

# TIGHT LINES



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RABUN CHAPTER TROUT UNLIMITED

DECEMBER 1990

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## DECEMBER MEETING ON THE 18TH

The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited will meet at the Rabun County Library, Clayton, December 18th at 7:00 PM. Films and social hour begins at 6:30 PM.

No doubt about it, this is everyone's busy time of the year, but the Chapter has some very important business to discuss and act upon. First is the annual Rendezvous, details are in the attached flyer. There's lots of work to do in preparation for this event to pull it off. There should be lots of guests and members and we need all available hands to help.

Another subject has some up and your input will really be of help. There is some property on Dick's Creek that is available for lease by the Georgia Council of TU. Before making a recommendation to the Council your thoughts are needed. More information will be found later in this newsletter.

## DURNIAC REPORTS ON THE CHATTOOGA AT NOVEMBER MEETING

Highlight of the November meeting was a report by Jeff Durniak, DNR and Rabun Chapter member, on some of the work done on the Chattooga this past year. In part, Jeff advised us that some 23,000 Walhalla Browns averaging 5.8 inches were helicopter stocked at eleven locations from Burrells Ford, downstream to Reed Creek. The next day, over 21,000 Wytheville strain Rainbows averaging 6.2 inches were dropped in ten sites between Burrells Ford and Highway 28, the majority below Big Bend. Counting the 15,000 Rainbows stocked by the bucket brigade back in the Spring, that's over 59,000 trout released in the river this year!

Jeff also reported on the shocking operations at selected locations along the river. The stats are printed below. Lines 8, 14 and 18 give you an idea of the trout population.

Thanks Jeff, for a most informative report. (Your accent improves with each year you're down heah!)

Also, at the November meeting a new slate of officers for 1991 was elected.

Doug Adams - President  
Tom Landreth - Newsletter  
Mike Hoglin - Treasurer

Jim Nixon - Vice President/Membership  
and Social Activities

Asked to serve on the board:

Pat Hopton - Publicity/Public Relations; Jeff Durniak - Meeting Programs;  
Eric Esche - Refreshments; Walt Landreth & Ned Weathrill - Raffles;  
Clem DeFino - Regulatory Affairs; Jim Kidd - USFS Projects Coordinator;  
Alan Hooper & Jerry Burrell - Private and Non USFS Projects Coordinators

THANKS TO ALL FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE THE CHAPTER AND ITS' ACTIVITIES!

SAMPLE PARAMETER	BIG BEND	SPOON AUGER	ELLCOTT ROCK	KING CREEK	BAD CREEK
1   Sample Length (m)	398.9	498.0	305.0	934.0	995.0
2   Mean Sample Width (m)	84.0	18.6	15.3	4.6	4.0
3   Sample Area (hectares)	3.1	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.4
4   RBT Mean Length (mm)	152.8	185.4	-	186.0	87.0
5   RBT Mean Weight (g)	35.9	-	-	61.0	15.0
6   RBT Standing Crop kg/ha	2.4	1.0	0.0	2.8	0.6
7   RBT Density #/ha	20.2	4.6	0.0	116.0	97.0
→ 8   RBT Per Mile	249.6	13.9	? 0.0	86.0	63.0
9   -	-	-	-	-	-
10   BRW Mean Length (mm)	239.7	279.0	218.0	187.0	156.0
11   BRW Mean Weight (g)	152.3	216.0	98.0	62.0	40.0
12   BRW Standing Crop kg/ha	5.3	11.7	20.8	7.6	8.5
13   BRW Density #/ha	44.9	53.4	212.0	311.0	533.0
→ 14   BRW Per Mile	555.0	160.1	526.0	231.0	346.0
15   -	-	-	-	-	-
16   Total Trout Kg/ha	7.7	12.7	20.8	10.4	9.1
17   Total Trout #/ha	65.0	58.0	212.0	427.0	630.0
→ 18   Total Trout Per Mile	804.0	174.0	526.0	317.0	409.0
19   -	-	-	-	-	-

#### GEORGIA COUNCIL AND U. S. FOREST SERVICE JOINT PLANNING SESSION

Doug Adams, Jim Kidd, Monte Seehorn and Tom Landreth joined with other TU members and Forest Service personnel in Dahlonega on December 8th to lay out work project plans to enhance trout habitat during the coming year. A more comprehensive schedule will be published at a later date; but, Rabun Chapter members will be involved directly in the following projects:

- Late April - Maintenance work on existing structures in the Reed Creek watershed.
- June - Construction of stream structures in lower Reed Creek to improve spawning habitat and provide holding cover for Chattooga trout migrants
- Late Sept - Mark and recapture electrofishing survey of a 500 yard section of the Tallulah River

You should know by now that our Chapter makes the most of these projects and will combine personal piscatorial surveying, camping and merriment with these efforts. JUST PLAN ON A FUNFILLED SPRING, SUMMER AND FALL AND THEN BE THERE!

#### DICK' CREEK PROPERTY AVAILABLE FOR TU LEASE

After you enter the Dick's Creek Road and just before you reach the Wildlife Management Area you will notice a large field and old cabin across the creek. This 68 acre parcel borders the creek and is available for lease from the owner, Mr. Montgomery. The Georgia Council of TU has appointed a committee to look over this property and to recommend the appropriate action. As a member of this committee, I will appreciate your thoughts:

- 1) Can the TU chapters afford the lease?
- 2) Terms of lease? If we should improve the habitat with structures and other enhancements, what length of lease would we settle for?
- 3) If desirable, <sup>EXCLUSIVE</sup> use of this section of the stream for TU members enforceable? How about the property itself? The cabin?

These are just some of the questions that may come up and I want to know what you think. The committee will meet on the site the morning of January 12th, RENDZVOUS DAY.

### TROUT UNLIMITED LICENSE PLATES

The Georgia Council of TU is designing and will have made license tags (not the type that has numbers and letters on it and you buy each year, but the type that has "TO HELL WITH GEORGIA" or "GO YELLOW JACKETS" on it) that will emphasize TU's role in trout habitat improvement. These tags should cost each chapter about \$5 and would sell to the membership for about \$10. Will keep you posted.

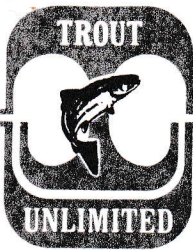
### STREAMSIDE SIGNS

Also on the design table are signs to be posted on trout waters across North Georgia that will call to the attention of the public that TU, the USFS and the DNR have been at work enhancing their trout's habitat. Hopefully, these will be concentrated at the bridges and not in the helicopter drop sections!

### MY CHRISTMAS WISH LIST FOR MY FRIENDS

Doug Adams - an Orvis rod so he won't lust after mine.  
Jim Nixon - a salt shaker with no holes in the top.  
Glen Littrell - a body building outfit  
Jim Kidd - a short course in profitability in the woodlot  
Eric Esche - a Dustbuster to clean up around camp  
Jeff Durniak - the textbook "How to Guarantee Large, Numerous, Wild Trout"  
Lonny English - first dibs on Glen's body building equipment  
Mike Hoglin - a patent on his new camper  
Alan Hooper - A Toyota mini-truck  
Pat Hopton - a vacation in beautiful downtown Detroit  
Henry Williamson - a genuine willow creel  
Bill Kelly - a new wench for his rod  
Jerry Burrell - a bridge named after him  
Clem Defino - a new pair of jeans  
Walt Landreth - a new chain saw, so he can return mine  
Monte Seehorn - the new management book "How to Infuriate Superiors"  
Ned Weatherill - woolen long johns so he can forget Florida in January  
Jim Harris - a diploma from a good school

*Merry Christmas  
with all  
Good Wishes for the Coming Year*



### THE RABUN RENDEZVOUS

"The rendezvous was unlike anything before or since, a gathering of uninhibited men down from the mountains. The event attracted perhaps a hundred mountain men, their Indian wives, and assorted visiting tribesmen. Amusements included gambling, drinking, storytelling, --- continuing day and night." Quote from The Mountain Men by George Laycock.

The Rabun Chapter will again host this annual gathering:

- When:** Saturday, 12 Januray 1991, starting at 5:00 P.M.
- Where:** Dillard's Mountain Valley Inn, Dillard, Ga. (8 miles north of Clayton on US 441 on the north side of Dillard, just past Piggly Wiggly on the east side of the road). Meeting room on the lower level, left side.
- Who:** Anyone interested in protecting our cold water resources, including TU People, USFS People, State Fisheries People, their families and friends.
- Social:** 5:00 to 6:30 P.M.; Live Bluegrass Music by The Foxfire Boys, Fishing Videos, Snacks, Bucket Raffle and Silent Auction; outside there will be cooking and a camp fire.
- Dinner:** 6:30 to 7:30 P.M.; Grilled and fried fish and hushpuppies, grilled chicken and all the fixin's will be buffet style.
- Program:** 7:30 P.M.; Program by Jeff Durniak, "The Challenge of Tomorrow".
- Cost:** \$10 per person
- Special Request:** Each TU Chapter that participates in Rendezvous is requested to bring an item for the bucket raffle.
- Reservations:** Are not necessary, but it will help us in our planning if you call:

Jim Nixon - 404-746-5311 (B)  
404-782-3101 (H)

or

Doug Adams - 404-746-5311 (B)  
404-746-2158 (H)

