

# TIGHT LINES



NEWSLETTER OF THE RABUN CHAPTER

TROUT UNLIMITED

MARCH 1990

## MARCH MEETING AND CHAPTER OUTING

Ever the trend setters in gourmet dining & aquatic recreation, the Rabun Chapter combines the two with our monthly meeting on March 17th at 8:00 am, McDonalds of Clayton, in the Creekside Room and a recreational trip to the Cherokee Indian Reservation. The meeting should take thirty or so minutes to finalize some project plans for the year. Then, it's off to Cherokee!

## CHEROKEE POW WOW

We will fish the tribal waters within the reservation so there will be no need of a N. C. license - just a tribal permit costing four or five dollars. The Cherokees stock their waters each week with Browns, Brook and Rainbow trout. With the guidance of Henry Williamson, I have caught some fine fish up there, many of which were holdovers with plenty of color and size. Plan on bringing a sack lunch or if you are so inclined, pick something up in Cherokee.

## FEBRUARY BLOWOUT ON THE TALLULAH

The water was high but clean. The wind was higher and a pain in the back if you were on the river casting upwind. But, a good time was had by all who toughed it out. Our group numbered 30-35 at one time or another and included chapter members and some would be, we hope, members from the Persimmon and Rabun Gap communities.



It's one of those "Look casual but beat the other guy to the fishing hole" routines.

"Nugget Nixon limited out in the pool behind camp; "Stay in Front" Kelly caught a Brown around 17" with a ratty looking fly tipped with an unknown substance; Grady Nichols landed a 16½" Rainbow and I battled to the bitter end a 4" salamander who took a drowned Adams.

As it is with most of our campouts, the food was outstanding. But we owe a special "Thank You" to Arlene Thompson who sent over a huge kettle of home made soup that was simply great!

And, yes, we had a meeting:

1. We will donate money and labor to meet a challenge grant from the U. S. Forest Service in a joint project with the Towns County Commissioners. The project will consist of protecting Charlie's Creek from runoff on the road alongside the stream.
2. A stream in the area has been selected for a Brook Trout restoration project.

3. Concern over siltation in Popcorn Creek due to DOT activity on U. S. 76 resulted in a decision to survey this stream for damage and areas for corrective action.
4. The Chapter will work with the Rabun County Homebuilders Assoc. in fillin the void left by the departure of the county officer in charge of erosion and sedimentation. As of this date, no one has been hired nor is there any funds allocated in the 1990 budget for such a person. Both the '88 and '89 budgets allowed for this activity
5. About \$80 more than expenses was collected at the campout.

### ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

#### TASMANIAN RAINBOW EGGS PLANTED

In this case, the eggs definitely come before the trout. Jeff Durniak and Mark Hudy, whether in a state of overwhelming generosity or in an effort to hide their activity for future years fishing, packed the eggs up stream from Burrell's Ford Bridge and planted them without our help. Great going guys and Thank You!

Not to worry- all of you are still needed! In late April, thousands of Tasmanian Rainbow fingerlings will be ready to be fin clipped and back-packed up river from the bridge and released. This will require lots of hands, and backs, so please stay alert for the call.

If you haven't guessed, data will be collected as to which planting is the most successful and would have a bearing on future stocking activity on the river.

#### FISH AMERICA FOUNDATION

Once again, the Fish America Foundation is considering a grant to our chapter for another project. This deal, if it goes through, would be direct and not through TU National. They apparently liked what we did on Reed Creek!

#### WEST FORK STUDY CONTINUES

You will recall, a study of the West Fork was begun last spring. Although it was hampered by high water, the study will pick up again this year and the Rabun Chapter will be asked to lend a hand. More later.

#### TROUT COMMITTEE, SOUTHERN DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

Remember the great workshop held in Dillard at the Best Western last May? Well, the same group will hold another in Gatlinburg on May 10th at the Holiday Inn. This year's subject is "Trout Management in Two Story Reservoirs and Tailwaters". The session begins at 8:45 AM and we are invited. It would also be a great time to wet a line in Little River in the Park. To fish the park you must have a current N. C. or Tennessee trout license.

"Every river has its own quality; and it is part of wisdom to know and love as many as you can." - Henry Van Dyke, Fisherman's Luck, 1899



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