



Twin Cities Trout Unlimited

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REMOVAL OF THE POWELL FALLS AND JUNCTION FALLS DAMS KINNICKINNIC RIVER, RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, the mission of Trout Unlimited (TU) is to conserve, protect and restore cold water fisheries and their watersheds across North America; and,

WHEREAS, the Twin Cities chapter of TU carries out this mission in Southeastern Minnesota and Western Wisconsin, in collaboration with other TU Chapters such as the KIAP-TU-WISH (KTU) chapter; and,

WHEREAS, the removal of dams disconnecting and degrading cold water streams, and the restoration of their formerly impounded stream corridors, is an important action in support of TU's mission; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of River Falls, Wisconsin, has decided to remove the two dams owned by that city on the Kinnickinnic River, an iconic trout fishery in Western Wisconsin; and,

WHEREAS, almost three decades of continuous thermal monitoring by KTU has documented the adverse impacts of the dams and their impoundments on Kinnickinnic River water temperature; and,

WHEREAS, hydrologic, water quality, sedimentation, and biological impacts are also apparent due to the presence of the Kinnickinnic River dams and their impoundments; and,

WHEREAS, the removal of the two Kinnickinnic River dams and restoration of their former impoundments are predicted to improve temperature, water quality and habitat in the Kinnickinnic River; and,

WHEREAS, the said temperature improvement with dam removal and restoration is predicted to buffer the river against the recognized impacts of climate change, which are already being observed in this watershed and across the region; and,

WHEREAS, this important project is of state and regional significance, and will require support of individuals, agencies and philanthropic organizations to accomplish;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Twin Cities Chapter of TU endorses the project for removing the two Kinnickinnic River dams and restoring their corridors, pledges its support, and urges its members and supporters and National Trout Unlimited's leadership, staff and supporters to do the same.

Dated this 11th day of January, 2022

Twin Cities Trout Unlimited

By:

Robert J Luck

Robert J Luck, President