

Next Meeting

When: 7:00 p.m. , Thursday October 28, (fourth Thursday every month)

Where: Monte Vista Baptist Church
1735 Old Niles Ferry Rd.
Maryville, TN 37803-5505
(enter the bldg. from the parking lot)

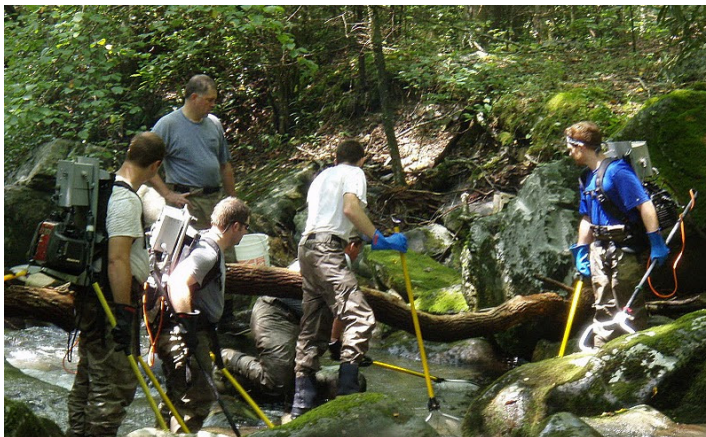
Program: Fly Tying Demonstrations



Lynn Camp Prong Update

The third year of the project to restore native brook trout to Lynn Camp Prong started with extensive electro-shock sampling to measure effectiveness the rainbow trout removal two years ago and the health of the brook trout transported from other streams last year.

While healthy populations of brook trout were found, rainbow trout were also discovered in several areas of the stream. Aggressive electro-shocking to remove the rainbows was performed throughout the summer.



According to Matt Kulp, fisheries biologist with GSMNP, "We are finished for 2010 on Lynn Camp. We have made numerous removals (>6) on most of the lower 3 miles and have seen a steady decline in adult and young-of-year (age-0) rainbow trout.

We can't do a whole lot more until next year until after the fish grow a little more and are more susceptible to the gear.

MANY, MANY, MANY THANKS, to you and all the many volunteers who helped with the removal efforts, especially given the hot summer we had. We will keep after it on Lynn Camp until it is successful."

All of the many volunteers who helped should feel the pride of knowing they helped make a difference. TU volunteers provided over 50 long work days of labor this year. These were mostly 10 - 12 hour days when the travel is included. We had volunteers from the Clinch River and Great Smoky Mountains Chapters help. It was hot, we sometimes were rained on, the work was not easy, the schedules sometimes changed on short notice, and a large number of volunteers went more than once.



LRCTU President Rufus King presents National TU award to Steve Moore in Montana this month

Moore Receives National Award

Stephen Moore, Supervisory Fishery Biologist with the GSMNP, has been selected by National Trout Unlimited as the 2010 winner of its annual award in the professional category. Moore was nominated for this highly competitive award by LRCTU.

Each year, Trout Unlimited (TU) bestows awards to publicly recognize the outstanding achievements of its members, chapters and councils that have embodied the spirit of TU and fulfilled its mission to conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. TU also recognizes the contributions and accom-

plishments of individuals and groups outside the organization that have demonstrated significant leadership and success in the world of coldwater conservation.

Moore, an author of several research articles, has served with the NPS since 1985 and is heavily involved with brook trout restoration in the GSMNP. In addition to this responsibility, he has helped numerous parks and organizations around the country with similar conservation efforts.

Moore has been the primary contact with LRCTU since its inception in 1992. Our chapter is the only TU chapter chartered for the specific purpose of supporting the GSMNP fishing program. The LRCTU has consistently supported the Park with countless volunteer hours and contributions in excess of \$100,000. Under Moore's leadership these resources have been leveraged to attract additional grants and financial commitments in excess of \$2.5 million.

Troutfest 2011 Planning Underway

Hey Volunteers, it's time to get to work. We will have four Troutfest Committee meetings scheduled before Troutfest 2011. The next one will be held on Sunday November 7th. It will be at Little River Outfitters at 2:00 pm.

The next three meetings will be held on: Sunday January 16, 2011; Sunday March 20; and Sunday April 24.



We are all more prepared than ever before. I think it will be much easier this time. Attached is a photo Sheila Bolinger took last week at Lynn Camp Prong. The amount of the check given to the Park and the Friends Scholarship Fund totaled \$45,000. I know you are very proud. I am. The new Park Service guy (third from the left) is Jeff Troutman. He is the Chief of Resources. He is Steve and Matt's new boss.

Thank you for being so good to work with and for making Troutfest a huge success.

See you November 7th.

Byron Begley

Eagle Creek GPS Map Completed

Fred Turner with Saint Clair Mapping reports that the Eagle Creek GPS Compatible map is available for purchase online at www.SmokyStreams.com/maps or at Little River Outfitters. The map is a two map set with Eagle Creek on one side and Lower Hazel Creek on the other. On one side there will be a small inset map of the locations of the streams relative to towns and major roads.

The Eagle Creek map, like numerous other published previously Park stream maps, consists of stream and trail enhancements layered onto a base map of manually tiled shaded relief versions of U. S. Geological Survey 7.5 Minute-Series Quadrangle topographic maps created in the 1960s or before. Therefore, by design, the base map shows certain boundaries, ruins, roads, trails and other man-made structures in existence at that time. In certain instances, the actual current locations and names of these features differ from that shown on the maps and certain ones that appear have in reality either partially or completely vanished through the acts of man and nature with the passing of time.

The Eagle Creek map is Saint Clair Mapping's first to have latitude/longitude and UTM coordinates located along the map border. In addition to the border coordinates, a 1000 meter UTM grid, Zone 17 S, (shown in light blue) is located throughout the map. When used with map datum NAD 27, these coordinates provide an approximate location fix. GPS users should allow for a minimum discrepancy of plus or minus 3 seconds and 100 meters for latitude/longitude and UTM coordinates respectively. Plans are for all new maps and future editions of previously published maps to be made GPS compatible as well. The set is expected to retail around \$10.00.

Hazel Creek BEARLY Fishable

Hazel Creek, noted as one of the most natural trout streams in the GSMNP was a haven the second weekend in October.... for the black bears!

A long-planned trip to this destination finally came to fruition for me, my son Tavis, friend Clark McDonald and his son Collin Sat. Oct. 9. We borrowed a buggy so that we could lug a few conveniences (like a fishing friend said, there's nothing like a good cold martini at camp after a hard day of fishing). The moderate slope of Hazel creek makes it ideal habitat for trout and the forest service road that follows the stream provides easy access.

Having been warned of "some" aggressive bear activity before we left and knowing that campground 86, at the base of the trail, was closed due to this, we chose site 85 two miles up from the old city of Proctor as our base to fish either up or down stream from there.

Our first bear sighting came on the ferry ride across Fontana Lake to the mouth of Hazel as he lumbered along the shoreline. This should have been a telling moment. After striking camp at 85, we geared up and walked about a half mile down the road to begin fishing about 4:00 p.m. There was one other large group of anglers at our camp who headed up stream about the same time.

That evening produced about a dozen fish for me, and son Tavis netted a couple of nice fish also. Fishing our way back up to the campsite, I lost track of Tavis but then emerged from the stream to see him ahead on the trail looking slightly unnerved. Turns out a fairly large bear had staked claim to a section of the river about 30 yards in front of where he was casting and made a running plunge into the water after a fish. Tavis figured it was time to quit for the day.

That evening we were joined by other campers who had been staying at one of two other campgrounds (83 and 84), above us. The rangers had closed both of these due to bears and now our campsite was the only one of four on lower Hazel that was open. We pressed on. Bears or no bears, we had waited too long to be run off this stream without a fight.

(Cont'd on next pg.)



**Thanks to all of you who
worked on Troutfest.
Great Job!**

And thanks for attending, supporting and donating to Troutfest. Together we have made a difference that we can all be proud of forever.

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Stop by or call about our monthly fishing seminars, schools and tying classes

Free casting lessons Saturday mornings from 9am to 10am.
Fall Orvis Days this year will be October 1st through the 12th.

The Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited is a Non-Profit Volunteer Organization that is Committed to Protecting and Restoring Cold Water Resources and Watersheds in and Around the Great Smoky Mountains National Park



Hazel Creek (Cont'd)

The following day, Sunday, everyone except our group was clearing out. We ate, cleaned up, suspended our food and headed the two miles up stream to the intersection of Bone Valley and Hazel Trails. We split up and agreed upon a later meeting spot. The water at that level of both Hazel and Bone Valley was running a little lower than normal and clear. This made for some tough fishing, so we eventually headed back toward camp. We fished some good water between the footbridge at Jenkins Ridge Trail and the bridge below.

We were the sole remaining occupants upon arriving back at 85, but noted a visitor had been upon us. A few things looked out of place. A couple of hanging clothing items were strewn here and there and the box containing our clean dishes was torn apart with the apparent target the soaped scrubbing sponge that was in a sealed plastic bag.... live and learn, eh.

As no tents had been disturbed, we were thinking "pretty lucky" until we noticed the missing item.... a folding University of Tennessee orange chair! Unbelieving, we started inspecting and lo and behold found the trail where the bear had drug the chair out of the campsite over a felled tree and up the hillside behind camp. Go figure. Still wondering whether the bear was just miffed at not finding food and decided that chair would be his consolation. Anyway, anyone fishing Hazel in the future who spots a bear in a bright orange folding chair, now knows the story. —Dave



Clark's better side and the, now missing, orange chair.