

Mayflyer

April 2003

V32-14

www.donegaltu.org

The Monthly Publication of



Next
Monthly
Meeting

BACKCASTS

Chapter Meeting Recap 3/19/03:

by Scott Trefny

The March meeting was held at the Quality Inn and Suites on the Oregon Pike in Lancaster. President Bob Wyble opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with 41 members present. After opening comments, Bob asked committee chairs to speak about the focus of their committees. Our goal is to add two new members to each committee. The response has been positive with the addition of 11 members to working committees. Joe Besecker, head of the Volunteer Committee, will co-ordinate all volunteers for the coming year. Check the Mayflyer and our web site www.donegaltu.org to see how you can help. You will also see upcoming information in a new column of the Mayflyer devoted to committee activities.

This evening's presenter, Ron Heuston, gave us a very informative account of how to hatch trout eggs in discarded refrigerators. This new technique was originated by a veterinarian from Rock Spring, Wyoming. Whitlock Vibert boxes have been used for years to hatch trout eggs. But when placed directly in the stream, the eggs and the fry were vulnerable to predation and even to wading fisherman. Placing the Vibert boxes in an old refrigerator protects the eggs and fry when they are most vulnerable. The Muddy Creek Chapter in York County has hatched over 400,000 eyed eggs since using this technique all

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protecting and restoring
the trout streams and
watersheds of
Lancaster County

Wednesday
April 16th
7:00 PM

Quality Inn
2363 Oregon Pike
Lancaster, PA

Program:
"Tying The Classics"
by
Ed Kraft

Upcoming
Chapter
Activities

Summer Picnic Chapter Meetings!

June, July August

Free Food!

Watch The Mayflyer For Details

for a price of \$500.00. This project was joint effort of the Muddy Creek Chapter of TU, the PAFBC, and National TU.

A suitable spring source must be found that forms a stream running into a trout stream. The small stream is necessary to allow the fry early protection from large predating fish. Locating the refrigerator on private property is best to protect it from vandalism. The refrigerator must be cleaned and the gaskets removed. Holes need to be drilled for intake and outflow pipes. A series of plexiglass baffles are arranged to allow flow of water about 6" deep. Then the Whitlock Vibert boxes are filled with gravel and eyed eggs. It is important that the spring has an oxygen content of at least 5 parts per million. Once the water begins to flow through the system, the door is closed and the waiting begins. The eggs soon hatch and the small fry remain in the refrigerator for 25 to 50 days. After that time, they migrate to the small stream where they feed and mature until they finally migrate into the larger water.

John provided Greg Wilson with the plans to build such a system. Finding a suitable location and acquiring the materials as well as building the system could be an exciting new project for our Chapter members. Thanks, John, for an informative presentation.



WHAT'S EMERGING!

President's Report:

by **Bob Wyble**.

DTU committees are hard at work setting goals and making plans for projects and activities to be carried out this spring and summer. Beginning with this issue of the Mayflyer, the **Stream Reports** page will be replaced with a **Committee Reports** page. Check out this page for current information on what the various committees are doing, and to get a preview of how you could become involved as a DTU chapter member.

Welcome to **Lee Manifold** who has joined the **Tree Nursery Committee** and to **Glen Nephin** who is now a member of the **Fund Raising Committee**. We still need chapter members to serve on the following committees: **Programs, Business Affairs,** and **Volunteer Coordination**. We are also looking for additional members to join the **Fund Raising Committee** as well as several other committees. If you are interested in helping us, please send me an e-mail at wbyble@ptd.net.

I'd like to thank **Dan Brandt** and the Banquet steering team for all their hard work in organizing and running another successful banquet on March 29. Thanks to all of you who attended, and to the guests you brought to the banquet to support the work of DTU.

Many of you have had an opportunity to read the Mayflyer on our web site www.donegaltu.org. If you haven't yet read the Mayflyer on our web site, take a look by clicking on "**News & Activities**" and "**Chapter Newsletter**". You can read the Mayflyer in full color and you'll be able to read the new issue each month about a week before you normally receive your hard copy in the mail.

You can help DTU save money by reading the Mayflyer on our web page and discontinuing your hard copy of the Mayflyer through the mail. Printing costs are going up and we can reduce costs by printing and mailing fewer hard copies of

the Mayflyer. If you'd like to read the Mayflyer on our web page instead of receiving a hard copy in the mail, please send me an e-mail (wbyble@ptd.net) and say, "**Stop sending Mayflyer through the Post Office.**" Please include your **Name, Post Office Address, Zip Code** and **e-mail address**.

Our goal is to have at least 25% of our chapter members read their Mayflyer through our web page. If we did that we could save approximately \$1500 annually in printing and mailing costs.

24th Annual Spring Banquet

Preliminary Report

Our annual Spring Banquet and Fund Raiser was held on Saturday March 29th at the Quality Inn & Suites. 210 attendees were present for an evening of fun and games, and of course for fund raising! The Spring Banquet is where the money comes from that enables us to do all the great coldwater conservation and restoration work that we do each year. This year, as usual, there were lots of great items to bid on and to win in various games of chance. Look for a full report in the May Mayflyer, complete with lots of pictures (thanks to **Todd Geltmacher**). For now, here are a few highlights from the evening.

Bob Kutz, our immediate past Chapter President, was justly honored for his many years of unselfish service to DTU. **Greg Wilson** was impulsively "persuaded" to purchase a \$1,500 Golden Witch bamboo fly rod simply by passing the rod under his nose! The "**Rent-A-Husband**" verbal auction was a bit sluggish, so the husbands offered to take off their shirts to stimulate the bidding. Unfortunately that caused the high bidder to drop her bid! Finally, **Ruth Roulston** (Gary's wife), was a triple Bucket Raffle winner when her numbers were consecutively drawn from 3 different buckets! She needed assistance to carry all her winnings back to her table.

Officers

President

Bob Wyble

986 Hammon Ave.

Ephrata, 17522

733-4939 (Home)

wbyble@ptd.net

Vice President

Bill Billett

602 Longview Dr.

Ephrata, 17522

733-2940 (Home)

billett@dejazzd.com

Secretary

Scott Trefny

26 Whitcraft Drive

Lititz, 17543

626-4512 (Home)

snjtrefny@dejazzd.com

Treasurer

Wayne Boggs

830 Mockingbird Cr.

Stevens, 17578

733-1863 (Home)

wboggs@ptd.net



COMMITTEE REPORTS



Program Committee

Chairman: Ted Downs

In April, our presenter **Ed Kraft** will demonstrate “tying the Classics”, which will include tying: Sandbar Smelt; Grey Ghost; Royal Coachman Wet; and Mickey Finn. These flies will then be raffled off that night to members attending the meeting. Ed Kraft is a retired Air Force Lt. Col. and has been a professional tier for a



number of years. He ties for many well known shops and companies. Ed ties for internationally known Bob Clouser who is well known for his “Clouser Minnow” pattern. Ed is a long time member of DTU and also teaches fly tying. He has donated a personalized one on one tying course for our March Banquet. Ed enjoys promoting fly fishing and explains that “it’s wholesome and a great lifetime activity.”

Nursery Committee

Chairman: Kevin Fausey

Members: Tom Tedrow
Lee Manifold
Ed Monborne

Spring always marks an exciting time of year, and after this cold, snowy and seemingly endless winter, spring brings a welcome relief. Well, the DTU nursery crew is gearing up for an exciting spring also. Our first shipment of tree and shrub seedlings (4600 of them!) from the Virginia Department of Forestry will be arriving the first week of April. We have two scout troops on line to help pot these bare root seedlings but the nursery committee could use your help as well. We

are implementing an identification and labeling system which will aid in the nursery operation and will also promote education. Learning to identify our native plants can only foster our mission here at DTU. So if you are itching to get out and enjoy this rich and exciting time of year, share stories with fellow fishermen and possibly educate yourself, give one of our nursery committee members a call.

Conservation Committee

Chairman: Greg Wilson

Members: Dee Lehman
Todd Geltmacher

Our current focus is on spring plantings. On April 19th we will partner with the Little Conestoga Watershed Alliance to host a riparian buffer planting, site (yet to be determined). On April 26th we will meet at Millport Conservancy. We have several sites that need plants added as well as some clean up. We will have several more spring planting dates that will require volunteers, so if you are interested in participating make sure your name is on the volunteer list.

Newsletter Committee

Chairman: Matt Kofroth

Members: Garland Gingerich

The latest from the newsletter committee is volunteers needed!! We are still a committee member short in our group and we are still looking for someone to put the newsletter together on a monthly basis. This job is not that hard, there is no writing requirements needed you just need to have some publishing skills. Even if you do not have a lot of publishing skills and are interested we would be willing to train you. So come on out and try something new for a good cause. You never know, you may really enjoy the experience.

State Council/National TU Liaison

Chairman: Gary Roulston

Members: Gail Keck

Our committee’s mission is to facilitate collaboration between DTU and TU National and PA Trout, as well as communication with other conservation based organizations with similar missions. Additionally we strive to create awareness for appropriate advocacy campaigns on conservation and environmental issues. There are two important advocacy campaigns currently on the docket. See “TU National” on Page 6, as well as the Insert for more information.

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Ken Reinard, our catalog manager, has spent months turning one room in our shop into a fly tying room that is sure to please discriminating fly tiers. It's filled to the brim with fly tying materials and we have even more on the way for spring of 2003. In addition to the tying materials, Ken has decorated the room with his personal collection of capes and pelts—it's almost like walking into a museum. The room is brilliantly lit by full-spectrum bulbs that allow you to study the tying materials under light that is nearly as bright as sunlight. To best preserve the vivid colors of the materials, we have a dim light system that is used at all times except when we have clients in the shop. In addition to the new tying room, we have a classic tackle room that features a number of new and used cane rods, reels, and vintage rod hardware. As always, we inventory the largest supply of rodmaking tools and components in the region. We cordially invite you to visit our shop. We're open by appointment, Monday-Thursday, 8-4. Beginning in February, we're starting Open Shop Fridays...just walk in 8-4 each Friday. Ken is confident that you'll discover that the effort you put into locating our hidden shop will be well rewarded. Just drive down the 1560/1570 Driveway, located on Kleinfeltersville Road, about a half-mile prior to entering the Middle Creek Refuge (Project 70). The shop is the first building on the right.

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Cutting The Noose From The Salmon's Neck

by David James Duncan

Reprinted from: www.patagonia.com and the Patagonia Fly Fishing 2003 Catalog

The Pacific Ocean covers 70 million square miles of this planet. A vast network of birthing rivers is needed to fill a biologically meaningful portion of so great a sea with Salmon. One of the most crucial of such networks is the Columbia/Snake river system, a single great "Y"-shaped flow, each wing of the "Y" a thousand miles in length, draining 260,000 square miles of continent all told.



The entire Salmon and Steelhead population of the Columbia wing was destroyed in a day, fifty years ago, by the Grand Coulee Dam. The Snake wing is now the only significant Salmon sanctuary left in this system. Thanks to the Wilderness Act, hundreds of its tributaries remain intact and healthy. Yet system-wide Salmon extinction is predicted by the year 2017. The problem is the infamous lower Snake River dams. A 130-mile corridor of flaccid, desert-heated, predator-filled slack water and four killing sets of turbines sit between the Pacific and the Salmon's vast wild refuge, killing up to 97% of ocean-bound juveniles and 40% of returning adults every year.

In just 25 years the dams have wiped out 90% of the system's Salmon, extirpating many discrete strains. Three billion taxpayer dollars have been spent "techno-fixing" the dams, yet every surviving Salmon is endangered. Hatcheries cannot replace these Salmon. The "man-made" strains are essentially just batches of identical first-cousins, forced to inbreed till they self-destruct due to technological incest. It is wild stocks alone that give hatchery and net-pen Salmon their fleeting viability. Without wild Salmon in a river system, there are soon no Salmon.

An industrial economy can only remain profitable by achieving lasting balance with the natural economy that supports it. A majority of Americans, including editorial boards of scores of major newspapers, now embrace this view. The New York Times, for instance, in April 2000, called the lower Snake dams "a colossal ecological mistake" and states that "an unprejudiced calculation of costs and benefits" would force Congress to fund their breaching. When ex-Senator Slade Gorton saw this editorial, he responded with a tirade in the Times, claiming that breaching the dams would "destroy the way of life in eastern Washington, eliminate our transportation system, raise electricity rates and cost our farmers their irrigation water."

I have bad news for Mr. Gorton: in September 2002 the Rand Corporation - a conservative research group of sterling reputation among Republicans and Democrats alike - completed an in-depth study of Northwest energy issues, including exhaustive analysis of the four dams' removal. The report concludes that removing the lower Snake River dams could in fact have a positive economic impact, bringing new jobs and fresh economic activity in eastern Washington and the entire Northwest.

The Snake River dams are Cold War relics. They were commissioned by a 1955 Congress to power Hanford City as it built plutonium triggers for a nuclear arsenal aimed at the USSR. They were opposed by President Eisenhower, by the Army Corps that later built them, by the region's Indian tribes, the West

(Continued on page ii)

(Continued from page i)

Cutting The Noose From The Salmon's Neck (cont.)

Coast's multi-billion-dollar fishing industry, and the majority of the Northwest populace. In the quarter-century since they came on line, nine-tenths of the inland West's wild Salmon have been destroyed, as feared.

The USSR is dissolved. Hanford City has been a radioactive ghost town for forty years. The barging channel created by the Snake River dams is like an insanely misplaced Panama Canal leading nowhere but to tiny Lewiston, Idaho. This "canal" transports almost nothing but wheat, and runs parallel to freeways and railroads that could carry the same cargo. Its maintenance costs taxpayers' billions, and damages the economies of scores of towns in Idaho, Washington, Oregon and up and down a thousand miles of Pacific Coast. It inflicts religious persecution and economic apartheid upon 13 Indian tribes whose world view and way of life centers on the Salmon. Its dams provide no flood control. One of the four provides irrigation, but the water can be pumped to farms from a free-flowing river with the dam removed. The hydropower provided could be immediately replaced by existing power sources, or as the Rand study recommends, by solar and wind generation. In the Army Corp's hearings on dam removal in the year 2000, 80% of those who testified in 12 Northwest cities called for dam breaching. Written support was even more unanimous and poured in from all over the United States. In rivers where dams have been breached, salmon have returned in astonishing numbers.

The best thing to come out of the Northwest for ten thousand years is the wild Salmon. These magnificent fish – to borrow a trope from Aldo Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac* – "will always exist in books and in museums, but these are effigies and images, dead to all hardships and to all delights." Book Salmon cannot turn the face of the lower Columbia into a glorious crimson cauldron in the rays of a setting sun. They can't nourish a bear cub, otter whelp, eagle, orca or child. They can't serve as the sacramental blessing of the tribes. They can't send energy shooting from the hidden depths of a green river up a line into the hands, body and heart of a fishing woman or man. Wild Salmon show us how to give of ourselves for the sake of things greater than ourselves. Their mass passage from the sea's free and invisible into the rivers' sacrificial and seen is not just every American's but every earth-born man, woman and child's birthright. Their bodies are the needle, their migration the thread, that sew this big broken region into a whole. No kilowatt can replace this. No barge can transport it.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Congress can decide whether we restore wild Salmon or let them go extinct. There are 227 dams in the Columbia/Snake system. Help cut the noose from the necks of the inland west's last Salmon by asking your U.S. senators to remove four Snake River dams in Washington state and make it 223.

TAKE ACTION

1. Call your two senators via the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121. The operator can help identify your senators.
2. Visit www.wildsalmon.org/patagonia or call 800-SOS-SALMON to send a free fax or email.
3. Visit www.tu.org , click on the link for the "Salmon Planning Act" and follow the instructions to contact your congressmen.



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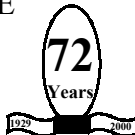


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HOOKED-UP

The fly indicated below was obtained from
The Fly Archive @ www.flyfisherman.com

“Tak’s Thread Body Baetis”

Submitted by Rick Takahashi

Description:

This is a very easy-to-tie, effective dry fly that has worked for me during spring Baetis hatches year after year. The thread body speeds the tying process,



creates a very durable fly (compared to quill bodies), and allows me to build a very slim, tapered body. The black wing makes it easier to see the fly on the water on dark, overcast afternoons. For sunny days, I use this patterns with a dun poly yarn wing.

Recipe:

HOOK: Tiemco 100, 5210, or 900BL, #18-#24.

THREAD: Olive dun 8/0.

TAIL: Micro Fibetts, split.

BODY: Tying thread.

WING: Black Magic Wing Fibers or dun poly yarn.

Tying Instructions

- Attach the thread to the hook and wrap it back approximately a 1/3 hook-length back from the eye. Do not trim the tag end of the thread, leave it long. Tie in the Micro Fibetts for the tail with two wraps to secure. Pull the fibers to the correct length (tails should be the same length as the body) and then wrap the thread back to a point just above the barb.
- Make one wrap of thread underneath the tail. This will position the tail in a slightly upward direction. To split the tails, pull the tag end of the thread up between the Micro Fibetts, and tie it down along the body, locking the tail material down in the process.
- Create a very slim, tapered abdomen with the tying thread.
- Tie in a 2-inch section of wing material. I usually have to split the fibers lengthwise so I don't end up with too much material. Wrap thread in front of and behind the wing to stand it up 90 degrees to the hook shank.
- Tie in the hackle behind the wing, and make two turns behind, and two turns in front of the wing.
- Tie off the hackle, trim the excess, and whip-finish.

WHAT'S NEW AT:

Lancaster County Conservation District:

by Matthew Kofroth, Watershed Specialist

As we all know things in life change from time to time. Well this is also true in DTU. For a number of years the watershed specialist at the Conservation District has been writing a 'Stream Report' article for the Mayflyer describing activities in the local watersheds throughout the county. In reality the Conservation District does a great deal more than just these watershed activities. So to better inform DTU members on the happenings in the conservation community we will slightly modify the format of the District article. The focus will still be directed toward watershed activities but it will also look at other items of interest. Hope you enjoy this new piece.

Middle Creek Watershed Association (MCWA)

As stated in last months Mayflyer we have several new watershed groups starting up in the county. This month I would like to focus on the MCWA. In recent months several dedicated volunteers in the Middle Creek watershed in Northern Lancaster County have decided to establish a watershed group in their area. As I am sure everyone knows Middle Creek originates in the Middle Creek Wildlife Area. This area is a prime waterfowl migration route along the East coast. On any given day you could see several hundred species of birds on the lake. The beauty of this area is only enhanced as the seasons change as well. The Middle Creek Watershed is also rich with recreational opportunities and historical aspects that a lot of people are unaware of. The MCWA hopes to educate community members on the importance of a watershed-wide approach to protecting the area. The group is early in their planning stages, so now is the time for residents and recreational enthusiasts to help the group form their goals for the watershed. If you or someone you know would like more information on the Middle Creek group please contact the Conservation District. Thanks and hope to see you at the next MCWA meeting.

Susquehanna River Basin Commission Water Budget Project

Do you live in the Manheim, Lititz, Ephrata, or Denver area and are you concerned about water resources? Well if the answer is yes, the Susquehanna River Basin

Commission (SRBC) is looking for you! SRBC with assistance from DEP and the Conservation District is looking at creating a Water Budget for several Northern Lancaster County Watersheds. Essentially what a water budget looks at is intakes and outtakes from groundwater, and surface water in a particular watershed and/or aquifer. The budget also looks at how future development, municipal ordinances, geology, and other factors effect the water we have now and what we will have in the future. The goal of the project is to create a budget that can not only be used for planning purposes in this area, but also as a template for future budgets in other areas of the State. What role can you play in this project? Well SRBC is looking to create an Advisory Committee for the project. This committee will be made of municipalities, water users, industries, watershed groups, and concerned citizens. This group will come together quarterly to discuss what data is already out there on water in the area, what data is missing, what are future concerns in the area, what are some possible funding sources, and other related issues to the project. The project will last 2 years and is looking to involve anyone concerned with water resources in the area. So if this sounds like something you might be interested in please give the Conservation District a call to see how you can be a part of this very exciting project.

TU National

Advocacy Campaigns

There are currently two very meaningful advocacy campaigns being promoted by TU National. They deal with: the **Salmon Planning Act**; and **Harmful Hydro Provisions in House and Senate Energy Bills**. The first issue deals with legislation designed to protect wild Snake River Salmon and Steelhead by providing for removal of the four lower Snake River Dams (see the related article from Patagonia in this month's insert). The second issue deals with pending House and Senate bills that would undercut the work that TU volunteers and staff are doing right now to restore rivers via the hydropower dam relicensing process. The best way to find out more about these important issues is to go to the www.tu.org home page and click on the links you'll find there in the left banner. This will take you to an automated "contact your congressmen" service that TU National offers. All you'll need to do is enter your Zip Code and the service will take care of the rest for you. What could be easier? Thanks for your support!

3 Month Chapter Planner

Board Members

Henry Bazella

626-1911 (Home)

henry.bazella@cnh.com

Dr. Joseph Besecker

392-8725 (Home)

poppydoc10@aol.com

Dan Brandt

664-2332 (Home)

dnkbrandt@dejazzd.com

Dave Chalfant

859-2906 (Home)

chalfant@redrose.net

Ted Downs

(Program Chairman)

393-6645 (Home)

tdowns30@comcast.net

Kevin Fausey

626-4003 (Home)

erbbros@desupernet.net

Bob Habig

285-7529 (Home)

rfhfin@ptd.net

Matt Kofroth

(Lancaster County

Conservation District)

299-5361 (Work)

matt-kofroth@pa.nacdnet.org

Bob Kutz

394-9959 (Home)

b.kutz@comcast.net

Gary Roulston

560-7723 (Home)

groulston@comcast.net

Jim Stephens

(Membership Chairman)

859-2987 (Home)

jescas@paonline.com

Greg Wilson

627-0419 (Home)

grgwilson4@aol.com

<u>Month</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Subject</u>
April	Board Meeting	Wed. 4/9-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 4/16-7:00 PM	Quality Inn Oregon Pike	Ed Kraft "Tying The Classics"
May	Board Meeting	Wed. 5/14-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 5/21-7:00 PM	Quality Inn Oregon Pike	Karl Weixlmann "Fly Fishing Steelhead Alley"
June	Board Meeting	Wed. 6/11-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 6/18-6:00 PM	Lititz Run Millport Conservancy	Picnic Dinner Meeting

DTU Membership Corner

Membership Committee

Chairman: Jim Stephens

While I don't have any "new to TU" members to report on this month, we do have two transfers from other TU chapters. **Dick Sullivan** has transferred to DTU from the Doc Fritchey Chapter and **Garry Kauffman** has returned to the Donegal Chapter from Texas. WELCOME! Our total Chapter membership remains at 470.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the DTU members who helped in setting up and running this year's banquet.



Dick Sullivan



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Mayflyer

Trout Summit Review – Wild Trout

by: Ken Undercoffer PA Trout

I am pleased that the PFBC Trout Summit was held. I hope that this is just the beginning of a long dialogue between trout anglers, TU and the PFBC. But ultimately, only the PFBC can make the final judgment as to what is best for the resource.

By its own data the PFBC has shown that stocking seriously degrades wild trout populations and thus the quality of the fishery. This is not new, for there is a mountain of data from outside our Commonwealth showing the same thing.

Excessive harvesting is also a prime contributor to the degradation of our wild trout fishery. So far the answer to this has been for the State to raise and stock millions of trout in order to meet a demand that is far in excess of what the resource can provide, instead of protecting the resource. From the PFBC's own data, it is obvious that more conservative regulations are needed to maintain our wild trout streams at a level that will attract anglers beyond the first few weeks of the season.

It seems to me that the PFBC has placed way too much emphasis on providing trout angling opportunities and way

too little on protecting the resource. The resource will provide the opportunities if only given a chance. To continue a massive stocking campaign in waters perfectly capable of supporting fishable wild trout populations, especially when the data so clearly show the harmful effects of this practice, would be unconscionable.

Of course there are those who will demand that stocking levels be maintained, or even increased. We have been training anglers now for nearly a hundred years that trout fishing is possible only because the State places the quarry in streams for their pleasure. Retraining will not be an easy task! But providing trout angling opportunities by stocking massive numbers of trout in wild trout streams is both economically and environmentally unsustainable. Given the facts, most sportsmen and sportswomen will recognize that change is necessary. And the primary mission of the PFBC should be to gather and disseminate information explaining why these changes are necessary.

The Trout Summit was a good start, but it was only the first step in a long and difficult process.