

East Yellowstone Chapter of Trout Unlimited

P.O. Box 3008

Cody, WY 82414



<http://www.eastyellowstonetu.org/>


Meeting Minutes – April 9th, 2009


Members & Guests Present: Pat & Doreen Shellady; Ray Zubik; Mike Wenke; Merle & Chris Nielsen; Lew & Ellie Wiser; Bob Capron; Andy Whiteman; Dave & Cathy Sweet; Jim & Diane Blakeslee; Dave Crowther; Lorna Anderson; Van Miller; Gregg & Jane Bierei; John & Robin McClure; Duane & Kyle Anderson; Jason & Laura Burckhardt; Lori & Greg Bevenger; Rick Manchester; Birney Holberg

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by President Pat Shellady


Meeting Minutes: Dave Sweet moved to approve the March meeting minutes and Bob Capron seconded. Motion approved.


Treasurers Report: Dave Sweet gave the treasures report. Jason Burckhardt moved to approve the Treasures Report and Duane Anderson seconded. Motion approved. Authorization was approved to pay the WYGF for the 2008 creel survey.

 The Cody Chapters commissioners' elk tag was sold for \$9,100 and the State office sold for \$9,501 on eBay. The Saratoga tag is still for sale, the reserve is \$8,500.

 The stairs project received \$2,000 from TU national through the Embrace a Stream Grant. The state TU office received \$5,000 for the Save the Yellowstone Cutthroat trout project.


New Business:

 Shoshone River Clean-up was a success. The turn-out was lower than in other years, approximately 20 people participated. BLM was notified of excessive litter migrating onto BLM property.






 WYGFD Aquatic Invasive Species Meetings – Three meetings are scheduled to let stakeholders (150 organizations) know about invasive species. Two key species are quagga and zebra mussels. Meetings will be in Worland, Lovell, and Cody on April 20th, 21st, and 22nd, respectively. Cody meeting will be at the Library from 3-5pm and 6-8pm. Lovell meeting will be at the Lovell community center at the same time.

 Shoshone National Forest Fisheries Update –





- Environmental Assessment is being completed for the Dead Indian Treatment.
- Working with WY TU on the Franks Fork crossing on the Greybull. This project would allow access to an additional 10 miles of fisheries habitat.
- The kids fishing clinic will be June 6th

 Shoshone River Trail Project will start on May 30th with wooden stair portion of the project. We will look for a partnering youth group. Please brainstorm and bring your ideas to the May meeting.

- If we remove Russian Olives during the project, WYGF will provide a jet boat to move trees to the Belfry Bridge. Park County Weed and pest would provide a backpack sprayer and chemicals to treat cut trees. Chuck lawn service would chip the trees and haul them to the dump.

-  May Fly Tying Get Together will be May 7th
-  Will be working on getting new TU Hats designed and produced. Will include a leaping trout, the chapter name, and website. Pat will look into prices for producing the hats. Berni moved to order the hats and Jason approved
-  WY TU Council Meeting will occur May 15th – 17th. Each chapter has two voting members. Regional TU meeting will occur in Santa Fe, New Mexico May 7th – 9th. The National TU meeting will be in Traverse City, Michigan. This is their 50th Anniversary.
 - Conservation Committee needs members from all of the State. Fundraising Committee is also looking for members to participate.
-  TU will have a booth at Park County Arbor Day on April 25th. A new TU banner needs to be designed and purchased. Ellie and Lorna will head-up getting a new banner. Dave Sweet moved to approve purchasing a banner and bulletin boards at the Humble Fly Shop for up to \$100, Jason Burckhardt seconded. Motion Approved.
-  Greg Bevenger – Hydrologist with Shoshone National Forest – 2008 Gunbarrel Fire: Burned Area Emergency Response.
 - The gunbarrel fire was a mosaic, with localized areas of high and moderate burn severity. A total of 68,000 acres burned, 58,520 acres classified as fire-use, 9,201 acres as wildfire. 10.6% high fire class (based on soil burn severity), 29.5% moderate, 11.2% low, 44.2% unburned. At the soil surface there was a water-repellant layer (hydrophobic), even in unburned areas. In unburned areas, organic material soaks up moisture. With the loss of organic matter, water runs off the surface rapidly. There is a high potential for wood debris recruitment into the stream channels. High potential for woody debris jams and higher stream channel erosion and flood events. In burn areas, snow melt start 2-4 weeks sooner than in un-burned areas so the runoff is diffused. Stream flow increases due to lack of utilization of water by trees can lead to channel changes. The highest concern is summer thunderstorms. Libby, Goff, and Gunbarrel watersheds were identified as watersheds of high concern. Models indicated up to a 9 fold increase in flows in some of these watersheds. Channel clearing, including clearing floatable woody debris from lodges to wilderness boundary, was completed in fall 2008. In May 2009, NOAA-NWS will consult with lodge owners. WDOT will be on storm patrol need. Disconnect targeted trails from streams and wetlands to prevent water flow down trails during summer 2009 and 2010. Ash flows will likely occur the first year. Channel changes and sediment increases will occur for a few years.

Other Business:

-  Omnibus Bill for Conservation was approved. Wyoming Range is now protected from further/future oil & gas leasing. TU national staff member worked very hard for this bill.
-  On May 6th volunteers are needed to present to 6th graders at the North West College Field station. Presentations needed would cover riparian, habitat, entomology, conservation etc.
-  Our trophies and plaques are displayed at the Recreation Center.
-  Andy Whiteman introduced Rick Manchester who is the new Parks and Recreation manager
 - The City has \$15,000 to remove the pump station at the Belfry Bridge.
 - The City is conducting a survey to formulate the 2020 plan for Cody. Community meeting will be held May 7th to identify the top 5 aspects of Cody that are most valuable to them. The 2007 vision plan and the voting form for the 2020 plan are on the City of Cody Webpage.

Ellie Wisner moved to adjourn the meeting and Birney Holberg seconded.

Next Meeting: May 14th, 6:30 P.M. at the Sunset House (1651 8th Street, Cody, WY 82414)