as a delegate to the American Legion sponsored weeklong "Youth Congress" of NJ's best rising seniors. We welcome **Doug Mansfield** to the BOD.

Rabun TU Officers & Directors for F/Y2007

President - Terry Rivers, PO Box 371, Clayton, GA 30525
Vice President - Jimmy Whiten
Treasurer (w/Newsletter & Meeting Raffles) - Doug Adams
Secretary (w/Communications) - Tom Landreth
Past President (w/Membership & Hospitality) - Ray Kearns
Director (w/Programs & Campouts) - Bill Kelly
Director (w/Website) - Kathy Breithaupt
Director (w/ Mentoring) - Charlie Breithaupt
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News from the President..... **Terry Rivers**

Hi All,

I hope this finds everybody doing well. I have finally recovered from Trout Camp and I had a great time again. I want to thank all that came and gave their time to help.

For those that attended the last meeting, I'm sure you enjoyed the program that Allison and the teachers presented. Their program about "Trout in the Classroom" and Adopt- A-Stream was great. I want again thank them for a wonderful program.

Well, as the local streams and rivers begin to warm up, don't forget the local lakes we have. There is some great action for pan fish on the fly rod. Also on the rivers there is some great action for red-eyed bass. Go north on the Little Tennessee there are some fun times playing with shoal bass and small mouth bass.

Well I will close for now. I have other things to do besides sitting here telling you about places to go fish. Like putting the final coat of finish on a new fly rod, packing wheel bearings, cleaning fly lines, and tying special flies for my trip WEST OF HIAWASSEE.

I do retirement well.

Terry

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

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

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

We would love getting your "Letters to the Editor", 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

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RABUN CHAPTER of TROUT UNLIMITED

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