

# MID MISSOURI chapter

## Trout Unlimited

Volume: 2 Number: 2

March, 1987

### FROM LITTLE TREES WILL BETTER TROUT FISHING GROW . . .

On March 28 & 29, Missouri's TU Chapters will meet at Spring Creek, west of Rolla. The meeting will focus on three activities--fishing, visiting, and tree planting--not necessarily in that order. Spring Creek fishing has been improving lately, but still needs help. Planting these trees along the bank will help stabilize the stream and reduce high mid-summer water temperatures, thereby improving wild-trout habitat. I can't imagine not having any fun in the process too!

There will be some unaffiliated flyfishers--let's see how many we can recruit--and some Forest Service personnel to show us how and where. However, we will need at least 40 people to actually plant the trees (1500 of them), and others to keep the coffee flowing and chili boiling.

We'll meet under the Highway J bridge over Spring Creek about 9 a.m. on Saturday morning, March 28. If enough good workers show up, we'll finish the job on the same day. Otherwise, we'll need some people to stay overnight and finish up on Sunday, the 29th. To get to Highway J, go west on I-44 from Rolla to the J exit. Go south on Highway J for about eight miles to the Crossroads Store and Canoe Rental on the left. Seven-hundred feet beyond the store, turn left onto a poor gravel road just before the Spring Creek bridge. Follow your nose till you find us. Our St. Louis colleagues will provide coffee and doughnuts Saturday morning when we arrive.

Besides dressing appropriately for the weather, bring heavy work gloves and sturdy boots. Chest waders may also be helpful. Don't wear any clothing you're afraid to tear up in the brambles. If you want to camp, primitive camping areas are available along the stream site, but there are no facilities or drinking water. Developed campgrounds are available at Mill Creek about 15 miles away. There are three motels on I-44 five miles from the highway J exit: Montis Motor Inn--(314)336-4299; Budget Inn--(314)336-3036; or DeVille Motor Inn--(314)336-3113. Two restaurants are also there. Otherwise, stay overnight in Rolla.

We still need volunteers to: (1) help with cooking, freezing, heating, serving chili on-site; (2) bring some gas-powered weed eaters to help clear planting sites; and, (3) rock bearers to anchor plastic mulches around trees. Call Bill or Ed if you're willing to volunteer. Otherwise, we'll expect you there to plant and eat chili and fish on Saturday and Sunday.

In case of bad weather--mild rain or drizzle doesn't count--we'll go down the following weekend, April 4 & 5. Most times, a light rain won't hurt the fishing! And, as my grandma used to say, you're neither sugar nor salt, so you won't melt! See you at Spring Creek Saturday morning!

### REAGAN SEEKS TO WALLOP "WALLOP/BREAUX" . . .

The President's 1988 budget proposes the removal of \$25 million from the Department of Interior's budget--specifically, the Wallop/Breaux Trust Fund. This recommendation, if passed by Congress, would mean the reduction of almost \$1.5 million from the Ozark Council TU area. Missouri would lose \$637,595 alone, with somewhat lesser amounts lost from Arkansas and Kansas.

This is a good time to write letters to our Congressional delegation opposing this recommendation. Besides your local Congressman--Harold Volkmer--contact your Senators: Christopher Bond, Room S197 Dirksen Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510, and John Danforth, Room S497 Russell Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510.

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More on Wallop/Breaux

For those who don't know what the Trust Fund is, every time you buy a fishing license or tackle, a portion of the license fee or sales tax is paid to the trust fund. Then, DOI pays the states back in proportion to what their residents have paid through their purchases. Reagan's proposal would suspend payments back to the states, freeing trust fund monies to be used for other purposes in DOI. I have no information as to whether or not this is even legal. Maybe the money is to be diverted to a Swiss bank account or the Contras? All I know is we'll lose a valuable means of maintaining our fishing opportunities if this proposal is approved!

ACCORDING TO HOYLE

That's Chuck Hoyle for those who missed the last chapter meeting. You also missed an opportunity to learn about what kind of fishing to expect after you finish planting trees at Spring Creek March 27-28.

Chuck has fished Spring Creek a lot, often driving down early Saturday and back that evening. He knows the locals well enough to know whom to avoid and when!

Chuck indicated that his experience on the creek was all with nymphs because he'd never experienced a major hatch. Since there is a lot of "trash" on the bottom, he has begun tying his nymphs with a monofilament weed guard a la Whitlock's bass flies. Neat trick! He claims 10# mono does not interfere with the hooking, and saves a lot of flies.

However, you will have to catch Chuck at tree planting next week or at the next meeting to find out what pattern(s) may be the best! (One of the benefits of attending the meeting . . . !)

\*\*\*\*\* NOTES \*\*\*\*\*

TU is sponsoring a contest with Orvis to develop a logo for "catch and release" fishing. Orvis is contributing a \$1000 gift certificate as the prize, so sharpen your pencils and imaginations and let's capture the spirit of catch and release as well as some fine new equipment! . . . Charley Byers has found a friend who makes buttons and is arranging to have a personalized button made with the TU logo on it for chapter members. All you need to do is call Charley and pay him \$2 for your button. The chapter will receive 75 cents from each button purchased. As fast as the Mid-Mo chapter is growing, you need a button to keep everyone's name straight, don't you? . . . The chapter has started a mutual fishing log with pages distributed by President Bill at the last meeting. Bill promises a prize to the chapter member who has caught the greatest number of species of fish by the end of the year. Of course, you have to fill out a log sheet for each one so we have a record of it. Don't bother with specifics like size, length, tippet strength, etc., cause we won't believe you anyway! Even the kids can participate in this activity, so make sure they get their catches logged in!

