

# GUADALUPE RIVER TROUT UNLIMITED

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## Celebrating 50

This year, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the dedication of Canyon Dam and the creation of a cold water habitat suitable for trout in the heat of Texas, we should also take time to appreciate the main purpose of the dam. Flood control!

According to the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers, Canyon Dam controls flood waters originating in the 1432 sq. mile drainage area NW of San Antonio and protects 157,250 acres down stream, including the town of New Braunfels. While we as fishermen and conservationists enjoy the convenience of Texas trout, give thanks also for the life and property savings that she (the dam) has given us in the past 50 years.

The general manager of GBRA Bill West (left ) along with Col. Calvin Hudson II( center ) , the CLHS Junior ROTC(right) and invited guests paid tribute to the Anniversary during ceremonies May 21st. Other dignitaries included U.S. Congressman Lamar Smith and Texas State representative from New Braunfels Doug Miller. Thanks go out to David Schroeder and Phil Dobson for representing GRTU at the ceremony and providing the pictures below.

-Russell Moore

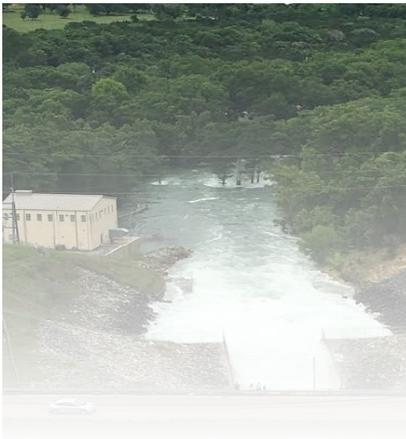
## CALENDAR

June 10-12 – 2016 Northeast Regional Meeting in Newbury, NH

Sept. 28 - Oct. 1 – Annual Meeting in Bozeman, MT

Oct. 22-2016 - October Chapter meeting  
Canyon Lake , Texas





# The New GRTU/ GBRA Flow Agreement

GRTU and GBRA went through earnest negotiations in January 2016 to come to a settlement on a new Flow Agreement. Phil Dopson and David Schroeder were authorized by the GRTU Board to negotiate with GBRA. GRTU was represented by Richard Lowerre of Lowerre, Frederick, Perales, Allmon & Rockwell Law Firm of Austin. GRTU had previously filed a protest, or a request for a contested hearing, with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, (TCEQ), concerning new water rights GBRA was claiming from the Guadalupe River, the so-called Mid-Basin Project. GRTU was due for a Hearing in front of the Administrative Law Judge who would weigh the evidence. With all parties compromising, our new Flow Agreement is now signed and immediately in effect. The Hearing was cancelled since we reached a negotiated settlement with GBRA. Here are the details:

1). The term of the New Flow Agreement provides trout protecting

flows until December 31, 2026. The old Flow Agreement would expire on December 31, 2018. Being assured of 10 years of trout protecting flows versus 3 years under the old agreement was a major inducement.

2). The 909.0 reservoir elevation trigger for initiating flows has been moved from January 1, to May 15. In reviewing 47 years of historical record from Canyon Lake, the 909 elevation, (top of conservation pool and trigger level for the Flow Agreement), was reached 26 times in May or June. Generally, if the lake elevation reached 909 between January 1 and May 14, it also topped 909 after May 15th. There were only 3 out of 47 years that Canyon reached 909.0 after January 1, but failed to reach 909 after May 15. May and June are historically the two 'wettest' months of the year.

3). The Flow Agreement provides release of water from Canyon Dam from May 16th to September 30th. The old contract was May 1 to September 30th. To firm up the early May flows there are some regulatory requirements that GBRA must adhere to. If the reservoir reaches 909 after January 1, the TCEQ mandated 'pass-through' flows are required. This will provide flow protection during the first two weeks in May. The pass-through requirement can be as high as 191 cfs in May- depending if the inflow to the lake, equals or exceeds 191 cfs.. If the inflow to the lake is only 170 cfs, then 170 must be released. If it is 300 cfs, then 191 cfs will be released. The baseline protection is the FERC license environmental flows that mandates 120 cfs flow for the month of May.

4). Flow rates are now 150 cfs instead of 200 cfs. 200 cfs was enough to sustain a good trout habitat for about 11 miles to 3rd Crossing. We will lose some downstream trout thermal habitat. We are optimistic that 150 cfs will protect at least to Ponderosa and perhaps down to Lazy L&L or even Rocky Beach. Very little water temperature data has been accumulated at a 150 cfs flow in the last 20 years of recording

data, so we don't know precisely how many miles will be protected. The hydrologist GRTU hired for this process believes it will be at least 7 miles. As water is discharged from the bottom of Canyon Reservoir, there is a slow warming trend from May through October. The winter-chilled water at the bottom of the lake is depleted as it is released into the river. It stands to reason that conserving the cold water pool at a lower release will ensure better water temperatures later in the summer. GRTU purchased 7 new water temperature monitors to collect data from various point downstream of the dam throughout the habitable zone. 5). There is a new 'show stopper' that shuts off flows when Canyon goes below 905.0. This is to ensure that GBRA can meet its future contractual water obligations. In the years that our hydrologist ran the models- from 1983- it appears that flows could shut down early in two of those years.

6). GBRA and GRTU will meet annually to discuss the status of the Agreement. Either party can provide information and make recommendations. Any recommendations must be agreed to by both parties to alter the Agreement. We view this a means to take into consideration views from GBRA, and they, ours. It may be a means to extend the Flow Agreement past the 2026 end date. All in all, the GRTU board believes this a great deal, especially when the alternative of having no more flow for trout after 2018 is considered. GBRA is constrained by water obligations that it is now trying to meet for the exploding population in the area that they served.

For 2016, The Flow Agreement Trigger was successfully pulled! We are on track for a banner year.

**David Schroeder**



## SUMMER SCENARIOS

Rain and more rain! This year is shaping up to be a most interesting one! What does this mean for the Guadalupe trout fishery? That is a good question. The new Low Flow Agreement is an obvious GO, but what should you expect over the warmer months? While no one knows what the future truly holds for any river, there are a few possibilities that could materialize. I have compiled three options that could play out in the coming months. Now, these are by no means comprehensive, and this summer might even turn out to be a mix up altogether. Nonetheless, here are just a few possible scenarios for our summertime trout fishery:

Option 1: Déjà vu 2010 – Everything is right with the world! The river stays between 250-400 CFS for most of the summer! Trout thrive in the upper 7 miles of the trout fishery, but can be found even lower in the river. I can remember in 2010, fishing sub-70 degree water below the 3rd Crossing and landing a healthy rainbow toward the tail end of June. If conditions mirror the “Dream Summer of 2010,” then I fully expect to see more surface activity from the rainbows and browns this year! Hoppers will replace indicators, and on many days, your favorite nymph patterns will never see the light of day. Water clarity will have a lot to do with this, but as those who visited the river after last season’s 5000+ CFS release will remember, the water was quite clear. Only during the normal trout season did the water get its usual blueish/greenish tint. It is my personal hope that we see these conditions stretch for a decent length of time this summer. If it plays out anything like this, expect to find me out there hunting holdovers! Time will tell and ultimately, it is up to the One who makes the weather!

Option 2: Déjà vu 2015 – TOO MUCH! Texas has a tendency to get a lot of rain all at once. This year is proving that fact in rare form! I sincerely hope this scenario doesn’t play out again for the sake of the trout. Oddly enough, every striper fisherman I know is kneeling by his bedside at night petitioning that it comes to pass! What essentially happened last year was that we got too much water, too fast! Last year’s inflows to Canyon Lake were monumental, and in like form, so were the releases. These elevated releases were sustained for a LONG time, and as a result, Canyon Lake was depleted of its cold water store. Water coming out of the dam was near or at 70 degrees – a bummer for the trout. Did some trout survive? Of course. Were there many? Sadly, no. However, there were some resilient trout in the mix. I did see several large adult rainbows eating themselves silly during a spinner fall last year in 70+ degree water. It just goes to show that Texas trout are a bit tougher than we think. If this situation repeats itself this year, expect to see some of the best warmwater fishing you can have on the Guad! Stripper, smallies, and largemouth will pounce anything that looks like a baitfish (or small trout) and then promptly give you the “what for” after you set the hook! Trout fishing will come

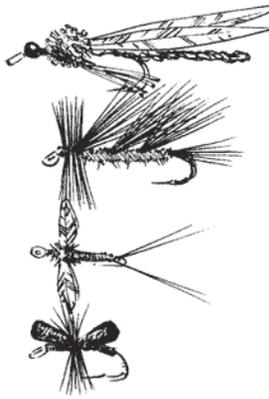
to screeching halt and every trout angler will take the stance of “wait and see,” until the water temps are safely below 70.

Option 3: The New Agreement – The new norm (hopefully). The new flow agreement (a huge thanks to those who championed the effort) provides enough flow for the upper river (above mile 5) to remain largely fishable, in trout approved temps. The lower flow (mid 100’s) will open the river to wading anglers in a big way, while at the same time providing ample feeding lies for trout. If the flow remains below 200 CFS, look for trout in the usual haunts, but don’t forget about the top three miles of the tailrace! There will still be plenty of trout to be had, and hopefully a fair number of browns as well! Whether or not our flows will drop below 200 CFS over the summer is anyone’s guess. In light of the recent rains, it would take a pretty dry summer to accomplish this!

We will see what lies in store for us this year! As always, no matter the conditions, when you are fishing for trout over the summer, please carry a water thermometer! If water temps rise to or above 70 degrees Fahrenheit, cease fishing for trout in that location and do one of three things: 1. Head upriver in search of cooler water closer to the dam, 2. Target the local bass and sunfish population instead of trout, or 3. Go eat BBQ somewhere! The only other word of caution would be, that you keep the trout you catch IN the water as much as possible. I prefer to take pictures of trout submerged in the water this time of year, as it is much better for the fish. Other than that, fish hard, fish long, and fish barbless! I hope to see some of you on the water this summer! Until then, good luck and enjoy the rivers of the Hill Country!

Tight Lines,  
Chris Johnson  
GRTU VP of Membership





## GRTU Women's Initiative:



New Survey for All Members Hopes to Gather Information to Drive Diversity Forward

Stream clean-up A little more than five years ago, Trout Unlimited conducted a survey of female members seeking guidance on how we were serving them as members, engaging them as leaders and providing them opportunities to be active participants in our community – at all levels of the organization.

Since that time, and with significant effort from hundreds of volunteers across the country, TU's Women's Initiative has grown – and so have the number of female members and female leaders.

Now, we are launching a new survey for all members with three distinct goals:

- Highlight the history and success of the Women's Initiative, determine how broadly it is known and gauge if members feel that attitudes have changed for the better since it first started.

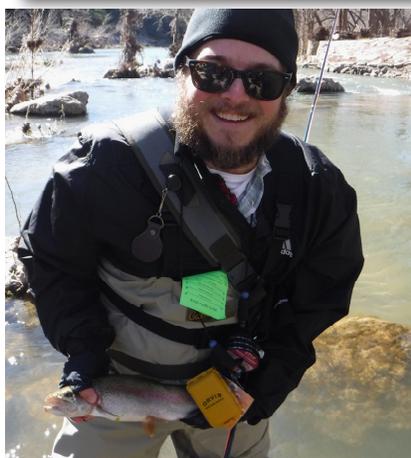
- Compare and analyze responses from the original survey to determine perceived and real changes in TU over the past five years.
- Discover what drives female members to join TU, why they stay, how well they are received locally and if they would consider serving as a local level leader.

Please help us ensure a robust and diverse response to this survey – yes, all members, any gender, are being asked to take it too – by clicking here to take the survey, and by sharing this survey link with your chapter or council leaders, volunteers and members.

Thank you for all you do to make TU a more open and inclusive community. Visit [www.tu.org/women](http://www.tu.org/women) for more resources and ideas.

**JOIN THE ONLINE COMMUNITY CONVERSATION:** What are things your chapter can do today to inspire and attract female members, volunteers and leaders?

# Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing



Dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans.

In October 2014, the GRTU Board of Directors endorsed a plan to revive the efforts of Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing in the San Antonio and San Marcos programs.

Since then, more than 80 disabled veterans have benefited from fly fishing related activities.

At the Audie L. Murphy VA hospital, more than fifty disabled veterans have sat at a fly tying vise at the Poly Trauma facility, under the watchful eyes of trained Rehabilitation Therapists.

Hand and eye coordination improve, sometimes with the use of adaptive equipment, helping these recovering heroes. They report that after tying flies they are now able to button their clothes or tie their shoe laces. Little things, but an important part of their recovery.

These veterans are recovering from multiple wounds and injuries. Long months of rehabilitation are made more hopeful with the anticipation of getting to a river somewhere, with a fly rod in hand.

The Center For the Intrepid, at BAMC, has participated in two joint ventures

with PHWFF. The most recent, on the San Marcos River, at the Texas State University campus. Dozens of active duty, and veterans, participated in a “Wet Vet Rec” day, hosted by the Department of Recreation Therapy.

For details, check out our Facebook page:

Team Project Healing Waters San Antonio & San Marcos

At Texas State University, more than 1,000 veterans are using their GI Bill benefits to further their academic pursuits. Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing has reached out to these veterans, through several veteran organizations, and a core group of fly fishers has emerged.

These guys and gals, many of them recovering from combat related injuries, are grateful for the support and encouragement of the fly fishing community. They love to go the the Guadalupe River and fish for trout.

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing looks forward to a strong and committed partnership with Guadalupe River Trout Unlimited.

Let's go fishing.

Mike Schlimgen  
mschlimgen50@gmail.com

PHWFF Program Lead

**Disabled veterans deserve our help and encouragement. Here are a few ways we can team up and help:**

\*All services provided by PHWFF are at no cost to the veteran. Your financial support is always welcomed. Go to [phwff.org](http://phwff.org), and donate. You can restrict your gift to the San Antonio & San Marcos Programs, or the program in your area.

\*Encourage your local fly fishing club to start a PHWFF program. Military veterans with disabilities live all over the Lone Star State. Many do not have a PHWFF program available to them. Contact [phwff.org](http://phwff.org) for details.

\*Your talents and abilities can contribute to the success of our PHWFF Team. Operating a successful program requires administration support, a social media person with photo skills, and technical fly fishing skills on outings and special events.

\*If you are a disabled veteran who would like to participate, or know someone who is, please contact [phwff.org](http://phwff.org) to find the program closest to you.

Thank you for your interest and support of our military veterans.

# Fisheries Report

So how is the Trout Fishing on the Guadalupe in the Summer?

It's a question that many don't know the answer to because they have not experienced it.

First of all you have to qualify that answer with several prepositions.

First you need cold water. You need water temps to be below 70 degrees to get a good holdover population of healthy Trout through the summer. For that you need a coldwater understory in the lake and sustaining summer flows. That is why GRTU spent so much time and money negotiating with GBRA to obtain the "Flow Agreement". This new Flow Agreement will deliver minimum sustaining flows of at least 150cfs that will maintain water temperatures cold enough for the Trout down to about Lazy L&L or so. The higher the flows, the further downstream the cold water extends, and the further downstream the Trout Fishery thrives.

Right now we are on the cusp of another such summer. We have a coldwater understory and we will have at least minimum flows of 150cfs if not higher. And there in lies a hidden problem. Will it keep raining and by having too much rain necessitate excessive releases from the dam which deplete the cold water stored before the fall rolls around? If the weather cooperates this summer could be the best summer Trout fishing since 2010. And let me tell you, the summer of 2010 was the best Trout fishing I have ever experienced on the Guadalupe..... EVER..... including all the winters and years that came before.

So let's assume the water stays cold, the Trout do fine till fall.

What are going to be the keys to catching them all summer long?



Let's talk approach first. You're going to want use lots sunscreen, wet wade, wear a broad billed hat, polaroid sunglasses, and use a wading staff. In higher flows you are also going to want a heavier rod. If you used 3,4, or 5 wts in the winter's 100cfs flows, you're going to want to use 5, 6, or 7wts when the flows are hundreds of CFS. In fact I've even used 8wts Trout fishing especially when throwing Big Streamers, more on that later. We are likely to see high flows well in June. The lake today (5/20/16) is 914.77' msl and rising and flows of 1200cfs. Now GBRA will probably drop the releases for the Memorial day weekend, but after that it will likely be 3-5000cfs for a couple of weeks and that's without additional rains. I'm talking about waiting till flows drop down to 600cfs before you consider coming down to wade fish, but then..... It's on like Donkey Kong.

Now like most of the year you will want to be nymph fishing with a strike indicator most of the time. In high flows, 150-600cfs, you will need a bunch of split shot and long leaders to get you nymphs down close to the bottom. Many of you don't have the experience fishing deep in these conditions. It's the current speed not just depth that requires so much weight. It has been asked many times, "What is the difference between average fisherman and a great fisherman?..... The answer..... 2 split shot." When I am fishing 250-600cfs on the Guadalupe, I am usually using only larger shot like BB's, AB's, and AAA's and not just one, usually 2 or 3 and sometimes more. Drifts will be much faster and you don't have the luxury of a slow drift to get your flies down into the strike zone. This is combat fishing and another reason why heavier rods are needed. If you're throwing a 10 foot leader with a thingamabobber, 3AB's, a large stonefly and a Copper John, this is no time for a 3wt. I will usually use a 10' 5wt or 10' 6wt, and no kidding it's a big help.

Now that's not to say you could not get on some drops and pockets and Czech Nymph them with your 3 or 4wt. If you're good at it, it will be fine. But however you do it you will want to nymph fish a lot.

--Fisheries Report continued from page 6.



In these higher flows you can still be successful fishing small with your #18's and #20's..... Rainbow Warriors, WD40's, Pheasant Tails, 2-Bit Hookers, Zebra, Green Caddis, Little Brown Bug all will work. But for me it's a last resort. I more often than not fish the big fly and get more big bites. Remember the current speed is higher and the fish won't want to move very far for a small bug, but give them a snickers bar to look at and they'll go after it.

These fish get so keyed in on eating everything that goes past them, sometimes they take both flies, don't ask me how.....

Big Fish that you haven't seen all year come out to play.....

This is the summer on the Guadalupe.

This is also the season of streamer fishing. All the smaller fish: minnows, shiners, shad, and perch will be more active in the warmer months. The bigger fish know this and understand the relationship of the bigger meal in one swipe means easy living, survival, and growth. And in the summer I not just throwing wooly buggers. I am more likely to throw and big fishy streamers like a: Deceiver, Dirty Hippie, or Lunch Money to give them a shot at that one big meal of the day. Most of the time the strike will be savage, no need to set the hook because the fish will do that for you.

Now I saved the best for last.....

In the summertime you are more likely to be able to catch the fish on top all day long. That's right..... I said all day long !

There will still be the usual suspects: Tricos, BWOs, Drakes, Caddis, and Hexs. But what gets me going in late May terrestrials become very important in their diet. Look for fish cruising shallow water in the mornings looking for ants and beetles.

As the summer progresses Grasshoppers, Beetles, and Cicadas become important especially if the wind is blowing and it does that often in the Texas summer. You would be surprised how far a Trout will travel to slam a big hopper floating down through a run. I look for runs and riffles where the water is 2-3 feet deep and drift a hopper/dropper combo. There's nothing like a Trout blowing up on your big bug floating on the surface..... Yeah Baby !!!!!

And they can be almost any kind of attractor really. Morrish Hoppers are one of my favorites.....

But I've used many different styles, just not exact replicas of hoppers, but all kinds of big buggy imitations.

Get you some of this !

The other good news is the water will be clear, more than you are used too seeing in lower flows. You'll be able to see the bottom easier and wade in deeper water with confidence because you can see the drop off now and avoid it. It a time where strong waders shine!

Now there are the obvious challenges of summer..... Crowds, huge floatillas of tubes, gangs of rafts. Don't get frustrated just relax and let them float by fishing in front and behind them. I have even seen the crowds trying to feed the ducks and end up bringing the Trout to the surface. I fish all day, but be sure to try fishing before 10am or after 7pm to avoid the big crowds. You could even float the river yourself making it easier to space yourself between the hoards. Or you could even float places that are rarely floated like the dam down to Maricopa.

Also consider fishing those Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays to miss the weekend madhouse.

If the planets align, and we get cold summer flows on the Guadalupe, the fishing can be every bit as good as other legendary tailwaters like the: Big Horn, Green, Taylor, and South Fork. And you can take that as fact from someone who knows.... it's money in the bank! Now all you have to do is get out there, watch the water temps, and get some for yourself! I'll be there doing the same!

Jimbo





# YOUTH!



## School's Out! Welcoming Youth to Your Summer Events

Youth Engagement This summer, teens from across the country are attending TU youth camps and academies in 25 different regions. Be sure to reach out to your state's camp director to see if

any of this year's campers are from your chapter area. Youth generally leave these camps feeling energized and excited about what they've learned, and once they graduate from camp, they become TU members.

You can reach out to them and invite them to join you in summer field events or chapter meetings. Youth, especially teenagers, can bring a lot of energy and valuable skills to your chapter work. Great chapter roles for youth include web content manager, newsletter designer, or youth education coordinator.

Summer is also the perfect time to host youth-centric and family-friendly events. With kids out of school, many families are looking for worthwhile activities for their children. Fishing

clinics and stream clean-ups are great opportunities to welcome youth and can be especially appealing to the whole family when the event includes a meal. For example, after a fishing clinic, host a lunch-time or evening grill-out and take the opportunity to talk about TU membership benefits!

Making your chapter events family-friendly is an important tool for attracting youth and young families across the board. Don't forget that youth at your events can receive memberships at the bulk rate of \$8 each when six youth or more are signed up. Contact Tara Granke for more information and enjoy your fun in the sun!



### Conservationist of the Year

Our nation's conservation nonprofits have excellent leadership and highly trained scientists and project managers on staff, but they also rely heavily on the boots-on-the-ground volunteers working to remove trash, install fish habitat, educate the public, tag fish, record data, dig holes, move logs, lift boulders, take samples, and generally get their hands dirty and their waders wet.

Fly Fisherman magazine is seeking nominations for its 2017 Conservationist of the Year award,

and all TU chapters are encouraged to nominate an individual whose volunteer work has significantly impacted the protection or enhancement of important fisheries habitat in the previous year. Nomination details online at [www.flyfisherman.com/conservation](http://www.flyfisherman.com/conservation).

The nine-person selection committee will judge the Conservationist of the Year based on the passion, longevity, dedication, successes, and the impact of the nominees, and Fly Fisherman will recognize that person.

In the first issue of 2017, Sage, with support from RIO and Redington, will make a donation of \$10,000 to an organization designated by the Conservationist of the Year, and recognize that person with a Sage ONE rod inscribed with both their name and the title "Conservationist of the Year."

Nominate your chapter's conservation hero at [www.flyfisherman.com/conservation](http://www.flyfisherman.com/conservation) today.



# Reel Recovery

Central Texas 2016 Reel Recovery retreat was completed at Camp Capers in May and marked the 19th retreat here in Texas. This retreat was conducted over a two-and-a-half-day period at a Camp Capers in Waring Texas with onsite and nearby fishing access. All meals, lodging and fly-fishing equipment are provided

to the men who participated in this event in part by the continued support of GRTU donations year after year and the several members that help by volunteering their time to the Reel Recovery Cause. What Reel Recovery does is give the opportunity for men from the local service area in treatment for or recovering from all forms of cancer to attend a retreat, and no previous fishing experience is necessary. Medical clearance from a physician is required. The retreats are designed to provide support and information regarding cancer and cancer recovery, and to provide professional instruction in the sport of fly-fishing.

Activities Include:

- Fly-Fishing Basics, covering equipment, knot-tying, entomology and fly selection, and trout feeding and behavior patterns.
- “Courageous Conversations” facilitated by a psychosocial professional to enhance communication and sharing of life-stories.
- Casting and Catching Instruction, conducted by expert fly-fishing instructors.
- Catch-and-Release Fly-Fishing, assisted by expert guides, either on a stream, river or pond.
- Opening and Closing Ceremonies, to promote camaraderie, communication and lasting friendships.
- Post-Retreat Communication, to facilitate continued conversations, networking and new fly-fishing opportunities.

I am glad to report that GRTU has assisted with this retreat and several more and hopefully the Chapter will continue in the effort in the future. The next event that is planned or this area is a joint venture with Project Healing Waters and Reel Recovery sometime this fall at Camp Capers. This is a national attempt to try and combine the good work being done for men with cancer and assist our service men with some of the same issues regarding dealing with both injuries and cancer challenges. If you're interested in assisting Reel Recovery or just finding out more about our needs, please contact me at [ontheriverguides@gmail.com](mailto:ontheriverguides@gmail.com).

Rafeal Torres



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An Inspirational Week of Fishing, Conservation and Community in Bozeman, Mont.

Join fellow conservationists, anglers and TU members and volunteers from across the country in the legendary town of Bozeman, Mont. for our 2016 Annual Meeting on Sept. 28 through Oct. 1

TU's Annual Meeting is an occasion to be inspired, to celebrate all we are accomplishing together and to commit ourselves to the important work ahead. It offers opportunities for hosted fishing with local TU members on

some of the most fabled waters in the region, a full-day conservation tour to see how TU staff and volunteers are making a difference and restoring rivers and trout habitat and, of course, fun and camaraderie with evening social activities and networking with hundreds of like-minded anglers and conservationists from across the country.

Spend a week learning from and talking with some of TU's top staff, scientists and active volunteer leaders. See first-hand how our mission is brought to life in Montana and across the U.S. Share ideas and tips on protecting your home waters and enjoy presentations on important conservation topics such as climate change and native trout.

The annual State of TU presentation by Chris Wood, President & CEO, is an inspiring and educational look at how your support drives our mission

forward each year and is not to be missed!

Open to all members – and your friends – the 2016 Annual Meeting is a great way to celebrate our mission, improve your conservation knowledge, accelerate your ability to help your favorite, local trout waters and to build relationships with incredible people who share your passion for fishing and conservation.

Learn more about the 2016 Annual Meeting and register today online at [www.tu.org/annualmeeting](http://www.tu.org/annualmeeting).



 A photograph of a man in a light-colored shirt holding a trophy. Behind him is a large sign for Trout Unlimited. The sign features a white outline of a trout and the text "TROUT UNLIMITED" in bold, white letters. Below the text, there is a smaller line of text that is partially obscured but appears to say "Working to conserve, protect and restore".
 

## Volunteer Award Nominations Due by July 15

TU Annual Awards Each year, Trout Unlimited volunteers contribute more than 650,000 hours to our conservation and education work. Honoring that commitment, and recognizing the outstanding achievements of members, chapters, councils, professionals and partners that embody the values and mission of TU is an important part of our Annual Meeting.

TU is actively seeking nominations for the following awards:

- State Council Award for Excellence
- Gold and Silver Trout Chapter Awards
- Mortensen Award for Outstanding Volunteer Leadership
- Trout Conservation Award: Professional, Partner Organization/Business, Communications
- Distinguished Service Award: Conservation, Leadership, Communications, Youth Education, and Veteran's Services

Each of these awards is described in greater detail and the nomination form is available online at [www.tu.org/awards](http://www.tu.org/awards).

# FLY OF THE MONTH



## Brushy Creek Spider

Tied by Chris Johnson of Living Waters Fly Fishing

Hook: Gamakatsu B10S, Size 8-14

Thread: 70 Denier or 6/0, Olive

Body/Head: Olive Larva Lace Foam

Wing: Olive Elk Hair

Legs: Small Round Rubber, Brown

Indicator: 2mm Fly Foam, Orange

Thorax: Spun Olive CDC

*Rivers of the West*  
Cameron, Montana

*Rental Properties in the Madison River Valley*  
Rodger Gaulding    [www.riversofthewest.com](http://www.riversofthewest.com)  
214-691-2284    [rgaulding@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgaulding@sbcglobal.net)

★  
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★

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WWW.ACTIONANGLER.NET  
PHONE 830.708.FISH  
★



## FLY SHOP AND GUIDE SERVICE

*"Fly Fishing Central Texas' Best Kept Secrets."*

Living Waters Fly Fishing is a full service fly shop and guide service located in Round Rock, Texas. Visit the fly shop for all of your fly fishing needs or contact us when you are ready to book your next guided Guadalupe River trout fishing adventure!

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## Major win for one of America's best coldwater fisheries by Sam Davidson

Five hundred miles. That's a pretty significant distance, right? Now, imagine swimming that far.

That's how many river miles will re-opened to native steelhead in the Klamath River under the terms of a revised agreement between the federal government, the states of California and Oregon, and the utility company PacifiCorp.

The amended Klamath Hydropower Settlement Agreement, and the Klamath Power and Facilities Agreement were signed today at the mouth of the Klamath River by Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, NOAA Administrator Kathryn Sullivan, Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr., of California, Gov. Kate Brown of Oregon and PacifiCorp CEO Stefan Bird.

Under the new-and-improved KHSA, four old, unproductive hydropower dams on the Klamath River will be removed beginning in the year 2020. This action will open up 500 miles of habitat for steelhead and some 420 miles for salmon.

PacifiCorp and the state of California will pay for the cost of dam removal using existing funds already set aside for this purpose. No federal funds will be required.

"This is a major win for one of America's greatest coldwater fisheries," said Chris Wood, president and CEO of Trout Unlimited. "The river restoration called for under the new KHSA will be the largest in U.S. history. TU is proud to have played an important role in the long effort to bring about this restoration and to resolve one of our country's most intractable water challenges."

TU California Director Brian Johnson has been closely involved in the many years of difficult negotiations that led to the amended agreement. Johnson attended the signing ceremony today and spoke to the benefits of the agreement for fish—and people.

"The Klamath, historically, has been the third most productive river system for salmon and steelhead on the West Coast," he said. "Thanks to the leadership of Secretary Jewell, Gov. Brown of California and Gove. Brown of Oregon, and PacifiCorp, we now have a real chance to return it to its former glory."

At the same time, Johnson added, "TU remains dedicated not only to restoring one of America's greatest salmon and steelhead fisheries, but also to adoption of durable water-sharing agreements that will provide greater water security for tribes, upper basin agriculture and



communities up and down the river."

TU issued a joint statement today on the signing of the amended KHSA, with the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, California Trout, the Northern California Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers and American Rivers. The statement declares strong support for dam removal on the Klamath and calls for renewed commitment to a "basin-wide solution for water sharing, water supply infrastructure, and habitat restoration."

Johnson is quoted in advance reports on the KHSA signing ceremony from the Associated Press and the San Francisco Chronicle. An overview of Klamath River water issues and the settlement agreement process can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Sam Davidson is California Communications Director for Trout Unlimited. Lower photo: Brian Johnson just below Iron Gate Dam, Klamath River.



# BRAGGIN BOARD



Brad Wilkens with a hill country bass.



Odom Wu with a beautiful brown trout from the Guadalupe



Deckers Co. rainbow from Gary Burns



Ilirian Haxhijaj with a Guadalupe rainbow.

Send  
BRAGGIN BOARD  
photos to [news@grtu.org](mailto:news@grtu.org)



## The Griffith Circle

"The natural resources we love can and will respond to us with equal love." -George Griffith

Trout Unlimited was born in 1959 when George Griffith brought together a group of anglers at his home on the banks of the Au Sable River in Michigan. George Griffith and these other founders made a plan to unite the angling community around a common purpose: to take care of the wild and native trout and salmon we all enjoy and appreciate.

The Griffith Circle honors the legacy of our founders while raising essential resources to continue the march toward their vision. Griffith Circle members show their commitment to all of Trout Unlimited's important work by making annual contributions of \$1,000 or more. Your gifts will support the full range of Trout Unlimited projects—conservation science as well as environmental education, advocacy, hands-on restoration work, and so much more. For more information go to : [TU.org/get-involved/the-griffith-circle](http://TU.org/get-involved/the-griffith-circle)



## The Guadalupe River Chapter of Trout Unlimited

### Honorary Life Members

The following distinguished members of GRTU have been designated, some posthumously, as Honorary Life Members of the Chapter for their exceptional contributions to our work. This honor is reserved for commendatory recognition of individuals whose personal service contributions to the Chapter are deemed to have had outstanding impact in advancing Chapter and TU objectives.

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Mick McCorcle	Lt. Col. Paul A. Schubauer (Ret.)	Karen Gebhardt
Bob Newman	Betsy Story	

## The Guadalupe Chapter of Trout Unlimited

### Honors Our

### Century Club Members

The following individuals have contributed \$100 or more for GRTU programs, including the Guadalupe River Defense Fund, in addition to their supporting membership donations and lease access fees. Please note: This list is only current as of press time; we apologize to members added after that date.

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### GRTU Newsletter

Publication dates:PRINT: January, April, October.  
ELECTRONIC: March, June, August, December to over  
5,000, Trout Unlimited members & friends in Texas

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