

Little River Chapter

Newsletter

AUG 2003

Editor Joe Hatton

<http://mywebpages.comcast.net/Littlerivertu/index.html>

Next Meeting



Fishing Picks

The next meeting is on the Fourth Thursday August, 28 at 7:00 pm. We are meeting at Monte Vista Baptist Church at 1735 Old Niles Ferry Rd. in Maryville. The church has an entrance on the opposite side of Hwy 129 between the BiLo and the Co-op Gas station.

Program

Patrick Palmer, who was hired as a fisheries intern through the TU Endowment will talk about his experiences working in the Park this year. Hopefully our chapter can use this opportunity to build awareness and support for the endowment.

Matt Kulp Fishery Biologist will also answer any questions members may have on other fisheries or park topics.

Stream work

August 16 - 17 Quarterly Acid Deposition Sample

September 6 - 13 Bear Creek Fishing Experiment

September 25 - 27 Little River Large Stream Monitoring

September 29 -October 1 MP Little Pigeon River Large Stream Monitoring

October 9 - 11 Cataloochee Creek Large Stream Monitoring

By: Ian Rutter, This has been about the rainiest August anyone can remember. We're barely into the month and already received more than the average rainfall of just over two inches.

Tailwater generation remains grim but the creeks are really doing well. After three years of extremely dry summers it's sure been good to see the streams looking good all season.

Water temperatures have been excellent in the mountains. Lower elevation streams like Little River have rarely been exceeding 65 degrees.

Just a few days ago the water at the head of Tremont was 60 and water several miles upstream at the junction of Lynn Camp and Indian Flats Prongs was 58. Almost any stream you'd want to fish should be fishing well.

However, larger streams like Tellico River, Little River, and Abrams Creek will definitely fish better with nymphs during the day. Try basic patterns in #14-16. Pocket water is the place to find wiling fish in the middle of the day. There will be sporadic pods of rising fish in long pools but expect them to be difficult, working midges. The smaller, higher elevation streams are really producing with dry flies. Thunderhead and Lynn Camp Prongs have been consistent producers with local fishermen this season. .

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 2]

Fishing Pick FROM PAGE 1 The only trouble is passing up all that great water on Middle Prong to get there! Upper Little River above Elkmont has also been great with fish coming consistently to dry flies.

This is a great time of year to hike into backcountry locations and fish over uneducated trout. The days are plenty long and waders aren't needed. Just pack a lunch and water bottle with your rod and vest. Some of the best locations in the Smokies are Deep Creek, Bradley Fork, and Big Creek. All of these streams have extremely light fishing pressure and do well in the summer. In the Cherokee National Forest you might also consider hiking into Bald River, North and South Forks of Citico Creek, and Sycamore Creek. Be sure to pack a light rain jacket because rain is always a possibility with the weather pattern we've been in.

We should have an excellent fall season ahead of us. We've got a good head of water to pull us through and the autumn color should be the best we've seen in years.

TU Action Item

From Trish Patterson TU council

As Chairman of the Stewardship Committee of our state TU council, I need your help. I am looking for volunteers to help with two of the Committee's goals.

One of the goals of the committee is to recruit "council liaisons" to keep in touch with individuals, agencies, and organizations. Some liaison positions have already been filled as indicated:

- Each state legislator
- Governor
- Legislative committees and subcommittees
- Each US senator and representative and aids in branch offices

- TN Wildlife Regulatory Commission
- TN Wildlife Resources Agency
- TN Department of Environment and Conservation
- TVA (filled by Steve Brown)
- GSMNP biologists (filled by Howard Kingsbury)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- National forest Service – Tellico Ranger District
- Tennessee Conservation League (filled by Rick Murphree)
- Tennessee Clean Water Network (filled by Bill Haggard)

Another goal is to create a list of specialists, those folks who can be available as a resource in their field of expertise and, if the need arises, be available to appear before hearings in the state legislature. These areas include:

- Dams
- Mines and minerals
- Highways and bridges
- Power plants
- Oil and gas wells
- Industrial and municipal waste
- Water quality
- Stream modification
- Habitat improvement
- Watershed management

I'll keep you up to date on who's who as we build our contacts. It's a monumental undertaking but if everyone chips in, we can move mountains.

The next two pages are the Agency and Legislative Liaison job descriptions

Thanks in advance for your assistance,
Trish Patterson

Trout Unlimited
Stewardship Committee

Legislative Liaison
Job Description

Duties: Legislative Relationship-Building, Council Updates, Calls to Action
Time Commitment: Approximately one hour per month.

1. You are responsible for maintaining contact with your legislators. Contact includes an occasional “heads up” on relevant coldwater issues, approximately every two months. This can be via e-mail or phone calls.

You will be provided with a bio of each of your state and US legislators. It will include a picture, district address and phone, Nashville/Washington address and phone, e-mail address, biographical information, public information, community involvement information. The chairman of the Stewardship Committee will also work with you to help you become comfortable in developing your relationships and making contact.

2. You are responsible for keeping the Stewardship Committee up to date on your personal preferred contact information and on coldwater issues affecting your chapter.

This can be via e-mail or phone calls.

You will be provided with Stewardship Committee contact information.

3. You are responsible for responding to “Calls to Action.”

When “calls to action” arise, the Stewardship Committee, who will provide background information and talking points about TU issues, will contact you and request that you pass this information to your chapter and appropriate legislator.

Additional Resources:

To determine your State Senator and Representative, go to <http://www.legislature.state.tn.us/>. Click on “House” or “Senate.” Click on “Members.” Scroll to the bottom and click “County” or “District.” If you live in a multi-district county and can't determine which district you live in, contact the Division of Elections at <http://www.state.tn.us/sos/election/county.htm>. Click on your county for the administrator’s contact information. They can give you your district according to your residential address.

To determine your US Representative, go to <http://www.house.gov/>. Enter your zip code under “Find your representative.”

Your US Senators are Lamar Alexander and Bill Frist.

Trout Unlimited
Stewardship Committee

Agency Liaison
Job Description

Duties: Agency Relationship-Building, Council Updates, Calls to Action
Time Commitment: Approximately one hour per month.

1. You are responsible for maintaining contact with [name of agency]. Contact includes an occasional “heads up” on relevant coldwater issues, approximately every two months. This can be via e-mail or phone calls.

You will also monitor the activities of [agency] that affect coldwater conservation. This can be done in a variety of ways, such as periodically perusing the agency’s website and/or signing up to receive electronic newsletters from the agency.

The chairman of the Stewardship Committee will work with you to help you become comfortable in developing your relationships and making contact.

2. You are responsible for keeping the Stewardship Committee up to date on your personal preferred contact information and on coldwater issues affecting your chapter. This can be via e-mail or phone calls.

You will be provided with Stewardship Committee contact information.

3. You are responsible for responding to “Calls to Action.”

When “calls to action” arise, the Stewardship Committee, who will provide background information and talking points about TU issues, will contact you and request that you pass this information to your chapter and [agency].

Annual Tellico Brook Trout Monitoring

Will meet at McNabb Creek Group Campsite at 9:00 am Sat. Aug. 23 to get into groups and start surveying.

The streams we will be surveying this year include:

Meadow Branch
Sugar Cove Branch
Big Cove Branch
Rough Ridge Creek

*If our resources allow, we will also be surveying Roaring Branch.

McNabb Group Campsite is reserved for **Friday and Saturday nights** for everyone wanting to participate. Breakfast will be provided by the Appalachian Chapter at 8:00 am at the campground. Please notify me if you will be joining us.

Steve Fry
423-855-5897

The Smoky Mtn chapter is holding their Aug meeting at the Camp ground.

Lamar Alexander Update

At the last meeting I mentioned that Bill Frist and Lamar Alexander made a new release that an appropriations bill they sponsored passed the Senate Appropriations Committee and it included more than \$12 million for Tennessee. There was \$2.36 million for the GSMNP to rehabilitate comfort stations and picnic/camping grounds. BUT Several people spoke up and ask about newspaper articles they read that Senator Alexander was proposing this money

for rapid transit in Cades Cove.

I call Alexander's office and found out that yes there were probably both stories in the papers but they were totally unrelated. Separate unrelated bills one that including \$2.36 million for the Park, and bill another that Alexander has expressed support for to make funding available for studying transit in all national parks. No particular park was pointed out and there should have been no mention of GSMNP or Cades Cove. So that is the word directly from Alexander's office.
Tom Eustis

Fly of the Month

Travis Hi-Vis Baetis Para Emerger

Sizes: 16, 18, 20, 22

Hook Type: Tiemco 2487 Caddis pupa & emergers, 2X wide, 2X short, fine wire.

Thread: Dark Olive 8/0

Tail: Natural Woodduck flank fibers

Ribbing: 2 strands of Gray Ghost Krystal flash, twisted and spiraled

Wing Wingpost: Strip of Yellow dry cell Fly Foam

Hackle: Light Blue Dun, undersized, tied parachute style

Abdomen: Dark Olive/Brown Antron dubbing

Thorax: Mixed Pale Olive & Pale Dun Antron dubbing





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