

June 1996

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## From The Nantahala.....

From the reports that I got, it seems the overnight trip to the Nantahala River was a huge success! I understand the event was well attended and there was plenty of advice to go around if one was willing to ask. The trip was originally set up for the younger members of our chapter but as I understand it, the bigger and older kids had the best time.

I hope that as a chapter we continue to take opportunities to introduce our youth to the joys of trout fishing.

## PETA Plans Anti-Fishing Activism

*Anglers Should Avoid Confrontation with Animal Rights Activist*

Anglers hitting the river to celebrate National Hunting and Fishing Day on September 28 might encounter an unexpected barrier. PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) has launched a campaign to ban fishing and will mark September 28 with its own National Fish Amnesty Day.

Officials from fishing organizations are sending warnings to their members, urging them to stay calm and report all incidents.

PETA activist, best known for their practice of throwing red paint on fur coats, plan to focus equal attention on banning fishing by using equally uncommon tactics. To scare away fish, anti-fishing activists have thrown stones and scuba dived near anglers.

Major tournaments, like the BASS Masters Classic, will be the focus of the summer's campaign. Even though many big tournaments release the majority the fish caught, animal rights activists oppose the events.

"There are a lot of problems with catch and release. The fish can suffer potentially fatal injuries," said PETA spokesman Michael MCGraw.

According to Andy Loftus of the American Sportfishing Association, 95% of Americans approve of fishing as a legitimate recreational activity, which means that PETA will have an uphill battle ahead. Loftus recommends that fishermen who encounter activist on the stream remain calm and avoid seeking confrontation, which will only give activist the

visibility and publicity they wish to attract.

The Wildlife Legislative Fund of America (WLFA) advise fishermen to steer clear of pollsters at the stream or lake. PETA workers have been conducting their own "surveys" of fishermen to support their cause.

J.R. Absher, communications director for WLFA, to request "identification" or a business card from the individuals and ask if they represent an "organization."

WLFA reminds fishermen that every state now has a sportsmen harassment law. Those who feel they have been harassed should report problems to police and be prepared to file charges.

Steve Schweitzer of TU's Lee Wulff (IL) chapter recommends that his fellow TUs use common sense if they encounter animal rights activists." Many times fishing privileges are extended to include access to private land, a favor which is extended on the basis of retaining the pristine beauty for others to enjoy," said Schweitzer. "Rock throwing and general commotion can cause these special privileges that took years to obtain to be revoked in a minute's time."

Reprinted from *Lines to Leader*, written by Shannon Robertson, Communications Intern.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our next monthly meeting will take place on the 18th at the library. As the spring phase of fishing is winding down we start thinking about trips out West of Hiawassee, fall work projects and yep, the Rabun Rendezvous.

At the June meeting I would like for us to consider officially recommending to the DNR the establishment of a Delayed Harvest stream or streams in North Georgia. You may have heard that the state of North Carolina will be closing their Delayed Harvest streams to harvest on October 1st this year and extending to the first of June. This is really great news to those of us who enjoy fall fishing.

So, where would you like to see this method of resource management in Georgia? Criteria used by North Carolina are primarily access for both stocking and enforcement and utilization of marginal trout waters due to warmer summer water. There is already a great deal of interest in our South Carolina chapters for making a stretch of the Chattooga delayed harvest. The most likely section would be from Highway 28 upstream to the fields below the mouth of Reed Creek. Another candidate could be a portion of the Tallulah. There are surely other streams west of here. The section of the Chattahoochee running through and above Helen might be another candidate. Give this some serious thought and come to the June meeting with your ideas.

Tight Lines,

Tom

### Programs

We need to come up with programs for the balance of the year. Kyle is planning on giving us a complete up date on the Brown Trout project in October. July, August, September, November and December are open so let's have a little input.

### Notes from the Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited meeting, June 1, 1996

The Council agreed to help with the fall stocking of the Chattooga with 25% funding.

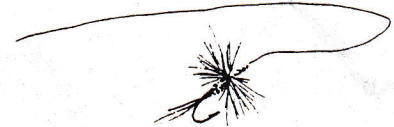
Trout Unlimited was recognized by the Georgia Wildlife Federation as the Conservation Group of the Year.

The National Convention of Trout Unlimited will take place in August of 1997 in Knoxville, Tennessee. (Should the chapter send a member since this is so close? How about food, lodging and travel furnished by the Chapter?)

As an alternate to a banquet to raise money, the Coosa Valley Chapter will sponsor a "Chili Cookoff" on October 12th in Rome at the Ridgeferry Park. Teams will pay \$30 entry fee and will be required to produce 10 gallons of chili. Is there such a thing as "Rabun Chili"?

Members of the Council expressed concern that they would not be able to attend both the Rabun

Rendezvous and the Great Outdoors Show in Atlanta on the last weekend in January. We may want to consider moving our dates up a week or back a week. Let's think about it.



## Birdogs Fly of the Month

### Yellow Sally

**Hook:** #14

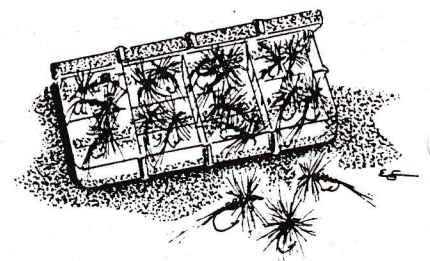
**Wing:** Light Elk Hair

**Body:** Bright Yellow Fly Rite Dubbing

**Hackle:** Light Ginger or Cream

This fly is just a modification of an Elk Hair Caddis; it has a yellow body. It imitates the yellow stone fly that hatch sporadically all summer on our local streams. Fish this fly as you would an Elk Hair Caddis.

*Kyle*



**From the Dept. of Natural Resources-**

**Call 1-800- "ASK-FISH" To Purchase Hunting and Fishing License By Phone:**

Tired of running all over town the night before a hunting or fishing trip in search of a license or stamp? Hunting and fishing license are now just a phone call away. Hunters and anglers can purchase hunting and fishing license and stamps by phone using MasterCard or Visa by calling 1-800-Ask-Fish.

Purchasing licenses and stamps by phone is easy. Dial the 1-800 number from any touch tone phone. Select option one, "Sportfishing or Clean Vessel Information from This State." At the next menu, select option four, "Licensing Information." Then, follow the directions given by the automated telephone answering system to select the hunting and fishing license to be purchased.

When the transaction is completed, the hunter or angler will be given a personal identification number. Hunters and anglers must carry this identification number like a license until they receive the licenses purchased by phone in the mail, usually five to seven days after the call. Conservation rangers can verify the purchase of licenses by phone using the identification number and a picture identification, such as a driver's license.

Hunters and anglers can purchase up to six licenses or stamps at one time by calling 1-800-Ask-Fish. A \$4 service charge will be added to the total cost of the licenses. All hunting and fishing licenses, except for the Federal Duck Stamp, can be purchased using 1-800-Ask-Fish.

1-800-Ask-Fish also provides up-to-date fishing information on a variety of topics. Anglers can find information such as fishing locations, regulation information, boat access, fishing locations near camp sites and handicapped accessible fishing locations.



June

1996

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**Saturday, June 15th, USFS**

**Kid's Fishing Rodeo** at the Tallulah River Campground. Registration begins at 7:30am, fishing begins at 8pm. Prizes and refreshments 11:00-12pm.

**Tuesday, June 18th, Monthly Meeting**

June's meeting will be held at the Rabun County library, social at 6:30pm and the meeting at 7pm.

Please plan to attend, there are several important items that the Chapter needs to discuss.