

TUCK TALES

Squeak Smith in March

Catching the big ones in Michigan.



Squeak & Pres. Morgan.

The March meeting featured a presentation to a well-attended TUCK TU meeting by TU SE Regional VP, Squeak Smith.

Squeak spoke to the chapter about Salmon and Steelhead fishing in Michigan. He also spoke about NCTU's efforts to deal with FERC relicensing and concerns

regarding the North Shore Road issue.

TCTU'ers were quick to point out to Squeak the need for a concerted effort by our chapter and State Council to work together to fight the attempt to build a road on the north shore Of Fontana Lake.

Squeak assured us all that State Council was concerned and was committed to doing

all it could to help prevent the construction of a road and to enlist TU National's help in our cause. He asked for time to get the wheels turning faster and promised to get back to president Morgan soon regarding what we could expect and what would be expected of us by State Council.

Thanks Squeak for a great program and enjoyable evening!

Next Month

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

Our program for the May meeting will be a planning session for upcoming projects over the summer months. We'll also discuss our North Shore Road efforts. TCTU will not meet again until September.

The Tuckaseegee Chapter is made up of members from Haywood, Jackson, Macon and Swain counties.



KIM RYALS SPOKE AT APRIL 5TH MEETING

Kim Ryals spoke to TCTU at the April meeting and gave us all an overview of her efforts with the *Back the Brookie* campaign using a Power Point demonstration. The current decline of native brook trout signals a decline in watershed health. And unhealthy watersheds cannot provide clean water, a basic necessity for life.

Back the Brookie combines the best of Trout Unlimited - passionate, dedicated, grassroots volunteers with professional fisheries staff - to work towards the brook trout's future and the health of our watersheds.



FONTANA LAKE PROTECTION BILL

NC Representative Phil Haire filed HB 1189, Fontana Lake Protection, on April 12th. It was referred to the House Committee on Environment & Natural Resources, Co-Chaired by Reps Jim Harrell (D-Surry) and Rep Carolyn Justice (R-Pender).

The bill in part states:

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The Environmental Management Commission shall classify Forney, Chambers, Hazel, and Eagle Creeks from their headwaters to Fontana Lake as outstanding resource waters by January 1, 2006.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding G.S. 150B-21.1, the Environmental Management Commission shall adopt temporary rules to classify Forney, Chambers, Hazel, and Eagle Creeks from their headwaters to Fontana Lake as outstanding resource waters by October 1, 2005.

SECTION 3. This act is effective when it becomes law.



NEW WILDLIFE ADVISORY

Consumer Product Safety Commission and Zebco Recall Kids' Fishing Poles

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 13) — The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with W.C. Bradley/Zebco Holdings Inc., this week announced a voluntary recall of about 1.5 million children's fishing poles because paint on the poles contains lead.

Lead is toxic if ingested by young children and can cause adverse health effects. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately. More information can be found in the following links:

- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prereleprhtml05/05155.html>
- <http://www.zebco.com/recall>

FLY OF THE MONTH

**Yellow Palmer**

The Yellow Palmer will be a sure ticket for May as you will start seeing lighter hatches coming off. This pattern will cover a broad spectrum of the lighter colored may fly hatches that will be appearing. It can be fished as a dry with floatant applied to it, so it floats a little longer or fished just under the surface as a drifting emerger caught in the film. Either way you are sure to catch a few nice trout. You may find some of your larger trout will prefer to take it just under the surface. Be sure to include a few of these in your box for the upcoming month!

Hook: Mustad 94840 or Tiemco #12 - #16

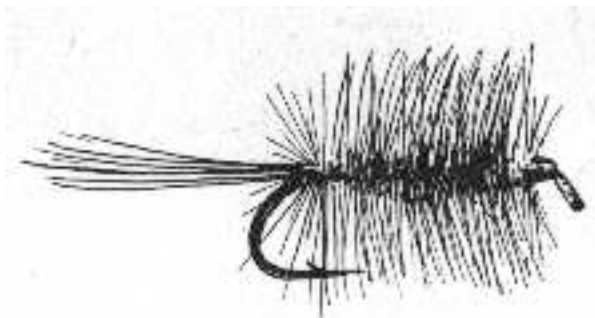
Thread: Yellow 6/0 or 8/0

Tail: Yellow poly or for a twist you can use golden pheasant tippets

Hackle: Brown & Grizzly note: Tie hackles in before wrapping body

Body: Yellow poly (Poly won't soak up any water)

After wrapping the body, palmer the hackles to the head of the fly and tie off. Then whip finish and cement head.

**Tuck Tales**

is published six times per year by Tuckaseegee Chapter of Trout Unlimited, a nonprofit organization, for its members and supporters.

Edited by Craig Forrest. Please address comments to

Tuck Tales

P. O. Box 3196

Cullowhee, NC 28723

E-mail:

craigforrest@sleepyhollowstudio.com

The Tuckaseegee Chapter has a web presence at:

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

Tuck Tales is available on the web site as a full color, downloadable pdf file, current month as well as archives.



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



1640 East Main Street
Sylva, NC 28779
(828) 631-9166

David S. McGuire, DDS

Preventive Dentistry
Restorative Dentistry

45 King Street
Sylva, NC 28779

(828) 631-3283
(828) 586-2400

**HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE KILLS DEBATE
ON KEY FISH AND RIVERS AMENDMENT****Rejects Consideration of Dingell/Boehlert/Udall Amendment to Fix Harmful Hydropower Provision of House Energy Bill**

4/20/05

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) - Late last night (April 19) the House Rules Committee rejected a bipartisan amendment authored by Reps. John Dingell (D-MI), Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY), and Tom Udall (D-NM) designed to fix the harmful Hydro Title (Title III) of the House Energy Bill, which is scheduled for floor consideration today. Rejection by the Rules Committee will prevent the amendment from being considered by the full House and will, in all likelihood, ensure passage of the Title later today as part of the larger energy bill.

“Last night, the Rules Committee turned its back on the interests of sportsmen and women, rivers, and the trout and salmon fisheries of the nation,” said Steve Moyer, Vice President of Volunteer Operation and Government Affairs for Trout Unlimited. “When all 435 Members of Congress are not even afforded a chance to debate such an important natural resource issue, a real travesty has occurred.”

Title III of HR 6 would disenfranchise river and fish conservationists by creating a new alternative decision-making process accessible only to dam owners. If enacted the provision would undermine the current balanced relicensing process by giving the industry a trump card to use to try and get out of fish passage and improved flows requirements established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries biologists. In short, the bill shifts the balance of power in hydropower relicensings in favor of dam owners and against the health of America’s rivers.

“The hydropower industry and its supporters in Congress have the votes to shut out our voices, but they have no justification. The current fair and balanced relicensing process, although it is challenging, continues to churn out a string of positive agreements for improving rivers and fisheries without any substantial loss in generating capacity. The system is not broke, and it certainly doesn’t need this bad fix. The Dingell/Boehlert/Udall amendment would have maintained a fair and open process,” Moyer said.

“Those who are making the critical decisions about how the Energy Bill is being considered don’t seem to understand the basic fact that hydropower interests are not the only ones who use and benefit economically from rivers,” said Moyer. “Fish and wildlife need healthy rivers as do anglers, boaters, the sport fishing and commercial fishing industries. The rivers and waterways of the nation provide more than 557 million days of fishing for 34 million anglers who, in turn, spend \$41 billion in pursuit of fish. These interests deserve the opportunity to be heard in the relicensing process, and they deserve a chance to have this issue debated on the floor of the House of Representatives.”

Other provisions which undercut trout and salmon resources also appear to be on the way to passage in the H.R. 6. Provisions found in the Oil and Gas section of the bill would exempt construction activities related to oil and gas development on public lands from complying with portions of the Clean Water Act and exempt an industry practice known as “hydraulic fracturing” from the Safe Drinking Water Act, allowing for drilling fluids and other byproducts of gas and oil development to be injected into the ground, potentially contaminating rivers, streams, and groundwater.

Also, provisions in the bill would exempt a large class of energy projects, including hydropower, from complying with the National Environmental Policy Act's (NEPA) core functions under the guise of regulatory streamlining for "renewable energy" projects. This provision would undercut NEPA's basic requirements to look at less environmentally-harmful alternatives to projects advocated by industry proponents.

Following the near certain passage of H.R. 6 on Thursday, TU and other conservationists will turn their attention to the Senate which is drafting a companion bill. Action is expected on the Senate Energy bill in the coming months.

TU Decries Lack of Compromise on Clean Air Legislation

New rules amount to minor progress, but are inferior to legislation

3/11/05

WASHINGTON - The national conservation organization Trout Unlimited (TU) today expressed disappointment at the failure of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee to pass a strong, bipartisan clean air bill. Earlier this week, the committee deadlocked 9-9 on the administration-backed Clear Skies Initiative. Republican leaders on the committee failed to amend the bill sufficiently to reach a compromise with the seven Democrats, one Independent, and one Republican who voted against it.

Trout Unlimited's members in the East seek reductions in sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides in order to reduce acid deposition in the region's mountain streams and lakes. Many of the mountain watersheds affected by acid rain also include some of the best habitat for brook trout, the East's only native trout.

"In the end, the caps in Clear Skies on sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides would have benefited mountain streams and lakes in the Appalachians," said Leon Szeptycki, TU's Eastern Conservation Director. "The bill, however, simply contained too many regulatory giveaways, particularly on mercury, to pass with bipartisan support. We believe that a more straightforward bill, with good caps and fewer rollbacks of existing Clean Air Act programs, would pass with strong bipartisan support and bring tremendous benefits to the whole country." The bill also deadlocked because of failure to reach agreement about how to handle emissions of CO₂.

Trout Unlimited urged Congress to revisit the issue and attempt to forge a strong, bipartisan compromise.

Trout Unlimited did express support for the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) today announced by the EPA. The CAIR would provide for caps in acid rain-causing emissions in Eastern states in order to meet air quality standards. "We would prefer to see lower caps, and we would prefer nationwide caps. We would also ideally like to see the caps implemented more quickly," said Szeptycki. "But the CAIR will ensure that sulfur dioxide emissions will continue to shrink, and will provide relief to our mountain trout waters. The rule certainly represents some positive progress in the absence of better legislation."

Chapter Contact Information

Richard Morgan - President
e-mail: mrmorgan@localnet.com 926-0950
Delos Monteith - Vice President 586-8527
e-mail: delos@southwest.cc.nc.us
Ernie Sipler - Sec./Treas. 293-7039
e-mail: esipler@earthlink.net
Larry Tucker - Director 586-6448
e-mail: lwtucker@mchsi.com
Milt Wofford - Director 631-2613
e-mail: Milt.Wofford@FayPWC.com
Mike Lackey - Director 631-3619
e-mail: tm_lackey@msn.com
Willie Cope - Web-master 586-4787
e-mail: Smonthefly@aol.com
Craig Forrest - Newsletter Editor 293-9425
e-mail: craigforrest@sleepyhollowstudio.com

Other Contact Information

Squeak Smith - TU SE Reg. VP
(828) 584-2848
Tim Wilhelm - NC TU Council Chair
(704) 442-1253
Kim Ryals - TU SE Coordinator
(828) 275-3346
NC Wildlife Violations
1-800-662-7137
Tuckasee Water Schedule
(828) 369-4559
Nantahala Water Schedule
(828) 369-4556
TU National Office
1-703-522-0200

Craig Forrest**Editor, Tuck Tales****P. O. Box 3196****Cullowhee, NC 28723**