



Greenback Currents

Volume 18, Issue 2

March 2006

Projects Report

Ted Sillox

Project plans for GBCTU are underway! There are several ideas in the works and we hope to have many of our members involved once they begin to happen.

Jim Melby, CDOW Aquatic Biologist would like volunteers to help with Tamarisk (Salt Cedar) and Russian Olive removal downstream from Pueblo Dam along the Arkansas, followed by replanting with native plants. Some bank areas are inaccessible to large equipment, so people power will be needed to treat these areas. State Parks manages the area, so the project will be coordinated with them.

Our chapter collaborated several years ago on an aquatic life study, particularly insects, in the Pueblo

Dam tailwater area with Dr. Scott Herrmann of CSU-Pueblo. The study was discontinued due to loss of funding. I am awaiting word from Jill Cooper, Director of the Sustainability Program with the CO Department of Public Health & Environment about the possibility of obtaining a grant to complete the study. This research could add to understanding the importance of river life and flow fluctuations to the entire riparian environment.

If you haven't been sleeping all winter, you probably have heard about how great the fishing has been on the Arkansas below the dam. Although we input to the DOW's fishing regs process for 2006 to consider the tailwater for

Catch & Release status, that didn't happen this time. Pat sent me an economic impact report on how the special regs fishery on the Frying Pan has tremendously benefited the surrounding communities. I spoke with Pueblo City Council member Judy Weaver. She is interested in presenting the information to the whole council. We are already seeing an increase in numbers of Front Range fishermen here, and that adds to the local economy through their use of lodging, restaurant and retail outlets. With her help, we hope that the economic benefits will become a reality. Hopefully we will be catching and releasing large trout in the best winter fly fishing area of Colorado in the not too distant future.

March Membership Program

We have a great slate of projects coming up! Also, we will be sending a Teen to fishing/conservation camp this summer. Bring ideas for a fund-raising event. This will be a business meeting to set up our activity agenda for the year ahead. See you on **Thursday, March 9, 7 pm!** 119 W. 6th.

Members! Please bring an item to share as a Raffle prize! Proceeds from raffles go to defray your Chapter's operating costs. Thanks!

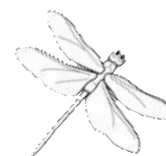
HELP!

Welcome, New Members!

We're glad to have you join our chapter. Please let us know how we can meet your expectations of your TU experience, and how you would like to be involved in our mission. To do that, call Pres. Pat at 566-6834. Thanks for your membership!

Ben Pirraglia	Christie Shumway
Rich Van Ostrand	Jerry West
Teri Van Ostrand	Chad Beaton
Stan J Gacnik	Curtis Andrews
Carl Bachhuber	David M Cunningham
Kenny Trujillo	

Save our chapter's \$\$ for Projects. Have the newsletter eMailed to you! Send a request to marge.vorndam@colostate-pueblo.edu



Royal Gorge Anglers

Bill Edrington
Jan Carson

Phone/Fax: 719-269-3474
Toll Free: 888-994-6743

1210 Royal Gorge Blvd.
Cañon City, CO 81212

www.royalgorgeanglers.com • info@royalgorgeanglers.com

Fishing News Available!

If you aren't already a subscriber, you are missing out on great info from Royal Gorge Anglers. Editor Bill Edrington puts out a super e-newsletter, including photos. Want to know what's popping on the river, or what flies are hot over the next two weeks?

You can subscribe to the Royal Gorge Anglers' Newsletter at <http://www.royalgorgeanglers.com> under left Column/Extras. If you are the yacky type, the site also features a Blog where you can chat with Bill and other anglers online. The site also has recipes for the current "hot" flies.

Over March 31-April 2, sign up for the **5th Annual "Spring Fling"** at Cotopaxi. See the RGA web site for more info on this not-to-be-missed event!



Chapter Calendar 2006

- **March 9:** Membership Meeting, 7 pm, 119 W. 6th, Pueblo. Nonmembers welcome.
- **April 6:** Board of Directors, 7 pm, 1630 Alma Ave, Pueblo. Members welcome.
- **April 7-8:** Spring Rendezvous—Redstone
- **April 13:** Membership Meeting, 7 pm
- **September 23:** River Cleanup

Membership Meetings: 2nd Thursday of every month, Jones-Healy Realty. 119 W.6th, Pueblo. For information, call 566-6834.

Spring Rendezvous at Redstone!

Every year TU's CO chapter members meet for fellowship, to decide the slate of state legislation to support or fight for the year, and to recognize deserving people and chapters for work well done. There's some great fishing to be had as well!

This year, Rendezvous will be on April 7-8. For more information, check our web site: www.southerngreenbacks.org

Thank You!

- Members for Raffle Items and Raffle participation!
- Royal Gorge Anglers for Gift Certificates for 2006 Raffles
- Jones-Healy Realtors for donated meeting area

President's Piece

Pat McGraw

Greetings to all TU members

Once again I would like to thank all my fellow board members for help with the organization and running of our chapter meetings. Our board works hard and continues to strive to make our chapter the best that you and I can make it. We are there to serve the members of SoCo Greenback TU.

Our last two meetings have been very informative with two very good quest speakers. Alan Hamil gave a great presentation about the water situation in Southern Colorado in January and Bill Claspell gave a super presentation on the fishing below the dam in February. If you are unable to attend our meetings, we would still very much like any suggestions you might have that would benefit our chapter and our cause. Those of you that have been able to attend the last couple meetings, thank you for your suggestions and ideas also. We do look forward to meeting all members whenever you get a chance to join us.

We will be having a river clean-up on the Arkansas River below the dam as soon as we can make arrangements and get the green light. We would like to wade and pick up trash, but if we are unable then we will clean the banks. They are a mess!!

Our next meeting will be to discuss and organize some of our projects that we have talked about previously. We need to move on some of these projects



c/o Pat McGraw, President
1630 Alma Ave,
Pueblo, CO 81004

Our Web:

www.southerngreenbacks.org

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

President's Piece, continued from above...

and make some group decisions.

We are always looking for ways to help finance our projects as well as the newsletter. Our meeting raffle alone does not pay for the services we try to bring to the membership.

Mini-grants will be available again this year to help with resource conservation projects and/or efforts to strengthen Trout Unlimited in a chapter's area. We used this grant last year to re-organize SoCo TU, and so far it ended up being a worthwhile project, thanks to all of you.

Hope to see you all March 9th.

Pat McGraw



Greenback Currents is a bimonthly newsletter of the Southern Colorado Greenback Chapter 509, Trout Unlimited. Trout Unlimited, TU, the nation's leading coldwater conservation organization is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving, protecting and enhancing the coldwater resource (<http://www.tu.org>).