

# TIGHT LINES



NEWSLETTER OF THE RABUN CHAPTER

TROUT UNLIMITED

FEBRUARY 1988

## FEBRUARY MEETING NOTICE

The Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited will meet at the Rabun County Library, Tuesday, February 16th. Social hour begins at 6:30 PM and the program at 7:00 PM.

This month's program is "Yes, Kyle, There is a Public Colorado Stream better Than The Frying Pan!" Presenting the program will be Jim Herrig, Fisheries Biologist with the U. S. Forest Service. Jim, who was based for a number of years in Colorado, is well qualified and should provide us with some real useful information. Plus, he's going to name that river!

FAME & A RIVER In the current issue of Field & Stream, there is an excellent article on the Frying Pan by Ted Kerasote. He offers several theories and conclusions as to why this Blue Ribbon stream is considered one of the best in the country.

H.B. 7 A mailgram has been sent to Senator John Foster stating the Chapter's opposition to this Georgia Senate bill, which would, if inacted, provide a shield of protection from the DNR Trout Regulations for land owners of trout waters. Two thirds of our designated trout waters are in private ownership and could result in a significant loss in license revenue.

BIG CREEK UPDATE The N. C. Department of Environmental Management has scheduled public hearings on ORW Classification for Big Creek. The meetings will be in May, probably in Highlands.

ORW CLASSIFICATION FOR THE CHATTOOGA The N.C. DEM will begin gathering information in the field in order to make a decision on the reclassification of the Chattooga. A decision may come as early as mid-March.

You should know that each time Doug Adams corresponds with me regarding items for TIGHT LINES, there is another letter or two from individuals or organizations voicing their support of our stand on these two issues. The public hearing is sure to be a lively one and the developer is going to hear from more people than he knew existed in Macon and Jackson counties.

JANUARY MEETING On January 19th, Jim Kidd, USFS and Rabun Chapter member, presented highlights of the Forest Service's program, "Rise To The Future". Many of our members had questions relating to the impact this new emphasis by the USFS will have in the northeast Georgia area. Jim addressed these concerns as well as underscoring that "Rise To The Future" is a major effort by the Forest Service. Thanks Jim, for an informative program..

Following the program, the following items were discussed and acted upon:

Open season: Asked the DNR to declare an open season on the Tallulah River from the dam to the N. C. Line. Not only would this help to disperse some of the crowding on this popular river, it would allow fisherman to take advantage of the winter runs of Walleye and White Bass.

We also voiced our support for a open trout season throughout the state. Georgia TU Chapters will be polled as to their memberships attitudes towards this matter.

RABUN COUNTY AIRPORT Advised the U. S. Forest Service that our primary concern in this matter was the impact construction of such a project would have on the watershed. The membership present had a lively discussion regarding the idea of an airport just outside the Chattooga River Corridor but decided to stick to what TU is charged with doing.

KEENER CREEK WATERSHED Appointed a committee to investigate the impact a Clayton water reservoir might have in the Patterson Gap area. The city is requesting permission to do so on USFS land. Alternatives to this idea and mention was made of a reservoir already in place on Taylor's Creek. The committee will report back at the February meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

April 22-23

Reed Creek Project- This will also be our meeting for April and May. Campout on Friday night

April 18-29-30 May 1

Brown Trout Workshop and the Southeastern TU Regional Meeting - Smokey Mountain Hilton Asheville

May 6-7

Chattooga River Spring Bug Collection Meet at Oconee State Park at 10 AM on the 6th for briefing and team assignments. We will need a good turnout so come on over if you can possibly make it.

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