



# RIP-RAP

*Restoration, Improvement and Preservation  
Through Research and Projects*

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited

February, 1992

Editor: Craig Mason

Layout: Andy Lamberson

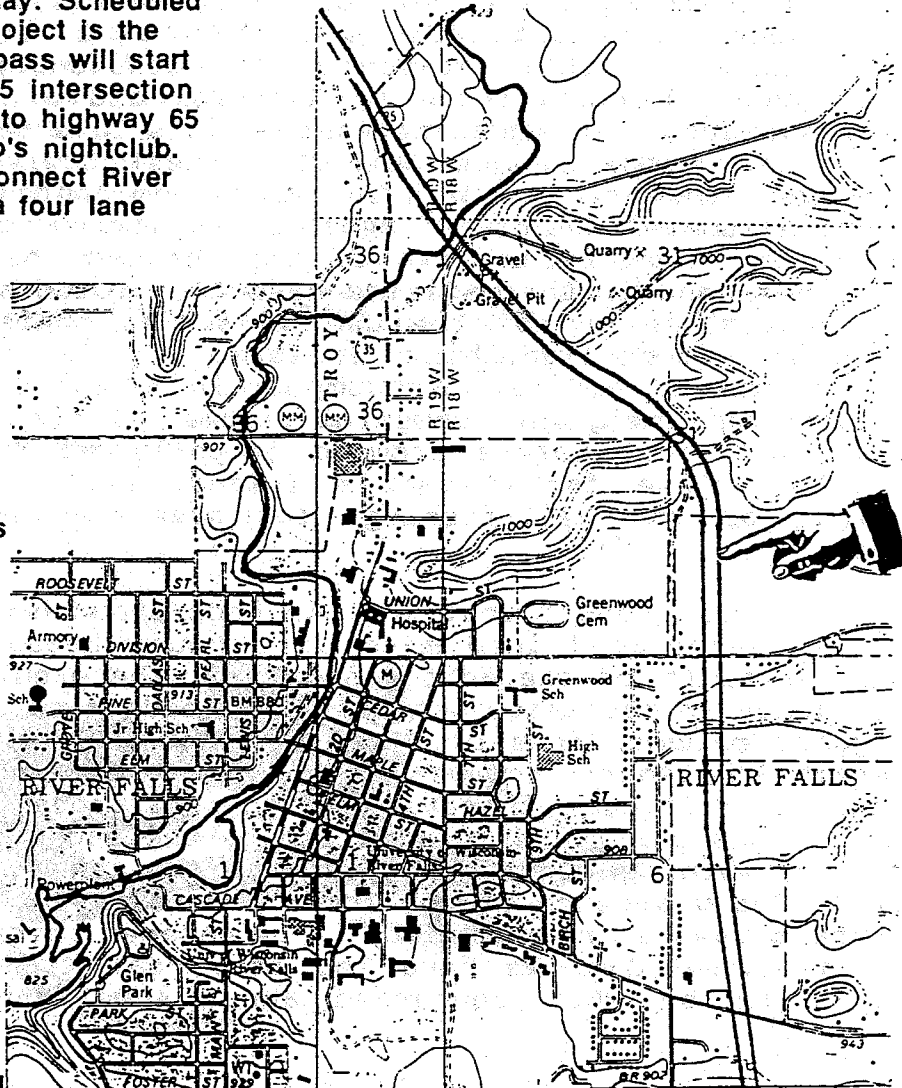
## River Falls Bypass Construction To Start In February

Anglers who enjoy the solitude of an afternoon's fishing along the quarry road section of the Kinnickinnic river, will have to rely on memories this coming season. Construction of the highway 35 bypass will begin this month with initial grading north of the Kinnickinnic river. Work should begin in March on the new bridge spanning the "Kinni" immediately upstream of the Germain household.

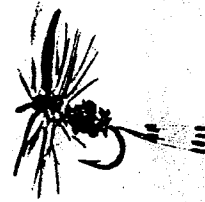
The hills will be alive with the sound of earth movers as the opener arrives in May. Scheduled completion of the project is the fall of 1993. The bypass will start at the highway 35/65 intersection and continue south to highway 65 near the old El Gato's nightclub. Long range plans connect River Falls and I-94 with a four lane feeder.

During construction, monitoring of the "Kinni" and the South Fork for erosion and sedimentation problems will be a major concern for our chapter. Anglers will no doubt mourn the effects of "progress" along a popular stretch of the river. Potential threats to water quality from construction while serious, are minor as compared to those from urbanization that the 4-lane system will bring. Already plans to extend sewer and water to a 17 acre site north of the Kinnickinnic have been approved by the city's Plan Commission.

The chapter has recognized these threats as evidenced by our involvement with the city of River Falls and the 205J grant process. But our task has just begun. It will take vigilance and energy to ensure that the Kinnickinnic remains an exceptional trout resource for generations to come.



## ANGLING MAGAZINES - HOW DO THEY COMPARE?



This is a tough time of the year for me, a time when my only physical contact with rivers is likely to come solely on TU stream improvement work days. As much as I enjoy those days, I need more to get me through the winter and I find great surcease in angling magazines. What follows are my personal opinions on the quality of some of those mags, starting with the one I enjoy the least and working upward from there.

Here's a periodical that has gone from zenith to nadir in the flyfishing universe: **Fly Fisherman**, published six times a year by Cowles Magazines, PO Box 8200, Harrisburg, PA. A year's subscription costs \$24; a single issue costs \$3.50. (Figure that out....it's cheaper at the newstand.) Edited by John Randolph and written by Randolph and a phalanx of other freelancers, the magazine that in it's Late Season 1980 issue published work by John Geirach, Ernest Scwiebert, Don Zahner, Gary Borger, and Nick Lyons, is now content to tout the "revolutionary" use of CDC feathers as strike indicators. I'd have more respect for this if they called them "Duck's Ass" feathers and if the magazine hadn't promoted an endless debate on whether or not the use of strike indicators was politically correct flyfishing. In fact, Fly Fisherman provides a regular forum for such tempest in a teapot arguments while ignoring timely environmental issues. Their philosophy seems to be: Local waters crowded or polluted? No problem, just hop a plane for Christmas Island, New Zealand, or Argentina, or go "heli-fishing" for steelhead in British Columbia.

Sadly, I must report that our own once proud house organ, **Trout** has degenerated into more of a house kazoo. This is through no fault of the editorial staff. The problem, I believe, is due to necessary but crippling budget cuts. We once got regular columns from Dr. Robert Behnke, Dave Whitlock, and Ernest Scwiebert. Now we get dry regurgitations of staff reports and multipage interviews with politicoes like Cecil Andrus. I was particularly appalled by the pages and pages devoted to whining about the damage to the trout fishery on the Lee's Ferry stretch of the lower Colorado. The only reason there's even a trout fishery to be damaged there is this: A dam, a damned dam! We have too many real trout streams suffering to be much concerned about some huge outdoor aquarium!

**American Angler**, edited by Jack Russell and published by Northland Press, PO Box 280, Intervale, NH., holds promise. This is a magazine with a heavy emphasis on flies and tying,

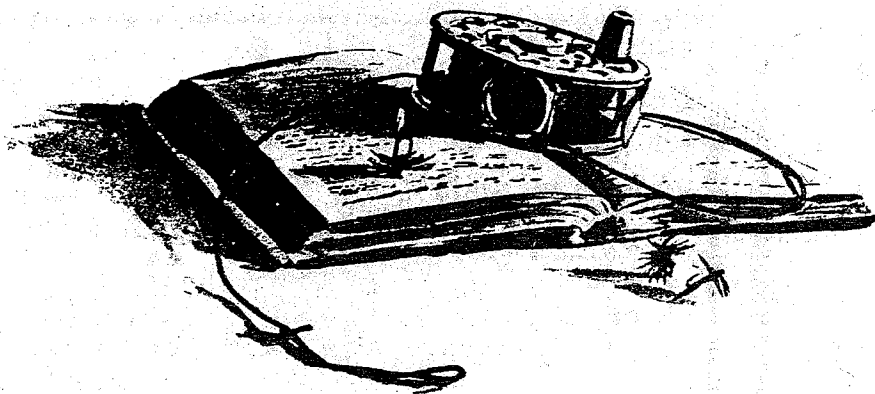
but it publishes solid articles on conservation, entomology, and general where and how to pieces. It's published bi-monthly and costs \$20 per year.

**Flyrod & Reel**, published six times yearly by Down East Enterprises

Roxmont route 1, Rockport, Me. is a slick publication. It's sometimes a tad too slick, with too much emphasis on the money aspects of our sport. It has the finest collection of columnists: A wonderful conservation column by Ted Williams, a book review column by Verlyn Klinkenborg, video reviews by the acerbic and acidic Don Dunkel, and a new back page by John Geirach. Editor Silvio Calabi seems to favor the "theme" issue, e.g. Alaska, Equipment, Awards, or Flytying. The best of these may be the summer "Fiction" issue, one that I like because it generates a little healthy controversy.

At the top of my personal heap you'll find **Flyfishing**, published five times yearly at a cost of \$15.95 by Frank Amato Publications, 4040 S.E. Wister, Portland OR. 97222. This magazine is some distance down the slick scale from Flyrod and Reel, but it's steadily improving its production values. You'll find an odd mixture of well crafted and stiff writing, but its information content outstrips the other mags. Editor, Marty Sherman pulls no punches on environmental matters with editorials such as one entitled "Be More Radical". Their environmental stance very frequently puts them at odds with the logging industry, which is very powerful in their backyard. You've got to admire their gutsy stance! The magazine also has the most useful "Where" and "How To" articles and you can't go wrong with the regular features "Patent Patterns" and "Fly Wrap Up".

Jon Jacobs



FEBRUARY MEETING NOTICE



WHEN: WEDNESDAY FEB. 5, 1992

TIME: DINNER AT 6:30PM - MEETING AT 8:00PM

WHERE: HUDSON HOUSE

THIS MONTHS SPEAKER WILL BE DAN SIMONSON FROM THE WISCONSIN DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES. DAN WILL DISCUSS WATER QUALITY ISSUES THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO ALL OF US AND OF COURSE THE "LIFE BLOOD" OF OUR TROUT STREAMS.

PLEASE COME AND SHARE IN THE FELLOWSHIP OF YOUR FELLOW ANGLERS.

Kiap-TU-Wish

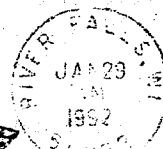
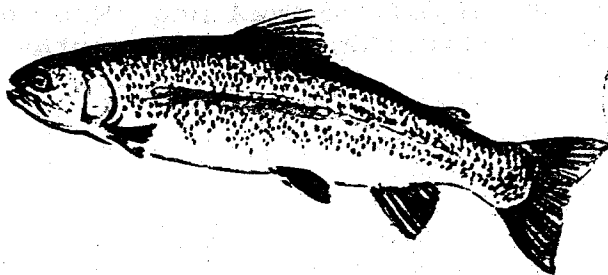
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**1991-92 MEETING SCHEDULE**

Feb. 5- Dan Simonson- Wisc. DNR

Water Quality Issues

March 4- Business Meeting

April 8- Fly Tiers

May 6- Marty Engel Wisc. DNR

Dinner at 6:30 Meeting at 8:00

All Meetings are at the Hudson House (Best Western)

**KIAP-TU-WISH**

**TROUT UNLIMITED**

**P.O. BOX 483**

**HUDSON, WI. 54016**