The smile says it all! A boy basks in the glory of catching his first fish with a little help from a fishing rod donated by the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Wildlife, children were taught the basics of fishing, including the practice of safe catch-and-release techniques, and, most importantly, were educated about the intrinsic value of fish and the waters that they inhabit. Children spent the day fishing over a dozen ponds that were previously managed by the university, which contain a diverse number of species, ranging from trout to sunfish. The day was filled with frequent catches and screams of excitement, and it was soon difficult to determine who was having more fun, the children catching the fish, or the students who were assisting them.

At the end of the day, the children not only returned home with vivid memories of the fish they caught (and of course stories of the one that got away!), but also with photographs recording their smiles and their very own fishing rod to be used in future adventures. The success of the day was wonderfully capped with front-page coverage of the event in the local newspaper. The inaugural Boys and Girls Club Fishing Day was organized by Matt Kondratieff (president) and Julian Olden (vice president) and this last November by Zach Shattuck (president) and Doug Martin (vice president), and now is a yearly event. In both years, the outing would not have been possible without the dedicated and hard-working members of the Student Subunit.

In addition to outreach events, the Colorado State University Student Subunit holds bimonthly meetings where a diversity of speakers present their research, organizes snorkeling trips to local rivers, conducts river clean-up events, participates in a friendly broomball competition against the students of The Wildlife Society for the coveted Fin-Fur Cup, and organizes a state-renowned fishing derby that provides the yearly operating budget. To find out more about the Colorado State University Student Subunit visit www.cnr.colostate.edu/FWBAFS.

—Julian D. Olden

Colorado State University Student Subunit
Fishing and fun with the Boys & Girls Club of America

Catching a fish eludes even the best of us, but imagine how much more difficult this task would be without basic essentials like a fishing rod or having access to a local stream or lake. This is a problem that faces many youth and was the main impetus behind Colorado State University Student Subunit's recent organization of a fishing day with the Boys and Girls Club of Larimer County, Colorado. The day provided a unique first chance for many children, who normally would not have such an opportunity, to fish and experience the natural beauty of our water resources. Equipped with new fishing rods generously donated by the Colorado Division of Wildlife, children were taught the basics of fishing, including the practice of safe catch-and-release techniques, and, most importantly, were educated about the intrinsic value of fish and the waters that they inhabit. Children spent the day fishing over a dozen ponds that were previously managed by the university, which contain a diverse number of species, ranging from trout to sunfish. The day was filled with frequent catches and screams of excitement, and it was soon difficult to determine who was having more fun, the children catching the fish, or the students who were assisting them.

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—Julian D. Olden

Estuaries Section
Call for award nominations

The Estuaries Section and the NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation are soliciting nominations for the 2003 Dr. Nancy Foster Habitat Conservation Award. The NOAA Fisheries/AFS award recognizes and honors outstanding people in the habitat conservation field. Nominations are due 30 May 2003. Nominees must have at least ten years of continuous contributions to the habitat conservation fields, including any work to protect, manage, study, or otherwise advance habitat issues associated with marine, estuarine, or riverine waters or the species supported by those ecosystems. Private citizens or public servants may be nominated for their work, their volunteer efforts, another type of support, or any combination of contributions to the habitat conservation field. For information on how to submit a nomination see www.fisheries.org/estuaries/nancyfoster.html or contact Thomas E. Bigford, 301/713-2325.

—Linda Bireley

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