
June Newsletter: Learning By Doing, Fly Fishing the Big Horn

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Tue, Jun 19, 2018 at 3:02 PM

For our fellow stewards of our Colorado streams

JUNE EMAIL NEWSLETTER

BIGHORN RIVER CCTU CHAPTER FISHING TRIP RECAP

On May 14th, fourteen CCTU members began the four day annual chapter fishing trip on the Bighorn River. Flows were high, at 260% of normal, and the fish were spread out, but many fish came to net and a great time was had by all. For more info, check out the full recap at the website at <https://www.cutthroatctu.org/?p=12888>



Alma River Walk Project Visit - June 8, 2018

The town of Alma, CO is north of Fairplay in Southpark and, at 10, 578 feet, is the highest incorporated town in North America. Alma is an idyllic location with several 14ers nearby and more importantly for TU, the headwaters of the South Platte River are just above and adjacent to the town. Alma is a small town (less than 400 residents) but that is about to change. Up to three new multi-unit housing developments are being planned for Alma so the population will increase substantially in the next few years. The town of Alma and the Alma Foundation are planning a project that will consist of platforms and walkways in the

Upper South Platte wetlands for both recreation and fishing access. They wish to create a multi-use area while also managing and protecting these important headwaters for future generations.

On June 8, 2018 a meeting was held to provide TU (Cutthroat and Cherry Creek Chapters) with key information for the Walkway Project, including a tour of the wetlands, a discussion of project options, and solicitation of ideas for improving the project. Attendees from TU included George Franklin, John Aaron, Peter King and Tim O'Connor (Cutthroat Chapter) and Steve Rozendaal (Cherry Creek Anglers). Jara Johnson represented the Alma Foundation and Tim Zingler represented the town of Alma (Director of Public Works). They currently have a contract for a wetlands delineation study (report due the end of June 2018) and they will soon be contracting with a small engineering firm for engineering design and review of alternatives. Colorado Parks and Wildlife has donated \$30,000 and TU Cutthroat Chapter has committed \$5,000 for this phase of work. Considerably more funding will be required for the construction phase, scheduled for 2019-20. TU's Cutthroat Chapter is offering to help find corporate sponsors for that phase. Some ideas that TU provided include: giving these headwaters a "Catch and Release" designation to ensure a sustainable fish population; adding large rocks to the stream in selected locations to provide structures for the fish; and dredging the pond next to the planned fishing dock as it is currently very shallow.



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 – 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. Cast some Orvis Rods, including Helios 3s. Targets for accuracy practice as well. They both will be on hand to answer questions or offer casting refinement suggestions if desired.. Beginners welcome!

Program 2 – 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 3 – Michael Gula, “Fly Fishing The Bighorn River”

Michael Gula is a retired public school administrator, residing in Colorado since 1973. Michael has been fly fishing and fly tying for six decades. He is the founding President of the West Denver Chapter of TU, and the co-creator of the very successful Annual West Denver Fly Tying Clinic. He also presided over the Central Jersey Chapter of TU, and served as a State Director of TU in both NJ and Colorado. Michael was the general manager of Hank Roberts Sports in Boulder, Eddie Bauer Expedition Outfitter in Denver, owner of Western Angler in Ft. Collins, founding partner of Colorado Quality Hackles (CQH), served as a consultant for Whiting Farms and their Pro Team, and is now a Whiting Farms Fly Tying Ambassador. Michael has been a regular on the Bighorn River since 1982, and averages 30-40 days per year on the river. 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.



CCTU'S JUNE COME FISH WITH US OUTING – LAKE LEHOW, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 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-4 or contact CCTU Board member David Coward at dpcoward@hotmail.com.



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



Cutthroat Chapter Trout Unlimited – JULY CHAPTER MEETING

Tuesday, JULY 17, 7PM (Meeting officially starts 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 another informal casting session. Cast some Orvis rods, get some tips and casting refinements if you desire. Great for all levels of experience, but especially good for beginners.

Program 2 – Steve Schweitzer, Fly Fishing Rocky Mountain National Park and the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area

Join us for a special presentation and book signing by angler/guide/author Steve Schweitzer on his excellent books “A Fly Fishing Guide to Rocky Mountain National Park” and “A Fly Fishing Guide to the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area”. Steve has been part of the fly fishing industry for 20+ years, including VP of Sales & Marketing at Whiting Farms. He is the co-founder of globalflyfisher.com, and a frequent contributor to numerous industry magazines. The book and presentation are a must for anyone planning on fishing in the park on in the Indian Peaks WA. It is one of our all-time favorite guide books anywhere, and offers an incredibly detailed look at fishing locations and techniques for RMNP. Steve never fails to drop some extra tricks, tips and location details during what is always an entertaining presentation. Steve will also be tying flies, some for RMNP/Indian Peaks WA and some from his new book “Designing Poppers, Sliders & Divers”.



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.

- • **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.

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