



On the Rise

NEWSLETTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED'S DIVERSITY INITIATIVE

December 2017



2017: A Year in Review

OUR OVERVIEW

2017 was an amazing year for our workgroup. After working as the Women's Initiative for six years, we felt that our natural next step to grow was to not only continue to focus on bringing more women into TU through conservation work and angling, but to expand our reach to different ages, geographic locations, backgrounds, and ethnicities. We knew we wanted to make the move to the Diversity Initiative.

Once we got approval from the National Leadership Council for the change to our workgroup title, we hit the ground running! Our eagerness to get into planning next steps for the DI is evident in the fact that our last On the Rise edition was published back in June!

It was great to have the support of the whole workgroup during this transition. Our Chapter and State Coordinators, Regional Ambassadors, Officers and National Staff all worked together to ensure that this was the right time to make this important move forward, and we agreed to work together to set clear goals for this workgroup for the future. This has come with monthly workgroup discussions on how to grow our resources and expand our

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DI RESOURCES

VISIT WWW.TU.ORG/DIVERSITY

Interested in starting or growing a Diversity Initiative in your state or chapter? The DI resources online can help get you started!

From example invitations, to event planning documents with step-by-step guides—you'll find a host of support and tools.

JOIN US ONLINE

“JOIN” OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

Over 1,000 TU members and leaders, anglers and more have joined our Facebook group for lively discussions and to share information, ideas and support.

Like us today:

- 1) Go to www.facebook.com
- 2) Search for “Women of Trout Unlimited” or use direct link facebook.com/groups/48497943543
- 3) Click “Join” and start talking!

From the CHAIR, OFFICERS, MEMBERS, STAFF of the DI Workgroup

THANK YOU, KERRI RUSSELL!



On behalf of the DI Workgroup, we want to congratulate Kerri Russell on her election to the TU Grassroots Trustee position. Working with Kerri the past 5 years has been an inspiring experience for all involved. As a previous chair of the WI Workgroup, Kerri has been a role model and a sounding board to many. She has given WI and DI Coordinators the opportunity to hone their leadership skills and offered a multitude of assistance and support along the way. Throughout her tenure, Kerri continued to engage and solicit ideas from TU members working to diversify the organization. Whether presenting at national and regional meetings or leading our monthly workgroup calls, Kerri maintained a level of efficiency and grace. Her willingness to volunteer her time is underscored by her belief in the DI and its purpose. Kerri Russell has been a source of guidance and encouragement and we are proud to call her our trusted friend. We wish you all the best, Kerri!

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Our next DI call will be on Thursday, December 21, 2017 @8pm EST. All are invited to participate. Call number is 866-740-1260. Access code 2829092#. We look forward to hearing your call.

Best,

Kelly E. Buchta
NLC DI Workgroup Chair
NJ NLC Representative
NJTU DI Chair

Upcoming Diversity Initiative Events

2018 Midsouth Regional Rendezvous
Friday-Saturday, January 26-27
New Braunfels, Texas
Contact: DI leaders or Stefan Jackson /
sjackson@tu.org

2018 Western Regional Rendezvous
Friday-Sunday, April 27-29
Keystone, Colorado
Contact: DI leaders or Stefan Jackson /
sjackson@tu.org

2018 Southeast Regional Rendezvous
Friday-Sunday, May 18-20
Davis, West Virginia
Contact: DI leaders or Stefan Jackson /
sjackson@tu.org

2018 Northeast Regional Rendezvous
Friday-Sunday, June 8-10
Lake Placid, New York
Contact: DI leaders or Stefan Jackson /
sjackson@tu.org

2018 TU Annual Meeting
Wednesday-Saturday, September 19-22
Redding, California
Contact: DI leaders or Stefan Jackson /
sjackson@tu.org

2018 Diversity Initiative Brunch
Sunday of Annual Meeting
September 23
Redding, California
Contact: DI leaders or Stefan Jackson /
sjackson@tu.org

Join the Movement!

**Become a Diversity Initiative Coordinator
for Your Chapter or Council!**

**All are welcome to serve as
Diversity Initiative Coordinators and Officers!**

www.tu.org/diversity

Images of 2017



The Seedskaadee TU chapter in Green River, WY held an Iron Fly- almost half of the attendees were women and a gal won it!

Hillary Walrath



First event of the Washington TU Women's Weekend was a huge success! The fun continued with a Women's Level One Fishing Class and a Costa Slam Film Night.

Heather Hodson



Evelyn King

Ready, set, cast that line! Maine Women Flyfishers (Sebago TU) having fun!



A stream survey with the Wisconsin DNR and Kiap-TU-Wish volunteers.

Norma Haynes



Lillit Genovesi

New York City Trout in The Classroom students release their fry.



Norma Haynes with Maryland TU and the Baltimore youth outreach program. 94 kids got to spend time outside, hike in the woods and be near water.

More Images of 2017



Lisa Beranek

Exploring the wonders of nature in the first-ever volunteer training for Trout Unlimited's watershed education program, STREAM Girls. Many thanks to all who provided support for this meaningful outdoor education experience for young girls!

Loretta Strickland



Loretta Strickland, Diversity Coordinator from John Muir Easy Bay TU Chapter, celebrates her "10,000 casts" anniversary with this 14 lb. male Atlantic Salmon. The River Carron, Scotland



Denver Women's Showcase



New Jersey Women's Showcase

2017 Women's Initiative to Diversity Initiative Timeline

January

- National Leadership Council approved the Diversity Initiative Workgroup
- Hosted DI Round the Campfire discussion at the Women's Showcase within the Fly Fishing Show Denver, CO (1/7)
- Hosted DI Women's Breakfast discussion at the Women's Showcase within the Fly Fishing Show, Somerset, NJ (1/29)

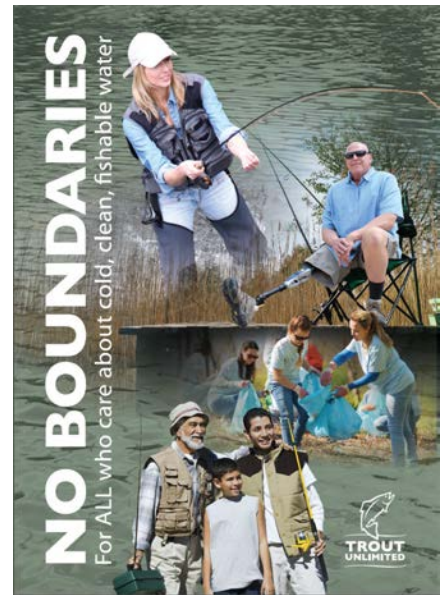
March

- Susan Geer designed a DI Brochure, downloadable from the Tackle Box
- Upper Midwest Regional Meeting, Dubuque, Iowa (3/31-4/2)



Upper Midwest

Heidi Oberstadt



DI Brochure designed by Susan Geer

April

- Southeast Regional Meeting, Gatlinburg, TN (4/21-22)
- Western Regional Meeting, Scottsdale, AZ (4/29-29)



Western



Kerri Russell

Southeast

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WI to DI Timeline (Continued)



Kelly Buchta (Chair)



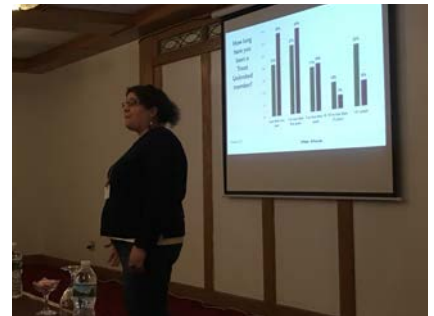
Bill Thorne (co-Chair)



Jackie Kutzer (Vice-Chair)



Stefan Jackson
(Diversity Consultant)



Northeast Rendezvous Jackie Kutzer

May

- DI Officer Transition: Kelly Buchta (Chair), Bill Thorne (co-Chair), Jackie Kutzer (vice-chair), Stefan Jackson (Diversity Consultant)
- Northeast Regional Meeting, Clinton, NJ (5/5-7) Jackie Kutzer

July

- Set-up a DI strategic plan committee

August

- Created first draft of the DI Action Plan
- Linda McAteer moves to DI Officer position as Secretary. Welcome Linda!!

September

- Annual Meeting, Roanoke, VA (9/27-30)
- * Reported on our year and final takeaways from the Survey Results.
- * Finalized the DI Action Plan from groups feedback.

October

- tu.org/women changed to tu.org/diversity



Linda McAteer (Secretary)



Annual Meeting

Jackie Kutzer



Annual Meeting

Kerri Russell