

BRMTU Chapter Meeting 1/10/26

Membership John Jenkins
296 Roster

Program - GA DNR

Tailwater Conditions - James Miles GDNR Biologist Region 2

- Monitors the tailwaters - including ours
- Territory: SC to the Cohutta Wilderness
- James grew up in NC Wilkes County
- Western NC - Little Tenn Project in College
- Hellbender Surveys
- \$233 M impact on the local economy
- 4,000 Miles of cold water streams/ 2,400 miles natural reproduction waters
- 515,000 licensed trout anglers

Wild Trout Mat

- Trout
 - Habitat
 - Temp Monitoring
 - Habitat Restoration
- People

Temperatures are rising and we are losing more than gaining

Locate natural barriers - waterfalls etc

Population surveys done every year

Natural environment has the biggest impact

- Structural changes can help double or triple natural reproduction

James tracks the numbers year over year and takes action

Brook Trout typically 2200 elevation or higher

Rainbow Trout are major predators

Land use practice changes

170 Miles of GA brook trout waters

Temp monitoring of brook trout waters - above 73 deg, brook trout will start to die

They do habitat restoration - Logging and mining in the past impacted streams still today, road runoff and cabin development

Riparian Buffer planting

They also add curves in the river for ambush spots and helps flush out silt and also eat into the bank for undercuts

Toccoa Tailwater

- Coordinates with the TVA
- Supplemental Stockings

- Creel Surveys - QR codes - 352 surveys
 - target is 3-4 fish per hour , survey showed 2 /hr
- Coming - a creel clerk who will interview

We stocked 3000 brown trout with BRMTU and Trout Guides in boats and rafts, in Toccoa Tailwater

Managing People

- Creel Surveys
- Electro Fishing workshops
- Festivals and Shows

DNR Poaching/Fish Kill Hotline 1-800-241-4113
they are required to respond to all of these!

Hit the Ga DNR Trout Fishing WebPage
 GA Trout Slams - certificate, sticker

You can help by participating with :

- Electro Sampling
- Stream cleanups
- Restoration projects
- Promote trout car tags - habitat project, sampling equipment, genetic work
- Send info about poaching , habitat degradation, fish kills etc
- Take a kid wild trout fishing

Camping Areas often have lost the riparian buffers on Noontootla Creek

Contact info:

706-318-7245

james.miles@dnr.ga.gov

GA TU - State TU Meeting update

Dream Trip and Raffle is on!

Trout Camp is not happening this year - leadership stepped down

Money will go to youth TU programs

Drawing in April 11 - Hoot on the Hooch

BRMTU Tech Review

Looking at our existing tech stack

What can we do better

What about transitioning leadership?

We are looking at Google Workspace

Looking at Google Meet
Analyzing Eventeny for TroutFest

TroutFest Updates (TF26)

April 25th

Started with the software Eventeny

Looking for a Volunteer Coordinator!

Also need a Merch sales coordinator

Billie - Film Festival is on for Friday Night before TF26 at the Arts Center

- two films being made just for us
- Shannon Oyster helping out
- Silent Auction raised \$3,300 plus tickets about the same money
- \$15 last year also gets you into TF26
- Looking for a new vendor

Billie - also doing the Trout Fishing Derby

- Starts March 27th for 1 month
- Tagged fish gets you an award
- we need donors for the Derby
- We need about 100 donors - from \$20 to Grand Prize
- Restaurants, trips, TV.

Chapter Fishing Trip

- Alabama Chapter Trip
- Gadsen, AL Tailwater - 1 Mile - stocked DH
- 3 Hr drive
- \$37 License, \$10 for City Park,
- Black Creek Gorge
- Rainbow Trout
- Late February or Early March Target date
- Noccoalula Falls, AL

Curtis Switch Update

- Plan is to add bathroom facilities
- County has cleaned up the area now.
Dead trees and old fence are now gone.
- TVA has approved the project
- Working with Fannin County on the details
- Adding more turn arounds and parking and easier access
- Possibly adding a second kayak/tube launch

Delayed Harvest is now open

Regional Rendezvous - Black Mountain, NC

- Moving the March Meeting to March 7th and will not be at the church

Treasurer Update - Paul Mailman

- \$99,792 Net now
- CD = \$50,000, 3 month before the Prime Dropped
- TF is the major mover on funds
- We have a paid for CPA that does our taxes for \$385
- \$40 K Budgeted in donations and spends

Calendar Update

- Next Meeting Feb 14th Faith Presbyterian
- Feb 7 : Rabun Rendezvous - Clayton
- Late Feb/Early March , Gadsen, Alabama "The Gorge" fishing trip , W/A
- March 7 tentative date Chaater meeting - location TBD
- March 13-15 TU Southeast Regional Rendezvous
- March 27 Trout Derby starts
- March 20 GA TU Council Meeting
- April 11 Hoot on the Hootch, Helen
- April 24 Catch it on Film Festival BRM Art Association
- April 25 TroutFest 26

New Business - US Forestry Services

- We need new conservation projects
- James Miles GDNr will come back with an update

New Items

- Mayfly Project - \$780 donation - YES
 - sponsor a foster child thru the Upper Chattahoochee Chapter
 - teaching the kids about conservation
- North GA Mountain Crisis Network \$500 - Maybe
- Arranging for eggs for Trout in the Classroom coming from Tenn Hatchery
- Hatchery projects - tank (raceway) numbering, stocking tube placements

Trout in the Classroom - Fannin County

- Middle School - Erin Panter
- Elementary School - Tori

Fishing Report

Borgwat catching sea trout

