

NEW MEXICO TROUT

Newsletter Apr 2012

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Greetings

After a busy couple of months with the Symposium and Conclave, we have had a chance to catch our breath and look back on the accomplishments. In addition to providing an opportunity to meet and visit with many interesting anglers and introducing them to the activities of NM Trout, these two events provided an influx of funds for our conservation and other club activities. The Symposium netted about \$1600 while the Conclave income was about \$900. Conclave attendance was about 140 which was down significantly from previous years. With the attendance down so were the ticket sales for the raffles, including dollars spent per attendee. I have to believe that both reductions, people and money, was due to the state of the economy. The number of big ticket donations was also down from years past. The flyfishing industry itself is caught in the same downturn as is the rest of the nation. The reason for the difference in income between the Symposium and the Conclave was due to the expenses associated with the two programs.

As we look forward to next year's events, a top priority is appointment of conclave chair for 2013. If anyone is interested, please contact me or our outgoing chair who has served so well for many years, Bob Widgren.

Finally, I want to remind our members that our next general meeting will be 10 April, usual time and place!

CYa, Pat Mileshosky

Forest Restoration on the SW Jemez

by Ron Loehman, Conservation Chair

The Southwest Jemez Mountains Landscape Restoration Project is a ten-year, \$35 million collaboration among the Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF), the Valles Caldera National Preserve (VCNP), and the Jemez Pueblo "to restore sustainable ecological conditions on... approximately 210,000 acres in the Southwest Jemez Mountains". This project is of interest to NM Trout members because it includes the entire upper Jemez River watershed and the outcome will affect streams we care about, such as the East Fork, San Antonio, Cebolla, and Guadalupe.



The SFNF is holding informational meetings on their part of the project, as required by Forest Service regulations and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). On Thursday, March 29 in Santa Fe and Saturday, March 31 in Jemez Springs SFNF staff presented their Draft of the Purpose and Need for the proposed work. The three stated goals are:

- Restore ecosystem function to the landscape, including improving fish and wildlife habitat and enhancing water quality and watershed function
- Modify fire behavior to reduce wildfire severity, such as by tree thinning and increasing forest diversity and old growth trees
- Create jobs and provide opportunities for local employment, such as by finding uses for woody by-products

With one major exception, I believe that the project's goals and contemplated actions are deserving of NM Trout's support. The exception is



the decision by the SFNF not to consider grazing and the effects of cattle grazing in any of their planning and proposed actions. At the March 31 meeting in Jemez Springs, I, and many of the other attendees, strongly objected to that exclusion and stated that the project objectives will not be realized unless the SFNF explicitly considers cattle grazing, particularly in relation to riparian areas.

Two more public meetings are scheduled to roll out the Proposed Draft Action. These will present details of what the SFNF actually will do, as opposed to the general goals and objectives presented in previous meetings. The meetings are open to the public and attendees views and comments will become part of the public record that must be considered in the final plan. Please attend one of the following if you can make it.

- Thursday, April 12 at SFNF Supervisor's Office, 11 Forest Lane, Santa Fe
- Saturday, April 14 at Valles Caldera Science and Education Center, Jemez Springs

More info: http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/jemez mtn rest/index.html

Valles Caldera Clinics and Youth Activities

By Francis Peter, Youth Director

Volunteers from New Mexico Trout conduct fly fishing clinics for youth and adults on the Valles Caldera National Preserve, allowing up to 20 participants to advance their fly fishing techniques and to fish these scenic and limited access rivers. Participants spend a half day learning about equipment, tackle, knots, stream insect sampling and identification. They will have time to practice their casting in the morning and then head for the fishing hole in the afternoon. Bring a lunch to enjoy along the stream and be prepared for weather. This activity is extremely popular, so sign up early.

While there are still some issues as to the availability of fishing on the Valles Caldera this summer due to the aftermath of the Las Conchas fire last summer, the Valles Caldera Fly Fishing Clinics will be held on schedule, as follows:

May 26	Youth	May 27	Adult
June 23	Youth	June 24	Adult
July 21	Youth	July 22	Adult
August 18	Youth	August 19	Adult

September 22 Youth September 23 Adult



Please inform your friends and neighbors of these dates. The clinics will be held from 8:30am to 5:30pm each day. Interested parties can get more information and sign up at http://www.vallescaldera.gov/calendar/ViewCal.html

Anyone interested in volunteering to help with these clinics should contact Francis Peter (fepeter@comcast.net or 505-980-3444) and provide your name, email

address, and phone number. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time on the Valles Caldera. Even after the fire, it is a magical place.

In early May, the Valles Caldera will be conducting their semi-annual fish surveys on both the East Fork and the San Antonio. Once information from these surveys is compiled, a restocking plan will be put into place. I will attempt to publish any information made available to New Mexico Trout when it is available.

Other youth activities are also planned at Tingley Beach and elsewhere with the City of Albuquerque and NM Game and Fish. Information will be published as it becomes available.

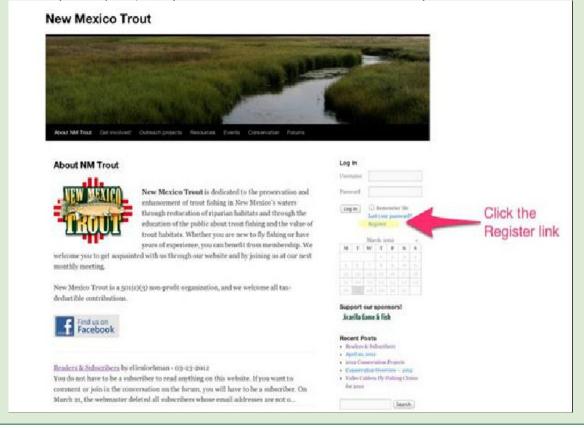
NMT Website Upgrades

by Ellen Loehman, Web Master

As you may have noticed, we updated our website about a year ago and we continually work to improve content and features. Recently we've made a couple of significant changes to our website that you may enjoy:

- 1. Added a discussion forum
- 2. Restricted access for NM Trout members only
- 3. Added links to our business sponsors

The content on the website is, and will always be, available to anyone. But if you want to make comments or start a discussion, you will have to register for the site. It's easy and quick, but you will need this code: trout4me. Try it out!



Rio Grande del Norte Legislation

Recently introduced federal legislation, if passed by both houses of Congress, would establish a 236,000-acre conservation area on public lands in Taos and Río Arriba counties, a 13,420-acre "Cerro del Yuta Wilderness" in Taos County and an 8,000-acre "Río San Antonio Wilderness" in Río Arriba County. This resolution was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-NM, and co-sponsored by Rep. Martin Heinrich, D-NM

(http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/112/hr 1241). A complementary Senate bill was sponsored by Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-NM, and cosponsored by Sen. Tom Udall, D-NM (http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/112/s6 67). The Río Grande del Norte National Conservation Area Establishment Act has moved through the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and been placed on the Senate legislative calendar.



The act introduced in the Senate makes note of the recreational uses of the area, as well as its historic uses and its importance as wildlife habitat. The Senate bill states "The riparian area along the Río Grande provides habitat for brown trout and the federally listed endangered southwestern willow flycatcher. The National Conservation Area also contains archaeological, cultural and historic resources relating to the settlement of the region by both indigenous populations and later by early Hispanic settlers." The House resolution permits grazing in the area, as well as the traditional collection of piñón nuts, firewood and medicinal plants and herbs "for noncommercial, personal use."

Fly of the Month - Bugs Bunny

Pattern and Photograph by Hans Weilenmann Used by permission

Hook: Size #14 Kamasan B175 or Mustad

3906 or Daiichi 1550

Bead: Cyclops Eyes 5/64", brown olive

Thread: Benecchi 12/0, black

Collar: Pine squirrel guard hair, dyed dark

brown

Body: Argentinean hare, dark brown

More flies by Hans are

at http://www.danica.com/flytier/hweilenm

ann/hweilenmann.htm

More NM Trout patterns at

http://newmexicotrout.org/archives/catego

ry/fly-patterns



Meet the Board

John Johnson, Secretary

John is a long time member of New Mexico Trout and previously served on the Board as Director of Publicity from 2001-2007. He is retired from the faculty of UNM School of Medicine. In his current position as secretary, he strives to provide concise, accurate minutes of Board meetings and assist in various volunteer activities. His interests, in addition to fly fishing, include fly tying, golfing, grandfathering and traveling with wife, Jane. He enjoys fishing the Jemez, Pecos and more recently, the South Platte around Colorado Springs, CO. An annual trip to Montana to fish the Bitterroot, Missouri and other rivers is always on the docket.



Calendar

NMT General Meeting

10 April 2012, 7:30pm

Sandia Prep Commons Room

Brian Beaudoin, Don Hurst & Jim Kelley will give a presentation on 'Quetico Fly Fishing for Smallmouth'. Come join us to catch up on NM Trout news, have a chance at door prizes, and hear this exciting talk.

http://newmexicotrout.org/get-involved/meetings

Fly Tyer's Roundtable

Every Monday, 7:00pm excluding holidays

Sandia Prep Lab classroom

The Flytyer's Roundtable brings new and experienced tyers together to exchange ideas, techniques and materials.

Annual NMT Barbeque and Workday

2 June 2012

Installation of additional bollards and an interpretive panel along the Rio Cebolla, and a gathering of NMT members in an annual outdoor barbeque. Additional details will be published in upcoming newsletters.

New Mexico Trout Fashions

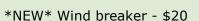
Don't miss your chance to own a comfortable and fashionable item of clothing, which will not only serve you well but will distinguish you as a member and supporter of

NMT. For those that have already outfitted themselves with the fine selection of jackets, shirts and hats that are offered, check out the new windbreaker and T-shirts that will complement your collection.

Hats, one size fits all - \$15 Colors Dark Olive, Black, Tan

Fleece jackets with windproof lining - \$50 Colors Olive, Black

Shirts, cotton with mesh vents - \$35 Colors Dark Olive, Light Olive, Tan



*NEW*Short sleeve T-shirt, Dark Green - \$10

*NEW*Short sleeve T-shirt with a pocket, White - \$10

NMT embroidered badges - \$5

All items are available at regular NMT meetings. You can also place an order by calling Bob Day at 881-2738, or sending and email to abqbob410@msn.com You can pick up your order at Los Pinos Fly Shop.







"Nothing grows faster than a fish from when it bites until it gets away."

~Anonymous~

NMTrout Business Sponsors

Yearly business membership entails the sponsor to a link and an ad in the NMT Newsletter. Contact the membership chair for more information if you or a business owner you know would like to become a sponsor.

Land of Enchantment Guides

M & W Bar Ranch

Los Pinos Fly Shop

Rio Costilla Park

San Miguel River Products

Charlie's Sporting Goods

Cimarroncita Ranch Retreat



About Us

New Mexico Trout is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of trout fishing in New Mexico's waters through restoration of riparian habitats and through education of the public about trout fishing and the value of trout habitats. New Mexico Trout is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization, and we welcome your tax deductible contributions.





Comments/Suggestions

If you have comments or suggestions about the Newsletter, or an article you would like to submit, please email to newmexicotrout@gmail.com. Articles will be considered based on suitability, general interest and succinctness (please limit content to approximately 500 words). Deadline for the next issue is 3 May.