



National Leadership Council

Communications - Workgroup Report

Date: May 17, 2019

Workgroup Chair: Steve Brown wsbrown08@gmail.com

Secretary: Kelly E. Buchta buchtake@gmail.com

Workgroup Meeting Dates: 2nd Monday, 8 p.m. est. Upcoming calls: June 10, July 8, August 12)

Workgroup Description: The functions of the Communications Workgroup are to: (1) Clarify and communicate the role and function of the National Leadership Council to all parts of TU; (2) Facilitate communications within the NLC and its workgroups; and (3) Encourage and foster communications to and from the NLC to chapters, councils, members, trustees and staff.

Workgroup Goals:

1. Formalize work group communications within the NLC and to the state councils and BOD.
2. Examine current communications methods and work toward a common set of "best practices."
3. Streamline communication efforts to minimize bulk and maximize information.

Workgroup Activity: Tweaks to WG report template. Discussion of contents of WG pages on TU.org. Recommendation to develop spreadsheet with officer and leadership contact data at council and chapter level - keep up to date for ease of communications. Reviewing NLC page on National website - have information updated.

Workgroup Accomplishments: Monthly conference calls established. Reporting out agendas/minutes to workgroup members and posting on Listserv. WG report template in use. Still mining 2017 survey for ideas to improve communications at all levels.

Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:

Poor attendance for conference calls - need wider ranging ideas.

Next Steps: Master list of WG meeting info for NLC page. Upgrade to new listserv -??
Implement council chair



National Leadership Council

Diversity & Inclusion - Workgroup Report

Date: May 17, 2019

Workgroup Chair: Kelly E. Buchta, buchtake@gmail.com, Co-Chair Bill Thorne, thornewille@yahoo.com

Workgroup Meeting Dates: 2nd Monday, 8 p.m. est. Upcoming calls: June 10, July 8, August 12)

Workgroup Description: The functions of the Communications Workgroup are to: (1) Clarify and communicate the role and function of the National Leadership Council to all parts of TU; (2) Facilitate communications within the NLC and its workgroups; and (3) Encourage and foster communications to and from the NLC to chapters, councils, members, trustees and staff.

Workgroup Goals:

- Increase number of diversity initiative coordinators on state and chapter levels
- Create working programs with a variety of partners to promote diversity
- Work with TU National, Councils, Chapters to promote diversity and inclusivity in organization mission, social media, programs and events.
- Provide resources for all volunteer leaders that pertains to workgroup mission that can be delivered to all- message map document.

Workgroup Activity:

- Creation of message map as a one-page document to highlight ways to increase diversity. Currently being resigned by National for promotion for Summer/Fall 2019.
- Working to complete a list of conservation/outdoor partner groups for DI leaders as opportunities to promote diversity and recruit membership
- Increase DI awareness within the organization on chapter/local/national level
- Prepare a year in review with our workgroup newsletter On The Rise

Workgroup Accomplishments:

- Continued TROUT magazine articles to highlight and promote diversity
- Workgroup continues to add new members each call
- Strength is communicating issues/concerns/achievements and working together to brainstorm and share out ideas

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Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:

- Gaining and losing members based on involvement with TU. We lose about 7-10 WI/DI leaders each year, but gain roughly 10-15 new leaders
- Chapters and council leaders not be open or hesitant to try new ideas and promote inclusivity- same old TU

Workgroup Next Steps:

- Work on year in review document and partnership document



National Leadership Council

New Initiatives Workgroup - Workgroup Report

Date: May 13, 2019

Workgroup Chair: Noel Gollehon, Mid-Atlantic NLC, ngollehon@comcast.net

Workgroup Meeting Dates: We held a workgroup meeting on May 6. Meetings are scheduled as needed. The next will be July.

Workgroup Description: (See www.tu.org/nlc for the current description of your workgroup – contact Jeff Yates at jyates@tu.org with any updates to that description.)

Receives and evaluates proposals for changes to the National Conservation Agenda; evaluates major issues facing TU and explores potential solutions to those issues; solicits, evaluates and nominates new grassroots members of the Board of Trustees (for election by TU members); nominates NLC officers and Embrace-A-Stream committee members (for election by NLC representatives).

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

1. The NIWG serves the nomination function of the NLC. Accordingly, we institute a nomination process when there are vacancies to fill. The NIWG has just completed the nomination process for Grassroots Trustee positions.
2. Revise the NIWG Chair manual with the updated nomination process undertaken in 2019.
3. The NIWG will initialize discussions about the National Conservation Agenda (NCA) in the summer of 2019. The relationship, linkages (what drives what), and feedback mechanisms between the NCA, the NLC workgroups and TU professional staff needs to be examined and refined. This will most likely be accomplished in the discussions surrounding the next strategic plan for the organization. There are many pieces of TU doing good work but perhaps more can be accomplished with an improved role for the NCA.

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

Activities of the New Initiatives workgroup have focused on the nomination of Grassroots Trustees to fill the current open position and the two positions that will open later in 2019. Toward this goal, the workgroup has revised and updated the Grassroots Trustee nomination and selection process, circulated the process among the committee, voted to approve the process for use this year, and then implemented the approved nomination process. We have just completed the process for Grassroots Trustee.

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.

The major accomplishment of the NIWG is the completion of an open, transparent nomination process for Grassroots Trustees. From six applicants, the group's consensus recommendation was to nominate Mac Cunningham from Colorado, Kathy Scott from Maine, and Terry Turner from Oregon as Grassroots Trustees.

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

The nomination function of the NIWG was successfully completed. This makes the third year the basic process has been implemented, and the process is now well documented in the NIWG Leader's Handbook (just needs updating). However, the same cannot be said for the activities around the role, function, and usefulness of the National Conservation Agenda. The entire process around the NCA needs revision and updating. This is a huge challenge with many elements and approaches requiring participation by every aspect of TU. Stay tuned!

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.

Documentation of Grassroots Trustee nomination process in the NIWG Chair Manual.

As part of the nomination function, the NIWG will need to approve any new Embrace A Stream (EAS) Committee members. We need to contact the Chair of the EAS to start that process.

We need to begin the discussion on the National Conservation Agenda, which will begin this summer.



National Leadership Council

Youth Education - Workgroup Report

Date: 5/12/2019

Workgroup Chair: Linn Beck – chlbeck@att.net

Workgroup Meeting Dates: Meets: The 1st Wednesday of each month at 8:00 p.m. Eastern - except July. Call in number 1-866-740-1260, access code 2849414#. Please contact me if interested.

Workgroup Description: The Youth Education Workgroup supports TU staff in the Headwaters Youth Program. The goal of the Workgroup is to increase the number of youth education activities conducted by Trout Unlimited.

Workgroup Goals:

1. Develop training for YEC's for "recruiting volunteers, developing partnerships, and locating resources"
2. Work on a newsletter that will inform NLC, Council Chairs, YEC on the work and results of the NLC Youth Education Work Group meetings.
3. Improving communications between the Headwaters staff and chapters and councils is an ongoing concern for the Workgroup. We are exploring ways to possibly improve the line of communication.
4. Recently Trout Unlimited, the Isaak Walton League, and the American Fisheries Society entered a non-binding MOU that would have water monitoring activities added to some of our Trout in the Classroom units. The Workgroup will be exploring ways to implement the new MOU.

Workgroup Activity The group reviewed the training for YEC's for effectiveness and will be working on next steps, worked through and finalized layout of the newsletter, have started discussions on distribution of our newsletter.

Workgroup Accomplishments: March 6th - completed YEC training on Recruiting Volunteers, Developing Partnerships, Locating Resources. Have finished the layout and design for our Youth Ed. News.

Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges: Low participation from other NLC reps on our work group. Finding funding for some of our projects.

Workgroup Next Steps: Continue to develop the communication aspect for contacting and informing the NLC, Council Chairs and Chapter Presidents, working on a presentation for the National meeting in October. Teen Summit finalization.