

In this newsletter we are going to report on the latest TU news items and bring you up to date on what are shaping up as Trout Unlimited's important missions in Wisconsin, namely:

- 1. Stream Restoration Projects
- 2. Litigation to stop destruction of the resource as it occurs
- Legislation to protect the unspoiled (and the restored) resource for our kids

While most of us would rather spend sunny afternoons working on a stream bank than sittingin a hearing room, both functions are equally important. Not withstanding TU's success in preventing dams from being built on trout streams, the loss of cold trout water, primarily through SCS funded ditching and draining projects on marshes and non-navigable tributaries, continues at an alarming rate.

Legislation to protect trout streams at their source and to preserve stream temperatures and conditions is desperately needed, but without resorting to condemnation and confiscation by the state. Therefore, until Governor Lucey's proposed <u>amendment</u> outlining state confiscation of lands within the boundaries set by the Wisconsin Wild Rivers Bill (AB-493) is <u>defeated</u>, we shall vigorously oppose this bill. Instead, we shall work for a bill which acts to preserve streams, marshes and watersheds while keeping them on the tax rolls and in private ownership.

Stream Restoration

Each-Trout Unlimited chapter in Wisconsin has picked several streams for restoration. The Dept. of Natural Resources is reviewing TU's recommendations and will prepare a prospectus outlining work to be done and estimates of costs for one stream in each chapter area. TU will help finance and members may actively participate in these projects.

Here are the streams under consideration so far:

Southern Wisconsin: Love Cr. Spring (Lodi) Cr. So. Eastern Wisconsin: Genessee Cr. Oak Cr. Allenton Cr. Lint Pond, area trout lakes, quarries Green Bay Chapter: Kewaunee R. watershed Central Wis. Chapter: Cedar Springs

Congratulations to Ray White

Our own Ray White has just received his PhD at the University of Wisconsin. We are very proud of our biologist, so in the future, please refer to him as <u>Doctor</u> White. Ray also won one of TU's golden trout awards at the national meeting in Portland recently. This medal is awarded to the persons contributing the most to the betterment of trout fishing in the U.S.A.

Rebate Status

Wisconsin will receive \$2.50 per member rebate from National effective January 1, 1972. One dollar will be used by chapters to cover their operating expenses and \$1.50 will be used by the state council.

Nash Williams Elected to National Board

Nash Williams, prominent attorney and sportsman, was elected by the Wisconsin Council of TU to serve as a Council Director on the National Board of TU at a Council meeting in Wautoma on December 11. Jim Stewart, as a director-at-large is our other representative on TU's National Board of Directors. Council Directors are elected for one year terms and Directors-at-large for three year terms, with both having equal voting rights and responsibilities on the Board.

<u>1972 National TU Convention to be</u> <u>held in Madison</u>

The annual meeting to be held August 11-13 in Madison will be highlighted Saturday August 12 by a banquet. There will be many door prizes, booths, and an auction or two. Tickets will be \$10.00. Preceding the event will be a National Board meeting on Friday P.M., and work shops and a general membership meeting on Saturday. Sunday will be left open for fishing. Several prominent Wisconsin outdoor and wildlife artists are going to contribute special paintings for the event. All proceeds of the week-end will go to TU Wisconsin Council and Chapters. Members who would like to tie flies to be sold at the annual meeting are encouraged to do so.

TU and the FFF

No doubt many of you have heard rumors of a TU-Fly Fisherman Federation merger. There are negotiations under way to merge certain services and office space in the interests of economy. These negotiations, if successful, will generate some excess funds for both organizations at year end which can be used for worthwhile projects.

Favorite Fly

Later in this letter is a favorite fly pattern, which was "lifted" from a Michigan TU newsletter. We are in hopes you will send us information on your favorite fly for future Wisconsin newsletters. Sketches should be made in black ink, as blue will not reproduce

Holt Creek, Marathon County--Victory

A potato farmer applied for a permit to pump 1200 gallons per minute from Holt Creek. He has been doing this without permit for the last 15 years. 1200 GPM is about 60% of the water flowing in the stream during last July, and amounts to a disasterous drawdown to trout habitat. The DNR has denied his permit to continue. Dr. Ray J. White appeared on behalf of TU at the hearings.

Namakagon River in Danger?

Some local residents of the famous Namakagon River have complained of pollution danger, which may result from a development project along the river. Anyone having knowledge of the situation please call or write. If you happen to have a copy of "Stories of the old Duck Hunter," you will remember Chapter 9 is a great story about trout fishing on the Namakagon.

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Water Management Committee Report

During 1971, Wisconsin TU became involved in or has been keeping tabs on developments in some 20 trout streams where waterway modifications have been proposed. In addition, the issues of pollution or of the DNR rough-fish poisoning program have cropped up on 4 other streams.

There have been no battles this year to rival the "big two" of 1970: the proposed dams on the <u>New</u> <u>Wood River</u> and <u>Hulburt Creek</u>. It would seem that those two landmark hearings served to sober dam-builders throughout the state. They now know that, especially with regard to trout streams, TU and other concerned groups will not let "environmental grabs" take place without a fight--and our side has won the two most important ones to develop in more than a decade. Now the real estate developers, power companies and others are proceeding with more caution and with somewhat more concern for the environment.

Major issues which did materialize this year were (1) an attempt to have two illegal dams authorized long after they had been built (Handsaw Creek); (2) diversion of water from trout streams for irrigation (Holt Creek, North Branch of Wolf River, and Elk Creek); and (3) the poisoning of trout streams to remove rough fish (Black Earth Creek and the Tomorrow River).

Two cases involving dams on trout water remain for future determination: a federal (SCS) plan to dam a downstream part of the <u>Castle Rock Creek</u> in Grant County and an application by a real estate developer to create a lake on <u>Plainville Creek</u> in Adams County.

Plans by the Federal Soil Service (SCS) to straighten channels is an impending threat to the state's trout water, on which TU has expressed itself emphatically and which we should be ready to contest whenever and wherever SCS tries to conduct such projects. SCS's own reports and warnings to us from DNR indicate that the so-called "Soil Conservation Service" is tooling up to invade Wisconsin with the non-soil,

non-conservation, non-service practice of stream straightening. Member Jim Rehbein, from Beloit, alerted us to the lengthy report showing plans to straighten parts of Spring Brook, Langlade County; Honey Creek, Sauk County; and Spring Creek, Barron and Rusk Counties. DNR has tipped us off that there may be some trout interests at stake on another SCS plan for Bear Creek in Outagamie County. In addition, SCS is trying to get projects going on Trimbelle Creek, Pierce and St. Croix Counties; Pigeon Creek, Jackson County; Gilbert Creek, Dunn County; S. Fork Hay River, Barron County; Whitewater Creek in Walworth, Jefferson and Dodge Counties: French-Beaver Creek, Jackson and Trempeleau Counties; the Little Lacrosse, Monroe County; and East Branch of Montreal River, Iron County. Those of you who have any particular knowledge or concern about any of these waters, please speak up now and be ready to appear or otherwise help out when the matters come to hearing.

There are many other streams that SCS has its eye on for projects. They are equipped in many respects to protect and improve trout streams by retarding overland runoff, by fencing stream banks, by building floodwater detention dams upstream of the trout zones of streams, and by other practices. However, the SCS drive to engineer stream channels into Bee-line ditches accomplishes little except to comfort regimented minds that are uneasy if all components of the landscape do not follow straight lines, calculated angels, perfect arcs or french curves--and to provide pork-barrel work for a staff. In every case thus far examined, fish populations declined when streams were ditched. In Georgia, Louisiana, Montana, Idaho; you ask anyone connected with the fisheries that have suffered in these and other

states, and you will get an earful. Using federal tax dollars to destroy trout waters and other fisheries seems unconscionable.

The <u>Kickapoo River</u> dam (Army Corps of <u>Engineers</u>) was one issue that was raised at the TU Southern Wisconsin Chapter and that was voted down as a matter TU should not become officially involved in. It was felt that the stream was not trout water, and that TU should not dillute its strength on this controversy.

Below are listed in alphabetical order the 20 streams in which questions arose, calling for TU consideration. More complete information on any or all of the streams listed is available upon request.

-1972-1. <u>Allenton Creek</u>, Washington County. Adjacent to the trout-water section of this stream, the Olson Lumber Company of Hartford, Wisconsin, proposed to dig two ponds. DNR ordered a hearing on the matter May 10. Fred Horn came prepared to testify. He brought trout caught there the day before, photos of others from the past, and an angler's notebook crammed with details of dates, locations and other information. Also attending were Atty Robert McConnell, Public Intervenor from the Attorney General's office, DNR fish managers and engineers, and Ray White. The applicant would figuatively have been eaten alive, but he failed to show up. Atty. McConnell moved the case be dismissed "with prejudice." This was accepted by the examiner, and now the ponds cannot be built (legally) nor would it be easy for the Olsons to re-apply.

Blue Mounds (Bohn) Creek, Dane County. Ditches were dug parallel and very close to the stream to drain a marsh on the horse farm. This spring, high water broke through the land between the main trout stream and the ditch. This formed an illegal diversion of the stream, leaving some of the former channel completely dry. Neighbors who are trout fishermen complained to TU, and we took the matter up with Harold Meier, DNR Fish Manager for Dane County. The owner of the horse farm was ordered to repair the washout and restore the creek to its original course. This was strenuously opposed by the owner, but Mr. Meier reports that he eventually completed the repair. Let's see what happens next spring.

3. Black Earth Creek, Dane County. A poisoning project to irradicate non-salmonid fishes from this stream was scheduled by DNR for last fall. TU Southern Wisconsin Chapter sided with the opponents of poisoning in this case. We maintained that, while poisoning of Black Earth Creek might some day prove to be a very worthwhile management, such treatment should await a proper determination of need and to safety to the ecosystem. We argued, why risk damaging this fine population of trout (which is recovering well from the pollution kills of 1963-67) before the prospects for benefit have been demonstrated? DNR dropped the plan. The stream was electrofished this fall as part of the research program on that stream since 1954. In this fall's operations, three tons of suckers were reported removed by electrofishing in about 5 miles. If research continues, perhaps it will be seen whether or not this had any effect on growth or survival of trout.

4. Castle RockCreek, Grant County.

Alerted by TU'er Carl Ihde of Dubuque, Iowa, to the rumor of an impending dam on this stream, TU ccutacted DNR. They reported that a Public Law 566 watershed project involving a dam has long been planned for the Castle Rock by SCS and local promoters. The lake had originally been planned for the Blue River, which DNR considers a better trout stream. DNR fought the original plan, and apparently the Castle Rock project was a compromise. DNR owns all class I trout water in Castle Rock Creek, and will not allow the lake to damage this. The dam is planned for a downstream area where trout , habitat is class II or III. DNR is stipulating a bottom draw-off of the impoundment. This may actually improve temperatures below the dam. But still much trout water will be inundated by the lake. DNR admits this will be a loss, but feels that local pressure was too great to save it.

The project has not been aired widely, few trout fishermen have been heard from on the subject apparently, and some other sides to the issue may not yet have been expressed At present, no official public hearing is scheduled on the matter, and since this is a federal project and does not arrouse DNR, there probably will be no hearing--unless someone requests it. What are your wishes on this?

5. Elk Creek, Dunn County. A truck farmer who presently holds a permit to divert 500 gallons per minute from the stream, wishes to increase the acreage he is irrigating from 25 to 141. A hearing had been

scheduled on the matter. We wanted to have TU representation there to make sure that no trout fishery interests would be placed in jeopardy. Neither Jim Stewart nor Ray White had time to attend. A week-end of calling around the state for information and help located nobody who could go. This was the frustration of having few members and no chapters in that part of the state. Hearing was held on June 2. Inadeqacies in the application had been found by TU and pointed out to DNR. Perhaps for this reason the applicant did not appear. Had a TU'er been at the hearing to move dismissal with prejudice, the matter might have been dead. But the hearing was instead postponed and held at a later date. We also failed to get someone to that one. We do not know yet what the results are.

6. <u>Handsaw Creek</u>, Marinette County. Two unauthorized dams, one present for many years and one only a few years have spoiled much of the trout water in this once superb stream. This seemed a perfect example of small impoundments ruining trout water, as has happened many places in the state.

TU member Arly Jorgenson, Crivitz, has fished the stream since the 1930's and wrote us, describing the history of deterioration. The old Public Service Commission never came to grips with the matter. Now it is in the hands of DNR. A hearing was held last April, at which the owners of the dam tried to have structures legalized. Atty. McConnell was there as Public Intervenor and saw the significance of the situation, and was able to achieve a delay in the proceedings, while more information could be gathered. A second hearing was held this summer. Prior to this, Professor Dennis Bryan, Doug Hart and others of the Green Bay Chapter made a field inspection of the stream. Green Bay thus had an informed representative at the hearing. Both the trout fisherman and the people who have been sold lots around the ponds were dissatisfied with the results of the dams and with the tactics of the pond developers.

A decision from DNR is awaited. There are reports of pressure from the dam owners through legislators for a finding in their favor. It looks at this point as if permits will be granted for both illegally constructed dams--unless people who care about the trout resource do some pressuring of their own.

7. <u>Holt Creek</u> and <u>N. Branch</u> of Little Wolf River, Marathon County. A potato farmer has been irrigating for 15 years from one or both of these trout streams without permit. This is the source of a running feud between Omernick and DNR. DNR personnel have been threatened and firearms are reported to have been brandished by several members of the farmer's family.

The hearing on the N. Br. of Little Wolf, which also flows through the same farm, has been officially opened. The DNR has now denied the Holt Creek permit.

8. Isabelle Creek, Pierce County. Minnesota Chapter TU member Dean Zickert, who fishes mainly in Wisconsin, reported severe pollution of this stream by a dairy products firm near Ellsworth. On checking with DNR, it was learned that a survey of pollution in that region of the state was just being completed, and this and several other sources on Isabelle Creek were listed for hearings.

9. <u>Knights Creek</u>, <u>Tiffany Creek</u>, and <u>Sandy Creek</u>, Dunn County. In late August, the Federal Soil Service (SCS) held unofficial local hearings to drum up or sound out support of two watershed projects involving straightening of parts of these three streams.

The main bone of contention was Knights Creek. Here the Soil Service proposes to spend \$165,000 to ditch 3.6 miles of_{stream} and thereby benefit agriculture on only 500 acres of land. This would be a cost to the public of \$350 per acre to destroy fish, wildlife and scenic values.

Normally, federal projects have proceeded in this state without formal hearing before PSC or DNR. DNR is, however, so concerned about the encroachment of the Soil Service ditching program to destroy marshes and streams that it plans to force official public hearings on such matters.

10. Lily River, Forest County. (This is not the Sheldons Inc. case on East Branch of the lily River, Langlade County.) Hearing was held on October 19 concerning the stipulation of a water level to be maintained by the operators of the dam on Lily Lake. Public Intervenor Robert McConnell attended the hearing. Matters of the

trout fishery downstream are reported not to have been involved.

11. McCaslin Creek, Oconto County.

Hearing to set levels of Reservoir Pond, Big Horn Lake, and Explosion Lake. The local fish manager felt that trout fishery values would not be greatly affected by any results of the hearing--except complete removal of the dams, which was not at issue.

12. Otter Creek, Sauk County. A Madison man with a week-end farm on this trout stream applied to dredge out most of a small marsh adjacent to the creek in order to create a pond. Wayne Hatz of Baraboo and Ray White inspected the layout with the owner. The only detriment of the pond to trout would have been its effect on springs flowing into the stream from that marsh. There ' was no sound basis for outright opposition to this application, although we did express our misgivings to the owner about destroying the marsh and damaging the springs.

What concerned us more was a pond he had already built without permit right in the channel of the trout stream. This was clearly illegal. This is a delicate matter, as he is a professed conservationist and says he is willing the land to the Nature Conservancy. Perhaps the trout habitat of the stream can be restored without legal action. The stream has several other severe problems of habitat destruction: primarily a commercial campground with dam in the headwater spawning grounds and agricultural ditching downstream.

13. <u>Plainville Creek</u>, Adams County. The developer of a resort and cottage site wishes to impound this small stream which has a naturally reproducing population of brook trout. This is another case, as was Hurlburt Creek, of a class I trout stream that was not listed in the DNR trout stream publication. DNR's Division of Fish, Game and Enforcement is opposing the dam. Wayne Hatz has investigated this stream for the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of TU, and some of the fellows from the Central Wisconsin Chapter have been there to test its fishery value.

14. Robinson Creek, Jackson County. A midwest bible camp, headquartered in a Madison church, now owns the former Fall Hall Glen resort on this stream. They propose to span the limestone glen with a foot bridge. DNR called a hearing to assure that scenic and fishery values would be protected and in particular that the builders change plans to prevent erosion at the foundations of the bridge. It was heartening to find that the camp operators had the best of intentions, were willing to carry out DNR recommendations, were using the property as a nature-education facility, and wished to do whatever they could to manage the stream properly.

15. <u>Sandy Creek</u>, Dunn County. See Knights Creek.

16. Simkins Creek, Florence County. This was an application by Kenneth Laird of Madison to obtain a permit for a structure he already had in this small brook trout stream, flowing into Montgomery Lake. The local fish manager reported that Laird had been shoring up an abandoned beaver dam with various materials. A more substantial structure was planned. A hearing was held August 17 for which we could not arrange TU representation (way up in Florence) and at which we are told no DNR biologist even showed up. Thus it is doubtful that fishery interests were spoken for.

17. <u>Tiffany Creek</u>, Dunn County. See Knights Creek.

18. Tomorrow River, Portage County. This was part of a DNR poisoning project which generated much controversy and confusion. The real problem of the Tomorrow River as a trout stream, we are told, by DNR and anglers alike, is the very presence of ponds. It has long been cited as a perfect example of a trout stream of high potential which is ruined by pond after pond along its course, regaining tolerable temperature to some extent at a distance below each of the ponds, as spring water makes up ' for the effects of impoundment. Therefore, it is a sad fact that the mill ponds were not eliminated when they became obsolete for grist or whatever, and were allowed to become the basis for cottage sites and warm water fisheries.

When the poisoning was completed this fall, DNR crews had eliminated several tons of carp from the warm water ponds, and had killed all suckers, minnows, panfishes and remaining trout in the system. Three days after poisoning, DNR re-introduced the 5000 trout it had rescued. That is where the matter now stands.

19. White River, Waushara County. Residents of the City of Wautoma and anglers of the White River, which flows through this town are up in arms over foot-dragging by the Wautoma City Council in eliminating pollution by sewage from that community. DNR cites the city as behind schedule in meeting orders for pollution abatement. Last summer a group of 30 people, including TU'ers, attended a city council meeting to demand action. They have not yet seen results.

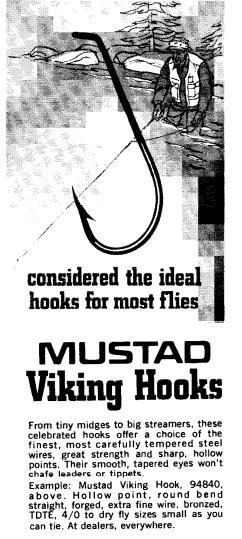
Throughout the above material it

is evident that in the matters of stream protection and watchdogging, TU depends heavily on reports of problems by its members. Please keep your observations and inquiries coming in. Now that there are more chapters active around the state, much can probably be handled on a more local basis. And local support in local issues can often be much more effective than our efforts from Madison.

Another form of support your organization needs from <u>you</u> however, is actual appearance at DNR hearings. The lack of this is also obvious in the summary above.

Above all, TU needs some lawyers dedicated to the trout resource and willing to really pitch in and help out in their special field. The other side almost always has <u>legal council</u> marshalling the case. Especially at those times when we are not exactly on the side of DNR and when the Public Intervenor is not present we become very vulnerable if we have no lawyer.

"Fishing is almost always either feast or famine, and either extreme can become equally boring. A fly fisherman who died was conducted by an archangel to a dream river, and was told that it was his to fish alone. He promptly began pulling out enormous trout on every cast. After the fourth day in this fishing paradise, he complained that he was beginning to get a little tired of fishing. He complained to the archangel, saying that he was getting tired of taking a fish on every cast and that if this was his idea of Paradise...."That's where you're wrong," said the archangel. "this is Hell."



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THE HEXAGENIA LIMBATA NYMPH

This pattern has proved effective throughout the state in streams and lakes where the giant Michigan mayfly, often called the "caddis" is found. It may be weighted and fished deep throughout the season, however, it's most effective during the hatch in late June and early July when fished just sub-surface as the actual nymphs are swimming to the top to emerge. It is often deadly early in the evening when there is light enough to fish it properly and the trout are very selective.

The use of muskrat fur to simulate the fluttering gills of the nymph is described in Sid Gordon's <u>How to Fish from Top to Bottom</u>. It is a difficult technique to master but well worth the frustration. The pattern is time consuming to tie but, aside from the gills, standard for many nymphs. Best size is a no. 6 Mustad 3XL but smaller sizes may be used to represent the immature nymph.

HOOK:	6 3XL
THREAD:	Yellow
TAILS:	Grey EMU or Ostrich Herl Tips
GILLS:	Muskrat Fur on Strips of Hide
RIB:	Brown Cotton Embroidery Thread
BACK:	Pheasant Tail Fibers
ABDOMEN, THORAX	
and HEAD:	Light Tannish Yellow Fur (Rabbit or Red Fox) Dubbed
WING CASE:	Brown Mottled Turkey Wing

TYING THE HEXAGENIA LIMBATA NYMPH

1. Prepare narrow strips of muskrat hide with fur attached as shown. Hold down muskrat piece with thumb and index finger of left hand. With scalpel or razor blade in right hand cut as narrow a piece of hide as you can. Take care to press only hard enough to penetrate hide and not cut fur below. This step is the hardest and most time consuming part of the pattern and must be practiced.

2. Tie in three emu or ostrich herl tips for tails. Spread by figure eights of tying thread.

3. Tie in two strips of muskrat, fur side towards hook. Tie in rib of brown cotton thread and 8-10 fibers of ringneck pheasant tail which will form bark back of nymph. Add fur (I use loop method), dubbing to tying thread. Dubbing fur should be pale yellowish tan.

4. Wind dubbing forward to form abdomen.

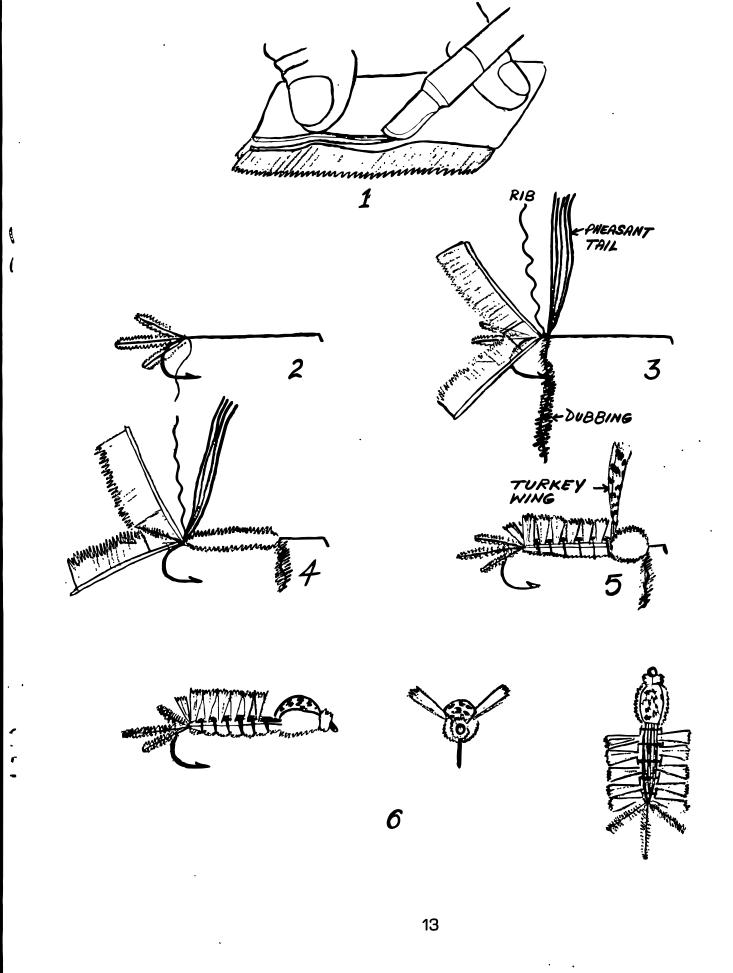
5. Bring muskrat strips forward, hide against abdomen and tie down in front of abdomen. Keep strips slightly towards the top of the abdomen so fur will project upwards in a "V" shape. (See front view of finished fly, sketch 6.) Bring pheasant fibers forward between the strips and tie down. Next rib with brown thread. Try not to bind down muskrat hair. This can be accomplished by carefully teasing ribbing thread through the muskrat fur. The ribbing serves to hold muskrat strips tightly to the abdomen as well as to represent the segments.

Tie in segment of mottled turkey wing which will form wing cases.

Build up thorax of dubbed fur.

Bring turkey over top of thorax, tie down and take another turn of dubbing to form head. Tie off.

6. Finished nymph. You may have to trim and thin out muskrat fur gills with scissors. They should be kept thin to ensure "breathing" action in water. It is not necessary to simulate the legs of this numph since they are held tightly to the body when swimming.



Does Nymphing Pay Off?

Your rod could be the key to success-or lack of it

By ROBERT O. BRUNSELL

deally, the nymph fly when cast should stay wet enough to penetrate the surface film immediately on striking the watcr. We don't want to have to jerk it under or to slam it on the water to make it sink. In other words, once the fly is well soaked, we want to be able to cast it without drying it. This means little or no false casting.

Before getting interested in nymph fishing, about 12 years ago, I had used the dry fly almost exclusively and had become reasonably proficient with it. Because of this and because most angling writers seemed to think that a rod satisfactory for dry fly fishing would work fine for presenting a nymph, it was natural that my first attempts were made with dry fly gear. I also used dry fly techniques — false casting to extend the line, fishing upstream, etc.

Eventually I noticed that the less the nymph was in the air, the more fish I caught.

My casting style gradually changed. I tried to shoot line rather than false cast to extend line. I found that by using oversize guides the line cast easily and shot out farther with less effort.

The next step involved experimenting with guide spacing. It turned out that as the distance between guides lengthened, line friction increased, and as the guides were spaced closer line friction decreased and shooting distance increased phenomenally. Evidently closer spacing of guides retarded line bellying and slap.

Incidentally, a side benefit that became evident later was much longer guide life.

Of course it's possible to use so many guides that the rod action is adversely affected, but I have come to believe the number of snake guides on most commercially produced glass rods can be doubled without noticeably changing the rod action.

Now, with more and larger guides. my rod was laying out a nice long line with a single short back cast. The fly was sinking quickly. I was getting more hits and I was catching more trout. However, the ratio of fish netted to hits on the fly still wasn't flattering.

In our southern Wisconsin streams a nymph tied on a number 12 hook is large. This is true to a lesser degree of the ponds here that contain trout. So, as a rule, the angler who uses nymphs tied on 16 and 18 hooks will have a lot more hits than the angler with 10's and 12's, but often his percentage of fish netted will be lower.

I have no quareel with the adage "big fiy, big fish." It's true enough. The big flies are tied on big hooks. If a lunker takes one we have a pretty good chance of netting him without the hook pulling out. The small flies will bring a lot more hits but they are tied on small hooks which tear free easily.

In fact, when using a small nymph with the stiff dry fly rods in vogue today, if a good fish takes on a taut line, or on a retrieve, or when the rod tip is being lifted, the chances are that all we will feel is a single 'tick' and the fish is gone. So most of the time we don't even realize we had a chance at a lunker, or if we noticed it at all we figure we missed him or the fly hit a weed or stone. What really happened was the small hook with its shallow bite just couldn't hold during the initial jar of a take against that stiff rod and it pulled free because the rod. didn't flex.

After experimenting with several blanks with different actions and trying different guide arrangements, I finally assembled a rod that, for me at least, is a joy to use.

That was three years ago and I am just as happy with it today as I was then. After using it almost daily for three seasons, I can think of no way to improve it.

This rod is built with an 8½-foot lightweight fiberglass blank. It has a light, fast tip and an action that flexes clear to the butt.

The tip section has ten number 3 snake guides and a large diameter carboloy tip top. The butt has an extra large diameter stripping guide and two number 3 snake guides. This is twice the number of guides normally used and they are larger to boot.

The stripping guide is 29 inches from the reel seat butt cap. The snake guide spacing gets progressively closer towards the top of the rod and the last snake guide is only three inches from the tip top. The completed rod weighs just four ounces.

Now with this rod and a number 7 weight-forward line I can deliver my nymph to any normal fishing distance with a short back cast and no false casting. I can retrieve through as much fishable water as I wish, even back to where I am standing, then pick up and shoot the line back out without false casting and drying the fly.

Because the rod flexes easily, when a good fish takes I have a second or two to collect my wits and give line or do whatever is necessary to play him.

The 8½-foot length is ideal for roll casting and the guide arrangement facilitates shooting line even when roll casting. A great deal of the time when stream fishing, I am casting from a kneeling position and the rod length helps the line clear obstructions behind and ahead of me.

Because the line slides easily. casting curves is easier and shooting the fly under overhanging branches is a breeze.

If I want to fish dry, I can still false cast and dry the fly, as the fast tip handles line beautifully in the air.

This rod has been used as a pattern by several of my angling acquaintances and I believe they are as happy with it as I am. In fact one friend has built four like it for himself and his friends and has orders for two more.

If you are interested in nymph fishing, give this rod a try. You will have to assemble it yourself or have someone do it for you, but t'll wager you will be as enthusiastic about it as I am.

the Flyfisher



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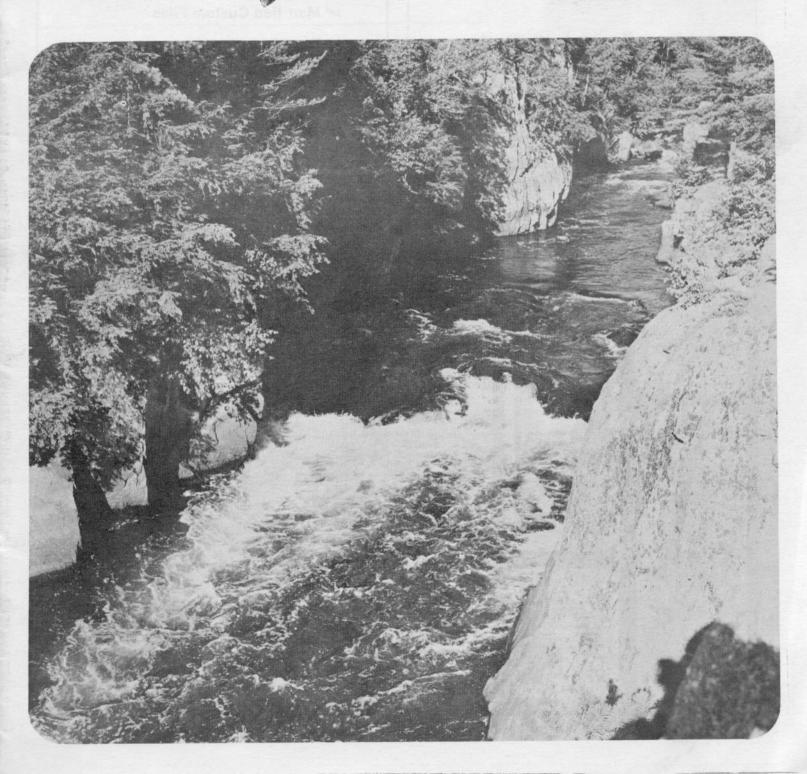
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WISCONSIN TROUT UNLIMITED

BULLETIN

Vol. I, No. 4, April, 1972

P.O. Box 564, Madison, Wisconsin 53701

Advertising and editorial copy deadlines are on the tenth day of the months of publication: January, April, July, and October.

T.U. To Preserve Cold Water Resources

Trout Unlimited (T.U.) is a non-profit, charitable, educational, and non-political association dedicated to preserving cold water resources.

Members Can Help Sell Bulletin Ads

The <u>Bulletin</u> needs advertising support.

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Cover photo courtesy of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. From now on, advertising and copy deadlines will be on the 10th day of months of publication: July, October, January, and April. See the advertising rates and dimension table for further information. As the <u>Bulletin</u> grows, any advertising revenue exceeding printing and distribution costs will be used for T.U. projects in Wisconsin.

Wanted; Letters to the Editor

Got an idea? Something on your mind? Share your thoughts or sound-off. We'd like to have a letters-tothe-editor column.

Bulletin Editor Volunteers

Susie Isaksen, pictured below, is the <u>Bulletin</u>'s new editor.



Susie is a senior in the U.W. - Madison School of Journalism and Mass Communication where she has been studying newswriting and advertising.

She and her husband, Greggar, live in rural Poynette. Both are dedicated troutfishers.

WISCONSIN TROUT UNLIMITED QUARTERLY BULLETIN	
Ad Costs and Dimensions, 1972	
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Trout Stamp Temporarily Stumped

by Ray White

State Assemblyman Jon Wilcox (R-Wautoma), a T.U. member, introduced in the last legislature a bill which would require a one-dollar stamp to be purchased by anglers who wish to creel trout.

This would be in addition to the fishing license. Persons under 16 and over 65 years old would be exempt.

Proceeds from the stamps, to the tune of \$225,000 annually, would be used to improve trout habitat.

The trout stamp bill died in the recent, overcrowded legislative schedule. Wilcox intends to reintroduce it at the next session.

Background on the bill is presented here, as we are hoping for your support when it comes up again.

The bill's intent was to bolster DNR's sagging habitat management program

Many miles of trout stream have been preserved for public fishing under DNR's laudable program of purchase and easement.

Habitat management funds and personnel were shunted into acquisition in the early 1960's and were never fully restored to habitat management despite a decrease in the amount of stream mileage available for purchase. The bill received bipartisan co-sponsorship from 16 representatives and one senator. It was referred to the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources where a hearing was held January 17. It was favorably reported out of the Committee the same day.

I appeared before the Committee, on behalf of T.U., in support of the trout stamp. I pointed out that Wisconsin fishermen should welcome the opportunity to pay their way more fully in the environment.

As is the case with many types of sportsmen, the troutfisher often gains much more in fish (and enjoyment) than he ploughs back into the resource through taxes (fishing licenses and sales taxes on fishing gear).

The stamp would be a step toward rectifying this net drain on the resource.

The trout stamp is an old and oft-argued issue in Wisconsin. Bills to create it have been introduced time and again in the legislature, but none were passed.

Many states have trout stamps. Such a tax is used variously. Some states plug the money into hatcheries and stocking programs, some support stream and lake aquisition with it. Some even use it to restrict the flow of money into hatcheries (ruling that hatchery expenses may not exceed stamp proceeds.

Some states put stamp funds to work in habitat management, as is hoped in Wisconsin.

Wherever it exists, the stamp provides a useful measure of the number of trout fishermen.

It used to be feared among advocates of habitat management that little money would derive from a onedollar stamp and that the habitat program might become limited to stamp funds.

Repeated DNR surveys now show that about 250,000 trout fishermen buy licenses in Wisconsin annually.

The \$250,000 anticipated from the stamp would about equal the budgets for habitat management of 15 years ago. It would exceed the \$175,000 presently spent.

Wilcox's new bill will stipulate that the new income <u>supplement</u> rather than replace the present level of habitat spending.

Certain factions within the DNR oppose the "trout habitat" stamp.

For bookkeeping purposes, earmarked funds are more cumbersome than other monies.

In matters of trout management, the Bureau of Fish Management is hatchery-oriented and would like to be free to funnel some of the funds into raceways.

There is also resistance from those wardens who view enforcing the stamp as a burdensome complication of their duties.

But how do slight technical incoveniences weigh against gain in habitat?

At the annual county fish and game hearings held

in March, the Executive Committee of the State Conservation Congress had the trout stamp issue on the ballot for a "show of hands" vote.

Statewide, the vote was 984 in favor of the stamp, 4,062 opposed. A real clobbering:

Contrast that with the Dane County vote: 94 for, 54 against. This was the only county meeting where we are sure T.U. representatives testified.

Good Guys at DNR Need Support

There are people within the DNR who really care about trout in Wisconsin.

Consider their fate. Their ears are tuned, waiting for the slightest bit of public support to strengthen their proposals.

Their hopes are shattered by what they hear. There are conflicts between different types of fishermen, some screaming for more warm water, others for cold. Even among cold water advocates there are conflicts.

Fortunately all trout fishermen can agree that without suitable streams there can be no trout.

Therefore, T.U. can act in a meaningful way to support those within the DNR who are interesting in preserving or restoring trout



waters in Wisconsin. T.U. can do this by acting as a watchdog agency, supporting the good plans and strongly opposing the bad.

Watchdogging Avoids Neglect

Time was "the DNR could simply make a decision and destroy trout water," said Ray White, a T.U. member and U.W. aquatic biologist who worked as a DNR biologist for seven years.

"A lake was built in what is now Hartman Creek State Park, Waupaca County by impounding what was reportedly one of the best brook trout streams in the area. This happened many years ago. However," Ray warns, "there have been more recent instances verging on this type of destruction. There is always the danger it will happen again."

"Sometimes streams are compromised away," Ray continued. Such compromises might involve an individual donating land to a conservation management program in exchange for the right to build a dam.

"In the 1960's, there were agreements to let the U.S. Soil Conservation Service innundate the best trout habitat of the Cave Hollow Branch of Otter Creek in Iowa County for a recreational lake," Ray recalls. "Several miles of excellent trout water were destroyed."

Ray cited more recent examples of trout resources being neglected by the DNR. Fish managers sometimes fail to appear at hearings involving trout streams, as in case of the Big Wausaukee River dam in Marinette County. Occasionally when fish



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managers do come to hearings, their surveys are incomplete.

Last January DNR personnel attended the Pine Creek hearing in Price County. "But they declined to testify," Ray said. "Therefore the public still does not know whether or not the trout population of Pine Creek is significant."

Destruction, compromising, and neglect of Wisconsin's trout waters can be avoided by effective watchdogging.

Stream Report

Handsaw Creek; Victory

The Green Bay Chapter has actually succeeded in ridding Handsaw Creek, a trout stream, of two dams. It was a big victory for T.U.

The Handsaw Creek dams began about forty years ago as small, unauthorized barriers. Over the years, high water occasionally washed them out. They were rebuilt time and again to higher and higher levels, each time further endangering the trout population. It was all construction without permit.

Eventually the owners sold land for cottages around the 20-acre, undendable ponds.

The most recent washout occured in 1970 and the owners finally applied for permits to rebuild the dams.

Local residents and fishermen and T.U. rallied in opposition. Several members of the Green Bay Chapter made a stream survey which John Holewinski presented at the hearing.

The decision to deny the permits was the latest in a series of victories in the fight against adverse recreational lake development.

In 1970, T.U. aided the New Wood Society preserve the New Wood River, a wil- * derness trout stream in Lincoln County. A proposal to build a dam to supply pollution-dilution water to paper industries in order to avoid installing proper waste treatment on the Wisconsin River was defeated.

Also, in 1970, T.U. worked with the DNR fish and game personnel and local landowners to preserve trout habitat on Hulbert Creek, Sauk County. A permit to construct a real estate development dam was denied.

The Handsaw, New Wood, and Hulbert decisions came during a surge of applications to build dams and otherwise modify Wisconsin waterways.

In recent years, dam building has been a real fad. But now developers and the DNR are reacting to public concern.

The three recent decisions serve to prevent more battles from even arising.

Developers know they will be opposed... And the DNR is now rejecting many proposals for dams, diversions, and ditching in preliminary stages. This represents a significant new trend. T.U. must keep the pressure on to assure that it continues

Hulbert Creek Once Again

The City of Wisconsin Dells plans to petition the DNR for permits to build a dam on Hulbert Creek to facilitate an N.E. Isaacson real estate development.

Trout Creek

T.U. is trying to raise funds to help the DNR purchase a 180-acre farm on Trout Creek, Iowa County. The DNR would like to buy it but can not afford the entire cost.

Thanks

T.U. extends a big THANK YOU to Arne Salli, William Schmitz, and Mrs. Kenneth Smith of the New Wood Society. They attented the Little Wolf River hearing in Marathon County.







Plans Firm Up for National Meeting

Arthur Godfrey has tentatively accepted T.U. 's invitation to be the keynote speaker at the national meeting banquet in Madison, Aug. 5.

The menu includes top sirloin of beef and apple pie.

Actually, there will be more to the national meeting than the banquet.

On Friday, Aug. 4, the national directors will gather for a board meeting.

On Saturday morning, chapter and council officers will meet in workshops with T.U.'s national executive officers, attorneys, and financial consultants.

Afterwards, there will be a round table discussion about stream straightening or "channelization." Jim Stewart thinks "it'll be a barn-burner." The panel will include U.W. professors, and representatives from the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, Michigan DNR, and Wisconsin DNR. There's bound to be a few divergent views. Ray White will act as monitor.

Also, there will be a presentation on the Pike River project by "Duke" Lloyd Andrews.

At about 3:00 p.m. Saturday, there will be a national membership meeting for the election of national directors and any other business that might come up. At about 4:00 p.m., the Central Wisconsin chapter will offer their flytying and balanced equipment seminar. It will feature the same personalities and style as the seminar they sponsored.in March.

The schedule will run approximately as follows:

Friday, Aug. 4

Board Meeting, 6-11 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 5

Workshops, 9-10 a.m. Round Table, 10-noon Duke Andrews, 2-3 p.m. Annual Meeting, 3-4 p.m. Flytying Seminar, 4-6 p.m. Cocktails, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Dinner, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 6

State Council Mtg., 9 a.m. Open for Fishing, 10 a.m.-?

The national meeting provides Wisconsin T.U. members a chance to get to know all their national officers. They'll be coming to Wisconsin from all over the country and they probably won't gather here again for several years.

So, come to the national meeting if you can. It will be at the Holiday Inn No. 2 on I90 at the exit for Highways 12 and 18 southwest of Madison.

Tickets are available from any of your chapter officers. The cost, including the banquet and door prizes, is \$10.00, of which \$4.00 is a tax-free donation. All proceeds will go directly to the chapters. Wives and non-members are welcome.

Jim Stewart reserved 30 rooms at the Holiday Inn No.2. He requests that you mention T.U. if you call the Inn to make reservations. Otherwise, make your reservation through Jim, so T.U. will receive credit for the reserved rooms.

Hobby, Craft Items Needed to Sell at National Meeting

by Bob Brunsell, 511 E. Main St., Evansville, Wis.

As a fund raising project, there will be space available at the national convention where items contributed by members will be offered for sale.

I would like to hear from any of you with hobby or craft items or anything else you would be willing to contribute for sale at the convention.

You will be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses if you wish. You may designate whether proceeds from your items are to go to the state council or to an individual chapter.

State Council Election Set for Aug. 6

There will be a Wisconsin State Council election Aug. 6. Now is a good time to start thinking of candidates. Remember, the state council members are now elected for two-year terms.



Rev. Dale Harrison's wife, Delores, will have to take up fishing now. She won the top door prize, a balanced fly rod and reel.

Central Wis. Holds Annual Banquet

Gags, door prizes, speakers, and business highlighted the Central Wisconsin Chapter's annual banquet in April.

About 120 people attended. They enjoyed talks by Doug Hart and Bob Hunt, a DNR official from Waupaca.

The business portion of the meeting included an election. It was decided that the same officers would be retained for another year. They are: Tom Poullette, president; Arling Erickson, vice president; Allen Hasselquist, secretary; Ray Piehl, treasurer.

Three men will remain on the board of directors: Kerm Clark, Rev. Merle Ries, and Russell Younglove.

New board members are Bill Stone, John Heaton, and Lee Brown.



Doug Hart, emcee, got laughing at his own jokes...Like the one where he had to wash Dan Devine's car but his tongue got dry.



Tom Poullette holds up an artificial worm. Not all trout fishermen are fly fishermen, he said. Some, like Ray Piehl, he chided, catch 'em on nightcrawlers.



Jon Wilcox receives a minnow net from Tom Poullette. A minnow net is a bit of a blow to any man's ego, but Jon took the ribbing in good humor.

The pictures on this page were taken by the <u>Waushara</u> <u>Argus</u> and loaned to the Bulletin.

Central Wis. Chapter News

(excerpts of reports from Tom Poullette)

Throughout the winter, the Central Wis. Chapter held flytying classes at Wautoma High School. Most materials were donated by T.U. The classes were under the direction of Arling Erickson.

In March, we held a fly fishing seminar. 120 people attended. They were divided into five groups and rotated through the various classes: 1) flycasting with Arling Erickson as instructor, 2) flytying with Gene West for dry flies, Tom Towne, streamers, and Ed Lloyd, nymphs, 3) leader tying and knots with Fred Horne, 4) ecology and local insects, Bob Carline, 5) reading water, Bob Heding.

The seminar was well received and raised a few dollars.

Central Wis. won the national membership contest in two categories: greatest percent of new members, \$250.00, and most new members, \$100.00.

Wolf River Lodge

on the Wild River

A country inn, catering to the trout fisherman who wants to fish the Wolf.

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George W. Steed

Hook: 16 thru 8. Thread: Black Tail: Three moose mane hairs tied rather long. Body: Condor quill wrapped over built up body of kapok or tying thread. Wings: Pale dun hackle tips. Hackle: One grizzly, one dark brown wound together as in an Adams.

The BORCHER'S SPECIAL (DRAKE) is a pattern developed by the late Ernie Borcher, famous AuSable guide and fly tyer. It supposedly was originated to suggest three separate flies hatching during the early season. Now it is used as a specific imitation of the Leptophlebia cupida and nebulosa (emerging from the 1st to the 20th of May) as well as a suggester for many flies and is tied commonly from size 16 through size 8. It is an excellent pattern to use during the brown drake hatch when tied in the larger sizes.

Ernie Borcher tied this pattern for his own use as listed above. For commercial patterns he substituted fibers from a ringneck pheasant tail or from a turkey wing feather for the condor quill. Three to five fibers are twisted loosely together and wound on to form the body. The condor quill body represents the authentic tie and seems more effective than the substitutes.





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ARUBA 15V.

ARUBA 15V. Agile, responsive — most of all, fast— without compromising comfort and convenience. There's room for five. Twin buckets forward. A full bench aff And plenty of deep foam padding to go around. Expensive? Nope. In fact, it's Silverline's lowest price boat. Think about that, budget-benders. (While you're at it, ask about Aruba GTV. It's raw power wrapped in a classic grand touring package.)

GRAND BAHAMA 221.

GRAND BAHAMA 221. Trim enough to hop a trailer and hit the road. Still it's filled with all the day/night cruise luxuries you'd expect in a big, marina-bound barge. Sleeps four. Full galley. Dinette. Enclosed head. And a ceiling that towers over 6' above the deep pile carpeted cabin floor.

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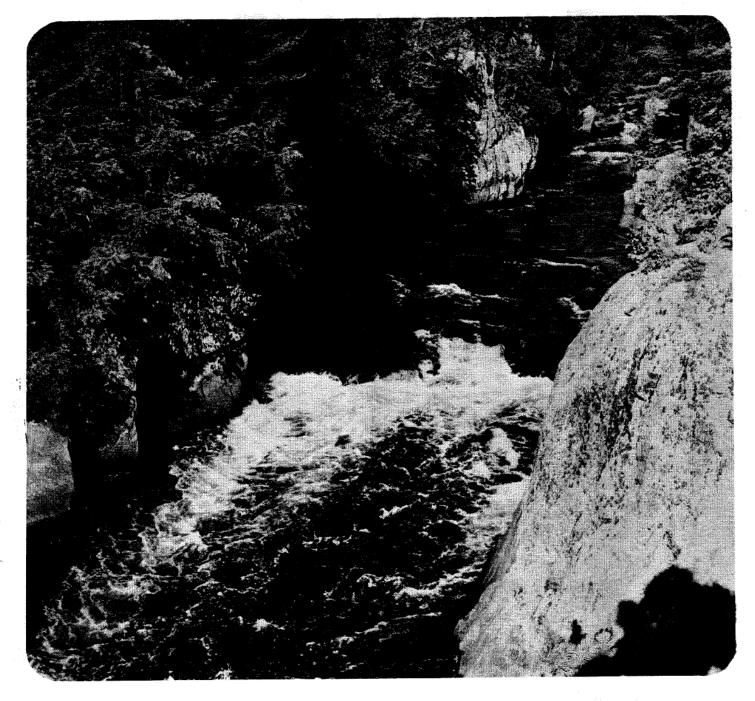
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Jack W al worth,	Doug Hart,	Vac a nt
Southeastern Chapter Pres.	Green Bay Chapter President	Wolf River Chapter Pres.

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ANTIGUA 181. The best of two worlds meet in Antigua. It's a big, fast stern drive cruiser. AND a fully outfitted camper. Complete with galley. Fresh water supply. And convertible bunks. Two for the price of one. Tough to beat.

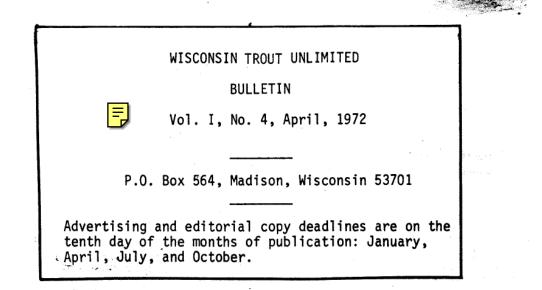
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New Chapter Welcomed

Wisconsin T.U. is pleased to welcome KIAP-TU-WISH chapter, based in Hudson, Wis.

The new chapter's officers are: Dwaine W. Persells, President; Ed Christoph, Vice President; and Toby R. Garey, Secretary-Treasurer. Directors are Earl R. Fairbanks and Kenneth H. Hayes.

Southeast Elects New Officers

The Southeastern Chapter elected the following as officers for the coming year: Don Tebay of Mequon, President; Tom Lepley of Butler, Vice President; Chris Doyle of New Berlin, Secretary; and Larry Wirth of Milwaukee, Treasurer.

Ray White Is Michigan Bound

In September, Ray White is leaving Wisconsin to become an assistant professor in the Department of Fishery and Wildlife, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich.

In his new post, Ray will spend most of his time as an extension system aquatic ecologist in the College of Agriculture, working with county extension agents throughout Michigan.

Wisconsin T.U. 'ers are going to miss Ray. His arguements at hearings and elsewhere on behalf of T.U. and trout interests in general are knowledgeable and, therefore, often effective.

The enthusiasm with which he has worked to save Wisconsin's trout streams has been a contagious asset to T.U.

Thank you, Dr. White. We all wish you much success.

WISCONSIN TROUT UNLIMITED QUARTERLY REPORT

Ad Costs and Dimensions, 1972

1 full page (7 inches x 10 inches or bleed)...... \$80.00
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1/2 page (vertical)..... 1 col. x 10 in..... \$40.00
1/4 page 1 col. x 4-7/8 in..... \$20.00
1/8 page 1 col. x 2-3/8 in..... \$10.00
1 col. inch..... 1 col. x 1 in..... \$ 5.00

Editor, Susie Isaksen

Convention Facts

Please, Sell Those Tickets

Have you contacted every single fisherman in your area? Have you tried to sell convention tickets to everyone you know who is interested in preserving our natural resources?

Please, sell those tickets. We'd like to show the national organization what Wisconsin can do for their convention.

Also, every ticket you sell to a non-member could mean a new member.

Revised Schedule

There have been a few changes in the convention schedule. It now stands as follows:

Friday, Aug. 4

5:00 p.m. National Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday, Aug. 5

8:00 a.m.	National Board of Di-
	rectors Meeting
11:00a.m.	Duke Andrews, "Report
	on Pike River Project"
1:00 p.m.	Panel Discussion, "Stream
	Channelization and Sal-
	monids"
3:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting
	Flytying and Balanced
	Equipment Seminar
5:30 n.m.	Cocktails
6.20 m m	Dinnen and Banquet
6:30 p.m.	Dinner and Banquet

Sunday, Aug. 6 8:00 a.m. State Council Meeting 11:00a.m. Shocking Demonstration at Black Earth Creek (fishing afterwards, so bring your gear)

Banquet Features Top Personalities, T.U. National Officers

...also auctions and door prizes.

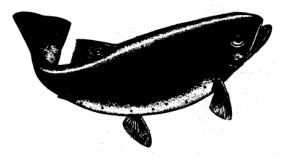
The program for the dinner and banquet is as follows:

Emcee; Steve Henry, outdoor editor, WEAU-TV, Eau Claire, Wis.

- Brief Introduction; Otto Teller, T.U. national president
- Brief Status Report on T.U.; Pete Van Gytenbeek, national executive director
- Presentation of National Awards; Otto Teller
- Presentation of State Awards; Jim Stewart

Keynote Address; Arthur Godfrey (We're still awaiting confirmation on this as the Report goes to press)

There will be auctions throughout the evening. Also, many valuable door prizes will be given away.



Panelists' Views To Clash at 'Channelization' Discussion

Although all the replies are not yet in, Ray White has invited some really informed individuals who have strong opinions on stream channelization.

Their discussion, "Stream Chan-nelization and Salmonids," will give T.U.'ers a chance to learn more about the pros and cons of channelization. Also, everyone present will have the

opportunity to express their own opinions on the subject.

For many, the discussion is the highlight of the convention. For most, it is something not to be missed.

The panelists and the subjects they will cover are as follows:

<u>Topic I;</u> "Good Stream Habitat for Trout, What Is It?"

Panelist; A trout stream ecologist

<u>Topic 2;</u> "How Channelization Affects Trout Habitat and Populations, Case Histories"

Panelist; Mr. Stacey Gebhards, Biologist and Fishery Management Supervisor, Idaho Fish & Game Department

<u>Topic 3;</u> "Federal Stream Channelization; Need, Justification, and Ecological Considerations"

Panelists; Mr. Lester Herr, official representative, Federal Highway Administration, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Gene Buie, Deputy Assistant to the Chief Administrator of the Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

And, hopefully, a representative from the Army Corps of Engineers

<u>Topic 4;</u> "Erosion, Sedimentation and Channel Shape in Natural and Ditched Streams"

Panelist; Prof. J.C. Knox, UW -Madison Department of Geography

<u>Topic 5;</u> "Economics of Channelization"

<u>Panelist;</u> Prof. Daniel Bromley, UW - Madison Departments of Agricultural Economics and Forestry

<u>Topic 6;</u>"Legal Aspects of Channelization" Panelist; unknown

Organizers Efforts Appreciated

Like any major organizational project, the national convention has involved a lot of work. The state council says "THANK-YOU" to the following committees and the individuals who served on them:

Awards; Nash Williams Al Moore Clint Byrnes Lee Parker Door Prizes; Ed Lloyd Ron Ahner

Emcee; Steve Henry Doug Hart

Panel Discussion; Ray White

Dinner Program: Ron Ahner

Stream Shocking Demonstration; Bill Threinen Cliff Brynildson

Publicity, Photos; Bill Wollin Susie Isaksen

Flytying Seminar; Tom Poullette Arling Erickson Fred Horn Bob Heding Ed Lloyd Tom Towne Gene West Bob Hunt Bob Carline Chapter Booths; Bob Brunsell

Frosty ParriSh Roy Sarow Contributions; Businesses who have

supported T.U.

Ticket Sales; All T.U. members

Come to the Convention

Now, all that's needed is people. ...So come for one or two events, or for the whole program. That's Aug. 4, 5, &6, at the Holiday Inn No. 2 on I90 at the exit for Highways 12 and 18, just southeast of Madison. Wives are welcome.

Tickets are still available from members of your local chapter or from Jim Stewart, P.O. Box 564, Madison, Wis. 53701.

Comment

Those Proposing Change Should Pay for Environmental Studies

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (D.N.R.) subsidizes dam builders and stream straighteners by gathering, at no charge, the environmental information for making decisions as to whether or not proposed changes in waterways should be allowed.

Where trout water is involved, complete studies on habitat and trout population often have to span an entire year in order to obtain information on all phases of the habitat cycle. Such studies require many man hours and thousands of dollars.

Many D.N.R. personnel are hesitant to spend money out of sportsmen's pockets (from fishing and hunting licenses and federal sales taxes on sporting goods) at the whim of the few individuals who apply to make changes. Therefore, the complete information necessary for making sound decisions is often never gathered.

Perhaps the D.N.R. should make it a matter of policy to make thorough environmental studies before approving any changes in waterways. However, Wisconsin sportsmen would have to pay much higher taxes if the D.N.R. were to start collecting complete information on all the applications for stream alterations now being received.

That complete information concerning the environmental effects of all proposed changes in waterways should be gathered in order to safeguard our natural resources can not be questioned. However, a more effective and satisfactory method of financing the studies should be found.

Real estate developers, the federal Soil Conservation Service (S.C.S.), and all others applying to make changes in waterways should be required to make their own studies. Costs for the environmental studies would then be considered as routine business or project expenses. By requiring applicants to make private studies, the D.N.R. could assume the less costly role of determining whether or not the private studies meet standards of completeness and accuracy. Never again would changes in waterways be made without full consideration of environmental effects.

Voice Needed When Trout Interests at Stake

If no one opposes a proposed modification in Wisconsin waterways, the D.N.R. need only consider whether or not the proposed change would cause environmental pollution.

However, if there is opposition, the D.N.R. must consider whether or not the proposal is in the public interest as defined by four criteria: economics, recreation, esthetics, and ecology.

That's how Wisconsin water laws work... And that's why it is so essential that someone be there (at hearings) when trout interests are at stake.

If trout fishermen don't protect their own interests, no one is obligated to do it for them.



Stream Report

Strong Effort, Big Disappointment

The D.N.R. approved an application to rebuild a private dam on the Big Wausaukee River in Marinette County.

The decision came despite the objections voiced at the January 11th. hearing. Those who appeared in opposition are: Dave Morris and Dennis Bryan of T.U.'s Green Bay chapter, Atty. Richard J. Steinbrinck of the Isaac Walton League, Green Bay, and several area officials and concerned citizens.

The state attorney general's office is appealing the decision in order to protect the public interest.

T.U. Works with D.N.R. To Save Endangered Trout Water

Trout Creek, one of southern Wisconsin's most valuable trout streams, has been fighting a losing battle against dams and other damaging changes.

When the Arndt farm was put up for sale, it looked like Trout Creek was doomed. The farm includes a spring which pours into the creek. On the downstream side of the spring, Trout Creek is Class I trout water for about three miles.

Some D.N.R. personnel were interested in buying only that part of the farm which includes the spring's outlet. A Southern Wisconsin Chapter committee, headed by Nash Williams, felt that the spring's recharge area should be included in any proposed purchase. They also feared that if the D.N.R. offered to buy only part of the farm, an offer for the entire farm was more likely to be accepted.

The T.U. committee worked with people within the D.N.R. and gathered information to help effect purchase of the entire farm, including the recharge area.

The entire episode demonstrated how T.U. and the D.N.R. can work together effectively to save endangered trout water.

T.U. Urges Use of "Headvalley" Dams To Control Flooding

T.U. was represented at recent hearings concerning an application for an S.C.S. flood control dam to be built across the channel of Iowa County's Flint Creek, a branch of the Otter Creek system.

Ed Lloyd, Nash Williams and Ray White, all of the Southern Wisconsin Chapter, entered the hearings with a neutral position. However, when it became apparent that detriments to the trout fishery were probable and that adequate environmental information was lacking, the registered in opposition.

While agreeing that flood control is desirable, the T.U. representatives objected to the type of dam which was proposed. Other main channel dams in the vicinity have demonstrated a tendency to cause silt clogging.

T.U. is recommending the use of "headvalley" dams to be located in the run-off area above the stream's headwaters. By catching and holding run-off water before it reaches the actual flowing stream,

"headvalley" dams can achieve the same





flood control advantages as the types of dams which span main channels.

"Headvalley" dams have been successfully implemented in such western Wisconsin streams as Bohemian Valley Creek and Timber Coulee Creek. These structures were built by the S.C.S., which deserves praise for a job well done.

Southern Wisconsin Stream Threatened

A dam to create a 500-acre recreational lake is proposed for Richland County's Pine River, one of southern Wisconsin's most productive trout streams ("productive" meaning that hatchery fish adapt well, growing in size and strength for several months before they are caught).

An S.C.S. biology team composed of S.C.S., D.N.R., and U.W. biologists has asked for time to determine the environmental effects of the proposed impoundment. Local promoters have angrily accused these concerned biologists of creating time-consuming delays.

The dispute is one that T.U. might enter effectively. We can not continue to allow promoters to proceed with the kind of uninformed haste that has led to so many environmental mistakes in the past.



<u>Withdrawing Regulated on</u> Little Wolf and Holt Creek

After a long history of diverting water illegally, a Marathon County potato farmer applied to take water on a legal basis. Ray White and members of the New Wood Society appeared at the various hearings on behalf of T.U.

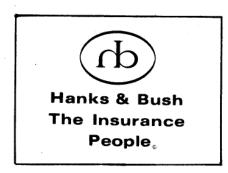
The D.N.R. denied permission to take water from Holt Creek.

On the Little Wolf River, the applicant was restricted to taking water only at times when more than 14 cubic-feet-persecond of water flowed in the channel. The D.N.R. determined that the 14 feet-per-second figure was the amount of flow necessary to maintain trout habitat at that point in the stream.

Another Sack of Potatoes

... The Brule River which forms much of Wisconsin's northeastern border with Michigan.

Dennis Bryan of the Green Bay chapter attended hearings at which he opposed an application to divert water for the irrigation of potatoes. Dr. Bryan reports that there was, as in so many other cases, a great lack of ev-



idence available on which to base a decision.

It is feared that the D.N.R. will grant the permit and another trout fishery of importance may be damaged.

The Sierra Club, which is trying to have the (eastern) Brule designated as a Wild River, also opposed the application to withdraw water.

Early Warnings:

Hulbert Creek, Sauk County. Reliable sources indicate a renewed attempt to build a dam for the purposes of real estate development on this Class I brook trout stream.

Alder Creek, Dane County. There is the possibility of a dam on this tributary of the Potato River.

Token Creek, Dane County. There has been much in the Madison newspapers lately about manipulation of the landscape around Token Creek for highways, parks, and real estate development. It should be seen to it that trout interests are accounted for during the planning stages.

Dam Planned on Montreal

Trout fishermen who enjoy the Montreal River — East Branch which forms the boundary between Iron County, Wis., and Gogebic County, Mich., should contact T.U. to consolidate interests concerning a proposed federally funded S.C.S. dam. The dam is planned to provide flood control and drinking water.

Revival of Mill Dam Proposed in Waushara County

The Central Wisconsin chapter is working to prevent reinstallation of a dam on the Pine River in Waushara County.

The dam is proposed at the site of an old mill dam which washed out some years ago. The washout was reportedly a blessing to t the stream's trout.

The D.N.R. reports that ownership of the dam site may have been transferred without proper legal procedures.

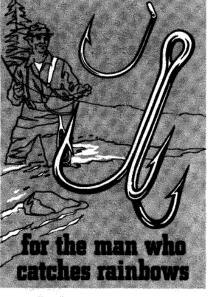
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For cheese baits: Mustad-Treble Hook, 35518, bottom. Spear point, Sproat bend, ringed, gold-plated. Also a fine pan fish hook. All popular sizes at your dealers.

O. MUSTAD & SON (U.S.A.) INC. BOX 396 • 185 CLARK ST. • AUBURN, N.Y. 13021 Snow Kept Opposition From Price County Hearing

A snowstorm prevented T.U. representatives from attending a Feb. 9 hearing concerning a proposed dam on Pine Creek in Price Country. Dennis Bryan, Green Bay Chapter, tried to phone in T.U.'s objection, but courthouse personnel refused to connect him with the hearing examiner.

Because opposition was lacking at the hearing, a decision to permit the dam is expected.

The dam would create a recreational lake,over 1,000 acres in size, near Park Falls. The backwater would reach into portions of Pine Creek in Ashland County, where it is known as a good trout stream.

Three trout supporting tributaries would also be adversely affected.

Favorite Fly



THE BLACK-NOSED DACE: Hook, No. 4, 6, 8 and 10 Tail, Red yarn, cut short Body, Silver tinsel Rib, Oval tinsel Wing, Brown bucktail over black bucktail over white bucktail, creating a black lateral stripe.



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Trout Unlimited

Autumn, 1972 Quarterly Report





WISCONSIN TROUT UNLIMITED

AUTUMN, 1972

QUARTERLY REPORT

P.O. Box 564, Madison, Wisconsin 53701

The <u>Wisconsin Report</u> is published quarterly by the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited, a national nonprofit corporation dedicated to the preservation and improvement of trout resources. All articles not otherwise bylined are by the editor, Susie Isaksen. Contributions of news, stories, and pictures are most welcome. Advertising and editorial copy deadlines are on the tenth days of January, April, July, and October.

SCENES FROM THE NATIONAL CONVENTION; COVER PHOTOS BY BILL WOLLIN

Top left: Lewis Posekany is happy to receive a useful award presented by Jim Stewart (left) on behalf of Wis. TU.

Top right: Cliff Brynildson of the DNR "caught" a big one during the electrfishing demonstration on Black Earth Creek near Madison.

Bottom left: Lester Herr of the Federal Highway Administration traded his hard hat for a fishing cap, his suit coat for an angler's vest during the panel discussion on stream channelization.

Bottom right: Ray White thanks Jim Stewart (left) for the unique Wisconsin trout clock award.

BLUE HERONS PROTECT TROUT

from the Wisconsin Audubon Society

Owen Gromme recently told about the needless killing of Blue Heron (which are inedible) by uninformed trout fishermen because they thing that heron are one of the brook trout's natural predators. <u>Wrong</u>! Heron are great eaters of a specie of beetle that consumes thousands of trout eggs each season. Therefore the heron is truly a protector of brook trout... the few trout the birds eat are only a multi-zeroed decimal of the hundreds of thousands of eggs taken by the beetles. So; the more herons, the less beetles, the more trout!

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TU TO HELP FUND BRUSHING STUDY

We're all familiar with the stream so overgrown with alders that there is no way to land a fly. The brushed-over stream makes poor troutfisher habitat, even for a few frustrating hours.

It's possible that trout don't like brushed-over streams either. Bob Hunt, DNR cold water research group leader, and Jack Heaton, associate professor of fisheries in the UW — Stevens Point College of Natural Resources, have hypothesized that shaded streams with dense alder growth do not offer suitable habitat for trout.

This hypothesis is being tested on the Little Plover River near Stevens Point. Hunt is conducting the studies with the assistance of two of Prof. Heaton's graduate students who are studying towards master's degrees in fisheries. One of the students is supported by a Wisconsin Cooperative Fishery Unit fellowship of \$3,400 per year. (The Unit is sponsored by the UW — Stevens Point, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Wis. DNR).

The other student, Timothy Scullin, receives no support. His financial situation is a rough one, since he is expected to carry on his research on the Little Plover almost every day and, during times of flooding or other significant change, at all hours.

Trout Unlimited has been asked to contribute to the Little Plover study by supporting Scullin at a cost of \$4,000 per year for two years. Many chapters and the State Council have decided that the project is worthy of TU support and about \$1,000 has already been pledged.

Right now the two students are taking samples of aquatic and drifting terrestrial insects and studying the quantity, quality, and variety of trout food available in a shaded portion of the stream.

After sufficient data is gathered concerning trout population, availability of food, and the actual physical shape of the stream, 1200 yards of stream bank will be brushed, removing all alders with-

Left: Obstructed, center-stream current in an overgrown portion of the Little Plover allows silt to build up around the banks. This is poor trout habitat. Right: In sunlit, meadow stretches, the Little Plover is narrower with undercut banks.

Photos by Jack Walworth and Ron Ahner





in 30 feet of the bank. Six to eight hundred adjacent yards of overgrown stream bank and 1800 yards of sunlit meadow stream will be left in their present conditions for making comparisons.

Hunt predicts that the brushing will substantially increase the trout food supply by allowing sunlight, which is necessary for the life and growth of vegetation, to enter the stream.

Also, Hunt feels that after brushing the stream will become deeper and narrower with undercut banks. Presently, in the areas with dense alder growth, the stream's natural flow is obstructed by branches hanging in the water and by alder roots which prevent undercutting of the banks.

Furthermore, Hunt illustrated how the obstructed, center-stream current in the overgrown portion allows silt to build up along the banks. This results in unsuitable trout habitat because there are no pools or other shelters so necessary for what Prof. Heaton calls a trout's "living room." Even rocks which would otherwise provide shelter have silt building up around them.

In summary, as Hunt said, "If the brushed area goes up in trout population as compared with the remaining overgrown area, then we've accomplished something beneficial."

Hunt was referring to something beneficial in terms of trout habitat. But, it would also be beneficial to troutfishers. And any troutfisher or fishing club will be able to use saws and hatchets (no chemicals, please!) to improve the habitat of streams for trout and fishermen alike.



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Convention Wrap-up

Your editor has decided not to cover all the details of the T.U. national convention which was held in Madison Aug. 4,5, and 6.

<u>Trout</u>, TU's national magazine, is carrying a fuller report in its Fall edition. Also, it is expected that the winter issue of <u>Trout</u> will contain a summarized text of the panel discussions on stream channelization.

Therefore, only those aspects which are of particular interest to Wisconsinites are offered here.

DNR Reports on the Pike River

The DNR thanked TU for the \$100,000 donation it made, enabling a three-year study of the Pike River in Marinette County.

Lloyd "Duke" Andrews, TU member and DNR biologist, presented the thank you message along with a report on the Pike River watershed project which involves 300 miles of water on 175 seperate streams.

"Management involves not just species, but also people," Andrews told an assemblage of TU'ers at the national convention.

"I take exception with those who say the best way to manage a wild river is to leave it be. Should eroding be allowed just because it is natural? Must we forgo the opportunity to use toxicants to rid undesirable species?" Andrews asked.

"I think not," he continued. "Nature is a good provider but it is sometimes destructive. It is right to conserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of a stream by integrating appropriate management" with the forces of nature.

Andrews said that effective environmental management involves not only scientific facts and administrative details, but also, and equally important, selling and educating the public.

Andrews then introduced Tom Thuemler, Pike River project leader, to explain what is happening on the Pike.

"Our objective is to develop a quality fishery in a quality fishing environment," Thuemler said. Towards that end, the DNR is gathering data on which it will make decisions as to how the streams can be improved.

The data-gathering process will be completed by the end of this year. So far, the studies have indicated that the north branch of the Pike has adequate cover, good water quality, and good flow. It provides top quality trout habitat.

The southern branch was found to be of lesser quality. More impoundments and fewer spring feeders contribute to higher, less favorable water temperatures.

The Pike's main channel also has its problems. A lack of good spawning areas has led to low natural reproduction.

As soon as the data-gathering stage of the project is completed, the DNR will decide what improvements are indicated. Current plans include the removal of impoundments, including beaver dams, on tributaries and stocking with either hatchery-produced trout or trout transplanted from another stream where their growth has been slow or stunted.

Also, the DNR is involved in an acquisition program along the Pike River and its tributaries. The Pike was declared a state wild river by the Wisconsin Legislature in 1965.



STATE AWARDS GO TO RAY WHITE AND LEWIS POSEKANY

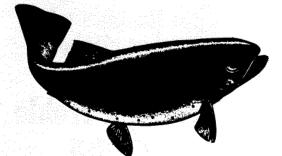
Dr. Ray White received an appreciation award for the expertice he so generously lent TU during his years as a DNR and UW aquatic biologist. Ray, who also received a top national conservationist award, has since joined the Michigan State University Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Management in East Lansing.

The other state award was presented to Lewis Posekany of the DNR for the 35 years he has worked in the same areas as TU, trying to preserve Wisconsin's trout resources. Thanks for Making the Banquet a Success

Ron Ahner, Southern Wis. chapter, wrote the following letter to those who contributed substantial prizes, effort, time, or money for the annual banquet. Let his words now extend to all those who sold tickets, attended, and/or otherwise contributed.

"Trout Unlimited, its local chapter, and all the friends of fishing appreciate very much your support in making our 1972 annual banquet a very successful event.

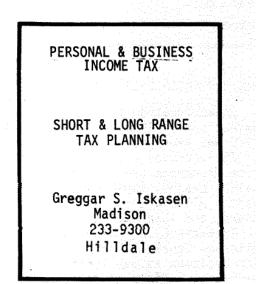
"Sportsmen and all others associated with conservation are grateful for the time, effort, and expense you have donated toward our goal."



NEW FLY-TIERS' COLUMN

I (your editor) am pleased to an nounce that Arling Erickson, TUer and Poysippi fly shop owner, will have a regular column, "One for the Book," featuring fly patterns of proven effectiveness in Wisconsin.

Thank you, Arling, I'm sure your column will be one we'll all enjoy.





Stream Report

BIG WAUSAUKEE RIVER, Marinette County

An application to replace a dam which washed out in 1939 and again in 1969 and 1970 was approved at a hearing in January.

The approval came despite opposition from Wausaukee property owners, the Izaak Walton League, the Brown County Conservation Alliance, the Wausaukee Village Board, and TU's Green Bay chapter.

Theodore L. Priebe, of the Wisconsin Attorney General's office, is appealing the decision as public intervenor. Nash Williams, Madison attorney and TU state council president, will represent TU at any court proceedings.

The main arguments for appealing the decision to grant a dam permit are: 1) An adequate ecological report or study of the impact of the proposed lake on the trout stream was not made.

 A dam that stops trout from migrating upstream to feeder creeks should not be allowed.

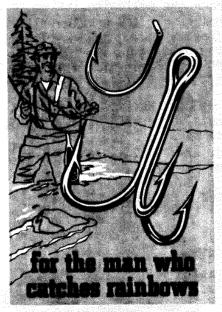
 The development of a lake for private use is not in the public interest.

 No adequate provision was made for public access to the lake.

TU is particularly concerned because the DNR granted a permit to build a dam without producing sufficient scientific evidence as to how that dam would affect trout habitat.

SANDY CREEK, St. Croix County

Straightening and changing was done in two locations on this trout stream without permit. The DNR ordered an investigation which resulted in a hearing Oct. 26. The KIAP-TU-WISH chapter has been keeping an eye on this one.



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from the Chapters

KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER, Hudson

from information supplied by Dwaine W. Persells, President

The Education, Information, and Action Committee (EIA) of our newly-formed chapter is busy familiarizing members with the various channels through which they can find support in protecting trout interests.

The EIA has made and displayed to the membership an organizational chart of the DNR, concentrating on the West Central District. The committee intends eventually to compile a handbook for each member providing information of interest on the DNR, the SCS, County Board members, the Soil and Water Conservation Board, and State and Federal legislators.

Members of the EIA met with Bert Apelgren, DNR Menomonie Area Fish Manager, to select an area for a brushing and tree removal project.

The EIA is currently keeping an eye on developments on Sandy Creek (see Stream Report) and is gathering details concerning pollution complaints on Trimbelle Creek.

Wesley Sander, district SCS conservationist, has offered to speak before our group and to guide us on a field trip to the Glen Hills Waterhed Project. Also, Bert Apelgren has offered to put on a shocking demonstration on the Willow River Race for us early in the spring.

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

by Susie Isaksen

In September, new officers were elected for the coming year. They are: President, Ron Ahner, Madison; Vice President, Roy McDonald, Madison; Secretary, Art Sonneland, Madison; and Treasurer, Ed Lloyd, Lodi.

Al Moore of Janesville and Bob Brunsell of Evansville were elected for three-year terms to join Jim Rehbein, Beloit; Bill Flader, Madison; Wayne Hatz, Baraboo; and William Brew, Wisconsin Dells, as directors.

During our October meeting, we approved a vibert box project. Sometime late this fall or next spring members of the chapter will plant these plastic boxes containing trout eggs in area streams. A committee was appointed to cooperate with the DNR in deciding when and where the vibert boxes should be planted.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Central Wisconsin voted to donate onehalf its treasury or about \$500 to the TU/Little Plover Project scholarship.

New officers for the coming year are: President, Tom Poullette of Wautoma; Vice President, Arling Erickson of Poysippi; Treasurer, Ray Piehl; and Secretary, Al Haselquist.

GREEN BAY CHAPTER

New officers elected recently are: President, Mike Stoychoff; Vice President, Mike Roach, and Secretary-Treasurer, Hank Bredael.

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

by Jack Walworth

To date, \$100 has been pledged to the Stevens Point/TU post graduate studies fund. This from one individual. At our next meeting we'll get into gear and, I'm sure, shade this figure by a considerable margin.

On October 16, at Nash Williams' request, we checked on a farmer/contractor, Guy M. Ott, Rt. 67 south of Dousman, who has applied to the DNR for a permit to build a fish pond in a field adjacent to Scuppernong Creek. Permission granted, but the DNR has listed certain routines which Ott must observe... disposition of cattle, manure piles, and pond location... because his property borders the creek, rated Class III trout stream for 5.5 miles above Hwy. Z. Ott's willingness to abide by the DNR's directive seems to preclude any harmful future for the creek.

Next check out will be Genesee Creek near Waukesha... involves ponds, rubble dumped in the stream, and bank destruction.

from the State Council

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

New officers were elected and new committee chairmen were chosen to a year's term during the State Council's Annual Meeting August 6.

The New officers are: Nash Williams of Madison, Chairman; Dr. Thomas Poullette of Wautoma, Vice Chairman; Doug Hart of Green Bay, Secretary; and D.J. Stewart of Madison, Treasurer.

The new committee chairmen are: Fund-raising, Ron Ahner of Madison; and Publicity, Jack Walworth of Milwaukee and Susie Isaksen of Poynette.

In addition to the state officers and committee chairmen, the State Council is composed of the state's six chapter presidents and six representatives, one elected from each chapter.



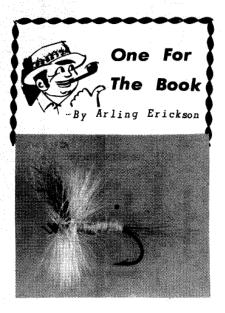
LITTLE PLOVER, PUBLICITY DISCUSSED AT NOVEMBER MEETING

After committee reports, and reports on streams, new business was taken up at the State Council meeting in Fond du Lac November 1.

Nash Williams was given authority to appoint a fund-raising chairman for the TU/Little Plover Project scholarship. This chairman will co-ordinate fund-raising with the chapters and throughout the state.

In other action, it was agreed that each chapter should have a publicity chairman to iniate news releases about his chapter's activities and to serve as liaison with local newspapers to insure publication of state-wide news releases. The efforts of the new publicity chairmen should result in more knowledge of TU among the trout-fishing public (resultting in more members), and greater acceptance of TU and its projects among the general public and among politicians.

The publicity chairmen will also provide news about his chapter to the other chapters and to the editor of the <u>Wis-</u> consin Report.



HART WASHER

This fly is an offshoot of the Wulff series of highfloating 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, deertail or kiptail. Body - yellow polypropylene wool. Wings - green kiptail. Hackle - 3 badger saddle hackleg wound on heavy.

Wolf River Lodge

A country inn, catering to the trout fisherman who wants to fish the Wolf.

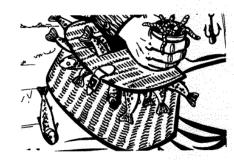
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GEORGE W. STEED

Write: Mr. John Brasch DNR Box 818 Rhinelander, Wis.

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Nash Williams State Council Chairman

Dr. Thomas Poullette Central Wis. Chapt. Pres. Dwaine W. Persells KIAP-TU-WISH Chapt. Pres.

Don Tebay Southeastern Chapter Pres. Mike Stoychoff Green Bay Chapt. Pres.

Vacant Wolf River Chapt. Pres.

Ron Ahner Southern Wis. Chapter Pres.

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