

The Cutthroat Chronicles

Official Newsletter of the Snake River Cutthroats

July, 2016

A Message from the President *by Paul Patterson*

Since this is my last newsletter as president, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all officers and directors who have served along with me for the past two years. I would also like to welcome Rory Cullen as the new president, as well as all the new and returning board members. Jeff Armstrong, Jim Mathias and Tim Crain are all staying on the board as Conservation VP, Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Director positions are for three years. Those with one year remaining include: Mike Miller, Wade Allen, and Pat and Susan Marushia. Two-year directors include: Arn Berglund, George Klomp and Matt Woodard. And new directors starting their three year stint include: Mike Avery, Rob Knox and Joe Timchak. It's a good mix. We are keeping some experienced folks which provides continuity, as well as bringing on some new folks who we expect to bring new ideas. One slot that we have yet to fill is Executive VP – which is basically the president elect. If you are interested in this position or serving on the board in the future, please talk with any of the existing board members.

Please plan on attending the summer potluck picnic on the 13th. This is always a great time to socialize, spin some yarns, and enjoy some great food. The main course is still under discussion, but will likely include hamburgers, brats and chicken – all compliments of the club. Assignment for other food items is based on the spelling of your last name. See page 2. But if your favorite dish doesn't fit the food category, bring it any way. We always seem to have plenty of food in all categories. And last but not least, a big **thank you** to Ann and Mike Miller for their willingness to again host this event. They have a great place next to the river with plenty of room for parking.

This is the last newsletter until October, so be sure to keep a copy handy. The outings for the remainder of the year are listed on page 3, along with the host for the event and the host's phone number. If you need more information or would like to sign up, contact the host for the event, or contact Mike Miller, outings chair.

On a sadder note, Marilyn Gabettas, Jim senior's wife and Jimmy's mother, passed away June 6. If you would like to honor her memory, the family requests that you send a donation in her name to the Idaho Falls Zoo, or a charity of your choice. For a donation to the Idaho Falls zoo, make check to: Tautphaus Park Zoological Society and send to: PO Box 50220, Idaho Falls, ID 83405-0220).

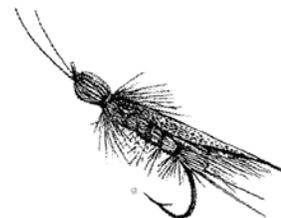
Enjoy the summer. They are always too short. Fish some new water. Take your kids or grandkids, nieces or nephews fishing. It's not only good for them, but it's good for you as well.



Annual Summer Picnic
Mike & Ann Miller's Home
(Directions on page 2)

Wednesday July 13th

Social Begins: 6:00 Dinner: 6:30



Annual Summer Picnic Wednesday July 13th 751 East 1550 North, Shelley

From I-15 Exit 113 (Dad’s Truck Stop) head south on 800 E (New Sweden Highway) past the Army Surplus Warehouse for roughly 1-1/2 miles. Turn west (right) on 1550 North --Woodville Road (Do not cross the river!) Travel ½ mile and turn south (left) on 750 East. Go roughly 1/4 mile to the end of the road (pine grove on left). The Miller’s place is just past the pine trees. Parking is available on both sides of the trees.

Provided: Main dish, soft drinks, water, condiments, paper plates and plastic ware (BYOB)

Bring your own lawn chairs, stories, and:

Last Name A-J: Bring a Desert

Last Name K-T: Bring a Salad

Last Name: W-Z: Bring something to go with Main Dish (ie baked beans)

Sign up at Jimmy’s before July 13th so we can get a head count, or send an email to pattersn@gold.uidaho.edu, indicate how many will attend. We’ll start serving dinner around 6:30. Big fish stories start at 6:00.



Certified Wisconsin brat chef Buck Goodrich at work at last year’s picnic.

Potential Rainy Creek Projects

Many of you are aware of the significant investment made by Trout Unlimited in Rainy Creek. New irrigation diversions with screens now keep fish from becoming fertilizer. While the screens are self-cleaning, they do need to be checked and cleaned periodically. This is being done by Snake River Cutthroat volunteers. To help facilitate access to the screens, TU’s Matt Woodard replaced a wire gate with a metal swing gate. We need to replace an old post and install a brace post on the right side of the gate. The picture below shows Matt Woodard and Duane O’Reilly working on the left side of the gate earlier this year. Not a major project but more time consuming than you’d think because of the high proportion of rocks to dirt. In addition, there is a considerable amount of wood debris jammed in the fish by-pass at the old Rainy Creek fish screen and weir that we will be removing this summer. If you are interested in helping on either of these two projects, please contact Paul Patterson pattersn@gold.uidaho.edu or 569-8031. Dates have not been set for either project.



Electronic Newsletters Available

For those still receiving hard copies of the newsletter via standard mail, but would prefer to receive it via email, please send your email address to Carol Staples, our membership chair, at casbas@ida.net.

Fewer mailings mean more dollars for conservation projects. The fish will appreciate your cost-saving efforts.



Snake River Cutthroats 2016 Outings Schedule

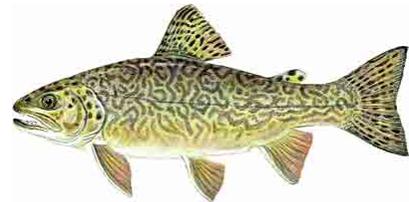
For more information, contact the outings host or Mike Miller.
 Outings Chair: Mike Miller, 357-5569, riverroosters@live.com

Date	Location	Host/Contact
July 14-16	Strawberry Reservoir in Utah High Country Fly Fishers Heber City, UT	Bill Quapp 435-709-7277
July 29-31	South Fork – overnighter Float from Palisades to Byington One or two nights	Dave Pace Home: 208-529-9290
August 13/14	Upper Blackfoot Campout Conservation Project Tour and Fishing	Matt Woodard Cell: 208-201-1353
September 24	Daniels Reservoir Fishing from boats	Dave Pace Home: 208-529-9290
October 21	Lower Blackfoot River Wade fishing for Rainbow & Cutthroats	Bruce Staples Home: 208-522-9242

State Record Tiger Trout

Last week, an angler fishing for catfish at Jim Moore Pond reeled in an unexpected new state record tiger trout! Meleah Phillips caught a 17 ½ inch long tiger trout that weighed 1.86 lbs. This new state record beat the previous record of 1.26 lb tiger trout caught last June in Wallace Lake near Salmon, Idaho.

Tiger trout are a sterile hybrid trout produced by crossing female brown trout eggs with male brook trout milt. The name “tiger trout” comes from the appearance of the adult fish, which have beautiful “tiger-like stripes” across their backs. The “tiger-like” markings are called vermiculation, a worm-like pattern, which is found on the backs of all brook trout. This spring IDFG will stock more tiger trout in Jim Moore Pond in an effort to provide another sportfish and help control the stunted yellow perch population.



2016 Canyon Creek Conservation Project Paul Patterson

For the 28th consecutive year the Snake River Cutthroats conducted our springtime conservation project in the Salmon/Lemhi River drainage. This year's project was on Canyon Creek, a Lemhi River tributary east of Leadore. This is the third project that the Cutthroats have done on Canyon Creek. This project is part of a Forest Service five year plan to restore four miles of Canyon Creek. Canyon Creek was reconnected to the Lemhi a few years ago, which will ultimately restore previously lost spawning habitat for anadromous fish. The weather was a bit more challenging this year. So it was really nice to have Buck's "tent" for cooking.



Setting up Cook Tent



Carrying root wad & rocks to site

Forest Service biologist Craig Hemping who directed the project had plans to place root wads or to plant willows at 30 sites. Willows will provide shade and stabilize eroding stream banks, while the root wads help reduce erosion, stabilize stream banks and provide fish habitat. We finished all the sites by mid-afternoon and returned to the Smokey Cub campground to prepare and enjoy the traditional steak bbq.



Willow planting with water jet stinger

The Eastside Soil Conservation District generously allowed us to use their water jet as they have in the past. The Forest Service recently acquired their own water jet, which helped speed the project along faster than expected. Thanks to Pat Marushia, Richard Cain, Wade Allen and Duane O'Reilly for helping with the cooking and the cleanup. Thanks to everyone who brought food to share and stories about fish caught or the one that got away that just get bigger every year. Another great project!

Snake River Cutthroat participants on this year's project included: Wade Allen, Mike Avery, Arn Berglund, Richard Cain, Tim Crain, Rory Cullen, Buck Goodrich, Ron Hover, George Klomp, Scott Long, Pat and Susan Marushia, Mike Miller, Ron Mizia, Danny Morse, Stephen Moss, Duane O'Reilly, Paul Patterson, John and Ryan Svoboda, and Matt Woodard. From Salmon River of No Return chapter we had Nancy Garcia, Jerry Myers, Gary Power and Frank Green. And from the Forest Service we had fisheries biologists Dan Garcia and Craig Hemping, and fish technicians Heyfa Khenissi, and Josh Stafford. I apologize if I left someone's name off the list of participants.

Access Rules for Henry's Fork Ranch

The Bill Fuchs family, owners of the Henry's Fork Ranch, formerly Seeley's, (east side of the river property from below Vernon Bridge to just above Chester Backwaters) are generous enough to allow access to a favored location on the river. Having experienced negative acts by some persons, they establish certain conditions for continued access to the river through their property. See below. It is in our best interests as sportspersons to abide by these rules if we wish for continued access to the prime location on the Henry's Fork.

Access Rules for Henry's Fork Ranch

Parking is allowed for 4 vehicles. A vehicle with a trailer is considered two vehicles. No parking between livestock loading chute and driveway. Park along river edge.

This is a working cattle ranch. Enter at your own risk.

Beware of livestock, our dogs, electric fences, and natural conditions.

Our property line begins at the end of the paved road.

Access can be denied at any time.

No pets allowed outside vehicles; no exceptions!

You must complete information required and sign in.

No littering. Pick up all man-made litter on property and in river.

No fires, fireworks, firearm shooting, or overnight camping.

You can only launch or remove small non-motorized watercraft (under 150 pounds) from here. You must carry them not drag them up or down the bank.

If you have a motorized watercraft on the Henry's Fork, you cannot use or access our property, no exceptions!

Access is limited to 100 feet of the river's edge

Yours and others actions will determine present and future access.

Please act like a responsible sportsperson and not like those who give sportspersons a bad reputation.

All property rights will be enforced.

Violators will be prosecuted.



Fisheries Review of Treasureton Reservoir

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Treasureton is a small irrigation reservoir of 143 surface acres and average depth less than 20 feet, and located about 10 miles north of Preston, Idaho. It was chemically treated in 1989 to remove nongame fish. Fish stocking has been rainbow trout, primarily sub-catchables (about 15000 per year) since.

The fish management objective for Treasureton Reservoir has been to provide anglers with an opportunity to catch trophy-size trout. That goal has largely been achieved using conservative harvest rules including reduced bag limits and a variety of size restrictions. Current fishing rules include a 2-trout limit, with none under 20 inches, and no bait.

The minimum size restriction of 20 inches and the sterile trout stocking program markedly improved the average trout size. Prior to 2008, the largest trout caught in the reservoir were about 22 inches. Today, the largest trout in the reservoir are about 27 inches long. Very large trout remain in the reservoir. However, very few smaller trout are surviving to replace the large, old trout. To maintain the current fishing opportunity, survival of stocked trout must be improved.

In 2007, IDFG received angler reports of largemouth bass in Treasureton Reservoir. In 2009, IDFG collected its first bass during a standard electrofishing survey. Currently, the fish species composition is dominated (90%) by largemouth bass. As a result, the size distribution of trout is missing the young small and medium size fish needed to support trophy fish into the future.

To maintain that unique trophy trout fishery, IDF&G has encouraged bass harvest (no bag limit or size restrictions) and transported bass to other fisheries specifically managed for bass (Condie and Johnson reservoirs). Those actions have not been enough to control the growing bass population. Adult bass are very effective predators on rainbow trout, while young bass compete with trout for food. Without significantly reducing the bass population, competition for food and direct predation will further impact the trout fishery.

Bass between 14 and 16 inches are becoming more abundant and will prey on newly stocked trout. As the number of young bass grows, food resources will become more limited and trout growth will be slowed. Treasureton Reservoir is managed to provide a trophy trout fishery based on previous public input, and is reflected in the current 2013-2018 Fish Management Plan.

Treasureton Reservoir's trophy trout population is unique to the area, but cannot be sustained without improved survival of stocked hatchery trout and a reduction in the bass population. If the majority of anglers prefer to maintain Treasureton Reservoir as a trophy trout destination, this would best be accomplished without largemouth bass present in the lake.

Potential Management Options, regardless of the current management option of releasing larger trout in fall 2017 to minimize predation by birds and largemouth bass, include.

1. Remove largemouth bass with chemical treatment in the fall.
2. Complete a three-year experiment to control largemouth bass expansion by removing fish using intense shoreline electrofishing.
3. No action.



Recipe of the Month

Healthy Fish Tacos with Slaw

Tons of these recipes available, but this one applies regionally because it calls for “white fish.” We have these in abundance in the form of Rocky Mountain whitefish (stiffies).

Taco ingredients:

- 1 cup chopped plum tomatoes
- 1/3 cup thinly sliced green onions
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- 5 teaspoons extra virgin olive oil, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, divided
- 1 pound whitefish fillets
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 8 (6-inch) corn tortillas

Preparation:

Combine first three ingredients in a large bowl. Add juice, 1 tablespoon oil, and 1/4 teaspoon salt; toss well to combine.

Heat remaining 2 teaspoons oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Sprinkle fish evenly with chili powder and remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt. Add fish to pan; cook 3 minutes on each side or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork or until desired degree of doneness. Remove from heat, and cut fish into bite-sized pieces.

Warm tortillas according to package directions. Spoon about 1/4 cup cabbage mixture down the center of each tortilla. Divide fish evenly among tortillas; fold in half. Serve tacos with slaw given below.

To prepare the slaw, place shredded cabbage in a bowl and sprinkle with 1/2 teaspoon of salt. Massage and squeeze the cabbage with your hands to help it release its liquid and begin wilting. Transfer the cabbage to a strainer set over a bowl and set aside to drain for about 15 minutes.

Squeeze the cabbage of its excess liquid, one handful at a time, and transfer to a mixing bowl. Add the grated carrot, green onions, and jalapeño (if using). Toss to combine. Whisk together the minced garlic, lime juice, and mayonnaise. Taste and add a sweetener, salt, and pepper to taste. Pour over the cabbage mix and toss to combine.



2015-16 Calendar



Date	Activity
Tuesday, September 13	SRC Board Meeting: 6:30
Wednesday, September 28 th -Saturday, October 1 st	2016 TU National Meeting, Bozeman, MT
Tuesday, October 4	SRC Board Meeting: 6:30
Wednesday October 12	SRC General Membership Meeting, 6:30 Speaker: TBA
Wednesday November 9	SRC General Membership Meeting, 6:30 Speaker TBA

Note: all membership and board meetings are at the Shilo Inn.
Board meetings are open to all members.
General membership meetings are open to the public



Snake River Cutthroats
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Snake River Cutthroats

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President: Paul Patterson: (208-569-8031)
Past President: Gary Barnes (208-538-7881)
Ex. Vice President: Rory Cullen (208-419-8477)
VP Conservation: Jeff Armstrong (208-522-7005)
Treasurer: Jim Mathias (208-684-4200)
Secretary: Tim Crain (208-821-1646)

Senior Advisors

Jimmy Gabettas
Buck Goodrich
Scott Long
Jim Mathias
Dave Pace
Bruce Staples
Marvin Stucki

Board of Directors

3 Yr Directors

Arn Berglund (569-2243), George Klomp (680-2762), Matt Woodard (221-1353)

2 Yr Directors

Christina Assante (270-0347), Pat & Susan Marushia (523-1591), Wade Allen (390-3130)

1 Yr Directors

Open , Ron Hover (529-9791), Mike Miller (357-5569)

Committee Chairs

Membership: Carol Staples (208-522-9242)
Historian/Newsletter: Bruce Staples (208-522-9242)
Education: Jeff Armstrong (208-522-7005)
Expo: Wade Allen (208-390-3130)
Programs: George Klomp (208-680-2762) & Marv Stucki (208-524-1825)
Outings: Mike Miller (208-357-5569)
Website: Tim Woodard (208-201-1669)
Youth: Tim Crain