
March Newsletter: Walleye on the Fly, Mind the Redd and Stream Girls

Cutthroat Chapter of Trout Unlimited <cutthroattu@gmail.com>
Reply-To: cutthroattu@gmail.com
To: mrmymers5280@comcast.net

Sun, Mar 17, 2019 at 7:35 AM

For our fellow stewards of our Colorado streams

CUTTHROAT CHAPTER TROUT UNLIMITED – MARCH CHAPTER MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 6:30PM (MEETING OFFICIALLY STARTS 7PM)
CRESTHILL MIDDLE SCHOOL – 9195 CRESTHILL LANE, HIGHLANDS RANCH, CO 80130 (CAFETERIA FOR MEETING)

PROGRAM 1 – CHRISTOPHER KOTALIK CSU STEVE BAILEY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Christopher Kotalik is the 2018/19 recipient of the CCTU Steve Bailey Memorial Scholarship at CSU. He is in his fifth year as a PhD candidate in the Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology graduate program at CSU, in the Aquatic Ecotoxicology Lab. Chris grew up in Loveland where he spent much of his time fishing, hunting, and exploring Colorado's natural resources. It was those experiences that influenced his choice to pursue a career in fisheries and aquatic sciences. His research interests are centered around the evaluation of the effects of contaminants on stream ecosystems, with a focus on benthic ecology. His presentation will focus on his dissertation research in evaluating the direct and indirect effects of acid mine drainage remediation on mountain streams using field and mesocosm approaches. Chris' professional goals are to continue to conduct research in the field of ecotoxicology, and to work to improve water quality standards in the West

PROGRAM 2 – AUSTIN PARR, DISCOUNT FISHING TACKLE, FLY FISHING FOR WALLEYE

Join Austin Parr, co-owner Discount Fishing Tackle, for a change of pace from trout fishing...a presentation on the tactics, techniques, and tackle for taking Walleye on the fly. Get better equipped to target a species that is plentiful in our Metro area lakes and ponds.

Austin Parr is a native Coloradan who has been fishing waters across the state for his whole life. He enjoys targeting both cold, and warm water species using both conventional and fly fishing techniques. Austin uses his varying knowledge of the industry to stock conventional and fly fishing items, and prides himself in helping anglers catch more fish no matter the technique. In addition to the ownership of the store, Austin has been guiding for walleyes, bass, and trout since he was 16, and makes regular appearances on Terry Wickstrom Outdoors radio show and Fishful Thinker TV.

For more info on Austin and Discount Fishing Tackle please go to www.discountfishingdenver.com.

Expanded Monthly Raffle! In addition to flies and other items that Jerry and Alex will be raffling, we have added a "larger prize" to each month's raffle. This month we will be raffling off a new Orvis Clearwater 9ft 5wt rod. Lighter, stronger, faster action than ever before...a \$198 value.

3RD ANNUAL EARTH DAY BEAR CREEK CONSERVATION PROJECT AND FISHING CONTEST
SATURDAY, APRIL 27
CONSERVATION PROJECT 8:30-12PM, FISHING CONTEST 1-4PM



Join the Cutthroat Chapter Saturday April 27, 2019 on urban Bear Creek to celebrate Earth Day in cooperation with the City of Lakewood. After a lite provided breakfast we will help restore a nearby riparian area by planting willows, cottonwoods, and other native plants. We might also get a chance to remove log jams, to clean up litter, and to perform some erosion control. After a provided lunch we will return to the stream for a low key three hour fishing contest with "awards" for angling "excellence". Online sign up is requested for the City to plan for food and materials. Sign up here no later than April 26:

<https://lakewoodco.wufoo.com/forms/q3pil2o053plkx/>

Meet at: Bear Creek Lake Park, Meadowlark Picnic Area before 8:30 am if you would like breakfast. From C470, exit at W. Morrison Road, just east of the town of Morrison. Proceed through the west park entrance. Park entry is free to volunteers.

Map of the park and Meadowlark Picnic Area:

http://www.lakewood.org/uploadedImages/Images/Community_Resources/Parks_Forestry_Open_Space/BearCreekBikePath.jpg?n=4595

Conservation Project Details: 8:30 am-noon. Bring gloves, appropriate clothing, drinking water, and sunscreen. The Park will provide all necessary tools, though if you have a favorite pick or shovel you should bring it along. The soil is very rocky. A lite breakfast will be served from 8-8:30 am and release forms for CCTU and City of Lakewood will be signed. Work teams will be assigned and CCTU workers will carpool to the Bear Creek Greenbelt area. Native plants for revegetation will be provided. We will plant samplings and do other restoration work until noon, when we will return to Bear Creek Lake Park for provided lunch.

Fishing Contest: Bear Creek Greenbelt area, approximately 1pm – 4pm. You may compete as an individual, though teams of mentors and inexperienced folks are encouraged. Contestants will keep a log of species, numbers, sizes, and locations of all fish caught in the time allotted. Tongue in cheek tokens of appreciation for angling prowess will be handed out to teams for most fish caught, most flies lost, or any other category we manage to come up with. Suggestions for other categories worthy of appreciation are welcomed!

For additional info please contact George Franklin at 303.902.9827 or at georgefr@aol.com.

CUTTHROAT CHAPTER TROUT UNLIMITED – APRIL CHAPTER MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 6:30PM (MEETING OFFICIALLY STARTS 7PM)

PROGRAM 1 – CCTU’S JIM RASMUSSEN *CITIZEN SCIENCE ON THE RIVER*



CCTU’s Jim Rasmussen, the long-time leader of the chapter’s River Watch program, will talk about River Watch and other Citizen Science Projects available to all CCTU members.

PROGRAM 2 – ADAM BEEDE, HOMEWATER FLY FISHING LLC, *FLY FISHING THE SEASONS OF THE GUNNISON*

Join Adam Beede, long-time Front Range and Gunnison area guide, for a presentation on the seasons on his favorite waters of the Gunnison Valley. Austin will highlight everything from Winter on the Taylor, run-off float fishing on the Gunny, small creek dry fly fishing, and the best techniques for Fall Kokanee and Brown Trout migrations. He will also talk about how he communicates conservation via guiding, and his continued work with the conservation club he founded the Gunnison Sockeyes River Conservation Club.

Adam Beede grew up in Highlands Ranch and learned to fly fish on Bear Creek. Beede guided for a few years on the Front Range before heading to Western State University in Gunnison. He guided full-time at Harmel’s while pursuing his degree and started the on-campus Gunnison Sockeyes River Conservation Club. Beede has over five years of guiding experience throughout Colorado; and the Gunnison Sockeyes were State Champions in both fishing and conservation at the 2016 TU 5 Rivers Rendezvous. Adam is an alumnus of the 2011 CTU Youth Camp, served as a youth counselor for the camp three additional years, and was Youth Camp Director in 2017...youngest person ever in that role. He graduated in 2017 with a Chemistry degree from Western State, with an incredible legacy of coldwater conservation at the school. A year after graduation, he set up Homewaters Fly Fishing LLC, a full service outfitter and online store selling flies, leaders & tippet, tools and other equipment, outerwear and more.

For more info on Adam and Homewaters Fly Fishing LLC please go to <http://homewaters.us/> or email Adam at info@homewaters.us.

Expanded Monthly Raffle! The “larger prize” for this month’s raffle is the new Orvis PRO Trout Smooth Fly Line...a \$98 value.

CCTU PARTNER FOCUS – PETER STITCHER AND ASCENT FLY FISHING?



This month we highlight another great partner for CCTU...Aquatic Biologist, Entomologist and owner of Ascent Fly Fishing and River Oracle, Inc....Peter Stitcher. Peter is a chapter member and we are grateful for his on-the-water entomology session and presentation at last year's picnic, as well as his upcoming presentation at the June chapter meeting.

As a biologist, Peter works across the United States in the assessment, restoration, and management of trophy trout waters. Approaching the sport of fly fishing through the lens of a biologist, Peter strives to break down the sciences of entomology, fish feeding behavior, and fish habitat use into easily applied fishing tips and tactics for the fly fisher. Armed with an extensive invertebrate database and more than 600,000 flies Peter and his team at Ascent specialize in the creation of *Biologist Crafted Fly Selections* specific to the trout foods and their life-cycles when and where you fish. Peter released his first film titled *Creating Order in Your Fly Box* in 2017, is a regular contributor to *High Country Angler Magazine* and can be found educating and empowering fly fishers at fly fishing shows and events around the United States. He is also the organizer of the Fly Fishing Rendezvous series of events in Colorado, with this spring's event occurring May 4-5 at the National Western Complex.

You can purchase Peter's "biologist packed fly selection" flies, his entomology kits, and numerous tools and equipment online at <https://ascentflyfishing.com/> or contact Peter directly at sales@ascentflyfishing.com.

HOW TO FISH THE DURING THE SPRING SPAWN – PETER STITCHER, ASCENT FLY FISHING



You work hard, you diversify your assets, and you balance the potential risks and rewards with an eye to the future. Regardless of our previous vocations, we share common goals in retirement; a secure future and time to enjoy the bounty brought about by forethought and investment. It is with a similar eye toward the future that the fly fisher will ensure vibrant and healthy fisheries to be enjoyed for years to come.

Each spring as the snows begin to subside and the water temperatures creep up to 44°- 48°F, the Rainbow and Cutthroat trout prepare to spawn. Caution goes out the window as hormones drive these fish to gather in pools throughout the river before heading up into the shallows to spawn. For the fly fisher who has eagerly been awaiting warmer weather and the chance to fish flies larger than a size 24 midge, this season provides some amazing opportunities but also requires restraint. The uneducated or short-sighted angler can do significant harm to the river and the future of the fishery if they are not careful. While there is hot fishing action to be had during and after the spawn, we need to be able to know which trout are fair game, which are off limits, how to identify a spawning redd, and approach the spring spawning season by actively investing in our fly fishing futures.

Mind the Redd

A Redd is the spawning bed in which trout lay their eggs, and from which our hopes of a healthy, vibrant fishery are born. After staging in the deep, protected pools of the river, the trout that are ready to spawn move up into the shallow, fast-flowing riffles in roughly 4 - 18 inches of water. In these gravel-strewn, well-oxygenated reaches, the trout will actively fan the gravel with their tails to clear it of algae and silt, creating a distinctive bright patch on the bottom of the river. Like a flashing caution light, these bright patches are your sign to stand clear and are off limits to wading. A single mindless boot tramped through the redd can crush hundreds of trout still in the egg. When wading in the spring, watch out for these brightly marked redds and head to deeper waters if you must wade or cross the river.

The Shallows Are Off Limits

As tantalizing as the trout may appear as they dart and chase each other through the shallow riffles, these fish are there to spawn and are off limits to the angler. Mature trout feel most secure with at least 12" of water over their heads, and only move into the more dangerous shallows to spawn. Pursuing these fish is like buying into a ponzi scheme, with the immediate returns looking good, but the long term effect bringing ruin for all. So, if you see fish in the shallows, please leave them to spawn and focus your attention instead on the pools of the river.


The Pools are Fair Game

For every fish you see working the redds in the shallows of the river, there are typically 5 - 10 times that many holding in the pools that separate the riffles. The fish in the deep pools are either still preparing to spawn, have recently finished their courtship, or will be comprised of brown and brook trout feeding on eggs as they roll down the river. These fish are fair game, and their pursuit will not harm the fishery.

So, with that encouragement, break out your fly rods and head to the river to enjoy some amazing action on the fly this Spring. If you mind your step and fish with an eye to the future, these rivers will continue to produce numerous healthy

fish that will welcome both you and your flies for years to come!

CTU RENDEZVOUS – 4/26-28, GLENWOOD SPRINGS




Colorado Trout Unlimited Presents...

2019 Annual Rendezvous

Glenwood Springs, CO
April 26-28, 2019

Join fellow TU members, industry professionals, and conservation experts for a great weekend of trainings, networking, and a whole lot of fun!



Learn More at:
coloradotu.org/rendezvous

Colorado TU is proud to announce that our Rendezvous will be returning to the historic Hotel Colorado in Glenwood Springs, CO on April 26-28, 2019. Join fellow TU members (new and old), outdoor professionals, guides, educators, and conservation groups for a weekend not to be missed.

<https://coloradotu.org/rendezvous>

TU STREAM GIRLS



STREAM Girls is an outdoor watershed experience that employs STEM-education (science, technology, engineering, math) plus recreation and arts to explore a local stream. By visiting a local stream and having the opportunity to observe it as

scientists, anglers, and artists, girls between the ages of 9-14 will get the complete picture of what their stream could mean to them. Over the course of multiple sessions, Girl Scouts observe a stream, collect flow data, sample macro-invertebrates (aka aquatic bugs), tie flies, and learn fly casting.

Colorado Trout Unlimited is hosting three STREAM Girls events in 2019:

STREAM Girls Training (required) - Saturday, March 30, 2019

Location: Izaak Walton Clubhouse, [18 Sunset St, Longmont, CO 80501](#)

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

STREAM Girls Event - Saturday, April 13, 2019

Location: Izaak Walton Clubhouse, [18 Sunset St, Longmont, CO 80501](#)

Time: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

STREAM Girls Event - Saturday, May 11, 2019

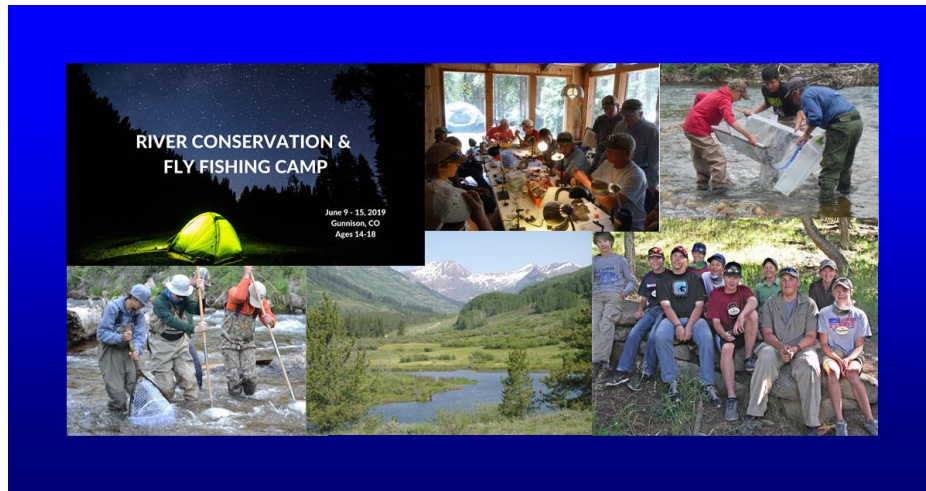
Location: Kassler Center, [11338 Waterton Rd](#), Littleton, CO 80125

Time: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

No experience necessary to volunteer, but a strong interest in mentoring the next generation of scientists is encouraged. If you would like to volunteer and cannot attend the training, please contact Bianca McGrath-Martinez bianca.mcgrathmartinez@tu.org | (720) 394-1017

For more info, go to <https://coloradotu.org/stream-girls>.

CTU YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING CAMP



This fantastic camp is designed to educate 14 to 18 year old students on the importance of cold-water conservation and provide hands-on fly fishing instruction. Approximately 20 students are selected each year, based on their qualifications and a written essay on why they would like to attend the camp. The camp will run June 9-15 at Silent Springs Resort in Gunnison, CO. To find out more info on the camp, please contact CTU's Dan Omasta (domasta@tu.org) or go to <https://coloradotu.org/youthcamp>. Through a generous donation from Orvis Park Meadows and Orvis Cherry Creek, the Cutthroat Chapter has funding for four scholarships that will send four students to Youth Camp at no charge. Please contact CCTU President Allen Adinoff (aadinoff10@gmail.com) if you are interested in finding out more about the scholarships.

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.



- **Green River Fishing Trip** – April 13 – 17, 2019
 - Contact – Jim Schmidt...jjasden@aol.com
 - May be nearing capacity for this event, but if you're interested, contact Jim
 - Deposit \$75

- **Bighorn River Fishing Trip** – exact dates TBD (last year...May 14 – 19)
 - Contact – John Aaron...jraaron@mail.com

- **Green River Fishing Trip** – October 26 – 30, 2019
 - Contact – Jerry Shin...gjshin@msn.com
 - Trip is already full, but Jerry is doing a wait list...folks do cancel

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 (aadinoff10@gmail.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). Cards can be used to purchase anything at King Soopers. **The chapter gets 5% of every dollar loaded onto these cards, and that raised nearly \$3,500 in 2018!**



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

Colorado Trout Unlimited is the Colorado Council of Trout Unlimited. You are receiving this email because you have signed up to receive electronic communication from Colorado Trout Unlimited or you are a member of Trout Unlimited. [To unsubscribe, click here](#)

PAID FOR AND AUTHORIZED BY COLORADO TROUT UNLIMITED

empowered by  salsa