



Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 35

October 2005

Issue 10

President's Beat

According to the latest release from the Sierra Club's Legislation Watch, there exists a bill (HR 3824) sponsored by Congressman Richard Pombo, R-California, that would dismantle the Endangered Species Act. The bill is euphemistically entitled The Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act. This would effectively serve to weaken the legislative protections for habitats and their species. (According to the article, 86% of Americans support The Endangered Species Act.) Rather than getting the message second hand, allow me to quote from the release:

"While plowing forward with plans to gut the Endangered Species Act, Representative Pombo has also set his sights on revoking the National Environmental Policy Act and drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and off America's coasts.

"Rep. Pombo claims that habitat will be protected by 'recovery plans' but his bill states that these plans are non-regulatory thus making them harder to enforce. Scientists tell us one of the most effective ways to protect and recover species is to protect the places where they live.

"This bill weakens recovery plans by stacking the 'recovery teams' that draft them with industry representatives. It requires that the teams include representatives from each 'constituency' with a direct interest in the species and its 'economic and social impacts'. It also removes the Act's requirement that recovery plans be prepared for the 'conservation and survival of endangered species and threatened species.'

"The Pombo bill would allow political appointees to manipulate science to fit their political agenda by allowing the Secretary of Interior to develop a

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Meeting Notice

When: October 12 at 7:30 PM
Where: American Legion Hall
33 West Passaic Street
Rochelle Park, New Jersey

October 12 Dave Brandt

Guide and FF Instructor will present "How to Read a Stream" + A Tribute to Lee Wulff, Dave will hand tie a Royal Wulff without a vise

Mark Your Calendars!

Future Guest Speakers

November 9

Don Bastian

Guide, Author and Master Flytyer -
program TBD

December 14

George Daniel

Seductive Streamer Strategies:
An approach to imitating bait fish

George is an OLN FF Masters, won top honors; a member of the pro staff with St. Croix fly rods. In 2005 he earned a spot on Team USA Fly Fishing.

Most programs have a slide show.

Save The Date

2006 EJTU Annual Dinner/Fund Raiser
Location: Wayne Manor
Date: Saturday, March 11, 2006
Time: Hospitality Hour, 6:30 PM
Dinner, 7:30 PM

Connetquot Trip

EJTU is planning a trip to the Connetquot on Tuesday, November 22, 2005.

The \$70 fee for the trip includes the park's fishing fee and also the cost of a bus that the chapter will charter. \$45 for the park alone.

If you would like to reserve a place on the trip please see Karen Canning at the Chapter General Meeting. Please keep in mind that fees are not refundable.

Hunter Education

If you have never had a New Jersey hunting license and would like to get one you must first attend a hunter education course. The course, for which there is no charge, includes a home study manual/workbook/video followed by a field walk and written examination.

The courses are held in a number of locations from September through November but they seem to fill up quickly so apply as soon as you can.

Full details may be found at the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's site <http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/hunted.htm>

We Found Doug

Last month Doug Penna and his display were lost - actually, he knew where he was and he knew where he installed the EJTU display but we didn't. Now all's right with the world because we've found him again and we know where the display is.

If you want to visit the EJTU display during October it will be in the Rochelle Park Library.



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Monthly General Member Meeting: The East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.

Location: The American Legion Hall, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, NJ. 07662.

Monthly Board Meeting: The East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited Board Members meet on the last Thursday of each month at 7:30PM.

Location: The Bergen County Community Center, 327 East Ridgewood Ave., Paramus, NJ 07652.

How to contact us:

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Mailing Address:

East Jersey Chapter, Trout Unlimited Box 366 HoHoKus, NJ 07423-0366

For Membership Information call Ed Sikorski at: 201-337-6396 or email to: dored100@hotmail.com

For Information on trips and other Chapter Activities go to www.eastjerseytu.org

For East Jersey and National Trout Unlimited information, visit our website at <http://www.tu.org>. Go to chapter number

091 and you will get the latest information about our chapter. Riffles is your publication so we invite and encourage every member to contribute articles, tips, and stories. The articles may relate to trout, trout fishing, fishing in general or conservation but, all articles are published at the discretion of the editors and should meet EJTU standards regarding protecting our environment and the merits of 'catch and release' techniques. Pseudonyms may be used but the editors must be informed of the name of the member who writes the article. Email to either:

tu@cataloguepublishers.com or raycapp@optonline.net. Each piece of material that is published earns you 10 points towards your next goal in the points program.

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President's Beat

definition of the 'best available science.' The proposed requirements also give greater weight to empirical data -- ignoring the importance and integrity of scientific modeling. The Endangered Species Act already requires the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to use the most rigorous science available when developing common sense solutions to prevent the extinction of endangered fish, plants and wildlife. The Pombo bill creates a new set of hurdles that scientists must surmount if they are to list and protect endangered wildlife and their habitat.

"This bill would also allow the Bush Administration to exempt any agency action or 'categories of actions' from the requirement to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service before they take any actions that could undermine the survival or recovery of protected species. This provision would remove scientific experts from key decisions on whether projects like timber sales or pesticide regulations would harm endangered species and make it highly unlikely that federal agencies will be required to do anything to protect listed.



"The Pombo bill requires the federal government to use *taxpayer dollars* to pay developers for complying with the Endangered Species Act's prohibition on killing or injuring imperiled wildlife and sets no limits on these payments. The federal government would have to pay for profits developers *hoped* to gain by developing that portion of the land, including any profits lost due to mitigations asked of the landowner to protect endangered species, such as retaining riparian corridors or setting aside mitigation habitat. By requiring agencies to compensate

Fly of the Month

The hatches of summer are winding down, and it's time to think subsurface. October's fly of the month will be bead head nymphs. Bead heads currently dominate the nymph category and for good reason. The patterns have the weight and flash necessary to provide some action when nothing seems to be happening. Tie up your favorite bead head pattern, or better yet, an assortment of your favorites, and turn them in at the next meeting. You will receive 10 points and an entry into the monthly drawing for every dozen flies you turn in. More importantly, you will be helping your chapter raise funds for our various projects. If you can't make the meeting, mail your flies to the chapter P.O. Box or turn them in to any director.

Bruce Seiden

landowners for the costs of complying with federal endangered species protections, this provision would quickly drain funding used to help restore wildlife and the places they live. (This also sets a dangerous precedent of paying companies for following other environmental and public health laws.)

"The Pombo bill places endangered species at risk whenever the federal government fails to meet a 180-day deadline for telling developers whether their actions would kill or harm an endangered species. If the government misses the deadline, no matter what the reason, developers are permanently exempted from the law."

We all know how slowly the wheels of bureaucracy turn.

How's that for the old saw of the fox guarding the hen house?

George Petersen

Joan Wulff - Herself!

If you would like an opportunity to see Joan Wulff, she will be at the Ramsey Outdoor Store in Ramsey on Saturday, October 8, 2005.

It looks like she will be there for only a brief time in the early afternoon - from 1 PM until 2:30 PM - but she is scheduled to give a casting demonstration, then sign books.



Fall Trout Stocking

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife will stock nearly 50,000 trout in the state's major trout waters from October 4 through 13.

There are some significant changes to the fall stocking program that are taking effect this year that anglers should be aware of. Listed below are those changes.

The stocking period has been shortened to a two-week period (the third week of stocking has been eliminated).

Surplus trout (averaging 5 to 6 inches) traditionally stocked during the third week of fall stocking, were stocked months earlier to free-up growing space in the Pequest Trout Hatchery raceways. This was done as the hatchery transitions from the production of one-year old trout for this fall, to larger, two-year old trout for the fall of 2006.

Broodstock trout (approximately 1,000 three-year old rainbow trout, averaging 17 to 18 inches) traditionally stocked during the second and third weeks will now be stocked during the first and second weeks of fall stocking.

The majority of the trout being stocked this fall are the standard production, one-year old rainbow trout, averaging 9½ inches. However, approximately 13 percent of this total (6,000) are larger, two-year old brown and brook trout, averaging 14 to 15 inches. These larger trout were reared to test the ability of the hatchery system to produce two-year old trout for upcoming changes to the fall and winter stocking programs next year.

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The Albies are Here!

After reading EJTU member Tom Gilmore's book *Albacore: A Comprehensive Guide to Fly Fishing's Hottest Fish*, I decided I had to catch some. On September 26 I had my opportunity. I headed out of Manasquan with Captain Gene Quigley of Shore Catch Guide Service.

What a day! Non stop Albies. These fish are aggressive, will take a fly on the surface and once hooked, provide multiple way-in-to-the-backing runs. To top off the day I hooked a 25 lb. bluefin tuna.

Check out www.shorecatch.com

Gary Heger

First Trip to Montana

In August/September I finally made it to one of the greatest trout spots on earth, the Livingston area of Southern Montana; fifty miles North of Yellowstone Park and in close proximity to many fine waters.

After a dismal first day of floating down the Yellowstone River while fighting off wind storms and flinging giant rubber Grasshoppers (more like kite flying), my friend Terry and I decided to fish inside Yellowstone Park. The Lamar River was suggested as a very special place to start but we got side tracked at the sight of the beautiful Slough Creek and we stopped there first. It was a welcome distraction.

As we approached the water all I could think of (besides trout) was the possibility of a bear encounter. I felt that I needed to watch the surroundings and the fly at the same time so, in a way, it was a bit exciting to risk one's life for a trout.

I tried casting a #16 Ant pattern to a picture perfect undercut bank for a few moments without results. Then I moved to shallow water below riffles and let the Ant drift down into a pool. A 13" Cutthroat shot up from below and immediately hit it. A moment later the same Ant was brutally attacked by an 18" Rainbow (see photo) that attacked before the fly could even descend into the pool. I really think this hungry trout brushed its belly on the gravel bottom while chasing this Ant.

My companion came to assist me and was amazed that such a huge trout came out of such shallow water. These trout are brilliant in color and very strong making



hook removal an ordeal. After the "photo op" and gentle release of the beautiful 18" Rainbow, a third 13" Cutthroat hit my Ant.

This was great fishing for a small creek but it was noon so we decided to head over to fish the famous Lamar. Aside from the park's incredible beauty, there's probably no more perfect stream or more beautiful one than the Lamar. It has big boulders, pools, turns, and 'Gin clear' water running through it.

At 4:00 PM a feeding frenzy started and we could do no wrong. I was using a #16 Elk Hair Caddis and proceeded to catch 12" to 15" Rainbows and Cutthroats one

after another. It was fly fishing heaven, nirvana, and like fishing in paradise. But twenty minutes later the action ended as quickly as it began, leaving us with our hearts pounding.

Outside of the park there are many good access spots to fish the Yellowstone in the fifty mile stretch between the park and Livingston. In addition, if you

drive East from Livingston you'll reach Big Timber where there is another great river, Boulder Creek. Along Boulder Creek you will find the famous "Road Kill Cafe" which is a good lunch stop.

We lived the true-ism: "too many streams, not enough time". I recommend that everyone head west for trout at least once. You will find it hard to stop smiling.

Best Fishes

Stuart Berson



Welcome to September's New EJTU Members

Rene Stephens	Jersey City
Lou Valentino	Glen Ridge
Joshua Benevento	Ramsey
B Socienski	North Arlington
Grady Carter	Paterson
Greg Hazley	Secaucus
Debbie Cucchiara	Westwood
Nancy Paradis	Jersey City
Lorraine Ostrowski	Hawthorne
Trevor Inglis	Bergenfield
Dennis Schultz	Township of Washington

Ramapo Ramblin'

The Ramapo River has been extremely low after that long hot dry period called summer but as I write this column it is raining. In August, when Bob Papson of NJ Fish and Wildlife did the electro shocking of the Ramapo, he found no trout. At test sites downstream from Glen Gray bridge and at the end of the dirt road upstream from the bridge there were many large and small mouth bass, bluegills, perch and suckers but no trout. The weather was quite warm, the river was extremely low, and water temperature varied from 76 to 80 degrees. The PSA was in the 6 to 7 range and oxygen content was satisfactory. Other recent tests found the Ramapo to have high levels of mercury, potassium and coliform bacteria - another good reason to catch and release.

The Guest speaker at our last membership meeting suggested that we should not keep trout out of water for more than thirty seconds because their chance of their recovery drops to forty percent if they are kept out longer. He also recommended that trout should be netted using a net with no knots and that you hold the trout on its back through the net as you remove the hook. Holding them upside down quiets the trout making hook extraction and release easier. Trying to remove a hook while the trout is still in the water many times results in ripping the flesh as the trout wiggles and squirms.

The Ramapo has gone through a very low period but autumn rain should bring everything back to life. The State will only stock the river once this year on Friday, October 7 instead of the usual two stockings, and small trout will be released separately into some ponds and streams without notice. We will help stock at Britt's Tackle Shop at 9:30 AM, then at 10 AM we will be at Glen Gray Road and Halifax Road. Fewer trout will be released but they will be two-year-olds and in the twelve to fifteen inch range. The river is not closed for stocking on the day of stocking so you can come help us stock and do some fishing afterwards

On Saturday, October 29, EJTU will once again stock three hundred rainbows in the Ramapo at Glen Gray Road and Halifax Road. This year we will have twenty five of the trout tagged and numbered. Numbers one to eight will go downstream from Glen Gray Bridge, eight

to sixteen upstream from the bridge and sixteen to twenty five upstream from Halifax Road Bridge. We ask everyone who catches these tagged fish to note their number, general location and condition along with the date of the catch and then send the information to me at hermaril@aol.com. This information will help give us an idea of the way the trout travel and their survival rate. I promise not to give out the location of your special "honey hole."

I want to thank everyone who donated fishing and hunting magazines for the wounded heroes in VA hospitals. We will do this again in the future but only periodically because the hospitals do not want to be flooded with them.

A tip: carry a fish creel with you so that you can carry any cans or trash that you might find back to a trash can. Another tip: put a little car wax in the eyes of your rod to make them slippery for longer casts.

Until next month, I will see you downstream where we all live.

God Bless America

Herman Drenth

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Fall Trout Stocking

This trial run was successful and the hatchery production cycle has already been modified to produce these larger fish for next year's program. Because the hatchery will rear the larger two-year old fish in the same raceway space that has been used to produce the smaller yearling trout, anglers can expect larger, but fewer trout in the fall and winter of 2006. In the meantime, trout anglers venturing out this fall will begin to experience the thrill of catching some of these big trout, and those fall-stocked trout which elude anglers should still be out there when opening day rolls around next April.

The 2005 fall trout-stocking schedule is at www.njfishandwildlife.com/flstk05.htm.

Stocking dates may change and are subject to prevailing weather and water conditions. For the most updated information regarding fall trout stocking conditions check the above page or call the Division's Trout Stocking Hotline at 609-633-6765. The hotline is operational 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

The above was posted on the Division of Fish and Wildlife's web site.

Joan Wulff Fly Fishers

The Joan Wulff Fly Fishers (JWFF) meets in Ridgewood on the first Thursday of every month. The meetings begin at 7 PM in the 1st Methodist Church on Dayton Avenue (Go past the church and turn right into the parking lot).

JWFF has scheduled a trip to the Connetquot on Saturday, October 30 2005.



Trout Unlimited
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Quote of the Month

**"The fishing was good;
it was the catching that
was bad."**

A.K. Best

First Class
Postage Paid
Permit

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Fair Lawn NJ
07410