



The RollCast



The Official Publication of the Perrin - Lansing Chapter of Trout Unlimited

February 2006

Winter Edition

MISSION STATEMENT

The Perrin - Lansing Chapter of Trout Unlimited fully supports the national Trout Unlimited mission to conserve, protect, and restore North America's Trout and Salmon fisheries and their watersheds. We will do this in Michigan with a volunteer membership network and partnerships involved in:

- 1. Education of our members and the public on important mission issues.*
- 2. Conservation/Improvement of specific cold water habitat watershed projects.*
- 3. Participation in Trout Unlimited meetings and initiatives to legislative reform.*
- 4. Cooperative Fund Raising activities to allow financial grants to be selectively awarded for activities in agreement with the mission. To preserve, protect and restore Michigan's watersheds which support wild trout and salmon.*



TU HAS LOST A GOOD FRIEND

Dick Augustine

On January 3rd, 2006, TU and in particular the Perrin-Lansing Chapter lost a very good friend. **Nelson Hurst** left us suddenly, in a tragic vehicle accident in Ohio.

Nelson was well known in the Sporting and Conservation Community. Among his business ventures, he was a breeder of exotic birds, supplying many fly-fishers with superior "hackle". He was the **ultimate outdoorsman**.

Many may remember him challenging Fred Trost to "stick a hand" in a river bank to pull out a snapping turtle. Some of us remember great times in a marsh, hunting waterfowl, his passion.

Nelson was instrumental to the success of the Perrin Chapter's fundraising banquets (as he did with other Conservation organizations). He not only donated materials, solicited donations from local businesses, donated personal funds, but most importantly volunteered his **time** on Chapter fundraising committees.

The Perrin Chapter wishes to voice our most sincere condolences to his friends and family. Good men are not forgotten. *He will be missed..*

NOTICE: The Next Perrin Chapter meeting

will take place at 7pm, Thursday February 23rd at the usual meeting place, the MUCC Headquarters Building on Wood Street in Lansing. Guest speaker will be our chapter vice president and resident Steelhead fishing guru, Jim Bedford presenting a program entitled "Spring Steelhead". Don't miss this one!!

The Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited held its quarterly meeting January 14th, at Michigan State University in the University Video Conference Room to provide a link to TU Chapters in the Upper Peninsula. **Carl Hueter**, MCTU Chair, conducted the meeting. Listed below were the major agenda subjects.

Membership: **Mark Green** reported that Michigan membership was down 278 members from November '04 to November '05. A special membership committee task force will be formed to change this trend. Jim Kwasny volunteered to participate.

Scientific Advisory Board: A group of approximately five top rated Natural Resources scientists will be created to act as advisors on projects/issues that are considered for MCTU support or action. More details to follow.

USFS Forest Plans: Local Chapters to get on the mail lists for National Forest plans. Much insight can be gained into activities that impact cold water streams. Pat Kochanny has details on how to get on the mailing lists.

New Water Withdrawal Michigan Statute: MI State Senator **Patty Birkholtz** gave an overview of her bill which will establish baseline levels for water quality and quantity in the State. The health of cold water streams will be the major monitoring barometer of our water environment. The statute would not have been formulated without strong involvement and support by MCTU. Every TU member was requested to contact their government representatives to request support and approval of this bill.

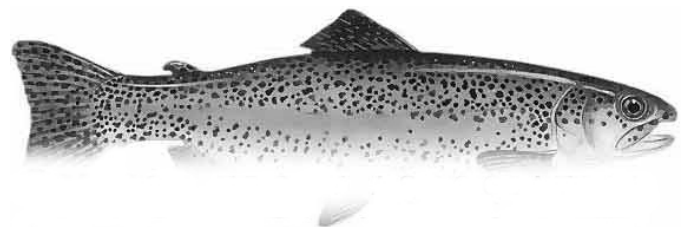
MID-MI CHAPTER: An attempt to establish a "MID-MI TU Chapter" was not successful. By the request of TU Members who tried to organize this new Chapter, and with the approval of the Council, the Chapter was "de-certified." TU Members who

were originally assigned to this group, will be re-assigned to other adjacent Chapter, including Perrin-Lansing.

Kolke Creek Law Suite status: Kolke Creek is a headwater tributary of the AuSable River. A permit was issued by the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality which granted the right to Merit Energy to discharge 1.15 million gallons of effluent groundwater per day into the wetlands associated with Kolke Creek and adjacent Lynn Lake. This water is to be taken from the Manistee River watershed diverted and piped 1.3 miles across State land and discharged into the AuSable watershed at Kolke Creek. The proposed discharge is thought by some, including some local TU Chapters, to have major adverse biological and ecological impact by increasing the water temperature and reducing the amount of dissolved oxygen in the AuSable down stream from the point of discharge. The Anglers of the AuSable and a group of interested parties from the Lynn Lake area has initiated legal action to stop Merit Energy from completing this plan.

The MCTU was requested to join in this action. However, after review by the National TU Council and legal staff, MCTU was advised to withdraw from this effort. The reason given was that unless TU has significant control, TU can not, **by policy**, be cited as the party bringing litigation. In this case, the suit was under way and MCTU is not in control of the legal action.

Carl Heuter stressed the need for all MCTU members to share total facts on this matter and to use this case as an example for the need to have clear timely communication between all chapters and MCTU. Improved communications will be a major focus for MCTU in the future.



PERRIN-LANSING CHAPTER UPDATE

Dick Augustine

State Chapters were recently challenged to review their performance by a “Chapter Effectiveness Index” (CEI). The Perrin - Lansing Chapter did a thorough review of its activities during the past year. Although some members thought that this initiative was a cumbersome exercise proposed by TU National, with a possibility of losing a local charter, we found that the CEI was not only a good tool to self-evaluate, but that it provided a good mechanism to account for our accomplishments. We recommend that attention be paid to accounting for all of our volunteer hours, not just filling in some “blanks” to complete our financial report. Upon careful evaluation, **the Perrin chapter achieved a score of “82”!** which is not too bad for a chapter with only a handful of members committed to the “dirty work” of organizing and “leading” the chapter. (This is probably not much different than other chapters across the country).

Our chapter’s focus has always been directed to “**OnStream**” projects, and we were able to accomplish a lot with our project volunteers. We “**maxed out**” in the categories of **Conservation & Educational Activities**, but fell somewhat short in other categories. The CEI provided insight as to where our chapter should focus additional efforts if we are to achieve our **goal of 100**. We encourage all chapters to take the CEI seriously. It not only provides a tool to direct our efforts, but **may enlighten us as to how much we truly accomplish**.

Our Chapter has approved budget expenditures for 2006, providing funds to other complimentary conservation organizations, and our own continuing projects. Planned conservation activities include an expansion of “Trout-in-the Classroom”, “Kids-Fishing-in-the Parks”, our volunteering for the “Kids Trout Pond” at the Lansing Sportfishing & Travel Show, on-site work on the Coldwater & AuSable River systems, and our continuing commitment to the “Cedars for the AuSable” Project at the “Guides Rest” site in Grayling. We are also committed to our efforts in the State Legislative arena.

Trout Pond Volunteers needed

Chet Kapusinski

Its almost that time of year again..... man, time sure flies! The Lansing Sportfishing and Travel Show is on track to take place on March 9th thru the 12th at the same venue as previous years..... the Lansing Center. And again, the Perrin - Lansing chapter will be staffing the Trout Pond as one of our annual fund raising events. If you haven't gotten a solicitation to help out via email, please consider this your invitation. We still have plenty of vacancies left to fill. As of this publication date, we still have work shift vacancies on:

Thursday evening March 9th from 6-9:30
Friday evening March 10th 3-6pm and 6-9:30pm
Saturday March 11th 10am-2pm, 2-5pm, and 5-8pm
Sunday March 12th 10am-2pm and 2-6pm

Haven't volunteered yet? Please consider the Saturday and Sunday shifts more than Thursday or Friday, as these days are the most busy. To get signed up, call or email Chet Kapusinski at 676-7179 or chekap@excite.com

If you find it hard to join the chapter on some of our summer conservation work projects, this is an excellent opportunity to help the chapter finance the projects. Remember that in addition to the fun and reward of helping kids catch and release trout, you get free admission

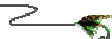
TROUT-IN THE CLASSROOM 2006

Dick Augustine

February 2nd kicked off the Chapter’s 2006 *Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Season* with the delivery of fertilized Rainbow Trout eggs to Ovid/Elsie High School. The eggs, provided by Colleen Byers from Trout Lodge, Inc. of Sumner WA, were placed in the school’s breeding tank by Teacher **Everett Smith** who serves as TU’s (Ovid/Elsie Teacher) TIC School Coordinator.

Everett contacted Dick Augustine (Chapter President) the next morning, stating that it was *“time for the School’s Students to start passing out candy cigars, as two of the eggs had already hatched”!*

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If any Chapter Member is willing to participate in the TIC Program, please contact Dick Augustine.



Everett Smith releasing trout eggs for hatching

It appears that the faculty and students are again quite excited about the prospects of another year of successfully rearing these beautiful fish! If last year is any measure, by the time you are reading this, with the care of Everett, and the students, all of the eggs will have been hatched.

If you attended the Chapter's last meeting, you were privileged to see some of the "4 inch +" trout that the students raised from last year's project. The Chapter's goal is to duplicate this project in other school districts, (one additional district per year). We have purchased the required equipment, and are in the process of soliciting another school to participate in 2006.



NOTES FROM "the BOARD"

Dick Augustine

As mentioned in the last edition of the "ROLLCAST", the Perrin Chapter was challenged to encourage members to "step up" & volunteer to fill "Officer & Executive Board" positions. The chapter not only needs volunteers to fill these positions, but wants to assure that all members have a voice in the direction of the Perrin Chapter.

We have accomplished much in the past years, and can do more with your help. Although the chapter could not have achieved so much without the "silent" support from members, so much more can be accomplished with a few more willing hands.

We have received a few replies from members willing to assume responsibilities, but need more responses if "elections are to have any meaning." If you want your voice to be heard, consider either nominating someone or submitting **your own name** for consideration. If you "simply sit on the sidelines", your opportunity to voice any criticism of chapter's activities, and direction of it's future is lost.

To nominate yourself or another candidate for these positions, and for information regarding responsibilities, or to participate as active "Committee Member, contact **Dick Augustine**, NOW at 517-668-3761 or augusti2@msu.edu.

Executive Board:

President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary.

Committee Chairs:

Fundraising, Youth Projects & Education, Science Advisory, Stream Projects, WAWASUM.

Board of Directors: (Goal is 3, plus the past 2 Presidents).

"Tight Lines" & expecting your cooperation,

*Dick Augustine -
President*





WAWASUM 2006

The Chapter's annual "WAWASUM - retreat - work project - fishing the Hex on the AuSable", is scheduled for Thursday - June 29 thru Sunday - July 2, 2006.

We have been "booked up" at the WAWASUM facility during the past few years, so plan early to attend the Chapter's "premier" event.

To confirm your reservation, you must complete a "RESERVATION FORM" (this will make the lives of the event coordinators much easier, not only to plan, but to resolve any billing issues. Please cooperate). If a "RESERVATION FORM" was not enclosed in the newsletter, send for one with a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope), to Dick Augustine @: 1329 Poppy Lane, DeWitt, MI 48820 or contact Dick by e-mail: augusti2@msu.edu for a "Form" and updates of our planned WAWASUM activities. Efforts are also being made to post the form on the Chapter's web-site

Membership Information:

Annual Membership

Regular - \$35 Student - \$20 Senior (62+) - \$20
Family - \$50 Lifetime - \$1000

For More Information – contact Jim Pifer at (517) 646-0141 or Pifer@voyager.net or visit lansing-tu.org

Perrin Chapter Trout Unlimited

Decal / Patch Order Form

Support the Perrin - Lansing Chapter of Trout Unlimited by purchasing and displaying our logo!



\$3.00 ea 3-1/3"
outdoor
self-adhesive
decal

\$5.00 ea 3-1/3"
embroidered
patch

The money from the sale of our logo will be used for conservation of Michigan Streams and Rivers

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____

No of Decals @ \$3	No of Patches @ \$5	Additional Donation \$2, \$5,\$10,\$25,more	Total Enclosed

Please make checks payable to: **Perrin Chapter Trout Unlimited.**

Mail this form and check to:

PCTU
Robert Flickinger
6603 Windsong Way
Lansing MI 48917

Visit lansing-tu.org for all the latest Perrin-Lansing chapter news

Calendar of Events

Feb 23 Perrin – Lansing Chapter general meeting,
7pm, MUCC Headquarters, Wood Street

March 9-12 Sportfishing Boat & Travel Show
Trout Pond work days

April 29th Trout Opener

May** Youth Fishing Derby

June 29 – July 2 Wa Wa Sum Retreat & Work project.

July / August** Tentative Coldwater River project -
continuation of 2004-5 project

September 9 Annual AuSable River Cleanup

** Exact date and time to be announced at a later date

The RollCast is a collaborative effort of a few Perrin
Chapter members. Editor Chet Kapusinski

Perrin – Lansing Chapter of Trout Unlimited Board of Directors / Active members

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