



National Leadership Council

Climate Change Workgroup Report

May 18, 2020

Workgroup Name: Climate Change

Workgroup Chair: Brian Wagner, bewagner482@gmail.com

Workgroup Meeting Dates: Workgroup calls are held 8:00 p.m. EST on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Workgroup Description: What will the potential of a changing climate have on the coldwater resources we all respect and enjoy? Climate Change, and the extent to which it is man-caused, is a divisive issue; the Climate Change Workgroup respects that. We will develop an education and awareness program based upon the scientific background provided by TU Staff and others. With adequate scientific understanding, we all should be concerned about the impacts to our coldwater fishery resources. How much risk should we accept? Can we afford to risk the future of trout and salmon?

Workgroup Goals: As related in the work group description, the overarching goal of the work group is to raise awareness about climate change and its impacts on our coldwater resources through education and the best available science. Realizing that building resiliency through our normal adaptation work may not be enough, the group has also been focusing on advocacy and support of reasonable mitigation policies.

I would describe the current work group goals as such:

- Continue to develop and implement a climate change advocacy strategy.
- Continue to grow our climate change awareness campaign.

Workgroup Activity: The workgroup has been focused on the development and implementation of an advocacy strategy, implementation of a new volunteer climate change leader role and development of a new climate change membership survey.

Workgroup Accomplishments:

- Completed workgroup message map.
- Updated workgroup NLC page.
- Climate change survey sent to membership May 13th
- Outlined asks for working with Citizens Climate Lobby.
 - Having TU chapters give presentations to CCL chapters or TU chapters that are already affiliated with CCL chapters give joint presentations
 - Possibly incorporating TU volunteers for in-district lobby meetings.
 - Soliciting CCL's 'Call Congress' day in June to TU membership
 - Working jointly with CCL in key legislative districts.

Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges: Workgroup would like climate change to have a more focal presence on TU website for members and potential members to see what TU is doing about climate change.

Workgroup Next Steps:

- Fully develop network of Council Climate Change Coordinators. 2020 Goal: Have 20 councils fill this role by next National Annual meeting.
- Complete membership survey. Follow-up with features in Trout Magazine.
- Continue outreach with other like-minded groups and partners (Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Environmental Defense Fund, Patagonia, etc.).
- Continue working with Citizens Climate Lobby. If you would like CCL contact info for your state, please contact Brian Wagner at bewagner482@gmail.com.
- Restart workgroup blog series.



National Leadership Council

Responsible Mining and Energy - Workgroup Report

June 1, 2020

Workgroup Chair: Harry Murphy - hamurphy3@gmail.com

Workgroup Meeting Dates: Work group meets every third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. mountain standard time

Workgroup Description: We assist the TU staff focused on mining issues and help them communicate with the membership about their projects. We advise and assist local chapters and councils issues with mining or energy production concerns in their area.

Workgroup Goals:

1. Work with TU staff to move forward with a bi-partisan bill to support “Good Sam” legislation supported by both conservation groups and mining interests
2. Continue with the collaborative effort to map out potential critical mineral mines close to cold water resources and produce a collaborative sportsman report regarding the development of critical mineral extraction.
3. Continued support of councils and chapters dealing with mining issues by acting as a conduit to TU staff and TU resources, offer the work groups Mining Handbook as guidance.
4. Build a coalition of TU work groups and other conservation groups to oppose a proposed gold mine on the Wisconsin/Michigan borders that is located on the Menominee River and flows into the Great Lakes.

Workgroup Activity: Completed the work group road map for the responsible mining and energy work group.

Workgroup Accomplishments: We continue to monitor with impatience the slow movement of “Good Sam” legislation. We have recently started exploring a collaboration with the Great Lakes work group to possibly oppose a proposed copper mine on the Menominee River which flows into the Great Lakes.

Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges: The slow and cumbersome process of getting legislation passed for Good Sam and critical minerals development and now with Covid-19 funding for proposed legislation is questionable.

Workgroup Next Steps: Build the partnership with the Great Lakes work group and other interested NGO’s to protect the Menominee River and the Great Lakes from acid mine drainage and pollution.



National Leadership Council

Great Lakes - Workgroup Report

Date: 6-12-2020

Workgroup Chair: Robb Smith – rsmithsr@gmail.com

Workgroup Meeting Dates: July 15th – 8:00PM Call in number to be determined.

Workgroup Description: See web for current description |

Workgroup Goals:

1. Rollout of “Case for the Great Lakes”
2. Integration of TU with decision making partners with regard to Great Lakes issues
3. Discuss opposition to a hard rock mine on the Menomineef River near Lake Michigan.

Workgroup Activity and Accomplishments: The workgroup has completed the final copy of the “Case for the Great Lakes” attached.



A Case for the
Great Lakes Booklet



MiTU CFTGL Article
3.docx

Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges: Frankly, the Covid 19 situation has brought us to a standstill. It’s really a poor excuse with the technology available, but we plan on picking up the pace soon.

Workgroup Next Steps: | The GLWG has had a meeting with the Mining Workgroup concerning some issues with the “Back Forty” mine in Michigan. As a group we are investigating whether or not to join the coalition opposing the mine.



National Leadership Council

TUDARE Volunteer Steering Committee

June 12, 2020

Workgroup Chair: Bob Soddors (email - bsoddors@buildwithball.com)

Workgroup Meeting Dates: July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11 and December 9

Workgroup Goals: Please include here the 3-5 high level goals your workgroup has set for the year, or longer. Please be brief.

1. Raising dollars to support one or more summer habitat crews to work on past restoration projects. Expand to other states.
2. Workdays in the Driftless to built habitat structures or stiles.
3. Workshops/Symposiums for volunteers and cooperating agencies.

Workgroup Activity: Please provide here a brief, executive summary of recent workgroup activities since the last report.

1. Local chapters and contributed \$8,000 to develop a summer maintenance habitat crew for past stream restoration projects.
2. \$5,000 Cabela's Grant will be used for the Citron Creek restoration project.
3. Our spring Stream Restoration Project Planning workshop was canceled this spring due to the coronavirus restrictions. We will like plan for another one for next spring.
4. Our Driftless Symposium was a huge success this past spring, with over 130 conservationists from the four-state area in attendance. The Driftless Symposium is an effort to share results of research, monitoring, lessons learned, and management work in streams, along riparian corridors, and across watersheds.
5. Working on resolution to take forward to the NLC for the Kinni Dam removal/restoration project.

Workgroup Accomplishments: Please provide here a brief statement on the recent accomplishments of your workgroup, focused most heavily on the accomplishments since the last quarterly report.

Because of the coronavirus we have had to cancel our spring workshop for volunteers on project planning of stream projects, our Tainter Creek Field Day, and our summer Habitat Crew has been delayed.

Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges: Please include here any internal or external obstacles of challenges faced by your workgroup in achieving your goals.

Coronavirus

Workgroup Next Steps: Please include here your workgroup's expected next steps and activities that you will be taking on to move your goals forward. Please be brief.

1. Local chapters and contributed \$8,000 to develop a summer maintenance habitat crew for past stream restoration projects.
2. \$5,000 Cabela's Grant will be used for the Citron Creek restoration project.
3. Develop hierarchy within the Steering Committee to identify next Chair/Co-Chair.
4. Develop business paper in support of the Kinni Dam Project and submit to Jim/Rich for review, along with resolution.



National Leadership Council Native Trout - Workgroup Report Date: June, 12, 2020

Workgroup Name: Native Trout Work Group

Workgroup Chair: Neil Warner neilgrantwarner@gmail.com

Workgroup Meeting Dates: Calls are scheduled for the fourth Wednesday each month at 8:00 PM EST.

Workgroup Description: The Native Trout Work Group exists to facilitate grassroots implementation of Trout Unlimited National Conservation Agenda related to protecting our cold water native salmonid species. Scope of the work group activity is nationwide. The work group facilitates education, awareness, restoration, and science projects related to native salmonid species. The work group provides information related to native species through a web page on TU's website and serves as an advocate for Councils and Chapters on issues related to native species.

Workgroup Goals:

1. Create Native Trout Awareness Program Template
2. Publish Article in Trout Magazine about Native Trout
3. Determine if each Council agrees with the Trout Unlimited definition of Native Trout
4. Support the Yellowstone National park Volunteer Fly Fishing Program
5. Publish the Brook Trout Poster
6. Enhance Native Trout Resource page on Tu.org

Workgroup Activity: In general, our work group activities have supported creating greater Native Trout awareness through education, advocacy and the use of science to protect and recover Native Trout populations.

Workgroup Accomplishments:

1. A Goal 1 sub-work group has been formed and meeting monthly. Start of template has started. It has been decided to use the Arizona Native and Wild Fish Conference information to create a template other states can use. One State has shown interest in having a Native Trout Conference in their state and discussions have started with them. The group is also going to create a catalog of options Councils can use to promote the Brook Trout Poster.
2. Two articles have been submitted to the Goal 2 sub-work group. We have an article from the East and one from the West. The work group decided that it would be good to have these two articles published side-by-side to show different points of view from different areas in the country. The sub-work group is reaching out to "Trout" magazine staff for recommendations.
3. A Goal 3 sub-work group has been formed and meets on a monthly basis. Two questions have been created that we would like each council to answer. There has been much discussion about what is a "Native Trout". A better appreciation for the different parts of the country has come out of these discussions. We also have had these discussions with Helen Neville (Chief Scientist TU). The questions are complete and will be sent to Jim and Jeff to be sent out to the councils.

4. The funding for the Fly-Fishing Program was obtained from Yellowstone Forever group and WNTI. Due to COVID-19 the program has been put on hold for 2020, but we have been told the funding will carry over to 2021.
5. The Brook Trout Poster is progressing, and we expect it to be published this year. Funding is almost at 100%, artwork is being worked on, wording is being worked on. Contract is complete.
6. Meeting has been held with Jeff Yates to determine best spot to place documents for the team. It was decided website is not the best place, but a TU share would be better. Work is being done on the requirements.

Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:

- ✦ Many on the group are new and the Chairperson is new. Everyone has been coming up to speed. The discussions for Goal 1 and 3 were interesting in that some of us had different definitions for Native Trout. Through the discussions we have come to appreciate the differences between areas of the country.

Workgroup Next Steps:

1. Create Native Trout Conference Template
2. Create list of items that can be used to promote the Brook Trout Poster
3. Receive feedback from Editor of Trout magazine on our proposal
4. Send out questions
5. Complete design of Brook Trout Posters
6. Send storage requirements to Jeff Yates.



National Leadership Council

Land Conservancy Work Group

June 12, 2020

Workgroup Chair: Bill Pastuszek, Colrain MA, billp@shepherdnet.com, 617 290 8370

Workgroup Meeting Dates: Next Meeting, July 1, 2020. Monthly meetings planned for the remainder of 2020: dates to be announced.

Workgroup Goals:

1. Continued outreach and education on the value of land conservancy to TU's mission for both TU members and key outside organizations (e.g. land trusts)
2. Grow Coldwater Land Conservancy Fund (CLCF) fund through continued support from foundations and other sources
3. Solicit applications, approve requests, and distribute grants of up to \$5,000 to worthy projects related to land acquisition (fee, easements, restrictions) for cold water related projects.
4. Refine, improve, and develop outreach to TU chapters, councils, land trusts, and land trust organizations.

Workgroup Activity:

- The Work Group approved a grant request from the Deerfield River TU Chapter, which in conjunction with contributions from TU chapters around the state, to help fund the acquisition of 150 acres (Guddell Hart Parcel) with frontage along the west Branch of North River in Heath MA. This acquisition is adjacent to the Crowningshield acreage which MA TU chapters helped the Franklin Land Trust Fund several years ago.
- Refinement of the Work Group Road Map.
- Creation of a Cold-Water Land Conservancy Overview (CWLCO) to aid in obtaining funding sources for cold water related land acquisitions.
- Revising and refining the Land Trust Land Conservancy slide deck for use in presentations to Land Trusts and related entities.

Workgroup Accomplishments:

- Funding as part of the Guddell Hart acquisition continues to establish the efficacy of the aims of this Work Group. The contribution helped to bridge the final funding gap to allow the Land Trust to proceed with the acquisition.
- Development of a fully functional grant application process built on the EAS platform. The most recent grant application process went smoothly and the applicants gave it high marks.
- Development of the Cold-Water Land Conservancy Overview (CWLCO). Paul Doscher, WG member, and the WG chair played a major role, with committee members providing input. The creation of this document will allow Work Group Members to reach out to potential donors and applicants. In conjunction with the Land Trust Conservancy slide deck, the Work Group has two effective means of providing information, outreach, and opportunities.

Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:

- The work group is small but cohesive. Several new members have joined. Some additional members, particularly from Western TU chapters and councils would be welcome.
- We believe there is demand for the kind of funding support the WG can provide but are faced with the challenge of visibility, i.e., locating chapters and organizations that would be able to take advantage of the acquisition funding.
- Fundraising is ongoing. One of the challenges the Work Group faces is to raise sufficient funds to meet demand in the future, which we believe will increase as potential non-profit funding sources feel the impact of COVID-19.

Workgroup Next Steps:

- Expand Work Group membership.
- Using the newly created Cold Water Land Conservancy Overview to present to potential grant funders and supporting organizations and individuals.
- Market Work Group Funding services through internal TU media and develop outreach to Councils, Chapters, and land-related organizations for acquisition funding.
- Seek out opportunities to make presentations to Councils, Chapters, and land-related organizations.
- Provide a presentation for TU national/regional meetings, whether virtual or in person.



National Leadership Council

Delaware Conservation - Workgroup Report

Date: 6/27/2020

Workgroup Name: Delaware River Workgroup

Workgroup Chair: Scott Seidman shseidman@gmail.com

Workgroup Meeting Dates: June 25 – Zoom Meeting.

Workgroup Description: Represents TU on efforts to develop fish-protective minimum flow agreements in the Delaware River Basin.

Workgroup Goals:

- Prevent Yo-Yo Releases on Delaware River
- Encourage the DRBC to provide enough release to support a year-round healthy environment for salmonids and Dwarf Wedge Mussels
- Communicate with the Delaware River Basin Commission to promote better water release policies within the confines of the Flexible Flow Management Plan 2017.
- Provide reliable and rapid communication between DRBC, relevant TU Councils, Friends of the Upper Delaware River (FUDR) and other relevant partners, and TU National
- Work with regulatory agencies in the Basin to promote science-based resource management policies.

Workgroup Activity:

- Workgroup met on 6/27. Workgroup discussed the relationship with TU NLC structure, and agreed that with a voting and a nonvoting WG membership, the workgroup can welcome participation with TU members at large.
- Workgroup heard a presentation of most recent analysis of FFMP/OST based in large part on his presentation on May 14, 2020, at the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)'s Regulated Flow Advisory Council (RFAC). Garth has further updated his analysis of the current release regimen to determine that NYC DEP continues to “waste” a tremendous amount of water from PNC (Pepacton/Neversink/Cannonsville) by virtue of the manner in which they determine the trigger dates for their “water year” and the related determinations of what tables of the FFMP/OST will be applied. As a result, NYC DEP is depriving the downstream fishery of up to 66 billion gallons of water that could be used to increase flows and reduce temperatures in the downstream fisheries.

Workgroup Accomplishments:

- Developed Work Group Roadmap as per request from NLC Leadership / Communications WG.

Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:

- The two water banks for thermal stress and yo-yo releases are too small to do much good with.

Workgroup Next Steps:

- Lay out meeting schedule for upcoming year. Work group reps to meet (in a variety of capacities) with NYC DEP leadership.