



Wisconsin Trout

July 2008



Paul Kruse

WHY, YES, I DO BELIEVE IT IS AN ONCORHYNCHUS MYKISS

Summer finds WITU chapters involved in many outreach programs, like this outing at the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary in Green Bay sponsored by the National Wild Turkey Federation and Green Bay TU.

Dane County launches pilot land conservation program

By Dan Wisniewski

WITU NLC Representative

A TU National effort to forge new relationships with local land trusts will embrace an easement program underway in Dane County.

At last fall's annual meeting, TU National's Board of Trustees (BOT) and the National Leadership Council (NLC) approved a new program aimed at increasing cooperation between TU chapters and local land

trusts and public agencies to promote public access and restoration.

There are over 1,500 local land trusts across the country that protect lands through conservation easements and purchases. Many of these easements, however, do not include public access. Our goal for this cooperative effort is to work with land trusts and landowners to allow access and subsequent stream restoration, if needed.

Continued on p. 3

WITU joins Ikes in Lake Superior VHS virus suit

By Bill Heart
WITU Chair

The Duluth Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, Save Lake Superior Association, Minnesota Trout Unlimited, and Wisconsin Trout Unlimited filed suit in federal court last April to compel two federal agencies to fulfill their responsibilities to protect public waters from the spread of the viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) virus.

Currently, VHS has not been identified in Lake Superior. However, it is the belief of the plaintiffs that without substantive control of ballast water releases, the virus will ultimately infect the vital fisheries resources of Lake Superior.

WITU's involvement in the suit began last April when Minnesota TU's State Council Chair John Lenczewski asked if Wisconsin TU would like to sign on to a lawsuit against the U.S. Coast Guard and the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to be more involved in protecting Lake Superior from importation of invasive species, especially VHS from ballast water.

I polled the State Council and chapter presidents and received yes answers from everyone who answered. I then contacted TU National and received their permission to sign on to the suit. This all had to be done in few days to get our name on the lawsuit.

On April 30, I attended a press conference in Duluth and was very pleased with all of the work that the Izaak Walton League and MNTU did to get this lawsuit filled. Curt

Leitz and Dave Zentner represented the Ikes and did a wonderful job of explaining the situation and answering questions.

We held an informational meeting in Ashland on May 22 to get more agencies involved. The National Park Service, Bayfield County, UW Extension, Lake Superior Binational Forum, Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute, and Northland College were all present.

We plan to hold other meetings and a fundraiser in the future.

Since its discovery in Lake St. Clair in 2003, VHS has spread unchecked through the lower Great Lakes and has jumped into inland waters in Wisconsin, Michigan, and New York.

After the news in early June of more fish kills in southern Lake Michigan, it is all the more important we be more involved in protecting Lake Superior from VHS.

Federal responsibility

One of the primary ways VHS is spread is in live, infected fish which move about in the untreated ballast water of ships. Under the National Invasive Species Act of 1996 (NISA), APHIS and the Coast Guard have the authority and the responsibility to stop the invasion.

Numerous states are responding to the emergency with their own regulations, but only a federal solution can address a federal problem. The NISA Act already names the federal agencies responsible. Effective implementation of NISA will greatly reduce the threat of VHS being spread from the lower Great Lakes into Lake Superior and the inland watersheds of the United States.

Study tallies the economic impact of trout angling in Driftless Area

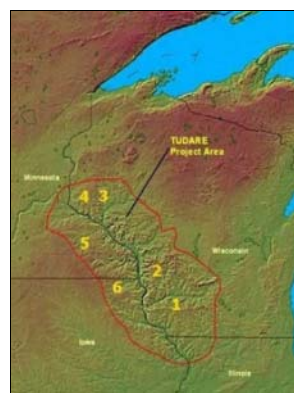
By Jeff Hastings, TUDARE Project Manager

Recreational angling in the Driftless Area provides 1.1 billion of annual economic benefit to the local economy, according to a new TU survey.

Researchers from NorthStar Economics found that more than 125,000 anglers fish the Driftless Area each year. They spend \$647 million, which goes directly into the local economy. This spending also produces a ripple effect of \$465 million in indirect and induced benefits as those dollars continue to circulate through the local economy. The direct spending plus the ripple effect exceeds \$1.1 billion.

Researchers surveyed a random sample of the 155,000 trout stamp holders in MN, WI, and IA. The survey collected demographic information as well as fishing and spending habits related to angling in the Driftless Area. Survey data were segregated between those respondents who live in the Driftless Area and those who travel there to fish. The data from the two groups were weighted proportionately to determine the overall economic impact.

The full report, "The Economic Impact of Recreational Trout Angling in the Driftless Area," can be found at www.tu.org/driftless.



In this issue...

NRCS Chief Lancaster fishes West Fork p. 3

John Meachen new WI River Valley president . . . p. 4

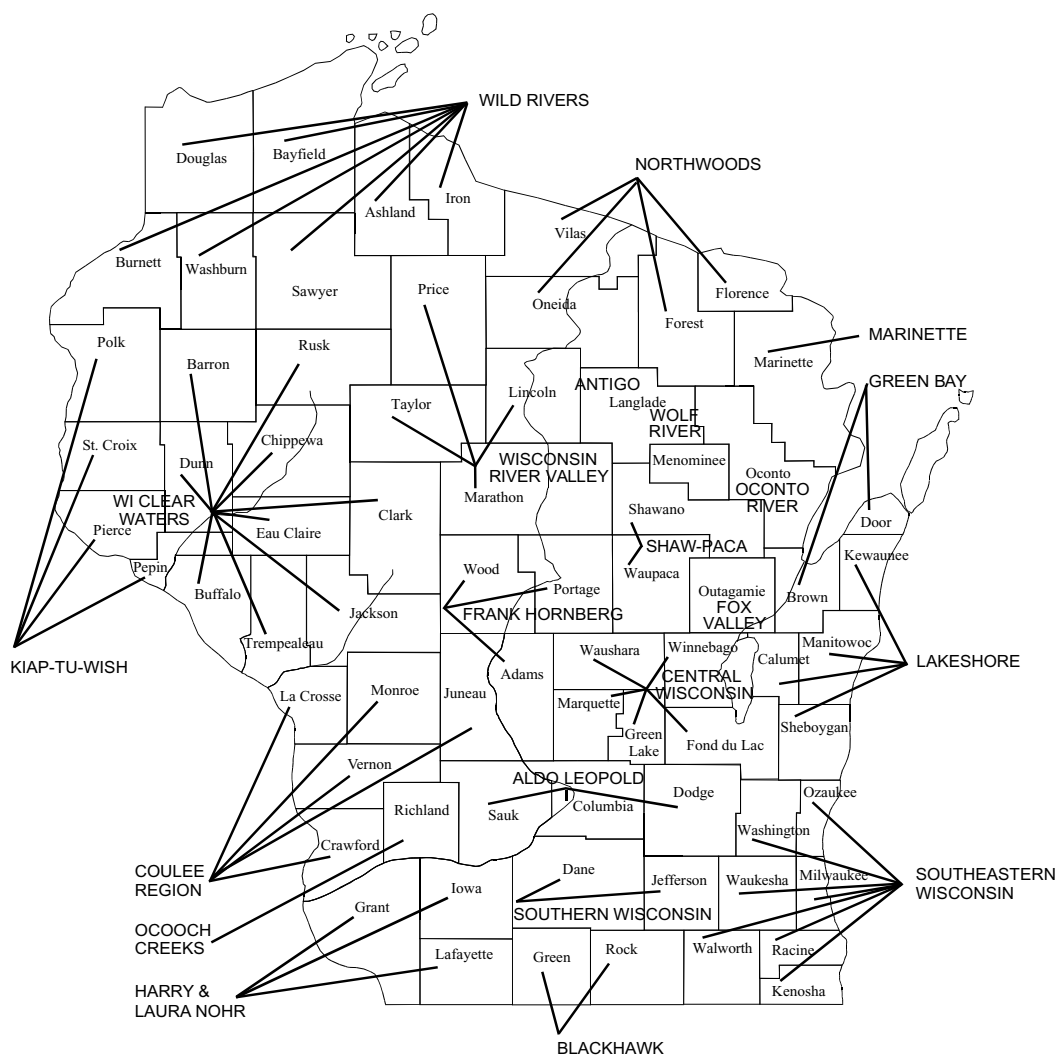
Farm Bill overcomes veto to become law p. 4

WisTrout book excerpt: Bottomfeeder p. 5

Kids are the future of fishing p. 6

PIT tags helping track coaster movements p. 15

Wisconsin TU Chapters, Presidents, and Web Sites



Visit WITU online at:
www.WisconsinTU.org

- Aldo Leopold (#375):** Mike Barniskis, 805 S. Center St., Beaver Dam, WI 53916 (920) 356-0081; barniskis@yahoo.com
- Antigo (#313):** Scott Henricks, 213 Mary St., Antigo, WI 54409-2536 (715) 623-3867; Henricks51@verizon.net
- Blackhawk (#390):** Dan Boggs, 3409 Kingsbridge Dr., Janesville, WI 53546 (608) 290-2585; dbguideservice@yahoo.com
- Central Wisconsin (#117):** Dick Kraus, N3768 30th Dr., Pine River, WI 54965 (920) 987-5287; rkraus@centurytel.net www.cwtu.org
- Coulee Region (#278):** Richard Kyte, 1900 Main St., La Crosse, WI 54601; rkyte@viterbo.edu; www.CouleeRegionTU.org
- Fox Valley (#193):** Mark Peerenboom, 1509 S. Outagamie St., Appleton, WI 54914 (920) 738-0228; markp@new.rr.com; www.FoxValleyTU.org
- Frank Hornberg (#624):** Michael Mather, 10188 Otto Rd., Amherst, WI 54406 (715) 824-2530; friedpike@yahoo.com; www.HornbergTU.org
- Green Bay (#083):** Paul Kruse, 500 Saint Jude St., Green Bay, WI 54303 (920) 494-4220; PaulKruse@tds.net; www.GreenBayTU.com
- Harry & Laura Nohr (#257):** Brian Larson, 5913 Dietrich Hts, Cassville, WI 53806-9703 (608) 725-5570; blarson@pcii.net; www.NohrTU.org
- Kiap-TU-Wish (#168):** Greg Dietl, 10758 Falling Water Ln., Unit D, Woodbury, MN 55129 (651) 436-2604; grdietl@hotmail.com; www.lambcom.net/KiapTUWish/
- Lakeshore (#423):** Wayne Trupke, 10723 English Lake Rd., Manitowoc, WI 54220 (920) 758-2357; ctrupke@yahoo.com
- Marinette (#422):** Dale Lange, N2095 County BB, Marinette, WI 54143 (715) 582-1135; dhlange@webcntrl.com
- Northwoods (#256):** Brian Hegge, 2898 Oak Ridge Circle, Rhineland, WI 54501 (715) 482-2898; lostskier@charter.net
- Oconto River (#385):** Dave Brunner, 5473 Cardinal Rd., Gillett, WI 54124 (920) 855-6669; dbrunner@plbb.us
- Ocooch Creeks (#729):** Allon Bostwick, 226 Ledgewood Dr., Fond du Lac, WI 54935 (920) 933-2531; allonbos@yahoo.com
- Shaw-Paca (#381):** Dave Ehrenberg, 324 East Fourth St., Manawa, WI 54949 (920) 596-3089; adehrenberg@wolfnet.net
- Southeastern Wisconsin (#078):** Dan Asmus, 4579 Loch View Road, Hubertus, WI 53033 (414) 315-2616 (H), DanJAsmus@charter.net; www.SEWTU.org
- Southern Wisconsin (#061):** Dave Sanders, (608) 843-7125; daveandcheri@charter.net; www.swtu.org
- Wild Rivers (#415):** Chuck Campbell, 30 E. 4th St., Washburn, WI 54891 (715) 373-0671; souper@ncis.net
- Wisconsin Clear Waters (#255):** Dennis Vanden Bloomen, PO Box 822, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0822 (715) 834-0949 (H), (715) 232-2311 (W); VandenBloomd@uwstout.edu
- Wisconsin River Valley (#395):** John Meachen, 1111 Marquardt Rd., Wausau, WI 54403 (715) 675-4920, pastorjohn@gswausau.org; www.wrvtu.org
- Wolf River (#050):** Barry Climie, PO Box 96, White Lake, WI 54491 (715) 484-7714

Wisconsin TU State Council Leadership

State Chair: Bill Heart, 29450 Verners Rd., Ashland, WI 54806 (715) 682-4703 (H), (715) 209-0431 (cell); wwheart@centurytel.net

Vice Chair: Kim McCarthy, 736 Meadowbrook Ct., Green Bay, WI 54313; kmcc5@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Jeff Ware, 14092 Spring Valley Rd., Fennimore, WI 53809 (608) 822-4646; jcware@tds.net

Treasurer: Larry Meicher, 5258 Salisbury Rd., Rio, WI 53960 (920) 992-6612; drsauseage@merr.com

Past State Chair: Bill Pielsticker, 8045 Crystal Lake Rd., Lodi, WI 53555-9539 (608) 592-4718 (H); bill@pielstickerphotos.com

Vice Chair, Central Region: Bob Haase, W7949 Treptow Ln., Eldorado, WI 54932 (920) 922-8003 (H) flytier@dotnet.com

Vice Chair, Northeast Region: Kim McCarthy (see above)

Vice Chair, Southern Region: Larry Meicher (see above)

Vice Chair, Western Region: open

Education: Bob Haase (see above)

Fund Raising & Friends of WITU: Steve Hill, 107 S. 5th St., Water-

town, WI 53094 (920) 261-4005 (W) budgetprint@charter.net

Legal Counsel: Winston Ostrow, 335 Traders Point Ln., Green Bay, WI 54302 (920) 432-9300 (W); waostrow@gklaw.com

Legislative Committee: Bill Pielsticker (see above)

Membership: John T. "Jack" Bode, W312 N6434 Beaver Lake Rd., Hartland, WI 53029 (262) 367-5300 (H); (262) 951-7136 (W) jbode@gklaw.com

National Leadership Council Representative: Dan Wisniewski, 6816 Aldo Leopold Way, Middleton, WI 53562 (608) 824-8621 (H); DanWisniewski@tds.net

National Trustee: John Welter, 2211 Frona Pl., Eau Claire, WI 54701 (715) 831-9565 (W); (715) 833-7028 (H); jwelter@ameritech.net

Publications: Todd Hanson, 4514 Elgar Ln., Madison, WI 53704 (608) 243-9025 (phone/fax); twhanson@sbcglobal.net

Water Resources: Bob Obma, 12870 West Shore Drive, Mountain, WI 54149 (715) 276-1170 (H) obma@centurytel.net

Webmaster: Jaime Sundsmo, webmaster@WisconsinTU.org

Contact TU National when you change addresses or chapter leaders

TU National manages WITU's mailing list, so members should contact TU National at 1-800-834-2419 to change addresses. Address changes can also be done on-line by going to www.tu.org and signing in with your member number, which is found on your wallet card or TROUT magazine label.

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

WISCONSIN TROUT

Vol. 20, No. 3 — July 2008

Wisconsin Trout is the official publication of the Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited and is distributed to the members of Wisconsin's 22 TU chapters. Nonmember subscriptions are \$12.50/year. Publication and distribution dates are the first weeks of January, April, July, and October. Deadlines for articles and advertisements are the 10th of December, March, June, and September. Contact the editor for a current advertising rate sheet.

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

Todd Hanson, editor
 4514 Elgar Ln.
 Madison, WI 53704
 (608) 243-9025 (phone & fax)
 twhanson@sbcglobal.net

Bill Heart, Chair
 29450 Verners Rd.
 Ashland, WI 54806

Kim McCarthy, Vice Chair
 N5967 Murray Rd.
 Ogdensburg, WI 54962

Jeff Ware, Secretary
 14092 Spring Valley Rd.
 Fennimore, WI 53809

Larry Meicher, Treasurer
 5258 Salisbury Rd.
 Rio, WI 53960

TU elitist fly fishers? Not what I see.

By Bill Heart

WITU State Council Chair

There has been a lot said recently of how TU is a group of elitist fly fishers who look down their noses at other anglers who don't use flies. Well, I beg to differ.

During May and June I was involved in a number of youth-related events that didn't center on fly fishing at all. In May, TU was well represented at the Wisconsin Outdoor Education Expo in Beaver Dam (see separate story in this issue). We did teach fly tying, but emphasized how kids could use these flies on a spinning rod with a float. Many of the kids at the Expo took a fly home and were going to try out Bob Haase's spinning rod fly bobber system.

Also in May, we worked with 20 or so Washburn High School students on fishing techniques and then fishing on the ponds at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center. Most kids used worms, minnows, and spinners. We did introduce them to fly fishing, but most importantly, we encouraged them to just get outside and enjoy all of Wisconsin's beautiful lakes and streams.

The weekend of June 7 was a Free Fishing Day throughout the state, and the Wild Rivers Chapter

was involved with three different events. I was at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center just west of Ashland. This is the ninth such event held at the center, and it has been growing every year. About 30 volunteers taught 310 kids how to tie on a hook, bait it, and safely release fish. All of the instruction was done with spinning rods and fishing with worms, minnows, leeches, or spinners. Even NRB member Duke Welter did such a great job putting worms on hooks for kids that I will need to carefully check his flies next time we fish together.

From what I'm seeing, TU is more concerned about teaching kids fishing skills than being concerned about *how* they fish.

At the February WITU annual banquet, I won a guided trip with Patrick Hager on the Prairie River in Lincoln County. I had never fished the river and wanted to see just what all of the controversy over the Prairie was about. I was not as concerned about fishing as I was to just see the river. Patrick took me to a couple of areas of the special regulation section first. One section had a number of nice rocky runs and pools that no doubt held some good fish. I caught a few small brookies

and saw a couple of nice fish. There had been some habitat work done there in the past.

We then went farther down stream and fished an area that was rehabbed three or four years ago. On walking out along the bank, we noticed hundreds of brown drakes in the brush that would fly up as we walked. We were both looking forward to the evening spinner fall.

After a late lunch, Patrick took me to one of his favorite spots to wait for the spinner fall. I sat in the river on a large rock for about an hour watching many small flies hatch, listened to birds, and anticipated the blanket spinner fall with rising browns and brookies. Well, as things can happen, our section of the river had many brown drakes in the air, but no spinners

I had a great day and believe the Prairie River is a wonderful stream that would be able to produce some very nice fish. Hopefully we will be able to educate the local opposition



Bill Heart helping a girl bait up

that the special regs can help the river and that they will still be able to enjoy their sport and keep a few fish.

LAND TRUST: TU to work with Dane County easement effort

Continued from p. 1

Stream restoration work could become included in an easement as part of the legal easement agreement or perhaps through financial incentives to both the land trust and the landowner.

In order to launch this new effort, we decided to set up two or three pilot programs around the country. One was on the Connecticut River between New Hampshire and Vermont.

I suggested that we look at an innovative new program begun by Dane County in late 2007. There are about 40 miles of class I and II trout streams in Dane County on which there are some 50 conservation easements held by TU, the DNR, Dan County, and other groups.

Most of these easements were originally for 20 years. With some running out, County Executive Kathleen Falk decided to start an effort to buy permanent easements on all these streams.

Dane County spent \$100,000 in 2007 to convert three shorter-term easements on the Sugar River to permanent easements. The county budgeted \$200,000 in 2008 and has converted three other 20-year easements on the Sugar to permanent easements. All six easements had extensive restoration work done on them about five years ago. Three more easements are expected to be completed this fall.

The county funds generate matching DNR Stewardship or other dollars. The county's initial goal is to provide permanent protection to stream stretches with shorter-term easements where restoration work has been done and then move on to other crucial sections of streams. However, even at this \$200,000 annual funding level, it would take 10 years or more to buy all the proposed easements.

Development pressures and changing land ownership will be a formidable challenge. Enter TU. If TU can raise additional funds, the county's effort can be accelerated

and have a much greater chance of success.

A local Dane County land trust, the Natural Heritage Land Trust (NHLT), has agreed to help our pilot effort. The NHLT has a long history of involvement in the Black Earth Creek watershed, having bought land and conservation easements over the past 15 years. The land trust has agreed to devote its resources to contacting about two dozen landowners on Vermont Creek, the biggest tributary of Black Earth Creek, urging them to consider easements with the county.

The NHLT has also agreed to work with Southern Wisconsin TU to raise additional money for easements. National TU has promised to promote the pilot program and help in fundraising.

Thus far, the Wisconsin TU State Council has agreed to donate \$5,000 and SWTU has offered to contribute an initial \$2,500 for easements. Badger Flyfishers has given \$1,000. Every dollar that we raise will go directly to purchasing permanent conservation easements.

SWTU, the county, and DNR have a good history of cooperative stream restoration projects, and it is expected that restoration would be part of most or all of these easements.

If this effort in Dane County succeeds, it would be a wonderful model for collaborative efforts in other places between TU, land trusts, public agencies. From TU's point of view, it fits perfectly with what's being done through TUDARE in southwestern Wisconsin. And given the recent battles over TU's involvement in access disputes, it represents a great opportunity to increase voluntary access to streams.

(Dan Wisniewski is Wisconsin TU's representative on the National Leadership Council (NLC), the body that establishes conservation policy for TU National. He chaired the NLC workgroup that developed TU's Land Conservancy program. -Ed.)



NRCS CHIEF FISHES THE WEST FORK

Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Arlen Lancaster (second from right) recently joined (l to r) TUDARE Project Manager Jeff Hastings, TU Midwest Director Laura Hewitt, and Driftless Angler Fly Shop owner Mat Wagner for a day of fishing on the West Fork of the Kickapoo River.

NRCS Chief Lancaster fishes the West Fk. of the Kickapoo

By Jeff Hastings

On a cold, dreary day following over two inches of rain, Arlen Lancaster, chief of Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), went trout fishing on the West Fork of the Kickapoo River with some local conservation leaders.

Lancaster was joined by TU Midwest Director Laura Hewitt, Driftless Angler owner Mat Wagner, WI State Conservationist Pat Leavenworth, La Crosse District Conservationist Greg Yackle, WI Public Affairs Specialist Renae Anderson, and TUDARE Project Manager Jeff Hastings.

The plan was to take Lancaster out on a stream that had been restored with federal dollars. Unfortunately, the West Fork was high, making it difficult to walk in, let alone fish. However, Lancaster was in good spirits, and this was an excellent opportunity to show him a restored segment of the West Fork.

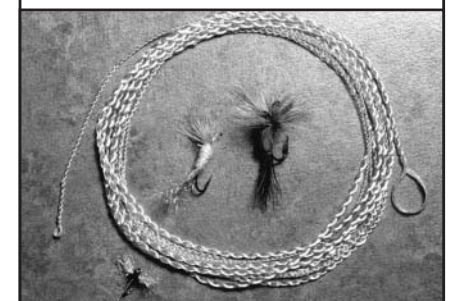
Later in the morning we took Lancaster to an unimproved segment of Timber Coulee that is slated for \$180,000 of federal funding through the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program awarded to the Coulee Region Chapter.

Lancaster was visiting the area to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Coon Creek watershed restoration,

the first large-scale watershed project in the nation and the start of the federal NRCS.

Elevate your fly fishing experience to a new level. Our hand-woven leaders offer performance and accuracy not possible with any mono leader. Proven durability. Sizes for all line weights. Just add tippet!

• Thousands Sold Worldwide •



BlueSky
Furled Tapered Leaders
BlueSkyFly.com

See our website for info, and how to get a FREE Dr. Slick Tippet Nipper.
Ph./Fax 920-430-1239
E-mail: BlueSky@netnet.net
1163 Garland St., Green Bay, WI 54301

Chapter president profile

John Meachen new 'kid' at helm of WI River Valley

By Mike Pierce

When John Meachen took over the presidency of the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited from Herb Hintze in 2007, he inherited Herb's 25-year history of building relationships with landowners and securing easements based on trust and understanding.

Herb built a strong, centralized organization whose primary focus was on stream improvement and raising the funds needed to do those stream improvements.

John recognized that his gifts were different from Herb's, that he had to immediately build trust among long-term members and officers, and that he had to maintain the chapter's success.

For the past eight months, John has successfully maintained the solid achievements of Herb's legacy while adding some nuances and changes that are purely John Meachen.

John's first challenges were to ready the chapter for rechartering and to improve the chapter's effectiveness index through enhancement of member meetings, the creation of a web site, and better documentation of member and officer activities.



John got Gary Borger as the featured speaker for the January 2008 member meeting. He then created an expanded member newsletter. These things immediately boosted member attendance at monthly meetings and set the stage for expanded member participation in other chapter activities.

John, a 57-year-old Lutheran minister, learned many years ago how to leverage his time and leadership by delegating tasks and sharing responsibilities with committees. John identifies his management style as "a player/coach who wants to dig in and do the work, but who also

likes to empower other chapter members to do those things they are passionate about."

John's top goal for his term as president is to spread the responsibilities and opportunities for service among more and new members. John has a passion for getting more young people and women involved in the TU organization and TU leadership. However, involvement has to maintain TU's focus of conserving, restoring, and protecting our coldwater resources according to state and national TU guidelines, and the new president shares Herb Hintze's dogged determination to



JOHN MEACHEN HAS SUCCEEDED HERB HINTZE AT WI RIVER VALLEY

Pastor John Meachen hopes to spread the responsibilities and opportunities for service among more and new members.

create more and better trout habitat.

John quickly learned during the recent Conservation Congress votes over the special regulations on the Prairie River that TU and TU officers can be cast as elitist fly fishers who are not welcomed by northwoods sportsmen's groups. John is not content to let that conflict be perpetuated, and he is dedicated to building cooperative, trusting relationships with other sportsmen's organizations around a common respect for the resource.

John's favorite trout is the brookie because he loves its beautiful col-

ors, and because to him the brookie represents clean, wild waters and natural reproduction.

Despite his serious dedication to the resource, when asked what he'd

John...is dedicated to building cooperative, trusting relationships with other sportsmen's organizations...

like to communicate to his chapter and TU members throughout the state, John was fast to reply, "What we do has to be fun. Some of our members and trout fishers get too serious

about their fishing and their viewpoint. We have to be able to laugh, have fun, and enjoy the resource."

(WI River Valley Chapter member Mike Pierce is fire chief of the Village of Weston and a former editor of the Hawkeye Flyfishers' Newsletter. -Ed.)

Farm Bill overrides Bush veto to pass Congress

By Dan Wisniewski

After months of negotiations, extensions, and veto threats, Congress finally passed a new five-year farm bill, overriding the president's veto.

The bill contains most of the federal government's spending on conservation programs, and Trout Unlimited worked with many other

conservation and environmental groups to improve the bill. Many in Congress had hoped to scale back various crop subsidy programs, but they failed in this effort. President Bush vetoed the bill largely because of these payment levels.

TU and other groups also pushed for substantially higher spending on conservation pro-

grams, with only partial success. By overwhelming margins, both the House and Senate overrode Bush's veto and the long battle was finally over, nearly nine months late.

Given the difficult economic and federal budget situation and the bad working relationship between Congress and the president, perhaps the bill that passed was the

best that could be expected. Working with a broad coalition of other conservation groups, TU was able to make its voice heard on a number of issues.

The inflated crop subsidies and unneeded payments for corn ethanol will continue for another five years and then the battle will be joined again.

Key provisions of the new Farm Bill

- A new water savings provision that gives priority to irrigation funding through the Environmental Quality Improvement Program (EQIP) for projects that will save water, restore streamflows, and not exacerbate water scarcity conflicts. House and Senate conferees dropped a more proactive House provision that would have prohibited increased consumption of water.
- A new \$65 million Agricultural Water Enhancement Program that will catalyze growing community restoration efforts across the nation to improve water quality, quantity, and fish habitat in key watersheds.
- Reauthorized EQIP and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) programs, including increased funding for EQIP and stable funding for WHIP, perhaps the Farm Bill's most flexible and valued program for fisheries habitat projects. However, conferees added ill-conceived limitations on the WHIP program at the eleventh hour — measures not found in either House or Senate versions of the bill — which will reduce the effectiveness of the WHIP program. Also, the WHIP funding level of \$85 million per year is far less than what is needed on the ground to enable landowners to fully utilize the program.
- A new and helpful \$438 million Chesapeake Bay Program that should greatly increase efforts to help landowners in the bay region to reduce sediment and nutrient pollution. Within the bay program, special priority is given to several drainages, including the Susquehanna, Potomac, and Shenandoah where TU is actively working with landowners to reduce pollution.
- A new, \$50 million voluntary access program that will allow states and tribes to receive grants to be used to encourage farmers and ranchers to make their lands available to hunting and angling.
- A reconfigured Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative, a program that was authorized in the last Farm Bill but never got off the ground because of inadequate implementation by the USDA. Through this program, eligible partners — including conservation non-profits — can propose initiatives working cooperatively with producers in a given area that will enhance conservation outcomes. It largely taps into existing conservation program funding (six percent is set aside in each program), and promises to reward the kind of cooperative watershed work done by TU.
- The tax title of the Farm Bill also included two-year renewal of a tax incentive for conservation easement donations from private landowners. An extremely useful tool for conserving private lands and protecting fish habitat, this provision had expired at the end of 2007, so the Farm Bill is rescuing it from the grave.

Wisconsin Trout book excerpt

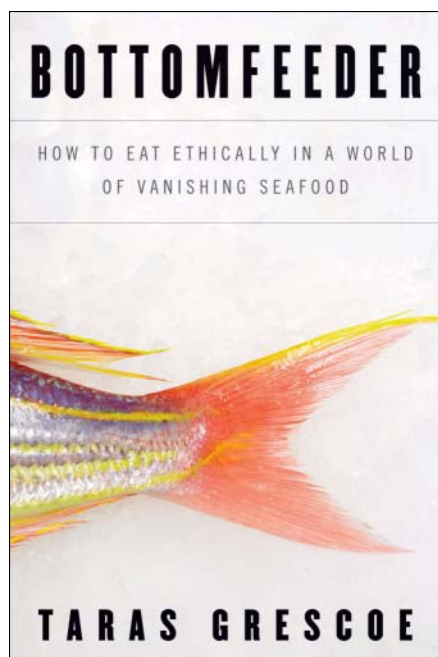
Taras Grescoe's *Bottomfeeder* chronicles the unhealthy side of farm-raised fish and seafood

Eating fish and seafood is good for us, but the farm-raised versions are not as pure as most people assume. A new book by Taras Grescoe entitled *Bottomfeeder: How to Eat Ethically in a World of Vanishing Seafood* chronicles the artificial steps and chemical additives many fish farms use

By Taras Grescoe

The flesh of some common fish, we know now, can be extremely toxic. In 2004 the influential journal *Science* reported that salmon contains dangerously high levels of carcinogenic dioxins and polychlorinated biphenyls, and it recommended eating no more than six meals of farmed salmon a year.

Once [salmon] was a delicacy for the rich. Because of aquaculture, it



has become one of the most popular sea foods in the United States, surpassed only by shrimp and canned tuna; twenty-three million Americans eat salmon at least once a month. In Great Britain, the farm-gate value of salmon routinely drops below one pound a kilogram — less than the price of chicken. Rich in omega-3s, low in saturated fat, what was once a seasonal delicacy has become the alternative to beef or poultry in a million in-flight meals.

The old hunter-gatherer of the seas, the fisherman, is already being supplanted by a more advanced figure, the symbol of a new era of ocean stewardship: the fish farmer. Forty-three percent of the fish eaten in the world are now farmed, according to the United Nations, and the industry has been growing by an astonishing nine percent a year for the last three decades. By 2010 world agriculture output is expected to surpass beef production.

A farmed salmon's life begins in a hatchery, where a female is killed and cut open, and her fourteen thousand or so eggs are squeezed out and manually mixed with the milt from the male. Eggs are prone to disease, so they are soaked in an iodine-based disinfectant called Ovadine to kill off any viruses or bacteria, and washed with Formalin to kill fungus. The latter, a formaldehyde-based preservative listed as a "known human carcinogen" by the World Health Organization, is considered preferable to malachite green, a toxic fungicide that was for a long time the industry standard.

Canada banned the use of malachite green in 1992 when it was found to cause liver tumors and birth defects, but it is still widely used on farmed fish in Chile and

China. In spite of the ban, in 2005 the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) detected malachite green in 310,000 salmon from British Columbia's Stolt Sea Farm. According to the Vancouver Sun, the company, now owned by Marine Harvest, coped by shipping their salmon to Japan, where testing is not as rigorous. As in an indoor marijuana grow-op, artificial light is used in a hatchery to speed growth. Lamps are switched on and off in cycles that mimic accelerated winters and summers, nudging salmon fry to the smolt stage in less than half the time it takes in the wild. The growing fish are transferred to ever-larger tanks, and, one by one, injected via syringe to vaccinate them against the diseases they are likely to encounter in the saltwater environment. When, at about three ounces, the fish have completed the smoltification process (the physiological changes that allow them to live in salt water), they are loaded into live-haul barges and towed to the net pens where they are fattened until they reach market size.

At their worst, salmon farms are like hog farms at sea, emitting a toxic cloud of pollutants and parasites into the ocean. But few people I talked to, even the most adamant critics of the current industry, are actually opposed to the idea of fish farming. Most just think there is a better way of going about it. Changing a few operating procedures would considerably decrease the industry's negative impact. Rather than specifically targeting small forage fish, salmon feed makers could use the estimated 28 million tons of bycatch that are now discarded by the world's fisheries, as well as the scrap left over from fish for human consumption. Lowering stocking densities could obviate the use of antibiotics and treatments for parasites. These procedures, already standard in organic cod farms in Scotland, are ignored by the industry because they would raise the price of the finished product. In North America, salmon aquaculture is predicated on keeping a constant supply of cheap fish.

While farming salmon is bad for the oceans, eating farmed salmon can be hazardous to your health. For example: beware sushi, gravlax, or ceviche made with Chilean salmon. In South America, smolts are raised in freshwater lakes rather than in hatcheries, and native species pass parasites to the juvenile salmon before they are taken to the net pens. Brazil recently traced several cases of tapeworms in humans back to the eating of raw farmed salmon from Chile. On the upside, salmon, being relatively short-lived fish, are low in mercury. The good news, unfortunately, ends there.

Were it not for artificial colorants, the flesh of farmed salmon would be an unappetizing gray, yellow, or khaki. In the wild, salmon owe their pink hue to krill and

to bring their products to market.

After reading this excerpt, Wisconsin trout fishers will appreciate how lucky they are to be able to enjoy a good day's fishing and come away from the stream with something wild and healthy to eat.

shrimp, which contain the organic pigments astaxanthin and canthaxanthin. In salmon farms, artificial versions, synthesized from algae or yeast, are added directly to the feed. Pharmaceutical giant Hoffman-La Roche makes a convenient color chart, like the chips used to select paint colors in hardware stores, called the SalmoFan, which allows farmers to choose shades of flesh between pale salmon pink (#20) and bright orange-red (#34). These colorants, as my salmon farm guides rightly pointed out, are chemically similar isomers of the natural substances; they are even sold in American health food stores as

Consumer Reports found that 56 percent of salmon fillets — for which their researchers paid up to \$15.62 a pound — were labeled as wild-caught when they were in fact farmed.

supplements. But the United Kingdom removed canthaxanthin self-tanning pills from the market in 1987 because the pigment has a tendency to accumulate in the retina; children's eyes were found to be especially vulnerable. Because of this issue, the European Union recently reduced the amount permitted in animal feed by a factor of three. In 2003 Washington State consumers won a lawsuit that forced Safeway and two other supermarket chains to put "color added" labels on farmed salmon packages nationwide.

If you must buy farmed salmon, according to food safety writer Marion Nestle, you should grill or broil the fish until the juices run off, then remove the skin. That way, she writes in her book *What to Eat*, you can get rid of much of the toxin-conveying fat and with it half of the PCBs. (Rather than being forced to treat your dinner like a biotoxin, though, you might want to consider choosing some other fish to eat altogether). Organic farmed salmon would be a good option, if the term organic had any meaning at all. When it comes to farmed salmon in North America, there is no Health Canada or USDA seal of approval; antibiotic- and colorant-fed salmon can be packed 60,000 into a pen and still legitimately be called "organic." In Europe standards are stricter. The Soil Association in the United Kingdom, for example, stipulates organic salmon must be fed with meal made from the filleting waste of fish caught for human consumption, and artificial colorants such as canthaxanthin are prohibited. Farmers are permitted, however, to treat the fish with veterinary chemicals, including heavy-duty sea-lice treatments.

For the time being, wild Pacific salmon are probably your safest choice. (Remember that if a salmon in your local store is labeled "Atlantic," it almost certainly comes from a farm; wild Atlantic salmon are now as rare as bluefin tuna). Though many wild Pacific salmon

runs are in rough shape, some B.C. fisheries are sustainably managed; sockeye and pink, which also feed low in the food chain and are thus lower in persistent organic pollutants, tend to be a good choice. As are salmon from the Alaskan fishery; much of the canned salmon available in supermarkets comes from north of 55 degrees. Unfortunately, mislabeling, the seafood industry's besetting sin, is also rampant in the wild salmon section. In a cross-country survey of American supermarkets, *Consumer Reports* found that 56 percent of salmon fillets — for which their researchers paid up to \$15.62 a pound — were labeled as wild-caught when they were in fact farmed.

Personally, I cannot face another piece of farmed salmon. The herringbone pattern of flesh, barely held together by creamy, saliva-gooey fat

— the vehicle for some of the worst toxins known to humanity — has lately been making me choke. Fortunately chefs in Vancouver, B.C.'s largest city, are at the forefront of the sustainable seafood movement. I had come to the Blue Water Café, a seafood restaurant in an old brick and fir-beam warehouse in Vancouver's Yaletown, to sample Frank Pabst's *Unsung Heroes* menu. The chef, who was committed to sustainable seafood, was highlighting what used to be considered trash fish and bait; the catch of the day included herring roe on kelp, a sesame-soaked jellyfish salad, and lightly cooked slices of mackerel served with savoy cabbage and red beets. Some of the proceeds went to the Vancouver Aquarium's Ocean Wise program, which promotes the idea of eating down the food chain. As I tried to decide between the live sea urchin in ponzu sauce and herring topped with crème fraîche, the waiter tempted me up a trophic level or two with a well-placed word about the night's special, a hook-and-line caught "winter spring salmon." This is the evocatively oxymoronic name given to late-run Chinook; there had been an opening of a few days, he explained, and they were serving a whole tail, grilled and garnished with sprigs of thyme and oregano and just a bit of lemon. I did not ask the price. I had to have it. A few minutes later there was a Chinook tail on my plate, skin, bones, and all. The flesh was not Day-Glo orange, but healthily pink: salmon colored, in fact. It was firm, well-muscled, juicy but not oily, and lower in the fat that makes eating Atlantic fillets such a chore. It was to farmed salmon as venison is to ground beef. It was the taste of my childhood — it was the essence of British Columbia — and I did not want it to end. I had forgotten: that was what a salmon was supposed to taste like.

(Reprinted by permission of Bloomsbury USA. *Bottomfeeder* is available for \$24.99 in the *cooking/food and drink* section wherever books are sold. -Ed.)

Youth training will sustain the future of fishing

By Bob Haase

Member Analysis

the United States.

Our youth will play an important role in the future of fishing here in Wisconsin and across

Fishing is dependent upon good fisheries management, which includes providing clean water and suitable habitat. Our lakes, rivers, and streams are faced with new challenges every year. High-capacity wells used for irrigation and other purposes are lowering our aquifers

and reducing flows in many of our streams. Water may become a commodity even more valuable than oil in our future. The introduction of invasive species and pollution will provide additional challenges.

In order to protect our resources and provide fishing opportunities in

related activities. There are fewer and fewer children taking up the sport of fishing every year. Part of the reason is that their parents don't fish or don't take them fishing. We need to do everything we can to introduce more children to the sport of fishing.

One way of doing this is to get more involved in youth activities and programs sponsored by fishing clubs and organizations, or those sponsored by Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other social groups.

One example is the Wisconsin Outdoor Expo. WITU sponsors the fly casting, fly tying, and aquatic insect identification activities at the Expo. With the volunteer help of TU members across Wisconsin, we introduced over 1,000 students to these activities.

On Saturday, June 7, members of the Hornberg, Central Wisconsin, and Wisconsin River Valley chapters taught casting and fly tying at the Kiwanis Youth Outdoor Day near Wisconsin Rapids.

I encourage those of you reading this to ask, *what programs like this are available in your area?*

Many chapters are involved in youth fishing activities that involve fly tying and fly casting, but we need to do more. We need to work with other fishing and conservation clubs to expand what we are doing to include knot tying, ethics, conservation, the use of spinning gear with both artificial lures and live bait, safety, first aid, and much more. We need to become aware of youth-related activities that are currently being held and offer to provide fishing-related programs for them.

We also need to expand programs such as the Wisconsin Outdoor Expo to other parts of Wisconsin to make it available to more children. We also need to look at setting up displays on fishing and conservation in our public libraries and working with schools to get fishing and conservation included in the science curriculum or other areas.

The future of fishing is dependent upon our volunteering to share our knowledge and skills with our children and others. Better yet, don't just volunteer, become a leader of youth fishing activities in your chapter.



KIDS RULE AT WISCONSIN OUTDOOR EXPO IN BEAVER DAM

Trout Unlimited members again presented workshops on fly tying, casting, and insect identification at this year's Wisconsin Outdoor Expo in Beaver Dam. One youngster proudly shows off his woolly bugger (top), while Rand Vander Schaaf (bottom) keeps a table full of youngsters entertained at the tying table.

www.fontanasports.com

ROSS REELS **SIMMS** **Scientific Anglers**
EX OFFICIO **UMPQUA** **SAGE**

Gear up for your summer trout, warm water, and vacation fly fishing needs.

Southern Wisconsin's source for Hex flies and "Improved Trout Waters of Wisconsin."

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

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

Visit our west side fly fishing department:
 7948 Tree Lane
 Madison, WI
 (608) 833-9191

the future, we will need the support of conservationists and those who fish, hunt, and participate in related outdoor sports.

Many of our children have traded in their fishing rods for video games and do not seem to have the same appreciation for nature or fishing as we did. These same children will be the ones making decisions that determine the future of fishing and other conservation-re-



TROUT CHASERS

Marquette County's Chafee Creek. 350' of sandy-bottomed front near the Mecan River confluence. 1,000s of acres of public hunting and fishing nearby. 12-acre lot.

Hunting/Fishing/Buildable!

Contact David at RE/MAX
 \$79,900
 800-203-0942
Sellingwisconsin.com

Scott W. Grady
 Rodmaker

Split Bamboo Rods
 new & repairs
Bamboo Rodmaking Classes
 makes a great Xmas gift!

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

Environmentally Responsible Papers and Soy Base Ink. We care about our environment!

- 25 Years -

Family Owned and Operated
Quality Instant and Commercial Printing

Call Steve Hill
 107 S. Fifth Street • Watertown, WI 53094
 1-800-729-0728 • Fax: 920-261-6353
 Email: budgetprint@charter.net
www.budgetprintonline.com

Great Lakes Compact gets legislative OK

By Bill Pielsticker

WITU Legislative Chair

Governor Jim Doyle signed the Great Lakes Compact on May 27 following its approval by a special session of the state Legislature.

Passage of the compact has been a TU priority for several years. The primary function of the compact between the eight Great Lakes states and two Canadian provinces is to protect the basin's water from diversion to drought-stricken areas of this country.

Following Wisconsin's adoption of the compact, opponents in the Ohio Senate agreed to a vote and the compact was approved there. Once Michigan and Pennsylvania give final approval, the compact will need to be passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law.

Continuing issues

While the Legislature is not in session, Wisconsin TU and other conservation organizations discuss legislative solutions to ongoing issues. The first is a continuing focus on necessary funding levels and effective implementation of nutrient management plans and other measures to control polluted runoff.

Another priority issue will be a review of the state's groundwater law with an eye on how it can be improved to better protect springs, spring creeks, and trout streams.

We also are working with other organizations and legislators on plans to secure a reliable funding source for the DNR's fish and game account. We recognize that this account cannot continue to rely solely on license revenue. We will explore other viable options that may include funding from non-motorized watercraft, bikers, and hikers.

WITU teaches fishing skills at Outdoor Expo

By Bob Haase

Fly tying, fly casting, and aquatic insect identification skills as taught by WITU volunteers were popular activities again this year at the 2008 Wisconsin Outdoor Expo.

The expo was held at the Dodge County Fairgrounds near Beaver Dam May 15-16 for fourth and fifth grade students.

Students were bused in from schools throughout southern Wisconsin to participate in fishing, archery, conservation, firearms safety, and other activities. About 3,500 students attended the event.

By keeping track of the hooks used, we estimate that around 1,000 students tied a fly at our WITU exhibit. We don't know how many students tried their hand at fly casting or aquatic insect identification, but both areas has a steady flow of students all day.

Members of chapters from Central Wisconsin, Fox Valley, Southeast Wisconsin, Southern Wisconsin, Wild Rivers, and Wisconsin River Valley volunteered their time to make Wisconsin TU's programs possible again this year.

A special thank you to all the members who volunteered to help make this event possible, because without your help, we could not do this.

2008 WDNR Fish Managers

County/Water	Name/s	County/Water	Name/s
Adams General	Scot Ironside	Menominee General	Al Niebur Dean Schoenike
Ashland Inland Waters Lake Superior	Jeff Roth Mike Seider	Milwaukee Lakes Streams	Matt Coffaro Will Wawrzyn
Barron General	Heath Benike	Monroe Inland Waters	Jordan Weeks
Bayfield Lake Superior and Tribs Inland Waters	Dennis Pratt Scott Toshner	Oconto Inland Waters	Justine Hasz
Brown Western 2/3 and Lake Michigan	Dave Rowe	Lake Michigan	Tammie Paoli
Eastern 1/3	Steve Hogler Steve Surendonk	Green Bay	Mike Donofrio & Tammie Paoli
Buffalo Inland Waters, Northern Inland Waters, Southern Mississippi River	<i>vacant (Call 715-839-3709)</i> Dan Hatleli Brian Brecka	Coastal Shore of Green Bay	Tammie Paoli
Burnett General	Larry Damman	Oneida General	John Kubisiak
Calumet Lake Winnebago Eastern 2/3	Ron Bruch Steve Hogler	Outagamie Lower Fox River Wolf River	Dave Rowe Kendall Kamke
Chippewa General	Joe Kurz	Ozaukee Lakes Streams	John Nelson Will Wawrzyn
Clark Western 1/3 Eastern 2/3	Dan Hatleli Dan Hatleli	Pepin Inland Waters Mississippi River	Marty Engel Brian Brecka
Columbia General	Tim Larson	Pierce Inland Waters Mississippi River	Marty Engel Brian Brecka
Crawford Inland Waters Mississippi River	Jordan Weeks Patrick Short	St. Croix River	Marty Engel
Dane General	Kurt Welke	Polk General	Heath Benike
Dodge General	Laura Stremick-Thompson	Portage General	Thomas Meronek
Door Inland Waters Lake Michigan	Steve Hogler Paul Peeters & Scott Hansen	Price General	Jeff Scheirer
Douglas Lake Superior, Brule River, and other Lake Superior Tribs All Other Inland Waters	Dennis Pratt Scott Toshner	Racine Inland Waters	Doug Welch Rick Dauffenbach Pradeep Hirethota
Dunn General	Marty Engel	Lake Michigan	Gene Van Dyck
Eau Claire General	Joe Kurz	Richland General	Don Bush
Florence General	Mike Vogelsang	Rock Lower Rock Basin	Jeff Scheirer
Fond du Lac Eastern Lake Winnebago	John Nelson Kendall Kamke Bob Olynyk	Rusk General	Tim Larson
Forest General	Mike Vogelsang	Sauk General	Tim Larson
Grant South of Route 18 North of Route 18 Mississippi River	Bradd Sims Gene Van Dyck Patrick Short	Sawyer General	Frank Pratt
Green Sugar River Basin Pecatonica Basin	Don Bush Bradd Sims	Shawano General	Al Niebur Dean Schoenike
Green Lake General	Dave Bartz Dave Paynter Scott Bunde	Sheboygan General	John Nelson
Iowa South of Route 18 North of Route 18	Bradd Sims Gene Van Dyck	St. Croix Inland Waters St. Croix River	Marty Engel Marty Engel
Iron Inland Waters Lake Superior	Jeff Roth Mike Seider	Taylor General	Jeff Scheirer
Jackson General	Dan Hatleli	Trempealeau Inland Waters Mississippi River	Dan Hatleli Dave Heath
Jefferson Lower Rock Basin Upper Rock Basin	Don Bush Laura Stremick-Thompson	Vernon Inland Waters Mississippi River	Jordan Weeks Dave Heath
Juneau General	Scot Ironside	Vilas General	Steve Gilbert
Kenosha Inland Waters	Doug Welch Rick Dauffenbach Pradeep Hirethota	Walworth General	Doug Welch Rick Dauffenbach
Lake Michigan	Steve Hogler Steve Surendonk	Washburn General	Larry Damman
Kewaunee General	Steve Hogler Steve Surendonk	Washington Lakes Streams	John Nelson Will Wawrzyn
La Crosse Inland Waters Mississippi River	Jordan Weeks Dave Heath	Waukesha General	Sue Beyler Steve Gospoderek
Lafayette General	Bradd Sims	Waupaca General	Al Niebur Scott Bunde
Langlade General	Dave Seibel	Waushara General	Dave Bartz Dave Paynter Scott Bunde
Lincoln General	Dave Seibel	Winnebago General	Ron Bruch Kendall Kamke Bob Olynyk Doug Rinzel
Manitowoc General	Steve Hogler Steve Surendonk	Wood General	Scot Ironside
Marathon General	Thomas Meronek	Other Management Areas	
Marinette Inland Waters	Justine Hasz	Treaty (East)	Mike Coshun
Lake Michigan	Tammie Paoli	Treaty (West)	Jamison Wendel
Menominee River	Mike Donofrio & Tammie Paoli	Forest Service Liaison	Skip Sommerfeldt
Green Bay	Mike Donofrio & Tammie Paoli	Lake Michigan: Kenosha, Racine & Milwaukee Counties	Pradeep Hirethota
Coastal Shore of Green Bay	Tammie Paoli	Lake Michigan: Sheboygan & Ozaukee Counties	<i>vacant (Call 920-892-8756)</i>
Marquette General	Dave Bartz Dave Paynter Scott Bunde	Lake Michigan: Manitowoc & Kewaunee Counties	Steve Hogler
		Lake Michigan: Door	Paul Peeters & Scott Hansen
		Lake Michigan: Brown	Dave Rowe
		Lake Michigan: Oconto & Marinette Counties	Tammie Paoli
		Lake Superior: Main Lake	Mike Seider
		Lake Superior: Tributary Streams and Rivers	Dennis Pratt



Chapter News



Gary N-ski

CHECKING OUT LAST YEAR'S HABITAT WORK

WDNR Fishery Biologist Tim Larson conducted some electroshocking in a recently improved stretch of the Bohlman Branch of Lodi Spring Creek.

Aldo Leopold Chapter

Our annual picnic and fund-raiser May 14 was a big success. The weather was perfect, **Eric Lorenzen** and his wife, **Valerie**, provided excellent food, a really great crowd turned out, and our raffle raised over \$1,000.

Lots of thanks to those who donated to our raffle, including **Pat Ehlers** at **The Fly Fishers**, **Russ Bouck**, **Alistair Stewart**, **The Fly Guys**, **Cabela's**, **Gander Mountain**, **Korbel Brandy**, and many others.

Prior to the feast, DNR Fisheries Biologist **Tim Larson** did a stream shocking demo on the **Bohlman Branch of Lodi Spring Creek**. Fish up to 16" were brought up, and people got to see first hand the results of habitat improvement efforts.

Clint Byrnes and **Marlin Spindler** oversaw the making and installation of a project sign at the Bohlman Branch, as well as an Aldo Leopold bench. They worked with the Lodi DPW in getting the sign up; thanks to both of them for their efforts.

Other fund-raising this spring included an appeal letter to chapter members. Over 10% of our members contributed a total of \$530. Thank you to all of you who contributed. An additional \$350 was raised at the "Brats on the Bridge" event

with the **Friends of Scenic Lodi Valley** on April 19. "BOB", as the event is now known, was such a success that a second brat fry will be held later this summer. Eat a brat, save a trout.

A coalition of groups and governmental bodies around Lodi Spring Creek, led by the **City of Lodi**, have embarked on a multi-year, watershed-wide project designed to better understand and protect the creek. This year will see a stream corridor inventory and the creation of a watershed model. Next year there will be stream monitoring and a performance standard-based watershed inventory. We will be contributing volunteers for the stream monitoring as well as other activities.

Related to this effort, **Columbia County Land and Water Conservation Director Kurt Calkins** has asked for our help implementing a couple river planning grants next year. We will provide in-kind donations of labor to match portions of the grant, and will assist in mapping both cattle access points and stream bank erosion locations for both **Lodi Spring Creek** and also **Rowan Creek** in Poynette.

—Mike Barniskis

Antigo Chapter

The Antigo Chapter held its annual fund-raising banquet on March 29 at **Northstar Lanes**. We had 260 people attend the banquet, and a GREAT night was had by all. That night of fund raising helped to again fund our chapter and upcoming projects.

Antigo TU has pledged \$1,000 to help fund a National Forest Service fisheries technician for the upcoming summer and \$400 to buy the US-

FS a new chain saw. Also, \$1000 for beaver control in the national forest.

Two brush bundling projects are planned on two area streams.

Antigo TU will host a **TU NE region** meeting to be held at **The Refuge Restaurant** on the city's north side where we will plan to help our region acquire and implement more projects in our region. We'll hold a brainstorming session. We will try to set up a small work project after the meeting at **Trout Springs** to rake

out the outlet of the spring pond. This pond was dredged seven years ago. Then we'll grill some brats for those who can come. Then those who would like to fish can try their luck on a Langlade county spring pond.

On June 7 we held our annual **Kid's Fishing Day**. TU provided trout in a fishing tank for the kids, and the largest fish caught was a 16" rainbow. The kid's caught brook trout up to 15". The fish were provided by **Silver Moon Springs** in Elton, WI. The largest fish caught will be mounted by **Curran's Taxidermy** in Antigo. Hamburgers, brats, and hot dogs with all the fixings were provided to all who attended. A nice

prize was provided for each child, and a boy's and girl's bike were given away. Our local DNR personal showed up and ran a casting contest for the kids, too.

This spring Antigo TU again awarded a \$500 scholarship to an upper classman in the **UW-SP Natural Resources** program. This year's winner is **Kyle Lenzner** from the Antigo area.

Antigo TU applied to the **Lite Foundation** through **SNE Enterprises** with the help of director **Len Pingel** for our Kid's Fishing Day as a community project. They were so kind to give us a \$500 grant.

—Scott Henricks

Central Wisconsin Chapter

The Central Wisconsin Chapter has had a very busy spring. It started with our annual casting clinic held at **Marble Park** in Winneconne on April 21. About 50 people, CWTU members, and the general public had a chance to tune up their casting skills, get a little coaching, and try different rods. **Scott Grady**, a bamboo rod maker, had an assortment of rods to try. The team from **Tight Lines Fly Shop** in De Pere was there and demonstrated spey rods and gave us a rare opportunity to cast with them. **John Gremmer** provided two heavyweight rods that could be used for muskies. A lunch of brats, hamburgers, and chips was prepared by **Dick Pollock** and **Jim Humphrey**. It was a good time.

David Seligman, our banquet chair, has been working on this year's event which will be held October 9 in Oshkosh. For more information, check our web site at www.WCTU.org which **John Gremmer** and **Bob Haase** have recently redone.

Past President **Bob Haase** has secured a **Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP)** Grant of \$4,000 to be used on our **Lawrence Creek** project. Bob is also working on other possible grants.

Dick Pollock reported that our stream monitoring is using level one protocols on 10 streams, level two protocols on 12 streams, and level three protocols on six streams. Last year, the chapter's water monitoring volunteer hours totaled 1,914 hours.

Jim Humphrey reported that our **Lawrence Creek** project was off to a great start on May 17 which was Illinois day. Attending were seven people from Illinois, 13 local members, and 4 DNR employees. Work included plugging three braided channels, creating one sand bag wing, jetting 30 pilings for lunger structures, and narrowing 100 feet of stream using Christmas trees.

Other scheduled workdays at **Lawrence Creek** are set for June 21, July 19, August 16, and Sept. 20. Everyone is invited to help. If interested, call Jim at (920) 232-8845 for more information. Last year, volunteer workdays totaled over 800 hours.

Between water monitoring and workdays, over 2,714 volunteer hours have been spent working directly for and in our coldwater re-

sources. That's the equivalent of 1.3 full time employees.

On May 10 we held the annual **Trout Outing** where chapter members and nonmembers got together for a half day of trout fishing, casting demonstrations, lessons, a trout food gathering seminar, or a wildflower walk with **Elward Engle**.

Six chapter members volunteered to teach 4th and 5th graders how to tie flies at the **Youth Expo** in **Beaver Dam** May 15-16. What a wonderful experience that was.

Our **Fly Fishing School** was held from May 30-June 1 in Waushara County. As always, **Dan Harmon III** did a masterful job as school director. We had 21 students who enjoyed the experience very much. Except for a windy session of fly casting, the weather was excellent.

Elward Engle and **Tom Poullette** (our Watchdog Committee) advised me that an application for a high-capacity well has been filed with DNR. The proposed well would be located in the **Town of Dakota** in **Waushara County**. This well would be used for irrigation purposes. The well would be located about 800 feet from an important tributary to **Lunch Creek**, a class one trout stream. This tributary holds a very healthy population of naturally reproducing brook and brown trout. Previously, DNR purchased 413 acres of adjacent land to protect this beautiful resource. Unfortunately, this tributary is not listed as a trout stream in the DNR publication *Wisconsin Trout Streams — 2002*, which is the official document used by DNR for identifying trout streams. Because it is not listed, it is not covered under the statutes and administrative rules that are intended to protect trout water.

The proposed average daily water usage by this well is 720,000 gallons, or 8.33 gallons per second. The proposed maximum water usage per day is twice that. The tributary, at its closest point to the proposed site, is about six feet wide and six inches deep.

I have discussed this with several DNR employees, and they feel the stream should have been classified as a trout stream but was somehow overlooked. Because of this oversight, they feel that they must approve the application. We are now looking for ways to challenge the approval.

—Dick Kraus

Coulee Region Chapter

The Coulee Region Chapter wrapped up its monthly meetings for the season with a scintillating presentation by the always affable

Todd Hanson on May 18. Todd described how he developed his recently published book, **Map Guide to Improved Trout Waters of Wisconsin**.

Chapter News



On May 15 and 27, members **Jim Kobs**, **Rick Kyte**, **Lou Olvitt**, and **Rice Spann** presented a trout fishing clinic to kids from area middle and high schools as part of the annual **Spring Environmental Education Days** at the **Norskedalen Nature and Heritage Center** just outside of **Coon Valley**. Over 300 kids attended the events.

On May 30 our chapter received a \$20,000 grant from the **La Crosse Community Foundation** to help fund the four-year restoration

project on **Coon Creek/Spring Coulee Creek**. **Eric Rauch**, vice president and conservation coordinator for the chapter, emphasized the "holistic" nature of the project, which will improve habitat for many species in addition to trout. **Sue Durtsche**, board member of the La Crosse Community Foundation commented, "We love this project. We love how it encourages volunteerism and environmental protection."

—Rick Kyte

Fox Valley Chapter

The Fox Valley Chapter had a very successful fund-raiser, **Cabin Fever Day**, on April 12. Our guest presenter for the day was **Bob Clouser**, who shared many excellent slides, useful information, and stories in his two presentations. He also spent time demonstrating tying techniques and answering questions on tying specific flies. Bob also gave some one-on-one casting tips to those attendees who were brave enough to ask for help.

The day finished up with a banquet and an interesting and presentation by Clouser entitled "Fly Fishing Smorgasbord." There were many happy winners of the excellent bucket raffle items and the silent auction items drew many bidders. Thanks to all who attended, participated, tied, donated items, ran a booth, bid, purchased raffle tickets, and just enjoyed an early spring day.

We are in the planning stages for **Cabin Fever Day 2009**, and we are moving the date ahead to January 31, 2009. We are still in the process of picking presenters, so please check our web site in the next couple of months for more specific information.

The election of officers and board members was held at the April general membership meeting. New officers include:

President — **Mark Peerenboom**,
VP — **Jim Oates**,
Treas. — **Gene VanAsten**, and
Secretary — **Rich Erickson**.

The two new board members elected this year are **Nicole Moen** and **Bob Doornbos**. The following individuals are also on the board — **Ryan Borowicz**, **Steve Heuser**, **Roger Genske**, **Bob Omba**, **Bob Kinderman**, **Jim Cuehl**, **Greg Swanson**, and past president **Jim Jenkin**.

The Fox Valley Chapter sponsored our 30th annual **Special Needs Fishing Day** at the **Main Creek Ponds** on April 26. This is an event that was first started and is still organized by chapter member **Del Schwaller**. It has grown into a very successful event. There are several corporate sponsors who now provide funding for the food, beverages, cake, and prizes. The FVTU members have as much, if not more, fun than the fisher kids, women, and men. Weatherwise, we had to deal with cool temperatures and a strong wind and a front that seemed to shut the fishing down a bit, but ev-

Frank Hornberg Chapter

On April 19 members of the chapter joined with **Fox Valley**, **Shaw-Paca** and **Central Wisconsin** chapters, plus students from the **UW-Stevens Point**, to build a boardwalk and "bump outs" along the handicap fishing trail in downtown **Waupaca** on the **Waupaca River**. I would suggest that anyone working

everyone caught at least a couple of fish to be cleaned and taken home. Many of the people who attend the fishing day only have this one chance to fish each year, so for those of us who can fish just about any time and any place we chose, this is also a very important opportunity for us to donate our time for an afternoon.

Jim Hlaban has been working with **Al Niebur** from the DNR to establish our stream work schedule for this summer. Much of our work this year will be maintenance work on projects that the chapter was involved with years ago. Our first project is to do some brush bundling and repair work on **Davis Creek**.

Our habitat days are held the second Saturday of the month from April through September. We also have a trout planting on the first Saturday of October. The chapter will also hold a picnic after the habitat day on August 9.

We will also be assisting with the trail along the **Waupaca River** in **Waupaca**. Please check our web site for more information, www.FoxValleyTU.org.

From May 19-21 seven chapter members spent time in the **Fort McCoy** area. We worked with **John Noble**, fishery biologist at Fort McCoy, and three **UW-Stevens Point** grads and one current student doing some brush bundling and cleaning up of a section of streambank on Tuesday morning. We had a great brat and fish lunch — fish caught on Monday evening — after the work was done. We were able to fish the **Kickapoo River** in the late afternoon and evening on Tuesday, and then on Wednesday morning we spent time fishing a stream and lake on Fort McCoy.

We have worked with a couple of different groups at **Mosquito Hill Nature Center** and **Jefferson School** helping them to learn about fly tying, identifying stream bugs, and fly fishing/casting.

Our past prez, **Tony Tremel**, would conclude his remarks with, "Until then, we'll see you on a trout stream," and **Tom Lager**, writer of "Let's Talk Bugs," always reminds us to "enjoy His creation." It is that time of year to get out and enjoy the great rivers and streams that we have here in Wisconsin.

—Rich Erickson

on such a project make sure they have enough batteries and chargers for the electric drills.

On May 16-18, we held our second **Fly Fishing School** at the **Riverside Bible Conference** near **Amherst**. I want to thank everyone involved in making this a success. And I would like to thank the stu-



COULEE MEMBERS HELP KIDS AT NORSKEDALEN EVENT

Over 300 youngsters attended an environmental education program last May at Norskedalen Nature and Heritage Center near Coon Valley. Chapter member **Lou Olvitt** (top) showed some girls how to cast, while **Jim Kobs** (middle) did the same with some boys. **Eric Rouch** (bottom) was interviewed along the banks of Mormon Coulee Creek on how the chapter would be using its Community Foundation Grant.



dents who were a pleasure to instruct and just spend time with, a great bunch of people. Because of the weather, trout fishing was pretty much out. **Jan Tully** took a group out for smallmouth on the **Wisconsin River**. Everyone caught fish, and for a couple people, it was their first fish on a fly rod. I don't think there is a better introduction to fly fishing than a smallie on the end or your line.

Thirteen members turned out for our work evening May 22 at **Welton Road** near **Nelsonville**. We reinforced a large wing dam with sand bags and rock and armored a new bank we began creating last summer. The area, formerly known as "The Wading Pool," has deepened steadily for two years. Once it was about two inches deep. Now the depth varies from knee-deep to mid-thigh deep. I actually caught three trout in it this year!

On June 7, I was joined by members of the **Central Wisconsin** and **Wisconsin River Valley** chapters to participate in the **Wisconsin Rapids Kiwanis Club Youth Outdoors Day**.



The casting was cut short by the weather, but the kids and their parents had a good time with the tying. We came across some potentially fine tyers. I can't say enough about how much fun events like this are. The kids are the future of not only our sport, but the future of the resource. They aren't kidding when they say, "It's all about the kids."

—Michael Mather

Green Bay Chapter

The **Green Bay Chapter**, www.GreenBayTU.com, having had another successful fund-raising banquet in March, is in the midst of another busy summer performing habitat improvement and various activities that benefit our coldwater resources.

Chapter members helped with the celebration of **Earth Week** by staging a fly casting clinic at a **Teddy Bear Hunt** sponsored by the **Greater Green Bay Earth Week Coalition** at the **Izaak Walton League** facility in Bellevue. **Dave Witzeling**, **Randy Rake**, **Bill Holton**, **Jack Koivisto**, **Jessica Garrels**, and **Paul Kruse** offered fly fishing instructions and assistance to many people who attended the event.

The chapter also presented fly casting instructions and fishing as-

sistance at an event at the **Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary**. Sponsored by the **National Wild Turkey Federation**, handicapped persons were afforded the opportunity to fish for rainbow in the ponds there.

We are also planning on working with the **DNR** and **Forest Service** on habitat improvement projects in northeast Wisconsin as well as performing needed maintenance on our **Educational Trout Stream** located at the **Brown County Reforestation Camp** in Suamico.

We have also funded three scholarships for students to attend the **Pathfinders Camp** at **Northland College**. Funds have also been sent to various entities that will use the money to improve our natural resources.

Continued on p. 10



Chapter News



Jessica Garrels

HAPPY KIDS AT EARTH WEEK COALITION EVENT

Green Bay TU member Randall Rake helped kids with their fly casting at a teddy bear hunt at the Izaak Walton League facility in Bellevue.

Continued from p. 9

As previously reported, we will again work with **Brown County So-**

cial Services and the **Green Bay Exchange Club** to hold a **Kid's Fishing Day** on **July 16**.

—Gary Stoychoff

Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter

Project work on **Bronson Creek**, a tributary of the **Blue River**, has started this year with brushing by our contractor. Work also started on **Big Spring**, but recent rains have shut down work until things dry out.

Our annual banquet was held at the **Dodger Bowl** in Dodgeville on May 2, the night before the regular season opening. We were very successful with our fund raising and with attendance.

We authorized the continuation of the **Spring Creek Partners** at our February board meeting. This is an ongoing device any chapter in the Driftless Area can use to collect

funds. Neither our chapter nor the members who are running this take any part of the funds collected for other chapters. See www.Spring-CreekPartner.org for more information. Basically when someone donates \$250 to this fund, they get a hat with the Spring Creek Partners logo and a chance to win a nice prize at the end of the season, and the chapter they designate gets the \$250.

As we are not going to have a Spring Creek Festival this year, we are concentrating this summer on getting more Spring Creek Partners. —Brian Larson

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter

Chapter volunteers are eager to begin working on **Pine Creek** restoration in **Maiden Rock Township**, Pierce Cty., in mid July. DNR personnel have been working on **Gilbert Creek** and **Elk Creek** and will be moving to Pine next.

With funds from **Embrace-A-Stream**, **Friends of Wisconsin Trout**, **Patagonia**, **Twin Cities Trout Unlimited**, **National Fish and Wildlife**

(**NFHAP**), **The Trout and Salmon Foundation**, and **Trout Stamp** funds, work will be on 3,000 feet upstream of last year's project.

The project has attracted national attention, and many volunteers from local communities close to Maiden Rock and the **West Wisconsin Land Trust**.

—Greg Dielt

Lakeshore Chapter

Lakeshore TU had a busy spring kicking off with our annual banquet on April 12. We had 165 people attend our banquet, and the chapter netted a profit of \$6,800 through a

variety of auctions and raffles. This money will be used for stream project work and donations to other worthwhile conservation projects and groups. **Jeff Preiss** and **Jeff Yax**

were banquet co-chairs again, and we would like to thank them for all of the work they put into the banquet to make it a success.

The chapter spent three afternoons in March and April teaching the **Reel Em in Club** at **Longfellow Elementary School** in Sheboygan how to fly cast and tie flies. Each session featured about 30 students and 15 Lakeshore members working together. Each student was able to tie a different fly each day and also practice their fly casting.

The club followed this up with a field trip to a local fish hatchery and a trip to the **Onion River** where local fish manager **John Nelson** shocked a short section of stream for the children. The club followed this up with practicing their new fly fishing skills.

Lakeshore members **Roger Berg** and **Jack Gehr** also taught a fly fishing class for adults at the **Maywood Nature Center** in Sheboygan, which also resulted in several new members for our chapter. Members also were involved in teaching fly tying and casting at **Plymouth High School** and fly tying to a **4H** group in **Sheboygan Falls**. Members volun-

teering at these activities were **Mike Hiebing**, **Tom Mockert**, **Ken Zimmerman**, **Bob Jones**, **Bruce Balsiterri**, **Rodney Johnson**, **Jeff Preiss**, **Bill Rogers**, and **Charlie Strysick**.

The chapter has also set dates for stream project work this year. The first date, April 26, ended up being cancelled due to flooding on the stream. May 30 found members **Larry Doebert**, **John Matenaer**, **Bill Rogers**, **Tom Mockert**, **Jeff Preiss**, and **Wayne Trupke** filling in washed out structures with limestone rock. Other stream project dates are June 14, August 23, Sept. 19 and 20.

At our May meeting, we donated a total of \$1,800 to various conservation groups. The chapter also voted to place \$1,800 dollars in the **Onion River Trust Fund**. This was followed up with election of officers and board of directors. The results are as follows:

President — **Wayne Trupke**

VP — **Ron McCormick**

Secretary — **Jeff Yax**

Treasurer — **Jeff Preiss**

Board of directors members include **Jerry Baumann**, **Larry Doebert**, and **Dave Zenger**.

—Wayne Trupke

Northwoods Chapter

The Northwoods Chapter's **34th Conservation Banquet** went off like a well-placed Quigley cripple to a sipper on my home water on April 14. The general consensus from the 155 attendees was that **Holiday Acres** was a great choice for the venue. The following TUers pulled off another great banquet: **Terry Cumming**, **Josh Kunzman**, **Don Olcikas**, **Al Brooks**, **Wayne Stevens**, **Aaron Nelson**, **Bryan Pierce**, **Victoria Houston**, **Mike Umland**, **Fred and Kay Johnson**, **Kevin Kelley**, **Bill Sherer**, **Carole Linn**, and **Wayne Stevens**.

On May 12, the chapter held its final meeting before taking the summer off at the **Perch Lake Campground**. Elections were held with the following results:

President — **Brian Hegge**

VP — **Carole Linn**

Treasurer — **Terry Cummings**

Secretary — vacant

Board members include **Josh Kunzman**, **Al Brooks**, and **Jim Voborsky**.

The chapter will hold our annual **Youth Fly Fishing Conclave** at the **Cedric A. Vig Outdoors Classroom**, or **CAVOC**, in Rhinelander on July 26. It's a full day of activities for kids between the ages of 12 and 16 to learn about the fine art of fly fishing. Classes will be taught on fly tying, knots, entomology (bugs), and fly casting with lunch provided, all free of charge to the kids. Call Terry at (715) 362-2187 if you can help or have a son, daughter, or grandchild you'd like to enroll.

We conducted two stream workdays on April 19 and June 7 on the **Bearskin**. We removed rocks from a culvert that has lowered the upstream stream water level by several inches and have constructed two brush bundles. The section of the Bearskin we placed bundles in three

years ago is really looking good, with all of the braids having filled in and the stream channel narrowed from 20 to 10 feet. Where there once was only a few inches of water and lots of detritus, the creek is now knee- to thigh-deep with a nice gravel bottom.

On August 16, we are coordinating a full day of work on the **Deerskin River** with the **Forest Service**. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. and work until 3:00 p.m. on a section of the Deerskin downstream from the old hatchery site. Work will focus on brush removal and, depending on the number of participants, we may construct brush bundles. This work typically involves several individuals with chainsaws. (Only Forest Service trained and certified sawyers will be permitted to use chainsaws.)

The chapter has reserved three tent sites at **Forest Pond Campground** for **Aug 15 and 16** that will accommodate over 10 tent campers. RV hookups are available at other sites for anyone wanting to make their own arrangements. We are asking anyone who plans on camping to contact Josh at (715) 482-9619 or Brian at (715) 482-2898 to reserve space by August 1. The chapter will provide a "hot" continental breakfast for all campers on Saturday morning and lunch on Saturday.

We are now looking to sign up volunteers for this event, both for work and assisting with breakfast and lunch duties. The message is being sent to other chapters across Wisconsin and Illinois about this event, and we are considering enlisting local scouts or other civic organizations. If you have a group to volunteer, contact Brian or Josh to discuss arrangement.

—Brian Hegge

Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter

The Southeast Wisconsin Chapter is happy to report that it has continued and maintained its busy schedule over the past quarter. Since our last report, SEWTU has had some outstanding meetings and

speakers.

In March, we welcomed longtime chapter friend, venerated conservationist, and river restoration expert **Dave Vetrano**. Dave spoke habitat work and the effects of the August,

Chapter News



2007 floods on Driftless Area streams. Given this June's record-breaking rainfall and flooding across the state, it appears — sadly — that a follow-up talk may be in order later this year.

In April, SEWTU welcomed **Dave Barron** of **Jacquish Hallow Angler Guide Service** in **Richland Center**. Dave spoke on “**Smallmouth on the Fly**,” covering where smallmouth live, what flies work well for them, equipment to use, and other helpful smallmouth fishing tips. Now that smallmouth fishing is really heating up on our own chapter area's streams, a lot of Dave's pointers are being put to use!

May's meeting featured **Joseph Meyer** of **One More Cast Fly Shop** in **Countryside, IL**. Joseph presented an incredible slide show on fly fishing in **Argentina**. More than just a fishing trip, Joseph's presentation detailed local culture, cities, and tradition. The talk was incredible, and a number of SEWTU members are already saving up with an eye toward heading south!

SEWTU's monthly all-chapter meetings are now in recess until September.

In addition to its busy meeting schedule, SEWTU has continued to maintain its exceptional restoration pace. Since April, 2006, SEWTU has now completed 22 workdays tallying literally thousands upon thousands of volunteer hours, and drawing together volunteers from TU chapters from all corners of Wisconsin, plus multiple like-minded conservation organizations. SEWTU cannot thank its dedicated crew of volunteers enough for their work, and encourages those who have not been to a workday to stop out, see what the buzz is about, and take part in SEWTU's most direct link to our rivers — stream restoration and improvement workdays.

Since our last report, SEWTU returned on April 19 to the **Milwaukee** and **Menomonee** rivers, as part of the **River Cleanup** hosted by the **Friends of Milwaukee Rivers**. Led by Political Liaison **John Knitter**, SEWTU spread volunteers throughout multiple locations, removing hundreds of bags of refuse from the river and their surrounding riparian corridors. It is simply amazing the amount of refuse that finds its way into our urban watersheds. Accordingly, this workday is an incredible opportunity for SEWTU to undo some of the harmful effects of urban living upon our watersheds.

On May 10, SEWTU joined forces for the first time ever with the **Fox Valley Chapter** for a joint workday at **Davis Creek**. Located just outside of **Wild Rose**, Davis Creek is a coldwater stream that acts as a rearing ground for trout in the **Pine River**. About 25 volunteers attended from the two chapters, and an incredible amount of work was accomplished. Led by **Fox Valley TU**, workers removed encroaching underbrush and trees and used the removed foliage to create brush bundles and bank structures. These structures and bundles were used, in turn, to narrow the creek at points where it had become unnaturally wide.

Unfortunately, due to flooding, SEWTU's planned June 14 workday with the **Ocooch Creeks** and **Gary Borger (IL)** chapters at **Elk Creek** near **Viola**, was cancelled. SEWTU wishes all of those affected by flood-



Jeff Preiss photos

ing the best, and we encourage our members to aid in recovery efforts.

In addition to what we've already accomplished, SEWTU has a number of upcoming workdays this summer.

On **July 19** at 9:00 a.m., SEWTU will have a workday at **Van Slyke Creek**, in **Fontana, WI**, in the southern reaches of our chapter area. We'll be removing old wooden impoundments and other obstructions to open up the flow of the creek. This will be a joint workday with the **Blackhawk Chapter**, one of the state's most active and restoration-minded chapters, and the **Gary Borger Chapter of IL**. Let's turn out a good crew and continue our excellent string of workday efforts.

To get to the site, take I-43 south out of Milwaukee toward Beloit. Exit Hwy. 43 at Hwy. 67, and head south on 67. Take Hwy. 67 until it enters Williams Bay. In Williams Bay, continue on 67 until its intersection with S. Main St. Turn right on S. Main (before the BP gas station). The school where we'll be meeting at is about one block away. Volunteers are asked to RSVP to **Henry Koltz** at hek@sdelaw.com or by phone at (414) 258-4300.

On August 16 at 9:00 a.m., SEWTU will return to **Allenton Creek** just south of **Allenton, WI**, in the northern end of our chapter's area. Last year, SEWTU performed a great deal of work at Allenton Creek under the leadership of our good friend **John Nelson** of the **WDNR**. Allenton Creek is a coldwater, spring-fed creek that contains trout. We'll work again under the direction of the **WDNR**, removing invasive vegetation that is making access and fishing nearly impossible. A map is available on www.SEWTU.org under “Calendar of Events.”

We are very pleased to report that we will work with **Nic Schmidt**, a rising Eagle Scout, on his Eagle Scout Project this September. Nic's project will be at **Nichols Creek**, a traditional work area for our chapter. Under Nic's leadership, along with that of John Nelson, we'll be installing a number of **LUNKER** pools and vortex weir fish struc-



LAKESHORE CHAPTER ON THE STREAM AND WORKING WITH KIDS

Sheboygan County's **Onion River** responds well to **lunker** structures (top), which have been used extensively in the river's habitat restoration efforts. Helping at a recent brushing workday were (center, l to r) **Tom Mockert**, **Alan Spindler**, **John Matenaer**, and **Larry Doebert**. Lakeshore member **Ken Zimmermann** (bottom) helps a student from **Plymouth High School** cast a fly rod at a recent chapter event.

tures. An official date, along with details, will be posted the web site.

SEWTU would like to remind everyone that our workdays are about a lot more than just work.

SEWTU workdays offer a great chance to meet some of our area's dedicated conservation volunteers.

Continued on p. 12



Chapter News



Chuck Campbell photos

SCENES FROM UP NORTH

Wild Rivers Chapter board member Don Sutliff (left) puts the finishing touches on the drift boat he built over the winter. Meanwhile, chapter member Lee Merrill fishes the Hendrickson hatch on the Bois Brule.

Continued from p. 11

Workdays are full of camaraderie. Moreover, as many of our workdays are in some of Wisconsin's "troutiest" areas, many of our members head out and fish together afterward. For parents with college-age children, SEWTU reminds of its standing offer that it will write a college application or scholarship letter of recommendation for any student attending three workdays in a calendar year. Finally, there is no member who is unfit to work at our events. From food preparation to membership operations, there is truly something for everyone: Being able to lift 100 lbs. is decidedly not a workday requirement! So why not stop by and be a part of something truly good, and have some fun afterwards?

On its education and fund-raising front, former president **Chuck Beeler** has participated in multiple community outreach events at local sporting goods retailers, including **Gander Mountain**, **Sportsmen's Warehouse**, and **Cabella's**. At these events, members tie flies and spread TU's mission to those who stop and interact with us.

This past quarter, Education Chair **Chris Weber**, along with President **Dan Asmus**, led SEWTU's involvement in the **Milwaukee Urban Fisheries** program. Along with our partner, the **Kiwanis Club of West Bend**, SEWTU manned and ran — for the first time ever — a Washington County urban fisheries program location at **Sandy Knoll Park**. There over 100 children fished for stocked rainbow trout using spinning equipment, live bait, and fly fishing equipment. SEWTU looks to continue to be a significant contributor to this program in 2009.

SEWTU has also continued providing a free fly tying class for patients and residents at the local **Veterans Administration** hospital. Using materials donated by **Pat Ehler's The Fly Fishers**, the program had been led by SEWTU

member **Al Dalfonso**. Al has provided countless hours of volunteer tying instruction on his own time. In addition to Al, political liaison **John Knitter** has provided tying lessons at the VA as well.

SEWTU provided members to a number of other educational activities, including the **Wisconsin Youth Outdoor Expo**, and at the **Waukesha area Boy Scout Jamboree**. At both events, SEWTU members provided fly tying, trout fishing, and casting demonstrations to hundreds of children.

Members turned out for April's **Conservation Congress Hearings** to express concern on issues like the special regulations on the **Prairie River** in northern Wisconsin. SEWTU helped carry the vote in six of our seven counties at nearly a 2-to-1 ratio. We remain hopeful that the **Natural Resources Board** will hear the voice of the conservation voters of this State and approve — as the voters requested — a Category 5 section on the **Prairie River**.

Keep in mind that **The Fly Fishers** is donating a portion of any purchase made by SEWTU members back to SEWTU. SEWTU members are asked to show their TU identification card, or simply mention that they are SEWTU members when making purchases. Please note that this is not a point-of-sale discount!

Finally, SEWTU has been named a finalist in the **Redwood Creek Wines Greater Outdoors Project**. The project is a \$50,000 grant program, in which five national conservation programs have been named as finalists. Voting is online at www.RedwoodCreek.com/GreatOutdoors/voting.asp. The project receiving the most votes will win a \$50,000 grant. You can also vote by text-messaging "Trout" to 39688. SEWTU's project is a mile-long restoration project on **Camp Creek**, so vote once per day to improve one of Wisconsin's premier trout waters!

—Henry Koltz

Southern Wisconsin Chapter

SWTU has been busy on a wide range of fronts.

We held our chapter elections and have many new faces on our board. President **Jack Way**, Treasurer **John Schweiger**, and Secretary **John Serunian** stepped down after reaching the term limits for their positions. Their leadership and dedication to the coldwater resource over the years has been extraordinary. New officers include:

President — **Dave Sanders**

Vice President — **Mike Mihalas**.

A full officer and board listing can be found on www.SWTU.org.

A mountain of objects — ranging from the useful to the curious to the

downright odd — were bid away at our annual **March Madness Auction**. The annual event raised an impressive \$3,300 for our chapter, which we're already putting to good use!

Preparations continue on the **Gordon Creek** project, for which SWTU has received a grant of up to \$115,000 from the **USDA Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program**. This is a major initiative involving multiple partners, with a goal of improving the Iowa County creek from **Sandy Rock Road to Brue Road**.

SWTU provided gear, guiding, and more as 15 **Project Green Teen** students from **Shabazz High School**

in Madison spent a week at the **West Fork Sportsmens Club** in Avalanche, fishing and working to improve the **West Fk. of the Kickapoo River**. Many lunger structures were built, and many fish were caught by the young men and women.

Our chapter picnic is set for July 12 at **Nevin Hatchery** just south of Madison. It starts off with a tour at 10 a.m., followed by plenty of good

stuff from the grill. We'll see you there. Attendees are encouraged to NOT bring their rods!

That's just a small slice of what we're up to. For more information on these and our other activities, be sure to bookmark www.SWTU.org. It's up to date with latest on all that we do!

—Drew Kasel

Wild Rivers Chapter

The chapter's 2008 **Fishing Expo & Auction** was not only a big success, but this year a pie in the face prank with **Bill Heart** (thrower) and **Cord Manz** (eater) really got things off to a big start. The auctioneers were in rare form, the bidding was competitive as usual, and both speakers drew good audiences. A special thanks to the auctioneers — **Larry Meicher**, **Henry Haugley**, and **Duke Welter** — for an entertaining auction and to **Bill Heart** and **Henry Haugley** for the fishing adventure presentations. Both drew a good audience and were very well received. The kitchen crew, consisting of **John Casperson**, **Roger LaPenter**, and **Carolyn Swartz**, kept the crowd happy and well fed.

Bill Heart has suggested that the chapter develop its use of GPS technology. Several projects that have been suggested rely on the use of GPS. We will be doing more stream survey activities, including logging the locations of beaver dams, spawning areas, and environmental problem sites. In order to collect this information, it is necessary that the people doing the survey record the GPS coordinates. The chapter will be involved in a training effort to develop this capability.

Wild Rivers Chapter members are enjoying the much-delayed late spring period after a very cold winter. Warming waters and impressive insect hatches (including mosquitoes) offer great opportunities. This past month has been busy as well. A nice group showed up at the May meeting and work day. **Todd Bucher** donated the **Delta Diner** and prepared great food for the event. Members cleaned up Cty. H as part of the **Adopt-a-Highway** project.

Wisconsin TU and the **Izaak Walton League** held an informational program May 22 at the **Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center**.

WITU, **MinnTU**, and the **Izaak Walton League** have partnered in a lawsuit against two federal agencies over ballast dumping in Lake Superior (see separate story in this issue). The underlying reason is to protect the lake from the VHS virus entering **Lake Superior** and then into our trout streams.

The **USFWS** will investigate whether to list the coaster brook trout as an endangered species. **WITU** has filed its comments with the agency. Chapter member **Lee Newman** participated in developing the comments. Since speaking before the **WITU State Council** meeting, **USFWS Ashland Station Chief Mark Brouder** has been busy with the installation of an automatic fish tag reading station at the mouth of **Whittlesey Creek**, and with other projects including coaster planting in the **Whittlesey**. **Bill Heart** and **Bob Rice** recently assisted with the fish planting. Lots more information on these projects is available on the **USFWS** web site.

Larry Mann reports that the float trip donated by the **Hayward Fly Fishing Co.** and **Jim Dwyer** to **J.R. Salzman**, an injured Iraq war veteran, champion log roller, and fly fisher, went off very well on May 24. The group floated the **Namakagon River** below Hayward. **J.R.** did very well with great casting to hungry smallmouth. **Dave Carlson** of the **Northland Adventures** television program was there to cover the event. The trip aired on the **Northland Adventures** program on June 8.

Kids Fishing Day is celebrated at the **Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center**, the **Brule Hatchery**, and the **Bayfield Hatchery**. Wild Rivers members assisted at all three locations, demonstrating fly tying, casting, and helping with the fishing. The kids learn to tie a fly, cast with a rod and reel, and practice other skills prior to fishing. The events run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and are well attended. This year there were 550 people at the visitor's center and hundreds more at Bayfield.

The kids who complete their tying and casting at Bayfield are then let loose on the ponds where dozens of 20-inch plus lake-run browns, rainbows, and splake are eager to bite. A photo is taken after a catch and the fish are released. No wonder the kids like fishing after an experience like that. Helping out at the **NGLVC** were **Metro Maznio** and **Bill Heart**. **Duke Welter** and **Dick Berge** helped out at Brule, and **Chuck Campbell** was at Bayfield.

For several years now, the Wild Rivers June meeting has been hosted by **Chloe Manz** at the **Brule River Classics Fly Shop in Brule**. We gather for a great fish fry by **John Casperson**, a short meeting, and, in a normal year, great evening fishing on the Brule River. This year's heavy rains kept us off the river, but **Chloe's** hospitality was at its best. She moved the meeting into her living room, while at the same time keeping three marauding bears at bay. We can recommend a stay at the **Brule River Classics** cabins and a visit to the fly shop for anyone who wants to see the Brule River and enjoy one of the premier fishing opportunities in the state.

Don Sutliff is a Wild Rivers Chapter board member who likes to be involved in chapter projects. He demonstrated fly rod building at the **2008 Fishing Expo & Auction**, and since last fall, has been building a drift boat. Don lives in Cable, and his shop is in a garage alongside Hwy. 63. His boat project grew out of a desire to spend more time on the bigger area rivers like the **Namekagon**, **Chippewa**, and others. The boat is a 15' Canadian Midwestern style drift boat. It has a 5' 9" beam, and less rocker and lower sides than western designs. Don is in the fine tuning stage, adding rod holders, running lights, and other features with the help of guide **Lar-**

Chapter News



ry Mann of the **Hayward Fly Fishing Co.** The finished product is a tribute to the desire and skill of this fine craftsman. Don, thanks for the inspiration and happy rowing. For more information on this design and others go to www.SpiraInternational.com.

The month of July is reserved for family and fishing, and no Wild Rivers events are planned. The annual **Whack a Northern** event is planned for August 9 on the **White River**. This event has evolved from a northern pike hunt to what is now a celebration of a remote, almost pristine, river. Participants meet at the **Delta Diner** at 8:00 for breakfast, launch at the Westlund bridge at about 9:00, and spend the day on the White. Lunch is at the camp-

ground site about halfway through the **Bibon marsh**, with a takeout around 6:00 p.m. A good deal of competition is enjoyed as the various canoes vie for the lead in the northern catch.

Last year the **Dick Prine** craft put on a clinic, catching enough large northern pike to feed the entire group. A northern pike fish fry follows the trip at **River Park** in **Mason**. Last year three WITU chapters were represented, as well as members from **Chicago** and northern **Minnesota**. An open invitation is extended to anyone who wants to experience this great river, do a lot of paddling, and enjoy a meal of trout eating pike.

—Chuck Campbell

Wisconsin Clear Waters

The following classes were put on by chapter members. On April 7 and 16 an Introduction to Fly Fishing workshop was presented at **UW-Eau Claire**. Taught by **Duke Welter**, **John Higley**, and **Steve Josephson**, this event trained 15 people.

At **UW-Stout**, 13 students completed the 16-hour fly fishing class. All of the streamside activities took place on **Cady Creek**. Instructors were **Dale Dahlke**, **John Higley**, and **Dennis Vanden Bloomen**.

On May 10, a "**Northern Pike Only**" fishing contest was held. Sponsored by the **Bloomer Rod and Gun Club**, **Dennis Vanden Bloomen** and **Gretchen Vanden Bloomen** represented the chapter, but only caught a mess of bluegills. Other teams totaled 22 pike caught. That helped to deplete the northern pike infestation on **Lake Como** in **Bloomer**. This was the second sanctioned Earn-A-Trout (EAT) event in 2008 in western Wisconsin.

The newest and 3x bigger **Gander Mountain** store open on May 31, and the chapter staffed a table at the store. **Duke Welter** provided a fly tying demonstration. Chapter members answered questions and recruited five new members. Other volunteers included **Terry Allen**, **Steve Josephson**, **James Fulkerson**, **'Mike' Malone**, and **Dennis Vanden Bloomen**.

The chapter helped out during Wisconsin's **Free Fishing Day** celebration in Eau Claire's **Carson Park** on June 7. From 9 a.m. to Noon, children aged 5-13 were treated to a knot tying session, casting practice, a fly fishing demonstration, and a casting contest (with Zebco 202s as prizes). Drawings were to be held throughout the morning, with lots of prizes provided by **Wal-Mart**. Chapter volunteers included **'Mike' Malone**, **Joe Knight**, and **Dennis Vanden Bloomen**.

Unfortunately, this event was rained out about a half hour after it began. Eight children accompanied by their parents or grandparents were disappointed but lighting rules out fishing. How many people stayed away because of the early

Wisconsin River Valley Chapter

The start for 2008 has been a busy one that has seen increased attendance at our newly reorganized chapter meetings. **Dr. Arnie Salli** presented a fascinating program on the **Bois Brule** in April.

Our first **Plover River Cleanup** was held on April 19. A small band of dedicated volunteers braved the

threat of weather we will never know. We will try again next year.

Over the past few years, most of the money raised by our chapter has been matched by grants. We usually get at least a 1:1 ratio, but in some cases we get a 3:1 match for the dollars raised by the chapter. Grants are a very efficient and effective way to make your contributions to the chapter go further. Since 2002, we have raised about **\$35,000** through our banquet (our only chapter fundraiser). By applying for grants, we have been able to add almost **\$430,000** to our stream restoration projects. This does not count the monies supplied to projects by the **DNR Trout Stamp** expenditures.

We submitted a preliminary application to **Xcel Energy** in January for \$10,000 from their environmental community grant program for the **Elk Creek** 2008 restoration effort. In April, we were approved and have submitted the Phase 2 Level in the application process.

Xcel Energy also donated \$230 toward the purchase of a new chapter banner. The banner will be used for meetings and other events.

Tim Meyer and **Dennis Vanden Bloomen**, with assistance from WDNr fishery biologist **John Sours**, applied to fund projects on **Elk** and **Trout** creeks in Chippewa County, **Gilbert Creek** in Dunn County, and **Travers Valley Creek** in Trempealeau County. This is a new source of money through the **Natural Resources Conservation Service** and **US Department of Agriculture**.

We submitted a request to the WDNr for \$4,900 from the **Citizen-Based Monitoring** grant program. This would help continue our funding a **UW-Stout** intern to monitor **Gilbert** and **Elk** creeks. Chapter VP **Chuck Bomar** volunteers many hours to supervise the intern.

The chapter submitted a **WDNR River Grant** request for **Elk Creek** for \$21,500. We should be notified by the end of June if we got any of this money. Last year we received \$15,000 through this program.

—Dennis Vanden Bloomen

unusually cold and wet spring weather to collect a large amount of trash.

Our 26th annual banquet was an evening of fun and support. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the **Lee and Joan Wulff Conservation Award** to **Herb Hintze**. The award was presented to



PLOVER RIVER CLEANUP CREW LIMITS OUT

Wisconsin River TU members held a cleanup recently along the Plover River. With their bounty are (l to r) Dan Grauer, Herb Hintze, Sheldon Schooler, and Bob Pils.

Herb by **Duke Welter**, National TU Leadership Council Chair. Duke was a prior winner of the award. Special thanks goes to **Brian Marnholtz** for all his work on the banquet and to **Sheldon Schooler** for chairing the banquet committee.

Several of our members took part in a recent **Women in the Outdoors** event. They gave lessons in fly casting and tying at the **Wausau School Forest** on May 17.

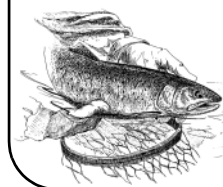
A new feature was added to our web site, www.WRVTU.org. Members who work on projects or TU activities can now electronically record their hours on the CEI page. These hours are important for they are part of our annual report to Na-

tional Trout Unlimited that determines chapter effectiveness.

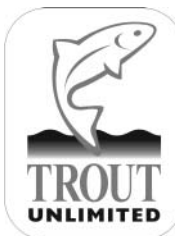
While we will not be holding official chapter meetings during the summer, work continues with projects. The second phase of an extensive restoration project is scheduled to be completed on the **Prairie River** this July.

—John Meachen

Consider Proper Release



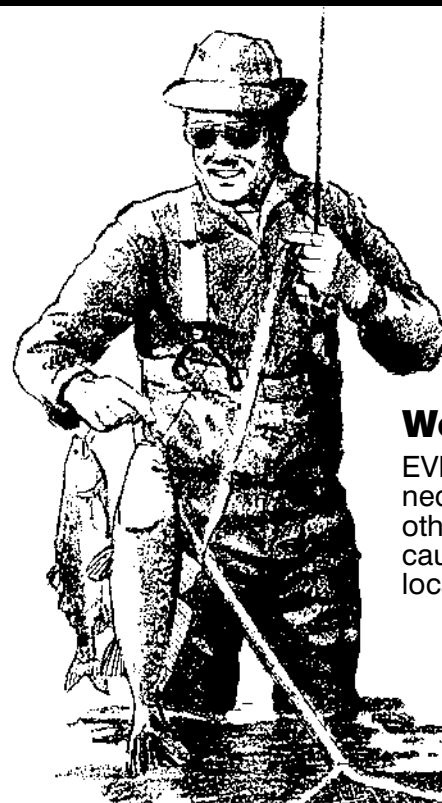
"The future of trout fishing is in your hands."



TU QUIZ

According to the WDNr's 2006 angler mail survey, about what percentage of all trout caught were released by anglers? A) 10%, B) 17%, C) 22%, D) 31%

Answer: Of the estimated 1,615,000 trout caught, 498,000 were released, or about 31%.



Mike's Service in Langlade

We have what works!

EVEN MORE IN STOCK — We carry necks and saddles, hooks, and other fly tying supplies! Don't get caught empty-handed. Plus quality local flies!

We have all the sports licenses

Stop and ask Mike what's working. Or call ahead for info on where and how to fish the famous Wolf River.

715-882-8901 • Hwy. 64 & 55, Langlade



WFSC damaged again in June rains

The West Fork Sportsman Club in Avalanche, WI, was more damaged in this past June's heavy rains than it was during last fall's major flooding in southwest Wisconsin.

The clubhouse floor was under six inches of water at one point, and all the trees on the park side below the bridge are gone, according to WFSC Secretary Bryan Voldahl.

In addition, the club's distinctive footbridge across the West Fork was

destroyed when the bridge's approach on the park side of the river washed out.

Voldahl says the club started the year with 34 picnic tables, but only 12 survived.

Voldahl reports there is major damage to the river above Avalanche. The river now splits in two and flows through a newly formed pond that is chest high, 60 feet wide, and 100 yards long.



WITU Looking Back

From the Fall 1978 WITU Newsletter...

COOPERATION AIDS TROUT STREAMS

There's good news for Wisconsin trout because of the cooperation among DNR fish managers, water pollution technicians and sewage treatment grant personnel. The DNR's new list of 1979 funding priorities for sewage treatment systems has taken into account the special water quality standards trout streams require. Environmental specialists give special weight to these systems, helping insure more prompt water quality funding to preserve or enhance this important fish resource. It's just another example of more effective resource management through a team approach that calls on the skills of professionals in the traditional conservation field and emerging area of environmental protection.

From the Summer 1988 Reflections...

State TU Press Release Gets Wide Coverage

A letter prepared by chairman Dick Wachowski at the request of the State Council at its annual summer meeting was given statewide coverage. The letter asked Governor Thompson and the DNR to seriously consider drastic measures - even stream closures - if the record drought continued. Dick's letter was followed up by a press release to all newspapers in the state. The major news services picked up the story and asked the DNR what it planned to do regarding TU's concern. The upshot of this is that TU is respected by both the media and state officials. Our concern for the resource was met with immediate reactions.

From the Summer 1998 Wisconsin Trout...

Surplus builds in Trout Stamp fund

By John Welter

Some **\$1.6 million in Inland Trout Stamp funds** sits idle in a segregated account as a result of cuts in the Department of Natural Resources' budget and uncertainty arising from the controversial "reorganization" of the department.

As a result, a select "ad hoc" group of Trout Unlimited members is studying the problem, and it will prepare recommendations for changes in Trout Stamp fund policy. These recommendations will be on the agenda for the October 10th meeting of the Wisconsin T.U. Council.

It is hoped that changes in policy will allow idle Trout Stamp funds to be put to work in a variety of new ways for stream habitat work. Early suggestions for changes include: use of **outside contractors** (instead of DNR employees) to do stream improvements; utilize **partner groups** like **Trout Unlimited** to propose and carry out habitat projects; and, focus on **maintenance projects** on existing habitat structures.

In each of the past three years, a carryover of the same dollar amount has been left unspent on trout habitat projects, according to the committee chaired by **Ted Lauf**, a recently retired consulting engineer and member of the Southern Wisconsin T.U. Chapter. This year, the DNR estimates that it will take in about \$900,000 in proceeds from the sales of Inland Trout Stamps (\$7.25 per stamp).

In creating the Trout Stamp program in 1977, the Wisconsin Legislature directed that funds derived from Inland Trout Stamp sales would be earmarked solely for trout habitat improvements, with a minimal amount (approximately five percent) to be used

for administration. Those parameters were changed slightly in the 1995-96 biennial budget cycle, when the Legislature approved (at the DNR's request) a change allowing **up to 10 percent** of the Trout Stamp funds to be used for **trout population survey work** on streams. Stream surveys are required before Trout Stamp funds can be authorized for habitat improvement work.

The department reports that **9.34 full-time equivalent positions** are paid via Inland Trout Stamp funds. A stream technician who is funded half-time by stamp funds should be spending half of his/her time on trout habitat work or stream surveys, for example.

The controversial "reorganization" has resulted in the transfer of numerous fish management positions to other areas of the DNR. **Twelve full-time equivalent positions from fisheries** were transferred to "Water Division Operations," which includes **regional media leaders** and other **administrative positions**, and administrative duties were added to fishery management tasks.

The upshot of the "reorganization" is that, while these "fisheries" employees still do some fish management work, they are available less often for such work than they were before. In addition, unfilled vacancies in fishery biologist and fishery technician positions around the state prevent needed work from getting done and simultaneously result in more Trout Stamp revenues laying idle.

Perhaps due to strong suggestions from Wisconsin Trout Unlimited chapters, DNR officials announced in early May that the agency has proposed to fund **4.75 full-time project positions** devoted fully to trout habitat work

PIT tags helping track fish movements

Where have all the coaster brook trout gone?

By Mark Brouder

Since 2003, the National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in Ashland, WI, has been stocking various life stages (eggs, fry, fingerlings, and adults) of two strains of coaster brook trout (Tobin Harbor and Siskiwit Bay; Isle Royale) into Whittlesey Creek, WI.

This stocking is part of a long-term experiment to re-establish a migratory brook trout population in this Lake Superior tributary.

To date, different life stages of coaster brook trout have been stocked into Whittlesey Creek with varying degrees of post-stocking success based on annual fall assessments. Thus, we often find ourselves asking, "Where have all the coasters gone?"

PIT tags helping track fish

Although a question not easily answered, the FWS has recently turned to PIT tag technology to help find an answer.

If you have taken your dog or cat to the vet lately, you are probably familiar with PIT (passive integrated transponder) tag technology. PIT tags are similar to the little microchips vets offer to place into dogs or cats in the unfortunate event they get lost. If found, your vet can scan your pet with a wand-like PIT tag reader to confirm that, in fact, it belongs to you.

Throughout last May, PIT tags were inserted into approximately 2,100 five- and six-inch coaster brook trout.

Reading station tracks fish

The FWS has installed a remote PIT tag reading station near the mouths of Whittlesey and Little Whittlesey creeks.

The remote station is comprised of an antenna that loops across the stream and a PIT tag reader. As a PIT-tagged fish swims through the antenna, the tag is activated, releasing its unique 10-digit id, which is then transmitted to, and ultimately recorded by, the PIT tag reader.

Because this station is remote, we rely on a solar panel and two deep cycle 12V batteries to provide continuous power to the antenna and reader.

On May 18, as part of the Chequamegon Bay Birding Festival's coaster brook trout field trip, the FWS and two dozen volunteers released 100 PIT-tagged coaster brook trout into Whittlesey Creek. Already 23 of these trout have been detected moving downstream from where originally released and through the antenna near the mouth of Whittlesey Creek.

Another interesting observation is the apparent movement pattern of these fish, the majority of which has occurred between 11:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. In just over one month of using PIT tag technology, we have begun to learn more about the fate of fingerling coaster brook trout stocked

into Whittlesey Creek than we had in the previous five years without this technology.

We are anxious to see what the coming months and years of PIT tag data tell us about coaster brook and our ability to re-establish this migratory form to Whittlesey Creek.

On June 10, FWS, TU, and volunteers released the remaining 2,000 PIT-tagged coaster brook trout fingerlings into Whittlesey and North Fork Whittlesey creeks. Stay tuned for updates as to their whereabouts!

(Author Mark Brouder is a fisheries biologist and project leader for the USFWS Ashland National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office. -Ed.)



Wild Rivers Chapter helping coaster efforts

By Bill Heart

The Wild River Chapter has been working with Mark Brouder and the FWS on Whittlesey Creek for many years. We applaud their interest and hard work in trying to make a successful re-introduction of coaster brook trout.

The Red Cliff and Bad River tribal fisheries departments are also installing PIT tag reading stations on Raspberry Creek and Graveyard Creek on their reservations. Since we believe that coasters do move to different streams, I would like to see the Wisconsin DNR at least start looking at the possibility of installing a few PIT reading stations on a few of south shore tributaries of Lake Superior. Possible sites include Fish Creek, Bark River, and the Sioux River. It would be wonderful to monitor the movement of these tagged fish up and down the Bayfield Peninsula.

I have helped with population estimates and stocking of all life classes with the FWS and the WDNR for five or six years, and the results are starting to get more exciting. Just being able to be out on Whittlesey Creek releasing these coaster brook trout, like I did this past June, and seeing some of the results, makes all of my work for TU worth every minute of it.



PIT TAGS TRACKING COASTER BROOK TROUT MOVEMENT

Wild Rivers Chapter members Bill Heart (top right) and Bob Rice prepare a cooler of PIT-tagged coaster brook trout for transport to Whittlesey Creek. Each time an individual fish swims underneath the antenna stretched across the stream (bottom), its movement is recorded by the remote reading station.

Mark Brouder photos

Tree Rat Biot Nymph an easy tie

By Bob Haase

I am not sure what this fly imitates, but the fish seem to like it. I've used this fly in a variety of waters and under a lot of different situations.

I usually tie it with a white biot, but I also use other colors as well. I call it a Tree Rat Biot nymph because I use gray squirrel dubbing for the body, not because it often ends up in a tree!

I usually tie this in sizes 12 and 14. In addition, I sometimes use a larger 1/8" bead instead of a 7/64" bead on a #12 hook. I also use this

fly in a size 10 or 12 for bluegills.

Wapsi came out with some new colors for their Ultra Thread this year, and I really like their new color called "Wood Duck." It is a gold-colored thread, and I use it whenever using a gold bead because the color blends well next to the bead.

Begin by pinching down the barb and placing the bead on the hook. Tie in the biot to form the tail, and bend it back as shown.

After dubbing the body, brush the guard hairs so they point down like you would a scud. Then bring

MATERIALS LIST
Tree Rat Biot Nymph

Hook: Mustad 3906 #12-14.
Thread: Wood Duck color 70 Denier Wapsi Ultra Thread.
Bead: Gold size 7/64 or 1/8 for #12 and 3/32 or 7/64 for #14
Tail/Wing Case: Goose biot.
Body: Gray squirrel dubbing.
Hackle: Grizzly.



the biot over the top to form a longer-than-normal wing case. Finally, attach a gray grizzly hackle one size

smaller than normally used for that size hook and palmer hackle no more than two complete turns.



Canoe sells on eBay to benefit Friends

By Steve Hill
Friends of WITU Chair

The custom wood strip canoe an anonymous benefactor donated to the Friends of Wisconsin TU last year was sold recently on eBay.

The combination canoe, motor, and trailer was purchased for \$2,000 by a person living in Wisconsin.

Meanwhile, though the 2008 Friends fund-raising campaign is wrapping up, it is not too late to be-

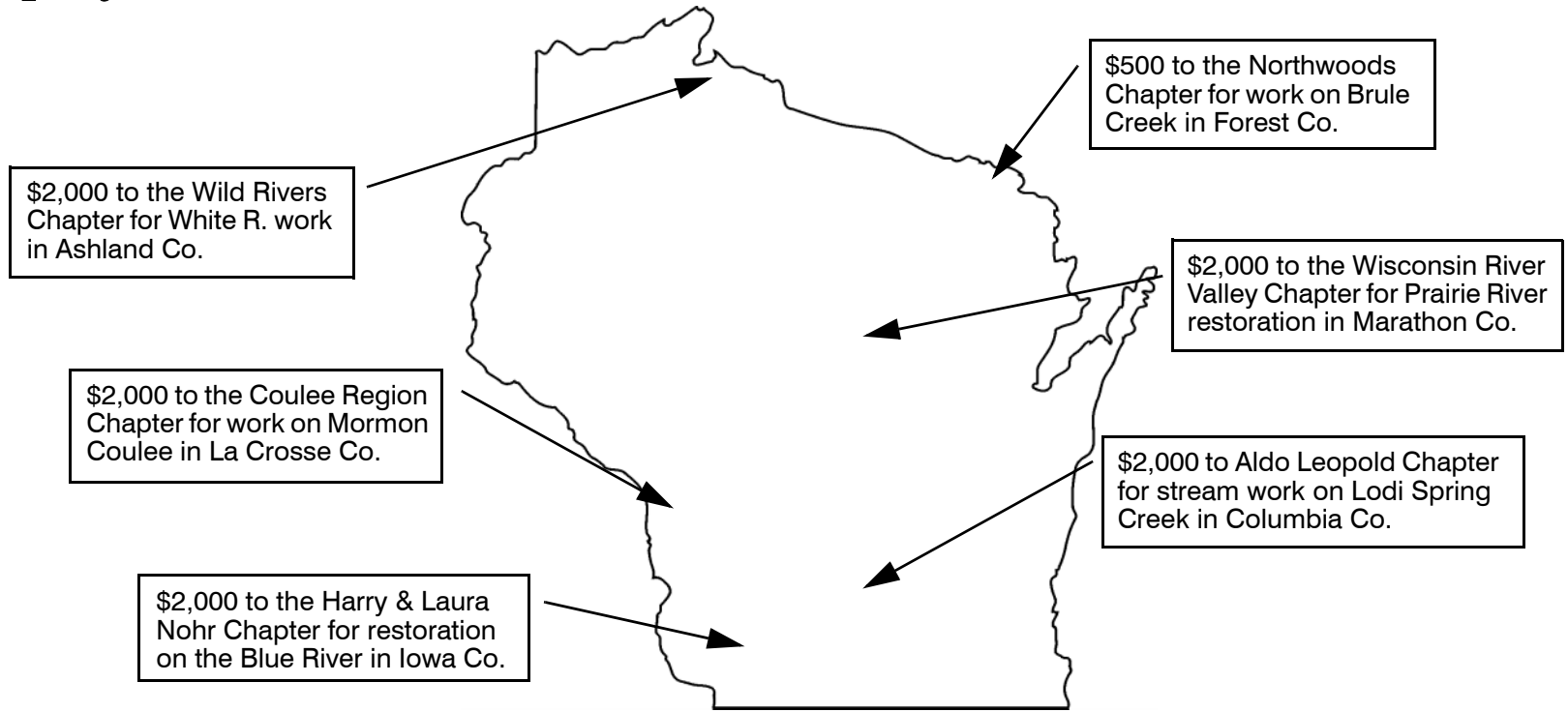
come a Friend of Wisconsin TU. Your tax-deductable contribution of \$100 or more goes to a segregated fund maintained by the WITU State Council. Friends funds are used only for habitat improvement and restoration-related activities.

Chapters are encouraged to include a Friends request as part of their local restoration efforts. In some cases, the Friends will make multiple donations to an ongoing chapter project, as it has for work on

the Blue River, Mormon Coulee Creek, and other projects.

New friends chair sought
"I have enjoyed my work as Friends chair the past couple years, but now I need to find someone else to direct this worthy program. Please consider this, and call me with your questions." -S. Hill

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



Friends of Wis. TU

Thanks to these new and renewing Friends members. Your support is making a difference!

Anderson, Dr. Henry A.
Arneson, Mike & Sue
Barnes, Edwin
Barnes, Jake & Kris
Bayorgeon, Jim
Benedict, Mark
Bereza, George
Bleimehl, John & Susan
Bomar, Charles
Born, Dr. Stephen
Bostwick, Allon
Braun, Gordon
Brickman, Cheryl
Brosnahan, Roger & Jill
Christopherson, Rick
Colligan, Gail
Cook II, Andrew
Cummings, Terry
Dibbell, Susan & David
Dougherty, Philip & Lois
Duplessie, Richard
Finesilver, Alan
Flaherty, Daniel
Fox, Jerome
Frasch, David
Fruit Jr., D. James
Funk, Michael
Haen, Jerry
Hagness, Dean
Halla, R. Chris
Haugley, Henry
Heaney, Vivian
Hegge, Brian
Hellyer, Walter
Hewitt, Laura
Hill, James
Hodulik, Charles
Hutchinson, John & Judith
Isaksen, Greggar
James, Charles
Janssen, Thomas
Jochman, Joseph
Kehoe, Daniel
Kistler, Lane A.
Koestler, Justin
Lueth, Randy

Madison WI
Brookfield WI
Middleton WI
Amherst WI
Appleton WI
Madison WI
Marinette WI
Verona WI
Menominee MI
Madison WI
Fond du Lac WI
Appleton WI
Mequon WI
Laredo TX
Norwalk WI
Wautoma WI
Sister Bay WI
Rhineland WI
Madison WI
Menomonee Falls WI
Eau Claire WI
De Pere WI
La Crosse WI
Two Rivers WI
Chippewa Falls WI
Hartland WI
La Crosse WI
Kaukauna WI
Custer WI
Appleton WI
Sun Prairie WI
Oshkosh WI
Rhineland WI
Fish Creek WI
Madison WI
Oregon WI
Madison WI
Sun Prairie WI
Brule WI
Milwaukee WI
Appleton WI
Port Washington WI
Madison WI
Milwaukee WI
Eagle WI
Marshfield WI

Lulu Press, Inc.
Lundberg, James
MacFarland, Douglas
Magers, Mike
Magnin, Anna
March, Billie
Marnocha, R.
Martin, Porter
Martini, Bob
McCarthy, Kim
Mihalas, Mike
Montague, Doris & Randall
Moore, Colleen
Moore, Jeff & Lynette
Mrazek Floor Covering
Nebel, John
Obma, Dr. Bob
Oechler, Herb
Patterson, Thomas
Pielsticker, Bill
Presser, Dennis
Rake, Randal
Rellatz, Ron
Retko, Bob
Rogers, Bill
Saemann, John
SanDretto, Michael
Scheibel, James J.
School, James
Schwaller, Delmar
Serunian, John
Shillinglaw, John
Shinners, George
Sittlow, Brent
Slayton, James

Morrisville NC
Wausau WI
Dousman WI
Fond du Lac WI
Marshfield WI
La Crosse WI
Madison WI
Mount Horeb WI
Rhineland WI
Green Bay WI
Waunakee WI
Madison WI
Madison WI
La Crosse WI
Fond du Lac WI
Menasha WI
Mountain WI
Wauwatosa WI
Madison WI
Lodi WI
Madison WI
De Pere WI
Merton WI
Cedarburg WI
Superior WI
Plymouth WI
Neenah WI
Racine WI
Kaukauna WI
Appleton WI
Fitchburg WI
Appleton WI
Antigo WI
Hudson WI
Wausau WI

Sonneland MD, Arthur
Stapleton, Michael
Stemper, Robert
Studel, Chuck
Stewart, Alistair & Ava
Stringer, Chip
Stupich, Michael
Tabbert, Robert
Tielens, Gary
Torinus, Mark E.
Tull, Roy
Vanden Bloomen, Dennis
Vodak, Greg
Wadsworth, Doug
Wagner, Don A.
Wahlers, John
Ward, Richard & Martha
Weege, William
Welhouse, Don
Wenner, Mike
Wernecke, Al
Wilke, Stephen
Williams, Donald
Willman, Christopher
Wozniak, Norb
Young, Frederic
Where Am I Publications

De Pere WI
Pardeeville WI
Saxeville WI
Mineral Point WI
Chicago IL
West Bend WI
Watertown WI
Lac du Flambeau WI
Athelstane WI
Oconomowoc WI
Madison WI
Eau Claire WI
Stoughton WI
Madison WI
Gillett WI
Berlin WI
Appleton WI
Arena WI
Kaukauna WI
Tigerton WI
Trempealeau WI
Marinette WI
Fort Atkinson WI
Augusta WI
Stevens Point WI
Roscoe IL
Madison WI

TROUT UNLIMITED CHAPTERS:
Green Bay Chapter TU
Lakeshore Chapter TU
Marinette County Chapter TU
Shaw-Paca Chapter TU
Southeastern WI Chapter TU

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

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

MAIL TO: Friends of Wisconsin TU
% Steve Hill
107 S. 5th St.
Watertown, WI 53094

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