



Wisconsin Trout

Winter 2000

Crandon mine: dead or a done deal?

Violations of open meetings law may void town's local agreement

By Will Fantle

Multiple violations of Wisconsin's open meetings law may toss another monkey wrench into Rio Algom's plans for opening a controversial mine in the northeastern corner of the state near Crandon.

"To have three years of closed meetings allowed corruption to take place," says Glenn Reynolds, a Madison attorney representing citizens in the town of Nashville, the small rural community that sits atop a portion of the coveted copper, zinc, gold, and silver mineral deposits.

Reynolds says this is exactly the type of situation the state's public meeting laws were designed to prevent. "They call this the sunshine law so that citizens have the ability to know what their government is doing."

At issue is an agreement signed in December 1996 after more than three years of closed-door secret negotiations between the mining company and Nashville's town board. This deal, known as the "Local Agreement," ignited a township revolt. In the 1997 spring elections, 616 of Nashville's 626 registered voters trooped to the polls and convincingly rejected the town's officers, replacing them with a slate of mining opponents.

Local citizens also filed a lawsuit challenging the secrecy surrounding the negotiation of the agreement. The lawsuit was headed toward a jury trial in Wausau this coming June when the parties agreed to settle out-of-court.

Settlement terms

In the settlement, which Oneida County Judge Mark Mangerson signed on Nov. 22, the former town board members admit they broke

Wisconsin's open meetings law 55 times in their three years of closed-door brokerings with the mining company. And the citizen plaintiffs will be reimbursed for about half their legal costs.

"I'm real happy," says Tom Ward, one of the local residents who initiated the lawsuit. "We definitely feel vindicated by this."

Reynolds, acting on behalf of the citizens who filed the lawsuit, is now readying a motion requesting Judge Mangerson to strike down the agreement between the mining company and the town of Nashville on grounds that the law was broken in the course of reaching it.

But Dale Alberts of Nicolet Mining Co., which is owned by Rio Algom of Canada, says his company was removed from this litigation early on and will not be affected by its outcome. "We do not believe that resolution of that case will have any impact" [on the Local Agreement], said Alberts.

The Local Agreement between Nashville and Nicolet is a key component of the state's mining permit process. Before the DNR can sign off on the mining permits, agreements with local communities must be reached that delve into local mining impacts and specify any type of compensation.

Nicolet "needed a local agreement so that they knew the local guys could not hold up the show," explains Reynolds.

Town followed counsel's lead

Depositions gathered by Reynolds reveal that town board members were nervous about working out a deal with the mining company in the presence of the public and mining opponents. He says the town's attorney,

Board: no moratorium rules

By Tom Vanden Brook

The State Natural Resources Board (NRB) rejected a request from environmental groups and others to take steps to toughen Wisconsin's "mining moratorium" law.

The board voted unanimously to deny to adopt rules for implementing the 1998 law, which would have made it more difficult for owners of a proposed mine in northern Wisconsin to obtain needed permits.

Environmentalists expressed disappointment with the board and vowed to continue fighting a proposal by Nicolet Minerals Co. to mine 55 million tons of zinc and copper ore near Crandon by 2005.

But an attorney for the company praised the board for resisting pressure to "change the rules in the middle of the game."

The so-called mining moratorium law applies to anyone seeking to open a mine in an ore deposit that can produce acid runoff. It requires the applicant to provide examples of similar mines that have

operated safely in North America.

Specifically, such example mines must have operated for 10 years without polluting and been closed for 10 years without polluting. Currently, Nicolet Minerals is the only company seeking such a permit in the state.

Petitioners, including environmental groups, the Menominee Indian tribe, and state legislators, had asked the NRB to develop rules that required applicants to show that a single mine, in an area similar to northern Wisconsin, had operated and been closed without damaging the environment.

Nicolet has provided three example mines — one in northern Canada, another in Arizona, and the third in California — to comply with the law.

Rep. Spencer Black (D-Madison), an author of the moratorium bill, maintained that crafting rules for the law's implementation would ensure greater public input in the process and that the Legislature's intent would be fulfilled.

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ney, Milwaukee lawyer Kevin Lyons, repeatedly advised and assured the board that the closed, unposted meetings were legal and justified.

"The town board members just followed his lead," says Reynolds. Notices about the meetings were not even sent to local media. State statutes allow closed meetings for purposes like contract negotiations or the discussion of competitive bids. But citizens still have a right to know about the meetings and their subject matter, through public notices. "That never happened," says Reynolds.

Local residents, however, learned when Kevin Lyons was coming to Nashville from postings at their Town Hall. For three years increasingly paranoid citizens came to these meetings and then were asked to leave. Moreover, one of the findings of fact in the lawsuit is that 12 of the 15 closed meetings "were not required to be closed for competitive or bargaining reasons" or to confer with legal counsel. The board's goal, says Reynolds, was to "keep the public in the dark."

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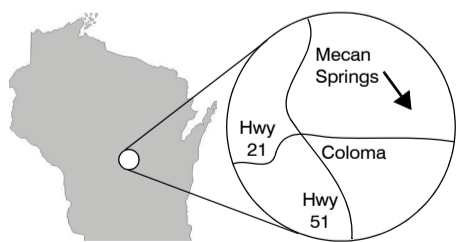
Mecan springs target of new Perrier plant

By John Welter

A plan proposed by French bottled-water manufacturer Perrier would install a 100-foot-deep well on the public land in Mecan River Springs State Natural Area to pipe water to a factory to be built nearby.

Word of the plan surfaced in mid-December as real estate agents working for Perrier tried to tie down land purchases near the State Natural Area. Perrier officials have asked the state if an easement across the natural area would be available to allow placement of the well there.

TU's Central Wisconsin Chapter and the Wisconsin State Council joined other environmental groups in



asking the DNR to conduct a full environmental impact survey on the plant proposal.

In a letter sent to DNR Secretary George Meyer December 22, the groups pointed out that opening a state natural area to a use such as Perrier proposes would be a damaging precedent for other public lands. The overall goal of the 1985 Mecan Springs Natural Area Master Plan is

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Two-zone early season planned

By John Welter

The Early Season Task Force has recommended a two-zone early trout season beginning in 2001.

At its last meeting in November, the group settled on a compromise proposal which was to be presented to the DNR board at its December meeting.

The task force is made up of members of the Conservation Congress Trout Study Committee, DNR fish managers and wardens, and members of interested groups, including TU, the Federation of Fly Fishers, and the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation.

It had been charged by the DNR Board in May with developing a viable compromise to reduce friction about the early season.

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Wolf River Chapter (#050): Herb Buettner, N4297 Buettner Rd., White Lake, WI 54491 (715) 882-8611 (W), (715) 882-8612 (H)

Chapter meeting times and locations

Wisconsin TU chapters meet on the following dates:

Aldo Leopold: When needed or called at Beaver Dam Conservation Club, Cty. G, Beaver Dam.

Antigo: Not listed.

Blackhawk: Third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at UW-Rock County Campus (Room 129).

Central Wisconsin: Board meetings second Monday of the month at the F&M Bank in Wautoma.

Coulee Region: Third Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., at Whitetails, 5200 Mormon Coulee Rd., LaCrosse.

Fox Valley: Third Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., at the Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve, 4815 N. Lynndale Dr., Appleton. No meetings June, July, and August.

Frank Hornberg Chapter: Second Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m. at Shooter's Supper Club, Hwys. 51 & 54, Plover. May-September meetings are evening stream work events.

Green Bay: First Thursday of month (Sept.-Nov. and Jan.-May) at The Watering Hole, 2107 Velp Ave., Green Bay, 7:30 p.m. Christmas meetings/awards dinner in Dec. at site to be determined. No meetings June, July, and August.

Kiap-TU-Wish: First Wednesday of the month at JR Ranch east of Hudson on Hwy. 12 north of 1-94. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Lakeshore: Second Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at The Club Bil-Mar, Old Hwy. 141, Manitowoc.

Marinette County: First Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at The Dome Lanes, 751 University Drive, Marinette.

Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter: Not given.

Northwoods: Third Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Associated Bank (Community Room), Stevens at Davenport Streets, Rhinelander. No meetings June, July, and August.

Oconto River Watershed: First Wednesday of the month, 7:45 p.m., at the Lone Oak Gun Club, Hwy. 32 North, Gillett.

Ojibseau: Second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club, Eau Claire.

Shaw-Paca: Third Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., alternating be-

tween Anello's Torch Lite, 1276 E. Green Bay St., Shawano, and Mathew's Supper Club, 155 8th St., Clintonville.

Southeastern Wisconsin: Fourth Tuesday of the month. Dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Bavarian Wursthau, 8310 Appleton Ave., Milwaukee.

Southern Wisconsin: Second Tuesday of the month. Dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m. At the Maple Tree Restaurant, McFarland.

Wild Rivers: The chapter is currently in the process of changing its meeting location. Contact Pres. Jeff Carlson for late details.

Wisconsin River Valley: First Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the Wausau Tile Co.

Wolf River: Second Wednesday of odd-numbered months, 7:00 p.m., at the Wild Wolf Inn, Highway 55 South.

Changing addresses the correct way

The following is the proper way to inform TU of a new address.

Do not contact the State Council, your local chapter president, or *Wisconsin Trout*. Only TU National keeps a database of member addresses.

Following these procedures will ensure you don't miss any TU alerts, issues of *Wisconsin Trout*, or chapter newsletters.

1. **Inform TU National.** Call, write, or email TU National. (See the contact information for TU National in the masthead below.)
2. **Include your ID number.** Your ID number is found on the upper left-hand corner of mailing labels attached to TROUT magazine, Wisconsin Trout, or your chapter newsletter.
3. **Note new chapter affiliation.** If you are moving to a different city in Wisconsin and wish to be affiliated with the TU chapter in your area, make note of that, too. (See the chapter directory on this page for the three-digit ID numbers of Wisconsin's TU chapters.)

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Change of Address Notices, including the member's eight-digit member ID number, must be sent directly to TU National at:

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New chapter leader? Let TU know

Chapter leaders are reminded they must inform TU National and the State Council when a new chapter president is elected. Send your name, address, phone numbers, email address, and your chapter's three-digit ID number to:

1. **TU National** — Wendy Reed at (703) 522-0200, or mail your information to Wendy at Trout Unlimited, 1500 Wilson Blvd., Suite 310, Arlington, VA 22209. Or email to wreed@tu.org.
2. **State Council** — Todd Hanson at (954) 9744, or mail your information to Todd at 819 W. Elsie St., Appleton, WI 54914-3774. Or email to thanson@vbe.com.

Visit Wis. TU on-line: www.lambcom.net/witu

Of George Meyer, traffic cops, term papers, and the mine

By Todd Hanson

I don't expect to make editorials a regular part of every issue of *Wisconsin Trout*. But this month is different. With the Crandon mine coming to the forefront of public attention again in two high-profile stories, I thought I would inform members of the following — never have I heard so much grumbling about the actions of DNR Secretary George Meyer than I have the past few months. Have you been hearing it, too?

If you visit the web site of the Wisconsin Stewardship Network at www.wsn.org, you'll find archived DNR documents from Meyer arguing why the Natural Resources Board shouldn't require rule-making for the Mining Moratorium Law. You'll also find the reactions of mining opponents rebutting Meyer's arguments.

But my focus here is to try to distill this disappointment. What's going on here? Why are people so frustrated with Meyer?

As I look over Meyer's memos to the NRB arguing why rulemaking is not required for the Moratorium Law, I get the feeling our DNR Secretary is like a traffic cop who thinks he's a district attorney. We hire traffic cops to enforce the law. But instead of Meyer writing the ticket after pulling a motorist over for speeding, he begins a legalistic cost-benefit analysis.

"This guy was only going 65," thinks the cop. "That's illegal, but not too bad. It was in the past, too — no predictor of his future driving ability. Oh-oh, he's driving a Mercedes, so maybe he's got a lawyer who will have my radar detector's calibration tested. The heck with it. Why put taxpayers through a possible litigation? I'm letting this guy go."

I think a lot of us would just as soon Meyer worried less about being sued by a foreign corporation than by his own Wisconsin environmental stewards. Most of us want our traffic cops to just write speeding tickets and let those getting them decide what they want to do about it.

Another disappointment people are expressing about Meyer, I believe, is that he's increasingly perceived as disingenuous in interpreting what constitutes an interpretation. On some matters relating to the Moratorium Law, Meyer's interpretation is that the item is self-evident or "clear on its face." On other matters, Meyer isn't sure. But instead of that uncertainty being a reason to ask that rules be written for the law, Meyer interprets that uncertainty as a reason to let an administrative law judge decide the question later on. People are suspicious when a person has the *right* answer for all those things the rest of us still question.

Take the sample mines that Nicolet Minerals has submitted. Why didn't Meyer immediately hand Nicolet Minerals back their sample mines when he was given *three* of them instead of just one...or two? When I was teaching English, I assigned term papers. If I assigned a 10-page paper, I'd hand back papers that were just nine pages long (and I wouldn't accept three four-pagers, either).

When Meyer took three mines, hasn't he interpreted the law? Meyer says no, but the people aren't buying it because when they first read about the provisions of the Moratorium Law, none of them thought, "Gee, I wonder which *three* mines Nicolet Minerals will submit?"

Yet Meyer says we don't need any interpreting of this law through the rule-making process. He's satisfied to fill in the blanks operationally during the permitting process. He says the Moratorium Law is clear on its face. Yes, for political appointee George Meyer, it's all very clear — as clear as the number flashing on the face of a radar detector.

Sad about DNR Board's mine rules decision

Editor,

It is a sad day in the annals of Wisconsin government. A good law, the Mining Moratorium Law, has been rendered ineffective by a politically appointed Department of Natural Resources Board. The Rio Algom Corporation, a foreign company with a terrible environmental record, has spent enough money and twisted enough political arms (including our esteemed governors') and now may actually get a permit to mine.

The Mining Moratorium Law was put in place so that the mining company would have to prove that a sulfide ore mine, in conditions similar to the Wisconsin north woods, could operate without polluting. The Rio Algom Company submitted example mines that are nothing like the proposed mine near Crandon. One is an open pit gold mine!

In nothing that I've read does it say that any of the three are mining

sulfide ore, an important consideration from a pollution standpoint. But the DNR board decided that no rules of interpretation were necessary for the law, and so these examples, most likely, will be accepted as proof that Rio Algom can mine without polluting. After a few more bureaucratic hoops to jump through, they will have their permit to trash the north woods. To top it all off, the gold they find will be allowed to leave Wisconsin tax free; only the copper and zinc will be taxed.

I have twin daughters that I hoped to take fishing and rafting on the Wolf River someday. By the time they are old enough, however, I doubt if there will be even chubs to fish for. Thanks Governor Thompson and the DNR board for "protecting" our north woods.

Dean Simon
Appleton



Responds to 'manipulating streams' concern

Editor,

As one of the habitat "restorers" mentioned in Mike Swoboda's letter in the fall 1999 issue of *Wisconsin Trout* I feel I must respond. Although Mike's concerns include nonpoint pollution and the federal EPA, my comments will only pertain to the habitat restoration program in the La Crosse area.

Mike asked, "What do we want them (our streams) to be?" Paraphrasing the U.S. Army, we want them to "be all they can be." This simply means that if the stream "wants" to be a trout stream, then we should assist it in being the best trout stream it can. We should know what are the limiting factors and how to address them. We should also recognize that we cannot manage for all species. However if while doing restoration work we can benefit other species associated with that ecotype, they should be included in the project consideration.

Mike also asked, "Are we trying to restore degraded streams"? The dictionary defines restore as "to bring back into existence or use." Clearly then, we are. Coulee streams were narrow, cold, deep, and full of brook trout before European settlement in the 1830s. Because of poor land use practices, by the 1950s most coulee streams became very wide, shallow, warm, and devoid of instream cover and brook trout. In the last 30 years watershed conditions have improved greatly. Cold water temperatures, abundant food, and suitable spawning substrates have returned to many coulee streams. Instream cover has not. Restoring cover to these streams has allowed a shift from a "domestic" trout program to one of stocking wild trout. In the year 2000 a full 78% of all the trout stocked in our 4 counties will be "wilds" and 60% of these will be wild brook trout. Many of these streams will start reproducing on their own and will be upgraded to Class 1.

Mike then asks "how do we recreate what was natural?" A good question with no easy answer. In our area the "natural" stream had banks that were only 1-2 feet above the water with a very wide floodplain. The streams were at equilibrium with as much material being deposited as was being eroded. Now we have streams with 12-15 feet of deposited sediment that has filled in the valley floor leaving streams with no floodplain, very flashy, and carrying tre-

mendous amounts of sediment. Streams would cut totally new channels with each heavy rainfall. It would take hundreds if not thousands of years for these systems to return to "natural." Even then the stream will never be like it was. Exotic species like brown trout and reed canary grass are now permanent residents, and woods now stand where prairies once flourished.

Our restoration efforts attempt to reclaim some of the floodplain, stabilize the eroding banks, provide some overhead cover, and give the stream a chance to "catch its breath." Will these restored streams "ultimately fail" as Mike suggests? Not if done right and maintained properly.

While I agree with Mike that watershed changes affect stream health, to suggest that habitat restorers ignore watershed management has absolutely no basis in fact. I am painfully aware of changes in our watersheds both past and present. Most of our effort is spent in the stream corridor because that's where the action is. Preliminary research from the Middle Kickapoo Priority Watershed has shown that over 85% of the sediment entering those streams comes from streambank erosion.

While there may be stream restoration projects that do look less than natural, to broadly paint most restoration efforts with the same negative brush is unfair and illogical. Especially since National Trout Unlimited recently recognized the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as a leader with regard to its coldwater program including habitat restoration.

I would like to thank Mike for mentioning me with Bob Hunt who as many know is a nationally known trout research biologist who has retired from the DNR. Bob, along with others like Ray White and Oscar Brynildson, pioneered many of the restoration methods that so many trout anglers now enjoy. I have great respect for his knowledge and expertise.

If anyone would like more information on our restoration efforts in the La Crosse area, I can be reached by phone at 608-785-9009 or emailed at vetrad@dnr.state.wi.us.

Dave Vetrano, Sr. Fisheries
Biologist
3550 Mormon Coulee Rd.
La Crosse, WI 54601

Thanks Friends for Kinni Land Trust gift

Dear Friends of TU,

I am writing to thank the Friends of Trout Unlimited for the generous \$1,000 gift to the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust (KRLT) for the "Swinging Gate" acquisition. We are truly grateful for your organization's recognition of our work to protect and preserve this invaluable property along the Kinni.

As you know, many people and state agencies were counting on the KRLT to protect this stretch of river. I am thankful for the opportunity for our organizations to work together to fulfill these expectations and save the Swinging Gate. It is our partnership

that successfully allows us to preserve vital, Wisconsin trout streams and ensure that future generations will be able to fish these waters.

Please let me know if you and your officers of WITU would like a tour of the Swinging Gate lands — I would be more than happy to show all of you this famous fishing site! Thank you, again, for your organization's ongoing interest in, and support of, the KRLT and its mission to protect and preserve the Kinni — it is a treasure!

Rick McMonagle
Executive Director, KRLT

WDNR Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection gets makeover

Anglers and the general public are about to get a clearer line on who to call at the Department of Natural Resources with concerns about Wisconsin's fisheries.

The DNR's Bureau of Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection has realigned its functions and created a new, separate section responsible for traditional fisheries management programs.

The idea is to give the public and fisheries staff statewide key people and contacts in Madison who are devoted to setting policy and operating traditional fisheries programs, including

- hatcheries,
- Great Lakes sport and commercial fisheries,
- inland trout and warmwater fisheries, and
- those fisheries on lakes and rivers covered by treaties.

Steven Hewett, who has coordinated the Department's treaty fisheries and walleye management programs since the early 1990s, has been named to lead that new group, the "Fisheries Policy and Operations Section."

"The larger fisheries and habitat bureau created through the department's reorganization was and is a good way to promote our approach of sustaining and improving our fishery by making sure we protect and enhance fish habitat," says Mike Staggs, who leads heads the fisheries management and habitat protection bureau. "But the larger program has sometimes been confusing for the public and even our own staff."

Staggs said he hopes this alignment will improve communications, "make our organization more understandable to the public and our own staff across the state," and improve the ability to efficiently manage fisheries programs across the state.

Section staff members will serve as liaison to biologists in the field to more effectively communicate and implement consistent policies, and to coordinate fisheries issues across the state.

The Bureau of Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection was created in the June 1996 reorganization of the department by combining fisheries programs with several water programs related to habitat — Water Resources Management, Water Regulations and Zoning.

Subsequently, sections within that bureau were created by drawing people from those different programs.

This new alignment, effective Monday, follows more traditional lines but still seeks to foster the coop-

From the Chairman

Chairman gazes into the crystal ball

By John Welter

Wisconsin TU Chairman

Crystal ball gazing can get one in trouble. Often a client of mine wants prediction of what a jury will decide on his or her case, and I usually try to dissuade them from asking. I have found, over the past almost 20 years, that predicting jury behavior can get you in trouble. That's the one sure prediction I can make.

But here we are, either nearing the new millennium — or just having begun it, depending on your outlook — and it's just irresistible to look at what the future holds for trout and trout anglers in coming years. So bear with me and let's see what's out there, a couple of decades hence, to look forward to....

Wisconsin's agricultural picture is changing, and with the changes come challenges for coldwater resources. Our dairy farming operations that used to consist of 30 or 40 cows milked by hand have given way to automated systems with more cows. Across the state there are about five dozen factory farms, with a couple of dozen more being considered. The DNR considers its own rules for manure handling to be inadequate. Way, way behind the trend toward larger operations is the development of rules with clout to protect the environment from their wastes.

Right now proposed rules from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection are being criticized by those concerns about the environment for being too weak to offer meaningful protection.

If inadequate safeguards are contained in the rules that are adopted, we will again and again face situations, after a devastating spill and fish kill like several in the upper Midwest last summer, where governmental "watchdogs" will wring their hands and say that even though ten thousand trout have been killed, "no rules were broken."

At the same time that we see more large farming operations, I believe we will see fewer small farmers down in the river valleys. That will

eration and integration among the five sister sections in the Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection Bureau.

Other sections, their functions, and their leaders are:

Lakes and Wetlands is responsible for the highly successful Lake Partnership program and the various department wetlands management and regulatory programs. Jeff Bode leads this section.

Rivers and Habitat Protection is

lead to changes from agricultural uses to rural residential or hobby farm uses, and probably chopping up valley farms into smaller chunks.

While that change may reduce the likelihood of nearby agricultural runoff into streams, it will have other effects. We will see construction runoff, and less permeable (and absorbent) soils to filter runoff, and more road building. More posted land along streams will be another likely result, as it becomes more likely that the traditional "fisherman's path" will be running through somebody's subdivision or farmette yard instead of what used to be a pasture.

Coaster brook trout, reintroduced first into some Upper Peninsula streams flowing into Lake Superior, will be accepted and established lake-run residents in some streams. However, they will strain to compete with the exotics introduced in past decades to support a sport fishery. The key will be the recognition by fisheries biologists of working to re-establish coaster populations, that restoring these native fish is a worthy enough end to finally take some positive action on their behalf rather than writing them off.

Twenty years from now, Wisconsin will be recognized as a state whose leaders saw the damage that hundreds of useless, dangerous, and outmoded small dams did to its streams, and wisely adopted the view that where dams served no economic and environmental purpose, they should be removed as a way to restore the health of those streams.

We will see a developing awareness that stream habitat work is just part of the picture for restoring trout waters, and that different habitat work is needed for different types of streams, and an increased scientific foundation basis for that awareness. Hopefully we will see a resolution of the developing tension between stream habitat work for trout and endangered species protection.

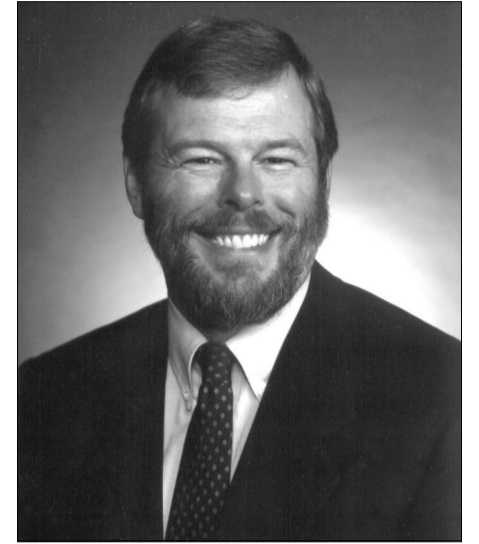
It may take a decade or two, unfortunately, for bureaucrats to sort out what it means to preserve a Wild and Scenic River, because they can't decide whether they want to preserve

primarily responsible for administering the DNR's program concerned with permits to build in wetlands and conduct other activities along lakeshores, but is also working to develop and implement programs designed to protect river shore areas. Mary Ellen Vollbrecht directs this program.

Monitoring and Assessment is developing a unified aquatic resources monitoring program that combines activities to sample the DNR's fisheries, water quality, and aquatic habi-

ty as it was in the pre-logging era, or as of 1960, or as of 2000. In the meantime, a stream degraded by past or recent logging and other land abuses will remain degraded and un-restored.

If we have served the trout resource well, Trout Unlimited mem-



John Welter

bers will have worked to address these and other problems. We will have educated non-fishing legislators and policy-makers — and believe me, their proportion is increasing — to the benefits of work and planning for our coldwater streams. We will have deferred our gratification from the simpler pleasures of brushing and rock-rolling to pursue adoption of wise land use policies. We will have taught thousands of newcomers — youth, women, reformed warmwater anglers — the joys of trout, and they will follow us, as we have followed those who started this work.

On a lighter note, one can safely predict we will regularly see articles extolling the virtues of the newest post space-age technology in rods, the most leak-proof waders, the latest engineering in reels, and the newest fly patterns. The current challenges for flies to tie may include #32 minutiae, snakes, stream lamprey, and insect-eating birds. Who knows?

tat. The section also will be developing statewide aquatic databases, and preparing annual assessment reports on the status of the state's aquatic resources. Mike Talbot directs this section.

Planning, Budgeting, and Outreach is responsible primarily for bureau administrative functions such as fiscal and personnel resources, but also works with aquatic education, outreach, and marketing. Dennis Schenborn directs this section.

Apsanahkwat feature speaker at Stewardship Network conference

The Wisconsin Stewardship Network (WSN) will host its annual conference on January 28 and 29 at the Best Western Royale motel in Stevens Point.

This year's gathering costs \$45 for both days or \$30 for Saturday only. Tickets are half price for low-income individuals and students. The charge includes meals.

Apsanahkwat, the Menominee tribal chairperson, will be the keynote speaker at the conference.

The WSN has over 100 member organizations — including Wisconsin TU — from the sporting and environmental communities. They come together to build bridges and work on four conservation issues:

- shoreland protection,
- family farm preservation,
- protecting Wisconsin from destructive metallic mining,
- supporting DNR independence, and
- restoring the Public Intervenor's Office.

This year's conference theme is "Strengthening Our Alliance: Uniting for Wisconsin's Environment." The event will offer many exciting workshops, including:

- a discussion of the proposed mega-transmission line in northern Wisconsin,
- an exciting proposal for citizen-powered water testing, and

- a presentation about Wisconsin wildlife.

You also have a chance to win a beautiful Mad River Tahoe 16 canoe and other great prizes and support the Network at the same time, whether you attend or not! Just purchase raffle tickets for \$3/ticket, \$10 for 4, or \$25 for 10 from the Madison Audubon office. Madison Audubon is an active member in the WSN and will be involved in the conference.

Workshops will educate participants about the WSN's priority issues, help them connect to other concerned individuals and organizations, offer fun outdoors skill-building, and explore additional issues.

Last January a full house of over 200 people attended the conference to discuss how to preserve the state's conservation heritage.

The WSN is a direct result of the 1995 Wisconsin state budget in which Wisconsin's environment bore the brunt of Governor Thompson's political power play.

That year the DNR Secretary was made a cabinet-level position appointed by the governor rather than the citizen Natural Resources Board, the Public Intervenor's Office was defunded, and the DNR took massive budget cuts.

The WSN has reserved a block of rooms at the motel. Contact Ann Finan, the WSN Coordinator, at (608) 251-7020 for more information.

Nohr Chapter completes land purchase on Big Green River

By Bill Wisler

While buying and selling property may not generally be considered a TU activity, it recently proved to be an important event for our chapter. On August 24, 1999, we concluded the sale of the Collins property on the Big Green River, a property that we purchased only five months earlier. This stretch of river has been a prime reproducing fishery, but lacked public access and was in need of restoration work.

During a Board of Directors meeting last winter, Gene VanDyck informed the Board of this challenge. The DNR had been unsuccessful in purchasing an easement on the property. The property was for sale, but the DNR was restricted from buying it, because it had improvements. The Board accepted the challenge and appointed a committee that included Mike Gingrich, Gene VanDyck, and Bill Wisler.

A purchase price was negotiated with the seller's agent and the chapter took ownership on May 3, 1999. Mrs. Florence Collins was allowed to continue to live on the property that she and her family loved for another three months without rent. Mrs. Collins and her late husband purchased the land and built their home about 25 years ago. Mr. Collins was an avid fisherman and outdoorsman.

From Bill Wisler's real estate client base, he knew of several prospective buyers. The first choice was Claude Kazanski and his wife Madelyn Leopold. Claude is an ardent fly fisher and both he and his wife have a sincere interest in preserving the environment for future generations. After several tours of the property, Claude and Madelyn accepted our asking price and expressed their desire to work with TU and the DNR to maximize the stream's potential. Early in our discussion with Claude and Madelyn, they said that this purchase would allow them to continue with the family restoration experience that the Leopold generations have enjoyed at their shack near Baraboo. They now have their "shack" to continue that legacy. The perfect match!

Our next step was to negotiate a

fish management and conservation easement with the DNR. It was the desire of the Board and Gene VanDyck that the easement should be broad and comprehensive in coverage — a contract that would protect the land for perpetuity. While the negotiation was between the DNR and TU, input from the prospective buyers was taken into consideration. The end result was a contract that will allow present and future generations to fish, hike and crosscountry ski in the stream corridor. The DNR will be permitted to do stream restoration work, build a parking lot and protect this important resource.

Through these transactions (purchase of the property, sale of the easement and the resale of the property) our chapter has made a profit to be used for future projects. Half the profit has already been committed to a restoration project at Castle Rock. Not only does the committee deserve recognition but also Bob Jackson, our attorney from Jackson and Glass, and our accountant, Curt Prideaux. All legal, accounting, and real estate fees were waived.

As to the future, Claude and Madelyn plan to restore a prairie remnant as well as replant prairie on another part of the property. Large rock outcroppings have made several areas inaccessible to animals and farm equipment, and as a result the land has great native plant diversity.

Madelyn's father, Luna Leopold (Aldo Leopold's son) has expressed an interest in sharing his knowledge as a geomorphologist and collaborate with the DNR in efforts to re-meander the stream to bring it back to more natural shape (much of the stream was straightened years ago). Claude and Madelyn have already met with Gene VanDyck to discuss ideas for a stream restoration plan.

Aldo Leopold said in *A Sand County Almanac*, "What was big was not the trout, but the chance. What was full was not my creel, but my memory." Our chapter has helped preserve the "chance" and the "memory" for others that follow. Thanks Harry and Laura for helping us make it happen.



NOW YOU'VE GOT IT!

Ron Bishop, a member of both the Oak Brook, IL, chapter of TU and the DuPage River Fly Tyers (DRIFT), guides Aaron Marschke of Horicon, WI, through his first fly casting lesson at last summer's Great Outdoors Festival in Oshkosh.

Hewitt accepts Midwest TU post

Laura Hewitt of Madison has been named Upper Midwest Conservation Director for Trout Unlimited by TU's national office.

Hewitt has been project director of TU's Kickapoo River Project since its inception.

Hewitt's first duties will be working on small dam removal issues in cooperation with The River Alliance.

She will also be involved with coaster brook trout restoration, Kickapoo River matters, regional conservation issues, regional chapter issues, and the new Urban Rivers Committee of TU's Natural Resource Board.

The upper Midwest region includes Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, and portions of Iowa.

Hewitt plans on being at the State

Council banquet in Oshkosh Feb. 5 to discuss her goals in more detail. Hewitt will share an office in Madison with TU's Sara Johnson.

Angler education workshops planned

Adults interested in sharing their love and knowledge of fishing with children — particularly adults who already work with youngsters — are encouraged to attend free DNR angler education workshops that begin statewide in January.

Adults who attend the day-long workshops receive free materials that they can use to teach their own angler education courses. Interested people should contact the DNR's Theresa Stabo (608) 266-2272

Canoe raffles benefiting State Council, Ojibseau, and SE Wis.

Two handmade wood strip canoes will belong to lucky anglers this spring as part of two separate Trout Unlimited fund-raising efforts.

Canoe builder Dick Prine of Ridgeland, a member of the Ojibseau Chapter, built both canoes.

Through a generous donation, one of the canoes will be raffled off as a joint project of WTU's State Council and the Ojibseau Chapter. Net proceeds will be divided between the council and chapter.

The Council/Ojibseau canoe is an E.M. White, a

Maine canoe that accommodates a guide and angler and can be used for stillwater fishing. The 18½-foot red cedar canoe features cane seats, ash yoke and trim, brass fittings, and Prine's signature white basswood and redwood accent strip. It weighs about 65 pounds.

The canoe will be on display at a number of TU chapter events



around the state, as well as the state banquet in Oshkosh on Saturday, February 5, 2000.

The drawing will take place at the Ojibseau Chapter's banquet in April, 2000.

To get raffle tickets for this canoe, send a check for \$10 each to Ojibseau Chapter Treasurer Eric Gilbertson, 308 Heather Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701

The second canoe will be a featured raffle item of the Southeastern Wisconsin TU Chapter and can be viewed at the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel Sports Show next March.

The Southeastern Wisconsin canoe is constructed of historic redwood that a Duluth company salvaged from old Paul Masson wine barrels. It is 17½ feet long and weighs 60 pounds.

The Southeastern canoe winner will be drawn at the first meeting



PADDLING IN FIRST CLASS

Canoe maker Dick Prine of the Ojibseau Chapter working on and displaying the canoes that will be auctioned off this spring. The redwood canoe in the foreground is a Southeastern Wis. Chapter banquet item, while the cedar strip canoe in the back is part of a State Council/Ojibseau raffle.

following the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel Sport Show.

Tickets cost \$1 each. Contact Jim

Folda at (262) 797-9549, Chuck Beeler at (262) 789-6921, or Bob Estlund at (414) 475-1864.



Removing

Small Dams

Part two in a *Wisconsin Trout* series on river restoration through dam removal

Technical issues affect removal decisions

By Stephanie Lindloff

Part One of this series provided a checklist of basic, and necessary, information to get if you are thinking about starting the discussion of restoring a local river through dam removal. This article deals with the more technical questions that need to be asked in preparation for a river restoration effort.

Community decisions to remove or repair a dam are often made with incomplete and inaccurate information. The vast majority of these decisions end in repair, often at a great cost to the community and our water resources. Although dam removal is not a new idea in Wisconsin, there is a general lack of understanding about the many considerations during a removal or repair decision.

Dam removal is a convergence of environmental, economic, societal, and engineering issues. The first three issues are addressed in this article.

You don't need to have answers to every technical question, but you do need to know where to *get* the necessary information in order to adequately address common concerns and enable a discussion of dam removal as a legitimate option for your community.

Environmental issues

The environmental restoration opportunities through dam removal are normally discussed in the community decision-making process. Issues that should be addressed are:

- What is the expected impact to the fishery? What species are expected to be benefited or harmed?
- Are there federal or state species of concern (e.g., fish, mussels, plants, birds, insects, etc.) that could potentially be benefited or harmed? Is increased fish movement through dam removal likely to restore the species or enhance the population?

- How much sediment is built up behind the dam? What habitat(s) downstream could be impacted by release of sediment related to dam removal? Is trucking out sediment a possibility? Is there someone who could use 'clean' sediment (e.g. farmers)?
- Is it known or likely that toxic sediments are accumulated behind the dam? If so, can the contaminants be cleaned up easily and effectively? Is there a responsible party that could be made responsible for cleanup?
- How could nearby wetlands be affected (e.g., loss of wetlands created by the dam; gain of wetlands associated with restored river corridor)?
- Will dam removal allow exotic species (e.g., sea lamprey, zebra mussels, diseased fish) to move into the restored waters?
- What is the amount of currently blocked habitat regained by removal (e.g., miles of river and type of habitat for migrating fish, mussels, etc.)?

Economic issues

Most decisions to remove dams are driven by the financial burden of maintaining deteriorated structures that are no longer economical. Some economic factors are:

- What are the costs of keeping dam (e.g., repair/replacement, insurance, operation and maintenance, dredging, permitting)? Make sure to include the costs of operation and maintenance. ongoing costs associated with keeping the dam are often overlooked. What funds are available to pay for this?
- What are the costs of dam removal (e.g., structural removal, sediment management, artificial lake/pond restoration)? What funds are available to pay for this?
- What are the direct economic benefits of the dam (to dam owner, to the community) and the ar-

tificial lake/pond (recreation, adjacent property owners, etc.)?

- What are the potential economic benefits of a restored river (recreational, commercial, ecological services)?
- Based on available data would restoring the river decrease, increase, have no effect on value of adjacent properties (especially private property owners)? Because this impact is best measured over time, you may want to look at property values at other former dam sites in Wisconsin.

Societal issues

Communication needs to be a number one priority when dealing with the societal concerns associated with dam removal. All expressed concerns need to be taken seriously and addressed. Issues that should be considered include:

- What are the safety concerns of keeping the dam (e.g., has anyone been seriously injured on or near the dam in the past decade)?
- How many homes and businesses are located on the lake/pond?
- Who would legally own lands exposed with the dam's removal?
- What is the level of recreational activity on the lake/pond? Are alternative lake/pond resources available nearby?
- What is the level of local/regional interest in river recreation?
- What are the community's primary aesthetic concerns? (How much will the river narrow in width? Will riffles, rapids or waterfalls be uncovered? How much debris will be exposed and who can clean it up when water levels are lowered? Will there be efforts to replant the area that was formerly underwater? Or will it "green up" naturally from seeds in the sediment?)
- What is the true historical value of the site, if any? To what degree could the historical or cultural values of the dam be captured in the restoration effort? Is the historical value primarily placed on an ad-

joining building or structure vs. the artificial lake/pond?

- What are the potential community opportunities associated with dam removal (e.g., public access for fishing, canoeing, hiking, parkland, handicapped access; are there old structures/roads/paths that could be renovated to revitalize the area, especially if near an urban area; historical and cultural values of the structure)?

Several of the questions raised in this article are technical and need to be answered by resource agency and engineering professionals. The answers will help determine whether pursuing a dam's removal is feasible.

A less-than-desirable answer to any of these questions doesn't necessarily mean the dam should stay. This list is meant to help you determine which areas need to be considered and researched in greater depth.

The earlier you are able to recognize a potential challenge to a dam removal, the more time you have to develop an acceptable solution that has the resource's and the community's best interests at heart.

(Stephanie Lindloff is the Small Dams Program Coordinator for the River Alliance of Wisconsin. The Small Dams Program is a joint effort of the River Alliance and TU. Stephanie is also the co-author of "Status and Trends for Inland Trout Management in Wisconsin" -ed)

PART THREE: Removal Tools

The "Removing Small Dams" series continues in the next issue of *Wisconsin Trout* by looking at some of the key "tools" that play into dam removal decisions.

These tools include economic studies and public safety laws that can be effective in discussing the legitimate option of removing a dam to restore a river.

*Baraboo, Milwaukee, and Willow dams highlighted***Wisconsin restoration successes featured in dam removal report**

Wisconsin's progressive leadership in recognizing the economic, recreational, and environmental value of healthy, free-flowing rivers has helped shape a new national outlook on dam removal, according to a recently released report entitled *Dam Removal Success Stories: restoring rivers through selective removal of dams that don't make sense*.

The report, released in December by Trout Unlimited, American Rivers, and Friends of the Earth, celebrates Wisconsin's national leadership in removing unsafe and uneconomical dams, including dams on the Baraboo, Milwaukee, and Willow Rivers.

The report also documents more than 465 dam removals across the nation.

Wisconsin tops the list with 73 dams removed in the past 30 years — over one-third more than any other state.

"Wisconsin was a leader in building dams a century ago, and it should come as no surprise that Wisconsin is a leader again — this time in restoring rivers through selective dam removal," stated Todd Ambs, executive director of the River Alliance of Wisconsin.

"Dam removal is not appropriate in all situations," said Ambs, "but in many of these rivers dam removal is the single most important thing we can do to restore the health of the waterway. Today we know that a healthy river is not just the heart of a healthy ecosystem; it is also the heart of a healthy community."

According to state figures, there are more than 3,700 dams in Wisconsin. Conservative estimates are that 10 percent of these dams are obsolete, badly deteriorated, and a bur-

den on private owners or taxpayers. The average cost of repairing these dams is \$300,000.

"As society's needs continue to change, more and more dam owners are seeing removal as the best approach for dealing with these unsafe or uneconomical old structures," said Duke Welter, chair of Trout Unlimited's Wisconsin Council. "As this report shows, selective removal of dams is a cost-effective river restoration tool that can result in a 'win-win-win' situation — for dam owners, for fish, and for the local community."

The three Wisconsin dam removal success stories described in the report include:

- Baraboo River: A case of river-front revitalization and habitat restoration.
- Milwaukee River: The development of a beautiful Riverside Park.
- Willow River: The return of a scenic waterfall and trout fishery.

The report's 25 success stories include dam removals in the following states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

The report documents the removals of different types of dams, including hydroelectric, water supply, and flood control.

For a copy of the report, visit www.tu.org. More information on river restoration through dam removal in Wisconsin can be found at the River Alliance of Wisconsin's website at www.wisconsinrivers.org.

Formed in 1993, The River Alliance of Wisconsin is a statewide non-profit, nonpartisan citizen advocacy organization. The organization's

**BEFORE AND AFTER**

The Green Bay Chapter cleared a section of the Oconto River this past summer, leaving instream wood structure while increasing the river's flow.

membership includes individuals, groups, and businesses who are

working together to protect and restore Wisconsin's rivers.

'We want our pond' people tell DNR — no matter what it looks like

By Ed Treleven

The state Department of Natural Resources sees it as finishing a project started 25 years ago. Residents see it as the unwelcome end of an era.

Mount Hope Pond, now drained and nearly empty, was once a trout-rearing pond operated by the DNR. But by 1975, the DNR had changed its trout management philosophy and stopped raising trout there.

Now the agency is poised to remove the earthen dam that created the pond and restore the natural spring that feeds it in order to create a spawning area for brook trout.

The move came as an unpleasant surprise to some local residents. The DNR had also tried to remove the dam in 1975, but reversed itself after a public outcry.

Once removed, Mount Hope Pond, which is about three miles down the Little Green River from the Wisconsin River in the Grant County town of Woodman, would return to its roots as a headwater trout spawning area, said Gene Van Dyck, DNR fisheries manager in Dodgeville.

The natural spring is ideal for brook trout, which historically spawned in the spring but haven't since the pond was created, Van Dyck said. In April, a local contractor's bulldozers moved in to take down the dam. But when Woodman resident Gene Luebker found out, he made some calls to state legislators, who got the action stopped.

"There's absolutely nobody around here who wants that pond

taken out," Luebker said.

Luebker, a member of Private Landowners of Wisconsin (PLOW), got the word out and the bulldozers stopped, but the future of the pond is still murky.

"We've been trying, but it falls on deaf ears," said Luebker, who claims he obtained 850 signatures on a petition to stop the pond's destruction.

"We got it so that we got a hearing on it," Luebker said. "That was kind of a farce."

Van Dyck said the May 19 public meeting took place even though the DNR wasn't required to hold one. The issue isn't the removal of a permitted dam, he said, because this dam doesn't legally exist. The question for the DNR was how to proceed with an action few would like, he said.

But the pond has been very real for generations of northwestern Grant County residents who have fished there.

"I've taken my grandkids there," said Gary Freymiller, a PLOW member from Mount Ida. Freymiller said he, his father and his brother were among those who helped local sportsmen's clubs create the pond in the 1950s.

"I'd like to see it dredged and cleaned up and filled back up," Freymiller said. It would be a great place for panfish such as bluegill, he said.

"It's a landmark for this area," he said. "You'd drive by every day and there would be people fishing."

Such nostalgia seems to be the pond's strongest ally, Van Dyck said.

But the pond's steep shoreline

that drops into areas of eight-foot-deep water actually makes it dangerous for children, should they fall in.

"It's not safe," he said. "I'd never take a kid there."

The restoration of the spring area is what the DNR intended all along when the agency bought the land surrounding the pond years ago, Van Dyck said, creating an area naturally protected from flooding where brook trout can spawn.

The pond had become algae-filled and mucky over the past few years. Fish caught there had taken a kind of "off flavor," Van Dyck said. But any cleanup of the pond, as some have

demanding, would inevitably involve chemical treatments, which wouldn't do the trout fishery any good, he said.

"The maintenance and management would have worse impacts," Van Dyck said.

The DNR will gather comments on the pond project until June 19. Shortly after, DNR staffers will look over the file and decide what will be done, Van Dyck said.

(The above story originally appeared in the Wisconsin State Journal on June 13, 1999. It points out some of the challenges involved in dam removal efforts. -ed)

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SEASON: modifications approved

Continued from p. 1

If no compromise is approved by voters at the April 2000 DNR rules hearings, the DNR Board has said the present early season structure will continue.

A Wisconsin Trout Unlimited proposal for a three-zone opener based on climatic, stream type, and biological differences did not garner enough support from the task force to be considered a "consensus" choice.

Neither did a proposal advanced by Mitch Bent of Antigo, representing the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, to open only streams selected by the state's fish managers statewide.

The DNR Board will decide in January whether proposed rule changes will be put to a public vote at the April DNR Rules hearings, held in every county in the state.

The Conservation Congress Executive Council will also discuss the proposal at its January meeting.

Wisconsin TU OKs plan

At a Wisconsin TU State Council executive committee meeting in Stevens Point in December, the Council reviewed the recommendation of the task force.

Noting that the plan includes most of the items present in TU's own early season compromise, the Council voted to send a letter to the task force endorsing their recommendation.

Proposal details

The consensus proposal would have a statewide March 1 opener, barbless hooks in possession and use, and no kill allowed.

The two significant changes from

the present early trout season are:

- a five-day closure after the Sunday before the May general opener and
- a method for fish managers in the northeast part of the state to select streams that will be opened based on certain criteria.

The boundary line for the northeast zone is all streams north of Highway 23 and east of Highway 39/51. Counties wholly in that zone which have inland trout streams include Brown, Calumet, Door, Florence, Forest, Kewaunee, Langlade, Manitowoc, Marinette, Oconto, Shawano, and Waupaca counties.

Parts of 11 other counties would be included if those boundaries are adopted.

Sensitive stream provision

In the majority of the state, "sensitive" streams would be exempted from early trout fishing only if they met one of three criteria, according to a November 29 memo from Mike Staggs, Director of the DNR's Bureau of Fisheries. The criteria are:

- streams with significant concentrations of spawning rainbow trout during the early season,
- areas with concentrated spawning redds where recruitment is limited, or
- areas with large concentrations of adult brown or brook trout that may be very susceptible to angling.

Trout streams in the northeast zone, according to Staggs, "should be included...when they meet the following criteria: (1) enforceable by wardens; (2) reasonable fishable us-



NOW THAT WAS WORK

Northwoods Chapter President Brian Hegge stands next to a giant brush bundle the chapter installed on the Bearskin River near Harshaw.

ing artificial lures and flies, and (3) streams not sensitive using the criteria for exemption listed above.

"I expect that each fisheries biologist will select all streams in their counties that satisfy these criteria in order to provide a meaningful fishing experience for those anglers wishing to participate in the early season," Staggs wrote.

A coterie of biologists from the northeast counties showed up at the meeting and were asked which streams they would open under the criteria for inclusion listed above.

Al Niebur of Wautoma listed the Little Wolf, South Branch of the Little Wolf, and Waupaca Rivers in Waupaca County and Willow Creek, the Pine, Mecan and White Rivers in Waushara County.

Ross Langhurst listed the Embar-

rass and Red Rivers in Shawano County and the Oconto River in part of Oconto County.

Pete Segerson of Antigo would include the Wolf River from Highway 64 downstream to Menominee County and 13 miles of the Prairie River from Highway J downstream to the Wisconsin River. Segerson said he would not open the Eau Claire River near Antigo or the Prairie upstream from County J.

Lee Meyers said he would include all Category 5 streams in his counties and all Class II streams that have shown success with stocking.

Larry Claggett, the DNR's Coldwater Fisheries Specialist, pointed out that if Meyers' criteria were used, roughly 19 out of 1,048 streams in the northeast portion of the state would be opened.

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

15th ANNUAL CONSERVATION

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Saturday, Feb. 5, 2000

Park Plaza Hotel

1 North Main St., Oshkosh



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YES! I want to attend the 15th annual Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Conservation Awards Banquet!

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$ _____ for:
_____ tickets at \$30 each

_____ "SPONSOR PACKAGES" at \$500 each (Includes 4 tickets, 4 \$100 raffles packages, and 1 print. Packages held at the door.)

MEETINGS: town's actions may void agreement

Continued from p. 1

Another finding is that Lyons assured the town board that, in striking its deal with Nicolet, it would not give up zoning authority over the mine. In fact, the agreement did just that.

Reynolds says the depositions show that Lyons developed an increasingly cozy relationship with the mining company's lawyer, sharing information with him on what mining opponents were saying and doing.

As Nashville's old town board prepared to sign the Local Agreement, citizens desperate for an opportunity to publicly comment on the deal petitioned for an emergency town meeting in December 1996.

Reynolds says Lyons worked with the mining company's lawyer on a strategy to thwart the public will by declaring the special meeting illegal. With hundreds of people in the audience, the Nashville town board opened the special meeting, called the gathering out-of-order, and gavelled it closed.

Not long before the signing of the Local Agreement, says Reynolds, Lyons told the town board that his final fee for work on the 30-page document would total \$350,000.

The state's Mining Impact Board reimburses local governments for mining-related expenses associated with such work. After carefully reviewing the billings, the Mining Impact Board informed the town that it would pay only \$150,000 of Lyon's fee. Some of Lyons' legal billings to the town detail work investigating the activities of tribal and local mining opponents.

Tiny Nashville's annual town budget was only \$100,000, but, according to the lawsuit's findings of fact, Lyons assured the board that if the agreement was signed, the mining company would pay his bill in full.

"It was an impossible burden on the town," observes Reynolds. The board agreed to the mining pact, with Lyons advising them, again according to the lawsuit's findings of fact, "it was the best deal possible."

"I think there was a corruption that took place," says Reynolds of the process that led to the signing of the

deal. "Here's a lawyer that gets in so deep that only the mining company has a hand to get them out. So who's Lyons working for in the final hour?"

While a law student, Reynolds recalls taking a class taught by Lyons. He's saddened by the actions of his former instructor and says it was "horrible" listening to Lyons testify under oath during the deposition process about what had happened in Nashville. "He [Lyons] said he didn't remember anything."

Lyons, through his secretary, declined to comment for this story.

Spawns racketeering suit

The manipulations surrounding Nashville's Local Agreement have spawned another lawsuit. Nashville's current town board, under the leadership of mining opponent Chuck Sleeter, is charging the mining company with fraud and racketeering. The lawsuit is based upon the federal RICO statute, a law frequently used to combat organized crime.

The new town board has retained the services of Madison attorney Glenn Stoddard to pursue the case. "In a nutshell," says Stoddard, "the town is alleging that the mining company conspired with the town's former lawyers to defraud the town to give up their zoning authority over the mine."

In return for signing on the dotted line, the suit alleges, the mining company paid the town's legal fees. "It's very clear there was a sweetheart deal," says Stoddard. The case, originally filed in federal court, was referred to a state court, which has concurrent jurisdiction over federal claims.

The upshot, suggest both Reynolds and Stoddard, could be a voiding of the Local Agreement. And, given the current town board's anti-mining stance, negotiating a new agreement would be exceedingly difficult at best.

"We haven't reached the final chapter here," says Stoddard. "It's still up in the air."

(Will Fantle is an Eau Claire-based writer. This story originally appeared in the Dec. 3 edition of the Madison Isthmus. -ed.)

Nashville Board event timeline

The following timeline summarizes the Town of Nashville's ongoing saga with the Crandon mine.

1993

Closed door, secret negotiations between Nashville Town Board and Crandon Mining Company begin. Attorney Lyons assures the board that these meetings are legal.

1993-1996

Alleged payments made to town board members by mining company for various parcels of bordering land, mineral rights, and other variances. Mining opponents feel these alleged payments were, in effect, bribes by the mining company to entice board members to sign the local agreement.

1993-1996

Town residents find out about several closed door sessions, asked to participate, and are turned away.

1993-1996

Attorney Lyons apprises mining company of what mining opponents were doing and saying. Lyons also assures board members that the town would not be giving up zoning authority over the mine but, in fact, the agreement did just that.

1996

Just prior to the signing of the agreement Attorney Lyons tells town board that his fee would amount to \$350,000. The Mining Impact Board, which reimburses towns for such legal services, reviews the case and agrees to pay only \$150,000 of the total fee. This left the town with an impossible burden since their annual budget was only \$100,000 at the time. Lyons

assures the board that his fee would be paid in full if the agreement was signed.

1996

A key piece of the local agreement was that it be binding, meaning that future town boards could not renegotiate its provisions.

Dec. 1996

Concerned citizens attempt to hold an emergency town meeting to get public comment on record in opposition to the impending agreement. The town board, with hundreds of people in attendance, opened the meeting, called the meeting out of order, and gavelled it closed.

Dec. 1996

Local agreement is signed.

Spring 1997

Entire town board is ousted. Chuck Sleeter becomes town chairman.

1997-Nov. 1999

Lawsuits filed, depositions taken. Attorney Lyons develops amnesia.

Nov. 22, 1999

Judge Mangerson signs out-of-court settlement stating that the open meetings law of the state of Wisconsin had been violated 55 times during the course of negotiating the Town of Nashville Local Agreement with the Crandon Mining Company.

Pending

Ruling on validity of the Local Agreement. Racketeering charge against the Crandon Mining Company.

(Compiled by Dean Simon.)

BOARD: rejects rulemaking process and increased openness

Continued from p. 1

Black told the board that the recommendation of DNR staff against developing rules had damaged the agency's credibility. He scolded the DNR, saying its customers are the public and the environment, "not a foreign-owned mining company."

But Department of Natural Resources staff members, including Secretary George Meyer, reiterated Wednesday that the board would be subverting the Legislature's intent if it adopted the petitioners' proposed rules.

The law, Meyer insisted, is "in fact, clear on its face."

Meyer branded as "totally incorrect" Black's assertion that the DNR had favored Nicolet Minerals over the public in making its decisions. Meyer said that the public will continue to have opportunities to advise the DNR and the board as the permit

Mining topic of Menasha meeting

The Twin City Rod & Gun Club's Jan. 27 membership meeting's main topic will be the Crandon Mine project and feature officials of Nicolet Minerals and Herb Buettner of Trout Unlimited.

The meeting begins at 7:30 at Germania Hall, Menasha, WI.

process proceeds.

Moreover, Meyer pointed out that an administrative law judge will ultimately decide whether to accept the DNR's recommendation on a mining permit, which is expected sometime next year.

But Dave Blouin of the Sierra Club and the Mining Impact Coalition criticized the DNR and the board for not taking a more active role in the permit process, particularly in defining the mining moratorium law.

"The department is putting its faith in an administrative law judge and allowing the decision on this to be made at the end of the process," Blouin said. "The problem is that it

makes one person responsible for the interpretation of the law.

"We're disappointed with this decision. With a law this controversial, it deserves to be debated now."

However, an attorney for Nicolet Minerals, Ray Carey, said it is not the board's role to interpret the moratorium law.

"Nobody thinks that it's wise for an advisory body to reverse major public policy that has already been heavily debated," Carey said. "And we don't want the rules to be changed in the middle of the game."

The board, which delayed a decision on the petition at its September meeting, voted unanimously to deny it.

(This story originally appeared Dec.

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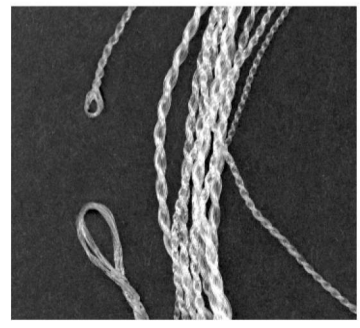



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Chapter News



THREE PRESIDENTS AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Coulee Region Chapter leaders celebrate the retirement of member Dale Sevig (3rd from left). Flanking Sevig are former chapter presidents John Bethke (left) and John Florine (2nd from left), plus Chairman of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin Dan Flaherty (right).

Aldo Leopold Chapter

Aldo Leopold Chapter is on life support. In the chapter report of the fall issue of *Wisconsin Trout*, **Pres. Byrnes** asked for members to step forward and become an officer or director. No luck!

Pres. Byrnes sent current chapter roster to **Tom Ehlert**, Southern Wis. Chapter president. He indicated to Ehlert that there were 10-14 members who should possibly be in the Southern Wis. Chapter. Byrnes noted that after Southern holds their Ice Breaker, the Aldo Leopold Chapter grows. He feels that the national office makes mistakes in assigning new members to chapters.

Due to the age and physical condition of current chapter leadership, our limited time, resources, and energy are being directed toward CPR education. Recent CPR activities include:

1. Mormon Coulee Creek — erected corrugated plastic CPR sign at access point Cty Hwy M, La Crosse Co.
2. Timber Coulee Creek — erected CPR sign at Oldstad Rd.

3. Distributed streamside sign and 100 CPR pamphlets to Nichols Gun and Pawn Shop, Leon, WI.
4. Distributed streamside sign and CPR pamphlets to Westby Rod and Gun Club, Vernon Co.
5. Silver Creek — erected CPR sign at Old Hwy 16 and left four signs and 100 pamphlets at Fort McCoy.
6. Distributed sign and 100 pamphlets to Dorn's Hardware, Oregon, WI.
7. Distributed streamside sign to fishing dept. at Gander Mountain in East Towne Shopping Mall.

The Aldo Leopold Chapter invites more chapters to get on board the CPR train. "The Volunteer Warden Program" train can leave the station, and Aldo Leopold Chapter will not be a passenger. This chapter president fished all season two or three times a week and didn't see anyone breaking trout fishing regulations. However, he did encounter a good number of fisherpersons who didn't know CPR.

Congratulations to the Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter for a great chapter newsletter.

Blackhawk Chapter

The September meeting featured **Pat Ehlers** of West Allis, who presented a slide program profiling his favorite streams in Wisconsin.

The speaker for October was **George Protogere** from the DNR. George discussed current fish and game rulings. **Joe Solakian** of Milwaukee also presented a slide program on fishing **Kodiak Island**.

Central Wis. Chapter

We still continue working on **Little Pine** river. We've cleared over 1/2 mile of the stream's banks and placed over 15 brush bundles, which have been augmented by bank covers. We expect to return this stream to its pristine condition when it was prime brook trout habitat.

We also participated in the combined chapters and DNR project on the **Waupaca River** on the **Sannes** property, and this was followed by the fencing project on the **Tomorrow River** above Amherst on the **Lea** farm.

Our group had representatives at the public hearing for permits for

gravel mining east of Wild Rose. The runoff and resulting pollution would go into **Kaminski Creek** and thence into the **Pine River**. The property owners were against granting permits and were very appreciative of our chapter's appearance and support of their position. The town board denied the petition, and this event shows what can be done when concerned citizens take action.

Another concern has been the farming practices on a stretch of the **Mecan River** near Richford. We have been attempting to set up monitoring devices to check temperature and pollution in this area, but haven't

been able to do this until **Prof. Chris Hartleb** of UW-Stevens Point's biology department joined our chapter and offered to assist us with this project. This is scheduled to begin with the next growing season.

Fishing can be injurious to your health. To wit: on a recent fishing excursion to Montana two TUers returned with medical problems. Ask **Doc** or **Ray** about this.

Positions are filling nicely for the fly fishing school on June 2-4 on **Gooseneck Lake** south of Waupaca on Cty. Hwy. E. If you want to get information, contact **Dan Harmon** at (920) 235-1761.

Our annual banquet will be Saturday, March 25, 2000, at the Ramada Inn in Oshkosh. Put this date on your calendar.

Fox Valley Chapter

There's lots of big news for The Fox Valley Chapter of TU. We've changed the format of our spring awards and fundraising banquet. This spring, awards and fundraising will be separate entities with the fundraising night scheduled for April 4th, and the awards and recognition ceremony to be held during a chapter banquet scheduled for later that month.

Many new and exciting activities are planned for the banquet, including a revamped auction format, virtu-

al fishing for prizes, The Wheel of Trout, and many more.

Our chapter also was fortunate enough to win the \$4,900 awarded to a member of the nonprofit village at the **Great Outdoor Festival of Ducks Unlimited**.

All participating groups threw in \$100 and the 49 names of the groups were thrown in a hat. And one was drawn — our chapter! It was a big surprise and will help purchase a nice trailer to haul our equipment around to various stream projects.

Frank Hornberg Chapter

The Frank Hornberg Chapter was out three times in September. On our Saturday workday a structure started in August on the **Tomorrow River** was sodded over and other details attended to. Also this day, we began moving a large pile of rock to bolster a cattle crossing at our **Stedman Creek** worksite. A later work evening at Stedman Creek saw us finish moving the rock — only to find out later that the cattle beat the rock deep into soft soils. Oh well, looks like we'll be back here again...

Also in September members of several area chapters combined efforts to install many feet of fence on a farm along the **Middle Tomorrow River**. This will keep cattle out of the river, and should allow impacted stream banks to begin healing and reduce siltation.

October saw the chapter back at our Welton Road worksite. Another overhead cover/deflector was largely completed. During construction we also experimented with "modular

construction and installation" of the main structural components, using dual outputs on our jetpump. This looks like a promising technique.

An impromptu October workday resulted in a bunch of left over Christmas trees (courtesy of DNR) being hauled from Wild Rose to our Welton Road worksite.

Our last workday for the year was in November at Welton Road. We sodded our last overhead structure, fine tuned brush mats, and installed almost all of the Christmas trees as more brush matting.

The chapter's annual election of officers was held at the November general meeting at Shooters Supper Club in Plover. The current slate of officers all were re-elected, with the note that the secretary and treasurer switched jobs. The standing officers are:

- President — **Jim Friedrich**,
- Vice President — **Don Ebbers**,
- Secretary — **Chris Holmes**, and
- Treasurer — **Bud Nehring**.

Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter

The chapter's next regular meeting will be January 18th at **Dave Ladd's** log cabin home in rural Dodgeville on Sinbad Road. This will be our annual chili supper, so bring a dish to pass. We will eat at 6 p.m., with a business meeting at 7 p.m.

The chapter would like to thank some of the people who have been freely giving their time and talents to our group and our cause. The people who have opened their homes to our meetings deserve praise: **The Cannys, Patenaudes, Campbells, Wislers, Stuedels, Dave Ladd**, and the guys at **Blackhawk Hills** have given a lot to our group.

Wonderful work has been done on our committees. **Karen Campbell's** work on the school grants, **Jayne Wisler's** work on the Scott Ladd Student Intern program, **Bill Wisler's** ef-

forts on the **Green River** purchase, the Sept. 11th Water Monitoring Symposium, and the Adopt-a-Stream program, as well as the Youth Orvis class is appreciated.

Dan Patenaude and **Don Campbell's** effort on the Iowa County Land Use Policy Committee has had a very positive outcome. **Roger Kerr** and **Jeff Ware** have helped the Castle Rock Stewardship Committee do something that is unique. **Ed Lindner, Don Campbell, Dave Ladd, and Bill Wisler** have done a great job on our Trust Committee. **Pete Esser** and everyone who worked on the banquet should be thanked for their efforts.

A big thanks also to **Dave Fritz** for volunteering to be our newsletter editor and to **Ted Landon** for publishing the newsletter.

Green Bay Chapter

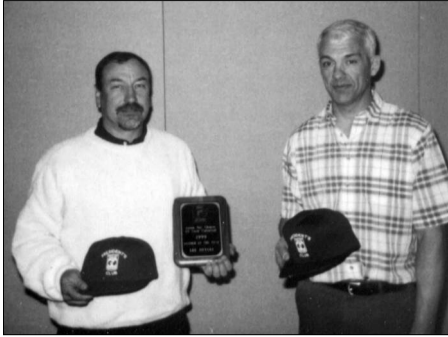
The Green Bay Chapter, having spent over \$10,000 on activities beneficial to trout during the last year and having performed over 120 hours of stream improvement work, is turning its attention to planning its 25th annual conservation banquet.

There will be several special events to highlight this landmark

banquet. A special grand door prize is in the works and every 25th door prize will be a fresh, crisp \$50 bill. Other prizes will be announced as the March 16th affair draws closer.

Once again, the **Swan Club** in De Pere has been selected to host the banquet which draws upwards of 450 people. Tickets remain at \$25 each

Chapter News



GREEN BAY AWARDEES

Lee Meyers (left) and Steve Schuh were awarded the Green Bay Chapter's highest awards.

and tables of eight or more can be reserved by writing the chapter at 1326 14th Ave., Green Bay, WI 54304.

The chapter is also studying funding requests for the upcoming year and is continuing work on a stream improvement project for the **Lower Oconto River**. This project, being completed with much assistance from the DNR, will narrow a significant stretch of the river and see large rocks placed on the streambed to cre-

ate holding water.

The **Green Bay Hornberg Flyfishers** are working with the chapter to complete the project and have contributed financially, as have the **Southern, Marinette, and Oconto River Chapters**.

The chapter also held its annual dinner and awards meeting on December 2. The main focus of this affair is to recognize those chapter members whose efforts on behalf of trout during the past year were outstanding.

This year there were two inductees into the President's Club, which honors those whose attendance at work projects was exemplary. **Lee Meyers** and **Steve Schuh** were this year's selections.

Lee Meyers was also selected as the 1999 Green Bay Chapter Member of the Year. In addition to participating in work projects, Lee is also a valuable member of the Board of Directors, serves as program coordinator for meetings, and works very hard to ensure the success of the fundraising banquet.



BLACKHAWK LUNKER BUILDERS

Blackhawk Chapter members building lunger structures for one of their many stream projects.

on October 15, 1999. The WDNR recommended that the dam be removed. The WDNR held a Public Informational Meeting to discuss the Alternatives Analysis on November 15, 1999.

The Northwoods Chapter has been an advocate for the dam removal and publicly supported the removal of the dam at the information meeting. The Chapter has offered to assist the local landowners with restoration activities once the dam is removed.

The Chapter will begin hosting

the annual kids fishing day on the 1st Saturday after the 4th of July. This annual event was previously hosted by **Bill Sherer** and was a resounding success. **Bob Taggart** and **Wayne Parmlee** have agreed to organize the event.

The Chapter will hold its Christmas party during our regularly scheduled December 16th meeting at the **Rhineland Café and Pub** in Rhineland. The Chapter's fund raising banquet is March 28, 2000. Anyone wishing to donate prizes should contact **Brian Hegge** at (715) 362-9611.

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter

October Chapter monthly meeting featured **Ted Miner** who maintains a network of activists dedicated at fighting factory farming in Wisconsin.

The November meeting had a sparkling **Copper River, Alaska** slide show given by **Brian Sittlow** of New London, CT.

The December function was the annual Holiday Banquet and silent auction. The program speaker for the evening's festivities was **Jan Zita Grover** of Duluth, MN. Jan recently wrote a book entitled *Northern Waters* (Graywolf Press, St. Paul, MN). It is a culmination of essays and short stories surrounding the world of fly fishing and outdoor life in the upper Midwest.

The Chapter has launched a fund raising campaign to help fund the purchase of the **Swinging Gate** section of the upper **Kinnickinnic River** recently purchased by the Kinni River Land Trust and transferred to the WDNR. The campaign, entitled "100 anglers for \$100," hopes to raise \$10,000 to make up the difference the KRLT fell short on when the DNR approved the purchase of this very important 53-acre parcel on the Kinnickinnic River.

The highlight of the social season, the annual Kiap-TU-Wish Holiday Banquet, will be the December meet-

ing. The festivities begin with a social hour at 6:30, followed by dinner at 7:30 and a program featuring **Jan Zita Grover** at 8:30.

This year's program features stories from Grover's newly published book, *Northern Waters* (autographed copies of the book will be available for sale at the banquet). A terrific value in entertainment at only \$20/person, the party will take place at our ancestral mansion, the **JR Ranch**.

One extremely popular component of the Holiday Banquet is the silent auction, one of Kiap-TU-Wish's few fund-raising activities, so don't shirk your duty. Items to be donated need not be angling-related, and hand-crafted items are particularly popular.

Donations should be delivered to **Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop** or to **Jon Jacob's** home at 703 Summer St., Hudson, well in advance of the event to facilitate merchandising at the auction.

Finally, if you'd like to help produce this year's banquet, volunteers are welcomed. Please call **Brent Sittlow**, **Jon Jacobs**, or **Mike Alwin**. Reservations must be received by Nov. 27. Call now! Jon Jacobs is at (715) 386-7822 and Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop is at (651) 770-5854.

Lakeshore Chapter

The Lakeshore Chapter resumed monthly meetings in September. Programs included guest speaker **Larry Claggett** of the Wisconsin DNR and a slide program on steelhead fishing by **Jeff Preiss**.

Successful and well-attended workdays were held on the **Onion River** on Oct. 9, Nov. 6, and Nov. 13. The Onion River Project received a \$10,000 grant from the Trout and Salmon Foundation due to an excellent grant proposal written by Chapter member **Roger Berg**. The **Sheboygan County Conservation As-**

sociation pledged \$20,000 towards the purchase of property along the **Onion River** in response to a presentation made by project leader **Larry Doebert** and DNR fishery manager **John Nelson**.

In October, the Chapter enjoyed a fall fishing outing on the **Sheboygan River**, held in conjunction with the **Helen Shaw Flyfishers**. Chapter members tied flies at **Buck Fever** night held in Manitowoc in November. The Lakeshore Chapter's annual banquet will be held on April 2, 2000, at the **Club Bil-Mar** in Manitowoc.

Northwoods Chapter

The **Wisconsin Conservation Corps (WCC)** installed brush bundles on the **Bearskin River** on September 20, 1999. Special thanks to **Fred Miller**, **Wayne Stevens** and **Mike Effinger** who took time off

from work to provide on-site oversight of the project. The committee is currently reviewing projects for next summer.

The WDNR issued the Alternatives Analysis of the **Deerskin Dam**

Shaw-Paca Chapter

Our October meeting was spent discussing our chapter goals and objectives. Several ideas were brought forward, including:

- a brochure describing our chapter activities as well as a meeting schedule,
- a program about using the Internet as a source for fishing information, coordination of resources with other chapters and organizing a stream management program, and
- to once again hold a fly tying class in January.

The computer resource class will be held on Wednesday, February 16, 2000. Chapter members **Steve Schultz** and **Lee Kersten** are in charge of this.

President **William "Doc" Wagner** and **Dave Ehrenberg** reported on their attendance at two seminars. One was a leadership program held

at Baraboo. The other was the TU State Council Meeting held at Westby.

Our annual chapter banquet will be held on March 30, 2000, at the **Gathering** in Shawano.

As mentioned, we will once again hold our more-or-less annual fly tying class in January and February. The cost will be \$20 for non-members. Several of our members will do the first five presentations and a guest tier will do the last.

We will continue to sponsor a \$500 scholarship for a student at UW-Stevens Point studying in cold-water resources or some related field.

At our November meeting, chapter member and DNR Fishery Biologist **Ross Langhurst** presented a very interesting program about what was happening on our local streams this past summer.

Southern Wis. Chapter

The November 9th chapter meeting featured **Stephanie Lindloff** from the Wisconsin River Alliance. She spoke on "Restoring Rivers through Small Dam Removal."

For the October meeting **Lee Kernan** gave a presentation with some stunning photography of his fishing trip to the South America. Lee recently retired from the DNR.

On December 14th **Andy Morton**

will report on the **Castle Rock Watershed** project.

This year's **Trout Massacre** will be Friday night, January 14, at the **Radisson Inn**, 517 Grand Canyon Drive in Madison. The next day, Saturday, January 15th, is the **Ice Breaker**. **Dave Hughes** and **Stanley Szczytko** will be the featured speakers. (See a separate story on this event elsewhere in *Wisconsin Trout*.)

Wis. River Valley Chapter

This past summer we helped fund a half mile section with the DNR on the **Prairie River** in the Gleason area. Next summer we have another half mile of rehab above Dudley on the **Prairie** in cooperation with the DNR. We also helped restore a half

mile on the **Plover River** south of Hwy. 29 in cooperation with the DNR and the Shaw-Paca Chapter. Next summer we will restore another half mile below Hwy. 29 in a project funded by our chapter, the DNR, and Marathon County Forestry.

Midwest gets issue on TU's national agenda

Confined animal feeding operations worry Midwest

Pollution from concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) has become an issue of considerable concern to TU members throughout the country.

Of particular concern to many members is the lack of legal controls and public input associated with the construction and management of these facilities.

For example, many TU members in the mountains of Virginia and West Virginia have seen a sudden but quiet proliferation of chicken feeding operations in many watersheds, with no notice to or input from the public.

At our regional level, data from the Iowa DNR indicates that in 1998 alone, there were 39 reported fish kills in that state. Of those 39 reported fish kills, 31 of those were manure-related.

In Wisconsin in 1998, reported manure-related fish kills have happened in Weedens Creek (Sheboygan Cty.), Fischer Creek (Manitowoc Cty.), and in Parker Creek/Kinnickinnic River (St. Croix Cty.).

In the Parker Creek case, the guidelines and practices that were acceptable in Wisconsin were not broken. This essentially "legal" application of manure resulted in a fish kill of 10,000 trout.

How can a "legal" application in Wisconsin result in such a serious fish and invertebrate kill? Clearly a more focused and national approach to CAFOs is in order. Region 5 respectfully requests that Trout Unlimited adopt CAFOs as part of their agenda national agenda.

Specifically the Region would like National to work toward the following changes to the recently adopted Unified National Strategy for Animal Feeding Operations.

Need for minimum mandatory standards

It is essential that clear guidelines setting out national, uniform minimum standards for CAFO regulation and for all comprehensive nutrient management plans (CNMPs) should be adopted and implemented.

Without such guidelines, the benefits to water quality promised by the Unified National Strategy for Animal Feeding Operations, will prove illusory.

The following are examples of guidelines that must be mandated nationally for all CNMPs and all permits to ensure that the strategy accomplishes its goal of controlling water pollution from CAFOs.

1. Safety features for large animal waste containment facilities

The strategy should set out CNMP requirements that limit the size of animal waste storage units or provide compartmentalization of cells within large facilities to prevent catastrophic failures. Secondary containment should also be required for large containment facilities.

The strategy should also prohibit the use of anaerobic lagoons and underground earthen storage systems for new and expanding CAFOs, and require existing lagoons and underground storage systems be lined immediately and covered as a permit requirement.

2. Require measures to manage runoff from stockyards and CAFOs

The strategy should require CNMPs to include measures for managing and, if necessary, treating stormwater runoff.

3. Immediate incorporation of fertilizers

The NRCS nutrient management

standard should be changed, and the strategy should require, so that nutrients should be incorporated within the same day and before significant precipitation falls.

4. Buffers around sensitive resources

All CNMPs should require that CAFOs and areas where manure is spread include vegetated buffers around all sensitive areas to slow runoff and absorb nutrients. Such areas should include all open waters and all areas of concentrated flow, whether natural or man-made, such as irrigation ditches, draws, intermittent streams, and diversions.

In addition, CNMPs should require that animals and waste storage facilities associated with CAFOs be kept a certain distance from rivers and streams, and that livestock be excluded from vegetated buffers.

Relationship of voluntary and regulatory programs

Region 5 is concerned that the limited scope of the regulatory program and inadequate incentives for the voluntary program will severely limit the effectiveness of the Unified National Strategy for Animal Feeding Operations.

The strategy itself points out several factors that will make its implementation difficult, including the large number of unregulated CAFOs, the increasing number of very large operations, and resistance within the industry to increased government involvement.

For the strategy to achieve its goals, several aspects of the regulatory program need to be strengthened, and incentives in the voluntary program need to be strengthened.

1. Individual site permits are necessary

The strategy currently proposes using general NPDES permits for CAFOs that require such permits. Individual site permits are necessary to ensure that pollution protection is maximized and to allow for public input.

General permits do not allow the permit conditions to be tailored to individual CAFOs, or for the on the ground follow-up necessary to assure that the terms of the permit, including national minimum standards, are being implemented and having their intended effects.

Just as significantly, general permits will not allow for public scrutiny and input of permitting of large individual operations. The public living in a watershed should be given similar notice of an opportunity to comment on large CAFOs that they get when other significant NPDES permits are issued. The terms of the proposed permit, the proposed CNMP, monitoring results, and other documents required by the NPDES permit program should be publicly filed and available for review by interested members of the public.

1. Permit moratorium for new CAFOs

EPA and the states are currently facing a backlog in permits for large (greater than 1,000 Animal Units) CAFOs. EPA should put a moratorium on permits for new large CAFOs until that backlog is dealt with.

2. Vertical integration

In many instances, processing companies own animals raised on farms operated by independent contractors. These companies typically have much greater financial resources than the farmers who actually raise their animals, and also exercise a great deal of control over operating conditions at the feeding operations.

The strategy does nothing to deal with this aspect of the industry or to ensure that processing companies, rather than individual farmers, bear

the primary cost of controlling pollution from factory farms.

The strategy should take two steps. First, it should require that processing companies that own the animals and exercise control over how they are raised bear the primary financial responsibility for making sure that the farms where they are raised implement the pollution control measures recommended or required by the strategy.

Second, the strategy should implement steps to ensure that processors that own large numbers of animals in a given watershed cannot dodge the permitting requirement by spreading those animals out among different independent farmers.

If a processor within in a given watershed contracts with independent facilities that do not individually meet the threshold for an NPDES permit, but would require such a permit if considered in the aggregate, the processor should be required to obtain an NPDES permit and bear full financial responsibility for that facilities where its animals are raised comply with the permit.

3. Permit requirements in impaired watersheds

The strategy encourages states to impose permit requirements for CAFOs that do not meet the regulatory threshold for a mandatory permit in watersheds where those CAFOs are collectively contributing to the impairment of a watershed.

The strategy should attempt to strengthen this required increased permitting in impaired watersheds where CAFOs are contributing the impairment.

EPA should examine how to revise not only its CAFO regulations, but also its TMDL and anti-degradation regulation to ensure that, particularly in the case of 303(d) listed streams, all CAFOs contributing to the impairment have a permit and a CNMP that meets basic minimum requirements.

4. Voluntary programs

Although the strategy rightfully places emphasis on education, technical assistance, and financial grants as the primary means of promoting voluntary CNMPs, several key changes should be made to ensure that this aspect of the strategy achieves meaningful water quality benefits.

First, as discussed above, to qualify for financial or technical assistance, or for any certification program, all CNMPs should comply with minimum, uniform, national standards. Without such standards, we risk creating the appearance of action by implementing voluntary CNMPs that do not ensure improvements in water quality.

Second, even under voluntary programs the strategy should explore means of placing the financial burden for CNMPs on the large processors that own most of the animals, rather than on the independent farmers that operate the facilities.

Finally, the strategy should make clear that any producer receiving financial or technical assistance must implement a CNMP. The strategy does not make clear whether the various forms of assistance in fact require the producer to implement a CNMP. Financial, technical, and other assistance should only be provided to landowners willing to implement CNMPs that will in fact benefit water quality.

The proliferation of factory farms poses a potentially catastrophic threat to water quality in many watersheds, and federal action is needed.

(This position paper was submitted last fall by TU's Region Five composed of representatives from Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. -ed.)



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TU national sets year 2000 conservation agenda

The harmful effects to the nation's rivers caused by factory farm runoff and the need to remove four uneconomical dams on the lower Snake River to recover the endangered chinook salmon are two of the conservation priorities identified for the year 2000 by Trout Unlimited's National Resource Board (NRB).

The all-volunteer board, which meets annually to formulate TU's national agenda, sent a letter to President Clinton calling for tougher and more aggressive measures to confront these important conservation issues on a national level.

This year TU emerged as a pivotal force in a series of national conservation successes, including the removal of the 162-year-old Edwards dam in Augusta, ME., and providing a successful blueprint that allowed the U.S. and Canada to resume stalled Pacific Salmon Treaty negotiations and to agree on terms for recovery of some salmon stocks.

Following the conclusion of TU's national convention in Copper Mountain, CO, held on August 19-22, the organization announced its plans to put the same muscle behind the 2000 conservation agenda.

"TU's 2000 agenda remains committed to protecting and restoring the quality of the nation's waters, maintaining and improving instream flows in our streams and rivers, and recovering Pacific and Atlantic salmon," said Charles Gauvin, TU's President and CEO.

"However, of particular concern this year is the problem of pollution from the nation's rapid influx of factory farms. Trout Unlimited will step up efforts to address the conservation, runoff, and clean water concerns that often accompany these massive operations," Gauvin continued. "At the same time, TU has urged President Clinton to press for even more aggressive measures to combat the threats that mega-hog

farms present to our nation's water quality."

The presence of factory farms, or concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), has exploded across America. The livestock, poultry and pork industries have rapidly expanded farming operations that raise staggering numbers of animals in confined situations.

According to the federal government, between 1978 and 1992 the pork industry has increased by 134 percent the number of average animal units per operation. The poultry industry has experienced an even higher rate of growth.

...between 1978 and 1992 the pork industry has increased by 134 percent the number of average animal units per operation

"TU recognizes that the environmental threats produced by factory farms or CAFOs are significant, especially to trout and salmon. As

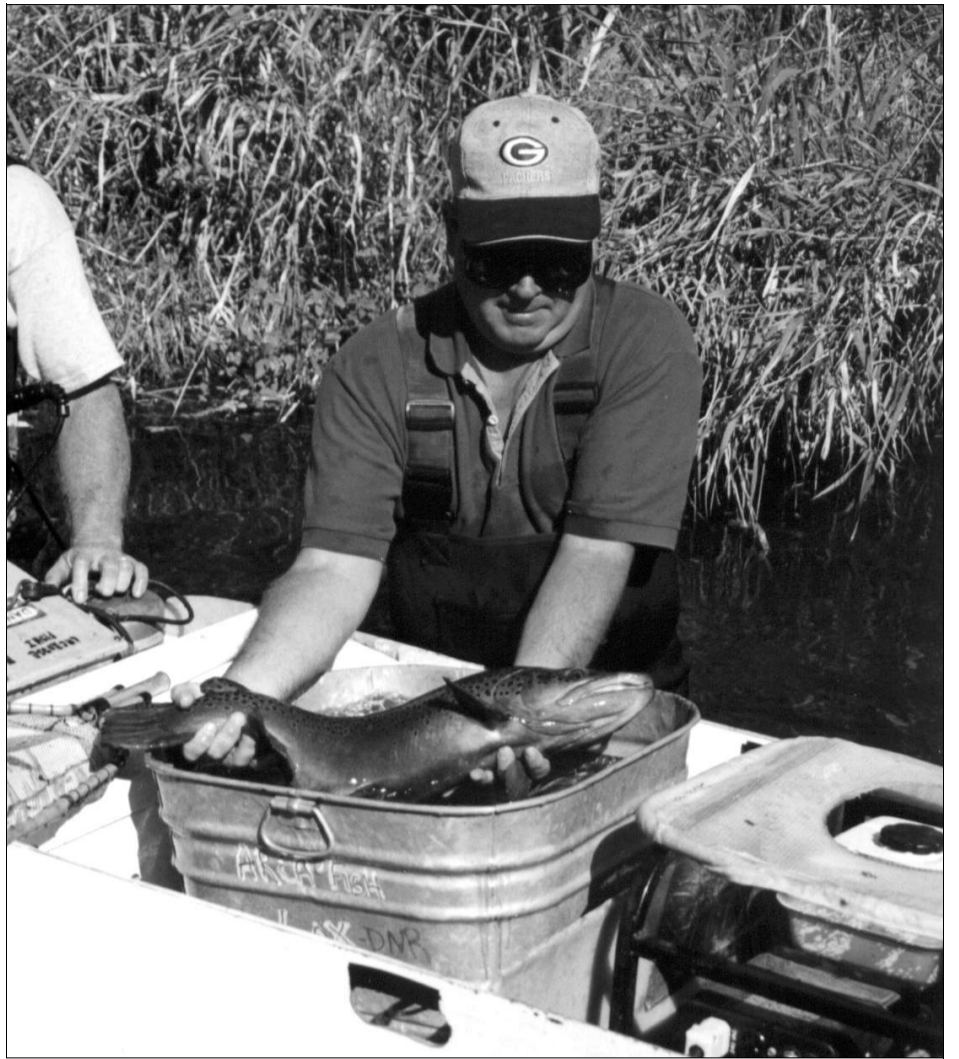
a result of concentrated feeding operations, animal feces are stored in animal waste lagoons whose failure has been responsible for catastrophic damages to neighboring waterways.

For example, 10 million fish were killed in the Neuse River in North Carolina in 1995 due to a spill of 25 million gallons of hog waste. In 1998, 100,000 gallons of animal waste killed 700,000 fish in Beaver Creek, MN.

TU also remains vitally concerned about the impending decision on recovering Columbia and Snake River salmon.

Said NRB Chairman Steve Born, "The Clinton Administration must act on the growing tide of scientific and economic evidence that partial removal of the dams on the lower Snake offers the best chance for salmon recovery. The price of further delay is extinction."

Last July a study commissioned by TU reported that wild Snake River spring and summer chinook salmon could be extinct by the year 2017 unless steps are taken soon to stop the declining population levels.



MAN AND WASHTUB ARE TO SCALE!

DNR crew member Dave Lively holds a huge brown trout brought to the surface during a shocking of the Mormon Coulee just outside of La Crosse. The shocking session was conducted during a break at last fall's State Council meeting sponsored by the Coulee Region Chapter at the Westby Rod and Gun Club. (The exact location of this brown's home is known by about 30 people.)



CPR signs available

The corrugated plastic Consider Proper Release (CPR) signs in use by TU chapters throughout the country are printed right here in Wisconsin.

The printer keeps a supply of the signs on hand for quick delivery. Signs cost \$1.51 each, plus shipping. To place orders, contact:

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More information can be obtained from TCSP at (608) 782-6701 or Boydgrant@prodigy.net

New Release!

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Land trust innovations preserve state natural heritage

By Vicki Elkin

Anglers, canoeists and hikers will enjoy permanent access to more than two miles of the Kinnickinnic River in western Wisconsin thanks to the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust. The "Kinni" is a Class I trout stream that winds through 25 miles of St. Croix and Pierce Counties.

Just 30 minutes from downtown St. Paul, the area surrounding the Kinni is under extreme development pressure from the Twin Cities.

Part of a growing movement

The Kinnickinnic River Land Trust is just one of more than 40 land trusts that have emerged in Wisconsin over the past 25 years to preserve local land and water resources.

Land trusts are private, non-profit organizations that protect lands and open spaces important to the public and to the communities they serve. Wisconsin land trusts protect wildlife habitat, farmland, natural areas, recreational lands, and much more.

Today, land trusts are hard at work in communities across the state. Together they have permanently protected more than 70,000 acres of land and have leveraged millions of private and public dollars for land conservation. They also have a combined membership in the tens of thousands and rely on an army of dedicated volunteers to get their job done.

Wisconsin's land trusts are part of a growing national movement. There are currently over 1,200 regional and local land trusts nationwide. As of 1998, these land trusts protected more than 4.7 million acres of land — 135 percent increase over the 2 million acres protected by the end of 1988.

Land trusts in Wisconsin vary in size and in mission. They range from statewide organizations like The Nature Conservancy and the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation to local

groups run entirely by volunteers.

The majority of land trusts are community-based organizations that protect a range of natural resources and open spaces within a given geographic area.



They may, however, have priority areas or target specific resources, such as bluffs or habitat for endangered species. Several of the state's land trusts — like the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust, Friends of the Menomonee River, and the Upper St. Croix Land Trust — focus their efforts on pro-

tecting rivers or streams and their surrounding watersheds.

Land trust protection methods

Land trusts work primarily with private property owners who are interested

in preserving their land. They use a variety of tools to permanently protect land, including direct land purchases, land donations, and conservation easements.

in preserving their land. They use a variety of tools to permanently protect land, including direct land purchases, land donations, and conservation easements.

A conservation easement is a legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust that places restrictions on

the present and future uses of the property in an effort to protect its conservation values. For example, a conservation easement may limit the number of buildings that can be constructed on a site or restrict certain farming practices to preserve wildlife habitat or to protect the health of a nearby lake or stream. A conservation easement is a flexible tool that land trusts can tailor to a particular property or landowner's needs.

Easements can be purchased or donated for a specific period of time or in perpetuity. Landowners who donate or sell an easement to their property retain ownership of the property itself. Land under a conservation easement can still be lived on, sold, or passed on to heirs at the owner's discretion. All subsequent owners, however, are bound by the restrictions in the easement.

Help for new groups

Permanent easements donated to a charitable organization such as a land trust may entitle the owners to federal and state income tax deductions of the value of the easement. By restricting certain uses of the property such as development, mining, or logging, easements may also reduce the value of the property, thereby reducing future estate taxes and property taxes.

Gathering Waters was formed in 1995 by a group of Wisconsin land trusts to support and provide assistance to the state's growing land trust community. Additionally, Gathering Waters works to educate the public and landowners about options for conserving private lands.

For information about a land trust near you or conservation options available to Wisconsin landowners, please contact Gathering Waters, Inc., Wisconsin's land trust service center, at (608) 251-9131. You can also check out Gathering Waters' web page at www.gatheringwaters.org or write to Gathering Waters at 303 S. Paterson Street, Suite 6, Madison, WI 53703.

Kinni group reaping the benefits of land trusts

Local citizens, concerned that development would compromise the Kinnickinnic River's scenic beauty and water quality and limit access to the river, formed the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust in 1994.

The organization's purpose is to protect land within the river's watershed and to keep its banks open to the public.

In five years, the land trust has permanently protected 800 acres around the river through conservation easements and acquisitions.

The land trust has worked closely with the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited to restore trout habitat, monitor stream temperatures, educate and inform the public, and advocate for the Kinni.

MECAN: Perrier plant targets Mekan River's headwater springs

Continued from p. 1

to preserve and enhance the property in a wild state for public use. Other concerns include

- the impact of pumping operations on stream flows and the underlying aquifer during a drought,
- the prospect of the company increasing pumping capacity after the plan begins operations, and
- the cumulative impact of allowing such plants to operate to withdraw Great Lakes Basin waters.

Federal labeling regulations require that if bottled water is to be called "spring water," it must be taken from a source "hydrologically connected" to a spring and be chemically similar to the spring water.

Perrier proposes a 100-foot deep well with a capacity of 350 gallons per minute, according to DNR sources. Published reports indicated the plant initially would contain 250,000 square feet of floor space, but would eventually expand to 1.5 million square feet. About 50 jobs would be filled by employees initially.

Prime trout waters affected

Over \$2 million in public funds and license fees has been spent to purchase lands along the Mekan for public use. The springs themselves lie in a sandy-soiled bowl with oak-clad banks, with the seven interconnected spring ponds over 150 feet below the surrounding uplands.

The Mekan River itself is consid-

ered by many to be one of the state's outstanding trout resources, with natural reproduction of brook, brown, and rainbow trout and plenty of public access. A local TU member calls the area "the Sand Country at its best," and Aldo Leopold would likely have agreed.

Just downstream from the proposed well site is the Mekan State Fisheries Area, an area consisting of several delicate marshlands ("fens") with a number of endangered or threatened species that could be affected by any water drawdown.

About 18 springheads in the area are on land owned by the DNR, and others are in private hands. These springheads feed the Mekan as well as many smaller trout streams nearby, including Lawrence, Tagatz, Wedde and Chaffee Creeks.

DNR Secretary Meyer told reporters in mid-December that if any adverse impact of the proposal was found on the Mekan watershed, no easements would be granted.

Studies to complete

Meyer aide Frank Fennessy, at a meeting December 21, told Perrier officials that a hydrogeological study would be required as part of the DNR's consideration of their request.

The U.S. Geological Survey's hydrologists in Madison will be approached first to see if they can perform the study. Normally, such a hydrogeological study is expected to

take from 6 to 12 months to complete, according to Bill Furbish, a top aide to Meyer and a participant in discussions with Perrier.

If such a study showed the plant to have no impact on the river, then the DNR would study other potential impacts, said Fennessy.

Whether an environmental impact survey (EIS) or an environmental assessment (EA) will be performed by the DNR will dictate what questions are asked and the amount of time the study will take. An EA typically takes less time and addresses a narrower range of questions than an EIS.

Department of Commerce Secretary Brenda Blanchard and her deputy were contacted for comment by *Wisconsin Trout*, but did not return

Fly Fish Wisconsin on Feb. 20

By Ray D. Larson

Anglers are invited to Fly Fish Wisconsin on Sunday, February 20, at the Watering Hole, in Green Bay.

This year, for the first time, the event will be co-hosted by the Classic Anglers of WI and the FFF's Great Rivers Council of WI rather than Bob's Bait and Tackle.

There will be fly casting clinics and demonstrations led by Dr. Arthur Mazzier of Wheaton, IL, and his casting crew.

Fly tyers and non-tyers alike will

be amazed at the tying techniques demonstrated by the many tyers who will be present tying trout flies of all types. There will also be educational programs on topics including food for fish, salmon fishing Wisconsin streams and rivers, smallmouth bass, and tactics for WI and the West.

A number of representatives from rod, reel, and line manufacturers will be present to demonstrate their newest goods.

TU members should all be able to find something that will benefit them at this year's event.

Local residents report that Perrier's agents have bought or obtained options on as much as 200 acres in the area so far, and have pushed to buy other lands. Test wells have been drilled on private lands in the area. It is also possible the Perrier operation might try to locate on privately-owned lands around the area's many smaller springheads.

Wisconsin Trout will report on this and other similar or proposed operations in future issues.

Kiap-TU-Wish starts 'Swinging Gate' fund drive

Last year, the "Swinging Gate" property — a high-profile piece of water on the upper Kinnickinnic River just north of River Falls — was purchased by the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust.

The property was then sold to the Wisconsin DNR for public access.

There was one small problem — the DNR received an appraisal for the 53 acres that was \$10,000 short of the KRLT's expenditure.

The Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter is now looking for 100 anglers to donate \$100 toward the purchase of the Swinging Gate property. It's an amount that many of us can easily afford, especially if you look at the benefits of protecting a piece of property we have access to forever.

The fund-raising effort is going well, but has not yet reached its goal.

If you or your chapter are interested in contributing to this stretch of the Kinni, which is now protected for perpetuity, please don't hesitate to contact the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited, P.O. Box 483, Hudson, WI 54016. Donations are tax deductible.



JETTING IN A POST

Frank Hornberg members Stu Grimstad (left) and Bud Nehring jet in a post during one of four consecutive Saturday work days last July on the Waupaca River in Portage County. The work days were part of a major TU Central Region project.

Building boom pressuring Wisconsin's shorelands

As demand for Wisconsin waterfront remains high, people are increasingly seeking to develop in wetlands and other critical fish and wildlife habitat, and are placing larger piers and more boats in front of their properties, Wisconsin lake experts say.

Property owners in growing numbers are challenging state decisions that reject their projects, but the courts are reaffirming the public's constitutionally protected rights and interest in Wisconsin waterways and are sending a message to real estate agents and prospective waterfront buyers.

"The courts have held that we need to consider the cumulative impacts of these individual projects as relates to fish, wildlife, aquatic plants, water quality and the ecosystem as a whole," says Michael Cain, a Department of Natural Resources lawyer.

"It's clear from these court decisions that potential buyers and riparian owners have to be aware of the potential limitations on structures, the number of boats, and the ability to modify the near shore area to suit their desired uses," Cain says. "If they want a sandy beach, they should buy a property that already has one, not one with a mucky bottom."

Collective harm to the resource

Research in Wisconsin and elsewhere is increasingly documenting the collective harm to fish and wildlife populations and water quality from individual activities that clear away vegetation from the lake shore, or shade or simplify shallow water habitat by placing piers, mooring boats, and installing large structures in these areas, says Mary Ellen Vollbrecht, DNR chief of the rivers and regulations.

Plants, grasses, and shrubs on the shoreline provide habitat for frogs, birds, and other wildlife. Plants in the shallow water provide spawning habitat and food for fish, and these aquatic plants can also help preserve water clarity by anchoring sediments and by compet-

ing with algae for phosphorus, she says.

Shore development booming

Activities along Wisconsin's lake waterfronts have skyrocketed — the number of homes along all sizes of northern Wisconsin lakes

owner or by concerned citizens, Vollbrecht says.

In deciding these appeals, the courts continue to uphold longstanding water law principles protecting water quality, fish and aquatic life habitat, natural scenic

ty along Wisconsin's lakes and rivers.

"It is important that anyone purchasing property adjacent to our waterways be aware of the type of frontage and the natural resources that exist on that frontage. There may be limitations on the kinds of modifications an owner can make along the shoreline or in the water adjacent to the shoreline to protect the public interest. It's important for people to consider these things before they purchase the property or undertake significant planning on projects to modify the shoreline and waterway."

For more information on shoreland uses and protection contact DNR representatives Mary Ellen Vollbrecht at (608) 264-8554 or Mike Cain at (608) 266-2177.

...the number of homes along all sizes of northern Wisconsin lakes has increased an average of 216 percent since the 1960s, with lakes 500 to 1,000 acres in size now having nine times as many homes as in the 1960s.

has increased an average of 216 percent since the 1960s, with lakes 500 to 1,000 acres in size now having nine times as many homes as in the 1960s.

In addition to the home building, the number of formal proposals to the DNR to alter waterways by such activities as dredging lake bottoms to create a sandy beach, to build a seawall, and install a large pier has tripled just since 1990.

To lessen harm to lakeshore habitats, Wisconsin relies on a combination of regulation, education, and landowners' voluntary conservation efforts. These efforts include:

- having DNR, UW-Extension, and private sector experts conducting workshops for landscapers and contractors on ways to minimize damage to shoreline habitats,
- making videos and publications available for landowners interested in protecting their shorelines, and
- working with local governments who seek help in developing more protective zoning for their more vulnerable lakes.

Variance requests up

Still, requests for projects along lakeshores continue to flood in, and property owners are pursuing them further. The department approves about 86 percent of the requests, and DNR decisions are contested nearly five times as often as in 1990, either by the property

beauty, and the public's ability to use these waterways for fishing, swimming and passive recreation, as protected "public rights."

Courts affirm public interests

"The courts have also recognized that lakeshore owners have certain rights to 'reasonable use' of their shorelines, but that these rights need to be balanced with and are subordinate to the public rights," Cain says.

Administrative Law Judge Mark Kaiser cited public rights — and the need to consider cumulative impacts of individual projects — in denying a Chicago couple's appeal after the DNR rejected their permit to dredge organic matter from the bottom of Mill Lake in Walworth County.

Kaiser noted that the property was on a bay, where the muck results from organic matter that's blown into the bay and settles on the lakebed, and would likely require repeated dredging.

"Although it is unfortunate that the applicants cannot enjoy the lake in front of their property to the extent they would like, the bottom line is that it is not in the public interest to allow destruction of spawning and nursery habitat to temporarily improve the recreational use of this area," Kaiser wrote in the decision record.

Cain said that such decisions send an important message to property owners, to realtors, and to people that are looking for proper-

Shoreland slide show available

Information on the increase in shoreland development and its impact on lakes and rivers has been highlighted in a new slide show called Margin of Error: Human Influence on Wisconsin Shores that is available from water resource specialists at DNR service centers and through the University of Wisconsin Extension (UW-Ext.).

The slide show may also be viewed on the DNR's World Wide Web site and can be purchased from UW-Ext. on CD-ROM for home computers.

Among the studies highlighted in the slide show is research that found that as larger homes are being built in the 1990s, more land is disturbed and more polluted runoff is entering lakes.

For example, a lakeshore home of 3,350 square feet with a paved driveway annually sends 18 times as much sediment to the lake as undeveloped land does, and four times as much as the typical 700 foot, 1940s-style cottage did.



ICEBREAKER SPEAKERS

Dave Hughes (left) and Stanley Szczytko are the featured speakers at this year's Ice Breaker event sponsored by the Southern Wisconsin Chapter.

Ice Breaker set for Jan. 15

The Southern Wisconsin Chapter will hold its 16th annual Ice Breaker Saturday, January 15, at the Park Ponderosa Ballroom in McFarland.

The festivities begin with the Trout Massacre dinner on Friday night at the Radisson Inn in Madison.

The Saturday Icebreaker will feature door and raffle prizes, including first class fly rods, assorted tackle, books, and outdoor art.

All are donations from merchants and individuals who support TU's environmental work. All who join TU at the Ice Breaker are automatically entered in the new member raffle for a new high quality fly rod.

Featured speakers at this year's

event are Dave Hughes and Stanley Szczytko.

Hughes has published 14 works. The include the classic *American Fly Tying Manual*, a full-color reference used in fly tying courses nationwide. His most recent book, *Trout Flies*, is a compilation of 500 trout flies with typing steps and variations.

He will give two presentations: "Tying and Fishing Wet Flies, Soft-hackles and Flymphs" and "Exploring Western Waters."

Stanley Szczytko is a professor at UW-Stevens Point. He is a fly fisherman, fly tyer, author, and recognized expert on limnology. For more information, contact Tom Fendrick at (608) 873-1623.

Kickapoo project may sprout new local watershed group

By Laura Hewitt

October 16, 1999, was a noteworthy day. That Saturday, 17 people gathered at the Kickapoo Inn in Readstown. They came together to discuss the formation of a watershed group.

Frank Accomando, a science teacher at Kickapoo High School who has been very active in watershed education efforts, facilitated the day's discussion. After a round of introductions the crew broke into small groups to discuss issues and opportunities they would like a watershed group to address.

Many issues were identified but the two biggest concerns that emerged were current land ownership trends and sustainable agricultural practices. Most people identified education as an important opportunity.

The day then moved toward a broad discussion of what kind of role they want a group to play in the watershed. Again, there were many good ideas, but key roles that were identified include communication and coordination of watershed activities, promoting good stewardship, being an organized citizen voice for the watershed.

People had very realistic expectations about the amount of work involved in coordinating a watershed group and were interested to learn of possible opportunities to receive assistance from the state and other groups.

This discussion is just the first step toward deciding if, when, and how to establish a watershed conservation group. There was a lot of interest and motivation to continue working towards that end.

Watershed plan review

The draft Watershed Conservation Plan for the Kickapoo has already made the first review rounds with the Coordinating Committee and agency partners.

The plan was written in coopera-

tion with project partners and is intended to help guide future efforts to improve the health of the watershed, raise awareness and support for its protection, and promote compatible development.

The plan establishes priority conservation areas for brook trout and other plant and animal species of concern. It also makes recommendations for continuing education and outreach efforts, the Citizen Monitoring project, coordination among agencies, and incorporation of citizen involvement into watershed management.

Please contact Laura Hewitt if you are interested in receiving and reviewing a copy of the draft.

Stream restoration update

As usual, there was a flurry of stream restoration activity at the end of the summer. Agency staff, clubs, and contractors rushed to finish the projects before stream work stopped at the end of September.

Since the last newsletter several project on Billings Creek, Harrison Hollow, and Morris Creek have been completed.

Two other modest projects were also completed. Dan Peper oversaw two stream restoration projects on Brush and Weister Creeks. Dan works with Amish farmers on education about soil conservation and stream restoration.

The projects are small because they must be funded fully from private sources. However, by all accounts the work looks good and the landowners and neighbors are impressed with the results.

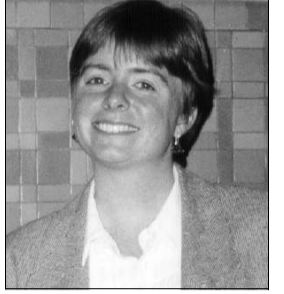
Survey winner

Duane Taebel, a member of the local Trout Unlimited Coulee Chapter of La Crosse won the drawing for a TU 40th Anniversary fly rod by returning the a fishing survey form this past summer.

This survey was a follow-up to research conducted in 1995 by the UW-Extension.

Preliminary analysis of the data indicates that there has been a significant increase in the number of people fishing area streams, and, most likely, the total economic impact from angling.

A final report will be available next spring or summer.



Laura Hewitt
Project Director

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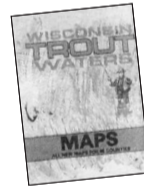
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Castle Rock: diverse group working to improve a gem

by Jeff Ware and Andy Morton

Southwest Wisconsin's Castle Rock Creek has long been a favorite of trout fishers from all over the Midwest. This branch of the Blue River begins just west of Fennimore.

About six miles downstream from Fennimore is the beginning of over six miles of designated trout water.

It is here, below the beautiful stone Castle Rock Church on the hill, that the stream has gained its reputation as one of this state's finest.

Deep pools, large fish, and ease of access have long drawn expert and neophyte alike.

No matter that the largest fish are most often brood fish from a hatchery, the setting and the opportunity make the day for anglers.

Stream in peril

But the Castle Rock is in trouble. Long known as a stream that "muddies up" quickly during a rainstorm — and then takes a long time to clear — the Castle Rock in the past two years has experienced excessive runoff and many, many days of high turbidity.

Nonpoint source pollution in the form of animal waste runoff, sediment from cultivated fields, and stream bank erosion are the culprits.

In fact, local Conservation Warden Chuck Horn reports that during a recent shocking survey of the creek, the "lunkers" were there, but an almost total lack of small and midsize trout was a cause for real concern.

All agree that natural reproduc-

tion has been severely impacted by the high levels of silt and nutrients in the stream, and fishing trips to the Castle Rock have lost some of their luster for even its most ardent supporters.



BARNYARD IMPROVEMENTS

Farm improvements like this help will prevent manure runoff in the future.

tion has been severely impacted by the high levels of silt and nutrients in the stream, and fishing trips to the Castle Rock have lost some of their luster for even its most ardent supporters.

Improvement efforts begin

But lest you think this is only a very sad story about the demise of a once-great trout fishery, you should know that significant work has started on both stream banks and "upstream" improvements designed to improve fish and aquatic habitat in this unique spring creek. And the best part is that this represents the success of the efforts of a very diverse group of interests.

The Castle Rock Watershed Working Group was formed in Janu-

ary of 1999 to address the problems occurring on the stream. Uniquely, this group is composed of landowners, fishermen, environmentalists, and officials from Grant County and the DNR.

Nohr Chapter leads way

The Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter of Trout Unlimited at Dodgeville really got the ball rolling with a \$10,000 donation to the project.

The Badger Fly Fishers and the FFF also contributed significant funds. Grant County Woods and Water chipped in, as did Grant County itself.

Since then, the landowners on the Working Group and Alan Neises from the Land Conservation Office have worked with landowners

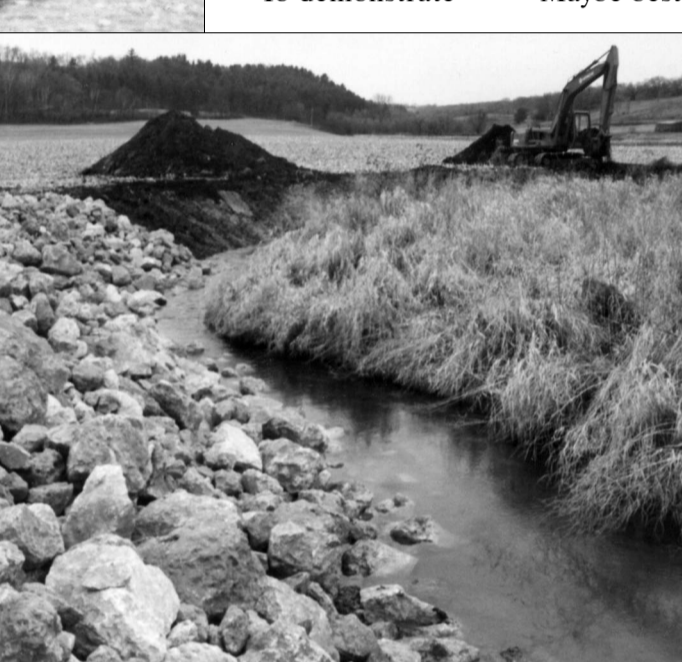
throughout the Castle Rock Watershed to gain their support for the necessary work.

To date, Neises has more than one dozen contracts signed with landowners for work on their properties to improve the quality of the stream.

With the landowners contributing 10% of the cost for stream bank improvements and 20% of the cost for work in barnyards, the total project now boasts more than \$200,000 worth of improvements scheduled for implementation.

To demonstrate

its appreciation of landowner participation and to continue to generate interest and enthusiasm in improving Castle Rock, the Working Group sponsored a Landowner Appreciation Day in September.



STREAMBANK RESTORATION BEFORE AND AFTER

Bank erosion is a major problem on the Castle Rock. Here a seriously eroded bank is ripped. The working group hopes to take on many more such banks in coming years.

The Grant County Land Conservation Office teamed with the Working Group and the DNR to obtain a \$150,000 matching funds grant to start the work nec-

essary to mitigate the problems on the Castle Rock. The Working Group then went to tell the Castle Rock story to user groups to seek their support of the effort to improve the stream.

Attendees spent the morning on the stream learning about stream bank preservation from the DNR's Roger Kerr, water chemistry from Badger Fly Fisher and UW Chemist Phil Emmling, and stream entomology from DNR biologist Dave Marshall. Gene VanDyke and Chuck Horn headed up a fish shocking/survey crew that helped all in attendance understand the fish population issues.

Federal funds possible

And now, the federal government

may even get involved through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Agents from the EPA toured the creek with representatives of the Working Group and Trout Unlimited in November and came away impressed with the volunteer group's work and the potential to make the stream a lot better. In fact, a proposal has been submitted to the EPA which its representatives believe will contribute as much as an additional \$45,000 to the project.

Will this immediately "fix" the Castle Rock? Assuredly no. But it is the right start.

The most troublesome stream banks have been addressed, but yards of stream banks remain imperiled.

Barnyard runoff control and reducing sedimentation from fields and gullies will be a key to controlling nonpoint source pollution.

Maybe best of all is the potential of the partnership that has been developed between landowners, environmentalists, fishers, hunters, and local and state officials.

Because so many interests are involved, the work is often hard and frustrating, and the decision-making process and the time required to get something done is often arduous.

But the Working Group at Castle Rock has stayed with it. With the help of Trout Unlimited, the Badger Fly Fishers, and willing landowners, a real difference is being made on this great waterway.

Future actions

At the most recent meeting of the group, it was suggested that the easy parts of the restoration work were now done, and that now the hard work needed to get started.

Some very hard-working volunteers groaned at the suggestion, but all recognized it was largely true. Developing additional landowner support will require making the case again and again.

This will not be easy. But the Castle Rock Creek has a way of renewing the commitment of those who know this special stream and are committed to preserving and improving it.



CASTLE ROCK PARTNERS

Pastor Johnsrud accepts a \$5,000 donation from Phil and Janis Emmling of the Badger Fly Fishers. Pictured are, left to right, Jeff Ware, Janis Emmling, Dan Patenaude of Nohr TU, Phil Emmling, Alan Neises of Grant Cty. Land Conservation Dept., Pastor Johnsrud, landowner Burdette Kephardt with his granddaughter Kayla, Barb Thompson of Grant Cty. LCD, and Andy Morton of the Wisconsin WDNR.

Lakeshore Chapter has right 'timing' to help the Onion

By Larry Doebert

When our chapter approved adopting the Onion River as a major stream project, we never envisioned how large a project it would eventually become! There's a saying in life that timing is everything. That has never been more true in our work on the Onion. More on that later.

The Onion River is a small spring-fed stream in western Sheboygan County. The Onion averages about 14 feet in width and is a low-gradient stream. There are two spring-fed creeks that join to form the Onion — Mill Creek and Ben Nutt Creek.

Once a good trout fishery

Prior to the 1940s, the Onion was a fine wild trout fishery. Helen Shaw, the famous author and fly tier, used to guide clients on the Onion back in the late 1930s and into the 1940s. In a recent telephone conversation with Helen, she recalled as to what a fine little trout stream the Onion had been.

Around 1945 private fish hatcheries were constructed on the two feeder creeks. On the Ben Nutt two large ponds and raceways were developed. The stream was diverted out of its original streambed and made to run through some cement raceways and then into two large ponds. One pond was seven acres and the other pond was four acres.

At around the same time another private fish hatchery was in operation on Mill Creek. A large hatchery building, several sets of cement raceways, and eventually over 30 ponds were constructed. One of these ponds is over two acres in size and very shallow. In addition, another smaller hatchery was also established on Mill creek.

All of this has had a very negative effect on the Onion and the two feeder creeks. Water temperatures were increased and flows have decreased due to evaporation from the ponds. In addition, the water had become very milky from the weed and algae growth in the warm ponds. As a consequence there has been very little if any naturally spawning trout since the 1940s. Only yearly stocking of trout has kept the Onion classified as a trout stream.

Lakeshore gets involved

Lakeshore TU got involved with the Onion River Project in 1997 after the WDNR purchased a parcel of land along the river. We helped do some brushing and installed a few lunger structures.

That first year we put in about 250 man-hours on the river. Later in 1997 another 80 acres came up for sale and we donated \$1,000 toward the purchase by the state. We also gave another \$1,000 for catching and transporting 1,400 wild brown trout from the Timber Coulee in southwestern WI.

As we got more and more involved with the Onion, we began to see the need to lay the proper groundwork to ensure that we would get the project done correctly. We set up a committee of 10 Lakeshore TU members along with WDNR Fish Manager John Nelson.

One of our first objectives was to establish a mission goal. That goal is to "Restore the Onion River watershed back into a quality, self-supporting wild trout fishery." Our second objective was to gather and build a database on the river itself.

TU and committee member Mike

McGill, a high school biology teacher, has spearheaded the effort to gather data on streamflows, temperature readings, pH, and water quality, as well as entomology and fauna studies. Other duties, such as developing good landowner relationships, media releases, fund raising and or-

of springs that make up the feeder creeks for these rivers came up for sale at the same time! These two properties contribute over a million gallons of water each to the Onion. This is over 50% of the total volume of the Onion in the project area.

One of the properties was being

the stream. The seven-acre pond, which has a depth of 25 feet, will no longer be getting its water from the stream. We will monitor the pond to see if there are enough springs feeding it to keep it full and cold. The WDNR may use this pond for raising fish. Trout stamp money has been obtained for the Ben Nutt part of the project.

The Mill creek hatchery project will not be started until possibly 2001. This will be a very complicated project due to all the pond development. It looks like there are at least two major spring creeks on this property that will need to be reconnected. If time and money permits, we may start next year to remove several cement stream impediments from the discharge channel. This would allow trout to move farther up the stream to spawn.

The amount of hatchery construction on this property was substantial and will require a great deal of thought, labor, and expense to remove. Over 500 man-hours were spent on the project in 1999. With the tentative work schedule for year 2000, we anticipate that we will be spending over 1,000 man-hours on the project.

Wide local support

The local support for our project has been overwhelming! The Sheboygan County Conservation Association has pledged \$25,000 so far toward the purchase of two properties. Through the 30 or so clubs that belong to the Association, there has been an additional \$20,000 of pledges toward land acquisition or work assistance.

One club, Muskies, Inc., pledged \$12,500 for land acquisition and the project fund! We also have received grant money from several other organizations, including \$2,000 from the Friends of Wisconsin TU, \$10,000 from the Trout and Salmon Foundation, and \$2,000 from the Federation of Fly Fishers. More funds are being sought to help with hiring a graduate student to do a two-year watershed evaluation study. Our own club has pledged over \$5,000 toward the Onion River Fund.

WDNR Fish Manager John Nelson, who was responsible for starting the project, has been a joy to work with. His enthusiasm and dedication to the project has been enormous. Last winter we nominated John for a State TU Special Recognition Award at the State Banquet. John has worked very closely with our club and welcomes our participation. John has been and continues to be very aggressive in pursuing land acquisition and easements on the Onion. Without John none of this could have been realized!

The Onion River Project has also become a much-needed boost for the well-being of our Chapter. It has renewed the interest and enthusiasm of many members. The camaraderie of the members during the project has been outstanding! Working together and sharing a common interest has opened up many new friendships.

We feel that having a project such as our Onion has been instrumental in helping our Chapter continue to be a vibrant force in stream habitat improvement. We all realize that this project will take many years to complete. We are prepared to see it that is gets completed and that it is done properly.

(Larry Doebert of Elkhart Lake is Stream Project Coordinator for the Lakeshore Chapter of TU. -ed.)



ONION RIVER MAKEOVER

The Lakeshore Chapter of TU is working with a range of local partners to preserve the Onion River, its tributaries, and the watershed's headwaters.

ganizing, and leading workdays were divided up among the rest of the committee members. We are also working developing a master plan that will include yearly maintenance of the project after it has been completed.

During 1998 our club, along with members from the Helen Shaw Chapter of the Federation of Fly Fishers, put in another 600 man-hours brushing and installing lunger structures. We had several work days where over two dozen members showed up to help with the project.

We are starting to develop slide presentations and videos of the project to help with our fundraising. We also opened up a bank account that we call The Onion River Project Fund.

Moving a streambed

A serious manure runoff problem on an area farm was discovered and we started to take steps to see if this could be eliminated. Working with the landowner and Fish Manager John Nelson, we laid the groundwork to obtain an easement in order to move the streambed away from the farmer's barnyard. Years ago the river had been channeled in order to make room for a dairy barn. In addition the land slopes down toward the river, which is only about 20 feet away from the barnyard.

The easement should be approved soon, and we will complete the job early next year. Trout stamp money has been granted for this project, and our project fund will pay to replace the farmers bridge.

Another project we hope to accomplish next year is to replace a bridge and undersized culvert on another landowner property. In addition to being undersized, the culvert is higher than the river on the discharge end which, in effect, hinders the upstream migration of spawning trout.

Timing is everything

Now back to my earlier statement that "timing is everything" Early in 1999 something happened that we still find quite incredible! The two properties that contain the majority

bid on by the WDNR. Problems of the property being partially outside of the project boundaries were making it difficult to complete the purchase. It looked like we could be losing this property to a golf course/condo development.

The other property was completely outside the project boundary and could not be purchased by the WDNR. An anonymous benefactor stepped in and purchased both parcels of property with the sole intention of protecting the headwaters from further development and restoring them to their original condition. Hopefully the properties will eventually become the property of the state! The cost of this purchase was substantial.

In participation with TU national, TU members Laura Hewitt and Jock Cunningham surveyed the watershed. Flying over one of the properties in a helicopter, we could see where the original Ben Nutt streambed had been before the hatchery development. Jock Cunningham, who is a TU water hydrologist, helped us understand how a stream is supposed to work. He encouraged us to restore the stream as much as possible to its original bed. Laura and Jock also gave us a great deal of insight as to how to proceed with the project.

Hatchery ponds drained

After the headwaters had been secured, we began the process of draining the hatchery ponds. On the Ben Nutt hatchery property we drained the four-acre pond completely, and we converted the seven-acre pond discharge to a bottom draw. We are monitoring the seven-acre pond to see what effect the bottom draw has on water temperatures.

On the Mill creek hatchery property, we drained all the ponds except for one small pond. Again we are monitoring the water temperatures and water quality on this pond. If everything goes as planned, we will start the process of returning the Ben Nutt back into its original streambed in the spring of 2000. The berm for the four-acre pond will be removed and we will be putting in step pools in

Member Trout Tip

Fish the 'hard' water

By Jay Thurston

Hard water streams have as their source limestone bedrock, and they are referred to as limestone streams. Soft water streams often have sandstone, or glacial till, as their source, and they are referred to as freestone streams.

One difference between limestone and freestone streams is consistency. The limestone streams originate from underground springs that carry dissolved limestone. They are more consistent in their flow and temperature than freestone streams. In winter limestone streams have more open water in the upper one-third due to the springs which are usually larger than those of freestone streams.

A second advantage of the hard water streams is their food production. Both plant and animal life is more profuse in the rich limestone streams. There you will find an abundance of aquatic life such as sow bugs, fairy shrimp, snails, crayfish, diving beetles, stonefly nymph, and mayfly nymph. Under ideal conditions a trout will grow about one-half to one inch per month.

Ideal conditions are found in the limestone waters of Arkansas below the reservoirs. It is not an accident that the last two world-record brown trout have come from Arkansas.

In 1976 I started testing the waters of southwest Wisconsin for hardness. I discovered that the streams flowing south into the La Crosse River were soft, while the streams flowing north into the La Crosse River were hard.

I found the hardest water in the region to be Dutch Creek in La Crosse County. That discovery explained why Dutch Creek had so much plant growth and was therefore hard to fish.

The next thing I did was to get a Wisconsin soil map identifying bedrock. I found that southwestern Wisconsin south and west of I-90 is limestone country.

A second region of limestone bedrock is found around Pierce County in west central Wisconsin. Near the center of that region flows the fertile Rush River that has produced brown trout from 10-15 pounds.

If you want to catch large brown trout, *fish the limestone streams*. A brown can reach 25 inches in five years swimming in the Pine River in Richland County. However, it will take at least seven years in the Beef River, a freestone stream near Osseo in Trempealeau County.

A trout seven years old from the Green River, (a limestone stream) of Grant County, would be 30 inches long and weigh about 12 pounds.

The only fishermen that don't like the limestone streams are the worm fishermen — too many chubs. It is the abundance of food that hastens the growth of minnows to chubs and small trout to lunkers.

(Jay Thurston lives near the White River in Bayfield County. He's a member of the Wild Rivers Chapter. -ed.)

Do you have a "trout tip" to share with your fellow TU members? If so, contact *Wisconsin Trout*.

Chapter president profile

Herb Hintze:

By Chuck Sauer

If you've ever fished for trout in the north central part of Wisconsin, you've likely seen and enjoyed some of the fruits of the labors of Herb Hintze. One could say that he has worked tirelessly coordinating stream improvement projects and promoting trout fishing and Trout Unlimited, but that wouldn't be exactly true. At age 72, Herb says that he is getting tired, yet he still continues to work nearly every day of the year for the good of this resource we all enjoy.

Herb retired from working as a railroad clerk nearly 13 years ago and stepped right into a new job — volunteer for Trout Unlimited.

His wife of 50 years, Alice, agrees that Herb is a busy guy, probably too busy. "But he loves what he is doing," she says. "He has always believed in leaving things better for future generations."

Alice is justifiably proud of her husband, who would just as soon not talk about the numerous awards he has received over the years, the most recent of which was from the Wausau School Board for the field trips he has arranged for aquatic biology classes.

Herb has been an active member of the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited since its inception 18 years ago and has been Chapter president for 15 years. He started out as treasurer.

Now, not only is he involved in seeing to it that there are worthy projects completed around the area, he coordinates the Chapter's annual fundraising banquet as well. Perhaps that's to assure there is continued funding available for projects.

He's probably best known among the Trout Unlimited community for his innovative work obtaining easements from landowners along area trout streams, which facilitate not only stream improvement projects, but provide access for fishermen.

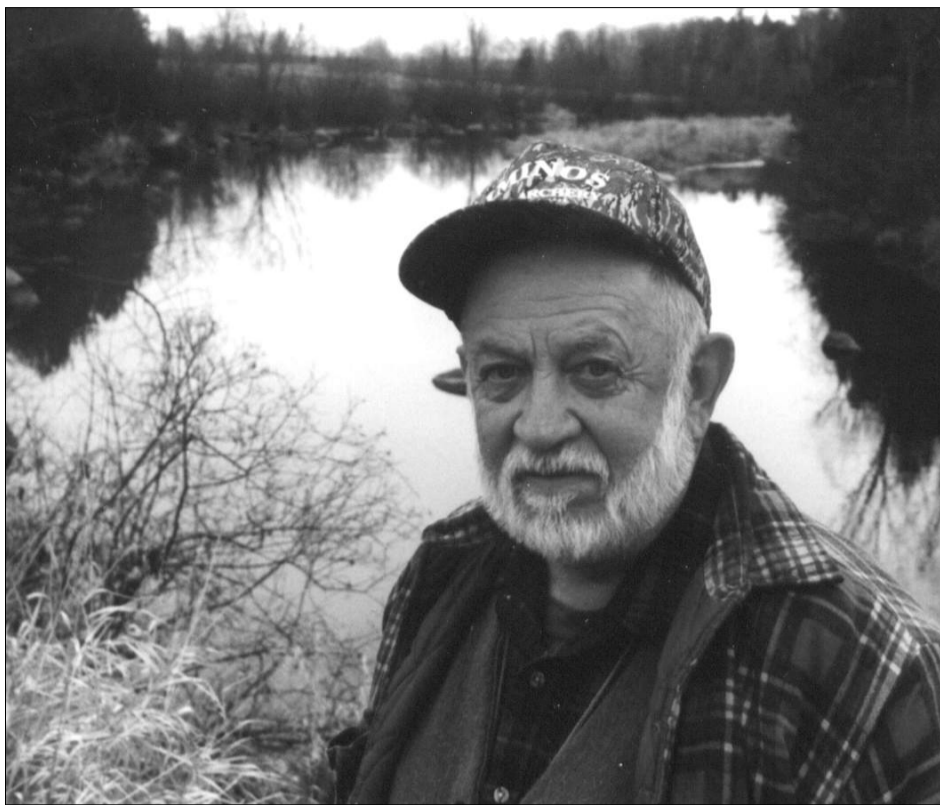
Herb has nearly worn out his old Chevy S-10 pickup contacting and re-contacting reluctant landowners in his efforts to convince them that the proposed projects will not only benefit them, but the trout fishing public as well.

He stresses to landowners that trout fishers may be considered good stewards of the resource and appreciative of the opportunity to fish streams flowing through private lands.

Herb says that some landowners just get tired of seeing him every other week or so at their doors and finally give in. After the improvements are in place, they're generally satisfied and serve as ambassadors, encouraging their neighbors to participate in the program.

"It's like a snowball. Once it gets

super trout steward for TU



READY TO TACKLE ANOTHER STREAM

Wisconsin River Valley Chapter President Herb Hintze in front of a section of the Plover River slated for channel narrowing in 2000.

rolling, it picks up momentum and grows," says Herb.

Once easements are in place, Herb coordinates and contracts with the DNR to implement stream improvements beneficial to trout. He uses chapter money discretely to leverage additional funds from the DNR as well as local governments, and has learned over the years which contractors do the best work. The truth is, he has probably trained them.

Any way you look at it, the boom covers and fencing, brush bundling, beaver dam removal, stream narrowing, installation of half-logs, placing of sand traps, and other projects have done much to improve habitat for trout, thus improving the fishing opportunities for us nimrods.

Of course, Herb says that these things couldn't have been done without the help of local chapter members, and that's partly true because several have consistently been in the water alongside of Herb and the local DNR fisheries personnel during construction. But, if Herb hadn't collected the easements and continually urged the DNR to prioritize these projects, they just wouldn't have gotten done.

There's more. Herb oversaw the production of a video, photographed by a local chapter member, which documents these improvements. Copies of the video are available to borrow. The chapter conducts a free public fly-tying seminar each year, with Herb right there alongside other

chapter devotees, tying hackle. He also coordinates field trips for local high school aquatic biology classes to view and study projects.

A staunch believer in the theory that protection of the trout fishing resource from overharvest or the destruction of redds by wading fishermen should be paramount, Herb has adamantly opposed liberal, early season catch and release regulations that might jeopardize the resource.

So what about the future? Herb says there are projects lined up on the Prairie River for the next four years and the Plover for five years where easements are signed and in force. Meanwhile, he will continue to push on. Says he's getting tired and can't do it much longer, but he's said that for the past several years.

The Chapter members, the landowners, and the fishermen and women who fish these project areas, along with the trout that live there, have clearly benefited from Herb Hintze's dedication to trout. If just a little bit of this rubs off on the rest of us, the trout fishing resource will continue to improve at an even greater rate than now.

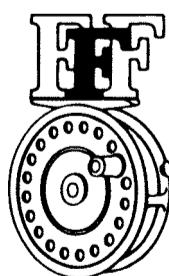
(Chuck Sauer is a member of the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter who lives in the Wausau area. The former Exec. Director of the Wis. Waterfowl Assn., Chuck now spends half his time working for the UW-Marathon County Foundation and, reportedly, the other half hunting and fishing. -ed.)

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Ad paid for by the Lakeshore Chapter of TU and Helen Shaw Fly Fishers

Friends can get a piece of trout stamp history in 2000



Those new, blue Wisconsin fishing and hunting licenses are sure fast and convenient. You can get all your licenses at one time — including paying for your inland and great lakes trout stamps.

Although the DNR says they will continue to print trout stamps, the

advent of the new instant license terminals may spell the end of the trout stamps as we have known them. The cost may be too high.

Why not save a piece of history for yourself and help Wisconsin Trout Unlimited at the same time. Please read on!

We have received a generous gift from longtime Friend of Wisconsin TU John Shillinglaw of Appleton who has gifted Wisconsin TU 20 framed "mint" sets of 11 Wisconsin Inland trout stamps (from 1990 through 2000).

Shillinglaw said this is a celebration of 10 successful years of Friends of Wisconsin TU and is a way to increase our fundraising and improve our resources and education efforts.

These beautiful stamps are

mounted on museum quality matting and presented in "show guard" stamp mounts in a 13-1/2 x 14-1/2 wood frame. Conservation clear glass is used to protect the stamps.

Rules for bidding

These sets of Wisconsin Inland Trout Stamps will be sold to the highest bidders. A minimum bid of \$300 is requested, and the framed stamps will go to the highest 20 bidders.

IMPORTANT: By placing a bid, the bidder agrees that \$100 will be donated to Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited *whether the bidder*

wins a set of prints or not.

Please include a check for the amount of the bid.

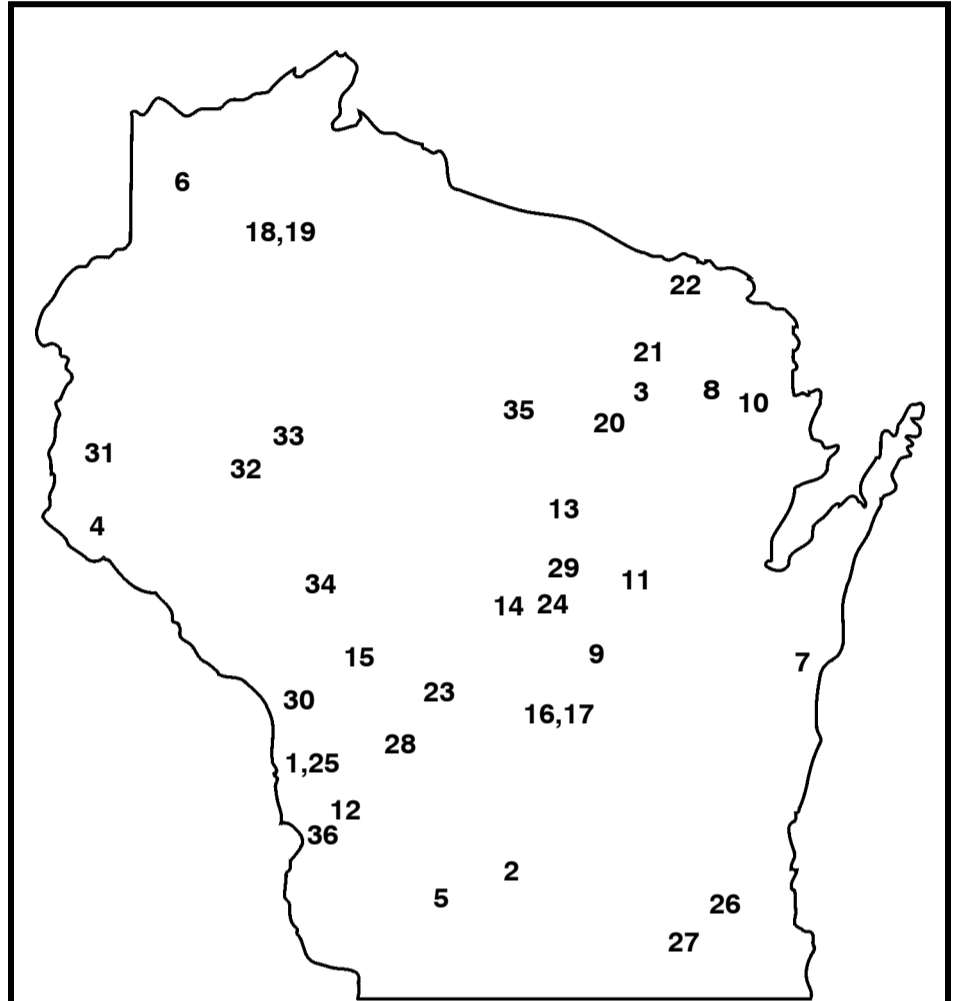
If all 20 sets are sold, any unsuccessful bidder will have the option of having his/her bid returned less the \$100 membership in Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited. In other words, \$100 of an unsuccessful bid is nonrefundable.

Bids must be postmarked by May 31, 2000. Send bids and checks to:

John Cantwell
Chair, Fundraising
3725 Ken Ridge Ln.
Green Bay, WI 54313

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Steve Hawk (*) (R)	Madison, WI	Richard Wachowski (**)(R)	Eau Claire, WI
Brian Hegge (R)	Rhineland, WI	Don A. Wagner (*) (R)	Gillett, WI
Chris Heikenen (R)	Junction City, WI	John H. Wahlers (*) (R)	Berlin, WI
Bob Hellyer (*) (R)	Fitchburg, WI	Waushara Dental Center	Wautoma, WI
Walter Hellyer (**)(R)	Fish Creek, WI	Duke Welter (R)	Eau Claire, WI
Steve Hill/		Mike Wenner (R)	Clintonville, WI
Watertown Budget Print (R)	Watertown, WI	Dave Westlake (R)	Reeseville, WI
Charles Hodulik (R)	Madison, WI	J. Nash Williams (**)(R)	Madison, WI
R. Robert Howard	Mequon, WI	Christopher M. Willman	Green Bay, WI
J.R. Humphrey (*) (R)	Oak Park Heights, MN	Gayle & Mary Worf (*) (R)	Madison, WI
Charles V. James (*) (R)	Milwaukee, WI	Norb Wozniak (*) (R)	Juneau, WI
Fred L. Johnson (N)	Tomahawk, WI	Fred Young (**)(R)	Roscoe, IL
Sidney Johnson, M.D. (N)	Marshfield, WI	R.E. Zimmerman (N)	Madison, WI
Frank Kearney, III (N)	Neenah, WI	Robert Zimmerman (*) (R)	Green Bay, WI
Thomas Kent (N)	Denmark, WI		
Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter			
Gordon King (*) (R)	Merrill, WI	(N)	= New "Friend" since last issue
Lane A. Kistler (*) (R)	Milwaukee, WI	(R)	= Renewed "Friend" since last issue
Roger Koepsel (N)	Oshkosh, WI	(*)	= Five+ year "Friend"
Al Krnak Family Memorial (N)		(**)	= Ten+ year "Friend"



"Friends" Project Locations

- \$4,000** - for rip-rapping and structural improvements on the West Fork Kickapoo River (Vernon Co.)
- \$1,500** - for placement of LUNKER structures and bank stabilization in Black Earth Creek (Dane Co.)
- \$1,000** - for hydraulic dredging of Saul Spring Pond (Langlade Co.)
- \$750** - for purchase of special thermometers to monitor stormwater runoff into the Kinnickinnic River (Pierce Co.)
- \$2,000** - for rerouting and stabilizing Brewery Creek (Iowa Co.)
- \$75** - for purchase of catch and release signs for the Bois Brule River Douglas Co.)
- \$2,500** - for renovation of trout rearing facilities in Lincoln Park (City of Manitowoc)
- \$500** - for bank, stabilization, and structural improvements on the North Fork Thunder River (Oconto Co.)
- \$1,000** - for land acquisition along the White River (Waushara Co.)
- \$1,000** - to assist with acquisition of 64+ acres of land along Upper Middle Inlet Creek (Marinette Co.)
- \$7,000** - to purchase a Rotary Screw Fish Trap for DNR Coldwater research
- \$3,000** - to fund stream improvements and riparian protection in and along streams of Middle Kickapoo River watershed. (Vernon and Crawford counties)
- \$1,000** - to help fund instream habitat work in the Plover River (Marathon Co.)
- \$551** - to help purchase recording thermographs to monitor thermal regimes in trout streams in the Buena Vista and Leola marshes (Portage, Wood, Adams counties)
- \$3,372** - for installing bank cover and closing side channels in Sand Creek (Jackson and Monroe counties)
- \$3,296** - to continue and extend stream bank brushing along Chaffee Creek (Marquette Co.)
- \$1,000** - to continue population and movement studies of brown trout in the Mecan River (Marquette County) I-or potential stream reclassification
- \$1,700** - to conduct follow-up surveys on wild brown trout in the Namekagon River (Sawyer/Bayfield counties)
- \$2,000** - to conduct studies of fall movements and concentrations of spawning wild brood fish in the Namekagon River (Sawyer/Bayfield counties) for capture and use in raising wild trout for the river
- \$1,000** - to assist with the third year of dredging silt and detritus from Elton Springs (Langlade Co.)
- \$1,000** - for stream brushing, debris removal and brush bundle installation in Swanson Creek (Forest County), a tributary to the Rat River
- \$500** - for building a sand/ sediment trap in Wisconsin Creek (Florence County), a tributary to the boundary Brule River, to enhance trout spawning potential.
- \$2,750** - to purchase materials for fencing projects approved under the Streambank Easement Program (part of the state's Stewardship Program) for the Wisconsin Rapids Area; and for fencing materials for the Little Lemonweir River project (Monroe Co.)
- \$350** - to conduct trout population studies in the lateral ditches listed as trout waters (Portage, Wood and Adams counties) that are under threat from agricultural/cranberry operation encroachment
- \$250** - toward habitat work on the West Fork Kickapoo River (Vernon and Crawford counties)
- \$2,000** - to fund dredging (silt/debris removal) from McClintock Springs in the southern unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest (Waukesha Co.)
- \$2,000** - to create overhead bank cover in and remove beaver dams from Whitewater/Bluff Creek (Walworth Co.)
- \$2,000** - for stream improvements in Billings Creek (Vernon Co.)
- \$1,500** - for materials for in-stream structures in the Tomorrow River (Portage Co.)
- \$2,500** - for stream restoration in Mormon Coulee Creek (La Crosse Co.)
- \$1,500** - to assist in production of an educational video on development impacts along the Kinnickinnic River (St. Croix and Pierce Cos.)
- \$7,000** - stream improvement on Elk Creek (Chippewa Co.)
- \$4,000** - rock hauling and restoration work on Duncan Creek (Chippewa Co.)
- \$1,750** - to purchase materials for stream improvements on the North Fork Buffalo River (Jackson Co.)
- \$2,000** - to fund backhoe work on intensive habitat improvement in the Prairie River (Lincoln Co.)
- \$500** - for stream rehabilitation in Tainter Creek (Crawford Co.)

Yes, I want to join the "Friends" of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.
Enclosed is my check for \$100 or more.

MAIL TO: Friends of Wisconsin TU
 John H. Cantwell
 3725 Ken Ridge Ln.
 Green Bay, WI 54313-8271

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____ Phone # _____