State of the Grassroots











I'M GOING TO WHATABURGER! Y'ALL WANT ANYTHING?







Summary of Council & Chapter Activities





- 725,551 volunteers hours
- Total volunteer hours valued at \$17,093,981.56 (using the Independent Sector's estimated value of volunteer time \$23.56/ hour)
- Raised \$10,825,145 in revenue
- Spent over \$9,451,974 on conservation, education and other local projects



FY 2016 (measuring against FY15 data)

- 3,178 chapter meetings (down 2%)
- 1,086 conservation projects (up 1%)
- 1,641 youth education programs (up 3%)
- S88 veterans programs (up 47%)
- 248 Alternative engagement opportunities (up 7%)
- 127 Events for women and minorities (up 1%)
- 1,734 chapter outreach events (up 12%)
- Total Activities = (up ~10%)

Outward Facing Events and Activities



Chapters hosting only banquet or membership meeting events Chapter multiplice events

Chapters hosting multiple community events and activities

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64% of our chapters are hosting fun, public events beyond membership meetings and banquets

Volunteer Hours Breaks Records: 725,551





Advocacy



"I arise in the morning torn between a desire to improve the world and a desire to enjoy the world. This makes it hard to plan the day."

- E.B. White





- Ancient Roman law: Speaking in behalf of
 - "We speak for the fish"
- Active espousal
- Having our voice heard on issues important to us
- Setting the agenda or adding options to consider
- 《 Activity aimed to influence decisions
- Speaking to support or to defend

Arizona







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Colorado: Upper Colorado River Campaign







Idaho: Public Lands in Public Hands Rally





Idaho: Wild Steelhead Initiative "Memories Lost"







Maine: Science Based Advocacy







- In advocacy, as in football, sometimes a good defense is the best offense
- **Examples from Michigan and Minnesota:**
 - "We mounted an effective defense of nascent riparian buffer requirements"
 - "Continuing to hold off fish farming requests"
 - "Combating proposals for a fish weir"
 - "Holding off attempts to cap and reduce public lands"
 - "Fighting Great Lakes commercial fishing overreach"

Montana: Gov. Bullock Speaks at Public Lands Rally





Montana: "Save our Smith River" Highway Billboard





New Hampshire: Warner River





Oregon: Old vs New Models of Advocacy











Pennsylvania: 86,000 Miles of Stream





Wisconsin: Regulations State and Federal





Wisconsin: TU License Plate Bill Signing







- 2.5 hour workshops conducted by TU staff and River Alliance for 111 participants in four regions of Wisconsin
 - Why TU members and chapters should be interested in participating in advocacy
 - Taking action worksheets to get started
 - Ways your chapter or council can advocate
 - Rules for successful advocacy
 - Role plays of effective and ineffective face to face meetings

Ways Your TU Chapter Can Advocate for Trout Streams

Any elected official	General Advocacy, from education to grassroots lobbying				Direct lobbying
	Build relationships	Inform them about issues	Invite them to your workdays, banquets	Hold targeted events for them; show them your stream and its issues	Ask them to vote a certain way
Your Membership	Hold a public forum to educate them about an issue	Send an email about a policy issue or legislation (for information only)	Send an email about a policy issue or legislation with an opinion point of view from your organization (no specific call to action, yet)	Send an email about a policy issue or legislation with a call to action, "Contact your legislator, tell them how you feel about this issue, ask them to vote yes, and here is how to contact them."	N/A
Federal or State Legislators	Meet them in district or at a listening session to introduce your organization, no ask at this time	Take them fishing or show them streamwork restoration sites to introduce them to the issues on your river	Put them on your newsletter email lists. Sign up for their email list.	Send them educational information about your concerns- be their resource for quality information about water issues	 Testify at a public hearing Call, send a letter/email asking them to vote yes/no Meet at their office in the Capitol
Local: County, City, Village, Town officials	Meet them at a coffee shop to introduce yourself and your organization	Take them fishing or show them <u>streamwork</u> restoration sites to introduce them to the issues on your river	Put them on your newsletter email lists. Sign up for their email list (if available)	Attend County Land & Water meetings (or other appropriate committee meetings) to learn, listen, educate and/or make requests	 Testify at a public hearing Call, send a letter email asking them to vote yes no Attend a meeting to ask for funds in the budget, an ordinance, etc.
DNR resource managers	Invite DNR staff to events, workdays	Invite the DNR Secretary and staff to your events; consider annual meetings, especially with Fisheries Bureau	Ask the DNR staff administration to fund programs staff that support trout streams in your region	Provide letters of support to the Natural Resource Board for polices that support trout streams, or speak out about polices that will harm them	 Ask DNR managers for resources to protect trout streams in your region Provide comment or testimony on DNR or Conservation Congress issue



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