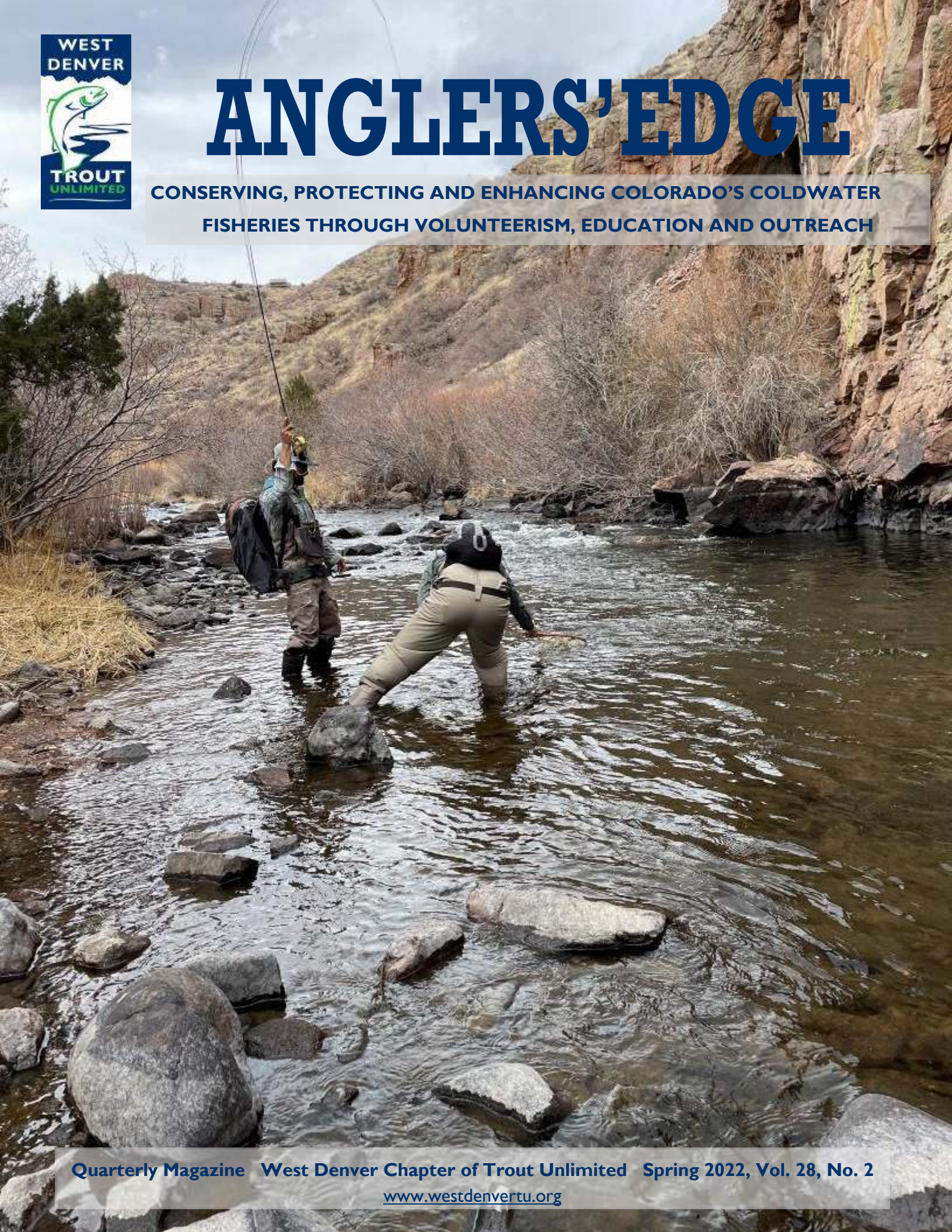




# ANGLERS' EDGE

CONSERVING, PROTECTING AND ENHANCING COLORADO'S COLDWATER FISHERIES THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH





## Our Mission

To conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

## Our Vision

By the next generation, Trout Unlimited will ensure that robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish once again thrive within their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.

## Who We Are

Founded in Michigan in 1959, Trout Unlimited today is a national non-profit organization with 150,000 members dedicated to conserving, protecting and restoring North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. Our staff and volunteers work from coast to coast to protect, reconnect, restore and sustain trout and salmon habitat on behalf of today's anglers and coming generations of sportsmen and women who value the connection between healthy, intact habitat and angling opportunity.

From forested rivers like the Farmington in Connecticut to the pristine waters of Alaska's Bristol Bay and all points in between, TU's work spans nearly a million miles of cold water all across North America. TU is the most effective coldwater fisheries conservation organization in the country. Donors invest in TU because we get things done on the ground, in statehouses and on Capitol Hill.

TU has a basic approach to its conservation strategy. First, we use the best available science to protect headwater spawning habitat for trout and salmon. We reconnect tributaries with their rivers to ensure resilience, and we restore waters where development has impacted trout and salmon and the opportunity to fish for them. Second, we sustain our work on the ground by:

- Using the best science to drive conservation priorities
- Promoting and maintaining a strong legal and regulatory framework to protect fish and fishing opportunity
- Connecting with passionate anglers who want to give back to the resource they value so much
- Increasing our ability to engage TU members in conservation by training, educating and building a strong community of angler advocates
- Connecting with generous donors and helping them give to the fish they cherish and the places they love
- Helping members connect and communicate with one another via our website, TROUT Magazine and the TU Blog

From the Penobscot in Maine to the South Fork of the Snake in Idaho and west to the Klamath in Oregon and California, TU and its staff and volunteers work on the ground in hundreds of places, protecting, reconnecting and restoring trout and salmon habitat for the benefit of today's anglers and generations to come. If you're interested in becoming a part of TU and giving back to the fish and the places you value, become a member and help us 'save the world, one trout at a time.'

## West Denver Trout Unlimited

### 2022 Chapter Leaders

#### The Cover:

#### CRESCENDO!

Phantom Canyon Preserve

Guide (w/rod) Chris Melendez, Matt Stapleton

Photo by Mark Shulman

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#### Anglers' Edge is published four times per year by West Denver TU

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We want your contributions! Send them to the editor via email at <http://westdenvertu.org/resources/newsletter/> Scroll down to submission area.

# The President's Message

Looking for volunteers! Are you thinking it is time to give back? Tired of TV and the web? West Denver TU has openings for many volunteers, either for 4-5 hours per month or for one-time opportunities.

See our website or weekly emails for volunteer opportunities.



And speaking of the website, it has just undergone a major update. Our goal is a simpler site that still has all the information you need and serves as a great introduction for those new to the Chapter and/or Trout Unlimited.

Please take a look at it, [www.westdenvertu.org](http://www.westdenvertu.org), and let me know what you think. Don't hold back—we can take it! [Contact Ed Calmus](#) with feedback.



Thank you for supporting the Chapter by attending Chapter meetings, volunteering, and buying raffle tickets. Watch our email blasts for more exciting events coming soon.

Tight lines,

# LOOKING AHEAD

## **APRIL 30—MAY 4**

Chapter trip to the Green River

This trip is sold out for this year. Think about it for next Spring

## **MAY 11, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm**

Chapter Meeting: Subaru-able Venues in South Park and Understanding Native Brook Trout Resilience

American Mountaineering Center, 710 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Golden, Co 80401

## **MAY 19—24**

Chapter trip to the Driftless Area at Westby, Wisconsin

Too late to register for this one. We will let you know how it went

## **MAY 24 6:30pm**

Fly Tyers' Nite Out

Come tie with the experts or just observe, learn, and socialize  
Discovery Tap House, SE corner of Kipling St and 50th Avenue.

## **JUNE 1, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm**

Last Chapter meeting until September. Go fishing! We will have the drawing for the Fantasy Raffle, as well as an entertaining presentation about Colorado fly fishing.

American Mountaineering Center, 710 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Golden, Co 80401

## **JUNE 21 6:30pm**

Fly Tyers' Nite Out

Come tie with the experts or just observe, learn, and socialize  
Discovery Tap House, SE corner of Kipling St and 50th Avenue.

## **AUGUST ?**

Chapter Picnic. We are working on the details





# First Fish on a Fly!

*By Eric Carter - Spurio*

I am confident that a majority of parent fly anglers can resonate with the desire to get their little ones into fly fishing. Enjoying learning about nature, getting exercise and catching fish are cherished experiences. Being a father, fly fishing guide and passionate angler in Western North Carolina I am no exception. But, like anything I introduce to my son, the biggest challenge is keeping his attention and interest. If my goal is for him to be able to cast a fly rod, manage line and land a trout - how to I keep his interest long enough to learn all this?

My solution was to start him fly fishing with a Tenkara rod!

## *The Fishing Journey*

I introduced my son to trout fishing on a spun rod when he was 5 years old. Luckily, he caught a bunch of fish, it was a fun and exciting experience and left him wanting more. He did fish on a spin rod several more times, but when he got a bit older, (6!) I thought he might be ready to fly fish.



I took him to my favorite local river in Western North Carolina, the Shelton Laurel. I rigged him up and showed him how to present his flies with a fixed line, as I thought the casting was too much for him. He ended up setting the hook, but not landing his first fish. His first fish landing came on a second attempt on a fish on which I had set. He had some good success but was not yet able to put it all together.

## *Rental House on the River, the Big Trip!*

My father came to visit last fall and we rent a house on the Shelton Laurel in a section of the river I had not before fished. I bought my son waders and a new rod. I chose to get him a Tenkara rod, as I feel this style of fishing simplifies and highlights everything important about fly fishing and is excellent for beginners. Tenkara fly fishing, originating in Japan, consists of a 10-to-13-foot rod with 8 to 16 feet of fly line, tippet and a fly. Removing the reel was important to my son's learning process as the lightened rod was more manageable and avoided the distraction of excess line.

*Continued on page 7.*





# First Fish, cont'd. from p. 6

by Eric Carter - Spurio

## *A glorious brown trout*

My son practiced casting and setting the hook for a minute and then was ready to locate fish. Not long after we had arrived on the water, he caught a glorious brown trout!

Landing a fish of this size without a reel is not easy, but he stayed calm and used the rod length to his advantage. This was an amazing experience for him and for me! I was ecstatic.



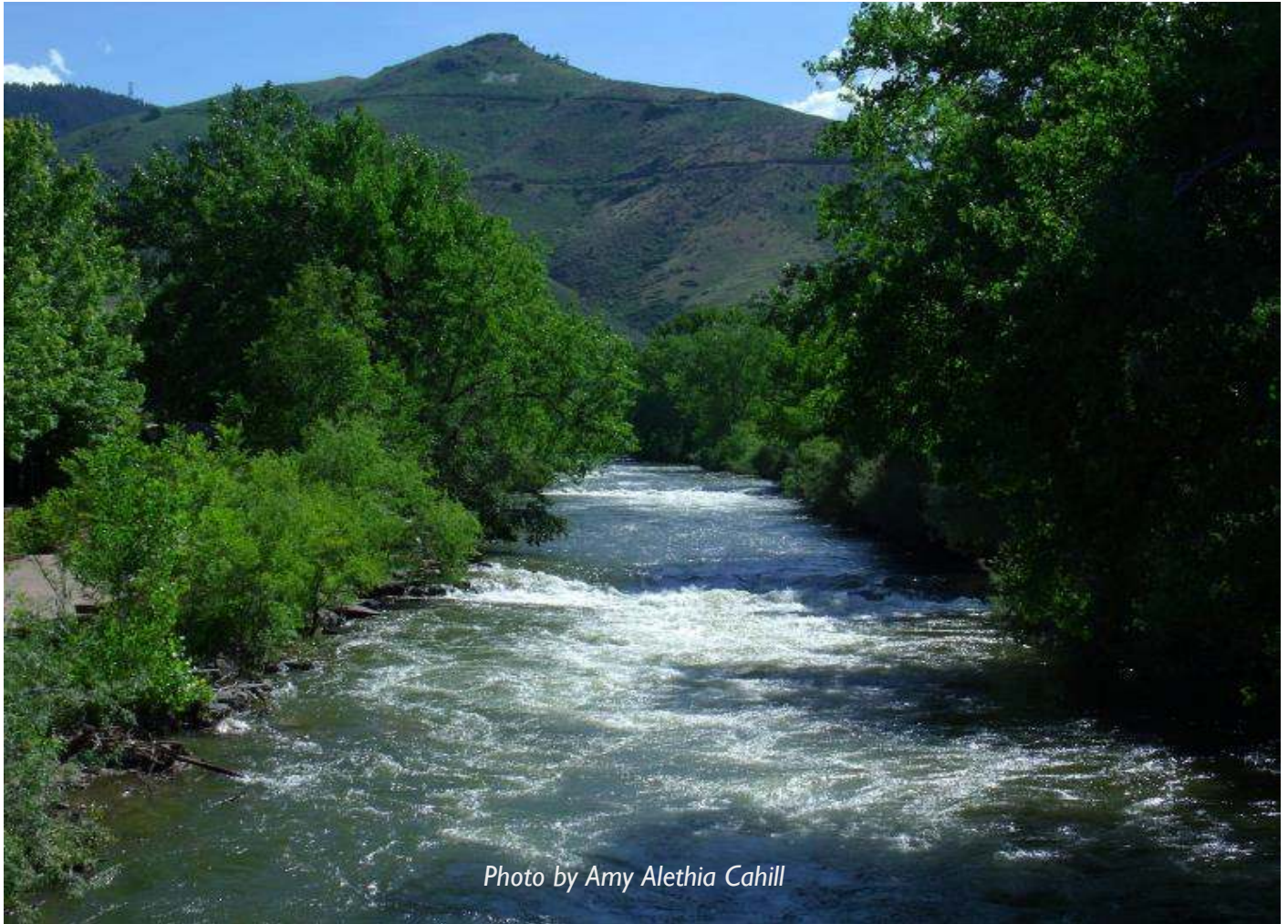
We enjoyed several more days of fishing, but nothing surpassed the first brown. I am grateful to have shared this experience with my son, I don't expect him to forget it. I know I won't.

Eric Carter - Spurio is owner of Anchor Fly in Asheville, North Carolina. He is dedicated to conservation activities. Please visit [www.anchorfly.com](http://www.anchorfly.com)



# **Clear Creek - A Watershed Worth Championing**

*by Ashley Giles*



*Photo by Amy Alethia Cahill*

This is the third installment in a series about West Denver Trout Unlimited's history of stewardship in the Clear Creek watershed. We began by detailing the many varied stream restoration projects we have designed, built, championed, and sponsored over the years. The projects range from mine reclamation, stream cleanups, greenback cutthroat reintroduction, bed and bank stabilization, building safe river access, annual water quality testing and more. In the last issue we discussed TU National's new strategic Priority Waters Plan and WDTU's efforts to get Clear Creek designated as such in order to benefit from national support and funding. This sup-

port, we believe, will make our outreach and stewardship efforts effective, lasting, and impactful. Petitioning TU on behalf of our home water was quite a lift for chapter leadership because Clear Creek does not meet all TU's Priority Waters criteria. Where upper Clear Creek is a cold-water fishery, it is also heavily impacted by mine, highway, and quarry contamination. Similarly, the lower watershed is beloved by many as an accessible recreation mecca, but every drop (and then some) is spoken for by someone holding the rights to it.

*Continued on page 9*



# Clear Creek, cont'd. from p. 8

## By Ashley Giles

From Golden to the confluence with the South Platte, Clear Creek has 3-4 dry up points in any given year and is one of the most over-allocated river systems in the state.

Still, we believe Clear Creek is worth championing and we will continue to advocate for positive change for the river and the communities that depend on it. One way the chapter is doing that is by leading the development of the Clear Creek Integrated Water Management Plan. IWMPs, sometimes called Stream Management Plans (SMP), are data-driven assessments of river health that help communities prioritize how to protect or enhance environmental and recreational assets in the watershed. Our IWMP also includes consumptive use considerations such as those of water rights owners and riparian landowners (ex. all the municipalities that divert water from the river to your tap).

Why an IWMP? In 2015, the state adopted Colorado's Water Plan, a living water management strategy that sets forth objectives, goals, and actions to meet future water needs while adapting to changes like a growing population and climate change. A goal of the Water Plan is that 80 percent of Colorado's rivers be covered by IWMP/SMPs by 2030. This planning effort is not regulatory, and participation is voluntary. In Early 2020 WDTU set out to gather stakeholder interest throughout the basin, from Loveland Ski Area at the Continental Divide to homeless coalitions representing communities residing at the confluence. Over 75 groups showed enthusiastic interest in a comprehensive plan for the betterment of Clear Creek. Fast forward to today, as our IWMP Focus Group of a few dedicated WDTU volunteers and other community advisors will begin to use biological, hydrological, geomorphological and other data to assess flows, water quality param-



ters, and other physical conditions to support comprehensive, collaboratively identified needs and values. In addition, this year we hope to develop a public StoryMap that will visually locate basin-wide river project information symbolized on a web-based interactive mapping platform where users can select a reach or site to learn about a project's details including partners, project objectives, status, project components (i.e., fish passage, recreational flows, habitat restoration, etc.). For example, here is an informative pre-wildfire specific planning StoryMap developed by one of our close partners, the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association.

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/95c8864402024ca6a0735ec2676809a8>

There are many exciting possibilities in store for our home water. Stay tuned for more and, as always, reach out to us if you would like to get involved in Clear Creek conservation efforts. "We believe the most complex and seemingly insurmountable challenges can be solved when people come together and get to work." - Chris Wood, TU President & CEO.

*Ashley Giles is an Executive Officer of West Denver Trout Unlimited and a professional Ecologist whose focus is riparian and wetland ecosystems.*

# A Weekend at North Fork Ranch

## by Bobbi Rubingh

*“The mission of Casting for Recovery is to enhance the lives of women with breast cancer by connecting them to each other and nature through the therapeutic sport of fly fishing”*

### Casting for Recovery

I never participated in any kind of support group, but when I found out about Casting for Recovery, (CFR) I thought this might be different. An Orvis store near me had table set up and volunteers from CFR convinced me that the fly fishing retreat at North Fork Ranch would be a program I would love! I like the idea of getting out of my comfort zone and learning a new skill in a beautiful setting.

Women of different ages and different backgrounds, all in different stages of breast cancer, we arrived together on a Friday night in September. We departed barely two days later as good friends. We shared stories, not just about our illness and recovery. We shared stories about our life. We learned we were not alone in this journey. We talked. We laughed. We experienced the sheer joy of fly fishing - even using a fly we tied ourselves.

The retreat organizers were welcoming, engaging and possessed with a great sense of humor! They knew their stuff and encouraged participation without being pushy. Some of the guides and volunteers had themselves been recovery participants in past retreats. I was guided through the whole adventure of picking out gear and rod, learning about the environment, the fish, the streams, the insects. I experienced fly tying and casting the perfect line. And catching the biggest fish!

The North Fork Ranch cabins were roomy and inviting. The food was out-

standing. An atmosphere like a college dorm sleep over. One night all fourteen women who were part of this weekend gathered in one cabin to talk and laugh and share our heart felt stories until long past midnight.

So, why fly fishing and recovery? The casting motion of fly fishing is similar to exercises prescribed for women following surgery or radiation for breast cancer. Casting promotes soft tissue stretching. Embracing the therapy of water. Standing on a beautiful stream. Letting go. Being present only in the moment.

Since that weekend in September I have shared my Casting for Recovery experience with other women who have gone through or are going through breast cancer. Getting back to nature, learning a new skill, making new friends. What more could you ask for?

*Bobbi Rubingh participated in the Casting for Recovery retreat at North Fork Ranch in Shawnee, Colorado on September 8-10, 2017. Bobbi is welding sculpture artist, kayaker and occasional fly angler. She and her husband Jim, who also fly fishes a little, are members of West Denver TU.*





# Guidelines

*By Randy Hanner*

As a former fly shop employee, I know how daunting it can be to walk into a fly shop and immediately be overwhelmed with the endless bins of flies. Daunting as it may be, you only need a few to get started. Here are a dozen flies that I would always recommend to new and veteran anglers alike, when they need a few flies to get started.

I don't leave home without these flies in my fly box, and often guided with all of them.

## Dry Flies

### Parachute Adams

The Parachute Adams is a fly that everyone should have in their fly box. It floats well and im-

itates a wide variety of different mayflies and even midges in smaller sizes.

### Elk Hair Caddis

The EHC is another fly dry to have in a variety of colors and sizes. Many times, when out on a river, you will run into several different sizes and colors hatching at the same time. It also works well in tandem fishing a duo (dry dropper).

### Chubby Chernobyl

The chubby Chernobyl in tan or yellow is another must have dry fly. It floats extremely well and can imitate grasshoppers, beetles, stoneflies, and in smaller sizes, even caddis. It works well alone, or in a dry dropper rig.

*Continued on page 12*



# Guidelines, cont'd from p. 11

By Randy Hanner

## PMX

The PMX is one of my all-time favorite dry flies to fish, especially the plain peacock. If you haven't noticed, I am a fan of having flies that aren't necessarily imitating a single bug, but that can imitate different bugs in different sizes. This fly is no different; it is an excellent attractor and often times works when no other dry will.

## Hippie Stomper

The hippie stomper is a fly that is a general terrestrial attractor. It works well on small streams, big rivers, and even lakes. Don't leave home without this fly in size 14 and 16 in colors red and black!

## Stimulator

The stimulator is another versatile fly that is effective everywhere. It imitates a wide variety of insects in a range of sizes and works on freestone rivers, tailwaters, small streams and lakes. Tan, yellow, and orange are my favorite colors

## Nymphs

### Zebra Midge

Midges live everywhere and so you should always have black and red zebra midges in your arsenal. This is an extremely simple pattern but is a common fly to use on freestone rivers, tailwaters and lakes.

### Pheasant Tail

Like the elk hair caddis and the parachute adams, the pheasant tail is kind of a jack of all trades. In different sizes, it imitates a variety of mayfly species and can be used in freestone streams and tailwaters alike!

### Prince Nymph

The prince nymph's peacock body and white wings give it a very attractive profile in the water. This is a general attractor pattern that is particularly effective on medium to large sized freestone rivers. It works particularly well with a gold bead head.

## Miracle Midge

If you fish any tailwaters, particularly those on the South Platte River system, the miracle midge is a particularly good midge imitation to have with you.

## RS2

The famous RS-2 fly pattern is also a must have fly for the river fisherman. In small sizes the black version imitates midges. The olive version is an excellent imitation of Baetis emerger.

## Pat's Rubber Legs

The pats rubber legs is an effective nymph wherever stoneflies are found. It is extremely good in spring and early summer when stoneflies are hatching. Though, many stoneflies live in the nymphal stage longer than one year (several live up to 3 years as nymphs), this fly is effective year-round.

This is far from an exhaustive list of flies, but these are flies that I believe in and that have caught trout for me all over the world. Save this list and the next time you find yourself in a fly shop, feeling a little overwhelmed by the selection, pick out a few of these flies and you'll be sure to catch a trout or 2!

***Randy Hanner is the West Denver Trout Unlimited Vice -President, former guide, professional fly tier and full time WPG puppy dad.***

Have a question about your gear, fly selection, destinations or why you don't catch fish? Send your question to mark @hcamagazine.com

Subject GUIDELINES.

ANGLERS EDGE will find an expert to help!



# Four Considerations for Flyfishing During a Drought

*By Peter Stitcher, Ascent Fly Fishing*

While I am keeping my fingers crossed in the hope of blankets of heavy spring snows that will help to keep our trout streams full of cold water, the pressing reality we need to prepare for is the continuation of the drought that has stressed trout waters across the West for the last several years. Shorter runoff seasons, sustained low stream flows, and accelerating water heating all have a very real effect on invertebrate hatches, trout reproduction, and fish health.

If you are reading this article, you likely love fly fishing as much as I do and I'm not suggesting that we stop fishing due to the drought. There are however four things we need to consider if we want to be successful while at the same time protecting and preserving our fisheries through this season of drought.

(This map shows the snow water equivalent across the Western US and clearly shows that

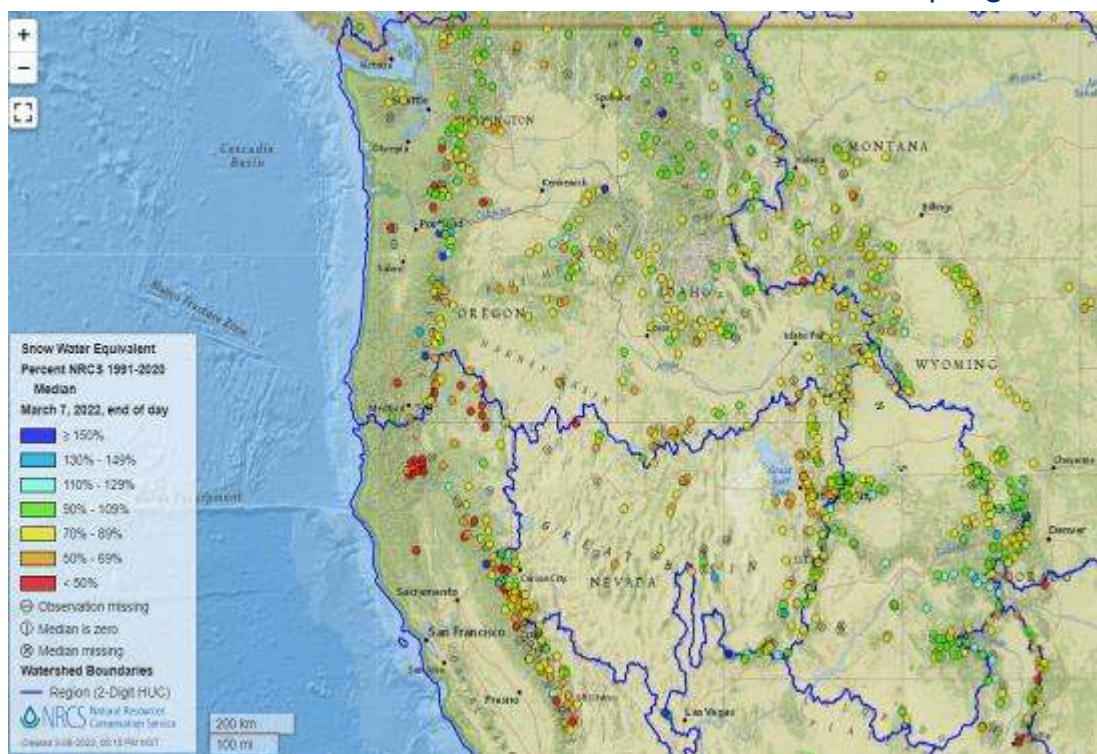


the vast majority of the West is sitting at 50% - 89% of average moisture accumulation for this time of year).

## Early Spawns

The driving factor that affects fly fishing, hatches and trout behavior during drought years is that low water levels have less capacity to absorb solar energy and therefore heat up earlier in the spring and cool off quicker in the fall.

This precipitous change in water temperatures accelerate both the timing of the spring rainbow and cutthroat trout spawn and the fall brown and brook trout spawn. During drought years we should expect to see trout start spawning up to 2-3 weeks earlier than normal, requiring the angler to be on high alert as they walk and wade to avoid spawning redds as well as be careful to avoid fishing the spawning trout.



*Continued on page 14*



# Drought, cont'd from p. 13

By Peter Stitcher

## Early Hatches

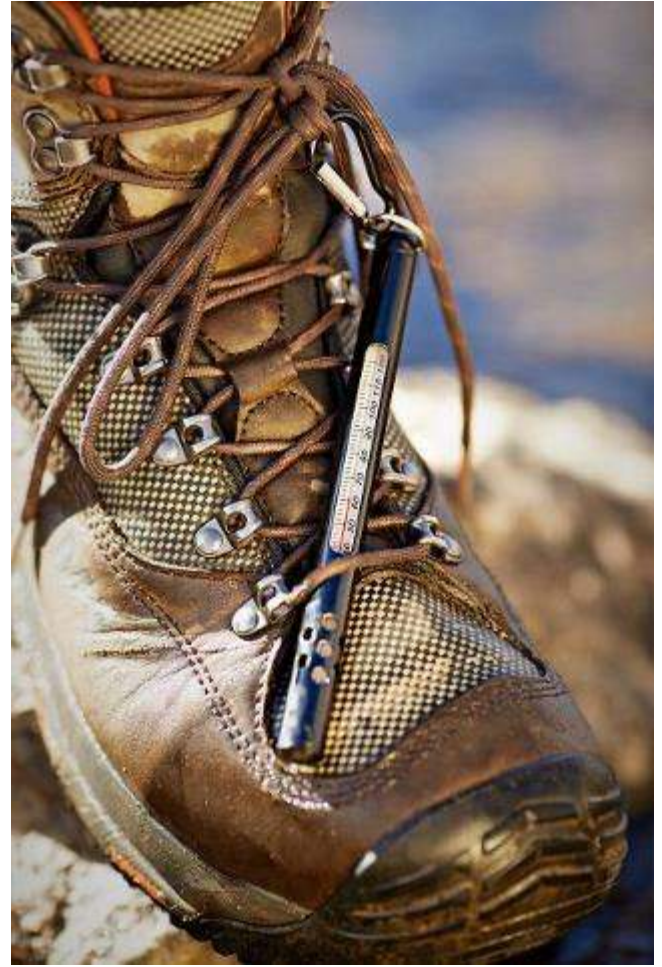
Just as the spawn is initiated by specific water temperatures, each of our invertebrate hatches is triggered by a specific range of temperatures (typically a window of 4-5 degrees F). Because the shallow waters of drought- stricken lakes and rivers heat up earlier in the season, you should anticipate the hatches to begin up to 3 weeks than on a normal, high -water year. If you want to take advantage of these early hatches, make sure to have your emerger and dry fly patterns stocked in your boxes early in the season!

## Smaller Hatch Windows Hatches

In addition to hatches starting earlier due to lower, warmer waters, hatches will peak over a shorter period of time and taper off quicker than normal, high - flow years. The brevity of these hatches require both flexibility and mobility from the fly fisher if they want to take advantage of these shorter hatches. Flexibility in their willingness to play hooky from work and chores to head to the river whenever the hatch starts, and mobility in their ability to quickly follow the hatch upstream over its short duration in order to stay in the midst of the peak number of hatching invertebrates.

## Killer Temps & Hoot Owl Fishing Hours

Ultimately, prolonged drought conditions and higher water temps, are going to require fly fishers to adjust when and where they fish so as not to kill trout struggling to survive. At 67 degree F the organ function of trout become inhibited, while the warmer water holds a smaller percentage of dissolved oxygen making it exponentially harder for fish to recover from the exertion of being caught. While some states institute a "Hoot Owl" mandate, the educated and ethical angler should voluntarily limit their fishing between 6am and 2pm, and then resting the water through the heat of the day. Get in the habit of wading with a fly fishing thermometer laced through your boot and get of the water as you see the water temps climb toward 67degrees F and at a minimum maintain Hoot Owl fishing hours through the heat of the summer.



Even during drought years, there remain ample opportunities for the fly fisher to get out and enjoy regular time on the water. Plan on going higher in elevation and spend more time exploring and fishing lakes. Keep in mind that the spawn and your favorite hatches will come earlier than normal, and plan on resting the water through the heat of the day. Like all things, this drought will pass, and if we fish responsibly now, we will have healthy fisheries to enjoy when the snows and flows return.

*Peter Stitcher is owner of Ascent Fly Fishing and an Aquatic Biologist. Ascent Fly Fishing is a strong supporter of Trout Unlimited at national and local levels. Please visit Ascent Fly Fishing at [ascentflyfishing.com](http://ascentflyfishing.com)*



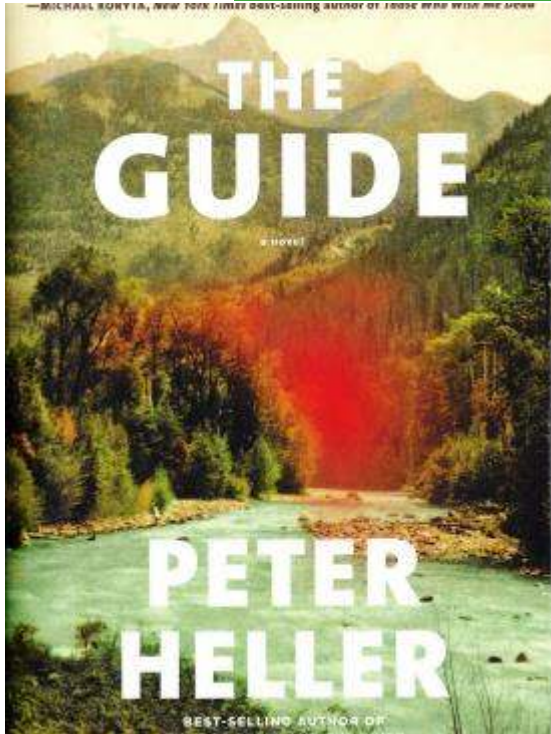
# Riverside Reader

## THE GUIDE

By Peter Heller

Book Review by Jon Weimer

### Fiction



“THE GUIDE” is a novel written by a local (i.e., Denver) author named Peter Heller. It is a book that has received considerable favorable reviews, and it was preceded by Heller’s “THE RIVER”, also a best seller and recipient of laudable critiques.

“THE GUIDE” revolves around a small group of visitors who are about to embark on a fly-fishing excursion to an exclusive, uber lodge in a secluded area outside of Crested Butte, Colorado. These are well-heeled guests who have apparently come to this lodge to rejuvenate in solitude in addition to engaging in what is purported to be great fishing.

One of the guides at this lodge, and the protagonist in this tale, is Jack. Jack applies for this job because he needs an escape to regroup. He’s a broken man with a lot of emotional baggage. His mother died in an acci-

dent for which he blames himself. After graduating from college, his closest friend is killed, again another incident for which he ascribes guilt to himself. His love of fishing and nature is his one solace and sees this job as a means to assuage his sadness.

However, from the onset that he steps onto the lodge property, something doesn’t feel right to Jack, something ominous—i.e., warnings of places not to trespass, something suspicious about the last guide (his predecessor) who mysteriously disappears, his discovery of a hidden camera located in his cabin, the gruff lodge director who insists on adhering to draconian rules and regulations.

Then, there are some guests who seem so strangely out of it. I’m not going to spoil the ending or the crux of this novel, but Jack’s shocking discoveries in this paradisiacal valley are stunningly horrific and are emblematic of what modern technology and vast amounts of money might portend in the future.

A final note: Heller is indeed a fluid and graceful writer, with a lyrical flair. However, to call him the “... poet laureate of the literary thriller,” as some have proclaimed, is a bit hyperbolic. I have read other authors that are as facile with the language as Heller. But, again, this is an excellent novel which is both a paean to fly fishing and a thrilling mystery that will leave an indelible impression on you.

**Jon Weimer is the former President of West Denver Trout Unlimited.**

*Read any good books lately? Fly fishing, nature, environment all good! Please share your recommendations to Mark Shulman at Anglers Edge.*

# The Drift

*By Mark Shulman*

Eight anglers and four guides gathered a little after 9am to receive our briefing. “Welcome to the Phantom Canyon Preserve. 1,230 acres containing four miles of the North Fork of the Cache La Poudre River. Phantom Canyon is under the protection of the Nature Conservancy since 1987.”

Our Canyon caretaker host Kevin, accompanied by Violet, an exuberant one year old Vizsla, gave us a quick oversight of the Canyon terrain, wildlife present and suggested we pace ourselves, that the walk in and out was arduous. It was for me. What I focused on after the short talk was his description of the Canyon containing “a very healthy rattlesnake population.” I don’t usually use the words *healthy* and *rattlesnake* in the same sentence. All of us gladly pulled on full waders and boots to the hike down to the river from the Canyon rim.

For the next eight hours I was in the presence of only two others, my fishing companion, and our guide. Even the others guides and anglers who had started the 1,000ft descent from the rim to the river were now not in sight. Relative solitude, rare for Front Range fishing. Only 30 miles northwest of Fort Collins, the Phantom Canyon Preserve is protected as a sanctuary from heavy public use. Entry is restricted by the Nature Conservancy. Rocky Moun-



tain Anglers of Boulder and St. Peter’s Fly Shop of Fort Collins have permission to escort a few anglers in the spring and fall to fish the pristine waters where wild browns and rainbows rise to dries and more often take the dropper.

*Continued on page 17*



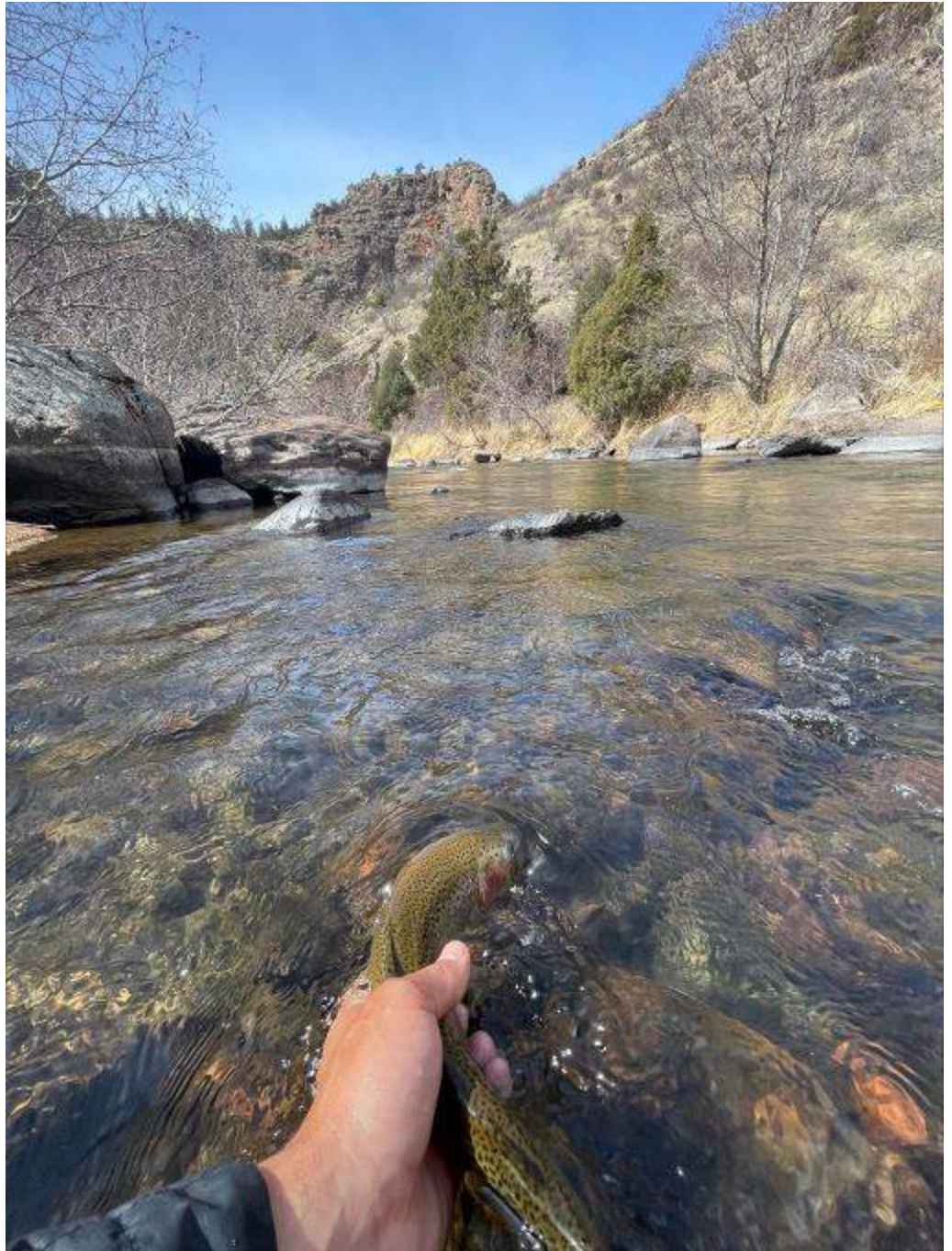
# The Drift, cont'.d from p. 16

*By Mark Shulman*

Though water flow was low, rocks were slippery and in a couple locations we crossed the river using a handheld rope line. I was grateful for my wade staff, both in the water and on the hike in and out. I also used it often to sound out brushy areas before wading through. Chris Melendez from Rocky Mountain Anglers is an experienced guide and teacher. I was fortunate to have been paired with him. Many trout were brought to net that day, mostly rainbow but a couple of strong browns also. Fly selection was “efficient.” That is, a chubby Chernobyl and a bead head midge, specially tied by Chris, worked all day.

Phantom Canyon Preserve is a special experience. Several days of very sore legs wore off. Memories of a silent Canyon, the Blue Heron with talons full overhead, wild trout rising in gin clear water – memories will endure.

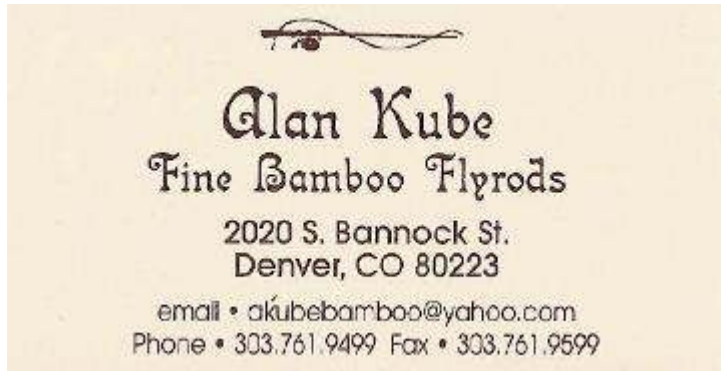
And the “healthy population”, stayed hidden.



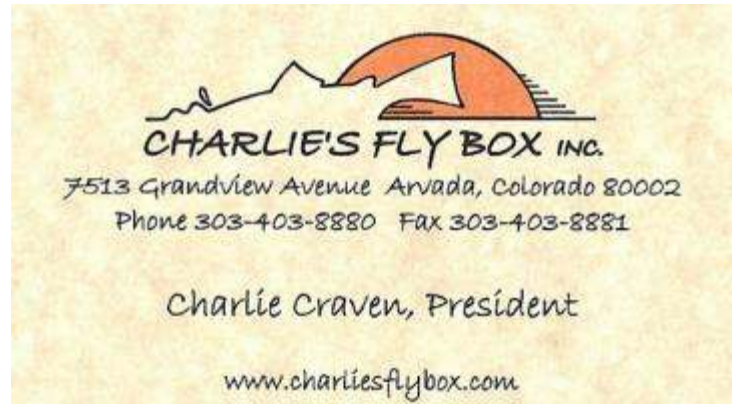
*Mark Shulman is the editor of Anglers' Edge*



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# ABOUT TU

## Trout Unlimited

“Founded in 1959, TU is the leading conservation organization dedicated to conserving, protecting, and restoring, North America’s trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. Our 100,000 members are organized into 450 local chapters nationwide. These volunteer chapters are the “watchdogs” of their local rivers and streams. They conduct stream restoration projects, monitor legislation, and fight for “fish friendly” policies with state and local officials. Through its Washington DC-based national headquarters, TU conducts valuable scientific and economic research to foster more enlightened trout and salmon management practices, lobbies to strengthen environmental legislation like the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act, and provides a voice for its 100,000 members.”

## West Denver Trout Unlimited

The West Denver Chapter, Trout Unlimited (WDTU, TU chapter #130) is a member-driven 501 (c)(3) organization whose mission is conserving, protecting, and enhancing Colorado’s coldwater fisheries through volunteerism, education, and outreach.

WDTU was founded in Colorado in 1974, and now has over 1,100 members across western metro Denver, including Lakewood, Golden, Morrison, Englewood, Littleton, Wheatridge, and Arvada. Our conservation and community outreach projects include the development of a Stream Management Plan for the Clear Creek watershed, water quality and temperature monitoring, Jefferson County Outdoor Lab programs, Trout in the Classroom, and other youth fishing programs. WDTU’s governance also relies directly upon its members, who

## Community

generously volunteer their time and effort to achieve the chapter’s mission. The chapter’s Board of Directors has a board meeting every month (separate from the chapter meeting). Members are welcome to attend board meetings and are encouraged to volunteer to be an Officer or Director.

## WDTU Chapter/ Board Meetings

**Chapter Meetings:** In-person resumed September 1 at the American Mountaineering Center. Chapter meetings are held from September through June. Next Chapter meeting, May 11.

**Board Meetings** are held on the second Tuesday of each month via Zoom.

## A Note About Email Address Changes

Please notify us whenever you change your email address, snail mail address and/or telephone number so we can communicate with you quickly and efficiently.

Contact Ed Calmus [by clicking here](#).

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