



2016 Bucket Brigade Report

By Jeff Nelson

On June 11, 2016, under sunny skies, the 9th annual Bucket Brigade was held in Monongahela National Forest on the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the Williams River along West Virginia's Scenic Highway with 91 people attending. Forty one (41) Wal-Mart employees with their family and friends from nine West Virginia stores including Summersville, Beckley, Parkersburg, Weston, Keyser, Clarksburg, Grafton, South Charleston and Hurricane participated in the event coordinated by Chris Ruppenthal with Walmart and ENCTU. West Virginia Trout Unlimited had 4 chapters from Charleston, Parkersburg, Spencer and Beckley areas represented with 40 members, family and friends. WV Division of Natural Resources had 4 employees led by John Rebinski.

The purpose of this liming project is to improve the pH water quality of the Middle Fork of the Williams so brook trout will continue their resurgence after being absent from the watershed for over 50 years. 767 buckets of limestone sands which equated to nearly 10 tons were moved by everyone along the ¼ mile bucket brigade line to the dump site this year. Because the stream is

within a wilderness area no machinery can be used to place the limestone hence the need for people power.

The Ernie Nester Chapter of Trout Unlimited (ENCTU) started making donations to WVDNR for limestone sand projects in 2005 and makes donations every year for 3 projects including the Middle Fork of the Williams. Funds to help with the Middle Fork liming project have come from the Wal-Mart Foundation, West Virginia Trophy Hunters Association, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, AEP Foundation, and ENCTU general funds. These donations for the limestone sands' projects from all the named entities exceed \$84,000 and has been implemented with nearly 900 volunteers for nine continuous years.

The lunch was donated from the Summersville Wal-Mart store led by Dave & Cindy Herndon. ENCTU recognized the Summersville Wal-Mart with a Certificate of Appreciation for providing lunch every year for the last 6 years. Snacks and mid-morning drinks were provided by Susan Nester and her sister Marcia Brady. A special thanks to Fred Mays for securing an additional donation of new buckets again this year from Pyro Chem in South Point, Ohio. They helped in completing the work more

Bucket Brigade "Continued"

efficiently because we completed the liming. This event gives us all a chance to enjoy friends and family while doing something for West Virginia's beautiful state fish, the brook trout. Please mark your calendars for the 10th anniversary and the 2017 Bucket Brigade for June 10, 2017.

Historical Note

The 25 acres of land, for the White Sulphur Springs Federal Hatchery, was purchased on June 2, 1902 for the sum of \$2,500.

DO UNTO FISH AS YOU WOULD HAVE FISH DO UNTO YOU
CATCH & RELEASE



More About Trout

Trout have fins entirely without spines, and all of them have a small adipose fin along the back, near the tail. The pelvic fins sit well back on the body, on each side of the anus. The swim bladder is connected to the esophagus, allowing for gulping or rapid expulsion of air, a condition known as physostome. Unlike many other physostome fish, the trout do not use their bladder as an auxiliary device for oxygen uptake, relying solely on their gills.

Trout Nutrition Facts

Though I have never seen a person eat just 2.2 ounces of trout, this is the most complete nutrition listing for trout I could find. I hope you find it helpful.

Amount Per 1 fillet (62 g or [2.2oz](#))

Calories 118

% Daily Value*

Total Fat	5 g	7%
Saturated fat	0.9 g	4%
Polyunsaturated fat	1.2 g	
Monounsaturated fat	2.6 g	
Cholesterol	46 mg	15%
Sodium	42 mg	1%
Potassium	287 mg	8%
Total Carbohydrate	0 g	0%
Dietary fiber	0 g	0%
Protein	17 g	34%
Vitamin A	0%	Vitamin C 0%
Calcium	3%	Iron 6%
Vitamin B -	65%	Vitamin B-12 - 76%
Magnesium	4%	

*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet.



2016 TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

TU's Trout in the Classroom ("TIC") program has now grown from a handful of elementary and middle schools to more than two dozen schools in several counties. My personal experience has been as a volunteer with the fourth grade class at Charleston's Kenna Elementary School. This is, I think, my fourth year volunteering and I must say that I am impressed – both by the teacher, by her students, and by the level of dedicated support provided by our chapter.

Teacher Stephanie Nesius organizes her students into several teams, each responsible for monitoring, maintaining and recording the class's TIC project at specified intervals. The teams have done a great job. Through the process they have learned about aquatic biology, chemistry, teamwork and responsibility while having fun working together.

In past years we have invited the students to write up the story of their project for publication the Davis Creek Watershed Association's newsletter, with very good results.

There have been a couple of bumps along the way this year, the main ones being filter problems, but TU volunteers came to the rescue. [Thanks to our TU "network" and quick action from Ralph Douglas.] The fingerling trout have grown well and are just about ready for their release in May.

As a former classroom teacher, I am convinced that the benefits of this wonderfully educational program make the effort very worthwhile. It's truly rewarding to see and hear the students' energy and enthusiasm for their trout "project" and we are all looking forward to the "BIG DAY" at the Forest.

Diana Green

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Loop Creek SOS

By Larry Orr

Twelve people participated in the WV SOS Level 3 assessment done by the Ernie Nester Chapter of Trout Unlimited (ENCTU) on Saturday, July 9, 2016 on Loop Creek.

Loop Creek is the “Adopted Stream” of ENCTU in the WV DEP Save Our Streams (SOS) Program. This survey is the third at this new cemetery site. Stream conditions at the time of this survey were obviously affected by the recent flooding in West Virginia. Rocks that normally would have numerous clinging insects were basically clean.

The stream flow was slightly high at 29.6 cfs with the stream slightly murky. The Riffle Index was 3.3 with an integrity score of 80.8, which is a barely optimal rating. The sand count from the Pebble Count was 7 as compared to 14 on the last survey, and was probably impacted by the recent flooding.

The bug count was 125 with 14 total taxa resulting in a “barely excellent” stream

index of 80.8. The data from this survey have been entered into the WV DEP volunteer data base.

The next SOS survey for Loop Creek is scheduled for October 9. Reminders will be issued through Constant Contact and emails. The activities schedule for ENCTU is also posted on the ENCTU website at WVTU.org. Come join us and learn about trout stream characteristics



Trout Loss Due To Flooding

By Harry E. Moran II

As everyone in WV knows, the June 23rd floods destroyed homes, schools, and businesses in several areas of our state, including my own community. The effect on families was, and is, devastating.

Much, much lower on the priority list, but important to TU, trout fishing, and the economies of many small communities in WV, is the loss of trout and loss of hatchery stock.

The crews at the federal hatchery at White Sulphur Springs lost or buried over 45,000 trout. 5,000 of the trout were huge brood trout that would have eventually been released in WV waters. I contacted Senator Capito and asked that she try to get help and some replacement fish for the hatchery.

The 2016 Dunloup Stocking and Picnic

We had nearly 50 people for this year's stocking and the good picnic that followed. The weather was good, but hot through both events. There was time to socialize and trade fishing tips and stories during the picnic. Many attendees worked hard and brought lots of sweets and side dishes for the event. They were very much appreciated by all. Gary Chancey and Jeff Nelsen suffered through the smoke and heat of the grill to cook the burgers, brats, and hot dogs. Mike Sayre did a great job planning and preparing for the event.

Our chapter has stocked thousands of trout in Dunloup Creek for several decades.

We met a few of the local land owners while stocking, who were very supportive of our work. They reported a lot of otter and heron activity on Dunloup Creek.

Here are a few pictures from our day there:







New Fly Patterns For 2016



Egg Sucking Stone from *Alaska Fly Fishing Goods*



Rinkers CDC Wonder Bug from *Orvis*



T B Doublemint Olive from *CatchFlyFish.com*

ENCTU Trout Lines Newsletter
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Scheduled Events

August 20 - Loop Creek Stocking
10 AM – Meet at the Meadow Haven Memorial Park cemetery on Rt. 61, 1 mile upstream from Kincaid.

September 13, ENCTU membership Meeting 7 PM – S. Charleston Library

September 27, ENCTU Board Meeting 6:30 PM – S. Charleston Library



Guide To The Catch and Release Trout Streams Of West Virginia

Maps, Tips, Hatch Charts, & Lodging Info. \$10.00 Each

All proceeds benefit the Ernie Nester Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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