

Draft

Mason Griffith Founders Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Strategic Plan 2011

Chapter Mission: To conserve, protect, and restore the coldwater fisheries of the Au Sable and Upper Manistee Rivers and their watersheds.

Chapter Vision: Work to ensure that the home waters of the founders of Trout Unlimited remain clean and healthy with thriving populations of wild trout for future generations on anglers.

Goal I: Protect high quality habitat for wild coldwater fish on Au Sable and Upper Manistee Rivers.

1. Chapter members will assume leadership roles in the Au Sable River Watershed Council and Upper Manistee Restoration Committee efforts to develop and implement watershed management plans and will participate in watershed committee project review and planning sessions.
2. Chapter will work with other area cold water advocacy groups within the Committees to maintain updated watershed management plans by conducting volunteer stream monitoring and surveys. Chapter volunteers will also assist other partner organizations in surveys. Those surveys include:
 - a. Stream-bank Erosion Inventories
 - b. Fish Population
 - c. Water Temperature
 - d. Macro Invertebrate
 - e. Road-Stream Crossing
 - f. Dams
 - g. River Mapping
 - h. Invasive Species
 - i. Redd
 - j. Land Use
 - k. Sand Trap
 - l. Oil and Gas Development
3. Chapter members will serve on and attend zoning and advisory boards and other committees which influence the future management and development of areas rivers.
 - a. Au Sable and Manistee Zoning Review Boards
 - b. Huron Pines

c. Township Zoning and Planning Commissions

Goal II: Maintain high quality water and restore impaired reaches of Au Sable and Upper Manistee Rivers to support thriving fish populations.

1. Chapter will organize and conduct volunteer projects called for by the watershed management plans for maintaining and restoring watersheds. Those projects include:
 - a. Stream-bank Erosion Remediation
 - b. Large Woody Debris Placement
 - c. Construction of Spawning Riffles
 - d. Cedar and Native Species Stream-bank Plantings
 - e. Lunker Structure Placement
 - f. Invasive Species Removal
 - g. Trash Removal
 - h. In-Stream Structure Maintenance
 - i. Beaver Dam Removal
2. Chapter will develop and maintain an email list of volunteers for work projects.

Goal III: Develop community awareness of conservation issues relating to the Au Sable and Manistee Watersheds.

1. Chapter will invite members of the community to participate in volunteer work projects.
2. Chapter will submit timely news articles to local newspapers concerning Chapter activities and cold water resource issues affecting the Au Sable and Manistee Watersheds.
3. Chapter will notify membership of conservation alerts and encourage them to become proactive on cold water conservation issues.
4. Chapter will maintain an up-dated web site highlighting Chapter's activities and volunteer work projects.
5. Chapter will conduct and support community education, enrichment and outreach activities including:
 - a. Fly Tying Classes
 - b. Grayling Middle School Trout in the Classroom
 - c. Grayling High School Fly Fishing Club
 - d. Au Sable River Expo
 - e. Orvis – Mason Griffith Founders Free Fly Fishing Classes
 - f. Kalamazoo Valley TU Fly Fishing School
 - g. Griffith-Wright Fly Fishing Section of Devereaux Memorial Library
 - h. Tye-one-on/Veterans support event

Goal IV: Develop Chapter membership awareness of chapter activities and projects through effective communication.

1. Maintain a regularly updated Chapter Website showcasing chapter activities, projects, and conservation alerts.
2. Use TUNA membership email list to communicate to members when Chapter web site has been updated.
3. Hold additional Chapter membership social activities and events.
 - a. Bi-monthly social outings
 - b. Guest speakers
 - c. Member Fly Tying Gatherings

Goal V: Develop new funding sources to ensure our chapters increased future effectiveness.

1. Develop a chapter 501c3 conservation trust fund to receive and encourage large donations.
3. Co-sponsor a Trout Bum BBQ fund raising event
4. Develop a chapter grant writing program

Goal VI: