



# National Leadership Council

## Communications - Workgroup Report

### Date: August 2019

**Workgroup Chair:** Steve Brown [wsbrown08@gmail.com](mailto:wsbrown08@gmail.com); **Secretary:** Kelly E. Buchta [buchtake@gmail.com](mailto:buchtake@gmail.com)

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** Meets second Monday, 8 p.m. est.

**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. Expand workgroup by adding new members with new ideas/views on communication
2. Formalize work group communications within the NLC and to the state councils and BOD
3. Streamline communication efforts to minimize bulk and maximize information.

#### **Workgroup Activity:**

- Review new TU website and give feedback/commentary
- Discussion of contents of WG pages on TU.org.
- Discussion of NLC and function; relationship to the organization; and how to promote/explain purpose to all members

#### **Workgroup Accomplishments:**

- Monthly conference calls help move items along
- WG report template in use

#### **Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:**

- Participation in conference calls- hope to see WG grow in size
- All NLC members not getting listserv/communication has gaps
- Work with TU National on upgrade to new listserv/refine communications to all parties

#### **Workgroup Next Steps:**

- Recommendation to develop spreadsheet with officer and leadership contact data at council and chapter level - keep up to date for ease of communications
- Create Trout magazine content



## National Leadership Council

### Diversity & Inclusion - Workgroup Report

Date: August 2019

**Workgroup Chair:** Kelly E. Buchta, [buchtake@gmail.com](mailto:buchtake@gmail.com), Co-Chair Bill Thorne, [thornewille@yahoo.com](mailto:thornewille@yahoo.com)

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** Meets third Thursday of the month from October-August- no call in September.

**Workgroup Description:** To create effective strategies and programs to recruit a more diverse membership profile in TU; encourage diversity within leadership at the chapter, state and national levels; and to ensure every chapter creates a welcoming environment for TU members of different genders, ethnicities, ages, and cultures to achieve the TU conservation mission.

#### Workgroup Goals:

1. Increase number of diversity initiative coordinators on state and chapter levels
2. Create working programs with a variety of partners to promote diversity
3. Provide resources for all volunteer leaders that pertains to workgroup mission and support activities

#### Workgroup Activity:

- Working to host a call with outdoor groups that promote diversity and share thoughts
- Continue to increase DI awareness within the organization on chapter/local/national level and provide resources to support the DI
- Creating a year in review with our workgroup newsletter *On The Rise*

#### Workgroup Accomplishments:

- Creation of message map as a one page document to highlight ways to increase diversity.
- Strength is communicating issues/concerns/achievements and working together to brainstorm and share out ideas

#### Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:

- Chapters/council leaders still hesitant to try new ideas and promote inclusivity- same old TU mentality
- Finding leaders of diverse backgrounds
- Gaining and losing members/DI leaders based on involvement with TU

#### Workgroup Next Steps:

- Prepare annual meeting presentation
- Roll out message map
- Work on year in review document and partnership document



## National Leadership Council

### New Initiatives Workgroup - Workgroup Report

Date: August 22, 2019

**Workgroup Chair:** Noel Gollehon, Mid-Atlantic NLC, [ngollehon@comcast.net](mailto:ngollehon@comcast.net)

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** Meetings are scheduled as needed. Our next meeting is planned for the annual meeting in Rogers Arkansas.

**Workgroup Description:** (See [www.tu.org/nlc](http://www.tu.org/nlc) for the current description of your workgroup – contact Jeff Yates at [jyates@tu.org](mailto: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 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.

Earlier in the year the activities of the New Initiatives workgroup focused on the nomination of Grassroots Trustees to fill the current open position and the two positions that will open later in 2019. 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 completed the nomination process for Grassroots Trustees.

At this time, the workgroup is circulating the National Conservation Agenda and Critical Focus Area with the workgroup and to the full NLC in preparation for the October annual meeting in Roger Arkansas. At that meeting the NIWG will discuss any recommended edits to both the NCA and list of CFAs.

**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.

Another accomplishment is the kickoff of the review of the NCA and CFAs.

**Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:** Please include here any internal or external obstacles or 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.

We have begun discussions on the National Conservation Agenda and Critical Focus Areas in preparation for annual meeting.



# National Leadership Council

## Youth Education - Workgroup Report

Date: 8/22/2019

**Workgroup Chair:** Linn Beck – chlbeck@att.net

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** Youth Education meets first Wednesday of every month @ 8:00 pm EST. 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. Use the Georgia TIC survey and work it to make it available to all TIC educators to develop a working plan for the educators

**Workgroup Activity:** We have met every month since May except July. We did not meet in July due to the overlap of the Teen Summit. We had active updates from youth involved in Teen Summit and participation from Kathy Breithaupt and Jay Sheldon with an update on the effectiveness of the GA TIC survey.

**Workgroup Accomplishments:** Quarterly Newsletter is ready for distribution. We have topics for the National meeting and will wrap this up with our September call.

**Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:** Lower participation than expected, NLC member activity still needs participation.

**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. Review the Georgia TIC survey and answers to utilize for the rest of the TIC educators. Working on a plan to invite and seek participation from YEC and TIC coordinators.