

October 1996

President
Tom Landreth
706-746-2295

Vice President
Russ Burken

Treasurer
Mike Hogelin

Newsletter Editor
Sharon Wilson
706-782-3320

Kyle Burrell Has The Floor For October Meeting

Kyle Burrell will once again take center stage to bring the chapter up to date on the Chattooga River Brown Trout Telemetry Project.

This month's meeting will be held at the Rock House on Wednesday, October 23rd. As always, refreshments at 6:30, program begins at 7pm. Please plan to join us!

**Please note that the
meeting is Wednesday
instead of the usual
Tuesday.**

See Kyle's note on pg.2

Work Project on Moccasin Creek

Seven Chapter members, Tom and Walt Landreth, Gene Roberts, Bo - Dustin - Hans Mentzer and their friend Jason, camped out up on the headwaters of Moccasin Creek on Friday, September 13th. Several others, Terry and company, tried to make it but spent the night at the bottom of Wildcat Creek with van troubles. They had a typical **Rabunite** meal of fish, hushpuppies, salad, baked beans and redbeans with smoked sausage and andouille.

Entertainment by Bo and Jason on the fiddle and guitar. Great fun!

Joining the above group the next morning for the work project was Louise and Jim Nixon, five others from other TU chapters and Doug Watson and Josh from the Forest Service. Blowdowns were removed from several existing structures in the South fork of Moccasin Creek and deflector logs were put in place. Work was suspended for a short while when some yellow jackets took offense at our intrusion on the creek bank. Thanks to all who turned out and help make the silt and sediment wash away for a little while.

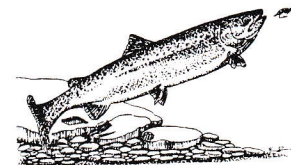
Tom

Open House For Chattahoochee National Forest Land & Resource Management Plan

On Tuesday, October 22 the **Forest Service** will conduct an open house at **Henry's Playhouse** (behind main Dillard House). Registration for the open house session will begin at 5:30 and members of the Forest planning team will be on hand to answer questions and record comments until 8pm.

The implications of the Forest **Land Management Plan** on fisheries issues was discussed at length at last month's meeting. Bottom line - this is your chance to comment and have your comments and concerns heard by those who are responsible for developing the new plan.

Please make plans to attend the open house. The chapter will write a letter to state its position on critical issues but the Forest Service also needs to hear from individuals as well.



President's Corner

Soil and Sediment Intrusion is the number one problem facing our area trout streams. The causes of this problem are many. Poor agricultural practices such as livestock degrading the banks and building drainage ditches leading to the streams; timbering without adequate protection of the watershed; inadequate riparian zones on both private and public lands; these are just a few. However, the real problem is with the construction and maintenance of roads.

Roads through and adjacent to our forests are built without adequate hydraulic berms to direct runoff into the areas where it will do the least harm. Inadequate gravel is used on new as well as on older more established roads. The shoulders are bulldozed of vegetation and left bare only to wash down into the nearest stream. Proper maintenance of a dirt/gravel road is just as important as its' original design and construction.

We as members of Trout Unlimited and as just interested citizens, must become more vigilant as we travel about our area. When you see what you think is soil and sediment pollution on our streams, report it to the agency responsible.

It simply doesn't make sense to turn out work parties and make what amounts to cosmetic changes when a surgical procedure needs to take place.

Tight Lines!

Tom

Other Items From The President

The fall stocking is on and will take place just as soon as we can muster the forces to fin clip 25,000 sub adults at the Burton Hatchery. By the time you read this many of you will have been contacted regarding this necessary work. If you haven't, call Tom (746-2295)

Note that the monthly meeting will take place on the third Wednesday, October 16th, instead of Tuesday at the Rock House across from the Clayton Drug Store in Clayton. Kyle Burrell will bring us up to date on the Brown Trout study and Terry Seehorn will synopsise the presentation by Friends of the Mountains at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School.

Officers nominated so far for 1997

President - Russ Burken
Vice President - no nominee (how about it)
Treasury - Russell Johnson
Newsletter - Sharon Wilson

Committee Coordinators (serve at the pleasure of the president):

Hospitality - Walt Landreth
Youth Activities - Bo Mentzer
Work Project/Campout - Tom Landreth
Membership - Jim Nixon
Program - need a volunteer (Henry Williamson expressed a willingness to assist the Program Coordinator)

Plan now to attend the public meeting at Henry's Playhouse to let your views be known regarding the U. S. Forest Service's revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan. **October 22, 5:30 PM to register.**

Chattooga River Brown Trout Study Update

The summer is almost over and our radio tagged brown trout in the Chattooga have provided us with some interesting data. This summer was not as stressful as last year. This year we had much cooler weather and abundant afternoon thundershowers which kept water temperatures lower than during last summers drought. Still, afternoon water temperatures did reach critical levels on numerous occasions. Twelve browns were caught this spring and were followed into the summer. What we have found is that during hot weather brown trout in the Chattooga show almost no movement at all. Even during an especially hot spell in July when water temperature reached 74°F none of our fish moved upstream to seek cooler waters. Instead they toughed it out by seeking shade and safety under boulders, logs, or ledges. Even at night these fish showed little or no movement.

We have now started tagging trout for our fall sample. Seven fish were implanted with transmitters on September 11 in the area above Burrells Ford. We hope to see these fish move upstream to find suitable spawning habitat in November. It should be interesting! One of these new trout was one of last winters tagged fish. His transmitter had run from November to July and then expired. We knew where his favorite spot was and electrofished him out. He was in great condition, nice and fat, and his incision had healed nicely. We cut out his old transmitter and implanted a new one. So now we will get a full years data from this one fish!

Efforts are currently underway to tag more trout. I encourage Trout Unlimited members to join me in my efforts to capture more trout by means of fly fishing (I know it's a tough job but someone has to do it!). Anyone interested in helping should contact me in Clayton (706)782-4951 or in Clemson (864)653-8204 (Leave a message). Here's a good excuse to go fishing. So come on and lets go fishing for science!!!

Best Regards,

Kyle H. Burrell
 Graduate Assistant
 Clemson University

October
1996

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November
1996

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December
1996

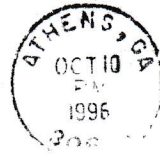
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Monthly Meeting:
Wednesday, October 16, 7:00pm,
 at the Rock House. Kyle Burrell will
 present an update on the Chattooga
 River Brown Trout Project.
Forest Service Open House:
 Tuesday, October 22, registration at
 5:30pm. Henry's Playhouse, Dillard,
 GA.

Monthly Meeting: Tuesday,
 November 19, refreshments at 6:30,
 meeting at 7pm. Time to start some
 serious planning for the Rendezvous
 in January.

Monthly Meeting: Tuesday,
 December 17, refreshments at 6:30,
 meeting at 7pm.

Tight Lines
Rabun Chapter TU



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

