

Wisconsin Trout

October 2012

TU National names WITU top U.S. council

Kiap-TU-Wish and Bill Heart also honored

By Todd Hanson

The Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited was honored as the country's top U.S. council at TU National's annual meeting Sept. 14 in Asheville, NC.

The Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter received TU's Silver Trout Award, and Bill Heart was given a Distinguished Service Award at the event.

The last time Wisconsin received the top council award was in 2000 following the council's efforts to stop the Perrier Co. from starting a water bottling operation within the Mecan River Fishery Area in central Wisconsin.

In recognizing WITU again this year, TU National pointed to the council's efforts to stop a proposed iron mine in a trout stream headwaters area of the Penokee Hills in northern Wisconsin.

Bill Heart's Distinguished Service Award was also given in recognition of his making Wisconsin legislators and others aware of the Penokee Hills' land and features through a series of personal tours of the proposed mine site.

Kiap-TU-Wish was recognized for a range of education, restoration, and advocacy efforts in recent years.

At the state level, Kiap-TU-Wish has won the top chapter award from



WISCONSIN AWARD WINNERS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Wisconsin TU members visited the podium a lot during Trout Unlimited's 2012 National Conservation Awards ceremony held Sept. 14 in Asheville, North Carolina. On hand to receive awards were (left to right) Tom Henderson representing the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter, Wisconsin's National Leadership Council representative Bill Heart, and WITU State Council Chair Kim McCarthy.

the Wisconsin State Council in 2010, 1999, and 1996.

Since the early 1960s, TU National has given out awards for out-

standing achievement to volunteer leaders, as well as leaders in the professional fields that influence the success of TU's mission.

To view TU National's complete awards ceremony text recognizing WITU, Kiap-TU-Wish, and Bill Heart, see p. 5 in this issue.

Council website is collecting angler field observations

TU helping WDNR track gill lice in brook trout

By Matthew Mitro

WDNR Trout Scientist

Trout anglers now have the opportunity to help track the occurrence of gill lice in brook trout populations across Wisconsin.

A website for collecting angler data is now up and running. It is being hosted by Wisconsin TU at www.WisconsinTU.org/GillLice.

A Wisconsin DNR citizen-based monitoring grant was recently

awarded to help set up this website to collect angler observations of the presence or absence of gill lice in streams they fish.

This project is a collaborative effort between DNR fisheries research and management, the River Alliance of Wisconsin (RAW), and Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

A statewide angler-based monitoring system will aid in efforts to quantify the presence or absence of gill lice in brook trout populations and will help show how gill lice dis-

tribution changes over time.

Also, given that anglers are a potential vector for the spread of gill lice from one stream to another, this effort will help in ongoing efforts by TU, RAW, and WDNR to educate anglers about the risks of transporting fish pathogens, parasites, and other invasive species among water bodies.

Gill lice *Salmincola spp.* are a parasitic copepod that only infect *Salvelinus* species such as brook trout *Salvelinus fontinalis*.

Gill lice look like grains of rice attached to the gills. They can be observed by gently flaring the gill arches. Heavier infections, however, may be externally visible outside of the gills and on the pectoral fins.

Anecdotal observations of gill lice by anglers and DNR fisheries biologists suggest gill lice may be infecting more fish and spreading to more streams. However, we have little data on current and past distributions of gill lice in Wisconsin.

Brown trout immune

The gill lice species infecting Wisconsin brook trout is believed to

be *Salmincola edwardsii*. *S. edwardsii* likely co-evolved with brook trout given its specificity to infecting only brook trout. Brook trout currently co-occur with introduced brown



Magnified view of attached gill lice

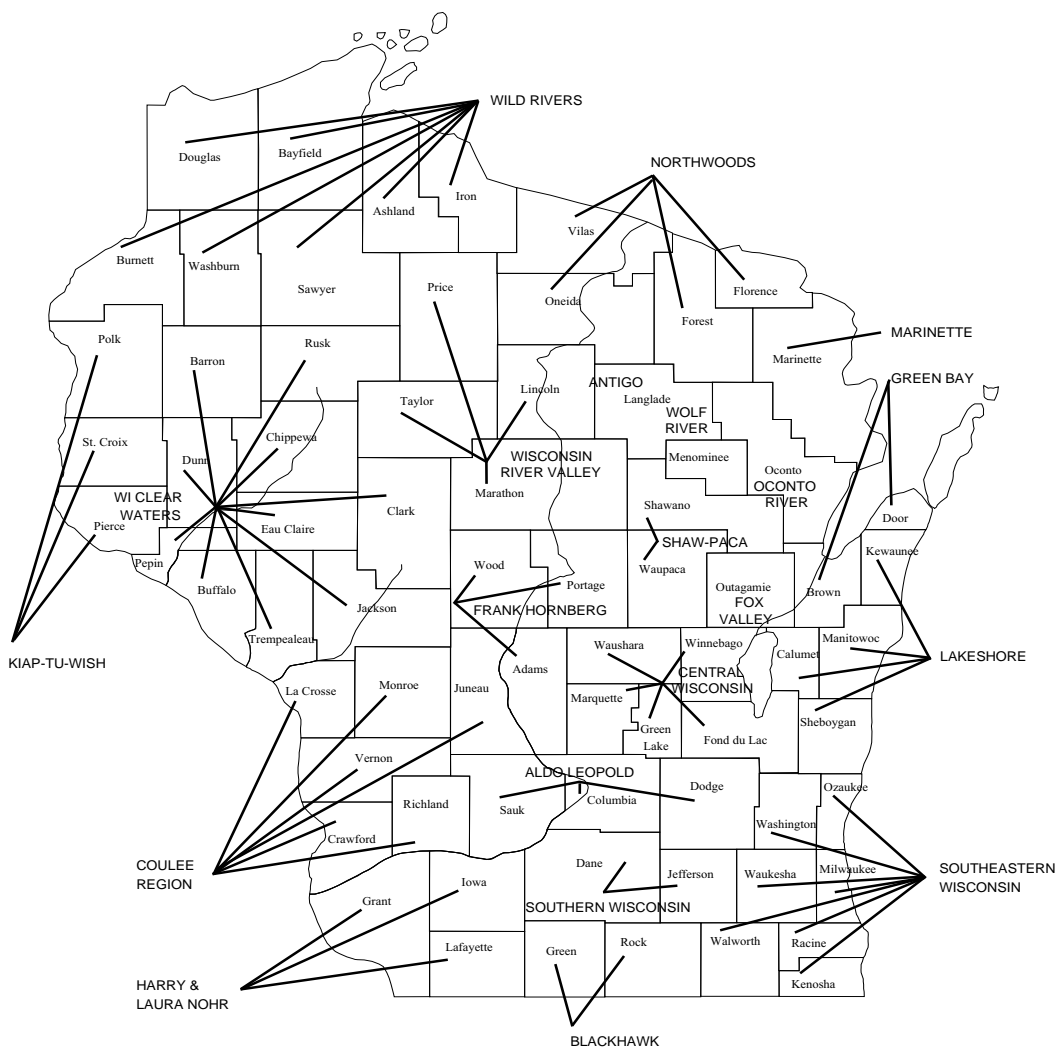
trout *Salmo trutta* in many Wisconsin streams. In streams in which brook trout have been observed infected with gill lice, infected brown trout have never been found in those streams.

Continued on p. 4

In this issue...

- State Council meets in Viroqua p. 3
- Rotational grazing: cows can be good for trout p. 5
- TU National's notes on WI award winners p. 5
- Pt. 1: Legal doctrine vs. water management reality .p. 6
- Core principles of Public Trust Doctrine, Pt 1 of 3 . .p. 8
- Kiap-TU-Wish completes Trimbelle R. project. . . . p. 20

Wisconsin TU Chapters, Presidents, and Websites



Visit WITU online at:
www.WisconsinTU.org

- Aldo Leopold (#375):** Mike Barniskis, 805 S. Center St., Beaver Dam, WI 53916 (920) 356-0081; barniskis@yahoo.com
- Antigo (#313):** Scott Henricks, 213 Mary St., Antigo, WI 54409-2536 (715) 623-3867; henricks51@frontier.com
- Blackhawk (#390):** Vic Potocki, N7625 Pine Knolls Dr., Whitewater, WI 53190 (262) 473-1824; vjpotocki@idcnet.com; www.BlackhawkTU.org
- Central Wisconsin (#117):** Linn Beck, 160 West 19th Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54903 (920) 233-5496; chlbeck@att.net, www.cwtu.org
- Coulee Region (#278):** Jim Cox, North 4311 Cty. Rd. M, West Salem, WI 54669 (608) 397-9448; cswoodworking@charter.net; www.CouleeRegionTU.org
- Fox Valley (#193):** Joe Bach, 3213 S. Poplar Ln., Appleton, WI 54915 (920) 570 2632; Joebach1g@hotmail.com; www.foxvalleytu.webs.com
- Frank Hornberg (#624):** Matt Salchert, 1800 Minnesota Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54481 (715) 321-1394; MattSalchert@Yahoo.com; www.Hornberg-TU.org
- Green Bay (#083):** Paul Kruse, 500 Saint Jude St., Green Bay, WI 54303 (920) 494-4220; PaulKruse@tds.net; www.GreenBayTU.com
- Harry & Laura Nohr (#257):** Todd Templen, 10476 Lake Eleanor Rd., Dubuque, IA 52003 (608) 778-7271; trtemplen@gmail.com; www.NohrTU.org
- Kiap-TU-Wish (#168):** Kyle Amundson; 249 Red Pine Circle, Hudson, WI 54016 (715) 549-5326; kdamundson@gmail.com; www.kiaptuwish.org
- Lakeshore (#423):** Gordy Martin, N7601 Royal and Ancient Dr., Elkhart Lake, WI 53020; squaretail@aol.com; www.WisconsinTU.org/Lakeshore
- Marinette (#422):** Doug Erdmann, 2418 Woodview Lane, Marinette, WI 54143 (715) 735-7407; derdmann2@new.rr.com.
- Northwoods (#256):** Hannah Hansen, W3483 Spring Lake Rd., Merrill, WI 54452 (715) 297-1569; HannahA.Hansen@yahoo.com
- Oconto River (#385):** Dale Halla; W2811 Zastrow Rd., Cecil, WI 54111 (715) (715) 745-2099; lindadale.halla@gmail.com; www.WisconsinTU.org/OcontoRiver
- Shaw-Paca (#381):** Dave Ehrenberg, 324 East Fourth St., Manawa, WI 54949 (920) 740-0981; adehrenberg@wolfnet.net; www.WisconsinTU.org/ShawPaca
- Southeastern Wisconsin (#078):** Mike Kuhr, 3219 N. 77th St., Milwaukee, WI 53222 (414) 588-4281 (H); miked.trout@yahoo.comwww.SEWTU.org
- Southern Wisconsin (#061):** Jordan Konisky, 3608 Mathias Way, Verona, WI 53593 (608) 203-6113 (H); jordan.konisky@gmail.com; www.swtu.org
- Wild Rivers (#415):** Dick Berge, 67725 E. Deep Lake Dr., Iron River, WI 54847 (715) 372-5228 (H); flytyerb@cheqnet.net www.wisconsintu.org/wildrivers
- Wisconsin Clear Waters (#255):** Bob Swanson, PO Box 822, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0822 (715) 579-6795; apacheroad@charter.net; www.WisconsinTU.org/ClearWaters
- Wisconsin River Valley (#395):** Linda Lehman, buglehman@yahoo.com; www.wrvtu.org
- Wolf River (#050):** Andy Killoren, N1493 Hwy. 45, Fremont, WI 54940; akilloren@centurytel.net.

Wisconsin TU State Council Leadership

- State Chair:** Kim McCarthy, 736 Meadowbrook Ct., Green Bay, WI 54313 (920) 434-3659 KMcCarthy2@new.rr.com
- Vice Chair:** John Meachen, 1111 Marquardt Rd., Wausau, WI 54403 (715) 675-4920 (H); pastorjohn@gswausau.org
- Secretary:** Todd Hanson, 4514 Elgar Ln., Madison, WI 53704 (608) 692-6914 (W); twhanson@sbcglobal.net
- Treasurer:** Gary Stoychoff, 1326 14th Ave., Green Bay, WI 54304 garystoychoff@att.net
- Past State Chair:** Bill Heart, 29450 Verners Rd., Ashland, WI 54806 (715) 682-4703 (H), (715) 209-0431 (C); wwheart@centurytel.net
- Vice Chair, Central Region:** Bob Haase, W7949 Treptow Ln., Eldorado, WI 54932 (920) 922-8003 (H); flytier@milwpc.com
- Vice Chair, Northeast Region:** Paul Kruse, 500 Saint Jude St., Green Bay, WI 54303 (920) 494-4220 (H); paulkruse@tds.net
- Vice Chair, Southern Region:** Henry Koltz, 18225 Hoffman Ave., Brookfield, WI 53045 (414) 331-5679 (C); hek@sdelaw.com
- Vice Chair, Western Region:** Bill Heart (see above)
- Awards:** Todd Hanson (see above)

- Education:** Bob Haase (see above)
- Friends of WITU and Watershed Access Fund:** Doug Brown, R4800 Timber Ln., Ringle, WI 54471 (715) 574-4706; Decbrown@yahoo.com
- Legal Counsel:** Winston Ostrow, 233 N. Broadway #120, De Pere, WI 54115 920-362-6609 (W); waostrow@gklaw.com
- Legislative Committee:** Jeff Smith, 7330 Old Sauk Rd., Madison, WI 53717 (608) 836-5974 (H); riversmith@charter.net
- Membership:** John T. "Jack" Bode, W312 N6434 Beaver Lake Rd., Hartland, WI 53029 (262) 367-5300 (H); (262) 951-7136 (W); jbode@gklaw.com
- National Leadership Council Representative:** Bill Heart (see above)
- Publications:** Todd Hanson (see above)
- Resource Management:** John Meachen, (see above)
- Water Resources:** Bob Obma, 12870 West Shore Drive, Mountain, WI 54149 (715) 276-1170 (H) bobobma@hotmail.com
- Webmaster:** Jim Hlaban, webmaster@WisconsinTU.org

Contact TU National when you change addresses or chapter leaders

TU National manages WITU's mailing list, so update your address by calling 1-800-834-2419 or e-mailing trout@TU.org. Address changes can also be done on-line by going to www.tu.org and signing in with your member number, which is found on your wallet card or *TROUT* magazine label.

If you are moving to a different city and wish to be affiliated with the TU chapter in your new area, note the new chapter number (see the text next to the map above for the numbers of our chapters).

WISCONSIN TROUT

Vol. 24, No. 4 — October 2012

Wisconsin Trout is the official publication of the Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited and is distributed to the members of Wisconsin's 21 TU chapters. Nonmember subscriptions are \$12.50/year. Publication and distribution dates are the first weeks of January, April, July, and October. Deadlines for articles and advertisements are the 10th of December, March, June, and September. Contact the editor for a current advertising rate sheet.

Contributions and letters to the editor are welcomed. Submit articles and returnable photos (color or b&w) to the editorial office:

Todd Hanson, editor
 4514 Elgar Ln.
 Madison, WI 53704
 (608) 692-6914
 twhanson@sbcglobal.net

Kim McCarthy, Chair
 736 Meadowbrook Ct.
 Green Bay, WI 54313

John Meachen, Vice Chair
 1111 Marquardt Rd.
 Wausau, WI 54403

Todd Hanson, Secretary
 4514 Elgar Ln.
 Madison, WI 53704

Gary Stoychoff, Treasurer
 1326 14th Ave.
 Green Bay, WI 54304

Council of the year award is thanks to you

By Kim McCarthy

WITU State Council Chair

I don't surprise very easily, but Duke Welter managed to do exactly that on September 10.

I was just wrapping up packing and making final preparations to attend the TU National meeting in Asheville, North Carolina. As usual, I had managed to put off packing until the last minute. That was definitely the case for the Asheville trip because I was expecting a pretty leisurely event where all I would need to do was listen to the current state of affairs with the national organization and make sure I took notes to pass to our Wisconsin membership.

Then the phone rang. Duke and I discussed a few things, and then he asked me what I expected my role to be at the annual meeting. My response was that I expected to be an information gathering spectator and was looking forward to the meeting.

At that point in the conversation, Duke released the blockbuster. He informed me that he was calling on behalf of TU National and that Wisconsin had won the Council of the Year Award. He said I would need to make an acceptance speech at the Friday night dinner. The awards

dinner would be on the grounds of the Biltmore.

No pressure — the Biltmore in front of a national audience of TU leaders. Then I realized that I would be driving for the next two days with two days of meetings to follow, and then the dinner. With almost no time on the schedule to think about what to say, the meeting no longer looked so relaxing. As the acceptance time closed in and I thought more and more about something to say, the answer became very obvious.

We have a great group of TU members in Wisconsin who do tremendous things for the resource and education. Those members have been extremely supportive of the State Council, and the award is a compliment to the hard work of the membership.

I firmly believe what I wrote in the last paragraph, and it is pretty much what I said. My congratulations go out to all of the chapters for all that you do. I am proud to be associated with Wisconsin TU.

Wisconsin had plenty of recognition at the National meeting. In addition to the State Council of the Year Award, a couple of other major awards are coming back to Wisconsin.



STATE COUNCIL CHAIR KIM MCCARTHY ON TIMBER COULEE CREEK
Kim caught his share of trout on Timber Coulee Cr. during a recent trip to southwest Wisconsin.

Kiap-TU-Wish took home the Silver Trout Award — which is given annually to one of the top chapters in the country — for their outstanding conservation work. Bill Heart was given a Distinguished Service Award for his passionate work on the iron mining issue. Both of those awards are extremely well deserved.

A final note about the national

meeting is how well it was run. The Asheville area and the councils putting the event together did a great job. North Carolina has set the bar very high.

It will be a challenge for us to top what was done in Asheville, but like everything else that WITU does, I have no doubt that we will be up to that challenge.

State Council meets in Viroqua Sept. 29

By Todd Hanson

Eighteen of 21 chapters were present for the fall WITU State Council meeting at Vernon Memorial Hospital in Viroqua Sept. 29.

Council Chair Kim McCarthy began by thanking the chapters for their efforts over the past year. He said it was those activities that led TU National to name Wisconsin the country's top council at TU's annual meeting in Asheville, NC.

Two other awards came to Wisconsin at the national meeting — the Silver Trout Award went to our Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter and a Distinguished Service Award was presented to Bill Heart. (See the separate story on these awards on p. 1).

Kim noted that he will be stepping down as council chair in February. He asked members to review the council's leadership positions and consider running for one of them.

New council by-laws approved

At our previous State Council meeting, we discussed eliminating a TU National by-law recommendation that all council checks be co-signed. WITU Treasurer Gary Stoychoff objected to the

co-signing requirement on efficiency grounds. He also pointed out that the council's books are audited by an accountant every other year.

At the last meeting, the council voted to remove the co-signing requirement pending a call to TU National on whether this would create any liability problems. Kim noted that TU National is OK with our removing the requirement if such checks are limited to \$5,000 or less. A motion to this effect was offered and passed. As amended, the new by-laws are now in effect.

TU National annual meeting planning

Since Wisconsin has been named the host state for next year's TU National annual meeting, Kim distributed a set of tasks that need to be performed by our council, including:

- setting up about 50 hosted trout fishing outings within 90 minutes of the meeting site,
- organizing a conservation tour of recent stream habitat sites,
- planning a hospitality suite at the event, and
- collecting about a half dozen high-quality live auction prizes and bucket raffle items.

Bill Heart volunteered to be the overall chair in charge of the above activities. Contact Bill if you'd like to be involved with one of these efforts.

State Council banquet changes

Kim said the WITU State Council banquet committee will be making some changes to this February's banquet. Kim said the group feels it tried to do too much at last year's event.

To make this year's event run faster, this year there will be no featured speaker. The number of bucket raffles will be scaled back to about 25, but with more prizes per bucket. Finally, general admission ticket numbers will be used to identify people who bid on silent auction items, thereby saving time announcing the winners.

The theme of the Feb. 2 event at the Holiday Inn in Wausau will be "Unsung Heroes." Kim will be contacting chapters for the names of members who fit this description so they can be honored.

Adams County CAFO report

Hornberg Chapter President Matt Salchert updated members on a proposed Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) in Wood Co.

Continued on p. 11



IOWA TU'S BRETT LORENZEN AND WDNR EDUCATOR CAROLYN BETZ ADDRESS STATE COUNCIL

Iowa State Council Chair Brett Lorenzen (left) joined our meeting to give a brief update on some TU National items. WDNR Natural Resources Educator



Carolyn Betz (right) discussed the agency's process for developing a Driftless Area Master Plan. Her chart showed where the big trout reside.

Todd Hanson photos

Gill Lice Data Collection Form

Date:

County: Required

Stream name: Required

Road intersection near stream:

Did you catch any brook trout? Required

Did you catch any brown trout? Required

Did you observe gill lice on any brook trout you caught? Required

brook trout caught/inspected:

brook trout infected with gill lice:

Comments:

WITU WEBSITE REPORT FORM

This is the actual report form you'll see when you log in to WisconsinTU.org/GillLice. No names are needed to submit your observations. Reports of "clean" brook trout are also important to the investigators.

GILL LICE: infestation range being tracked by TU website

Continued from p. 1

There is also the possibility that the gill lice in Wisconsin is an introduced species called *Salmincola californiensis*.

This gill lice species typically infects rainbow trout *Oncorhynchus mykiss*, but is known to have a wider

range of hosts. The DNR is having samples of gill lice examined to determine if they are endemic *S. edwardsii* versus an introduced species.

Gill lice can cause significant physical trauma to the gill filaments. Resulting deformities may affect



2012 trout stamp prints still available from WITU

Wisconsin TU still has 2012 trout stamps and prints for sale after helping the WDNR bring back printed versions of the winning design from the annual contest. WITU chapters are able to buy prints for the reduced price of \$50 apiece for their fund-raising efforts.

Individuals can buy prints for \$125, plus shipping and handling. Print purchasers will also get a commemorative trout stamp at no charge.

Anyone with questions or should contact Tim Waters at MuddyWaters@new.rr.com, or visit Wisconsin TU at www.wisconsinTU.org under the "News" tab.

Artists should note that the next contest deadline is Dec. 6.

ORDER FORM

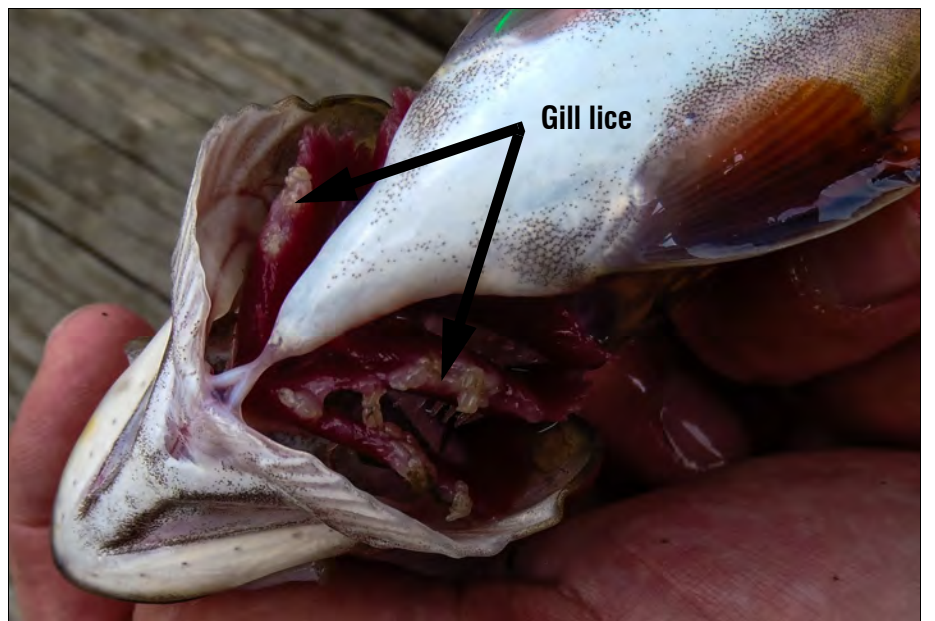
2012 Inland Trout Stamp Print/Stamp

<input type="text"/> 2012 trout print/s @ \$131 each (\$125 + \$6 S&H.) Price includes a free trout stamp.	<input type="text"/> 2012 trout stamp/s only @ \$10 each. Make check payable to: WI Trout Unlimited.	Mail order to: Tim Waters 409 2nd St. Menasha, WI 54952
--	--	--

Name

Address

City State Zip



BROOK TROUT GILLS — INFECTED AND CLEAN

Uninfected brook trout gills (top) are deep red in color throughout, whereas infected brook trout have white, rice-sized lice on paler, inflamed gills.

respiration and efficient uptake of oxygen and release of carbon dioxide, ammonia, and other metabolites.

Lice affect stress and growth?

Heavily infected brook trout may not be able to obtain sufficient oxygen when they are exercised, such as when caught by angling. Respiration may be particularly difficult for infected fish during times of high water temperatures and low dissolved oxygen levels.

There is a concern that high rates of infection may slow the physiological processes of growth and sexual maturation, which in turn may negatively affect brook trout population growth rates.

Things to report

We are asking anglers who would like to participate in this data collection effort to document their observations at the WITU website. A printable form will also be available to bring along on fishing trips and can be submitted by mail if preferred.

The online and printable forms ask for date, county, stream name, and nearest road crossing, followed by three yes/no questions.

This basic information will help us map the distribution of gill lice presence across the state.

Report "clean" brookies, too

Observations of the absence of gill lice are also important and will help us map where they currently are not present. The website will include a map that will be continually updated as anglers enter their observations.

The website and printable form also allow for documenting the number of brook trout caught and inspected and the number of brook trout observed with gill lice.

While not required in submitting a data form, this information will be useful for documenting sample sizes and for determining gill lice infection rates in streams in which gill lice are present.

With the help of trout anglers around the state, we hope to quickly gain a better understanding of gill lice distribution in Wisconsin.

The angler-based monitoring data generated by this project will help identify trends over time and may also be instrumental in formulating future research efforts to address fisheries management issues pertaining to gill lice infection of brook trout populations.

(Matt Mitro is a WDNR research scientist. He recently studied the effects of projected climate change on Wisconsin trout populations. Contact Mitro at (608) 221-6366 or matthew.mitro@wisconsin.gov. -Ed.)

The Life Cycle of Brook Trout Gill Lice

The gill lice life cycle includes four larval stages and one adult stage. Egg sacs release free-swimming larvae known as copepodids, which have about 24 hours to find a host. After finding a host, the copepodids molt several times and attain maturity in 3-8 days after hatching for males and in 4-20 days for females. The female life cycle is complete in about 28-30 days. Egg development time is dependent on temperature, occurring faster under warmer conditions within the confines of a coldwater environment. In this regard, there is a concern that climate warming may produce more complete life cycles of gill lice in a given annual period, which may lead to greater rates of infection. Mature gill lice remain permanently attached to a gill arch and may accumulate over time.



CHECKING OUT ROTATIONAL GRAZING ALONG SPRING CREEK NEAR COON VALLEY

Retired WDNR Fisheries Manager Dave Vetrano (left) addressed about 50 people (left) on how rotational grazing benefits water quality along trout

streams in the Driftless Area. TUDARE's Jeff Hasting (right, on left) and farm owner Rod Ofte showed an aerial view of the farm's seven grazing paddocks.

Cows and trout streams get along with rotational grazing

Some 50 people attended a stream walk on the Rod Ofte farm outside Coon Valley, WI, on Sept. 28 to see how cows and trout streams can get along just fine via rotational grazing.

The stream walk, part of the "Pasture Project" of the Wallace Center of Winrock International, was sponsored by TU, the National Fish and Wildlife Federation, and the Valley Stewardship

Network. The goals of the project are to reduce runoff and improve water quality in the Gulf of Mexico by increasing the amount of pasture in the Upper Mississippi River Basin.

Rod Ofte of Willow Creek Ranch shared how his 60 grassfed angus beef cattle and the DNR work hand-in-hand to maintain world class trout habitat along the Spring Coulee Creek.

Ofte's cattle graze rotationally through seven paddocks adjacent to the class I trout stream, and the project area is known as one of the best places to fish in the area.

Dave Vetrano gave attendees an overview of how poor grazing practices 150 years ago led to soil erosion and degraded streams. Stream restoration options were also discussed.

TU National's comments on Wisconsin's award winners

State Council Award — Wisconsin TU

Facing the proposal of a huge, open-pit taconite iron mine in the Penokee Hills, the Wisconsin Council garnered the support of its 21 chapters and 4,500 members to take action. Under the leadership of the council, TU members wrote letters to their legislators and local media, standing up for healthy streams and rivers. In addition, the council's legislative committee worked with resource advocacy groups in Madison to organize lobbying days and show the weakening effects of the legislation. In large part due to the council's coordinating efforts and strong leadership, legislative attempts to weaken the state's iron mining laws have been stopped — a victory for cold, clean fishable water.

Wisconsin's chapters are encouraged to look to the council for support on issues related to state-level communications, member engagement, and fundraising. Because of this, the chapters in the state become more effective in accomplishing our mission in their local watersheds. WITU chapters have been strong partners with TU's Driftless Area Restoration Effort (TUDARE) on many high-profile stream restoration projects in the Driftless Area. A third of the state's chapters have spearheaded projects in the area, and many others have been trained through TUDARE's annual symposium to become project leaders in their areas. With the council's support, many chapters have spearheaded multiyear, watershed-scale projects.

WITU continues partnering with the WDNR in an innovative program where TU helps pay part of the salaries of a habitat crew working on northern Wisconsin trout streams. The council communicates closely with WDNR with both positive cooperation and constructive criticism where necessary. As a result, TU is regarded inside and outside of the DNR to be the preeminent coldwater organization addressing Wisconsin resource issues. The Wisconsin Council is a fine example of grassroots effectiveness on behalf of coldwater fisheries.

Silver Trout Award — Kiap-TU-Wish

A mature TU chapter of 258 members, Kiap-TU-Wish (Kiap) works to carry out TU's mission in Wisconsin's west-central counties, along the Upper Mississippi and St. Croix rivers. The chapter name comes from the four major coldwater rivers that dominate the region: the Kinnickinnic, Apple, Willow, and Rush. The more dominating feature, however, is the eastward push of development from the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN. New residential development and commercial properties are gobbling up formerly rural lands, bringing with them storm water runoff, groundwater depletion, road building, and other challenges for coldwater streams and wetlands. Kiap has built a strong reputation while addressing these issues.

Working with UW-River Falls scientists, chapter member Kent Johnson, a professional hydrologist, has worked to develop monitoring protocols which are now being adopted around the entire Upper Mississippi River basin through TUDARE.

Restoration work on several degraded area streams has been

spearheaded by Kiap volunteers over the past 10 years. Goals of these projects include reducing the endemic bank erosion found across the entire non-glaciated area of the Upper Mississippi Basin, expanding the available fish habitat, planting native prairie and other species for more diverse wildlife and bird habitat, and providing productive activities for volunteers from TU and other partner groups. For example, the chapter removed hundreds of old tires from a nearby stream, restoring it after decades of dumping from an old tire plant that discarded its rejected product in the waterway. Since 2000, Kiap and its partners have raised over \$1 million for area restoration work.

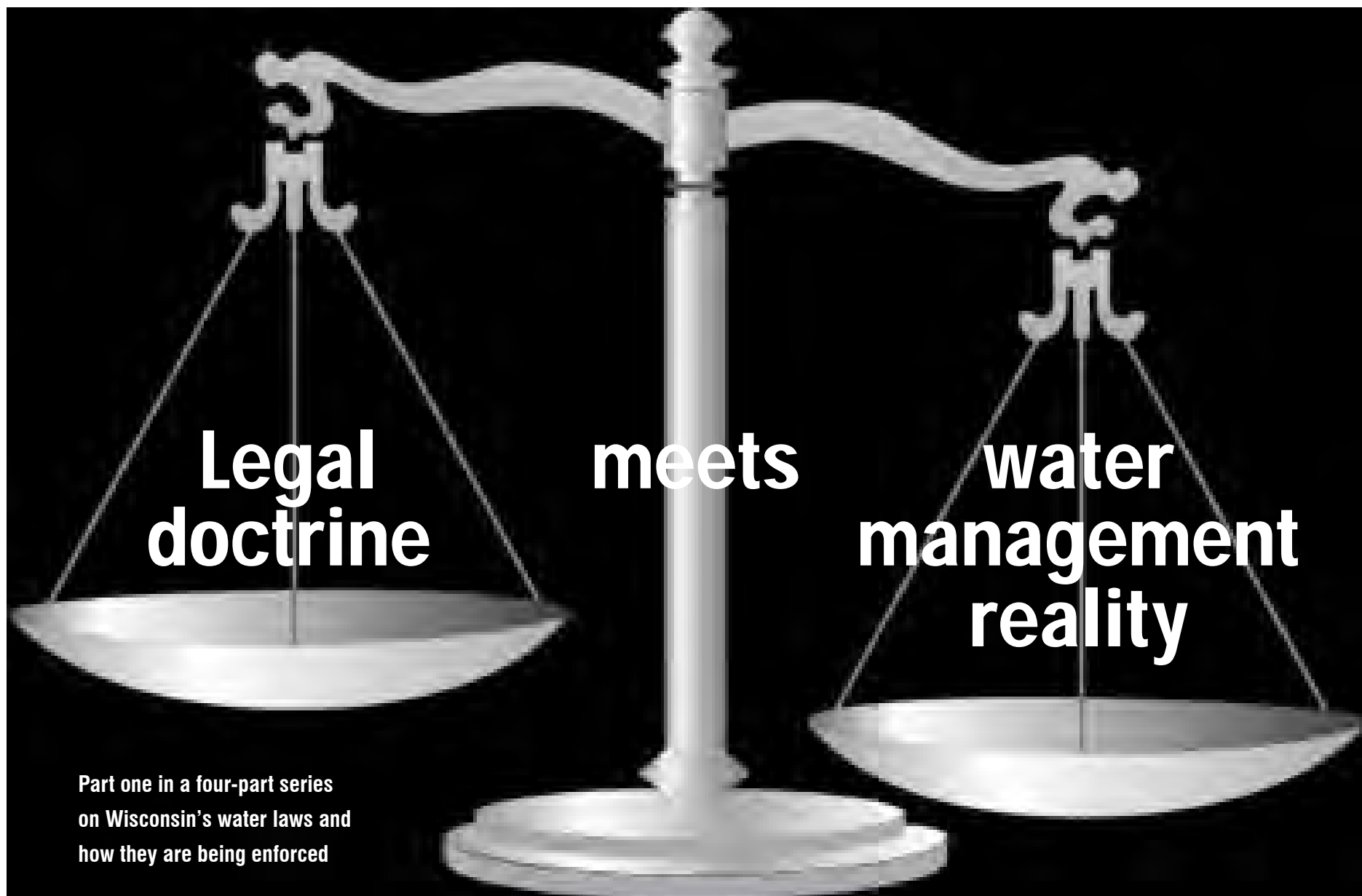
Advocacy and conservation projects are accompanied by educational efforts by the chapter, including a well-regarded and well-run youth fly fishing workshop on the banks of the Kinnickinnic R., as well as fly tying and fly fishing classes for adults. Kiap volunteers have also long taken an active role in addressing state coldwater resource issues through their membership on the Wisconsin council.

Distinguished Service Award — Bill Heart

When plans were unveiled for an unprecedented and massive taconite mine in Wisconsin's northernmost counties early in 2011, it appeared certain to come to pass. But TU has a local presence in its Wild Rivers Chapter and a solid statewide reputation as a pragmatic but dedicated organization that will fight hard against such disastrous proposals and policies. And in Ashland, the nearest city to the proposed mine site, it has a rare resource leader in Bill Heart.

Bill was one of the most effective players in the successful efforts to protect the waters of the Penokee Hills from the threats of the open-pit mine. Bill's effectiveness stems from his passion for the natural resources that he knows intimately. Bill did not just speak about what these waters meant to the fish and to the people. He literally took decision-makers out into the Penokee Hills so they could see, smell, touch, and experience this unique place. On tours, he pointed out where various aspects of the proposed open-pit mine would impact specific waters and wetlands, which made the potential impacts real for decision-makers who were being bombarded with so much technical, and oftentimes misleading, information in the Capitol. Several key legislators credited Bill's tours with the decision to oppose legislation that would have undercut protections for our waterways in Wisconsin. Bill was able to win the trust of all parties because he speaks from his heart and from his experience as a businessman, an angler, and an up-standing member of the community.

But Bill is not just an effective advocate with decision-makers. His humble and sweet nature brings diverse partners together. There is hardly anyone who worked to defeat the open-pit mining legislation that wouldn't say Bill Heart was literally the heart of the campaign. Bill best demonstrates the principle of putting resources before politics. He inspired many people, inside and outside of TU, and represented our coldwater fisheries resources with uncommon commitment and endless energy.



Twelve years ago, *Wisconsin Trout* published an article by attorney Melissa Scanlan on Wisconsin’s public trust doctrine. Back then, Scanlan had recently started Midwest Environmental Advocates, Wisconsin’s first non-profit environmental law center.

Scanlan is now the Water Law and Policy Scholar at the University of Wisconsin Law School, and she has just written a new article in *Ecology Law Quarterly* (39:1, 2012) that offers fresh insight into Wisconsin’s water laws and how they are being enforced. We are pleased to serialize this latest article over the next four issues of *Wisconsin Trout*.

Scanlan’s article starts by summarizing the “seven key concepts” found in Wisconsin’s water laws that, collectively, comprise the public trust doctrine. Look for these concepts covered two or three at a time in full-

page, shaded boxes. You can thank these core concepts every time you pull up to a bridge and step into your favorite trout stream, knowing you can walk up and down that stream at will because you’re a part owner.

But the really special part of Scanlan’s article is its second half, which begins below. She interviewed dozens of the WDNR’s “water specialists” whose job it is to help the public comply with the state’s water laws. These specialists are quoted *anonymously*, so we learn what’s really happening across the state under the broad umbrella of enforcement. It’s tough for a water specialist to balance a private landowner’s wants with the public’s interest in a waterway, but the WDNR and others are making it tougher.

Scanlan concludes her piece with some suggestions for restoring balance to a system that has tilted toward private interests in recent years.

By Melissa Scanlan

In Wisconsin, the legislature, DNR, and state courts have been instrumental in defining the scope of public rights in water as well as the responsibility of the trustee. The legislature, as the primary trustee for the state’s water re-

sources, codified part of the common law public trust doctrine and delegated primary responsibility over the trust to DNR.¹⁴³ DNR, in turn, employs water resource managers who make daily determinations that impact public trust resources. Finally, the courts resolve concrete legal disputes concerning public trust assets and articulate the underlying legal doctrine.

To evaluate the utility of the public trust doctrine’s protections, it is valuable to understand how these three institutions interact. Scholars extensively review court decisions and legislation, but the literature is missing an understanding of how state water managers in the United States view and protect the public trust. In Part I of this article [in the shaded, full-page boxes serialized in *Wisconsin Trout* over the next three issues], I described how the courts and the legislature shaped the seven core concepts of the public trust doctrine. The shortcoming of analyzing court decisions alone is that published opinions cannot describe how the trust is actually administered. So [below] I assess

the DNR’s ability to implement the doctrine. This Part illustrates how DNR applies the public trust doctrine, providing the reader with a vantage point for assessing the doctrine’s utility to protect water resources. While this study focuses on Wisconsin water managers, this Part is particularly useful for those who seek to compare and contrast other states’ institutional supports or barriers to public trust implementation to the Wisconsin DNR.

Research rationale and methodology

Regulators make thousands of decisions every year about the

over Wisconsin’s navigable waters, the most immediate and regular impact comes from DNR’s Water Regulation and Zoning Specialists (Water Specialists). As described more fully in Core Concept Two [on p. 8], the legislature delegated trust authority to DNR and partly codified the public trust and riparian rights in chapters 30 and 31 of the Wisconsin Statutes.^{144*} Water Specialists carry out these statutes and the common law public trust mandates daily by deciding whether to issue a permit allowing a private riparian’s exercise of rights, what management strategies will best balance competing uses of water, and when to



Melissa Scanlan

public trust that never reach a court of law. While the entire Water Division at DNR has a trustee role

initiate an enforcement action to stop private encroachment onto public trust property.

TABLE 1: Research methods

Number of water regulation and zoning specialists	30
Number of water regulation and zoning specialists interviewed	19
Number of regions ¹⁴⁷	5
Number of regions represented in study	5

One needs to understand the Water Specialists' perspectives, the influences on their decisions, and the systems in which they work to better assess the impact of the public trust doctrine on contemporary water management issues. Through qualitative research interviews with the trustees, one can discern how Water Specialists regularly make decisions regarding the trust and the impediments to fully implementing the legal doctrine.¹⁴⁵

With this in mind, I undertook a series of qualitative research interviews with almost two-thirds of DNR's current Water Specialists, randomly selected but representing all regions of the state (see *Table 1*). I also interviewed key upper management personnel and lawyers, some of whom are retired.¹⁴⁶

I maintained the confidentiality of current DNR staff by omitting names of DNR employees from this article and uniformly using the male pronoun when describing their responses. Two retired political appointees — former DNR Secretary George Meyer and former Water Division Administrator Todd Ambs — are notable exceptions to this procedure. I also interviewed Peter Peshek, a well-known Wisconsin environmental attorney who has had the unique experience of serving as the first Public Intervenor¹⁴⁸ prior to representing corporate clients and private riparians before DNR. An analysis of the data shows how DNR applies the public trust doctrine and, thus, provides information regarding the doctrine's utility to protect water resources from degradation.

DNR is the central trustee to guard the state's waters against private taking for narrow special interests

"I stay in water regulations because this is the most important position at DNR: if we don't have water or usable water, nothing else will survive."¹⁴⁹

1. Introducing the trustees: DNR's water specialists

This research focuses primarily on Water Specialists who administer chapters 30 and 31 of the Wisconsin Statutes regulating riparian activities.¹⁵⁰ Every day the Water Specialists encounter conflicts that arise between competing individual interests and public interests in the near shore area. To get a better understanding of how the Water Specialists implement the public trust doctrine, I describe the type of people who occupy such a position, their motivations, and the context in which they function.

Unlike DNR regulations that are prescribed by minimum federal standards, such as the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act, the public trust doctrine is based on interpretations of the state constitution, statutes, and cases. Thus, the public trust doctrine is particularly malleable to more localized interests and political pressure.¹⁵¹ The sheer volume of regulated actors further complicates matters. Unlike the defined universe of the businesses and municipalities regulated by the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act, which in Wisconsin involves a few thousand entities, the public trust doctrine involves protecting public rights for millions of individuals sharing a resource.

Moreover, compared to other DNR positions, the Water Specialist position is "high stress" because the staff interact with private property owners, navigate that sometimes contentious line between private and public property, and try to show individuals how their activities on private property impact public rights in the state's waters.¹⁵² As one Water Specialist noted, "Landowners like...regulations when applied to a neighbor they think is harming shared water resources, but not when it applies

At times, perhaps as a result of a combination of political pressure, upper management vetoes, and inexperience, the newest Water Specialists approach being a water regulator almost apologetically. As long as people are flexible with project design, "any project can receive a permit," according to one Water Specialist.

to what they want to do on their land."¹⁵³ Often landowners "want to do what they want with their land" and do not take kindly to DNR regulating them.¹⁵⁴ Another Water Specialist agreed, stating that "[P]eople want their little house in the country, but then they want to place their driveway in a wetland and drive ATVs through streams."¹⁵⁵ One Water Specialist's experience has shown him that "[I]andowners want to get as much out of the project as they can and they don't care about public resource impacts. There is a lot of hatred for DNR and what it stands for."¹⁵⁶ One upper manager observed, "This is the most difficult job in the agency because of the interactions with private property owners."¹⁵⁷

Water Specialist conflicts extend beyond private interactions with property owners. A more experienced Water Specialist reflected, "I've never had a permit denial overturned, but I am bad mouthed in the local paper with distorted half truths."¹⁵⁸ He added, "I need to be vigilant to protect against taking public resources and putting them into private hands so I've become a very unpopular person in my area."¹⁵⁹

The Water Specialist position requires someone who can understand the pertinent legal statutes and regulations and work as a generalist to bring in a variety of experts to understand the range of impacts caused by a proposal, such as historic preservation, wildlife, plants, and construction runoff.¹⁶⁰ The Water Specialist must be able to communicate clearly and comfortably with a wide variety of riparian landowners, ranging from vacation homeowners, to farmers, to big box developers.¹⁶¹ Increasingly, Water Specialists also need to explain and justify their decisions with state legislators.¹⁶²

Almost all of the interviewed Water Specialists had formal educational backgrounds of either a B.S. or M.S. in natural resource management, biology, or related fields.¹⁶³ Most of the Water Specialists came to DNR because they are avid hunters, fishers, or nature enthusiasts.¹⁶⁴ They tend to take pride in their job; one asserted, "I'm honored to be a trustee of the state's waters."¹⁶⁵ However, another Water Specialist captured the challenge: "Natural resource agencies tend to attract people who are scientific and idealistic, but these qualities don't necessarily make for a good regulator."¹⁶⁶ Thus, finding Water Specialists

with this combination of skills is a more difficult than one might imagine.

2. Educating the public about best practices may advance water protections

I'm from the political right and I know that when I can explain to the public how a project, like making a pond that warms up water right next to a Class 1 trout stream, will take away your ability to have an exceptional fishing area, you understand it. But when I'm painted as a bureaucrat with this perva-

sive anti-government sentiment from my own political party, we all lose out.¹⁶⁷

Many Water Specialists emphasized how they educate riparians, contractors, and the public to encourage sustainable practices. One Water Specialist said, "I teach people, talk to school groups, lake associations, and others to help people understand the regulations — I explain there is a scientific reason why you can't fill a wetland."¹⁶⁸ Others try to educate people about why the regulations exist, but are not always able to deter actions that harm waterways.¹⁶⁹

Some Water Specialists use peer pressure and competition to protect the state's public waters. One such Specialist has contractors send him photos of completed projects so that "when I see really good work, I promote it among the other contractors and riparians."¹⁷⁰

Educating the regulated public about the purpose of water laws and best practices on private property are important ways to encourage compliance and prevent problems and conflicts. As discussed below, training and encouragement of landowner education is now very limited at the DNR, so there is no systematic approach to educating the public. Instead, it is done on a piecemeal basis and is not practiced across the board by all Water Specialists as a regular part of their interactions with landowners.

3. Landowner-oriented approach: apologetic regulators

The interests of riparians may overly influence the focus of many

Water Specialists at the expense of the overall public trust. Although one upper manager expressed concern that private riparians view Water Specialists as "antagonists," this research indicates Water Specialists view themselves as helping riparians complete their projects.¹⁷¹

Although Water Specialists are water enthusiasts, they tend to take a practical approach to balancing riparian activities with protecting water resources. "We aren't able to have zero degradation of the resources so I try to determine what degradation is acceptable and get a positive benefit for the public interest I'm trying to protect."¹⁷² One Water Specialist said he "wants to meet customer service requirements" so he makes "the experience easy for the permit applicant" and "explains the law so they understand."¹⁷³ In a similar sentiment, a Water Specialist reflected:

"I try to put myself in the landowner's shoes and do my best to explain the purpose behind our water regulations. Ninety nine percent of the projects can be done right with little impact. When I get a bad project, I usually can turn it around. I go out of my way to work with people."¹⁷⁴

Another Water Specialist shared this sentiment and stated that he "tries to steer landowners into projects that fit general permit standards so they pay a lower application fee and have a quicker process."¹⁷⁵

At times, perhaps as a result of a combination of political pressure, upper management vetoes, and inexperience, the newest Water Specialists approach being a water regulator almost apologetically. As long as people are flexible with project design, "any project can receive a permit," according to one Water Specialist.¹⁷⁶ He added, "I'm trying not to ask so much of the landowner that someone up the ladder at DNR will oppose my decision."¹⁷⁷ Upper management encourages this landowner-oriented approach, partly as a way to cope with budget cuts and a reduced work force.¹⁷⁸ Another way management has dealt with reduced budgets and staff is to implement a triage approach to regulating Wisconsin's waters, as explored [in the January issue of *Wisconsin Trout*].

(* To save space, footnote text is not shown here. Footnotes often refer to court cases and legal opinions. To read the footnotes, see the complete Scanlan piece, a link to which is at www.WisconsinTU.org. -Ed.)



**MIKE'S
SERVICE
AT LANGLADE**

JUNCTION OF HWY. 55 AND 64



Fly Shop & Sporting Goods

Need a special pattern? Ask Mike!

• **Custom Tied Flies** •

MICHAEL &
ALICE KLIMOSKI
Owners

(715) 882-8901
4505 STATE ROAD 55
WHITE LAKE, WISCONSIN 54491

Part one in a series on understanding Wisconsin's water laws...

The core principles of Wisconsin's Public Trust Doctrine

By Melissa Scanlan

At its core, the public trust doctrine describes a state's relationship to its water resources and its citizens — it is the body of law that directs the state to hold navigable waters in trust for shared use by the public.^{15*} The contours of this relationship and the use of the doctrine to protect natural resources have evolved along with changing uses of water. Courts and legislatures have continually expanded what resources are covered by the public trust and the public's interest in those resources to include public rights ranging from hunting to maintaining water quality.¹⁶ Due to its elasticity, the public trust doctrine "has been one of the most useful adaptations of traditional legal doctrines for bringing the notion of public rights and responsibilities into the modern era."¹⁷

There are seven core concepts undergirding Wisconsin's public trust doctrine:

1. Like a financial trust, the public trust in water involves identifiable trustees, beneficiaries, and trust property;
2. Wisconsin law imposes a duty on trustees to protect public rights in Wisconsin's navigable water;
3. Trustees have a supervisory duty that requires adaptive management;
4. The public trust is a fluid doctrine that expands, as needed, to protect the water commons and public rights;
5. The legislature may grant lakebed title to entities other than the state, but only under certain limited conditions;
6. Private riparian property must be used in a way that does not encroach on public rights in navigable waters; and,
7. A healthy public trust requires active enforcement by the trustees and the beneficiaries.

These core concepts provide a framework to understand and interpret the emerging conflicts over the use of the public water commons. The concepts also provide a measuring stick to assess the state's management of public trust resources.

Core concept 1: the trust relationship involves identifiable trustees, property, and beneficiaries

The public trust in navigable waters, as with financial trusts,¹⁸ involves a trustee, trust property, and beneficiaries. Under the public trust doctrine, a state is the trustee¹⁹ and holds the trust property, navigable waters and the beds beneath them, in trust for the public's use and enjoyment.²⁰

The definition of public trust property is based on the water itself.²¹ As early as the *Illinois Central* decision, the Supreme Court explained, "The ownership of the navigable waters...and of the lands under them, is a subject of public concern to the whole people of the state."²² Wisconsin, consistent with federal common law,²³ defined its public trust ownership to

include title to the beds underlying navigable waters, up to the ordinary high water mark.²⁴

Wisconsin courts have further clarified that, irrespective of ownership of the beds under navigable waters, the public trust applies to water flowing in streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes.²⁵ Private reappearances²⁶ may hold "a qualified title in the stream bed to the center thereof"²⁷ of navigable streams.²⁸ The public trust, however, burdens this title:

Navigable waters are public waters and as such they should inure to the benefit of the public. They should be free to all for commerce, for travel, for recreation, and also for hunting and fishing, which are now mainly certain forms of recreation.²⁹

The water commons are different from other forms of property: one cannot own water. Whether a riparian landowner or a public trust beneficiary, water rights are usufructuary — one has the right to use, but not own, water.³⁰ Water is to be used and reused in an ongoing cycle of shared and interconnected rights.

Core concept 2: trustees have a legal duty to protect Wisconsin's navigable water

States may regulate water-related activities under their police powers.³¹ Given a state's broad police powers, some have questioned the need to base water protections on the public trust doctrine.³² However, basing water protections on the public trust doctrine is important because of two critical aspects of the doctrine that the state police power lacks. First, the state trustee has a duty to take action to protect trust resources.³³ Second, individuals have legally protected public rights to use and enjoy trust resources.³⁴ In other words, a state cannot simply forego managing the water commons because it is politically expedient, or too costly, without potentially running afoul of its trustee duties.³⁵ A corollary of this concept is that a member of a public beneficiary group may bring a legal action to protect public rights if the state fails to carry out its trustee duties.³⁶

When Wisconsin entered the Union, on equal footing with the original states, it incorporated into its constitution the Northwest Ordinance of 1787's language that stated navigable waters are "common highways" and "forever free" for all inhabitants of the territory: "[T]he navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and St. Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same, shall be common highways and forever free, as well to the inhabitants of this state as to the citizens of the United States, without any tax, impost or duty therefor."³⁷ This language firmly establishes Wisconsin's public trust doctrine.³⁸ On the federal level, the U.S. Supreme Court recognized the public trust doctrine is a substantive restraint on a "state's ability to alienate the beds and banks of navigable waters or to abdicate regulatory control over those waters."³⁹ However, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has gone further by holding that the state's constitutional mandate places a duty on

trustees to protect public waters, not just refrain from harming or selling them.⁴⁰ This duty applies to the legislature, and to the Department of Natural Resources, to whom the legislature delegated trustee responsibilities.

A. Wisconsin's Legislature has a constitutional duty to take action to protect navigable waters

The legislature, as trustee of the navigable waters of the state, has a significant role in administering the trust. As early as 1927, the Wisconsin Supreme Court identified the legislature's duty to restrict actions that might endanger the trust and take affirmative actions to protect the trust:

The trust reposed in the state is not a passive trust; it is governmental, active and administrative. Representing the state in its legislative capacity, the legislature is fully vested with the power of control and regulation. The equitable title to those submerged lands vests in the public at large, while the legal title vests in the state, restricted only by the trust, and the trust, being both active and administrative, requires the law-making body to act in all cases where action is necessary, not only to preserve the trust, but to promote it. As has heretofore been shown, the condition confronting the legislature was not a theory but a fact. This condition required positive action.⁴¹

In accordance with the Wisconsin Supreme Court's mandate, if a litigant challenges legislation as violating the public trust doctrine, courts closely scrutinize the law to determine whether the legislature carried out its duty to protect the public interest in trust resources.⁴² For example, in response to the legislature's attempt to convey trust property to a private developer in the late 1800s, the court in *Priewe v. Wisconsin State Land and Improvement Co.* was not bound by the legislature's statement of purpose when deciding whether the legislation benefited the public.⁴³ Rather than deferring to the stated legislative purpose of protecting public health, the court carefully scrutinized the results of legislation and determined that conveying a lake to John Reynolds so he could completely drain and profit off of land speculation was a loss to the public, rather than a benefit.⁴⁴ Since the 1800s, the courts have continued to play this role as independent check on legislative action involving trust resources.⁴⁵

B. Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources has broad authority to protect the trust in navigable waters

To satisfy the "state's affirmative obligations as trustee of the navigable waters,"⁴⁶ in 1965 the legislature created the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), an agency with the "necessary powers" to protect Wisconsin's waters.⁴⁷ The legislature established DNR as the central agency with "general supervision and control over the waters of the state," thereby delegating to DNR broad responsibility for the administration of the trust.⁴⁸

The legislature established state water policy objectives of "protect, maintain and improve the quality and management of the waters of the state."⁴⁹ Then the legislature

directed DNR to create a "comprehensive action program...to protect human life and health, fish and aquatic life, scenic and ecological values and domestic, municipal, recreational, industrial, agricultural and other uses of water."⁵⁰ The legislature mandated that future interpretation of "all rules and orders promulgated under this subchapter shall be liberally construed in favor of [these] policy objectives..."⁵¹ Thus, DNR has a tremendous duty as well as authority to take action to protect the state's waters.⁵²

One way the trustees carry out their duty is by establishing protections for public rights against encroachment by private riparians. To do this, the legislature codified common riparian law and public trust rights in chapters 30, 31, and 281 of the Wisconsin Statutes.⁵³ These statutes authorize DNR to issue permits and supervise and control riparian activities to ensure they are neither "detrimental to the public interest" nor would they obstruct navigation.⁵⁴ Although some statutory provisions governing DNR's activities do not explicitly require DNR to protect navigable waters, such as when issuing a groundwater permit, DNR still must regulate the "potential effect on navigable waters" based on a broad reading of the legislation creating DNR and delegating trustee duties.⁵⁵

DNR's duty to administer these statutes requires its water managers to strike a balance between allowing an individual riparian to exercise his or her rights and protecting the broader public rights in those shared waters. DNR water managers are required by law to protect Wisconsin's public trust heritage in its water commons against interference by riparian landowners who have narrower self-interests.⁵⁶ The public interest in trust resources provides the basis for DNR to choose among competing uses and deny or modify projects to minimize harm to public trust resources.⁵⁷

Based on these clear legislative mandates, courts generally defer to DNR decisions when DNR protects the trust, but view more critically and tend to overturn DNR or legislative decisions that privatize or degrade public trust resources.⁵⁸ Given Wisconsin courts' deference to the trustees, one might expect this to impact DNR's water management. Part II of this Article analyzes how DNR balances riparian and public rights, and identifies key impediments to water management.

* To save space, footnote numbers are shown here, but footnote text is not. Footnote text often refers to court cases and legal opinions. To read the footnotes, see the complete Scanlan piece posted at www.WisconsinTU.org.

NEXT ISSUE:

More core principles of Wisconsin's Public Trust Doctrine will be presented in the next issue of *Wisconsin Trout*.

A link to Melissa Scanlan's complete article can be found at www.WisconsinTU.org under "news."

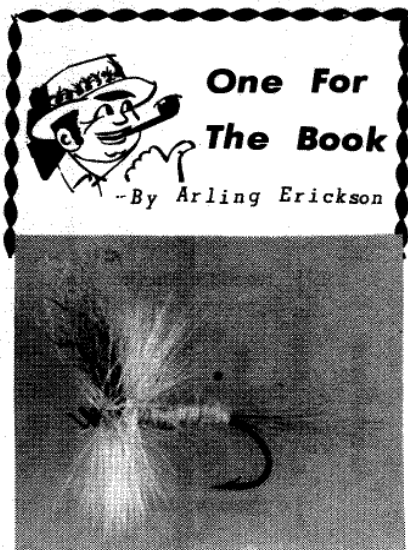
In this Issue

To be presented in future Issues



WITU Looking Back

From the October 1972
WITU Quarterly Report..



HART WASHER

This fly is an offshoot of the Wulff series of high-floating dry flies.

Named after Doug Hart and tied with the Green Bay Packers' color scheme, it is a top producer in the Hexagenia hatch, when the waves from the lunkers are washing the banks. Hence the name "Hart Washer."

We were looking for a fly with high visibility and the ability to stay afloat in the darkness, and yet have the character of a dry fly. In this pattern we have all the above qualities.

Hook - Wilson dry fly, size 8 or 10.
Tying thread - yellow.
Tail - yellow hair, deer-tail or kiptail.
Body - yellow polypropylene wool.
Wings - green kiptail.
Hackle - 3 badger saddle hackleg wound on heavy.

From the October 2002 Wisconsin Trout...

Perrier abandons Wisconsin permit

By Todd Hanson

Its thirst for Midwest spring water slaked by wells brought on line recently in Michigan, the Perrier Company has left Wisconsin as suddenly as it entered the state.

Just three days before a Sept. 20 deadline to update their high-capacity well agreement with the WDNR, Perrier's parent company Nestle Waters announced it would not renew the agreement.

By abandoning their permit, Perrier will have to start from scratch should they decide to return to Wisconsin at some point in the future.

Perrier's interests in Wisconsin

are now limited to agreements they have with the local land owners on whose property they would have sunk their wells. It is unclear if those agreements are also set to expire.

"I was and I wasn't surprised about this pullout," says Franc Fennessey, Deputy Secretary of the WDNR.

"On the one hand the company met with the WDNR earlier this year on getting their model done. But then Michigan came on line. I thought that if they pulled the plug, it would be this summer because they were scheduled to begin a local citizen process soon," says Fennessey.

Crandon Mining Co. lays off local staff

Company says it will continue seeking permit. Story on p. 7

From the October 1982 WITU Quarterly Report...

Fox Valley: Over the summer Fox Valley members contributed approximately 100 man hours to clear brush from Davis Cr. Some stream bank improvement efforts were included along with rock placement and repair of boom cover devices in the lower section.

A special award has been established by the Fox Valley Chapter to recognize significant contributions and dedication regarding chapter activities and our cold water resources. This memorial award has been established in the name of the late Pat Howlett. Pat was a member of the Fox Valley Chapter and was well known for his skills as an angler and fly tyer as well as for his amiable manner and congeniality. The first presentation of this award was made at the spring banquet and chapter member Del Schwaller was appropriately named as the recipient. Del has been very active and has also coordinated the annual chapter outings with the handicapped.

From the Summer 1992 Wisconsin Trout...

Tornadoes hit Wautoma area trout streams

By Forrest Grulke

The evening of August 29, 1992, will not soon be forgotten by residents of central Wisconsin, particularly those in Wautoma. A tornado hit Wautoma and the surrounding area with devastating force, resulting in loss of life, injuries and forced homelessness.

One count indicated that 560 residences and businesses were either destroyed or damaged.

Not included in the news coverage on the tornado's effects was the damage done to the environment. The tornado ripped a path of destruction through Waushara County, uprooting hundreds of trees and snapping many more in half.

The damage to the trees resulted in some ancillary damage to the county's fine trout streams, too, including the White River and its West Branch, the Mecan and Willow Rivers, and Cedar Springs and Little Pine Creeks.

According to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources fisheries biologist Al Niebur, who covers Waupaca and Waushara counties, approximately two-and-one-half miles of premier trout streams have significant damage.

Most of the trout stream damage came from downed trees that redirected current and impeded stream flow. Additionally, the uprooting of trees allowed a big influx of sediment to wash into the streams, and rains subsequent to the tornado exacerbated the situation.

Much debris from former buildings within the vicinity of the streams also ended up in the rivers and creeks.

It appeared that the West Branch of the White River had suffered the worst from tree uprooting and sediment influx, with the most immediate near-term threat being the impact of heavy sediment loads on the success of the fall-spawning trout of the West Branch.

At press time, the DNR was considering construction of a temporary silt trap in order to collect the majority of sediments entering the West Branch and thus enhance trout spawning success.

Trout Unlimited members rose to the occasion to assist in the repair of the damage done to these streams. T.U. members from many chapters gathered on Sept. 5, 12 and 19 to remove downed trees and other debris that had fallen into the streams.

Further reports on this cleanup will come in the following issue of Wisconsin Trout.

Nominations sought for 2013 Council awards

By Todd Hanson

The Wisconsin State Council of TU believes it is important to recognize the outstanding efforts of our members and the broader conservation community.

To that end, the State Council has presented a number of awards since 1983. (See the past award winners in the attached table).

Nominations are now being taken for the awards that will be presented this February at the annual meeting and banquet in Wausau.

Award nominations come from the WITU general membership, so we hope you take some time to tell our awards committee of individ-

uals, groups, or others you feel qualify for one of our awards.

Nominations should be submitted to the committee at least 60 days before the annual banquet.

Successful recipients will be notified by the committee at least 15 days prior to the banquet.

Nominations must be in written form, but they can be sent via e-mail and need not be extensive to get the ball rolling.

If you have any questions about a particular award, feel free to contact an award committee member.

The awards committee is chaired by Todd Hanson and includes Kim McCarthy, Gary Stoychoff, Bill Heart, and Henry Koltz.



WHO WILL BE AWARDED ONE OF THESE BYRNESCRAFT NETS?
Long-time WITU member Clint Byrnes has the State Council well stocked with future Gold Net Awards. Nominate someone you feel deserves this honor.

Wisconsin TU State Council Award Criteria

Trout Unlimited Resource Award of Merit

Recipient can be a person, corporation, or organization and may be a nonmember. Award can be presented posthumously.

Award is given for outstanding contributions to conservation (does not need to be given for trout or salmon contributions).

Lee and Joan Wulff Conservation Leadership Award

Recipient to be an individual who has demonstrated outstanding service in the field of conservation.

Recipient to be selected by the Exec. Committee of the State Council.

The award — a framed collection of flies tied by Lee Wulff — remains with a recipient for one year and then travels to the next year's recipient.

Trout Unlimited Gold Trout Award for Service

Recipient must be a member in good standing of Wisconsin TU.

Award will be presented to any person who has been an officer of the State Council, a national director, or any committee chairperson.

This individual must have served at least one year of his or her term.

Trout Unlimited Gold Net Award

Recipient must be an individual who has been a member in good standing of WITU for a period of at least five years.

Recipient must have participated in at least one major state or chapter fundraising event in the last five years.

Recipient must have worked on or attended at least five TU resource projects in the last five years.

Silver Trout Award for Chapter Merit

Recipient must be a WITU chapter that has restored, enhanced, or protected Wisconsin's trout or salmon resource. The end result of the project must demonstrate a long-term commitment or benefit to the trout or salmon resource.

The total value of the project, including the value placed on man-hours and materials, must total at least \$3,500.

The project must involve trout and salmon resources available to the

public to fish. Projects for private use only do not qualify.

Jeffrey Carlson Volunteer Award

Recipient must be a WITU member who — following the example of Jeff's work over many years on coaster brook trout restoration — has taken a leadership role on a major project that either improved an entire stream, reach, or watershed, or which preserved or restored a species in a body of water.

Corporate Sponsor Award

Recipient must be a business or corporation that has shown outstanding support of the State Council through financial contributions or by providing other support for TU's activities.

Resource Professional Award

Recipient must be a state fish manager or other conservation professional who has shown concern for the trout resource over and above his or her normal duties.

Certificate of Appreciation

Recipient can be a member of Wisconsin TU or be someone indirectly related to the trout and salmon resource (e.g., the recipient can be a landowner on a project, an educator, a media representative, a contributor of certain equipment, or a related conservation organization).

Recipient can be someone in an organization for his or her efforts within that organization (e.g., a WDNR employee).

NOTES: All award nominations must be submitted to the awards committee as a written narrative describing the candidates' accomplishments, be that nominee an individual, chapter, or other. Nominations should be submitted to the committee at least 60 days before the annual banquet. Successful recipients will be notified by the committee at least 15 days prior to the banquet. All award recipients will be asked to be present at the awards banquet. The judgment and selection of all award recipients will be made by the awards committee, and their selections will be final.

YEAR	AWARD OF MERIT	GOLD TROUT	SILVER TROUT	GOLD NET	JOAN & LEE WULFF	PROFESSIONAL	BUSINESS	CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION
1984	Harold Starkweather	Roger Fairbanks	Ojibeau	Bob Brunzell		Duke Andrews		Tom Flesch, Bob Maier, Tom Mertens, Bob Burnham, Bob Brunzell, Wally Cooper, Duke Andrews, Jim Spalding, Cap Buettner & Green Bay Chapter
85	Jim Addis	Ron Koshoshek	Shaw-Paca	Mitch Bent		Prof. Jack Heaton		Arling Erickson, Lee Parker, Cy Sendalbach, Tom Poulett, Tom Sopkovich, Phil Orth, & Sheldon's (Mepps)
86	Bob Zimmerman	Larry Meicher & Bob Retko	Green Bay	Jim Bereza		Frank Pratt		Rep. Sharon Metz, Frank Pratt, Walli Arts, Larry Worth, Earl Little, Glen Cox & Tim Johnson
87	Tom Flesch	Dan Harmon	Antigo	Lowell Genrich		Max Johnson		Connie Rohman
88	Richard Osborn	Kim McCarthy & Jerry Weatherwax	Fox Valley	Jim Bereza		Tim Larson		Rep. James Holperin, Jim Curran, Bud Jordahl & Joe Knight
89	Mitch Bent	Bob Heding	Southern WI	Bob Worth		Gene VanDyck		Jim Bereza, Herb Hintze & Gordon King
90	Bob Hunt	Jim Bereza	Aldo Leopold	Dick Krays		Scott Stewart		
91	Larry Ciaggett	Rich Wachowski & Steve Born	Green Bay	Dennis Orgemen		Duke Andrews		Anne Dirkman & Tip Bagstad
92	Nash Williams	Herb Buettner	Wolf River	Marlin Spindler		Dave Vetrano		Mike Syverson, Carrol Besadny & Forrest Grulke
93	--	Kim McCarthy & Jerry Weatherwax	Aldo Leopold	Jim Bereza		Tim Larson		
94	[No banquet this year]							
95	George Vukelich	Bob Eastlund, Harley Erbs & Jim Hlaban	Frank Hornberg	John Cantwell				Bob Boucher
96	Richard Knitter	David Newhouse	Kiap-TU-Wish	Forrest Grulke	Bud Jordahl	Marty Engel		Bob Reynolds & Sen. Robert Cowles
97	Lee Kernen	Bob Heim	WI River Valley	John Bethke	John Bethke	Duke Andrews		
98	Herb Buettner	Bill Sherer		Herb Hintze	Herb Hintze	Scott Stewart, Andy Morton & Ken Johnson		
99	Dr. Christine Thomas	Jeff Smith	Kiap-TU-Wish	Jeff Preiss	Jeff Carlson	Ken Johnson		Stu Grimstad
2000	--	Tony Tremi	Harry & Laura Nohr	Larry Doebert	Martin Hanson	Al Niebur		
01	Terry Kohler	Fred Young	Central WI	Greg Vodak	John Welter	Roger Kerr		Sen. Kevin Shibiiski, Dick Prine, David Beckwith & Ron Seely
02	Elward Engle	John Bethke & Stu Grimstad	Coulee Region	Gary Stoychoff	George Meyer	Larry Kreise		John Sauers, Scott Watson, Steve Galoff & Connie Walker for WI Public Radio
03	Dave Ladd	Chuck Steudel	Ojibeau	Bill Pielsticker	Dan Flaherty	Jeff Hastings &		Kris Stepenuck, Peggy Compton & Mike Reiter
04	Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa & Forest County Potawatomi	Dave Fritz	Wild Rivers	Gordon Braun	Dale Druckrey	Jim Radtke		Eric Schubring for WOJB-FM
05	Larry Meicher	Jeff Smith	Harry & Laura Nohr	Bill Heart	--	Al Stranz		Rep. Du Wayne Johnsrud & Sen. Neal Kedzie
06	Herb Behnke	Larry Kriese	Lakeshore & Ocooch	Don Pluemer	--			Ed Culhane
07	Dennis Vanden Bloomen	Bill Pielsticker	Blackhawk	Del Schwaller	Peg Lautenschlager	Scott Tashner		Green Bay Chapter, Cindy Koperski, & Rep. Tom Petri
08	--	Dan Wisniewski	Southeastern WI	Dave Patrick	Herb Hintze	John Sojurs		Jeff and Jenna Phillips family
09	Clint Byrnes	Todd Hanson	Southern WI	Tim Meyer	Jim Hlaban	Tim Larson & Dave Brum		Kathleen Falk & Ken Anderson
10	WI League of Conservation Voters	Bill Heart	Kiap-TU-Wish	Steve Hill	Chuck Beeler	Rob Herman		Paul Smith, Paul Krahn, & Greg Wahl
11	John Welter	Bob Haase	Central WI	Rick Kyte	Topf Wells	Henry Quinlan & George Boronow	Tight Lines Fly Fishing Co.	Alistair Stewart & Fairmount Minerals Co.
12	Dan Wisniewski	Henry Koltz	Aldo Leopold	John Gremmer	Paul Kruse	Shawn Sullivan	Fontana Sports Specialties	Save Copper Creek, Al Niebur, & Bob Micheel
OTHER AWARDS								
1985	Scientific Contribution Award -- Steve Field							
89	Scientific Contribution Award -- Eddie Avery							
91	Headwaters Award -- Clint Byrnes							
96	Aldo Leopold Leadership Award -- Todd Hanson							
98	Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Forrest Grulke							
99	Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Mitch Bent							
2003	Jeff Carlson Leadership Award -- Roger Widner; Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Jim Bereza							
04	Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Jim Hlaban; Reel Partners Award -- Oakbrook Chapter TU & Elliot Donnelly Chapter TU							
05	Jeff Carlson Leadership Award -- Pete Esser							
06	Most Unsung Valuable Trout Award -- Dan Holland; Reel Partners Award -- River Alliance of WI							
07	Jeff Carlson Leadership Award -- Bill Heart; Aldo Leopold Leadership Award -- Bill Pielsticker							

COUNCIL: meets in Viroqua

Continued from p. 3

The proposed CAFO would be located on both sides of one of the area's top trout streams, Tenmile Cr., and involve removing trees from hundreds of acres of forest land and the drilling of high-capacity wells.

The Hornberg Chapter will keep council members informed on the CAFO's plans.

Brook trout lice being tracked

WDNR Scientist Matt Mitro informed members of a new collaboration between TU, River Alliance of WI, and WDNR that will help the agency track the prevalence of gill lice in brook trout.

Mitro worked with WITU webmaster Jim Hlaban and Ben Hlaban to develop an online report form that will be housed on WITU's website. (See separate story on p. 1.)

Iron and sand mining updates

Legislative Chair Jeff Smith reports that iron mining legislation is not dead. A committee is meeting to consider revisions to the state's mining laws. Action could take place after the fall elections but before year's end.

Jeff said various conservation and environmental groups may be asked to join mining interests to discuss various options. Pro-mining interests appear to be most interested in relaxing groundwater laws and eliminating contested case hearings for iron mines.

Duke Welter said frack sand mining continues to increase in the state's west central counties. Sand mines in Chippewa Co. alone increased from 3 to 30, with another 20 being proposed in the county.

He said one recent concern is whether mining companies could reclaim decommissioned rail line bike paths for a nominal fee and re-introduce rail tracks to those trails.

River Alliance testing wader decontamination

Guest Matt Kreuger from the River Alliance of WI gave attendees an update on wader decontamination methods some have been testing. Some of these methods involve portable decontamination stations designed to test angler usage.

Driftless Area master plan

WDNR Educator Carolyn Betz told the council that the agency is starting to develop a Driftless Area master plan.

There are eight major river basins in Wisconsin's portion of the Driftless Area, and most of the state's land holdings in the region are along stream corridors.

Betz distributed sign-up cards for those interested in following the planning process via an electronic newsletter. Contact her to get on the list.

Trout stamp program abuse to be investigated

Kim McCarthy said he has received some anonymous calls from individuals concerned that there may be some abuses in administering the state's inland trout stamp program.

Some WDNR trout personnel have been reassigned, leaving no one to undertake trout projects.

Kim got permission to write the WDNR to express our concerns and get an accounting of personnel assigned to trout stamp activities.



Todd Hanson photos

GUESTS DISCUSS GILL LICE AND STOPPING INVASIVE SPECIES
WDNR Scientist Matt Mitro (top left) explained the new gill lice web reporting system, while Matt Kreuger of the River Alliance talked about wader cleaning.

Watershed Access Fund

Contributions \$2,000 above last year's total

As the 2011-12 Watershed Access Fund campaign comes to a close, I want to thank all of you who have donated to this program. We have had 72 contributions from individuals and 5 from WITU chapters. We've raised over \$7,000. That surpasses last year by almost \$2,000. Way to go.

The current grant request limit is \$5,000. Because two chapters may each request for a single acquisition and each chapter would have to match at 50%, the new limits would provide as much as \$15,000 for a single purchase or easement. A large White R. request may happen soon.

In late October or early November, you will be getting the annual contribution letter for this valuable program. Please consider a generous contribution to the Watershed Access Fund. The need for access is critical for anglers to continue their passion for trout fishing. Access is also critical for Trout Unlimited to continue its successful stream improvement work. All contributions will be used solely for Wisconsin trout stream acquisitions.

2011/12 Contributors

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Dale Bakke | Stevens Point WI | Bruce Davidson | Wauwatosa WI |
| Edwin Barnes | Middleton WI | Erwin Dohmen | Port Washington WI |
| Ronald Berg | Chippewa Falls WI | Richard Duplessie | Eau Claire WI |
| Stephen Berg | Highland WI | Robert Franzkowiak, Sr. | Brown Deer WI |
| Stephen Born | Madison WI | Greg Gerard | Hudson WI |
| R.G. Chamberlain | Markesan WI | Tony Goldberg | Madison WI |
| Terry Cummings | Rhineland WI | James Goodwin | Sturgeon Bay WI |

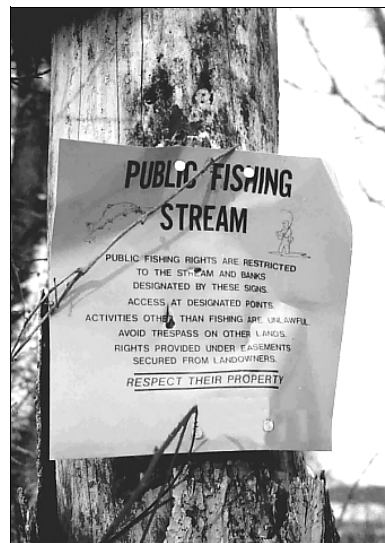
- | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Robert Haglund | Green Bay WI | Herb Oechler | Wauwatosa WI |
| Jack Halbreher | Sparta WI | Robert Pelowski | Franklin WI |
| Gerald Haunschild | Neenah WI | Randal Rake | De Pere WI |
| Bill Heart | Ashland WI | Anne Readell | Madison WI |
| Mark & Jan Heifner | Appleton WI | Steve Robertson | Verona WI |
| Gilbert Herman | Stoughton WI | Frederick Seybold | Madison WI |
| Andrew Holverson | Wauwatosa WI | John Shillinglaw | Appleton WI |
| Greg Hyer | Cross Plains WI | Ronald Smith | Cudahy WI |
| Ed Inderrieden | Mequon WI | Mike Spittler | Minneapolis MN |
| Dan Jansen | DeForest WI | Wayne Stockman | Spring Valley WI |
| Bill Jordan | Appleton WI | Charles Urban | Chicago IL |
| James Kennedy | Cross Plains WI | Hugh Waber | Madison WI |
| Paul Kosin | Minocqua WI | Richard Wachowski | Eau Claire WI |
| Andrew Kosmider | Milwaukee WI | Don Wagner | Gillett WI |
| James Laudon | Plover WI | John Wahlers | Berlin WI |
| Brian Madsen | Ellsworth WI | Jim & Sharon Waters | White Lake WI |
| William Maggard | Mequon WI | Donald Welhouse | Kaukauna WI |
| Richard Mandelin | Montreal WI | Fred Young | Roscoe IL |
| Bob Mazanec | Saint Paul MN | Anonymous | |
| Kim McCarthy | Green Bay WI | | |
| Randy & Janice McGrath | Janesville WI | Antigo TU | Antigo WI |
| Fred Mikolajewski | West Allis WI | Kiap-TU-Wish | Hudson WI |
| Gene Mueller | Monona WI | Marinette Co. TU | Marinette WI |
| Bob Obma | Green Bay WI | Southern WI TU | Fitchburg WI |

Here is my contribution of \$100 or more to the Watershed Access Fund

(Make your check payable to "Wisconsin Trout Unlimited")

MAIL TO: TU Watershed Access Fund
% Doug Brown
R4800 Timber Ln.
Ringle, WI 54471

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____





Chapter News



Mike Barniskis photos

SHOCKING TROUT IN A REHABBED SECTION OF BEAR CREEK

WDNR crew members Nate Nye, Mike Rennie, and Andrew Skogg recently shocked a rehabbed section of Bear Cr. in Sauk County and found a nice mix of trout in various year classes.

Aldo Leopold Chapter

The 2012 phase of our **Bear Creek** habitat improvement project (BCHIP) was completed in late July. Another 5,400 feet of stream was restored at a cost of about \$135,000, and it looks great! Thank you to our many partners in the project, including **WDNR, Sauk Co., Badger Fly Fishers, Trout and Salmon Founda-**

tion, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the many TU members who contributed time and money to making this project successful.

Aside from the many in-stream improvements, this year's efforts included wetland restoration and both turtle and a snake hibernacula. Ear-



NOW CAN I TRY THE REAL FLY ROD?

Central WI TU member Chris Northway helped a youngster practice fly casting at last May's Youth Outdoor Expo in Beaver Dam.

ly fishing reports are that trout have moved in already, but no word yet on the snakes.

Next year's Bear Creek work will be directly downstream of the 2011 phase. We will be working on 6,100 feet of stream that flows through the **Sprecher** family land. Through the hard work of **Tony Pillow** of **NRCS** and **Brent Bergstrom** of **Sauk Co.**, \$118,000 in **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)** dollars have already been secured out of the projected \$160,000 cost. It is up to us to find the remaining \$40,000+, a task we have already embarked upon. If you have any spare change...

On September 4, the DNR (with assistance from Sauk Co.) performed post-project shocking in two sections of Bear Creek improved in 2011. Aside from many trout, there

were also burbot, sculpin, brook lamprey, and even a little stickleback. Until the numbers are crunched, it is hard to say anything definitive about overall numbers, but multiple year classes of trout were present, including many yearlings. This bodes well for the future of the fishery.

On July 11 over 30 chapter members and friends were treated to a tour of **Aldo Leopold's Shack** and farm. The shack is where Leopold composed many of the essays found in his **Sand County Almanac**. The **Aldo Leopold Foundation** has done an amazing job of preserving and advancing the Leopold legacy, and it was wonderful to be able to see the place that so inspired Aldo. I highly recommend a visit to the foundation's center and a tour of the shack.
—Mike Barniskis

Antigo Chapter

Hope the summer was kind to you and that you didn't melt. We had some rain in NE Wisconsin early in the summer, but lately it's been dry.

We again held our kid's fishing day on June 2. A great time was had by all. This year 450 kids caught fish and were fed!

We have been busy this summer building a fishing pier on **Remington Lake** this summer for the kids. It was a joint project with the **City of Antigo** and TU. The city bought the dock, while Antigo TU members made and welded the frame and put the dock together. Many work days were put in on the assembly of the pier. One of the hardest parts was to level the pier frame in the deeper water.

We are proud to say that the pier is now finished, and we will be getting together with city reps and our local paper for some pictures and a

news article. We are also going to place a sign by the pier telling the fishermen of the joint project between the city and Antigo TU.

We just received the bill and paid an oil company \$2,700 for the fuel for the DNR's dredge that was in **Karberber's Spring** for the second year. The project is done, and we hope this spring pond will recover and provide fish for years to come.

Also we will have a workday to do brushing on part of the **Embarass R.** that we have worked on before and now needs some cover removed to open this stream.

We have contacted **Dave Seibel** to try and set up a couple of work projects for next year. One project will be to remove a large grass plug just below the Hwy. 45 bridge on the **E. Br. of the Eau Claire R.** We might also do some brushing farther upstream by **Claire Rd.**
—Scott Henricks

Blackhawk Chapter

At our regular meeting in July, **Nick Volk**, a guide from the **On the Creek** fly shop in **Cross Plains**, came down to Janesville and gave us many insights about selecting flies and determining presentations of them when fishing the streams of southwestern Wisconsin.

In August, the chapter viewed an early release of the new TU/Orvis DVD, **The Heart of the Driftless**. Members' comments following the viewing were highly positive, both of the content and the production. The video includes many long-time WI-TU friends and acquaintances of the Blackhawk Chapter. Our old-time

members were particularly pleased to hear mention of their work in building lunger structures for installation on the **West Fork of the Kickapoo R.**, one of the first projects in what has now become known as **TUDARE**.

In September, **Jim Bartelt**, owner and guide from **Spring Creek Specialties** in Madison, also ventured "down south" to Janesville. He gave chapter members knowledge about tips, techniques, and tactics for tempting, tantalizing, and traumatizing — let alone taking — trout.
—Dave Hinde

Central Wisconsin Chapter

It's hard to believe another fishing season has come and is almost gone. But what a great summer season it was for CWTU. With a lot of help from our members and also the members from the **Elliot Donnelley** and **Southeast WI Trout Unlimited**, and, of course, our friends with the **DNR**, our chapter workdays were very successful. We were lucky enough to average around 20 people for each of the workdays so far.

Starting with the May workday on the **White R.** just south of **Wautoma**, the crews were able to take care of a couple of braids that had broken through. With the placement of 65 Christmas trees and a lot of extra brushing material, we were

able to block the braids and get the river flowing where it should be.

June, July, and August found us back on the **Mecan R.** just west of **Wautoma**. We started working on the north side of Hwy. 21 putting in new structures to replace the dilapidated older structures. Up to this point, with one more workday left, there have been four new structures completed, providing roughly 320 feet of cover on this section of the river. Thanks to our workday crew, including **Scott Bahn**, **Gary Hrelache**, and **Chris Northway**. And also thanks to all who were able to lend a hand. It was greatly appreciated.

Chapter News



Our water monitoring programs are also starting to gear down. We have only a couple more monitoring times scheduled. Most of the teams will be done this month, with a few exceptions that will wrap up in October. Thanks to **John Gremmer**, **Rick Fahrenkrug**, and all who were able to get out and record this important data on the various streams.

This summer also brought a new adventure for CWTU. On Saturday, August 11, there was the 1st annual **Outdoor Fest** in **Wautoma** that we were involved with. CWTU had a portion of the exhibition tent where we had a fly tying station, a casting station, and an information table. **Ira Giese**, **Chris Northway**, **Mike San Dretto**, **Scott Krueger**, **Tracy Moran**, **Bill Zimmerman**, and I all hung around and enjoyed the day tying flies, showing the beginning and finer points of fly casting, and answering questions about our workdays and TU in general. We also raffled off a spinning rod and

reel. The rod was built and donated by **Scott Grady**. Thanks to all for taking some time and helping out, and thanks Scott for the rod and reel.

August also brought an end to our summer board meetings and picnics. On August 22, **Ira Giese** and his wife, **Karen**, were the hosts for our final meeting. They ended it on a high note with a Wisconsin fish boil. A great time was had by all who attended. Thanks goes out to all of our summer hosts, **Bob & Mary Hasse**, **John & Laura Tucker**, along with **Ira & Karen Giese** for opening up their homes and putting on such great picnics.

With our board meetings moving back inside to the **Fin-N-Feather** in **Winneconne**, please check out our program schedule on our website at cwtu.org. Starting with our November board meeting, we will have some exciting programs.

—Linn Beck

Fox Valley Chapter

Again this summer, the Fox Valley Chapter of TU has been actively working on improvements on **Peter-son Cr.** near **Scandinavia**. Overhead structures were planned and underway, but an exceptionally rocky substrate in the steam bed caused a change in plans. After building about 50 feet of overhead structure in one location, we had to switch to lunger structures used in other areas of the state where jetting pilings is not feasible.

The streambed in a third location was tested and jetting was feasible. Or so we thought. Once a few pilings were jetted, we still encountered resistance. It was suggested by **Jim Hlaban** that we use a pump with less velocity and more volume. Guess what? It didn't work. But American ingenuity solved the problem. We used two pumps on the same piling, and the problem was solved. Some pilings were sunk in a matter of minutes. At a third location the two pumps would not do the job, so we went back to lunger structures.

On July 12, boys from the **Raw-hide About Face** program worked with FVTU members at **Wilson Cr.** to help the WDNR LTE workers on a **Shaw-Paca Chapter** project. The boys also worked on the **South Br. of the Little Wolf** freshening up brush bundles that had been placed two years ago. The bundles placed in previous years worked very well, so additional bundles were placed to collect more silt. The third location of interest to the boys was **Peter-son Cr.** where they prepared and installed brush bundles.

Kris Stepenuck, coordinator of the **Water Action Volunteers** program, selected FVTU's steam monitoring locations on **Griffin Cr.** and the **South Br. of the Little Wolf** to be part of a comparison study to determine the accuracy our stream flow calculations compared to that of electronic steam flow calculations. Both Kris and UW grad students use electronic flow devices, while WAV volunteers use a tennis ball and stopwatch to estimate the volume of water passing a given point in the stream. The results of the comparison should be available at the end of the steam monitoring season.

Duane Velie has made significant improvements to the fly tying page of the FVTU website. I suggest all readers take a look at his talents. Go

to www.foxvalleytu.org/flytying.htm and see how Duane has created a unique presentation to the art of fly tying.

Rich Erickson, **Norm Christnacht**, **Dick Stielow**, **Jim Hlaban**, **Rich Erickson**, **Justin Roberts**, **Mark Peerenboom**, **Tom Lager**, and **Chuck Knoeck** of the FVTU designed and built a beautiful kiosk at the **Riverview Park** on the **Waupaca R.** in downtown **Waupaca**. The kiosk contains displays that explain what TU is all about. It also tells about the improvements that were provided and installed by TU and the WDNR. Improvements included overhead structures, rocks, diverters, and even an island. It creates a wilderness stream setting at the downtown park.



INFORMATIONAL KIOSK PUTS THE FINISHING TOUCH ON WAUPACA RIVER HABITAT PROJECT

Proud kiosk architect Rich Erickson of the Fox Valley Chapter stands next to the display he designed and FVTU members Justin Roberts, Norm Christnacht, Dick Stielow, Jim Hlaban, and Mark Peerenboom built to his exact specifications. Linda Walters of Optima Graphics of Appleton did the graphics which promote TU and trout stream restoration. The kiosk is in Riverview Park on the Waupaca River in downtown Waupaca where a section of the river was recently restored.



TESTING WATER FLOW ON THE LITTLE WOLF

Water Action Volunteers Coordinator Kris Stepenuck (right) and FVTU member Hope Canlas compare stream flow calculations on the S. Br. of the Little Wolf. Kris used an electronic device, while Hope and Grandpa Joe Bach used a tennis ball and stop watch.

This project was conceived by Bob Hunt and led by the **Central Region of Wisconsin TU** and the **Shaw-Paca Chapter**. This is a "must

see" for all TU members who pass through or near Waupaca.

—Joe Bach

Frank Hornberg Chapter

The Hornberg Chapter continues its summer program of stream improvements on the **Tomorrow R.** in **Portage Co.** Most of our work events have been at the **Welton Road** location near **Nelsonville**. On August 19 we built a lunger structure and placed sandbags to improve stream flow. We continued this work on Sept. 13 and 22.

We have also scheduled a work event for October 20 on **Lost Creek**, a trout stream that flows through

the **Department of Transportation** remediation project on **Rainbow Drive** east of **Stevens Point**. This is a new location for us, and we look forward to improving the reproductive habitat for trout there.

Our chapter worked with the **Friends of the Tomorrow/Waupaca River** at their annual river clean-up day on August 25. Two dozen workers were in the water, clearing obstructions with chain saws.

Continued on p. 14



Chapter News

Continued from p. 13

Workers removed debris from the section of river running from the **Amherst dam** to the **Keener Road bridge**. We had our trailer, tools, and gas grills at the **Rivers Bar** (formerly the **Tomorrow River Supper Club**) where all the workers enjoyed a hearty lunch.

The chapter's board of directors voted at its August 2 meeting to join the **Central Sands Water Action Coalition**. This is a new organization of individuals and groups dedicated to protecting the water resources of the central sands area of the state. This is an important issue, since 80

billion gallons of water are withdrawn annually from the central sands, with 84 percent of it used for irrigation. These numbers are expected to increase in the future. We need to be aware of the potential effects on local trout streams.

We have a new chapter secretary. **Abe Downs** has volunteered to accept the position. **Ken Pierce**, our former secretary, has work assignments that take him away from central Wisconsin. Our thanks to both Ken and Abe for accepting this responsibility.

—John Vollrath

Green Bay Chapter

We've had a very busy summer with habitat projects in NE Wisconsin with **Lee Meyers** at the helm as our chapter's work project coordinator.

After two May projects, we found ourselves on **Mary Creek**, which is basically the headwaters of

the **S. Br. of the Oconto R.** Nine hearty souls showed up June 16 to install 240 brush bundles in an old beaver meadow area of the headwaters near **Jones Springs**. We were led by **Cliff Sebero**, trout habitat expert of **WDNR** from the **Peshigo** office. Green Bay Chapter members

present included **Matt Norem, Adrian Meseberg, Jeff House, Randy Rake, and Lee Meyers**.

The bundles were used to narrow the stream by more than half the width, leading to deeper water that was moving faster. This helps keep the water cooler during hot summer days. This area was impounded by a beaver dam for many years, and therefore is shallow with a black silty bottom which allows the water to warm.

As part of our summer projects, we take a little downtime out of the northwoods to get involved with our local community. We host our annual Kids Fishing Day with the **PALS Program of Brown Co.** As has happened the last several years, the **Izaak Walton League of Brown Co.** allowed us to host the event on their property and ponds. We had a great turnout of kids and adult volunteers. The weather and fish both cooperated, as many bluegills, sunfish, and two trout were caught. Even a turtle was reeled in and provided an educational experience. Sixty children

of various ages were treated to several hours of fishing at an excellent facility. The bait was donated by **Reel Thing**, and the fishing equipment was provided by the **DNR**.

Fifteen TU members helped the kids catch lots of fish. Volunteers included **Mike Renish, Pat Hill, Tom Steffels, Adrian Meseberg, Bill Holton, Jack Kovisto, Bob Reeners, Steve Abts, Bruce Duechert, Keith Pamperin, Paul Kruse, Roger Denil, Dennis Gusick, Jim Vanden Branden, and Lee Meyers**.

Our July 21 habitat project was with the **U.S. Forest Service** led by **Tom Moris**, USFS fishery biologist. We worked on **Round Creek** the headwaters of the **N. Br. Oconto**. We installed brush bundles which we hand dredged bottom material onto in order to hold them in place. The purpose of using bottom sediment material is two-fold in that it also encourages seed material to germinate on the new banks that form. We also anchored large logs and root wads in the deeper pools that formed on the opposing banks of the creek for overhead cover. Green Bay Chapter members in attendance were **Matt Norem, Randy Rake, Pat Hill, Bill Holton, Lee Meyers, John Deuchert, Jeff House, Adrian Meseberg, Doug Seidel, Paul Kruse, and Dave Ostanek**.

Our August 18 project was in the unfamiliar territory of **Langlade Co.** This provided us the opportunity to meet and work with **LTE Trout Habitat Technicians Tyler Curran and Dallas Moe**, whose positions we helped fund. They have spent most of the summer removing brush along older trout habitat areas and other select reaches of trout streams in **Langlade Co.** Part of Saturday's work project involved TU members working with Tyler and Dallas brushing a portion of **Evergreen River**. It was amazing the major impact tag alder has had to the width and depth, making the channel about 3three times wider than it should be. During the four-hour work effort, we removed about 400 feet of brush from each bank (a total of 800 feet of bank is now alder free).

The stream channel we cleared of tag alder will be re-created with more meander and increased depth using an excavator. The new stream-banks will be seeded with grassy vegetation, and wood structures will be added in the new channel to provide cover for trout. While half of our TU volunteers did brushing, the other half helped DNR staffers install woody structure in another section of the **Evergreen River**. This involved using a jet pump to install root wads and log structures. We also helped distribute half log and woody materials throughout sections of the river for future installation.

The TU crews switched jobs after the break, so we all got a chance to experience the different types of trout habitat work being done on the **Evergreen**. All totaled, we installed 30 root wads, 40 log structures and 7 half logs.

A total of 14 TU members were present, making this another successful work project where we got a lot accomplished for the coldwater resource of Northeast Wisconsin. Member helpers included **Pat Hill, Paul Kruse, Bob Obma, Bill Holton, Peter Hickey, Matt Norem, Brian Hill, Jeff House, Dave Karcz, Jeremy McAlpine, Matt Burich, Peter Pichey, and Lee Meyers**.



GREEN BAY TU HAS A DYNAMITE WORKDAY ON THE S. BR. OCONTO

Dynamite helped remove a beaver dam on the S. Branch of the Oconto R. during a recent Green Bay TU workday. Workers set the charge (top) and later removed the accumulated brush and debris (bottom).

Chapter News



Thanks much to **Tanya Mieves**, DNR habitat technician, who organized the habitat work and the DNR crew for the August 18 work project on the Evergreen. Other DNR staff who worked with us included **Aaron Nelson** from the **Florence** office and **Rick Halder** and **Ben Rolling** from the **Antigo** office. A special thanks to **Andy Killoren** and the **Wolf River Chapter** who hosted us for lunch at Andy's cabin located at Horse Race Rapids on the **Wolf River**, a very scenic site.

The chapter resumed membership meetings and presentations on Sept. 6 at our **NEW venue**, the **Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley** meeting rooms. Ashwaubenon Bowl is noted for their King Pin Pizzas, one of the best pizzas in the Green Bay area. Our chapter's longtime member and retired DNR Fisheries Biologist **Lee Meyers** gave the chapter his presentation on "Bigger Brook Trout Through Common Sense Regulations." Check out the chapter's **Facebook** page for updated information and pictures of our habitat projects and events.

—Paul Kruse

Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter

Our 2012 stream project on the lower end of the **Blue River** off **Shemack Road** is off to a great start. Some areas are waiting for the corn crop to come off so we can remove soil. There are about 3,000 feet below and 1,000 feet above the bridge on Shemack Road that can be worked on. The stream is very deep here and will cost a bit more for pulling back the bank.

There was a membership meeting Thursday, Sept. 13, at the **Gor-**



BIG BANKS BORDERING BLUE BEING BULLDOZED

The Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter continues its work on the Blue R. in Grant County. This stretch off of Shemack Rd. has very high banks that are being tapered back. For scale, note the piece of heavy equipment along the distant tree line.

don Grieshaber farm. The meeting consisted of trap shooting at 4 p.m., brats and hamburgers after 5:00, and an evening campfire. There were also tours of the 2011 Rock Branch stream project that Gordon had done.

—Brian Larson

the nomination. I know he worked hard at gleaning and summarizing the information for submission. Thanks, Duke.

The board has created a new committee called the Project Planning Committee. The committee's main duty will be to investigate fu-

ture stream project options and give the board its suggestions. Once a project is determined, the board will select a project manager. This committee includes **Hans Jung, Tom Henderson, Randy Arnold, and Kyle Amundson.**

—Kyle Amundson

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter

Kiap-TU-Wish has completed our project work on the **Hwy. 10** section of the **Trimbelle River**. We finished up the seeding and mulching with the help of the **DNR** and volunteers from **Fairmount Minerals Co.** Thanks to everyone who helped. We will continue with the **County Rd. W** project next year, and I would like to extend another thanks to **Greg Meyer** for doing an excellent job in his first year as our grant writer. Great job, Greg!

Speaking of the Trimbelle, we performed a second tire cleanup with local volunteer help. Board member **Randy Arnold** coordinated this and did another superb job. Thanks, Randy!

It is with pleasure that I announce that our chapter received the **Silver Trout Award** from **TU National** for all of our project work. The presentation was made in **Asheville, North Carolina**. Our work extends many years back and includes local streams such as the **Kinnickinnic, Pine Cr., Parker Cr.**, and many others. We have also been successful in developing a storm water management plan for the town of **River Falls** concerning the "Kinni.", plus we've forged constructive partnerships with entities such as **Fairmount Minerals** and the **Western WI Land Trust**. Most of this work was done prior to my term as president, so I just happen to be fortunate enough and in this position when the award has come. I know there are many people to thank — too many that I may miss someone — so thanks to all of the Kiap mem-

bers, past and present. I would like to thank **Duke Welter** for putting in

Lakeshore Chapter

Lakeshore Chapter has completed more work on the upper **Onion**

River just downstream from where *Continued on p. 16*



A NICE LITTLE STRETCH ON THE UPPER ONION RIVER

Recent work by the Lakeshore Chapter on the Onion River in Sheboygan County includes this stretch below where Benn Nutt and Mill creeks come together to form the Onion.



Chapter News



REP. RON KIND VISITS CAMP CREEK STREAM PROJECT

U.S. Rep. Ron Kind of La Crosse (top, second from left) saw some federal Farm Bill conservation dollars in action on Aug. 18. Also pictured are (l to r) Duke Welter, Jon Christiansen, and landowner David Matthes. As always, SEWTU brings a big crew (bottom) to luncheon-building days.

Continued from p. 15

Benn Nutt and **Mill Cr.** form the Onion. Workdays were well attended, and Lakeshore Chapter appreci-

ates all those who gave their time and effort on this project.

Streambed restoration and luncheon structures were completed with

the supervision of the **DNR** and **Lakeshore TU**. The entire flow of this section of river has been greatly improved with water flows and habitat for trout. This section will also

provide ideal spawning habitat. Thanks to all who helped with this project. Lakeshore TU appreciates all your dedication and hard work.

—*Gordy Martin*

Oconto River Watershed Chapter

Our chapter continues to work stream projects with the **Green Bay**, **Marinette**, and **Wolf River** chapters during the summer. This year's projects included work on the **N. Br. of the Oconto**, **Mary's Creek**, and the **Evergreen River**.

Trout-in-the-Classroom wound down with the school year at the **Oconto**, **Lena**, and **Gillett** school districts. **Mark Green** coordinated this endeavor for the chapter.

Dave & Moni Brunner, with help from several other chapter members and some high school volunteers, set up a casting contest at the **Victory Olympics** held at **Zipple Park** in **Gillett** on May 17. Schools from all over NE Wisconsin were represented. A record number of participants took part in the games. Dave reported that more than 400 took a chance at the casting contest.

The chapter voted to once again have a booth at the **Oconto County Youth Fair** Aug 23-26. Various skills were demonstrated at the fair by chapter members. Six new members signed up as a result.

The chapter has been conducting a fishing day at **Woodlands Village**, a nursing facility in **Surging**. Residents there are treated to an after-

noon of fishing fun when our members and the **Surging Fire Dept.** set up a portable fish tank. The fish are purchased with a donation from **Romy Wiegele**, proprietor of the **Holiday Inn Supper Club** at **Kelly Lake**.

The annual handicapped fishing day was Sept. 8 at **Brunner's Pond** in **Underhill**. Participants are treated to a picnic lunch before fishing for the big one. Fish caught are cleaned and sent along with the fisher and his or her caregiver for a fish fry at their home.

Chapter members joined in on a northern pike eradication event on the **Oconto River** Sept. 15. This is a fun event as members and friends enjoy a morning on the river trying to catch northern, the biggest enemy of small trout in the lower reaches of the Oconto system. Northerns are filleted and grilled as lunch, while hot dogs go to those who do not catch their dinner.

Our membership meetings are held monthly (excluding May and November) on the first Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held at the **Lone Oak Gun Club** just north of **Gillett** starting at 7:00 p.m.

—*Dale Halla*

Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter

Our formal all-chapter meetings resumed on Tues., Sept. 25 at our new meeting location, **The Charcoal Grill**, located at 15375 W. Greenfield Ave., in **New Berlin** (just south of I-94 near the intersection of Greenfield and Mooreland). We're in the lower level, and folks can use the lower parking lot. Dinner (optional) is at 6:00; meet and greet at 7:00; meetings start at 7:30.

Our meetings are open to the public and run monthly from Sept. thru May. Stop out, get acquainted with some old friends, and make some new ones!

Capt. **Pat Ehlers** of got our fall line-up started in Sept. with a presentation about planning the ultimate fishing trip.

Next up is fly fishing guide **Rich Osthoff**, who will speak at our Oct. 23 meeting. Rich is a writer, fly fishing writer, guide, and professional fly tyer. His presentation will be one you won't want to miss.

Our Nov. 28 meeting will feature a presentation about fishing lake-run trout and salmon in the tributaries.

We'll host our annual holiday party on Dec. 18. This is a less formal meeting featuring dinner, an optional gift exchange, and a movie.

On Tues., Oct. 9, SEWTU will host our **Annual Habitat Fundraiser** to support future stream restoration efforts. The event will be held at the **New Berlin Hills Golf Course** in **New Berlin** from 6-10 p.m. This fun-filled evening will feature food, drink, live music, and lots of raffle prizes! We hope to see you there. E-mail **Mike Kuhr** at mikek.trout@yahoo.com for more information.

We've had a full summer of stream restoration in 2012. On July 21, we returned to **Rosenow Cr.** in **Oconomowoc**. Volunteers removed several logjams and raked elodea

from the stream channel to increase the flow (and the casting lanes). Afterwards, the **DNR** crew shocked a short stretch of the creek and found wild, native brook trout ranging from 4-9"!

This year, our chapter has been a major player in the **Matthes Family Restoration Project** on lower **Camp Cr.**, a **TUDARE** project. **Jim Wierzb**a and **Henry Koltz** wrote the grants to help get the project started, and on Aug. 18, a group of SEWTU volunteers headed west for a great workday. Work crews built over 40 lunkers for use in the project which aims to greatly reduce erosion along the streambanks. Thanks to all who participated.

We would also like to thank **Congressman Ron Kind** who, along with several staff members, stopped out to help with the project. Afterwards, Congressman Kind got to see **Farm Bill** conservation dollars at work when he toured our previously restored section of **Camp Cr.**

On Sept. 8, SEWTU returned to **Bluff Cr.** near **Whitewater** to help the **DNR** remove some brush that was encroaching on the stream and causing an excess of silt to build up. It's flowing much better now, thanks to the efforts of our volunteers!

Future workdays include Oct. 20 at **Genesee Creek** in **Genesee Depot** and Dec. 1 in **Waukesha County**. For the latest details, join our e-mail list by sending a request to sustain@sewtu.org or check www.sewtu.org. As always, we'll work from 9 a.m. until Noon, and then enjoy a brat fry lunch. SEWTU would like to thank **Henry Koltz** and **Rick Frye** for making sure our volunteers are well fed after our workdays!

Our education and outreach calendar has been full this summer, too. On Tues., July 24, we held our annual **Casting Clinic** in **Greenfield**

Fox Valley Trout Unlimited
presents

Cabin Fever Day

— a Fishing Expo —

Saturday, January 19, 2013 • 9 am - 4 pm

Waverly Beach, N8770 Firelane #1, Menasha

Lunch will be available



Show Events Include

Silent Auction • Bucket Raffles • Casting Clinic • WI Guides

Fly Fishing Shops • Fly Tying & Rod Building Booths

Fishing Equipment Reps and Used Equipment Sale

\$10 at the door

Spouses and under 18 free



Expert speakers will present fishing opportunities in neighboring states; Iowa, Minnesota, upper and lower Michigan

For more information visit
foxvalleytu.org



FVTU is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Proceeds from CFD fund our chapter's operations as well as community and environmental work.

Chapter News



Park. Orvis instructor **Erik Helm**, SEWTU's **Larry Wirth**, and others were on hand to provide instruction. Thanks to SEWTU leaders **Chuck Beeler**, **Stan Strelka**, and **Jay Zawerschnik** for providing food and beverages.

In addition to the casting clinic, we participated in several retail events at the **Orvis** and **Cabela's** stores this summer. On Oct. 13, we'll have a booth at the **DNR's Root River Steelhead Facility Open House** in **Racine**. This is a fun event catered toward children and families.

SEWTU will form an education committee this fall to better promote our education and outreach activities. If you would like to be a part of this important committee, please contact **Mike Kuhr** at mikek.trout@yahoo.com.

Our **Project Healing Waters** program continues to "heal those who serve" at the **VA Medical Center. Al Dalphonso, John Knitter, and Glen Winston** lead our morning group. **George Batcha** and **Rick Frye** have been leading the evening classes.

We held four fishing outings with the veterans this summer: May 24 (**Wern Valley Sportsman's Club**), June 21 (**Fireman's Park** in **Newburg**), July 26 (**Rushing Waters Fisheries**), and Sept. 27 (at a private pond in **Plymouth**). Special thanks to these folks who share their resources with our veterans. Our vets particularly enjoyed **Rushing Waters**, where large rainbow trout eagerly took dry flies all morning long! Thank you to all the volunteer fly fishing mentors who make these outings possible.

If you would like to receive SEWTU e-mail alerts with details about upcoming events, contact us at sustain@sewtu.org. And be sure to check out our new website at www.sewtu.org! Thanks to **Rich Vetrano** and our entire membership committee for working thru the process. We're still loading content, but the site is coming along nicely.

Thanks for all you do. Our cold-water resources wouldn't be the same without you.

—*Mike Kuhr*

Southern Wisconsin Chapter

Looking back upon the long, hot summer brings up two points of great excitement for our chapter.

First, our **Project Healing Waters** program took a huge step forward when our volunteers finally began working directly with veterans on fly tying, casting, and fishing. Reaching this point took countless hours of determined work by our many chapter members, and **Mike Burda** in particular. This is an important initiative for our chapter, and we look forward to more activities as we reach out to more of our honored veterans. We look forward to telling you more about it in coming issues.

Secondly, it was with satisfaction, delight, and even a hint of glee, that many of our members stood on hand to watch a dam breaching on **Black Earth Cr.** near **Mazomanie**. The breaching sent the creek tumbling into a brand new meander that will extend the cold water habitat farther downstream. Chapter members **Stephen Born**, **Bob Selk**, and **Tom Krauskopf** deserve special recognition for their incredible work in helping to move this project along.

There is much more to be done with this new conservancy near **Mazomanie**, including the installa-

tion of a fishing platform for the physically disabled. Our chapter received a \$2,000 grant from the **Madison Fishing Expo** to help defray the cost of this platform, which will be on the newly rehabilitated section of **Black Earth Creek**.

With the hot summer behind us, we look ahead to some great stream workday weather. Our conservation committee, chaired by **Steve Wald**, has scheduled several sessions for this fall, and he encourages your help! Learn more by viewing our calendar at www.swtu.org.

Looking just a bit further ahead, we encourage you to mark Saturday, Jan. 12, on your calendar. It is our 30th **Icebreaker** event — a wonderful day of trout talk and fly tying to help get you through the long winter. You won't want to miss this year's featured speaker, **George Daniels**, author of *Dynamic Nymphing: Tactics, Techniques and Flies from Around the World*. A **Pennsylvania** native, George is well-versed in spring creek fishing and will share his insights and techniques with us.

Please stop by www.swtu.org for more news about our chapter and to check out our calendar of events.

—*Drew Kasel*

Wild Rivers Chapter

Peter Stevens, supervisor, and **Bill Blust**, technician, of the **DNR Lake Superior Fisheries Team** spoke to our members over a year ago at our May, 2011 chapter meeting. They discussed the stream improvement work that the team had been doing on south shore (Lake Superior) streams. Bill provided an overview of the **Bayfield Peninsula** streams and how they are fed by cold groundwater from the Bayfield Sand Plain. Water collected in the headwater sections of these streams can take 90 years to make the journey out to the lake. The streams suffer small woody debris, much of it tag alder that has fallen into many upriver feeder streams, collecting sand and burying the stream channel to depths of one to two feet. That made the streams wider and shallower, slowing down the water, and limiting the flowing water's ability to flush out sandy sediment.

DNR crews removed debris and cut and pulled out alder. Water started flowing faster, and the stream cut deeper channels, exposing gravel and uncovering large logs that could provide cover.

That May of 2011 discussion prompted two years of work on the **Little Sioux River** in northern **Bayfield Co.** by **DNR** and Wild Rivers chapter volunteers. In 2011, DNR cleared alder from over 1,500 feet of the stream, and chapter volunteers cleaned debris during four workdays.

In 2012, Wild River chapter volunteers worked with the **WDNR** to complete clean-up on over 3,000 feet of the **Little Sioux**. There were four workdays for the chapter members and many more for **Bill Blust** and his **DNR** crew, who worked during some very hot weather to clear thick alder and other growth from the stream. The June 21 flood



Jim Beecher photos

BLACK EARTH CREEK REMEANDERED AROUND IMPOUNDMENT

With the fanfare of a grand opening — as it truly was — a backhoe breaches a berm on **Black Earth Creek** (top) and sends water into a new, remeandered stretch of river. Some of the leaders behind this undertaking are (bottom, l to r) landowner **Ken Wolf** and Southern Wisconsin TU members **Bob Selk**, **Tom Krauskopf**, and **SWTU Chapter President Jordan Konisky**.

deposited a heavy layer of sand on the stream bottom.

This is the second year of this project, with more work to be completed in 2013. Clearing the alder brush from the stream will, over time, allow the stream to move the sand and silt downstream and expose gravel and rock, making for a much improved fishery. Thanks to **Peter Stevens**, **Paul Piszczek**, and **Bill Blust** of **DNR**, and to chapter members **Rolland & Joyce Kiel**, **Dick Berge**, **Peter Freiburger**, **Jim Emerson**, **Chuck Campbell**, and **Bob Traczyk**.

The Wild Rivers Chapter continues to help out with the major stream projects by the **USFWS** on **Whittlesey Creek**. **Mike Mlynarek** provided the following **Whittlesey Creek** update: "During the second week of July, 160 oak logs were added to approximately 2,000 feet of channel in the lower part of **Whittlesey Creek**. The work occurred on private property as well as the **Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge**. This area is dominated by long, sandy runs lacking channel complexity such as riffles, pools, and large woody debris. Logs were ar-

ranged in scattered small clusters to expose gravel by encouraging scour, establish riffle-pool sequences, provide cover for fish, and function as substrate for aquatic invertebrates. Changes to the channel are already very apparent. During the last week of September, 1,250 conifers will be planted to restore the project area's riparian forest. **Wild Rivers Chapter** provided volunteer hours and \$500 to purchase trees. The **Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited** grant program provided \$2,000 for logs and other project supplies. The **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative**, **US Fish & Wildlife Service**, **Bayfield County Land & Water Conservation Dept.**, and **US Forest Service** also provided funding in-kind labor. This project supports a multi-agency effort to restore lake-run or 'coaster' brook trout to **Whittlesey Creek** and other tributaries to **Lake Superior**. It is part of the on-going effort to restore the lower two miles of channel and adjacent riparian habitat, with anticipated completion in 2014."

Thanks to the agency partners, and to the chapter volunteers for another great year of project work.

—*Chuck Campbell*

Wisconsin Clear Waters

WI Clearwaters TU has started work on **Wilson Creek** in **Dunn Co.** With collaboration from the **Dunn County Fish and Game** members

and **UW-Stout**, 18 workers provided the labor to start building lunger structures.

Continued on p. 18



Chapter News



NINE MILE CREEK LOOKING GOOD

Years of beaver dam removal and some recent brushing and bundling by the Wolf River Chapter have Nine Mile Creek looking its best in years. Nine Mile Creek is a coldwater tributary to the Wolf River.

Consider Proper Release



It's working!
The future of trout fishing is in your hands.

1. Don't play fish to exhaustion. Instead, use a landing net to bring fish under control before they're played out.
2. Handle fish in the net. Grasp them across the back and head for firm but gentle control. Use the net fabric as your "glove."
3. Turn fish belly up while removing hooks. This disorients fish momentarily for easier, quicker handling.
4. Don't remove swallowed hooks. Just cut the line...doing so saves two-thirds of deeply hooked trout.
5. Don't keep fish out of the water more than 10-15 seconds. Fragile gills are damaged after that...especially in cold weather.



Scott W. Grady
Rodmaker

Split Bamboo Rods
new & repairs

Bamboo Rodmaking Classes
makes a great Xmas gift!

Call or email Scott for details at
920/687-0987 or oossg@vbe.com



Elevate your fly fishing to a new level. The Original BlueSky Furred Leader. Sizes for all fish & fishing conditions. BlueSky - the leader in furred leaders.™
FurredLeaders.com

BlueSky@netnet.net • Ph/Fax 920-822-5396
1237 Yurek Rd., Pulaski WI 54162 USA

Continued from p. 17

The DCF&G provided a great supper after the work was complete.

Wilson Cr. flows eastward through central Dunn Co., with headwaters in **St. Croix Co.** and the mouth in the **Red Cedar River**. The stream has great potential for brook trout production. Prerestoration data has been gathered by the **UW-Stout biology program, Kent Johnson** of the **Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter**, and the **WDNR**.

With easements in place on both the north branch and south branches of the stream, this restoration project may serve as a model for additional work on the stream.

Projects for WI Clearwaters TU later this summer include **Bear Cr.** in **Pepin Co.**

New officers for WI Clearwaters TU are: **Bob Swanson**, President; **Dale Dahlke**, VP; **Gib Magaw**, Treas-

urer; and **Duke Welter**, Secretary. New board members are **Al Noll**

and **Rick Bauer**.
—Dale Dahlke

Wisconsin River Valley Chapter

Well, summer is gone, and with the lack of rain in many parts of our state, we hope our little trout are doing well in the low water. Hopefully we'll get some good fall rains to bump up the flows some, as well as bring in those fall steelhead.

Now that fall is upon us, our chapter starts up our monthly meetings. We have changed our meeting location to the **Great Dane Pub and Brewing Company** at the intersection of US 51 and Sherman Ave in **Wausau**. Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month, with the business meeting starting at 6 p.m. and the general meeting at 7 p.m. We would like to thank **Gander Mountain** for the years of hosting our meetings at their facility.

Our first meeting of the fall involved passing the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited bylaws. A lot of hours went into updating our bylaws, and they passed with all "eyes". It was a big relief to have that taken care of, and our czarina **Linda Lehman** was very happy

to pass those bylaws on to State Council Chair **Kim McCarthy**. The business meeting was followed by a showing of the video *Night of the Hex*. Not a bad way to start off our new season.

On August 25, we participated in the **Youth Sporting Heritage Day**. We had a beautiful sunny day. Activities started at 8:30 a.m., with 250 kids ages 8 to 18 registered for the event. Volunteers from our chapter were **Bob Pils, Linda Lehman, Henry Kanemoto**, and **Al Hauber**. Our group taught fly casting and fly tying. The event was held at the **Wausau School Forest**. It was a great event for the kids and very well attended.

On the media front, thanks to **John Meachen** for updating our website page and coming up with some ideas on how to improve it. Also thanks to **Linda Lehman** for getting our **Facebook** page up and running. Please check us out.

—Doug Brown

Wolf River Chapter

The Wolf River Chapter would like to thank the many volunteers who made this year's brat stand a success. A special "thank you" goes to **Mike & Alice Klimoski** of **Mike's Service Station** in beautiful downtown **Langlade** for hosting the stand.

A chapter workday was held July 28 at **East Hollister Road** on **Nine Mile Creek**. **Ben Rolling** of the **WDNR** led the team of **Andy Killoren, Bill Livingston, Tim Waters, Linda Lehman, Mark Peerenboom, Al Brouillard, Mike Sikorski**, and **Leroy Waters**. We worked downstream, clearing brush, making

bundles, and staking them along the banks. After the work was finished, we met in **Langlade** at the brat stand for lunch.

On August 18, **Andy Killoren** provided lunch for the workers who attended the **Green Bay Chapter's Evergreen R.** workday.

Everyone is invited to our Annual Appreciation Dinner Oct. 13 at the **White Lake Community Center**.

Please check out our website at **WolfRiverTU.org** for updates, including trout plantings, shocking results, and our temperature monitoring project.

—Tim Waters



NOW THAT SOME NICE HOLE ON WHITTLESEY CREEK

Long-lasting oak logs were installed in Whittlesey Creek this year to provide the kind of large woody debris preferred by coaster brook trout.

Volunteers answer the call at 2012 Outdoor Ed Expo

By Todd Franklin

TU member volunteers from throughout the state converged once again at the Dodge County Fairgrounds on May 17-18 to give nearly 1,000 youngsters a chance to tie a fly and cast a fly rod.

The seventh annual WI Outdoor Education Expo brought wonderful weather and busloads of eager students. Fortunately, thanks to the prep work of Bob Haase and the help from 19 volunteers, the youngsters, teachers, parents, and other chaperones all left with wonderful impressions of fishing, tying, casting, and TU.

Youngsters also left with tiny zip-lock bags containing their very own fly. I asked every student I taught to promise he or she would try to catch a fish with it, and most of them said they would. In my case, it was Bob's Haase's Panfish Bugger. Bob told me this fly catches hundreds of bluegills each year, and I shared that with my students. They were all excited to take their turn at the vice, but knowing that the fly actually catches bluegills made them pay even closer attention as they watched their peers tie.

We were fortunate this year that there were enough volunteers to have at least three casting instructors throughout the event. With additional volunteers, Haase hopes to one day include hands-on experience in other fishing-related activities.

"I'd like to expand this effort to include informational displays on stream restoration and water monitoring," says Haase. "We could also demonstrate other activities, such as knot tying or aquatic insect displays, but we would need more volunteers to make this possible."

Volunteers came from a number of chapters, including Central Wisconsin, Southeastern, Wisconsin River Valley, Shaw-Paca, Oconto, Southern, and Aldo Leopold.

Attendee returns as instructor

Perhaps the most eager volunteer was a youngster himself, 13-year-old Jared Sagal of Lodi. He was so inspired as a fly tying student at last year's event that he and his mother, Renee, volunteered both days this year. After last year's event, he took additional fly tying instruction and has improved his trout-fishing skills.

Jared had a great time showing kids how to tie. "It was kind of scary

at first. I was pretty nervous," he explained. "But after showing a couple of kids how to tie a fly, it was a lot easier. I really liked seeing the smile on their face after they tied one. Maybe one of them will like it as much as I do."

When we discovered on day one that Jared didn't own a tying vice, Haase and a few volunteers who stayed at his house that night put together a sizeable package of tools and materials. They presented these items to Jared at the end of day two, much to his surprise and excitement.

"I still can't believe the generosity of Bob and the guys to provide that package of stuff for him," Renee said. "Jared sure was not expecting that at all. He's been putting the stuff to good use. I am learning more about flies and fly tying and fly fishing from my son, from copper johns to brassies to nymphs and beetles. About every night, he's showing me some new fly he's tying. He's even tied flies for Grandma and Grandpa."

The last I spoke with his mother, Jared was helping with a fund-raiser for the Wounded Warriors project. He is definitely a thoughtful, passionate, and giving young man.

EXPO provides many activities

Besides fly tying and casting with TU volunteers, the seventh annual event featured hands-on exhibits including archery, fishing, firearm safety, trapping, sporting dog demonstrations, camping, trail recreation, conservation heritage, and more.

The future of the Outdoor Education Expo depends on the support and generosity of sponsors. If you or someone you know is affiliated with an organization that can provide financial support to this wonderful statewide event, please go to www.wisexpo.com.

Volunteering in the TU area of this event is an experience that I encourage every TU member to try. I was touched by how interested these kids were in tying their first fly and how excited they were to take it home and catch a fish with it.

We all know that too many kids are suffering from nature deficit disorder, and helping with this event is an easy and satisfying thing we can do to get kids hooked on the outdoors. I can only hope that I may have hooked a future TU leader on the sport of fishing.

If you're not a fly tyer, there are



TU GIVES MATERIAL TO BUDDING FLY TYER

Shaw-Paca Chapter President Dave Ehrenberg (right) surprises 13-year-old Jared Sagal of Lodi with a gift of leftover fly tying material after this year's Outdoor Education Expo. A student at last year's Expo, Sagal jumped into the fly tying hobby and returned this year to help TU as an instructor.

still ways to get involved. There's casting, of course. Haase would also love to have volunteers to teach knot tying. The kids are eager to learn. We just need more teachers to teach. Please consider volunteering at next year's Expo. And, of course, seek out opportunities to work with kids within your own chapter. You won't regret it.

Thanks go out to Bob Haase and the other volunteers, including Jared and Renee Sagal, Jerry Smet, Don Price, Rand VanderSchaff, Jerry Gorman, Spencer Gore, Al Dal-

phonso, Linda Lehman, David Seligman, Ira Giese, Dave Ehrenberg, Todd Hanson, Bob Obma, Mike Staggs, Scot Stewart, and Mike Stapleton,

(Todd Franklin of Beaver Dam is currently vice president of the Aldo Leopold Chapter and co-chair of TU's activities at the Outdoor Education Expo. His stories have appeared in many publications. If you would like to volunteer at next year's event, contact Bob Haase at (920) 922-8003 or flytyer@milwpc.com. -Ed.)



WILSON CREEK GETS ATTENTION FROM WI CLEAR WATERS CHAPTER
Wilson Cr. in Dunn Co. is looking trouty after habitat work this summer.

www.fontanasports.com

ROSS REELS
USA

SIMMS

Scientific
Anglers

EXOPRO

UMPQUA
MERCHANTS

SAGE

Need something to fish for after Sept. 30?

The salmon and steelhead are running and the muskies are eating. We have the gear and flies for bigger game, and clothing for chasing them in the nasty elements.

Come see us!

ORDER OVER THE WEB OR TOLL FREE (800) 257-7666
LOCAL GUIDE SERVICE AVAILABLE

Visit our web site for our fishing report:
www.FontanaSports.com

FONTANA
Sports Specialties, Inc.

Visit our west side fly fishing department:
**231 Junction Road
Madison, WI
(608) 833-9191
"Next to Target"**

TU National 2012 Silver Trout chapter in action...

Kiap-TU-Wish's Trimbelle R. Hwy. 10 park project brings sound back to a slow river

By Tom Henderson and Greg Meyer

Our most recent restoration project — done in conjunction with the Pierce Co. Land Conservation Department, Pierce Co. Parks Department, and the WDNR — has drawn to a close.

The project restored nearly 1,000 feet of stream for trout and other aquatic species in the Trimbelle Recreation Area, a Pierce County park.

The project provides trout conservation and protection, while helping reduce the need for stocking of non-wild hatchery brown trout in the river.

The restoration project connects two previous habitat restoration projects completed in 2000 and 2007 above and below the project site.

There is a recent Pierce Co. Park Department addition of picnic tables, shelters, and parking lot adjacent to the project area.

The project will lend itself well to educational opportunities and community access, including a handicapped-accessible fishing area.

According to Chapter President Kyle Amundson, "The Trimbelle

River is a watershed with exceptional water quality. With some stream restoration work from TU and the WDNR, it will become another exceptional trout fishery in Western Wisconsin."

- The project's goals were to:
- stabilize severely eroding banks,
- provide in-stream cover,
- increase spawning habitat for trout in this section of the Trimbelle, and



NARROWING A WIDE RIVER

The Trimbelle R. in this stretch was wide and slow (top right). Lunker structures were placed well away from the existing bank to help narrow the stream.

- reduce sediment and nutrient flow to Mississippi River.

Bank reshaping a key

The reshaping and sloping of steep, eroded banks was a key to ac-



ROCK VORTEX WEIRS ARE EFFECTIVE POOL GENERATORS

Rock vortex weirs are an increasing popular restoration tool in the Driftless Area. Large rocks are placed in a vee shape pointing upstream. These weirs create deep plunge pools below them, plus they don't cost that much money.

complishing these goals. Where possible, long-lived tree species were not removed while tapering stream banks. One tapered bank was stabilized with prairie grasses.

Narrowing, deepening, and speeding up current using proven techniques and lunker structures were added to provide cover from predators and refuge during flooding. These structures are covered with rock and soil, and then reseeded to stabilize the banks.

Plunge pools were installed to create deep water and over-winter habitat.

WDNR Fisheries Biologist Marty Engel said, "The addition of bank and other overhead cover along with increased depth will provide outstanding adult fish habitat. Overall, restoration of this stretch of stream will result in restoring naturally reproducing trout populations, improving fishing access, and aiding fishability."

With stream restoration and other improvements in this section, Engel indicates that attainable use potential for the Trimbelle can move to Class I water, reducing the need for stocking of non-wild trout in this section.

Restoration experiences on similar fisheries in Pierce County, such as the Rush River, have produced substantial increases in trout numbers and size.

Continued on next page

Tom Henderson

Greg Meyer

Tom Henderson

What you'll find when you fish the Trimbelle

The Trimbelle River is located 36 miles southeast of St. Paul, a major metropolitan area of over two million people.

The river flows for 20 miles and drops 300 feet before discharging into the Mississippi R. at the Trenton Slough.

Brown trout fishery

The Trimbelle has a population of brown trout numbering about 650 per mile in most areas.

The once-thriving brook trout are no longer in the river, but a few remnant brookies remain in the headwater tributaries.

Headwater springs area

The headwaters of river are about six miles east of River Falls in Pierce County.

Year-round flow in the Trimbelle begins with a group of coldwater springs in northern Pierce County.

Some maps show the headwaters to be in a "dry run" a few miles north of these springs, roughly five miles east of River Falls.

The entire length below the springs is designated by the WDNR as Exceptional Resource Water and as a Class II trout stream.

Much of the headwaters is permanently protected from development because it is owned by government entities, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the WDNR, and the Wisconsin DOT.

As the river exits the wetlands area north of the community of Beldenville, it is already several feet wide before it picks up the flow from additional springs and seeps.

In the eight miles or so from the cold spring area to Hwy. 10, the Trimbelle flows through a wide valley.

The Trimbelle nearly doubles in size at the mouth of Goose Creek just west of Beldenville.

Much of the streambed here is sandy, but with a gravel substrate. It courses alternately through wooded reaches and open farmland.

The land is privately owned here, but there are two well-marked stretches that have fishing easements and that were the subject of habitat improvement projects in past years.

Most of these projects involved the Trim-

belle Rod and Gun Club, which is now defunct.

The river below Hwy. 10

Below Hwy. 10 the Trimbelle flows through a much narrower canyon or coulee parallel to county Hwy. O. There are seven bridges in seven miles, and the river has a riffle-pool-riffle character.

In at least one place here, it is possible to park near a bridge, fish up or down stream for a mile or so, and find yourself a couple hundred yards from where you parked.

There were a half-dozen habitat improvement projects done below Hwy. 10, most of them done during the 1990s.

Below the canyon stretch

Below the canyon stretch, the valley becomes wider and the bottom more sandy again, but still with some of riffles and pools.

Below Hwy. 35 and the railroad line, it flows for more than a mile within the Mississippi River flood plain and Trenton Slough. Skidmore Bluff and Trenton Bluff stand as sentinels on either side of this stretch of the Trimbelle.



Randy Arnold



Tom Henderson

Continued from p. 20

The bank stabilization and restoration in these streams also improved water quality by reducing in-stream sedimentation and polluted runoff.

The \$49,000 project is located about five miles west of Ellsworth on Cty. Rd. O 1/2 mile south of U.S. Hwy. 10.

Bringing together a mix of partners

In addition to chapter donations of cash and volunteer labor to this project, Kiap-TU-Wish acquired additional grant money, private donations, and partnerships to help fund this and other restoration projects on the Trimbelle.

A big thank-you goes to Wisconsin Industrial Sand Company (Fairmount Minerals) for providing numerous volunteers and much-needed funding for this project.

We'd also like to thank the following partners for helping to fund this project:

- Pierce County,
- Kiap-TU-Wish board and members,
- TU National's Embrace-A-Stream grant program,
- Friends of WITU grant program,
- Patagonia,
- Ellsworth Rod & Gun Club,
- Excel Energy, and
- The James E. Dutton Foundation.



Tom Henderson

THE FINISHED PRODUCT — NARROWER, FASTER, DEEPER

Once wide and relatively featureless, the Trimbelle in the project area is a much-improved river. In-stream rocks and various deflectors along with a narrowed stream have sped up the current (bottom). Lunker structures along bends and runs (top) are also part of the restoration mix.

Driftless Area DVD set and Dave Carlson book hit bookstores

By John "Duke" Welter

Trout Streams of Southwest Wisconsin, North, by Dan Coppersmith, Coppersmith Studios, \$39.95 via the publisher or Amazon.com.

If you've wondered about how to explore the approximately 300 trout streams in Wisconsin's Driftless Area without leaving your family or your job, you're not alone.

Dan Coppersmith is offering this two-DVD set featuring videos from 57 streams in five of the state's Driftless Area counties (Vernon, Crawford, Richland, Monroe, and La Crosse).

Parts of seven more counties to the north have Driftless features, so the producer may have to call another offering the "Far North" installment.

These segments are simple and unadorned. Each stream is highlighted on the DNR's trout reg map, and then the producer or his fishing partner fish it for a few minutes on video.

The viewer gets a sense of the general width, vegetation, and condition of the stream, including whether it's had some restoration or not.

There's no reporting on dominant food species or insect availability, access opportunities, or temperatures. More of the waters shown are unrestored, which may spur some anglers to explore waters of the region which don't get much angler attention.

Coppersmith favors a spinning rod with a spoon or spinner and a dropper of a small woolly bugger, and he catches fish most everywhere he goes.

Another noted Driftless Area author and expert, spin angler Jay Thurston of Viroqua, is also on the video demonstrating his underhanded flip cast in a useful how-to segment.

After viewing the DVDs, I emulated Coppersmith and found his spinner/dropper system caught trout pretty well, even for a spin caster of marginal competence.

Two observations stuck with me after viewing the DVDs.

First, all of the fish caught were released, but most were winched across the water and up into the air by the angler before being unhooked and dropped back into the water. (Some of the time, a catch-and-release net was used, a far better practice.)

In my opinion, these DVDs could have been a prime opportunity to demonstrate good catch-and-release techniques of keeping trout in the water and handling them as little as possible before release, and to consider using a single-hooked spinner instead of a treble or double. That opportunity was missed here.

Second, I was impressed to be again reminded of the range of waters we can fish in these five counties of the Driftless Area, and am inspired to plot more explorations next season. On a cold winter night when tying up experimental flies is about all there is to do, this will be a good accompaniment.

A Fish Gift, by Dave Carlson, Volume One's Local Store in Eau Claire and other regional bookstores, \$15.95, 151 pages.

This little offering features an 85-page novella and a handful of short stories and features culled from past writings by Dave Carlson, a Wisconsin author and producer of the well-known outdoor television program, *Northland Adventures*.

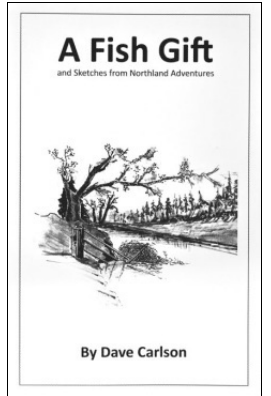
(Full exposure here: one of the features profiles this author, and Carlson somehow makes entertaining use of limited newsworthy material in it.)

The novella features a writer named Donley McCurdy — long experienced in writing about his beloved Wisconsin trout fishing and the outdoors — who finds himself in a life-threatening situation on his favorite trout stream.

This gives McCurdy time to reflect on the family, outdoors, and friends he values as he wonders if he'll meet his end today. If you're an outdoors person of a certain age, you may have pondered similarly.

This is quite personal writing for Carlson, and though he hasn't written a lot of fiction in his two previous books, he's clearly done some similar pondering this time.

It's engaging writing, a good evening's read.



Authors Jim Humphrey and Tom Waters pass

By John Welter

As trout fishing ended in most of Wisconsin and Minnesota Sept. 30, we learned of the passing of Jim Humphrey and Tom Waters, two men whose writings inspired and taught many of us. Both lived in the Twin Cities area.

Jim Humphrey, 91, the co-author with Bill Shogren of *Trout Streams of Wisconsin and Minnesota*, died Sept 29 at age 91.

Humphrey wrote for 40 years about trout fishing for national and regional magazines and for KiapTU-Wish's newsletter, displaying a lyrical flair that combined evocative description with quotes from Shakespeare and other writers.

He showed up to work on and appreciate TU projects across western Wisconsin. He knew every nook

of every stream in the region, but savored the Kinnickinnic and Willow rivers especially. Memorial plans are pending.

Prof. Emeritus Tom Waters taught thousands of University of Minnesota students in fisheries classes from 1958-1991. He taught thousands more through his writings on stream science, sediment, and conservation in nearly a dozen books.

Perhaps Waters' best-known book is *The Rivers and Streams of Minnesota*, which combines river descriptions with thoughtful essays and stories. He died Sept. 20 in St. Paul, MN.

Waters was a poet, composer, hunter, ecologist, mentor, and deeply appreciative angler. A memorial service for him will be held October 20 in the Twin Cities.

TIPS: Bob shares what's new in tying

Continued from p. 23

Now you can get them in just about any color you want. The newest colors even include rainbow-hued colored beads. If you fish bead head buggers or nymphs, this development gives you a lot more choices.

Hook choices

You may have noticed the price of hooks going up a lot, especially Tiemco brand hooks. There are a lot of choices when it comes to hooks and a lot of good hooks to select from.

A couple years ago, Mustad changed their complete line of fly tying hooks to their Signature series,

and I think they made a lot of improvements in their hooks. As an example, the old 94840 dry fly hook is now the R50. The differences are better quality control, better tempering, sharper hooks, and the change to micro-barbs. If you don't like the increases you are seeing in hooks, shop around and take another look at the Signature series from Mustad and the shop brands such as Montana Fly and others.

I am having more fun tying now than I ever have, and I think a lot of the reason for this is the constant stream of new and innovative tying tools and materials that we have available to us today. It is OK to stick with the tried and true, but it is also exciting to try something NEW!

Get a feel for 57 of Wisconsin's top Driftless Area trout streams...



...without leaving your armchair!

Two years in the making, this 2-disc DVD set gives you a guided tour of the top streams in Crawford, Vernon, La Crosse, Monroe, and Richland counties.

Includes 75-page ebook and casting tips. All for \$39.95.

COVERS: Ash Cr., Bear Cr., Billings Cr., Bishop Cr., Bohemian Cr., Bostwick Cr., Boydtown Cr., Buck Cr., Camp Cr., Cheney Valley Cr., Chipmunk Coulee Cr., Coe Hollow Cr., Coes Valley Cr., Cooley Cr., Coon Cr., Copper Cr., Crow Hollow Cr., Du Charme Cr., Dutch Cr., Elk Cr., Fancy Cr., Farmers Valley Cr., Gran Grae Cr., Hornby Cr., Kepler Branch, Kickapoo R., Knapp Cr., Lietner Cr., Little La Crosse R., McGraw Cr., Melancthon Cr., Mill Cr., Mormon Coulee Cr., NF Bad Axe R., Otter Cr., Picatee Cr., Pine Cr., Pine R., Plum Cr., Reads Cr., Richland Cr., Rullands Coulee, Rush Cr., Seas Branch Cr., Silver Cr., SF Bad Axe R., Spring Coulee Cr., Springville Br., Sugar Cr., Tainter Cr., Timber Coulee Cr., Warner Cr., Weister Cr., WB Mill Cr., WB Pine R., WF Kickapoo R., and Willow Cr.

ORDER FORM

Trout Streams of Southwest Wisconsin, North

Send your check for \$39.95 payable to Coppersmith Studios for your 2-DVD set. Price includes all taxes and shipping. Mail to:

Coppersmith Studios
3312 Olde Creek Trail
Matthews, NC 28105

Learn more by visiting us at
CoppersmithStudios.com

Name _____

Address _____

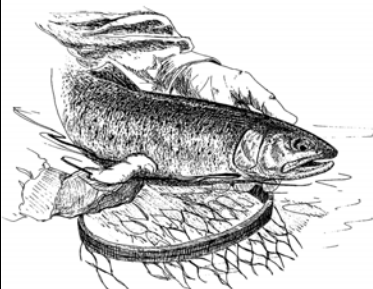
City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Consider Proper Release

It's working...so let's keep up the good work!



1. **Don't play fish to exhaustion.** Instead, use a landing net to bring fish under control before they're played out.
2. **Handle fish in the net.** Grasp them across the back and head for firm but gentle control. Use the net fabric as your "glove."
3. **Turn fish belly up while removing hooks.** This disorients fish momentarily for easier, quicker handling.
4. **Don't remove swallowed hooks.** Just cut the line... doing so saves two-thirds of deeply hooked trout.
5. **Don't keep fish out of the water more than 10-15 seconds.** Fragile gills are damaged after that...especially in cold weather.

Bob's Tying Tips

Advice from
the bench of
Bob Haase

Some new tying materials you should know about

By Bob Haase

Every year new products become available for fly tyers that allow the creation of new fly patterns or improvement in old ones. Some of these are developed or created just for fly tying. Others are designed for other applications, but some creative fly tyer finds a good use for them.

Most tyers are limited to what they can find in their local fly shops, while others take the time to search out new products in various catalogs and on-line. I will try to go over some new products I think deserve trying.

J:son Sweden realistic fly materials

A new product distributed by Hairline Dubbin is J:son Sweden



realistic fly tying materials to help you tie ultra-realistic flies. They sell everything from vein-patterned wing material to silicone-based realistic legs and body materials for dry flies and nymphs.

The materials are more expensive than a lot of other tying materials, but if you want to tie some very realistic flies, it gives you the materials to do it with.

Veevus thread

Some tyers get hung up on using a certain kind of thread and seldom check other brands. Each



thread has its advantages and disadvantages, such as strength, gripping strength, stretch, brightness, availability of colors, availability of sizes, etc. A new thread was recently introduced by a Danish thread company called Veevus. Hairline Dubbin is the distributor for Veevus threads in the United States, and my sales rep introduced me to it a few months ago.

I have been tying now for over 60 years and have used just about every kind of thread available. If you have not tried Veevus thread, please make the effort to do so. I very impressed with it. It

comes in sizes 6/0, 8/0, 10/0, 12/0, 14/0, and 16/0, and it is stronger than any other thread in comparable sizes.

Veevus thread has impressive tying characteristics beyond its strength, and it has already become one of my favorite threads for tying flies in sizes 18 to 24. It is nicely wound on spools that work smoothly in your bobbins, allowing uniform thread tension. It comes in 6 to 12 colors in most, but not all, sizes. Try a spool of 12/0 or 14/0 for your smaller flies, and I think you will be hooked!

Liquid Fusion



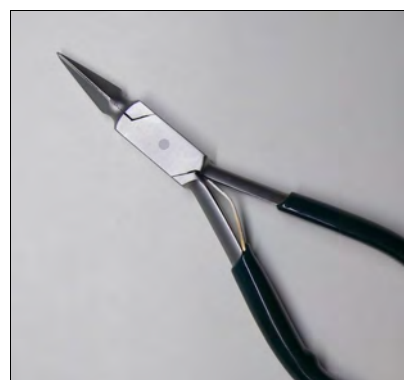
Liquid Fusion is a clear urethane glue that can be used for adhering and over-coating eyes on flies.

There are a number of products that do this, ranging from two-part epoxy to Clear Cure Goo. Cost, working time, and durability are important factors in what you decide to use, and you may decide to use more than one product depending on the application.

There are times that I will still use two-part epoxy, but Liquid Fusion is getting more and more use at my tying bench. This product has good adhesion strength, dries fast and clear, and is waterproof. You can find it at some fly shops or in Wal-mart in the fabric or craft department.

Fine-point pliers by Wapsi

Not listed with their fly tying materials, but rather fly fishing, the Anglers Image Fine Point



Pliers distributed by Wapsi will be a welcome addition to your tying bench. I bought a pair about a year ago, and purchased another one for my on-location tying kit because they come in handy for so many uses.

Multi-colored tungsten beads

It wasn't that long ago that you could get tungsten beads in gold, black, and silver.

Continued on p. 22

Bob's high-floating foam Trico

By Bob Haase

When you get into a good Trico hatch, it can be a lot of fun. What is not fun is when you get into a good Trico hatch and you don't have any Tricos in your fly box.

About three years ago I thought I was seeing a Trico hatch on the Bighorn River. Somebody at the land-

surface of the water, and it will float there until the next big brown decides to have it for lunch.

As I mentioned before, foam is not as durable as other materials, but I think you will like the way it floats and looks like a Trico.

MATERIALS LIST

Bob's Foam Trico

Hook: Daiichi 1100 or equivalent in sizes 20-24

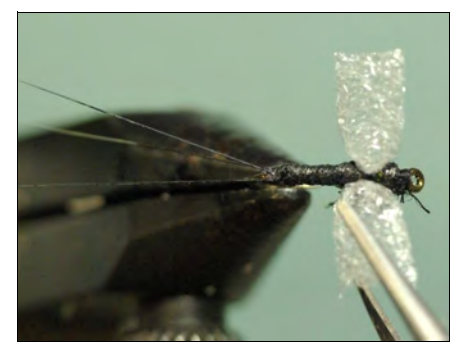
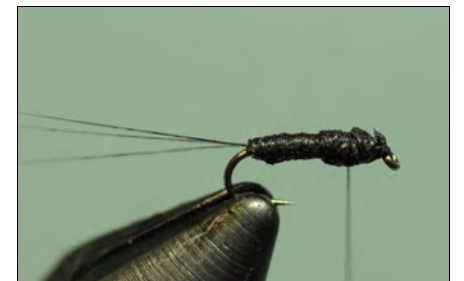
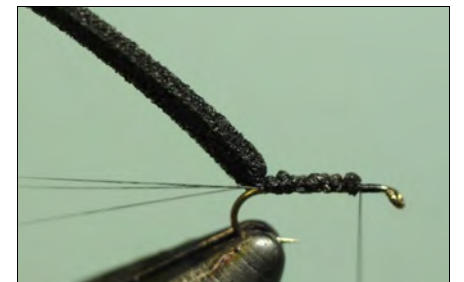
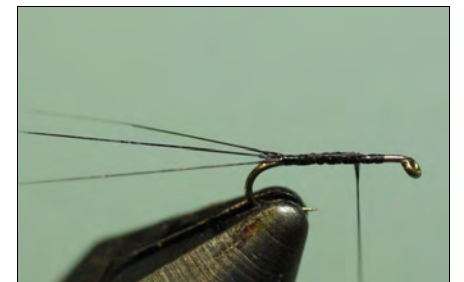
Thread: black

Body: black razor foam

Tails: microfibrils

Thorax: black razor foam and black ice dub picked out for legs

Wings: thin packaging foam, white



ing said that I didn't know what I was talking about because there were no Tricos on the Bighorn.

This year I forgot to take any Trico flies along with me out west, and I thought I was seeing another Trico hatch. Tom Lager and Mark Peerenboom from the Fox Valley Chapter were there and reinforced that they were indeed Tricos, and they proceeded to have some of the best fishing they ever had on Tricos. It was our last day on the Bighorn, so I did not tie any up that night.

This Trico pattern is not as durable as some others, but it floats great and the fish won't mind!

Start the thread and wrap it back to the bend of the hook. Tie in three microfibrils (mayfly tails) as shown. The tails should be slightly longer than the hook.

Cut some black razor foam (or a very thin strip of black craft foam) and tie it in as shown. Bring your thread back to toward the eye of the hook. Wrap the foam strip to form the body and thorax.

Put enough tension on the foam so you don't compress it too much to reduce its floatation properties, but compress it enough to make it as thin as possible. Build up the thorax a bit larger. Bring your thread to the middle of the thorax.

Take a piece of thin 1/16" packaging foam like you sometimes find wrapped around electronic equipment such as television sets, and cut it to about 1/8" wide. The width of the foam is dependent upon the size of the hook you're using. Fold the foam over your thread and slide it up and bring it into position on the top of the fly as you wrap your thread to secure the wings on top of the fly.

Make a few criss-crossing wraps to secure the wings as shown in the next step.

Put a small pinch of black ice dubbing on your thread and push it up the thread to form a clump at the bottom of the fly. Wrap the thread to form a clump of ice dubbing on the bottom that will be picked out to form the legs. Bring the thread just behind the eye of the hook and whip finish.

Take your scissors and trim the foam wing material to length (equally on each side), and then take the scissors and cut on an angle as shown to shape the wings. Place a small drop of super glue on top between the wings so that it does not slip and stays in place better.

You now have a Trico that will float in the surface film of the water without any floatant. The last picture shows the fly floating on the

Friends contributions top \$12,000

By Doug Brown

Friends of WITU Chair

The 2012 Friends of Wisconsin TU fundraising campaign is well over half done, and the support has been generous. I thank ALL of you who have contributed this year.

I am continually impressed with the financial support you give this program — over **\$12,000** in contributions this year. So far we have had 110 private contributions and 6 from

WITU chapters.

Various chapters are still requesting Friends grants for projects, so your dollars are in demand.

This year's gift for a contribution of \$100 or more is a StreamWorks Fly Box. You will also be listed in four editions of *Wisconsin Trout*.

Thanks to Tight Lines Fly Shop in De Pere for helping secure this thank-you gift. To see how far your \$100 goes, after our cost to purchase and mail the fly box, nearly \$93 goes back into our streams.

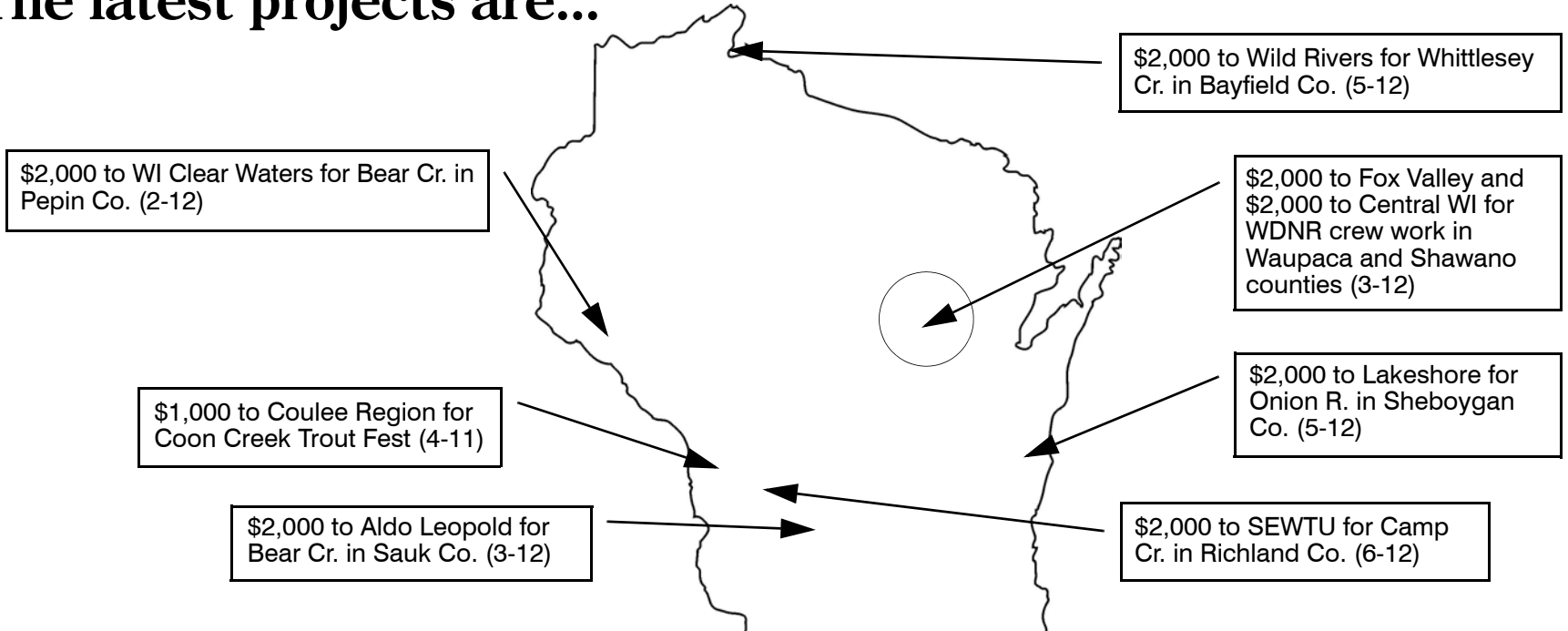
YOUR trout streams have benefited with these grants by providing a long-lasting tribute to what generous donations can do.

Countless miles of our coldwater resources have benefited with in-stream rehab that benefits our trout friends.

If you have not yet donated, please seriously consider it, knowing that your financial commitment will benefit YOUR streams and, more importantly, the trout fisheries in them.



Approaching \$200,000 in grants since 1991. The latest projects are...



Friends of Wis. TU

Here are our 2012 Friends of WI Trout Unlimited

Jason Anderson
Brian Bachhuber
Gary Balwierz
Edwin Barnes
Charles Barnhill
John Batson
James Bayorgeon
Blaine Biedermann
John & Susan Bleimehl
Stephen Born
Allon Bostwick
Richard Brodek
Rick Christopherson
Lawrence J. Clowry M.D.
Tim & Anne Connor
Dave & Susan Conroy
Andrew Cook II
Terry Cummings
Bruce Davidson
Richard Duplessie
Harley Erbs
Richard Evans
Dr. Alan Finesilver
William Flader, M.D.
Jeanne Fruit
Michael Funk
Scott Geboy
Jeff Genal
Thomas Goodmann
Dean Hagness
R. Chris Halla
Ashton Hawk
Stephen Hawk
Bill Heart
Brian Hegge
Gilbert Herman
Charles Hodulik
Jeff Jackson
Layton "Skip" James
Thomas Janssen
Andrew Jicha
Daniel & Sheree Kehoe

Mukwonago WI
Madison WI
Beldenville WI
Middleton WI
Madison WI
Madison WI
Appleton WI
Madison WI
Verona WI
Madison WI
Fond du Lac WI
Wind Lake WI
Norwalk WI
Wauwatosa WI
Fitchburg WI
Elgin IL
Sister Bay WI
Rhineland WI
Wauwatosa WI
Eau Claire WI
Rhineland WI
Mequon WI
DePere WI
Madison WI
Hartland WI
LaCrosse WI
Fox Point WI
Green Bay WI
Coral Gables FL
Custer WI
Appleton WI
Madison WI
Madison WI
Ashland WI
Rhineland WI
Stoughton WI
Madison WI
Oconto Falls WI
Hudson WI
Appleton WI
Green Bay WI
Madison WI

Lane Kestler
Joe Kubale
David Ladd
Don Larson
Jack Lenox
Richard Lindroth
Tim Logemann
Thomas Lukas
James Lundberg
Doug MacFarland
Paul Mack
Anna Magnin
Jim & Billie March
L A Minerva/John Nebel
Jeff & Lynette Moore
Robert Nonn
Herb Oechler
Winston Ostrow
Thomas Patterson
Ray D. Piehl
Dennis Presser
Dick & Jodie Prine
Randall Rake
Ron Rellatz
Bob Retko
Glen Ringwall
Steve Robertson
Micheal San Dretto
Jeff Schmoeger
James School
Delmar Schwaller
Robert Selk
John Serunian

Milwaukee WI
Dane WI
Dodgeville WI
Lansing IA
Rockford IL
Madison WI
Wausau WI
Manitowoc WI
Wausau WI
Dousman WI
New Richmond WI
Marshfield WI
LaCrosse WI
Menasha WI
LaCrosse WI
Appleton WI
Wauwatosa WI
De Pere WI
Madison WI
Wautoma WI
Madison WI
Ridgland WI
De Pere WI
Merton WI
Cedarburg WI
New Berlin WI
Verona WI
Neenah WI
Deerfield WI
Kaukauna WI
Winneconne WI
Madison WI
Fitchburg WI

Brent Sittlow
Jeff Smith
Art Sonneland, M.D.
Gary Stoychoff
Mike Stupich
Robert Tabbert
Gary Tielens
Greg Vodak
Richard Voigt
Martin Voss
Doug Wadsworth
Don Wagner
Richard Ward
Stephen Wilke
Paul Williams
Donald Williams, M.D.
Christopher Willman
Dan Wisniewski
Norbert Wozniak
Robert Wyman
Fred Young

Hudson WI
Madison WI
De Pere WI
Green Bay WI
Watertown WI
Lac Du Flambeau WI
Athelstane WI
Stoughton WI
Pewaukee WI
Eau Claire WI
Madison WI
Gillett WI
Appleton WI
Marinette WI
Madison WI
Fort Atkinson WI
Augusta WI
Middleton WI
Stevens Point WI
Beaver Dam WI
Roscoe IL

PLUS THESE WITU CHAPTERS:
Aldo Leopold Chapter
Green Bay Chapter
Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter
Marinette Co. Chapter
Oconto River Chapter
Shaw-Paca Chapter
Southeastern WI Chapter
WI Clear Waters Chapter

Yes, I want to join the "Friends" of Wisconsin TU.

Enclosed is my check for \$100, \$250, or more payable to Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

MAIL TO: Friends of Wisconsin TU
% Doug Brown
R4800 Timber Lane
Ringle, WI 54471

Name _____
Address _____
City, State Zip _____ Phone # _____