
Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Wood Duck Chapter of TU

Re: Wood Duck Chapter of TU

Author: : RLeeP

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URL:

>>Nothing in the bylaws nor in the mission statement of TU prohibits or frowns upon hatcheries or stocking. Though it may have originated as an anti-stocking, wild trout organization, it does not presently define itself, on an organizational level, as an exclusive wild trout advocacy group. A "cold-water fishery" may very well be created and maintained by hatchery stock.>>

Well, I suppose that's correct, though I'd probably have to suck on a lemon for a half hour before it came to mind, just speaking for myself.....)

Here is probably the most substantive difference between what "isn't in the by-laws" and the real world, at least IMO: TU is a multi-level, semi-autonomous balancing act where all sorts of variance and episodic apostasy is tolerated at the Chapter level for the sake of the bigger bang provided by higher overall membership numbers. This is pretty typical of multi-level grass roots groups. But if you follow the money that is spent in TU's name at the national (and for the most part, council) levels, my guess is that you'll find virtually none of it going to either stocking or other artificial fishery enhancement and the vast majority of it going to wild fishery management and habitat concerns.

So, while (with sufficient lemons..) a case can be made for what TU is "not" based upon what is not stated in the bylaws or mission statement(s), it seems to me a more accurate picture can be had by simple observation of where national spends the membership bucks. And it ain't on hatcheries...

Just a viewpoint.

On edit for sdwlucas: I'd encourage you to join the Wood Duckers. Like troutbert said, chapters are cyclical. Wood Duck TU had a real dynamo by the name of Bud Byron back a number of years ago. But Bud passed away and maybe some of the drive went out of the chapter with him. It can come back just as strong as ever and you can be a big part of it, if that is your inclination and what you want out of your TU affiliation and experience.