"Trout Lines"

November 2015

October Membership Meeting Presentations

Those of you that missed the meeting for October missed one of the best presentations I have seen, since I became a member of Trout Unlimited.

Chad Landers, US Forestry Service fisheries biologist, and Dustin Witcherman, Potomac Headwaters Team Leader for TU explained the amazing work being done in stream restoration in West Virginia. This all benefits trout and, indirectly, trout fishermen. I was very impressed that there are young people, such as these two, so dedicated to something so important to fresh water fisheries.

The variety of work and the tremendous positive effects to our head water streams were outstanding. Decommissioning old logging roads, returning the areas to natural contour, and replacing undersized culverts were a few of the improvements being made. Also those culverts that are too high above the stream to allow fish to pass through them are being replaced. The results for brook trout have been outstanding.

When you miss our chapter's monthly meetings, you miss out on a lot.

Fall Trout Stocking

Fall of 2015 trout stocking was scheduled for the weeks of October 13th and 19th. 43,000 pounds of trout, including some brood trout were planned for 25 streams and 9 lakes in West Virginia. The brood trout will be stocked in "select" locations, per the WV DNR. Stream flows are good this year, so trout fishing should be too.

New Editor for Trout Lines

Kudos to Dennis for his work as editor of the Trout Lines newsletter for all these months. Dennis needs a break, so I am going to do my best to produce the newsletter for the next year or so.

Please bear with me while I find the sources of needed information for each month's publication. Also please point out any errors or omissions to me.

I need your stories of fishing trips, photos, articles, and ideas to help me keep our fellow members' reading interest each month. Also, if a member you know is not getting the newsletter each month, have them send me their email address.

Harry Moran

Egg Day

Remember TIC "Egg Day" 8 AM on October 31st at the Elk Center in Crede. Volunteers are needed to work with the schools, the children, and their trout tanks!

Figure 1: Trout Unlimited and AmeriCorps members plant a riparian area to re-establish stream shade and bank stabilization

Description:

Riparian areas that were historically deforested are now being planted with native tree and shrub species on the Monongahela National Forest to accelerate reforestation. Replanting riparian areas re-establishes ecological functions such as stream shading, stream bank stabilization, future large woody material recruitment, and habitat for riparian fauna. The Monongahela NF occurs in the mid-Atlantic region which represents a relatively southern occurrence of populations of native brook trout. This Management Indicator Species requires cold water habitats and in this region, coldwater ecosystems often depend on a forested canopy in riparian areas to shield streams from the warming effects of the sun. Forested riparian areas also help maintain stream channel stability. Bank erosion is reduced by complex root networks that help hold soil and rock in place. Streams that flow through largely deforested areas can become incised from a lack of in-stream structure such as large woody material. Planting in riparian areas provides a future source of large woody material. It also helps stabilize floodplains by providing roughness that can reduce the erosive energy of flood waters.

Results:

Riparian areas associated with five streams in the Upper Greenbrier North project area were planted in 2015. Thirty two acres were planted in headwater areas important for brook trout spawning and early rearing. Trees and shrubs were sourced from regional nurseries with local genetic stock. Larger trees were planted this year in an effort to address issues with deer browse and herbaceous competition. Early observations indicate survival rates are high and new growth is excellent. Some trees are already ten feet tall. Successful planting efforts were made possible by our partnership with Trout Unlimited and the assistance of dozens of volunteers. Accomplishments from this year represent the completion of over half the open riparian areas in the headwaters of the East Fork of the Greenbrier watershed and advances this priority watershed closer to a “properly functioning” classification under the Watershed Condition framework. (***Chad Landress*** – *USFS Fisheries Biologist*)

Fall Riparian Tree Planting in West Virginia

Please help the Potomac Headwaters Home Rivers Initiative cap off a recent in stream habitat restoration project by helping to plant 600 large container trees. This planting will greatly benefit a section of stream near Franklin, WV. Volunteers can help plant on Thursday October 29th and Friday October 30th, 2015.

Interested volunteers can meet in Harman, WV, across from the school, for carpooling options to the planting site near Franklin, WV. We will meet in Harman both days at 8:30am. Lunch will be provided. Volunteers are encouraged to bring a shovel if they have one, and sturdy footwear. Large sized trees will be planted in pre-dug holes.

If you have any questions, want more information, or are interested in coming, please contact Travis Ferry at 304-614-6699 or tferry@tu.org.

Become active in your TU chapter. Volunteers are needed for a variety of chapter activities. Many of the current front line volunteers are older members, so we need some of our younger members to become involved. Trout In The Class Room, youth activities, Save Our Streams, training classes, and, in the summer, trout stockings are just some of the volunteer needs. It's fun and interesting work so come on out.

Gadget of the month

A great little gadget for cleaning fly line. Strip the line off the reel; add your favorite line cleaner to the two foam pads; put over the rod; close and wind. Costs around $10. Yes, I'm holding the reel incorrectly because my fly fishing instructor & mentor taught me this so one can easily see and better wind the line onto the reel. This also is handy for putting new line on your reel. Just use the gadget without any cleaner. It keeps tension on the line. It worked well on my 6wt and my 10 wt. custom crafted rods. When the foam pads wear down, either cut new ones or just put some material or cleaning pads over them. Available at many fly shops such as Feathercraft. (Ken Eigenbrod)

Have a unique gadget that might be useful to some of your fellow chapter members? Send a brief description to Harry Moran. wvflyfisher@gmail.com with a photo(s) if possible.

ENCTU Trout Lines Newsletter
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Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by parent/guardian

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Winning ticket to be drawn at 5:00 PM January 17th
(Need not be present to win)

Tickets are available at Spring Hill Rod and Gun or at our membership meetings prior to the WV Hunting and Fishing Show. Contact Paul Skaggs

Scheduled Events

October 31, 8 AM - Egg Day for Trout In The Classroom, at the Kanawha County Educational Complex at 3320 Pennsylvania Ave. The same complex where Elk Elementary School is located.

November 7, Loop Creek SOS

November 10, ENCTU membership meeting SCPL 7:00PM—9:00PM, This month's program speaker is Don Mathews, steelhead guide on Lake Erie it's tribs and into Canadian waters.

November 24 ENCTU Board meeting, SCPL 6:30 PM– 8:30 PM.

Guide To The Catch and Release *Trout Streams* Of West Virginia

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