The Southwestern Vermont Chapter of Trout Unlimited
July 27th 1999
Volume IV

The Hatch

New Regulation Proposal for the Battenkill

Ken Cox, the Department of Fish and Wildlife's District Fisheries Biologist, has put forth to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board, a proposal which will effectively eliminate the harvest of Trout on the Battenkill River from Dufresne Pond down to the New York State Line.

Ken Cox is recommending a six-year ban on the harvest of trout in an effort to reverse the alarming and unexplained declines in the River's trout populations. This proposal would still allow for fishing with bait and artificial lures over the entire Vermont portion of the river.

Chapter Meeting on 8/10/99 to Vote on Our Chapter's Official Position on the Regulation Proposal

In light of the results of the Trout population studies and the proposed regulation change on the River, it is imperative that our Chapter meets to approve and draft an official document stating our position on the proposed regulation change.

Ken Cox will be available at our meeting to field questions regarding the proposal.

We will plan to meet on **Tuesday, August 10th, at 6:30 PM in the Orvis School Room on Route 7A in Manchester (directly across the street from the Orvis School)** to approve an official position.

This meeting will also be your opportunity to get involved in the process to save our River. We plan to have an action plan put together with the help of TU National to mobilize our efforts.

If you will be unavailable to attend this meeting, please fill out the attached proxy and forward it to the Chapter Mailbox at **PO Box 88, Manchester, VT 05254.** So we can recognize your comments and opinion.

Hearing Scheduled for August 19th at the Arlington High School to discuss the Proposed Regulations.

The Fish and Wildlife Board will be in attendance on August 19th at 7:00 PM to hear public reaction to the proposed regulations. This meeting will be the Board's only scheduled opportunity to hear the public reaction to Ken Cox's proposal.

This will be the opportunity for our Chapter to officially state its position on the proposed regulation.

Moreover, this will also be the opportunity for all individuals to speak openly with their views on the proposal and more importantly, to urge the State to allocate money and resources to investigate the reasons attributing to the Brown Trout Declines.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

****

Proxy Statement

I, _____ _____, hereby allow the Board of Director's of the Southwestern Vermont Chapter of Trout Unlimited, to vote on my behalf with regard to the chapter's Official Position on the

Proposed Harvest Regulation change for the Battenkill River.

My Comments are included below:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_

Signed,

Date _____