



# Tuck Tales

*Newsletter of the Tuckaseige Chapter # 373 of Trout Unlimited serving the western North Carolina counties of Haywood, Jackson, Macon and Swain*

A Monthly Newsletter

March, 2008

#### Work Day

Our next project will be the Annual Yard Sale at WCU on Sat. March 29th. Bring items for sale to the March 4th meeting.



#### Bring a Friend!

Don't forget to bring a guest to the March meeting. The chapter will pay for your guest's meal.

TCTU is trying to increase membership this year so make an effort to bring a potential new member to the meeting!

#### More Projects

There will be a Large Stream Fish Sample on Cataloochee Creek in GSMNP on Sep. 26th & 27th.

The Annual Ducks-On-The-Tuck event will be held on Sunday 4/27. Come and help the chapter wrangle those ducks!

#### NCTU Rivercourse Summer camp



June 22-27, 2008 at Lake Logan Center near Canton.

#### Help TCTU Save \$

Email your editor at [craigforrest@sleepyhollowovstudio.com](mailto:craigforrest@sleepyhollowovstudio.com) and ask to be put on the chapter's email notification list. You'll not receive the printed newsletter and be directed to the chapter's website to download a full-color pdf file of Tuck Tales.

#### Clean-Ups

The Annual Tuck Clean-Up will be held on 4/19.

Sparkle Day on the Oconaluftee in GSMNP will be held on 4/26

<http://www.orgsites.com/nc/tctu/>

## Orvis Donation

### Orvis makes donation of equipment to GSMNP

Date: January 3, 2008  
Contact: Bob Miller, (865) 436-1207

Santa arrived a few days early for Fisheries managers at Great Smoky Mountains National Park who recently accepted a \$5,000 assortment of waders and wading shoes from the ORVIS Corporation.

Park Fisheries Biologist, Steve Moore, joined Friends of the Smokies President, Jim Hart, to pick up a van load of the fishing gear from Kris Maurer, Fishing Manager at the Sevierville ORVIS store. The request for support from ORVIS was made through the Friends, the Park's primary fund-raising foundation.

According to Moore, "We can make great use of this equipment to outfit the large crews of Park staff, volunteers and cooperators who work with us on labor-intensive projects like large stream fish population surveys and our planned project to restore native brook trout to Lynn Camp Prong next fall. Fishery management in the Smokies always involves lots of hiking and bushwhacking down into streams, which takes a toll on waders. The ones ORVIS has provided are heavy-duty models that should stand up well to that kind of punishment."

Maurer said "ORVIS is dedicated to helping support a wide variety of activities to improve fishing opportunities and fish habitat, and we are especially happy to contribute support locally to a Park that provides such a great recreational fishing experience to our own employees and patrons of the Sevierville store."

Friends President Jim Hart said, "At the Friends of the Smokies we see our role as helping to provide the Park with the resources to improve the Park and the visitor experience. Many times this support is in the form of over a million dollars annually to fund seasonal staff for projects, but we also look for ways that we can help direct in-kind contributions of equipment that will provide these people with the tools they need to accomplish the work."

## EDITOR'S CAST

*Of course our thoughts are now all about the upcoming spring fishing season.*

*With the recent rains we have been experiencing, the hope is that there will be plenty of water to make the fish less skittish and the fishing successful. It goes without saying that we have high hopes for more rainfall this summer. Last summer is one we all want to put behind us regarding the lack of rain and resulting stress placed on our coldwater resource.*

*Have you checked your equipment to make sure it's in proper order? I'm going to be needing to make a wader purchase due partially to some weight gained over the winter. Also, some new wading boots will find their way into my closet. The old ones have a few too many creek miles on them.*

*At any rate be sure to take some time to check out your gear so you won't be disappointed when you strike out on that first fishing trip. Nothing will spoil a day a-stream any worse than an equipment failure. Also, make sure your fishing license is current!*

*There is a new Fly Shop in Waynesville on Main Street. Chapter member and Past TCTU President Dick Morgan is helping the owner out by helping to man the store. Stop by and see Dick if you get a chance.*

*Don't forget to bring a potential new member to the March meeting. We're trying to build our membership. We need new members folks!*

*Also, remember you can help save your chapter money by emailing your editor to have your name added to the email list to receive your newsletter as a pdf document via email thus saving paper and postage for the chapter.*

*See you at the March meeting!*



Craig Forrest, Editor

## North Carolina Sportsmen Spend More than \$1.7 Billion a Year

RALEIGH, N.C. (Jan. 11, 2008) – Whether they're hunting pintails at Lake Mattamuskeet, fishing for trout in a coldwater mountain stream, or tracking deer along a hardwood forest creek bottom, North Carolina sportsmen spend big bucks in pursuit of their favorite pastimes.

An avid outdoorsman since he reeled in his first fish at age 7, Lee Ratcliffe, now 33, estimates he spent close to \$700 in 2007 on his hunting and



fishing excursions — far less than what the Garner resident spent before he became the father of two — but still significant, particularly when you multiply his expenditures by 1 million other sportsmen.

One million is the number of hunters and anglers living in North Carolina as estimated by the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which recently released a report that highlights the tremendous impact hunters and anglers have on the state's economy.

According to the report, "Hunting and Fishing: Bright Stars of the American Economy – A Force as Big as All Outdoors," North Carolina sportsmen spend \$1.7 billion a year hunting and fishing, a financial figure that places them among the most prominent and influential of all demographic groups.

"A few dollars at the bait and tackle store for a fishing lure, \$50 to put gas in your boat, another \$100 for hotel and food for an overnight fishing trip — it adds up quickly," said Fred Harris, interim director of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, the agency that manages the state's wildlife resources. "When you multiply individual spending by 1 million sportsmen, you have a major force in our economy, with everyone benefiting — from the small mom-and-pop stores and larger chain stores to manufacturers of

hunting and fishing products to wildlife conservation efforts."

In North Carolina, spending by hunters and anglers directly supports 29,000 jobs, which puts \$818 million worth of paychecks into pockets of working residents around the state. Likewise, sportsmen spending generates \$170 million in state and local taxes.

For all their spending power, North Carolina sportsmen were outranked by 13 other states when total hunting and angling expenditures were tallied. Texas led the nation in total number of money spent (\$6.6 billion), hunters and anglers (2.6 million), jobs supported (106,000) and tax revenue generated (\$1.3 billion). Florida was second, with California, Pennsylvania and Minnesota rounding out the top five.

Nationally, 34 million sportsmen age 16 and older spent more than \$76 billion in 2006, supporting 1.6 million jobs and generating \$25 billion a year in federal, state and local taxes.

"The economic impact that sportsmen have on state economies should be a wake-up call to state governments to welcome and encourage hunting and fishing in their state," said Jeff Crane, president of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation. "The evidence is clear: states that encourage hunting and fishing by providing access and maintaining healthy habitats and fisheries benefit many times over through jobs and taxes as well as enjoying a boost to travel and tourism."

To download the complete report, including a list of state-by-state fact sheets, visit the National Shooting Sport Foundation's Web site, [www.nssf.org](http://www.nssf.org).

### Tuck Tales

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The Tuckaseegee Chapter has a web presence at:

<http://www.orgsites.com/nc/tctu>

Tuck Tales is available on the website as a full color, downloadable pdf file, current month as well as archives.



# North Shore Road News

## North Shore Road Record of Decision Available for Review

Date: January 16, 2008

Contact: Nancy Gray, (865) 436-1208

The National Park Service announced its Record of Decision on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the North Shore Road in December 2007 calling for a monetary settlement to Swain County, North Carolina. The Record of Decision is now available for review at the project's website (<http://www.northshoreroad.info/documents.htm>) and several locations noted below:

Asheville, NC: Pack Memorial Library, 67 Haywood Street

Bryson City, NC: Marianna Black Library, 33 Fryemont Street

Charlotte, NC: Charlotte Mecklenburg County Main Library, 310 North Tryon Street

Cherokee, NC: NPS Oconaluftee Visitor Center, 150 Highway 441 North

Raleigh, NC: Cameron Village Regional Library, 1930 Clark Avenue

Robbinsville, NC: Graham County Public Library, 80 Knight Street

Gatlinburg, TN: Anna Porter Public Library, 207 Cherokee Orchard Road

GSMNP Headquarters, 107 Park Headquarters Road

Knoxville, TN: Lawson-McGee Library, 500 West Church Avenue

The Record of Decision culminates the North Shore Road public process and authorizes for the development of a new agreement to replace a 1943 agreement which called for construction of a 34-mile long road on the North Shore of Fontana Lake. Negotiations will begin on the monetary settlement early this year between

the signatories of the 1943 agreement: U.S. Department of the Interior, Swain County, State of North Carolina, and Tennessee Valley Authority. In anticipation of a new agreement and a monetary settlement, Representative Heath Shuler (NC) and Senator Lamar Alexander (TN) were able to provide \$6 million to the FY 2008 Interior Department budget to be used in the settlement procedures.

The 12-page Record of Decision summarizes the key points for selection of the monetary settlement stated as the National Park Service's preferred alternative in the FEIS and provides a brief background of the project and key issues surrounding the project. For further reference, the Draft EIS and the Final EIS documents are also available on the website and should also be available at the above locations.

*( Editor's note: TCTU along with NCTU and the National organization helped fight to stop the building of the North Shore Road. Thanks to all of you who helped in this effort. We are protecting one of our finest coldwater resources with this effort. )*

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