



**HEALTHY FISH RELY ON
HEALTHY WATER.
WE ALL DO.**

Thank you for being a volunteer.

**TU New Leader Orientation
June 2025**



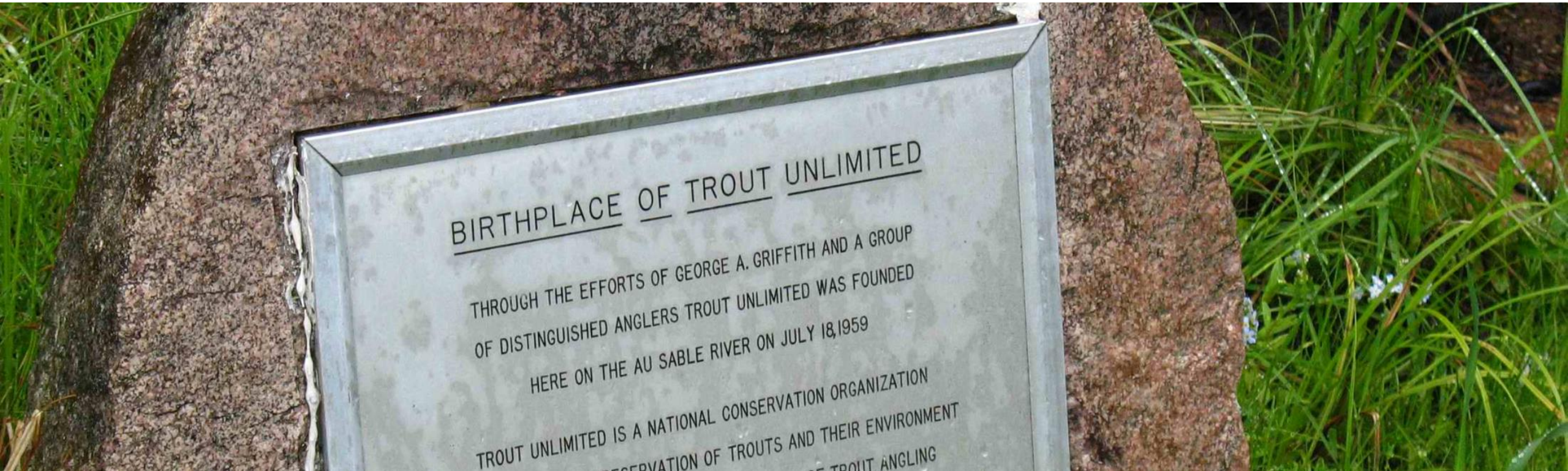
**TROUT
UNLIMITED'S
MISSION** is to
bring together diverse
interests to care for
and recover rivers and
streams so our
children can
experience the joy of
wild and native trout
and salmon.

TU has 350,000+
members and
supporters nationwide
and 400+ councils and
chapters in 44 states.



Salmon River, Idaho

Trout Unlimited's History

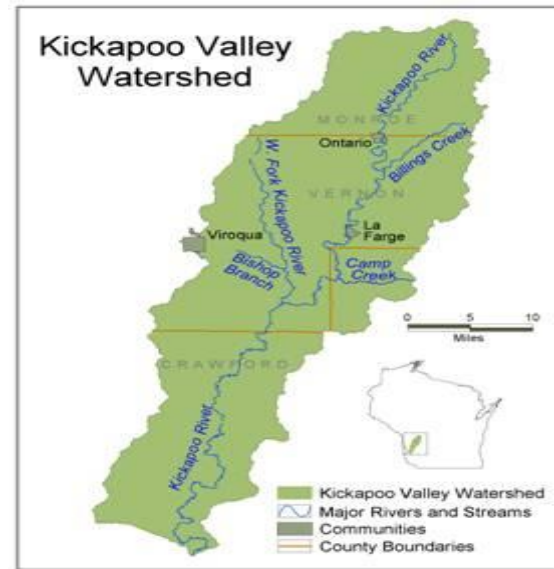


- **TU** was founded in **1959** in **Michigan**
- Built on a volunteer chapter structure
- Chapters run their own operations independent of National operations
- National operations did not go much beyond creating and distributing *TROUT* magazine until 1992
- \$2 million operating budget and 55,000 members in 1992

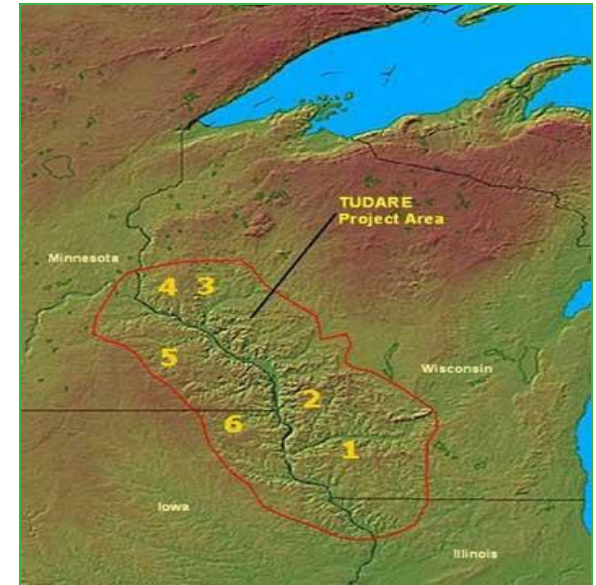
Trout Unlimited's Evolution



Pre-1990's: Local, in-stream projects



1990's: Full watershed scale projects



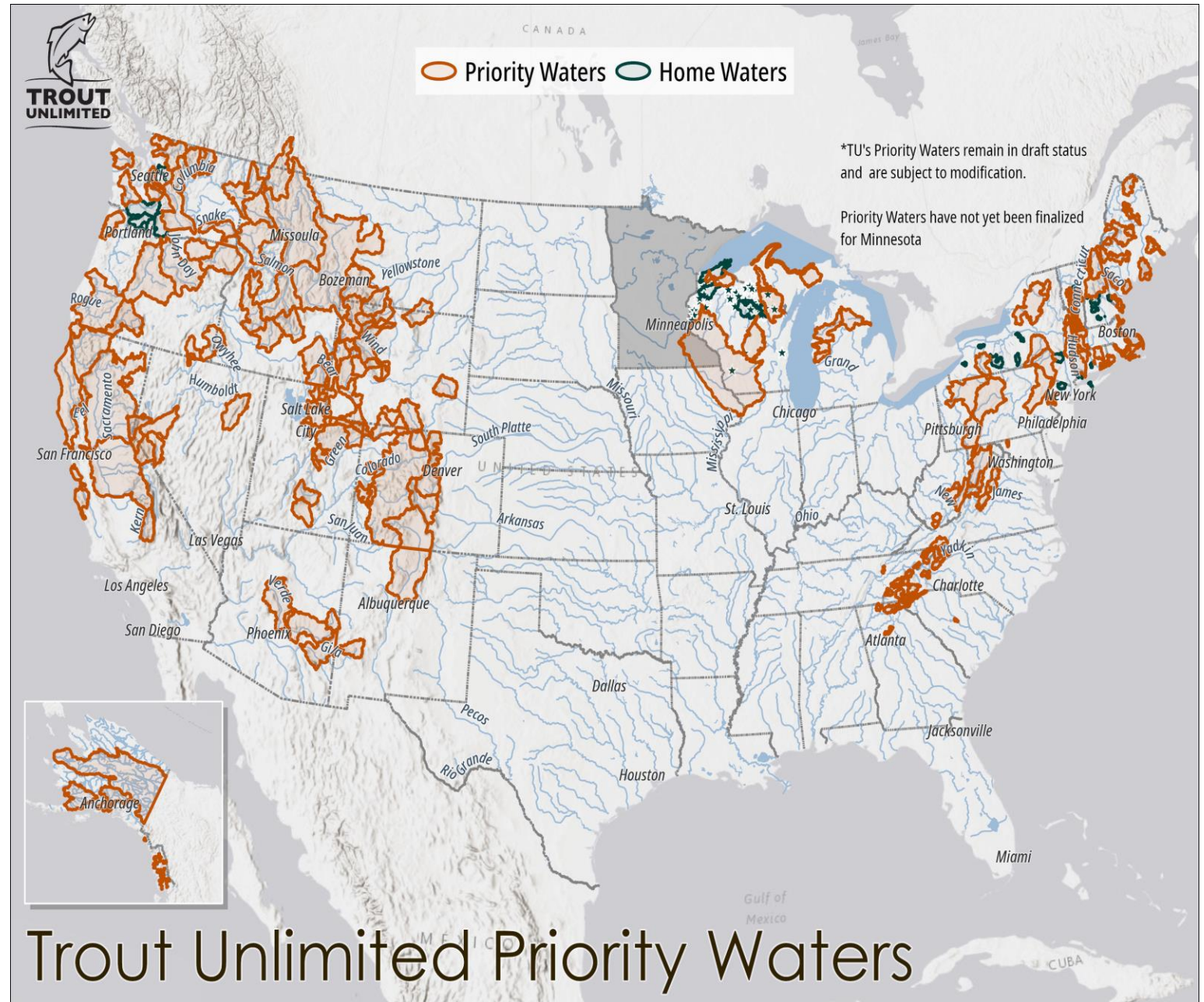
21st Century: Species or regional scale projects

Where We Work

Our work is guided by science, supported by our network of volunteers and advocates, and uses high-leverage funding mechanisms to complete cutting-edge river restoration and reconnection projects.

To focus our efforts strategically on the most important habitat, we recently completed a comprehensive, state-by-state assessment to identify TU's Priority Waters.

These are the places of greatest opportunity, where we have the strongest potential to protect, restore, or conserve trout and salmon fisheries.



**350,000
MEMBERS &
SUPPORTERS**

**400+
CHAPTERS**

**NATIONAL
STAFF OF 300+**

ONE TU

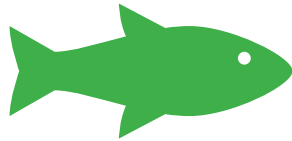
TROUT  UNLIMITED

**33
BOARD
TRUSTEES**

**36
STATE
COUNCILS**

**38 NATIONAL
LEADERSHIP
COUNCIL REPS
& 12 WORK
GROUPS**

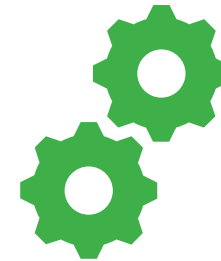
TU's New Strategic Plan Goals



1. Identify a national network of shared priority waters for native and wild trout and salmon and take strategic action to care for and recover them.



2. Inspire a diverse corps of staff, volunteers, and partners to advocate for and participate in the care and recovery of our lands and waters.



3. Invest in systems and people—staff, volunteers, and partners—so we have the tools, technology, training, and resources necessary to achieve our shared goals.

We Deliver On-the-Ground Results

OUR IMPACT IN 2024

PROTECTED

Over 10 Million acres of watershed landscapes and 9,278 MILES of rivers & streams

RESTORED

467 MILES of rivers & streams and 301 ACRES of habitat

RECONNECTED

692 MILES of rivers & streams



SUSTAINING THIS WORK IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Trout Unlimited's 400+ chapters and councils connected our communities to:

- 630,931 volunteer hours valued at \$20,063,606 invested in projects
- 3,217 conservation or science/monitoring projects involving 17,471 volunteers
- 3,185 youth activities that engaged 106,972 young people
- 4,624 community engagement activities reached 112,318 attendees

Impact: Chapter & Council Engagement in FY24



- 🐟 630,931 total volunteer hours
- 🐟 Raised and spent \$16 million dollars locally
- 🐟 11,753 events & activities, including:
 - 🐟 4,624 community engagement events
 - 🐟 3,217 conservation & science projects
 - 🐟 3,185 youth education activities
 - 🐟 727 veterans and first responder events
- 🐟 245,897 event participants, including:
 - 🐟 106,972 young people
 - 🐟 5,196 veterans and first responders
 - 🐟 3,940 individuals from underserved communities



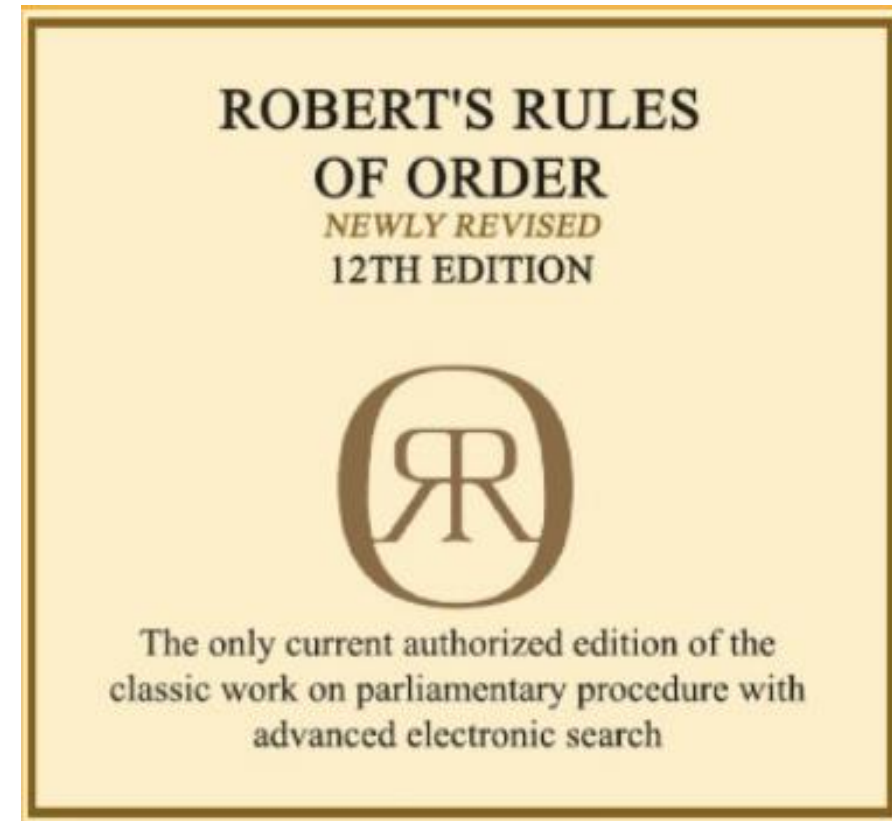
In the last year, volunteers planted 46,487 trees at 97 sites in 14 states, restoring 845 acres.

FY24 The Average Chapter/ Council

	Chapters	Councils
Less than \$25k in Revenue	246	18
\$25k - \$50k in Revenue	59	3
\$50K - \$100K+ in Revenue	21	3
\$100K+ in Revenue	18	9
Median Total Revenue	\$12,210	\$21,239
Median Volunteer Hours	983	1265

Good Governance Practices

- Understand the basics of Robert's Rules of Order
- Read your bylaws
- Have someone NOT on the bank account review the financials
- Understand your insurance coverage
- Bring this info back to your chapter!



Identifying Leadership Needs



What is the **vision** for your chapter or council in the next 3-5 years?

What **goals** can you set for your chapter based on the new strategic plan?

What are the **specific tasks** that need to be accomplished to achieve these goals?

What **skill sets** do these tasks require?

What are the **gaps** in your current leadership team based on the skills needed?

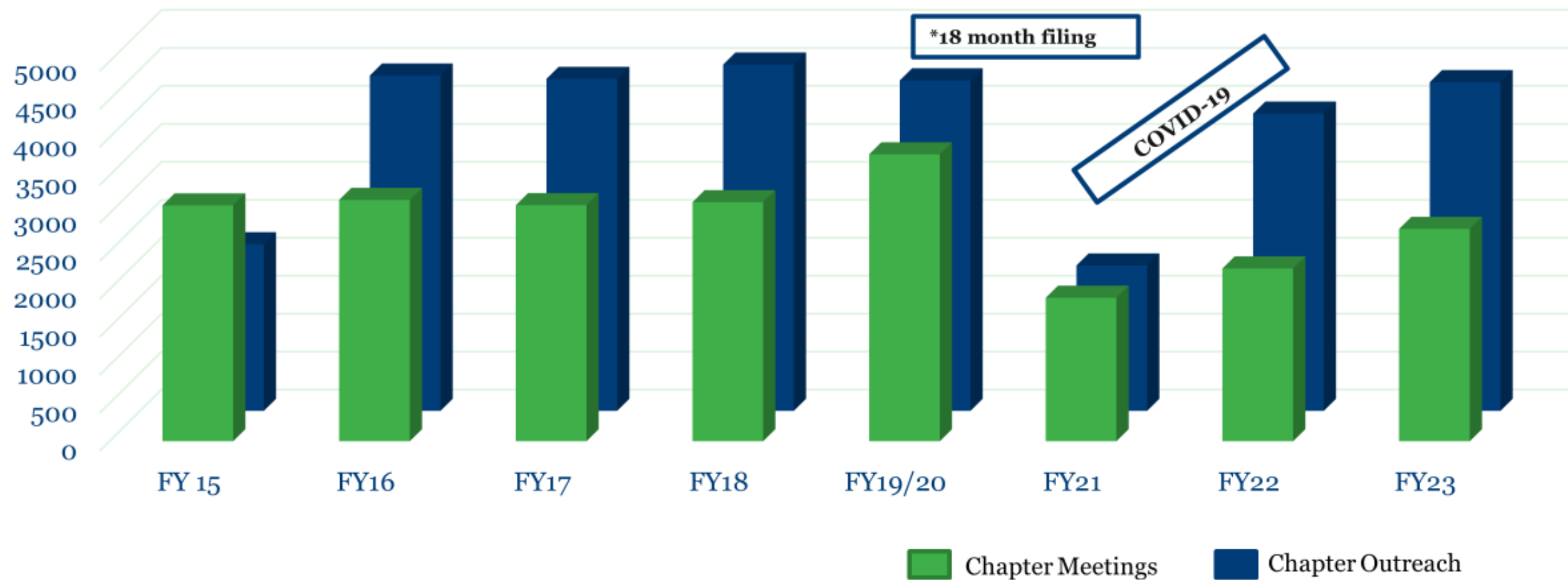
Green River's Flaming Gorge Days Canceled Because Committee 'Just Got Tired Of Doing It'

Green River officials say they discovered too late that the annual Flaming Gorge Days festival had been neglected by its volunteer organizing committee. "Over the years, it became a volunteer deal and the committee members just got tired of doing it," a town spokesman said.

Building A Community



Meetings vs. Outreach Activities



Resource Walkthrough

1. [Leaders Only Section](#)
2. [Tacklebox](#)
3. [Certificate of Insurance Requests](#)
4. [Staff Page](#)
5. [Vimeo Channel](#)
6. [Shop](#)



3 Big Takeaways



1. Understand how to use the Leaders Only Section
2. Refer to the Tacklebox, Leadership Manual, and online Community Forum if you have any questions—if you can't find the answer, then...
3. Understand how to get in contact with your Volunteer Operations Staff!



Q & A

Reach out with any remaining questions:

Q Collins

Director of Volunteer Operations

q.collins@tu.org