

## September/October 2010 Newsletter

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<http://www.chapter509tu.org>



EXEMPLARY CHAPTER of 2009!  
Exemplary Project of 2009!  
Ted Sillox- Exemplary Volunteer for 2010!

Southern Colorado Greenback  
Chapter 509  
Trout Unlimited, Inc.



**Our Mission: To Conserve, Protect and Restore Colorado's Trout Fisheries and their Watersheds.**

Members' and Friend's Monthly Program  
for September  
Jones-Healy Realtors Bldg., 119 W. 6th, Pueblo

***Pizza social begins at 6:30 p.m.***

Thursday, September 9, 7:00 p.m.

Erica Stock of CTU will discuss the fine work that our state level office is doing in the legislative scene, and the bigger wars in which they negotiate to maintain and improve cold water resources throughout the state. Many fronts related to our mission were addressed by CTU in 2009 / 2010, and we saw success--some of it due to the input by our members, when asked to do so to legislative and regulatory agencies. Come and find out what's going on at the state level!!

River Cleanup Day - Saturday, September 18

It's the time of year when we "give back" for the hours of recreation that we've enjoyed on Colorado's waters. This year, we'll be working on the Arkansas River below Pueblo Dam. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Lake Pueblo State Park's Snakeskin Picnic Area for river beat assignments and trash bag pickup. Lake Pueblo State Park will allow free admission for volunteers during the hours of cleanup. At noon, we'll gather at the picnic area for a Chapter-provided lunch. Please RSVP if you plan on attending this event, so we have a lunch head count. This is a great event for families and groups, and makes a BIG difference to the health of the riparian environment.

October 14 - Chapter's Annual Elections

We have no one retiring from our board for this coming year (we totally have too much fun!), but we still have a vacancy for the position of Secretary. If you would like to be part of our

dynamic board group and augment our mission, please let Kelvin Melton know of your interest prior to this meeting. Call him at 564-1799.

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## Thanks to Volunteers on Summer Chapter Projects !

~ June 12 Yard Sale ~

Ted Sillox, Pat McGraw, Kelvin Melton, Ed & Carol Engler, Ben Wurster, Marge Vorndam

~ June 16 & 23 Kid's Conservation & Fishing Camp ~

Pat McGraw, Marge Vorndam of TU,

Jenny Kedward of Fountain Creek Water Sentinels and other volunteers

Thanks to Trigger and Ben Wurster for partial donation to caps for the young fishermen!

~ August Willow Planting, Canon City Arkansas River Project ~

Ted Sillox, Ed & Carol Engler, Jim & Will Puschak, Jim Good, Kelvin Melton

Ted Sillox Awarded CTU Exemplary Volunteer of the Year 2010 !!

(Any omissions from the above are purely unintentional and are the fault of your editor. Please allow me to correct omissions in the next newsletter by notifying me. - MV)

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## President's Piece

Kelvin Melton



Kelvin Melton  
President

Fellow Members,

Summer has just flown by. I hope you, your family, and friends were able to get out and enjoy a bit of it. There has been a lot happening with our chapter throughout the summer. The July picnic in City Park went well. At first, it seemed like the rain would win out and the event was going to be postponed – but the sun came through just in time and the day actually turned out to be pretty good. There were about 12 of us who enjoyed a nice barbeque and talked fishing.

In August, Ted Sillox set up a day to plant willows along the Arkansas River in Canon City. Our chapter had put some saplings in the area before but not all took. This time, 29 willows with roots balled up in burlap were planted along the bank of our previous restoration project. If you have never dug a hole on a river bank, it is kind of difficult to understand the challenge. It seems that when one rock is removed from the

hole, two more willingly take its place. I really want to say “thanks” to the folks that took their time to assist with the tree planting. This stretch of river is really coming along well and turning into a nice place to fish... convenient and close by.

There has been a lot of debate on the Cristo “Over the River” project. As of right now, Chapter 509 has not taken a stance “for” or “against” the project. We are still gathering and sorting through the information to figure it out. If you have any suggestions or comments, please forward them.

It appears there will be a section of the river below the Pueblo Dam set up for “flies and lures” only. The DOW is reviewing the draft, and there should be more information coming out soon (see story below). If approved, it will be in the regulations in 2011. Alex Zipp from Ark Anglers, Ben Wurster and other shops in our area have been working real hard on this proposal.

The Greenback Chapter is also sponsoring a river cleanup on Saturday, September 18, as part of the state-wide cleanup day sponsored by CTU. It is a good time to help clean up the Pueblo fishery and have a nice lunch. Remember, it is our fishery – we need to take pride in taking care of it.

Lastly, elections will be held in October. If you are looking at getting involved, this is a great opportunity. Positions are open and we could really use a secretary to help with the minutes. Now is the time to get active in a great organization.

A lot going on... Take care and hope to see you at the meeting and the other events.

Yours in Fishing,

Kelvin Melton

**Safety Tip – When planning an outing always make sure someone else is informed on where you are going and what time you are planning to be back.**

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## DOW Considers New Regs for 2011 Fishing

Members Alex Zipp and Ben Wurster and others spearheaded a recent effort to revise fishing regulations on the stretch of the Arkansas River below Pueblo Dam. Their efforts have resulted in Draft Regulations, which approved, begin in January 2011. The new regs would state:

"c. From the bridge at Valco Ponds downstream to Pueblo Boulevard (except at the Pueblo Nature Center as posted):

1. Fishing is by artificial flies and lures only.
2. All trout 16 inches in length or greater must be returned to the water immediately upon catch."

While this draft does exclude some prime fishing holes in that stretch of river, this compromise version recognizes fishermen's desires for a quality experience and does give those who are interested in protecting the Pueblo Tailwater an opportunity to support their contentions that an excellent fishery can exist, if restrictions are enabled.

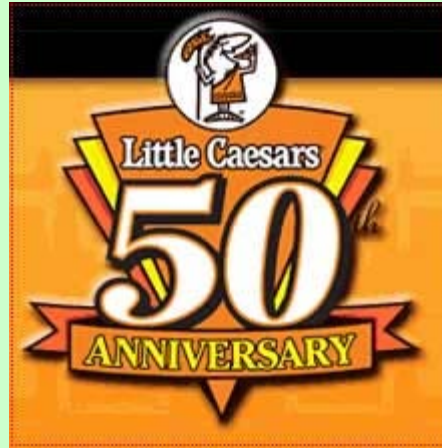
The full text of the Draft Regulations can be viewed at [Mailing-08/27/2010](#) . The next meeting of the Wildlife Commission to consider the Draft further will be on [September 9 Meeting](#) in Craig, CO.

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Our Sponsors - Support them with your Business



Sign up for the RGA [eNewsletter](#) with current fishing conditions and news of interest to any angler! **SPRING FLING** is **MARCH 26-28** with classes for all ability levels! **ALWAYS** a great time !



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### Notes from Board Meeting Minutes of June - August

- \$1,000 of our Raffle Fund was presented to the Purgatoire Anglers TU Chapter 100 in August for the Purgatoire River Project
- Chapter Board was divided on either supporting or condemning the "Over the River" sculpture project, and decided to accept whatever the Collegiate Peaks Chapter or CTU decided to provide for comments. If you would like to comment personally on the draft EIS, more information is available at <http://blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/rgfo/planning/otr.html>. More information on this project is available at <http://overtheriverinfo.com>.
- Our chapter will be hosting the January CTU meeting in Pueblo. Board member Lou McCullough is working on the organizational details.

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### S. Colorado Greenback Chapter 509 Board of Directors All-Stars for 2010

			
<b>Kelvin Melton</b> President	<b>Pat McGraw</b> Past-President	<b>Frank Nemick III</b> Vice-President	<b>Carole Engler</b> Treasurer

			
Lou McCullough Membership	Ted Sillox Projects	Ben Wurster Programs	Marge Vorndam Communications
( Secretary - Position still Vacant )			

From CTU / NTU  
~ How You Can Help Our Mission ~

- TU and Field & Stream invites you to take the [2010 Best Wild Places tour](#), first via the photos and blogs online, and then in person. Learn why they offer some of the best hunting and fishing in the West and why we may lose them. We're sure you will catch the spirit of the tour, eloquently captured on the Roan Plateau by Hal Herring: "It was not a trip to experience what might soon be lost. It was a trip to see and feel what is still truly worth fighting for. In a world that seems haunted by losses for hunters and fishermen and their children, here was a chance, and a place, to hold on to."
- Members are urged to contact the BLM about the planned mine for Bristol Bay, Alaska. The mine would put the worlds largest salmon fishery at risk due to sediment and leaching potential. Given that major earthquake fault lines run through the area, assurances by the mining concerns that adequate mitigation will exist is questionable. TU has a drafted letter posted at [Save Bristol Bay](#) which you can sign and eMail directly to BLM. More information on this environmentally unsound project is available at [About Bristol Bay](#).
- Please visit our online action center to help Interior Secretary Salazar develop President Obama's [America's Great Outdoors Initiative](#) by urging him to adopt TU's protect-reconnect-restore-sustain conservation strategy and to recommend key TU projects to be supported by the initiative.

#### Notices From DOW

- The Pueblo State Wildlife Area will be closed from Sept. 13 to 17 for aerial spraying to reduce tamarisk. Hunters, anglers, and other wildlife enthusiasts will not be able to enter the property before, during, or after the aerial spraying. Signs will be posted, and DOW employees will be staged at entrances of the property to keep people out until after the operation is complete.

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## Calendar of Chapter and TU Happenings

September 18, 10 am - noon	Arkansas River Cleanup	Lake Pueblo State Park Snakeskin Picnic area. RSVP for lunch head count to 564-1799
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### 2010 Board of Directors

- President - Kelvin E. Melton - [kmelt114@msn.com](mailto:kmelt114@msn.com)
  - Past-President - Pat McGraw - [mcbwo@comcast.net](mailto:mcbwo@comcast.net)
  - Vice-President - Frank Nemick III - [f.nemick@comcast.net](mailto:f.nemick@comcast.net)
  - Treasurer - Carol Engler - [englerca@aol.com](mailto:englerca@aol.com)
  - Secretary - vacant – Currently soliciting members for this position - YOU?
  - Projects Chairman - Ted Sillox - [ted.sillox@state.co.us](mailto:ted.sillox@state.co.us)
  - Membership Chairman - Lou McCullough - [LouMcCullough@comcast.net](mailto:LouMcCullough@comcast.net)
  - Programs Chairman - Ben Wurster - [godwithflyrod@gmail.com](mailto:godwithflyrod@gmail.com)
  - Communications Chairman - Marge Vorndam - [cccbiology@ghvalley.net](mailto:cccbiology@ghvalley.net) or [s\\_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org](mailto:s_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org)
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S. Colorado Greenback Chapter 509, Trout Unlimited, Inc.  
c/o Kelvin Melton, 719-564-1799  
121 La Rochelle Drive, Pueblo, CO 81005

<http://www.chapter509TU.org>

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