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### *Greenback Currents*



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

### In this March-April 2009 Issue:

[CTU's 2009 Dinner & Gala:](#)

Friday, April 3, 6:00 p.m. Grand Hyatt Hotel, 1750 Welton St., Denver. This is CTU's primo fundraiser, with tons of great stuff available, while helping to support CTU's regional mission. Order tickets TODAY! See link above. [See Article.](#)

- [March Membership & Friends Meeting:](#) Thursday, March 12, 7:00 p.m./Pizza Social 6:30 p.m., 119 W. 6th St., Pueblo - Everyone welcome! Bring a Raffle item to share! Speaker: **Mike Kaul , Pinedale, WYO**
- [CTU Youth Conservation Camp 2009](#) - scholarships available. June 7-12 for teens ages 14-18. Application due by end March!

- [Our Chapter's Spring Arkansas River Cleanup](#): Saturday, March 14, 10:00 a.m.-noon, lunch provided. Meet at Snakeskin Picnic Area, Lake Pueblo State Park. Info: 566-6834. Come help out with this important community service effort! Bring your family-dress for weather.
- [2nd Annual "Build a Stream Dream" Raffle Drawing](#) - April 9. ***DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO WIN THIS PRIZE*** worth over \$1,600 AND help to create another great fishery in our part of CO! Ticket order form ATTACHED or access from [HERE](#) ! Mail it TODAY!
- Arkansas River Canon City Habitat Project Willow Planting Day - Volunteers Needed! Saturday, April 4 - more information to follow.
- Parkdale Fishermen Access Repair Project - In cooperation with BLM - coming up end-April/beginning May. Stay tuned for more information!

**Membership & Friends Meeting,  
Thursday, March 12**



**7:00 pm for meeting, 6:30  
pm Pizza Social Hour! – Non-  
members invited!**

*Bring a Raffle Item to Share! Jones-  
Healy Realty, 2nd Floor, 119 W. 6th  
St. , Pueblo*

***Presenter: Wyoming Guide  
and FlyFishing School Owner  
Mike Kaul***

*Fishing guide and certified  
flycasting instructor Mike Kaul is  
from Pinedale, Wyoming, a small  
town nestled at the foot of the Wind*

*River Mountains, which serves as a gateway to the Bridger Wilderness. When not guiding, he teaches new anglers the sport through his fly-fishing school. Mike is an entertaining speaker, and he will be talking about "Western Wyoming Fishing Adventures" at The Southern Colorado*

*Greenback Chapter of Trout Unlimited's next monthly meeting. In addition to fishing, Mike will also discuss other recreational activities featured in the area, talk about the rich history of the region and provide information on accommodations and services*

*Mike is an entertaining speaker, and he will be talking about ["Western Wyoming Fishing Adventures"](#), including the great streams to be found within the Bridger Wilderness.*

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*In April: Pete Gallagher from Fin Up Habitat discusses what it takes to improve a stream fishery. Pete was the mentor for the Canon City Arkansas River Habitat Project, and will be working with our chapter on the Trinidad Purgatoire River Habitat Project in 2010-11.*

*Check the Web Site at <http://www.chapter509tu.org/> for the latest news!*

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***President's Piece***  
***Pat McGraw***



***Diu duit !***

*If you believe in "the Luck of the Irish", then it is time to dust of the waders and get to your favorite honey hole. I believe in it, but why must I have to wait until March for some luck? Thank heaven for the bad day on the river, philosophy.*

*We have really kicked off 2009 with a flourish. We were at the Denver Fly Fishing Show for three days selling our new raffle tickets, attended an evening with the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce, to introduce our next project on the Purgatoire River through Trinidad, and of course our last two guest speakers were superb. We have had ten to fifteen new faces attend these last two meetings. Take a look at our line-up of guests for the next few months and you won't be disappointed when you join us for a meeting. Don't forget to come to "Happy Hour" before the meetings. Pizza and a beer brings out great fishing stories (lies).*

*Our first River Clean-up is upon us again. We have moved it up about a month, so we hope to be able to clean the trash along the river bed before they open the gates for irrigation. Once again we will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Snakeskin Picnic area, just*

*below the dam. If you tell them you are with Trout Unlimited and helping with clean-up, they will let you drive through without paying the fee. Lunch will be provided for volunteers right after the clean-up, usually around noon.*

*It's not too late to start gathering tid-bits for our annual yard sale. This really helps your chapter with expenses we need through the year. It will be in June, so keep reading your monthly news for date and time.*

*We also have a mini-project coming up for some repair and pruning of the trail that leads to the Arkansas River just South of Parkdale. Check out the details in this newsletter for meeting to carpool.*

*In closing, I have quit requesting any of you asking me to go fishing with you, because this Irishman doesn't have much luck any month.*

*Mise le meas !*

*Pat*

*P.S - Thanks to Judith & Stephen Stein, Kelvin Melton, Pat McGraw and Ted Sillox for staffing the raffle sales effort at the Denver Fly Fishing Show. Thanks to Pat and Ted for also attending the Trinidad Casino Night to sell raffle tickets there.*

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## ***2nd Annual "Build a Stream Dream" Raffle Drawing Coming Up SOON !***

***If you haven't bought tickets yet, you are going to miss out on a chance for this prize!  
It's worth over \$1,600! This time we are offering ONE BIG PRIZE of***

- a custom-built bamboo rod by Jim Pushchak of JP Fly Fishing Specialties. It is a sweet 5-wt rod and we have outfitted it with an***
- Orvis Battenkil reel with a Scientific Anglers line. You can break in your rod and reel on***
- a guided trip to the "Dream Stream" with Royal Gorge Anglers. Perhaps you will be lucky enough to land a big brown using one of***
- Frank Nemick's (6 dozen) hand tied western river assortment flies.***

***Tickets during this round are one for \$5.00, three for \$10.00, seven for \$20.00 and 20 for \$50.00. So, support your chapter with a raffle ticket purchase TODAY, and help to create another great urban fishery in the southeastern region of Colorado!***

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**Thank You, Members!**

**We're glad to have you join, transfer here or renew your membership with 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!**

New/Transfer/Renewing Members * since Last Newsletter			Chapter TU Life Members	
Tony Alessandro Earnest Ballotti Paul B. Barton Ben Berlinger John Bradburn Rodger D. Burd Nancy J. Carroll T. Cates A.D. Chambers Adam Coatney Joe Cawfield Brian Dodds Stephen Feldman Peter H. Fini David & Diane Gilfillan Geoffrey T. Gordon Marvin Hamann	Patrick M. Harmon Charles G. Hart Jack Hunter Gene Hunt C. Inmon Bruce Johnson Willard Keller John W. Kenline Ron Lautaret Tim Lynn James K. Marcum George Mellott Gary L. MossFrank Papish, Jr.	Ivan Rogers Randy Rubidoux C.E. Schneider Jack A. Seilheimer Robert L. Smith Warren C. Squires George R. Stephan Howard Stringert Sean P. Surniak John Shanley Terry L. Steele L. Scott Stevenson Brad Tacheny Karl L. Tamerler Earl E. Taylor Mark Vialpando M. Edmund Vallejo	Brian G. Angevine, PhD Joseph J. Branney Stephen Brown Dom Cingoranelli Dumont F. Clark Chas S. Clifton Jeris A. Danielson Tony & Jill Feliz Michael Foster Dave Fraterelli William Harris II	Michael D. Ingo Mark A. Kennedy Dr. Michael Moll Michael C. Saathoff, MD Dr. James A. Salvatore Christopher J. Smith, MD Robin T. Smith Matthew Sumpter John A. Tillema, Jr. Helen & Gary Vertrees Marge & Paul Vorndam

**Thanks to a new LIFE member in our chapter: Robin Smith ! Robin, your support is very much appreciated!**

**Thanks to John Shanley for his continued financial support and to John Neumann of the N. California Chapter TU for support toward the Canon City Arkansas River Stream Improvement Project.**

**We'd LOVE to have YOU join us, if you are not already a member of TU! See [Trout Unlimited](#) for more information on joining us!**

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**From DOW .....**

## **LAND PROTECTION AGREEMENT OPENS ACCESS IN LAKE COUNTY**

**LEADVILLE, Colo. - A four-way partnership between the Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW), Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), the Land Trust of the Upper Arkansas, and private landowners has resulted in a perpetual conservation easement on 3,200 acres of important wildlife habitat and scenic open space in Lake County.**

**Owners of the Moyer Ranch entered the agreement to keep the land as a working ranch and preserve its vital wildlife habitat. In addition, about a third of the ranch will be open to seasonal access to hunters and anglers.**

**A conservation easement is a legal property interest that compensates a landowner for relinquishing certain development rights as a way to ensure the long-term protection of the land. The Moyer family received approximately \$4.8 million in return for conceding future development rights on the property. The Division of Wildlife and GOCO each contributed \$2.4 million. The Moyer family donated additional considerations including previous conservation considerations reached with the Land Trust of the Upper Arkansas in 2007.**

**"We are very pleased we were able to be a part of the cooperative effort to protect this important wildlife habitat," said DOW Area Manager Jim Aragon. "The Moyer family's desire to protect the land, the wildlife resource, and to continue with their land stewardship and ranching heritage was key to getting this project done."**

**"This has been such a great project," said Bruce Goforth of the Land Trust of the Upper Arkansas. "It will preserve the agriculture, wildlife habitat and water resources on the last, large, working ranch in Lake County. And the water preserved will continue to flow down the Arkansas River, ensuring water quantity, quality, and good fish habitat for many miles."**

**The Moyer Ranch has diverse wildlife populations including bighorn sheep, deer, elk, mountain lions, black bears, and an abundant variety of birds, small mammals, and other non-game wildlife. The property also features several pristine feeder streams that connect to the Arkansas River.**

**According to Tom Martin, the local wildlife officer, the DOW's conservation easement consists of multiple parcels. Most of the tracts are contiguous but some overlap others, and many are irregular shapes located on the steep hillsides.**

**Approximately 1,350 acres will be open for hunting and fishing. Hunting access will be limited to rifle season deer, elk, and bear; and limited archery and rifle hunting for bighorn sheep. Public fishing access will be allowed on portions of Iowa and Empire Gulches.**

**In addition, the Moyer Family and Land Trust of the Upper Arkansas have agreed to allow fishing access on a stretch of Arkansas River upstream from the Hwy. 24 overpass at Hayden Meadows for nine-tenths of a mile to the Crystal Lake State Trust property. Access points, parking areas, and signs still need to be posted, but the DOW hopes to have that done in the next few months. The result will be that the public will have fishing access to a contiguous stretch of the Upper Arkansas River that is over seven miles long.**

## **COLORADO'S WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTION PROGRAM**

*Habitat loss is a primary cause for the decline of many wildlife species in Colorado. As highly desirable lands are altered or converted to other uses, wildlife habitat can become degraded, destroyed, and fragmented. Habitat conversion and loss can also reduce opportunities for hunting, fishing, and wildlife observation.*

*The primary use of funds from the Colorado Wildlife Habitat Protection Program is to address the loss of critical big game winter range and migration corridors, but also to preserve other wildlife habitat as well. Wetlands and riparian corridors along with important habitat for threatened and endangered species, and species of special concern are also a priority for acquisition.*

*By combining funding sources, including Habitat Stamp funds, GOCO funds, Game Cash funds, Wetlands Program funds, Federal funds and others, the DOW is able to bring together an array of species protection and land conservation tools and incentives not otherwise available. The preferred strategy uses perpetual conservation easements that provide incentives to private landowners that protects wildlife habitat and for beneficial wildlife management practices.*

*Conservation easements are used to guarantee that landscapes remain intact and to provide fundamental wildlife benefits on a long-term basis. All conservation easements must have an accompanying management plan that is approved by the landowner and the DOW.*

*Since 2006, sales of Habitat Stamps have been instrumental in protecting more than 60,000 acres of wildlife habitat in the state. The DOW used some funds to purchase land, but most land is preserved through permanent conservation easements held by the DOW and various non-profit partnerships.*

*The primary focus is protecting important winter range and migration corridors for deer and elk, but acquisitions and easements have also protected critical habitats for sage grouse, opened up fishing access for anglers, and provided hunting access.*

*A nine-member citizen's committee appointed by the Governor oversees the habitat stamp program. The committee has reviewed dozens of proposals to protect critical wildlife habitat. Proposals are reviewed and ranked according to wildlife benefits, public access, and cost. Final approval comes from the Colorado Wildlife Commission.*

*Public access is not required, but projects that provide hunting and fishing access and those with matching funds from partners get additional consideration.*

*For more information, call (303) 291-7217. Additional information on the Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp Program timeline for the 2009 enrollment period and a copy of the application is available at <http://wildlife.state.co.us/LandWater/PrivateLandProgram/WildlifeHabitatProtectionProgram/>*

## **ANGLERS INVITED TO MEET FISHERY BIOLOGISTS**

*The Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) invites local anglers to participate in "Angler Roundtable" meetings throughout southeastern Colorado this spring.*

*These public forums give anglers a chance to hear the latest information affecting their favorite fishing in waters around southern Colorado; and ask DOW fishery biologists questions about new places they haven't tried yet.*

*"This is a great opportunity for anglers to get tips, ask questions, and hear what the DOW experts predict for this fishing season," said Doug Krieger, Senior Fisheries Biologist for the Southeast Region.*

*Over the past few weeks, regional fishery biologists completed their annual forecasts of the best bets for fishing on lakes and streams in 2009. Topics will include fish stocking plans, fishing regulations, zebra mussel boating restrictions, water levels, fish population data, fishing access, whirling disease, high lake management, and any other fishery related issues anglers want to hear about.*

*People are encouraged to bring questions about their favorite lakes and streams.*

*The forums are in the following locations:*

- *La Junta: Tues., April 7, Holiday Inn Express, 32994 W. Hwy. 50, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.*
- *Buena Vista: Wed., April 8, Community Center, 7 - 9 p.m.*
- *Lamar: Fri., April 10, DOW Office, 2500 S. Main St., 6:30-8:30 p.m.*
- *Pueblo: Mon., April 13, DOW Hunter Ed Bldg., 2600 W. Mesa, 7- 9 p.m.*

*Followup on HB1255 - THANKS for YOUR HELP!!!*

*From Dave Nickum, Director of CTU - The House Ag committee defeated HB1255, the anti-wildlife bill designed to weaken key aspects of the oil and gas rules including the process for consultation with the Division of Wildlife, on a 7-6 vote. Votes don't get any tighter than that - and so I wanted to pass on a big "thank you" to all of you who contacted your Representative on the committee and who helped spread the word about this. Defeating 1255 is a major step forward toward preserving reasonable protections for wildlife in the oil and gas rules. Unfortunately, it isn't the last legislative proposal that we will see attempting to weaken the rules - we will keep you informed about other bills as they come forward.*

*Thank you for your help in fighting for Colorado's fish and wildlife.*

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*From CTU's Director:*

*Dear Friend of Colorado's Rivers:*

*I am writing to invite you to join me for a special evening benefiting Colorado Trout Unlimited and its programs for conserving, protecting, and restoring Colorado's rivers and their watersheds. The 2009 Dinner and Gala will be held on the evening of Friday, April 3rd, at the Pinnacle Club of the Grand Hyatt Hotel, located at 1750 Welton Street in downtown Denver. The Pinnacle Club offers penthouse views of the Rocky Mountains and our great Mile High City.*

*The evening festivities will begin at 6 p.m. with a reception (featuring hors d'oeuvres, complimentary beer and wine) and live chamber music, as well as the opportunity to view and place bids on all silent auction items. Following the reception, an elegant sit-down dinner will be followed by a live auction. This year, we are featuring a new automated auction system that will enable you to track your silent auction bids from portable terminals in the ballroom during the evening and expedite the check-out process.*

*Tickets for the evening (food, wine and beer inclusive) are \$100 per person and are available via our website at [www.cotrout.org](http://www.cotrout.org). You may also order tickets by calling John Gamble at 303-440-2937 x107, or by sending your check with your request for tickets to CTU, 1320 Pearl Street, Suite 320, Boulder, CO 80302. With your reservation, you will be pre-registered and your auction bidder information and event program will be waiting for you at check-in.*

*Sponsorship opportunities are also available. If you or your firm would like to learn more, please call me at 303-440-2937 x101. Proceeds from the event will support CTU activities including:*

- *Holding our youth conservation camp in June and statewide rivers cleanup in September;*
- *Conducting volunteer water quality monitoring on key Colorado streams;*
- *Completing a major river restoration project on the Middle Fork of the South Platte;*
- *Working with land conservancy groups and state agencies to develop science-based priorities and on-the-ground programs for water acquisition to benefit rivers; and*
- *Providing a strong and credible voice for rivers and trout at the Colorado General Assembly, Wildlife Commission, and other state and federal agencies.*

*We have made great strides in conservation over the past year. I encourage you to visit our website to learn more; I think you will agree that CTU is making a difference for Colorado's rivers. Please join us for our 2009 Dinner & Gala, and help us continue the vital work of conserving Colorado's watersheds. Thank you.*

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helping the Southern Greenback Chapter's  
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**Chapter Calendar: March - May 2009**

**March**

**5 - Board Meeting . Members welcome. 7:00 pm. 1630 Alma Ave. ,  
Pueblo . 566-6834**

**12 - Chapter Membership Meeting , 119 W. 6 th , 7:00 p.m. Bring a Raffle  
Item to Share!**

**14 - Arkansas River Cleanup, 10-noon, lunch provided. Lake Pueblo State  
Park Snakeskin Picnic Area**

**27-29 - [Royal Gorge Angler's 7th Annual Spring Fling](#) - on the Arkansas  
River, Cotopaxi KOA**

**30 - [CTU Youth Conservation Camp Applications DUE!](#)**

**April**

**2 - Board Meeting . Members welcome. 7:00 pm. 1630 Alma Ave. , Pueblo . 566-6834**

**3 - CTU Annual Dinner & Gala - i.e., annual auction (Denver)**

**4 - Arkansas Riverwalk Willow Planting - Canon City**

**9 - Chapter Membership Meeting , 119 W. 6 th , 7:00 p.m. Bring a Raffle Item to Share!**

**17-19 - CTU Spring Rendezvous, Redstone**

**end April - Parkdale Fishermen Access Renovation**

## **May**

**2 - [Collegiate Peaks Anglers' Caddis Fest](#) - Salida**

**7 - Board Meeting . Members welcome. 7:00 pm. 1630 Alma Ave. , Pueblo . 566-6834**

**14 - Chapter Membership Meeting , 119 W. 6 th , 7:00 p.m. Bring a Raffle Item to Share!**

## **June**

**4 - Board Meeting . Members welcome. 7:00 pm. 1630 Alma Ave. , Pueblo . 566-6834**

**11 - Chapter Membership Meeting , 119 W. 6 th , 7:00 p.m. Bring a Raffle Item to Share!**

**? - Sporting Goods Yard Sale, Date & Place TBA. Save that stuff for the sale!**

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**Greenback Currents is a bimonthly newsletter of the Southern Colorado Greenback Chapter 509, 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>).**

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## 2009 Board of Directors

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Vice President:	Kelvin Melton	564-1799	k_jmelton@msn.com
Secretary:	Vacant		
Treasurer:	Carole Engler	561-0562	cae77@comcast.net
Membership:	Lou McCullough	719-650-3301	loumccullough@comcast.net
Programs:	Frank Nemick, Jr Ben Wurster Tony Alessandro	545-5416 544-4777	f.nemick@comcast.net godwithflyrod@gmail.com tjalessandro@msn.com
Projects:	Ted M. Sillox	647-2369	ted.sillox@state.co.us
Communications	Marge Vorndam	489-2913	s_greenbacks@chapter509tu.org

**Web site: <http://www.chapter509TU.org> eMail: [s\\_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org](mailto:s_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org)**  
**To join our email list, send an email to [s\\_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org](mailto:s_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org) and request to be added. Membership is not required.**  
**Chapter Streamside Courtesy Cards are available. If you would like a supply to pass on to other fishermen, please send a request to [s\\_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org](mailto:s_greenbacks@chapter509TU.org) or call Marge at 489-2913.**

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