



# Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 47

October 2016

Number 10

## President's Beat



America has 640 million acres of public lands that belong to everyone in this country. These lands are open for various activities

including fishing, hunting, bird watching, hiking, mountain biking and even ATV use, and are managed to provide access to everyone that cares to use them. Nearly 70% of the remaining native trout strongholds are on these lands.

Much of this land is owned by the US Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and the primary complaint in the past has been the lack of funding to properly take care of this land. The majority of these lands are in the west and are critical to the trout fishing out there.

There is a current movement, led by special interest groups, to transfer public lands to the states or private holding, stating that the US Government does not do a good job managing these lands. Transfer is just another way of saying SELL and we should not let these lands be sold to anyone. In the past, portions of public land, as well as state held lands, have been sold by the states or otherwise had restricted access

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When: October 12 at 7:30 PM  
Where: American Legion Hall  
33 West Passaic Street  
Rochelle Park, NJ

## October's Meeting Movie Night

Two mining companies have proposed an open-pit and underground mine in the Bristol Bay region that lies at the headwaters of the two most prolific sockeye salmon runs in the world. The area has deposits of copper, gold and molybdenum with an estimated value of \$300 billion, but because hard rock mining has an accident plagued history, local subsistence, commercial and sport-fishing communities have joined together to argue against the mine project.

Red Gold gives a voice to the people of Bristol Bay and gives all sides a chance to be heard.

**Popcorn and light refreshments will be served**

## Schedule



- Oct (TBD) Paulinskil
- Oct. 7 - 9 West Br Delaware
- Oct. 13 [Thu] TIC egg delivery
- Oct 14 [Fri] NJ trout stockings
- Oct [TBD] Saltwater/striper
- Oct 15 [Sat] EJTU Open House  
Ramapo Res.
- Nov 5 [Sat] EJTU trout stocking
- Nov (TBD) Salmon River steel head
- Nov 9 [Wed] Spkr Tim Flagler
- Dec 14 [Wed] Christmas Party
- Jan 11 [Wed] Spkr: Jef Skelding
- Feb [TBD] Connetquot trip
- Feb. 8 [Wed] Spkr Steve Culton
- Mar 8 [Wed] Spkr: Tom Gilmore
- Apr [TBD] Brodhead Creek
- May [TBD] Delaware shad
- May [TBD] Catskills picnic
- June [TBD] Block Island
- June [TBD] Ausable river

## Welcome to September's New Members

- |                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Anthony Gentile    | Wood Ridge             |
| Scott Miller       | Bergenfield            |
| Peter Rothwell     | Harrington Pk          |
| Gabriel Karlis     | Fort Lee               |
| Louis Pacelli      | Township of Washington |
| Brian Yudichak     | North Arlington        |
| Devon Malizia      | Bloomfield             |
| Padraic McPartland | Westwood               |



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Trout Unlimited  
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**Monthly General Member Meeting:**  
the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.  
**Location:** The American Legion Hall,  
33 West Passaic St, Rochelle Park, NJ. 07662.

Board Members of East Jersey Trout Unlimited meet on  
the last Thursday of each month at 7:30PM.

How to contact us: Website: [ejtu.org](http://ejtu.org)

Mailing Address:

East Jersey Chapter, Trout Unlimited Box 366  
HoHoKus, NJ 07423-0366

Membership Info: G. Inwood at: 201-489-7182 or  
email [inwoodgale@aol.com](mailto:inwoodgale@aol.com)

For East Jersey and National Trout Unlimited  
information, visit [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org). Go to chapter  
number 091 for the latest information about our  
chapter.

Riffler is your publication; we encourage all mem-  
bers to contribute articles, tips, and stories. Arti-  
cles may relate to trout, trout fishing, fishing in  
general or conservation, but all articles are pub-  
lished at the discretion of the editors and should  
meet EJTU standards regarding protecting our  
environment and the merits of 'catch and release'.  
Pseudonyms may be used but the editors must be  
informed of the name of the member who writes  
the article.

Email to [raycapp@optonline.net](mailto:raycapp@optonline.net)

## Conservation Notes

Ringwood C.A.R.E.S. con-  
tinues its fight to stop Ford Motor  
and Ringwood from capping the  
O'Connor Landfill. They have  
lost the first round in court, where  
the group had to represent itself,  
having no funds to hire a lawyer  
and without support from any of  
the major New Jersey environ-  
mental groups. They will attempt  
an appeal but the prospects of a  
win look remote. This is a grass-  
roots effort to protect a water-  
shed for millions of New Jersey  
residents. Ringwood residents  
get their water from wells and not  
from the Wanaque Reservoir,  
which has the greatest potential  
exposure from contaminants  
leaching from the landfill. They  
are really fighting for what is right  
and for the benefit of others.  
Thanks to all of you who signed  
the petition at last month's meet-  
ing. Maybe the little guy will win.  
The chances are slim considering  
that Ford had four lawyers and  
the town had two at the last hear-  
ing. One overriding factor would  
be if NJDEP refused to grant the  
necessary permits. Then the  
project would be stopped and  
Ford and Ringwood would have  
to return to the original plan  
which required the excavation  
and removal of all the material  
that was dumped there.

It seems that we can  
never avoid clusters of activities.  
In the next few weeks we have  
the following events:

Thursday, October 13th is  
TIC egg delivery day.

Friday, October 14th is the  
Fall stocking on the Ramapo by  
NJF&W.

Saturday, October 15th is  
our Membership/Conservation  
program at the Ramapo Reserva-  
tion in Mahwah.

Satur-  
day, Novem-  
ber 5th, the  
chapter will  
conduct our  
annual stock-  
ing of the  
Ramapo.

Of course, we  
need your  
help to suc-  
cessfully execute all of these pro-  
jects. Please respond to the e-  
mails you receive in the next few  
weeks. These projects will con-  
clude our scheduled conservation  
activities for the year. We will  
start again in the Spring with our  
maintenance work at Glen Gray  
Road and Spring NJF&W trout  
stocking. We may also be asked  
to assist NJF&W in placing trout  
regulation posters along selected  
streams in our area. Stay tuned.

A special note about the  
Membership/Conservation pro-  
gram mentioned above: we have  
selected the free fishing day for  
this event. People visiting  
Ramapo Reservation to fish or  
hike or just enjoy the Fall colors  
will be greeted by our volunteers  
and invited to learn about our or-  
ganization, try their hand at fly  
tying and fly casting and learn  
about what lives in the river by  
helping with a macroinvertebrate  
study. It will be a great day to  
come with your family and  
friends, so get your spouse or  
significant other and your kids  
outside to experience EJTU. The  
program runs from 10:00AM to  
2:00PM. Hope to see you there.

Pilgrim Pipeline represen-  
tatives continue their full court  
press to get permits and approv-  
als in New York State despite the  
continuing public outcry to stop



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Conservation Notes  
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this project. One would think that with the drop in oil prices and excess inventory, their efforts might diminish. But this is not the case. Nearly every municipality and county in the proposed path of the pipeline have passed resolutions or ordinances opposing or prohibiting the construction of the pipeline. This has not deterred them. Once Pilgrim has cleared the objections in New York State, they will be ready to start their attack on us. Regulations in New Jersey differ slightly which might make it more difficult to get approval. But if the events which resulted in the onerous Exxon/Mobil settlement are an indication of Trenton's position, one might expect the Governor to be out there "moving the cones" for the excavating equipment.

Rich Malizia

### Auto Recalls

Very few people have trout streams in their backyards, so most anglers must use an auto in order to get to a favorite fishing location. But if you are using a pre-owned auto, how do you know whether it has been the subject of a safety recall?

The following article, that was published by the United Services Auto Association ([usaa.com](http://usaa.com)), explains how you can check for re-

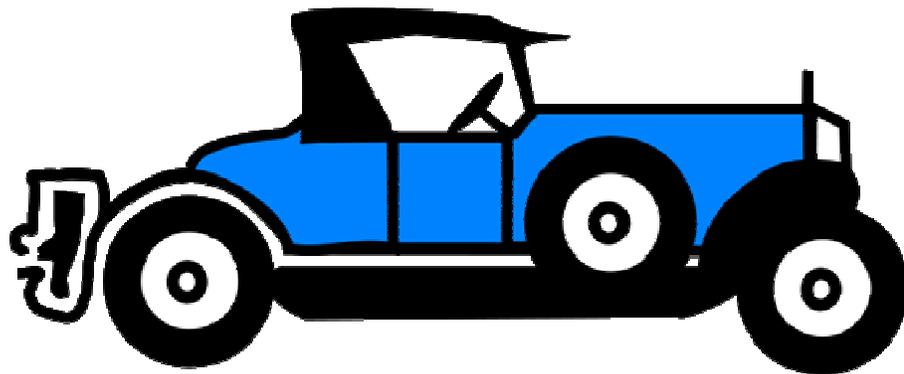
calls on any auto, particularly if you are not the first owner. <http://www.safercar.gov/checkforrecalls>

#### How Do I Know If My Car Has Been Recalled?

Millions of vehicles are affected by manufacturer recalls each year, presenting safety concerns for drivers everywhere. One of the biggest dangers is simply not knowing whether your vehicle has been recalled. Fortunately, there is an easy way to check for recalls using the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration's (NHTSA) [VIN Look-Up tool](#).

The tool could be especially helpful for those who are not the original owner of the vehicle.

"If you're the second, third or fourth owner of the vehicle, the manufacturer may not have your contact information on file to send you a recall notice, so it's important to check regularly," says Jim Clifford, director of underwriting research for loss prevention and safety at USAA.



The VIN Look-Up tool uses the vehicle identification number to find incomplete safety recalls over the past 15 years. The tool also can be used to look up recalls on some other vehicles, such as motorcycles. You can sign up to receive [recall email alerts](#) for vehicles you own.

President's Beat  
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imposed on these lands. Once public lands are transferred to another owner, they are no longer public and are no longer owned by the citizens of the United States.

We cannot allow these lands to be transferred to anyone and they should be preserved for future generations as our forefathers intended.

There is currently a petition to help protect these lands from being transferred or sold to the states or anyone else, along with a lot more detailed information than I could include here. Please visit these websites, take a minute to watch the videos, and read the comments, and consider signing the petition as I have done. The petition is available from either site. These lands are important for anyone who enjoys the outdoors. Thank you.

Websites: <http://tu.org/publiclands> & <https://medium.com/@ssherard/publiclands-d015aa867426#ox6skogex>

Bruce Seiden

Visit the East Jersey TU web site for up-to-the-minute Information, the photo gallery, links to fishing sites and much more:

[www.ejtu.org](http://www.ejtu.org)

But don't forget to also check out EJTU on Facebook

<http://tinyurl.com/ptq2u3t>

### Trout in the Classroom Drivers needed.

We still can use a few more drivers for our Thursday, October 13 egg delivery.

Drivers need to bring a small cooler with ice covered by a towel, a cell phone, and a GPS. We will meet on the 13th at 10:00 AM in front of the Burger King on Route 46 in Clifton, NJ. The address of the Burger King is: 457 Piaget Ave., Clifton, NJ.

Drivers will deliver eggs to one or two schools and should be finished by noon.

Please call Jim Piombino at 201-794-8590 if you can help out.

### Lamont - Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) Open House

Date: October 8 2016 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Location: Columbia University,  
Lamont - Doherty Earth Observatory.  
61 Route 9W  
Palisades, NY 100964

Info: Open House web site, <http://openhouse.ldeo.columbia.edu>

For further information regarding this event, please contact EI Events by sending email to [events@ei.columbia.edu](mailto:events@ei.columbia.edu)

The Earth INstitute's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) presents the biennial open house. Tour a lab, participate in hands-on earth science demonstrations, and learn from working researchers about their latest discoveries.

Open house is free and open to the public, with a \$5 suggested contribution.

Further event information will be posted on the Open House web site <http://openhouse.ldeo.columbia.edu>

as it becomes available. For questions, please email [events@ei.columbia.edu](mailto:events@ei.columbia.edu)

## DEC Announces Water Conservation Measures to Maintain Salmon River Flows

### Reduced Releases from Salmon River Reservoir to Conserve Water Drought Forces Temporary Closure of Lower Fly Section to Protect Salmon Run

Ongoing drought conditions in the Salmon River watershed have forced Brookfield Renewable in collaboration with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to reduce the amount of water released to the Salmon River from the Salmon River Reservoir starting Thursday, September 29.

In addition, DEC will close the Lower Fly Fishing Area on the Salmon River in conjunction with the reduced flows. This closure applies only to the Lower Fly Area, and the remainder of the 13-plus miles of the river accessible to the public will remain open.

The ¼-mile section of the Salmon River that comprises the Lower Fly Fishing Area is located immediately downstream of the Salmon River Hatchery and upstream of the County Rt. 52 Bridge in Altmar. The upper boundary of the area is just downstream from Beaverdam Brook. This location is a staging area for various species of fish, including Chinook and coho salmon, as they prepare to enter the hatchery via Beaverdam Brook.

The closure will remain in effect as long as flow reductions are necessary.

Flows will be increased as soon as rainfall patterns change and reservoir water levels necessary to maintain these flows are restored. The Lower Fly Area will be reopened when flows permit and Salmon River Hatchery egg-take operations are completed.



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## Outdoor News Bulletin

Issued monthly by the  
Wildlife Management Institute

Edited by Jodie Stemier

## CRU Corner: A Race Against the Clock for Brook Trout Conservation

Are brook trout destined for extinction? That is a future that Shannon White, a Ph.D. student working with Dr. Tyler Wagner at the USGS Pennsylvania Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Penn State University, is working to avoid. One chal-

lenge is that the tools available to fisheries managers focus on solving problems within a watershed, but are not prepared to tackle future species-wide problems like climate change. The solution, White believes, is going back to basics and gaining a better understanding of brook trout ecology.

The brook trout is one of the valuable social and economic resources in coldwater streams throughout the Appalachian Mountains. As we transition into fall, the vitality of arguably the most beautiful freshwater species is brought center stage as fish prepare to engage in yearly spawning rituals. Vibrant orange colors are donned, miles of stream are traversed, and battles are fought all for the sake of producing the healthiest offspring. However, for many streams along the east coast, this fall could well be the last fanfare for brook trout. Within its native range on the east coast, fewer than half of historic populations

remain, and surviving brook trout are swimming in troubled waters.



Unfortunately, by the time the causes of brook trout decline became evident to biologists, much of the damage had already been done. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century logging destroyed critical spawning habitat, initiated watershed development, and left many streams exposed to the hot sun. Construction of roadways across streams isolated populations by making it impossible for fish to move long distances to complete their life cycle. And, the introduction of nonnative species, particularly brown trout, gave brook trout an indomitable competitor.

There is good news, however. Today's brook trout populations would be in worse shape were it not for the billions of dollars in spending over the last 20 years to restore stream habitat, reforest watersheds, and enforce harvest regulations. While these steps are positive, these initiatives may only act as a short term bandage as there remains one overwhelming threat biologists have no answer for – climate change. Many brook trout populations already struggle to survive the summer heat, and increased temperatures projected with climate change may be the tipping point that causes rapid loss of populations.

White's research focus reflects a mutual interest among the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and several university research scientists to not only improve fisheries management, but also gain a better understanding of why there is significant variation in natural populations. Fish living in the same stream can vary widely in their genetic, behavioral, and physiological attributes. However, the reason and cause of this variation is not well understood. White hopes that teasing this apart will help identify certain traits that may be particularly successful in future environments. For example, if there is a gene that increases tolerance to heat, then conservation of that gene might be a management focus.

To understand individual variation, White uses a combination of field and laboratory studies to measure some traditional, and some not-so-traditional, aspects of fish ecology. In the field, she is in the midst of a multi-season telemetry study to determine why some brook trout seem to move great distances, while others stick close to home. Movement behavior is particularly interesting because it is an ecological catch-22. By moving, fish can escape bad habitat and maintain connectivity to neighboring populations. However, moving is dangerous,

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Brook Trout Conservtion

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as it increases the risk of predation and takes calories away from growth and reproduction. Long- and short-term population survival is therefore maximized if there is a mixture of both risky 'movers' and cautious 'stayers.' White has tagged over 160 brook trout, and hopes to find the genetic and environmental factors that influence individual movement patterns.

The use of telemetry also allows White to gather detailed data on other aspects of individual ecology, including cellular responses to stress. Since May she has been collecting gill filaments and blood samples from tagged fish to quantify the level at which certain genes are being expressed as stream temperatures rise. The genes she is interested in are like canaries in the coal mine – they are only expressed when a fish is stressed, and before there are observable changes to fish behavior or mortality. By documenting expression of these genes, she can determine how individuals respond differently to thermal stress and how chronic stress may have caused some populations to evolve tolerance to higher temperatures.

When not in the field, White uses the more controlled conditions of the laboratory to investigate predictions on how fish personality may influence movement strategies. The concept of fish personality may seem bizarre, but it has been investigated formally for over 50 years and informally by anyone who has spent time gazing at their home aquaria. Some fish are bold – readily engaging in fights and frantically investigating changes to their environment.

Conversely, shy fish tend to be more cautious and reserved. In a recent publication, White found that personality may also influence learning ability and that bold fish were less capable of solving spatial tasks. White predicts that the inability to readily form spatial maps may lead bold fish to move when faced with environmental change and shy fish to stay and use spatial cues to solve the new environment. She hopes to test this prediction in the field soon.

While White's research focuses on brook trout, few species will be unaffected by climate change. She hopes that her results will not only improve trout management, but highlight the need to incorporate individual ecology into species conservation.

[Learn more about brook trout and follow White's research.](#)

*The ONB features articles from Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Units across the country. Working with key cooperators, including WMI, Units are leading exciting, new fish and wildlife research projects that we believe our readers will appreciate reading about. This article was written by [Shannon White, Ph.D.](#) working with [Dr. Tyler Wagner, Assistant Unit Leader, USGS Pennsylvania Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Penn State University.](#)*



## October Fly of the Month



The hatches of summer are winding down and it's time to think

subsurface. October's fly of the month will be bead head nymphs. Bead heads currently dominate the nymph

category and for good reason. The



patterns have the weight and flash necessary to provide some action when nothing seems to be happening.

