

## East Yellowstone Chapter of Trout Unlimited

P.O. Box 3008

Cody, WY 82414



<http://www.eastyellowstonetu.org/>

### April 14th, 2016 Meeting Minutes

#### In Attendance

Dave Crowther, Lorna Anderson, Birney Holberg, Laura Logan, Bob & Judy Capron, Elaine & Bill Tabacinski, Laura Burckhardt, Randy & Donna Moore, Lew & Ellie Wiser, Tom Reed, Larry & Tina Smith, Larry & Maxine Thomas, Jim & Diane Blakeslee, Fred & Linda Dowd, Dave & Cathy Sweet, Gregg & Jane Bierei, Brandon McElroy, Sam Hochhalter, Michael Ellington, Dave & Jan Bensink, Jerry Jech, Duane Feick, Mark Vondersaar

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by President Dave Crowther followed by introductions by those in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes of January 2016 Meeting:** -- March Meeting Minutes were sent out to members by email but were not addressed during this meeting; no motion to approve was made.

**Treasurers Report:** a Treasurer's report was given to chapter President and Secretary, but due to time constraints was not discussed. During the month ended 03/31/16 income was \$76, expenses were \$225, leaving net assets at \$63,416.

#### Old Business:

1. The Commissioner's License is now listed on the WG&F web site.
  - a. No bids yet (\$10,000 minimum).
  - b. A person can avoid bidding process for a "buy it now" price of \$13,000.
  - c. There have been 3 phone inquiries so far.
  - d. The cut-off date of April 30<sup>th</sup> can be extended if necessary.

**UPDATE:** Chapter President Dave Crowther reported via April 27<sup>th</sup> email that the license was sold to someone in Georgia for the "buy it now" price of \$13,000!
2. Those who want to participate/observe the re-installation of the 9 year old self-cleaning rotary drum fish screen on Trout Creek on April 15<sup>th</sup> should meet at Dave Sweet's house at 8:00 a.m.

#### Committee Updates

##### Conservation – Bob Capron

1. 14 people participated in the Corbett Dam field trip with Bob Capron and Sam Hochhalter.
  - a. River water quality was discussed.
  - b. Project planning for a dam-bypass side channel is on hold for now.
  - c. Participants discussed possible future projects, including an access trail.
    - i. A decision needs to be made on when work on an access trail downstream of the dam should occur – possibly in May – Bob will enlist FFA students and send out email to members.

##### Fundraising Committee - George Simonton & Birney Holberg:

1. Raffle tickets were sold at start of meeting; drawing occurred at end of meeting.
2. George will contact lodging and/or fishing organizations for contributions that could be raffled.
3. GPS coordinates were documented for fishing sites during a recent South Fork field trip. The question was raised on whether EYTU should map the sites and sell.
  - a. It was suggested that we talk to people like Tim Wade to see if maps like this would sell.
  - b. Question: do we want to publicize good access points?
  - c. No actions will be taken until we get more information.

##### Web Site Coordinator – Lorna Anderson:

1. Nothing new on EYTU web site. If anyone wants to post something on the EYTU Facebook page, let Lorna know.
2. If anyone is interested in taking over the EYTU web site management, contact Lorna.

### **Wyoming TU Council – Dave Sweet**

1. The candidate for the WY Council Coordinator opportunity decided not to take the job, so the position is still open.
2. The WY Council meeting is scheduled for April 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, & May 1<sup>st</sup> at Little America.
3. The annual WY TU banquet will be in Jackson on May 14<sup>th</sup> with a “Tie One On” theme. Tickets are on sale at the WYTU.org web site.

### **New Business:**

1. An application for ten 8 ½ foot, 6-weight fly rod outfits to be donated to our chapter has been submitted to LL Bean; no response received as of April 14th.
2. Update on field trip by Montana State University students to the old American Colloid bentonite mine off of Diamond Basin Road
  - a. Purpose is to study potential reclamation of the site.
  - b. Students have created several test environments to determine what will make the bentonite soil more permeable.
  - c. The MSU professor involved in the project will speak at our next TU meeting.
3. The April 2<sup>nd</sup> River Clean-up was a success; Dave Crowther thanked those who participated, commenting that a lot of junk was removed.
4. Yellowstone Lake Trout Implant Expedition
  - a. June 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>
  - b. 17 fishing boats plus 3 surgery boats are committed.
  - c. More anglers are still needed for the trip. 20 campsites have been reserved, 16 of which have already been claimed.
  - d. It was suggested that information on what gear is needed be sent out to participants
    - i. Lake Trout will be shallower than at other times – 20 feet or less
    - ii. No lead is permitted in lures or weights
    - iii. Equipment that works for Northern Pike also works for Lake Trout.
    - iv. Anyone with suggestions on specific lures to bring should let Dave Crowther know and he'll share with participants.
  - e. Chapter expenses related to expedition (i.e. not covered by WY Trout Fund):
    - i. “Swag Bags” – for boat owners: regulations, general info, maps, thank-you goodies
    - ii. Opening night picnic on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>
    - iii. Estimate: \$1000.
    - iv. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to cover this cost.

### **Other Business:**

1. The Invasive Aquatic Species Action Network is asking for a \$3000 EYTU contribution to be used for fishing equipment (waders, boots, etc.) cleaning stations to be installed around Cody.
  - a. It is not clear to members what the proposed locations are and whether these stations will really mitigate invasive species brought in from out of state.
  - b. More information will be gathered before putting the funding request up for a vote.
2. Laura Burckhardt reported that Game & Fish has been contacted by the U.S. Forest Service concerning repairs needed on an exclusion fence at Canyon Creek, on the west side of the Bighorns near the Johnson County line.
  - a. A handout outlining the proposed work along with photos was distributed.
  - b. Canyon Creek is a candidate for a Cutthroat restoration project.
  - c. Around a quarter of a mile of fence needs repair, and volunteers will be needed.
  - d. Work will be scheduled after funds are obtained.
  - e. EYTU may be asked for funding support. The USFS has around \$2000 available, which will not cover the project. G&F has some riparian area restoration funds that might be available. The Conservation District may contribute materials, if they are available for public land projects.
  - f. This is an opportunity for EYTU to foster a relationship with the Bighorn National Forest.
  - g. This topic will be discussed further during the May EYTU meeting.

3. The Optimist Club's Kid's Fishing Day
  - a. Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. Doesn't need funding assistance from EYTU or help with advertising, but will need volunteers, as in the past, for some of the stations.
  - c. Will discuss further during the May meeting.

**Adjourn Meeting:** a motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting.

**Program:** *Dr. Brandon McElroy; Shoshone River Sediment Flushing Project Proposal*

1. Dr. McElroy is an Assistant Professor at U of W's Department of Geology & Geophysics
2. He is a sedimentologist-geomorphologist with research interests in the mechanics of sediment formation and transport through channelized systems, rivers, and reservoirs.
3. Dr. McElroy discussed factors affecting sedimentation such as channel geometry, fluid flow, and fluid forces, and discussed how the physics affecting sediment transport/deposition are similar to forces impacting fish migration, metabolics/energy-requirements, spawning, and gamete mass.
4. Studies have been conducted on other river systems where sediment flux is plotted against river flow velocity. This project would produce a similar profile of the Shoshone downstream of the Buffalo Bill Dam.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at the Sunset House.

M. Vondersaar