

**East Yellowstone Chapter
Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 3008, Cody, WY 82414**

Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2008

Those Present: June Richard, Bob Richard, Maxine and Larry Thomas, Doreen Shellady, Cathy Sweet, Dave Sweet, Pat Shellady, Bob Capron, Ellie Wiser, Merle and Chris Nielsen, Pat and Bob Kuper, Lew Wiser, Carissa Camp, Birney Holberg, George Simonton, Bill Camp, Lorna Anderson, Dave Crowther, Ray Zubik, Laura Leslie, Jason Burckhardt, Rich Hostetler and Lynn Cook

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President, Bob Capron at 6:30

Meeting Minutes: George Simonton moved to accept the minutes as sent to members, second by Bill Camp. The motion carried.

Treasurer Report: Due to the Treasurers absence, Bob Capron gave the report. Along with the regular report, Bob advised receiving a gift to the Chapter of \$528.00 from Greg Bierei made available through his employer Arch Coal, Inc. Dave Sweet additionally advised the big game tag sold on E-Bay for \$9,606.00, less selling expenses. The tag was purchased by Bill Gartland Archery in Ohio. Bill Camp moved to accept the treasurer's report, 2nd by Birney Holberg. The motion carried.

Ray Zubik, Shoshone Natl. Forest, Fisheries Habitat Biologist, gave an informational slide presentation on the scope of fisheries served by his department, as well as projects undertaken. Ray began his presentation with a geological overview of the 2 ½ million acres within the Shoshone Forest. Why the geology? To show the variety of land environments and uses imposed upon the lands within the Shoshone Forest boundaries. Noted were past and present trout habitat areas. The fisheries main concern and purpose is the preservation of native trout, mainly the Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout, which now occupies only a fraction of its historic range. They study the effects of timbering, livestock, fires, man made structures, nature and other issues. The aim is to correct or compensate problems that damage the fisheries. We saw problems created by, and corrections made to, culvert washouts, fish barriers, bank erosion, and other issues. Also viewed were the benefits of building fish holding areas in streams. It was good to see projects that have been completed, reversing the damaging effects on the fisheries. Ray touched on future projects that will further improve trout fisheries. It was an interesting and informative presentation. Our Chapter was applauded for the variety of projects undertaken and completed by our TU volunteers.

Project Updates

Yellowstone Lake, Lake Trout Control: (Save the Yellowstone Cutthroat Fund) Dave Sweet again emphasized the importance of this funded research in that past efforts to control the Lake Trout, including expensive gill netting is not working. Research into techniques to destroy Lake Trout eggs before they hatch may be the only way to ultimately save the Cutthroat Trout in Yellowstone Lake. Our

chapter has raised \$12,180.00 with high hopes for additional grant monies that have been applied for. The USGS has raised their grant from \$10,000 to \$20,000. With an anticipated cost of \$169,000 to complete the study, fund raising continues. Donations will be helpful and greatly appreciated. Please specify for 'Save the Yellowstone Cutthroat' and send to:

Trout Unlimited, P.O. Box 3008, Cody, WY 82414.

River Cleanup: A workday is scheduled for Saturday, April 5th at 8am, meeting at the Belfry Bridge. Bring waders and lunch. Rafts and life jackets will be provided for those working the river. In case of inclement weather, work will be delayed until April 12th and Shoshone River Trail work will be rescheduled. Suggested scheduling newspaper publicity a week ahead of time inviting community and school involvement. The Board will follow up on this suggestion.

Shoshone River Trail Project: A workday is scheduled for Saturday, April 12th at 8am, meeting at the Belfry Bridge. Volunteers are requested to please bring tools. Dave advised chain saws are really needed as well as picks, shovels, rakes etc. Bring a lunch, water, hats, gloves, sunscreen and lots of energy.

Fly Fishing Clinic: Carissa reported the committee is still working on details and wanted input from chapter members. Discussion centered on what group to target and how. George Simonton moved to shift the emphasis toward a Family Clinic, 2nd by Dave Sweet, the motion carried. The Clinic will be scheduled in the fall with more "on the water" time.

Trout Creek drum installation: The drum will be installed sometime in April. Pat will advise those who have volunteered to help when final plans are available.

Chapter Website: Following Lorna's previous research, Bob Capron requested input from members. Following discussion, a committee, Lorna Anderson, Birney Holberg and Dave Crowther will meet and report to the board.

Other Business: Other items on the agenda for board members is a leaders only training session, a conference call with TU Council and an article for Nelli Williams to include in the April issue of Trout Tales. Bob C. will follow up and advise those involved.

With a motion to adjourn by Bill C, 2nd by Bob Kuper, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Volunteers, please mark your calendars

April 5th - River cleanup, 8am meet at Belfry Bridge. Bring waders and lunch.

April 12th - Shoshone River Trail Project, 8am meet at Belfry Bridge. Bring tools and lunch. Chain saws would be appreciated.

May 24th - 'Weekend of Hope' in Powell is a day of fishing for cancer patients. Details being worked on and available soon.

June 7th - 'Kids Fishing Clinic' in Cody is a joint effort with Forest Service, Optimist Club, Game & Fish and our TU Chapter. The Clinic will probably coordinate with 'Free Fish Day' and volunteers are needed.

May 2nd – 4th - Pinedale Council meeting will include updating bylaws and election of officers. Members attending from our Chapter will be Bob C, Pat S and Dave S.

Next meeting: April 10th, 6pm at Sunset House

Guest speaker will be Mark Smith, Wyoming Game & Fish, Fisheries Biologist
Mark will discuss netting operations completed last summer on the Cody Canal

Nelli Williams and Scott Yates from Wyoming TU will also be here

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Though there will be no regular Chapter Meetings during the summer months of
June, July or August

We will have our picnic in June and a campout probably in July

