

Little River Chapter

Newsletter

MAY 2003

Editor Joe Hatton

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

Next Meeting



Fishing Picks

The next meeting is on the **Fourth** Thursday May, 22 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. **Board meeting**, will start at 6:00 pm everyone is welcome to attend.

Program

Rick Bivens from TWRA
The topic will be Tennessee's Trout Stocking Program (primarily east TN trout stocking)

Stream Work

May 17 - 18 Quarterly Acid Deposition Sample

May 24 North Carolina Trout Festival (Waynesville, NC)

July 14 - 17 Sams Creek Evaluation re-sample monitoring sites & evaluate brook trout

Lea Anglers Spring Close-Out Sale

FOR LRTU MEMBERS ONLY . Deep discounts on Rods from 7 1/2 to 9 1/2 feet.

Don't miss this opportunity - call Ken Henderson 310-4959 soon.

By: Ian Rutter, Flooding over the past few weeks has made life tough on fishermen. If the floods of 1994 taught us anything it's that there will definitely be plenty of fish to chase once the water recedes. However, this might be a good time to investigate waters that escaped the damage that occurred in the Smokies and Tellico basin.

Just a few hours to the north there are more good streams, and only a few of us have bothered to make the trip to sample them. Doe River in Roan Mountain State Park is a real gem. Rainbows and browns dominate this stream that resembles Tremont in size. A few browns grow very large in this stream and you might even catch some brookies in the campground or upstream of there. Doe River's largest tributary is Laurel Fork. Most of this stream requires a hike to fish but there is some water to fish along the road. Camping is available at the Dennis Cove recreation area. Laurel Fork has stocked rainbows along the road but wild browns are the main attraction.

If you can manage to drive past the Wa-tauga tailwater and avoid turning up Doe River you might want to check out Beaverdam Creek. This stream has excellent roadside access. Beaverdam is about the size of Little River above Elkmont and has a good mix of rainbows and browns. (continued next page)

Fishing picks (continued from page one)

Rainbows are stocked here but there are plenty of wild fish. Large browns are also a possibility in this stream as well. Camping is available at Backbone Rock, a Forest Service primitive campground. Where ever you end up fishing, have a good time and be safe!

To much of a good thing.

The last several years we have not had enough rain. Steve and I have talked a couple of times about how low the water table was getting and how this was affecting the fish. This year I was glad to see the drought was over and we were getting normal rainfall. The first week of May we got more than our share, all at once. As in 1994 there have been damage to the roads and park facilities, but we are lucky that the damage is not extensive and everything should re-open quickly. Most of the main roads should be reopened by the time you receive this Newsletter, except for the Little River road between the Y and Elkmount turn off. Some of the secondary roads may take a while longer. The following gravel secondary roads that remain closed are: In Tennessee: Greenbrier Road above the Ranger Station, Tremont Road above the Great Smoky Mountains Institute, Rich Mountain Road, Forge Creek and Parson Branch Road. In North Carolina: Cataloochee Turnpike (old 284) from Big Creek to Cataloochee and the Straight Fork Road near Cherokee, NC are still closed. The Heintooga Round Bottom Road has been closed all winter and is not scheduled to open until May 17. To get current information on Park roads and facilities call the Park's main information number (865) 436-1200 where an automated message kept updated. One good thing to remember is that the fishing was good throughout the summer after the 94 flood so maybe we have something to look forward too.

For more pictures go to

<http://nps.gov/grsm/gsmsite/storm.html#photos> .



Little River near the Sinks.



Tremont Road undercut and washed out.

"The Little River Chapter is

getting a bigger net -- We have recently expanded onto the internet. The Little River Chapter web site is up and running thanks to the hard work of Roy Hawk. You can visit the web site at <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/littlerivertroutunlimited/> check it out for the latest information. There is a lot of useful informational links associated with our chapter and there is also a link to the online version of Newsletter website.

The Beat Goes On

2003 is shaping up to be a great year with opportunities for everyone both in the field and on the stream. There is a great need for help in the Park. Ken Jones is working on a youth project and could use your help. We need 5 to 8 folks to help out with the Kid's Fishing Derby at the Alcoa Duck Pond June 7th. Later this year help will be needed for water sampling on Short Creek in Townsend area.

We have been awarded our second Mott Mini-grant to hold a Public Relations Workshop for TN and NC TU chapters and will need some help putting that together. Unfortunately we did not received a Grant from the World Wildlife Fund for work on Bear Creek, but they know who we are and we can try again next year.

We were recently awarded the Embrace a Stream grant for the GSMP Brook Trout Restoration program. Bear Creek near Fontana Lake is also on the agenda for this year, plus follow up work on Sam creek.

TomE

A few good men and women

The nominations committee is looking for nominees for Chapter President and three new board of directors members to fill the position of those whose term expires this year. If you would like to serve or have a suggestion on a good candidate contact Jim Parks phone 932-2511, Mark Spangler phone 425-4072 or Joe Hatton phone 558-8782. It is important for the Chapter to keep good men and women in our leadership positions, so please help us find the right position for you.

Thanks from the
Nominations Committee

Fish Feel Pain When Hooked, Scientists in Britain Say

This was the title of a recent article in the New York Times. Normally I would not have paid much attention to the article, but it talked about fishermen being harassed in England. Certain animal rights groups in our country have been know to harass hunters in the past so be on the look out for anything suspicious. Our home waters being the most visited national park, might make us prime targets. Remember walking away and fishing somewhere else the rest of the day, might be the best way to handle the situation. I will bring some copies of the article to the meeting for those who would like to read it.

Thanks Joe

Fly of the Month

Light Cahill

Sizes: 12, 14, 16

Hook: TMC 100

Thread: Yellow 6/0 or 8/0

Tail: Cream or light ginger hackle fibers

Body: Red fox belly or cream dubbing

Wing: Wood duck flank-upright and divided

Hackle: Cream or light ginger





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