



Wisconsin Trout

October 2004

Wild Rivers Chapter key player in local effort White River fishery increase planned

By Bob Rice and Bill Heart

Governor Jim Doyle announced on August 24 the intended expansion of the White River Fishery to include a potential 7,000 acres of land located between State Hwy 63 and State Hwy 13.

Friends of the White River member and Wild Rivers Chapter member Myron Anderson acted as master of ceremonies at the event held at the Jeff Carlson Memorial Bench located at the Bibon Road canoe landing in the town of Mason.

Governor Doyle announced his intention to present the plan to the WDNR Board at its meeting in Cable October 27. Doyle voiced his confidence that the plan would be approved.

The August gathering on the banks of the White River was the result of a long, concentrated effort by a number of local organizations and individual citizens to see the cur-

rently wild nature of the White River from the Bibon Bridge downstream to Hwy. 13 protected so it can remain wild and undeveloped for future generations.

Wild Rivers TU, Friends of the White River (and its parent entity, the Bad River Watershed Association), WDNR, Bayfield Regional Conservancy, and land owners along the White River have all worked together to see successful implementation of a plan to protect the watershed.

Wild Rivers TU provided funding through a Wisconsin Rivers Grant to hire Lawrence Wiland to write the White River Watershed Management Plan on behalf of Friends of the White River.

The plan's objectives are to:

- research and maintain or improve water quality,
- research and maintain or improve the fishery,
- provide walk-in public access to



GOV. DOYLE HEADLINES WHITE RIVER CEREMONY

Featured guests at the White River fishery expansion announcement ceremony were (left to right) Gov. Jim Doyle, State Rep. Gary Sherman (D-Port Wing), and Friends of the White River Chair Myron Anderson. All are standing next to the Carlson Memorial Bench that was installed by the Wild Rivers Chapter several years ago.

- the river, and
- encourage ecological preservation/restoration to protect the scenic beauty and ecological health of the river corridor.

Legislators and cabinet members were in attendance at the riverside event in addition to Doyle.

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DOCUMENTING THE FISH KILL ON THE WILLOW

A WDNR employee (above) scoops up a dead fish following a massive fish kill on Willow Creek in Richland County. The fish kill was reported on July 17. WDNR responders subsequently found almost 700 dead trout in the Willow and its tributary, Smith Hollow Creek.

Kills may test nonpoint enforcement

Willow, Pecatonica fish kills biggest in memory

By Mark Maffitt

Two massive manure spills have decimated populations of trout and other species in two southwestern Wisconsin streams this summer.

One spill killed hundreds of fish in Willow Creek, a prime trout stream. A second spill killed large numbers of game fish in the Pecatonica River.

WDNR officials believe trout in Willow Creek were killed when a farmer illegally spread manure on saturated ground. A subsequent storm caused the manure to run into the stream, robbing fish of oxygen.

Biggest kills in history

These fish kills appear to be among the most damaging in state history, and both streams are expected to take years to recover.

Veteran DNR fisheries biologist Gene Van Dyck described the Willow Creek fish kill as "the most complete trout kills I've seen during my 36 years in Wisconsin."

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Great Lakes water compact hearings now in progress

Wisconsin is currently in the middle of a series of five open house and public comment sessions to gather input on proposed draft agreements among the Great Lakes states and Canadian provinces to update how they protect and manage the Great Lakes.

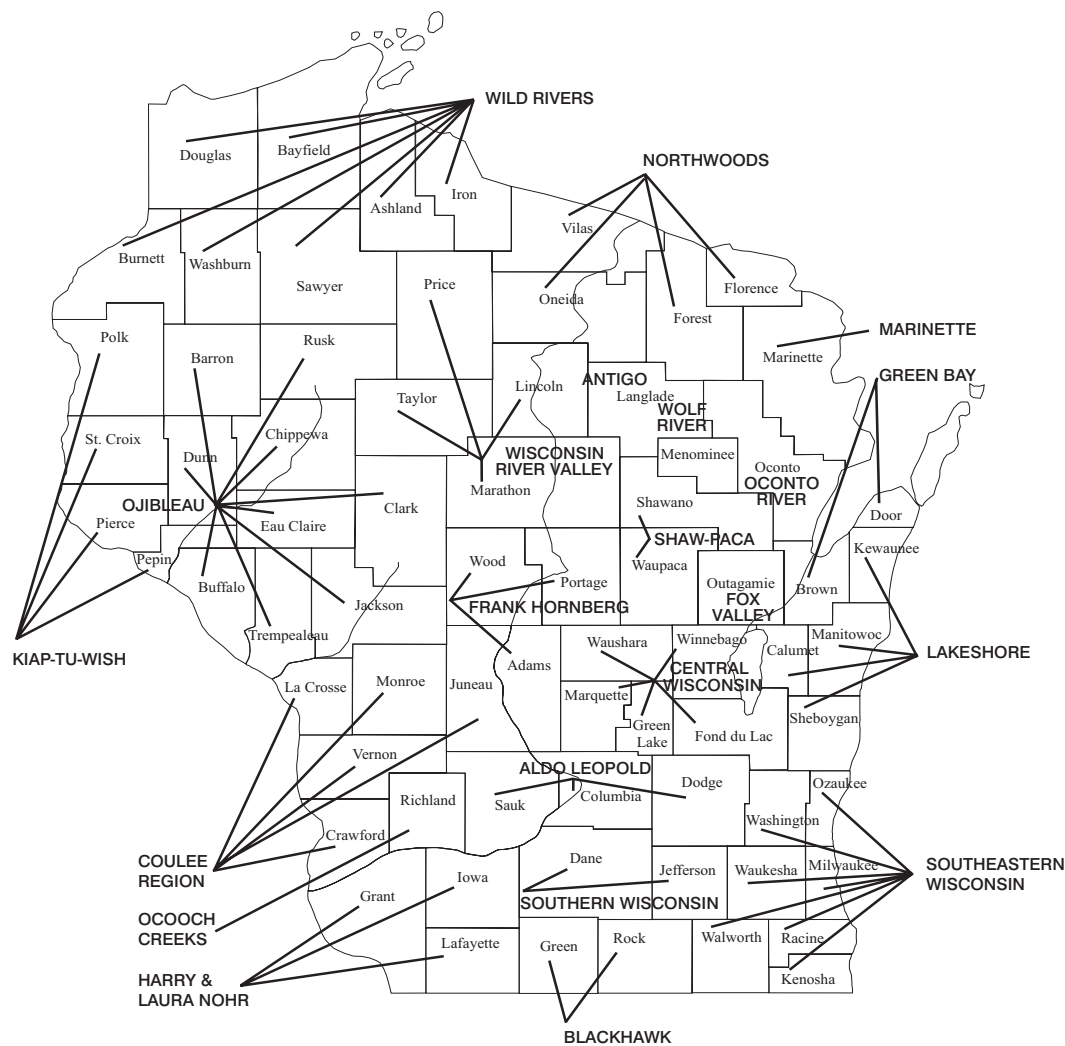
The draft agreements — often known as the Annex 2001 implementing agreements — propose

how the 10 U.S. states and Canadian provinces will collectively manage water quantity issues in the basin, including requests for withdrawing water from the basin and for discharging water outside it.

The WDNR is hosting the comment sessions on behalf of the Council of Great Lakes Governors.

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www.WisconsinTU.org

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Contact TU National when you change addresses or chapter leaders

- 1. Inform TU National.** Call, write, or e-mail TU National on your new address because only TU National keeps the membership database:
 Trout Unlimited (703) 522-0200
 1500 Wilson Blvd. trout@tu.org
 Arlington, VA 22209
- 2. Include your ID number and new chapter affiliation.** Your ID number is found on mailing labels attached to *TROUT* magazine. 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 the text next to the map above).

WISCONSIN TROUT

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Letters

Commends AG for filing cranberry case

Editor,

Recently, Wisconsin Attorney General Peg Lautenschlager has come under attack for doing her job.

It is her responsibility to uphold the Wisconsin Constitution and to hold accountable those who pollute our public waters with impunity. By suing a cranberry grower who has continually contaminated a northern Wisconsin lake, she is doing just that.

Her detractors incorrectly assume that if a law or DNR regulation doesn't bar an activity, then it must be perfectly legal, even if the activity impairs the public's rights to use and enjoy state lakes, rivers, and streams.

This is not the case. Our constitutionally grounded Public Trust Doctrine has been developed through what is known as the "common law" of court decisions. This rich body of law is interpreted side by side with statutes and regulations, but isn't supplanted by them. The Public Trust Doctrine is simple: Wisconsin holds its waters in trust for the public, and the rights of the public are paramount to any private use of state waters.

The cranberry industry has for years received preferential treatment through a law that generally exempts it from many DNR regulations. Now this industry also claims it is protected against common law claims under the Right to Farm Law. But if a grower creates a public nuisance by harming public trust waters, the attorney general has a duty to protect the public interest by going to court to right the wrong. The highest law of our state is the state constitution, and where the Public Trust Doctrine is concerned,

both the Right to Farm Law and the Cranberry Law must yield to it.

The attorney general's lawsuit aims to stop excessive amounts of pollution into Lac Courte Oreilles in Sawyer County and to clean up the portion of the lake that has been harmed by years of polluted discharges.

A growing body of scientific knowledge shows that cranberry operations can cause serious harm to water quality. For instance, a 2000 study conducted on Little Trout Lake in Vilas County concluded that one bay of the lake had been so damaged by pollution related to growing cranberries that it had become "a eutrophic bay with high nutrients and algal blooms that is rapidly filling in with toxic sediment."

Wisconsin has a long history of turning a blind eye to the damaging practices of many in the cranberry industry. The Legislature and the DNR have largely ignored the well-documented environmental degradation caused by the cranberry industry, which very effectively carries special favors from elected and appointed officials in Madison.

It would certainly be preferable to have the Legislature and the DNR live up to their responsibility to protect the public trust by more effectively regulating the cranberry industry. Unfortunately, they have lacked the political will to do so. Lautenschlager should be applauded for doing her duty and for refusing to be intimidated by cranberry growers.

The cranberry industry has for too long been afforded a special exemption to exploit and pollute our waters. In a state with such a strong natural resource legacy, no one in-

dustry deserves special treatment and the cranberry industry should not be allowed to be a bitter pill for the environment.

Melissa Scanlan
Midwest Environmental Advocates
Madison, WI

Suggests benthos study for Black Earth Cr.

Editor,

In your *Wisconsin Trout* July, 2004, newsletter an article written about the growing tree canopy as being potentially detrimental to Black Earth Creek was very interesting.

Mr. Dennis Franke makes a strong case given his vast knowledge about the Black Earth Creek. I also concur with him that the limited DNR fish sampling in the spring distorts what is really happening during low-water, high-temperature periods.

The best way of obtaining valuable answers to the questions would

be to conduct quantitative benthos studies throughout the river upstream and downstream from areas in question. While the biotic index might show some trouble areas, a good benthos quantitative study is reproducible and provides numbers and types.

Benthos data are much more reliable than fish data and the literature references are about dealing with water quality effects and habitat changes.

Bruce E. Markert
Sun Prairie, WI

Why landowners get upset with anglers

Editor,

The Ocooch TU Chapter has started an intensive project on Elk Creek, which will include stream restoration for brook trout, research, education, and prairie restoration. In gathering background information, Ocooch members interviewed trout fishermen on Elk Creek during the first two weekends of regular season in May. Some unexpected findings surfaced.

First, although over 60 interviews were carried out, it became very evident that there were only a small number of individuals who were making multiple trips to Elk Creek as well as visiting other area streams.

Second, all the anglers who were interviewed had come from over a 50-mile distance.

Third, only two had asked permission to fish even though all interviews were carried out on private land. Many did not wear boots (wet foot rule).

Fourth, chapter members had to remind many anglers to remove waste articles that they had discarded. The members also removed bait cans, food containers, and closed a

pasture gate that had been left open.

Fifth, chapter members observed limit violations. DNR warden Mike Nice arrested three individuals (who were not interviewed) for possession of six to nine trout a piece opening weekend.

These findings shed a very unfavorable light on the trout angler. The local landowners see these trout fisherman as a few out of area individuals who make multiple trips to his land to harvest as many trout as possible, and have very little respect for him, his land, or the law. The three TU members interviewed were fishing ethically, however most landowners simply lump all trout fisherman in the same category.

Although public easement is increasing throughout the state, much of the prime trout streams remain on private land. I would encourage the State Council to form a committee on landowner relations. This committee would address the concerns of the landowner, as well as relate our respect for him and for his land.

Dick Peters

Angling for rebates: strategies for recruiting new members

By Bill Pielsticker

One year ago, TU National refocused its chapter rebate policy to emphasize recruiting new members at the chapter level. The reward for successful chapters is a \$15 rebate for each new member.

As with any program, some of our chapters do this better than others. The Wisconsin State Council is arranging a training session for chapters to learn about successful recruiting strategies, and to share their experience with others.

On February 5, in conjunction with the State Council Annual Banquet, John Gale, chapter support coordinator for TU National, will host a training session on new member recruitment.

Gale has been working with chapters across the country in efforts to increase member recruitment and reel in those fat rebates. He is primed to share those strategies with you, as well as the most successful strategies of our own chapters.

Each Wisconsin chapter is invited to send volunteers to the afternoon training session. The first two attendees from each chapter will also receive free tickets to the annual banquet.

See the next issue of *Wisconsin Trout* for specifics on the training session and how to sign up.

Or you may contact State Council Chair Bill Pielsticker using the contact information on p. 2 of this issue of *Wisconsin Trout*.

Tom Deer of Fox Valley Chapter passes away July 29

By Tony Tremml

The Fox Valley Chapter and Wisconsin TU has lost one of its leaders and teachers with the passing of Tom Deer on July 29.



Tom Deer

Tom lived life to its fullest while battling cancer for the past 12 years. If you didn't know Tom personally, you would not have realized his struggles. He was always positive and put his best foot forward while serving as President of the Chapter for the past two years.

Tom was very active water resource issues such as, the Crandon Mine, Mecan Springs, and Polar Springs. He bent the ear of our local state representative long and hard to get the state to purchase the Skunk Lake property. Tom never missed the handicapped fishing day. But perhaps Tom's most important contribution was the time he spent teaching countless hundreds of young people fly tying and casting. He will truly be missed.

I think Tom Lager from our chapter said it best, "It's good to know we have 'one of our own' fishing the eternal trout streams, and like John (the one Jesus loved), Tom is a dry fly fisherman."

The Fox Valley Chapter has set up a memorial fund for Tom Deer. If anyone is interested in donating, checks should be made out to Fox Valley TU with "Tom Deer Memorial" in the notes to:

Tony Tremml
N9628 Chadbury La.
Appleton, WI 54915



TU QUIZ

A WDNR study in southeastern Wisconsin has found that trout streams begin being degraded when which percentage of hard surfaces (streets, parking lots, etc.) cover nearby land?
A. 10% B. 20% C. 30% D. 33%

Answer: A. It takes just 10% of hard surfaces to begin affecting trout waters.

It's nomination time for 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 Conservation Leadership 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.

WHITE RIVER: expansion plan

Continued from p. 1

Also attending were State Rep. Gary Sherman, who is responsible for bringing the White River Watershed Plan to Governor Doyle's attention, WDNR Secretary Scott Hassett, Tourism Secretary Jim Holperin, and Senator Robert Jauch.

The event was also well attended by 60 members of the grassroots organizations that have collaborated to protect the White River watershed from development.

During his remarks, Doyle spoke about the importance of the State Stewardship Fund in providing protection of Wisconsin's natural resources through purchasing plans. Doyle's request to the DNR Board in October will essentially be a request for the Board to approve designation of 7,000 acres of land between the Bibon Bridge and Highway 13 as eligible for purchase from willing land owners utilizing the Stewardship Fund.

At the get-together, Doyle praised the work of the citizens' group and Sherman to get this proposal going forward, as well as the willingness of concerned landowners to preserve this river corridor in its wild state with public access.

Sherman applauded the efforts of local concerned citizens and groups working together for the common goal of protecting the White River as wild land.

Sherman alluded to the fact that government works best when concerned local citizens are the authors of efforts such as those by the collaborative members working to protect the White River, and when

they, in turn, bring those efforts to the attention of their legislators, rather than the alternative of outside organizations and agencies coming to an area telling them what they should do to protect an area.

Due to the high profile of the Governor's visit, the White River plan has received great media attention. Wild Rivers TU and the groups we have collaborated with in developing the White River Watershed Management Plan were given media exposure in local papers. As a chapter, we can be proud that our efforts have gotten such high visibility and support from our legislators in Madison and that the goal of seeing the watershed protected draws closer to actuality at a much faster pace than most of us anticipated even a year ago.

As a follow-up to the announcement, the WDNR held a public informational meeting on the feasibility study for the White River Fisheries Area Boundary Expansion Area. The meeting was attended by approximately 35 landowners and interested citizens. Most of the comments were positive.

Some of the concerns brought forward included land being taken off of tax roles and harsher regulations in the boundary area. The DNR personnel present did a good job addressing these concerns. There will be a two-week comment period. All comments will be presented to the DNR Board at their October meeting to be held in Cable. The Wild Rivers Chapter will be commenting at the DNR Board meeting.

Mark your calendar today
for Wisconsin TU's
**Annual State
Council Banquet**



Saturday, Feb. 5
Park Plaza Hotel
Oshkosh

TU, junk science, and typical liberal environmentalism

By Bill Pielsticker

WITU Chair

As State Council Chair, I have been trying to increase Wisconsin TU's visibility through press contacts and, where appropriate, press releases. Following my press release in July applauding a lawsuit by eight state attorneys general (including Wisconsin's) as well as the City of New York aimed at forcing the five largest coal-fired utilities to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, I received the following e-mail:

Once again I find myself at odds with an organization I am a member of. To this day, there is no conclusive scientific evidence that a "Global Warming" threat exists, yet the leaders of this so called sportsman's club is placing its stock in the junk science that suggests it does.

I joined this association to learn how to fly fish, but all I have been treated to is typical liberal environmentalism. My membership runs out this Fall, and that is where I will leave it. Your magazines, newsletters and press releases have done little or nothing to further my education in the art of fly fishing, although I have learned a lot about demagoguery.

Our activist attorney general will receive her mandate in a couple years when she faces the electorate. In the meantime, consider this my protest to you and Trout Unlimited. I've had it.

—David D., Twin Lakes, WI

Well, I generally don't like to lose a member, but maybe we aren't a good fit for someone like David. In the first place, Trout Unlimited is a conservation organization. Our mission is to preserve, protect, and restore coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. That's why our members spent nearly 20,000 hours (!) on stream work and other conservation projects in Wisconsin in 2003. While some chapters offer limited instruc-

tion in fly casting, that is secondary to our main mission.

As to the charge that Trout Unlimited exhibits "typical liberal environmentalism," I couldn't disagree more. What Trout Unlimited actually exhibits is a traditional conservation ethic tracing back to the days of Teddy Roosevelt. This pre-dates "typical liberal environmentalism" by 50 years or more. In fact, many people, including landowners along trout streams, see TU as one organization that "puts its money where its mouth is" and gets things done on the land rather than focusing on the more typical environmental tactic of lawsuits (though we can resort to that when needed).

What really seems to trouble this critic, though, is the issue of global warming. Prior to issuing my press

release in support of the lawsuit to force the five largest coal-burning utilities to reduce their emission of greenhouse gasses the same way other utilities have done, I did some research. According to the best available models, if the earth heats up four degrees Fahrenheit over the next century, the result for Wisconsin will be longer, warmer summers, increased evaporation, decreased stream flows, and the near elimination of brook trout IN THIS STATE, along with similar results for the native brook trout fisheries in the Southeast, New York, and New England.

As to the charge that Trout Unlimited exhibits "typical liberal environmentalism," I couldn't disagree more. What Trout Unlimited actually exhibits is a traditional conservation ethic tracing back to the days of Teddy Roosevelt.

The e-mail claims "there is no conclusive scientific evidence that a global warming threat exists." Let's examine this statement. First, science rarely proves anything "conclu-

sively." Rather, scientific findings generally are couched in terms of likelihood, as in 90% likelihood that X causes Y, or 95% likely to.... Second, the scientific community agrees overwhelmingly that the threat of global warming indeed does exist and merits immediate action now. In 1995, following an exhaustive review of scientific research, the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concluded not only that the threat of global warming exists, but that it is already occurring and is, in large part, caused by human actions.

More recently, our own National Academy of Sciences came to the same conclusion. Even the White House's U.S. Climate Change Science Program now says that the only explanation for the rise in global

temperatures over the last 35 years is human influence, generally by rising levels of greenhouse gasses.

A few scientists with questionable agendas argue otherwise, but that hardly proves that global warming is "junk science." If you want more on both the evidence and its critics, see *Boiling Point* (2004) by Pulitzer prize-winning reporter Russ Gelbspan. One thing is clear, for the news media to be fair and properly reflect the current scientific opinion while presenting both sides of the global warming debate, they would have to present at least nine scientists who see clear evidence of man-made warming for every scientist who says otherwise. (It wouldn't hurt to identify the funding sources for the scientists, as well.)

Now let's get to the heart of the matter. If we are to wait for *conclusive* proof that man-made global warming is occurring, we will have lost our chance to slow it down or stop it from happening. This brings to mind the precautionary principle: if there is a good possibility that doing something will cause serious harm, it is better to avoid that activity until you can be sure it won't.

Clearly it is too late to avoid industrial era emissions of greenhouse



Bill Pielsticker

gases, but it is not too late to throttle back on today's emissions (i.e., specific types of air pollution). Certainly that would cause some dislocations in business and industry. However, by not acting we will very, very likely cause severe dislocations in our fisheries, wildlife, agriculture, tourism, and other areas of life.

I think most of us would agree that it makes more sense for the businesses and industries that are causing the problem be the ones that pay for it, rather than forcing the rest of us to learn how to manage in an environment that looks more like southern Nebraska than Wisconsin. Then again, maybe we would all prefer to fish for small-mouth bass rather than brook trout — we just don't know it yet!

One final note. David D. is correct that Wisconsin's Peg Lautenschlager is an activist attorney general. You may support this or not, and many of you may not. Even so, in this case, our attorney general is acting along with those of California (with the approval of Governor Schwarzenegger), Connecticut, Iowa, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont, along with the Corporation Council of the City of New York (with the blessing of Mayor Bloomberg). As with the issue of mercury pollution, when the federal government refuses to act in the face of compelling evidence, it is left to the states to act on their own.

This is why I issued a press release welcoming the lawsuit, confident that it reflects the conservation mission of Trout Unlimited to do what we can to see that our children, grandchildren, and their grandchildren are able to enjoy trout fishing in their day as we do now. If we have to carry on without a few people who disagree, so be it.

State Council meeting preview

Michigan Council's Bowman to speak at Oct. 9 meeting

By Bill Pielsticker

Rich Bowman, executive director of the Michigan TU State Council, will attend the next Wisconsin State Council meeting October 9 at Shooters Supper Club in Plover.

Bowman will describe the work he does as a full-time staff person for the Michigan Council. He also will address issues such as chapter support for his work and how the Michigan Council raises the funds to maintain his position. The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. and will be followed by our third strategic planning session.

As noted in the last issue of *Wisconsin Trout*, the question of whether Wisconsin TU should consider hiring an executive director was raised by members in response to a strategic planning questionnaire sent to chapter leaders in January. Of the 15 themes tackled by small groups, several note the usefulness of having an executive director to help carry them out.

However, members have raised several questions about the executive director theme. It is hoped that Bowman will be able to address those questions.

The agenda for the planning session in October is to review the 15 themes that have been considered, examine what is required to implement each, and establish priorities between them. Many of the themes, such as "Leadership Training," or "Information Exchange & Communication" are easy to evaluate. Others, like the executive director idea, will require more discussion.

If you have strong feelings on this matter, please let your chapter president or state council representative know so your ideas can be brought to the discussion.

The full list of themes that have been reviewed by small groups at the previous two meetings are: Habitat & Stream Improvement; Leadership Training; Fishing Education; Membership; and Executive Director; Fellowship; Fundraising; Marketing/Image/PR; Recognition & Awards; Relations with national TU; Relations with Landowners; and several others which may be combined: Coordination-Information Exchange & Communication - Political Action-Council/Chapter Interaction.

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Overgrown tree canopy not only ill on Black Earth Creek

By Dennis Franke

It was encouraging to see *Wisconsin Trout* reprint the two-part article by Chris Dyer on Black Earth Creek (BEC) published last year in our local paper that services the valley communities. Dyer did a fine job of weaving together the different viewpoints of those studying the creek and in presenting the problems that have taken a toll on this once nationally famous trout stream.

Member Analysis

I say "encouraging" because the more anglers that learn about and understand the detrimental process of deciduous woods succession over grasses and bushes on our wonderful Dairyland spring creeks, the sooner Trout Unlimited chapters and the DNR will re-orient their stream management policies to more aggressively deal with a problem 30 years in the growing.

BEC — a once different stream. In the mid-60s, BEC looked more like the Big Green or Timber Coulee: an open pasture and meadow creek with a cluster of trees and bushes now and then. Extensive limestone rock riprap and strategic rock deflectors speeded the current and scoured the channel, bringing back the gravel and spawning conditions that made it a wild fishery once again.

Slower stretches, edged with watercress and water buttercup beds, forced multiple current channels to form three to four feet deep. The weedbeds trapped the silt, and fist-sized rubble was once again exposed from under 100 years of cropland runoff. Mayfly hatches were prolific, with multiple blue-winged olive species and multiple broods, and heavy Hendrickson/sulphur hatches that lasted for over two weeks. Much of the water looked similar to the downstream meadow stretch at South Valley Road, but faster. Limestone crags and peaks from the valley bluffs were more visible, giving a more arid, more Western look to the landscape.

As a young fly fisher, I lost many big trout to BEC's cressbeds and weak 1.5 lb. tippet, but *I discovered Black Earth Creek was the finest trout stream in the state*. Later I found other anglers shared my opinion: master anglers like Lowell and Bob Gennrich and journalists like Tom Wendelburg and Tom McNally.

Understanding Wisconsin spring creek biology

My ongoing critical comments over the years regarding the management of BEC derive from a *profound respect for the type of fishery it once was and for its capacity to better itself*. Knowing many Wisconsin DNR fisheries biologists, I respect them and the tradition they are a part of. As I said in the article, "the Wisconsin DNR led the nation in understanding the ecology of the spring creek trout stream. They identified a process that applies to all streams of this type: remove cattle and cut down trees and the stream improves.

And they also realized that if you don't maintain the stream banks (in grasses and bushes), conditions go down hill quickly." Just *what* conditions develop have been researched by Wisconsin DNR fisheries biologists for over 45 years. Research by Oscar Brynildson, Ray White, and

Robert Hunt, has shown that on fertile, spring-fed, limestone/dolomite streams like Black Earth, Mt. Vernon, the Big Green, Timber Coulee, the Willow, Trout Creek, and dozens of others, an extensive tree canopy shading the stream contributes to the following conditions:

- increased sedimentation,
- reduced production of aquatic invertebrate trout foods,
- reduced trout carrying capacity,
- fluctuating, often low, oxygen levels due to suppression of the main photosynthetic controls in this kind of autotrophic (plant-producing), prairie stream ecosystem, and
- angler competition for open, fishable access.

So, the word "wonder" as used in WisTrout's headline ("Fishers wonder whether growing tree canopy is detrimental to BEC") is not appropriate. It's not a question of "wondering" but "observing." And this can be done by any angler with an educated eye.

All five of the negative impacts caused by extensive canopied are observable on Black Earth Creek (and Mt. Vernon Creek and others).

An example: the canopy on BEC at Salmo Pond

Let's use the Salmo Pond stretch at Sherbel Road as an example.

Sedimentation — In the dense forest of willow, northern red cedar, white pine, and cottonwood that towers over 50 feet, the water is a cluster of impounding log jams and debris, the stream channel laden with a pervasive blanket of gray shifting silt (topsoil from the local too-close corn crop farming). In the lack of sunlight, weed beds give way to only exposed rocks and debris as habitat for aquatic organisms.

Insect life — Mayflies and caddis are almost totally absent; scuds and midges and black fly larvae (species more tolerant to pollution and lower oxygen) have taken their place. Fishing success is poor through this stretch, and trout sightings are few.

Reduced capacity — A large trout or two is found, but each needs extensive stream footage to eek out a diet.

Low oxygen — Southern Wisconsin TU is now monitoring BEC for oxygen levels, so we will have to wait and see what these "observations" (and measurements) come up with.

Angler competition — Anglers avoid stretches like this, most often preferring South Valley Road or Park Street where more ideal meadow/prairie conditions prevail. Miles of good stream above and below are unfishable, even for the most expert rollcaster.

Four major problems on BEC

For the record, the extensive tree canopy on Black Earth Creek is only one of the four major problems suffered by this once truly fantastic trout stream. From my studies while living on the creek for the last 12 years, they include:

1. Urban stormwater runoff pollution from Cross Plains, with flash flood bank erosion and broad temperature fluctuations.
2. A continuing threat of barnyard pollution from the three sites contributing to the fish kill in June, 2001, plus a potential new one added along County P.
3. Cropland fertilizer runoff pollution and filamentous algae overproduction.

Continued on p. 15

Vetrano honored for recreation efforts on behalf of disabled

La Crosse WDNR fisheries biologist Dave Vetrano was one of eight individuals, organizations, and businesses receiving awards for their efforts to provide outdoor recreation opportunities for people with disabilities.

The DNR Disabled Advisory Council presented the awards July 23 at High Cliff State Park after touring a new accessible cabin under construction on the grounds.

Vetrano was cited for embracing the mission of accessibility in projects ranging from providing accessible fishing along the Coon Creek to recent fishing pier installations.

Besides Vetrano, other awards were presented to:

- Arthur L. Miller of Miller Engineering and New Horizons Unlimited of Milwaukee.
- Fishing Has No Boundaries, National Chapter/ Headquarters.
- Dale R. Petkovsek, Sunset Pines Resort in Willard.
- Kent Goeckerman of Mullen.
- Anthonette Gilpatrick of Madison.
- Buckhorn State Park.
- Mirror Lake State Park near Baraboo.

Awards were presented by DNR Deputy Secretary Bill Smith; Dotti Krieger, the agency's accessibility coordinator; and Werner Burkat, chair of the Disabled Advisory Council.



VETRANO RECEIVES AWARD

Fisheries biologist Dave Vetrano (right) receives an award for his work helping the disabled enjoy outdoor activities from WDNR Deputy Secretary Bill Smith.

COMPACT: hearings on Great Lakes water agreement set

Continued from p. 1

On July 19, Gov. Jim Doyle and Ohio Gov. Bob Taft, co-chairs of the council, announced the start of a 90-day public comment period for the draft agreements, which representatives from state and provincial environmental agencies developed over the past three years.

"As co-chair of the council, I recognize how vitally important water quantity issues are to our state and to the region," Doyle says. "Wisconsin's economy depends on the availability of a clean and plentiful supply of water and these drafts seek to ensure that the Great Lakes continue to be a viable resource and are protected for future generations. We want to hear what Wisconsin citizens think of these drafts and how to improve them."

Remaining hearings

The remaining hearing locations and dates of are:

Monday, October 4 — Stevens Point. UW-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources lobby and auditorium, 800 Reserve St.

Tuesday, October 5 — Duluth. Holiday Hotel & Suites, Lake Michigan Room, 200 W. 1st St.

Wednesday, October 6 — Ashland. Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center, U.S. Highway 2 and County Highway G, west of Ashland.

Todd Ambs, DNR's top water leader, called the proposed agreements "unprecedented in the world" and said the five Wisconsin sessions would give citizens a variety of opportunities to comment on one of the "most significant water issues impacting the Great Lakes in our lifetimes."

"We're working to put in place a system that recognizes that all of us in the Great Lakes region are connected by the largest source of fresh water in the world," Ambs says. "We need to take bold steps to ensure that all significant decisions affecting that resource are connected as well."

Comments gathered at the Wisconsin sessions will be forwarded to the council for the working group to consider as they develop the final drafts.

The proposals would implement Annex 2001, an amendment to the Great Lakes Charter, which itself

was signed in 1985 by the 10 jurisdictions: Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, and Quebec. That good faith agreement called on the jurisdictions to regulate all requests for withdrawals of two million gallon a day of water from the Great Lakes, and to submit for informal review by the other signatories requests for removing five million or more gallons.

The council started updating the charter in the late 1990s to respond to concerns that private and public interests outside the basin wanted to tap into Great Lakes water. That concern grew following a Canadian company's 1998 request to remove 60 million gallons per year from Lake Superior to sell in Asia. Ontario initially granted the request but later rescinded it.

The proposed implementing agreements seek a binding, formal agreement, not just a good faith agreement, among the jurisdictions, "to help avoid conflicts and shortages in the future and protect the resource and related ecosystems," the council says. "These agreements will ensure that authority over the Great Lakes remains with the Governors and Premiers."

Key provisions establish a new standard for reviewing proposed withdrawals and formally include the eight Great Lakes governors and the premiers of Ontario and Quebec in reviewing proposed diversions and consumptive use of water. Diversions occur when water is removed from the basin. Consumptive uses occur within the basin and can include such things as bottling water, drinking water supply, irrigation, and industrial use of water.

View the full agreement and related materials at the council's Web site at www.cglg.org.

Wisconsin's public comment sessions, with the exclusion of the Oct. 5 Duluth session, will all feature an open house from 4-6 p.m. with information stations and staff on hand to answer questions. A formal presentation and the public comment period will start at 6 p.m.

People also can submit written comments or comment online. Send written comments to:

David Naftzger, Executive Director, Council of Great Lakes Governors, 35 E. Wacker Drive, Suite 1850, Chicago, IL 60601

Submit e-mail comments to Annex2001@cglg.org or enter them online at <http://www.cglg.org>.

Environmental groups offer concerns about Annex draft

Throughout the four-year "Annex 2001" process, a large collaborative of conservation and environmental organizations has been working to influence this agreement to ensure it has the necessary protections to adequately care for Great Lakes ecology. After analyzing the draft compact, the collaborative has identified the following points to consider during the public comment period.

1. **No weakening** — There are many positive aspects of the draft compact, including enforcement and public participation. The draft compact must not be weakened.
2. **Apply improvement standard more broadly** — Subjecting withdrawals to the standards of no harm, conservation, and improvement was the core commitment of Annex 2001. As drafted, the improvement standard will not apply to the majority of proposals.
3. **Add conservation goals** — The document requires conservation "plans and measures" for various water withdrawers, but provides no definition of those terms. To ensure conservation will be effective, the document needs to provide guidance and goals for such plans and measures.
4. **Modify withdrawal averaging** — Thresholds for withdrawal quantities should be averaged over 30 days, not over 120 days. Averaging over periods longer than 30 days will exempt from oversight many damaging withdrawal projects.
5. **Change withdrawal approval policy** — Approval is needed from all eight Great Lakes governors for a diversion of one million gallons per day or more. Approval is only needed from six Great Lakes governors for in-basin water losses of five million gallons per day, which would have a greater impact on Great Lakes waters. This discrepancy is so blatantly discriminatory that it seriously undermines the compact's potential for legal durability. Thresholds requiring approval from all eight Great Lakes governors should be diversions of one million gallons per day or more and in-basin water losses or one million gallons per day or more or in-basin withdrawals of five million gallons per day or more.
6. **Speed up implementation timeline** — Each of the Great Lakes states is required to complete their own water management plan. In the draft, states are given 10 years from the adoption of this compact to develop and implement their plans. The time frame should be five years. The delayed phase-in time between their commitment to reform and the actual implementation could cause failure of the entire compact.
7. **Address public trust rights** — The compact must specifically protect public trust responsibilities and rights.
8. **Clarify return water language** — The current definition of return flow *appears* to require the return of the actual water withdrawn. This is a critical protection against the introduction of invasive species and must be retained in any final document.
9. **Return water to point of origin** — The percentage of water that is required to be returned to the basin after withdrawal should be returned as near to point of taking as possible. This is critical to preventing unnecessary ecosystem damage.
10. **Retain safeguards while implementing** — The Water Resources Development Act needs to remain in place to safeguard the Great Lakes until the compact is successfully implemented.

Chapter president profile

Mike Barniskis brings new spark to Leopold chapter

By Kevin Searock

Mike Barniskis of Beaver Dam is nearing the end of his second year as president of the Aldo Leopold Chapter of TU.

Mike hails from New Hope, Minnesota, where he got his first exposure to fishing on the banks of a local pond. He remembers catching a fair number of bullhead and carp,

Marriage and children followed in due course. Mike and his wife of 14 years, Shannon, have three children between the ages of 6 and 11. The Barniskis family moved to Horicon in 1994.

Mike remembers watching fish feeding in the Rock River where it flows through Horicon and thinking "You know, I should try to catch one of those...." Thus was born a fishing commitment (obsession?).

It was during the winter of 1999 that Mike's spouse encouraged him to attend a fly tying demonstration sponsored by the Badger Fly Fishers at the Horicon Public Library. Mike went to that demonstration, stayed for four hours, and became "absolutely fascinated." In Mike's case, it was the craft of fly-tying that inoculated him with that wonderful virus known as fly fishing.

After a winter of reading just about every book he could find on fly fishing, Mike began making occasional trips to local warm-water fisheries.

Trout fishing inevitably followed. Columbia County's Lodi Spring Creek became a favorite destination, and it was there that a feisty 8" brown trout pushed Mike past the point of no return by taking a deep-drifting scud pattern in April of 2002. Since then many trout have caught Mike, usually using the allure of their beauty, as well as the beauty of their surroundings.

Later that year, Mike struck up a conversation with a fellow fly-rodder he came upon at a pond in Beaver Dam. One thing led to another, and before he knew it, Mike was sitting at a table with Clint Byrnes and Bill Brashear of Watertown, discussing the re-organization of the Aldo Leopold Chapter. A chapter reorganization meeting followed, and perhaps to his surprise, Mike walked

out of the meeting as new chapter president.

Nothing has really been the same since! In Trout Unlimited Mike found a place to marry three of his passions — politics, environmental conservation, and fishing.

When talking to Mike, one is immediately struck by his friendliness and his infectious enthusiasm. Mike is the kind of person people want to work for. He is organized, articulate, energetic, committed, and fun to be around.

The Aldo Leopold Chapter is in the process of developing a mission statement and a five-year plan. Mike takes pride in what has been accomplished so far and is optimistic about the future.

"The Aldo Leopold Chapter is a place where like-minded trout fishers and conservationists can give something back to this great sport," says Mike. "It is a place where people who are new to trout fishing can learn conservation ethics as well as technique. It is also a place where local DNR fisheries personnel can find a group of committed people they can rely upon for help in conservation work."

An effective organization demands effective leadership, and Mike is very impressed with the people who have stepped forward to serve on the chapter's board of directors.

"Our chapter is coming back really well," says Mike, "in large part due to the hard work and efforts of the fine core group of people on our board."

[Kevin Searock is a high school teacher who lives in Baraboo. He edits The Alder Fork Journal, the Aldo Leopold Chapter's newsletter, and has been known to put Mike Barniskis on to lots of good trout water. -Ed.]



BARNISKIS BAGS A BEAUTY

Mike Barniskis has been a force in helping re-vitalize the Aldo Leopold Chapter.

The Aldo Leopold Chapter split off from the Southern Chapter in 1982 and serves Dodge, Columbia, and Sauk counties in south-central Wisconsin.

The chapter re-organized in 2002-03 after a decade of dormancy during which its flame was kept alive by interim president (and noted net builder) Clint Byrnes. Clint was able to pass the torch to Mike, who volunteered to guide the chapter as president through the growing pains of re-organization.

with a few bluegills or pumpkin-seeds every so often.

Other interests pushed fishing into the background as he got older, and the fishing rods were gathering dust in a corner of the garage by the time Mike entered high school. One of Mike's strongest outdoor influences was his father, who taught Mike to sail. Sailing provided a critical link to nature and water, and Mike still competes in sailing competitions with his father twice a year.

National meeting reviews conservation agenda

By Bill Pielsticker

Charles Gauvin, president and CEO of Trout Unlimited, provided a comprehensive review of TU National's conservation work and regional initiatives at the annual meeting in Denver Sept. 17 and 18.

Gauvin started off his presentation with a review of TU's vision: *To ensure that, by the next generation, robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish once again thrive with-*

in their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.

Gauvin pointed out that this vision is traced to the TU mission: To conserve, protect, and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

In order to achieve that vision, Gauvin pointed to four challenges we need to address — hydropower, hatcheries, harvest, and habitat. Meeting these challenges will require TU to:

- enhance its conservation leadership,
- continue to engage on water policy reform,
- expand habitat restoration, and
- utilize grassroots programs across the country.

It also means that TU should reach out to potential allies, including the 50 million hunters and anglers in the United States.

Wild salmon threatened

Habitat and hatcheries are colliding in the Pacific where wild salmon are threatened with extinction. Three years ago, as a leading attorney for the timber industry, Mark C. Rutzick suggested that the timber industry could be helped by counting hatchery salmon the same as wild salmon, thereby allowing several species of salmon to be removed from the endangered species list.

Now as a political appointee and legal adviser to the National Marine

Fisheries Service, Rutzick's idea has been formally proposed by NOAA Fisheries. TU opposes this change of policy, and is lobbying for truly effective measures to protect and restore the diminished stock of wild fish returning to Pacific waters each year.

Public lands

The nation's public lands present both opportunities and challenges for coldwater habitat. TU recognizes that roadless areas generally offer the best refuge for native trout, and opposes measures which would open these areas to development. In Idaho, a recent TU study showed that 58% of westslope cutthroat trout were in roadless areas, and 74% of Chinook salmon habitat has no surrounding roads.

At the same time, energy development on public lands poses dangers to fish and wildlife populations, and TU has joined westerners and others to highlight these threats.

Water policy reform

Gauvin pointed out that TU is active in the West and the East when it comes to water policy reform. TU National is continuing its Western Water Project, and recently produced an inventory of Idaho's water resources. The review also prompted a call for protecting stream flows critical to fish survival. TU's Montana Water Project has secured water to maintain a minimum stream flow from the Painted Rocks

Reservoir on the Bitterroot River and leased water rights to provide minimum flows for migrating bull trout on the Blackfoot River.

The good news from the Eastern Water Project is an agreement restoring natural stream flows to the Housatonic River, where a hydro-power operator has agreed to convert to a run-of-the-river operation. TU went to the media to highlight the plight of the Delaware River, which all but dried up when its flow was reduced to 45 cubic feet per second during a summer drought.

Meanwhile, sprawl threatens the headwaters of the Potomac River, providing an opportunity for TU to educate Congress about a growing threat to coldwater habitat.

Habitat restoration

The Home Rivers project continues to be a focus for habitat restoration work. Recent projects include:

- countering the impact of acid mine drainage in the east,
- hard rock mine clean-ups in the west,
- working with irrigators to adopt water-conserving practices, and
- using farm bill money to protect habitat.

TU accomplishes this and more through partnering with the federal NRVS, the Forest Service, NOAA, and the Department of Interior.

Continued on p. 9

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WITU Looking Back

From the Fall, 1984, WITU Quarterly Report...

Board approves Embarrass plan, removal of Nelsonville Dam

At the August meeting of the Natural Resources Board held in Woodruff, the DNR Board gave final approval to the North Branch of the Embarrass River Fishery Master Plan.

The plan calls for acquisition of easements along the banks of the North Branch of the Embarrass River and its tributaries in western Shawano County.

Once approved by a legislative

committee, the plan will bring into being eight years of work on establishing the program for Shawano County, which has over 400 miles of classified trout water but very little (less than five miles) of public ownership or easement along these waters. Once easements are acquired, plans can be made for stream improvement projects using Trout Stamp funds and Dingell-Johnson monies.

The Board also gave approval to a request to spend about \$38,000 to purchase and remove the old dam on the Tomorrow River at Nelsonville. Removal of the dam will not only improve the stream in the flowage area, but will also eventually provide better living conditions for trout downstream from the damsite because cooler water temperatures will exist once the impoundment is lowered to its natural stream course.

From the Summer, 1994, Wisconsin Trout...

Kinnickinnic River Land Trust Founded

The Kinnickinnic River of western Wisconsin's St. Croix and Pierce counties is one of the state's more treasured aquatic resources. Lying in a serene pastoral area of the state, it has developed a reputation as a multifaceted recreational waterway.

Trout anglers are especially fond of the "Kinni", as they call it. The rich aquatic ecosystem comprising the "Kinni" has created the base for one of Wisconsin's most prolific trout fisheries. The upper stretch of the Kinnickinnic boasts trout populations up to 12,000 trout per mile, while the lower section contains larger fish and a population of 6,300 trout per mile.

But as with so many other valuable resources, the "Kinni" is being threatened by development. Because of its close proximity to Minnesota's Twin Cities area and its over two million population, the area around the river is being viewed as a potential goldmine by land developers who are bringing pressure to subdivide areas and sell small lots for homesites.

History has shown what happens to riverine systems when excessive development impinges. The unique, intangible values of the ecosystem are removed just as are the tangible values of fish and wildlife.

About eight years ago, then, some landowners from what is called the lower Kinnickinnic canyon convened to discuss the future of the "Kinni". Some were new to the area and others were from families that had farmed land near the river for more than a century.

But they had two things in common: they appreciated the value of the Kinnickinnic in its natural state, and they knew that their river was threatened.

Through a number of meetings, the group came to the conclusion that a "land trust" started and run by local people from the Kinnickinnic River valley would best serve the intentions of preserving the character and integrity of this well-known river.

The Kinnickinnic River Land Trust (KRLT) was thus formed to carry out a mission of protecting the "Kinni". It is now one of over 1,000 land trusts in United States communities that work to conserve land that has natural, recreational, scenic or historic value. The KRLT will promote land conservation by accepting donations of property, buying land or helping landowners establish legal restrictions - called conservation easements - that permanently prevent development that harms natural areas or open space through purchase of development rights.

Not all development is considered harmful, and the KRLT may also use "limited development" strategies to achieve land conservation and water quality goals. In this technique, environmentally less-sensitive parts of a landholding are carefully developed in order to finance land conservation of the more-sensitive areas.

Development rights will be obtained only from interested and willing landowners. A landowner's choice to work with a land trust is always 100 percent voluntary.

Old TU pubs on CD

The "Looking Back" scans you see in this feature are available on a CD compiled by WITU Publications Director Todd Hanson and Wild Rivers President Bill Heart.

Hanson collected back issues of State Council newsletters dating back to the *WITU Quarterly Report* that began publication in the early 1970s, and Heart did the large-format scanning. Many TU members contributed by finding "missing" issues from their collections.

The old newsletters are on two CDs — one with all *Wisconsin Trout* issues and the other with newsletters issued prior to 1989.

To get the CDs, contact Todd Hanson at (608) 268-1218 or twhanson@chorus.net. Most chapter presidents now also have the CD set and can make duplicate copies for members.

NATIONAL: conservation agenda reviewed at meeting

Continued from p. 8

Embrace-a-Stream

At the grassroots level, TU's Embrace-a-Stream grant program continues funding projects throughout the country. At the same time, the *Back the Brookie* campaign is well underway, with six founding councils from Georgia to West Virginia. This campaign will use public outreach, advocacy, and stewardship to counter the effects of habitat loss, overharvest, and competition from exotics (rainbow trout, smallmouth bass, and perch).

Another grassroots campaign is getting underway with trout in the classroom. In this initiative, students

raise trout or salmon from eggs in classroom tanks, later releasing them into a lake or stream. About 100 schools around New York city are prepared to participate.

TU finances

Reviewing the national budget, TU Vice President Kenny Mendez noted that Congress is examining how nonprofit organizations raise and spend their money. A common standard for an effective charity is to spend 65% of its total expenses on program services. TU spends 75% on program services, with the balance being spent on fundraising, administration, and member development. Nearly 60% of TU's pro-

gram expenses go to conservation operations, with the balance split between chapter services, volunteer operations, communications, and government affairs. Whatever new standards of accountability may arise from congressional scrutiny, TU is well-positioned to meet them.

Membership up

Kenny Mendez, TU vice president, reported that after holding steady for several years, TU membership is increasing again, approaching 134,000 compared to about 70,000 just 10 years ago. Mendez also noted that income is up at the national level, as is spending on conservation programs.

Mendez reported that during the 2003 budget year, TU experienced growth in all areas, including record revenues and growth in conservation programs. Only 27% of TU revenues come from membership dues. Another 17% is raised from individuals. Foundations are a significant source of funds for specific conservation programs, accounting for 32% of revenues in 2003.

By combining member dues with income from other sources, TU is able to provide \$64 in program spending and \$21 in supporting services for each member — more than doubling the return on a typical \$35 membership.

Groundwater protection report available

Wisconsin's progress in protecting its groundwater resources in the past year and the overall condition and emerging threats to those resources are detailed in the recently released annual report of the Groundwater Coordinating Council (GCC).



The report, which also contains recommendations for the future direction of protection activities, can be found online at the WDNR web site at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/gcc/rtl/gcreport.htm>.

The report, which also contains recommendations for the future direction of protection activities, can be found online at the WDNR web site at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/gcc/rtl/gcreport.htm>.

The GCC as formed in 1984 to help state agencies and the University of Wisconsin coordinate non-regulatory activities and exchange information on groundwater.

The report summarizes the council's and agencies' activities related to groundwater protection and management in fiscal year 2004, which runs from July 1, 2003, to June 30, 2004, according to Tim Asplund, the DNR water resources specialist who serves as a staff member to the council.

The report includes the GCC's recommendations for how to protect the state's groundwater. *(The GCC's recommendations are reproduced in the boxes at the bottom of this and the facing page.)*

The report also highlights the significant focus Wisconsin placed in 2004 on groundwater quantity, culminating with a new law intended to protect trout streams and other high quality waters that depend on

The new groundwater law directs DNR...to weigh the environmental impact of the proposed well when it's proposed to be located near trout streams....

groundwater for some of their base flow.

The new groundwater law directs DNR staff, when considering an application for certain high capacity wells, to weigh the environmental impact of the proposed well when it's proposed to be located near trout streams and high quality waters. *(For highlights of the new*

groundwater law, see the story on p. 11)

"This new legislation — the product of broad, bipartisan support — signals that the broader public recognizes the importance of protecting Wisconsin's groundwater resources," says DNR Water Division Administrator Todd Amb, who chairs the council. "This report provides a good overview of this new legislation and of the state's work on other areas."

The report also provides information on groundwater quality, including the latest monitoring results for contaminants including the presence of pesticide breakdown products, pharmaceuticals, and viruses in groundwater.

LAW: groundwater bill highlights

Continued from p. 11

In these cases, the DNR must balance the well's environmental impact and its public health and safety benefits.

Some of the criteria that might be used for this "balance test" include provisions for water conservation, appropriate use (drinking water vs. lawn watering or car washing), and long-range water supply planning.

The DNR must also ensure that a public utility's water supply is not impaired by another high-capacity well, maintaining a long-standing requirement from previous statutes.

3) Designation of groundwater management areas

The Act directs the DNR to establish two groundwater management areas in Southeastern Wisconsin and the Lower Fox River Valley.

The intention of the groundwater management area is to encourage a coordinated management strategy among the state, local government units, regional planning commissions, and public and private users of groundwater to address problems caused by over-pumping of the deep aquifer, including increased levels of radium, arsenic, and salinity.

The DNR will assist local government units and regional planning commissions in those areas.

4) Creation of a Groundwater Advisory Committee

The Act establishes a Groundwater Advisory Committee. Members will be appointed by the Governor and Legislature and will represent municipal, environmental, agricultural, and industrial interests. The Committee will review the implementation of the Act and recommend further changes in the regulation of high-capacity wells.

The Act also directs the Committee to recommend legislation that addresses the management of groundwater within groundwater management areas and any other areas of the state where a coordinated strategy is needed. The Committee may identify other parts of the state that should be designated as groundwater management areas, and will recommend how and when this designation may be removed.

The GCC will track progress of the implementation and provide other assistance relating to the new legislation.

GROUNDWATER REPORT EXCERPT: Future directions for groundwater protection

PRIORITY RESEARCH & MONITORING NEEDS

- Maintain adequate funding for groundwater monitoring and research:** State budget cuts have severely limited the number and scope of groundwater research and monitoring projects that were funded in the past three fiscal years (see Table 3 in Chapter 2). DNR's funding for projects has been cut by over two-thirds since FY 02 and has been forced to use Federal dollars with high overhead costs. The UWS budget was cut by 10% in FY 04 and FY 05. DATCP and Commerce have been unable to fund new projects in the last three fiscal years. Continued cuts will hamper the State's ability to address critical groundwater monitoring and research needs in the future. The GCC encourages its member agencies and the legislature to maintain adequate resources for groundwater monitoring and research and to seek partnerships to leverage additional funds.
- Investigate adverse impacts from groundwater withdrawals:** Recent headlines about high capacity wells, long term water supplies in the Fox River Valley, and severe drawdowns in southeastern Wisconsin have generated many questions about the effects of groundwater withdrawals on surface waters and long-term groundwater availability. There is a need to further quantify hydrographic relationships of surface and groundwater, as well as to develop tools to evaluate the impacts of withdrawals on surface waters. The GCC should continue to encourage research efforts that will provide information useful in addressing this issue.
- Investigate extent and causes of naturally occurring substances in groundwater:** Continued problems of elevated arsenic, low pH, and other water quality problems in domestic wells exist over large areas of northeast Wisconsin. Additionally elevated sulfate, total dissolved solids, and radium have been found in some new deep municipal wells in the Lower Fox River Valley making the wells unusable. In some other existing deep wells as far south as Milwaukee the total dissolved solids have been steadily increasing over the years. These sulfate and TDS levels pose a problem for local water managers, and the origin of the dissolved solids is not completely understood. The State needs more information about the extent and causes of these problems in order to give advice to homeowners, municipalities, and well drilling contractors. The GCC should continue to encourage research efforts that will provide information useful in addressing these issues.
- Evaluate occurrence of recently discovered groundwater contaminants:** Recent research conducted in Europe and the U.S. indicates that traces of pharmaceuticals (including antibiotics and hormones) and pesticide breakdown products are common contaminants found in groundwater and surface water. In addition, studies have found evidence of viruses and other microbial agents in both municipal water supplies and domestic wells. Research is needed to determine whether these substances pose a threat to Wisconsin's groundwater resource, and also to human health.
- Research land use management and its impact on the groundwater resource:** Additional research is needed on the effect of various land uses (e.g. urbanization and agriculture) on groundwater quality and quantity. For example, recently enacted stormwater infiltration rules help reduce runoff in urban areas, but the effects on groundwater quality are largely unknown. Similarly, agricultural nonpoint source rules require nutrient management plans that protect surface water quality, but may also improve groundwater quality. Projects must be managed in such a way as to maximize their relevance to state land use problems. This issue crosses agency lines and promises to be an important issue for years to come.
- Identify potential groundwater quality issues associated with innovative water management tools.** Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) and Enhanced Aquifer Recharge are two techniques that are being explored in Wisconsin and other parts of the world to address long-term water supply needs in water-limited areas. These tools may help communities meet water demands during peak use periods or help mitigate adverse effects of long-term water withdrawals. However, the long-term effects on water quality and aquifer geochemistry are relatively unknown, especially in areas with existing water quality issues (e.g. arsenic and radium). Research is needed on a variety of levels in order to evaluate whether these tools are appropriate for Wisconsin.

PRIORITY POLICY & PLANNING NEEDS

- Address groundwater quantity management issues at both statewide and regional levels:** Groundwater quantity issues came to the forefront of public discussion in FY 04, with the development and passage of landmark groundwater quantity legislation, 2003 Wisconsin Act 310. This legislation has the potential to

Continued on next page

State's new groundwater protection law summarized

On Earth Day, April 22, 2004, Governor Doyle signed a new groundwater protection law, 2003 Wisconsin Act 310, that expands the State's authority to consider environmental impacts of high-capacity wells and institutes a framework for addressing water quantity issues in rapidly growing areas of the state.

Links surface and groundwater

Significantly, this legislation for the first time recognizes the link between surface water and groundwater, and that all wells have an impact on groundwater quality and quantity. The law applies many principles of adaptive management, allowing for changes in the regulation of high-capacity wells as relevant information becomes available or groundwater conditions change.

The passage of the legislation represents the culmination of several years of discussion on groundwa-

ter quantity issues and concerns expressed by citizens, experts, water users, and agency personnel about the lack of a comprehensive approach to managing groundwater quantity in Wisconsin.

The Groundwater Coordinating Council (GCC) was alerted to this issue in the mid-1990s and directed the formation of a Groundwater Quantity Working Group to prepare a report. The 1997 report titled *Status of Groundwater Quantity in Wisconsin* concluded that a coordinated effort was needed to determine appropriate management options for addressing groundwater withdrawals and to implement data collection, information, and education programs.

Public attention to this issue surfaced in 2000 and 2001 with the attempt by a major bottled water operation to locate a facility in Wis-

consin and increased attention to groundwater issues in southeastern Wisconsin.

In October 2001, the GCC facilitated an event called the Groundwater Summit, at which groundwater quantity issues were raised and discussed by a diverse assemblage of groundwater users, citizens, elected officials, and groundwater professionals. Shortly thereafter, several groups began discussing various groundwater quantity legislative initiatives to address these concerns.

In 2003, Waters of Wisconsin released a report calling for comprehensive approach to managing groundwater quantity. Governor Doyle formally received the report on Earth Day, April 22, 2003, and issued a challenge to legislators to have groundwater quantity legislation for him to sign on the next Earth Day.

Senator Neal Kedzie and Rep. DuWayne Johnsrud took up this challenge and convened a group of stakeholders to draft legislation in late summer of 2003.

Throughout the fall and winter of 2003 and 2004, various groups and individuals commented on the legislative proposals and forwarded their own ideas. A hallmark of these discussions was the open and inclusive process and the reliance on experts to develop a proposal based on sound science.

In March of 2004, a bill was formally introduced and was passed by both houses of the Legislature with only one dissenting vote.

Bill's major components

1) Tracking well construction and water use

The Act requires well owners to obtain approval of a high-capacity well (pumping more than 100,000 gallons per day) by the DNR prior to construction, pay a fee of \$500, and submit an annual pumping report to DNR.

For any new well that is not a high-capacity well, the owner must notify DNR of the well location prior to construction and pay a fee of \$50. The fees will directly support the administration of this Act, including tracking well construction, review of high-capacity well applications, and collection of groundwater data.

In addition, fees will support increased inspections and enforcement of well construction activities, helping to ensure a safe drinking water supply.

The law requires all high-capacity well owners to report water use on an annual basis, including ones with existing approvals. Previously, only municipal water supply wells were required to submit pumping reports, along with some high-capacity wells that required reporting as part of their approval.

The collection of this information will assist in evaluating proposed new wells, monitoring approval conditions, identifying trends, calibrating groundwater flow models, and improving water use estimates, all contributing to better understanding and management of groundwater resources.

2) Expanded regulation of high-capacity wells

The Act requires DNR to undertake an environmental review (under ch. NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code), for the following proposed high-capacity wells:

- Wells located in a "groundwater protection area" (an area within 1,200 feet of an outstanding or exceptional resource water or any class I, II, or III trout stream).
- Wells that may have a significant environmental impact on a spring with a flow of at least one cubic foot per second for at least 80% of the time.
- Wells where more than 95% of the amount of water withdrawn will be lost from the basin.

In these cases, DNR may deny or limit an approval to assure that these wells do not cause significant environmental impact.

There are also protections and exceptions for public water utility wells. For example, the DNR must weigh the public health and safety benefits of a proposed well in a groundwater protection area or near a spring if it is to be used for a public water supply.

Continued on p. 10

REPORT CONT.: groundwater protection needs

address needs identified by two recent forums, the 2001 Groundwater Summit and the Waters of Wisconsin Initiative. Common themes included the need for a statewide management plan for water quantity, water conservation, high capacity well reform, reevaluation of water pricing structures and regional approaches to water quantity issues. The GCC will continue to serve as a resource for addressing scientific and technical questions related to groundwater quantity and facilitate further dialogue among all parties on potential approaches and solutions.

- **Provide resources to local governments for Smart Growth/Comprehensive Planning activities.** Recent legislation has required local units of government to develop a comprehensive plan by 2010 in order to undertake land use activities. This plan must address nine elements, including natural and agricultural resources, housing, utilities, and land use. This planning process presents a unique opportunity to address and implement groundwater protection at the local level. Through the Local Government Subcommittee, the GCC will seek ways to assist local communities in their planning efforts to encourage groundwater protection.
- **Find solutions to groundwater nonpoint pollution problems:** A 2002 DATCP report indicates that 37.7% of wells contain a detectable level of at least one herbicide or herbicide metabolite and 11.1% of Wisconsin's wells still contain detectable atrazine residues. In addition, 14% exceed the nitrate standard. These rates are substantially higher in agricultural areas. More work is needed to determine how far Wisconsin groundwater will deteriorate without a substantial change in farming practices, and what practices will sustain both agriculture and groundwater quality. The GCC will support the agencies and the UWS in obtaining information pertinent to the human health implications of consuming nitrate and pesticide contaminated groundwater and the effect of discharge of this groundwater on surface waters and their ecosystems.

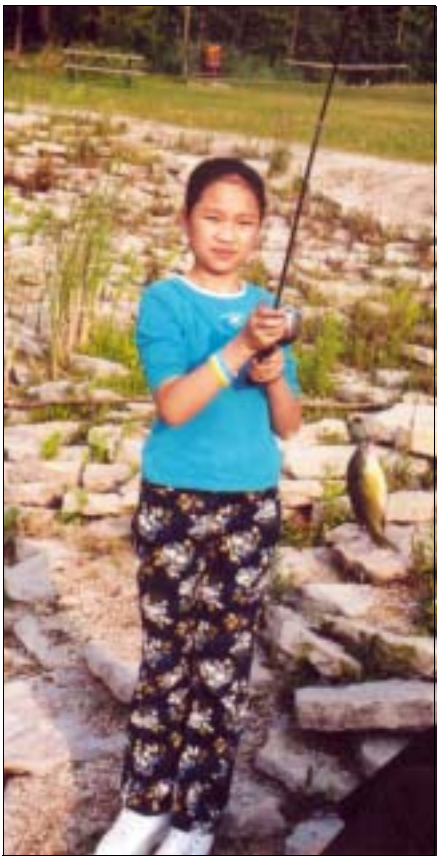
PRIORITY COORDINATION NEEDS

- **Support implementation of a Statewide Groundwater Monitoring Strategy:** Chapter 160 of the Wisconsin Statutes requires the DNR to work with other agencies and the GCC to develop and operate a system for monitoring and sampling groundwater to determine whether harmful substances are present (s. 160.27, Wis. Stats.). In FY 04, several agencies worked together to develop a Statewide Groundwater Monitoring Strategy to guide agency monitoring efforts for the next ten years. The GCC encourages agencies, the university, and federal and local partners to implement the various components of the strategy and to seek funding to support its implementation.
- **Coordinate and facilitate consistent messages on groundwater related issues:** The public has benefited from the consistent educational messages that have been endorsed by the GCC. Through the Education Subcommittee, the GCC will continue to provide its leadership and assistance to state agencies that provide educational materials to the public. In 2004, the Subcommittee will launch a "Groundwater Information Network" with non-governmental organizations to further its mission of promoting consistent messages regarding groundwater protection. Priorities include promoting water stewardship and awareness of water quantity issues, finding innovative ways to encourage testing of private water supplies, and providing materials for local communities to support comprehensive planning activities.
- **Promote consistency between the agencies on data management issues:** Through the DNR's groundwater data system (GRN) and the GCC's Directory of Groundwater Databases, state and local government agencies now have more convenient access to groundwater data. This effort must be maintained by continuing to identify data needs and ways to make data easily accessible. Data consistency must be promoted by use of common geographical locators and minimum data elements for use in a GIS environment. The GCC will continue to provide leadership and communication on data management through its subcommittees. This continued effort displays the GCC's commitment to management of the resource through sound scientific methods.

Ensure access to findings of groundwater research and monitoring projects: More than 120 summaries of groundwater-related monitoring and research projects funded through the Wisconsin Groundwater Research and Monitoring Program are now available online. In FY 04, the WRI Water Resources Library digitized and put online the full text of most WRI and selected DNR project final reports. To maintain and enhance this resource it will be important to add new summaries and reports as they become available, create a more visually appealing set of front-end pages for the site, and publicize the web site location and content more widely. Another WRI initiative is the development of topical fact sheets to summarize research and monitoring findings relative to important groundwater issues in the state. The GCC supports development of these fact sheets and resources and will continue to promote ways to translate sound science into effective groundwater management strategies.



Chapter News



FIRST FISHING TRIPS

The Green Bay Chapter held its 13th annual Kid's Fishing Day for children enrolled in the Brown County Social Service's PALS program. Today a bluegill, tomorrow a trout.

Aldo Leopold Chapter

With no regularly scheduled chapter meetings, the summer's highlight was a weekend long gathering at **Wildcat Mountain State Park**. From our base there, chapter members explored nearby waters, shared wisdom around the fires, and generally had a great time.

The board met throughout the summer and accomplished a number of things. We had a chance to review the results of a survey of chapter members we sent out in the spring. We received responses from about half our members, a higher percentage than we'd expected. As a result of responses, we have reordered our meeting calendar and locations to make it easier for more members to become active. The board also set our program schedule for the year based on member interests. I am really hopeful that we can increase our active membership this year.

The board also elected to take part in a **River Alliance** benchmarking seminar. This was held on September 11. We want to have a road map for the chapter for the next few years; this seminar should help us to create one.

We are also proud to announce that we now have a chapter **website**. The web address is www.alctu.org. This website exists due to the hard work of **Letisia Brashear**, wife of VP **Bill Brashear**, and is being hosted for us at no charge through the

State Council's website. A **huge thank you to Letisia**, and to new State Council webmaster **Jamie Sundsmo** for making the site a reality. We still need to work out a few details, but the site will have a calendar of chapter events, copies of our newsletter, and other useful information.

One thing we hope to have up and running on the site before too long is a list of all the books we received as a donation from **Ron Ahner's** estate. Ron had a truly comprehensive fishing library, and we hope to make it available for sale to all before the winter reading season is upon us. The book list should be up before the end of October, so check our site regularly to get first crack at some truly classic literature. Why buy at Amazon when you can buy it here?

We are also announcing the sale of hats and shirts with the new Aldo Leopold Chapter logo. Again, we hope to have an on-line order option running soon, but until then, you can order by contacting me at (920) 356-0081 or barniskis@yahoo.com. The very stylish logo is on the web site. Hats are \$15 and shirts are \$35. These shirts and hats have been specially designed to be extremely attractive to fish, so increase your chances of a hook-up by sporting ALCTU wear!

—Mike Barniskis

Blackhawk Chapter

At our September 20 meeting at the **DNR service center**, outdoor writer **John Beth** presented a program on steelhead and salmon fishing. He also donated flies for the raffle. We then had a second raffle with the proceeds going to the **Casting For Recovery** breast cancer recovery program.

The board voted an expenditure of up to \$8,000 for several stream projects. The money will be given to the **Vernon County Land and Water Conservation District**. **Jeff Hastings** and others will be in charge of these projects. **Duck Egg** and **Bishops** will receive up to \$2,000 each. Up to \$4,000 will be used for additional stream enhancements.

Several Blackhawk members demonstrated tying flies for the public at the **Walworth County Fair**. The adults and kids were fascinated by the tying of feathers, fur, etc. Thanks to **Dick, Phil, Dave, Bob, and Terry**.

We are in the process of trying to acquire the last Monday in April for our annual banquet.

Start thinking about what you are going to bring to the **White Elephant Exchange**. Don't put it off until the last minute because we certainly wouldn't want anyone to go home with a turkey instead of an elephant.

—Bill Karduck

Central Wisconsin Chapter

Chapter President **John Gremmer** is excited that our chapter is getting more energized, organized, committed, and focused. Most of this is due to the long-term planning process facilitated by **Bob Chamberlain** and developed by our board members.

Central Wisconsin Trout Unlimited has again put together a year-long schedule of free programs and activities to involve the public and chapter members. Most programs will follow chapter meetings.

- Our September 14 program will feature **Ross Mueller** presenting *Spring Hatches: Insects, Fly Patterns, and Techniques* at the Fin 'N Feather in Winneconne.
- On October 12 **Dr. Phil Emmling** will present *Stream Monitoring, What You Can Do!* at the Performing Arts Center in Wautoma.
- November 8 will bring **Dr. Donald Larmouth's** program *Fly Fishing For Trout in Lakes and Ponds* at the Fin 'N Feather in Winneconne.
- January 10 has **Elward Engle** speaking on *The Degradation of a Trout Stream and its Rehabilitation* at the Performing Arts Center in Wautoma.
- February will feature the start of our annual *Master's Fly Tying Series* and our February 26 *Trout Fishing Funday* at the Fin 'N Feather.
- March 26 will bring our annual banquet.
- April 18 will feature a fly casting clinic by **Tim Landwehr** of **Tight Lines Fly Fishing Company** of De Pere, and
- May will feature our third annual trout outing.

Workday Chair **Rich Mlodzik** is pleased with this past summer's workdays. He is also encouraged by the increase in the number of participants over last year. Workdays were held on the **Little Pine** in Waushara County on April 3 and 24, July 17, August 14, and September 11. The June 19 workday consisted of helping the DNR do a trout census on the **Chaffee**. Rich would like to thank all those who helped, especially cooks **Jack Wahlers, Ira Giese, and Tracy Moran**.

Thanks to our first long-range planning sessions, work has already started on our objectives and programs. Our newly established objectives are:

1. Improve CWTU organization,
2. Improve communications and educational efforts,
3. Improve watchdog activity,
4. Continue/expand fieldwork, and
5. Develop and enhance conservation partners.

Our programs include:

- Create an active program committee by December '04,

- Create active public relations committee by December '04,
- Publicize CWTU organizational structure and needs by March '05,
- Expand *Brookie News* coverage by September '04, and
- Create a job description for each CWTU position by November '04.

Our chapter has been very fortunate to have **Brian Tesch** step forward and redo our web site at www.cwtu.org. The site now features new graphics, a "Fly Of The Month," weekly updates, an events calendar, news, articles, message boards, local stream info, photo galleries, a join/renew section, and much more. Please register on the message boards and join in.

After many years of publishing our newsletter, the *Brookie News*, **Dan Colligan** has asked for someone else to take over. CWTU is grateful for Dan's and his wife **Gail's** service in this area. **Bob Chamberlain** has volunteered to step in and has put out his first issue. **Scott Grady** has volunteered to help with the printing and distribution. Thanks to everyone involved.

Bob Renneck and **Dr. Bob Stelzer** of UW-Oshkosh have reported that our grant application from the DNR to study the effects of Hex nymph harvesting by bait companies from the **White and Pine Rivers** was not granted. Both plan to re-apply next year. We appreciate all the work done by these two people.

John Gremmer reports that our 4th annual Master's Fly Tying Series will include the following dates — Feb. 3, 10, 17, and 24, plus March 3. Five different master fly tiers from around Wisconsin will teach their specialties during this program. Those interested should contact John.

The Board has authorized **Al Lee, Dan Harmon III, and Bob Haase** to gather, design, and cost information on hats and related CWTU clothing. The hats would be used for fundraising, group identification, and door prizes.

As result of our long-range planning, the following committees have been either established or restructured: watchdog, workday, membership, awards, programs/education/events, public relations, environment/research, history, and financial. The understanding is that these committees will meet, organize, and take action.

Scholarship Chair, fly fishing school instructor, and longtime CWTU activist **Mark Brosseau** has taken a teaching job in Colby for the coming year. He will miss most of the meetings and activities, but plans to stay in touch and do as much as he can. CWTUY salutes Mark for all his good work. We wish you the best in your new venture.

—John Gremmer

Fox Valley Chapter

The Fox Valley Chapter and Wisconsin TU have lost one of its leaders and teachers with the passing of Tom Deer on July 29. Tom lived life

to its fullest while battling cancer for the past 12 years. (Read more about Tom on p. 3 of this issue.)

—Tony Trembl

Frank Hornberg Chapter

Despite several serious high-water events that curtailed some of our activities this summer, Hornberg

members persevered in the maintenance and repair of existing brush mats and in-stream structures, as

Chapter News



well as successfully completing the construction of a number of new structures.

We held a work evening on June 10 which, despite the inclement weather, was well attended. We discussed our upcoming work projects, and enjoyed each other's company.

On the work day on June 19 we added a significant amount of new material to an already existing brush mat upstream from the staging area on the **Tomorrow River at Weldon Road**. The face of the brush mat, which had received considerable damage, was reconstructed and secured with double and triple strands of twine. While the repair work was going on, others hauled numerous boat loads of field stone and placed them at the head of the brush mat to help protect the mat from future high-water events. Afterward, we walked a short distance downstream and rebuilt a short section of brush mat that also had been damaged.

On the July 8 work evening, we installed a large oak half log at the head of a brush mat across from the staging area on **Welton Road**. Later several members walked upstream to retrieve and return a picnic table belonging to the **Rising Star Mill**. The table had been washed away during the high water and was found standing on end in the backwater of a large wing dam we had created!

At the July 17 work day, we inspected a large in-stream brush mat located on the **Raddatz** stretch of the **Middle Tomorrow**. We were pleasantly surprised to see that it was holding up well despite the recent high water. Before leaving, we loaded three trucks with silo staves (used in previous structures) and considerable field stone, and took the materials to the staging area. We

then loaded jon boats with 18 five-gallon pails of black dirt and transported them to the head of a large brush mat where the dirt was deposited around dogwood trees that had been planted earlier in the year.

Following the August 5 board meeting, the members set up items donated by individuals and local area businesses for the fundraiser annually by **Shooter's Supper Club**.

For the August 12 evening work event, we split into three teams. One team cut pine branches for supplementing existing brush mats, another team rebuilt an existing stretch of fence designed to keep cattle out of the river, while a third added the brush to an existing mat that had also received damage from the previous high water.

On August 13 the chapter held our **Fun Night**. The members and Shooter's clientele enjoyed an evening of dining and participating in the numerous raffles. The profits from the night's event helped supplement our existing financial resources, and the entire evening was judged a resounding "success" by all those present.

The August 21 work day was not only attended by the FHC faithful, but also by the owner and staff of **Shooter's Supper Club**. The crew continued work on an in-stream island that was started last fall, and is now nearing completion. In all 32 feet of decking was added to the existing structure, bringing it to a total of 43 in length. We owe a great deal of thanks to the Shooter's crew; not only for helping us out financially, but for their unstinting efforts streamside!

—Dan Holland

Green Bay Chapter

The **Green Bay Chapter**, in the person of Work Project Chairperson **Janet Smith**, had a busy summer planned as far as habitat improvement projects for members. However, weather and other unforeseen circumstances caused the cancellation of two projects, thus curtailing our efforts somewhat.

However, so far we have managed to spend one day working with **Tom Moris** and the **US Forest Service** to install brush bundles in **Spencer Creek** in the **Nicolet National Forest** near Laona.

We also spent a morning fin clipping the brook trout being raised by the **Oconto River Watershed Chapter**. The fingerlings were raised from fry produced by brood stock collected from the **South Branch of the Oconto River** last fall by the DNR with the chapter's assistance. These brook trout will be stocked in area streams this fall under the wild trout stocking program. The **Oconto Chapter** is also raising brown trout to be stocked under the same program.

The highlight of the chapter's summer was once again our annual **Kid's Fishing Day**. This event, our 13th annual, brought children enrolled in the **Brown County Social Service's PALS** program out to the **Brown County Reforestation Camp**

where they fished for bluegills stocked by the chapter in the ponds at the camp. After fishing and snacks, the kids were sent home with their catch cleaned and ready to cook. The **Green Bay Exchange Club** co-sponsored the day, and **Dr. David Vandever, DVM, Bob's Bail & Tackle, Thirsty's Liquor, Morning Glory, and Apple Valley Caterers** contributed to the success of the affair.

Finally, the chapter resumed monthly meeting on September 2. **Pete Harris**, program chairman, brought in **Mike Staggs** from the DNR's Madison office to speak to the group. The gist of his remarks was that the DNR has had a very interesting last year and a half. They are working very hard to get through some tough times, and he thinks they are succeeding. Staggs said that the DNR has a good relationship with Trout Unlimited and that, even though we don't always see eye to eye, our funds and manpower are valued and can be used to increase the amount of work done on trout habitat. He concluded his remarks by stating that the trout stamp funds are being spent as collected, but demand for the money exceeds the amount collected.

—Gary Stoychoff

Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter

The Nohr Chapter's major stream conservation efforts for 2004

involve the restoration work on a segment of the **Blue River** that be-

gins at the **County Highway I** bridge between **Highland** and **Montfort**. Work is under way at this time.

We have assisted in building 300 lunger structures for the **German Valley Gordon Creek** project. About 1/3 have been installed at this time.

We have gathered a group of educators to complete a stream monitoring curriculum project. It establishes a one-week water monitoring and resource appreciation curriculum for middle and high schools students. This curriculum will be provided to more than 250 teachers. Disbursement of the budgeted \$1,500 for the stipends and other expenses associated with the curriculum development project has been approved.

This submittal goes out just before our **Spring Creek Festival** on September 11 at **Castle Rock**. The festival is a success even before it

starts due to the partners and other supporters. All funds taken in from this festival go directly into stream restoration.

—Brian Larson

Continued on p. 14

FLY FISHERMAN'S PARADISE

19+ acres in Waushara County bisected by 1000 ft. of the White River and bordered by 250 acres of DNR land. Newer two-story classic 2000 sq. ft. home. A rare piece of property for the discriminating sportsman. \$449,000.

Call (920) 787-4801 evenings.



Nohr Chapter the project leader for group restoration effort on Blue River

The Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter was the physical sponsor of another big restoration project on the Blue River between the villages of Highland and Montfort in Iowa County. This new work continues work done earlier on the same river. Partners in this latest work included:

- Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter of TU,
- Blackhawk Chapter of TU,
- Elliot Donnelley Chapter of TU,
- Oakbrooke Chapter of TU,
- Lee Wulff Chapter of TU,
- Gary Borger Chapter of TU,
- The Larry Wolenc Family,
- TU National Embrace-A-Stream,
- Wisconsin State Council of TU,
- Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources,
- Iowa County Land Conservation Dept.,
- The Besadny Foundation,
- Madison Fishing Expo,
- Land's End, and
- Patagonia Corp.

The above partners contributed an estimated 700 hours on work on the project covering one half mile of stream.



Chapter News

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter

Kiap-TU-Wish members and their colleagues in conservation made an extraordinary volunteer effort this summer on a variety of projects. Volunteers helped the WDNR with electrofishing surveys on the Eau Galle and Kinnickinnic Rivers, assisted the University of Wisconsin-River Falls with the installation of temperature monitoring equipment in the South Fork of the Kinnickinnic River, participated in seeding and mulching operations on a WDNR stream improvement project on the Kinnickinnic River, and worked on the construction of a McKenzie-style drift boat that will be used in a fund raising effort.

Participating in the electrofishing surveys were **John Koch, Chuck Goossen, Greg Dietl, Bob Weisner, Tom Johnson, John Mowery, Nick Altinger, Sarah Sanford, Jonathan Jacobs, and Steve Carlton.**

Led by **Kent Johnson**, working on the installation of the South Fork monitors were **Gary Horvath, Paul Wright, Hap Lutter, Tracy Nelson, Greg Dietl, and Phil Vieth.**

Working with the West Central trout crew on the stream improvement project on the Kinnickinnic were **Gary Horvath, Gary Richardson, John Koch, Tracy Nelson, Paul Wright, Hap Lutter, John Carr, Sarah Sanford, Chuck Goossen, Bob Bradham, Ted Mackmiller, Greg Dietl, Nick Elliot, Mary McKee, and Gerard Haines.**

Under the able leadership of **Bill Hinton, Bob Bradham, Erik Brady, Dan Bruski, Greg Dietl, Chuck Goossen, "Jupe" Houman, Jonathan Jacobs, Ted Mackmiller, and Jack Storer** are making good progress on the completion of the Greg Tatman drift boat donated to the chapter by **Bill Schuessler.**

Chapter president **Gary Horvath** made a detailed presentation to the chapter's September meeting on the considerable number of issues with which the chapter is involved.

Citing work and family commitments, **Craig Aschenbrenner** resigned from the board earlier this year. The board elected **Hap Lutter** of River Falls to serve the balance of Craig's term. The board, officers, and members thank Craig for his many contributions and welcome Dr. Lutter to the board.

Kiap-TU-Wish received a generous \$1,220 gift from the **Wisconsin Fly Fishing Home Page** for its **Eau Galle River** restoration fund. WFF-HP raised the money at its **Spring Conclave** held on the banks of the **Trimbelle River.** Business donors who supported the event included **Tom Anderson of Anderson Sales, John Goplin of Sokol Associates, Paul Hansen of Wellman Sports Marketing and The Sporting Life Adventure Travel Company, Brian Stewart of Stewart Fly Fishing Company, and Andy Roth of Bentley's Outfitters.**

—Jonathan Jacobs

Lakeshore Chapter

The Lakeshore Chapter had two stream projects this summer. June 16-19 found us working on one of the headwater tributaries of the **Onion River.** This stream is located on the former **Kamrath** property.

The purpose of the project was to deepen areas of the stream and to provide cover for fish that come up to spawn. We are hoping that some of these fish will also decide to become permanent residents. A variety of techniques were used including v-logs, mini lunkers, and ¾ logs along the banks. The finished product looks good. Now we are waiting to see the results of the work.

Our second stream project ran from August 18-21. This took place on the **Onion River** from the Hwy. E bridge downstream (approximately 1/2 mile). This section of stream had become wide, shallow, and heavily overgrown. The project consisted of narrowing the stream in several spots, placing lunker structures into the banks, creating several plunge pools, deepening the holes, and

placing large rocks in the stream. The new banks were tapered and seeded with grasses to help prevent erosion. The result is a section of stream that should support more fish, is esthetically pleasing, and is more fishable.

Larry Doebert of the Lakeshore Chapter and WDNR fish manager **John Nelson** headed both projects. **Roger Widner** from the **West Fork Sportsmen's Club**, did the majority of the heavy equipment work.

August 27-29 saw many of our members tying flies at the **Ducks Unlimited Great Outdoors Festival** in Oshkosh. Club Member **Jeff Preiss** organized the fly tiers for this event. Chapter members tying at the DU festival were **Al Spindler, Chuck Wolf, Tom Steinberg, George Close, and Mike McGill.**

September brings about the start of our monthly meetings. We meet on the third Monday of the month at the **Club Bil-Mar.** The business meeting starts at 6:30.

—Wayne Trupke

Marinette County Chapter

The Marinette County Chapter of Trout Unlimited conducted another successful banquet this year in April at **Schussler's Supper Club** in Peshtigo. The chapter netted over \$13,000 from the banquet.

The chapter also conducted a membership drive at the banquet and recruited 12 new members.

The chapter conducted kids fishing days in Peshtigo on June 18, with 31 kids participating, and in Marinette on June 25, with 48 kids participating.

The chapter again provided scholarships to four area high school students to attend the **UWSP/CWES** workshops this summer. **Phil Goes** and **Dan Geltz** from

Marinette and **Ben Jacobs** and **Ken Banister** from Peshtigo attended.

The chapter funded beaver control projects on several Marinette County watersheds and in the **Nicolet National Forest.**

Meetings for the summer were suspended and will resume on Tuesday, October 5, at the **Dome Lanes** in Marinette at 7 p.m. Meetings will be held every month on the first Tuesday of the month at the **Dome Lanes.**

Current chapter officers are:

President — **Steve Wilke**

Vice-Pres. — **John Lemke**

Sec.-Treas. — **John LeBeau**

—John LeBeau

Northwoods Chapter

The Chapter held our 11th Annual **Youth Fly Fishing Conclave** on July 10, and it was another fantastic success. **Terry Cummings** did a great job organizing the event, getting sponsors and volunteers lined up, and keeping things flowing smoothly throughout the day.

The chapter had a stream work day on August 28 on the **Bearskin Creek** repairing two brush bundles and constructing two additional brush bundles. This past summer the chapter sponsored the placement of boulders and logs in the **Bearskin Creek** by **Dave Brum** and **John Kubisiak** and the DNR fisheries crew. **Packaging Corporation of America, Tomahawk**, really helped out by donating and delivery of 20 16-20 foot logs for the project. **Brian Leitinger** coordinated this important donation. **Fred Johnson** and **Wayne Stevens** spent days working with the DNR on the stream and really deserve a huge thank you from the chapter. Terry especially thanks the following for contributing to the success of the conclave. Event volunteers included **Brian Hegge, Vicki Houston, Al Brooks, Dave Brum, Bob Tabbert, Ron Rogowski, Phyllis Tabbert, Aaron Nelson, and Nick** (from **We Tie It**). Food was donated by **Sysco Foods** and **McDonalds.** Prizes and supplies were donated by **Gary Moran, We Tie It, TU's First**

Cast Program, Kit Duebler, Aaron Nelson, and Scott Watson. And without educational materials from **TU, FFF, DNR, and Dave Lambert,** we wouldn't know what we are doing (just kidding, of course).

The chapter had a picnic at **Hodag Park** in Rhinelander on September 13. **Bob Tabbert**, a FFF certified casting instructor, conducted a casting session and had members casting through a hoop, putting their fly in a can, snapping a mouse trap, and casting over 70 feet.

The chapter holds its meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month at the **Claridge Inn, Rhinelander,** with a 6:00 p.m. business meeting followed at 7:00 with our guest speaker or event.

Our schedule of events for this coming fall/winter include:

- **WDNR** and **US Forest Service** review of projects on October 11,
- **Bill Sherer** from **We Tie It** fly shop in Boulder Junction on *Fishing the Upper Peninsula* on November 8,
- Christmas Party at the **Rhinelander Café & Pub** on December 13 at 6:00 p.m.,
- **Pete Segerson** from the **Antigo DNR** to discuss the stream work completed on the **East Branch of the Eau Claire** this summer on the lower **Prairie River**, dredging at **Maxwell Springs,**

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Chapter News



- the radio-telemetry of trout on the **Wolf River** on January 10, and
- a slide show of **Montana Spring Creeks (DuPoys, Milesnick, McCoy Cattle Company)** by **Brian**

Hegge on February 14.

- We will hold our annual **Conservation Banquet** on April 12 at the **Rhineland Café & Pub**.

—*Brian Hegge*

Ojibseau Chapter

Good weather blessed us and new recruits brought a burst of energy to **Gilbert Creek**, with the addition (among others) of **Elk Mound's Boy Scout Troop 71** and their leaders, coutmaster **Tom Patitz** and Assistant scoutmaster *Tom Kendzierski*.

Those guys had the straw mulch flying! We raked, seeded, and mulched over 350 feet of banks. All told, almost two dozen volunteers helped out. Our creek cook team leader, **Wayne Wilson**, was able to keep up with the hungry volunteers, feeding them brats and sweet corn.

Southern Wisconsin Chapter

The July chapter meeting and picnic was a big hit. **Scot Stewart** and **Kurt Welke** provided the entertainment/edification/humiliation. The dynamic duo brought their electro-fishing gear and performed an unofficial trout census on a section of **Garfoot Creek** that was the focus of numerous SWTU workdays in 2003.

The entertainment came from seeing such marvelous fish. The edification came from noting the types of places where these leviathans like to hang out. If you weren't humbled by the difference between electro-fishing yields and those obtained by most of us with rod and reel, then you will never know the meaning of humiliation. As always, it was awe inspiring.

The electro-shocking demonstration was followed by our annual chapter picnic. Chef **Mark Rhinerson** may have outdone himself this year. His brats were delicious (as al-

The stream's foundation has become firmer downstream, and pre-built lunger structures can be used instead of jetted structures, which have to be built one by one and are slower to install. So the crew will bring out a dozen stockpiled lunger structures we built last year and install them, along with a half-dozen more they built. The work will go quicker with the lungers, and it looks like we will be able — weather permitting — to complete 3,000 feet of stream before we're done.

—*Tim Meyer*

ways), but his baked whistle berries were superb. Demand for the latter was so high that those returning to gorge themselves on seconds were disappointed to face the clean bottom of an empty pan. He must have had a secret ingredient this year. Hearty thanks are owed to all who made this event a success.

Please mark January 14 and 15 on your calendars — the 2005 **Ice Breaker** is on its way. Our speakers will be **Seth Norman** and **Bill Shogren**. Mr. Norman is the author of *The Fly Fisher's Guide to Crimes of Passion* and *Meanderings of a Fly Fisherman*. Both books are wonderful works of prose. If you like Gierach, then you will love Norman.

Mr. Shogren is coauthor of *Wisconsin and Minnesota Trout Streams: A Fly-Angler's Guide* and is a very active member of a TU chapter in the Twin Cities.

The **Ice Breaker** is an annual event and serves as the major fund-

raiser for our chapter. It features seminars by renowned experts, bucket raffles, door prizes, fly tying demonstrations, chili, and a lot of fun. The proceeds are used to fund our coldwater restoration efforts.

Veteran Ice Breaker attendees will surely agree that this is probably the most fun that can be had (legally) while raising money.

—*Mark Maffit*

Wild Rivers Chapter

The Wild Rivers chapter has been pretty busy this summer. In July we assisted WDNR's **Scott Toshner**, **Cris Sand**, and **Cordell Manz**, with installing a number of log structures in the **South Fork of the White River**. **Chuck Campbell**, **Dick Berge** and **Bill Heart** helped float logs and stake some of the logs into the bed of the river.

The South Fork is primarily used as a spawning area and a nursery area. The logs are used to produce more overhead cover, open up spawning gravel beds, and cut some deeper runs for protection. The chapter purchased the 50 plus logs used in this project.

We also donated \$1,500 to the WDNR to assist with the creel census which is taking place for the en-

tire fishing season on the White River. This is part of a long-range project to answer question about the decline of the brown trout fishery in the White River.

The chapter has also been instrumental in developing the White River Watershed Management Plan, setting up meetings with landowners, and ultimately responsible for a possible expansion of the White River Fisheries Area proposed by **Governor Doyle**. (See other article)

At our September meeting we were excited to have noted author **Bill Shogren**, co-author of *Wisconsin & Minnesota Trout Streams*, entertain the chapter with his famous fly fishing exploits.

—*Bill Heart*

Wisconsin River Valley Chapter

This past summer the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter in cooperation with the **WDNR** completed rebuilding projects on the **Prairie River** in Lincoln County and the **Plover River** in Marathon County.

The Prairie River covered almost one mile of river below **Hwy. C** in the Merrill area.

Funding for this project was made possible by financial assistance from the **Lincoln County Forestry Dept.**, the **Natural Resources Foundation**, **DNR** trout stamp funds, the **Antigo Chapter** of TU, and our chapter. The work consisted of narrowing and deepening the stream and adding large boulders to the rebuilt areas that furnish feeding and resting areas for trout.

The **Plover River** in the **Bevent** area in Marathon County also covered nearly one mile of river.

Funding for this project came from the **Marathon County Forestry Dept.**, the **Natural Resources Foundation**, **Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited**, a donation from the **Jeff Ludkey family**, trout stamp monies, and our chapter. Here, too, the river was narrowed and deepened in the rebuild areas and large boulders were added to these areas.

Also a great deal of thanks to the many landowners that joined with these projects by allowing us the permitting papers that are needed to do this work.

—*Herb Hintze*

BEC: stream has other problems than its tree canopy

Continued from p. 6

4. Extensive stream channeling and straightening.
5. A tree canopy that covers 50-60% of the watercourse.

Of these problems, the tree canopy is one that can be most easily addressed. The Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited, under the expert leadership of past President Tom Ehlert, has assembled a hearty debrushing crew that has started chopping away at the tree canopy on BEC.

Two seasons' work has produced some nice rewards. But this problem goes far beyond their capabilities.

We're talking about this crew having brushed only 5-6 miles of canopy on BEC and 4-5 on Mt. Vernon! Following the *News Sickle Arrow* article, the DNR responded by debrushing two 300-foot stretches on BEC. A good start. Keep it up!

Future work for the DNR

Bottom line: the DNR in this district, following good results in the other two districts of spring creek water to the west, needs to engage in an aggressive, big machinery program of selective debrushing and burning (actually, de-treeing) to help maintain and rejuvenate its two once-great trout streams — Black Earth and Mt. Vernon. The DNR

has already done fine debrushing work on the West Branch of the Sugar, and has added miles of trout water in the process.

Now that *Wisconsin Trout* has let the "trout out of the bag," maybe more anglers will start "observing" their spring creeks with an educated eye — "wondering whether a growing tree canopy is detrimental."



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(Dennis Franke of the Southern Wisconsin Chapter lives along Black Earth Creek in Cross Plains. -Ed.)

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Background reading on spring creeks

For further reading on this subject, Dennis Franke suggests the following references:

- Ray J. White and Oscar M. Brynildson. *Guidelines for Management of Trout Stream Habitat in Wisconsin*. (Technical Bulletin No. 39). WDNR, Madison, WI, 1967, rev. 1986.
- Robert L. Hunt. *Removal of Woody Streambank Vegetation to Improve Trout Habitat*. (Technical Bulletin No. 115). WDNR, Madison, WI, 1979.
- Robert L. Hunt. *A Follow-Up Assessment of Removing Woody Streambank Vegetation Along Two Wisconsin Trout Streams*. (Report No. 137). WDNR, Madison, WI, 1985.
- Robert L. Hunt. "Techniques Recommended for Low or Moderate Gradient Streams", Chapter two, pp. 20-39, in *Trout Stream Therapy*, Madison, WI, University of Wisconsin Press, 1993.



TU QUIZ

How many commercial fishermen does Wisconsin licence to operate in Lakes Superior and Michigan?
A. 85 B. 210 C. 300 D. About 500

Answer: A. Though more than 200 commercial fishers were licensed 25 years ago, the WDNR now licenses 10 in Lake Superior and about 75 in Lake Michigan.



Election 2004 the conservation perspective

BUSH VS. KERRY

the conservation perspective

This issue of Wisconsin Trout features two interviews that illustrate the views of John Kerry and George Bush on conservation and environmental issues. The Kerry interview was conducted in September, 2003, with the candidate himself. President Bush has spoken on conservation and environmental issues only through his administration officials, so for his views we present an April, 2004, interview with Assistant Interior Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Craig Manson. Both interviews are reprinted with permission from Grist magazine.

The Kerry view

By Amanda Griscom

He has the jaw and build of Paul Bunyan; he windsurfs, kiteboards, and snowboards; and he's married to Teresa Heinz, one of the most powerful environmental philanthropists in the country. He has his finger on every hot-button environmental issue in D.C., from helping to lead the Senate campaign against drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to pushing for improved fuel-efficiency standards to advocating for an aggressive renewable energy development plan. With the exception of that Harley Davidson Wide Glide he likes to parade at campaign events, Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) looks to be the ultimate embodiment of Beltway eco-chic.

But what goes on behind the glossy-green public image? What does this presidential candidate's environmental record really look like after his nearly 20 years in the U.S. Senate? Rifle through the archives of the League of Conservation Voters, and you'll find he gets an A+ — literally. Kerry has a 96-percent lifetime voting record, outscoring all of the other candidates. (Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman comes in second with 93 percent.) Despite concerns that Kerry is a limousine liberal, there seem to be few contradictions between his environmental image and his track record — a couple of peccadilloes aside. (Beyond his Harley, which he says he'll never relinquish, Kerry the renewables advocate is hesitant to support the Cape Wind project in his own state, likely influenced by his wealthy, beachfront-owning constituents who oppose the wind-energy farm.)

Late one recent night (at 11 p.m. EST, to be exact), Grist tracked Kerry down on the campaign trail — rather, in the campaign jet, flying from Colorado to Boston — to discuss his environmental record, President Bush's "New Environmentalism," and balancing his vision for a clean-energy future with his passion for his motorcycle.

Hi! It's John Kerry. I want to warn you that I'm in the air — 50,000 feet above Colorado — so the

signal may come in and out.

Great. Let's start with your reaction to Bush's environmental record.

Abysmal. Worst record in modern history.

Can you elaborate? What do you find most alarming?

All of it. It's so vast. When you add it all up, it's a stunning assault on environmental common sense. You begin with global warming,

which is one of the most serious challenges of all, you add it to the ocean pollution and fisheries challenge that we face. And then you couple that with the quality of our rivers and streams and lakes, the air-quality issues of the United States, the forest and mining policies, the drilling policies, arsenic in our drinking water, and you just have an unbelievable series of backward-moving measures.

There is not one proactive, genuinely thoughtful, positive policy that you can point to that George Bush and his administration are advocating. You cannot find one area where they are genuinely advocating something. They have their Healthy Forests thing; it's a fraud. Clear Skies; it's a fraud. It's all very Orwellian — remember in 1984 where "war is peace"? That's the Bush environmental policy.

You've proposed a very aggressive energy plan, advocating a Renewable Portfolio Standard that sets a mandatory industry target to produce 20 percent of the nation's electricity supply from renewable fuels by 2020. Can you tell us how, practically speaking, we are going to get from here to there, given that right now as a nation we're producing less than one percent of our energy from non-hydro renewables?

Yeah, but in California it's 13 percent. California is the sixth-largest economy in the world. That's the full mix — hydro, geothermal, solar, wind, biomass, everything. In other states it's only one or two percent, but you can advance very quickly because there are enormous gains — both economic and environmental — to be made in many of those states.

Continued on p. 17



John Kerry

The Bush view

By Amanda Griscom

Craig Manson is the man President Bush selected to protect America's critters. And like many top dogs in this administration, he's not exactly considered a good friend of the environmental community.

As assistant interior secretary for fish, wildlife, and parks, Manson implements the Endangered Species Act, determines the direction of the National Park System and the Fish and Wildlife Service, and oversees some 30,000 employees. Manson took a roundabout path to his post within the Bush administration, via the Air Force, a law practice, the California Department of Fish and Game, and a judgeship in the Superior Court of California in Sacramento.

Environmental organizations, including the Endangered Species Coalition and Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, vehemently opposed Manson's appointment, accusing him of having worked within the California DFG "to aid politically connected developers and other permittees, to frustrate strict enforcement of resource-protection laws, and to work, usually behind the scenes, to weaken interpretations of key statutes and policies," as PEER put it in a statement.

Manson has since been condemned by critics for changes to ESA enforcement and for controversial public statements about species extinction. But the criticism rolls off him like water off a duck's back.

When *Grist* checked in with Manson to explore these concerns, the former judge was unflinching in his belief that the FWS and other agencies he oversees are making great strides forward. Manson shared his views on endangered species and plenty more, including the role of science in national policy, Darwinian science, and his comical efforts as a youth activist to clean up a local beach.

I'd like to start by asking you broadly, what do you think are the most undue and misbegotten criticisms of the Bush administration's environmental policies?

I think one of them has to do with our use of science. There seems to be this notion that we manipulate science to suit our own ends, and that's simply not

true. One of the things that people have to understand is that policy-makers of all stripes and in whatever administration take science and use science to inform their policy decisions. That's not a manipulation of science.

That's the role science is supposed to play. The science tells policy-makers the state of the world and not necessarily what to do about it. We

have policy-makers who make decisions in areas that involve science who frequently are not scientists. There's nothing wrong with that because they are supposed to weigh and balance a wide spectrum of public-policy concerns and in many cases not just the science.

Can you give an example where science cannot determine policy?

I read a study that said meat eaters are X number of times more likely to get colon cancer than vegetarians. Let's say that the science is good and we can say that this is a scientific fact. OK? Now, we have policy-makers at the Department of Health and Human Services who must decide whether they should put dollars into research or prevention programs or other remedial programs. They might say we want to start an education program, or ignore it entirely, or say we need legislation banning meat because science tells us it's dangerous. Any one of those things in a theoretical world is a valid public-policy choice, but the point is that it's up to public-policy makers — not scientists — to decide among those and other competing public-policy options. The science has told us the state of the world, but not what to do about it.

What do you make of the widespread claims that this administration's environmental policies are more damaging to the environment than those of any other administration in history?

Continued on p. 18



Craig Manson

KERRY: interview on conservation, environment

Continued from p. 16

But we have to encourage the investments with incentives from a state and federal level.

Wasn't that proposal essentially laughed out of the U.S. Senate as economically untenable?

No. It was laughed at by the special interests who wrote the Republican energy bill. That's just the industry resisting. It has nothing to do with reality. The special interests come in and spend huge sums of money to get Washington to continue spending money on the old way of doing things. We spend incredible amounts of your money to do for the oil and gas industry what they could afford to do for themselves. And we shortchange the alternatives, the new ideas. They fight to drill in ANWR, they [take money away from] new energy — it's that simple. The reality is that you can achieve a 20 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard fairly quickly if you put the kind of money into alternatives that you put into existing forms of energy.

Can you take us through the economic advantages of your plan and how you would achieve it?

Once a certain amount of money is allocated by government to do something, people generally find ways of getting at it. The government incentivizes people to move in that direction. It creates marketplaces. You make it profitable for people. You implement the RPS [Renewable Portfolio Standard]. You set up a series of joint ventures, of grants, of tax credits. You make requirements that companies have to produce a percentage of their electricity from alternatives and renewables, and that creates a market; then those states start bidding for companies to provide it. It's a different way of thinking, and it can lead to a better policy — with goals set by leaders in policy-making with incentives to help get us there. It's exactly what we did with NASA and the space program. They'll do requests for proposals and then those companies say, well, 20 percent equals X amount of income and it's in our economic interests to get in the arena and compete. They'll start looking at ways to produce it. And you commit federal funds to help that process along.

So it becomes profitable for companies when you commit federal funds?

Correct. And committing those federal funds will, in the long term, create jobs and grow the economy. Just like the military did in the Cold War, or the space program.

In the face of war and terrorism, environmentalism has dropped considerably in the polls as a primary issue of public concern. How can we get this issue back on the map?

First of all, those polls often don't reflect people's real feelings. Polls are a snapshot of a moment. Poll results can be skewed by how questions are worded and how they are asked. When I say to audiences: Domestic, renewable sources are urgently needed now because they are entirely under our control, no foreign government can embargo them, no terrorist can seize control of them, no cartel can play games with them, no American soldier will have to risk his or her life to protect them — audiences respond. I find that all over the country, people are responding to environmental concerns as I talk about it.

What about beyond energy issues? Or is that the issue people respond to most?

There are plenty of issues that touch a chord with people. Take, for instance the 80,000 chemicals registered for use in the United States. Fewer than 10 percent of them have been tested. Daily we are exposed to hundreds, even thousands, of them — in the food and products we buy, in cleaners and cosmetics and children's toys. Some of these are linked to cancer and birth defects, and yet still the EPA and FDA don't yet have the authority and capacity to investigate, monitor, and test the long-term risks of these compounds. People respond to this.

They also respond to what's happening to their towns and neighborhoods. The federal government needs to help cities across the nation, like the old manufacturing towns all across New England, build the infrastructure that will keep sewage and polluted runoff out of our rivers, lakes, and harbors. We must leverage a new urban strategy in America to plan spaces — build community and avoid the endless sprawl that robs us of our public spaces — and ultimately revive the urban center as one of the best places to live and raise a family. You're telling me Americans don't care about these things?

When you add it all up, it's a stunning assault on environmental common sense. You begin with global warming, which is one of the most serious challenges of all, you add it to the ocean pollution and fisheries challenge that we face. And then you couple that with the quality of our rivers and streams and lakes, the air-quality issues of the United States, the forest and mining policies, the drilling policies, arsenic in our drinking water, and you just have an unbelievable series of backward-moving measures.

Can you elaborate on how, when you travel around, you energize average citizens around these issues, and how central such issues will be to your campaign?

It's very central. I tell them it's critical to our own survival. It's critical to our legacy, to the next generations. People connect to that. People understand it. They just want reasonable proposals. They don't want doomsday extremism. They want optimism and real, practical solutions, and we can drive that — with science, technology, research, with very practical efforts. There's a lot we can do. It's empowering for Americans to hear what we can do.

It's interesting to me that unlike other candidates, you've actually gone to Iowa, for instance, which has a strong United Auto Workers base, and argued for CAFE [Corporate Average Fuel Economy] standards, putting yourself in conflict with what we traditionally think of as anti-environmentalists.

You have to tell the truth and let the chips fall where they may. But the truth, in this case, should be appealing to UAW's workers: I believe I can put them to work. I believe I can have them working making cars; they can just make cars that are more efficient. It's not that hard. We can make cars that use biomass ethanol, cars that use hybrid-electric engines, that get 100 miles to the gallon by just being smarter. Somebody has to lead us there.

So you have the same message for, say, an autoworker in Iowa as you would for a card-carrying environ-

mentalist in Portland, Ore. — this message that new, clean industries can energize the marketplace and save the environment at the same time?

The message is the same: We can create jobs and people don't have to fear good environmental practices and we can show people how we'll create the jobs and in fact they'll be better off. I'd rather sell more American cars that are fuel-efficient than have people turn to Japanese cars and German cars, and right now they are out-producing us in this area. So the way to sell the American cars is get efficient. I'm willing to provide incentives that help people do that.

How do you consider yourself different from other candidates on the environment?

This fight is such a part of who I am; it's not just an issue on my resume. I think I have the longest, strongest, clearest, most accomplished record on the environment of any of the candidates running. I began in 1970 when I spoke at Earth Day. I was chairman of Earth Day New England in 1990. I chaired a governor's task force on acid rain when I was a lieutenant governor and we developed a national plat-

form for acid rain. I've been chairman of the Oceans and Environment Subcommittee of the Commerce Committee. I've rewritten our fisheries laws, our marine mammal protection laws, our plastic pollution laws, our flood insurance protection laws, our coastal-zone management laws. I've led on tuna/dolphin safety issues, on banning driftnet fishing. I've been to all the major conferences — Rio, Buenos Aires, Kyoto, The Hague — on global warming. I led the fight to stop Newt Gingrich from attacking the Clean Air and Clean Water acts in 1996, and I've led the effort in the Senate to stop the drilling in the Arctic wildlife refuge. I put together the first-ever sustainable development conference in Asia. I am proud of my record of accomplishment on the environment.

You have a 96-percent lifetime voting record on the environment at the League of Conservation Voters, which is about as good as it gets. Yet Al Gore also had a very strong record coming into office, and he wasn't able to maintain it. What would you say to environmentalists who are disappointed that Al Gore wasn't able to put the environment first?

I would never walk away from this issue, and the environmental community can make a statement by joining me. I've been building my record for 19 years. It's a central premise of my career and who I am as a person and I'm not about to walk away from it.

Can you elaborate? Why do you think Gore strayed from his strong environmental record during his vice

presidency?

I don't have any comment on what happened with Gore. I just don't know. I can only tell you what I will fight for. I think my record is long and clear and I'd be betraying myself if I didn't continue forward with it. I just couldn't do that.

You are thought of as an avid environmentalist and you've built a reputation as an outdoorsman. Can you talk about your personal relationship to the environment? What made you care about these issues and how do you practice environmentalism in your own life?

My mother was a strong environmentalist. She passed to all of us a great appreciation for the world around us. She started nature walks at our schools. She took us out in the early morning and taught us about birds. She read us Thoreau and Emerson and later Rachel Carson. We were always hiking and walking and learning about the outdoors, so from a very early age I had a powerful sense of its importance.

How do you practice it in your own life? Do you have solar on your roof? Do you drive a hybrid car? Do you spend much time outdoors?

My wife Teresa is very deeply involved in the movement. That's how we really got to know each other; we met at an earth summit. Teresa does so much. Through her philanthropy she built a green, self-sustaining building in Pittsburgh, she works on international environmental issues, and she is really visionary in connecting the dots between the environment and public health.

As for personal choices, years ago I got rid of my SUV and downscaled to a minivan. (We haul around a lot of staff and reporters on the trail, so a sedan isn't an option.) We don't have solar yet, but Teresa just built an office of sustainably harvested wood. I'm a nudge about recycling, even when camping or enjoying the outdoors. Teresa and I go for great long walks in Idaho [where we have a home] under the mountains. I'm an avid windsurfer, kite-boarder, snow-boarder, hiker, you name it. If there's wind, water, snow, trails, I want to be there. I want to taste it, feel it. I crave nature. Even on the campaign trail, I'll try to take a moment to go for a walk by the water in places like Seattle or Chicago.

What about vices — like that Harley we often see you driving to campaign events?

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Election 2004 the conservation perspective

KERRY: interview on conservation, environment

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I don't consider that a vice. It's very fuel-efficient and economical and better than a big car.

But emissions on Harleys are significantly worse than cars. Does that concern you?

I haven't heard that about my Harley. But if it's a vice, it's one I don't think I can quit. Sorry.

The Bush administration keeps talking about a "New Environmentalism" based on incentives and market-based solutions. Do you agree with this shift away from command-and-control regulations?

Well, yes. You don't want to do everything by command and control, though that doesn't mean eliminating it entirely. You want to create incentives that condition markets and people's behavior toward better environmental performance. You have to convince, for instance, a paper mill to be more fuel-efficient

because it will save them money. We can actually show a company how they can save money by polluting less and, in the case of cap-and-trade programs, actually turn a profit. This is happening. There are all kinds of ways of harnessing people's better instincts.

So market-based solutions should be a critical part of future environmental regulations?

Absolutely. But remember, we need carrots and sticks. Some behavior can be regulated, some can't. Some things you can't bend on. For example, I believe that instead of letting the Superfund go broke, sticking taxpayers with the tab, and forcing communities to live with toxic sites, we should restore the polluter-pays principle and get the poisons out of our neighborhoods. It's fair, it's just — and, yes, it's a mandate that polluters have to pay to clean up their mess.

Some [issues are] better incentivized. The trading mechanism we developed for sulfur dioxide [to clean up acid rain] was very effective. It used market forces to produce a very good result. We need to build on that.

Where do you stand on the Cape Cod wind farm controversy in your own state?

I think we need a siting process. I think there has to be a legitimate siting agreement and we have to wait and see what the environmental impact statement suggests.

So are you undecided?

No. I am generically in favor of wind power but I want to know whether this is the right place. There is a lot of opposition, obviously, a lot of people concerned about it. What's the impact going to be on the ecosystem? I want to know. I think we have to have a clear process by which we're going

to get these things sited. I don't think we can let everyone run around plunking [wind farms] down wherever they want.

What would you do as president about the Kyoto Protocol on global climate change? Would you submit it to the Senate?

No, not in its current form. It does have some flaws. It doesn't ask enough of developing nations, the nations that are going to be producing much greater emissions and which we need to get on the right course now through technology transfer. I would reopen the negotiating process, fix the flaws, and move forward.

I want to address this issue of balancing the concerns of the environment with the concerns of big business. The Bush administration has led us to believe that these two goals of growing the economy and protecting the environment are radically incompatible. This, of course, is bogus, but still you can't deny that Big Business fundamentally does not like environmental regulations. How would you balance these issues as president?

You have to bring business to the table and show them how it's in their interest and how you can work it in a way that doesn't put them out of business. If you do things without incentives, you can really hurt business people. That's why, for example, I've put forward a plan on fuel efficiency that includes incentives for the industry, not just mandates. Carrots and sticks. We have to have a reasonableness in the dialogue. We have to communicate to them both the imperative of doing these things and finding a way that can satisfy the environmental demand of doing it with their business needs — addressing how they will capitalize, what kind of technologies they

will use. In some cases they may have a legitimate argument for how we may have to have some kind of federal assistance in the process. Take the Superfund example — you can adhere to the polluter-pays concept even as you help companies through the process. There are ways to get things done if leadership wants to get them done. You have to lead people to a better place.

What's your opinion on the nomination of Michael Leavitt, the Republican governor of Utah, to head the U.S. EPA? Are you going to block his appointment?

I don't know yet. Leavitt's record as governor doesn't strike me as especially balanced. And I'll tell you this: We shouldn't consider confirming him until we force the administration to share the truth about the EPA report on the air safety at Ground Zero in New York City. The apparent whitewash that happened after 9/11 is shocking. Hardball is the only thing this administration responds to.

But whether it's Leavitt or someone else at EPA, my opinion is fundamentally that the experience that Christie Todd Whitman had proved that it really doesn't matter who is there. They [Bush administration members] are going to be bad, they are not going to let anybody be creative. Dick Cheney and old thinking on the environment call the shots here. Period. What they did to Christie Todd Whitman was inexcusable. They found a token environmentalist and they wouldn't let her be who she was for so many years. We need a new president, not just a new EPA chief.

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MANSON: interview on Bush's conservation policies

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It's sheer, naked politics. And there's the sense on the part of

some that there's only one way to do things and that any departure from the one way to do things is a com-

plete abandonment of the environment. And that the only way to do things is strict control by the government.

So you believe the criticism from the environmental community of Bush's record is really just a partisan argument unrelated to the policies themselves?

In part, yes. It's not wholly partisan in the sense of Republican and Democrat. But there are people who have political goals, who want to aggrandize themselves or their organizations or their movements.

In my experience, environmentalists are very concerned about policy — take, for instance, the Endangered Species Act, which has been reworked under your tenure.

You know, some people were deathly afraid that we were going to repeal the Endangered Species Act, and others hoped that we would repeal it. What we have done through collaboration and cooperation is improve the way the ESA works. The law is still there — it's being enforced, but implemented in a different way.

How so?

Like a lot of environmental laws, the ESA was based on the principle that you prohibit things, and if people do the prohibited things you prosecute them and you fine them. And that was the way for many, many years the ESA was implemented. And right from the get-go that sets up an adversarial relationship between the government and people who are trying to do nothing more than perfectly legal things like

farm their land or build their houses — things that they certainly don't think of as criminal.

We are now in an era of cooperation under the ESA and other environmental laws, where the first thing out of the mouth of FWS is not, "No!" It's, "Let's see how we can make this work." Which is not to say that in every case things can work, but that approach breaks down the barrier between the service and people who are trying to do perfectly legal things on their property.

How do you propose to make it work on a more friendly level?

Our Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program has over the last three years provided hundreds of millions of dollars to private landowners to restore and enhance habitat on their lands. It's a voluntary program. We don't go around and say, "Hey, you better sign up for this." Instead, it's a voluntary program and all of that money has been spent and it's restored thousands of acres of habitat, thousands of miles of streams and river habitat. We've done the same thing in our landowner incentive program and our private stewardship grant program. How much better it is to get people to feel good about doing things with the land than have them fearing doing things on the land.

I'm confused about the philosophy of making people "feel good about doing things with the land" when clearly development can have terribly damaging consequences.

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MANSON: interview on Bush's policies

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Why would corporations want to save endangered species? At a recent National Association of Manufacturers conference, the top priority of manufacturing executives was to do away with the ESA entirely on the grounds that it's completely at odds with their bottom line.

Well, in the time that I've worked on ESA, the circumstances under which someone has had to be forced to do something have been rare and far between. But in terms of it meeting corporations' bottom line, there are frequently ways in which economic development and environmental protection can coexist.

Why would it be in corporations' economic interest?

There are a lot of reasons: It may gain them a favorable image and standing with the public. It may be that the preservation of habitat is compatible with their business goals. And as I said, some of the biggest companies in America have collaborated with us, but you can't get them to do that if constantly you have people showing up and saying, "You're evil, you're bad, you're going to jail." That's just the wrong way to treat people.

You made a comment at a Santa Barbara conference that riled a lot of environmentalists, in which you called into question the inherent harm of species extinction: "If we are saying that the loss of species in and of itself is inherently bad," you said, "I don't think we know enough about how the world works to say that." Can you explain this comment and what you think may be the sunny side of species extinction?

The reaction to that comment illustrates something about the character of the science that some people would have us use — which is, "Don't question the orthodoxy of anything." I mean, do we know? The orthodoxy is that every species has a place in the ecosystem and therefore the loss of any species diminishes us in some negative way. That's the orthodoxy. Now that certainly has validity with respect to most things, maybe almost everything. But it's a presumptuous thing to suggest that we know for sure that that is a fact. And it sort of flies in the face of Darwinian science.

How so?

Darwinian science suggests that some species are lost because they are unable to adapt to changing circumstances. And those changing circumstances may be natural circumstances, they may not be artificial or human-caused. If that's the case, then we don't know whether to label the loss of that species as good or bad as a scientific matter.

That does not mean that we shouldn't enforce the Endangered Species Act. Some people made a leap in logic from that discussion to, "Let's not enforce the ESA." That's fallacious to make that sort of leap of logic.

There is vast and alarming evidence that the rate of extinction has escalated tremendously in the last several decades. We often hear statistics along the lines of: More species have been lost in the last several decades than have been lost cumulatively in the last several millennia. As the man responsible for species protection in the United States, can you explain why we "don't know enough" to deduce that this is linked to human activity and is an unnatural and potentially catastrophic trend?

There are statistics like that out there. I don't know what those statistics mean.

As in, you don't know whether they are well-founded?

Well, let's assume for a moment that you had a study that said more species have been lost in the last 50 years than in the preceding 10,000 years. And that's all the study tells us — somehow we are able to figure that out. Well, what does that mean? I don't know what that means.

So you don't know whether the cause of that phenomenon is natural or human-made?

Right. Now, if there's a study out there that tells me the causes, then that gives some context. But people throw around numbers like that as if the numbers themselves have inherent meaning. And they don't without context.

Don't studies show that the rate of extinction directly correlates to the rate of industrial development and population growth?

The most that one could say on that evidence is that there may be some connection. And it is a logical fallacy to suggest that because two things happen concurrently that they are necessarily related, without further evidence.

I was at a congressional hearing on the Endangered Species Act and a congressman said to me, "My 15-year-old son is sitting out in the audience today and can you assure me that no species will go extinct during my son's lifetime?" And he was serious! [Laughter.] And I said, "No! I can't assure you of that. There are going to be species that go extinct in your son's lifetime and maybe hundreds of thousands of them."

Environmentalists have been very concerned about the question of listing new species under the ESA — that FWS is de-emphasizing the need to identify new species that are going extinct. Can you explain this shift in focus?

The emphasis on listing is shortsighted. It misses the mark. That supposes that the idea behind the statute is to see how many species we can get on the list — and it's not. The purpose of the statute is to provide for the recovery of species which have declined to such a point that they have become listed. It's not about listing, and it's not about prohibiting things that are otherwise lawful. It's about recovery of species.

There are some 260 species on the ESA candidate list that are presumed to be on their way out. What do we do about those we've already identified as threatened?

What needs to be done with those is they need to benefit from enhanced habitat restoration, because habitat loss is probably the key factor in the decline of many species. Do they necessarily need to be listed to get the benefits of enhanced habitat restoration? Not necessarily. And again, the focus is not on how many of those we need to move onto the list of threatened or endangered species, but how do we move them away from the status that they are currently in now as candidate species.

You say habitat loss is the key factor in the decline of many species. And yet you have rolled back "critical habitat protections," a tool that environmentalists see as one of the most important ways to preserve habitat. Can you explain your objection to protecting critical habitat?

This is one of the most misunderstood issues surrounding the ESA, and here's how it goes. First the glib

part: While habitat is critical, "critical habitat" is not. Now here's what I mean by that: Everybody knows that habitat loss is one of the key factors in the decline of species that leads to them being threatened or endangered. So habitat is necessary for them to thrive and survive and not become extinct.

What the ESA does is set up a legal construct called *critical habitat*. It's not the same as real habitat that you can go out and touch and feel and critters can live in. Critical habitat is a legal process. It's an administrative exercise and it entails drawing lines on maps, at its simplest. And it creates a tremendous social and economic disruption to the communities that are affected. And at the same time, it adds very little additional benefit to a listed species. And this is not something that Craig Manson made up — this is something that you can go back and find [former Clinton-era Interior Secretary] Bruce Babbitt and [former Clinton-era FWS Director] Jamie Clark saying. It's an attitude that the FWS has held for 20 years or so — that critical habitat adds very little additional benefit to the conservation of a listed species.

So the point is that you believe critical habitat is drawn haphazardly without attention to what's vital to the survival of the species?

I wouldn't say haphazardly — I'd say annoyingly, because it's a make-work exercise that takes up a lot of time with no additional benefit.

One last thing on listing: I understand you asked for substantial increases in the budget for listing species under the ESA, but that it's simply to cover litigation costs.

In 2003, we requested a 30 percent increase in the listing budget

LCV: president Bush grades 'F' on environment

Continued from p. 20

If the administration were to pursue its proposal, an estimated 60 percent of the nation's rivers, lakes and streams would no longer be protected by the federal Clean Water Act.

From the Bush administration's earliest days in office, it has exhibited a disregard for the public health impacts of toxic chemicals. For example, in March 2001, the administration announced it would delay implementing regulations written by the Clinton administration that would lower the allowable amount of arsenic in drinking water. The administration argued that the stricter standard would unduly burden drinking water suppliers with little benefit to the public's health.

However, after a storm of public criticism and a National Academy of Sciences study confirming the public health dangers of arsenic in drinking water, the Bush administration reversed course and, in October 2001, announced the adoption of the proposed Clinton standard.

Furthermore, the Bush administration is now systematically saddling taxpayers with the costs of cleaning up toxic waste, while slowing cleanups of these dangerous sites. This administration has failed to support renewal of the "polluter pays" tax to fund Superfund cleanups, in contrast to Presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush, who both signed legislation renewing the tax.

In fact, President Bush has not only failed to support reauthorizing the tax, but also he is increasingly

— the biggest increase in the budget's history. A lot of that is, frankly, because of the number of lawsuits we have over either critical habitat or listing itself. Without the lawsuits, the listing budget would remain somewhat flatter than it is.

And yet there was a decrease in the recovery budget.

There was a decrease in the recovery budget. But, you know, part of the problem is you can't do everything at a time when budgets across government at all levels are relatively tight. Frankly, if I were king, I'd take that money out of listing and put it into recovery. But essentially the listing process is being run by the federal courts and not by the FWS.

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Election 2004
the conservation perspective



Election 2004
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Wisconsin Trout environmental report excerpt

LCV grades Bush 'F' on environment

The following is the Executive Summary of the League of Conservation Voters' 2003 Presidential Scorecard report. The nonpartisan LCV has tracked the Bush environmental record, and it has found it very troubling.

George W. Bush is well on his way to compiling the worst environmental record in the history of our nation. The Bush administration's approach to the environment demonstrates a clear bias toward the interests of the oil industry, the utility industry and other corporate contributors at the expense of the health and safety of the public. For President Bush, corporate interests come first — and the public interest in clean air and safe drinking water comes last.

In early 2002, the LCV released a report card on President Bush's environmental actions during his first year in office — and although his overall grade was a poor D-, we did note several areas where he showed promise. He had signed a treaty to phase out the use of a class of harmful chemicals and pledged to increase funding for our national parks. Unfortunately, at the mid-term, those early promises remain largely unfulfilled; the treaty was signed but not implemented and the national parks received insufficient funds in recent budgets.

Sides with contributors

With the exception of actions to reduce emissions from diesel engines, the bulk of President Bush's actions on the environment since taking office strongly indicate that he sides with the desires and priorities of his corporate contributors over the protection of the environment and public health.

Initiative after initiative introduced by this president and his political appointees favor corporate interests such as timber, oil and utilities over the public's interest in a clean and healthy environment. Administration proposals would weaken and eliminate fundamental protections for our air, land and water protections that have improved the quality of life over the past 30 years and that poll after poll indicate have the solid and enduring support of American voters.

Deceptive rhetoric

In contrast to the frontal assault on environmental laws and regulations waged by anti-environment predecessors such as President Reagan, President George W. Bush and his administration have waged a subtler, broader and more ominous campaign using deceptive rhetoric, arcane procedural methods, and funding cuts to carry out an anti-environment, pro-corporate agenda. This "starve-and-strangle" approach has administration officials gradual-

ly and steadily slashing budgets for key environmental programs. At the same time, deceptively named proposals such as the "Healthy Forests" initiative and the "Clear Skies" proposal would allow logging companies and electric utilities to increase their profits at the expense of environmental protection and the public's health. And, while focusing their environmental rollbacks on complex policies and regulations that are difficult to explain to the American public, they are working to weaken basic environmental protections.

Clean air assault

The Bush administration's most broad-based assault to date has been on clean air protections. In February, 2002, the administration announced its deceptively named "Clear Skies" initiative, which would repeal and weaken public health protections of the current Clean Air Act, while replacing them with standards that are at best deferred and incomplete.

The administration has also made and proposed regulatory changes that would weaken pollution standards for older power plants. This provision of the Clean Air Act, known as "new source review," requires older, more polluting, industrial plants to upgrade their pollution controls if they make significant renovations or expansions that would increase emissions of harmful pollutants. Both this proposal and "Clear Skies" have the strong backing of the power industry.

The one bright spot

The one bright spot in the administration's record since 2001 has also concerned air pollution controls. In April, 2003, the Environmental Protection Agency proposed a new rule that would, if enacted, require reduced emissions from off-road diesel engines—a significant source of harmful air emissions that has gone largely unregulated to date. This, together with the administration's acceptance of a Clinton administration rule to cut levels of sulfur in diesel fuel in 2001, is a substantial policy advance in protecting the nation's air. It should, however, be noted that the off-road diesel rule is not yet final.

Poor water record

The Bush administration's record on protecting our nation's waters is also poor. The Bush administration has taken a series of steps to weaken clean water protection.

As LCV's 2001 report card indicated, President Bush has reneged on his father's pledge of "no net loss of wetlands," which provide vital resources that help reduce flooding, purify drinking water, and serve as critical fish and wildlife habitat. And, in a far-reaching proposal announced in early 2003, the administration indicated it might bow to the real estate development industry and use its regulatory powers to limit the scope of the Clean Water Act.

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Excerpt from the LCV Presidential Scorecard's "clean water" section

Poll after poll shows that the environmental issue that most concerns the American public is water quality.

However, more than three decades after the Clean Water Act was signed, a 2002 EPA water quality inventory states that some 45 percent of America's waterways remain too polluted for drinking, fishing or swimming. Yet Bush administration actions have exhibited, if anything, a desire to weaken current protections.

In January 2001, the Supreme Court ruled that the Army Corps of Engineers could not extend Clean Water Act protection to isolated ponds and wetlands simply because they provided habitat for migratory birds. Working from that relatively narrow ruling, the real estate development industry, the mining industry, and other industry groups went on to argue that the Clean Water Act did not apply to any so-called "non-navigable" waters.

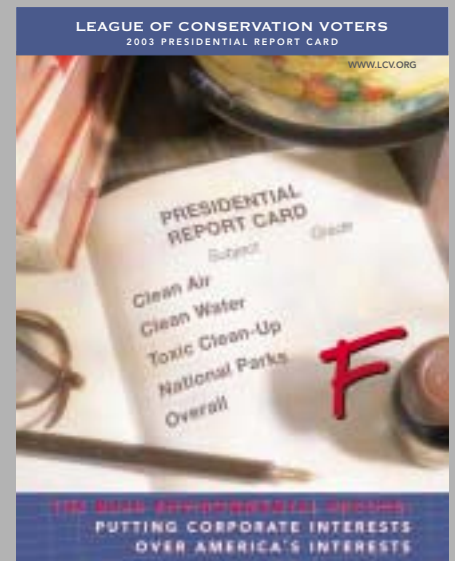
The Bush administration is using its regulatory powers to implement these industry proposals and limit the scope of the Clean Water Act. In January 2003, the administration released new guidelines requiring Corps and EPA regulators to seek permission from Washington, D.C. headquarters before regulating so-called "isolated" waters, including

wetlands, ponds and intermittent streams. The administration also began a process that could further impair the Clean Water Act, by limiting which bodies of water would fall under the jurisdiction of the law.

Administration officials argued that these moves would "clarify and reaffirm" federal authority "over a vast majority of the nation's wetlands" despite EPA's own estimate that the rule changes could exempt as many as 20 million acres of wetlands and an estimated 60 percent of the nation's streams from federal protection.

Environmentalists countered that the new policy could fatally weaken the Clean Water Act. Moreover, the EPA proposal ignores the vital ecological functions served by bogs, marshes, prairie potholes, and other small waterways and wetlands, which provide wildlife habitat, replenish groundwater, and filter pollutants out of lakes, rivers, and coastal waters. "These are radical efforts to open up waters that have long been protected," said Julie Sibbing of the National Wildlife Federation. Industry groups support narrowing the Clean Water Act's jurisdiction: the National Mining Association submitted comments urging the administration to go forward with its proposal and to "clarify that the [Clean Water Act] grants jurisdiction only over traditionally 'navigable waters.'" Wetlands Protection America has lost more than 50 percent of its wetlands — vital resources that help reduce flooding, purify drinking water, and serve as critical fish and wildlife habitat—and each year, another 60,000 acres of wetlands are lost to development. President George H. W. Bush made a "no net loss of wetlands" pledge in 1989, and in 2001, his son's administration reaffirmed the importance of preserving wetlands "for future generations of Americans." Unfortunately, the Bush administration's actions have done little to make these goals a reality. In December, 2002, for example, the Army Corps of Engineers and the EPA issued new guidelines on replacing lost or damaged wetlands. Under current law, the Corps can grant a permit for filling in wetlands if a developer creates or restores wetlands in another area. The new policy, however, would move away from ensuring acre-for-acre replacement of lost wetlands and would focus instead on restoring specific functions or ecological benefits.

Environmentalists charged that this was a fundamental violation of the "no net loss" goal. They also criticized the administration for placing an undue emphasis on wetlands restoration and mitigation. In practice, according to a National Academy of Sciences study, some substitute wetlands are never started, some are not completed, and others fail to provide the same natural benefits as the forfeited wetlands. The General Accounting Office has concluded that the failure rate of these projects may be as high as 80 percent.



FISH KILL: biggest on record

Continued from p. 1

Van Dyck said the kills impacted about 11.75 miles of prime trout waters in Richland County.

Van Dyck said the kill "appears to be virtually complete" for all fish species on 11.25 miles of Willow Creek and .33 miles of Smith Hollow Creek, a tributary to the Willow, in the Town of Willow.

Both impacted streams are defined as Class I brown trout streams, meaning they harbor self-sustaining populations of brown trout. Also eliminated were smaller fish such as creek chub, sucker, and sculpin, which serve as the food base for trout.

Mr. Van Dyck noted that the streams' invertebrate community was also damaged, but should recover rapidly "because there are no fish left to feed upon the small organisms found along the bottom of trout streams."

Investigation details

The Willow Creek investigation is focusing on "the mishandled spreading of liquid manure," and both the landowner and contract spreader are the subject of a DNR probe, according to DNR animal waste specialist Mike Vollrath in Dodgeville.

The fish kill was reported to DNR on July 17. Van Dyck and his shocking crew subsequently found almost 700 dead trout in the Willow and Smith Hollow creeks.

Shocking surveys on Willow Creek revealed normal populations of trout and other fish in waters above its junction with Smith Hollow Creek. Crews also found a normal population in the upper reaches of Smith Hollow Creek.

Van Dyck noted that the Willow Creek fishery had been "in very good shape and provided high-quality trout angling" along seven miles of public-accessible stream.

"We have done a lot of habitat work on both streams over the years," said Van Dyck, who described Smith Hollow Creek as a "major reproductive contributor" to Willow Creek's trout population.

Van Dyck ranked Willow Creek as one of the top five trout streams in southwest Wisconsin and cautioned that "recovery, in any case, will take quite some time." This is because although the trout populations upstream of the impacted waters are "normal, there is only one mile of good Class I trout water adjacent to the kill area and there's not a big surplus of trout to drift downstream," said Van Dyck.

Recovery options

Re-establishing a viable trout population by letting nature take its course would begin with some adult fish drifting downstream this summer and spawning this fall.

"While the number of spawners would be small and the year class brought off in 2005 would be small, it will get things started," said Van Dyck. Under this scenario, Van Dyck believes complete recovery will be six to eight years away.

"This situation is extremely severe because almost all of the trout water was impacted, leaving few, if any, surplus fish from adjacent waters to help recovery. In addition, the number of larger and older fish killed was very high since all of the impacted water is under restrictive regulations," he continued.

The upper three miles or so of Willow Creek had a no-kill regulation, and the remainder was under a 12-inch, two-fish regulation.

"Many of the fish killed were six to eight year olds, and that means

trout resulting from eggs this fall will not reach this size and age until 2010 to 2012," said Van Dyck.

Another remedy that could speed up recovery would be human intervention via stocking fish in the impacted waters this fall, but this will be dependent on having surplus wild fish at the hatchery or being able to transfer fish from a stream with an excellent population of wild fish into Willow Creek. Van Dyck cautioned that these are big question marks.

An additional option being considered is introducing special regulations to protect the remaining and transferred spawners until they have had a chance to bring off adequate year classes.

Stocking, transfers, and proper regulatory protection could shorten the time of full recovery to three to four years as opposed to the six to eight years, according to Van Dyck.

Van Dyck emphasized that discussions on how to begin re-establishing the fishery or enacting special regulations for both waters are "very preliminary."

Implications for new nonpoint pollution rules

Two years ago Wisconsin attacked the manure problem by adopting new rules for the construction of manure storage structures and manure management plans.

Under the new rules, the state requires manure handling permits for large farms. Smaller farms are responsible for following the standards, but the state does not require them to obtain permits.

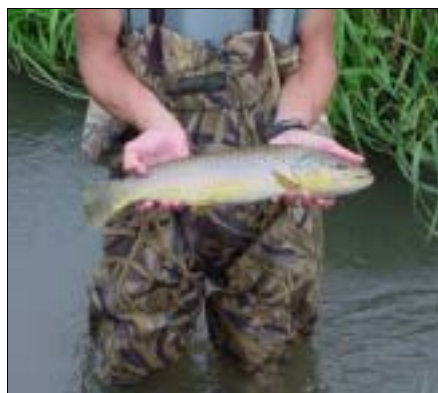
Under the new rules, small farm operations are required for the first time to control soil erosion and manure runoff. These rules require farmers to develop management plans that prevent such pollution, but only if funds are available to offset their costs.

The rules, though touted by legislators as among the best in the nation, have been crippled by a slow and confusing implementation process and lack of money to pay for conservation practices. The state cannot enforce the requirements on small operations unless it pays at least 70 percent of the costs of installing such land management practices.

To date, the Legislature has not authorized any funding for such plans. Under the current funding circumstances, the rules do not include provisions for citing or fining individuals who cause massive fish kills, according to Mike Vollrath, the DNR water management specialist investigating the Willow Creek kill.

Manure spills by small farmers may not be directly addressed by the provisions in the new runoff legislation, but negligence is a different matter. If the DNR can prove negligence, then legal actions are a possibility. However, the landowner is innocent until proven guilty, and the burden of proof lies on the shoulders of the DNR.

In the Willow Creek case, liquid manure appears to have been the culprit, and storage facilities are an integral part of the liquid manure handling process. It is not clear why the farmer in question chose to apply liquid manure to saturated soils at a time when more rain was forecast. In hindsight, continued storage would have been a vastly superior alternative to spreading. Whether that constitutes negligence is currently unclear. According to Vollrath, the DNR is "pursuing enforcement options at this time."



FISH KILL AFTERMATH

Over 700 dead trout (top) were collected in the days after the WDNR was alerted to the fish kill on the Willow River. An electroshocking survey upstream of the impacted area (center) found populations of healthy trout (bottom).

Coaster experts speak in Madison

There was a coaster brook trout symposium as part of the Aug. 24

American Fisheries Society meeting in Madison.

Speakers included Dr. Casey Huckins from Michigan Technological University. Huckins discussed the population ecology of coaster brook trout.

Dr. Jeff Schuldt of UW-Superior and UW Extension was also present to discuss coaster brook trout habitat use in lakes and streams.

COASTER CONNECTION
Vol. 1, No. 2
Summer 2004

Coaster Brook Trout Stocking At Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore

Month of the Huron River

In this issue...

On the Fly	3
From the Tributaries	4
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Top photo: Lake Superior Minnesota. Photo courtesy of 2004 Forest Service, Superior National Forest.

NEW COASTER PUB AVAILABLE
The *Coaster Connection* is being published with news on the coaster brook trout restoration project along Lake Superior. Contact Todd Breiby at tbreiby@tu.org or (608) 250-3534 to receive it.

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Wisconsin Trout book excerpt

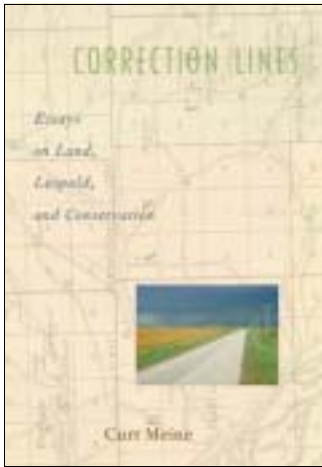
Meine book explores a variety of conservation topics

Correction Lines: Essays on Land, Leopold, and Conservation is a thoughtful new collection of essays by Wisconsin writer and conservation biologist Curt Meine. Collectively the essays assert that we have reached a critical juncture in conservation — a “correction line” of sorts. *Correction Lines* argues that we need a more coherent and comprehensive account of the past if we are to understand our present circumstances and move forward under unprecedented conditions. This excerpt is from the chapter entitled “Leopold’s Fine Line” in which Meine examines Aldo Leopold’s arguments in favor of setting aside wilderness areas in the U.S.

By Curt Meine

With his 1921 article “The Wilderness and Its Place in Forest Recreation Policy,” Leopold opened a new round in the debate over the fate of wilderness within the nation’s public lands. “Very evidently,” he recognized, “we have here the old conflict between preservation and use, long since an issue with respect to timber, water power, and other purely economic resources, but just now coming to be an issue with respect to recreation. It is the fundamental function of foresters to reconcile these conflicts, and to give constructive direction to these issues as they arise.”

Appearing in the *Journal of Forestry*, Leopold’s discussion of “wilderness conservation” and his specific



call to establish permanent wilderness areas on the national forests were sure to provoke consternation among many of his professional peers. Sensitive to bureaucratic politics and traditions, he made his case by invoking holy writ: “The argument for such wilderness areas is premised wholly on highest recreation use.” As an example, Leopold recommended protecting the headwaters of the Gila River in the Gila National Forest in western New Mexico. In so doing, he provided a fine oxymoron for foresters (and future environmental historians) to ponder: “Highest use,” he insisted, “demands its preservation.”

Wilderness protection was different from game and wildlife protection. The grain of attitudes ran at a different angle. The economic arguments for protection were less obvious. A sense of history was more essential. The core constituency was harder to define. And after all, the country already had a National Park Service devoted to preserving wild wonders; wasn’t that enough?

It was not enough for Leopold and his like-minded colleagues in the Forest Service. The national parks were closed to hunting, and in any case were being riddled with roads and tourist accommodations. And scenery was not enough. Leopold wanted a *functional* wilderness, “big enough to absorb a two weeks’ pack trip,” yet accessible to those not wealthy enough to travel to the far ends of the earth. His 1921 call for wilderness protection was both progressive and utilitarian in this sense. It launched him on a career of wilderness advocacy that would again demonstrate that the line dividing utility and preservation was not simple, and not immutable.

That Leopold’s initial interest in wilderness was more than aesthetic

— that it involved more than scenic values — became plain when the idea of wilderness designation first arose in his discussion with Arthur Carhart in 1919. Carhart, a landscape architect, hoped to preserve the scenic quality of Trapper’s Lake in Colorado’s White River National Forest through protection of its immediate shoreline. Leopold had

something more in mind. In “The Wilderness and Its Place in Forest Recreation Policy,” he had stressed the recreational value of wilderness areas, with hardly a word given to scenic, biological, or ecological values, and only a hint of social, cultural, economic, historical, and spiritual values. And yet, aesthetic quality underlay the type of recreation he was seeking to protect. The sort of travel, hunting, and fishing that Leopold himself most enjoyed required a large, wild, and reasonably accessible environment.

By 1924, when the Gila Wilderness Area was designated, Leopold was expressing other reasons to protect wild places. There was always a practical tack to his arguments. Preservation, evidently, had other important “uses”: “What I am trying to picture is the tragic absurdity of trying to whip the March of Empire into a gallop. ...In this headlong stampede for speed and ciphers we are crushing the last remnants of something that ought to be preserved for the spiritual and physical welfare of future Americans, even at the cost of acquiring a few less millions of wealth or population in the long run. Something that has helped build the race for such innumerable centuries that we may logically suppose it will help preserve it in the centuries to come.” Leopold was asking the Forest Service to commit itself, in a real way, to forest values other than those most readily translatable into the “ciphers” of economics. He was emphasizing the ultimate usefulness of wilderness preservation. The line between utility and preservation had become very thin indeed.

After moving to Wisconsin in 1924, Leopold produced a series of articles rounding out the argument behind “the wilderness idea.” Directed to diverse audiences, these articles laid out common themes: wilderness as a complement to civilization; the central role of wilderness in American history; the limits of standard economic reasoning; the need for a balanced vision of land use. Fighting a rearguard battle, Leopold did not to deny the conventional economic value of the lands

in question, but used this as a starting point. Realism, again, was his hallmark:

The Forest Service will naturally select for wilderness playgrounds the roughest areas and those poorest from the economic standpoint. But it will be physically impossible to find any area which does not embrace some economic values. Sooner or later some private interest will wish to develop these values, at which time those who are thinking in terms of...national development in the broad sense and those who are thinking of local development in the narrow sense will come to grips. And forthwith the private interests will invoke the aid of the steam roller. They always do. And unless the wilderness idea represents the mandate of an organized, fighting, and voting body of far-seeing Americans, the steam roller will win.

To build such a mandate, Leopold resorted less to Muir-like evocations of wild beauty and sublime majesty than to appreciation of the contrast value of wilderness. This called for a sense of history and cultural wholeness that defied the prevailing mood in the United States in the Roaring Twenties: “The measure of civilization is in its contrasts. A modern city is a national asset, not because the citizen has planted his iron heel on the breast of nature, but because of the different kinds of man his control over nature has enabled him to be. ...If, once in a while, he has the opportunity to flee the city, throw a diamond hitch upon a packmule, and disappear into the wilderness of the Covered Wagon Days, he is just that more civilized than he would be without the opportunity. It makes him one more kind of man — a pioneer.”

At a time when wilderness preservation was little more than a fragile hope, Leopold recognized the pragmatic need to gather potential supporters through an expanded vision of the national saga, and the national landscape. Building on the ideas of Muir and Pinchot, Roosevelt and Frederick Jackson Turner, drawing on such writers and poets as Whitman, Stephen Vincent Benet, and Sinclair Lewis (and maybe even F. Scott Fitzgerald), and sharing the views of such contemporaries as Benton MacKaye and Lewis Mumford, Leopold argued for wilderness preservation, not as a denial of the American myth of progress, but as a radical new fulfillment of it.

Yet, the economic dogma had to be faced. “Economic development,” then as now, was roughly synonymous with “road building.” To Leopold, it was a matter of scale and balance: roads were not good or bad in and of themselves; their utility, or lack thereof, was a function of time, place, and density. Viewed on a national scale, and in historical context, the rise of the automobile culture demanded a parallel commitment to wilderness preservation:

...The wilderness idea is assumed to be an anti-road idea. The assumption is incorrect. ...Roads and wilderness are merely a case of the pig in the parlor. We now recognize that the pig is all right — for bacon, which we all eat. But there was no doubt a time, soon after the discovery that

many pigs meant much bacon, when our ancestors assumed that because the pig was so useful an institution he should be welcomed at all times and places. And I suppose that the first “enthusiast” who raised the question of limiting his distribution was construed to be uneconomic, visionary, and anti-pig.

In a 1925 article, “Wilderness as a Form of Land Use,” Leopold made the point more formally:

Our system of land use is full of phenomena which are sound as tendencies but become unsound as ultimates... The question, in brief, is whether the benefits of wilderness-conquest will extend to ultimate wilderness-elimination. ...To preserve any land in a wild condition is, of course, a reversal of economic tendency, but that fact alone should not condemn the proposal. A study of the history of land utilization shows that good use is largely a matter of good balance — of wise adjustment between opposing tendencies.

Leopold did not expand here on what he thought the benefits of “wilderness-conquest” had been, and it is difficult to know how deeply he might have been holding his tongue in his cheek to make his argument. But if one of the benefits of wilderness conquest had been a heightened appreciation of the *remaining* wilderness, then use and preservation were inevitably and closely coupled. That coupling had to be considered in any future use that aspired to the adjective “wise.”

Leopold put his reasoning into a particularly American context. Scorning the superficial definitions of utility and Americanism that marked the “Babbitian” decade of the 1920s, he presented wilderness not as a source just of use *or* beauty, but as *the* source of a still incomplete, evolving republic: “Is it not a bit beside the point for us to be so solicitous about preserving [American] institutions without giving so much as a thought to preserving the environment which produced them and which may now be one of our effective means of keeping them alive?” Later, the American experience of wilderness would be overshadowed in Leopold’s wilderness philosophy by globally applicable concerns for ecological health and diversity. Through the 1920s, however, this was a principal and effective part of his argument. The wilderness, as Euro-Americans had defined and experienced it, was forever gone — that too was a lesson of history — but its cultural resonance remained potent. By forcing those who patriotically invoked wilderness symbolism to confront the stark reality of dwindling wild spaces, Leopold explicitly and implicitly invited action. To those who questioned whether there was any place for wilderness in an America whose business was business, Leopold asked, “Shall we now exterminate this thing that made us American?”

After producing this mid-1920s pulse of wilderness advocacy papers, Leopold turned his attention to laying the groundwork for wildlife management. When he resumed an active role in the wilderness protection movement in the mid-1930s, he did so with all the additional insight that his intellectual evolution could bring to the cause.

Continued on p. 23

Damsel features “perfect” body from nylon packing tie

By Larry Meicher

This is one of my favorite summer/fall patterns, especially on the Kickapoo and the Mecan. I’ve seen trout jump several inches out of the stream trying to capture them.

Often I see the black damsels, but when the trout are on the black ones, they still take the blue pattern.

MEINE: explores Leopold’s arguments for wilderness

Continued from p. 22

The significance of wildlands now included their scientific and ecological value. With this came an intensified sense of the benefits to be gained by preserving wilderness.

Leopold made the point in his contribution to the inaugural issue (1935) of *The Living Wilderness*, the journal of the new Wilderness Society: “I suspect...that the scientific values [of wilderness] are still scantily appreciated, even by members of the Society.... The long and short of the matter is that all land-use technologies — agriculture, forestry, watersheds, erosion, game, and range management — are encountering unexpected and baffling obstacles which show clearly that despite superficial advances in technique, *we do not yet understand and cannot yet control* the long-time interrelations of animals, plants, and mother earth.” The logical corollary? We needed the dynamic of wilderness as a contrast to the dynamic of civilization. Leopold had said as much in the 1920s, but his emphasis then was on the benefits to individuals and to society. Now he stressed the benefits to the combined natural and cultural community.

Humbled by his growing appreciation of the complexity of population ecology (the “yet” would evaporate from the statement above), focused by field experiences in Germany’s forests and Mexico’s Sierra Madre, and tempered by the harsh lessons of the dust bowl years, Leopold would henceforth emphasize this argument for wilderness above all others. Wildlands took their place at one end of the full spectrum of his conservation philosophy, inseparable from his other conservation interests. As Leopold worked to translate his “biotic view of land” into on-the-ground conservation strategies, wilderness became the vital control against which to check the human experiment in land use: “Just as doctors must study healthy people to understand disease, so must the land sciences study the wilderness to understand disorders of the land-mechanism.”

Leopold employed the “land health” analogy regularly in the late 1930s and early 1940s as he worked to instill ecological understanding among his students and colleagues. The preservationist sounded very practical at this point: “All wilderness areas, no matter how small or imperfect, have a large value to land-science. The important thing is to realize that recreation is not their only or even their principal utility. In fact, the boundary between recreation and science, like the boundaries between park and forest, animal and plant, tame and wild, exists only in the imperfections of the human mind.” Leopold was expanding traditional notions of utilitarianism in a manner that would not come to be appreciated for another half century. Foresters, farmers,

This is also a great pattern for lakes and spring ponds (sight fishing for cruisers on a bright, sunny, calm day). I’ve found lake and spring pond fish more finicky, so for those waters, I tie these in black and red, too.

Begin by tying in a 1 1/4” piece of a 5” blue Secure-a-tie for the body

and a pair of medium blue mono eyes. Superglue both. Next cut a 1/4” wide strip of blue 3MM closed-cell foam to the rear underside of the hook. Attach two inch-long grizzly hackle tips or white Z-lon for wings. Then wrap 5-6 turns of grizzly hackle between the wings and eyes.

Now pull the foam forward beneath the hook. Stretch it a little, poke a hole through it with your bodkin, and then slip the hook’s eye through this hole. Continue pulling the foam over the eyes and wrap

fishers, conservationists, scientists now wonder: what knowledge might we reap if we had access to a large functioning bison range, a county or two of midwestern tallgrass prairie, a fully self-sustaining salmon or cod fishery, a cylinder of pre-industrial atmosphere? (One suspects that even the most sober of utilitarians would stand back in wonder as well). Although Leopold regularly emphasized the practical benefits to be gained through preservation, his aesthetic response remained profound. One has only to read his *Sand County Almanac* accounts of Arizona and New Mexico, of Manitoba and the Colorado River delta, of the less monumental but still entrancing wilds of Wisconsin. These essays were composed in the early 1940s, when his mature wilderness philosophy gave context to his memories. At the same time, he remained an ever-vigilant defender, in print and in person, for threatened wildlands from the Arctic to the Mexican borderlands to Wisconsin’s rivers and remnant prairies. His art, his advocacy, his science, and his ethics, were of a piece.

Reconciliation of the utilitarian and preservationist traditions on the issue of wilderness protection has, of course, remained elusive. In Leopold’s view, such reconciliation could be achieved only if enough “far-seeing Americans” came to understand the larger ecological, historical, and cultural context of wildness, and allowed that understanding to inform their worldviews and commitments. This is the point to which Leopold’s evolving wilderness philosophy — and his land ethic — finally led. In his final essay on wilderness, he wrote:

Wilderness is the raw material out of which man has hammered the artifact called civilization....

To the laborer in the sweat of his labor, the raw stuff on his anvil is an adversary to be conquered. So was wilderness an adversary to the pioneer.

But to the laborer in repose, able for the moment to cast a philosophical eye on his world, that same raw stuff is something to be loved and cherished, because it gives definition and meaning to his life.

Wild places have given “definition and meaning” even to the lives of those most removed from, unaware of, and even hostile towards, their existence. This “use” goes to the very essence of our existence, dives to the depths of our evolutionary origins, asks profound questions of human intentions, calls us to creation’s brink. Though not always pleasant or comfortable, the human experience of the wild has *made us* human. This is true for each of us as individuals, and all of us as members of the species. Lose the wild, and we lose the human. That would be wasteful, and inefficient, and impractical. And very ugly.

and a pair of medium blue mono eyes. Superglue both.

Next cut a 1/4” wide strip of blue 3MM closed-cell foam to the rear underside of the hook.

Attach two inch-long grizzly hackle tips or white Z-lon for wings. Then wrap 5-6 turns of grizzly hackle between the wings and eyes.

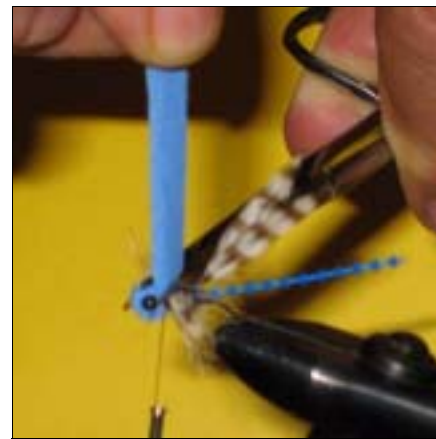
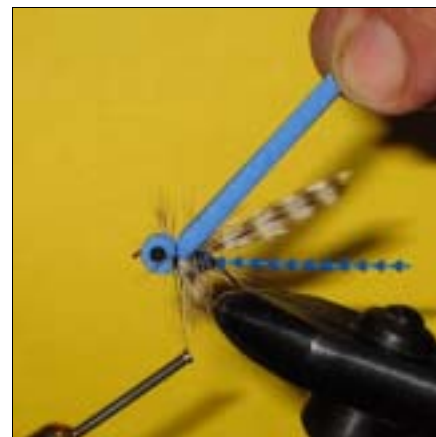
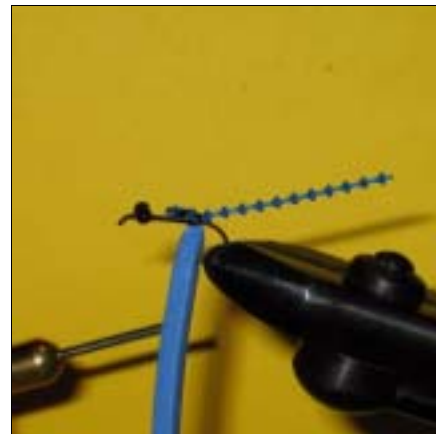
Now pull the foam forward beneath the hook. Stretch it a little, poke a hole through it with your bodkin, and then slip the hook’s eye through this hole. Continue pulling the foam over the eyes and wrap

snugly behind the eyes. Tie off the excess foam and glue the wraps.

You might be wondering whether this fly floats well given its body is made of hard plastic. They do! Plus the consistency of the notches in the Secure-a-tie makes for a wonderful-looking segmented body.

If you cannot find these bodies — or do not want to buy them in quantities of thousands — contact me at:

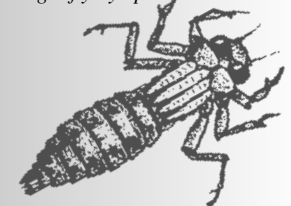
Have Fly Rod Will Travel
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Rio, WI 53960



MATERIALS LIST Larry’s “Secure-a-tie” damsel fly

- Hook:** #10 Mustad 94849.
- Body:** 1 1/4” section of an Avery Dennison nylon “secure-a-tie” nylon material tie.
- Thorax:** 3MM closed-cell blue foam.
- Eyes:** medium blue mono eyes.
- Wings:** 2 grizzly hackle tips or white Z-lon.
- Legs:** grizzly hackle

Dragonfly nymph.



Odonata (Damselflies and Dragonflies):

Presently, 154 species in the order Odonata have been found in Wisconsin, represented by 3 families, 19 genera, and 45 species in the sub-order Zygoptera (damselflies), and 6 families, 38 genera, and 109 species in the suborder Anisoptera (Dragonflies). The larvae of all species are aquatic with about two-thirds being lentic and one-third inhabiting lotic environments. Lotic-dwelling larvae occur in all types of permanent stream habitats, including gravel and rock riffles, debris along streambanks, bank vegetation, soft sediments and sand; occasionally they are found along the wind-swept shores of lakes. Lentic larvae inhabit permanent and temporary ponds, wetlands, and littoral zones and shoreline areas of lakes. Life-cycles are relatively long and range from one to four years. Most Odonate larvae found in Wisconsin can be identified to species.

This insect description is from the WDNR publication *Macroinvertebrate Data Interpretation Guidance Manual* (PUB-SS-965 2003).

2004 "Friends" program sets all-time contribution record

By John Cantwell

I am happy to report that this has been a record-setting year for the Friends campaign.

More Wisconsin TU members dug into their pockets this year than ever before. Since October 1st of 2003, nearly \$16,000 has been donated to Friends of Wisconsin TU. Thanks go out to members for their generous contributions.

All monies donated to Friends goes directly to the resources. Over the past 15 years, the fund and dedicated over \$135,000 to state coldwater resources in the areas of stream improvement, education, and land acquisition.

Formed in 1990, the Friends of Wisconsin TU program allows concerned anglers to make annual contributions of \$100 or more to a special fund managed by the WITU State Council.

We in Wisconsin are blessed with many trout fishing opportunities! But all is not roses with our coldwater fishery. Too many streams and tributaries have their flows impaired by dams and debris. And some ponds are so clogged with silt that they are nearly devoid of living and spawning space for trout. Many of our most famous streams face threats from stormwater discharges, ag runoff, and development.

Yet there is something that YOU as an individual can do to help correct these problems that hurt the coldwater resources in the Badger State. You can become a "Friend of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited."

Your annual contribution of \$100 or more means you will be listed with all the other "Friends" in four consecutive issues of *Wisconsin Trout*, the official publication of Wisconsin TU.

Also, while supplies last, we will send you a very practical *mini flashlight* featuring a bright LED bulb

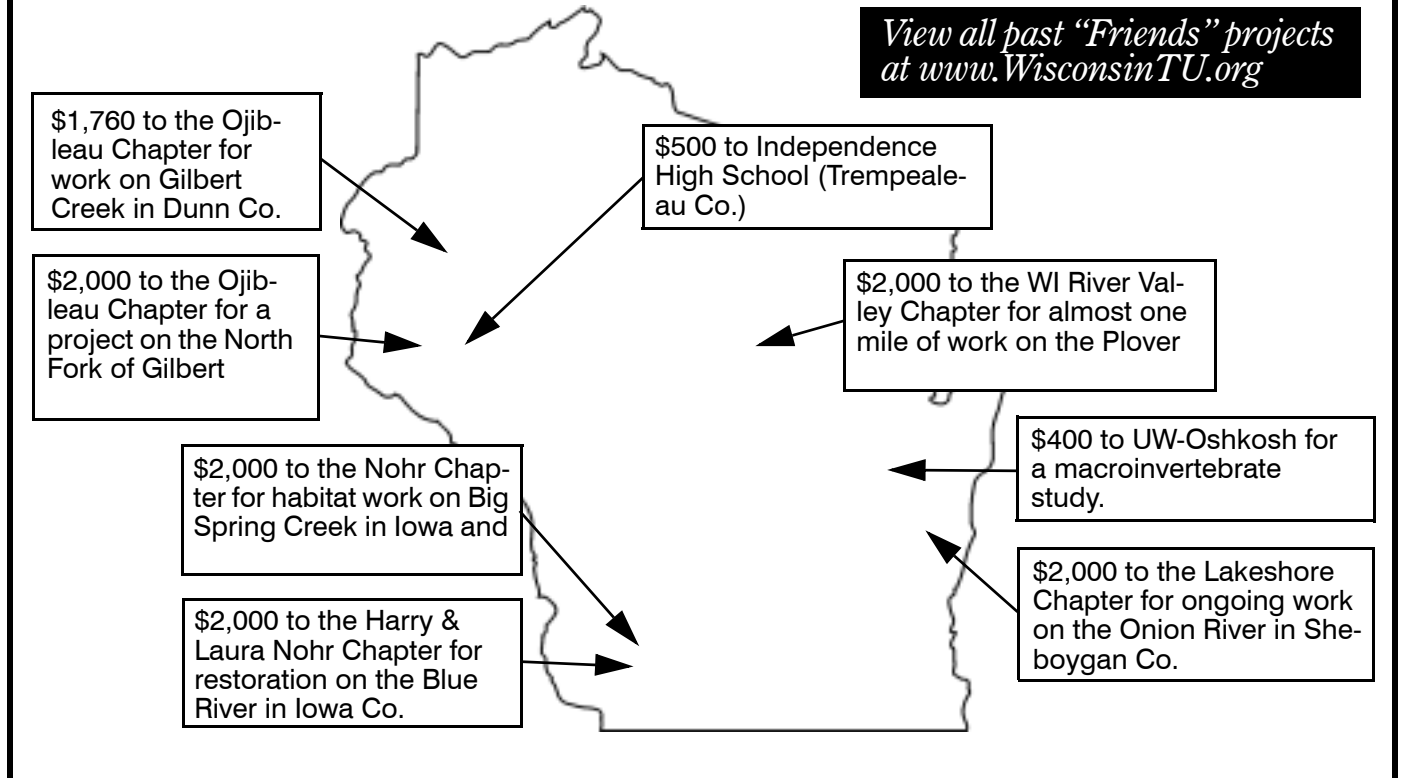
that will last nearly forever. As you probably know, LED bulbs use very little energy. This light will be a handy addition to your fishing vest.

Just as importantly, though, you'll receive the satisfaction of

knowing you donated to a cause that has made a difference in Wisconsin's trout fishery.



Over \$135,000 devoted to trout resources since 1991. Recent projects include...



Friends of Wis. TU

Your name would look great here!
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- Ocooch Creeks Chapter
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- Berlin WI
- DePere WI
- Madison WI

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

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

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