

Pemigewasset Chapter of Trout Unlimited Strategic Plan 2011-2016

The Pemigewasset Chapter (PC) is a chartered member of Trout Unlimited and adheres to the national organization's overall goals and mission. PC's strategic plan is specific to our assigned geographic area and associated watersheds within the state of New Hampshire while drawing from the main tenants of TU National's vision.

It is the intent of PC to:

1. Protect and restore coldwater fisheries within our chapter boundaries.
2. Support sustainable fisheries management at the state and local level.
3. Work collaboratively with other TU chapters and the state council.
4. Foster an appreciation of coldwater fisheries conservation in younger generations.

Mission Statement

To protect, reconnect, restore, and create sustainable coldwater fisheries within our assigned geographic are of New Hampshire.

Vision Statement

PC would like to ensure a thriving population of native and wild fish within its geographic region as well as the entire state of New Hampshire.

Core Principles and Values

PC supports a science based approach to fulfill its conservation based mission. In addition, the chapter will utilize members, volunteers and a collaborative approach with a variety of entities including, but not limited to, non-profit organizations, state agencies, and corporations to achieve its vision statement. PC values the principles of collaboration and fiscal responsibility in its work as a local grassroots conservation organization.

Strategic Plan Goals

Protect and restore quality coldwater habitats in our geographic region while advancing an understanding and appreciation of said environments with present and successive generations that utilize our designated watersheds.

1. Protect:

- A. Protect and advocate for public land and access points
- B. Identify, evaluate and protect important local watersheds
- C. Protect coldwater aquatic ecosystems
- D. Protect and improve water quality

2. Reconnect:

- A. Promote barrier identification and removal/replacement including but not limited to dams, culverts and other man made barriers.
- B. Advocate for good flow management as it pertains to preservation and enhancement of coldwater aquatic environments.

3. Restore:

- A. Wild trout populations.
- B. Streams and associated habitat through actions such as natural channel restoration and enhancement.

4. Conservation:

- A. Work with land trusts, area conservation commissions and associations and other like minded bodies around conservation issues that directly impact cold water fisheries.
- B. Partner with the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture and NH Fish and Game to restore and conserve wild populations of Eastern Brook Trout.
- C. Foster appreciation of the conservation ethic among current and future generations through a variety of outreach programs and functions.

Specific conservation objectives of PC: By identifying a few specific projects the PC will be better equipped to focus its energy and financial resources and therefore more effective in meeting its overall goals.

1. Identify and work on a specific river or watershed based conservation project that utilizes the Strategic Plan Goals previously noted. Such a project would need to be identified by membership and agreed upon as a project that offers the greatest likelihood of success.

- A. Outcome: enhancement of a local coldwater fishery that not only meets the underlying principles of TU but offers economic and recreational vitality to the local area.
- B. Ownership: chapter members
- C. Timeline: ongoing
- D. Budget: to be determined based on the scope of the project but with the intent of leveraging funds by obtaining grants such as S319, NH DES ARM, TU and NOAA.
- E. Risk: low political

2. Promote conservation of coldwater fisheries through an instructional fly-fishing based program. This could be done on a chapter level and/or through support of outside programs such as NH Kids Trout Camp or Becoming an Outdoors Woman.

- A. Outcome: Through outreach to the larger community PC promotes the message of coldwater fisheries conservation. In turn, this may have the effect of increasing membership while promoting recreational opportunities and resources within our chapter area as well as the entire state of NH.
- B. Ownership: chapter members
- C. Timeline: specific scheduled sessions
- D. Budget: Low
- E. Risk: Low political

Specific objectives and functions needed to sustain the organization and its effectiveness.

1. Fiscal management:

- A. Responsible stewardship of chapter money through a democratic process that identifies where funds are best utilized.
- B. Ongoing fundraising that ensures the chapter has the necessary funds needed to fulfill its objectives. Yearly goals should be established and progress reviewed bi-monthly as a part of leadership meetings.

2. Promotion of PC:

- A. The ongoing act of promoting the chapter and what our mission is by utilizing a variety of media sources such as newspapers, TV, radio and the internet.
- B. Collaboration and ongoing engagement with like minded organizations and institutions that seeks to advance the mission of TU. (For example, joining with a local kayak rental company for an annual spring river wide trash cleanup effort on the Pemi River or a focused cleanup at a boat launch area.

3. Monthly membership meetings:

- A. Meetings should serve the function of imparting information and create an environment that promotes shared decision making around specific chapter activities.
- B. Meeting should also, when feasible, offer opportunities for speakers from a variety of backgrounds to share information that is relevant to the mission of the chapter. In addition, this creates a vast networking

opportunity that further helps the chapter to promote its activities and draw upon experts when developing objectives.

4. Develop an organizational framework that facilitates the implementation and any ongoing revision of this strategic plan. The chapter should prioritize and focus on a few key objectives, update this strategic plan when necessary and assign tasks in such a manner that we remain efficient in carrying out these objectives.

A. Given that we are a small chapter it is critical that there be ongoing critical evaluation of where our time and energy should be focused. In addition, individuals with specific strengths and talents should be identified and utilized in a manner that seeks to meet the overall chapter goals.