

Susquehanna Ripples

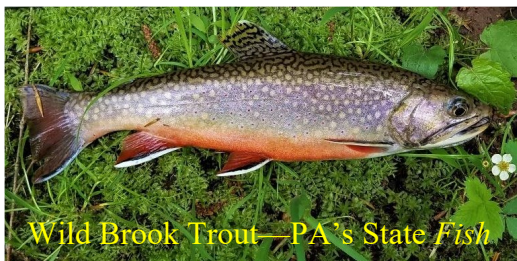
Newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited #044

March 2022



Public Meeting on Wild Trout Populations and Protection Plans

The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited will host the PA Fish & Boat Commission's Chief of Fisheries Management, David Nihart who will make a presentation on the population dynamics of trout in wild trout streams and describe the Commission's plans to monitor and protect the wild trout streams and resources throughout the state that have been identified through its unassessed waters initiative. Dave is very knowledgeable of the issues affecting fish in our local rivers and streams and oversees the Commission's wild trout classification and management programs. The Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited encourages the public to attend and learn about the Commission's important role in conserving our environmental and recreational resources and share their thoughts, concerns and ideas. For more information, please visit our website at <https://susquehannatu.com/>.



The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the Covenant Central Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, at the rear of 807 West Fourth Street in Williamsport (enter off of Campbell St.)

February Presentation by Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper

If you were unable to attend the Chapter meeting in February (whether in person or via zoom), you missed a great presentation.

John Zaktansky, the Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper described the issues facing our home river watershed's quality and aquatic life and the programs and people working together to make a real difference in improving and protecting the Susquehanna River and tributaries.

There is a YouTube video of his presentation and it can be found at the following link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6oaBcGJ0SSQ>

Welcome New Members

Dawson Coates
Nelson Forsburg
Mickey Jones
Rhett Smith
Robert Stiber



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This month's ***Where in the World?*** The Shad Run is a stainless steel, brushed aluminum sculpture honoring the shad that once flourished in this area. Answer on page 3.

International Fly Fishing Film Festival

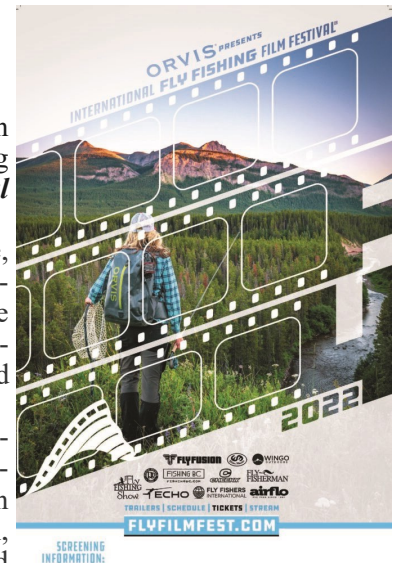
Our Friends to the north, The Tiadaghton Chapter of Trout Unlimited is hosting the ***International Fly Fishing Film Festival (IF4) 2022***, March 26, 2022.

The films showcase the passion, lifestyle, and culture of fly fishing. Created by fly anglers for fly anglers, it is the gathering place of the fly-fishing community and a celebration of friendship, fly-fishing stories, and stake.

The event is to be held at The Deane Center, 104 Main St., Wellsboro, PA. The spacious lobby will have outstanding prizes in the bucket raffle, conservation information, vendor tables, free swag, catered hors d'oeuvres from The Red Skillet, and a cash bar. Doors open at **4:00 pm** and films start at **6:00 pm**. The films have a **2-hour length with a 20-minute intermission**.

For tickets, please go to deaneccenter.com. Tickets can also be purchased In-person or day of the event: Deane Center Admin office (570)724-6220. For questions of more info: tiadaghton@gmail.com, or Dave Cahill, event coordinator, (570)439-5276

This event is the Tiadaghton Chapter's main fundraising event and All proceeds are dedicated to the Tiadaghton Chapter's mission for cold water conservation and education.



The brook trout at the top of page 1 was caught on Boulder Mountain in Southern Utah. The picture was taken by Jason Morrison and was featured in the 2014 Trout Unlimited Calendar for the month of April. The picture is used with his permission and we thank Jason for allowing us to use it.

Where in the World?

The Shad Run sculpture was created by Seattle artist Joseph McDonnell and originally unveiled by Public ART-WORKS in 2005, intended as a welcoming landmark at Third and Market streets in Williamsport.. When the Lycoming County Visitors Bureau and Little League International decided in 2014 to commission “Bases Loaded,” a baseball diamond in Market Square, complete with bronze “players” frozen in midgame – including a stray fielder along the Penn College entranceway – the artwork was put into storage at the River Valley Transit bus garage. After many years in storage, it was taken to the Penn College of Technology where students in different program fields restored the artwork. In 2021 it was rededicated and relocated to Pine Square alley which runs along The Brickyard Restaurant & Ale House and Stonehouse Wood Fired Pizza & Pasteria, in downtown Williamsport.

The Plaque with the sculpture states “the annual shad run once a major event on the West Branch Susquehanna River. Every spring in late April or early May word traveled rapidly upriver that the shad were on their way, part of a massive migration of billions of fish returned from the Atlantic Ocean to spawn in the rivers where they were born. The Susquehanna River Basin was the largest fishery for American Shad and there were several shad fisheries in the Williamsport area. With industrialization, Williamsport and other river towns prospered but polluted the river and lessened the shad run. When industry left, the river towns declined. Today’s environmental protection of the river has brought back the bounty of the shad and new life to river towns.”

The above information was taken from <https://pctoday.pct.edu/collaborative-effort-returns-shad-run-sculpture-to-public-display/>

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Annual Report for 2021

The most recent report issued by the PFBC provides a summary of their activities in Pennsylvania in 2021. To see the entire report, you can click on the following link:

<https://www.fishandboat.com/AboutUs/AnnualReports/Documents/AnnualReport2021.pdf>

Some highlights of that report can be found on the following pages:

Warmwater/Coolwater Fish Production and Stocking

Species	Lifestage	Amount
American Shad	Fry	65,977
Black Crappie	Fingerling	15,344
Bluegill	Fingerling	67,400
Brown Trout - Erie	Adult	632
Brown Trout - Erie	Yearling	30,173
Channel Catfish	Fingerling	79,590
Channel Catfish	Yearling	10,493
Fathead Minnow	Adult	13,400
Golden Shiner	Fingerling	162,400
Lake Trout	Fingerling	37,728
Lake Trout	Yearling	61,080
Largemouth Bass	Fingerling	18,190
Muskellunge	Fingerling	9,650
Muskellunge	Yearling	40,631
Northern Pike	Fingerling	4,227
Rainbow Trout - Steelhead	Yearling	1,015,986
Spottail Shiner	Adult	250
Striped Bass	Fingerling	377,603
hybrid Striped Bass	Fingerling	1,986
Tiger Muskellunge	Fingerling	7,175
Tiger Muskellunge	Yearling	12,218
Walleye	Fry	12,875,000
Walleye	Fingerling	2,081,360
White Crappie	Adult	23
White Crappie	Fingerling	11,805
Yellow Perch	Fingerling	35,100
Grand Total of all Species		17,035,421

Class A Wild Trout Streams Identified During 2021, PFBC biologists and Unassessed Waters Initiative partners continued to survey streams to identify and classify naturally reproducing populations of trout. Surveyed waters that support natural reproduction of wild trout qualify to be added to the Commission’s listing of wild trout streams and/or listing of Class A wild trout streams. In 2021, the Commission added 78 new waters to the list of wild trout streams and extended the length of 12 waters that were already listed, thus increasing the protection on 208 miles of streams. The Commission added 65 new stream sections to the Class A wild trout streams list, thus increasing the protection on 158 miles of stream.

Trout Stocked by PFBC

Trout Species	Lifestage	Amount
Brook Trout	Adult	371,811
	Fingerling	104,920
Brown Trout	Adult	744,180
	Fingerling	399,782
Rainbow Trout	Adult	2,062,387
	Fingerling	324,000
Golden Rainbow Trout	Adult	15,147
Total Trout Stocked by PFBC		4,022,227

Trout Distributed to Cooperative Nurseries

Trout Species	Lifestage	Amount
Brook Trout	Fingerling to Coops.	75,200
Brown Trout	Fingerling to Coops.	224,175
Rainbow Trout	Fingerling to Coops.	354,328
Golden Rainbow Trout	Fingerling to Coops.	9,580
Total Trout Distributed to Coops.		663,283

Total Trout Species (Stocked and Distributed) 4,685,510

Statewide Statistics

Non-game Permits
Species Impact/PNDI Reviews – 1,976
Scientific Collector Permits/Amendments – 368
Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species Permits – 70
Biological Opinions/T&E Take Permits – 5
Non-game Special Permits – 31
Organized Reptile and Amphibian Hunt Permits – 6
Venomous Snake Permits – 2,341
Commercial Snapping Turtle Permits – 23

Bureau of Law Enforcement
Citations – 3,386
Crimes Codes – 27
Warnings for Violations – 19,763
Total Boats Boarded – 24,522
Boating Safety Education Certificates Issued – 18,685
Special Activities – 2,395
Water Rescue Certificates – 3,021
Pollutions Investigated – 122
Boating Under the Influence – 49
Lake Erie Commercial Permits – 19

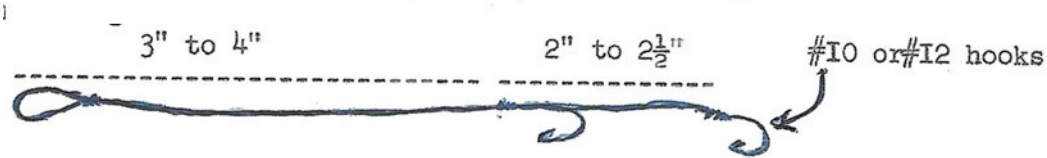
Boating Accidents
Each year, on average, 700 people die in boating-related accidents nationwide. Nearly 85% of the victims were not wearing life jackets.
Last year, there were 53 recreational boating accidents that resulted in 9 fatalities. Only two of the 9 victims were wearing life jackets at the time of the accidents. Alcohol or drugs were believed to have been a factor in three of the fatal accidents.

Education Activity	Count	Participants
2020-2021 Trout In the Classroom Teachers	379	19,143
Aquatic Resource Education Programs	11	360
Paddling and Boating Programs	6	44
Shows and Events (Outreach)	8	1,291
Instructor Training Courses	10	119
Recreational Fishing Programs		
100% Virtual	18	337
Hybrid (programs provided in two parts: 50% virtual and 50% in-person)	4	24
100% In-Person	98	1,861
Total	534	23,179

2021 Fishing License Types	
December 1, 2020 - December 31, 2021	Units Sold
1-Day Labor Day Resident	79
1-Day Labor Day Tourist	57
1-Day Resident	2,909
1-Day Tourist	5,635
10-year Non-Resident	15
10-Year Resident	1,117
3-Day Tourist	23,936
3-Year Non-Resident	538
3-Year Resident	16,639
3-Year Senior Resident	885
5-Year Non-Resident	112
5-Year Resident	5,112
5-Year Senior Resident	120
7-Day Tourist	8,086
PA Resident National Guard/Reserve	90
Senior Lifetime	21,156
Non-Resident	53,531
Non-Resident PA Student	1,103
POW Resident Annual	0
POW Resident Lifetime	0
Reduced Disabled Veteran	505
Resident	684,330
Senior Resident	29,014
Voluntary Youth	11,004
Total Licenses	865,973
2021 Fishing Permit Types	
December 1, 2020 - December 31, 2021	Units Sold
3-Year Combination Lake Erie and Trout Permit	2,732
3-Year Lake Erie Permit	229
3-Year Trout Permit	14,100
5-Year Combination Lake Erie and Trout Permit	1,048
5-Year Lake Erie Permit	60
5-Year Trout Permit	5,466
10-Year Combination Lake Erie and Trout Permit	313
10-Year Lake Erie Permit	8
10-Year Trout Permit	1,494
Combination Lake Erie and Trout Permit	85,214
Lake Erie Permit	23,947
Trout Permit	500,305
Total Permits	634,916

A TU Worm Dunker?

"There is no such animal," you say. Guess again, at least one has infiltrated our ranks. From what I hear, he must dunk worms 75 to 90% of his fishing time. Now I mean Night Crawlers not dainty little red worms. If that isn't enough, he goes after trout with those things, not bass or panfish. Besides all that, he uses a spinning rod with 2 or 4 lb. line, instead of a flyrod. If this has you upset by now, perhaps you shouldn't read any further, it doesn't get any better. Some other information that has come my way is that he ties up a two hook in a fly vice, until he fills up a wet fly book with those rigs. Something like this.




Then he attaches it to the spinning line like this:



After the line loop is pulled up tight with the gang hook loop, he attaches the (ugh!) night crawler like this:



Next he uses this contraption, by fishing up stream most of the time. Casting to a likely pocket or slightly past it, he raises the rod tip and as slowly as the current allows, reels the contraption back. He claims he doesn't get skunked often when using this method and he uses it every season of the year, including winter, as long as the streams stay free of a lot of ice. Oh! I almost forgot, he pinches on a split shot as stream and individual pockets or pools may require to get that bait to the trout. You know those tiny BB's with the ears  for easier removal.

He also says he puts back most of the trout he catches and they rarely die, because they generally hit the upper hook and don't swallow it deep because, he suspects, the additional line and lower hook may no allow it.

Now what do you think of all this? Should we dig him out and string him up for "Heresy" against what many outsiders consider as a "Fly Fishing Only" club? Or do we encourage others that maybe don't purse their favorite sport in the same manner as a fly fisherman, but love the outdoors, are as much of a sportsman as anyone, and believe in TU's philosophy.

If you haven't guessed by now, his initials are R. W. H.

The above article originally appeared in the October 1985 issue of the Susquehanna Ripples. The article was written by member Dick Huggins.



Susquehanna Ripples
Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited
PO Box 1132
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Since 1964, the Mission of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited is to work to conserve, protect and restore Central Pennsylvania's Coldwater fisheries and their watersheds

Upcoming Events

November 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022

Mandatory Life Jacket Requirement

March 9, 2022

Chapter Meeting - Wild Trout Populations and Protection Plans

March 26, 2022

Statewide Mentored Youth Trout Fishing

Spring Meeting of the Slate Run Sportsmen's 10:30 am slaterunsportsmen.com for info

International Fly Fishing Film Festival in Wellsboro, PA

April 2, 2022

Statewide Opening of Trout

April 9, 2022

Paddling Film Festival in Lewisburg. See Susquehanna Greenway for info

April 13, 2022

Chapter Meeting

May 7, 2022

Opening day of Walley / Sauger

May 15, 2022

Basic Boating Course at Montour Preserve

June 4, 2022

Susquehanna Outdoor Expo at the Shikellamy State Park marina near Sunbury. See Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper for info

Summer Meeting of the Slate Run Sportsmen's at 10:30 am

go to slaterunsportsmen.com for info

June 11, 2022

Opening Day of Bass

September 10, 2022

Fall Meeting of the Slate Run Sportsmen's at the Brown Township Fire Hall at 10:30 am

slaterunsportsmen.com for info

Chapter meetings held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and are open to the public and begin at 7:00 pm (unless otherwise noted). Meetings are held at the **Covenant Central Presbyterian Church, 807 W 4th St, Williamsport, PA 17701**, in the Fellowship Hall (unless otherwise noted). Parking is at the rear of the Church and enter off of Campbell Street.

No meetings are held in May, June, July, August or December

The ***Susquehanna Ripples*** is the official newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited. It is published 8 times a year: January, February, March, April, June/July, September, October, and November. Please consider submitting something of interest to our readers; a story, stream report, recipe, photograph, gear review, etc. Submissions received will be placed in the next available issue. All submissions can be sent to susquehannatu@gmail.com or boblaker@comcast.net.