



Leaders & Tippets

Trout Unlimited

Louisville Chapter - 476

June 2011

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Board Meeting
—June 6

Picnic—June 11

Fly Tying
—June 14

Elk Springs Trip
June 21 –25

April Meeting:

At our April meeting, guest speaker Charlie Logsdon spoke on the up coming opening of Otter Creek Recreational Area. He made sure to mention, that Otter Creek is not a park any-more, but now a recreational area.

The Recreational Area is to be officially open to the public on Saturday, May 14th. However a ceremonial opening with the Governor and First Lady, State and Local dignitaries will be held on Wednesday May 11th. (More on opening day coverage later in news letter).

Charlie stated that it was to be stocked on Wednesday (1250), and will be stocked three to four times a year. Catch and release will be in effect from October thru the end of March. The Recreational Area will be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

There will be a daily \$3.00 fee or a yearly pass for \$30.00 can be purchase on line at the KFW site. If you plan on participating in other types of outdoor activities, such as horse back riding, hunting, or using the shooting range, the yearly pass is \$70.00.

Charlie will be the head wildlife official at Otter Creek, and plans to keep four or five full time employees there also. The main lodge according to Charlie is being transformed into a training facility for KFW employees. He

hopes to keep an open dialog with Trout Unlimited, and hopes we'll be able to assist them with clean up, and what ever needs to be done. Volunteers might even get free passes for the day.



STEELHEAD FROSTED

By: Dan Jackman

The adventure of fishing for steelhead was less than fruitful for the brave hearted members of Trout Unlimited this April. On the way up to Ashtabula, Ohio, we were uncertain of the weather and if we would even get to do any fishing. Finally Roy Weeks was able to ascertain what the weather was like, and if it was worth it to continue on with our journey. However, the nine of us decided to proceed, even if Sunday's fishing would likely be in jeopardy.

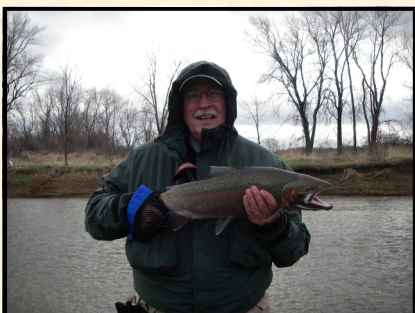
When we arrived at the hotel and were situated in our rooms, we dined and returned for our four o'clock wake up call. After getting on our gear, we headed to the lobby, where we met our guides. The weather was misting and chilly. (I say chilly, others said it was cold). We traveled to our destination, dawned the rest of our gear and proceed to walk, (in the pitch dark), to our fishing spot. Well, the water was extremely high, (as I was told by others from past trips), the wind was gusting around 50 mph, and the sleet and intermitting snow made for a uncomfortable morning.

After the guides set up the others with the rods and tackle and place them in their positions on the stream, they came to me. Having never been before, I guess they were saving me for last, (probably because I needed the most help). I was placed on the end of the line, and the guide set me up, and showed me how to cast, and with his first cast, he hooked a fish. He quickly gave me the rod, and of course, not knowing what to do...I did all the wrong things. Needless to say the fish he caught was gone, but not my hopes, for if it was that easy to hook a fish, we were all going to be in for a fantastic day. **WRONG!**

I believe the only Steelhead landed was by Roy. Nancy had some catches, but the guides kept hitting the fish in the head with the net and of course, off went the fish. Others also were hooking some fish, but landing them was a different story. Linda caught a couple of fish, including a Walleye, that the guides eagerly kept for their own eating. With the wind gusting, and sleet hitting us, the guides advised that another storm front was going to be hitting our location real soon, and that we better get out of the water. We left and ate lunch at a pavilion in a local park in the rain. We then decided that the guides would check out the weather for Sunday, and let us know early in the morning.

Sunday morning came, and Roy received the news that the fishing would have to be canceled due to the weather. We all packed up and proceed to go home, disappointed, but not discourage from coming back again.

It may sound like we had a very miserable time, but truth be told, there were some fun times too. You can ask Nancy Walsh, about the very nice joke that she played on me, (who would have ever thought Nancy would do such a thing?)



WOLF CREEK FIN CLIPPING

By: Roy Weeks

On April 7, Don Cornett and I joined with 5 other volunteers and 23 KDFWR employees at the Wolf Creek Hatchery to clip fins. While the fish we clipped looked like the regular stocker rainbows many of us have helped them with before, they actually were the hybrid (Triploid) fish we have been hearing about recently. The fish ranged from a few 6" fish up to a few 12". As I said, they looked like the normal fish to be stocked that we have worked with before.

Dave Dreves said the reputed extra growth these fish will achieve will not be evident until the next spawning attempt for all the other rainbows in the river. While the other (non-hybrid) rainbows are wasting their energy trying to procreate, these special fish will continue to feed and grow. After a couple of seasons they should show a measurable increased growth pattern. Well, we'll see. With the duress the fish have experienced recently, and will continue to experience in the next few years, we can only hope they live long enough to show their potential



A total of 16,949 fish were clipped that day and with so much help, we finished at noon. They served us hot lunch with all the fixins' and sent us on our way by 1 pm. Of course, the river was in great shape for fishing. They were running about 28,000cfs. (I had a report that someone was actually fishing in the parking lot at Helm's Landing that afternoon! Not from the parking lot, but in the parking lot!) We drove home by way of Lynn Camp Creek. A sad story that does not need to be repeated here.

I find the fin clipping exercise to be enjoyable, though tiring. I always come away with a feeling of having helped our fishery as well as the KDFWR. Opportunities to participate in this activity will occur next Spring, assuming we still have a hatchery, and I recommend everyone give it a look.

BLACK STONE FLY

By: Dan Jackman

MATERIALS:

- Dry Fly Hook: Size 12 or smaller
- Black Rabbit Dubbing
- Black Hackle = sized for hook
- Silver Swiss Straw
- Black Goose Biots
- Black Thread



Step 1: Thread shank of hook to barb. Add small pinch of dubbing, to form a small ball on shank, just before the bend.

Step 2: Tie in goose biots, so they form a “V”. Tie in just in front of the dubbing ball. The curve of the biots should point downward.

Step 3: Dub the shank up to about 1/4 behind the eye.

Step 4: Tie in the Swiss Straw, about the length of shank. (we’ll trim later).

Step 5: Tie in hackle, in front of straw, and dub to eye.

Step 6: Wrap hackle to eye, making close wraps for a dense hackle.

Step 7: Tie off fly, and trim straw to where you tied in the biots. Round edges for a curved wing.

OTTER CREEK Outdoor Recreational Area

By: Steve LaFalce

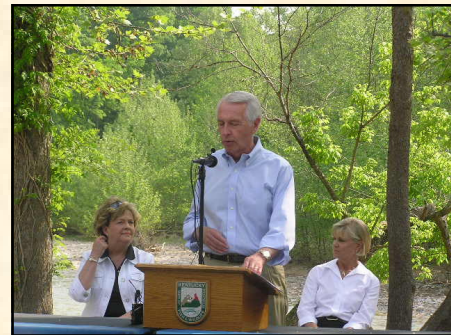
On Monday, May 11th, several members of the Louisville TU Chapter “showed the flag” at the reopening ceremony of the newly named Otter Creek Outdoor Recreation Area. The Chapter members present were Fred Doyle, Dan Jackman, Norris Shake, Linda and Lee Squires, Bill Remak, Larry Lewis and myself. After rendezvousing at the local Dairy Queen, in Muldraugh, the members proceeded to the 10:00am opening ceremonies.



It turns out that it was a productive and informative trip for all. We met several of the members of the State Fish and Wildlife Commission, including the current Chairman Mr. Steve Glenn. He was glad to hear that Trout Unlimited wants to continue to provide volunteer support for maintaining the stream. We shook hands with Governor Beshear, and Dan took the opportunity to explain to him the ways in which our Chapter has supported and protected the trout fishing po-

tential of this jewel of a resource. Dan even finagled the Governor into posing with him for a photo, and it takes real nerve to get that close to Dan.

We took every opportunity to inform all and sundry about our history of support at Otter Creek, and of our willingness to continue doing what we’ve done in the past. The news media provided good coverage of the event as did the Courier-Journal. The area is not open on Mondays or Tuesdays, but is open from daylight until dark otherwise. The fee structure, necessary and reasonable as the area is to be a self sustaining operation for the Fish and Wildlife Commission, is \$3.00 per day for fishing or hunting access, or \$30.00 for the entire year. Further information as well as permit applications are available on the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources’ website at, <http://fw.ky.gov>



EDITOR'S NOTES

Although Otter Creek Recreational Area is now open, the "Blue Pool" is totally un-fishable due to mud.

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We still need committee volunteers, please sign the committee sheets to help out our Chapter.

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Don't forget to bring in items for the monthly raffle

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Don't forget this year's picnic will be at Otter Creek Recreation Area on June 11th.

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The Chapter's banquet is just around the corner, lets help by getting donations for our raffle.

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Dan Jackman