

East Yellowstone Chapter of Trout Unlimited

P.O. Box 3008

Cody, WY 82414



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

Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2010

Members & Guests Present: Merle & Chris Nielsen, Kel Thomas, Gregg Bierei, Birney Holberg, Tim Wade, George Simonton, Travis Duncan, Cathy Purves, Cathy Sweet, Dave Sweet, Maxine Thomas, Larry Thomas, Judy Capron, Bob Capron, Jim & Diane Blakeslee, Ray Zubik, Scott Christy, Laura Burckhardt, Jason Burckhardt, Madison Burckhardt, Steven Brucker, Tommy Thompson, Paul Arthur, Lorna Anderson, Dave Crowther.

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Vice-President Merle Neilsen.

Approval of Minutes:

Dave Sweet moved to approve the September Minutes, Larry Thomas seconded. Minutes approved.

Treasurers Report: Larry Thomas gave the treasurers report. Birney moved to approve the report, Kel Thomas seconded. Report approved. EYTU Hats were sent to the Crysdales. A thank you note needs to be sent if that hasn't been done.

Old Business:

Field & stream magazine was passed around. Bob Capron, Hero of Conservation, is in there twice.

Conservation Update – Bob thanks everyone for all the sympathy cards & letters when Judy's Mom passed away. They appreciated all the food people sent, also. He, Cory Toye, and Fish & Game met at Shell Creek to do an inventory at Flinter Ranch. Several fish species were found. Brown trout were less than or equal to 9 inches. Timber creek project is winding down. Canal salvage is approaching. Canals between Cody and Powell are closing tomorrow. In 9-10 days we will be starting the rescue. TU National's *Trout* Magazine will be doing a feature article about our fish rescue this year. Dave Sweet did an inventory of our fish rescue supplies and bought some items. Pro-Build donated buckets. He bought gloves, and wader repair stuff. Motion by Birney Holberg to reimburse Dave for items. Jason Burckhardt seconded. Passed. Dave Sweet moved we pay for lunch for fish rescue volunteers. Kel Thomas seconded. Passed. Problems with fish rescue equipment, we need generator on site. Several volunteered for that, but it was determined that it was new batteries that we need. Sheridan Chapter may observe and help at our fish rescue to learn how to start rescue in their area. Jason Burckhardt will be teaching an electrofishing workshop Saturday at 9:00 am -11:00 am at Belfry Bridge. We need a volunteer to haul the fish rescue tank and pull a tank in a trailer.

Membership Update – One new member this month. Redistricting meant we lost some members. Hats are for sale today and invasive species brushes are free. Ray Zubik said the brushes are very handy to wash gear streamside. He was complimentary about how well they fit in with the DRAIN, CLEAN, & DRY guidelines for stopping the spread of invasive species.

Website Update – There is a link to Bob Capron's Field & Stream episode on the home page. The new EYTU Facebook page is established.

Newsletter Update – Next issue will be published November 1. Thanks to Dave Sweet for sending information, especially permission to share with other newsletters. Please send reports, photos, recipes, or anything of interest to Kel Thomas.

Fundraising Update – Birney Holberg is writing Commissioner Healy a letter requesting another elk tag. A question was raised about whether we should apply to the Sundance Commissioner for an additional tag. A project-specific appeal for a commissioner's tag is better received. It's better to tell the commissioner what specific projects you have planned for the money.

Nominating Committee – Board members Jason Burckhardt, George Simonton, Gregg Bieri, have offered to remain on the board unless there are others who would like to serve in that capacity. Larry Thomas has offered to remain as treasurer. Gregg Bieri is nominated for vice-president. The committee is still working on nominations for the positions of secretary and president.

Ray Zubic – Ray asked to make a few comments on the new Forest Service thinking on stream crossings. In the old days complete barriers to fish passage was not thought about. They are getting aquatic passage monies now to repair things in the Forest Service. In fixing one culvert at Timber Creek it improves ten miles of fish habitat. He is predicting a major come-back of fish habitat there. It's a drainage wide look at fish habitat and he is glad to see it. He thanks all of the TU folks for doing it. Pitchfork ranch actually put the fence in, we paid for the materials. George proposed that we do some PR for the ranch (if they want it) about how willing they were to cooperate with TU.

New Business:

- **Fish Rescue** – See above.
- **Raffle Ticket From Council For Drift Boat** – Wyoming Council fundraiser. 125 tickets will be sold for a \$10,000 outfit. Tickets are \$100. Chapter can buy one, win it and use it in a chapter fundraiser. George Simonton moved we buy 2 tickets, Birney Holberg seconded. Passed. Drawing as soon as they get the remaining 17 tickets sold.

Adopt A Trout – October 29th, volunteers needed. Scott Christy. Contact Jason Burckhardt.

Other Business – Scott Yates, director of Wyoming Water Project was promoted to Western Water Project Director. He is over several states, but will remain in Lander. New Wyoming Water Project director is Cory Toye. Cory's replacement has not yet been named.

TU National meeting in Sept. Dave Sweet reports that Yellowstone Lake is on the new national agenda as a principal conservation effort. Save the Yellowstone Cutthroat will receive national attention from TU National. Recently a contract has been signed with Hickey Brothers for two boats for increased netting of lake trout next summer on Yellowstone Lake.

Shoshone National Forest Resource Advisory Committee Sept. 27 – First meeting, Bob Capron reporting. The committee will choose from a list of projects next September. Projects with multiple partners and multiple funding sources will be given priority. Look for project on or near forests, or that impacts forests. Look for 100 projects. Kathy Purves, TU National, said it is a huge move for a TU person to get on this committee and give a fisheries perspective. Dave suggested we get the board together to brainstorm about projects. There is half a million dollars available and it could leverage up to a couple million.

More PR - George suggests more PR about the chapter about some of our personalities, esp. Field & Stream. Dave Sweet and Bob Capron will approach the media here and in Billings about PR for the Chapter.

The state council meeting is this fall and members are encouraged to go.

Program: Scott Christy – Wyoming Coordinator

Adjourn Meeting - George Simonton moved to adjourn, Kel Thomas seconded. Passed.

Next Meeting: November 11th - 6:00 P.M. at the Sunset House (1651 8th Street, Cody, WY 82414).