



Troutlines

**October 15, 2015 Chapter Meeting Basil W. Woods Jr. 7:00 PM,
1st floor Conference rm NHF&G Building Hazen Drive, Concord**

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Basil W. Woods Jr.
October 15, 2015
7:00 PM,
1st floor Conference rm
NHF&G Building
Hazen Drive, Concord
Sgt. Scott Lacrosse
NHF&G
Telling Episodes of
Law Enforcement
on the Water**

- Programs on the
2015-2016 Agenda**
- November - Some 2015 Atlantic Salmon highlights. From some storied members.
 - January - Jack Noon - Atlantic Salmon restoration effort on the upper Pemi in the late 1800'
 - More to follow

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Upper Connecticut River Update

The last edition contained a piece on Basil Woods Jr.'s part in jumpstarting a pretty major project on the Upper Connecticut. We were then fortunate to have as speakers last month Mr. John Magee NHF&G biologist and Mr. Joe Norton TU Project Manager who shared with us in some detail on the process and progress made on two primary tributaries of the upper Connecticut river. Both Nash and Indian stream

some years ago scouring and re-routing the river below leaving it a barren waterway devoid of trout and the things that trout need to survive. Indian stream had been victim to very effective logging practices that had straightened and widened the stream to an extreme, eliminating nature's nooks and crannies that make effective trout habitat.

While both Mr. Magee and Mr. Norton both "graduated", the answer was not "Plastics" but rather "Wood". Both streams had been denuded of blow downs and snags found in most trout habitat. Those structures cause the river to hollow out and bend; and provide cover for trout of all ages. Also, the river edges were lacking any large trees leaving mother nature with little to add to the stream bed.

So, Messrs. Norton and Magee collected large trees and erected various wooden structures to replace what the loggers and floods removed and what mother nature could not replace. Check out the collection of wood side assemblies and log jams above that they built and the heavy equipment deployed to make it happen. Where the heavy equipment altered the ground too badly, smaller come

Large wood placements



Constructed log jams



are victims of logging long gone by. In the case of Nash stream an old driving dam let loose

Presidential Commentary - Alex Hicks



Hi Folks,

It's hard to believe, but another month has already gone by. The days are getting a shorter and the evenings are chilly enough to consider turning on the

heat. As we get ready for the inevitable "end of season" prep, I'm reminded that it gives us plenty of time to catch up at the Chapter meetings and other events. We love to hear from chapter members! Reach out to us with your ideas – It's how we know where we (as a chapter) should focus our conservation and outreach efforts. Our email and Facebook contact information is available in this newsletter. If you're not digitally inclined, our mailbox works great too! Please let us know the best way to represent and address your concerns.

Speaking of times to get together, the monthly chapter meetings are a great way to catch up on events, share some (presumably fish) stories and meet with some great presenters. If you were at September's meeting you had a great opportunity to meet with Joe Norton and John Magee. Joe Spoke about projects on Indian Stream and John Spoke about projects re-

lated to Nash Stream. If you weren't there, you really missed out! It was a great time, even if I forgot the cookies J

The October Chapter Meeting will not be held at the Forrest Society building. The meeting will be held in the conference room at NH Fish & Game headquarters. They tell me we'll get to hear from Sargent Scott Lacrosse – I can't wait to hear what he has to say. Hope to see you there! Tight lines~

~Alex

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Basil Woods Jr
 Concord New Hampshire

Remember, you can now find us on Facebook. Facebook users can use the Facebook search tool for "Concord TU" or "Trout Unlimited, Concord NH." We will use Facebook as another method to share information about what is happening regarding chapter and important cold water conservation activities - maybe even a few fish stories, too! Not a Facebook user but still want to check out the page? Here's the direct link: <https://www.facebook.com/ConcordTU>.



Editors Soapbox

Tim Pease

South Dakota Revelation

Driving north from Omaha then west along Rte. 90 you meet the mighty Missouri well below it trout stream limits followed by the Badlands then further west on an unending ribbon of asphalt. Certainly nothing to suggest trout. Our destination was a cabin just south of Deadwood in the then verdant (though not always so) Black Hills. In front of the cabin the North Fork of the



Rapid river flows languidly south through a meadow oft used for pasturing cattle in the summer. It has trout but best caught in high water and low grass. A few miles north on the way into Deadwood you pass through Spearfish Canyon hiding the west and



northward flowing jewel Spearfish Creek. It is a fly fishing destination noted for 10 inchers but as a stop at the Cheyenne

Crossing store documented there was at least one 8lb brown in there too.

These are clearly not the streams of western fishing dreams but they are productive and beautiful.

Most interestingly they are there because of man. Not the rivers but the trout. You see, before the turn of the century i.e. 1900 South Dakota had no cold water fishery. As a remedy the National Spearfish Fish Hatchery opened in 1896 and began stocking the Black Hills in both South Dakota and Montana. It was quite an effort entailing taking brood stock from Yellowstone Lake, using specially crafted boats; raising stock at the hatchery; and' delivering them to the local streams.

And deliver them they did in specially made rail cars outfitted with the latest technologies for sustain appropriate tempera-



Parson Ponders

Parson Weems, north woods guide savant, periodically leaves his cabin and campfire to offer a few words and insights that can only come from a dark sky view of Orion's Belt on a clear north country night

A sport came in last week from out west and we fished a few days. Seems as though he thought our streams wasn't up to snuff with the ones in Colorado and Montana. Not enough fish and he needed to work too hard for the ones he got. And darned if them trees and alders didn't mess up his back cast.

Since it all seemed pretty normal to me I got to thinkin about what he had to say. A little digging showed that he was right our streams and rivers got far fewer fish in em than they got in them big rivers out west.

We have a sight more fly hatches too. Seems like though our season is short but its is even shorter out there so the fish have to feed when they can and are generally less picky about what they eat. Course there are exceptions and not all the fish are dumb or starving but on the whole they got more of um , and less persnickety fish.

Guess when we get some of these eastern beauties we should put a feather in our caps. Outwittin the few smart trout we got seems pretty commendable.

I know I always look for breeding, hungry, stupid trout as they seem to fall to my sports easiest. But I am guessing that the guides out west look for the same stuff. They say the cutthroat trout is pretty dumb but he will have to go some to dummy up a brookie.

Having less flies to lug around seems like a real good thing. And I bet the guides don't have to put up with so many store bought flies designed to catch more fishermen than fish neither.

Course the rivers are so big out there

that maybe the sports don't all feel like they gotta reach the other side by throwing all 90 feet of fly line on every cast. Probably not! Why would they make 90 feet if you didn't need to use it?

We guides here in the east have a way of fixin that. We just switch guides and sports. So the sport that's fishing way across the river will have his guide already over there. It does make settling up at the end of the day messy though. Just kiddin

Couse there is that other part that no one ever sees either place. You know those folks that use them spinnin rods, and boats and trollin rigs. Lots of them around here though people don't take too many pictures of them; not real romantic ya know. Maybe I need to subscribe to some new magazines so I can see if they got them out west. I'll get back to you on that.

So maybe its all the same. Maybe its not but its fishin!

Parson Weems



Did ya see that moon the other night? Kinda wonderous!

Psge 3 Dakota

tures and oxygen levels. The interiors of the cars seem better fitted to transport railroad barons than mere trout ;

As the trains wound their way through the creek beds to reach the booty from the silver mining sites they delivered fish; first onto the backs of mules with specially fitted packs then into the streams. It must have been quite an operation.

While this once national facility is no longer the regional center it was it continues to operate in conjunction with the state of South Dakota delivering trout to local streams and venues. Stockings are often less frequent than annual as fishing pressures and natural propagation seems to supplant the need for more regular deliveries.

It is refreshing to see the hand of man successfully supplementing mother nature. Wild trout are not everywhere; and, when they are available they are under extreme pressures that limit their viability. Trout fishing in South Dakota may be an example of artificial wilderness but it has worked here. Of course accepting hatchery trout over warm water species is easier than accepting hatchery steelhead over wild steelhead; but, perhaps a few compromises are necessary as we face of the onslaught of population growth and the associated demands on resources.



Drawing by Mimi Kamp

Bring the Whole Family Into the Field Add Your Kids and Spouses to Your TU Membership



Trout Unlimited members often share their passion for conservation and fishing with their spouses, partners and children. Now, there's a fast and easy way to get your entire family connected to TU!

Adding your family members is easy, using one of these links:

- For existing members with a current Family-level membership go to: www.tu.org/familyaddition
- For existing members with a different type of membership (Regular, Senior etc...), go to: www.tu.org/familymembership

If you are not yet a TU member, go to www.tu.org/intro to sign up at half-price, then a week later use the form above to add your family members

By adding the names and information for your family members through these easy, online forms, they will receive TU's full membership benefits including a unique membership id, online access and personal communications our chapter, the state council and TU nationally. One copy of TROUT magazine is sent to the entire family, an environmentally-friendly solution, and a complimentary copy of the Stream Explorers magazine will be mailed to the youth added in each household. Whether signing up your spouse in order to receive local chapter emails, or adding your children so they will receive invites to TU Camps and other youth-focused communications, adding all the members of your household will ensure everyone in the family has a chance to connect to TU's mission and our fun.

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along devices were created and deployed to get the wood in the water.

So what happened? It worked! Over time the streams are narrowing, deepening and meandering as they once did. High water events are now growing the structures embellishing the manmade effort. The work is not done but the streams are coming back; and, we should continue to see steady improvement.

Just look at the result. Check out the wild native trout found below some wood in Nash Stream.



Trout Unlimited and state agencies separately and in concert are making real improvements in streams and promoting the viability of sustainable wild trout populations. Bravo!

For those of you who were unable to make last month's meeting your absence was poignantly noted. It was a small crowd.

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We look forward to seeing many more of you in the ensuing months. If there are programs of interest that we can provide please find us at www.ConcordTU.com and let us know what you like or need.

Don't forget that this month's meeting is on Hazen Drive. We hope to see you there. There should have a few good enforcement stories to collect.



Newsletter Information

Troutlines is published September through May. Chapter members who have given TU national their e-mail address will receive an e-mail notice from us through the TU national server that the latest newsletter is online at our chapter website. Paper copies are sent to members who don't have an e-mail address listed with TU national.

We periodically get returned emails announcing the newsletter is available on line. Almost always this happens because your e-mail address has changed. Please log onto the TU national website and update your email address so we can stay in touch. Only you can do it.

If you would prefer to receive paper copies of *Troutlines* rather than electronic copies, drop us a line to either our e-mail or mailing address.

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Calendar

October 15, 2015

Chapter Meeting
NHF&G Hazen Drive

All chapter meetings at 7:00 PM, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, 54 Portsmouth Street, Concord unless posted otherwise