

Mayflyer

March 2006

V35-12

www.donegaltu.org

The Monthly Publication of



Next
Monthly
Meeting

BACKCASTS

December and January Chapter Meetings

by Dee Lehman

Wednesday
March 15th
7 PM

**Quality Inn
Lancaster**

Program
**“Chasing
Albies”**
by
Bob Wyle

Upcoming
Chapter
Activities

27th Annual
Spring
Banquet &
Auction

Saturday
April 1st
2006
4:30 PM

**Quality Inn &
Suites**
2363 Oregon Pike
Lancaster, PA

It has been a warm winter thus far, so there have been days where fishing can be done. But our meetings are in winter mode. In December, our own Bob Geibe and Ed Kraft demonstrated their fly tying prowess. Bob showed us a beautiful crayfish pattern for trout using swiss straw and a dubbed body. He also tied a weighted deceiver pattern. One of the slick tricks he showed us was how he makes stick on eyes using colored 3M tape on a paint stick and punching them out with a leather punch. Ed Kraft demonstrated a sculpin. He says it is a deadly pattern fished on the bottom in the early morning or evening or under cover. The trick to that pattern is to use an olive zonker strip tail that is clipped for maximum movement. He also demonstrated a parachute style fly showing the steps for getting a nice sturdy post that is key for winding the hackle. He also shared his travails about fishing on Spruce Creek with a barbed hook and George Harvey giving him hell for it! Thanks to both Bob and Ed for a very informative and fun evening!

In January, we were treated to a very funny presentation by Jonas Price, owner of the Feathered Hook B&B and Fly Shop in Coburn, on the banks of Penn's Creek. His presentation, "Five Creeks of Centre County" was extremely enlightening. Although there are 29 trout streams in Centre County, the big 5 are Penn's, Spring, Elk, Pine, and Fishing Creek. There are more miles of 52 degree spring water coming out of Centre County than in the entire state of Montana. That makes for great fishing!

Penn's is a fabulous spring creek that starts bubbling forth from Penn's Cave and runs 65 miles long; the longest spring creek in the state. Terrestrial fishing is excellent but best take your short rod if you fish it above Coburn. The land in

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Lancaster County

the middle section is primarily owned by the Amish and they don't post their land. Junction pool is near the confluence of Elk and Pine Creek and is 60 ft wide there. The cooling effects of the smaller streams help to maintain good fishing here even into the summer. Trophy waters begin below the Junction pool. Penn's has incredible biomass - some 3,000 fish per mile and the Green Drake hatch makes it quite famous. To avoid the crowds, fish the hatch on the cooler tribs after the crowds have gone home. The Grannom caddis hatch is also not to be missed. It can help to cure your blues as it occurs just after tax day!

Pine Creek is a slow moving "chalk stream" with a multitude of insect life, but bring your 7x 8x and even 9x tippet. Both Elk and Pine Creek have nice populations of brook trout. Fishing Creek is about the same size as Spring Creek but has a faster gradient and is about 25 miles long. It has lots of brookies, some 16 inches long! It is one of the few streams where the brown trout have not out-competed the brookies.

Spring Creek is a fabulous fishery, in part due to the no kill regulation which occurred after several PCB spills. The no kill policy has resulted in large healthy fish. There are about 3500 fish per mile in a stream only half the size of Penn's. It is easier to wade than Penn's. While the bug life was affected by the previous spills, there are good populations of scuds, shrimp and other pollution tolerant bug species. So when there is a hatch, the fish feed voraciously!

If you would like to stay at the Feathered Hook or visit the fly shop (or both) you can contact Jonas at www.thefeatheredhook.com or at 814-349-8757 Thanks so much to Jonas for his lively and very informative presentation!



WHAT'S EMERGING!

President's Report:

by Bob Kutz

I want to remind everyone that our normal monthly Chapter Meeting has been moved from Wednesday April 19th to Saturday April 22nd when we will be hosting the PA Trout State Council Meeting. I urge all members to come out and experience the PA State Council meeting. Special note, Dr. Doug Austin, executive director of our fish commission, will speak at our Saturday afternoon session. Please come out to listen to Dr. Austin's comments and ask questions. Also, you do not want to miss Dr. Bob Bachman's comments on the possibility on turning the Lehigh River into the "Bighorn" of the East". More details listed in the newsletter for times of the afternoon meetings.

Mark your calendars for our 27th Annual Spring Banquet fundraising event. Dan Brandt and his committee suggest this will be our best banquet ever because of the variety of new auction prizes offered. There will be a Colorado fishing trip, a chance to ride and drive in a NASCAR at Dover Downs Raceway, and many new guided fishing trips are also offered. Please, everyone, sell your 18 super fundraising tickets. We have great prizes on this year's tickets, and with your help we can beat last year's record in ticket sales. Also, send in your reservation ASAP, as we could sell out the banquet this year.

We will again be stocking Brown Trout in Lititz Run this year. Ted Downs, reports that he wants to put 400 fish in the "Button" area (Millport Conservancy) and 200 in the Art Hess and Ed Hess farm areas of Lititz Run. More information. on times and dates to follow.

Donegal Spring Creek needs our help. Our friends from the Donegal Fish and Conservation Association have identified four "hot spots" that need immediate attention. The board has voted to help

support this effort by donating \$2,000 for the purchase of rock. We will notify you of the work dates. We appreciate your help in keeping our namesake fly fishing water in excellent shape. Also, we received word from Donegal Fish and Conservation that the posted farm, at the head of the fly fishing stretch, will again be open to the public fishing, as of March.

Dee Lehman reported to the board that our Conowingo Stream assessment will be finished in 2 months. The board is anxious to review the final draft and to begin to make plans to address the stream's needs. We have a tremendous opportunity to improve this valuable wild trout stream in southern Lancaster County.

Our conservation committee is currently busy with developing a 5 and 10 year implementation plan for our county's streams. Look for D.T.U. to become heavily involved in stream improvement projects in Lancaster County.

Dan Keller also reported that the Spruce Creek Rod and Gun Club will again welcome 8 fisherman from DTU to visit and fish on their property for a weekend. Stay tuned for dates and cost to follow in a future newsletter.

Donegal Fish and Conservation Association

Kurt Enck of DF&CA advises that the **40th Annual Spring Sports Show and Pork BBQ** (Harvey's BBQ, Marietta) will be held at the **Donegal High School**, Mount Joy on **Saturday March 4th**, from **4 PM till 9 PM**. The speaker will be **Tony Friedrich** and his subject will be "*Kayak Flyfishing on the Chesapeake Bay*".

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COMMITTEE REPORTS



Fundraising Committee

Chairman - Dan Brandt

The 27th Annual DTU Spring Banquet and Auction fundraising event will be held on Saturday April 1st at the Quality Inn. You will all be receiving a banquet newsletter with all the information you'll need to attend. Please follow the instructions and fill out the forms as indicated. Along with your newsletter, you will also receive tickets for our Super Fund Raiser and your very important Registration Form. Please fill this out and send it in as soon as possible.

We have some great new auction items this year, along with some fabulous new prizes! The banquet committee is working very hard to bring in bigger and better items every year. We have lots of gift certificates to great places to eat and some overnight stays in places like **Vermont, New Hampshire, North Carolina and Montana**. We have tons of rods and reels to give away by **Orvis, Sage, Winston, Elk Horn, Temple Fork and Fly Logic**. We have framed and unframed artists proofs, shotguns, and new this year a **black powder rifle**. Plus electronics and tickets to sporting events throughout the year!

All the fun takes place on April 1st (no, this is not an April Fools joke). Yes it will be held on April Fools Day and yes we are going to have some fun with it. The doors open at **4:30 PM** and we should rap it all up by 10:00 PM. Bring your money, your credit cards, and your friends and have a good time.

Here are two of the premium jewelry items featured in the Vocal Auction (courtesy of **Brent L. Miller Jewelers and Goldsmiths** in Chelsea Square, Lancaster)

- Lady's 14 karat white gold-Princess cut - blue topaz and diamond ring – value \$420
- Lady's 14 karat white gold blue topaz and diamond lever-back earrings - (two round blue topazes and twenty round diamonds) - value \$370

The **Montana Fly Fishing Dream Vacation** is also bigger and better than ever. Those of you attending this year's Spring Banquet will be in for a treat. The "Montana Trip", which is always an exciting item to bid on, will be expanded to include an 8 day stay for two at Camp 6X in Fort Smith, Montana. Plus there will be two guided trips on the Bighorn River for 2 people, two days of drift boat rentals with shuttle services, and 2 more guided float trips donated by a Bozeman, Montana Outfitter. The winner will have the opportunity to float

the Madison & Yellowstone Rivers. This is the best "Montana Package" we have ever offered. Find a buddy that would like to go along with you for this Fly Fishing Dream Vacation

Don't miss this entertaining and fun-filled evening. See you there!

March Program

by Bob Wyble



Bob Wyble will present a program on saltwater fly-fishing at the chapter meeting on Wednesday March 15th. The program will feature catching False Albacore

(Albies) at Montauk, Long Island, New York and Harkers Island, North Carolina. Information will be presented on finding fish, technique, rods, reels, lines and flies. Pictures of chapter members in action with plenty of fish will be included in the presentation. If you want to hear about catching 10-15 pound fish that will take you into your backing in seconds don't miss this presentation.

Membership Committee

Chairman - Bill Billett

Our membership for the chapter stands at 566 as of January 10th. For all of our members out there, let's see if we can get those forty new members needed to reach the 600 level by opening day this year. It sure would be a big catch for the chapter if we could reach that goal this year. In fact let's try and get some of those new members to our banquet and show them how the best fundraiser in Lancaster County is run, to say nothing of what they could go home with for the upcoming season.

Do You Own A Business?

Consider advertising in the Mayflyer!

Our newsletter reaches 600 chapter members in the area. If you own a business how about advertising in the newsletter? You'll reach members who share the same passion that you do for fishing and the environment. Cost of the ad is \$150/year for a business card size ad. Contact Gary Roulston at 717-560-7723 or groulston@comcast.net.

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Fly Of The Month

“Bead Head/Rubber Legged Thing”

Submitted by Gene Texter
from www.flyfisherman.com



Description

Imitates a vast number of bugs, especially small black stone flies. Easy to tie. It's a variation of the Herl Nymph. It was first tied in Great Falls, Mt for a small stream near my house. I found out it worked on virtually every stream I fished including the Blackfoot and some small streams in Yellowstone. It also works here in the Cheyenne Area.

Recipe:

HOOK: Eagle Claw LO52FS #10 - 16

BEAD: gold bead

THREAD: Black 6/0

TAIL: Black rubber legs, divided

RIB: gold wire, reverse wrapped

BODY: Peacock herl

THORAX: black ostrich herl

LEGS: Black rubber legs

Tying Instructions

Insert appropriate sized bead head. Tie in the black rubber legs at the rear of the fly and divide. Tie in the gold wire. Tie in 2 - 5 pieces of peacock herl (2 for size 14 - 16, 3 - 5 for size 10 - 14) and twist into a herl rope. Move the thread forward to thorax position. Wrap the herl rope up to the waiting thread and tie off. Wrap the gold wire - reverse the direction of the wrapped herl and tie off. Tie in another piece of black rubber using figure 8 wraps. The piece should extend equally down the sides and slightly out from the fly. Tie in the black ostrich and move the thread to behind the bead. Wrap the ostrich herl to the bead and tie off. Whip finish.

PA Trout State Council - Spring Member and Council Meeting *by Bob Wyble*

Donegal Trout Unlimited is honored to host the **PA Trout Spring Member/Council meeting** on **April 22-23**, and is pleased to announce that **Sam Talarico** will be the keynote speaker Saturday evening, April 22. The meeting will be held at the Quality Inn & Suites located on the Oregon Pike (Rt. 272) north of Lancaster.

We have a great weekend planned for the state meeting. While the executive committee of state council meets on Saturday morning, tours will be available to Lititz Run and Donegal Creek to observe work completed on stream restoration. Saturday evening, guides will be available from 4:30 until dark for fishing on Lititz Run and Donegal Creek.

After lunch we have a good line up of speakers as follows: **Mark Gutshall** (Landstudies Inc.) will speak on the impacts of legacy sediments as it relates to flood plain restoration. **Gil Hirschel** (Susquehanna River Basin Commission) will talk about restoration of migratory fish in the Susquehanna River. And **Dr. Bob Bachman** will discuss the possibilities of the Lehigh River becoming a tail water fishery possibly equal to the Big Horn in Montana. See program below for details.

You will not want to miss the presentation by **Sam Talarico** on **Saturday** night. His passion for photography started at Woodstock in 1969. Since then he has taught himself the skills to capture many wonderful images on film. He has kept up with the new technology that makes it possible to get great results with controlled light in remote areas, in action shots, and in unusual marine life macro photos. He works as a freelance photographer. His assignments have taken him to many exotic locations around the world. His work has been published in books, magazines, calendars, and travel and sports equipment brochures including *Grays Sporting Journal*, *Men's Journal*, *Outdoor Life*, *The New York Times*, *National Geographic Adventure*, *Fly fishing Salt Waters*, *Salt Water Sportsman*, *Sport Fishing Magazine*, among others. He has currently done assignments for **President George Bush Sr.**, *The National Conservation Fund*, *Columbia Sportswear*, *The Orvis Co.*, *ESPN's Walkers Cay Chronicles*, *Fly Fishing Salt Waters*. His photographs have also been used for advertising for *LL Bean*, *Sage*, *Scott Rod Co.* *Scientific anglers*, *Rocky Boot Co*, *Patagonia*, and *Costa Del Mar*, *Winston Rod Co.* to name a few. He has an extensive photo library on saltwater fishing in Australia and fly fishing in the northeast for Stripers and Albacore.

His passion for Fly fishing and traveling to primitive and unspoiled places has gotten him involved in exploratory fishing in some wild places. The combination of fly fishing and being a photographer has added infinite pleasure to his life. " I consider myself a photographer who loves to fish. When the fishing gets hot, I have no trouble putting down my rod and start shooting. The joy comes with freezing those great moments in time and sharing them with others," he says. His main interest in photography is to capture the spirit and life and soul of the people and places he sees. His main interest in life is to enjoy every second of it. Sam honestly feels the people you meet during your life forges your character. The friends you make along the way are the spice of life. He also craves hot peppers and travels with his own hot sauces and wine.

According to Sam, one of the most important events in his evolution as a fly fisherman and photographer was when he met **Lefty Kreh**. "He has shared so much with me that I consider him my mentor. It has been a joy to know him."

Photos taken by Sam may be viewed on his website <http://www.talaricophotography.com/fishing.html>

(Continued on page ii)

PA Trout State Council - Spring Member and Council Meeting

(Continued from page i)

Program

Fri April 21st (after 3:00PM)

- Motel check in
- Dinner on your own

Sat April 22nd

7:30 – 9:00 Continental Breakfast (persons with motel reservations)

9:00 – 12:00 Executive Committee meeting

Tour of Lititz Run

Tour of Donegal Creek

Other activities to be planned

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch on your own

1:00 – 2:00 **Flood Plain Restoration - The Impact of Legacy Sediments**

by Mark Gutshall (Land Studies Inc.)

2:00 – 2:15 Break

2:15 – 3:15 **Restoration of Migratory Fish in the Susquehanna River**

by Gil Hirschel (Susquehanna River Basin Commission)

3:15 – 3:30 Break

3:30 – 4:30 **Lehigh River Tail Water Fishery**

by Bob Bachman

4:30 – 8:00

- Dinner on your own
- Fishing Lititz Run
- Fishing Donegal Creek

8:30 – 10:00 **The Adventures and Misadventures of a Fly Fishing Photographer**

“A presentation of photos and stories of wild and crazy things I witnessed and took part in during my travels around the world as a photographer.”

by Sam Talarico <http://www.talaricophotography.com/fishing.html>

Sun April 23rd

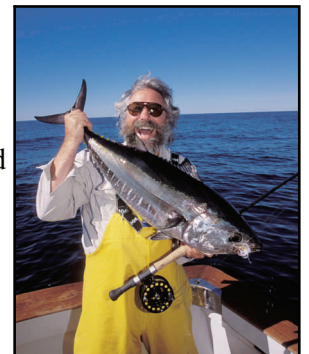
7:30 – 9:00 Continental Breakfast (persons with Motel reservation)

9:00 – 10:30 Members Meeting

11:30 – 12:30 Luncheon (pay \$12.00 before lunch)

12:30 – 1:00 Raffle

1:00 Adjourn



Directions to Quality Inn & Suites

- Rt. 283 East from Harrisburg to Lancaster. Follow signs to Oregon Pike (Rt. 272)
- Oregon Pike (Rt. 272) north approx 3 miles. Look for Universal Fitness Center on the right.
- Quality Inn & Suites is just past Universal Fitness Center on the right.

Reservation Information

- Rooms are available at a rate of \$85 plus tax by calling 717-569-0477. (Note: that rooms may be reserved at a discounted rate of \$75.00 plus tax if reserved before March 31st.)
- Contact Deb Nardone by April 14th to RSVP for the Sunday luncheon at: 814-359-5233 or dnardone@coldwaterheritage.org



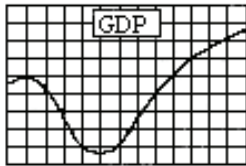
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Thank you, DTU,
for your continued
support and volunteers!

WHAT'S NEW AT:

Lancaster County Conservation District

by Matthew W. Kofroth

Spring is right around the corner and that means watershed projects abound throughout the county. We are blessed with great watershed organizations in the county and their events lists for this coming year are for all ages. Make an effort to participate in these events or some other volunteer activity this year.

- Saturday March 4th the Donegal Fish & Conservation Association will hold its annual Spring Sports Show at Donegal High School from 4-8 PM. Vendors and demonstrations will take place throughout the evening. This year the group will also be serving dinner for a small price. If you like hunting and fishing shows this unique local event is one you don't want to miss.
- Tuesday March 7th the Lancaster County Conservancy will be holding a public meeting at Camp Andrews in Drumore Township on their recently completed Fishing Creek Watershed Assessment (7 PM). Anyone who has every visited the Fishing Cr. Watershed knows it is a hidden gem of Lancaster County. The Assessment which was done by Rettew Associates looked at many aspects of the watershed from wildlife, fish, land use, wetlands, and water quality. Check it out!
- Saturday March 18th the Lititz Run Watershed Alliance will be holding its annual Spring Cleanup event from 8-11 AM. Participants in the event will be divided up throughout the Lititz Run and Hammer Cr. Watersheds to conduct cleanup activities, plant trees, and remove invasive plant species. The event brings young and old out to protect and enhance their community. If you are free that date and want to help contact Warwick Township.
- Wednesday March 29th at 7 PM Dr. Douglas Austin, Director of the PA Fish & Boat Commission, will be speaking at Masonic Village in Elizabethtown. Dr. Austin will be the featured guest speaker for the Tri-County Conewago Creek Association and the Conoy Creek Watershed Association. Both organizations invited Dr. Austin to talk about the Commission and their role with

grassroots watershed groups throughout the state. Dr. Austin will also talk about other issues and will field questions as time permits. This is a great opportunity to learn about the PAFBC and also find out what some of the Northwestern watershed organization are doing.

- Saturday April 8th at Millersville University their will be an Environmental/Watershed Conference offered by the University. Speakers will discuss issues like groundwater recharge, agricultural issues, Lancaster County Planning challenges, and many other topics. If you are concerned about Lancaster County and conservation this is the place for you.
- Saturday April 29th the Donegal Fish & Conservation Association will be holding its annual Kids Fishing Derby from 8-11 AM at the Donegal Presbyterian Church. Kids of all ages will have the opportunity to try and catch the "Big One." Adults and children have a great time at this annual event so check it out.

2006 Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp by Glen Nephin

Once again this year Donegal TU will be sponsoring two students for attendance at the PA Trout award winning Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Camp. It will be held Sunday through Friday June 18th -23rd, 2006 at the Allenberry Resort Inn on the Yellow Breeches in Boiling Springs, PA. Donegal TU will pay the \$275 tuition for the two selected students

The Camp is coed. The students are provided lodging and three meals a day starting with supper on Sunday. Evening snacks are also provided. A typical day's activities begin on the stream at daylight with rod and tackle for fishing and personal instruction. Classroom work begins at 7:45 AM. Afternoons are filled with habitat repair work on local streams. After dinner it is fishing until dark

It is an exciting opportunity to learn from some of the best instructors we have to offer. The camp is open to youths age 13-17. For an application contact Glen Nephin at 717-626-7593 or gnephin@ptd.net. Applications must be received by March 8th. An essay is required on why the student wants to attend the camp.

3 Month Chapter Planner

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<u>Month</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Subject</u>
March	Board Meeting	Wed. 3/8-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 3/15-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	“Chasing Albies - Montauk to Harker’s Island” by Bob Wyble
	Lititz Run Cleanup Day	Sat 3/18 - 8:00 AM	Millport Conservancy	Annual Stream Cleanup
April	27th Annual Spring Banquet	Sat. 4/1-4:30 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	Fun, Food, & Fundraising!
	Board Meeting	Wed. 4/12-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Sat. 4/22-8:30 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	“Fly Fishing Around The World” by Sam Talarico
	Big Brothers Big Sisters Fishing Derby	Fri. 4/28-6:00 PM	Spring Trout Fish Farm, New Holland	Trout Fishing with Kids
May	Board Meeting	Wed. 5/10-7:00 PM	Millport Conservancy	Normal Meeting
	Chapter Meeting	Wed. 5/17-7:00 PM	Quality Inn & Suites	“Valley Creek Watershed and Wild Trout” by Tom Prusak

Oregon Coast Coho Stripped of ESA Protections

(Continued from page 8)

new logging, but also potentially through grazing, irrigation and other habitat loss. Approximately 7 million acres of Oregon Coast Coho habitat could come into play as a result of today’s decision. Importantly, fishing regulations are not likely to change for the Coho, with wild fish still required to be released when caught.

Notably, similar habitat conditions and fisheries management as recently as the 1980s led to the extinction of two significant populations of Northwest Coho. The entire population of Snake River Coho went extinct in 1985, and a major segment of Coho in the Columbia Basin between the Deschutes and Walla Walla rivers went extinct in the 1960s. Those fish are gone,” said TU Pacific Salmon Director Jeff Curtis. “If they leave behind any lesson it should be to avoid making the same mistakes that wiped them out again, but it appears we’re headed that way on the Oregon Coast.”

Today’s decision comes after a long, embroiled legal and political process over the status of Oregon Coast Coho. A successful 2001 lawsuit challenging the listing of wild Oregon Coast Coho due to the way NOAA Fisheries treated hatchery fish in the listing eventually led to the suspension of the listing in 2003. Today’s decision is based largely on a controversial review of Oregon Coast Coho conducted entirely by state agencies that concluded that Oregon Coast Coho were “viable.” Despite a June 2004 proposal from NOAA Fisheries to list Oregon Coast Coho as “Threatened,” the agency later opted to rely on Oregon’s analysis to conclude the Coho no longer need federal protection. A March, 2005 memo from NOAA’s Fisheries’ Science Center to the State of Oregon shows the final decision may have been based on something less than scientific consensus within the agency: “. . . the (State’s) report has some important limitations, and the reviewers had concerns about many of the data, methods and conclusions. Although we have not attempted to formally re-evaluate the ESA risk of Oregon Coast (OC) evolutionarily significant unit (ESU) Coho, many of the concerns discussed below raise questions about the confidence one can have in the report’s major conclusion – that the Oregon Coast Coho are not threatened with extinction.”



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Oregon Coast Coho Stripped of ESA Protections Despite Long, Steady Slide Toward Extinction

(Portland, OR - 1/17/06) More than four years after a controversial court opinion sent the Oregon Coast Coho Salmon's future into a whirlwind of political controversy and public confusion, the federal agency in charge today announced its decision to formally remove the fish from Endangered Species Act protection. The decision befuddled conservation groups, fish scientists and anglers who have watched Oregon Coast Coho's steady decline over decades. The Coho had seen a modest up-tick in numbers since being ESA-listed in 1998, but are projected to have more tough times ahead this year and appear to need protection now more than ever.

"The question people need to be asking federal managers is 'Why Oregon Coast Coho, and why now?'" said Kaitlin Lovell, Salmon Policy Coordinator for Trout Unlimited. "We've got a population of fish literally on life support but only now showing signs of a pulse, so we pull the plug and declare it recovered? It makes absolutely no sense."

Oregon Coast Coho have dropped from around 1.5 million adults returning to spawn in the early 1900s to critical lows around 20,000 in the 1990s. Over the decade from 1994-2004, Coho averaged only 95,000 fish - less than 10 percent of their historic numbers. Habitat protections, harvest restrictions and other protections may have prevented further declines in Coho since ESA-listing 1998, but scientists believe the rebound may be largely the result of better ocean conditions.

Regardless, fisheries experts say the modest upswing is only a very early step in anything resembling recovery, and removing the protections that precipitated it will quickly erase any progress and send the Coho back on its way to extinction. The Pacific Fisheries Management Council projects last year's run to drop by at least 25 percent this year. Many scientists, including many within NOAA, have been reticent to declare victory over such a relatively minor up-tick, and have cautioned such thinking could be dangerous for the fish.

"We are not certain what will be the full biological implications for Pacific Salmon production over the next few years, but we are relatively confident that for some, such as Oregon Coast Coho the negative effects could be dramatic," NOAA scientists warned in a 2005 memo to NOAA Fisheries Regional Director Bob Lohn. "The various indicators developed by the (NOAA Fisheries Science) Center scientists suggest that recent ocean conditions will result in low returns of Oregon Coast and Columbia River Salmon for this year and possibly for the next few years."

Coho are among the hardest hit fish by stream degradation and habitat loss brought about by logging, as they spawn in smaller coastal streams in timbered terrain. Today's decision opens the door for potentially unbridled harm to the precarious wild stocks through

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