



# National Leadership Council

## TUDARE Work Group Report

### January 12, 2021

**Workgroup Chair:** Bob Sodders (email - bsodders@buildwithball.com)

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** January 13, February 10, March 10 and April 14

#### **Workgroup Goals:**

1. Raising dollars to support one or more summer habitat crews to work on past restoration projects. Have started discussions with Iowa DNR.
2. Workdays in the Driftless to built habitat structures or stiles.
3. Workshops/Symposiums for volunteers and cooperating agencies. Work on Virtual Bus Tour continues.
4. Raising awareness and funds to support the Kinni Dam Removal project.

#### **Workgroup Activity:**

1. Working on getting support within TU for the Kinni Dam removal/restoration project.
2. We have gathered approx. 5 presenters for the Virtual Bus Tour. Working with TU Marketing on substance and platform. Will assign dates soon.
3. Assist in development of Wise H2O water quality app.

#### **Workgroup Accomplishments:**

- Wisel Creek restoration is complete.
- Virtual Bus Tour Planning is nearing completion.
- Distribute kits for Wise H2O water quality to TU North Bear Chapter.

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

Coronavirus

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

1. Develop hierarchy within the Steering Committee to identify next Chair/Co-Chair.
2. Putting Virtual Bus Tour online prior to next report.
3. Support within the NLC and broader TU for the Kinni Dam Project and funding. Need to follow up with Jim Walker and/or TU Stream Access Workgroup Chair.



# National Leadership Council

## Land Conservancy Work Group Report

### January 11, 2021

**Workgroup Chair:** Bill Pastuszek, Colrain MA, [billp@shepherdnet.com](mailto:billp@shepherdnet.com), 617 290 8370

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** Last meeting: November 14, 2020. Monthly meetings to be scheduled for 2021.

#### **Workgroup Goals:**

1. Continued outreach and education on the value of land conservancy to TU's mission for both TU members and key outside organizations (e.g. land trusts)
2. Grow Coldwater Land Conservancy Fund (CLCF) fund through continued support from foundations and other sources
3. Solicit applications, approve requests, and distribute grants of up to \$5,000 to worthy projects related to land acquisition (fee, easements, restrictions) for cold water related projects.
4. Refine, improve, and develop outreach to TU chapters, councils, land trusts, and land trust organizations.

#### **Workgroup Activity:**

- *(In progress)* Video presentation showing the Work Group's projects. Images from recent projects – New Hampshire, Colorado, Mass – will be included. Paul Doscher has been working with a videographer. A site visit to the Guddell Hart project is scheduled.
- Arranging for payment of expenses to the videographer through WG funds.
- The Guddell Hart Parcel closed and the Land Trust will have a ceremony to recognize the stakeholders in this project, including TU, when appropriate (weather and COVID permitting.)
- Statement for posting in the NLC Workgroup and Leaders Only Forums outlining the WG's purpose and soliciting grant requests.

#### **Workgroup Accomplishments:**

- Assisted the MA-RI Council in development a grant oversight process for their Conservation Fund.
- *Projects Funded.* Funding soft costs for the now complete Guddell Hart acquisition (MA) and Gould acquisition (NH).
- *(In Progress) Cold Water Land Conservancy Overview.* Development of this *Overview (CWLCO)* was led by WG member Paul Doscher, WG member, assisted by the WG chair, and with committee members providing input. The document allows Work Group Members to reach out to potential donors and applicants. In conjunction with the Land Trust Conservancy slide deck (update in progress) and the video (also in progress), there several effective means of providing information, outreach, and opportunities.

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

- *Membership.* Small but cohesive size work group with a strong New England/East Coast identity. Additional members, particularly from Western TU chapters and councils would be welcome.
- *Fundraising.* A Work Group challenge is to raise sufficient funds to meet demand in the future, *independent of TU funding.* This challenge is likely to increase as potential non-profit funding sources feel the impact of COVID-19.
- *Visibility and Outreach.* Demand for the WG's funding premise but there is the challenge of visibility, i.e., locating chapters and organizations that would be able to take advantage of the available acquisition funding. Grant size (\$5,000) may be insufficient to attract interest for larger projects.

### **Workgroup Next Steps:**

- *Video Project.* Complete video project and incorporate some of the material into a PowerPoint presentation.
- *Cold Water Land Conservancy Overview.* In conjunction with the video project, use the Cold Water Land Conservancy Overview to present to potential grant funders and supporting organizations and individuals.
- *Outreach.* Market Work Group Funding services through internal TU media and develop outreach to Councils, Chapters, and land-related organizations for acquisition funding. Post LC WG statement in TU forums.
- *Presentation.* Based on completing the video project, provide a presentation for TU national/regional meetings, whether virtual or in person. Seek out opportunities to make presentations to Councils, Chapters, and land conservation-related organizations.
- *TU Staff (2021).* Invite TU staff to an upcoming meeting to discuss the role of land conservancy in the overall mission of TU.
- *Membership.* Continue to seek to expand Work Group membership beyond New England and the East Coast.
- *Fundraising.* Develop better funding sources so that the WG can fund at a higher level per project.



# National Leadership Council

## Climate Change Work Group Report

### January 11, 2021

**Workgroup Name:** Climate Change

**Workgroup Chair:** Brian Wagner, [bewagner482@gmail.com](mailto:bewagner482@gmail.com)

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** Workgroup calls are held 8:00 p.m. EST on the fourth Thursday of the month.

#### **Workgroup Goals:**

1. Raising awareness about climate change and its impacts on our coldwater resources through education and the best available science.
2. Realizing that building resiliency through our normal adaptation work may not be enough, the group has also been focusing on advocacy and support of reasonable mitigation policies.

**Workgroup Activity:** We used our October call to identify priorities moving forward into the new calendar year and formalized these ideas in our December call. The workgroup is currently focusing on developing and formalizing unified guidance, tools, and resources into a toolkit for climate change coordinators and other advocates.

#### **Workgroup Accomplishments:**

1. Identified potential resources for tool kit.
2. Outlined executive summary for toolkit.
3. Reviewed potential use of video in our advocacy toolkit which could include (1) Intro to Trout Unlimited and our Theory of Change relating to climate change, (2) Basic climate change science/TU science, (3) Short videos on regional threats.
4. Identified some updates for our Trout and climate Change presentation.
5. We continue working with Citizens Climate Lobby. If you would like CCL contact info for your state, please contact Brian Wagner at [bewagner482@gmail.com](mailto:bewagner482@gmail.com).

**Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:** Workgroup would like climate change to have a more focal presence on TU website for members and potential members to see what TU is doing about climate change.

**Workgroup Next Steps:** Workgroup identified the following as potential resources to further explore for toolkit. We will refine further with our January call.

1. Sample messaging
2. Lobbying toolkit
3. Template how-to for op-eds
4. Action list for coordinators
5. Field visit toolkit

6. Yale 360 resources for your state
7. EDF grant outcomes
8. CCL resources
9. Citizen science (existing temperature data, current monitoring, volunteer engagement)
10. Handouts/FAQ
11. How-to make short videos for use in advocating to congressional members



# National Leadership Council

## Great Lakes Work Group Report

### January 12, 2021

**Workgroup Chair:** Robb Smith – rssmithsr@gmail.com

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** The next meeting is tentatively set as the Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Workgroup Goals:**

1. Following the status of the Back Forty Mine Project on the MI/WI border and the Asian Carp Barrier at Brandon Rd Locks, IL.
2. Add additional threats to the Case for the Great Lakes
3. Updating, editing and seeking support to print hard copies of the CFTGL.

#### **Workgroup Activity:**

1. Discussions and research as to the permitting status of the Back Forty Mine Project.
2. Discussions on wind power energy proposed in the Great Lakes.
3. Discussion on the updating, hard copy printing, and distribution of the CFTGL.

#### **Workgroup Accomplishments:**

1. Seeing results of advocating for the Asian carp barrier at Brandon Rd Locks
2. Working in tandem with the Mining Workgroup with ref to the Back Forty Mine
3. Having regular informative meetings with the guidance of TU staffer Taylor Ritterbusch

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

- Obtaining funding and professional editing sources to prepare a more dressed up version of the CFTGL so that we can use it for grant requests and legislative education.

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

- Continue monthly meetings and information sharing
- Continue improvement to the CFTGL document
- Continue to monitor issues facing the Great Lakes states



# National Leadership Council

## Responsible Mining and Energy Work Group Report

### January 12, 2021

**Workgroup Chair:** Harry Murphy - hamurphy3@gmail.com

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** Third Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. mountain standard time

#### **Workgroup Goals:**

1. We are working with the TU staff to support bi-partisan efforts to pass "Good Sam" legislation supported by both conservation groups and mining interests.
2. We are working with the Great Lakes work group to support local chapters and state councils to oppose a proposed copper mine on the banks of the Menominee river on the Wisconsin, Michigan border.
3. Continued support of state councils and local chapters dealing with mining issues by acting as a conduit to TU staff and TU resources such as the NLC Mining Handbook.

**Workgroup Activity:** We received a report from TU staff regarding a re-opening of a gold mine in Idaho called the Stibnite mine, located on the edge of the Frank Church wilderness area that would require miles of new road through a roadless area and the relocation of an existing trout stream around the proposed mining area.

**Workgroup Accomplishments:** Assisted the TU staff with the Critical Minerals Report in gaining endorsements from state councils and local chapters.

**Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:** Working to pass legislation is a long-term project that can change or stall due to elections and changes in political will. Constantly moving forward despite setbacks and delays takes time to pay off.

**Workgroup Next Steps:** The work group will continue to monitor proposed mines in Idaho and Michigan, support the TU staff and act as a conduit for TU staff to the grassroots members of Trout Unlimited.



# National Leadership Council

## Native Trout Work Group Report

**Date: January 18, 2021**

**Workgroup Name:** Native Trout Workgroup

**Workgroup Chair:** Vacant

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** Calls are scheduled for the fourth Wednesday each month at 8:00p.m. (ET).

**Workgroup Description:** The Native Trout Workgroup exists to facilitate grassroots implementation of Trout Unlimited National Conservation Agenda related to protecting our cold water native salmonid species. Scope of the workgroup activity is nationwide. The workgroup facilitates education, awareness, restoration, and science projects related to native salmonid species. The workgroup provides information related to native species through a web page on TU's website and serves as an advocate for Councils and Chapters on issues related to native species.

**Workgroup Goals:**

1. Create a Native Trout Awareness Program Template
2. Publish an article in Trout Magazine about Native Trout
3. Survey each Council agrees with the Trout Unlimited definition of Native Trout
4. Support the Yellowstone National Park Volunteer Fly Fishing Program
5. Publish the Brook Trout Poster
6. Enhance the Native Trout Resource page on TU.org.

**Workgroup Activity:** In general, the workgroup activities have supported creating greater Native Trout awareness through education, advocacy and the use of science to protect and recover Native Trout populations.

**Workgroup Accomplishments:**

1. A Goal 1 sub-workgroup was been formed and met monthly. A generic template has been started. It has been decided to use the Arizona Native and Wild Fish Conference information to create a template other states can use. One state has shown interest in having a Native Trout Conference in their state and discussions have started with them.
2. A Goal 3 sub-workgroup has been formed and meets monthly. Two questions have been created that we would like each council to answer. There has been much discussion about what is definition of a "Native Trout". A better appreciation for the different parts of the country has come out of these discussions. Discussions held with Helen Neville (Chief Scientist TU). The questions have been published to the councils with 17+ responses received.
3. The Brook Trout Poster, a 2 year plus project, was completed, with posters printed and distributed in October 2020.



**Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:**

Many on the group are new and coming up to speed as well as having additional attendees at monthly meetings. The discussions for Goals 1 and 3 were interesting in there were different definitions for Native Trout. Through the discussions we have come to appreciate the differences between areas of the country.

**Workgroup Next Steps:**

1. Finish Native Trout Conference Template for consideration by state councils.
2. Create list of items, locations and organizations that can be used to promote the Brook Trout Poster.
3. Review answers from Councils on the questionnaire, survey and create a workgroup report.
4. Finalize documentation of design, printing and distribution of Trout Posters for future use.



# National Leadership Council

## Delaware River Work Group Report

Date: January 18, 2021

**Workgroup Name:** Delaware River Workgroup

**Workgroup Chair:** Scott Seidman shseidman@gmail.com

**Workgroup Meeting Dates:** 12/7/2020, 1/6/2021

**Workgroup Description:** Represents TU on efforts to develop fish-protective minimum flow agreements in the Delaware River Basin.

### Workgroup Goals:

- **Prevent Yo-Yo Releases on Delaware River**
- **Encourage the DRBC to provide enough release to support a year-round healthy environment for salmonids and Dwarf Wedge Mussels**
- **Communicate with the Delaware River Basin Commission to promote better water release policies within the confines of the Flexible Flow Management Plan 2017.**
- **Provide reliable and rapid communication between DRBC, relevant TU Councils, Friends of the Upper Delaware River (FUDR) and other relevant partners, and TU National.**
- **Work with regulatory agencies in the Basin to promote science-based resource management policies.**

**Workgroup Activity:** Met to discuss possible action regarding the pending approval Gibbstown LNG Export Terminal Dock 2 permit. It was decided to take no action. We also met to discuss a possible comment for the NY Trout Management Plan and specific impact to the Delaware River Basin.

**Workgroup Accomplishments:** There were coordinated comments from Delaware River stakeholders over the Draft Trout Management plan.

**Workgroup Obstacles and Challenges:** The two water banks for thermal stress and yo-yo releases are too small to do much good with.

**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.

Lay out meeting schedule for upcoming year. A comment will be submitted for the NY Trout Management Plan