



THE WISCONSIN COUNCIL  
OF  
TROUT UNLIMITED

WINTER NEWSLETTER

The winter meeting of the Council was held at the Natural Resources Building on the UW-Stevens Point campus on January 10th. Dr. Tom Poulette, council chairman, opened the meeting at 12:15. While waiting for "McGoo" and his party, the men enjoyed a brunch of coffee and doughnuts provided by the good doctor and Prof. Jack Heaton of the University. Representatives of Southwestern, Southern, Southeastern, Green Bay, Central, and Ojibseau were present. Headwaters Chapter has withdrawn its charter and asked that its membership be shifted to that of the Northwoods Chapter in Rhinelander.

Treasurer's Report: \$1,500 in savings and \$907 in the chdcking account.

Ron Koshoshek, of Ojibseau, corrected the minutes of the previous meeting by stating that Jim Bailey, of his chapter, had erroneously stated that a Supreme Court case held that counties and towns no longer need DNR permits for bridge construction projects. It was an Attorney General's opinion that so stated the releases from permit requirements. Russ Younglove, of the legal committee, commented he was in agreement with the AG's opinion, as written, although he is not happy with it. Southern reported the DNR had sought TU help at the last minute to get a test case but the Public Intervenor felt it was a "poor case" to use on appeal. The DNR is reportedly setting up a test case and this whole matter may end up in the courts.

A motion was passed asking Russ Younglove to write a letter to the DNR supporting the DNR's displeasure with the AG's opinion.

Southern will check on the opinion of the DNR relative to the requirements of an Environmental Impact Statement on these bridge projects.

Dr. Poulette announced the Council has made reservations for a suite of rooms at the National Convention in Michigan in August. The suite is to be used as a courtesy room for entertainment and modest display of Wisconsin TU projects and fund raising items. Much can be gained from the friendly interchange of members from all over the nation.

A general discussion of expansion of TROUT UNLIMITED in Wisconsin followed. Ron Koshoshek stated a chapter at Rice Lake is in the final stages of organization with its first meeting set for late January. Central is working on a chapter in the Stevens Point area. Tom Lepley indicated he is working on a chapter in Antigo and will be sending out feelers for chapters in Clintonville and Marinette. Ray Piehl, of Central, displayed a copy of their new letter designed to maintain renewals. He suggested any new contests be aimed at the maintainance of our mem-

bership through consistent renewals rather than gaining new members. Renewals is a problem all over the country, not only in our organization but in all similar to ours.

Ron Ahner, state fund raising chairman, reported on items available for fund raising purposes:

Book Ends: Available from Frosty Parish, Baker Mfg. Co., Evansville, Wisconsin, 53555 @ \$8.00 wholesale are a steal at \$15.00 a pair. Send payment with your order or arrange for credit from the Southern Wisconsin Chapter. Frosty is a TU member.

Pins: Available from Ed Lloyd, Route 3, Lodi, Wisconsin, 53555 @ \$15.00 per 100. These pins have been a highly successful item for the Southern Chapter. They put them on cards containing a dozen pins and sell them for \$10.00 to sporting goods stores, taverns, etc. They also carry a small supply with them on the stream for sale to fishermen. The cards are available from Clint Byrnes, 921 S. Spring St., Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, 53916, also a TU member, at a small charge. The pin carries the message, "I Support Quality Trout Fishing".

Jackets: For details on where to order write Ron Ahner, 1420 Prairie Road, Madison, Wisconsin, 53719.

Cheese: See your local cheese factory. Since we are a non-profit organization you may buy wholesale and mark it up 25¢/lb. for sale at chapter meetings. This practice has been very successful in the Southern Chapter.

Chain Saws: Husqvarna (Sweden) is available at wholesale plus UPS charges from Gregg Isaksen, Route 2, Poynette, Wisconsin, 53955. These can be used for sale to members, used as door prizes, or purchased for the use of the chapter on projects.

Trout Boil: The Green Bay Chapter does a fine job for you on this. They have all their own equipment. Contact Steve Reckner, 825 Blesch Pl., Green Bay, Wisconsin, 54303.

Trout Rods: Designed by Bob Brunsel of Evansville and made for the Southern Wisconsin Chapter by St. Croix using high density fiberglass, the Bob Brunsell Little Streamer is 5', 1 7/8 oz. with cork and slip ring reel seat for #5 line. It is designed to shoot line with only a small amount of line beyond the tip guide. Used on small brushy streams and spring holes. Available from Southern Wisconsin Chapter. Completed Rod - five or more @ \$17.00 each, suggested retail \$28.00. In kit form - five or more @ \$13.00 each, suggested retail \$17.00. Southern cleared over \$500 on this item last year. Order from Bob Brunsell, 511 E. Main St., Evansville, Wisconsin, 53536.

Ron also presented an idea suggesting TU members all over the state become involved in a project to sell "one foot of trout stream" to the public; the donor to be awarded a plaque commemorating his purchase. Following his disertation a motion was passed requesting Ron to formalize his suggestion in detail and present it at the spring meeting for further action.

Clint Byrnes noted the considerable amount of money used on the Crystal Creek project gained from the Dodge County Bounty Fund. He suggests other chapters look into the possibility of gaining funds for projects in

their area by the same means.

Carl Fassant, of Brule, suggested the use of "wild game" dinners as a source of income. Buffalo and elk are available from game farms and venison from the DNR.

A voice vote was taken for the purpose of aiding our National Directors in deciding how to vote on the proposed increase in the National dues. A majority favored a "qualified NO" since the new funds are to be earmarked strictly for administrative purposes.

This is another effort on the part of the Wisconsin Council to persuade the National officers and the Board of Directors to realign the national budget in such a manner as to provide greater funds for the resource from dues income and contract rather than expand administrative expenditures.

A discussion followed on the needs and requirements of insurance coverage for all chapter projects.

It was pointed out by Ron Ahner, that the national policy is not adequate to cover the chapter's needs. Further, in the past he felt a state policy would be too expensive. He offered to again check in to the possibility of a master policy to cover all chapters in the state.

A motion was presented and passed that each chapter should have insurance coverage and should mail to the Secretary of the council a certificate of insurance coverage.

A discussion on the Trout Stamp proposal in the state legislature resulted in the offer by Arling Erickson to contact all states that make use of a Trout Stamp to gain information relative to the manner in which the revenues are used by the state and how the stamp is accepted by the fishermen of the state. He will present this information at the May meeting.

A discussion of the "early season" in effect in the southwestern counties resulted in the decision to wait until the DNR has completed its research before the council either formally approves or disapproves of the concept.

It was moved and passed that the State Chairman draft a letter to the DNR requesting the Conservation Congress Hearings be split into two separate meetings on different nights; one meeting dealing with questions relating to fisheries management and the other devoted to questions on hunting regulations. It was the consensus of opinion that the meetings drag on beyond reasonable bounds and too many individuals are voting on proposals without any real knowledge of the issues.

A motion was made and passed that the Wisconsin Council of TROUT UNLIMITED endorse the Brule River Task Force Report. The motion in full follows:

Whereas the Brule River and its valley is a unique cold water recreational resource,  
Whereas, this resource is being endangered by unrestricted use and insufficient attention to the correction of deteriorating stream conditions,  
Whereas, the DNR is currently developing guidelines for the manage-

ment of the Brule River and its valley area  
Be it resolved that the Wisconsin Council of TROUT UNLIMITED urge the DNR to model its guidelines for management of the Brule River on the recommendations contained in the October 21, 1974 Report of The Brule River Task Force and further, that the DNR begin as soon as possible urgently needed stream improvements and protections, seeking outside funds and assistance should government agency resources not be adequate.

A motion was made by Greg Isaksen, and passed by the body, to table until the May meeting the eleven point Wisconsin Council position paper presented by the Treasurer as the hour was late.

A motion was presented and passed that the Council support the printing and mailing costs of a Council Newsletter to contain the minutes of the council meetings, notes from the chapters, and other pertinent news items; mailings to be made as soon as possible after each meeting of the council. Tom Lepley was appointed editor.

### NOTES FROM THE CHAPTERS

#### OJIBLEAU (Eau Claire)

Looking back over its first year, the Ojibseau Chapter can rightly feel a sense of achievement. We have completed a maintenance and brush removal project on 3,000 feet of McCann Creek (Chippewa Co.). Our experimental use of brush bundles instream has produced dramatic results. A previously unfishable and relatively fishless stretch of stream which was wide, sluggish, silted, barren of aquatic vegetation, with limited food supply is being dramatically transformed. The newly exposed gravel bottom contained spawning redds this fall. A strong stand of water cress, alodea and plantain has appeared. The channel has narrowed and deepened. Fish dimpled the surface as mayflies began to appear. Swaying canary grass shaded the fisherman and the stream.

The first phase of a five-phase research project was completed on another another section of McCann Creek. Our efforts to determine the effects of alder brush removal on trout density and growth rate, aquatic vegetation, food supply, water flow and channel structure, and trout reproduction has deepened our understanding of the way of the trout and its habitat and enhanced not only our angling experience but angling as well.

In the early fall we began restoration of wingdams and boom covers in Duncan Creek (Chippewa Co.). We have begun temperature and water level profiles of Lowes Creek (Eau Claire Co.).

Our watchdogging efforts prompted the correction of erosion problems on two streams and raised a pollution problem on a third. Though without taking special credit, we can look back on two DNR hearings that concluded in agreement with our objections to proposed dams on Bridge Creek and Diamond Valley Creek. We have given clinics on fly-tying and fly casting in schools and for the public and have spoken on conservation of our trout resources to local clubs and organizations. We have developed rich associations with professionals in the field and have enjoyed the companionship and conversation of fellow trouters in our area and throughout the state. Our funds grew in a spring drive and our membership went from 11 to 70 in the year.

Our association has begun to fulfill its promise.

## SOUTHERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER (Madison)

Recently, several of our members came up with the idea for utilizing some of our money to create good will for TROUT UNLIMITED and at the same time help our cold water resources. There are requests made to the ASCS and the DNR for help with water runoff, flooding and related problems. In approved instances, three-fourths of the cost would be secured by the agencies mentioned and one-fourth by the farmer. Our water resources man, Gregg Isaksen, has good contact with the DNR. He will be notified about any projects we would be interested in. These projects will be received and checked by a committee of our chapter. If recommended, we would help by paying one-half of the farmer's cost. If needed, we would also supply additional manpower to complete the projects. In addition to this, we want our members to watch for pollution problems.

It is our hope that through these efforts we will create good will and a better name for sportsmen.

## WISCONSIN HEADWATERS CHAPTER (Wausau)

The Wisconsin Headwaters Chapter has withdrawn its charter from TU and asked that its membership be incorporated into the Northwoods Chapter. Wide geographical dispersion of the membership and lack of active participation were among the reasons for this move.

During its brief history, the Headwaters Chapter successfully blocked an application for a dam on a tributary of the Red River and was instrumental in initiating the annual Wausau Fishing School conducted in cooperation with Marathon Rubber Corporation, WASU TV, and the Wausau Daily Herald. Continued participation in the school by involved TU members is anticipated. Members of the Headwaters Chapter wish to thank all those who have participated in the activities of the chapter and supported the goals of TROUT UNLIMITED.

## WHITE LAKE CHAPTER (Wolf River)

While 'Cap' Buettner pondered over a bit of news from the chapter I suggested he might describe the scene in the dead of winter. Here it is.

I walked beside the Wolf today. Its cry is muffled by the deep cold of the nights. Its swift currents are all but hidden by a deep mantle of snow and ice. All but the racing rapids which have stubbornly refused to be enclosed by the blasts of winter.

As I stand and watch the black shadowy water etched against the ermine fall of fresh snow I hear the muffled murmur of the currents slapping the under sides of the blanket of ice and snow. Fontinalis finds life a bit dull as he fans the current in the depths of a pool where he and many others have gathered to spend the winter. He, too, is looking ahead to spring. The only life the scene displays now are the tracks of the searching mink and those of the playful otter along the open windows of the river.

A blast of frigid wind out of the north brings me back to reality and I turn my steps toward home and the reclining chair before the fireplace where I can finish my dream of spring and the emergence of the Light Cahill the Brown Drake and the Hendricksons. See you next spring.

## KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER (Hudson)

The lack of communication between elements of an organization is a gross problem that limits its effectiveness. We think that a state wide newsletter will help eliminate the "One hand doesn't know what the other hand is doing" and the continual "Reinvention of the wheel".

KIAP-TU-WISH has just completed the first phase of a three-phase program to attempt to get some idea of the survival rates of Vibert box trout egg planting and swim-up fry stocking to fingerling size. Results of this year's Vibert box phase indicate a hatch in excess of 90%.

We are also doing some initial work in gathering wild trout eggs and eyeing them up in screen trays.

Brushing - (Woody vegetation removal) on cold shaded stream portions shows the greatest return on our efforts. Increases in trout populations in brushed sections are 30-40%. We are into our fourth year on brushing with an expenditure of 300-500 man-hours per year in this effort along with Reed Canary grass planting.

During the past couple of weeks the writer has twice come upon the word "synergism" which is defined as an "interaction in which the total effect is greater than the sum of two effects taken independently". In other words  $2 + 2$  can be much greater than 4. Further reading discovered this statement - "One person alone can bring about only a small change in society, but a dedicated group of people can bring about extensive change very rapidly if they know how to amplify their efforts using positive synergy". TROUT UNLIMITED then is much stronger than the sum total of its mambership, and can be much stronger depending on how we apply ourselves. Tom Lepley's efforts on this newsletter could be a factor which will "synergize" our Wisconsin TU effectiveness.

## FOX VALLEY (Appleton - Neenah/Menasha)

This chapter, located in a rather sterile area of cold water resources, has had some difficulty finding projects to work on. We do not think we have anything of sufficient interest to be included in the newsletter; however, in the very near future we think we will have a number of things.

## SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER (Dodgeville)

We have, in our short time of existence, tried to work closely with County Board members of the Resource Committee with Fox Bounty monies which are a Co-op agreement between the County and the State of Wisconsin. This year in Iowa County 100 styles for crossing fences were purchased at our request. We were also asked by the County Board to coordinate the placing of these styles with other sportsman's clubs in Iowa County. We are also greatly concerned in that I understand there is a bill coming up in the State Assembly or Senate to abolish paying Fox Bounty monies for fish and wildlife projects. If we can find out what this bill number is we can ask all Wisconsin TU members to write their Senators and Assemblymen about it.

Another thought for what its worth. We hold monthly meetings. In 1976 we are planning on holding every other meeting in a different community in our general area with the intent of broadening our sphere of influ-

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ence and building membership.

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER (Milwaukee)

By the time this letter arrives we will be well underway with our Fly Fishing School and pretty well prepared for the Milwaukee Sentinel Sport Show, March 12 - 21.

The Fly Fishing School opened January 28th. at the UW-M Student Union with 27 students and will continue for ten weeks. Sessions are two hours long. Each student will get one hour of supervised casting practice during each session. We are fortunate in having Gene Otley and his son, Dave among us. Gene, in years past, has been involved in tournament casting and Dave spent two years instructing in the Fenwick Schools in Montana and Wisconsin.

Other subject covered will be The Balanced Outfit - Paraphernalia - two sessions on Stream Entomology handled by our resident Fisheries Biologist, Bob Retko, - Wading and Reading the Water - Fishing the Dry Fly - Fishing the Wets, Streamers, and Nymphs - Stream Courtesy and Conservation - Wisconsin Trout Waters - Knots and Leaders. Though we have added a few items, the general format comes from Dick Talleur of the New York Council, who developed it and has done well with it for a number of years.

What will we gain from it? We will have made lasting friends, gained some new members, had a hell of a good time, picked up a few bucks for the treasury, - and I'm sure we'll all go away with that warm feeling of satisfaction in achievement and having been of help to others!

EDITOR'S NOTES

For the complete format on the Fly Fishing School write: Richard W. Talleur, 1-3 Woodlake Rd. So., Albany, N. Y., 12203. He will be more than happy to send you a complete description and guide for the course. It should be excellent for use in heavily populated areas. After our first experience is completed and critiqued we will also have material available.

Technical Buletin No. 39, "GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT OF TROUT STREAM HABITAT IN WISCONSIN", is available from the DNR, Box 450, Madison, WI, 53701. Researched and developed by Ray J. White and Oscar M. Brynildson, it is undoubtedly the finest work of its kind to be found under one cover

We would appreciate it if either the the secretary or the president of your chapter would accept the responsibility of providing me with the news item you wish to appear in the Council Newsletter. Please bring it to the Council meeting. This will save considerable time in collecting the items.

Tight lines,





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