

November 1995

Are Anglers Becoming A Target For PETA?

There was some discussion at the October meeting by President Tom Landreth regarding the organization known as PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals). If you think our favorite pastime, fishing, has not been targeted as an issue by animal rights activist, consider the following article. It is reprinted from the Charlotte Observer, Sunday, October 14, 1995. The original article appeared in the Wall Street Journal and was written by Charles McCoy.

ENNIS, Mont. - Jasper Thomas was flyfishing for rainbow trout in the Madison River near here one recent morning when it suddenly began raining rocks.

Two young men were bombarding his fishing spot with baseball-size stones. "I said, 'Hey, you'll scare the fish!'" recalls Thomas, a retired Texas contractor. "They said, 'That's the point.'"

Thomas reacted as many a fisherman might. He zinged casts at the trout protectors until they fled- but not before plastering his truck with anti-fishing leaflets.

The animal rights movement has a new angle: It wants to ban fishing. Not just big commercial operations that vacuum up tons of fish, and sometimes maim dolphins and seals. All fishing - from the pursuit of the wily trout here in Montana to cane-pole catfishing down at the local pond.

The goal, say animal-rights leaders, is to spare the creatures from agonizing deaths. "Just because fish and lobsters aren't cute and cuddly doesn't mean they don't suffer excruciating pain,"

says Tracy Reiman, an organizer with PETA, a group based in Washington that is spearheading the fish-rights campaign. "You wouldn't sink a hook into your cat and leave it flopping on the deck gasping for air, would you?" she asks. "You wouldn't boil it alive."

The campaign is bound to hit snags, given fishing's widespread popularity: An estimated 54 million people fish in America, including many members of Congress. Even some mainstream animal-welfare groups are skeptical. Wayne Pacelle, a lobbyist with the Humane Society of the U.S. says tackling fishing "is somewhat silly and counterproductive when the movement has so many other priorities."

The reaction of fishermen is more biting. "Those anti-fishing folks are cuckoo," says Virgil Ward, a member of three fishing halls of fame and former producer of weekly television fishing shows. The 84-year old Ward, who recently retired so he could devote more time to fishing says anti-fishing groups periodically send him letters asking him to join their cause. "They make me so damn mad I just throw 'em in the trash can," Ward grumbles. "Then I go fishing to calm down."

This is not the entire article as it appeared in the Charlotte Observer. Other portions of the article focused on salt water fishing. I wanted to provide enough information to give members the 'jest' of the issue. Is this something that we as a chapter and TU National needs to keep an eye on? Guess we'll watch and see.

November's Meeting To Focus On Rendezvous Planning

With January just around the corner, the November meeting will primarily be a planning session for the Rabun Rendezvous. As always, for this event to be successful, the chapter needs support from all of its members. Realizing that many members live out of town, or out of state, it may not be possible to attend the meeting or the **Rendezvous**. You can still help the chapter by sending an item for the bucket raffle or silent auction. We all have the dreaded Christmas shopping chores and that would be an ideal time to pick up an item for the Rendezvous. If you pick up a prize, you can mail it to me; Sharon Wilson, PO Box 652, Clayton, GA 30525. I'll see that it gets to the Rendezvous in January.

The meeting in November will be held at the Rabun County library, Walt Landreth provides hot coffee and snacks at 6:30pm, and the meeting starts at 7pm.

Election of Officers For 1996

At last month's meeting, a slate of Officer's was put before the members present. This is the crew that will be guiding the chapter in the coming year:

Tom Landreth, President
Russ Berken, Vice-President
Mike Hogelin, Treasurer
Sharon Wilson, Newsletter Editor

Teaming With Wildlife *a natural investment*

We briefly discussed the 'Wildlife Funding Initiative' at October's meeting. The group in attendance basically discussed the concept; the motion to support or not to support it was never brought to a vote. With that in mind, the following is for information only. If you feel the proposal is something you support, the addresses in the column to the right are businesses you can write if you are so inclined. If you chose not to support it, that's fine too. At least you will be aware of what's floating around out there. The information that follows is a synopsis taken from flyers provided by the Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Committee and the GA DNR.

Editor

A nationwide proposal to meet the critical needs of fish and wildlife has the support of more than 100 groups, from the Ruffed Grouse Society to the National Association of Interpretation, to the binocular companies Swarovski Optic and Swift Instruments. The official slogan for the Fish and Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative is "Teaming With Wildlife: A Natural Investment." The funding will compliment the success of more than half a century of game species restoration made possible through the Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Acts. The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and a steering committee of seven conservation organizations will guide the initiative..

Hunters and anglers have teamed up with industry for more than half a century, paying user fees on their equipment to generate funds for conservation. Now, as the stresses upon wildlife and the outdoors intensify, it becomes paramount that all who

appreciate fish and wildlife must have some way to pay a small user fee .

The Fish and Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative proposes to expand user fees to include a wide variety of equipment that is part of the outdoor wildlife experience. This fee can never exceed 5 percent of the manufacturers price, compared to 10 percent fee paid on hunting and angling equipment. Manufacturer's will be encouraged to display a green logo, identifying their product as part of the *Teaming with Wildlife* effort. Products under consideration include binoculars, film, bird seed, bird feeders, tents, backpacks, hiking boots, recreational vehicles and field guides.

An annual funding goal of \$350 million is to be distributed to state fish and wildlife agencies based on a formula of land base and population. The money will be dedicated to three purposes: wildlife conservation, recreation and education. States are forming their own "Team Wildlife" Coalitions to support the initiative and gather ideas for the best uses of the funding in respective states.

Broad support for the Funding Initiative will be needed when it goes to Congress. The user fee concept is a popular one and there's reason to be optimistic. The greatest challenge lies in communicating the need. Outdoor manufacturers likewise, need to see that their customers are more than willing to spend a little more on products for a worthy investment in conservation education and wildlife.

On the local front, Georgia is taking the lead in promoting the initiative. Several organizations including the Georgia Wildlife Federation, Ga. Council of TU, and Atlanta Audubon have signed letters of endorsement

indicating their support of the initiative. If you personally would like to do something to voice your support of the initiative, it is recommended that you write the companies listed below and voice your support for the Fish and Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative. If you need more information on the program, contact the Wildlife Resources Division at (404)918-6400.

The goal is to let these companies know that you, as a consumer of their products, support paying a small user fee added to the cost of their product that will be dedicated to wildlife conservation, outdoor recreation, and conservation education. It is recommended that you address letters to the CEO of the company.

L.L. Bean, Inc.
1 Casco Street
Freeport, ME 04033
Attn: Mr. Leon A. Gorman, President
1-800-221-4221

Nikon
1300 Walt Whitman Road
Melville, NY 11747
Attn: Mr. H. Nakayama, CEO
1-800-NIKON-US

Recreation Equipment Inc. (REI)
6750 South 228th Street
Kent, WA 98032
Attn: Mr. Wally Smith, President
1-800-828-5533

Pentax
35 Iverness Drive, East
Englewood CA 80112
Attn: Mr. Masa Tanaka, CEO
1-800-709-2020

Coleman Outdoor Products, Inc.
250 N. St. Francis Ave.
Wichita, KS 67202
Attn: Mr. Michael Hammes, CEO
1-800-835-3278

The Nature Company
750 Hearst Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710
Attn: Mr. Ed Strobin, CEO

Wild Birds Unlimited
3003 E. 96th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46420
Attn: Mr. Jim Carpenter, CEO

Cabelas
812 13th Avenue
Sidney, NE 69160-0001
Attn: Mr. Dick Cabelas, CEO
1-800-237-4444

Pennington Enterprises, Inc.
P.O. Box 290
Madison, GA 30650
Attn: Mr. Brooks Pennington,

Johnson Camping (owns Eureka, Camp Trails,
Old Town Canoes, Carlisle Paddles, Silva
Compasses)
1326 Willow Road
Sturtevant, WI 53177
Attn: Mr. John Crabb, CEO
1-800-848-3673

Bausch & Lomb Sports Optics (includes
Bushnell and Jason Empire Products)
9200 Cody
Overland Park, KS 66214
Attn: Mr. Joseph B. Messner, President
1-800-423-3537

Eastman Kodak Co.
343 State Street
Rochester, NY 14650
Attn: Mr. George M.C. Fisher,
Chairman, CEO and President

Chattahoochee-Oconee Forest Plan Revision-An Important Issue That Needs Your Input

It was mentioned at the last meeting that the US Forest Service has started the process of revising the current Forest Plan. The agency is required by law to revise the plan every 15 years. Part of the process associated with the plan is soliciting input from the public as well as various groups and clubs. Since the National Forest is the place where many TU'ers pursue their love of trout fishing, it is vital that you let the Forest Service know what issues are on your mind.

The Forest Service has been holding open houses and the one in Rabun County was in October. If you didn't make it to the open house, you may want to consider providing some input to the Forest Service in a written format.

The Planning Division at the Forest Supervisor's has developed a set of questions for interested public(s) to answer and mail in so suggestions can be reviewed and included in the planning process. If you're so inclined, please use the following as a guide and let the Forest Service hear from you. As an angler and member of the public that use the National Forest, this is a plan that will potentially impact you for the next 10- 15 years. Take a few minutes and give the Forest Service your comments and suggestions.

1. What do you see about the current Forest Plan that needs to be changed? How would you change each item. If you are not familiar with the specifics of the Plan, how would you change the way the National Forest is managed?
2. If you could come back and see the Forest in 100 years, what would you like to see or experience that is different from what you can see or experience today?
3. What effects to the soil, air, water, mineral, plant, animal economic, or social environment which result from management actions are of concern to you? What is your concern or concerns?
4. What opportunities do you see that are being missed now for improving the care of the land or the service to the American people?

You may also want to include your name, address, phone number, and organization, company or Group of which you are a member. Mail your comments to **USDA Forest Service, ATTN.: Planning, 508 Oak St., NW, Gainesville, GA 30501.**

Rabun Rendezvous-The Tradition Continues....

Once again, on **Saturday, January 27**, trout enthusiast will gather in Dillard, Georgia at the Dillard House for the **Rabun Rendezvous**. Mark this on your calendar and make plans to attend.

There will be the traditional bucket raffle and silent auction along with music from the Foxfire boys and a visit from that darned ol' pink bunny. As always, you can expect the Rabunites to have a few surprises planned also.

This is always a fun evening full of good food, laughter, and tall fishing tales. It is also the primary funding source for the projects the chapter conducts throughout the year. Please make plans to attend, you can be assured of a good time!

Got A Teacher Around...Introduce Them To Give Water A Hand

Give Water a Hand is designed to introduce young people to Trout Unlimited and help them join the thousands of youth across the country participating in **Give Water a Hand**. This is an **Environmental Stewardship** program that was started in 1994 to engage youth and in environmental community service. Over 10 agencies and organizations, including Trout Unlimited, contributed to project development. By using the materials, young people in groups like Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, FFA, Junior Achievement, classrooms or 4-H clubs, can start to take responsibility to protect and improve our most precious resource. **Give Water a Hand** materials consist of a **Leader Guidebook** and youth **Site Action Guide**.

The **Leader Guidebook** provides valuable guidance to support youth in planning and carrying out projects, including background information, resources and suggested adaptations for variety of age groups.

The **Site Action Guide** helps young people identify and address local water issues in a site they have chosen. Activities include investigating potential water quality and conservation issues, and partnerships with local natural resource experts to evaluate their findings and take action on a water problem they have identified.

If you know someone who might want to find out more about the program, they can contact **Give Water a Hand** at 1-800-water20.



While it probably won't be reviewed in *Variety*, our very own "film festival" was enjoyed by all attending the October meeting. From grizzlies in Alaska to runoff swollen streams "west of Hiawassee", we were treated to some fine fishing footage produced by Russ "Doc" Burken and Jim "Nugget" Nixon with his up and coming fishing star, Louise. I'm hoping that Louise will take over our "how to" educational program, instructing newcomers in the fine art of "high polin". She has volunteered to coach Burken in how to appear laid back, even when you're excited when a large trout is on the line. It's also great to have one member who is fearless in wading among the Alaskan bears in pursuit of salmon and trout. For those of you who weren't there, Russ displayed his quick thinking when, after spotting a bear traveling in the same direction on the trail that would take him and the guide back to camp, Russ encouraged the guide to carry the fish while he carried the gear. Clear thinking, Russ! Okay?

Our next two meetings will center on preparing for the Rendezvous on January 27th. There is a lot of planning to be done and I'm again asking for volunteers to head up the search for prizes and raffle items, take charge of the door,

selling raffle tickets and other tasks that make the Rendezvous such a success.

As planned early in the year, the December 19th meeting will be over dinner at the Rock House at the Dillard complex. Our reservation is for 6:30 PM and for \$13/person, the Dillard House will serve up their traditional Christmas/New Years Eve dinner. Here's a chance to treat yourself, your spouse or a friend to an evening out, join in some fellowship and lend a hand in planning for the Rendezvous.

PLEASE CALL ME AT 746-2295 IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND SO THAT I MAY NOTIFY THE DILLARD HOUSE OF THE NUMBER TO SERVE

TIGHT LINES

Tom

Change of Address??

There have been some members that have recently asked me to change their mailing address. If you have a new address or want your newsletter sent to another location, you have to call TU National yourself and request the change. Jim Nixon and I have been round and round with them on several occasions and they just want do it. Please, it is important that you get your newsletter so call TU National if you have a change! The number to call is (703)522-0200.

Fly Of The Month: Cate's Turkey

Hook: Any type dry or nymph. Sizes 22 up to 12.

Tail: Wood duck breast feather

Rid: Fine Copper wire

Body: Turkey tail, wound

Thorax: Peacock herl, wound

This fly can be used in any situation that calls for a Pheasant tail nymph. The benefit of the Cate's Turkey is that it uses turkey instead of pheasant. I've never seen a live pheasant, while the mountains of north Georgia are full of turkeys! So I can either buy pheasant or get free turkey feathers; now which would you do?

This fly works great as a trailer behind a dry fly or on a dropper ahead of a big heavy nymph. My favorite size is #14 tied on a dry fly. It gives a small silhouette while having a wide hook gap.

Kyle

Deer Trout?!

Many of us cherish our fishing time for different reasons, being in the outdoors, enjoying the scenery, etc. I am sure that many trout fisherman enjoy seeing other wildlife while fishing. Well, this is one of those tall tales.....it seems the the Vacuum - Kyle Burrell was doing some snorkeling in the Rabun Creek one cool October day. Clad in a wet suit, flippers, and mask, he decided the time had come to take a break. When he stood up there was an eight-point buck standing about 5 yards upstream. When Kyle stood up, the deer took several more steps directly towards him until he was "close enough to pet." Now that, is an unusual day on the river.

Embrace-A-Stream Status on Brown Trout Study Project Chattooga River

October 12, 1995

Dave VanLear

Dear Friends and Supporters:

We want to personally thank all of you for supporting the brown trout study on the Chattooga River. All of the funds have now been secured and Clemson University is in receipt of \$35,206 (\$20,000 from the US Forest Service and 15,206 from National TU, local chapters, the TU Councils of SC and GA, and Duke Power co.). Thanks also to the Chattahoochee National Forest for purchasing transmitters for us. Not many TU projects get this type of broad-based support. We appreciate your confidence and will do our best on this important project. Let me tell you a little about the current status of this endeavor.

The purpose of the study is to identify seasonal movement patterns of brown trout in the Chattooga River watershed, using radio telemetry to accomplish this task. The study will provide managers with information regarding spawning habitats, the importance of tributary streams as refuge from high temperatures in the main river, and the seasonality of brown trout movements.

Kyle Burrell is the graduate student funded by this project. Dr. Jeff Isely, a Fisheries Biologist at Clemson, and I serve as Co-Investigators on the project. Dr. Andy Dolloff, Fisheries Biologist with the US Forest Service, was responsible for obtaining the Forest Service's contribution to the study. He will serve as a member of Kyle's committee.

The current status of the project is this: 1) Transmitters have been ordered (they have to be custom-made) and will be received in late October. The receiver is already here. 2) Kyle is learning the surgical techniques necessary for implanting transmitters. 3) Transmitters will be implanted into study fish (both wild and hatchery fish will be used) in November, 1995. Transmitter life is 6 months, so another batch of fish will be implanted in May. 4) Thermographs have been received and will be placed in the river and tribs to correlate water temperature with seasonal movements of trout.

Dr. Isely has an additional graduate student who

will follow the movements of the tagged fish over 24-hour periods. His work will complement Kyle's study of the seasonal movements of brown trout.

We will be needing TU help on the electroshocking in November and May to get fish for implanting of transmitters. Fish will also be tagged. TU volunteers are encouraged to participate in the field when trout are being located.

Results of this study should eventually result in better fishing. We will keep you informed of our progress and let you know when and how you can help.

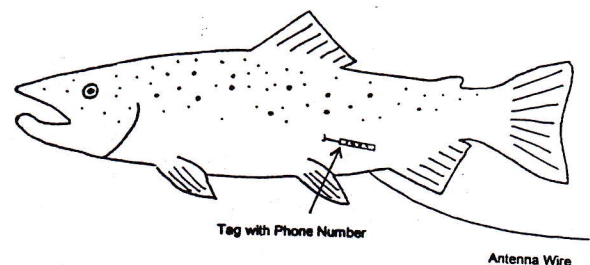
Dave VanLear

Attention Trout Fishermen

Clemson University is conducting a study to document the movements of brown trout in the Chattooga River. A number of brown trout have been implanted with miniature radio transmitters and are being monitored by Clemson graduate students. If you happen to catch one of these trout please release it immediately. If you suspect that the fish may die if released, please creel the fish then call us at (803) 656-1068.

The trout with transmitters are easily identified by a small antenna wire which protrudes from the abdominal area and a small coded tag that has our phone number on it.

If you have any question about this project please contact us for more information.



November
1995

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Planning session for Rendezvous in January. Rabun County Library, 7pm.

December
1995

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31						

December 19th, 6:30pm
Dillard House/Rock House
\$13/person
Come by yourself or bring a friend, spouse, or whoever. We'll enjoy a great meal and discuss inal planning for the JANUARY'S Rendezvous.

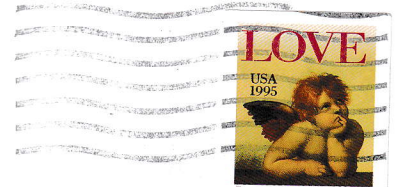
January
1996

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Tuesday, Januar 16th, Regular monthly meeting at Rabun County Library, 7pm.

Saturday, January 27th, Rabun Rendezvous, Dillard House/Henry's Playhouse.

Tight Lines



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The tradition of the Rabun Rendezvous continues.....

Cate's Turkey.....

Deer Trout!?!.....

Christmas dinner/meeting.....

25614405 RE 522 04 GA 9807
DOUG ADAMS
P.O. BOX 65
RABUN GAP GA 30568-0065