

Tuck Tales



<http://www.smokyonthefly.com/tucktu/>



February 2004

Tuckaseegee Chapter #373 of Trout Unlimited

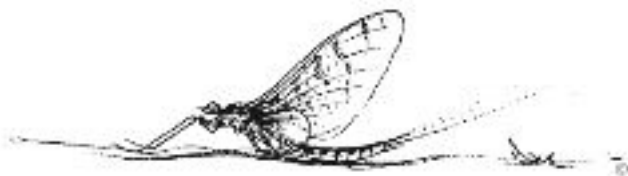
Vol. 6 No.2

February Meeting

The Tuckaseegee Chapter of Trout Unlimited will hold its regular monthly membership meeting on Tuesday, February 3, at 6:30 PM at the United Carolina Community Bank located on highway 107 south in Sylva. The meeting room is at the rear of the building.

Program Chairman Larry Tucker will provide a presentation on the "Tuckaseegee River Gorge and Panthertown Areas".

Members and other concerned persons are cordially invited to attend our meeting. The Tuckaseegee Chapter is made up of members from Haywood, Jackson, Macon and Swain counties.



Tuck Tales is published twelve times per year by Tuckaseegee Chapter of Trout Unlimited, a nonprofit organization, for its members and supporters. Edited by Craig Forrest.

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The Tuckaseegee Chapter has a web presence at:
<http://www.smokyonthefly.com/tucktu/>

Dam Removal Expert Speaks

Dr. George Annandale, one of the country's foremost experts on dam removal, spoke to a large group last Thursday evening at the Jackson County Administration Building. His topic was titled "Dam Removal: Sustaining Your Water resources".

In the first part of Dr. Annandale's presentation he provided a brief introduction which included some interesting information regarding his experience with sedimentation concerns. He has worked in the past with the World Bank and many different governmental agencies on various projects throughout the world.

The second part of his talk covered general issues related to the life cycle of dams and a concept he called "Life Cycle Sustainability". He pointed out that dams interrupt the natural transport of sediment which leads to environmental impacts along the river system both above and below a dam. His intent in this portion of his presentation was to point out the fact that previously dams were designed with the idea that they would be constructed, operated, maintained and then decommissioned. However with the "Life Cycle Sustainability" concept he advocates having operation and maintenance carried out in a manner that will lead to perpetual (sustainable) use of the resource.

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Wildlife Resources Gets Needmore

On January 15, 2004 the NC Wildlife Resources Commission became the proud owner of the 4,450+ acres Needmore Tract in Macon and Swain Counties. Needmore lays astride 13 miles of the main stem of the Little Tennessee River and encompasses 21 tributary streams including Burningtown Creek, a class B Trout water. The tract has long been viewed as a gem by the environmental community; with 20 river islands, 72 wetland areas, 4 known endangered species and over 31 total miles of riverine riparian area.

The “Needmore Deal” has been over four years in the making and has required numerous participants to raise the \$19 million purchase price. The WRC will use the tract as a game lands, allowing hunting and fishing. Trout are found in many of the tributary streams and good populations of smallmouth bass reside within the main river. Access to the property is along the Needmore Road and off Hwy. 28 at Brush Creek and Sawmill Creek.

Fly Tying Class

Fellow Tuckaseegee Chapter member Willie Cope is a local fly fishing guide and avid fly fisherman who takes his tying seriously. In offering this course he will share his knowledge of fly tying and patterns that are effective here in the Smokies. Take the opportunity to learn some new techniques and patterns. The course is sure to be fun and informative.

This class will be geared for the *intermediate* to *beginning* fly tier. February classes will be held one night a week for 4 weeks. Each student will need to bring a basic set of tying tools. If you're not sure about these call or email Willie and he will go over a list of basics that you will need. All tying materials, hooks, fur and feathers will be provided.



Classes will be meet at Dr. David McGuire's in the downstairs meeting room at the rear of the building. As of this publication Willie is looking forward to meeting Monday nights starting at 6:30 - 7:00 PM and ending at 9:00 PM. (subject to change)

When calling to register Willie would like at least one pattern from each student that they would like to learn to tie. These patterns will be taken into consideration for using during the classes. If there is enough interest he may consider doing another class during different dates or during the month of March. Cost of the class is \$75.00. To register please call Willie at 586-4787 or email him at smonthefly@aol.com (this is a paid advertisement)

The Tuckaseegee Chapter of Trout Unlimited wishes to express its deepest sympathy to the family of fellow chapter member Charles Woodard. The family has requested that memorials be made in Charles' name to the Tuckaseegee Chapter.

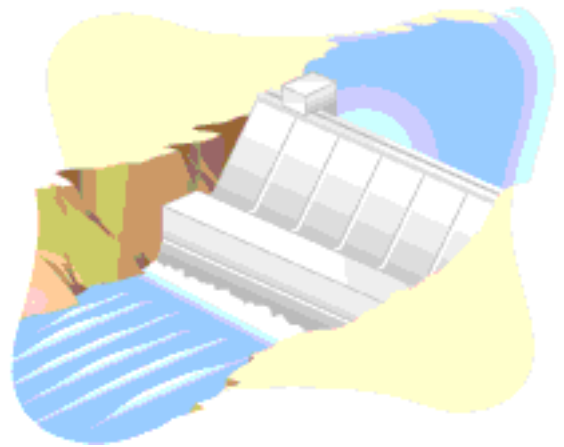
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The final part of his presentation focused on issues regarding the Dillsboro dam. He did not make a recommendation to the audience regarding whether or not the Dillsboro dam should be removed. He offered his opinion that the stake holders should look at their options carefully and weigh their decision to take a position on the issue after determining what was best for them in terms of what could be gained from the FERC relicensing process.

He said that it would be feasible to remove the dam (provided certain procedures were followed) and also that it would be equally feasible to leave the dam in place. He recommended that if the dam were to remain in place studies should be conducted to determine how sound the structure was and if any maintenance needed to be performed. He also advised that once the sediment behind the dam is removed the gates in place could probably be used to gradually release sediment behind the dam to help maintain the impoundment in the future.

Some questions were raised after the presentation by a few members in the audience regarding Duke Power's willingness to remove the dam. Was it simply because Duke felt it would assist their application process? It was pointed out that recent communications from Duke to its shareholders revealed their intention to possibly sell their hydro operations in the southeast. Would the dam removal look good to a potential buyer?

At present several entities have mounted some legal challenges through the FERC relicensing process to Duke's application. Those in opposition to the application in its present form will be seeking certain concessions which Duke does not currently appear to be willing to grant. Look for more information here in *Tuck Tales* in the future as it becomes available.



**1640 East Main Street
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Upcoming Projects 2004

Annual Tuckaseige
River Clean Up
Date to be announced

**David S. McGuire
DDS**

Preventive Dentistry
Restorative Dentistry

45 King Street
Sylva, NC 28779

(828) 631-3283
(888) 585-2400



Special thanks to Chapter
Member Steve Gray for
having his company
print and fold
our newsletter!

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NC Wildlife Violations	1-800-662-7137
TVA Information	1-800-238-2264
Tuckasegee River Water Schedule	(828) 369-4559
Nantahala River Water Schedule	(828) 369-4556
Tennessee Wildlife Commission	(615) 781-6500
TU National Office	1-703-522-0200
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NEWSLETTER OF THE TUCKASEEGEE CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED
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