

Tuck Tales



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



September 2004

Tuckasee Chapter #373 of Trout Unlimited

Vol. 6 No. 9

Next Meeting

The Tuckasee Chapter of Trout Unlimited will hold its next regular monthly membership meeting on Tuesday, September 7, 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.

Our program will be *"In the Foot Steps of Lewis and Clark"* and will be presented by fellow chapter member and past president, Tom Massie. Tom took his summer vacation this year in Idaho and will regale us with cutthroat tales.

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

TU National News

New Bush Administration Policy threatens some of the best native trout habitat contained within 58 million acres of roadless areas on our national forests .

A HARMFUL PROPOSAL NEEDS YOUR ATTENTION:

TU Urges You to Write the Forest Service in Opposition to a Proposal to Overturn Existing Protections for Roadless Areas

On July 12, 2004, the Bush Administration announced its plan to overturn the Roadless Area Conservation Rule, a landmark conservation policy issued by the Forest Service in 2001 that protected 58 million acres of national forests from new roadbuilding and most logging.

In its place, the Administration proposes to implement a new policy whereby state governors would have to petition the Forest Service for roadless protection on a case-by-case basis. This proposal provides little in the way of durable protection for these areas. Instead, it will result in additional bureaucratic hoops for state government with no guarantee that such requests will be granted because the Forest Service retains the ultimate authority to decide whether roadless areas will be protected.

Make a difference today. Write to Forest Service officials in strong opposition to the proposal. Comments must be received by September 14, 2004.

Background:

Roadless areas on national forests comprise 58 million acres, or 31% of all national forest lands. These areas possess social and ecological values and characteristics that are becoming scarce in an increasingly developed landscape. While these roadless areas represent about 2% of the total landbase of the United States, they support a diversity of habitats for native plant and animal species, provide sources of clean drinking water, and conserve biological diversity. Most importantly to TU, roadless areas provide some of the best remaining native trout and salmon habitat in the nation. This fact is especially important since most of our western native trout are imperiled or currently on the federal endangered species list.

Integral to any discussion about prohibiting new roadbuilding in roadless areas is the

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current state of the existing road system. National forests contain 386,000 miles of roads. The maintenance backlog of this existing road system exceeds \$8.4 billion. Many people inside and outside the Forest Service questioned the wisdom of building new roads in roadless areas when such a large maintenance backlog on the existing road system persists.

The original Roadless Area Conservation Rule, established by the Forest Service in January 2001 after several years of formulation, provided strong protection for 58 million acres of roadless areas in public forests and grasslands. Specifically, the rule prohibited road construction, reconstruction and most logging in roadless areas. More than 90 percent of the record 1.6 million public comments received by the agency supported the protections in the original rule.

Despite such broad public support, the Bush Administration delayed implementation of the Roadless Area Conservation Rule and failed to support it during legal challenges. U.S. District Court Judge Clarence Brimmer in Wyoming enjoined the rule last July. The Bush Administration declined to appeal Brimmer's ruling, even though the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals had previously upheld the rule in a separate legal challenge.

Roadless areas on our national forests contain the last of the best habitat for fish and wildlife. Trout Unlimited recently released two reports, available at www.tu.org, that illustrate the value of roadless areas in Idaho and Oregon to fishing, hunting, and habitat.

Among the reports' key findings:

- 83 percent of bull trout spawning and rearing habitat in Oregon is found in areas with roadless lands;
- 74 percent of Idaho's Chinook salmon habitat is roadless;
- Oregon's remaining westslope cutthroat trout populations are found in roadless areas of the John Day River Basin;
- 88 percent of the Idaho land in units yielding more than 90 percent branch bull elk hunting success is roadless;
- 61 percent of Idaho's historic steelhead habitat has been lost but 74 percent of the remaining habitat is in roadless areas;
- 72 percent of the Idaho land in units yielding more than 40 percent four-plus-point mule deer hunting success is roadless; and
- Oregon's Lahontan cutthroat populations have been reduced from eight watersheds to just two, and both are within roadless areas.

Overall, roadless areas provide large blocks of habitat for a variety of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife and plants, including hundreds of threatened, endangered, or sensitive species. Many roadless areas function as biological strongholds and refuges for a number of species and they play a key role in maintaining native plant and animal communities and biological diversity.

TU urges you to file comments as soon as possible in opposition to the proposal.

You can submit comments via U.S. Mail to:

Content Analysis Team, ATTN: Roadless State Petitions

USDA Forest Service

P.O. Box 221090

Salt Lake City, UT 84122

Or by facsimile to (801) 517-1014

Or by email to statepetitionroadless@fs.fed.us

**Leon Chandler
1922 - 2004**

Leon promoted fly fishing worldwide as well as nationwide. He was fly fishing's "Ambassador" to the world. He did this not only to promote Cortland Line but because he loved the art and science of fly fishing as much as any individual possibly could.

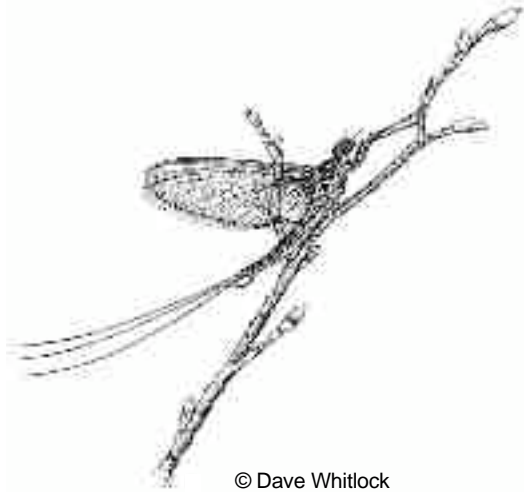
His quiet, patient, competent, knowledgeable and always low profile demeanor made Leon someone we looked to as a role model.

I never heard him utter a disparaging word himself or heard anyone say anything remotely disparaging about him. He loved a good laugh but never at the expense of others. He never took himself too seriously and was pleasant company any time and any place.

He was doing and living what he loved, and it showed. I often heard him say he had the "Greatest job in the world." Not many of us make that claim and mean it. But Leon was absolutely sure.

My memories of him are cherished. I only wish that there were more of them. He was truly one-of-a-kind, and I'm proud to have had the pleasure of knowing him.

*Thomas Cook
Leon Chandler Chapter
Trout Unlimited*



© Dave Whitlock

September Hatches

Hatches this month are few and include:

Midge (Chironomidae)	all month
Little Yellow Stonefly (A. chloroperia)	1st of month
Blue Wing Olive (B. vagans)	all month
Trico (T. stygiatus)	all month
Tiny Blue Winged Olive (P. anoka)	all month

Freshwater Fishing Licenses Not Valid for Saltwater

RALEIGH (Aug. - 2004) — The new law passed by the N.C. General Assembly requiring saltwater anglers to purchase fishing licenses does not include an exemption for holders of annual or lifetime fishing licenses.

House Bill 831, approved during the General Assembly's last session, requires anglers to purchase a license to fish coastal waters beginning in 2006. A provision of this new law will create a Salt Water Fishing Fund to study the feasibility of establishing a unified fishing license covering both inland and coastal public waters. Results and recommendations from this feasibility study will be forwarded to the Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture by April 15, 2005.

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission manages and regulates inland public waters – a responsibility that includes administration of freshwater fishing licenses. The N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries will administer the new saltwater fishing license. For more information about the saltwater license, contact Marine Fisheries at 1-800-682-2632 or visit their Web site at:

<http://www.ncfisheries.net/recreational/NCRecSaltLicense.htm>

Highlands Boy Wins Lifetime Fishing License

CULLOWHEE (Aug. 4) — Talk about not letting the big one get away! Payton Robinson of Highlands registered for a Fish-For-Fun event at Cliffside Lake earlier this summer and reeled in some fish with the help of his mother, Charissa Robinson. This Saturday, Payton will be reeling in more fish — and a lifetime fishing license too — courtesy of the Jackson County Sportsmen's Club, Progress Energy and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission.

Through the luck of a draw, Payton's name was randomly picked from more than 2,100 other young anglers' names to win one of three lifetime comprehensive fishing licenses given away as part of North Carolina's celebration of National Fishing and Boating Week, June 5-13.



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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
Tuckaseegee 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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