



Mike Myers <not.that.mike.myers@gmail.com>

May Newsletter: Casting Instruction, CPW & Secrets of South Park

Cutthroat Chapter of Trout Unlimited <cutthroattu@gmail.com>
 Reply-To: cutthroattu@gmail.com
 To: mrmyers5280@comcast.net

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For our fellow stewards of our Colorado streams

MAY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

SPRING BEAR CREEK CONSERVATION PROJECT AND FISHING CONTEST *RECAP* – A TON ACCOMPLISHED AND A



GREAT TIME HAD BY ALL

April 28 was a beautiful spring day...the kind of day the City of Lakewood and CCTU were hoping to get for the annual spring planting and clean-up day at Bear Creek Lake Park. This year, 19 CCTU volunteers partnered with the city to help conserve, protect, and restore a stretch of urban Bear Creek. These industrious folks helped revegetate the stream side by planting 350 red osier dogwoods, willows, buffalo berries, and star bushes along with eight good sized cottonwood trees. All native plants! In addition these folks built a barrier wall to block and restore an unauthorized equestrian stream crossing. The twist this year was all these materials were purchased through funds earned by our own CCTU fundraiser and the support of all our CCTU chapter members. After the work we held a tongue-in-cheek fishing contest on that same stretch. Data from that contest goes to Colorado Parks and Wildlife to help them manage what is hoped will become a proper urban trout fishery in time. Contest awards were given for quickest fish landed (two hours 11 minutes), largest trout caught (6 inches) and most flies lost (11). A fun and rewarding time was had by all, and many thanks to our volunteers!

LADIES FISHING ON THE FLY RECAP – MAY 11-12 HIGHLANDS RANCH

Cyndy Scholz and her team of volunteer instructors had a great time with the 15 students at this year's spring Ladies Fishing on the Fly. Friday night was the classroom session from 6-9pm. They learned about equipment (rod, reel, line, leader, tippet & more), how to read water, tied the two knots, and had a brief entomology session with CTU's Cam Chandler. Saturday from 8:30AM to 1PM, after a casting lesson from Buzz Soard, they put into practice what they learned at the Fly'n B Park pond in Highlands Ranch. They had a blast catching bluegill, sunfish and even some rainbow trout. Thanks a ton to the HRCA for setting up and for all the CCTU volunteers that participated. The Fall program runs August 24-25. Get tickets at the Highlands Ranch Eastridge Recreation Center ([9568 University Blvd, Highlands Ranch](https://www.hrcanet.org/)), at www.HRCAonline.org or by calling (303) 791-2500. Any chapter members that would like to help with instruction, please contact Cyndy at cyndyscholz@msn.com or (303) 507-3068.

CUTTHROAT CHAPTER TROUT UNLIMITED – MAY CHAPTER MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 7PM (CASTING SESSION STARTS AT 6PM, MEETING STARTS OFFICIALLY AT 7PM)

CRESTHILL MIDDLE SCHOOL –9195 CRESTHILL LANE, HIGHLANDS RANCH, CO 80130

(CAFETERIA FOR MEETING)



Program 1 – Casting Session with Buzz Soard and Brian Young

Starting at 6pm, on the grass outside the cafeteria, join Buzz Soard and Brian Young for an informal casting session. You are welcome to cast some rods, including several Orvis Helios 3s that Brian will bring over from Orvis Park Meadows. Buzz will have some targets for accuracy practice as well. They both will be on hand to answer any questions or offer any casting refinement suggestions that you might desire. Great for all levels of experience, beginners especially.

Program 2 – Paul Winkle, CPW Denver Metro Aquatic Biologist

Paul Winkle is the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Aquatic Biologist for the Denver Metro area, including the Bear Creek and Clear Creek drainages up to the Continental Divide. This work includes sportfish population surveys in lakes and streams, native cutthroat trout reintroductions, and wild spawning operations. Paul received his Bachelor's Degree from Miami University in Ohio and his Master's Degree from the University of Wyoming. He has worked for Colorado Division of Parks & Wildlife since 2003. The title of his presentation is *Aquatic Ecology of the Bear Creek and Clear Creek Drainages*.

Program 3 – Michele White, Tumbling Trout Fly Shop “Lesser Known Fly Fishing Venues in South Park”

Michele White is a retired geologist and bassoonist. She is currently a Certified Professional Fly Fishing Guide and owner of Tumbling Trout Fly Shop in Lake George, Colorado. In 1998, she transitioned from kayaking and rafting on the Colorado River to rowing a dory and fly fishing the great rivers of the west under her husband's guidance. She is also VP of Government Affairs for the Pike's Peak Chapter of TU and an active participant in chapter and regional conservation projects and events. Michele is a contributing editor for Mountain Gazette, and has been published in *Discover the Outdoors*, *EQUUS*, *Fly Fishing World*, *Native People's Magazine*, *New Tribal Dawn*, and *The Aquarian*, and is the author of five books. Come hear her spill some South Park secrets as she presents from her well-read book “Lesser Known Fly Fishing Venues in South Park, Colorado”. The intention of her presentation and map book is to relieve some of the daily fishing pressure that exists at the better known fly fishing venues like the Dream Stream and Eleven Mile Canyon. She is an entertaining speaker and her presentations area always filled with great info. She will have books for signing and sale as well. Check out the Tumbling Trout website at www.tumblingtrout.com.

CCTU'S MAY COME FISH WITH US OUTING – LAKE LEHOW, WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 5PM-8PM



Join CCTU for another *Come Fish With Us* event at Lake Lehow, this time on a Wednesday night. These events are focused on getting to know new chapter members and non-members and helping to expand their fly fishing skills. Experienced CCTU board members and chapter members will be on-hand at all events to answer questions, offer tips, and provide help on casting, fly selection, hooking, playing and landing fish. Find out more at https://www.cutthroatctu.org/?tribe_events=come-fish-with-us-lake-lehow-3 or contact CCTU Board member David Coward at dpcoward@hotmail.com.

CUTTHROAT CHAPTER TROUT UNLIMITED – JUNE CHAPTER MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 7PM (MEETING OFFICIALLY STARTS 7PM)

CRESTHILL MIDDLE SCHOOL – [9195 CRESTHILL LANE, HIGHLANDS RANCH, CO 80130](#) (CAFETERIA FOR MEETING)



Program 1 – Kirk Klancke, President Colorado River Headwaters TU Chapter, “Learning by Doing: How Trout Unlimited Got Their Seat At the Table with Denver Water”

Kirk is the long-time President of the Colorado River Headwaters Chapter of Trout Unlimited, and has lived and championed Grand County’s watersheds in the Fraser Valley for over 47 years. He was instrumental in the design and implementation of a new collaborative process called Learning by Doing, which resulted in a large river restoration program on the Fraser River. Hear this story about how Grand County water stakeholders successfully contested two trans basin diversion projects, Denver Water’s Moffat Firming Project and Northern Water’s Windy Gap Firming Project. Creative solutions, collaboration, and persistence made it possible for TU and the Colorado River Headwaters Chapter to be a voice for water!

Program 2 – Michael Gula, “Fly Fishing The Bighorn River”

Michael Gula is a writer, fly tier, illustrator, and photographer. A retired public school administrator, Michael has been tying flies for six decades. He is the past president of the Central Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited, was the founding president of the West Denver Chapter of Trout Unlimited, served on both the New Jersey and Colorado Trout Unlimited State Councils, was the co-founder of the West Denver Annual Fly Tying Clinic, was a consultant for Whiting Farms, served on Whiting Farms fly tying Pro Team, and is now a Whiting Farms Fly Tying Ambassador. He will present his vast knowledge of The Bighorn River in terms of flies, techniques and other tips, along with some great photography from his recent May trip. He will also tie some of his favorite Bighorn flies from 6:30 to 7.

PROJECT HEALING WATERS CRYSTAL LAKE TRIP – CRYSTAL LAKE, TUESDAY, JUNE 27TH, 7AM-APPROX 3PM



The Cutthroat Chapter will host Project Healing Waters disabled veterans this year on Tuesday, June 27th. This will be the seventh consecutive year that CCTU has hosted this event. There will be 12 veterans from Denver and Pueblo at this event. Volunteers should meet at 7:00AM on the day of the event at the South Suburban Board of Realtors parking lot. We will combine vehicles and proceed to Crystal Lake. Crystal Lake is located 5 miles from Leadville on Highway 24 in the upper Arkansas drainage. From Denver, take I-70 to the Copper Mountain exit, drive over Fremont Pass to Leadville, and follow highway 24 out of Leadville. Any Cutthroat members who want to volunteer for this event should contact Richard Pilatzke at (303) 979-8425 or rhpiscator@aol.com

CCTU CHAPTER FISHING TRIPS

CCTU Chapter fishing trips sign-ups are currently under way. Please contact each of the CCTU leaders below for more information.

- **Bighorn River Fishing Trip** – May 14 – 19, 2018
- Contact – John Aaron...jraaron@mail.com

- **San Juan River Fishing Trip** – October 20 – 24, 2018
- Contact – Jerry Shin...gjshin@msn.com

KEEP YOUR KING SOOPERS GIFT CARDS CHARGED UP AND IN USE!

The King Soopers Gift card fundraising program is the easiest and simplest way to help raise money for the chapter and requires virtually no work or extra money from any members! King Soopers gift cards are set up specifically for the Cutthroat Chapter.

Cards are preloaded with \$25 and sold to Chapter members at face value...no extra cost! Anyone that would like one just needs to contact Allen Adinoff (ad.adinoff@coloradoallergy.com) for the card. Once you've used the \$25, you can "reload" the card using your credit card (or cash) at the beginning of your checkout (any checker can do it). **CCTU gets 5% of every dollar loaded onto these cards, and that raised nearly \$3,000 again in 2017!**

We have had a productive year for both fishing and conservation. Your dollars and your efforts have certainly had a positive impact on the health of our mountain streams and our angling community. As always, we thank you for your commitment, your donations and your time.

Colorado Trout Unlimited | [1536 Wynkoop St., Ste. 320](#)

Denver, Colorado 80202

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