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Arkansas River Brown - Check out the New Trip Series!

Conserve, Protect And Restore

CCTU MARCH CHAPTER MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 7PM

IN-PERSON AT CRESTHILL MIDDLE SCHOOL & ZOOM

SIMULCAST

**PAT DORSEY, THE BLUE QUILL ANGLER, *FLY FISHING*
*COLORADO'S BEST TROUT STREAMS***

Set your calendars as we are extremely lucky to have legendary guide/author/Blue Quill Angler co-owner Pat Dorsey presenting his tips and techniques on his favorite Colorado trout streams. Colorado has a wide array of



angling possibilities, from technical, gin-clear tailwaters to large, untamed freestones. The terrain varies depending on the geographic locale—many streams meander through lush valleys, some sweep through rich ranchland, and while others carve their way through majestic, boulder-filled canyons. Fly fishers consider Colorado to be one of the

premier fly-fishing hubs in the Rocky Mountain west. There are an estimated 9000 miles of trout streams in Colorado, with unlimited angling options. Join Pat Dorsey for tour of Colorado's best trout streams. Dorsey will address matching the hatch, fly selection, public access, and much more, enabling you to be successful on your next angling adventure in Colorado!

FYI - We've got some special items in this month's in-person Raffle, including an Orvis Bugout Fishing Backpack, Orvis Slingpack, and two Orvis Battenkill Disc Reels. Don't forget to get in on the action at the meeting.

Book a trip, purchase gear, or get more info for The Blue Quill Angler at <https://bluequillangler.com> and get Pat's invaluable stream report and more at <https://www.patdorseyflyfishing.com/rivers/>.

If you can't make the meeting in person and want to join in via Zoom, go to... [March Chapter Meeting Zoom Link](#) or go to www.zoom.com and use Meeting ID: 821 4786 5436, Passcode: Cutthroat

[Read More...](#)

FEB MEETING PRESENTATION ON CCTU YOUTUBE CHANNEL



We had another excellent in-person meeting at the February chapter meeting, and the presentation is now up on the CCTU YouTube channel. Kirk Bien, owner and head guide of Kirk's Fly Shop and Kirk's Mountain Adventures presented a very detailed look at Rocky Mountain National Park, focusing on his favorite lakes across each of the park's key watersheds. Excellent location info, and some key tips lakes not to miss...and barren lakes to

avoid. Visit Kirk's Fly Shop two locations in Estes Park and Grand Lake, and book a fishing trip or pack trip with his fantastic team. Book a trip, purchase gear, or get more info at <https://www.kirksflyshop.com/> or

<https://www.kirksmountainadventures.com/>. Access the presentation at [Rocky Mountain National Park Feb Meeting Presentation](#)

NOTE – Technical difficulties led to less than optimal audio quality...our apologies.

FLY FISHING SHOWS – ISE MARCH 24-27

The Denver Fly Fishing Show was February 11-13 at the Gaylord Rockies Resort & Conference Center. A new venue always has challenges, but the crowds were heavy and we look forward to next year's event which will be held at the Gaylord again (dates TBD).



The International Sportsmen's Show (ISE) is coming this month, Thursday March 24 through Sunday March 27 at its traditional location of the Colorado Convention Center (700 14th St. Denver, CO 80202). Tickets are \$16 and will eventually be able to be purchased at the show website or at the box office the day of the event. For more info, go to [ISE Show Link](#)

CCTU APRIL CHAPTER MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 7PM

IN-PERSON AT CRESTHILL MIDDLE SCHOOL & ZOOM
SIMULCAST



PROGRAM 1 - DAVID NICKUM, CTU EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, *THE STATE OF CTU & COLORADO PRIORITY WATERS INITIATIVE*

We are lucky to have David Nickum with us for the April meeting. If you've wondered what Colorado Trout Unlimited is doing on behalf of you and other members around the state, here's your chance to get that picture in a nutshell. David will give a high-level overview of CTU's efforts across the state, including a detailed perspective on the Colorado Priority Waters Initiative.

PROGRAM 2 – DR. ASHLEY RUST, COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE, *THE EFFECT OF FIRES ON COLORADO WATERS*

You may have read the Summer 2021 Trout Magazine article "Fish & Fire in the West", detailing Ashley Rust's research on fires and the impact on fisheries. She will



be speaking on her research into the effect of fires on fish in Colorado waters, including a discussion on the impact of the 2020 fires. Currently she is a Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Specialist for Colorado Parks & Wildlife. More broadly, she is a hydrologist and fish ecologist with expertise in water quality, fire science, urban stream ecology and restoration, and lake water quality and ecology.

CCTU BEAR CREEK EARTH DAY CONSERVATION PROJECT CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS SAT, APRIL 23, 8AM-12PM BEAR CREEK LAKE PARK



Spring is coming and so is our first conservation event of 2022. Join us for an Earth Day Conservation Celebration with the City of Lakewood on Saturday April 23, 2022. CCTU is working with the staff of Bear Creek Lake Park to help restore the Bear Creek Greenbelt riparian environment in Lakewood. This part of their Earth Day event is only open to CCTU members and friends. We will be planting 6 Ninebark Natives, 6 Red-twig Dogwood, 5 Golden Currant, 6 Choke

Cherry, 10 Narrow Leaf Cottonwood in a 100% outdoor event.

We are calling for volunteers, if you would like to join us and help, please sign up with the city and contact CCTU's John Egan, john.j.egan@icloud.com, (303) 824-9714. **To participate, you must sign up in advance with the city of Lakewood at [City of Lakewood Project Sign-up](#) and contact John Egan as well.**

- We will meet at 7:45 am on Saturday April 23 at Bear Creek Lake Park at the Meadowlark Cove picnic shelter, Lakewood, CO.
- Once there we will register as well as have some breakfast. At 8AM, we will gather for an orientation.
- We will split quickly into groups, and head out to the Greenbelt to work with park staff planting.
- The City of Lakewood will provide all necessary tools. Volunteers will need their own gloves and appropriate work clothes.
- Lunch will be provided by the City at 12 noon.
- The fishing contest is back as in years past, so bring your equipment for an afternoon of fun.

CTU CONSERVATION & FLY FISHING YOUTH CAMP

JUNE 12-18, AEI BASE CAMP, TAYLOR PARK, CO

NOMINATE A CCTU SCHOLARSHIP CANDIDATE TODAY!

Colorado Trout Unlimited will host the 17th annual River Conservation and Fly Fishing Camp for teen youth at AEI Base Camp in Taylor Park, Colorado, June 12-18, 2022. Since 2006, youth from across the state and beyond have gathered to complete a week-long program of STEM-based conservation education and instruction in the art of fly fishing. Youth 14-18 are eligible to apply for camp, chapters statewide provide scholarships to campers in need. In parallel with Orvis, we are working to achieve 50/50 gender diversity at camp. This camp provides a unique immersive experience for teens interested in the outdoors, fly fishing, and potential conservation-related career paths. Campers participate in hands-on conservation activities and receive one-on-one and group instruction in the art of fly fishing. Their experience is enriched as they make lifelong relationships, "finding their people" and bonding with peers of similar interests. The program exposes campers to the complexity of water management in the west and its nexus with recreation. The diversity of the conservation program is designed so that participants can envision multiple education and career paths that align with their personal passion for the outdoors.

[Click here to learn more and apply](#)

Applications are due April 10, 2022. CCTU is offering scholarships to cover the full cost of the camp. Contact CCTU President Scott Tampa (scott.a.tampa@gmail.com) if you are interested in finding out more about the scholarships or to recommend a student for a CCTU scholarship. Help TU, CTU and CCTU inspire the next generation of river stewards.



CCTU BOARD OF DIRECTORS - FEB ELECTIONS



We elected/re-elected CCTU board members at the February 16th meeting. Congratulations to Scott Tampa for continuing his leadership as CCTU President, to the other officers re-elected for another one-year term, and to new BOD member Harlan Husmann. The board

meets the first Tuesday of each month from 7-8pm. All BOD meetings continue to be held virtually, and the board welcomes any CCTU members who want to join a meeting for any reason. With pending BOD retirements at the end of 2022, **we need to fill some key positions...including Communications Director, which includes managing this monthly newsletter.** If you would like to find out more about the Communications role or about being part of the CCTU Board at any level, please contact Scott Tampa (scott.a.tampa@gmail.com) for more information.

[READ MORE...For a Full List of All Board Members](#)

NEW TRIP! EXPLORE SECTIONS OF THE ARKANSAS RIVER SATURDAY, MARCH 19 SECTION 1 – LOWER RIVER (ABOVE CANON CITY)



For the 2022 fishing season we are starting a series of fishing outings to explore the Arkansas river. We are planning an outing approximately each month (other than run-off). We will start the season on Saturday

March 19 at the lower part of the river in Canon City and work our way upstream each month. The second trip in April will start at the Parkdale River access. Trip leader is new CCTU BOD member Harlan Husmann. Meet for carpooling at the Park-n Ride in Highlands Ranch, fish from 10-5pm, drive home.

This activity is for you if...

- You looking to meet people in the chapter
- Would like help with some aspect of your fishing game
- Want to explore the Arkansas river

March Explore the Arkansas Outing:

When: 7:45, Saturday, March 19

Park-n-Ride, C470/University Blvd (SW quadrant)
8392 S Burnley Ct, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126

(Harlan will be driving a red Astro van.)

Where: Arkansas River, Canon City River Walk

Parking lot where S Reynolds Avenue crosses the river

Across from Canon City Park & Rec; 575 Ash St, Canon City, CO 81212

First trip timing and details...

7:45am - Meet to organize carpooling (for location see "When:" above)

(Harlan asks people who carpool with him are fully vaccinated + boosted.)

8:00am Leave for Arkansas

9:00am Biology break at McDonald's in Colorado Springs

10:00am Arrive at river in Canon City – start fishing!

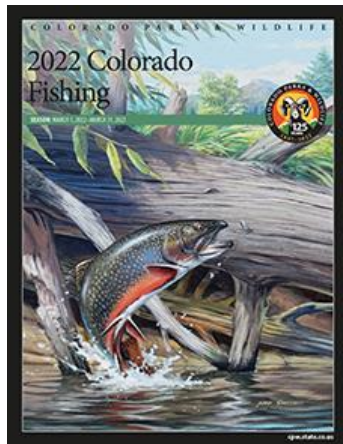
12-1pm Optional: eat lunch on the river as a group (bring your lunch)

5:00pm Conclude fishing. Decide on having dinner together in Canon City before driving home.

If you need information on the Arkansas, see Taylor Edrington's excellent CCTU presentation on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scwvIBMCo0>.

Questions or want to sign up? Please contact Harlan Husmann at (701) 893-6068 or harlan.husmann@outlook.com.

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR FISHING LICENSE NEW YEAR STARTS APRIL 1!



Colorado Fishing Licenses and State Park Passes all expire on March 31st. The 2022 license runs from 3/1/22 to 3/31/23...so can buy it now if you don't want to forget. Cost is \$47.30 (for non-senior residents, including req'd habitat stamp) and the easiest way to renew your fishing license is online <https://www.cpwshop.com/licensing.page> or by phone (800) 244-5613.

State Park Passes run the same timing, are \$80 per vehicle and can be renewed at <https://www.cpwshop.com/privilegepos.page>

You will be an email with a valid temporary license or pass and a paper copy will be mailed to you shortly thereafter.

COME FISH WITH US EVENTS - BACK IN APRIL

CCTU's monthly Come Fish With Us program is back again on **Friday, April 22, 5-8pm at Lake Lehow**. Always great if you can RSVP to David Coward at dpcoward@hotmail.com, but you can also just show up that day.

The Come Fish With Us program is designed for chapter members and non-members to explore local fisheries with experienced chapter members also there to answer questions, offer tips, and provide help on casting, fly selection, hooking, playing and landing fish. Lake Lehow is a private lake (Denver Water) that is heavily stocked with bass, panfish, and trout.

Lake Lehow can be entered from the east side of the Waterton Canyon Parking Lot. Wadsworth south to Waterton Road, left into the parking lot. Veer to the right as you enter (toward van/trailer parking) and drive east down the dirt road to the green gate in back. A CCTU representative will be at the gate at the designated start time for an additional 5-10 minutes. The gate chain will then be “soft locked” for any late arrivals. If you arrive after the start time, please redo the chain “soft lock” before proceeding to the lake.



CCTU 2022 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 8 – 12, 2022

- Contact – Rich Hus... r_hus@hotmail.com
- Full for 2022
- Deposit \$75

Bighorn River Fishing Trip – May 9 – May 14, 2022

- Contact – Rich Hus... r_hus@hotmail.com
- Have a couple of slots still left
- Deposit \$75

San Juan River Fishing Trip – Oct 22 - Oct 27, 2022

- More info coming soon

CCTU/PROJECT HEALING WATERS CRYSTAL LAKE TRIP THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022



The Cutthroat Chapter will host Project Healing Waters disabled veterans this year on Thursday, July 7th. Excluding the last two covid years, this will be the eighth consecutive year CCTU has hosted this event. We expect at least 10 veterans from Denver and Pueblo to attend. Volunteers will meet at a central location at 7:00AM the day of the event (exact location TBD). We will combine vehicles and carpool 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 Hwy 24 out of Leadville. If you are interested in helping with the event, contact CCTU's Richard Pilatzke at rhpiscator@aol.com.

RENEWABLE WATER RESOURCES' DOUGLAS COUNTY WATER EXPORT PROPOSAL



Many of you may be aware that the Douglas County Commissioners are considering different options for satisfying the county's long-term water needs. One such plan is that from Renewable Water Resources, a plan to export up to 22,000 acre-feet of water

per year from a series of groundwater wells in the northern part of the San Luis Valley. Water conservation districts, farming advocacy groups and environmental advocates from the valley have said the proposal would have a profound negative impact on the valley community, both physically and economically. Representatives from RWR have said the project wouldn't cause any harm to the valley and have offered a \$50 million community fund as part of their plan. Trout Unlimited, Colorado Trout Unlimited, and a number of state TU chapters (including CCTU) have expressed their disagreement with this trans-basin diversion.

We encourage you to find out more about this issue and get involved if you feel strongly. For more info on this proposal, check out the following on the Douglas County website

<https://www.douglas.co.us/arpa/water-and-wastewater-investments/renewable-water-resources/>.

Contact the Douglas County Commissioners at
<https://www.douglas.co.us/government/commissioners/>.

[Read the Trout Unlimited Response to The Douglas County Commissioners](#)

FLY OF THE MONTH - PAT DORSEY'S **MEDALLION MIDGE**



Given Pat Dorsey is presenting this month, figured it couldn't hurt to include another of his famous patterns. Pat designed this pupa pattern for the technical trout of the South Platte, and it should have a place in any winter/early spring trout angler's box. We don't go anywhere this time of year without it in a Size 20 and 22. The pattern's name comes from the Medallion Sheeting, which gives a realistic thorax with brilliant luster and back swept wing buds. An incredibly realistic midge pupa pattern. Fish it dead drifted or in the film. The key is to make sure you are fishing it in the trout's feeding zone at that time. Video courtesy of Umpqua Feather Merchants.

Hook – TMC 101 #20-24

Thread/Body – UNI 8/0 Dark Brown

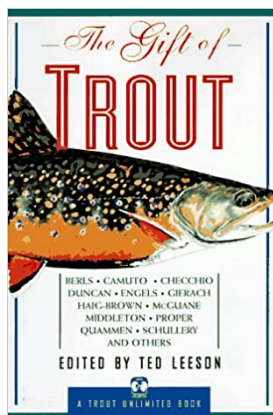
Ribbing – UNI 6/0 White

Thorax – Superfine Dubbing Rust Brown

Wing Buds/Case – Medallion Sheeting...Buggy Dark Dun or Swiss Straw or Dark Dun

Fly Tying Directions

NEW READS & RE-READS **A TROUT UNLIMITED BOOK, *THE GIFT OF TROUT***

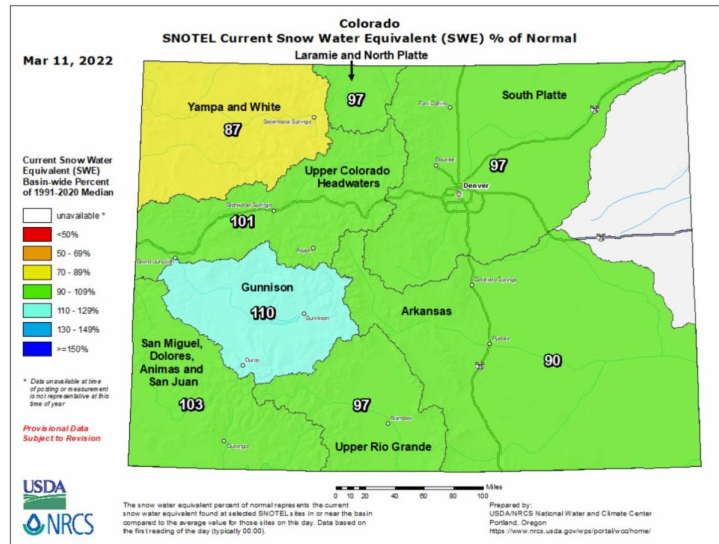


Had this book given to me by a friend at the holidays, and thoroughly enjoyed everything in it. It consists of a series of essays by some of the key fly fishing authors of the last few decades, including McGuane, Gierach, Quammen, Camuto, Cheechio, Duncan, and many more. The essays range in subject matter but all center on trout at some level, and usually have a conservation-based halo of some kind...not surprising given it is A Trout Unlimited Book. Published in 1996, it is sad/amusing to trace some of the themes forward 25+ years...especially George Anderson's "Can Fly Fishing Survive the 21st Century".

Available at... [Amazon - The Gift of Trout](#)

CCTU VISUAL MEMORIES

3/11 Snowpack Reading
Still Tracking Near Averages.
Need heavy March/April.
Key reading is mid-April.



We welcome Harlan Husmann to the CCTU Board!



CCTU EVERYDAY FUNDRAISING VEHICLES

King Soopers Card Program – Link up your King Soopers Rewards Card to CCTU for their Community Rewards program and get King Soopers donations flowing to the Chapter. Requires no ongoing effort on your part. Set up is very simple....check the CCTU website at [CCTU Website](#) for the directions how to link your King Soopers card to Community Rewards donations to CCTU.



Amazon Smile - Amazon Smile provides .5% of the price of your Amazon purchase to the charitable organization of your choice. When buying something from Amazon, simply go to the Amazon Smile website (<https://smile.amazon.com>) to sign into your Amazon account, rather than going to Amazon.com. Once you sign into your Amazon account via the Amazon Smile website, you will be transported to the Amazon website and all purchases will register for the .5% donation to CCTU.



UPCOMING EVENTS

3/15 CCTU Chapter Meeting, Cresthill Middle School & Zoom, 7-8:30pm

4/5 CCTU BOD Meeting, Virtual Meeting via Zoom, 7-8:30pm

4/19 CCTU Chapter Meeting, Cresthill Middle School & Zoom, 7-8:30pm

5/3 CCTU BOD Meeting, Virtual Meeting via Zoom, 7-8:30pm

Cutthroat Chapter Trout Unlimited

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Castle Rock, CO 80104
(720) 584-9396

