



TROUT UNLIMITED – SEXUAL ABUSE POLICY

General Policy and Guidelines

Trout Unlimited (TU) prohibits and does not tolerate sexual abuse by volunteers or staff in any organization related activity.

Sexual abuse is inappropriate sexual or physical contact of criminal nature or interaction for gratification between an adult and a youth, between adults, or between underage youth. Sexual abuse includes inappropriate physical contact, sexual molestation, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, or sexual injury. Any incidents of sexual abuse reasonably believed to have occurred will be reportable to appropriate law enforcement agencies and regulatory agencies.

If you are aware of or suspect sexual abuse taking place, you must immediately report it to the volunteer leader of the activity, who will then be required to report immediately to a member of TU Senior Staff. In a case of imminent danger to the child, the volunteer leader should report the suspected abuse to the local or state child abuse agency. If that information is not easily available, contact the [Child Help Hotline](#). Appropriate family members should be notified of alleged instances of sexual abuse.

Trout Unlimited prohibits retaliation made against any employee, volunteer or board member who reports a good faith complaint of sexual abuse or who participates in any related investigation. Making false accusations of sexual abuse in bad faith, however, can have serious consequences for those who are wrongly accused. TU prohibits making false and/or malicious sexual abuse allegations, as well as providing false information during an investigation. Anyone who violates this rule is subject to all actions available by law.

TU will take all allegations of sexual abuse seriously and will promptly and thoroughly investigate whether sexual abuse has taken place. TU will cooperate fully with any investigation conducted by law enforcement or other regulatory agencies. TU will make every reasonable effort to keep the matters involved in the allegations as confidential as possible while still allowing for a prompt and thorough investigation.

Statement of Acknowledging Receipt and Understanding of Sexual Abuse Policy

I acknowledge that I have received and reviewed the Sexual Abuse Policy and/or have had it explained to me. I acknowledge that I have reviewed, understand, and agree to abide by TU's Guidelines for Working with Youth and Preventing Sexual Abuse. I understand that TU will not tolerate any form of sexual abuse. I understand how to report incidents of sexual abuse as set forth in this policy, including retaliation against any volunteer or staff member exercising his or her rights under the policy.

(Printed Name)

(Signature)

(Date)