

# OPTU NEWS

## Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

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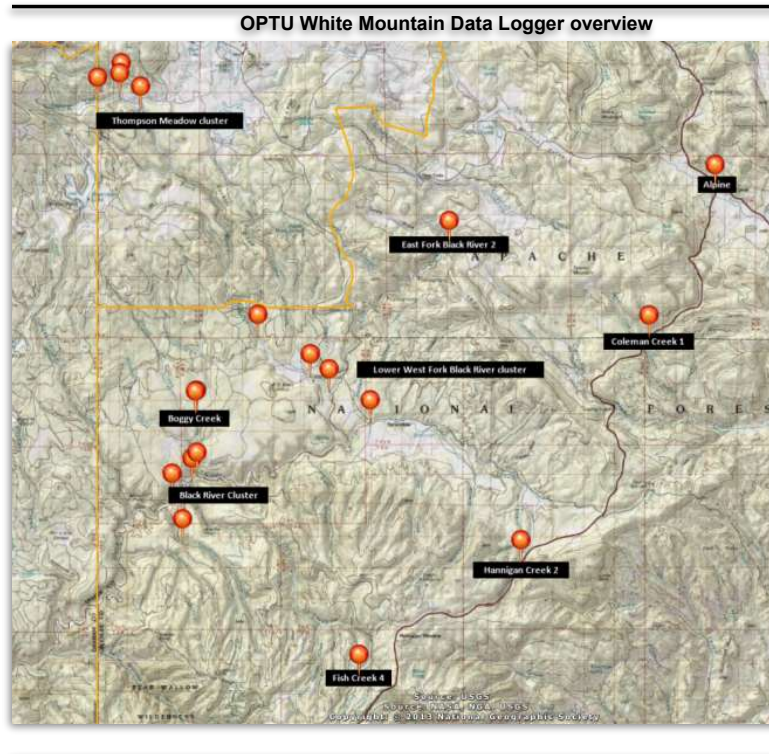
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow OPTU'ers ....

Summer is here and we are going to be busy with conservation efforts and a new dynamic social media campaign. Clay Hernandez will be keeping everyone up to date on conservation work days through the newsletter, blast emails and the new face book page. I am including a map here as an overview of the areas we will be collecting temperature data to give everyone a general idea of what we have signed up for. We have decided to move ahead with a new communications strategy that includes a new email server, a more robust web page and various social media such as Facebook, twitter and Instagram. We hope to have this up and running in the next few weeks. As soon as it is ready we will notify everyone. If you are interested in what our new web page will look like visit the Zane Gray site <http://www.zanegreytu.org/> or the State TU council site <http://az-tu.com/> . We are modeling our efforts off of these. One thing we need is quality photos. If you have fishing, landscape, or related images please let me know. A reminder that there are no general meetings in June, July and August. The September meeting will be on the **second Wednesday of the month** in order to avoid Labor Day week.

Tight Lines, *Robin*



## NEXT SPEAKER

The next regular meeting should be in September. See you then.

## TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

No report this month. *Steve Reiter, Youth Education Coordinator*

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## FOR SALE

Patagonia ultralight river crampons - never used. New \$199, for sale \$50. Call John 520-250-4083 <http://www.backcountry.com/patagonia-river-crampon?http://www.patagonia.com/product/ultralight-river-crampons/79196.html>

Simms Rivertek boots, size 12, excellent condition, used only 4 days out of a drift boat. Original cost \$200, for sale for \$125. Contact Richard at 520-275-9430.

## UPCOMING FISHING TRIPS AND MEMBER OUTINGS

### San Juan 2018

The 16th Annual OPTU San Juan fishing trip will be sometime in 2018. Keep an eye on the newsletter for details.

## FISHING REPORTS

### Florida Keys 2017

The editor, his ever-patient spouse, son, and son's GF headed to the Florida Keys this past week for some humidity (not really desired of course), fishing, and sightseeing. The May weather decided to be windy the four days we were in town, so fishing was limited to Florida Bay and the editor's cousin's back yard, which was not a bad thing (see pictures on last page). We stopped at Robbie's to feed the tarpon on our way down. They were the biggest I've ever seen over the years with many 6 or so feet long and probably 150 lbs. plus. Our first evening at Grassy Key we caught 12 keeper Mangrove snapper off the dock and then used the carcasses for some night time shark fishing. The shark fishing went totally to the sharks at 0 for 5. Each hit and fight lasted less than 3 seconds with lines broken despite 3-foot wire leaders. All this is accomplished in about 2 feet or less of water. Makes one think twice about walking in the bay.

Day 2 was a trip to the bay in the boat from the back yard. Not bad. Fishing was hot right off the bat with snapper smashing the shrimp and ballyhoo chunks. One always catches other things but this day was primarily snapper. This night was a major fish fry with the bounties of the first two days. That evening carcasses were tossed into the bay for another bought with the shark. Again, it was hot and heavy with all outcomes going to the sharks. Another 0 for 5 night. Patrick did catch a 5-foot nurse shark and barracuda off the back dock.

Day 3 we headed to Key West for a tour of Duval Street and a snack at Sloppy Joe's. Key West is always a fun place to visit but watch out for the discount T-shirt shops. They will rip you off as no prices are shown unless you go to one of the big bars that sell T-shirts. Pay attention.

Day 4 was back at fishing in the bay. This was a day of diversity. We ended up with 16 great snapper that went to the restaurant with us that night. Also hooked and landed were a remora, puffer fish (see the big teeth in picture on last page), houndfish, toadfish, grunts, ballyhoo, bonnet-head shark, yellow jack, etc., etc.

Day 5 was the return trip to Ft. Lauderdale for the flight home. We stopped at all the cool places on the way back - World Wide Sportsman (a division of Bass Pro) and Bud n' Mary's. Overall a great trip, even if we didn't get in a trip to the ocean. *The Editor*

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## Lie 'n Tie

This month's (June's) session of Lie 'n Tie is on the third Tuesday of this month, the 20th. It is being held at Eric Loeffler's Dry Creek Outfitters fly-shop (NE corner of Craycroft and River, SE corner of the little shopping center). We will be setting up equipment and materials at 5:30 PM and start fly-tying at 6:00 PM sharp – ending 8:00 – 8:30 PM.

Tiers of all abilities are welcome, because experienced tiers will assist less experienced. Materials will be provided, though tiers should have their own fly-tying tools and at least some tying thread (usually black).

For the June 20th session, John "Whitey" Kuebler will show how to tie variations of the "Simi-Seal Leech." Perhaps one will be an aquamarine color proven to be effective in the White Mountains.

Space is limited so show up on time to get a place to tie flies with us. OPTU members and friends are welcome to participate.

For suggestions of fly patterns and/or instructors, please contact Joe Fagan, 520-730-6398, [JFaganFishEd@gmail.com](mailto:JFaganFishEd@gmail.com).



## PROJECT HEALING WATERS

*Jim Owen, Program Lead, PHWFF – Southern Arizona*

## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH

Fishing Section (license, rules, etc.): <https://www.azgfd.com/fishing>

Stocking Schedule: <https://www.azgfd.com/Fishing/StockSchedule>

## Tips and Tricks

- Google "fly fishing tips and techniques" for hundreds of useful links.
- Check out the Orvis Fly Fishing Learning Center



## WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

Women's Initiative (WI) is in need of a leader to provide support to OPTU women and to interact with the National TU Women's Initiative. Communication Team is in need of a person to add weekly bits of info to update the OPTU web page. Both of these roles require little commitment. Each should take about 3-4 hours a month, max.

Please contact Roseann Marsett if you're interested in helping. [rzann@comcast.net](mailto:rzann@comcast.net).

## WEBSITE FOR OPTU

The OPTU Website is at [oldpueblo.tu.org](http://oldpueblo.tu.org). Do not use a www in front of the words.

## QUOTES AND JOKES

Nothing funny this month.

## CONSERVATION

There are some exciting developments on the horizon regarding conservation work for OPTU this summer.

Robin has spent a good deal of time in the last month or so meeting with folks from both Game and Fish as well as the U.S. Forest Service. We are attempting to assist the Forest Service in helping them further the work we did with them last month.

We are discussing the possibility of assisting them in building several elk exclosures in advance of and to help further the willow planting they would like to do in October. As I understand it this will include driving some stakes and then threading certain pre-made fence sections over those stakes to keep the elk out of certain areas.

Another opportunity that we are being presented with is collecting temperature data from a number of stream data loggers in the Black River and Blue River drainages. OPTU a long history of assisting both state and federal agencies in the Eastern White Mountains of Arizona. It is what TU does and one of the many things OPTU has been about for many many years.

Hopefully as we set up work days each of you will have an opportunity to join us on one or more of these endeavors.

Contact me or Robin if you have any questions or ideas. We look forward to seeing you this summer in the High Country.

*Clay Hernandez, OPTU Conservation Chairman*

### Calendar

**SUMMER** - Go fishing and send in your stories and pictures

## DRY CREEK OUTFITTERS: NEWS AND BARGAINS

Make 2017 the year you organized all your fly-fishing accessories. Check out the following tackle bags at Dry Creek Outfitters: The Fishpond Castaway Roll-Top Gear Bag, the Fishpond Big Horn Kit Bag, Fishpond Cloudburst Gear Bag, Simms Headwaters Tackle Bag, Orvis Waterproof Boat Bag...to name a few. It's amazing how much more quickly you're able to start fishing when your reels, spools, tools and fly boxes are well organized. Make sure your fly lines are in good shape. Floating fly lines eventually begin to lose their buoyancy, which will have a profoundly negative influence on your ability to mend line. Remember...floating and sink-tip fly lines for rivers. For lakes, floating and full-sink fly lines are the ticket. Lastly, make an effort to shield your arms from harmful UV rays by wearing some of the new, lightweight fly-casting shirts from Simms and Orvis. We are fully stocked with several styles and color choices. See you soon.

Our exceptional year of sales has enabled us to comfortably stock between 45 and 55 fly rods. If it's a premium fly rod you seek, check out the Sage X or Salt, the Scott Radian or Meridian or the Orvis Helios 2. We also have entry-level fly rods like the Sage Approach, the Redington Vapen, Hydrogen or Classic Trout, or the Orvis Clearwater. Two fly rods that will not disappoint you are the Sage Pulse and the Orvis Recon. At half of the price of our premium fly rods, they might be the best value in the shop.

Call us if you need something. If you're unable to make it to the shop before your next trip, we are happy to drop a few bugs and/or leaders (or whatever) in the mail - shipping is free. *Eric*

Dry Creek resides at the River Center mall; NE corner of River and Craycroft and is open **Tuesdays through Saturdays** from 10 am to 6 pm. Address: 5655 East River Road, Suite 131, Tucson, AZ 85750 and phone (520) 326-7847. Eric is a long-time supporter of OPTU and we all need to be sure to support him. So get over to DCO and buy some of those essential things you know you need. *The Editor*



Keys Days

