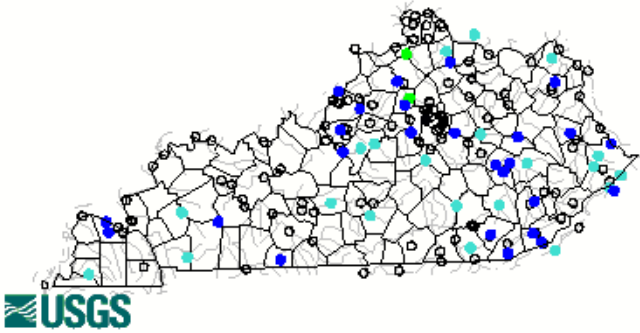


# THE NORTHERN KENTUCKY FLY FISHERS', INK

Mon., Nov. 24, 2003 21:20ET



*Two fabulous days of guided fishing on the Snake River in Wyoming, with professional guide Don Wackerman, plus \$400 for travel and lodging... Not bad, huh?*



**Ron Kilmer (above) and Mo Cecil with some Snake River minnows**

## By Tim Guilfoile

On October 1, 2003, the State of Indiana discontinued 31 of their 170 U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Streamgaging Stations due to funding cutbacks. According to Scott Morlock, Chief of the Hydrologic Data Section of the USGS Water Resources Division in Indianapolis, the station below Brookville Dam will be fully funded for the 2004 Federal Fiscal Year (10/01/03 - 09/30/04).

The future for the Brookville station and hundreds of other USGS streamgages nationwide, however, remains questionable. In fiscal 2003, 197 streamgages were discontinued nationwide and in fiscal

## Fabulous Snake River Raffle

### By Joe Flyrod

The club will be starting a new raffle at the December meeting... Yes, yes I know we just had the banquet and raised a record amount of money but this raffle has been planned for nearly a year and all the proceeds will go directly into the Red Barrington Scholarship fund... We give this scholarship award yearly to a local college student pursuing a curriculum related to environmental studies.

## USGS Streamgaging Station Closures

2004, 487 gages are at risk to be discontinued. Projections are for this trend to continue in the coming years according to Steve Blanchard, Chief of the Office of Surface Water of the USGS in Reston, Virginia. "Streamgages are threatened because of flat USGS budgets (buying power decreases due to inflation), budget deficits in our funding partners (primarily States), and reductions in other Federal agency budgets".

Ohio and Kentucky have not identified streamgage closures for fiscal 2004.

I asked Jim Kolva of the USGS's National Streamflow Information Program Network how to help support the streamgaging program. Mr. Kolva said that "the best thing that you can probably do right now is to contact your state representatives and ask them to appropriate more money for streamgaging stressing the importance to them personally". Mr. Kolva went on to say, "contacting

Congressman and Senators also helps. Ask them to support (meaning appropriate more money) the USGS National Streamflow Information Program."

Streamgages are used for determining flood hazard zones and making building and development decisions, deciding to evacuate homes or businesses during a flood, planning for water supply or wastewater treatment facilities, designing infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and culverts, mapping floodplains, assessing the sources of pollution in a watershed, and managing water quality and habitat conditions.

The USGS National Streamflow Information Program Network's streamgaging program has been a vital link in managing and improving our fishing streams. We owe it to ourselves and the future of our watersheds to do what we can to support funding of this vital national resource. Data lost today will not be available tomorrow.

meadows surrounded by the majestic Teton Mountains. You'll be fishing for trout from a Hyde drift boat, and enjoy a shore lunch both days with transportation to and from the river.... All you got to do is fish and have a good time... and when you come back tell us all about it....

You sleep in a real bed at night and enjoy a big steak dinner (or pan fried trout) instead of roughing it on the riverbank eating weenies and beans,, and worrying about bears, coyotes or wolves gnawing at your tootsies...