

INTERCONTINENTAL
TROUT
Masterclass



TOLMIN, SLOVENIA | AUGUST 24TH-30TH 2014

... offering a unique opportunity for
concerned and dedicated youth
to take a serious step into
the world of freshwater conservation,
and to help extending and innovating
the international conservation community...

THIS IS WHAT IT IS ALL ABOUT

The Intercontinental Trout Masterclass invites young enthusiasts to experience trout conservation - the wild, indigenous trout being the mascot 'par excellence' for habitat and ecosystem. The main trust is to equip and empower the participants to really become engaged and motivated freshwater stewardship leaders. To reach this goal the Masterclass will assemble an international group of active, conservation-oriented youth leaders from three continents. An interdisciplinary team of widely renowned experts in various disciplines will offer them an inspiring, innovative, interactive, and collaborative curriculum. This 'backpack with intellectual substance' should stimulate them in their endeavors, facilitate them to make things happen in the field, and build a solid network of a next generation of conservationists.



Conservation... what is it really about?

What is its purpose? Which results can be expected?

What should be the effects, what the impact of it?

And, most important: how to move forward?

EDUCATION & EMPOWERMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

- how to find kindred spirits?
- how to launch conservation campaigns?
- how to do grassroots organizing?
- how to deal with media?
- how to get conservation on the political agenda?
- how to start restoration projects?
- how to raise funds?
- ...

The program comprises lectures and workshops in population dynamics, environmental science, best practices, hands-on field work, law, marketing, communication, coaching, philanthropy,...

There will be field visits to local streams and conservation projects near Tolmin. Examples will be highlighted of how a well managed trout conservation project unmistakably enhanced the local economy and local employment. Also there will be time for discussions, exchanging ideas, and reflection.

And, last but perhaps not least, the Soča River and its tributaries have an awful lot to offer when it comes to flyfishing for their endemic marble trout and Adriatic grayling.



WHO ARE PARTICIPATING?

▶ **Participation is meant for young enthusiasts (age 18+) with an interest in environmental issues and understanding of conservation. They are not necessarily the brightest in the science class, nor the keenest entomologists, nor the best of flyfishermen. What really counts is concern and dedication for our environment, a genuine ambition and strong aspirations, eagerness to take action, the charisma to mobilize others to support their ideas and team up with initiatives, the spunk to make themselves heard, and make it happen...**

WHY SLOVENIA, WHY TOLMIN?

It was some two decades ago when the French scientist and researcher Alain Crivelli (Tour du Valat, Arles) started working on the much threatened *Salmo marmoratus* in the Soča River catchment. Together with the University of Ljubljana, Balkan Trout Restoration Group and the Tolmin Angling Association mountains have been moved since. The result of their combined work is true gem in conservation practices, and -on top of that- a brilliant showcase of how flyfishing contributed to the prosperity of the rural Tolmin area.



Renowned experts from Europe, North-America, and Asia have gladly committed to developing the Intercontinental Trout Masterclass' curriculum and shall act as key note speakers at the event itself.

Asgar Abdoli - Iran

Shahid Beheshti University;
Environmental Sciences Research Institute

Denis Caudron (France)

Fonds pour la Conservation des Rivières Sauvages

Ludwig Forrest (Belgium)

King Baudouin Foundation; University of Louvain

Zeb Hogan (USA)

University of Nevada, Reno; Monster Fish
(National Geographic Channel)

Dušan Jesenšek (Slovenia)

Tolmin Angling Association

Hans van Klinken (Netherlands)

Free lance writer/photographer; Professional fly-tyer

Blaž Močnik (Slovenia)

Journalist at Delo

Azwin Ressang (Netherlands)

RedZebra Group

Össur Skarphéðinsson (Iceland)

Member of Parliament; Reykjavík North Constituency

Aleš Snoj (Slovenia)

University of Ljubljana; Balkan Trout Restoration Group

Alfonso Soria (Spain)

AEMS - Ríos con Vida

Simon Stäblein (Germany)

Humboldt University Berlin; Flyfishing Association Fario

John Zablocki (USA)

Trout Unlimited

Please note: the above list shows the key note speakers who we have engaged so far. This list, therefore, may be extended in the course of time.

For more information about participating in or supporting this project please contact René Beaumont at rb@continentaltrout.com or +32 486 857111.



www.continentaltrout.com

Continental Trout Conservation Fund's mission is to conserve wild, indigenous trout species and populations of continental origin/ strains in Eurasia and northern Africa, therewith of the natural habitats in which salmonids and vulnerable fish species in general are found, and -in a wider context- the ecosystems which comprise such habitats. This is to include the fauna and flora, the landscape, water, soils, air and other natural resources, with emphasis on the sustainable preservation of wild, indigenous trout in all their diversity, and on the essential ecological and social processes related to their continued existence.