



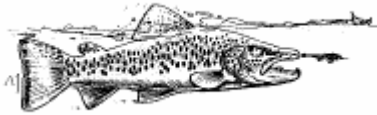
OPTU NEWS



VOLUME 15 ISSUE 7

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited Chapter
(TU Chapter 531) www.optu.org
TO CONSERVE, PROTECT, AND RESTORE NORTH AMERICA'S
COLDWATER FISHERIES AND THEIR WATERSHEDS

JULY 2007



President's Message

Greetings Fellow TUers:

I have some bad news to report; Whirling disease has hit Arizona. It was recently discovered during some testing at Lee's Ferry. Ty Gray of Arizona Game and Fish called me direct to let Trout Unlimited in Arizona be one of the first to know. Ty has recently filled the position of Chief of Fisheries. Larry Riley has been reassigned. Here is a quote from the AZGFD website "Laboratory results for trout routinely sampled at Lees Ferry by Arizona Game and Fish Department biologists this spring came back positive for whirling disease on Wednesday, June 13, marking the first time this disease has been documented in wild fish in Arizona public waters. Whirling disease is a parasitic infection of trout. It gets its name because the parasite infiltrates the head and spinal cartilage of small fingerling trout and can cause the fish to swim erratically (whirl)." Please take all precautions to prevent the spread of whirling disease:

- Never transport live fish from one water body to another (this is illegal in Arizona).
- Dispose of fish entrails and skeletal parts properly. Never discard fish parts in or near streams or rivers. Do not discard fish parts in a kitchen disposal. Whirling disease spores can survive most wastewater treatment systems. Instead, discard in dry waste that would go to a landfill.
- Rinse all mud and debris from equipment and wading gear, and drain water from boats before leaving an infected drainage. This is good practice for preventing transfer of other aquatic hitchhikers as well.

No wild trout in Arizona have ever been documented to have whirling disease until now, although we now join all the other western states that are contending with this disease," Gray says. For more information please visit http://www.whirling-disease.org/files/wd_prevention.pdf

In other news, there will not be a regular meeting in July due to the Fourth of July; go fishing and please remember the troops who are serving our great nation.

We will be starting a new project this fall called Trout in the Classroom. The AZ Council of Trout Unlimited is getting things rolling along with OPTU member Joe Fagan. We will be working with the Sahaurita School system. The plan is to raise Rainbow Trout eggs in an aquarium and eventually release them in Rose Canyon Lake. We are still in the planning stages and if anyone would like to be involved please let me or Joe know. Eventually we would like to work with the Native trout - Apache and Gila, and release them back to their historic waters.

Please keep your eyes open for the upcoming Trout magazine and TU annual report as it is rumored to have articles about our work with Apache and Gila Trout. Also, this month's Arizona Highways has a nice piece on fishing holes in Arizona with much mention on Apache Trout. You through OPTU have largely been responsible for the good Apache Trout fishing...Thanks to all that have volunteered their time and sweat.

Please get out there and get involved. Keep your eye on our website for upcoming workdays (you didn't think I'd let the year go by without some workdays, did ya?) With Trout in the Classroom you won't have to travel far. I recently spoke with a AZGFD official who said we might have some close by Apache Trout projects coming up also. I'm off to the White Mountains for work next week. I plan to download some temperature units while up there. Then I'm off to Mexico to do some much needed saltwater Flyfishing. Then it's back to Chicago (for work training) for two weeks. I plan to try some of the Wisconsin Spring Creeks on the weekend I'm there. It's tough but somebody has to do it. In August I'll be heading to Hawaii to visit my son, his wife and my beautiful granddaughter. I will also be taking my 8wt to see just how many bonefish are really there.

I hope you are all having a healthy wonderful summer...see you in August at the regular meeting.

Fish to Live and Live to Fish,
Jeff Collins
President/Conservation Officer

Old Pueblo Chapter of Trout Unlimited (OPTU)

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OPTU

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Royal Coachman

LIE & TIE

7 p.m. on July 18th at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254. Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information. If any one has special flies they would like to have tied at Lie and Tie please contact John Kuebler at 885-5652 and he will do his best to accommodate your request

GUEST SPEAKER

Fourth of July – NO MEETING. Go fishing and watch some fireworks.



OPTU's Save the Natives – Apache Trout

TU Bring Back the Natives Contacts

Amy Harrig, TU-BLM BBN Coordinator (303) 440-2937

e-mail: aharrig@tu.org

Fred Rasmussen Regional Vice President for the Southern

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Paul Dremann, Utah Council V.P. for Conservation

Bonneville Cutthroat Trout (Utah/Nevada) (801) 467-3862

e-mail: pdremann@xmission.com

Jamie Hunter, So. California TU Council Representative

Little Kern River & Volcanic Golden/Paiute Cutthroat (CA)

(949) 493-2298

Mike Norte, Rio Grande Chapter– *Rio Grande Cutthroat/ Gila*

Trout (NM/CO) (505)844-0935 e-mail: norte@earthlink.net

Jim Lynch, Old Pueblo Chapter – *Apache Trout (Arizona)*

(520) 742-7708

The Old Pueblo Chapter of Trout Unlimited publishes OPTU News monthly.





CONSERVATION

Grassroots Activist Network

At the center of TU's efforts to raise the profile of coldwater conservation is the **Grassroots Activist Network** – TU members who have volunteered to contact their members of Congress, Governors, members of state legislatures and natural resource agencies on issues of importance to trout and salmon. Grassroots Activists receive brief summaries or *Action Alerts* of issues pending before government decision-makers that could harm or help coldwater fisheries, and guidance on how to be an effective voice for trout and salmon.

As we work to protect fish and their waters, we need your support and involvement to carry the conservationist message. To join the Grassroots Activist Network, please send an email containing your mailing address to grassrootsactivist@tu.org

Volunteering – AZ Game & Fish Sport Fishing Program

Email Titus Piper (fishedaz@earthlink.net) with your name, address and zip code to receive a volunteer packet from Game and Fish. For members without email call 622-9597. After completing the packet, go to G&F to get fingerprinted, then send the packet to Phoenix. After a background check you will receive a calendar of events.

Arizona TU

In April, I (Brad Powell) began working with Trout Unlimited (TU) in Arizona. My priorities are to help sportsmen become involved in the Federal land Management planning processes and to build the capacity of TU in Arizona. My background prior to working with TU was with the US Forest Service for over 30 years. I worked in a variety of positions including District Ranger, National Monument Manager, Forest Supervisor and Regional Forester.

These are very busy time in Federal Land management planning in Arizona. All of the National Forests are completing a Travel management plan and within the next few years a Land Management plan will be created. These Travel Management plans are of particular interest. The plans that are created will govern where vehicular travel will occur, what roads and trails will be open and which ones will be closed. In addition these plans will determine where dispersed camping, game retrieval, Off Highway vehicle travel will be allowed. I will be working to build a coalition of sportsmen on each National forest to insure that our interests are represented in these discussions. I would welcome the opportunity to provide information to any of you that are interested in

this process. The Travel management planning meeting for the Coronado will occur in Tucson on the 30th of May.

On the legislative front, HB 2443 has passed the House and is nearing passage in the Senate after a tortuous path. This bill requires the registration of Off Highways Vehicles (OHV) and the utilization of the licensing fees to educate, enforce, rehabilitate and develop OHV use in the state. I have been very active in working with others sportsmen and conservation groups in supporting this Bill. The Bill has a few flaws but is a great start.

I look forward in meeting many of you and working actively with the Chapter. I can be reached at 928- 300-5451, or bpowell@tu.org.



The Apache Trout Grill in Traverse City, Michigan. The owner named it to honor the success story of the Apache Trout from the first fish on the Endangered Species Act list to presently being considered to delisting. The owner is a big fly fisherman and the restaurant fabulous. JC

MISCELLANY

Sharing Your Fishing with OPTU Members

Would you be willing to provide a fishing slideshow and discussion at an upcoming OPTU meeting? We are always looking for speakers who have power point or slides and stories to tell. *We have the equipment for showing.* If interested please contact John Murphy at murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu to set up a month.

A BARGAIN! - If you are over 70, and have lived in Arizona for 25 years you can get a Pioneer Fishing License - free for lifetime! Go to the Game & Fish office at 555 N Greasewood Road. Their phone is 628-5376. *Clay Evitts*

Photos

Send in photos to the editor if you would like them in the newsletter - preferably by e-mail. This is important if you tire of seeing the editor's family, friends and pets featured.

Upcoming Speakers

July – No meeting

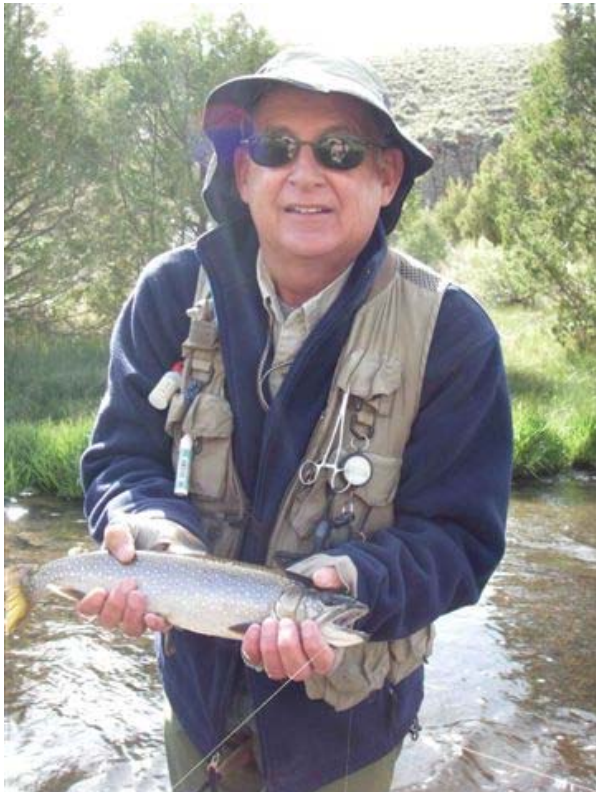
August – John Murphy – Christmas Island (with a little help - he hopes - from Whitey, Neil, and Sandy)

Upcoming Fishing Trips

OPTU plans on the following trips in **2007**: Annual Family Outing, Fall Retirees Trip, and based upon interest one additional trip to either the San Juan or Lees Ferry. Don't forget there is fun fishing in southern Arizona's lakes. It's always a fun day of fishing with fellow OPTU members locally.

OPTU is planning an **Alaska Retiree's Trip** this fall from September 15 to 27. One night will be spent in Anchorage at the start and end of the trip. Fishing will focus on the Kenai (upper and middle sections) and Talkeetna areas. Six days will be spent on the Kenai with three nights lodging in both Cooper Landing and Anchor Point. Four nights will be spent at Talkeetna. Two SUV's are reserved for transportation from Anchorage. Estimated cost for SUV rental, lodging, and group food is \$1350 per person. Anglers are responsible for round trip transportation to Anchorage. Current roundtrip airfare from Tucson to Anchorage is \$500. Additionally we are checking into float trips while on the Kenai for both the upper and middle sections. Group size is limited to 8 and **only 2 spots remain**. Full payment required by July 1st. Contact John Singley (318-4791) or Rob Gillette (615-8141) for info.

Fishing Reports



Steve Brown enjoying his Utah fishing – above and across

Fishing was great in 3 streams near Fish Lake, Utah, within 20 miles of Loa, UT, May 21, 2007. Guide was Mike James, owner of The Quiet Fly Fisher, guide service and fly shop in Loa, UT. Fished the UM Creek, Freemont River, and another creek. Caught 5 different kinds of trout: Browns, Brookies, Rainbow, Splake, and Tiger. Fish ran from 13 to 18 inches. Fished one spot (see photo) for almost 3 hours and landed a trout on average of one per 5 casts. Most caught on nymphs but grasshopper also worked. Beautiful creeks at 8000 feet elevation. A must return spot. *Steve Brown*



To suggest new trips Contact Rob Gillette at 615-8141) or robgillette@comcast.net or azflyfshr@comcast.net for more information.

San Juan 2008 – Probable dates in March of 2008.

Rebates for Chapter New Members

Renewal Rebates for New Members TU National gives rebates to chapters for new members. If you know of someone wanting to become a new member of TU, have them put chapter #531 on their application. This will help us receive the rebate. Thanks for your support.

OPTU Website and Newsletter By E-Mail

If you have access to a computer and e-mail help us reduce mailing costs by getting the Newsletter electronically. Just e-mail murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu & cc: sreiter4@cox.net, Subject: e-mail newsletter. Give your name, the zip code where you normally receive the printed version and the e-mail address where you want to receive the electronic version. **Note – it will be your responsibility to inform us of changes in e-mail**

address. Otherwise, you may begin missing newsletters. The newsletter is available on our OPTU website www.optu.org.

Notes from the Flyshops

Sign up for the Sage Trout School, hosted by Dry Creek Outfitters. This will be a 1-day school on Saturday, August 25 from 9AM to 4PM. Larry Allen will be the instructor. Larry has been an instructor for the Mel Krieger fly-fishing schools and is an FFF Master Certified Casting Instructor. The cost is \$125 per person and beginners and experienced anglers alike will benefit from the personalized instruction. Call Dry Creek Outfitters at 326-7847 to register.

It's not too late to upgrade your waders - come check out the new line of Gore-tex waders from Simms. Dry Creek is now a Ross Reels dealer. We have the Evolution, CLA, Rhythm, Cimarron and the new Momentum in stock. We also carry Galvan, Tibor and Abel reels - all made in the U.S.A. Buy a Sage Z-Axis 590-4 and we'll include a premium fly line and \$30 worth of flies for FREE.

Humor/Quotes

Old fishermen never die, they just smell that way.

Like red wine and white fish, watches and fishing don't go together. A watch tells you when to go home or go to work, not when to go fishing. If you see a fisherman cast, look at his watch, cast, look at his watch, land a fish, look at his watch, cast and look at his watch, you can pretty much figure he's got either a date in court or a bad marriage.

Paul Quinett – *Fishing Lessons*



The Christmas Island arsenal



Spot the bonefish – easy eh?



The pres with an AuSable brown

FOR SALE or RENT

For Sale: Full day fly-fishing for two on Lake Powell with Ambassador Guide Service. Primarily striped bass fishing on 28 foot boat with casting platform. Lots of fun and lots of fish. Regular price is \$475; will sell for \$375. Contact Jim Maina @ 297-9186.

Two entry level fly rod and reel packages available. Rods are two piece - 5/6 weight and reels to match (one has line and backing, one just backing). \$30 each. Great for someone just starting or to have a spare for when friends want to come along. Call John at 250-4083.

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<u>Format</u>	<u>One time</u>	<u>6 months</u>	<u>1 Year</u>
1/12 th page	NA	NA	\$50
1/4 page	\$50	\$100	\$175
1/2 page	\$75	\$200	\$350
Full page	\$100	\$350	\$600

- Gifts of \$500 or more cash equivalent for OPTU banquet waives 1-year fee for 1/12th page ads or single 1/4 page.

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Chapter _____

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Please check membership category*

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 *Canadian membership – please add \$5 per year. All other countries add \$20 per year.

Moving?

Name _____ Phone _____ Old Zip Code _____

New Address _____ New Zip Code _____

Send to: OPTU, 7698 N. Sombrero Peak Dr, Tucson, AZ 85743

Notice: OPTU Newsletter is sent via bulk mail. It will not be forwarded if you move. You must notify us of any change in address. To avoid errors, please submit your change of address in writing.



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OPTU JULY CALENDAR

- Jul 4** **No meeting – go fishing and watch some fireworks.**
- Jul 18** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Jul 25** Board Meeting at Sheraton Tucson, 5151 E. Grant Road, at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 4** Regular meeting: John Murphy on Christmas Island – Bones, GTs, Birds and More. Sheraton Tucson at 5151 E. Grant Rd (NE corner of Grant and Rosemont) at 7 pm.
- Aug 18** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Aug 25** Board Meeting at Sheraton Tucson, 5151 E. Grant Road, at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.