

The Flypaper

July 2021



A LEADER IN COLDWATER CONSERVATION

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From the President

Dennis Cook Steps Down from Leader Development Committee

There comes a time when all of us have to make a personal decision about volunteering, and when it is time to step away and turn the reins over to others. Dennis tells me that, for him, that time is now. Dennis has been a member of TU for many, many years. He is a past-president of a Denver chapter, and has done yoeman's work with Rocky Mountain Flycasters, putting in an untold number of volunteer hours. Thank you, Dennis, for all you have done for our chapter. We are stronger because of your tireless efforts. And we know you will still be volunteering many more times in the future to help the chapter keep moving forward! (Be sure to read Mickey McGuire's article about Dennis later in this newsletter).

September Membership Meeting – Face to Face

As more and more people get vaccinated, and virus cases decline in number, your Board of Directors is hoping and planning on meeting face to face in September (**Wednesday, September 15**, to be exact). It will be great to see old friends again whom we've not seen in many months, and to be able to greet new members and maybe even shake hands. Imagine that! We will keep you posted via our August and September Newsletters about the time, location, and program for our first chapter meeting of the fall.



RMF Corporate Rewards Program Expands

I am pleased that RMF's Financial Development Committee has added Kroger's King Soopers and City Market stores to RMF's Corporate Rewards Program, in addition to Amazon. This is another easy way for our members to donate more to RMF. It's this easy:

- 1-You Sign-Up and Shop.
- 2-The company gives to Rocky Mountain Flycasters.
- 3-See full details below in this issue of The Flypaper.



Ft Collins RiverFest, Aug 21st

This event will be our first "in-person" event since 2019. We will need volunteers to staff our booth and interact with the public. Our booth volunteers will be there to tell people what we do, hand out our informational brochures, talk about the

Poudre Headwaters Project, and tell interested people how to volunteer and also how to join RMF. We may also have a demonstration fly tyer. Final plans will be solidified in August. Here is the official announcement from the RiverFest website: <https://poudriverfest.org/>

"Join us at New Belgium Brewing for a day of education, restoration and celebration of the Poudre River! There will be live music, exhibitor booths, interactive games, food trucks, tasty beer and door prizes! You can also learn about river restoration projects being led by local non-profits and sign up to volunteer".

- Saturday, August 21, 2021
- 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- New Belgium Brewery

"Booth Training" session

Seven chapter members met at our Mini-Storage site, on Wed June 16th, to provide some training to a few of us with no experience setting up our RMF Booth. Mickey and Dennis led this training effort, and the "trainees" included Dave Beede, Dave Haeusler, Jeannie Weaver, Mark Miller, Ron Hanser and our newest member and volunteer, Marty Leeke.

Hopefully we will have some opportunities to put this training to good use. To date, we have the following public events penciled in on our RMF calendar:

- RiverFest - Aug 21st, Mini-Celebration @ New Belgium, 1:00 PM 6:00 PM
- Rist Canyon Fire Dept Fund Raiser – Sept 11th. RMF will have a combined booth with our friends from Platte Rivers Veterans Fly Fishing
- Pinewood Boat Ramp events – Date is TBD
- Trek the Thompson – Oct 2nd in Loveland

As details of these events are solidified and draw near, we will be looking for volunteers to help staff our booth and tell the public what we do. If you don't think you know enough details about RMF programs and activities, no worries, let me know and we'll get you up to speed! So standby for more information in our August and September newsletters.

Volunteer in RMNP

Many of you know the name Chris Kennedy – the US Fish & Wildlife biologist for RMNP. Every summer he has a full schedule of projects in RMNP, and is always in need of volunteers to help him get the work accomplished. This summer is no exception. He has a long list of projects that include work at Fern, Odessa, and Spruce lakes (in the burn area). Other work will be done near Longdraw Reservoir, as well as Ouzel Lake (5 mile pack-in), and more work on our very own upper Poudre River. These projects are spread out from mid-July to early October. For most of this work you will need to be in very good physical condition, for packing-in several miles, or for electro-fishing all day, or setting and pulling gill nets. This is demanding but great work for those who want some "hands-on" opportunities to really make a difference. *If you are interested in enrolling in any of the projects, you can sign-up by clicking the "Join the Volunteer List" button at this link: <https://rmftu.org/rocky-mountain-national-park>. And be sure to attach your signed waiver to the email. Now, get out there, have fun, and make a difference!*

Mark Miller
RMF President



Thank You Dennis!



I would like to thank and congratulate **Dennis Cook** for his outstanding service as the inaugural chair of the **Leadership Development and Nominations Committee** for Rocky Mountain Flycasters. Dennis has chosen to step down from the chair position to focus on other important activities. While the LDN Committee was officially established with the passing of the Bylaws in 2019, Dennis and I had discussed the concept of the committee for a couple of years before the Bylaws were passed. His thoughts and wisdom helped form the backbone of the committee and he and I became close friends.

Traditionally, the Nominations Committee was responsible for identifying people who had an interest in serving on the board, an activity that usually began about two months before the election. As you might imagine, there was some significant arm twisting going on in those two months and often times Board seats remained vacant. The updated concept of LdrDevNom is to maintain a year-round presence educating members about the functioning of the board and Chapter committees, explaining their individual and collective interactions toward development of an effective operating chapter leadership team, and to build succession opportunities for those who are interested. Dennis was the ideal person for this chair position because he previously was President of a Denver TU Chapter and also had managed his own consulting business to recruit and place executives with top companies.

Many of you may have been contacted by Dennis as leadership vacancies became available and I know you left those discussions with a broader picture of the Chapter and what was necessary to successfully contribute in those leadership vacancies. I truly believe Dennis' and other committee members' efforts resulted in a series of outstanding Boards of Directors and very capable committee chairs making the Chapter stronger than ever before.

Of course, with his departure, the LdrDevNom Committee Chair position is vacant. If you have interest in the position, I am sure Dennis would be happy to discuss it with you.

Mickey McGuire
Past President



Pub and Dub RETURNS!



There is no greater pleasure than catching a fish with a fly you tied. Teaching a beginner to tie flies ranks a close second.

Our popular social fly tying event "Pub and Dub" will be held the **first Thursday of each month starting September 2 at 6:00 PM** in the loft area at the rear of the taproom at the Gilded Goat Brewery and Taproom, 3500 S. College Ave in Fort Collins. Come and join us for an evening of socialization, swapping fish stories from your summer and maybe even learning a new

pattern.

"Pub and Dub" is a free event hosted by the Rocky Mountain Flycasters TU Chapter for

members and friends to meet, have a beverage and tie flies. **Marty Staab** will designate a “Fly of the Month”, and the Chapter provides all tying materials (and vices and tools as needed) along with video tying instructions on the big screen TV. Tyers of all abilities are welcome, and first time tyers will find themselves surrounded by others happy to assist.

Please RSVP to Marty (mrstaab@gmail.com) each session, and let him know if you need a loaner vice or tools.



Conservation News

Volunteers Assist USFWS and CPW Spawning Greenback Cutthroat Trout at Leadville National Fish Hatchery

Volunteers, some from Rocky Mountain Flycasters, assisted US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) fish biologist Chris Kennedy and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) personnel in greenback cutthroat trout spawning at the Leadville National Fish Hatchery. The Leadville hatchery was established in 1889 and is the second oldest Federally operated fish hatchery in existence.



The hatchery grounds occupy 3,072 acres near the city of Leadville, Colorado, at an elevation of 10,000 feet. The hatchery's subalpine forest surroundings, with its cold, clean water supply provide the ideal location for trout production.

Chris Kennedy (in photo standing high on raceway) directed the carefully organized spawning operation which aimed to maximize genetic diversity in the resulting fertilized trout eggs. USFWS and CPW staff stripped milt from specific male trout and eggs from specific females and carefully fertilized the eggs in a timed sequence. Fertilized eggs were then placed in containers, then carefully cleaned and rinsed.

The fertilized eggs were placed in incubation trays and records were kept so as to identify the details of the pairings. Volunteers were tasked with cleaning fertilized eggs, cleaning and drying containers, and acting as a runner to deliver fertilized eggs to the next station to be placed in incubation trays. The spawning effort was well planned and organized, and as you can see required a large team of personnel each doing a specific job. My job was to run fertilized eggs in containers from the cleaning station on the left across the metal grate extending into the foreground and to hand them over to the next station. Fortunately, no eggs were spilled and I did not fall into the raceway.

The goal of this annual spawning operation is to raise native greenback cutthroat trout to be stocked within their original range on the South Platte River watershed. To this end, greenbacks have in prior years been stocked in Zimmerman Lake, Dry Gulch, Herman Gulch, Sand Creek and Roaring Creek. Additional information and links about this ongoing effort to restore native greenback cutthroat trout can be found [here](#)

The cool interior of the fish hatchery offered a welcome respite from the unusually warm temperature outside the hatchery. The opportunity to assist with the greenback spawning effort was a fine excuse to plan a three day trip to the Leadville area which also afforded time to visit the tundra at Independence Pass, hike to mining ruins in Mayflower Gulch, and to also fish the Arkansas River.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering and native greenback cutthroat



Fundraising Program Expands

RMF's Corporate Rewards Fundraising Program EXPANDS

It's this easy:

1-You sign-up and Shop.

2-The company gives to Rocky Mountain Flycasters Trout Unlimited

Ever since becoming a member of Rocky Mountain Flycasters Trout Unlimited (RMF) I have found there are so many ways to donate and volunteer to the chapter on both an individual and business-owner point of view.

One of the easiest ways to support RMF is to become a participant in RMF's corporate rewards fundraising program. A percentage of your purchases at retailers is automatically donated to RMF.

In addition to Amazon, we have proudly added King Soopers and City Market to our corporate rewards list!



KROGER

We all purchase food to eat, right? So, consider nourishing additional donations to Rocky Mountain Flycasters Trout Unlimited as you shop for groceries.

Kroger – along with **King Soopers and City Market, the company's grocery store brands in Colorado** – offer the Kroger Community Rewards Program.

The donation from King Soopers and City Market are at no cost to the customer, and Kroger will send these donations to RMF throughout each year.

RMF members are encouraged to sign up now for the King Soopers or City Market Community Rewards Program! To begin participating, visit the appropriate link below..

- For King Soopers stores - go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>
- For City Market stores - go to <http://www.citymarket.com>

Once logged into your King Soopers or City Market account you can search for **Rocky Mountain Flycasters - Trout Unlimited**, either by name or **IK583**, and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a *loyalty* card.

*Customers must have a registered King Soopers or City Market *loyalty* card account to link to Rocky Mountain Flycasters - Trout Unlimited. If a customer does not yet have a King Soopers or City Market *loyalty* card, you can get one at the Customer Service desk at any King Soopers or City Market store.

*Participants must swipe their registered King Soopers or City Market *loyalty* card or use the phone number that is related to their registered King Soopers or City Market *loyalty* card when shopping for each purchase to count.

AMAZON

If you're someone who shops on Amazon (let's assume we all do by now), consider taking advantage of the AmazonSmile program. AmazonSmile is a way Amazon shoppers can support their favorite charitable organization, at no additional cost to them, every time they shop with Amazon.



Rocky Mountain Flycasters is a registered charity with the AmazonSmile program. If you sign up for the program and select **Rocky Mountain Flycasters Trout Unlimited** as your charity of choice, Amazon will donate 0.5 percent of the price of all your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to help our chapter with its conservation mission.

The donation from Amazon is at no cost to the customer. Amazon will send these donations to RMF quarterly throughout each year.

Signing up for AmazonSmile is easy!

If you prefer to shop Amazon using a web browser:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with the same account you use for Amazon.com
3. Select charity: **Rocky Mountain Flycasters Trout Unlimited**
4. Start shopping! Remember to checkout at smile.amazon.com to generate donations for RMF.
5. Tip: Add a bookmark to make it easier to shop at smile.amazon.com.

If you shop using the Amazon app on your mobile phone:

1. Open the Amazon Shopping app
2. Navigate to the main menu (=)
3. Tap on Settings and then select "AmazonSmile"
4. Select charity "**Rocky Mountain Flycasters Trout Unlimited**" and then follow the on-screen instructions to turn ON AmazonSmile in the mobile app

Once AmazonSmile has been activated in your app, future eligible app purchases will generate a donation for the charity you have selected.

Note: you need to reactivate your charity every 6 months if you shop via the Amazon mobile app.

Note: Amazon's tablet app is not yet supported.

MORE WAYS TO SUPPORT RMF

There are many ways to donate funds electronically to make it easier on the donor and the donor may still be recognized for their contributions. RMF has made stringent efforts to help businesses and individuals who want to support RMF aware of these newly implemented avenues through which they can donate. Whether you are an individual looking to join RMF or a business there are ways you can donate, become a member, or volunteer that will in turn help RMF communicate its message to conserve, protect, and restore Northern Colorado's beautiful rivers and the fish that thrive in these waters.

Visit <https://rmftu.org/donate> for more information.

Ben Voss



On the Lighter Side

Where's the fish?

This photo (taken June 16) appears to be Mickey pointing out the location of "Trout Heaven."

However, it actually shows Past President Mickey and President Mark conducting a tour of Rocky Mountain Flycaster's self-storage space where program materials are stored. "Where conservation begins."

RMF board members gathered at the storage space to prepare for the upcoming year.





Member Profile



Meet Tony Popp

I moved to Fort Collins with my wife, Rita, in the summer of 2018 after spending 37 years in Las Cruces, NM, working as a professor of economics for New Mexico State University. After ski bumming in Aspen in 1973-74, we had vowed to make it back to Colorado eventually. We both grew up in the Midwest. As a boy I got interested in the out-of-doors. At the city park lake in Aurora, IL, two blocks away from my home, I spent many days fishing for bullheads, goldfish and carp. Every once in a while, my dad would take me down to the Fox River. Unfortunately, during those years all that we caught were more carp. During high school, college and graduate school I expanded what I fished for. Bait, lures or flies, I probably have something in my gear to be able to fish for any kind of fresh-water fish in most any kind of water.

Our move to southern New Mexico curtailed my fishing but allowed me to do a lot of hunting. I hunted deer, elk, ibex, oryx, pronghorn, javelina, turkey, and pheasant, dove and quail with a long list of golden retrievers. I joined the Doña Ana County Associated Sportsmen, Inc., and over 35 years served in various leadership positions. The club was relatively small but worked with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. I was lucky enough to receive state and federal appointments on committees for all three organizations. The club was extremely active, doing many conservation projects every year. We became adept at assembling water catchments and drinkers for wildlife and constructing exclosures to keep cattle out of riparian areas. We spent many a weekend working hard but also having fun with evening cookouts around the fire with our family members who helped with the projects.

So when I arrived in Fort Collins, I started looking for an outdoor club to belong to. I found out that Rocky Mountain Flycasters met at the senior center near Rolland Moore Park close to where I live. I attended a meeting, became a member, and eventually joined the conservation committee. I am enjoying getting to know the club's members and attending the social fly tying evenings. I helped organize and participated in the recent Lone Pine conservation project detailed in last month's newsletter.

To date most of my fishing has been on the Poudre River where it runs underneath Shields in north Fort Collins. I have been up the Poudre some and generally fish alone, not having found fishing partners, mostly due to the covid-19 pandemic.

I look forward to participating in the club's fishing trips and interacting face to face with members in the future.





Let's Go Fishing

July 10 – Rocky Mountain NP/Colorado River Headwaters – **TRIP IS FULL** Dennis Cook rkymtnangler@gmail.com – Small creeks.

July 22-25/26 - South Park/Dream stream/11 Mile Canyon - Dennis Cook rkymtnangler@gmail.com – Tailwaters, medium rivers, easy to moderately difficult wading. More details to follow.

August 11 – **CANCELLED** Long Draw Reservoir – Dave Morse dgmorse45@gmail.com. – Forest service has no plans to open Long Draw Road this season.

August 22-28 – Yellowstone National Park – **(ONE CAMPSITE REMAINING)** Paul Bunker pnsbunker@comcast.net – Large to small rivers, creeks and stillwaters. We will carpool from Ft Collins on Sunday Aug 22 to Canyon Camping area (about 9 hours, buffalo/idiot jams dependent). Three tent sites are available, each with a 10x10 tent and with up to 2 people per site. Waters to fish will be determined by host depending on flows and water conditions. Hopefully, there will be 2 trips to the NE corner (Lamar River, Slough and Soda Butte Creeks, Trout Lake). We will also hopefully fish the Firehole, Madison, Gibbon and Yellowstone Rivers, and hike into Goose and Grebe Lakes, and discover Carl's Pond. One free day to fish and explore on your own. More details to follow.

September 16 – Rocky Mountain National Park – Art Campfield, Bill Gillett art.campfield@yahoo.com billgillett920@gmail.com – Small streams – More details to follow.

That's it for now and I invite anyone and everyone to host a trip this season for chapter members. It's pretty simple. Let me know and I'll help you out any way I can.

Thanks
Paul Bunker
RMF Trip Coordinator



Local News

Save the Poudre, No Pipe Dream sue over Fort Collins' review of NISP

Jacy Marmaduke

Editors note; Clicking on the link will take you to the original article from the Coloradoan website published on June 10, 2021. If you are not a subscriber to the Coloradoan, you may still read the article as they allow you to read three free articles.

[Click HERE to read article](#)



Vince Herrera's St. Peter's Fly Fishing Report for July

Summer has really settled in quite soon in The Rockies. It was really surprising because the temperatures we would usually see in July and August were already here as soon as June hit. We had plenty of moisture during the month of May and we can certainly use a lot to avoid a hot and dry summer. We are now getting to the point in the year where morning and evening fishing will be the times to go if we want to get the best chance at active fish. Typically on a hot day with the sun overhead and 90 degree weather those fish will just want to relax and not eat. Be conscious of water temperatures and once those temps get to around 58 degrees it will be time to take a lunch break and venture about away from the fish. On top of the hot temperatures water is unfortunately on the decline from runoff. All the snow melted off very quickly and some regions did not get very much snow to begin with. It's on us to know the appropriate times to target the trout so we can conserve and protect our waters.

On the upside of things I do remember being very nervous about the outcome of the Cameron Peak fire on the Poudre River. It does seem that the initial moisture we received indeed did push a lot of the debris and sentiment through the river right away. It's never too late for more to come down next year but we will have to wait and see what kind of long term effects will take place. Enough info lets talk about fishing!



A lot of the rivers around us will also be on the downslope in terms of flows but the fishing has been and still remains outstanding on The Big Thompson and Poudre Rivers. There have been so many insects available to the fish that sometimes they will ignore your fly. I can't tell if that's good or bad. On any given morning that you show up to the river you will want to be prepared with mayfly nymphs like BWO's for the cooler mornings and PMD's for the warmer sunny days. Drake nymphs have been moving around and I am still relying heavily on golden stonefly nymphs to be my heaviest fly. Start out fishing with a nymph rig right before that hatch starts and as the sun begins to warm the water be on the lookout for any mayflies hovering above the water and in the air. This will be a good indication to switch from two nymphs to a mayfly dun like a size 14 Adam's up front trailed by a Split Flag Adam's 18" behind. This has been my program the last couple of sessions and it has proved its effectiveness. Remember that it's summer and fish have plenty of options for meals just like Big Stoneflies, Caddis, Cicadas, Grasshoppers, Pale Morning Duns, Mahoganies and any day now we will see the Green Drake hatch take place. Green Drakes are big mayflies. We are used to fishing Blue Wing Olives and Pale Morning Duns in sizes 18-14. For just a limited time we can fish these Green Drakes in sizes 10s and 12s and mimic the actual size of the fly. This hatch begins around the last week of June and will usually last a little bit longer than the 4th of July. Do not miss the chance to get some epic dry fly eats. The golden stoneflies have been plentiful ever since the salmon fly hatch ended. It's very interesting that these insects crawl out onto the bank and break their aquatic skin and come out as a stonefly adult. This process is called molting and if you go out on a morning you will see all

their casings on rocks and branches. These hatches are so fun to fish because they do not require a delicate presentation. Fish prefer to see these insects moving on the water a little bit. These bugs are meant to fly around so when they hit the water they will be struggling to get off. Go out there with a PMX and wiggle that rod tip. Make your fly look like it's trying to escape and the fish won't stay off.

I wanted to keep this months article fairly short but sweet. This is the time that we get to go out and fish and enjoy these hatches. They don't stick around all year so be sure to get your fix while we still have good water and decent temperatures. If you have any questions you know where to find us. If we aren't in the shop we are out on the water. See you there!



Video of the Month



We Are Trout Unlimited

Videos posted here are available for free on the internet and for your enjoyment. RMFTU receives no compensation and implies no endorsement for products or services.



Upcoming Events

[RMF Calendar](#)

July 10 RMNP Headwaters Trip (Full)

July 22 - 26 South Park Trip

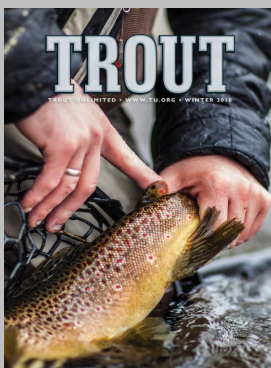
August 22 - 28 Yellowstone Trip

September 2 Pub and Dub



Online Fly Fishing Magazines

High Country
Angler



MONTANA
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Hatch Magazine

Dun Magazine



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