

# Wisconsin Trout

October 2001



## CONGRATULATIONS IN PORTLAND

Longtime Southern Wisconsin Chapter member and State Council officeholder Larry Meicher (center) is congratulated by TU Natural Resources Board Chair Steve Born and TU Director of Volunteer Operations Sara Johnson at the TU conference in Portland, OR.

## New TU logo introduced at national conference

Prompted by Trout Unlimited's 40th anniversary in 1999 and the desire to be the most effective coldwater conservation organization possible, TU unveiled a new corporate logo August 17 during its annual conference in Portland, OR.

Although the logo has served the organization for decades, there was agreement that it had become dated.

In addition, many newer members found the old design confusing ("Why is the trout wearing headphones?" "What are those white spaces, anyway?").

Broad-based selection process

The new logo process began when a committee composed of grassroots members, Board of Trust-

ees members, and staff examined the logo to see if it adequately represents the organization as it enters the 21st century.

Member input played a big role in selection of the new logo. TU ran a contest with specific guidelines to encourage member entries. In January, 2000, three new logos were posted on the TU web site, and members were asked for feedback.

In the Spring issue of TROUT magazine, members were asked to vote for their favorite logo and give their own ideas for a new one. This request prompted 60 members to submit logo designs.

In recent weeks, five logo finalists were displayed on TU's web site.

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## TU honors Meicher and WisTrout at conference

By John Welter

Larry Meicher, an invaluable Wisconsin Trout Unlimited "jack of all trades" for many years, and *Wisconsin Trout* received national recognition at the Trout Unlimited National Meeting in August in Portland, Oregon.

Meicher is a past chapter president of the Southern Wisconsin Chapter. Meicher's ongoing roles with the chapter include a 20-year stint as one of the leaders of its fly-thing course and co-auctioneer for its annual fund-raising auction.

Meicher serves the State Council as treasurer, plus he chairs the Awards Committee.

In his 30 years of TU involvement, Meicher has worked to develop new chapters and nurture potential leaders, starred in a segment of TU TV featuring Black Earth Creek, and worked on dozens of resource and educational projects.

Larry's reputation has been that

of a TU volunteer who will always take on a job within the organization when he sees it needs to be done. In his spare time, he designs

black and white flies in a variety of styles.

*Wisconsin Trout* Editor Todd Hanson received the Jean Bollinger Award for Best State Council Newspaper. Hanson has handled the reins of the newspaper for the past two years.

According to the National TU presentation, Hanson has expanded the contributing staff and variety of of-

ferings in the newspaper, updated the layout, and provided a public service in offering such items as a three-part series on the Public Trust Doctrine originally published in an environmental law quarterly.

Hanson is a former writer and editor and has developed a statewide reputation among discerning trout anglers as the brewmaster of "Big Brookie Beer" which, according to its label, is "the beer of *WisTrout* writers and photographers."

## SPECIAL ISSUE Groundwater in Wisconsin

*As groundwater uses rise, trout streams are among the first of our state's waterways to suffer. Look for this icon throughout this issue.*



*When you see it, you'll find a story relating to groundwater issues in Wisconsin and nearby states.*

## Budget item returns stream access to 'keep feet wet' rule

Trout anglers should be aware that changes to rules pertaining to waterway access were enacted in the 2001 Wisconsin state budget bill.

Effective Sept. 1, 2001, people using these waterways will, for the most part, have to return to the old "keep your feet wet" test, as created by the Wisconsin Supreme Court, according to Michael Lutz, a DNR attorney specializing in shoreland rules.

This take-back of public waterway rights was introduced into the Assembly budget by Rep. DuWayne Johnsrud (R-Easton). The provision then made it through the budget conference committee.

Wisconsin TU objected to the budget provision in a letter to Gov. McCallum, but the change was not vetoed by the Governor.

The 'keep you feet wet' test was the accepted standard rule prior to the recently signed budget. Ironically, it was the previous budget bill that broadened stream

access, allowing people to walk on exposed shorelines up to the ordinary high water mark at any time for water-related recreational activities.

However, Lutz said, the Legislature did retain some portions of the prior law, which were found in s. 30.134, Wis. Stats., allowing users to exit the body of water, where necessary, to bypass an obstruction.

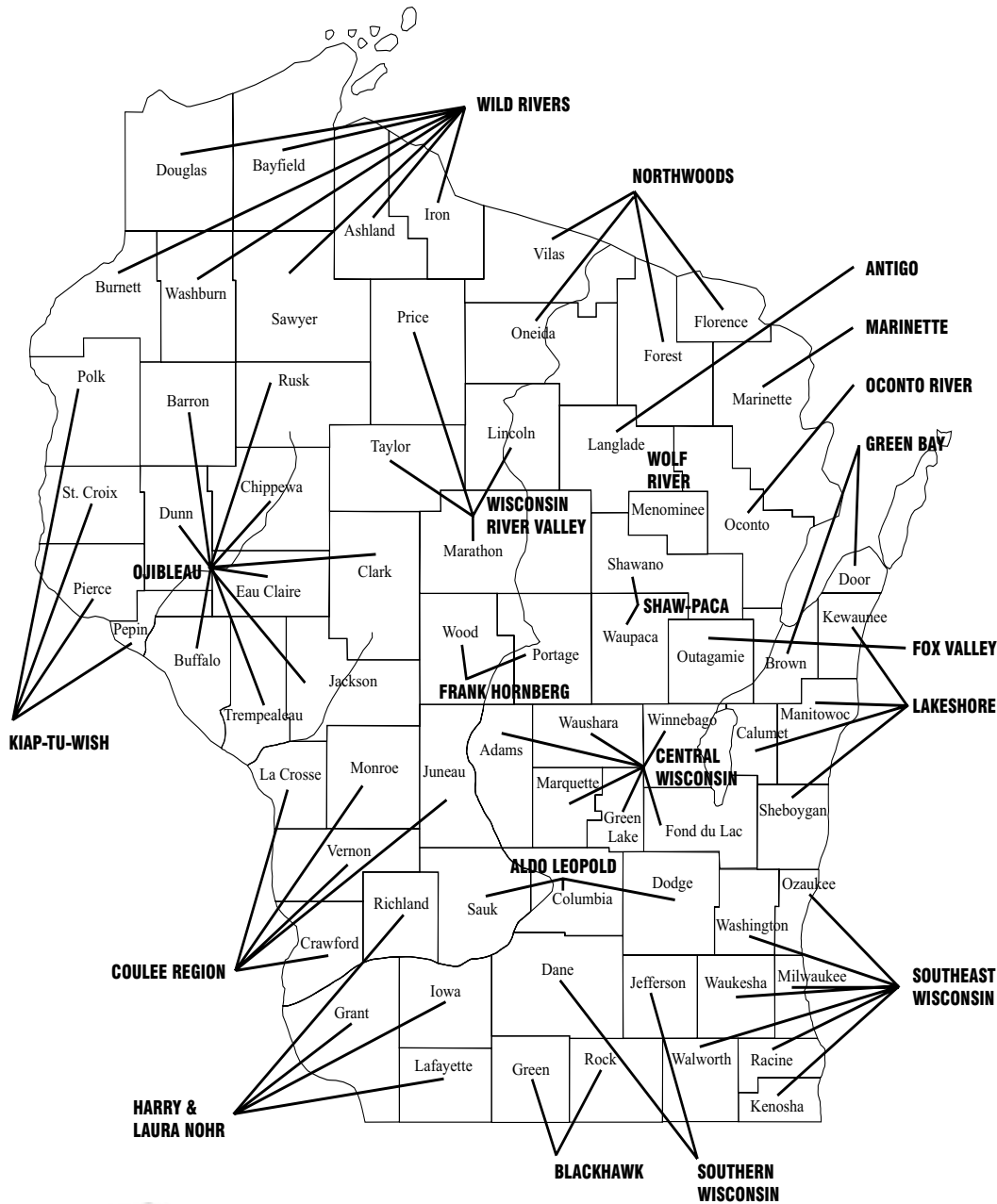
Obstructions could consist of trees or rocks, shallow water for boaters or deep water for wading trout fishers. The bypass can involve areas up to the ordinary high water mark and should be by the shortest route possible.

As with the prior law, the right to use the exposed shoreline applies only to rivers and streams. On lakes and flowages, the requirement remains that users must be in the water with no right to use the exposed shoreline without the owner's consent.

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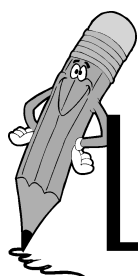
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2. **Include your ID number.** Your ID number is found on mailing labels attached to *TROUT* magazine or your chapter newsletter.
3. **Note new chapter affiliation.** If you are moving to a different city and wish to be affiliated with the TU chapter in your area, note the new chapter number (see chapter numbers above).

## WISCONSIN TROUT

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# Letters

## Legislation needed for *all* high-cap wells

Editor,

Now that my company has chosen to locate its water bottling plant in Michigan and the rhetorical waters have calmed surrounding our Adams County project, it's an excellent time to review Wisconsin's groundwater debate.

That debate was always far broader than Perrier. We would have held only one of 200 high-capacity well permits granted this year by the Department of Natural Resources. Our proposed well was not the largest by a factor of five. Nor was it environmentally damaging. We proposed no process that would pollute. We would have used a tiny fraction of Wisconsin's 10 million billion gallons of regularly recharged groundwater. On top of that, we proposed jobs and economic development in the state's second poorest county.

The real debate is — or should be — about patching up the glaring gaps in Wisconsin's oversight of wells.

As it stands today, the DNR has virtually no authority to regulate wells: the agency can block a proposed well only if a neighboring municipal water supply would be harmed. The law doesn't give the DNR latitude to consider impacts on wetlands, or streams, or nearby private wells.

We voluntarily submitted to an extremely restrictive permit giving DNR all of that authority and more,

but unfortunately for Wisconsin our permit remains the only one of its kind. The state has permitted 9,400 high-capacity wells without detailed environmental studies or monitoring requirements; no one is even sure how much water those wells withdraw, since the DNR stopped gathering that data nearly a decade ago.

A new well law passed by the state in August is a step in the right direction, but doesn't go far enough. The measure says a well can't be used to produce bottled drinking water unless DNR approves use of the well for that purpose.

The bottom line? The DNR now has a token legal tool to oversee the one or two applications a year it receives from water bottlers. The agency still has only a rubber stamp for the remaining 198 applications a year from car washes, power plants, canneries, farms, golf courses, ski hills, and the like. That situation should leave everyone who cares about Wisconsin's environment more than a bit uneasy.

In this case, what's been accomplished isn't nearly as important as what remains to be done. Some lawmakers are calling for comprehensive legislation covering all well users, not just a targeted few. Until they prevail, Wisconsin's environment will remain vulnerable.

Kim Jeffery, President  
Perrier Group of America

## Ask legislators to 'start over' on ATCP 50

Editor,

This letter is meant to alert Wisconsin anglers about an important policy initiative by the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to issue rules related to polluted runoff into streams and lakes.

By the time you read this, you will have missed your chance to comment on the new ATCP 50 rules. These are the agricultural programs and policies intended to stop contaminated farm runoff from fouling our streams and rivers. The fact that you haven't heard of these rules, let alone not having a chance to comment on them, is by design.

Eliminating polluted runoff from farms, roads, construction sites, etc. is one of the best means we have for improving our streams and rivers. It has been over 30 years since passage of the Clean Water Act, and polluted runoff is the last major source of water pollution yet to be successfully addressed.

Following the directions of the Wisconsin legislature (1997's Act 92) the DNR has proposed a comprehensive set of standards (NR 151) aimed at curtailing contaminated runoff (see related item in this issue). While not perfect, the DNR rules are a big step forward. In part, this is due to the inclusion of environmental and conservation organizations, including the River Alliance and members of TU, in the development of the rules.

By contrast, the ATCP 50 rules

were written by DATCP personnel and their "advisors" (read: farm group lobbyists) without the input of those who will have to implement the rules, i.e., Wisconsin's soil and water conservation personnel and others who might speak for the state's water resources rather than the interests of big agriculture. As such, the proposed rules look more like a new subsidy program for farmers than a pollution abatement program.

The Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association is asking that the ATCP 50 proposal be withdrawn and completely rewritten. Other groups are asking that portions of the proposed agricultural practices rule be substantially revised. If DATCP insists on tinkering with the rules proposal rather than making substantive changes, it may take generations before real improvements in water quality are seen.

What can you do? Write or call you state senator or assembly representative. Tell them to direct DATCP to respond to the rule's critics, including them in the rule's revision. Tell them you value clean water and want to see an effective program that will bring about results in the foreseeable future. Finally, remind them that you fish and you vote!

Bill Pielsticker, Southern WI  
TU President  
Jeff Smith, State Council  
Legislative Committee Chair

## Of Perrier and petrified forests

By Todd Hanson

I hope you enjoy this special groundwater issue of *Wisconsin Trout*. Understandably, a number of the stories in this issue concern the Perrier Company. It is now just under two years since Perrier announced their plans to tap into the headwaters of the Mekan River.

It was while putting this issue together that I finally figured out a way to express what has been bothering me about how the state of Wisconsin reacted to Perrier's plans for the Mekan. I couldn't quite put it into words these many months, but now I think I've got it.

To that end, come with me on a phone call I recently made to Supervisor Tessie Shirakawa at the Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona.

"Hi, this is Todd Hanson with the State Council of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited. I'm calling to see whether you folks might be interested in selling some of your petrified trees." (I should have said something about all the jobs this venture would create, but I forgot.)

"I beg your pardon?" chuckled Shirakawa. "Selling our petrified trees?"

"Yes. We're holding a fundraiser up here, and I thought we'd get some. You'd still have a lot of them left."

She took a breath as if to speak immediately, but then paused. "Umm —" and another pause. Maybe she thought this was some sort of National Park Service test. But then she found the word she was looking for, delivered in that too-friendly mode that customer service reps use to dismiss the clueless.

"Definitely not. You may want to contact some of the wood shops or other commercial enterprises outside of the national park. But within the national park, all resources — natural and cultural — are protected from, you know, removal."

"Has that been a long-term practice?" I asked.

Now she became a bit more strident. "It's a practice of the National Park Service all over the country that resources within parks are protected from harassment, harm, defacement, removal, etc."

"And you don't make any exceptions to that?"

"No, not even for putting them into our own exhibits within our own facilities. We have to get a special use permit." She took another audible breath and added, "Just for your information, over 12 tons of petrified wood is stolen each year from this park. We are currently one of the top 10 endangered parks in the country, so we are especially careful that nothing leaves this park."

She then told me that her park wasn't the only place to get petrified wood in the country. As I wondered why so much of their wood was stolen, she said, "Our wood is among the most colorful, though."

I wonder where we'd be right now in Wisconsin if our DNR simply chuckled and told Perrier two years ago, "I beg your pardon?" And why not? Like the Petrified Forest National Park, the Mekan River is an octave above a normal public waterway. With almost no high-capacity wells in the watershed and a broad expanse of public lands to buffer it into the future, the Mekan's water was among the "most colorful" Perrier could hope to find in Wisconsin.

If Perrier had asked for some free land along the Mekan upon which to build some condos, there would have been a different response from our DNR. But that never happened when the subject was the water. The National Park Service's Shirakawa made the same mistake as I ended my call. I explained to her that I wasn't really serious, but was just testing a theory. I said that I saw a lot of parallels between the trees in her park and the water in the Mekan. It was then that she said something surprising. "Well, yes, I see some parallels, but ours are *nonrenewable* resources."

Rivers only seem like renewable resources when you look upstream toward an ever-regenerating rush of water. However, viewed downstream of a bottling plant withdrawing water 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the view is one of a waterway diminished every bit as much as if petrified trees were being hauled out of a park under cover of darkness. Renewable? I beg your pardon.

## Make state officials uphold 'public trust'

Editor,

May I express my sincere appreciation of the fact that last year *Wisconsin Trout* published the entire "Scanlan Report" on the evolution of the Public Trust Doctrine and the Degradation of The People's Trust Resources: Courts, Trustees and Political Power in Wisconsin. I trust that TU members read it and were committed to call our state elected

"trustees of the People's vital natural resources" to accountability, as I and members of many other state conservation organizations are.

The Public Trust Doctrine, embodied in the state constitution and affirmed and broadened by the courts, provides that the natural resources of our state shall belong to

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## PUBLIC TRUST: stop the violations

Continued from p. 3

the people and shall be held in TRUST by the state, for the people, to be protected and enhanced, used but not abused, so they will be passed on to succeeding generation undiminished in quality or quantity. That was a very noble and vital provision by the founding fathers of our state, for if and when it is ignored or violated, the constitutional rights of future generations are also violated. The Scanlan Report details what the state's TRUST is, and how it is, being violated.

The Wisconsin Constitution, Article I, Section 1. (because of its importance) states: "All people are born equally free and independent, and have certain inherent rights; among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." We brought nothing into this world to sustain our lives. It provided clean air, water, food, and a healthful environment, ALL ARE NATURAL RESOURCES, vital to the lives of every living thing. And what enhances our pursuit of happiness more than land, forests, lakes and streams, fish and wildlife, birds, flowers, and plants, ALL WHICH ARE NATURAL RESOURCES? So it should be obvious that our constitutional rights and the rights of succeeding generations can only be assured if our natural resources are protected and enhanced, used but not abused, so the will be passed on undiminished in quality or quantity.

The Article 1, Section 1. of the constitution then states: "TO SECURE THESE RIGHTS GOVERNMENTS ARE INSTITUTED, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." Therefore, it must be the first priority of every elected official to state offices to protect and enhance our natural resources to ensure the constitutional rights to life and the pursuit of happiness of our children and grandchildren and all future generations.

To assure that, the founding fathers also wrote into the state constitution in Article IV, Section 28, "Members of the legislature, and all officers, executive and judicial, shall before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe an oath of affirmation to support the constitution of the United States and the State of Wisconsin, and to faithfully discharge the duties thereof to the best of their ability." In that our elected of-

ficials derive their just power from the consent of the people, it is our duty and responsibility to call them to accountability when our vital natural resources are not being protected and enhanced, an abuse of the power of their office.

The state legislature, the primary trustee of our natural resources, can and has assigned trust responsibilities to other agencies, primarily to the Department of Natural Resources. The DNR is responsible for implementing state and federal laws that PROTECT AND ENHANCE Wisconsin's natural resources; including its air, land, water, forests, wildlife, fish, and plants. Protect means guard from harm. Enhance means to raise to a higher quality or value. Nowhere in the constitution does it provide for compromise, exemption, modification, or variances from the required protection and enhancement for social or economic reasons.

In the past, citizens have occasionally voiced concern over our government's ignoring, abuse, and violations of its Public Trust Doctrine responsibilities which went unheeded due to public apathy. But I am motivated by the inscriptions on the plaques of some former inductees into the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame. Owen Gromme stated, "By every legal means IT IS OUR DUTY to oppose those, who out of greed or avarice or for selfish or other means, would pollute, defile, or destroy that which means life itself to every living thing."

Virgil Muench, an inductee who helped us scatterplant trout in the Wolf River long ago, wrestled with the same concern. His inscription is; "If every citizen, every municipality and every industry is willing to assume their civic and moral responsibility in pollution abatement, the natural resources could be restored to the well-being of man. How can we do anything less and think of ourselves as educated, enlightened, and a responsible society?"

We see the trust violations of our state government. We know future generations will be deprived of their constitutional rights if the abuses are not corrected. Who will assume that responsibility? If not us, who? If not NOW, when?

Herb Buettner  
White Lake, WI

## Strong runoff rules needed

By Bill Pielsticker

My name is Bill Pielsticker. By way of background, I have a bachelor's degree in agriculture, I farmed for several years in Illinois in the 1970s, I have completed graduate work in American politics, and am the sole proprietor of Pielsticker Photos, a full-time nature photography business.

### Member Opinion

Perhaps more importantly, I am also a trout angler, and a member of the Board of Directors for the Southern Wisconsin chapter of Trout Unlimited. On this matter I speak for the SWTU board, and I hope I speak for most of our members.

Regarding the agricultural rules, the livestock rules included in this proposal are especially important to trout streams and other fisheries. Restricting stream access to livestock is well known as a basic tool to reduce sedimentation, which degrades streams and rivers. Runoff from manure storage facilities and feedlots clearly causes direct and avoidable harm to lakes and streams.

Buffer strips and conservation tillage are a proven tool to reduce the movement of sediment and its accompanying fertilizer and pesticides from agricultural fields to adjacent streams and rivers. Buffer strips of up to 35 feet will have an immediate and ongoing benefit. The standards proposed here are supported by a number of agricultural groups, and cost sharing is to be provided to landowners to implement these practices.

Nutrient management plans are another proven tool to reduce the runoff of excess nutrients into stream and lakes, where they degrade water quality, stimulate unwanted algal and plant growth, and threaten both fisheries and the enjoyment of lakes and streams free from the foul-smelling algal mats which are all too common each summer.

While the proposed rules call for a phase-in of these nutrient management plans, the rule should require these plans to be implemented immediately in watersheds already suffering from severe degradation.

The claim of some that these are too costly too bear is thrown into question by the cost-share provisions of the rules and the fact that such plans are likely to save landowners and operators real money over time.

When she was a soil conservationist in Illinois 20 years ago, my wife, Kathy, was involved in implementing the first comprehensive set of urban nonpoint standards in that state. Much has been learned since then, and Illinois, like Wisconsin, has found it necessary to update those standards at times. Now is the time to do that here.

As a trout angler, I am very concerned about the effects of thermal pollution on streams due to runoff from roads, driveways, and roofs. This has been driven home to me in discussions with the Army Corps of Engineers and the effort to restore a native trout fishery in Token Creek. This multi-million dollar project could be jeopardized by uncontrolled runoff from nearby subdivi-

sions.

Requiring infiltration standards for new developments not only addresses this issue, but also helps replenish groundwater supplies. Buffers of 100 feet around new developments will also help reduce the impact of runoff from developed areas.

Construction site runoff remains a serious problem, despite prior efforts to limit it. We need rules and enforcement that will cut the level of construction site runoff by 80% in order to adequately protect our rivers and lakes.

Last summer I watched the reconstruction of Hwy. 60 from Lodi to neat Prairie du Sac. Part of the work bordered the Lodi Marsh and Spring Creek, a trout stream that flows north into Lake Wisconsin. It was gratifying to see erosion barriers in place prior to construction. It was also nice to see the barriers maintained to operate effectively.

Even so, once the project is done, we again face runoff from the road surface. Requiring a vegetative buffer of 100 feet on both sides of the roadway is both prudent and fair. Wisconsin DOT and county road departments should be required to follow the

new rules in light of the clear public benefit from their implementation.

We also support increased budget allocations for the cost-share for these rules, and increased funds for

the Land & Water Conservation Districts whose job it will be to see to their implementation. Considering the fiscal realities, however, it is clear this program will not be fully funded at the outset. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that what cost-share dollars are available should be targeted to the streams and lakes already classified as impaired.

It also makes sense to give the DNR and county agencies a streamlined process to target impaired waterways for protection.

More than 30 years ago, this country embarked on a path toward cleaning up our air and water. Great strides have been made since then, but we are not there yet. Nationwide, 300,000 miles of rivers and shoreline are still considered "polluted" along with 5 million acres of lake surface (see *Fly Rod & Reel* April, 2001, "Fishable Waters" by Ted Williams, p. 22) including over 2,700 stream miles and hundreds of lakes in Wisconsin. Unlike 30 years ago, the chief culprit today is non-point pollution.

It is time to act, to implement these rules and get started on seriously protecting the lakes and streams we are so proud of in this state. We must act now, to fulfill our moral obligation to leave the world a better place than when we entered it. If we enact these rules, we will be able to look our children in the eye someday and say, "we did what we could, and we hope you continue." If we do not act now, then truth may require us to say, "We looked at the problem and understood the solutions, but decided we didn't want to act. So it's your problem now."

The choice is clear. Enact smart, strong rules, provide the funds needed to implement and enforce them, and move forward. Generations yet to be born will thank us all.

(Bill Pielsticker presented this testimony as at a DNR hearing on March 14, 2001. -Ed.)

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# Steelhead's determination toward goal similar to TU's

By Jon Christiansen  
WITU State Chair

The day before the mid-August National TU Convention in Portland, OR, I had the opportunity to fish the lower Deschutes River for

travels hundreds of miles up the Columbia from the Pacific across imposing concrete dams (that create "progress" for the region) on its way to its appointed rendezvous with natural selection and then back out to the sea. It seemed to me then and

for the two or three minutes (though it seemed longer) of fight the steelhead and I engaged in, steelhead fishing was a little bit like bowling. Cast down and across, let the line swing and then let it dangle below you. If the muskie is the fish of 1,000 casts, the steelhead is the fish of 10,000 casts.

The sameness of the exercise seemed to me a far cry from the infinite variety of trout fishing in Wisconsin, where even fruitless casting yields the pleasure of target shooting under sweeper branches or curve casting around rocks. Anyway, it was a fun experience, but if I go back to Oregon, I will likely fish for their famous reddsides rainbows in the upper Deschutes.

Another thing I noticed while making my 10,000 casts for that one lonely steelhead was the enormity of the lower Deschutes River canyon. The river there has cut a 500-foot gouge in the volcanic rock that forms the base of most of the Pacific Northwest. The sight of the canyon is imposing as hell from the bottom.

But as I contemplated (during my 10,000 casts) the etching of that canyon from the volcanic rock, it occurred to me that our organization, Trout Unlimited, acts a little bit like the force of that water on the rocks over time. At any one moment, the force of water over the rock is imperceptible. Likewise, sometimes the impact of the effort of countless individuals of our organization seems to be imperceptible, or at least minute, until one steps back and views it in the aggregate.

For several decades now, Wisconsin Trout Unlimited (and TU

members nationwide) have contributed rock by rock. The result is that Wisconsin is now blessed with the greatest number of miles of quality trout water of any state in the nation. (Yes, this even beats the states of the holy water, Wyoming and Montana.) For it is the strength of the grass roots aspect of our organization that causes a river of activity to yield our positive results.

I have had a chance to see that activity first hand in the early part of my term as your State Chair. And I must say that it is an impressive effort, but one that could be even greater.

In the coming months, our elected leaders will be called upon to address the problem of polluted runoff (or nonpoint pollution). This will be an opportunity to clean up our state's waters in a way that only comes around every couple of decades or so. We are going to need a lot of help from our members to make sure that our politicians and bureaucrats know that we value clean, cold water and the creatures that live in it.

I will be contacting you further by e-mail and by letter to let you know what you can do to help in this effort. I hope that when I contact you, you will respond, as you have before, with a great effort.

Until then, think about that steelhead I am holding in the picture and the kind of effort she went through just to reach her spawning grounds. A little more effort on our part to protect the clean waters of this state is the least that we can do.



Jon Christiansen

steelhead. For a day, I whipped the water to a froth. In catching one 6-pound wild steelhead, I formed two immediate conclusions. First, the wild steelhead trout of the northwest is an incredible creature. It

now a pretty impressive feat for the powerful fish that took me into the backing.

Second, despite point one, I realized that I am probably not cut out to be a steelhead fisherman. Except

## What we learned from Perrier's grab for the Mekan

By John Welter

The Perrier Corporation's proposal to extract Wisconsin's Mekan River groundwater made Wisconsin TUers realize the fragility of the protection for this most valuable resource.



State statutes have no teeth when it comes to protecting our aquifers from high-capacity wells. But bottling companies are not the only threat — industry, cranberrying are others — but so far the state legislature has shown little will when it comes to analyzing such threats and setting up a strong regulatory or statutory framework to meet them.

The Mekan Spring proposal was sprung on the state by a secretive company that didn't trust the public enough to openly share information about its plans. That may be a natural outgrowth of fears of either competition or espionage, but it led to a response from TU and other allied conservation groups that exploited the company's secretive approach.

Even a so-called "public open house" at Coloma, set up and closely controlled by the company, became a public relations debacle because it offered attendees pap instead of honest answers to hard questions.

Dividing the load

We learned valuable lessons in the Perrier dispute. First, we learned the value of having our local chapter, State Council, and national TU organization working together

to each do what it does best.

The local chapter, Central Wisconsin, blew the whistle on the initial clandestine plan, organized local folks and groups into the "Friends of the Mekan" watershed organization, and got people out for meetings.

The State Council rallied TUers from around the state to get the message to the public, media, and elected representatives, helped raise financial resources, hired a lawyer who addressed some refined legal questions, and built a coalition with other concerned statewide organizations, notably including the River Alliance of Wisconsin.

National TU helped with nuts and bolts help on media matters as well as financial assistance. What one level could not do for one reason or another, one of the other levels found a way to do.

Grassroots concern

Second, we were reminded again that TU members are passionate in their concern for clean and adequate coldwater resources and are willing to write a letter or call a legislator for a bona fide threat.

Several years ago, TU members came forward to swamp lawmakers with support for the Mining Moratorium Bill, which became law.

While we don't holler and scream about every issue that comes down the pike, our members are willing to raise heck about the important threats.

Finding concerned partners

Third, the issue showed the value of organizing outside TU on issues that concern us.

We shared common cause with people and groups representing

wetlands, bird-watchers, bird hunters, motorcyclists, lakes, retirees, etc.

Getting heard in Madison

Finally, we learned that sometimes the powers that be — whether they be leaders who don't want to buck a potential industrial development or agencies we expect to protect our resources — need some serious nudging to remind them of the concern Wisconsinites have for their clear, cold streams and the creatures within them.

We also were reminded that among the media in the state there are many reporters who share that concern and editorial writers whose

writings carry far more weight than a small conservation organization.

Sometimes I think the general public views trout anglers as solitary, peculiar folks who would rather be crawling through tag alders and swatting mosquitoes than getting involved in public issues.

They may be right. But when issues come up that are important enough to warrant our involvement, we know the value of working together to address them and find solutions.

Then we can get back to our other things.

(John "Duke" Welter is past WITU State Council chair. -Ed.)



### TU QUIZ

According to the Pennsylvania DNR, how many degrees cooler are trout streams if they are lined with streamside buffers?

Answer: ten degrees F.

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### INVITING YOU TO REST AND HEAL

Wild Rivers Chapter members erected this memorial bench (above) in June to honor their former chapter president Jeff Carlson who died January 4 from cancer. The bench is across the road from Jeff's home on the White River in northern Wisconsin and bears an inscription about Jeff (below).

## Ceremonies honor Carlson

By Bill Heart

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service presented their Volunteer of the Year Award posthumously to Jeff Carlson on the June 30.

Jeff's parents, Boyd and Marie Carlson, accepted the award on Jeff's behalf.

Larry Meicher also presented Boyd and Marie with the State Council's Jeff Carlson Conservation Award plaque created last February by the State Council. (See a description this award's criteria elsewhere in this issue.).

The plaque now hangs in Jeff's home on the banks of his beloved White River just south of Mason.

The Fish and Wildlife Service also unveiled a painting by Greg Alexander of Jeff and his dog, Rosebud, in Jeff's canoe. The painting commemorates Jeff's role in the creating of the Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge. The painting will be on display at The Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center in a meadow west of the center.

There was a large turnout for this event, filling the auditorium at

the Great Lakes Visitor Center. Wild River Chapter member Roger La-Penter presided over the ceremony and did a wonderful job.



Later in the day The Wild Rivers Chapter held a small get-together at Jeff's home along the White River to dedicate a bench chapter members erected across from the house at the Bibon bridge canoe landing.

Brats and hotdogs were served, a few beers were drunk, many topics were discussed, and an old friend was sadly missed.

## 'Women in conservation' invited to network at fall gatherings

By Diana Toledo

On Earth Day Weekend 2001, more than 100 women gathered to discuss ways to network, have fun, and promote the role of women in conservation as part of the state-wide conference *Celebrating Community-Based Conservation* in Wisconsin sponsored by the River Alliance of Wisconsin and Gathering Waters Conservancy.

As follow-up to the successful initial gathering, an informal network of women conservationists has organized a series of regional gatherings this fall to kick off this new network.

These events will provide an opportunity for women who are active or interested in the field of conservation to meet informally with their peers and begin to explore ways to enhance this growing network of Wisconsin women conservationists.

We hope you will consider attending one or all of these events and to share this message with other women in conservation.

Children are welcome, and the events will be held rain, snow, or

shine.

**South Central Region, Sunday, October 14, 12-2 p.m. Indian Lake Park** — Pack a picnic and your hiking boots for a stroll through the park and good conversation. For details contact Tracy Kuczenski at tkuczenski@wheelerlaw.com or (608) 255-7277.

**Central Region, Saturday, October 20, 12-2 p.m., Jordan County Park Shelter** — Join us on the banks of Plover River for food and fun. Please bring a dish to pass, a small donation for the shelter, a poem, and a canoe if you want to explore the river. RSVP requested. For details contact Rebecca Power at rebecca\_power@fws.gov at (715) 824-6026.

**Northwest Region, Saturday, October 20, 3-5 p.m., Lower Long Lake, Northern Chippewa County** — Join others for a short canoe or kayak trip followed by a gathering at the "Pickled Trout." For more details contact Gigi Stafne at 715-967-2300.

**Southeast Region**, contact Terilyn Reese at (414) 332-9954.

## Groundwater Glossary

**Aquifer:** A rock or soil layer capable of storing, transmitting, and yielding water to wells.

**Baseflow:** That part of stream discharge from groundwater seeping into the stream.

**Consumer Confidence Report:** A report required under the amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act which lists contaminants found in community public well water systems, water treatment methods, devices used, and potential health effects.

**Discharge area:** An area in which ground water flows toward the land surface and escapes as a spring, seep, or baseflow, or by evaporation and transpiration.

**Dolomite:** Calcium magnesium carbonate, a common rock-forming mineral. Many rocks in Wisconsin referred to as limestone are actually dolomite.

**Evaporation:** The process by which water is changed from a liquid or solid into vapor.

**Geology:** The science dealing with the origin, history; materials, and structure of the earth, together with the forces and processes operating to produce change within and on the earth.

**Glacial drift:** Sediment transported or deposited by glaciers or the water melting from a glacier.

**Gross alpha activity:** Decay of radionuclides in natural deposits. Can be either radium or uranium.

**Groundwater:** Water beneath the surface of the ground in a saturated zone.

**Hydrogeology:** The study of groundwater and its relationship to the geologic environment.

**Hydrologic cycle:** The complete cycle through which water passes from the atmosphere to the earth and back to the atmosphere.

**Hydrology:** The science encompassing the behavior of water as it occurs in the atmosphere, on the land surface and underground.

**Impermeable:** Having a texture that does not permit water to move through quickly.

**Infiltration:** The movement of water into and through a soil.

**Leachate:** A liquid formed by water percolating through soluble waste material. Leachate from a landfill has a high content of organic substances and dissolved minerals.

**Limestone:** A sedimentary rock consisting chiefly of the mineral calcite (calcium carbonate).

**Municipal well:** A well serving more than 25 people for at least 60 days of the year.

**Nutrients:** Compounds of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium that promote plant growth.

**Permeability:** The capacity of rock or soil to transmit a fluid, usually water.

**Private onsite wastewater treatment system (POWTS):** Also called a septic system. Used to treat household sewage and wastewater by allowing the solids to decompose and settle in a tank, then letting the liquid be absorbed by the soil in a drainage field.

**Private well:** A well serving one home, maintained by the owner.

**Radionuclides:** Any manmade or natural element that emits radiation in the form of alpha or beta particles or as gamma rays.

**Recharge area:** An area in which water infiltrates and moves downward into the saturated zone of an aquifer.

**Runoff:** Precipitation not absorbed by the soil.

**Saturated zone:** The part of a water-bearing layer of rock or soil in which all spaces, large or small, are filled with water.

**Septic system:** See "private onsite wastewater treatment system (POWTS)"

**Sludge:** Sediment remaining after waste water has been treated.

**Transpiration:** The process by which plants give off water vapor through their leaves.

**Water table:** The level below which the soil or rock is saturated with water, sometimes referred to as the upper surface of the saturated zone.

**Watershed:** The land area from which surface runoff drains into a stream system.

**Well:** A vertical excavation that taps an underground liquid-bearing rock formation. In Wisconsin, wells are drilled to obtain water, to monitor the quality of groundwater, or to determine the depth of the water table.

**Wisconsin Unique Well Number:** A number assigned to individual wells, which allows state agencies and the public to track groundwater quality through time. All new wells drilled since January 1, 1988, have been assigned unique well numbers.

—From the WDNR

# Budget offers mixed bag

By Jeff Smith

## State Council Legislative Chair

The 2001-03 Wisconsin state budget bill was signed by Governor McCallum on August 30, 2001. Here are some of the provisions we have been following:

### High-capacity wells

The bill created language that would allow the DNR to deny permits for water bottling operations only. This was a major disappointment to us. We had some solid, broader language in there when the budget was in the Assembly, but lost it somehow in the Conference Committee.

Included in that provision was a requirement that the Legislative Council (a legislative study group) study the issue. Unfortunately, the governor vetoed this.

### DNR split

The Conference Committee created a new Department of Forestry. Thankfully, the Governor vetoed that provision.

### Fishery positions

DNR received three additional, permanent fish management positions in the budget. This is good news because it relates to being able to keep Trout Stamp funding working after three federally funded project positions expire in October.

### Use value taxation

Budget language put in by the Assembly would have taken care of the major part of the issue —the incentive to put buffer property into agricultural use. However, the lan-

guage was removed by the Conference Committee.

### Coaster brookies

The Governor "wrote down" (vetoed the dollars appropriated and wrote in a smaller number) funding for the coaster brook trout study and restoration project from \$20,000 in 2001-02 and \$150,000 in 2002-03 to \$20,000 each year.

These were tribal gaming revenues that were apparently short of the amounts needed to fully fund all of the projects the Legislature wanted.

### High water mark access

The previous budget bill established the ordinary high water mark as the standard to distinguish public from private property. This budget bill changed that to say one can only use the ordinary high water mark land to get around an obstruction.

This means we are back to the "keep your feet wet" days.

### Other budget provisions

Other budget items of interest to TU members include:

- Bans Great Lakes oil and gas drilling.
- Stewardship funding increased \$112 million per year — the Governor vetoed many of the legislated purchases, which gives the DNR more discretion.
- Creates an adopt-a-river program similar to the adopt-a-highway program.
- Increased funding to address invasive aquatic plants and animals.



## ANOTHER STRETCH OF RIVER FLOWING FREE

The Orienta Dam as it stood before demolition began the end of July.

# Last days for Orienta Dam

By Bill Heart

The removal of the Orienta Dam on the Iron River in northern Wisconsin is nearing completion.

The construction company started at the end of July. They plan to blow up the dam in four stages over a time period of two months.

The explosions will be interior blasts that will break up the concrete in place, and then it will be removed by heavy equipment. The rubble will be buried on the west side of the river and then land-scaped.

As of Sept. 8, the dam was down to the upstream level of the river.

Great care is now needed to insure that no fish are able to migrate upstream. A fish weir will be constructed at the head of the current spillway to keep lamprey and Lake Superior-run fish out of the upper reaches of the Iron River.

There is a concern over diseased fish from the lower Iron and Lake Superior getting into the disease-free upper stretches, especially the Iron River fish hatchery.

The job should be completed sometime in October.

# Veto ends Peshtigo FERC deal

Governor McCallum vetoed a provision in the state budget that would have allowed the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL) to buy certain lands along the Peshtigo River near Crivitz.

As reported in the last *Wisconsin Trout*, the lands in question are currently subject to a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) management agreement with the owners, Wisconsin Public Service

Corp.

Rep. John Gard (R-Peshtigo) expressed disappointment over the Governor's veto. Gard said the parties must now go "back to the drawing board" for new solutions.

The BCPL-WPS deal was opposed by the WDNR and The River Alliance of Wisconsin because they felt it set a bad precedent for other holdings subject to FERC management agreements.

# State holds hearings on proposed fish passage rules

State fisheries biologists and dam safety engineers have developed proposed rules that would restore state authority to require dam owners to install passages to allow fish, freshwater mussels, and other species to freely travel up and down the state's rivers.

The WDNR previously had the authority to require fish passages — an authority that dated back to the early 1900s — but a 1999 law required the agency to develop rules that identify the circumstances under which DNR staff would require evaluation of a fish passageway.

The 1999 law also required that dam owners receive grants to help share costs before fish passageways, also called "fishways," could be required.

Public hearings on the proposed rule, ch. NR 331, Wis. Adm. Code, were held in September.

"We are actively pursuing river restoration around the state, and fish passages, where appropriate, are a good tool for achieving this goal," says Mike Staggs, director of the DNR Bureau of Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection.

"There are a lot of situations where fish are unable to reach their preferred spawning grounds and young fish are unable to reach their nursery grounds because of dams. Having a fish passage allows a river to reach its full potential."

Another reason biologists would evaluate fish passages around dams is to extend the range of native mussels that are listed as endangered species.

Other triggers would include if a new dam is being proposed, or if state grant money for dam repair or renovation will be used at the facility.

Karl Scheidegger, a DNR river fisheries biologist, said improved engineering and knowledge of fish biology and migration will help biologists build passageways that are more successful than the ones built in the early decades of the 1900s.

Wisconsin's history with fish passages predates statehood. Territorial lawmakers in the 1840s required a structure allowing for the passage of rafts and fish on the Jefferson dam.

However, many early fish passages were too steep for fish to swim up them. Research in the intervening years found that fish need a gentler slope to "climb" up fish passages, and they need a good flow of water through the fishway both to attract the fish to the passage and to help them pass up the structure.

## Illinois latest to ban MTBE gas additive

Illinois Governor George Ryan signed legislation in late July banning the controversial gasoline additive MTBE.

MTBE is a petroleum-based additive that helps vehicles meet government carbon monoxide emission standards. However, the chemical has recently been shown to be a groundwater contaminant.

"This additive can be extremely hazardous. Less than one cup is required to contaminate an entire lake," said Rep. Julie Curry, a Decatur Democrat who co-sponsored the legislation.

Illinois' MTBE ban will be phased in over three years. So far 11 states have banned MTBE.

## Citizen guide to DNR hearings published by MEA law center

Has a new source of air or water pollution been proposed for your neighborhood?

Many decisions related to pollution and land use are made by the DNR every day. These are decisions that activists can shape if they get involved.

To help you get involved, Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA) has published *Being Heard: A Citizen's Guide to DNR Hearings* which describes:

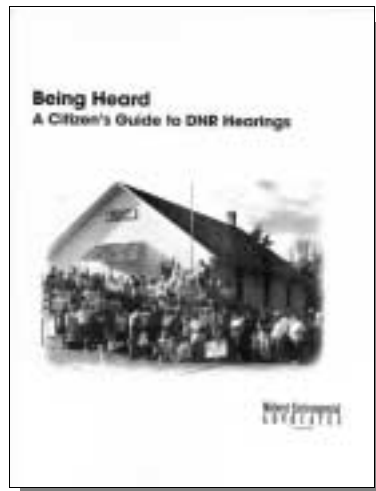
- how to request a hearing,
- what to expect during a hearing, and
- how to prepare.

You can request a copy of the guide by writing to the address below or by e-mailing MEA at [advocate@chorus.net](mailto:advocate@chorus.net).

The guides are free, but a tax-deductible donation to MEA is appreciated and will help to ensure that you continue to have environmental

lawyers working for the public interest.

Send your requests and donations to Midwest Environmental Advocates, 22 E. Mifflin St., Suite 300, Madison, WI 53703.





# Council meets at Carlson home near Ashland

By Chuck Steudel

State Council Secretary

The September 8, 2001, meeting of the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairperson Jon Christiansen at Jeff Carlson's homestead along the White River in Mason, just south of Ashland.

cation Chairperson for the State Council is open, and anyone who is interested in trying to assist chapters in working with youth is urged to contact Jon C. It was noted that the DNR has a "Reel Kids" program that is similar.

A discussion was held on how to make TU more appealing to female anglers was held. After discussion it

separate the Friends money from regular State Council money during the next fiscal year. A motion was made and passed without opposition. We will separate the monies on fiscal reports, etc. but will not have separate checkbooks.

A motion was made and passed without opposition to reimburse Todd Hanson and Larry Meicher for otherwise unreimbursed expenses associated with their attending the recent National TU Convention.

Treasurer Meicher noted that chapter financial reports are due soon to him. They have to be in at National by October 31. Individual chapter treasurers may get the forms off the Internet. Without these forms being sent in from every chapter, the State Council rebates will not be sent out.

The policy for bonding state officers is coming due. The treasurer was authorized to switch the policy to one with \$45,000 coverage for \$150 which is considerably less than the current policy. Passed without opposition.

Procedures for auditing chapter books were discussed. The State Council sent out a policy/suggestion letter to every chapter which will be resent to each chapter this fall. It was noted that it is not necessary to spend \$1,500 for a CPA to do the audit. Instead, an informal review of the chapter's books by knowledgeable individuals is adequate. The State Council's financial records will be reviewed after September 30.

Jeff Smith of the Southern Wisconsin Chapter reported on a chap-

fish kills that happen anywhere in the state so that he can try to find out just how common these events really are in Wisconsin.

**New endowment fund**

Chairperson Christiansen led a discussion on the concept of the State Council setting up an Endowment Fund. Capital would be raised, earnings spent in ways that the Council decided. A brochure is in the process of being set up for fund raising. This would be a separate investment fund that would be administered by a new, yet unformed, committee of the State Council.

A motion that a seven-member Endowment Committee be formed to include the Chairperson of the Council, Treasurer of the Council, Friends Chair, and the endowment chair, plus three members of TU who would be elected by the State Council for revolving, three-year terms. They would be responsible for raising funds. The Council as a whole will make spending decisions at its meetings, however in case of emergency situations the Executive Committee can act, based on the recommendation of the Endowment Committee. Passed without opposition.

A program of Business Memberships for TU was discussed. A southern state has found this to be very successful. Business groups would pay \$200 and receive 20 memberships that they could distribute as they wish. The program quickly pays for itself by the new members re-enlisting. The Council and the chapters gain from National rebates. The membership committee will be working on this project.

Jeff Smith reported on the Legislative Committee. Cranberry regulation is a dead issue for now in that Rep. Jensen and the Governor have vowed that nothing will be done while they are in control.

**State budget items**

On the new state budget, the high-capacity well regulation was a weak one that only covers bottling



## BEST SWEET CORN OF THE SEASON

Wild Rivers Chapter members (above, l to r) Dick Berge, Chuck Campbell, and John Casperson drew rave reviews with their grilled sweet corn and brat meal during the State Council meeting. Guests Jerri Ridlon (center) of Northland College reported on coaster brook trout restoration activities, while UW-Extension Water Action Volunteer Coordinator Kristine Stepenuck talked about volunteer stream monitoring activities in southwestern Wisconsin.

The meeting started with a moment of silence in memory of Jeff Carlson. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

**National convention attended**

The TU National Convention in Portland, OR, was discussed. Duke Welter, Jon Christiansen, Larry Meicher, and Todd Hanson were in attendance. Larry Meicher was awarded a distinguished service award and Todd Hanson, *Wisconsin Trout* editor was recognized for the superior paper that he puts out for the State Council.

There was no controversy at the national meeting, and it was reported that the conservation agenda of National TU will continue, that we are doing a good job and need to keep it up.

**'First Cast' program**

The "First Cast" youth fishing instruction program was discussed. National TU has a "how to do it" manual that will be sent to all chapters. Equipment for fishing and fly tying can be purchased at cost.

At this time the position of Edu-

was decided to allocate \$200 for a committee to survey female anglers who are already in TU and to develop an ad hoc committee that invites current female members to offer suggestions for the increased participation of females in TU. Motion passed without opposition. Chapter leaders will be contacted and asked to refer anyone they feel would be interested in this committee.

The membership committee report showed an increase of 300 members to 3,700 since January 1, 2001. It was accepted unanimously.

**Council finances**

Larry Meicher, council treasurer, reported a balance of \$35,000. That is after the State Council pledge of \$1,500 and \$500 from the Jeff Carlson Memorial was paid to the Gratiot River Coaster Brook Trout project in Upper Michigan. A thank you note from the Copper Country Chapter of Michigan TU was read.

"Friends" Chair John Cantwell reported that \$13,000 has been received so far in 2001. A discussion was held on having the Treasurer



ter project on Garfoot Creek which flows into Black Earth Creek. This creek has been channelized and had wetlands destroyed. Now the DNR is purchasing it and the Southern Chapter has made a pledge of \$6,000 toward the \$80,000 purchase price. Smith asked if the State Council could cover \$2,000 of that amount. The intent was to restore the wetlands and to make it a Class I stream instead of a Class II stream. Action was referred to the Friends committee.

A project of the Coulee Chapter for \$2,000 for work on Mormon Coulee was also referred to the Friends committee.

Smith reported on the widely reported fish kill on Black Earth Creek in July. The investigation started several days after the event and no conclusions can be made at this time. It is suspected that there was a later, second fish kill on the creek. A 90% kill was reported on one of the more popular mile-long areas and a 25% kill was noted further up stream. Thousands of trout were lost. Jeff Smith reports that he would like to be informed about any



plants and does not cover 95% of high-capacity wells.

The DNR split was taken out. This measure was authored by anti-environmentalists in the Assembly and even the Governor could not stomach it in the end. Three additional fisheries positions were included in the budget which was good, but this is far fewer than what were asked for or are needed.

Money for the Coaster Brook trout work was left in, but severely cut during the second year.

The stream bank/high water situation was a loss of angler opportunity, which is to say that the situation is back to what it had been for many

*Continued on p. 11*

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**HANSON ACCEPTS BOLLINGER AWARD**  
*Wisconsin Trout* Editor Todd Hanson (left) accepts the Bollinger Award for best Trout Unlimited state council newsletter at the TU conference in Portland in August. TU president Charles Gauvin looks on as Hanson describes his beer bribe technique for obtaining stories for the paper.

# LOGO: TU unveils new corporate logo

*Continued from p. 1*

There was an overwhelmingly positive response to all logo finalists. This and other member input (e.g., letters and calls to staff) provided guidance to the TU Logo Committee as it made its final selection.

One-year transition period

There is a planned transition period of one year for the new logo. Use of the new logo can begin immediately. During this next year, either logo may be used for TU activities.

Use of the new logo is encouraged, but if your chapter has recently ordered supplies with the current TU logo, do not hesitate to continue

using them.

Chapter and State Council officers are being asked to help with the transition by adding “The New TU Logo” as an agenda item at upcoming board and chapter meetings.

While supplies last, merchandise with the old TU logo will continue to be available.

Questions or comments regarding the new logo and transition process should be directed to either Kenny Mendez, TU Chief Operating Officer, (703) 522-0200, [kmenendez@tu.org](mailto:kmenendez@tu.org); or Sara Johnson, TU Volunteer Operations Director, in Madison at (608) 255-1325, [johnson@tu.org](mailto:johnson@tu.org).



## Chapter help for the logo transition

To help TU chapters and councils smoothly make the change to the new logo, the National office will:

- Post the new logo on TU's web site where it can be easily downloaded by TU leaders and newsletter editors and others for immediate use in printed materials.
- Write a short blurb for newsletter editors on the new logo (available through *Lines to Leaders* and on the web) to cut-and-paste into chapter and council newsletters.
- Provide special pricing for all printing orders placed for the new logo by Jan 1, 2002. This includes business cards, letterhead, signs, banners, and post-it notes. The ordering process remains the same as always.
- Include a feature on the new logo in *TROUT* magazine to help increase awareness and understanding of the change among TU members, natural resource agencies and others.
- Make immediately available clothing and other merchandise with the new TU logo.

# Nominations sought for State Council awards

State Council Awards Committee Chair Larry Meicher is now accepting nominations for the Council's yearly awards. Nominations should be submitted to:

Larry Meicher  
5258 Salisbury Rd.  
Rio, WI 53960

Nominations must be in the form of a written narrative describing the accomplishments of the candidate, chapter, or entity and submitted by Dec. 2. See below for further criteria.

## Awards Criteria

### Trout Unlimited Resource Award of Merit

- Recipient can be a person, corporation, organization, employer, or representative of any of the above. May be a nonmember.
- Award can be presented posthumously.
- Award is given for outstanding contributions to conservation (does not need to be given for trout or salmon contributions).

*Nature of award — TU National's print of the year or the Wisconsin trout stamp print of the year with inscribed plate attached.*

### Lee and Joan Wulff Award

- Recipient an individual who has demonstrated outstanding service in the field of conservation.
- Recipient to be selected by the Exec. Committee of the Council.
- Award remains with a recipient for one year and then travels to the next year's recipient.

*Nature of award — a framed collection of flies tied by Lee Wulff.*

### Trout Unlimited Gold Trout Award for Service

- Recipient must be a member in good standing of Wisconsin TU.
- Award will be presented to any person who has been an officer of the State Council, a national director, or any committee chairman, elected or appointed. This individual must have served at least one year of his or her term.

*Nature of award — an inscribed plaque with leaping gold trout.*

### Trout Unlimited Gold Net Award

- Recipient an individual who has been a member in good standing of WITU for a period of at least five years.
- Recipient must have participated in at least one major state or chapter fund-raising event in the last five years.
- Recipient must have worked on or attended at least five TU resource projects in the last five years.

*Nature of award — a custom net with gold mesh and inscribed handle.*

### Silver Trout Award for Chapter Merit

- Recipient a WITU chapter that has restored, enhanced, or protected Wisconsin's trout or salmon resource.
- Total value of the project, including the value placed on man-hours and materials, must total at least \$3,500.
- The project must involve trout and salmon resources available to the public to fish. Projects for private use only do not qualify.
- The end result of the project must demonstrate a long-term commitment or benefit to the trout or salmon resource.

*Nature of award — a silver plaque with printed inscription.*

### Jeffrey Carlson Volunteer Award

- Recipient a WITU member who, following the example of Jeff's work over many years on coaster brook trout restoration, has taken a leadership role on a major project that either improved an entire stream, reach, or watershed, or which preserved or restored a species in a body of water.
- The recipient's efforts on the project in question must span more than one year.

*Nature of award — inscribed plaque suitable for on-site placement.*

### Special Appreciation DNR Personnel Award

- Recipient a state fish manager who has shown concern for the trout resource over and above his or her normal duties.

*Nature of award — a certificate outlining his or her accomplishments.*

### Certificate of Appreciation

- Recipient must be members of Wisconsin TU, with the exception of certain landowners only.
- Recipient can be indirectly related to the trout and salmon resource (e.g., the recipient can be a landowner on a project, an educator, a media representative, a contributor of certain equipment, or a related conservation organization).
- Recipient can be someone in an organization for his or her efforts within that organization (e.g., DNR employee).

*Nature of award — a certificate outlining his or her accomplishments.*

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

# Water group's legal brief against Perrier released

By Steve Argo

Concerned Citizens of Newport (CCN) is a small, nonprofit water advocacy organization of about 100 members that is suing the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).



The suit seeks to prevent the Perrier Corporation from constructing a series of high-capacity

wells, a seven-mile water pipeline, and a massive water bottling plant in an area of southern Adams County that abuts the township of Newport.

In the suit, the Ho-Chunk Indian Nation is joining CCN, and the Perrier Corp. has requested to intervene on the DNR's behalf.

The case is scheduled for deliberation in the Marquette County Circuit (Montello, WI) on December 4, 2001. Garvey & Stoddard and Midwest Environmental Advocates, Inc. are representing CCN in this litigation.

## Suit background

With respect to groundwater law in Wisconsin, current language states that "if the [DNR] finds that the proposed withdrawal will adversely affect or reduce the availability of water to any public utility in furnishing water to or for the public...it shall either withhold its approval or grant a limited approval under which it imposes such conditions as to location, depth, pumping capacity, rate of flow and ultimate use so that the water supply of any public utility engaged in furnishing water to or for the public will not be impaired..." Wis. Stat. § 281.17(1)

The language of the original law explicitly protects municipal water supplies, but this does not mean that the DNR does not *also* have to protect other water supplies when making a high-capacity well permit decision. The DNR has a constitutional and statutory duty to protect the waters it holds in trust for all members of the public.

As to the recent failed budgetary amendment regarding high-capacity wells, it is no secret that the language was directed at the Perrier Corp., whose permits were issued on Sept. 20, 2000.

While a step in the right direction, this kind of legislation is designed solely to obstruct the plans of

commercial bottlers interested in spring water, while doing virtually nothing about the 99% of water that isn't.

Critics have pointed out that statewide the quantity and quality of Wisconsin's groundwater is being diminished by:

- nitrate pollution,
- excessive and unregulated irrigation,
- leaky septic systems, and
- everyday acts of misuse.

## Laws need reworking

Among leading water experts, including Dr. George Kraft of the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point and Dr. Jim Krohelski of the United States Geological Survey (USGS), there is a consensus that

*When a dispute arose between the interests of a foreign-owned corporation and the interests of the people, the [DNR] nudged in the direction of the former. If errors were to be made, they should have been made on the side of caution.*

Wisconsin's laws governing groundwater are weak and obsolescent.

In an August, 2000, report issued by the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Dr. Stephen Born noted that "current high-capacity well laws are inadequate to manage and protect Wisconsin's groundwater and related environmental resources."

Clearly, there is a need for a comprehensive study of our groundwater systems and, by extension, a comprehensive review of laws governing groundwater.

## Catalyst for legislative reform

The CCN suit, if successful, will be a catalyst for legislative reform. It will be a landmark case that upholds the idea that Wisconsin's water belongs to the people of Wisconsin.

It condemns the notion that a private company or individual can take advantage of weak laws and pump hundreds of millions of gallons of water absolutely free of charge.

The principal claims of the CCN suit are:

- that the DNR failed to conduct an investigation capable of determining the likely impacts of Perrier's plan,
  - that the DNR shirked its public trust obligation to protect Wisconsin's water resources,
  - that the DNR had no authority to enter into its so-called "Agreement" with Perrier, and
  - that the DNR held closed-door meetings with Perrier officials that were exclusive of the opinions of local residents.
- CCN and the Ho-Chunk Nation are asking the court to:
- declare the DNR's environmental assessment (EA) of July 25, 2000, as being inadequate and remand the September 20 decision

environmental analysis," the agency excluded both the pipeline and bottling plant from the EA assessment so as to minimize the proposal's overall impact.

3. There is no mention of the rate of withdrawal and the location of wells. Such glaring omissions are further evidence of the "shoot first, aim later" mentality of the agency.

*Claim #2: The DNR shirked its public trust obligation to protect Wisconsin's water resources.*

According to Wisc. Stat. § 281.11, the DNR is charged to "protect, maintain, and improve the quality and management of the waters of the state, ground and surface, public and private."

This gives the DNR ample authority to deny or modify Perrier's high-capacity well application. The department, however, stuck to the much narrower language of Wis. Stat. § 281.17(1) saying, in effect, "we have no explicit authority to deny Perrier its permits." CCN is claiming that this is a violation of Wisconsin's Constitution as well as state laws creating the agency.

*Claim #3: The DNR had no authority to enter into its so-called "Agreement" with Perrier.*

Negotiated secretly between the DNR and Perrier, this extralegal document was designed to form the basis of a friendly, working relationship between both parties. It is a kind of "gentlemen's agreement" of vaguely worded, unenforceable statements that rely on prearranged acts of good faith.

For example, according to the document, Perrier voluntarily agrees to do future aquatic studies and the DNR pledges to monitor those studies — a situation convenient for both, but clearly not necessarily in the best interests of Wisconsin's water resources.

*Claim #4: The DNR held closed-door meetings with Perrier officials that were exclusive of the opinions of local residents.*

Beginning around February of 1999, DNR officials met with executives from the Perrier Corp. to discuss the possibility of locating a bottling plant in central Wisconsin. As this process moved along, a patron-client relationship developed whereby the DNR became "psychologically wedded" to Perrier and lost its objectivity as a regulatory agency.

The department's unfaltering endorsement of Perrier's views gave the appearance of a "done deal" months before the Sept. 20 announcement that the permits would be given.

In all fairness, the DNR was operating under the influence of intense outside political influence and inside political pressure. Still, DNR officials were reticent to be critical of a process they surely knew to be off track.

When a dispute arose between the interests of a foreign-owned corporation and the interests of the people, the agency nudged in the direction of the former. If errors were to be made, they should have been made on the side of caution.

Department Secretary George Meyer, in particular, engaged in wishful thinking and failed to properly take stock of the environmental — and political — dangers inherent in the Perrier plan.

*(Steve Argo is President of Concerned Citizens of Newport. He also chairs groundwater protection efforts for the Wisconsin Stewardship Network. -Ed.)*

## Shibilski critical of Governor's veto of high-cap budget item

Perrier's future plans for a high-capacity well to export central Wisconsin's groundwater received a major boost from the Governor's veto of legislation protecting the state's water resources, said Senator Kevin Shibilski.

"The people of central Wisconsin spoke loud and clear against exporting their water and the legislature responded with a bipartisan, common sense solution," Shibilski said. "It is unfortunate that the governor chose to ignore the people."

Responding to an acknowledged loophole in state law, the legislature adopted new high-capacity well regulations in the 2001-2003 budget bill. The plan would have required completion of an environmental impact study before a permit could be issued for large-scale water extraction, such as the Perrier proposal in central Wisconsin.

Widespread local opposition along with serious environmental

concerns forced Perrier to look in other states. However, the same day Perrier announced it was dropping the central Wisconsin project, company officials indicated that they would return.

"The governor's veto allows Perrier and other water bottlers to come back and exploit our water resources. They will be completely exempt from the reasonable groundwater protection regulations that were overwhelmingly adopted by the legislature," the senator said.

Shibilski said the worst part of the governor's veto is that it shuts out local residents. "The environmental impact statement allows for greater public input. In this case, the citizens who would be affected by massive water exportation were very vocal in their opposition. The governor simply chose to ignore them and leave the door open for Perrier's return to central Wisconsin."

- that an EIS was not required,
- declare the DNR's high capacity well permits to Perrier to be in violation of the public trust doctrine, and
- declare invalid the Agreement between Perrier and the DNR.

## Case claims against DNR

*Claim #1: The DNR failed to conduct an investigation capable of determining the likely impacts of Perrier's plan.*

Under the Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act (WEPA), the DNR is supposed to evaluate the likely environmental impacts of proposed projects before any permits are given.

The agency's perfunctory review of the Perrier data hardly met this standard. Despite the intensity and duration of Perrier's projected pumping (500 gallons a minute, every hour of every day of the year), the EA did not acknowledge the kind of "major action" that warranted an environmental impact statement (EIS).

In the opinion of the state's top water expert, Dr. George Kraft of UW-Stevens Point, the report was riddled with inaccuracies, oversights, inconsistencies, and misleading information. In particular, there were three incontrovertible problems with the EA:

1. Extensive hydrological testing and wildlife studies were never done. The only water testing, for example, was at a rate of 212 gallons/minute for six hours of one day. Based on this and numerous other "snapshot" pictures, the company predicted there would be no significant adverse impacts to the environment. Disturbingly, the DNR went along with Perrier's conclusions even when it acknowledged an obvious lack of information.
2. There was virtually no mention of the seven-mile pipeline and bottling plant that would have to accompany Perrier's wells. Although both projects would make huge footprints on the land, the report was silent on what their effects would be. Although Wisc. Admin. Code NR § 150.20(2)(b) requires the DNR to consider "the entire project proposal...in a comprehensive



## State weighing below-ground water storage

State drinking and groundwater officials have convened a group of outside experts to study a unique method of storing treated water underground.



The study is in response to interest among some Wisconsin communities seeking to secure safe, ample water to supply the future needs of their citizens and their economies.

The technology has the potential to help such communities meet their growing demand for water while avoiding or delaying the expense of expanding their treatment plant or building expensive aboveground storage.

State environmental officials have allowed Oak Creek to use it on a limited, experimental basis, and are considering a similar request from Green Bay.

### Departure from policy

But officials are concerned that the technology represents a significant departure from a longtime state policy important to protecting the groundwater that supplies drinking water to three-quarters of Wisconsin's citizens and fresh water to rivers, lakes and wetlands. And they want to be sure that the technology doesn't introduce into groundwater contaminants, or cause chemical interactions, that can pose a health threat.

"We want to fully investigate the technology and consider its potential benefits for municipalities as well as its potential limitations and consequences for other groundwater users, future groundwater users, and the environment," says Jill Jonas, who directs the Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Drinking and Groundwater.

"These outside experts should be able to give us feedback about this technology and whether it is something that works for Wisconsin," says Jonas.

Tapped for the technical review panel are:

- Jean Bahr, a University of Wisconsin-Madison geology professor
- Greg Harrington, a UW-Madison civil and environmental engineering professor
- Tim Grundl, a UW-Milwaukee geosciences professor
- Jim Krohelski, a hydrogeologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, and
- Mark Werner, a toxicologist with the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services.

The panel, which next meets in February, is charged with reviewing aquifer storage recovery. That technology involves taking water that's been drawn from a lake or river and treated, typically filtered and chlorinated, and injecting it through a well into an underground aquifer for storage when demand for water is low.

An aquifer is a rock or soil layer capable of storing, transmitting and yielding water to wells; treated water stored in an aquifer would then be drawn back into the water supply system and distributed when water demand is high. Proponents argue that this system can save millions of dollars in capital costs and can be done with no harm to the native groundwater.

## MEETING: State Council meets in Mason

*Continued from p. 8*

years until "liberalized" several years ago.

The Stewardship Program got \$125 million more. The "adopt-a-stream" program was left in, and that will be a program of stream cleanup that will be a lot like the "adopt-a-highway" cleanup program. The council thanked Jeff Smith for the great work that he is doing on our behalf in Madison.

Todd Hanson reported that he and *WisTrout* had won the Bollinger award at the National TU Convention for best state council newspaper in the nation.

### Water Resources Committee

Stu Grimstad reported on recent Water Resource Committee actions. A discussion of use of the Internet took place. Gary Horvath has a great site.

Problems with the State Council web site were discussed. It was noted that the DNR frequently gives away to nonprofit groups useable computers that individual chapters should look into. The committee is trying to get the video "Storm on the Horizon" into many of our public schools. Also there is a standardized easement form available on the TU website for individuals and chapters to use.

Wisconsin's latest attempt to control nonpoint pollution is being formulated. Jon Christiansen and Stu Grimstad were authorized to review the Midwest Environmental Advocates (Melissa Scanlan) position paper on Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) as it concerns nonpoint pollution. They were authorized to endorse it if the committee felt it was in line with TU's goals. This passed without opposition.

The Water Resource Committee is also working on the problem of helping citizens look at the positive side of the removal of small dams in Wisconsin.

### Volunteer water monitoring

Kris Stepenuck of the UW-Extension spoke about the Water Action Volunteer program being coordinated through the UW-X and DNR. This is a citizen monitoring program that is aimed at our streams.

Such a practice would call for significant changes in state policies aimed at protecting groundwater according to Rich Roth, a water supply specialist.

"Ever since lawmakers adopted the first well construction laws in the 1930s, DNR and its predecessor agencies have maintained a policy that prohibits using a well to place wastes — or other substances that may have an adverse impact on groundwater quality — underground," he says.

The only previous exception to this policy was made in the early 1990s to allow for certain types of temporary injection practices that are strictly controlled and necessary to clean up soil or groundwater contamination at a site, Roth says.

"Approving aquifer storage recovery systems would constitute a significant change in that long-standing policy and would allow the first permanent use of injection techniques in the state," Roth says. "So we need to be sure we fully investigate the technology before we decide whether to make any major changes."

### Injection uses elsewhere

Municipalities in Florida, Cali-

fornia and elsewhere in the United States are using aquifer storage recovery. But those systems are operating in a different geological formation than the sandstone of the Midwest, and in some cases, they have seen changes in bedrock chemistry that Wisconsin drinking water officials don't want to see occur here.

Des Moines is the only Midwestern site using aquifer storage on more than an experimental basis.

Interest is picking up in Wisconsin as natural and human-caused groundwater shortages have occurred in some areas. For instance, human demand for water is causing quantity problems in the Lower Fox River Valley, southeastern Wisconsin and Dane County.

Such growing demand also may be contributing to water quality problems; experts believe the demand is triggering the release of naturally occurring arsenic from bedrock into surrounding groundwater that supplies wells in parts of Winnebago, Outagamie and Brown counties. Exposure to elevated levels of arsenic over long time periods has been associated with a variety of cancers, nervous system damage, diabetes and blood pressure changes.

Chuck Steudel reported on efforts to find out more about the "Bottom Draw Study" that was done for DATCP. Information about the study has been requested by the committee.

It was announced by the Chair that TU has a new logo. Examples were passed around.

### Mott capacity-building grant

A steering committee is working to carry out the capacity-building initiative funded by a grant from the Mott Foundation. Members are Jon Christiansen, Jim Hlaban, Stu Grimstad, Brent Sittlow of Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter, Lou Gauen of S.E. Wisconsin Chapter, Jerry Campbell of Southern Wis. Chapter, and Laura Hewitt and Russ Schnitzer of TU's Midwest National Office.

The goal of the campaign is to promote TU's membership's knowledge of and action to reduce harmful surface runoff into Wisconsin's coldwater streams. "Protecting the Source" is the campaign name. The committee will gauge interest among chapter leaders and attempt to bite off a chunk of this issue that we can chew, educate the public and Tuers, and develop new TU leaders in the process.

Jerri Ridlon, the public informa-

tion coordinator for the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute at Northland College, reported that coaster brook trout restoration has been taken on by the Institute as part of its "Emerging Issues Program," and will work with us on the issue.

Duke Andrews advocated adding "enhance" to TU's mission statement. After discussion, Jeff Smith moved, and Jerry Strom seconded, to advise TU's National Office that Wisconsin's State Council supports the addition. Under the proposal, the language of the mission statement would be "To preserve, protect, restore, and enhance" coldwater resources." After further discussion, the motion passed 7-5. Chair Christiansen will duly advise National of the motion.

Welter moved, and Mackmiller seconded, a motion to contribute \$1,000 to the Coldwater Conservation Fund which has supported the state TU's efforts on coaster restoration, dam removal, groundwater protection, as well as the Kickapoo Home Waters Initiative. Motion passed.

### Trout Study Committee

Welter reported that the Trout Study Committee of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress met September 7 in Merrill. The committee moved to defer any change in the Wisconsin beaver season until further trends in beaver populations across the state can be identified. The matter will go to the Congress' Fur Harvest Study Committee for its review. The TSC recommended increasing otter harvest tags in areas where otter had an adverse impact on trout populations.

The Blue Book identifying state trout waters is undergoing a second round of hearings for water quality issues, and chapters should be ready to attend those hearings on proposed changes in trout stream classifications because it is anticipated utilities, industries, agricultural interests, and municipalities will be lobbying to reduce those classifications to keep lower water quality standards in place.

Motion to adjourn at 4:50 p.m., passed unanimously.

## Mining cyanide ban aimed at groundwater

A campaign by Wisconsin groups to ban cyanide in metallic mines in the state is part of the many groundwater concerns surrounding the proposed



Crandon mine. DNR estimates of the amount of groundwater to be pumped from the mine and discharged into Swamp Creek, a tributary of the Wolf River, range to at least 1,200 gallons per minute (more than twice what Perrier proposed).

In addition, 44 million tons of mine wastes will be left behind creating the long-term potential for contamination of both groundwater and surface waters.

Mining is currently not subject to the state's hazardous waste laws, even if those wastes contain toxics such as cyanide.





## Chapter News



### ONE PART DISSOLVED OXYGEN, ONE PART FUN

Instructor Claudia Berres works with a group of Nohr Chapter water monitors as they review the procedure for determining dissolved oxygen levels in Brush Creek at the UW-Richland Center campus. Participants are (left to right) Jim Korb, Dave Fritz, Berres, Barbara Ballard, and Julie and Don Pleumer.

### Blackhawk Chapter

Blackhawk Chapter sponsored its second fishing picnic in June at **Roger Widner's West Fork Sports Club** in Avalanche. The gurus took the movies to various creeks in the area, and in the evening all enjoyed the picnic dinner.

The July meeting was presented by **Jeff Hastings** of the **Vernon County Land and Water Conserva-**

**tion Association**. Jeff showed the destructions of a few creeks in southwestern Wisconsin by the heavy rains this season.

The August meeting was presented by **Dave Vetrano**. Dave gave a program on the history, geology, and present status of the Coulee region.

—Bill Karduck

### Frank Hornberg Chapter

This was a different summer for the Frank Hornberg TU chapter. For the first time in several years, our focus was on other than putting

in jetted overhead cover. Instead, our energies went mainly into installing brushmatting, the majority of which was made up of cull Christ-

mas trees. This activity took place mostly on the **Tomorrow River** at **Nelsonville**.

One of the refreshing aspects of this change was to be able to see many more feet of stream work done than in past seasons. And though we didn't specifically build overhead cover into our brushmats, red osier dogwood shoots were placed in last year's filled brushmats. The anticipation is that these shoots will take root and grow to hang over the stream, as the wild dogwood does, providing overhead cover plus appearing natural and being maintenance free.

The chapter also had several other project sessions. A morning was spent helping at the Fox Valley/Central Wisconsin chapter project at **Whitcomb Creek**. Overhead cover was built and brushmatting in-

stalled. It was good to get out on a regional effort again.

We also had couple of "maintenance" sessions at our **Stedman Creek** project site — an existing brush mat in the Tomorrow/Waupaca River was augmented and new brushmatting placed in Stedman Creek. We also had our hands full cutting up timber and repairing downed fencing from the big June wind storm.

And lastly, we held our second fundraiser August 10th at **Shooters Supper Club** in Plover. The weather was great, and the event was again open to the public and well attended. Thanks to the crew at Shooters and the people who attended, the chapter is in good fiscal shape for the rest of the year.

—Jim Friedrich

### Green Bay Chapter

Members and friends of the chapter spent a productive summer working for trout on area streams. As of this writing, the chapter has completed four of five work projects scheduled by chairperson **Janet Smith**. Members spent 240 man hours performing tasks that will benefit the coldwater resource.

Working with DNR Fish Manager **Russ Heiser**, they first installed a weir on the **Oconto River** that will allow the DNR to study fish migration habits up and down the stream.

Members also removed an old barbed wire fence from the banks of the Oconto River and installed brush bundles in **Waupee Creek**. Brush bundles are a favorite activity because you observe immediate results from your work. Right away the water is faster flowing and sediment is washed downstream, exposing gravel beds and creating holding areas for trout.

Our final project, a stream shocking, has been twice postponed and was last scheduled for October 6 when we will aid the DNR in removing brood stock brook trout from the South Branch of the Oconto River. These fish will be used to obtain the eggs needed for the wild trout stocking program.

The summer also saw the long-awaited construction of the **Lower Oconto River Restoration Project**. This habitat improvement project, spearheaded by chapter members **Pete Harris** and **Dan Ferron** and completed by the DNR, was funded in part by donations from the **Green Bay, Southern, Marinette, and Oconto River Watershed Chapters**.

Completed over three days in August, the project involved 1,000 feet of stream located about two miles below the **Stiles Dam**. A key feature was the construction of two long islands created using rubble form the streambed. These islands were then seeded down and green growth was apparent a couple of

days later. A great number of very large boulders were also placed in the streambed. These boulders create hiding cover for fish and make the project aesthetically pleasing.

**Lee Meyers**, chapter member and DNR employee, was the person within the DNR who was charged with seeing the project to completion. Lee and his crew did a great job.

The chapter also again staged its very popular Kids' Fishing Day. Lee Meyers and **Pat Hill**, working with the **Green Bay Exchange Club**, brought over 50 kids involved with the **Brown County Social Services PALS** program to the **Brown County Reforestation Camp** to fish for bluegills stocked in the ponds there.

The steady rain that fell during the event did not dampen spirits at all. In fact, many of the kids spent the whole time allotted fishing, using garbage bags in lieu of raincoats. Volunteers and guests all had a great time. The chapter thanks the following businesses for their assistance: **Bob's Bait and Tackle, Nickolai's Sporting Goods, Morning Glory, Apple Creek Inn, Thirsty's Liquor and Brookcrest Hatchery**.

Finally, the chapter resumed regular monthly meetings in September, **Ed Avery** of the DNR presented the program for the September meeting. Avery reported on an 18-year project whereby the **North Branch of the Pemebonwon River** and its tributaries were kept completely clear of beaver and their dams. Recent surveys show that trout populations and average size have increased greatly. Additionally, anglers report that fishing success has been great with many limits being taken. Back in 1982, the chapter contributed to the initial efforts to remove beaver and, along with other chapters, had helped fund the survey from which the reported data was taken.

—Gary Stoychoff

### Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter

An ongoing chapter initiative is the training and commissioning of members to monitor several key indicators in area streams. This activity deserves attention for two reasons. The first is perhaps the most apparent because it is the task at hand — to gather data from around the state which can reveal relationships between streams and their resident populations.

The second reason is what the

program allows the monitors to discover — about themselves and about the environment. The first reason for monitoring is primarily scientific. But the second reason seems more in the Nohr tradition of sharing recreational, aesthetic, or spiritual experience as art, humor, or politics.

Nohr Chapter monitors visit their streams on a monthly basis to record weather conditions as well as

## Nohr Chapter documenting the lives of Harry & Laura

By Barbara Ballard

The great sports and outdoor writer Gordon MacQuarrie once said of his friend, Harry Nohr, "One nice thing about him is that everybody feels a little better when he shows up in a crowd." It's a great complement, one echoed by many other people; however, as a legacy, it is a little daunting, for living up to Harry's reputation is nearly impossible. There was only one.

A lot of people ask, "Who are Harry and Laura Nohr and what is your connection to them?" After Harry's death in the late 1970s, the chapter voted to remember the well-known woodsman, environmental activist, and bowl-maker by changing its name to The Harry Nohr Chapter. In succeeding years, several members enjoyed close relationships with Harry's widow, Laura, and decided to recognize her as well.

Named in Laura's will, the chapter enjoyed yet another legacy, but the connection between the Nohrs and our TU chapter cannot be dismissed as a mere windfall. With access to a few newspaper articles and a special section of the December 1977 issue of *The Wisconsin Academy Review*, the chapter is beginning to learn about the events that shaped these people and the principles that guided their lives.

Personal interviews are adding to the power of these discoveries, and we are beginning to realize that this is a legacy that will unfold slowly to reveal benefits far beyond financial considerations.

As we get to know the Nohrs better, we welcome the help of others who knew Harry and Laura, especially those who might be willing to share photographs. Call Barbara Ballard at (608) 623-2077 if you can help.

This project is a good example of how knowing the past can shape a better future, and it is only one of the exciting activities we as a chapter have been pursuing.



# Chapter News



air and water temperatures. They also gather and analyze samples to determine turbidity and dissolved oxygen content.

On a periodic basis, monitors check habitat in and around the stream, index the macroinvertebrates on which fish might feed, and measure stream speed and volume.

Dave Fritz, chair of the chapter's Citizen Water Monitoring Committee, says that each time a stream is monitored, it is as if that stream had been photographed. Carrying the analogy a little further, the gathered data is like a family photo album that reveals growth and change over time.

Dave cites several measures of growth in his recent report to the chapter: "Scott and Jean Napp held an open house on monitoring and hosted over 50 folks that home school to learn about using monitoring as a science curriculum. Tim Donovan taught macroinvertebrates to his daughter's Girl Scout troop. Jim Korb has all his students do a macroinvertebrate index on their home streams and displays the results in his classroom. The benefits are far-reaching and continue to expand as individual monitors create new and exciting ways to share their knowledge."

According to Fritz, "Citizen monitoring is a marathon, not a sprint. It is proactive, not reactive. It is learning and sharing what we've learned with others."

While many members are working in the field to improve area waterways (see Wisconsin Trout, July, 2001), our regular membership

meetings also contribute to the initiative.

Our August general membership meeting, for example, was a discussion of Southwest Wisconsin fisheries led by DNR fishery biologists Bradd Sims and Gene van Dyck, who are also two of our own members. Their presentation about work being done through the DNR in our area indicated that the populations of smallmouth bass are declining and that coldwater streams are doing better than warmwater streams.

Of the ongoing or future projects mentioned, one was in Grant County, three were in Iowa County, one was in Lafayette County, and three were in Richland County. The emphasis will be on encouraging natural reproduction and less stocking. The thinking is that small streams will yield more information about natural reproduction than larger ones, and that the more information we have about reproduction, the better we can steward all our local fisheries.

Survey work is continuing on 114 streams, 106 of which are coldwater. Checking for numbers and sizes of sport fish, the surveyors are also doing baseline monitoring, but future projects will monitor natural reproduction and include less stocking.

Some counties will not be stocked at all in some years, and follow-up surveys will check specifically for the effects of non-stocking.

Having discussed some anticipated changes in the fishery regulations, Bradd and Gene tackled another difficult issue — the distribution of trout stamp money. Harry

would have had opinions about both those issues, and probably would have enjoyed the discussion as much as our members did. Gordon MacQuarrie was right: everyone would have felt a little better to have had him there. Or, perhaps, his spirit was at work in us.

—Barbara Ballard

## Lakeshore Chapter

The Lakeshore Chapter began its fall meeting schedule with a presentation by Rich Osthoff on trout fishing in Southwest Wisconsin.

Work on the new channel for the Onion River near the Bonhoff Farm location occurred over the summer. Work days for stabilizing the bank are planned. Also, a video documentary is being developed to chronicle the entire Onion River Project.

Although regular chapter meetings were not held during the summer, several chapter members tied



**GIMME THAT CHAINSAW**  
Northwoods Chapter member Michelle Leitinger takes a turn with the chainsaw on the Bearskin River.

flies at various community events.  
—Doug Leppanen

## Northwoods Chapter

The chapter hosted the 8th Annual Youth Fly Fishing Conclave on July 7 with 34 boys and girls ages 10 to 16 attending (see story elsewhere in this issue).

The Deerskin River Dam was removed the week of June 4. Pictures of the drained flowage are posted on the web site at [www.northwoodstu.org](http://www.northwoodstu.org). The dam was removed by a contractor under an agreement with the U.S. EPA and therefore the chapter did not expend any of the

\$15,000 budget allocated to the project.

The chapter continues to install brush bundles on the Bearskin River with the final workday of the summer conducted August 18. Two new bundles were constructed along with repairs of a bundle washed out this spring. Michelle Leitinger has been involved with the Bearskin River project from the start (see picture above).

Continued on p. 14

# Mark your calendar for WITU's 17th Annual Conservation Awards Banquet

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



## Chapter News

Continued from p. 13

The Chapters events for the upcoming year are as follows:

November 15th — **Bill Sherer** of **We Tie It** will give us all pointers and information on the where and how to catch trout in the **Upper Peninsula**.

December 13th — The Chapter **Christmas party** will be held at the **Rhinelanders Cafe & Pub**. Cocktails at 5:30 with dinner at 6:30. Its a pay your own way affair with the chapter providing a raffle drawing.

January 17 — **Bob Martini, WDNR Upper Wisconsin River Basin Coordinator**, will discuss the upper Wisconsin River basin — what it was like in the “bad old days,” all the water quality advances that have been accomplished, and issues for the future. Bob and **Duke Andrews** will then exhibit and discuss their hobbies, collecting antique fly fishing equipment and rod building. Duke has promised to bring along the materials to construct a bamboo rod.

March 16th — **Fly Tying Session**. A fly tying workshop from 8:00 a.m.

to noon, materials, tools, and supplies are provided or bring your own. A great opportunity to either learn to tie or just share tips with your friends.

March 26th — **28th Annual Banquet** at the **Rhinelanders Cafe & Pub**. Doors open at 5:30 with dinner served at 7:00.

March 30th — Stream workday on the Bearskin River. Come look at what we have accomplished over the past three years and get your feet wet.

April 27th — Stream workday on the Bearskin River and picnic at Perch Lake. Election of new officers will occur at the picnic.

July 6th — The 9th Annual Youth Fly Fishing Conclave. A free fly fishing event for boys and girls ages 10 to 16.

All meetings have been tentatively scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at the **Claridge Inn** in Rhinelanders, WI. Check the chapter web site at [www.northwoodstu.org](http://www.northwoodstu.org) for up to date meeting schedules and/or changes.

—Brian Hegge

### Wild Rivers Chapter

On June 30th we had a day honoring **Jeff Carlson**. The **Whittlesey Creek Wildlife Refuge** honored Jeff as their **Volunteer of the Year for 2000** and they also dedicated a new interpretive sign in his honor at the **Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center** just west of Ashland.

**Greg Alexander** did a painting of Jeff & Rosebud in his canoe for the sign. **Larry Meicher** of the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited also awarded a plaque of the **Jeff Carlson Conservation Award** to Jeff's parents, **Marie and Boyd Carlson**. The plaque will hang in his house on the White. There were about 100 people and Rosebud and her pups in attendance at the event.

Later that day, we had a cookout at Jeff's home and dedicated a bench that our chapter made and erected overlooking the **White River** at the landing across from Jeff's house. Helping were chapter members **Metro Maznio, Mike Klump, Nathan Klump, Mike Stobbe, Dick Berge, Bill Heart, Damian Wilmot,**

and friends **Larry Meicher** and **Henry Haugley**.

On Saturday, August 4, we had our Angler Survey training at the **Bayfield Fish Hatchery**. We had 12 anglers present for the training which was done by **Dennis Pratt** of **WDNR** and **Lee Newman** of **U.S. Fish & Wildlife**. They both did an excellent job instructing us on handling fish, taking tissue samples, and doing the necessary paper work.

After the training, we were able to fish the ponds at the hatchery to “practice” what we learned. Our survey started on Sept 1. We will have a report in the next *WisTrout*.

On September 8 our chapter hosted the **State Council meeting** at Jeff's house on the White. Thanks to Chapter members **Chuck Campbell, Dick Berge, Bill Heart, Damian Wilmot,** and **John Casperson**, the cook, everything went fine, even though it rained in the morning and the roof leaked a little.

—Bill Heart

### Wolf River Chapter

Our chapter had a social event for members and their spouses at the **Wild Wolf Inn**. We shared a booth at the **Langlade County Fair** July 25-29 with the **Langlade County Waterways Association**.

With purple loosestrife infesting the upper Wolf River, members are working on plans to help in an attempt to eradicate it from the head-

waters downstream.

With abnormal low waters and high temperatures through July, trout fishing was on hold, but is expected to be good this fall.

—Herb Buettner

## Free reel offered as part of TU's new 'First Cast' program

By Duncan Blair

Want to win a free Abel reel for you or your chapter? For the first 50 chapters or councils that sign up for “First Cast,” TU's new TU youth education program, and place a minimum order for six Cortland Student Fly Fishing Outfits, we'll send you a new Abel Creek Reel free!

The Abel Creek #2 reel is a narrow-frame, large-arbor reel. This state-of-the-art fly reel, designed for line weights three through six, carries a lifetime guarantee from Abel.

The Abel Creek #2 sells in fishing catalogs and fine tackle shops for \$290, but it is yours free if you place a minimum order for six Cortland Student Fly Fishing Outfits.

If you take the initiative to get your chapter or council signed up, the reel is yours to use or, if you prefer, to raffle at your chapter's next fundraising event. Either way, your chapter wins by being one of the first 50 to launch a First Cast program!

Why are we making this offer? We want to create some excitement and momentum behind First Cast,

*We want to create some excitement and momentum behind First Cast, TU's new youth education initiative. The First Cast program accomplishes many of TU's conservation goals*

TU's new youth education initiative. The First Cast program accomplishes many of TU's conservation goals including:

- creating a new generation of coldwater conservationists,
- recruiting new TU members (students, parents and partner organizations), and
- giving your chapter a new way to be active and exciting your fellow members.

The educational equipment offered by Cortland can be an important component of First Cast. If your chapter or council already does fly casting or fly tying clinics, this equipment is specifically designed to be used for teaching and will standardize and improve your programs.

If you are looking to start a First Cast program, already having a set of standard equipment will make it easier to form partnerships with schools, camps, or youth groups.

For more information contact **Duncan Blair**, Youth Program Coordinator, Trout Unlimited, 1500 Wilson Blvd., Suite 310, Arlington, VA 22209, [dblair@tu.org](mailto:dblair@tu.org), (703) 284-9425.

### Chapter meeting times and locations

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

**Antigo:** Not listed.

**Blackhawk:** Third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the DNR office in Janesville.

**Central Wisconsin:** Second Monday of the month at the Berlin Bowling Lanes, Berlin. Board meets at 6:30; program at 7:30.

**Coulee Region:** Every third Thursday 7 p.m. at Schmidty's Bar & Restaurant, 3119 State Rd., La Crosse. No meetings in summer.

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

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

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

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

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

**Marinette County:** First Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., Dome Lanes, 751 University Dr., Marinette.

**Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter:**

Third Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November at the old Cobb High School, Village of Cobb, at 7 p.m. (often potluck at 6 p.m.)

**Northwoods:** Third Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at the Claridge Inn, Rhinelanders. No meetings June, July, and August.

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

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

**Shaw-Paca:** Third Thursday of the month from Sept.-May, 7:30 p.m., at Mathew's Supper Club, 155 8th St., Clintonville.

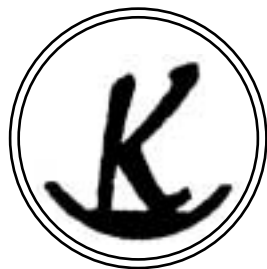
**Southeastern Wisconsin:** Fourth Tuesday of the month. Dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Bavarian Wursthau, 8310 Appleton Ave., Milwaukee.

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

**Wild Rivers:** Second Monday of the month, 5:30 diner, 6:30 business, at the Marine Supper Club, one mile west of Ashland on Hwy. 2.

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

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



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Paul Kogut, Prop.





*"Our Favorite Activities" is a new series in Wisconsin Trout designed to highlight what our chapters feel are their very best activities. This series gives us a chance to find out what makes these activities tick.*

*In this issue we travel to the Coulee Region Chapter for their youth fly fishing class. Well organized? Yes. Comprehensive? You bet. Plus it's as fun for the students as it is for their TU teachers.*

According to President Cy Post, one of the things that sets the Coulee Region's fly fishing course apart from some others is that it takes place at a real school, UW-La Crosse. The course is offered for extra credit in the spring and fall to seniors.

There is even required reading. Coulee Chapter member John Bethke is the lead instructor, and he has students read the *Curtis Creek Manifesto*.

The syllabus also calls for viewing *The Way of the Trout* video and watching some footage shot by Don and Dave Severson of instructor Bethke hooking and landing a 24" brown on a blue-winged olive (thought I was going to say a "Pink Squirrel, didn't you?").

But the event is not just classroom learning. The class involves time on the water after discussions of equipment, attire, and hatches.

#### Who or what benefits?

Post says the students are the obvious beneficiaries, but one never knows how a course like this will affect these young adults in years to come.

"The class is usually equally divided between young men and women. Careers take them to unknown places. A few have joined our chapter. It is our hope that they continue to enjoy fishing for trout and someday, somewhere, become members of a TU chapter."

#### Why is the event so popular with members?

The chapter has been conducting this event long enough that the volunteers have all found rewarding places to call their own in the event.

John calls upon members to assist in teaching his class. Some past helpers

have been Nathan Barnhart, Bob Hubbard, Jim and Andy Sobota, Don and Cale Severson, Dr. Carl Schmidt, Dr. John Wisneski, Dave Lively, Jeff Janke, and myself."

Members have put together a slide show on

#### STUDENTS GET AN "A" FOR FISH CATCHING

Coulee Region Chapter fly fishing course instructor John Bethke (below, left) helps a student land some nice trout as they test their new skills on the water.



equipment, aquatic insects, flies, trout habitat, landowner courtesy, stream etiquette, and other general information about fly fishing.

Like regular teachers, Cy says they even revisit a familiar gag. "We agree to disagree on equipment choice and encourage the students to ask questions and join in on the fun. One example is our discussion on anklefit vs. regular hip boots, which is quite humorous."

#### What are the keys to success?

Cy says a key to the event's success is that the members truly enjoy presenting the program for the students.



"This sets the tone for a lively, light-hearted classroom."

Of course, it's not just a classroom. "Students learn how to tie basic knots, fly cast, tie flies, and fish for wild trout in our area streams," says Post.

"They also have the opportunity to fish for pond trout and fish in the Mississippi back waters. Coulee members act as guides and everyone looks forward to these outings."

If you'd like more information about the Coulee Chapter's fly fishing course, contact Cy Post at 2909 James St., La Crosse, WI 54601, (608) 788-1325.

## Annual state banquet to feature variety and awards

The 2002 State Council banquet, a Celebration of Trout, will feature the efforts of outstanding state fly-tiers, guides, artists, and manufacturers.

Set for February 2, 2002, the event will be held at the Oshkosh Convention Center.

A block of rooms at the nearby Park Plaza Hotel has been set aside for TU reservations through mid-January at a reduced rate.

Awards for the state's heroes of coldwater conservation, both within and outside TU, will be presented.

Other expected attractions include a solid selection of raffle and

auction offerings and a darn good time.

This year we hope to have a crowd that matches our program and offerings, so plan to get your tickets early, and plan to bring some friends along. (See ticket order form in this issue.)

If you wish to make a tax-deductible donation, or want to suggest a demonstration tier for the banquet, contact Jack Wahlers of the Central Wisconsin Chapter at (920) 361-0807.

You may also contact Duke Welter of Ojiblaeu Chapter at (715) 833-7028.

## Groundwater lecture series running at UW-Madison

A series of weekday evening lectures entitled "Will the Well Run Dry? Groundwater Management in Wisconsin" is taking place this fall on the UW-Madison campus.



All lectures begin at 7 p.m. in Room 1610 of Engineering Hall located at 1415 Engineering Drive.

The series is co-sponsored by the Institute for Environmental Studies and the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering.

**Oct. 17** — "Science, Politics, and the Future Water Supply of Southeastern Wisconsin."

**Oct. 30** — "Filling in the Blank Pages in WI Groundwater Policy: Perrier's Model for Environmental Investigation and Regulation."

**Nov. 15** — "Groundwater in Wisconsin: Who Should the Public Trust?"

**Nov. 20** — "The Overall Framework for WI Groundwater Management: the Good, the Bad, the Needed."

For more information, contact Professor Ken Potter, 262-0040, kwpotter@facstaff.wisc.edu.

# Water issues abound within broader Great Lakes basin

*The following is the concluding chapter of "The Fate of the Great Lakes: Sustaining or Draining the Sweetwater Seas?" This report — scheduled for an update by December of this year — was published by the Canadian Environmental Law Association and Great Lakes United on the 12th anniversary of the signing of the Great Lakes Charter on February 10, 1997. It is presented for the broader view it brings to our understanding of Wisconsin's groundwater challenges.*

By Claire Farid, John Jackson  
and Karen Clark

We can no longer take for granted the copious waters of the Great Lakes that flow around us. Population growth, continental water depletion, climate change, the loss of regional control over decisions affecting the waters of the Great Lakes, and our wasteful water use practices are building to a crisis early in the next millennium.



Individually, each withdrawal of water from the Great Lakes seems insignificant. When these withdrawals are combined with each other, and when the additional stresses that the next century appears to be bringing are taken into account, the quantities of water in the Great Lakes will be dramatically affected. Therefore, we must take serious action now.

Estimates show that, if we continue at projected growth and water use trends, forty years from now (in 2035) we will be withdrawing twice as much water from the Great Lakes as will be flowing out of the Great Lakes system into the St. Lawrence River. The flow into the St. Lawrence River will have been reduced by a quarter.<sup>1</sup> These estimates also show that losses of water because of human consumption will be almost four times as high as now.

To this loss must be added the projected losses of water because of global warming. If current trends in climate change continue, by 2035 losses of water because of global warming are projected to be twice as high as the loss of waters due to human consumption.<sup>2</sup> These estimates do not take into account waters that may be lost from the Great Lakes ecosystem if pressure from outside of the Basin is successful at diverting the lakes' waters to other parts of the continent.

If we allow these changes to occur, the Great Lakes will be a very different place from the home that we now live in. Our health, our cultures and our economies will all be substantially changed. The impacts on the fish, birds and wildlife will be even more dramatic.

Unfortunately, we are ill-prepared to tackle these problems. We lack a coordinated basinwide strategy to protect the waters of the Great Lakes from being drained and disrupted. The one such effort in that direction — the Great Lakes Charter — has not been successfully implemented. While Great Lakes jurisdictions pay lip service to cooperative ecosystem approaches, each jurisdiction still acts in its own short-term selfish interest.

Over the past decade our ability

to make decisions that prevent the misuse of the waters of the Great Lakes has been weakened by the free trade agreements and by the growing trend to privatization of public services.

Our lack of coordinated ecosystem activity on water quantity issues stands in stark contrast with the preventive efforts that we in the Great Lakes have dedicated to water quality issues. The alarming problems with the health of the birds, wildlife, fish and people in the Great Lakes Basin because of persistent toxic substances show that we still have a long way to go to protect the Great Lakes from these toxic intruders. Nevertheless, our successes in the water quality field give us two valuable lessons:

- We must address our problems through coordinated Great Lakes wide problem definition, assessment, decision-making and implementation, and share these plans with other regions.
- The driving force behind protecting the Great Lakes is the passion, wisdom and determination of the citizen's groups, a force that becomes even more powerful when it becomes a basinwide movement.

## Principles for an action agenda

The bases on which we make decisions about the acceptability of actions that affect water levels and the lakes' natural flows and fluctuations must be changed.

We must:

- Give more weight to protecting all parts of the ecosystem, including fish, wildlife, birds, and wetlands.
- Recognize the negative effects that changes to the levels and flows of the waters of the Great Lakes ecosystem have on the spiritual, cultural and physical health of the aboriginal peoples living in the Great Lakes Basin. We must ensure that the First Nations and Tribes have the opportunity to control decisions around water levels and flows that can have negative effects on them. We must also ensure that we learn from their wisdom.
- Recognize that we are outrageous wasters of water and dramatically reduce our water consumption.
- Base our land use and development decisions on the principle of living within the capacity of the water resources naturally available within the watershed where we live.
- Recognize that many of our water quality problems will be compounded if we do not prevent the further depletion of water volumes in the Great Lakes. We must take into account the interconnections between water quantity and water quality problems when making decisions.

## A sustainable Great Lakes water strategy

We need to develop a basinwide Sustainable Great Lakes Water Strategy. Each government should adopt the strategy in a way that makes it legally binding, and change their laws, regulations and programmes to ensure that the strategy is carried out. The strategy should be developed and implemented with the full involvement of the public. A special emphasis should be placed on including the First Nations and Tribes, and municipalities in the development of this strategy.

The strategy should be based on the principles listed above and should contain the following com-

ponents:

- A goal for the reduction of all human use of water by 50 percent per capita in the Basin by 2005.
- A water conservation strategy. One aspect of this strategy should be water efficiency codes for all domestic, agricultural, commercial and industrial appliances and machinery. Another aspect of this strategy should be economic instruments that promote water conservation such as true cost pricing.
- An assessment of the impacts of agriculture, the power industry and the mining industry on water flows and levels and a policy on how to minimize these impacts.
- An assessment of the possible demands from outside of the Great Lakes Basin for water from the Great Lakes and a strategy for addressing these demands.
- An assessment of the impacts that privatization of water systems can have on the objectives of the strategy and on the basis of this assessment, a policy on privatization of water systems.
- An evaluation of the impacts of international trade agreements on the efforts of governments in the Great Lakes Basin to protect water resources in the Great Lakes and a strategy for addressing this.
- An assessment of the possible effects of climate change on the waters in the Great Lakes and a strategy for implementing aggressive measures to reduce the human activities that are creating climate change.
- Guidelines for each jurisdiction on how to develop a sustainable waters plan within their jurisdiction that meshes with the basinwide plan.
- Guidelines for the development of watershed management plans for each watershed that mesh with the jurisdiction-wide plan.
- A requirement that communities implement land use and economic planning on the basis of living within the water supplies available in their watershed rather than importing water from outside the watershed.
- A framework for informing and involving the public in the development and implementation of all strategies and decisions that affect water quantities and levels and flows.
- A communications and consultation plan to ensure dialogue between the Great Lakes community and our neighbors throughout the continent. The purpose of this plan is to take leadership in establishing sustainable water strategies throughout the continent.

The appropriate body to coordinate the development of this strategy appears to be the International Joint Commission. It has already carried out considerable valuable work in this field; it operates basinwide and has the respect of the broad spectrum of concerned interests. The Canadian and U.S. governments should give the IJC a special reference to develop this strategy. The governments should ensure that the IJC is given enough funding to carry out this task, so that addressing water quantity issues does not interfere with the IJC's ability to address water quality issues.

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation, set up under

the free trade agreement between Canada, Mexico and the United States, should be involved in the development of the Sustainable Great Lakes Water Strategy. Concerned citizens' groups outside of the Great Lakes Basin should also be consulted with in the development of this strategy.

## The Great Lakes Charter

The governments and the IJC, in full consultation with the public, should assess the effectiveness of the Great Lakes Charter and determine the appropriate relationship between the Sustainable Great Lakes Strategy and the charter. The charter should be amended to make sure that it is consistent with the strategy.

The Great Lakes Charter should be amended to:

- Lower the trigger level for consideration of diversions and consumptive uses from 19 million to 3.8 million litres (five million to one million gallons) per day.
- Include the First Nations and Tribes, the IJC and the federal governments as parties to the charter with the same responsibilities and powers as the states and provinces.
- Require that all parties to the charter approve of diversions and consumptive uses before they can be carried out.
- Ensure that any changes to the Chicago diversion are subject to the provisions of the charter.
- Change the database provisions to ensure that:
  - The summary reports are issued within six months of the end of the year.
  - The same data is gathered in each jurisdiction.
  - A mechanism is in place to track the cumulative amounts of small withdrawals.
- Ensure that legislation, regulations and programmes within each jurisdiction are consistent with the charter and include measures to implement the charter and develop a water conservation strategy for each jurisdiction.
- Ensure that mechanisms are in place to automatically involve the public in decisions made under the provisions of the charter.

## The International Joint Commission

The IJC should assess the way that it carries out its role under the Boundary Waters Treaty to approve diversions, and approve and control the operation of control structures in the boundary waters of the Great Lakes.

The IJC should ensure that decisions it makes on approving diversions and approving and controlling the functioning of control structures take into account basinwide and long-term needs.

The IJC should ensure that it fully involves the public in reviewing applications for approval of control structures and diversions and in the implementation of control orders.

## Next steps

Many citizens' groups are currently working hard to address these issues in their communities. Some

*Continued on p. 17*



## Chapter president profile

# Brian Hegge enjoys challenges at helm of Northwoods Chapter

By Victoria Houston

"Sure we'll fish, but you've got to see my dead animal room!" These were among the first words I ever heard from Brian Hegge, president of Trout Unlimited's Northwoods Chapter. Now, I've fished with a grave digger before, but someone who owns a dead animal room?

I paused before agreeing. As a single woman with expensive blond hair, I've heard a lot of lines — but this was a new one. I soon learned it was a genuine invitation from a man who is a talented fly fisherman, an experienced hunter, and — yes — a tyer of extraordinary trout flies. The dead animal room was not full of mounts, but packed with all the wonderful, colorful materials used to tie trout flies. Some he had harvested himself, others were purchased.

That invitation from Brian is indicative of the virtues that this 42-year-old has brought to his leadership of our TU chapter: enthusiasm, excellent organizational skills, and a deep love of fishing for trout with a fly rod. But, most important to many of us, he is a careful, very skilled, and gracious teacher.

It comes naturally with Brian. When asked what he considers his most important achievement during his three-year tenure, he said, "The most enjoyable has been the Annual Youth Fly Fishing Conclave the chapter began hosting two years ago. I believe the strength of the organization must be passed along to young kids. It's just great seeing them learn how to cast or tie a wooly bugger."

But Brian is good with us big people, too. Four years ago, I was a rank beginner and Brian was one of the first people that I fished with on the heels of attending Joan Wulff's School of Fly Fishing in the Catskills. The fact that I was just starting out made no difference to him. He never made me feel I was slowing him down or preventing him from having a better time in the trout stream — which, of course, I now know I was.

Instead, he answered my many (as in "thousands of") questions in detail, shared his flies, and was always encouraging — even it when it was obvious that fly fishing is not my strong suit ("Set the hook! Set the hook! Ohhh...you're so slow" — but said with a smile.) And I have witnessed, over my three years as a member of our chapter that Brian is this way with everyone — member and nonmember, young and old,

male and female.

Fishing is in his blood. "I've fished for as long as I can remember," said Brian. "We grew up near the Mississippi River in Whitehall. There was a creek going through the back yard, and the Trempealeau River one block away.

"I can still remember catching my first trout in that creek, Irvin Coulee, one week before the season opener. The planted trout made it downstream to our back yard a little faster that year. My brother made me release it."

Who taught this excellent teacher? "I learned the old-fashioned way: by trial and error with worms, spinners, or flies."

Fly fishing, which he discovered later, changed his life. "I still remember the first fish I caught on a fly that I tied when I was 20 years old (around 1979). It was a Quill Gordon that I was using in the special regs section of the Peshtigo. At that time, I believe that was Wisconsin's only water that was 'fly fishing only.'"

The experience hooked him and membership in Trout Unlimited followed close behind.

"I joined TU when I moved to Pennsylvania in 1990. It was there that I had the time and opportunity to develop my fly fishing habits, going from being an 'every-now-and-then fly fisher' to one of choice. Also during those years, I had the opportunity to meet several well-respected authors and others prominent in fly fishing circles. When I moved to Rhinelander in 1995, I joined the local TU chapter immediately."

The return to Wisconsin was welcome as the region suits Brian's professional and leisure interests. Currently Brian is the Environmental Program Manager for MSA Professional Services Inc., a multidisciplinary engineering firm with offices statewide. There he assists clients with environmental issues such as spills of hazardous materials, landfills, pesticides, and underground storage tanks. When he isn't working or fishing, he loves to bike, is an expert golfer, enjoys camping, and competes over the winter in cross-country ski races.

Always generous with advice, he is equally generous with appreciation: "Any chapter member or leader that devotes or volunteers his time impresses me," said Brian. "In particular, I think Todd Hanson has done a wonderful job with *Wisconsin Trout*. He has made it a product



**BRIAN HEGGE ON THE BIGHORN**

Brian shows off a Bighorn brown just before releasing it.

of cumulative effort and is always open to input from others."

During his current term as chapter president, Brian's agenda remains the same: "keep the meetings interesting, keep people involved. Our chapter has come a long way in the past five years. We have a nucleus of people that are volunteering time and making a difference. The challenge is not to burn these people out and get others to contribute. We need to keep everyone interested so that when positions change, we do not lose the synergy and motivation we've generated the past few years."

In addition, he said, "Our local chapters of TU need to continue with grass roots activities. These include our stream improvement activities on the Bearskin and writing grants to fund both the Bearskin project and a folder to hand out to landowners explaining our agenda — that, in turn, will assist us in obtaining easements for our stream improvement work."

He is also seeking more grant monies to fund the purchase of rods and equipment for the Youth Fly Fishing Conclave and to purchase new software that will allow the chapter to improve the quality of our newsletter.

Regardless of which things Brian thinks have been his finest achievements, the rest of us in the chapter have a few more to add: over the past two winters, we've had a terrific roster of speakers, leading to a better membership turn-out, a steadily more profitable banquet, and an absolutely great Christmas party.

Brian may know how to fish — but he also knows how to have fun.

(Victoria Houston writes the *Loon Lake Fishing Mysteries* set in northern Wisconsin against a background of fishing — fly fishing, muskie, walleye, and bass fishing. The first three books are *DEAD ANGLER*, *DEAD CREEK*, and *DEAD WATER*. Brian Hegge previewed the first draft of *DEAD WATER* for fly fishing accuracy. -Ed)

## GREAT LAKES: water issues abound in region

*Continued from p. 16*

are fighting diversion proposals; others are fighting proposals for additional or expanded uses of water; some are fighting expanded privatization of public works; others are pushing for the implementation of water conservation in their communities.

In order to satisfactorily deal with these local struggles, which are likely to increase in number given current trends, we must start working as a Great Lakes wide community to get to the root causes of these problems. We have proposed some directions for doing so. We look forward to working with people throughout the Great Lakes to address these issues.

We also must recognize that the Great Lakes cannot be separated from the rest of the North American continent. Therefore, it is essential that we work with citizens' groups concerned about these issues in all other parts of the continent.

If we are to satisfactorily address the issues raised in this report, we must change our attitudes. We must recognize that water is not just a resource and a commodity to be wasted or preserved, to be bought or sold.

The waters of the Great Lakes are the vital lifeblood of the Great Lakes Basin that bring life to all its inhabitants. These waters are also a spiritual force that bring added meaning to our lives. We must enjoy

them, respect them, and live in harmony with them and all their other residents as responsible members of this amazing community.

Footnotes: (1) J. W. MacLaren, "Infrastructure Developments Within Ontario's Waterscape," unpublished speech, May, 1991, p. 3.; (2) Ibid.

(At the time this report was written, Clair Farid was completing a joint masters degree in Environmental Studies and Law at Osgoode Hall at York University in Toronto. John Jackson was president of Great Lakes United and living in Kitchener, Ontario. Karen Clark was an environmental lawyer and a member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Environmental Law Assn. The complete report can be downloaded at [www.glu.org](http://www.glu.org). -Ed.)

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## Many feeders reclassified Fishing the Kickapoo with Laura

By Joe Knight

The business district of Avalanche consists of a general store, where I purchased a cold soda Monday afternoon before walking to the bridge over the West Fork of the Kickapoo River.



At Avalanche the West Fork is more creek-size than river-size. It winds among the hills of Vernon County, about a two-hour drive from Eau Claire. The last portion of the drive is on winding rural roads where you might pass an Amish buggy or two.

The afternoon was humid, with temperatures in the high 80s. It was the first serious heat of the summer and a prelude to the season's first serious storm.

Despite the bright afternoon sun, trout were rising upstream. The swallows that made their homes under the bridge also were working the river heavily, swooping down to scoop some insect off the surface that was too tiny for me to see.

Wooden "LUNKER" structures, assembled by the West Fork Sports Club, lined both sides of the road at the bridge. They would later be hauled away and placed at stream bends to make hiding spots for trout. About the time I finished the soda, Laura Hewitt arrived from Madison. It was a two-hour drive for her, too.

I had talked her into taking me fishing. She described herself as an "advanced beginner" in trout fishing, but she knows this watershed well. For three years she coordinated a Trout Unlimited project that brought about \$500,000 in conservation money to the area and leveraged a similar amount for stream studies, habitat work, and education.

Part of that project involved coming up with some funding to help the DNR survey the creeks in the Kickapoo watershed. They found some trout in streams that they didn't know were trout streams, and they found some streams were better trout streams than previously thought.

The DNR is upgrading the status of 16 trout streams that drain into the Kickapoo: six are "new" trout streams; nine are now considered Class I streams, meaning the trout populations are self-sustaining and no stocking is necessary. Even much of the main branch of the Kickapoo is being reclassified from a warm water river to a Class II trout stream, although some local anglers say that designation will interfere with spring sucker fishing.

The trout streams have improved as farming practices on the surrounding hills have improved. Where the hills were once grazed, they now are covered with oak forests.

Of all the trout streams in the watershed, the only one I have fished before was the West Fork, so this might have been an opportunity to explore some of the other creeks that Hewitt knew.

But her car radio was warning of the potential for tornadoes and severe thunderstorms to the west of us, so we thought maybe we should get fishing in a hurry and not wander too far from the car. Also, seeing those fish jumping made me think it might be a good time to try the West Fork.

We drove upstream. There were a couple of guys fishing in the area she was thinking of trying, so we went upstream and fished a part of the creek that neither of us had fished before.

Because of the heat she had left her waders at home and decided to wade. That was fine, except all she brought along was shorts, which are not the best choice for fishing a small Wisconsin stream in summer. The problem isn't the wading, but getting to the stream often requires walking through mosquito- and nettle-infested bottomlands.

Stepping into the cool water felt good. I followed her example and fished without waders, except that I wore a long pair of lightweight cotton pants.

The afternoon was still bright and hot when we started. A few fish rose sporadically in the slow water, but we couldn't get them to bite. We used progressively smaller flies, until finally we couldn't see the flies on the water.

We fished side by side, which isn't the most efficient way to fish a little creek like this, but it gave us a chance to talk.

Hewitt is now the Midwest Conservation Director for Trout Unlimited. Most people who join TU are trout anglers who figure that without clean water they are not going to have any trout, just as duck hunters join Ducks Unlimited and support wetlands.

Hewitt was hired by TU because of her academic background in water resources.

She wasn't an angler, but she found herself spending a lot of time in the company of anglers, so she probably had to start fishing in self-defense.

She said she usually fishes until she loses three flies. That is the threshold, apparently, where fly fishing became more frustrating than fun.

I was a little worried that our fishing outing would end prematurely because the creek was bordered by tall grass that she occasionally hooked on her back-cast. She usually extricated the fly with a brisk jerk, although she left one or two among the canary grass.

As the sun got lower on the horizon and the sky started to cloud up, we started to get some bites. We caught a few brown trout, and then we caught three 10-inch brook trout. I didn't know there were any brook trout in this stream, but the DNR has stocked some over the past few years to see how they would do.

The local fish manager, Dave Vetrano, is fond of brook trout and has been stocking brookies — often netted from Duncan Creek in Chippewa County.



**"ADVANCED BEGINNER" CATCHES A NICE FISH**

TU's Upper Midwest Conservation Director Laura Hewitt enjoys returning to the Kickapoo River valley to fish.

His first experiment was in Seas Branch, a small tributary to the West Fork.

He shocked out all the brown and dumped them in other streams, then threw in some five-inch brookies from Duncan Creek. Within two years he had 12-inch brook trout and natural reproduction.

Hewitt also is fond of brook trout and supports their return to the watershed; they were the native trout of the region before white settlers arrived and began plowing and grazing the hills.

As we fished, the air grew still and the sky darkened. We might have squeezed in a few more minutes of fishing — the darker the sky got, the more the fish jumped — but we decided to quit before the storm arrived.

On the drive back Hewitt gave me a quick tour of some of her favorite spots in the area. We stopped at a hillside where a large spring emerged. A pipe had been poked into the hill nearby and spring water poured out, splattering on rocks near the road side.

We cupped our hands and drank the cold water. I discovered I was very thirsty.

There are certain water bottling companies that would love to bottle this stuff and sell it for \$1.50 a bottle, but drinking it out of a bottle in a restaurant wouldn't be the same. To really appreciate this limestone spring water you need to go to the source among these green hills and hear the sound of water tumbling over rocks and the frogs and robins singing.

*(This story originally appeared in the Eau Claire Leader Telegram. Joe Knight can be reached at (800) 236-7077 or joe.knight@ecpc.com. -Ed.)*

## Idaho judge links ground and surface waters in dairy dispute

In a decision with potentially sweeping implications, a judge ruled the Clean Water Act applies to cases where polluted groundwater is connected to streams that feed waterways under federal jurisdiction.

U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winmill has rejected a request from brothers Jake and Hank Bosma, who operate a Bliss dairy, to dismiss a lawsuit filed against them by the Idaho Rural Council alleging Clean Water Act violations.

A trial is scheduled to begin Dec. 3 on the complaint that the Bosmas' dairy is polluting two springs on neighboring property.

The brothers argued that the alleged pollution did not reach waters under federal jurisdiction. But Winmill said the Clean Water Act applies because the springs are tributaries of Clover Creek and the Snake River.

"Hopefully it will make everybody tighten things up a bit and im-

prove water quality in this area," said Don Cogger, chairman of the Idaho Rural Council's Factory Farm Committee.

However, the Bosmas' lawyer said the Idaho Rural Council still must prove at trial that a hydrological connection exists between the groundwater and the federally regulated waterways. And Gooding attorney C. Tom Arkoosh said he has evidence that the dairy is not polluting the springs.

Charlie Tebbutt, a Eugene, Ore., attorney representing the Idaho Rural Council, said dairy waste can pollute groundwater through seepage.

"The hydrological connection issue is one that the dairy industry should start taking more seriously," Tebbutt said. "You have lots of springs that are popping out all over the place from shallow aquifers but probably also deeper aquifers."

Shallow aquifers are involved in the Bosma case.

*(This story originally appeared in the June 12, 2001, Idaho Statesman. -Ed.)*



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# Wisconsin Academy tackling water issues

By Curt Meine and Michael Strigel

Wherever you are in Wisconsin, you needn't look far to find the theme of a new Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters program. Water is the first topic of *The Wisconsin Idea at the Academy*, a program that will examine a series of contemporary issues critical to the state's well-being.



As the Wisconsin Idea's debut project, the Academy is bringing together leading scientists, policy experts, decision makers, and other citizens during the next year to address the key issues confronting Wisconsin's rich inheritance of water. The program is entitled "Waters of Wisconsin: The Future of our Aquatic Ecosystems and Resources."

Water daunting subject

Water is, of course, an all-embracing topic. The management and conservation of water affects our daily lives. Wisconsin's waters face important immediate threats and long-term challenges. To address them adequately, we need to look both within and beyond the state's borders and place these issues in a global context.

For these reasons, water is both an excellent and daunting choice as our initial Wisconsin Idea at the Academy project. Since summer the Wisconsin Academy has met with more than 60 leading experts to assess the state of thinking on water science, policy, and conservation in Wisconsin and to identify the role that the Academy should assume in this arena.

The conversations have involved people of diverse backgrounds, areas of expertise, interest, and responsibility involving water. They have addressed topics involving the state's groundwater and surface wa-

ters, the Great Lakes and Mississippi River systems, growing human demands, and conservation priorities.

Participants identified many headline-producing concerns: Perrier's proposed bottling plant in Adams County, the impact of the proposed Crandon Mine on the Wolf River, and the relative costs and benefits of the proposed clean-up of contaminated silt in the Fox River.

We also discussed the quieter but often more pervasive problems of nonpoint-source runoff from our farms, suburbs, and cities, and the impact of new municipal and private wells in the Fox and Menomonee River Valleys on Eastern Wisconsin's most important aquifers.

Many participants also expressed concern that Wisconsin lacks a comprehensive, long-term water conservation strategy that might allow us to place these issues within a broader framework of understanding and action. The Academy's initiative will provide the needed framework for a broad policy discussion as well as address some of the specific problems identified.

State resources identified

Fortunately, Wisconsin is blessed with a wealth of institutions and programs devoted to water. These include:

- the UW-Milwaukee's Freshwater Initiative,
- the UW-Stevens Point's Central Groundwater Center,
- the Water Resources Center of the Sea Grant Institute,
- research programs on limnology, watershed management, and restoration ecology based at the UW-Madison,
- the Wisconsin DNR's Science Council,
- the Wisconsin Section of the American Water Resources Association,
- the office of the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Sur-

vey, and

- the U.S. Geological Survey.

The Academy brings to this rich base of knowledge its capacity for convening and catalyzing expertise in the public interest.

Working group leaders

The Academy has begun organizing a working group for the initiative. Co-chairs include John Magnuson, director emeritus of the UW-Madison Center for Limnology; Patricia Leavenworth, state conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service; and Steve Born, a professor with the UW-Madison departments of environmental studies and urban and regional planning.

Their mission statement: The Wisconsin Academy's water initiative will provide a forum for citizens, policy makers, the private sector, and academic and government leaders to:

1. Undertake a comprehensive and integrated review of the state of Wisconsin's waters.
2. Identify and assess present, emerging, and future demands for goods and services these waters provide.
3. Examine various strategies for addressing water management and conservation issues and ensuring a high-quality economic and environmental future for the state.

The co-chairs have begun establishing the criteria for participation in a working group that will contain 12 to 15 individuals. Participants will reflect local, state, tribal, national, and global perspectives and be made up of leaders from the academic, governmental, non-governmental, business, and other sectors. They will seek out the views of diverse interests, including research, agriculture, tourism, industry, recreation, and environmental protection.

Goal: set stewardship plan

The committee's goal is to prepare policy recommendations and issue papers and educational materials that will provide a cohesive plan for the stewardship of Wisconsin's waters. In the process, they will prepare case studies involving some of the most important and complicated issues to illustrate the necessity of such a plan and to move those issues toward a solution. There is also talk of a statewide conference at the end of the process to share results.

Future 'Wisconsin Idea' topics

Water is, as we have noted, the first topic of our Wisconsin Idea at the Academy program. To assist us in selecting topics we have assembled the following advisory board:

- University of Wisconsin System President Katharine Lyall,
- Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce President Jim Haney,
- State AFL-CIO President David Newby, and
- Former Governor Tony Earl (and until recently we also enjoyed the guidance of Bob Wood, chief of staff for Gov. Tommy Thompson).

We would like to thank this group for their time and insight, as well as the diverse viewpoints they bring to the table.

Public input sought

The scope and focus of our water initiative continues to evolve, and the Academy welcomes input from its members and others, including members of Trout Unlimited.

(Curt Meine is the Academy's Director of Conservation Programs and Michael Strigel is Director of Programs. The Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters is an independent, nonprofit membership organization founded in 1870 with the mission of gathering and sharing knowledge in the sciences and humanities for the benefit of the people of Wisconsin. -Ed.)

## State Council establishes endowment fund

The Wisconsin TU State Council has announced the establishment of an endowment fund to act as the vehicle by which members and friends, both individual and corporate, can contribute to the Wisconsin work of TU.

The fund (which has yet to be named) will seek to build capital and use income from investments to further TU's work in Wisconsin, including special stream projects, education, membership growth, and other general TU business.

Honor friend or loved one

State Council Chair Jon Christiansen explained the operation of the endowment. "The endowment fund is a place where TU members and their friends and family can make contributions in honor of or in memory of a friend or loved one and know that the contribution will generate returns over time to the benefit of the organization."

As the endowment fund grows, the earnings from the fund will also grow, permitting Wisconsin State TU to embark upon new and expanded missions. Contributions will be tax deductible within the limits of the law.

An organizing subcommittee of the State Council will create materials explaining the endowment fund. These will include a brochure that describes the various means by which contributions may be made to the fund.

Members of the organizing subcommittee are:

- John "Duke" Welter (Great Lakes Regional

Vice President),

- Jon Christiansen (State Council Chair),
- John Cantwell (Fund Raising Chair),
- Stu Grimstad (Water Resources Chair), and
- Bill Pielsticker (Southern Chapter President).

"With this endowment, we hope to provide our members with a convenient method of building a contribution to TU into their estate planning and through current gifts to provide a lasting legacy for the donor or the person being honored," said John Welter.

Committee being formed

The investment decisions and management of the fund on an ongoing basis will be done by a newly created endowment committee of the State Council. The committee will be composed of three members of the State Council Executive Committee and two members elected on a rotating basis from the general state membership.

Allocation decisions on where and how much of the annual earnings of the fund will be spent will be made by the State Council as part of its regular meeting process. It is anticipated that the fund will be conservatively managed to protect capital and generate a stable income stream.

Bill Pielsticker, who together with John Cantwell, will be working on the design of the endowment brochure, stated that the organizing committee will send a special mailing to

the general membership early next year explaining the organization of the fund and seeking initial contributions.

"Among our initial options are a naming of the fund in honor of a special organizing contribution and the creation of restricted accounts within the fund dedicated to a specific purpose," Pielsticker stated.

Long an advocate of giving chapters and members the tools to carry forward TU's work, Stu Grimstad described some of the tools that the endowment committee will make available. "We will provide members with materials describing TU and its mission that they can use to contact individuals and businesses for endowment contributions. We will also provide them with sample bequest forms and instructions on the benefits of contributions of appreciated stock or even real estate."

Meanwhile, the Friends of Wisconsin TU program will continue as is. The 'Friends' program accepts donations from individual members and chapters for the council's annual resource protection and enhancement work.

If you are interested in making a contribution or finding out more how to remember TU in your estate planning, you can call Jon Christiansen at (414) 297-5557 (W) or (262) 241-5220 (H).

The State Council is also looking for members with investment and accounting expertise to serve as endowment committee members.

Groundwater and surface flows linked in DNR studies

Simple math: low streamflow = fewer trout

By Ed L. Avery

Headwater springs are the lifeblood of many of Wisconsin's best trout streams and spring ponds. Over the past half century the Wisconsin DNR has spent a great deal of time and money developing master plans and purchasing headwater spring areas to protect them from private development and to keep them in public trust for all Wisconsin residents to enjoy.

This article focuses attention upon the relationships between groundwater withdrawal, reduced streamflows, and resident trout populations. It also exposes the immediate need to enact legislation to prevent indiscriminate groundwater withdrawal adjacent to headwater springs.

precipitation deficit over this three-year period was approximately 26 inches. Annual precipitation during this period therefore averaged 8-9 inches below the 15-year average. This drought was particularly severe in NE and SW Wisconsin where, according to U.S. Geological Survey stream discharge records, streamflows were at 10-year lows. Flow impacts on trout

The impact of this drought and the associated reduced streamflows on trout populations was assessed by fisheries managers and research scientists in 55 streams dispersed across 19 Wisconsin counties.

In 42 streams where impacts on the total trout population were assessed, a substantial negative impact was evident in 34 streams or 81% of those evaluated. Trout populations in these 34 streams declined an average of 55%. In other words, less than half the number of trout were present as a result of the reduced

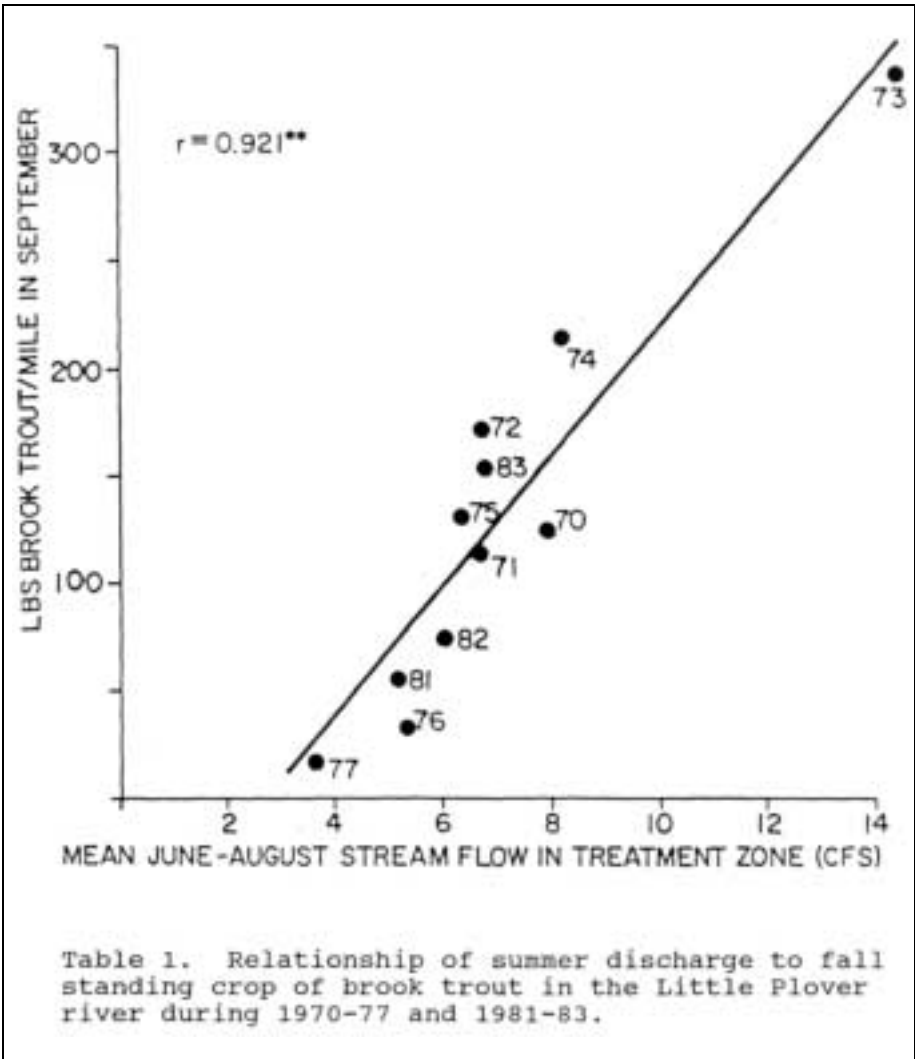


Table 1. Relationship of summer discharge to fall standing crop of brook trout in the Little Plover river during 1970-77 and 1981-83.

**Causes of low streamflow**  
Streamflow can be reduced by three means:

- “mother nature” withholding rainfall which, in turn, reduces surface runoff and groundwater inputs,
- direct removal of water from the stream via pumping or diversion, and
- groundwater withdrawal from within the watershed.

Reduced streamflow and its impact upon wild trout populations is really a “no brainer.” Everyone in Trout Unlimited can understand the logic behind the basic tenet of “less water = less trout.”

Fortunately, Wisconsin has a wealth of information that not only quantifies this tenet, but also links it to some of the underlying causes for reduced streamflow.

**Lessons from drought periods**  
The most recent extended period of drought in Wisconsin was the three-year period from 1987 through 1989. In Woodruff, a town located near the Vilas/Oneida county border in north central WI, the

streamflows associated with the drought. These 34 streams included 12 brook trout streams, 17 brown trout streams, and 5 streams occupied by both species.

The remaining 13 trout streams contained both brook trout and brown trout, and drought impacts were assessed only on the individual species, not on the total population. Results suggested that reduced streamflows had a somewhat greater negative impact on brown trout populations than on brook trout populations.

**Other streamflow/trout studies**  
Next, let's consider some information collected during long-term trout studies by Robert Hunt on the Little Plover River in portage County and similar long-term studies by Ray White on the Big Roche-a-Cri Creek in Adams/Waushara counties. Both of these men are respected, internationally known salmonid research scientists.

Based on 11 years of study on the Little Plover River during the 1970s and early 1980s, Hunt (1988) demonstrated a positive, linear correla-

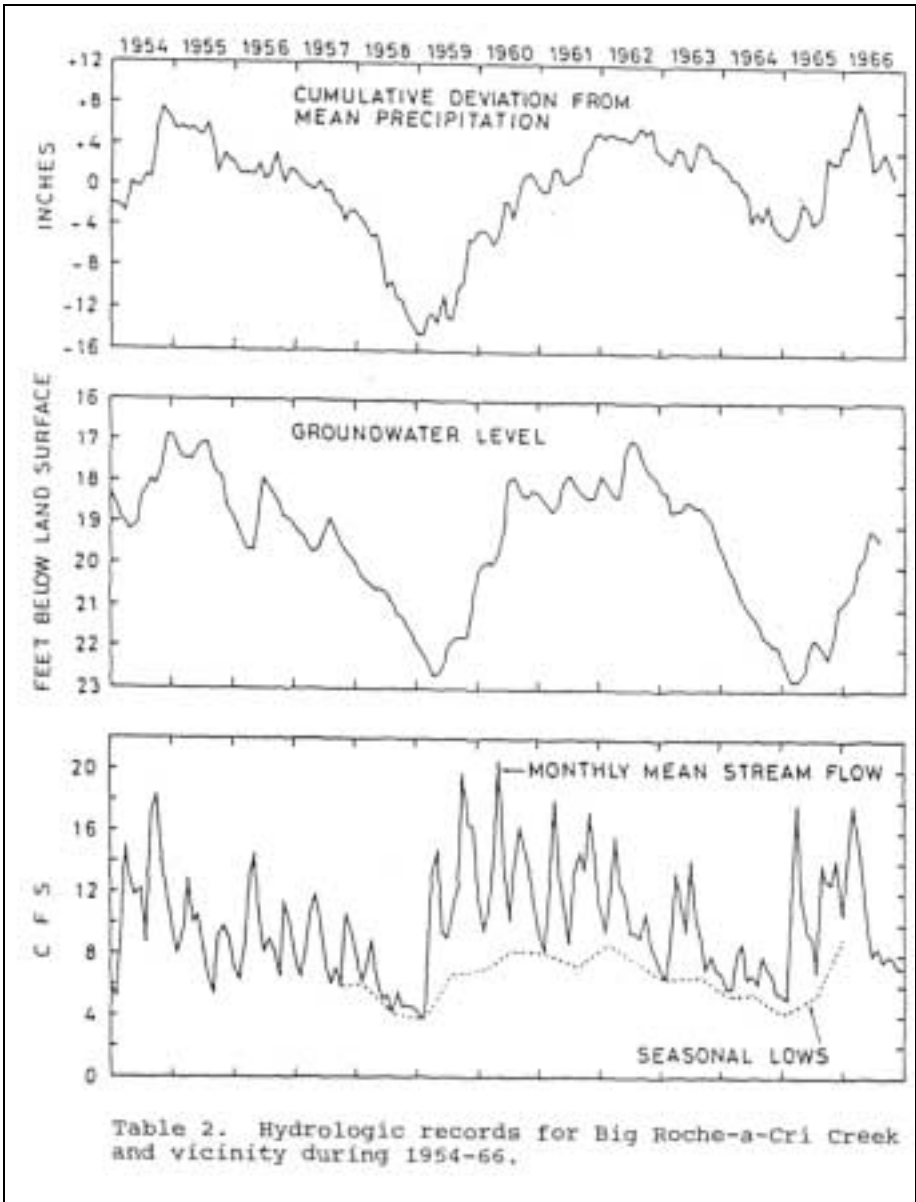


Table 2. Hydrologic records for Big Roche-a-Cri Creek and vicinity during 1954-66.

tion between mean summer streamflow and the fall standing stock of brook trout.

Table 1 shows that the lowest trout population density occurs at the lowest mean streamflow, while the highest trout density occurs at the highest mean streamflow. Again, less water = less trout.

In his studies of streamflow fluctuation and trout population responses in Big Roche-a-Cri Creek, Ray White (1975) examined several hydrologic relationships. In Table 2, the upper graph plots the cumulative deviation from mean precipitation, where zero represents the mean. The plot covers a 13-year period from 1954 through 1966. An extremely dry period occurred in 1959 when rainfall was 14 inches below the mean. A second, less severe dry period occurred in 1965 when rainfall was 5 inches below the mean.

The middle graph in Table 2 shows groundwater levels over the same 13-year time period as the upper graph. Groundwater is similar to an underground reservoir, its water level dependent upon precipitation and subsequent filtration down through the soil. This relationship between precipitation and groundwater level is illustrated by the similarities between the upper and middle graphs.

Groundwater levels retreated to their lowest levels in 1959 and 1965, when annual precipitation levels were lowest. Note, however, that while the rainfall deficit in 1965 was only 36% of the deficit experienced in 1959, groundwater levels were similar.

**Irrigation draws studied**  
According to a study (Weeks and

Continued on p. 21

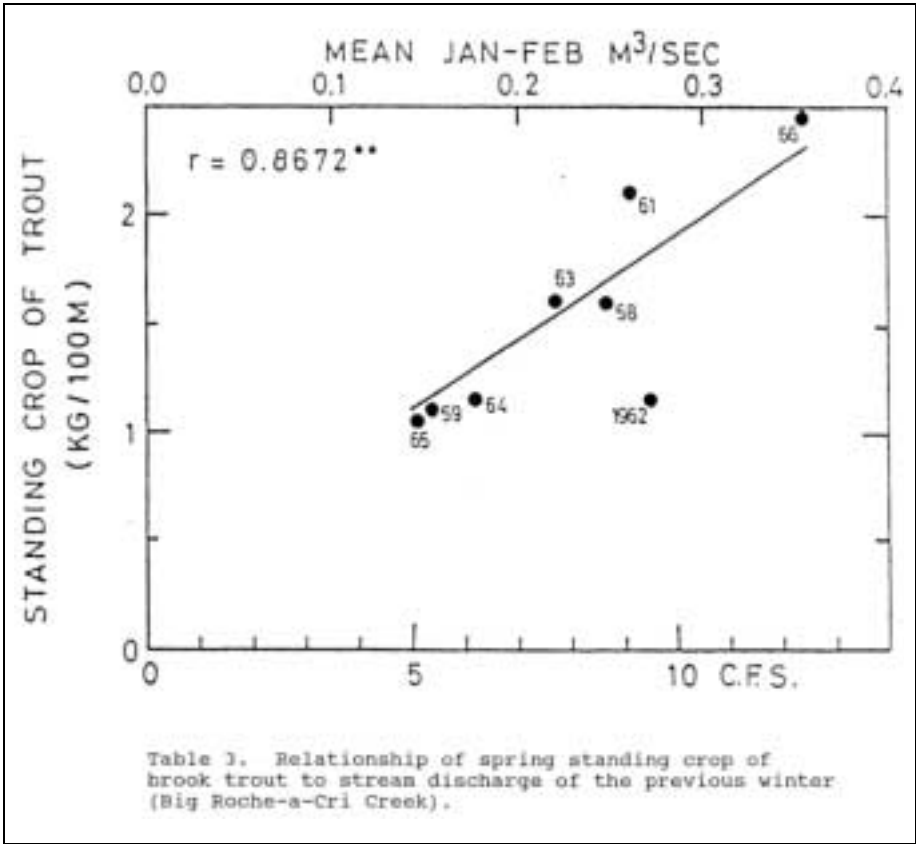


Table 3. Relationship of spring standing crop of brook trout to stream discharge of the previous winter (Big Roche-a-Cri Creek).



## STREAMFLOW: affects trout

*Continued from p. 20*

Stangland, 1971) entitled "Effects of Irrigation on Streamflow in the Central Sandplain of Wisconsin," groundwater pumping in the Big Roche-a-Cri Creek area for irrigation began accelerating greatly about 1960, and thereafter increasing amounts of land were cultivated each year.

Ray White (1976) concluded that the additional effect of groundwater pumping was responsible for the depression in groundwater level in 1965 being similar to that observed during the severe drought of 1959.

The lowest graph in Table 2 plots the monthly mean streamflows and seasonal low streamflows of Big Roche-a-Cri Creek. A positive correlation between groundwater level and streamflow is suggested, with seasonal low streamflows occurring during 1959 and 1965 when groundwater levels were lowest, and higher streamflows occurring during higher groundwater periods.

And how did all this affect trout? Table 3 shows the relationship between streamflow and the standing stock of trout in Big Roche-a-Cri Creek. As with the Little Plover River study, there was a positive, linear correlation between mean streamflow and the standing crop of trout present.

In Table 3, a correlation coefficient, or R value, of +0.87 verifies the strong, linear relationship between trout populations and streamflows. The lowest standing crops of trout occurred during periods of lowest streamflow (in 1959 and 1965), while the highest standing crop occurred during highest streamflow (in 1966).

Base flow the key

In summary, almost everything

radiates from an increase in base flow, which ultimately produces more trout and larger trout. Reduced base streamflow (a resource constraint) ultimately results in fewer trout and smaller trout.

As Wisconsin residents concerned about the natural resources, we need to send a clear message to Capital Hill in Madison in any manner we can. Wisconsin needs new legislation that will prevent groundwater removal near headwater springs and spring ponds, as well as legislation that will guarantee year-round streamflow levels sufficient to maintain coldwater animal and plant communities where they currently exist.

Legislative change will not be easy, but the goal is certainly worthwhile when we consider the future of those who will follow us.

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(Ed Avery is a WDNR salmonid research scientist headquartered at the Rivers and Streams Research Station, 11084 Stratton Lake Road, Waupaca, WI. -Ed.)

## Watch eggs collected from Lake Michigan salmon at DNR sites

Lake Michigan salmon are making a run for it this fall, and you can watch WDNR fisheries biologists and technicians collect eggs from them at several collection facilities along Lake Michigan tributaries.

**Strawberry Creek Spawning Facility, Sturgeon Bay**

- Species: Chinook salmon.
- Location: On Strawberry Avenue off of County Highway U, east of Sturgeon Bay and south of the ship canal in Door County.
- Dates: Seasonal operation, generally late Sept. to Nov.
- Hours: Call ahead.
- Telephone: (920) 746-2860.

**C.D. Besadny Anadramous Fish Facility, Kewaunee**

- Species: Steelhead and brown trout, Coho, and chinook salmon.
- Location: N3884 Ransom Moore Lane off of County Highway F, west of Kewaunee, on the west bank of the Kewaunee River, Kewaunee County.
- Dates: March-Dec. public viewing window open during daylight hours.
- Hours: 7:45 a.m. to dusk, daily.
- Telephone: (920) 388-1025.
- Note: Large groups please call ahead if you want a tour.

**Root River Steelhead Facility, Racine**

- Species: Steelhead (rainbow) trout, Coho, and chinook salmon.

- Location: On the Root River, inside Lincoln Park, in Racine, Racine County.
- Dates: Seasonal operation, generally fish are in weir: March 1 - April 30 and Sept. 1-Oct. 31. During these periods, Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays are the best days to view.
- Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., call ahead.
- Telephone: (262) 594-6218. (The hotline number of (414) 382-7920 gives general fishing reports and also updates people on whether processing is occurring at the facility.)

## FRIENDS: survey training funded

*Continued from p. 24*

bows, and splake, along with a number of smaller splake. No brook trout were caught, but a couple of large brookies were observed.

In attendance at the training were Phil Wallace, Damian Wilmot, Dick Berge, Keith Behn, Charlie Ray, Dave Krueger, Bea Laakkonen, Rick Penn, Jay Thurston, Chuck Campbell, Dan Cervin, and Bill Heart.

## Copper Country TU still working on Gratiot mouth purchase

By Bill Deephouse

To date, the Copper Country (MI) Chapter of Trout Unlimited has received \$25,000 that will be used to assist Keweenaw County in their purchase of 100 acres of land at the mouth of the Gratiot River.

This parcel includes about 4,000 feet of frontage on Lake Superior, as well as an estimated 3,500 feet of river. In addition, CCCTU has pledged of another \$14,000 toward this valuable project.

The almost \$40,000 will enable the county to obtain this land to preserve for future generations to enjoy. Donations have been received from TU chapters in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Illinois. The state councils of TU in both Michigan and Wisconsin have also contributed money.

In addition, the North Woods Conservancy (NWC) has another \$20,000 which they have earmarked for the purchase. The remaining funds to complete the purchase will be provided by the county. As you may recall, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) awarded 75% of the estimated total

cost of this parcel (\$590,000) to Keweenaw County in March of 2000. This amounted to \$442,500.

That meant the county had to come up with the rest of the value of the land or about \$147,500. CCCTU and NWC initially said they would raise the total amount required when the county felt that they could not provide any funds. An extension until September 30, 2001, was granted by MNRTF to complete the purchase. During this time, the county determined that they could provide some of the money needed to complete the purchase.

Further complicating the matter is the possibility that a North American Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA) grant may be awarded for the entire 25% match that the county has to provide. The NWC assisted in the application for this grant and it looks promising. We will not know if this grant is awarded until late September, just about the fundraising deadline set by the MNRTF.

The situation remains undecided and which sources of funding the county may use are still up in the air. We will keep you informed.

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## TU QUIZ

What percentage of Great Lakes water is renewed annually by rain, snow, and runoff minus evaporation?

Answer: Just 1%, or about 2.5 feet.

# Groundwater levels put primo trout streams in danger

By Ron Seely

The warmth of the day had triggered a hatch and the insects, those lucky ones that escaped the slurping fish, flew up into sunlight. From beyond the screen of trees at this rural river crossing came the drone of a farm tractor and, from a nearby road, the crunch of tires on gravel.

But, mostly, it was just the sound of the river in the early afternoon, with its complement of singing birds and rising fish, flowing over its rocky-bottomed bed.

There are other such streams in this part of central Wisconsin — the Mecan, the Chaffee, the Wedde.

Together, they constitute one of the state's richest and most popular trout fisheries.

Uncertain future

Yet, for all their beauty, these and other streams in central Wisconsin face an uncertain future. The threat is largely invisible but it is very real, and research shows it is getting worse.

The Tomorrow is mostly a groundwater-fed stream. Its waters are replenished by the enormous underground aquifers beneath this part of the state. So are the waters of the Mecan and other trout streams, such as the Little Plover River, a popular trout stream near the village of Plover.

Studying these rivers and their flows shows that what we humans do to the water in the aquifers affects surface waters, such as the trout streams and, as important, wetlands that serve as filters for groundwater and storage areas for floodwaters.

This connection has not always been well understood and, even to-

day, state laws governing use of groundwater do not take the delicate balance between groundwater and surface water into account.

This became apparent during Perrier's efforts to pump water for bottling, first from springs that feed the Mecan and then from Big Spring in Adams County.

The state Department of Natural Resources had no legal authority over either proposal because laws only require the agency to consider the impact of pumping on a municipal water supply.

Standing on the banks of the Tomorrow River, Stu Grimstad, a Trout Unlimited official and a member of the Portage County Groundwater Citizens Advisory Committee,

said that while the popular fishing stream remains healthy, he's concerned about what the future might bring.

"The coldwater resource does not begin and end at the stream bank," Grimstad said. "If you don't take care of the groundwater, you aren't taking care of the trout stream."

Extensive irrigation

One problem in central Wisconsin is the extensive irrigation of farmland, something easy to understand if you drive up Interstate 39 and see the big, center-pivot sprinkling systems stretch-

ing across the fields.

A study done in the late 1960s showed there were 300 irrigation wells pumping 6,354 million gallons of water a day. That use, according to the study, reduced stream flows in the area by as much as 25 percent to 30 percent during the growing season.

The amount of water used for irrigation continues to increase; by

1984 the amount of water pumped on crops such as potatoes, beans, and cucumbers had increased to 31,700 million gallons a day.

The damage that can be done to

Not far from the Little Plover River, another creek has shown even more dramatically how water use in central Wisconsin is affecting surface water. Studies done by the



## NARROWING THE TOMORROW

Much of the Hornberg Chapter's work on the Waupaca/Tomorrow River has been to narrow the riverbed. Dave Stakston, Norb Wozniak, and Tom Chirko (top, l to r) fill sandbags for a project. Below volunteers transport bags downstream for placement.

streams and wetlands by extensive use of groundwater for both farm and municipal use has been well documented in central Wisconsin. George Kraft, who heads the Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center at UW-Stevens Point, has studied the levels of water in creeks such as the Little Plover and plotted future flows. He finds the projections disturbing.

Municipal draws

The water in the Plover and Little Plover rivers comes from the Stevens Point-Whiting-Plover aquifer, which also supplies water for farm irrigation, industry, and at least 40,000 residents. It's not just farm use that's stressing the aquifer. The village of Plover installed a municipal water system and started pumping groundwater in 1989.

Flow models developed by Kraft using projected pumping rates showed that by 2005 the groundwater withdrawals are likely to reduce the base flow to the Plover River by 10 percent and to the Little Plover River by more than 40 percent. Kraft said the Little Plover will be severely affected by a loss of 40 percent of its water. And for a blue-ribbon trout stream like the Little Plover, less water means warmer temperatures — devastating for a coldwater species such as trout.

DNR last year of Bloody Run Creek, a trout stream that runs through the town of Grand Rapids, showed that pumping by the Wisconsin Rapids Water Works & Lighting Commission has severely reduced water flow in the creek. Since the utility started pumping in 1994, the water level in Bloody Run Creek has dropped, according to the DNR, and at times has run dry in parts.

This, the DNR says, is the most severe case in Wisconsin of a high capacity well drawing so much water that surface water is affected.

To Kraft, who has spent a career studying the intricate relationship between what happens beneath the ground and what happens to places on the surface such as wetlands and trout streams, we are taking too great a risk if we continue on our current path.

"Whenever you pump water out of the ground," Kraft said, "you're taking water that wants to go somewhere else. ...Everything is interconnected. There is a relationship between the water in streams and the water underground."

(This story originally appeared June 7, 2001, in the Wisconsin State Journal as part of the series "Our Threatened Water." It is reprinted with permission. -Ed.)



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# Tongue Depressor almost too simple to be so good

By Bill Sherer

I know this may seem too simple, but the Tongue Depressor really is one of the best flies I've ever fished. It's very versatile and catches fish all the time!

When I look at a fly for reproduction, it must meet three basic criteria — it must be simple, durable, and effective. Only then does it get my seal of approval.

There are lots of flies that can be tied much more elaborately than this one, but it's hard to find one that will catch more fish in almost any situation.

It's sort of a modern Woolly Bugger. The hook rides up due to the bent, weighted shank which makes it much more weedless than many other flies. The flattened body tends to "swim" with a side-to-side wobble like a small spoon giving an irresistible attraction. Fished next to a Woolly Bugger the T.D. will out-fish it every time.

Place the hook in your vise securely, and wrap on the wire. I usually wrap up about 25 or more hooks with wire and then go on to the other tying procedures. This saves me some time and prepares hooks for the future when I only have a little time to tie.

Tie in the Marabou Blood Quill up the hook shank all the way to the wire, building the shank diameter even with the wire. Pinch off the Marabou to the length of the hook's shank.

Double the Sparkle Chenille and



tie it in at the base of the tail. Twist the material into one solid rope, fluff it out with your fingers, wrap forward toward the hook eye, tie off, cut, and whip finish.

Trim the material off the top and bottom of the hook, leaving the fly flat on the top and bottom and long and shaggy on the sides.

That's it — the best bass, walleye, trout, salmon, steelhead fly you've ever tied and fished! Popular colors are Black, Olive, Brown/Orange (crayfish), Purple, Orange/Purple, and Purple/Pink.

You can two-tone the tail and body by changing colors. You can even twist two different colors together in the body for a variegated effect.

Everything works with this fly because of its natural "swimming" action.

(Bill Sherer is owner of the *We Tie It* full-service fly shop and *Northern Adventures Guide Service* in Boulder Junction, WI. He was *WITU State Council Chair* from 1996-97. -Ed.)

## MATERIALS LIST Tongue Depressor

**Hook:** Dai-Riki 700B weighted in front bend of shank w/10-12 wraps of .035 unleaded wire thread.

**Thread:** Guidebrod G Fluorescent red.

**Tail:** Marabou, heavy

**Body:** 9mm Sparkle Chenille trimmed flat top and bottom.

## Book review

# New book covers state's "blue ribbon" trout streams

By Jon Christiansen

Recently, I had the occasion to visit the world's largest bookstore, Powell's Books in Portland, Oregon. Powell's has 25 shelves of books just on trout fishing. I saw many books that focused on the trout fishing of a particular state. For example, there were at least 10 books on fishing in Montana and a similar number for Oregon.

Wisconsin, however, has only three other books that I know of covering our 10,000 miles of trout water, so when I heard that Chris Halla was publishing a book featuring Wisconsin's best trout streams, I was excited to see the book and linger over every word.

While *Wisconsin Blue Ribbon Trout Streams* (Frank Amato Publications, \$24.95) is a delight for the eye, it comes up somewhat short in delivering useful information for the trout fisherman looking for new waters to fish.

That is not to say that there are not useful discussions from time to time in this book. The author does provide information concerning the nearest fly shops and a list of accommodations near each stream. He also provides a fine index of suggested flies, complete with lovely and an informative "Sources and Resources" section at the very end of the book.

The book also shows you in pic-

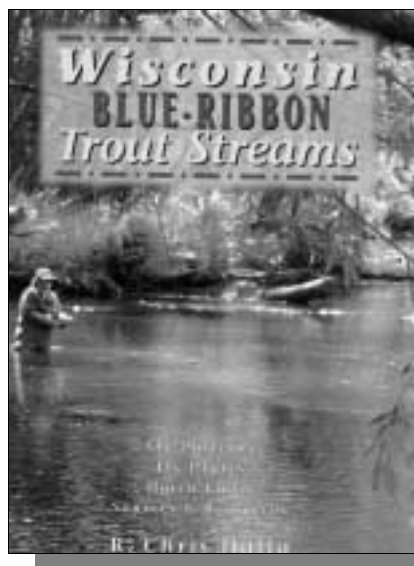
tures the type of water that the author has visited. Unfortunately, far too many of the pictures are of the author standing in the stream, when a picture of the stream alone would be far more appropriate.

I also found the author's express avoidance of any kind of a map to be less than helpful. The author justifies this by trying to avoid a "kiss and tell" book with directions to favorite rivers or holes. However, if your task is to identify Wisconsin's blue ribbon streams, it would certainly be helpful to know directions to points of access, fishing easements, and DNR land.

The book also contains several mildly irritating errors along the way, such as describing a covered bridge on the Pine River west of Saxville and attributing it to the Mecan River.

Finally, this book could have used a heavier editorial hand to sharpen the author's disjointed style. Halla seems unfortunately in some places to copy the "the man, the dog, the whiskey" style, which leaves a lot to be desired.

I do not mean to be hypercritical of the book, because its magazine and pictorial format is a welcome addition to the short list of books on Wisconsin's trout streams. I will add it to my shelf with pleasure, but I wonder how many times I will go back to it as a reference.



## Member fishing recollection

# Fishing? Did you bring your own water?

By Mark Peerenboom

All gone. Black stoneflies, sulfurs, brown drakes, hexes, and whatever happens in between. What's left?

We are riding in my air-conditioned van with the windows shut tight against the humid July 85-degree heat, going trout fishing. Beyond the windshield is the hazy green landscape on Highway 49. We are thanking God the Iola Car Show is two days past, and thinking about how this ride began.

The trip started one evening several years ago, about the third week of May on the Waupaca River above Cobbtown. I was throwing my gear into the back of my van and said to the fisherman who was parked next to me, "How did it fish?"

Not giving him time to respond, I said, "I saw some brown drakes on the water."

He immediately corrected me, "Siphonurus, gray drakes. Been fishing this stretch for 30 years."

Shamed, I thought I could learn something here and asked, "After the hexes and before the leukons, in July, do you fish it?"

"Yeah. There is a large caddis, about a number 12. I have a hair-wing that I tie that will bring fish up, or I'll fish brookies above Norske."

Bingo! I smacked it hard and wasn't able to spit the hook. Brook-

ies above Norske.

"Okay. Thanks. Have a safe ride home."

I pulled myself back to the present drive and pointed out the meadow section of the Flume at Northland and told my fishing partner about how much fun it was to fish on a day toward the end of season. While wishing for September-like weather today and hiding in our air-conditioned vehicle, we talked about our last fishing trip together. He had purchased a 4-wheel-drive vehicle which once allowed us a 20-minute slow ride to the Oxbow on the Wolf beyond a combination locked gate. It had been a beautiful cool evening a month ago when two nice brown trout rented a place on the end of my line for too short a stay to have to evict them.

We were getting closer. Out came the DeLorme and the plat book. We scanned the pages looking for "State Fishery Area" or "State of Wisconsin DNR" and its access.

Our first stop was outside public land, so we asked the landowner if we could access his land to pick up our canoe at the end of our run through the public land. He said, "Sure, but you're going to need more than that canoe. Did you bring your own water?"

"Water is low, huh?"

It was getting too late for a canoe float trip and getting way too late

for a canoe drag trip. We'll wade wet. The access road ended in a cedar swamp. We saw a sign that read "Public Hunting and Fishing Grounds." Fishing ground? Where is it? We stared a long time into that green cedar swamp until red plastic trail markers placed every 20 yards came into focus. The markers took us through the swamp and put us on the river.

I had spinner-fished the upper sections in the past and it had provoked thoughts about maybe fly fishing some of its stretches. With tiny humpies tied to the end of our fly poles, we decided to meet back at 8:15. We agreed it would be a game of "hide and seek" in locating fly-fishable spots.

If the brookies were there, they graciously allowed my humpy to drift cork-like, unrestrained over them. Even this cool, tree-shaded water felt too warm. Later flipping, not casting, I was able to drop my humpy through the brush into a small run. The fly just touched the water when the brookie smashed it and held it on the bottom. I was too surprised to pull up. Soon it was meeting time.

"Well, what was it like?" I asked, greeting my fishing partner.

"Well, first, I caught a chub. Then I caught another chub. I was beginning to wonder. Then I caught a sunfish and said to myself, well, I

am out here for the experience and whatever happens, happens. I moved up stream maybe 20 minutes and found fly fishable water where I caught 8 brook trout, one 10 inches long. Two of the trout took the fly so hard that I had to cut the line because the fly was too far down to remove. I would do this again in a heart beat."

Later, after our stop at Iola's lighted ice cream stand, melted ice cream streaming over my hands because I was unable to eat it fast enough, I thought, yeah, I would do this trip again, too, even if I didn't bring my own water.

(Mark Peerenboom is a member of the Fox Valley Chapter. -Ed.)

## WISCONSIN TROUT WATERS

### TROUT FISHERMAN'S DREAM BOOK



The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, in its efforts to catalog the abundant resources of the state, keeps track of trout success throughout Wisconsin. This information has been transferred to the maps included in this publication. These access maps indicate the best-producing trout streams in the state.

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# Chapter gets angler survey training thru ‘Friends’

By Bill Heart

The Wild Rivers Chapter held Angler Survey Training at the Bayfield Fish Hatchery on August 4. This training and surveying program was made possible by a \$1,240 grant from the “Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited” program.

Lee Newman of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Dennis Pratt of the WDNR did an excellent job helping our chapter prepare for our angler survey that was held in September.

We went over handling techniques, proper identification and photographing, and data collection.

Laura Hewitt, TU’s upper Midwest conservation director, helped out by producing a form that we will use for the data collection.

We will be sexing the fish, weighing, measuring, and documenting the status of the stream and weather conditions. Taking a scale and fin sample will also be part of the survey.

Brook trout and splake will be our primary species for most of the tissue samples, etc., but we will be documenting all fish caught. This process will be taking place during the whole month of September and into October where there is still an open season.

After the narrative session, we were able to fish the ponds at the hatchery for some hands-on lessons. Everyone had a great time fishing, and the fish were cooperative. We caught many 4-5 pound browns, rain-

Continued on p. 21

## “Friends” Project Locations

1. \$4,000 for rip-rapping and structural improvements on the West Fork Kickapoo River (Vernon Co.)

2. \$1,500 for placement of LUNKER structures and bank stabilization in Black Earth Creek (Dane Co.)

3. \$1,000 for hydraulic dredging of Saul Spring Pond (Langlade Co.)

4. \$750 for purchase of special thermometers to monitor stormwater runoff into the Kinnickinnic River (Pierce Co.)

5. \$2,000 for rerouting and stabilizing Brewery Creek (Iowa Co.)

6. \$75 for purchase of catch and release signs for the Bois Brule River Douglas Co.)

7. \$2,500 for renovation of trout rearing facilities in Lincoln Park (City of Manitowoc)

8. \$500 for bank, stabilization, and structural improvements on the North Fork Thunder River (Oconto Co.)

9. \$1,000 for land acquisition along the White River (Waushara Co.)

10. \$1,000 to assist with acquisition of 64+ acres of land along Upper Middle Inlet Creek (Marinette Co.)

11. \$7,000 to purchase a Rotary Screw Fish Trap for DNR Coldwater research

12. \$3,000 to fund stream improvements and riparian protection in and along streams of Middle Kickapoo River watershed. (Vernon and Crawford counties)

13. \$1,000 to help fund instream habitat work in the Plover River (Marathon Co.)

14. \$551 to help purchase recording thermographs to monitor thermal regimes in trout streams in the Buena Vista and Leola marshes (Portage, Wood, Adams counties)

15. \$3,372 for installing bank cover and closing side channels in Sand Creek (Jackson and Monroe counties)

16. \$3,296 to continue and extend stream bank brushing along Chaffee Creek (Marquette Co.)

17. \$1,000 to continue population and movement studies of brown trout in the Mecan River (Marquette County) for potential stream reclassification

18. \$1,700 to conduct follow-up surveys on wild brown trout in the Namekagon River (Sawyer/Bayfield counties)

19. \$2,000 to conduct studies of fall movements and concentrations of spawning wild brood fish in the Namekagon River (Sawyer/Bay field counties) for capture and use in raising wild trout for the river

20. \$1,000 to assist with the third year of

dredging silt and detritus from Elton Springs (Langlade Co.)

21. \$1,000 for stream brushing, debris removal, and brush bundle installation in Swanson Creek (Forest County), a tributary to the Rat River

22. \$500 for building a sand/ sediment trap in Wisconsin Creek (Florence County), a tributary to the boundary Brule River, to enhance trout spawning potential.

23. \$2,750 to purchase materials for fencing projects approved under the Streambank Easement Program

26. \$2,000 to fund dredging (silt/debris removal) from McClintock Springs in the southern unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest (Waukesha Co.)

27. \$2,000 to create overhead bank cover in and remove beaver dams from Whitewater/ Bluff Creek (Walworth Co.)

28. \$2,000 for stream improvements in Billings Creek (Vernon Co.)

29. \$1,500 for materials for in-stream structures in the Tomorrow River (Portage Co.)

30. \$2,500 for stream restoration in Mormon Coulee Creek (La Crosse Co.)

31. \$1,500 to assist in production of an educational video on development impacts along the Kinnickinnic River (St. Croix and Pierce counties)

32. \$7,000 for stream improvement on Elk Creek (Chippewa Co.)

33. \$4,000 for rock hauling and restoration work on Duncan Creek (Chippewa Co.)

34. \$1,750 to purchase materials for stream improvements on the North Fork Buffalo River (Jackson Co.)

35. \$2,000 to fund backhoe work on intensive habitat improvement in the Prairie River (Lincoln Co.)

36. \$500 for stream rehabilitation in Tainter Creek (Crawford Co.)

37. \$1,000 for expenses to study the long-term effects on brook trout following the removal of beaver dams on the Pemebonwon River in northern Wisconsin (Marinette Co.).

38. \$2,000 to help fund reprinting *Trout Stream Therapy* book (Waupaca Co.).

39. \$1,000 to defray expenses involved in holding the Midwest Trout Angling Workshop in La Crosse in July, 2000 (La Crosse Co.)

40. \$2,000 to fund stream improvement work on Mormon Coulee Creek (La Crosse Co.).

41. \$2,000 to fund restoration work on the Little Pine River. (Waushara Co.).

42. \$2,000 to the WDNR to help purchase an easement on Tenmile Creek along Hwy. 13.

43. \$2,000 in 2001 plus \$2,000 in 2002 to Wisconsin River Chapter for Prairie River work (Lincoln Co.).

44. \$1,245 to Wild Rivers Chapter for coaster baseline information (Ashland Co.).

45. \$1,000 to WDNR Trempealeau district for trout restoration backhoe (Trempealeau Co.).

(part of the state’s Stewardship Program) for the Wisconsin Rapids Area; and for fencing materials for the Little Lemonweir River project (Monroe Co.)

24. \$350 to conduct trout population studies in the lateral ditches listed as trout waters (Portage, Wood and Adams counties) that are under threat from agricultural/cranberry operation encroachment

25. \$250 toward habitat work on the West Fork Kickapoo River (Vernon and Crawford

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Robert Tabbert	Lac Du Flambeau, WI

Donald Ebberts	Plover, WI
Richard Ouren	Muscoda, WI
Gordon Greishaber	Mineral Point, WI
William Nielsen	Eau Claire, WI
Gerald Bristol	Ellsworth, WI
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Robert Bolz	Madison, WI
Bob Retko	Cedarburg, WI
John & Janice Penn	Highbridge, WI
Paul Wiemerslage	Hudson, WI
Gordon King	Merrill, WI
Jon Christiansen	Mequon, WI
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Lynn & Abigail Christiansen	Middleton, WI

**Wisconsin TU Chapters:**  
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Yes, I want to join the “Friends” of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.  
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John H. Cantwell  
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