



The Drift: Words from our President.

Sixty-six percent. Two thirds. Two out of every three. No matter how you say it, that's a big number. It seems like an even bigger number if you love fishing for Brook Trout and your local fisheries biologist just told you that 66.5% of Wisconsin's Brook Trout habitat is estimated to be lost in the next 35-45 years. This was part of WIDNR biologist, Kasey Yallaly's, message to us at Kiap-TU-Wish's October chapter meeting at Junior's Restaurant & Tap House in River Falls, WI. Wisconsin is currently blessed with 18,615 miles of Brook Trout streams spread throughout the state. Within the next 35-45 years, the WIDNR is estimating that 12,375 miles of these streams will no longer be able to support Brook Trout, leaving only 6,240 miles of Brook Trout streams in the state. That means we are projected to lose two out of every three miles of currently available Brook Trout water within a generation. Even if you don't love Brook Trout fishing, losing two thirds of our state's Brook Trout water in such a short period of time should cause us to pause and think.

The first thing I thought was that the WIDNR was overreacting and blowing this whole "climate change" thing out of proportion. We've all heard it all before. Sometimes I think we're all a bunch of Chicken Littles. Every generation seems to believe the sky is falling and finds some cause to rally their troops around, so they can stand up or sit in or march to prove that all the other generations need to wake up and take action now, or we're all going to die. I know this sounds bad, but that is what I thought. Maybe I had a bad day at work, or maybe I had just taken a private lesson in how to be a good curmudgeon from Mike Alwin. But that is pretty close to what I thought.

So, I went home and dug into the study from which Kasey Yallaly was quoting. The study was run by the WIDNR Brook Trout Reserve Team, which was initiated in 2015 to study Wisconsin's current Brook Trout habitat and how this habitat would likely stand up to changes in groundwater, forestation, stream temperatures and other factors in the coming years. One of this team's goals was to identify the places temperature sensitive Brook Trout would be most likely to survive and then attempt to conserve, or fortify these places, to make them more resilient for Brook Trout. The name this team chose for these thermally resilient places was "Brook Trout Reserves," but more on that later. My current goal was to dig into the study to prove that the climate change alarmists were overreacting. Unfortunately, when I dug into the team's methodology, my male ego took a bit of a hit. Even though I didn't understand much of the scientific nomenclature, I did come to understand that the team took quite a number of local, national and international climate and groundwater temperature

{continued on page 2}

The **KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER's**
almost monthly publication



**TROUT
UNLIMITED**

Volume 13 | Issue 3
November 2019

Wednesday, November 6, 2019 **Chapter Meeting**

Randy Arnold, Kiap's habitat volunteer coordinator, will be hosting a trout movie night. Come check it out.

Dinner at 6pm (your dime)
Meeting (Movie) starts at 7pm

Junior's Bar & Restaurant
414 South Main Street
River Falls, WI 54022

Cover photo: Driftless bus tour participants lined up along Gilbert Creek for a shocking demonstration by the WIDNR. See the resulting net of trout on page 6. Photo by Gary Horvath.

DON'T FORGET:

- Visit the K-TU website & Facebook page for news, announcements & updates.
- The next RipRap deadline is **Friday, November 15.**
- Send info to: manion.maria@gmail.com

RIPRAP: Restoration, Improvement & Preservation through Research And Projects



Thursday,
December
5

Holiday Conservation Banquet

The highlight of your social season, the Kiap-TU-Wish Holiday Conservation Banquet, is set for Thursday, December 5, 2019.

We, the Banquet Committee, are committed to providing you with an entertaining evening while helping the Chapter continue its worthy conservation and restoration work. Projects on the Kinni, Pine, and Trimble Rivers, for example, have added thousands of feet of rehabilitated trout streams in the last few years. YOUR participation in this banquet, silent auction and raffles contribute greatly to those efforts. — *The Banquet Committee*

Silent Auction & Raffle Items

Speaking of the Silent Auction, **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** We eagerly anticipate your donations of books, art work, crafts, bling, gently used tackle, fly tying materials, and tools. Please help us! Your donations, any and all, help ensure our continued progress on local streams as well as our ultra successful Trout in the Classroom programs. And the Silent Auction is **FUN!!** We have procured some trips, fine tackle, and gift items that should excite you. But we need a lot more!

You may drop off your donations at any of the following Fly Shops: Lund's Fly Shop in River Falls, Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop in St. Paul, or Mend Provisions in Minneapolis.

WHEN: Thursday, December 5, 2019
5:30pm Social Hour
7:00pm Plated Dinner & Chapter Announcements
Raffle drawings and final bidding after dinner

WHERE: Lake Elmo Event Center
3712 Layton Ave, Lake Elmo MN 55042

MENU: **Festival Salad:** pears, apples, oranges, dried cranberries, pecans, and gorgonzola on mixed greens with a champagne vinaigrette

Entrée Choices:

- Pork chateaubriand** (sliced Calgary pork tenderloin) on a bed of caramelized onions topped with an apple bourbon pecan glaze, served with rosemary roasted baby red potatoes
- Braised short ribs** on a bed of soft polenta
- Salmon ravigote** with fresh herbs and shallots, and served with Minnesota wild rice

All entrées also include a fresh vegetable medley.

PRICE: \$49 per person

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Monday, December 2, 6:00 PM

Register and pre-pay online:

www.eventbrite.com & search "Kiap-TU-Wish"
or type in this long link:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-kiap-tu-wish-holiday-conservation-banquet-tickets-77738537057>

Register by phone and pay at the banquet:
Alwin Residence: 651-739-3150

Register early!
**We can ONLY
accommodate 125
celebrants.**

{The Drift. . . from page 1}

models into account and averaged them together to take out the peaks and valleys in their model. I had to admit, their methodology seemed, I hate to say it, reasonable. Groundwater temperatures and temperatures in our trout streams really are rising throughout the state. Even if these temperatures rise a little slower than the team's estimates, many of our favorite Brook Trout streams are now, or will soon be approaching the thermal limit for Brook Trout, beyond which Brook Trout can't breathe; they suffocate. The sky might not be completely falling, but This Is Serious Business.

Now back to the rest of Kasey Yallaly's excellent presentation. Kasey went on to tell us that the Brook Trout Reserve Team had identified 54 Brook Trout Reserves throughout Wisconsin. These were streams that had a combination of several attributes, including strong groundwater inflows, strong Brook Trout genetics, proximity to natural habitat and stream buffers, connectivity of streams to allow for free movement of fish up and down streams, clusters of Brook Trout streams that could replenish each other, amount of streams protected by public ownership or conservation easements, along with several other factors. Kasey shared that going forward, the WIDNR would be prioritizing its conservation easement purchases, its stream habitat work, and its selective stocking of highly resilient native Brook Trout with the goal of enhancing and strengthening these 54 Brook Trout Reserves both now and into the future.

Kasey shared quite a bit about what the WIDNR is going to do to fortify our state's Brook Trout habitat into the future. Given the WIDNR's estimate of Wisconsin losing 12,375 miles of Brook Trout streams in the next 35-45 years, my question is: "What are we as a chapter going to do to prevent as much of this loss as possible? What are we as members of other organizations, as groups of friends and as individuals going to do to lessen this massive Brook Trout habitat loss and fortify our state's 54 Brook Trout Reserves both now and into the future? What am I going to do?"

Happy (and thoughtful) Fishing. – Scott Wagner

Conservation Banquet Raffles

Kiap-TU-Wish is raffling off three items at this year's Conservation Banquet on December 5. Raffle tickets for the items can be purchased in advance and attendance at the banquet is not required to win. To buy tickets, contact **Tom Schnadt: 651-245-5163 / thschnadt@hotmail.com**.



Creek Song

An original oil painting by award-winning artist, Joshua Cunningham captures the beauty of Pine Creek. 16"x12". Oil on linen

100 tickets at \$10 each
Retail Value: \$1100



Norling Bamboo Rod

5-wt, 7'-6" rod with two tips, agate guides, rod sock & brushed aluminum travel tube with brass cap by renowned rod makers Dave Norling Sr. & Dave Norling Jr.

100 tickets at \$20 each
Retail Value: \$1800

Cabela's Polar Cap Equalizer Cooler

60 QT, 7 days of ice retention, bear proof, air tight, rope handles, integrated bottle opener & glow in the dark tracker

100 tickets at \$10 each
Retail Value: \$400

2019-2020 EVENTS CALENDAR

•Chapter Meeting

November 6, 2019 / 7pm

*Trout Movie Night hosted
by Randy Arnold*

Junior's Restaurant, River Falls, WI

•Holiday Conservation Banquet

December 5, 2019

*Lake Elmo Inn Event Center
Lake Elmo, MN*

•Chapter Meeting

January 8, 2020 / 7pm

Topic: TBD

Junior's Restaurant, River Falls, WI

•Chapter Meeting

February 5, 2020 / 7pm

*WIDNR Presentation on Trout
Management Plan*

Junior's Restaurant, River Falls, WI

•Chapter Meeting

March 4, 2020 / 7pm

*Dick Frantes Open Fly Tying Night for
Chapter Members*

Junior's Restaurant, River Falls, WI

•Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo

March 20-22, 2020

Hamline University, St. Paul, MN

•Chapter Meeting

April 8, 2020 / 7pm

*Kiap-TU-Wish Business Meeting &
Trout Camp Presentations by
Camp Attendees*

Junior's Restaurant, River Falls, WI

•Chapter Meeting

May 6, 2020 / 7pm

*WIDNR presentation on project work
& fish surveys*

Junior's Restaurant, River Falls, WI



Cabela's

Rituals

By Jonathan Jacobs

Four turns and three turns, as it must be and shall always be.

In August of 2018, my friends John and Greg and I spent a week fishing in and around Yellowstone National Park. Not wishing to exhaust ourselves with a marathon drive westward, we opted to break up the trip with an overnight stay in Glendive, Montana. After we checked into our hotel, we took a drive along the Yellowstone River, which at that point is a meandering prairie river. We imagined what it might look like far upriver in trout country. Looking for a place to eat supper, we drove down Merrill Avenue, the city's main street. Looking at the number of darkened storefronts, many with "FOR RENT" signs in the windows, if the windows were intact, it seemed as though the economic boom of the 21st century had bypassed this part of eastern Montana. The open businesses were mostly seedy bars and the odd kind of mini-casinos one sees in Montana. There were few cars parked on the street. Despairing of finding a restaurant, we turned off Merrill Avenue randomly, drove a block or two and saw mounted on a pole a huge beer stein emblazoned with the name "Gust Hauf" and with the phrase "BEER-PIZZA" under that, all in neon, out in front of a white stucco building. The place looked busy, a good sign, and our hunger was at the "any port in a storm" level. "Gust Hauf" translates roughly to "you can heap" in English. This was an indication of the heaps of food and

drink available inside. The place was an oasis of good food and craft-brewed beers. We ordered a large "meat lover's" pizza and draft beers from as long a list as I've seen anywhere. It was a superb experience.

The three of us made the westward trek again this August. I emailed my friends a few days before the start of the trip to let them know that I'd made motel reservations at the same hotel where we'd stayed the year before. Then I added the question, "Are we going to eat at the Gust Hauf again?"

". . . I was struck by the thought that rituals may be one of my very favorite things about fly fishing."

My friends both quickly answered with an emphatic yes. One of them asked, "Isn't it funny how fast rituals are formed?" I thought that was humorous in an off-hand way, but the question stuck with me. Then, a week or two ago I listened to a podcast that featured the author Thomas McGuane. At one point he said—and I'm paraphrasing here—that absent any organized religion in his life, he found his need for rituals satisfied by things associated with hunting and fishing. Casting aside the overwrought

theological implications, I was struck by the thought that rituals may be one of my very favorite things about fly fishing. I think their value derives from their constancy. My life, like my mind, or more likely because of it, is messy and chaotic, so when I first tie a fly new to me, for example, my tying desk is a clutter of random stuff and I'm a bundle of nerves. But when I sit down to tie my favorite fly, a certain kind of tranquility descends on me. I mount a spool of red 6/0 thread in a bobbin, lay out a dozen hooks and tungsten beads, a dyed cock pheasant tail feather, strung peacock herl, brassie-sized copper wire and have at it. I de-barb a hook, slip a bead on it and mount it in the vise. Four turns of thread lock the thread on

the hook. The copper wire is lashed to the hook with wraps spiraling down the shank. At the hook bend I place six pheasant tail fibers on the hook with the ends extending a half shank length beyond the hook bend. Four turns of thread secure them. I spiral the thread two-thirds the way back up the shank, wrap the bundled pheasant tail fibers forward to that point, bind them down with three wraps of thread, then wind the copper wire in five open spirals to the waiting thread and bind that down with four wraps of

thread. I trim the wire off, tie in two peacock herls, create a thorax, trim off the butts and make a five-turn whip finish. I repeat this process eleven times and find myself about an hour later in about as relaxed a mood as I ever find. Reading what I just wrote makes me wonder if there's a ready distinction between my definition of "ritual" and what others might call obsessive-compulsive behavior, but I'll stick with ritual.

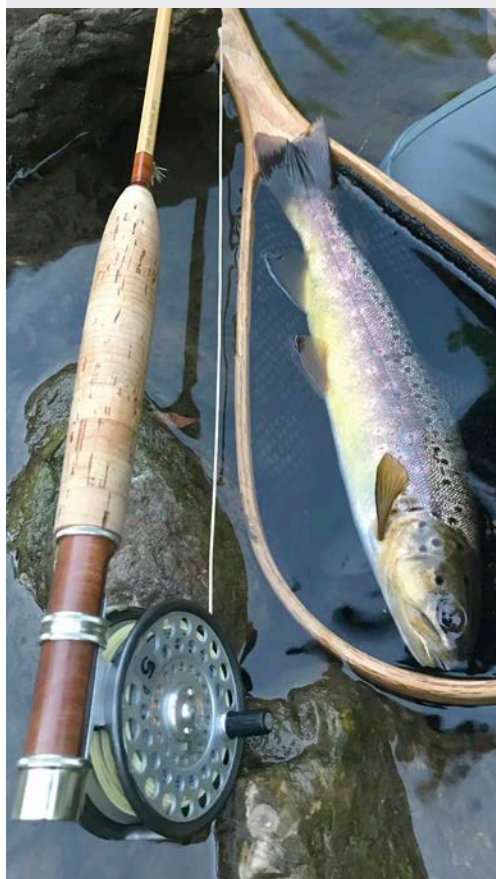
"I'm never quite so happy as when I take off on a fishing trip..." wrote Bill Barich in his wonderful essay *Deeds Among the Steelhead*. I'm leaving in three days for the south shore of Lake Superior to fish for the inland cousins of the rainbows that Barich pursued in California and Oregon. And despite the fact that I've grown rusty and, by any objective measurement, incompetent at this part of the sport, I'll be happy and at ease on departure, in large part because I'll be able to check the boxes on a decades-old checklist that says in bold capital letters across the top of it "STEELHEAD CHECKLIST." I'll assemble the pile of gear and accoutrements that have stood me in good stead all these years, jam it all into my friend Mike's car and head north. I'll be at ease despite the uncertainties of this fishing, secure in the knowledge that through ritual I've brought under control as many factors as I can.

That will be two days after I've returned from a day of fishing for muskellunge out of my drift boat. I don't do as much of this fishing as I'd like and I'm never quite sure what I'm doing. I've had enough sporadic success to tell you that fishing for muskies is inherently an exercise in hours of doubt punctuated by moments of utter chaos. There's so much I don't know how to control out on the water, but, again, I'll be at ease as I motor out of the driveway on my way to the river, knowing that I've assembled the long list of gear needed and that I've checked the trailer's wheel bearings, lighting and tire pressures and that the boat is secured properly to the trailer – all because of a practiced ritual. And I'll have a cooler packed with sandwiches and containers filled with tomatoes, pickles, radishes and strawberries for lunch and with sausage sticks, cheese sticks, cashews and Snickers for snacks. Because that's the way it's done – according to ritual. 🐟

My Norling Cane Rod

For many years, the Dave Norlings (Sr. and Jr.) have donated one of their finely-crafted bamboo fly rods as a fundraiser for the Kiap-TU-Wish Conservation Banquet. They have donated again this year, and I encourage you to buy tickets. The 5-wt, 7'-6" rod is beautiful, performs well and is locally made by acclaimed rod makers and all-around good people. It's worth every chance.

I never thought I'd fish with a bamboo fly rod. My graphite is great and I didn't really *need* another fly rod; I had enough to cover various fishing situations. And frankly, I've always been afraid I'd break it. The Norling rods are exquisite. They are made from natural materials—with warmth, and texture and variation—that father and son transform into a rod that carries with it all the character of those materials and of the rod makers themselves.



I'd be sick if I slammed one in a car door, snapped it when hiking along the stream or if my dog cracked it while ramming around. But every year at banquet time I've admired the craftsmanship and artistry. I've read through their website about how they are made, been struck by the testimonials of those who have a Norling rod and been moved by their description of fishing with cane. Plus, I've had the good fortune to meet the Norlings. So last year I decided to risk it—my winning the rod and subsequent, potential breaking of it. Instead of one ticket, I bought a big handful and hoped that I would win. I didn't, but my husband (who bought just one ticket) did and graciously gave the rod to me.

The first time I fished with my Norling rod was after a streamside memorial for my friend Patrick Daly. A group of people, including Dave Norling Sr., gathered under the pavilion near the fishing platforms in El Paso along the Rush River. We told stories about our friend, ate snacks that people brought to share, and left with a box or two of Patrick's flies, of which there were many. Later, some of us went fishing with those flies.

I walked to a favorite stretch of water and as the twilight loomed, I caught a brown trout on one of Patrick's elk hair caddis flies. My first fish with my bamboo rod—a graceful rod that invited me to slow down, enjoy the rhythm of the cast, relish the evening on the water and reflect. The weight at the end of that rod was not the fish alone, but also the pull of people and traditions that brought me to that place at that time. Sitting on the bank later, I thought of the banquet where Dave Sr. and Patrick chatted, of the Norlings' handmade rod now in my hands, of other anglers fishing with Patrick's flies, of my fishing days with Patrick, and, well, I almost cried at the happiness of catching that trout with such a rod, and such a fly, in such a place.

—Maria Manion

Editor Needed

We're on the look out for a new RipRap editor. I would love to talk with anyone who might be interested. If you think it would be fun but are worried about the technological end of things, or don't have experience in desktop publishing software, no worries! I'm happy to teach and work together until you're comfortable going solo. Or, maybe there are two or three people out there that would be a good editorial team.

Contact me or another board member. There's no obligation and I'd be happy to talk.
manion.maria@gmail.com / 612-325-1005. —Maria Manion

From the Field



Nate Anderson, Lead Habitat Technician for the Lower Chippewa River Basin, explains how the ERO structure works. The "Elevated Riparian Optimization" (ERO) structures are an experimental structure designed by Loren Haas of the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter. Under high flow, the river rises through the constriction greatly accelerating flow. Once the structure is overtopped, the flow curls in and creates a directed scour forming a long deep pool.



Senior Fisheries Biologist, Kasey Yallaly and Crew answering questions on the various aspects of shocking and the Gilbert Creek fishery.



A good mixture of Brooks and Browns.



An example of one of many root wads anchored into the banks to provide cover.

Driftless Bus Tour: A number of Kiap-TU-Wish members took part in the recent Driftless Tour which featured four projects in our area this year. Organized by Duke Welter and Jeff Hasting and funded by TUDARE, the packed bus and caravan of several other vehicles made stops at Wilson, Hay, and Gilbert Creeks near Knapp before wrapping things up at the Von Holtum easement on Plum Creek. As a chapter, we should feel proud of the amount of volunteer effort which went into each of these projects.

CPR/First Aid Safety Training: In order to be in compliance with WIDNR regulations while conducting volunteer workdays on state owned lands, CPR/First Aid Safety trained individuals need to be present to help with any accidents or emergency situations which might arise. The certifications which a number of our volunteers achieved during training two years ago this month expire, and another certification class was held on Saturday, October 25th at Juniors in River Falls. Fourteen volunteers will undergo training in order to bring us in compliance for holding workdays again this season and next.

Von Holtum Easement on Plum Creek: The original plan for the Von Holtum easement on Plum was for it to be a three-year project. Nate Anderson's WIDNR crew finished more than anticipated this year and are now entertaining plans of completing the remaining stretch of stream next summer. Having used up all the rock which he had on site for this year's stretch, Nate and his crew shifted gears and used their excavators to continue clearing box elders from the banks downstream from the restored section. Nate has plans to continue this clearing for a few more weeks, weather permitting. Have no fear, there will still be plenty of box elders for us to cut when we begin our winter brushing work.

Greenwood Elementary Service Learning Day: I have been in contact with Steve Papp, a fourth-grade teacher at Greenwood Elementary in River Falls. Steve would like to have a service learning

day for the entire fourth-grade class at Greenwood where the students would help out with a brushing project by dragging and stacking box elders or buckthorn which would be cut in advance by Kiap-TU-Wish volunteers. I am currently working with Kasey Yallaly and Steve to come up with a suitable site somewhere in close proximity to River Falls where we could reasonably manage a group of 60+ students, plus their teachers and parent chaperones.

Watch for emails regarding this and other workday notices as we get into yet another brushing season.
— Randy Arnold



Kiap-TU-Wish Email List

To receive general announcements or information about upcoming workdays on stream restoration projects, send your name and email address to Randy Arnold, our chapter's volunteer coordinator: randyca999@gmail.com

FLY TIER'S CORNER

The Midwest Sulphur: *by Mike Alwin*



I first became aware of a mayfly known as the “Sulphur” forty years ago from reading Fly Fisherman Magazine. Back then there was a fair amount of insect information about Eastern hatches and some info about Western hatches. But Eastern and Western didn’t translate to our neck of the woods so most of us were largely in the dark. We must have had such a mayfly on the Willow at that time because Trout Brook Road was choked with angler’s cars in late May and early June evenings. The Willow was where the Orange Julius dry fly was developed, whether by Butch Goplin or Tom Andersen, and though I never captured the mayfly, I caught some Trout on that fly.

At some point we wondered if there was a Sulphur on the Kinni, and then my friend Skip James attempted to fish his Willow River patterns on the Kinni and was met with multiple refusals.

When he finally captured a sample he discovered that it was a color he described as “olivaceous.” He went back the next night with appropriately tied dries and did really well. By this time other anglers were reporting that “the Sulphur on the Kinni is green!” And that begs the question, if it’s not yellow is it really a Sulphur?

Ephemerella needhami is a fairly common and widespread mayfly in the upper Midwest. It was first described by James Needham, a biology professor at Lake Forest College, during his collection travels in the Wisconsin and Illinois areas in the early 20th century. It’s not yellow, but it shares the same

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Hook: | A dry fly hook with an 8-9mm shank |
| Thread: | Olive |
| Wing: | Polypropylene floating yarn, tan for the female and light dun for the male |
| Tail: | Light yellow for the female, perhaps light dun for the male |
| Body: | Dark olive or olive dry fly dubbing for the female and brown for the male |

pedigree as the Dark Hendrickson, the Light Hendrickson, the aforementioned Sulphur and the Western Sulphur, Ephemerella d. infrequens. Needhami in our area seems to occupy the same niche as E. dorothea in the east. As our knowledge of this mayfly evolved I changed the name from Kinni Sulphur to Midwest Sulphur to better describe its range.

This original pattern is a parachute tied to mimic the 8-9mm natural, which usually translates to a #16, depending on your brand and model of dry fly hook. It’s only the female that is dark olive; the male is brown.

Mike Alwin wrote a series of entomology articles for RipRap—Know Your Bugs. This fly pattern corresponds to insects described in those articles. If you would like a copy of those articles, email me at manion.maria@gmail.com. If you have questions about this fly pattern, email Mike at mikealwin@gmail.com.

Kiap-TU-Wish

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You can support Kiap-TU-Wish when you shop online. Go to smile.amazon.com, choose Kiap-TU-Wish Trout Unlimited and for every online purchase, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the eligible purchase price to the chapter. **Since October 2017, the chapter has received \$116.45 from online purchases.** Every penny helps.





Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter #168
P.O. Box 483
Hudson, WI 54016

www.kiaptuwish.org



**November 6, 2019
Chapter Meeting**

Dinner starts at 6pm (your dime).
The meeting (movie) starts at 7pm.

Junior's Bar & Restaurant
414 South Main Street
River Falls, WI 54022

The Underwater World of Trout

A video **written and produced by Wendal "Ozzie" Ozefovich**

Join us on **November 6th** when we go underwater to see and learn how trout interact with the world of a freshwater stream. The video is a multi-part series hosted on the New Fly Fisher YouTube Channel. Randy Arnold, Kiap's habitat volunteer coordinator, procured a CD instead, so we can skip the ads and enjoy the footage without interruption.

Here are just a few of the many comments about the video:

THANK YOU! This video is an awesome piece of work and will surely send me fishing in spots on a river I'd never have casted into! Great info!

Really great work-great shooting, diverse angles, reasonable explanations, useful tips. And just beautiful! Thank you!

This was extremely informative and opened my eyes to a totally different approach moving forward.

Didn't think I'd sit and watch this for 45 minutes, yet here we are at 47 minutes in. Nice video, I enjoyed it.