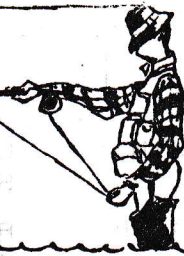


# TIGHT LINES



MARCH 1991

RABUN CHAPTER TROUT UNLIMITED NEWSLETTER

## MARCH MEETING AT LIBRARY

The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited will meet on Tuesday, March 19th at the Rabun County Library in Clayton. Social hour begins at 6:30, with the meeting starting at 7:00 PM. There will be an auction sobring an extra dollar or two. Yours truly will have my latest print for the auction so here's your chance to pick up a masterpiece, cheap! No, it has nothing to do with trout - in fact, the subject doesn't have a stitch on. Jeff Durniak will present the program.

## SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY MEETING AND CAMPOUT

On Friday night, February 8th, twenty-three members and guests held the monthly meeting at the Tate Branch Campgroud on the banks of the Tallulah River. After a meager meal of chicken, fish, venison, salad, beans and other assorted goodies dished up by "Nugget" Nixon, Jeff Durniak briefed us on the Fourth Chattooga Coalition Meeting that was held on Feb 5th at the Stumphouse USFS Office. Monte Seehorn ran the meeting made up of about 20 people from the GA, SC and NC U. S. Forest Services; the DNR/DEM; and the Rabun and Chattooga Chapters of Trout Unlimited.

A. CREEL SURVEYS: The Voluntary Creel Survey produced 216 replies. Form will be revised & done again in 1991. Jim Kidd in charge.

B. SPECIAL REGULATIONS: There is no biological need for special regulations; therefore none are planned.

C. STOCKING: The 1991 plan is to continue present truck stocking program, unchanged from last year and 50,000 fingerling (Approx 6" made up of half Browns and half Rainbows) will be stocked in the fall. The helicopter will make 20 to 25 drops between Burrell's Ford and highway 28. The helicopter costs will be approximately \$3000. Georgia TU Chapters need to contribute about \$700 this year to help pay for the helicopter.

D. THERMOGRAPHS: Bull Pen's daily low temperatures were warmer than Burrell's Ford's daily low temperatures last June/July. Pigpen's daily low temperatures were warmer than Highway 28 daily low temperatures. All points plus two tributaries will be read in the summer of 1991. The USFS is in charge.

INVERTEBRATE MONITORING: None planned for 1991.

F. FISH POPULATION MONITORING: Bad Creek site will be electrofished in August or September of '91.

NOTE: Rabun TU members will be asked

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F. FISH POPULATION MONITORING: Bad Creek site will be electrofished in August or September of '91.

NOTE: Rabun TU members will be asked to backpack salt blocks into the area the weekend before the professional plan to shock. We will store the salt in plastic bags and "flag" the location.

G. POINT/NON-POINT SOURCE POLLUTION: No known existing major problems, several "small" points of erosion in North Carolina. Frankie Green and Perry Shatley, USFS, will continue to use helicopter (when available) to pinpoint erosion problem after heavy rain showers.

H. LAND ACQUISITIONS: A large tract just acquired by the USFS in N.C. Work is underway on 2 or 3 more within watershed.

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#### FISHING REPORT

There was a dark caddis hatching on the Tallulah on Saturday February the 9th. Fish were rising and several were caught on dry flies (Elk Hair Caddis #14)

The next day, Sunday the 10th, there was a good light caddis hatch on the Chattooga in Reed Creek Fields Area. The hatch started about 1:30 with a few rises and really got into high gear about 3:00. Size 14 light to medium shade caddis worked well on rising helicopter rainbows. Skating the fly upstream did the trick - they just couldn't say NO!

- 1 -

You're Welcome - "Hawg"  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

MARCH 9th Saturday	Conservation Fair Set-Up 9AM 10AM to 4 PM	Chic-N-Coop Clayton
March 19th Tuesday	Regular Meeting at the Library 6:30 Social 7:00 Meeting w/Raffle [Walt Landreth & Ned Wetherill] w/Refreshments [Eric Esche] Program [Jeff Durniak-Coordinator]	Clayton
April TBD	American Museum of Fly Fishing Exhibit	Carter Presidential Center - Atlanta
April 26th & 27th, Friday & Saturday	Regular Meeting, Campout, Working and Fishing [Jim Nixon - Campout Coordinator] [Jim Kidd - Project Coordinator]	Ridley Branch Campsite
May	GONE FISHING!!!	???????
May	Check Betty's Creek [Jeff Durniak & Doug Adams]	Betty's Creek downstream of US 441
June 8th	Trout Day [Kyle Burrell-Coordinator]	Moccasin Creek State Park Pavilion
June 18th	Regular Meeting w/raffle, refreshments and program	Library-Clayton
June 21,22 & 23rd, Friday Sat & Sun	Backpack, Campout, Work, Fishing [Jim Nixon - Campout Coordinator] [Jim Kidd - Work Coordinator]	Lower Reed Creek
July 13th Saturday	Work Outing - Electrofishing [Jeff Durniak - Coordinator] [Jim Nixon - Meals Coordinator]	Tallulah River
July 16th	Regular Meeting w/Raffle [Walt & Ned] w/Refreshments [Eric] Program [Jeff]	Library-Clayton
August 20th	Regular Meeting w/Raffle [Walt & Ned] w/Refreshments [Eric] Program [Jeff]	Library-Clayton
August TBD	Work Outing - Backpack Salt [Monte Seehorn - Coordinator]	Bad Creek Area of Chattooga
September 20th & 21st Fri & Sat	Meeting, Campout, Work, Fishing [Campout Coordinator - Jim Nixon] [Jim Kidd - Project Coordinator]	Ridley Branch Campsite
SUMMER AFTER- NOONS TBD	Big Mac Demonstration Project [Clem Defino - Regulatory Affairs] [Doug Adams - Permission from Owners] [Kidd & Durniak - Preliminary Planning] [Alan Hooper & Jerry Burrell - Private Project Installation]	Covered Bridge Shopping Center

PLEASE MAKE NOTES ON YOUR CALENDAR

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PLEASE MAKE NOTES ON YOUR CALENDAR OR POST THIS IN A PROMINENT PLACE. TBD MEANS TO BE DECIDED.

SCIENTIFIC NOTE TO MONTE AND JEFF: On February 10th at 1:30 PM, the temperature in Reed Creek was 45°F versus 43°F in the River and the sun was shining in a nice blue sky, interesting?

Doug Adams - HAWGOFTHEYEAR

IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE INFORMATION YOU MIGHT BE WELL ADVISED TO CONTACT KYLE BURRELL FOR HIS EARLY SEASON SPECIAL ON CADDIS FLIES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!





I. HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS: None planned.

J. TRIBUTARIES STUDIES/WORK:

1. King Creek - Egg plant/fingerling study is underway by Andy Doloff. King Creek appears to be very important to the Brown Trout at Burrell's Ford.
2. Lower Reed Creek - Rabun TU desires to enhance the lower end of Reed Creek for improved summer sanctuary cover and enhancement of spawning.
3. Pigpen Creek - South Carolina Fishery people will investigate cold water discharge for Thrift Lake.
4. West Fork Study - Andy Doloff has two more years to go.

OTHER SUBJECTS COVERED:

1. Mark Hudy, USFS Fishery Biologist has transferred to Virginia; his replacement is Kelly Russell from Alabama. She will be stationed at Stumphouse and will be principal USFS biologist for the Chattooga.
2. Dick's Creek Update - Nothing new to report at this time.
3. Charlie's Creek - Timber Sale planned. Rabun TU expressed concern about erosion control during the sale. Letter sent to the USFS Clayton office. (Copy enclosed)
4. Darnell Creek - Inspected timber sale site with USFS. Contractor failed to put the site "to bed" for the winter. Sale road has now been closed. (Copy of letter enclosed)
5. Sale of 80 acres at Landfill to County - By letter, Rabun TU has requested that the proceeds from sale be used by the USFS to purchase additional land in Rabun County that has cold water resources for recreation. Otherwise, the funds will be used to purchase lands "somewhere in Georgia". (Copy enclosed)
6. Burrell's Ford Road (Georgia Side) - The road was graded this winter and is in real bad shape. The road to the Darnell Creek Timber Sale has far more gravel and is in much better shape than the road to Burrell's Ford Bridge. Frankie Green, USFS, at the Clayton Office is checking into it.
7. Jim Kidd & Bill Kelly are checking into the possibility of a joint USFS/Vulcan Materials project for Burrell's Ford Road.
8. Conservation Fair - Rabun TU has been invited to participate. Pat Hopton, Rabun TU Director of Publicity/Public Relations, presented this to the membership with a recommendation to accept and it was approved. Date is Saturday, March 9th, 10AM-4PM at the Chic-n-Coop in Clayton. Pat is handling the arrangements. We need all the members to turn out to help explain our mission and recruit "a few good members" for our work outings. Be there at 9AM for set-up. ¶
9. Renew America - a non-profit organization "promoting public in-



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9. Renew America - a non-profit organization "promoting public involvement in the creation of a sustainable future". They learned about us thru National TU. They have called us several times and written asking us to participate in their "Searching for Success" program. They have 800 "success stories" in their Environmental Success Index. Pat Hopton also presented this to the membership with a recommendation to participate, it was approved.

10. Clem Defino, Rabun TU Director of Regulatory Affairs, presented to the membership a request from the Sierra Club that the Rabun TU support a bill in the State Senate to require the state agencies to conduct environmental impact studies. The state highway department, the state parks department and others are excluded from the present law. Clem made a recommendation that we write out State Senator (John Foster) requesting his support of the bill and the membership approved. Clem will write the letter.

11. Clem will contact key personnel in the Fisheries Section of the Georgia Game and Fish Department. He will offer our assistance and support.

12. The Big Mac Stream Structure Demo Project. - The membership voted to investigate the possibility of installing a few demo structures in the creek that runs through the Covered Bridge Shopping Center in front of McDonalds. Clem will check regulatory concerns. Doug Adams will check county records to determine owners of the creek. Jim Kidd and Jeff Durniak will develop a preliminary plan that will be used to explain the project to the owners.



13. Betty's Creek Project - Jeff Durniak and Doug Adams will begin investigating and developing a data base on the section of Betty's Creek downstream of U. S. Highway 441. Several years ago the U. S. Soil Conservation Service changed this section to a straight ditch with rip-rapped banks. Landowners will be contacted first.

14. Christmas Wishlist Update; - Clem got a new pair of jeans; Mike got is motor camper; Alan got his new mini-truck; no word on whether or not Kelly got a new wench.

15. Duel on the Burrell's Ford Bridge - Bait cans and dried up minnows lay everywhere; fishheads and busted creels littered the bridge giving evidence to the conflict that took place on the morning of February 2nd. But when the mist cleared differences had been solved in the Ellicott Rock Wilderness skirmish. Doug Adams and Tom Landreth, Rabun TU, met with Art Schick and Ray Mortensen, Chattooga TU, to reslove differences of opinion about how this vital fishery should be managed. The discussions centered around the need for special regulations and fingerlin rainbows backpack-in stocking. We'll see what developes in the future.

NOTE: At 2:30 PM on February 2nd there were 33 vehicles at the Burrell's Ford Bridge.

16. Help For the Georgia Game & Fish Department: Jeff has asked if the members of the Rabun Chapter could loan some fishing (Georgia only) 35mm slides and video tapes of work outings, fishing etc. Game & Fish is preparing for display/booth presentation at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Center in Atlanta. Lets give Jeff a hand and lend him some good stuff (he will copy slides, we should give him copies of the videos). Remember the "standing Rule", names or "spotlighting" is not allowed

17. Rabun County Erosion & Sedimentation Program Update - It has com to our attention that the Erosion & Sedimentation Control Officer has turned in his resignation. Trueie Miller has been the Couty Marshall for 2 or 3 years, then 6 or 8 months ago was assigned the Erosion Control Program. Each is a full time job if done properly. We will again urge the County Commissioners to hire a full time Erosion and Sedimentation Control Officer.

18. Chattooga River Angler Survey: On Feb 12, a sub-committee of the coalition met at the USFS office in Clayton. Randy, S.C. Fisheries; Art, Chattooga TU; Jeff, Georgia DNR; Doug, Rabun TU; and, Kidd, USFS worked together to develop the new form. Rabun TU will cover printing costs up to \$100; Chattooga TU will cover signs costs up to \$100; USFS will make and install boxes and Georgia DNR will compile the data.

19. Joint Chapter Fishing Trip to Smokies: Jim Kidd and Art Schick of the Chattooga Chapter are in early planning of a Rabun/Chattooga Chapters joint trip to the Little River Area of the Smokies for the weekend of May 3-5. Mark your calendar. More information from Kidd at the next chapter meeting.

20. Treasury Report - As of Feb 11, 1991 - \$3606.90

21. Membership report - Welcome to new member Jim Blalock - Clayton

Renewals - Thanks!

Suspended - Need to Renew!

ADD TO  
CALENDAR  
OF  
EVENTS



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20. Treasurery Report - As of Feb 11, 1991 - \$3606.90

21. Membership report - Welcome to new member Jim Blalock - Clayton

Renewals - Thanks!

- Hal Avery - Pine Mountain
- Bob Brockman - Monroe
- Jim Harris - Cornelia
- John Hulsey - Cleveland
- Walt Landreth - Clarkesville
- Don MacLeod - Jacksonville
- Monte Seehorn - Gainesville

Suspended - Need to Renew!

- Robert Atkinson - Aiken, S. C.
- Teddy Bennett - Clarkesville
- Jim Darnell - Clayton
- John Duncan - Franklin, N. C.
- Jeff Durniak - Mount Airy
- David Sherman - Gainesville
- Elizabeth Anne Sisk - Baldwin

As of October 1990 there were 1300 TU members in Georgia and 66,000 in the United States. National membership increased 4.4%, but revenues decreased 10.85%. Nationals budget for Fiscal Year '91 was cut \$343,000 and another cut of \$200,000 may be necessary.

22. More National News: National is now searching for a new Executive Director; and, the headquarters has moved to a more economical location: TROUT UNLIMITED, 800 Follin Lane, Suite 250, Vienna, Virginia 22180

ADD TO  
CALENDAR  
OF  
EVENTS



PHONE NUMBERS FOR COORDINATORS

Pat Hopton - Publicity/Public Relations	782-4978(H)	782-3320(W)
Walt Landreth - Raffles	754-1741(H)(W)	
Ned Wethrill - Raffles	782-4056(HW)	
Eric Esche - Meeting Refreshments	746-3188(H)	746-5311(W)
Jeff Durniak - Meeting Programs/Fishery Biologist	776-2090(H)	947-3112(W)
Jim Nixon - Membership/Social Activities	782-3101(H)	746-5311(W)
Jim Kidd - U. S. Forest Service Projects	782-2474(H)	782-3320(W)
Doug Adams - President/Secretary	746-2158(H)	746-5311(W)
Kyle Burrell - Trout Day at Moccasin Creek	782- <del>2828</del> <sup>4951</sup> (H)	782-2828(W)
Tom Landreth - Newsletter	754-9202(H)(W)	
Monte Seehorn - Chattooga Project/ Fishery Biologist	983-3019(H)	536-0541(W)
Clem Defino - Regulatory Affairs	754-6835(H)	878-2733(W)
Alan Hooper - Non USFS Projects	782-2348(H)	782-3320(W)
Jerry Burrell - Non USFS Projects	782-2346(H)	
Mike Hogelin - Treasurer	746-2681(H)	782-4245(W)

NOTE: As you have hopefully noted we have a busy spring, summer and fall ahead and some of these people will need our help in carrying out their responsibilities. Kyle Burrell will need lots of assistance with "Trout Day" at the state park; Jim Nixon needs help with campouts; and so on. If you see an assignment you can help with, please call and offer your assistance - or if you are called, lend a hand.



You would never know it, but I haven't used a fly rod in years.



You would never know it, but I haven't used a fly rod in years.



Rabun Chapter  
P.O. Box 65  
Rabun Gap, Ga. 30568  
31 January 1991

David Jensen - District Ranger  
U.S. Forest Service  
Clayton, Ga. 30525

Subject: Erosion Control & Stream Protection During Timber Sales

Dear Dave:

On behalf of the members of the Rabun Chapter and in pursuit of our mission to preserve and protect our cold water resources, I recently met with Marcus Beard to review the plans and specifications for the proposed timber sale on Charles Creek.

Knowing that road construction and land disturbing activities are inherent in any logging operation, and also being aware that erosion and sedimentation are the major threat to our wild trout fisheries, I offer the following comments and suggestions:

Tract 20 lays at the mouth of what appears to be a dry hollow that drains into Flat Branch, a tributary of Charles Creek. The tract lays from one side, across the bottom and up the other side. A temporary road will enter from the east and go across the bottom and partway up the west slope. Because it is a dry hollow, I am concerned that storm surges will cross the sale area and the temporary road, possibly without a culvert or silt fencing. I would suggest that tract 20 could have been laid out entirely on one side of the hollow instead of across the mouth. I would also suggest that Flat Branch should be electro-fished both presale & postsale. Since this is to be a clearcut, please consider a controlled burn of slash prior to seeding disturbed areas.

In general, I request that specification "CT6.62 - Temporary Roads" be used in all future sales issued from the district as well as those from the Supervisor's Office.

Also in general, I request more emphasis be placed on managing temporary closures of units. If a unit is to be closed for a period of time, (such as through the winter) and then reentered, seeding & mulching should be performed. This should be done on the current sale on Darnell Creek.

Dave, thank you for requesting public input and for consideration of these suggestions. We would welcome the opportunity to review plans for future sales.

Very truly yours,  
*Doug Adams*  
Doug Adams  
President - Rabun Chapter

cc: Marcus Beard - Tallulah Ranger District

Founded in 1958... Over twenty-five years of trout and salmon conservation  
Washington, D.C. Headquarters • 501 Church Street, N.E. • Vienna, Virginia 22180 • 703-281-1700



Rabun Chapter  
P.O. Box 65  
Rabun Gap, Ga. 30568  
31 January 1991

Ken Henderson - Forest Supervisor  
U.S. Forest Service  
508 Oak Street, N.W.  
Gainesville, Ga. 30501

Subject: Sale of Existing Landfill Site to Rabun County

Dear Ken:

According to today's Clayton Tribune, the Forest Service has offered to sell 80 acres at the existing landfill site to Rabun County in accordance with provisions of the Sixt Act. The newspaper account explained that the sale is permissible if the county government does not have any land to "swap".

Enclosed is a copy of a letter we sent to the County last June offering to assist in locating desirable tracts that could be purchased for exchange.

If the landfill is going to be sold instead of exchanged, we make the following request and offer:

- We request that the proceeds from the sale be used to purchase private lands within Rabun County with priority given to increasing the public's access to cold water resources.
- We offer to assist in identifying and locating desirable tracts for your consideration.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

*Doug Adams*  
Doug Adams  
President - Rabun Chapter

Enclosure

DA/vy

cc: Dave Jensen - Tallulah District Ranger

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