What’s Emerging!

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

DONEGAL TROUT UNLIMITED

AWARDS

It seems that good news comes in two’s. As Wayne Boggs mentioned, we won National T/U’s award for chapter website. This is a real tribute to Wayne and his professionalism. Over the past year Wayne has solicited input for improvements to our website. His follow-through on the improvements has resulted in this award. We thank Wayne for his time and efforts.

DTU WINS PA T/U COUNCIL AWARD FOR BEST CHAPTER PROJECT

At the annual fall meeting of PA Trout Unlimited in September we were presented with the Best Chapter Project Award.

Many thanks to Bob Bachman who thought of the project and to Bob Wyble for executing on it and writing up the nomination.

The project was to take 1500 fingerling brown trout and put them in Lititz Run on the Banta property which is on the north side of Rothsville Road. The plan was to leave them exist in the stream without feeding or further intervention. After two years we would do a shocking to determine the survival rate and see if there was any natural reproduction.

To identify the stocked fish we needed to cut off the adipose fin of each fingerling. So on September 7th of last year the fish arrived. So did 25 volunteers with scissors. We thought the project would take two days to complete. With a little dose of clove oil the fish calmed down and we finished in a little over two hours.

One of the things that struck us that day was that within a half hour of being stocked in the stream the fingerlings were taking insects off the top of the water.

In May of this year, there was a shocking by Matt Kofroth of the Lancaster County Conservancy. Three hundred-yard sections were shocked. In two of those sections 9” to 10” fish were found with the adipose fin clipped off.

Now we know some of the fish survived. Some undoubtedly either migrated down-stream or were caught by predators.

We will do a more extensive shocking next September to determine both the survival rate of the original fish but also to find if we have any natural reproduction.

Thanks to all who helped on this project.

BOARD CHANGES

Several years ago the board installed term limits for board members to ensure that we had fresh people and ideas on the board. This October four members are leaving the board. They are Dr. Joseph Beseker, Bill Billett, Dan Brandt, and Greg Wilson.

We want to thank them for their many years of service to Donegal Trout Unlimited. Without their dedication and persistence we

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The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) is inviting public comment on adding naturally reproducing eastern brook trout to the State Wildlife Action Plan, the document that prescribes conservation measures for species and their critical habitat before they become more rare and more costly to protect and restore.

The brook trout’s historic range and abundance has been considerably reduced throughout the east coast, including Pennsylvania. Habitat and water quality degradation caused by urbanization, acid mine drainage, acid deposition, and poor land use practices have contributed to the decline. The addition of the species to Pennsylvania’s State Wildlife Action Plan, if approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, would highlight the status of the Commonwealth’s state fish. But it’s more than a symbolic move. Including brook trout in the state’s Wildlife Action Plan would provide the Commission with more flexibility to fund, or receive funding for, projects that benefit the species.

The native range of the eastern brook trout extends along the Appalachians from Georgia to Maine and encompasses 17 states. Of these states, 12 currently include the eastern brook trout in their Wildlife Action Plans. The need for special attention to wild brook trout was documented by Pennsylvania and others as part of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV), a regional project of the National Fish Habitat Initiative. In a 2006 report, the EBTJV noted that brook trout populations have been eliminated or greatly reduced throughout more than 70% of their historical habitat in Pennsylvania. These results reflect the condition of brook trout across their entire Eastern range, according to the assessment.

“Based on stream surveys by the PFBC conducted since 1976, wild brook trout populations have been documented in 1,524 stream sections covering a total of 5,044 miles of streams. Although this is a considerable wild brook trout resource, much of this resource is fragmented and primarily exists in first and second order headwater streams,” said PFBC Executive Director Doug Austen. “Adding wild brook trout to Pennsylvania’s Wildlife Action Plan is a logical step in conserving and enhancing our state fish.”

The Fish and Boat Commission is specifically recommending that eastern brook trout be added to the Action Plan at "Conservation Tier 5 - Maintenance Concern Level." Conservation Tier 5 contains species that are considered relatively abundant and fairly secure in Pennsylvania, but have undergone declines.

In September 2005, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and the Pennsylvania Game Commission submitted the Wildlife Action Plan to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This Wildlife Action Plan was required from each state and U.S. Territory in order to continue to receive funds under the State Wildlife Grants Program. Since 2001, Pennsylvania has received over $13.8 million with an annual appropriation of nearly $2 million. This funding is shared equally between the Fish and Boat Commission and the Pennsylvania Game Commission. The intent of the Wildlife Action Plan is to manage proactively, not reactively, in order to keep “common species common.”

Pennsylvania’s Wildlife Action Plan can be downloaded from the Commission website at www.fishandboat.com [located on our State Wildlife Grant program page]. The proposed brook trout plan amendment is also posted online, as is a form that allows the public to comment on the proposal. Public comment will also be accepted in writing through 4:00 PM, August 3, 2007. Direct mail to: Brook Trout/WAP/Public Comments, c/o Dave Day, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000.
DTU is very proud of our web site and apparently others like it as well. We have received National Trout Unlimited’s “Best Web Site” award for 2007. The award was presented at the National TU Convention in Boise, Idaho on Friday September 14. Last year we were very pleased to receive PA Trout Unlimited’s “Best Web Site Award”.

Our site contains a wealth of information including old copies of the Mayflyer, a photo gallery, projects currently being worked on, information about TU, history of Donegal TU, links to our many sponsors, chapter meeting information, and much more. And if you turn up your volume you can even hear the water flowing on the home page. Some changes have been added lately to our site, so if you haven’t surfed DTU at DonegalTU.org recently, take some time to see to what all the awards are about.

WAYNE BOGGS

PROGRAMS

October 17, 2007 at 6:00 PM
Oktoberfest — Four Seasons Golf Club in Landisville
Topic - “Reflections” – 50 Years of Fly Fishing!
Presenter - Frank Plucinsky, Retired Physician

Several years ago Frank presented another program called “Reflections” at our TU Banquet and it was very well received. He has since been busy developing another presentation in his Reflection series. “Reflections of an Old Fisherman” will follow an old fly fisherman, whatever that is, as he reflects on 50+ years of trout fishing. The presentation starts in the Herter’s BC (Before Cabela’s) age and flows through many streams on its way to the internet age. It is an often humorous trip with superb photos that focus on fly fishing for trout. Join us and watch 50 years of fly fishing fly by.

November 21, 2007 at 7:00 PM
Quality Inn, 2363 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, PA
Topic - “Global Warming: The Forecast for PA Wildlife and Trout”
Presenter - Ed Perry, National Wildlife Federation - Global Warming Specialist

Ed is an aquatic biologist who retired in 2002 after a 30-year career with the US Fish and Wildlife Service where he supervised the section responsible for wetland and stream protection. In 2007 he took a position with the National Wildlife Federation to work on the issue of global warming. He also serves on PA Trout’s Environmental Committee.

“Those of us who fish and hunt have seen evidence our climate is changing and I am very concerned about the future of fish and wildlife resources if the warming continues. I have worked with NWF to develop a presentation that discusses the science behind global warming, the impacts on fish and wildlife resources, and what we can individually and collectively do to reduce the impacts. Sportsmen have been the leaders in resolving major environmental issues and it will be no different on this one.” Ed Perry, April 2007

If you like what you hear from Ed, you can also become a speaker for NWF on Global Warming.
For more info: www.targetglobalwarming.org

RUSS GUTHRIE

Barbless is Good

At least two DTU members can relate stories of being hoisted on their own petard, or at least impaled by their own hooks this summer, as these photos attest. Removal from either a fish or a fisherman is far easier if the hook was barbless. Simply loop a length of strong tippet or line around the hook’s bend, and while pressing the eye of the hook down, give a quick yank on the line. Not “ouchless”, but less painful than pushing the hook all the way through to cut the point & barb off.
Mayflyer Contributors

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James Kuhn, C.H.A.A.
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Thank you, DTU, for your continued support and volunteers!

Lynn W. Myers, Executive Director
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It has been a great summer for volunteer watershed projects and this Fall looks to continue these efforts. If you have a free Saturday morning, Fall is one of the best times to get out and volunteer a little “sweat equity” into one of our Lancaster County streams. It not only improves water quality but also fisheries aspects are improved as well.

**FRIENDS OF FISHING CREEK**

Congratulations to the Friends of Fishing Creek watershed organization for the completion of their first stream restoration project. With a cash donation from Donegal Trout Unlimited and materials donated by local businesses the group was able to complete a stream project on the Lefever Farm in Drumore Twp., just west of Buck. Volunteers donated their muscle and skills to implement the project which involved rock placement, deflector installation, and streambank seeding and matting. Volunteers worked on two Saturdays in August to complete the project and the results speak for themselves. Future plans call for signage at the project to inform motorists about the project.

**COLUMBIA BOROUGH WATERSHED GROUP**

If you are in the Columbia area on Saturday October 13th check out the Shawnee Run Stream Cleanup Event being sponsored by the Columbia Borough Watershed Group. Folks will gather at Musser’s Market around 8 AM and head out to cleanup up the banks of this tributary stream that cuts through the Borough. Work will continue until around Noon, or until tired backs give out. This should be a great Fall event for all ages.

**TRI-COUNTY CONEWAGO CREEK ASSOCIATION**

Another great family event is the biannual Conewago Creek Fall Water Monitoring Study on Saturday October 6th. Volunteers from the Tri-County Conewago Creek Association will gather at the Mill Rd. Elementary School in Elizabethtown around 9 AM. From there the group will divide up and monitor 6 locations along the Conewago Creek and its tributaries. No prior experience is needed because trained volunteers will be there to assist. Chemical parameters and biological parameters like aquatic insects will be studied at each location to determine an overall water quality score for each site. This is always a great event for all involved.

**5TH ANNUAL LANCASTER/LEBANON COUNTY WATERSHED FORUM**

On Saturday October 27th from 9 AM-Noon the Lancaster and Lebanon County Conservation District’s will once again be holding their Annual Watershed Forum Event. This event brings watershed volunteers, municipalities, educators, concerned citizens, and others together to share ideas and listen to some great speakers. The Forum is a FREE event but registration is required. Participants attending this year’s event will get a free hot breakfast, chance to browse several organizations’ display booths, pick up countless informational reading items, chance to win numerous door prizes, and hear talks on global warming’s impact on fish and wildlife, permeable pavements and rain gardens, wildlife around Central PA watersheds, and take a closer look at some aquatic insects in a unique way. For more information or to register for the Forum check out the Lancaster County Watershed Website, www.lancasterwatersheds.org.

**MATT KOFROTH**
### 3 Month Chapter Planner

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<td>Quality Inn &amp; Suites</td>
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### Thanks, DTU

August 20th, 2007

Dear Members of DTU,

I would like to thank you for sponsoring me to attend the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp this summer. It was different than I expected. The lessons were all intriguing and informative. I came out of the camp with a wealth of knowledge and a new respect for the need to have water conservation. All the counselors, lecturers, and ghillies were all very helpful. If we needed anything or had any questions they would assist us in the best way possible. It was obvious they all share an interest in coldwater conservation and educating the youth of America about the need for conservation.

The week was very full and there wasn’t much spare time. Quite a few of the speakers from the camp were very entertaining yet informative. The stream restoration project we did was fun and much needed after seeing how much the bank had eroded in the area we were repairing. My favorite part of the camp were the lectures on insects and when we went into the stream and kicked up some dirt and rocks to see what creatures were in the stream.

I really enjoyed my time there. I met some new friends and came home with a great deal of new materials and resources. I just wanted to say thanks for providing me with such a great opportunity that I will remember for the rest of my life. And as a new member of DTU I hope to be able to help out at a stream project or other type of occasion to give back to the program in the near future.

Sincerely

Emily Bennett

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### New At Evening Rise

We have some great new fly tying classes that start in December and continue through February.

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Emily Bennett
would not be the strong organization we are today.

At the Oktoberfest we will be electing new board members and new positions with the board.

The nominations are Bob Albright - Fundraising Chair, Faye Haering - Volunteer Chair, Bob Kutz - Conservation Chair, Mark McMaster - Newsletter Editor, and Tom Royer - Member-at-large.

We do have one at-large position open.

**BILL HARRIS**

Bill Harris passed away on August 29th. Bill was a long time member and ardent supporter of Donegal Trout Unlimited. Bill’s family was kind enough to ask that donations in his name be sent to Donegal Trout Unlimited. Bill was a true gentleman and we will miss him.

**SEASONS**

It's hard to believe that summer is gone. Even worse almost all the tomatoes are gone also. Fall brings us the Oktoberfest on October 17th. Fishing in fall is my favorite time of year. The weather is great and the crowds are down – unless you’re on the Lake Erie tribs on a weekend.

Steelhead are running on the tribs. I just got into this several years ago and have to admit it is addicting. But what part of fishing isn’t?

One the best bets for late season and winter trout fishing is the Little Lehigh in Allentown. If you have not fished this it is worth the hour and half drive. It is no-wade, catch and release, fly only in the park off Cedar Crest Road.

Spring Creek in Center County is also a good bet year round except on Penn State home weekends.

We’ve got some nice programs coming up in the Fall and Winter. I hope to see you at our meetings.

**GLENN NEPHIN**