

NLC Native Trout Work Group  
Minutes of 08/28/19 Call

**Participating on call:** Tim Gavin, Neil Warner, Chris Jones, Mark Dillow, John Lopez, Bill Pastuszek, Warren Colyer, David Brooks

Minutes:

1. Minutes from our July meeting were approved.
2. Warren Colyer reported that the Western Native Trout Challenge is growing.
  1. I will send a note to Western State Council Chairs and ask for their support in promoting the Challenge within their states through newsletters, social media, etc.
  2. David Brooks reported that progress is being made in Montana. Although a decision is not yet official, it appears that the WNT Challenge will not be considered a “contest” and therefore acceptable.
3. Bill Pastuszek provided the following report on progress with our Eastern Native Trout Initiative.
  - ⤴ Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture:
    - We are working on finding areas of cooperation with the “Venture”. We have been invited to participate in their quarterly conference calls. Bill and I will plan to participate in the next call in September.
  - ⤴ Brook Trout Poster:
    - After our July meeting a letter was sent Eastern State Council Chairs soliciting interest in producing an Eastern Brook Trout Poster. Four states replied that they would support the poster and three others are considering it. We still need five or six more states to support the poster before we can begin production of the poster.
    - I recognize that mid-summer is not a good time to get everyone on board with a project like this. Therefore, I will send another letter to Eastern State Council Chairs with an update of progress so far and a request to get the poster on their agenda's for September. Once we have the funds committed, I will send instructions on where to send the money.
    - I have asked Shawn Rummel to help coordinate the text that will go on the poster. We want to follow the same general format as previous posters; however, we want to be sure that the text is scientifically accurate. We will be soliciting help with input and review.
  - ⤴ Angler Science
    - I spoke with Jacob Lemon with respect to how our work group can support angler science efforts. The extent to which we can advocate for use of the resources already available on TU's angler science web page would be a good place to start.
    - There are gaps in data related to Brook Trout distribution in the East. Future projects could be developed to fill in these gaps.
    - For those states interested in identifying unique strains of Brook Trout, Jacob suggested that Councils reach out to local universities to find a biologist interested in taking on the project.
    - A special interest was noted on exploring activity related to Great Lakes Brook Trout “Coaster” populations. After our July meeting I sent a note to Great Lakes Council Chairs and asked for input on “Coasters”. I received one reply from Mike Kuhr, Wisconsin. He

provided some links with good information about the Coaster populations. This is an area for future work.

4. Work Group Annual Meeting Presentation: Currently we plan to have a joint presentation at the National Meeting with the Land Conservancy Work Group. Presentations will include edited versions the presentations made by Bill Pastuszek and Shawn Rummel at the Northeast Regional Meeting.
5. Website Work Group Page: Jeff Yates will be helping us get the web page off the ground. We should see some progress by our September meeting. Again, if you have any information to include, please use the outline below for possible subjects.
6. Send any data or links to Tim Gavin.
  1. Native Trout Work Group page on TU's website.
    1. Native Trout Inventory
    2. Poster info
    3. Slam details
    4. Links to relevant issues
      1. Wild Steelhead
      2. Yellowstone Cutthroat
      3. Citizen Science
      4. Hatchery science
      5. Dam policies
      6. Case Studies
    5. Other?
7. NLC Term Limit. I will be reaching my term limit on the NLC in October. Discussions are currently in progress for an orderly transition. Hopefully, the position will be resolved by our September meeting.

You are receiving this meeting information because you were on a previous distribution list or attended the Native Trout Work Group session at the TU National meeting in Redding, CA. If you do not wish to be on this new distribution list please let me know.

Thanks,  
Tim Gavin  
Washington NLC Rep  
Native Trout Work Group Chair