

Tarryall Fishing Club
2013 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2013
10:00 a.m. Jefferson Community Center

Board members in Attendance: Gary Belk, President; Paul Grossnickle, V. President; Theresa Pugh, Treasurer/Acting Secretary; Fred Crane, Member-at-large.
Unable to attend: Bill VanGundy, member-at-large

1. Call to Order & Introductions –The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by President Gary Belk. Gary introduced himself as the new president replacing Ken Black. Gary stated that Ken Black had resigned and commended Ken on being a great president for the TFC. He also thanked two other board members who decided to resign to free up more time for other causes - Steve Perry and Duane Mellinger - for their service to the club. Gary had owner association president Stan Fredricks and Cliff Pugh introduce themselves.
2. Guest Speaker – Sergeant Frank Conner from the Park County Sheriff's Office was our guest speaker. He served with Denver for 34 years and has been with Park County for 10 months. He has relatives who own property in Stagesstop and has fished TFC waters. This year, deputies will again help police our fishing areas. They will check for fishing licenses and valid fishing permits. Sergeant Conner also took the opportunity to talk briefly about a few other subjects -
 - Fire season. Fire potential is often high in Park County. Fire bans can be put in place by various entities. The Sheriff can declare a county wide ban, the fire chief can declare a ban in the fire district, and federal agencies can declare a ban on public land. Sergeant Conner brought brochures on how to mitigate fire danger.
 - ATV traffic. ATVs cannot be driven on county roads but are okay in the National Forest on designated roadways.
 - Shooting – Park County does not prohibit shooting on private property with a proper backstop. However, Stagesstop and Lost Park Ranch both have covenants that prohibit shooting.
 - Non-Emergency Contact Number – If anyone needs to reach the Sheriff on a non-emergency basis, call dispatch at 719-836-4121, option 5

A few questions were asked by members –

Q: Are ATVs okay to be driven in the National Forest? **A:** Yes but only on designated roadways

Q: Is it possible to license an ATV for the road? **A:** No.

Q: Does a Sheriff's deputy have authority to ask for a fishing license? **A:** Yes, both a law enforcement officer and a Division of Wildlife Officer can enforce State fishing regulations.

Q: How often does DOW patrol? **A:** Carl comes around two times per day

Q: Is shooting allowed in the National Forest? **A:** Yes but not within 50 feet either side of the road and a proper backstop is required.

Q: Does Sheriff patrol National Forest? **A:** Not unless called in for a 4-wheel traffic accident investigation.

Q: What if I get a Red Tag? **A:** TFC members who want to fish the river and park near the Observatory Rock Bison Ranch can park in the emergency pull out along the road. If they have a hang tag, Park County will not put a red tag on the vehicle. If a vehicle gets a red tag, there is a

period of 24 to 72 hours before the vehicle is towed. There is no database that the vehicle's information is entered into.

3. Minutes of 2012 Annual Meeting were read. A motion to accept them as written was made by Larry Sharp and seconded by Dennis Sheeran. Motion passed.
4. Treasurer's Report – The report was given by Theresa Pugh TFC ended 2012 with \$10,952.33 in its treasury. This year we have received dues from both Stagestop and Lost Park and paid for printing and mailing our newsletter and passes. As of 4-25-2013, we had \$31,169.72 in the treasury. After discussion of the proposed budget, Jed Caswall moved to approve expenditures from January 1, 2012 through April 25, 2013. Doug Grush seconded. Motion passed.
5. Proposed Budget – The proposed budget for 2013 was presented by Theresa Pugh. Water conditions last summer were poor so some stocking was cancelled, giving us a bigger carryover. This year we may need to do more stocking since there was a fish kill in the Tarryall River, 10 to 50 percent by estimate of the State biologist. SOA caught up on dues from the past year so more money came in this year than expected. A member asked if there was a reserve for the excess. TFC just keeps its money in a checking account. Jed Caswall moved to approve, Jim Sylvester seconded. Motion passed.
6. Pond Status –
Stan Fredricks reported that he would be going over after the meeting to put the gates in and begin storing water in the SOA water augmentation ponds in Lost Park Ranch. Due to the recent precipitation, the water commissioner, Garver Brown, is confident there will be enough water to fill the ponds this year. Stan is looking at the design for the new outlet and trying to figure out if there is a way to drain water off the top rather than the bottom of the pond to keep the water quality better for fish. Stan has seen fish in the ponds so it looks like they have survived the winter.

Cliff Pugh reported that LPROA is in priority so pumping was underway to get the LPROA water augmentation pond near Stagestop filled as soon as possible. It should take at least a week. A lot of weeds were removed last year and the pond is looking pretty good.

A few questions/comments from members:

Q: Are the grass carp that were put into the pond are working. **A:** Someone reported catching and releasing one that was 14 inches long (carp were about 9 inches when put in).

C: Jim Sylvester informed members that LPROA is planning to put in bollards to keep people from parking on the dam to fish.

C: Gary Belk explained that the water augmentation ponds for Stagestop are in Lost Park and the Lost Park water augmentation pond is by Stagestop.

7. Fish Stocking – Paul Grossnickle announced that fish stocking will take place on May 16 beginning somewhere between 9 and 11 a.m. The plan is to stock the river and all three ponds with a fairly large amount of trout this first stocking. Trout will be between 1 and 1-1/2 pounds. We will also order 50 carp and put some in all three ponds. Delivery cost this year is \$120.00
A few questions/comments by members –

Q: How many stockings will be done this year? **A:** Paul said we will try to stock some each month (this summer).

Q: Did minnows or fresh water shrimp get re-established in the ponds over in Lost Park Ranch?

A: Although no new minnows have been added, some have survived the winter. Straw bales were put into the pond by Stagestop for several weeks then moved to the ponds in Lost Park to help transfer aquatic insects.

Q: Where will the river be stocked? **A:** Paul said up at top of Stagestop property down to the firehouse, by the Lost Park pump house, and at the stream gage station.

Q: Will we be stocking rainbows or browns? **A:** Paul said rainbows. They are \$3.85 per pound. Cutbows and browns cost much more per pound (over \$5 per pound).

C: Larry Sharp wanted to go on record as being opposed to stocking the stream. He especially does not believe we should be stocking rainbows in the stream since it is a naturally producing brown fishery.

Q: Is stocking done in consultation with Division of Wildlife? **A:** TFC members have occasionally talked with Jeff Spohn, the State biologist but we do not stock in consultation with DOW.

Q: Is there a chance the State would partner with TFC in replacing some of the fish killed in the late-season freeze? **A:** Bob Ballard had talked to officials and there is no plan to stock Tarryall – all fish are already designated for other sites..

C: A member commented that the weeds we take out of the pond by Stagestop, would be a good source of transferring aquatic insects to the ponds in Lost Park and suggested we transport some of the weeds in a bucket to in Lost Park and lay them in the ponds for a little while.

8. Patrolling – Gary Belk met with Sergeant Conner earlier in the week. He will coordinate getting our request for extra duty deputies to help with patrolling. We also need membership to help. Introduce yourself and ask to see other’s fishing passes.

This year we have re-designed our guest passes in hope they will be easier to fill out correctly.

Old passes are still valid but members can trade the old for new passes. Contact Theresa Pugh.

A few questions were asked by members:

Q: Do new passes have to be punched or crossed out? **A:** The instruction on the pass says to cross out date information in ink.

C: A member commented that if fishing on the creek, wear pass in a visible spot and others will not need to contact.

Q: What should members do if they encounter a guest without their card filled out? **A:** Try to get the lot owner’s name and lot number then report them to TFC. If no information can be obtained, try to get a vehicle license plate to report to TFC.

Q: What about 2 poles? **A:** Per the TFC rules, 2 poles are not legal. Gary advised leaving one in the car and going to exchange poles if you want to change.

Q: Are there statistical records on the number of citations? **A:** Although only warning letters have been sent so far, guest pass sales have increased greatly.

Q: Does a hang tag give anyone the right to fish? **A:** It does not. People without member cards or guest passes should be asked to leave and return with passes. A guest must have a guest pass but is not required to have a hang tag.

C: A member stated that he did not feel it was right for someone who is patrolling to be approaching people with a big dog. Although it was established that the dog in question was on a leash, the member doesn’t like to be approached by a dog.

Q: May a guest be out fishing without an owner? **A:** Yes, however, the owner is responsible for the actions of the guest.

Q: May grandchildren under age 16 go fishing alone? **A:** According to TFC Rule #5, they do not need a guest pass but must be in the company of a member with a membership card.

Q: What about the access point by the stream gage? **A:** Although someone took down the TFC sign and put up a “No Trespassing” sign, it is still our access point. A new TFC sign was put up.

9. Volunteers – Paul encouraged people to sign the volunteer list at the back of the room to help with patrolling and miscellaneous workdays.
10. Access points tour – Cliff Pugh volunteered to give a tour of our access points after the meeting. Members who wanted to go met and left shortly after the meeting.
11. Road work - Gary indicated that the road to the pond by Stagestop had been worked on last year and thanked Danney McReynolds for the use of his equipment in distributing the fill. A little more work may be needed this year.
12. Election of Board Members – Gary opened the floor for nominations for three board members. Paul Grossnickle was nominated by Cliff Pugh and seconded by Randy Thompson. Dennis Sheeran was nominated by Ken Glenn and seconded by Doug Grush. Stuart Knapp was nominated by Bob Ballard and seconded by Cliff Pugh. Theresa Pugh moved that nominations be closed and Larry Sharp seconded. All three nominees were elected.
13. New Business
 - **Fire Mitigation in Stagestop** – Larry Sharp is working on a fire mitigation plan for Stagestop. The plan will be a long term project and the hope is to get a grant. Larry is organizing three chipper days with CUSP – May 25, July 19, and September 7. The \$600 per day fee is being picked up by Stagestop Owner Association. If interested in participating, contact Larry at lar7shar@q.com
 - **Indian Mountain Burn Pit** – The Indian Mountain burn pit has been reopened with some new rules. They will only be open for limited hours on the weekend. If interested in using the burn pit, you must volunteer to run the pit for a 4-hour shift as well as pay the fee – SOA will get a group membership, LPROA will let individuals pay for themselves. For more burn pit information see <http://www.indianmountain.info/burnpit.html>. Stagestop will try to keep the days of operation current on its website, soanews.org
 - **Wood chipping in Lost Park Ranch** – Bob Ballard announced that LPROA woodchipping date would be October 5. In addition to getting wood stacked, participants are expected to volunteer to help. A donation of \$75 to CUSP is being collected in advance. The chipper can take up to 12-inch diameter logs. Anyone interested in participating can check the LPROA website lproa.org for the contact information.
14. Comments from Membership – An open time for comments from members was held.
 - A member mentioned that there may be a State Tax write-off through 2025 for fire mitigation.
 - Randy Thompson said he would like to see the bag limit of fish dropped to 2. He would also like us to make the creek artificial lures and flies only and make some sections catch and release only.
 - Gary pointed out that Randy’s proposals would be something the whole membership would need to vote on.
 - Someone suggested we might do an internet survey – there are free ones available.

- Bob Ballard said there are few deep pools in the creek and that is a reason for the fish kill during bad weather. He would like us to do some habitat improvement.
- Larry Sharp would like us to appoint a blue ribbon committee to address issues related to the management of the river. He also wanted to point out that we have 2 open issues – quieting the easement and impossible fencing by Topaz Mountain Ranch.
- Cliff Pugh said the HOA would need to get involved to do something about the easement. He also said he understood the bison ranch was under contract.
- Gary Belk said he is coming up to speed on TFC matters. He had called the real estate company selling the bison ranch and they had correctly represented TFC interests.
- Gary Belk is looking forward to working with the HOAs to make sure TFC is providing a good fishing opportunity.
- Stan Fredricks commented that Lost Park Ranch and Stagestop own the fishing rights. An attorney is expensive so there would need to be some way to raise money if needed.
- Jed Caswall said he is an attorney. He thinks we should walk our lease at least once a year. Jed is willing to help if we need some legal help.
- A member asked if there is any chance of being aggressively pursued by bison. According to what Division of Wildlife has told us, there definitely is.
- Bob Ballard said he has served on the board and it can be a thankless job. He encouraged all members to be engaged and support the board.

15. Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Ballard and seconded by Cliff Pugh. The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.