



**RABUN CHAPTER #522**

# TIGHT LINES

## JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: MICHELE CRAWFORD [MCRAWFORDTU@WINDSTREAM.NET](mailto:MCRAWFORDTU@WINDSTREAM.NET)

RABUN TU'S AWARD WINNING WEB SITE: [RABUNTU.ORG](http://RABUNTU.ORG)

**KEEP UP WITH RABUN TU ON  
FACEBOOK. EVENTS, HAPPEN-  
INGS AND MORE POSTED  
REGULARLY**



**Join us for our regular monthly meetings every third Tuesday of the month. This month the date is **Tuesday January 16.****

### **Our Meeting Place is at Rabun Gap Presbyterian church Fellowship Hall**

**Social & Story telling (Truth or Lies) starts At 6:30 pm, then at 7:00 – Program & Meeting. The church is located just past Rabun Gap Nachoochee School**

**at 8397 Wolffork Road, Rabun Gap, GA 30568.**

**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 email and to raise money to pay for our storage building. Bring an item to donate and a dollar or two for raffle tickets. Our meetings are**

**always fun and very informative.**

**Great times with your fellow Rabunites.**

#### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

**"I AM FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT THE IDEAL  
COMBINATION LEADING TO A HAPPY LIFE IS TO  
HAVE THE TIME TO BOTH FISH AND READ."**

Brian Murphy

#### WEB SITE OF THE MONTH

Compare for yourself with what you know with  
the opinion of a Charlestonian's take on fishing  
the Chattooga River.

Click [here](#) for the read.

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When: Saturday, January 20, 2018

Where: The “NEW” Dillard House Conference Center, located behind the Dillard House in Dillard, Georgia. Check out the Dillard House web site [here](#).

Who: The more the better. Everyone interested in protecting cold-water resources, and their families, friends, and all who love clean cold streams, trout, and trout fishing.

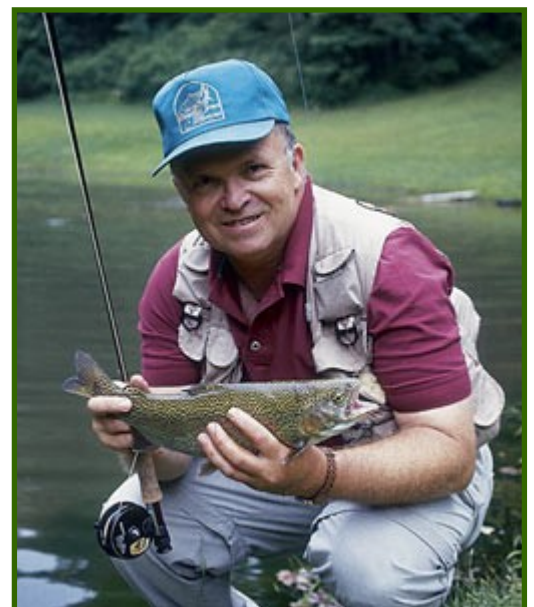
Social: About 5 o'clock PM folks will start gathering to “pick the pig” and enjoy the rocking chairs on the porch of the Conference Center. There will be snack trays of cheeses, crackers, veggies with dips and fruits. **Soft drinks and ice will be available. If you want something stronger, better bring it yourself. (BYOB)** There will also be a fire inside to warm your buns. *The Foxfire Boys*, with their famous Blue Grass Music, will begin at 5 pm.

Dinner: Fish, Chicken and Pork with all the side dishes and desserts that have made the Dillard House so famous, will be served about 6:30. It is a serve yourself buffet, so you will not leave hungry.

Cost: \$35 for adults. \$25 for those under the age of 15. Cash, checks, VISA or MasterCard. We don't do advanced tickets, just pay at the door.

Lodging: The Dillard House has set special rates for rooms starting at \$79 (plus tax) for those **that call and tell them you're attending the Trout Unlimited Rabun Rendezvous**. Call: 706-746-5348 or Toll Free 1-800-541-0671.

Program Presenter: Jim Casada is a son of the Smokies. Jim grew up in Bryson City, NC and cut his sporting teeth hunting and fishing in and around this small western North Carolina town. Jim says “a corner of my heart” still belongs to the high country. Jim is well educated holding a B.A. in history, an M.A. in British History and a Ph.D. in British imperial history. Jim taught history at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC, where he still lives. Jim retired in 1996 to pursue a full-time freelance writer / photographer career. Jim holds many honors from his teaching profession as well as multiple honors from his writing career, is an Honorary Life Member and recipient of the Arnold Gingrich Memorial Award of the Federation of Fly Fishers, inaugural inductee into the Fly Fishing Museum of the Southern Appalachians Hall of Fame, just to name a few. You can learn more about Jim Casada by visiting his webpage at the following: <http://jimcasadaoutdoors.com>, you. Better yet, come spend an evening with the Rabunites and meet and hear Jim in person. It'll be a great time!



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# STAY INFORMED & GET INVOLVED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JAN. 9 (TUES):** MONTHLY BOARD MEETING AT 6:30 AT Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church. Jan meeting was moved up to finalize Rendezvous plans. All are welcome!

**JAN. 16 (Tues):** Rabun TU monthly meeting. Meeting starts at 6:30. January's program will be "business travel troutng tips" by Foothills TU's frequent flyer, Bob Lux.

Bob, the chapter's newsletter editor, has perfected the art of packing light to pack in some fishing along with his distant business travel far to the north and west. Come learn some secrets from this expert, just in time to start watching the internet for deep discounts on next summer's airfares to locales "West of Hiawasse." Believe me, his photo results will make you a believer, too! Come join the Rabunite crowd on Jan 16 and learn how to "work" remotely in style.



**JAN. 20 (SAT) : 31st annual Rabun Rendezvous!! See all the information on page 2!! SEE YOU ALL THERE!!**

**FEB. 2-3 (FRI - SAT):** Click on logo for more information.



**FEB. 20 (Tues):** Regular monthly meeting starting at 6:30.

**FEB. 27 (Tues):** Regular monthly Board meeting starting at 6:30.

**SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY MARCH 24, 2018. HOOT ON THE HOOCH! DREAM TRIP TICKET WINNER WILL BE DRAWN!! GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!!**

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## FROM THE RABUN TU PRESIDENT KENT WILSON:

I hope that you and your families enjoyed a very Merry Christmas season and will also have a very prosperous and Happy New Year!

As the new year approaches and we begin to finalize our resolutions, let's resolve to rededicate ourselves to working even more diligently to promote and protect the bountiful natural resources that we all enjoy so much. As some of us have enjoyed these resources and opportunities for more years than we care to admit, we also need to continue focusing on mentoring the next generation of Rabunites who will become the future stewards of our beloved cold-water resources.

Don't forget to mark your calendars as we gather together on Saturday, January 20th for the annual Rabun Rendezvous. Hopefully we have already had our "big snow" for the season and the weather will be more seasonal. A great celebration is being planned and with your help we will have not only a great evening, but also a very successful event. This is our chapter's primary fund-raising event of the year. With that in mind, please plan to join us and don't forget to bring your appetite, your cash and your credit cards.

Tight lines,  
Kent

## SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR TROUT UNLIMITED ACROSS NORTH GEORGIA



Each purchase or renewal of a [Trout Unlimited license plate](#) supports [Georgia's trout conservation and management programs](#). These efforts affect trout production, stocking and stream restoration throughout North Georgia.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CLICK [HERE](#)! TALK ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF JUST A FEW \$\$\$.

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# MEMBERSHIP NEWS



IF YOU'RE NOT ALREADY A MEMBER JOIN NOW AND BECOME A CARD CARRING RABUNITE! NO WHERE ELSE IN THESE PARTS CAN YOU BE A MEMBER OF A GREAT CONSERVATION GROUP THAT LOVES TO GO FISHING ! **SIGN UP HERE!**

**CURRENT MEMBERSHIP** : 152 members; 26 Life members;

**TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP:** C. Barlow, Terry Seehorn, Gary Sowell, Dick Daniel, Nancy Gribble, James Nixon and Margaret Richardson.

**THANKS FOR RE UPPING YOUR RABUN TU MEMBERSHIP:** Donald Atkinson, Robert Blalock, Jesse Durham, Jeff Durniak, Monty English, Emil Leum, Derek Porter, Eugene Roberts, David Ruth, Bradley Tucker.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences go out to our Vice President, Wayne Prosser and his family on the recent passing of his mother. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.

## YOUR BOARD OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR FY 2018

Kent Wilson President <a href="mailto:kandcwilson@windstream.net">kandcwilson@windstream.net</a>	Wayne Prosser Vice President <a href="mailto:wp0968@windstream.net">wp0968@windstream.net</a>	Charlie Breithaupt Treasurer <a href="mailto:knc615@windstream.net">knc615@windstream.net</a>	Kathy Breithaupt Secretary <a href="mailto:knc615@windstream.net">knc615@windstream.net</a>	Steve Perry Past President <a href="mailto:flygide@gmail.com">flygide@gmail.com</a>	Doug Adams Director Emeritus <a href="mailto:edadams1@windstream.net">edadams1@windstream.net</a>
Ray King Rendezvous Chair <a href="mailto:rayking@frontier.com">rayking@frontier.com</a>	Mike Fuller Thru -018 <a href="mailto:da-vid2053@windstream.net">da-vid2053@windstream.net</a>	Pending Thru - 2018	Ray Gentry Thru - 2019 <a href="mailto:re-gentry@windstream.net">re-gentry@windstream.net</a>	David Ruth Thru- 2019 <a href="mailto:deruth@truvista.net">deruth@truvista.net</a>	Brian Weeks Thru - 2020 <a href="mailto:second50270@gmail.com">second50270@gmail.com</a>
Tony Allred Thru - 2020 <a href="mailto:tallred@gamountains.com">tallred@gamountains.com</a>	Colby Nichols Thru - 2021 <a href="mailto:backwoods124@rocketmail.com">backwoods124@rocketmail.com</a>	Justin English - Thru - 2021 <a href="mailto:trouter10@hotmail.com">trouter10@hotmail.com</a>	Non - voting Jeff Durniak Meeting Programs <a href="mailto:jeffdurniak@yahoo.com">jeffdurniak@yahoo.com</a>	Non- voting Michele Crawford Newsletter <a href="mailto:mcrawfordtu@windstream.net">mcrawfordtu@windstream.net</a>	Non - voting Larry Walker Advocacy <a href="mailto:dixienamos@yahoo.com">dixienamos@yahoo.com</a>

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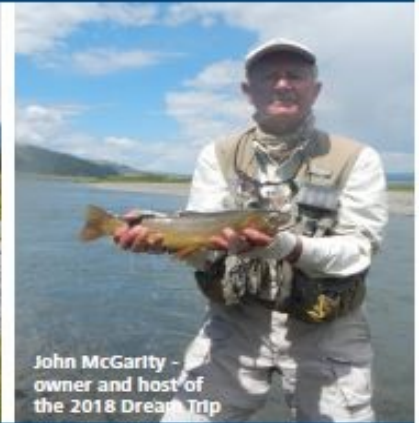
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# DREAM TRIP - FLY FISHING FOR TWO!



John McGarity -  
owner and host of  
the 2018 Dream Trip

**"The 2018 Dream Trip reaches new heights.** The opportunity to fish with John McGarity, stay in his fabulous log cabin conveniently located between the Madison River, Yellowstone National Park and the Henry's Fork puts you smack dab in the middle of some of the most famous trout waters in North America. John is the consummate trout angler, fishing almost every day during the 5 or 6 months each year he resides in Idaho. Blue Ribbon Flies in West Yellowstone checks with John for fishing reports. Having been a restaurateur, John is also an excellent cook... you will not go hungry on this trip! TU couldn't ask for a better host and guide for this year's Dream Trip."

-Jimmy Harris,  
owner, Unicoi Outfitters

## • 5 days hosted fishing / 6 nights lodging in Idaho July 22 – 27, 2018

• \$500 total in travel expenses – travel arrangements will be the responsibility of the winners.

\*Fishing licenses, gratuities, and alcoholic beverages will be the responsibility of the winners during their stay.

• Each winner receives: A float trip on the Madison River, plus Choice of Winston Bill-x or Air 4, 5, or 7 weight rod, a fly reel with Scientific Angler line, and a fly box and flies for the trip (Approx. 5-7 dozen per box)



## Tickets \$10

Proceeds Benefit TU Cold Water Conservation and Trout Camp

The winner(s) of this raffle are responsible for any tax due on the value of the winnings.

## RUNNER UP PRIZES:

- Redington Trout rod - 5 wt. 9', 6 piece travel fly rod. Donated by The Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- TFO BVK 4-5 reel: Donated by The Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- Fly box with 8+ dozen trout flies: The Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- AFFS gift certificate for a fly fishing or fly casting class during 2017. Donated by The Atlanta Fly Fishing School
- A private fly casting lesson including digital casting analysis and video analysis (this donation would apply to those having mastered basic casting skills already). The Atlanta Fly Fishing School for 2017 year.
- Two nights at the Fire Fly Lodge and a full day of unguided trout fishing on either Hothouse Creek trophy trout stream or the Toccoa River from Firefly's private frontage. [WWW.fireflyfishinglodge.com](http://WWW.fireflyfishinglodge.com)
- Choice of TFO BVK (3 wt.-10 wt.) or Clouser (5 wt.-10 wt.) fly rod, donated by the Cohutta TU Chapter.
- Half day guided float trip for 2 on Chattahoochee River. Donated by Chris Scalley - River Through Atlanta
- Half day guided fishing trip for two with Henry Cowan. Donated by Henry Cowan
- Two fly boxes of 6 dozen trout flies – TU Chapters
- Original Artwork donated by - Jenna Mason - [www.jmasondesignsonline.com](http://www.jmasondesignsonline.com)
- Multitude of other prizes



Jimmy Harris owner of Unicoi Outfitters



Recent winner - Monty English - Rabun Chapter member



For complete rules and details visit [www.georgiatu.org](http://www.georgiatu.org)

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## Calling all Trout Campers!

If you have or know of a young boy or girl between the ages of 12-15 years old who is fully crazy about Trout Fishing this camp is for them. The camp is held at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School. For 2018 the dates are June 3-8 (Sunday - Friday). Twenty four kids will be chosen from the 12 Trout Unlimited Chapters in the state of Georgia. The kids will learn and practice the sport of fly fishing. They will study and have hands on in the field conservation practices. Each kid will enjoy a fun and rewarding experience. If you know a kid that would love to further enhance their love of trout fishing click [here](#) for more information. You will also find the application at that link also! Help protect what we all love by passing on the passion!



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# BACKCASTING

## Mack Martin, Friend of the Rabun Chapter, Receives National Award

Each year Trout Unlimited (National) recognizes individual members, Councils and Chapters for outstanding work in several categories. This year Mack Martin of the Cohutta Chapter received the Distinguished Service Youth Education Award. Since the beginning of the Georgia Trout Camp in 2004, Mack has been a driving force to see that the camp provides the best experience possible for the 24 boys and girls that attend each year. In addition to procuring equipment for each camper, Mack leads all the daily casting instruction and practice and conducts the final "casting contest" near the end of camp. Outside of camp Mack leads clinics and offers lessons throughout the state. As co-owner of the Atlanta Fly Fishing School-one of the first TU Gold Level Business Members in the country- Mack passes on his love of the sport and his passion for the conservation of clean, cold water.

WHAAAAAAAAA WHOOOOOOOOOOO!!



**CONGRATULATIONS MACK AND THANK YOU  
FOR ALL YOU DO FOR ALL OF  
TROUT UNLIMITED!**

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# BACKCASTING

## RABUNITE FALL CAMPOUT AT OCONEE STATE PARK

The weather was good until the end...almost. The fire never went out in 5 days. The food was good every day and there was plenty of it. And the fellowship was always there as 17 Rabunites, along with a record number (9 !!) dogs, gathered around the fire ring to share stories, many for the umpteenth time but they (the stories) were still good and, if you didn't want to, you didn't have to believe them. The helicopter flew on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of camp so those who fished had no excuse. However some complained that the fish were dropped where they weren't!! You just can't please everybody.

Plan to join the next campout and, even if you don't camp, come over and just sit by the fire sometime. You will enjoy yourself.

Charlie Breithaupt reporting



Great times were had by all. Don't miss out on the spring campout!!

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# BACKCASTING

## RABUN CHAPTER AWARDED FUNDS

Back in August during the eclipse, a local Clayton business, Wander North Georgia with the permission from the City of Clayton held a camping event on the City of Clayton property. Wander representative, Josh Brown, told the council that if any profit was made from the event that they would turn it over to the City for disbursing. They just ask that the monies went to a local non-profit. With extra consideration given to a conservation group. After the event there was a profit made from the event from both Wander North Georgia and from the City of Clayton. This past fall the council voted to award half the funds to the local Foodbank and the other half to Rabun TU !!!! So between Wander and the City of Clayton, Rabun TU was the recipient of just under \$1000.00. We can't thank the two groups enough!! Thanks Wander for hosting the event and Thank You to the Clayton City Council for recognizing all that Rabun TU does for the Rabun Community in choosing us to be great stewards of the awarded funds!!!



L-R - City Council members Brian Panell, Michelle Duquette, Elizabeth Chapman, Rabun TU President Kent Wilson, City Council members Carl Butler, Debbie Chisholm. Not shown Mayor Jordan Green.



# FISHING REPORTS

## RABUNITES GO TO MICHIGAN

It seems like a long way to go to fish but it is closer than the Rocky Mountains. Kim Kidd, Wayne Prosser and Jimmy Whiten joined me in an “adventure north” to Baldwin, Michigan where we fished the Pere Marquette and hunted upland birds. An easy 14 hour drive brought us to our cabin right on the banks of the river. King salmon were finishing up their spawning run and Coho salmon, and some steelhead, were beginning their turn on the gravel. Jim took his beloved dog Truvy and had good luck finding and taking a few woodcock and grouse. We waded the BIG, DEEP river as best we could and floated with a guide for more success. Although the number of fish landed was not record-breaking, the overall experience was just great. A different kind of water, different terrain, a very different method of fishing all added to the experience, along with good friends, good food and memories made that will last longer than I will.

I told a friend about my trip and he replied that he didn't know there were trout in Michigan. There are A LOT of trout in Michigan!! That is where, in 1959, a group of anglers joined together to found Trout Unlimited, the organization devoted to protecting cold water where trout live and the common denominator for the four of us that made the trip. I encourage others to consider such an odyssey. You will enjoy the adventure.

Charlie Breithaupt reporting



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# FISHING REPORTS

## FELLOWSHIP AND FLYFISHING

Hello to all; We had a great TU campout this past fall. The campout trip was part of fellowship and fly fishing trips for 2017. There were some trout caught on the Chattooga DH. Overall not a lot of trout but I think everyone caught some. I think this trip was more about FELLOWSHIP than Fly-fishing as most of our campouts are and that is not a bad thing. God gave us some great weather and put some vivid color into the trees.

All had a great time. We all missed Terry Rivers. Terry's wife Emmilyn broke her hip and was in the hospital. On Thursday the DH was stocked by Helicopter and that was something to see.

This was the last Fellowship and Flyfishing trip of 2017. Soon as the deep freeze lets go we'll start planning some great trips for 2018.

Thanks to all !

Mike Fuller reporting



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# FISHING REPORTS

## Smith in the snow by Brian Weeks

For a few weeks now, I had plans to fish Smith the weekend of Dec 9. The forecast for snow didn't change those plans.

In short, it was spectacular. The scenery was beautiful, the solitude was peaceful, the catching was fun, and the overall experience was something special.

It was noon and snowing when I first arrived at the Lodge to sign in. The roads were starting to collect snow. I parked under the parking deck in order to get dressed without getting snowed on. Pulling out of the parking deck area back up to the main area by the Lodge, the rear end of my truck started to barely slip a little, so I decided to park in the gravel parking area right beside the dam at the top, in case the road out of the parking lot by the field got too slick right there at the hill at the stop sign. I did wonder, though, if the roads are already slick, what will they be like when I come off the stream? Then, realizing that I was at a warm lodge, I figured, worst case scenario, I'm sleeping on the couch by the fireplace in the lodge. So, of course, I went fishing.

I walked across the road and down the steepest hill I went - on my feet, amazingly. I figured that with felt-bottomed boots, I would for sure be sliding down on my rear end. But, somehow, I managed to stay upright. When I got down to the bottom, I crossed the creek, which immediately got me up to my hips in water. Thankfully, no leaks in my waders.

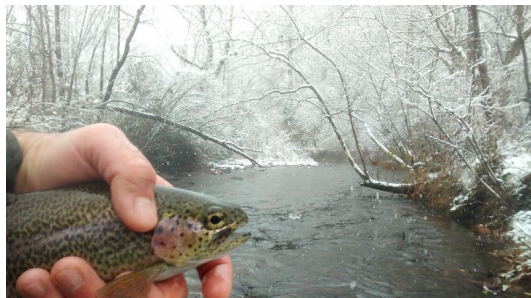
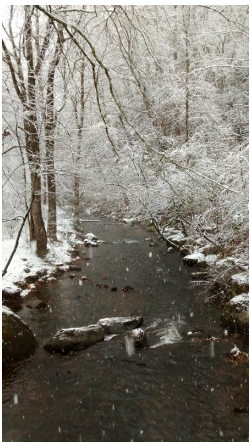
I walked downstream and to the big field to see how it looked, and the parking lot had one truck in it. Sweet.

The big field was covered in inches of snow. I walked across it, seemingly putting the first footprints in it of the day.

When I got to where I wanted to begin the day, I was into fish within a few casts. I went into the day expecting low numbers and looking forward to the challenge. Throughout the day, though, I was pleasantly surprised. The acclimatization that Dredger spoke of in his latest article apparently hadn't hit these fish yet. They were *starving*, and energetic, including aerial acrobatics from a few of them. As for which flies I was using, I simply followed Dredger's advice from his latest report - and, boy did it pay off.

As the day went on, the snow let up. But, around 3:30PM or so, it started snowing so heavily and got so dark that my strike detection went to almost zero. After bouncing a few fish because I couldn't even see my brightly colored sighter, I called it a day.

And yes, I made it home.....eventually. The drive home that normally takes 2 1/2 hours took 5 hours that night. Thank God, I made it home safe and sound to my own warm bed that night.



For more of Brian's great photographs click [here](#).

WHAAAAAAA WHOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!

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# FISHING INFORMATION

## January Hatches

THE BUGS	Time of Month	Time of Day	Suggested flies
None at all	All year	All Day	Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, PT #14 Parachute Adams is always a good searching pattern
Midges	All year	All Day	18-22 Griffith's Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
Terrestrials – Ants, Beetles, Crickets, Inch-Worms, Etc	Various Times & Sizes	Various Times & Sizes	Various Times & Sizes
Blue Winged Olive & Blue Quill (important)	Late	Late AM to Mid PM	16-20 BWO, Blue Quill or Adams Parachute 16-20 BWO nymph or Pheasant Tail

To view a Hatch Chart for all month click [Hatch Chart](#)

More tips and helpful information from Dredger and other Georgia DNR fisheries staff. Click [here](#) for the latest reports.



How's the river? Click on the name of the river to check water levels.

[Chattooga Level](#)

[Tallulah River Level](#)

[Nantahala](#)

[Little Tennessee](#)

### January Fly of the Month



ZEBRA MIDGE

Get the instructions for tying [here](#).  
Fill your vest full of these and a few other terrestrials and hope we see you on the River!!

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