



Dave Irvine's Fish of the Month October 2015 - see inside for more details

Clearwater Currents

**The Official Publication of the Clearwater Chapter of
Trout Unlimited
17 Sutherland Drive Watervliet, NY 12189**

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*America's Leading Coldwater Fisheries Conservation
Organization
Promoting Habitat for Wild Trout and Salmon
Trout Unlimited Has Been Fighting for Coldwater Fisheries
Conservation for 56 Years*

Join us before each meeting at 6:30pm for a tying demonstration. Meetings begin at 7:30pm, the third Monday of each month (except Banquet month, July and August), at the Albany Ramada located on Watervliet Avenue Extension off Exit 5 of I-90 (Everett Road).

Upcoming Events

- Oct 15 NY Trout Season ends – check guide for information on what streams/ponds/lakes remain open
- Oct 19 Clearwater Chapter General Meeting – starts at 6:30pm with guest fly tier – featured speaker tba.

Board of Directors/Staff

President	Scott Parker	894-4661	ExOfficio	Heath Clayson	573-6008
Treasurer	Ken Waldie	573-4793	Treasurer	Ken Waldie	573-4793
Youth	Bart Chabot	393-9918	Trips	Bob Mead	399-9000
Conservation	Roy Lambertson	872-2217	Newsletter	Mark A Brown	mrbrownie6@gmail.com
Education	Doug Howard	399-8566	Secretary	Chris Franchini	
Stream Research	Art Coleman	399-5550	Programs	Heath Clayson	573-6008
Quartermaster	Bill Cosgrove	766-2405	Flea Market	Bob Mead	399-9000
Schoharie	Ed August	295-7663	Membership	Ron Boutin	453-9843
Trout/Classroom	Ron Dorn	842-2593	Membership	Dick Hermida	399-6272
Video Library	Richard Atkinson	377-8249	Youth	Mike Walchko	234-4192
Battenkill	Greg Cuda	587-1189	Banquet	Jessica Galasso	716-913-5550
Board Member	Glenn Kuhles	869-0817	Banquet	Bill Cosgrove	766-2405
Website	Trevor Tripp	380-6614			
Disabled Angler Program	Bart Chabot	393-9918			

Clearwater Chapter of TU PO Box 9686 Schenectady, NY 12309
www.ClearwaterTU.org

Clearwater Chapter General Meeting

Meeting is scheduled for Monday October 19th. As of this moment the presentation is still tba.

Like always, our guest fly tier will begin at 6:30 PM followed by meeting and presentation. Meetings are free and open to the public, all are welcome.

Clearwater Chapter TU received a HUGE donation of NEW fly tying materials from a fly shop that closed up and left the region and donated their fly tying supply inventory to the chapter. We are going to be selling portions of these materials each monthly meeting at RIDICULOUS prices as a fund raiser for our conservation efforts and renting the meeting room expenses, etc. Come and get these materials such as synthetics, furs, feathers, hair, chenille, thread, floss, flash, beads, eyes, buck-tails, marabou, etc. It is new and not junk!

Fish of the Month 2015 Contest in Full Gear

Mark A Brown

The Chapter's Fish of the Month Contest is already in its sixth year having crowned **Rich Atkinson, Noe Mead, Jim Berry, Bill Bach, Ron Boutin, Brad Mohr** and for 2014, **Jim Boyle**, as winners in its first seven years.

The contest is open to all members (except me!) and family members of Chapter members and is not necessarily based on the biggest fish, but the quality of the fish, story behind it and picture quality all make up a winning entry. Simply send a photograph to me at my email address at mrbrownie6@gmail.com or contact me via email for my mailing address if you have a Polaroid or 35mm shot. As the entries come I'll publish them in the newsletter and select a winner at the March Banquet when the winner will get a dozen hand tied flies or something else really nice as a prize.

This month's entry is from **David Irvine** who said that he goes to Manchester, VT on his birthday every year and this year, with the help of guide **John Morawski**, he landed this beautiful Walloomsac brown trout. What makes it even more special is that the fish was caught on a pheasant tail nymph he tied himself. He wishes to thank the members who taught the fly tying class giving him the techniques to make the fly and ultimately catch the fish. Released unharmed to fight again. Nice job to Dave and the fly tying instructors!

Pontoon Boat for Sale

Bart Chabot

With my recent move and effort to downsize I am forced to sell my Copper Creek 9 ft. pontoons (color green with Trout Unlimited letters written on both sides. I have the pulley anchor, two pumps, heavy duty take down oars, a new rip cords life vest and a sea anchor. Everything is in perfect shape selling for \$500.00 and is negotiable. Excellent Christmas gift! Please call me at 393-9918.

[Basil Seggos Named as Head of NYS DEC](#)



Governor Andrew Cuomo has nominated one his top advisers, Basil Seggos, to serve as commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation. Seggos joined Cuomo's administration in 2012. He has served as the governor's deputy secretary for the environment since 2013.

If approved by the legislature, Seggos will replace Joe Martens, who resigned the post this summer. Marc Gerstman, who has been filling in as acting commissioner, will continue as executive deputy commissioner. John Sheehan, a spokesman for the Adirondack Council, said his organization is pleased with Cuomo's choice. "He cares about the environment, and he cares about communities," he said.

Asked what he'd like to see Seggos accomplish, Sheehan replied, "We'd like to see him purchase Boreas Pond as soon as possible and classify most of it as Wilderness."

The 22,000-acre Boreas Ponds tract, which abuts the High Peaks Wilderness, is the last piece of former Finch, Pruyn land that the state intends to buy from the Adirondack Nature Conservancy. The purchase is expected to be made by March 31, the end of the state's fiscal year.

In a news release, Cuomo called Seggos "an exceptional public servant, a strong advocate for the environment." Seggos previously served as an attorney for the Hudson River Riverkeeper. He also has held positions with the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Council on Environmental Quality in the White House.

In January 2015, Tony Hall, the publisher of the *Lake George Mirror*, [took Seggos to task for trying to oust David Wicks](#) as executive director of the Lake George Park Commission. The Cuomo administration, Hall wrote, was not happy with Wicks's efforts to stop invasive species by requiring boats to be inspected before entering Lake George.



SPECIAL NYSCTU CONSERVATION FUND RAFFLE



The New York State Council of Trout Unlimited is raffling off an outstanding rod and additional prizes.
Raffles are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10 or 10 for \$25.00.

Prize #1: Orvis Helios2 8'4" 3-weight 4-piece Fly Rod

Designed with dry flies and eager risers in mind, the 3-weight, 8'4" Helios2 is lightweight, sensitive and extremely powerful. This is THE rod to turn to for small streams, small fish, and big adventures!

Prize #2: Gift certificate for a two (2) night stay for 2 people at Tailwater Lodge

Located on the Salmon River approximately ¼ mile downstream from the Altmar Bridge. Accommodations in one of their "Double Queen" rooms, includes private access to the Salmon River plus complimentary hot breakfast, free high speed wireless Internet and cable TV.

Expires: 11/30/16 (Regular pricing \$139.⁰⁰/night x 2 nights = \$278.⁰⁰ value)

Donated by Christine Tucciarone, Marketing Director, Tailwater Lodge, 52 Pulaski Street, Altmar, NY, 13302
(www.tailwaterlodge.com)

Prize #3: A signed & numbered limited edition print, "Taking a Break" by artist Scott Hartman (framed and matted by Peter Dubno – LI Chapter)

Proceeds from the raffle will benefit the NYSCTU Conservation Fund. Help support the fund that gives back to chapters, providing financial assistance for projects on our home waters.

The drawing will be held at the November NYSCTU General Meeting on Saturday, November 7th, 2015.

Tickets will be available at the next three Council meetings (June, September and November) or you can purchase them via mail by sending a check and this coupon to:

NYSCTU 2015 Conservation Fund Raffle
c/o Ron Urban – Council Chair
PO Box 815
Port Ewen, NY 12466

* Date is tentative.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

- 1 ticket = \$ 5.00
- 3 tickets = \$ 10.00
- 10 tickets = \$ 25.00

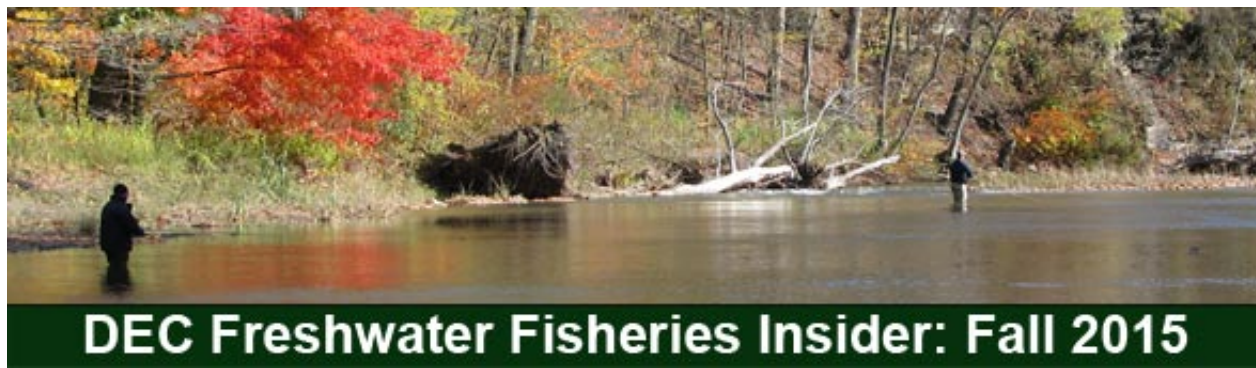
Fly of the Month: Salmon River Gift Fly

I ran across this fly on Youtube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqrGkOESXJ4> – google “salmon river gift fly” is another way to see the video. The video producer says another angler was really hooking a lot of stellhead one day on the Salmon and, but I’ll let you listen to the rest of the story as it is a nice tale of one angler’s generosity to another. Here’s the recipe: **Hook:** Tiemco 206 BL size 12 in the video, but I can see it is a 8 - 14; **Tying thread:** 6/0 black; **Butt:** Uni yarn in Chinese red; **Tail/Legs:** black round rubber legs one each side of the butt; **Body:** blue holographic tinsel; **Head:** few wraps peacock or ostrich herl. After mounting the hook wrap the tying thread from the eye to the bend of the hook. Add a few wraps of the butt material and then add the two legs. Wrap the rest of the body and finish the fly with thead. Tie off and best of luck!



DEC Freshwater Fisheries Insider: Fall 2015

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation sent this bulletin on 09/24/2015 03:47 PM EDT



Welcome to the DEC Freshwater Fisheries Insider. The Insider is a quarterly newsletter designed to provide New York anglers with up to date information on fishing in New York State and what the DEC Bureau of Fisheries is doing to improve New York's fisheries. Please forward to anyone you think is interested in fishing in New York.



As Waters Cool, Trout and Salmon Fishing Heats Up

As autumn arrives, thousands of large lake-run trout and salmon migrate up dozens of New York's Great Lakes tributaries. October and November are prime time for trophy Chinook salmon, while steelhead action picks up in October and lasts through spring thaw. New to tributary fishing or looking for a new place to fish? Learn more:

[Salmon](#) or [Steelhead](#) fishing in Lake Ontario's tributaries
[Steelhead fishing in Lake Erie's tributaries](#)
[Request a Guide to Great Lakes Fishing](#)
[Print Public Fishing Rights maps](#)



Fall for Adirondack brook trout ponds

As the temperature drops in the fall, fishing in Adirondack brook trout ponds heats up as hungry trout can be found near the water's surface. The scenery is even more spectacular painted in fall's colors. Just be quick. The season for brook trout ends on October 15 for most ponds.

[Guide to Brook Trout Fishing in Adirondack Ponds.](#)



Shore Fishing for Oneida Lake Walleyes

Fall can be a great time of year for shore anglers to target walleye on [Oneida Lake](#). As the water cools in the fall, large schools of gizzard shad move into the shallow water areas near shore, and walleye follow this abundant food source into the shallows. Anglers either stand on shore or wade out in the water. The best fishing usually occurs about an hour before and an hour after sunset.

[Learn how to fish for walleye.](#)



Free Fishing on Veteran's Day

Veteran's Day has been designated as New York's newest free fishing day. The requirement for a license and enrolling in the Recreational Marine Fishing Registry has been waived for November 11, 2015.

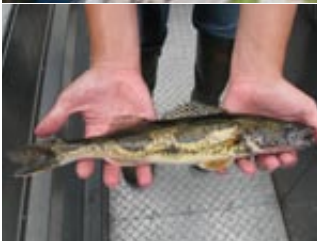
[Learn more about free fishing days.](#)



Improving DEC's Fish Hatcheries

Last year the Governor's Office allocated 4 million dollars under the NY Works III funding for improving the NYSDEC fish hatchery system. Projects currently being worked include systems to improve water quality at the Chautauqua, Oneida and Rome fish hatcheries; new raceways for Chateaugay and Caledonia fish hatcheries; replacing the roof on the [Salmon River Fish Hatchery](#); and new raceways for Chateaugay and Caledonia fish hatcheries.

[Read more.](#)



Sauger growing well in the Allegheny Reservoir

Sauger have been stocked into the Allegheny Reservoir during 2014 and 2015 to establish a self-sustaining population in the upper Allegheny River watershed. Survey results from September, 2015, indicate good survival and excellent growth. Sauger fry (~1.6 inches long) stocked last year are now almost 13 inches long.

[Read more about DEC's plans to re-establish sauger in NY.](#)



Fish Passage Project Repaired on Chautauqua Creek

Repairs and improvements to a fish passage project on Chautauqua Creek were completed in July. The project, located approximately 5 miles upstream of Lake Erie, was originally constructed in 2012, but was badly damaged in a flood from the remnants of Superstorm Sandy. Repairs at the site included reconstruction and pinning of a rock ramp at an upstream dam. Improvements made at a lower dam elevated the pool level. These improvements should help restore stream connectivity, improve access to high quality spawning habitat for migrating fish such as steelhead, and increase fishing opportunities. [Public fishing map of Chautauqua Creek](#) (PDF).



Successful sea lamprey control in Catherine Creek

Catherine Creek, a major tributary of [Seneca Lake](#), was treated to help control sea lamprey larvae in September, 2015. Adult sea lamprey attack fish, including trout and salmon, and can cause mortality and unsightly wounds on these highly valued Seneca Lake sportfish. TFM, a highly selective lampricide, was applied to various sections of Catherine Creek and its tributaries and was carefully monitored to ensure that only sea lamprey larvae were impacted by the treatment. Based on the observed mortality of sea lamprey larvae, the treatment was considered successful and should benefit trout, salmon and other species in Seneca Lake.

Update on Fracked Gas Pipeline

Shannon Johnson

Thanks go out to Shannon for providing links and an update allowing Clearwater members to become better informed on the fracked gas pipeline project. This project is proposed for the Capital District, but specifically Rensselaer county where the Northeast Energy Direct (NED) fracked gas pipeline and the compressor station are proposed at the south end of burden lake in Rensselaer county.

This of course is not only devastating to fisheries, but to our entire ecosystem, humans included. The compressor stations have been proven to be just as toxic or even more so than the fracking wells themselves, (see <https://youtu.be/RPyXaAwHM 8>) so we are trying to put pressure on the health commissioner and ultimately Governor Cuomo to ban the transport of the gas as well as the drilling. The company building the pipeline, Kinder Morgan, will use eminent domain to lay this thing wherever they want, through farm, field, and stream, — and NONE OF THIS GAS WILL GO TO NY.

There is a ton of information all over the media currently. This might be one of the better written (yesterday) <http://www.timesunion.com/business/article/Governor-asked-to-put-brakes-on-natural-gas-6571163.php>

The physician study mentioned in the article is the one linked here --> <http://is.gd/NWFjAr>

They are planning to horizontally drill this thing UNDER the Hudson, in sensitive spawning habitat for the short-nosed sturgeon, under the Deerfield River TWICE, under the Connecticut River, etc. A retired fisheries biologist testified at one of the public forums in August and what follows is a summary of his thoughts on the project:

Hudson River and estuary crossing.

The Hudson River is a Superfund site for two hundred miles from Fort Edward south to NYC. The crossing at Coeyman's Landing and Schodack is just 20 miles south of the Troy dam, where General Electric has performed an expensive dredging and cleanup operation of PCB deposits in the sediments to prevent their further downstream migration. The river is over 100 feet wide at the proposed crossing point at Papscanee Island, which lies between the Hudson and an estuary marsh. The island is 1600 feet wide at that point. On the east side of the route would cross the estuary marsh at the mouth of the Moordener Kill creek.

The EIS should establish whether Kinder-Morgan's (KM) river crossing method will disturb and re-suspend PCB deposits at the crossing site. FERC should study the effect on downstream communities such as Rhinebeck and the City of Poughkeepsie which use the Hudson River for drinking water.

Additionally, the Town of Bethlehem uses wells adjacent to the Hudson at its Clapper Road treatment facility, in very close proximity to the proposed pipeline crossing. The Hudson is an estuary river which changes its direction of flow four times per day. The danger to the public water supply requires a hard look.

KM has indicated that it generally attempts to use dry stream crossing methods. If Horizontal Direct Drilling (HDD) will be used, the EIS should explain how KM will address inadvertent return of drilling material or fluid seepage and its potential to disturb PCB-laden sediment layers. How will they protect the drinking water, benthic invertebrates, aquatic plants and fish-spawning habitat in the river and estuary marsh?

Mr. Andrew Kahnle testified at the FERC scoping hearing in Castleton on July 14, 2015 regarding the effect of the river crossing on the Hudson and its fisheries. Mr. Kahnle is a retired fishery scientist with over thirty years experience in management of the Hudson River fisheries. He stated that the reach of river containing the proposed pipeline crossing is used as a spawning and nursery area by the shortnose sturgeon, American shad, striped bass and as a feeding area for Atlantic Sturgeon. Both the shortnose sturgeon and Atlantic sturgeon are Federally listed endangered species. The marsh and stream complex to the east of the river is an important spawning and nursery area for many Hudson River fishes. This tidal complex has been designated as a significant fish and wildlife habitat by New York State. This formal designation means that activities such as pipeline construction requires special scrutiny to avoid environmental damage. The applicant's environmental reports are silent on construction techniques for crossing the river. If excavation and backfilling are used, construction should not occur at times of the year when the area is used for fish migration, spawning, rearing of young or feeding. Turbidity must be controlled with turbidity curtains or settling.

The bottom sediments of the Hudson and its tidal marshes contain many contaminants. Before excavation, the applicant must test sediments across the entire width of the proposed trench. If contaminants are detected, contaminant and contaminated sediments must be contained during construction.

The river and marsh bottoms also support a rich variety of natural invertebrates, which are important food for fishes. Construction will disturb or eliminate these organisms and this loss will impact fish especially the endangered short-nosed sturgeon. Finally, the NED Pipeline is just one of several pipeline and power cables being proposed for the Hudson River. Given the importance of the Hudson to endangered short-nosed sturgeon and Atlantic sturgeon, FERC should ask the National Marine Fishery Service for a biological opinion evaluating the cumulative impacts of all of the proposed projects for these endangered fish species.

At the following link the document submitted to FERC on behalf of our Burden Lake citizens group — written by Sand Lake Town Attorney, Russell Bennett. It is here: <http://d.pr/f/12haC/2KPVK3fW>, and covers just about everything.

I spend a lot of time in Oregon, and we are fighting the same fight out there. Native Fish Society is very involved, and could be a resource with regard to how to approach this.

see: <http://www.36inchesmovie.com/watch.html> and <http://us3.campaign-archive1.com/?u=cb8f3396a3785435836ea9f1a&id=f1d4c0f687>.

New York State Moose Study

The Department of Environmental Conservation, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, the Cornell University Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, and the Wildlife Conservation Society Adirondack Program are conducting a multi-year research project to obtain information on the status of New York State's moose population and the factors that influence moose survival and reproductive rate. The goal of the Adirondack moose study is to gather data that will be used to create a moose management plan for New York State.

In February 2015, twelve moose were captured in the Adirondacks, fitted with GPS radio collars and released. The movements of all twelve of the moose continue to be tracked remotely. Of the nine cows that were collared, seven had calves and two of those had twins. An article on the moose study in the current edition of the [Conservationist](#).

DEC and its partners are also seeking information from the public regarding moose sightings to provide data for this study. If you sight a moose please report it to the DEC by calling the Region 5 Wildlife office at [518-897-1291](tel:518-897-1291) or by completing and submitting the electronic reporting form. A link to the form can be found at the bottom of the [DEC Moose web page](#).