



# Cross Currents

December 2009

## Gift ideas, 'tis the season after all –

A **bamboo fly rod** (I'm sure everyone needs at least as many as I have!).

A **subscription to: The Drake, Gray's Sporting Journal, or Fly Fisherman**, these keep on giving year-round.

A **switch rod** – the latest thing in fly rods. I recently built my first in bamboo, an 11' #7 – very cool, but most of you out there might prefer graphite.

A **wool T-shirt**; these are great! Smartwool makes a nice one. They keep you warm after sweating and feel great on your skin.

A **Trout Unlimited membership**, several levels are available, and each comes with a subscription to Trout magazine, a TU calendar and a nice premium:

A regular membership is \$35 and comes with a 32 oz., aluminum water bottle.



A \$50 membership comes with a Simms Windstopper Stocking Cap.

A \$70 membership comes with an Etón FR160 multi-purpose radio. This AM/FM/NOAA digital weather radio features crank power and solar power, a built-in 3 white LED light source, and a USB cell phone charger.



A **book by John Gierach** – surely not everyone has them all.

**Annual December Chapter Dinner**  
**Location: D Rowe's Restaurant**  
**December 1, 2009, 6:30 pm**

Bring a guest, a friend or even a spouse!  
Also, bring your 2009 fishing photos!

Don't forget the upcoming  
**Conservation Banquet**  
**February 12, 2010**  
**Stoney Creek Inn**

Tickets will be available from Michael Riley at the December dinner.

Come to the banquet – bring your friends.

## Trout Unlimited: Upper Colorado 'on the brink'

### Proposed Moffat Tunnel project could also lead to more diversions from the Blue River in Summit

By Bob Berwyn  
SUMMIT DAILY NEWS



SUMMIT COUNTY – Increased diversions from the Fraser River, in Grand County, could put the entire Upper Colorado ecosystem at risk, a coalition of environmental groups warned Friday.

“We’re really nervous. The rivers are only so resilient,” said David Nickum, director of Colorado Trout Unlimited. “You can’t talk about these systems in isolation,” he said, referring to a Denver Water proposal to take more water out of the Fraser River and across the Continental Divide.

“Multiple water diversions have pushed the Fraser River to the brink of collapse,” said Kirk Klancke, president of the Colorado Headwaters Chapter of TU, based in Grand County. “This is a river on life support.”

Nickum and Klancke were referring to a draft environmental study on the Fraser River project. The conservation groups said they’ve already been talking with Denver Water, and that the utility is open to discussing the issues. The draft study was released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Friday.

But the conservation groups are pushing for more public involvement, including meetings in Summit County. Residents in the Blue River drainage need to be aware of the project’s

potential impacts in their territory, said Becky Long of Colorado Environmental Coalition. Long said that, as she understands it, the Corps is not averse to having a meeting in Summit County.

### More water for Denver

At present, Denver Water’s Moffat Tunnel and other diversions take about 60 percent of the Fraser’s flow. The Moffat pipeline carries most of it under the Continental Divide to supply water for the Denver metro area. Under a proposed expansion of the Moffat tunnel pipeline, Denver would take even more of the river’s native flows.

The conservation groups identified several broad environmental goals that should be included in the project’s mitigation plan, including:

- Adequate baseline flows in the Fraser throughout the year to sustain fisheries and recreation.

- Sustained peak flows at key times of the year to mimic a natural flow regime and ensure the health and resilience of the river

- Aggressive urban water conservation and efficiency measures to save more water, such as incentives for homeowners to replace Kentucky bluegrass with drought-tolerant landscaping. More than half of residential water use goes to watering lawns.

- Ongoing monitoring of the river’s health and a mitigation plan with the flexibility to adapt to changing conditions.

“We have already met with Denver Water’s staff, and they seem open to discussing some of these concepts,” said Mely Whiting, Legal Counsel for TU’s Colorado Water Project. “We hope the Denver Water Board seizes this opportunity to create a legacy, where water development and environmental protections can go hand in hand.”

“Front Range residents must recognize the connection between our water use and the health of our rivers and streams, fisheries and wildlife habitat,” said Nickum. “We can’t continue to take and take from these rivers without accounting for our impacts. The glass is not even half full. It’s almost drained dry.”

**CASTING CORNER** by Gary Eaton, FFF  
Master Casting Instructor

**TRACKING , SLP and components of loop optimization.**

**SLP** stands for **S**traight-**L**ine **P**ath, one of the essentials of proper fly casting. This movement of the tip path remains ideal regardless of the view of the cast (side or front/back). Some use the analogy of moving the tip as though it were staying within the confines of a straight pipe or staying in the corner where ceiling meets the wall.

Controlled SLP during smooth acceleration leads to parallel legs and tighter loops. The rod movement plane should be as thin a slice of space as possible.

Loop **legs** are parallel - loops are not parallel

When both legs of the loop are parallel **AND** they align with the rod movement plane, *tracking* is optimal.

The rod movement plane allows this feature of good straight-line casting to translate to any casting plane, various applications of rotation for loop width, and enhances application of a standard without dictating a *style*. This applies especially strongly in the examination environment which must function independent of the candidate's choice of casting styles.

Another series of partial criteria for proper cast formation with single-handed rods delivering a basic loop along a straight line include:

- 1) flat top leg/fly leg
- 2) parallel legs
- 3) under a certain maximum width
- 4) leader completely turns over before line falls
- 5) fly contacts surface first
- 6) leader falls to surface at rate intended for

the specific cast

7) line lays out straight.

8) Rod tip stops above the level of the caster's head to form loop

Advanced casters may seek the energy balance of producing a top-wrinkle in the loop as the front taper speeds up to enter the loop in a conservation-of-energy phenomenon. Some of my advanced casters play with generating three or four of these waves as an observable indicator of efficient casting effort. - GE

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**Officer nominations were held at the November meeting. The following individuals “volunteered”. Thanks for your service to the chapter, and thanks also to all of you who have served as officers and board members in the past.**

President - Michael Riley

Past-president – Dean Rapp

Vice-president - Lynn Kloefer

Treasurer – Bob Suites

Secretary - John Wenzlick

Conservancy - Sam Potter & Bill Lamberson

Programs - Scott Gerlt

Membership - Jim Washabaugh

Newsletter – Denis Hancock & Curt Morgret

Banquet – Gary Eaton & Michael Riley

Resources – open (volunteers?)

Member-at-large - open (volunteers??)

Gary Eaton and Michael Riley are banquet co-chairs. Prizes include: Colorado trip, oak fly tying desk, backpack pontoon, fly rods, fly lines posters and prints. We need flies, donations of auction items and volunteering for some work slots. Oh, and **sell tickets**.

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## Mid-Missouri TU Chapter Officers for 2008 - 2009

President	Dean Rapp	573-268-5050
Past President	Curt Morgret	573-446-4776
Vice-president	Lynn Kleopfer	573-447-1168
Secretary	Jon Deal	573-819-3682
Treasurer	Michael Riley	573-817-0631
Membership Web Editor	Jim Washabaugh	573-893-3807
Member-at-large	Scott Rubinstein	573-446-8325
Banquet	Mike Kruse	573-875-2033
	Lynn Kleopfer	573-447-1168
Program	Mike Kruse	573-875-2033
Conservancy	Richard Mendenhall	573-449-7566
Newsletter Editors	Bill Lamberson	573-356-4366
	Curt Morgret	573-446-4776

***Cross Currents***, the Mid-Missouri Chapter of Trout Unlimited newsletter, has a circulation of approximately 300. Regular chapter meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, except for July. The meeting place is **D Rowe's**, located off Forum, just north of the intersection with Nifong in Columbia, Missouri. Meeting time is 7:00 p.m.

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