



Wisconsin Trout

Summer 2017

Legislative Report

WITU busy with numerous issues

Members encouraged to contact their state and federal representatives.

By Henry Koltz, WITU Legislative Committee and TU National Trustee

As always, Wisconsin Trout Unlimited has remained busy addressing numerous legislative issues.

Oppose threat to stewardship program

Wisconsin TU has come out in opposition to Senate Bill 270 and Assembly Bill 338. These bills would require the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to spend up to \$50 million during the next 10 years to buy land which is already owned by another state agency, the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands.

As a part of this bill, the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program budget (which funds the Streambank Protection Program used to acquire stream fishing access easements) would be cut from \$9 million to \$2 million. That reduction would clearly impact the state's ability to acquire more hunting and fishing land, and access easements, for the benefit of the public.

As has been reported here on numerous occasions, the American Sportfishing Association has found that Wisconsin is the third-highest-ranked fishing destination in the country, with more than 335,000 vis-

itors spending more than \$445 million each year, and total retail sales by all anglers exceeds \$1.4 billion. In total, Wisconsin fishing accounts for more than \$2 billion in annual economic impact, supporting more than 21,000 jobs creating more than \$665 million in salaries and wages, and resulting in more than \$148 million in local and state tax revenue.

More recently, a recently released study of trout angling in the Driftless Area, which includes parts of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois, revealed that anglers have a total annual economic impact of \$1.6 billion in the region. The study also found that more than 55 percent of anglers cited "easy stream and river access" as a factor in their decision to trout fish in the Driftless Area.

Quite simply, healthy waters and the healthy economic benefits that they create rely upon access. Funding access to fishing and hunting grounds is good for Wisconsin's outdoors, and good for its economy and jobs, and the value return on such expenditures is significant. Wisconsin TU has issued a press release regarding its position on these bills, and asks its members contact their legislators and urge them to oppose SB 270 and AB 338.



GLRI FUNDING SUPPORTS NEW CULVERT REPLACEMENT

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funds have aided replacement of poorly designed culverts which act as barriers to fish movement, such as this one in northern Wisconsin.

Dredging permit changes

In March of this year, the DNR issued a draft proposal to change the way that permits are issued for the dredging of up to 25 cubic yards of sediment from lakes and streams. Under old rules, DNR required that such dredging be done under "individual permits," often referred to as an I.P. Under the new rule, dredging would be allowed under "general permits," often referred to as a G.P. This change echoes components of what had been defeated in a bills in last year's legislature.

Individual permits often require greater scrutiny than general permits. For instance, individual permits traditionally contain a public notice provision to give notice of an activity to concerned individuals, and a site visit from a DNR agent. Under individual permits, activities may be governed or tailored to ad-

dress specific site conditions. Such requirements do not exist under general permits.

Under general permits, the process is more rote, and permit seekers are required only to assert that they meet specific criteria (such as where dredging will occur, how much sediment will be removed, etc.) in order to be granted a permit. No notice is required, no site inspection occurs, and there is generally no ability to tailor permits to site conditions.

Dredging occurs within water bodies' littoral zone, that area of water bodies closest to shore. The littoral zone is critical to marine plant life, and serves as critical wildlife habitat for both game and non-game aquatic and non-aquatic species. For fish, in many instances the littoral zone serves as spawning ground.

See **LEGISLATION**, page 25

Art, literature and conservation come together in premier event

"At the Confluence 2017" in Wausau October 7, along with WITU meeting.

Do you appreciate quality outdoor writing and art?
Are you concerned about our environmental legacy?
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Did you ever want to meet and experience some of the finest outdoor writers, artists and environmental scientists working today?

Then join us for "At the Confluence 2017" at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau, which will be held in conjunction with the world famous annual "Birds in Art" exhibition.

This free, multi-day event where streams of art, literature, and conservation flow together into a celebration of the outdoor world takes place from Thursday, October 5 through Sunday, October 8.

The featured writer will be John Gierach, a freelance writer and author of twenty-one books including "Trout Bum," "Sex, Death and Flyfishing," "Standing in a River Waving a Stick" and "A Fly Rod of Your Own," some of which have also been published in Norway, Japan and France. He has penned numerous magazine articles, essays and columns.

He is a regular columnist for The Redstone Review in Lyons, Colorado and was the outdoor correspondent for the Longmont Daily Times-Call newspaper in Longmont, Colorado for 28 years and a columnist for Fly Rod & Reel magazine for 25 years.

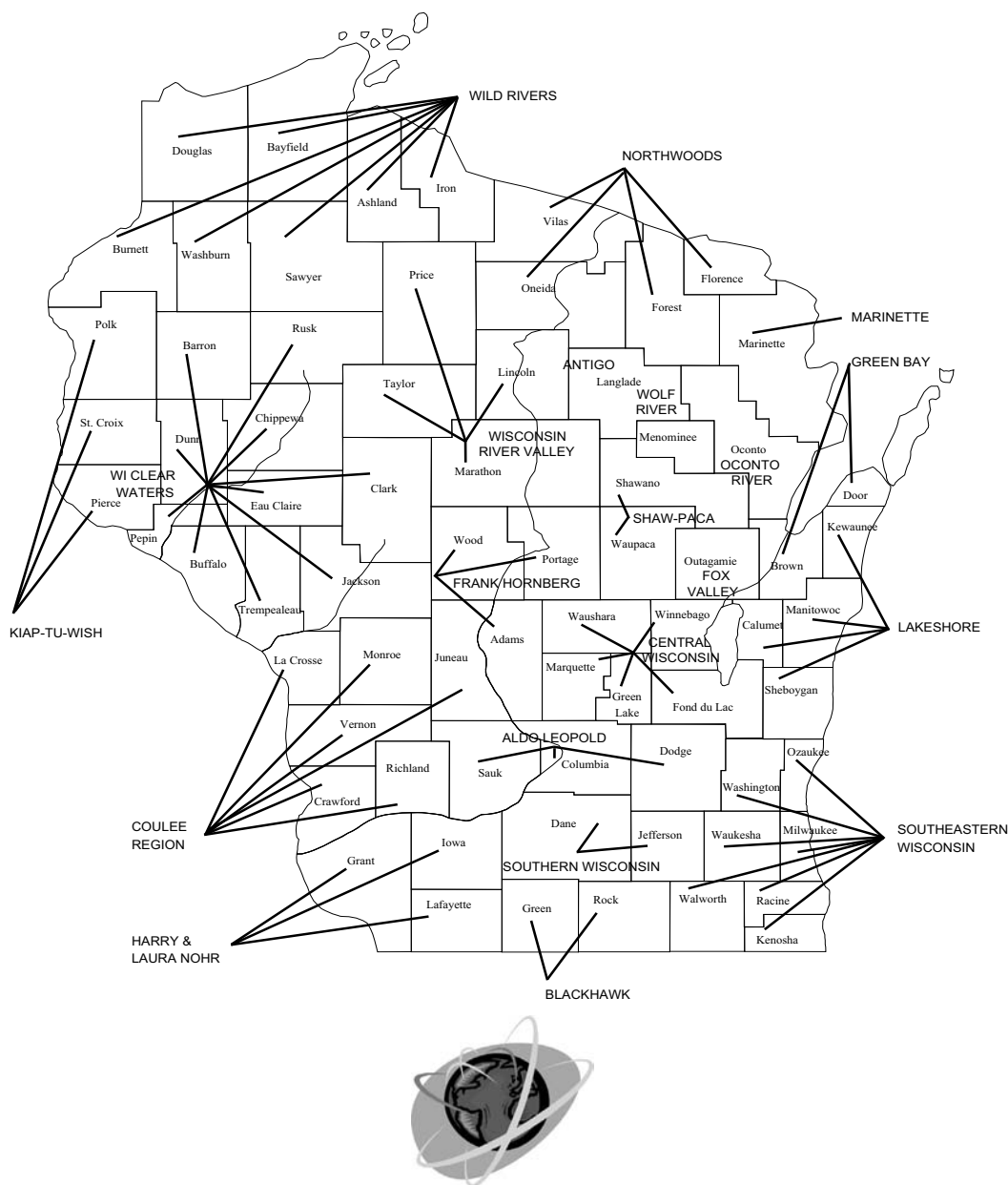
See **CONFLUENCE**, page 17



CELEBRATING ART, LITERATURE AND CONSERVATION

"At The Confluence 2017" will feature author John Gierach, author/artist Bob White, photographer Mike Dvorak and retired UWSP scientist Alan Haney.

Wisconsin TU Chapters, Presidents, and Websites



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Are you getting emails from TU?

If you are currently not receiving news and event-related email messages from your chapter, the state council and TU National, then you are truly missing out on what's happening at all three levels. TU National manages the mailing list for the council and chapters, so update your address by going to www.tu.org, log in, then go to "Email Preferences." You can also call 1-800-834-2419 to make these changes, or to ask questions about making the changes via the web site.

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Chairman's Column

Volunteer opportunities abound with TU

With the start of my second term as State Council chair, it is wonderful to see so many of our members stepping up and helping at the chapter and state level. It seems like every time we turn around there is another opportunity to become involved. Thank you all so much for stepping up for TU.

Our chapters and the Council continue to become more active, and they're developing more programs. That means there's a growing variety of volunteer opportunities to suit the tastes of our members.

This is an exciting time for the Council, and we have lots of room for development and volunteerism in our youth programs, veterans programs and diversity programs.

Many of our chapters now have youth education coordinators, and as they settle into their new positions, and youth programs become more defined, there are no boundaries that should hold them back. As we have found out with the WITU Youth Fishing Camp, our young people are excited and eager to help with the chapters any way they can. So, imagine if we can generate that type of energy from all the other youth Headwaters programs avail-

able, such as TIC, Stream Explorers and the Costa 5 Rivers program. What a great foundation for our chapters. I am the Council's youth education coordinator, so if you would like to join the rest of us as a youth education coordinator for your chapter, just let me know.

Our veterans programs have a lot of room for growth. There are opportunities available to start some new Project Healing Waters programs in various cities, but we'll need volunteers to do this. Please contact Mike Kuhr if you are interested in getting involved or would like more information on our veterans programs.

And finally, I would like to talk about our Diversity Program (formerly known as the Women's Initiative). In the short time the program has been around, it is really starting to gain ground. Heidi Oberstadt has been setting up outings and we have been running a women's clinic during our annual meeting in Oshkosh. They have been fortunate to fill it to capacity and always could use some more help. If you are interested in helping or know someone you think would like to join any of the programs, please contact Heidi Oberstadt.



STATE COUNCIL CHAIR LINN BECK

These programs would not be where they are now, and in the position to grow, without our volunteers. So again, thank you for all you do for Wisconsin Trout Unlimited. And be sure to take the time to

take someone fishing. As much as we need to get out and enjoy the water, there is always someone else who needs it more. Tight Lines. Linn

2017 Youth Camp almost here

By Wayne Parmley, Youth Camp Coordinator

This year's Wisconsin TU Youth Fishing Camp will be held July 20-23 at the Pine Lake Bible Camp near Wild Rose, Wisconsin.

There are still a few spots open, so get in touch with your local chapter if you know of a child between the ages of 12-16 who would be interested in attending. Each student's sponsoring TU chapter will pay the \$250 fee per youth.

It is the responsibility of the parents or the sponsoring chapter (with parental approval) to provide transportation to and from camp. All other expenses are covered by WITU, as well as meals and lodging for volunteers.

We hope and encourage that the sponsoring TU chapters stay in touch with their sponsored students long after the camp experience to further their involvement and activi-

ty in fishing, attending events, conservation projects and maybe finding a mentor within the chapter.

We will continue to follow the same general format and curriculum as in past years, but with a few tweaks and improvements. We always collect feedback from students and volunteers after every camp so we can continue to improve our offerings and try new ideas. We have been fortunate that our expert presenters do a fantastic job, and that they keep coming back every year.

We are also in good shape for volunteers this year, with a nice mix of veterans who have been involved from the beginning and a handful of new faces. In addition, we always select a few students to return as junior mentors. It is always great see volunteerism happening at all ages. And a few of these junior mentors have continued on to become full mentors. This has been one of the most exciting outcomes of this program.

The presentations and hands-on classes, as in past years, include: stream entomology, safety, sportsmanship, invasive species, spin fishing, live-bait fishing, fly fishing, fly and spin casting, spinner making, fly tying, an on-stream field trip with fish-shocking demo, guided fishing on warm water and trout streams, and much more.

Not all students have the waders and gear they need, so over the past few years we have been collecting donated waders and wading boots to have available at camp. We can al-

ways use more, so consider donating any gear you are not using anymore for the camp gear stock. All gear will be maintained and stored for future camps.

Another option, if possible, would be for the sponsoring chapter to loan gear to their student. We are also always looking for different types of gear to be donated as door prizes, such as an older fly rod or reel, fly-tying items, fly boxes, etc. Many of these kids are just getting started and any piece of gear they can get is one

more step toward getting them out on the water. To donate gear, contact Wayne Parmley at wparmley@gmail.com or 920-540-2315.

Bob Haase is working on filling a fly box for every attending student, so we are also asking for flies. All types of flies are welcome, for panfish, trout or even bass. Whether it is a few or several dozen, we appreciate it and the kids love it. Please contact Bob at flytier@milwpc.com or 920-579-3858.

Thanks again to all who have supported this great program in these beginning years. I see a long future ahead and look forward to seeing where this takes us in five or 10 or 25 years.

For more information or questions, please contact Linn Beck at chlbeck@att.net or 920-216-7408 or Wayne Parmley at wparmley@gmail.com or 920-540-2315.

A few of these junior mentors have continued on to become full mentors. This has been one of the most exciting outcomes of this program.



FLY TYING AND MORE
WITU Youth Fishing Camp students like William Follet will learn about fishing, conservation and more.



ALL THESE BUGS LIVE IN STREAMS?
Last year's fishing camp students examine the bug life that is so important to the health of streams and lakes...and important to being a better angler.



Dennis Draskowski

LEARNING TO MEASURE DISSOLVED OXYGEN

Mike San Dretto, Central Wisconsin Trout Unlimited, describes the method for measuring dissolved oxygen content of a water sample to members of the DNR Trout Habitat Unit members Jamie Ruppel, Steve Devitt and Kyle Kossel.

Central region effort making great progress

By Tom Lager

TU CARES (Trout Unlimited - Central Area Restoration Effort for Sustainability) is making good progress on its foundational project this summer on the West Branch of the White River (WBWR). The project objective is to assess and implement improvements to the WBWR representing the possibilities achievable across the Central Region streams.

Our first step is to assess and document the current condition of the watershed to form the basis for an effective and affordable watershed plan. John Tucker is exploring potential use of organizations specializing in watershed planning, such as Inter-Fluve, and other means that are more affordable, as well as evaluating how other watershed projects are planned and implemented, such as the Upper Sugar River Watershed.

Watershed documentation is under way. Mike San Dretto, with support from Dennis Draskowski, established six monitoring sites along the eight-mile length of the WBWR based on accessibility and best locations to assess the characteristics of the watershed. Site habitat assessment will follow the guidelines of the Wadable Stream Qualitative Fish Habitat Rating for Streams, and water monitoring will follow the Water Action Volunteers Stream Monitoring Data Recording methods.

Sampling will occur multiple times throughout the summer and data will be archived in the Surface Water Integrated Monitoring System (SWIMS) database. Extensive herpetological and macroinvertebrate surveys by Clay Parmley and Tom Lager, respectively, will be completed by fall. Under-water video documentation of rainbow trout

was completed by Brandon Schmalz. The magnitude and intensity of monitoring and survey work is possible because of the aforementioned TU'ers as well as Nate Ratliff, Tamara Talsma, Al Johnson and others conducting field work.

Outreach will include other organizations and TU chapters, and is instrumental to our efforts characterizing the watershed and meeting our objectives. We have great participation from various DNR staff. Bobbi Jo Fischer has been on site, and with John Tucker, is arranging Stream Crossing Inventory Training to enable TU CARES to conduct the stream-crossing inventory.

Shawn Sullivan's DNR Wild Rose Habitat Crew continues their 2017 Habitat Improvement Plan and provides technical organization for the June 17 Habitat Day to construct log sills, clear brush for fishability and install brush-bundles to enhance WBWR channel depth, in the mid-section of the watershed. This Habitat Day will receive support from these TU chapters located outside of the TU Central Region: Green Bay, Wolf River, Oconto River and Marinette.

Bob Jozwowski, the CWTU river monitoring coordinator and long-time monitor of the WBWR, is supportive and continues the monitoring of site six. Laura and John Tucker developed a unique association with an out-of-state TU chapter informing them of TU CARES and welcoming their participation and support. We are also following up on other in-state and out-of-state inquiries from those interested in providing support. Please contact us to become involved. We hope to have the first draft of the WBWR Watershed characterization and initial plans for the watershed complete by year end.

Krahn joins TUDARE

Former Vernon County Conservationist now TUDARE's stream restoration specialist

Paul Krahn of Westby joined TUDARE as a stream restoration specialist last month, and will be working to develop watershed projects across the Driftless Area. He has been doing coldwater habitat work almost since he began working with Vernon County's Land Conservation Department 31 years ago. For the last 13 years he has served as Vernon County Conservationist.

Many TUDARE projects around the region put dollars to work from the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, along with other funding from agencies, nonprofits, foundations or conservation groups. TUDARE recently obtained a \$2.9 million grant from NRCS to fund a large share of local projects. Krahn has worked with NRCS funding for years on projects in Vernon County.

From that experience, Krahn brings a wealth of project knowledge to his new position. He's completed more than 18 miles of habitat project work in his career, all in Vernon County so far. In the years he has been doing that work, he said, he has seen a remarkable evolution in the philosophy and techniques of habitat work. Soft-spoken and amiable, he will be good at building project partnerships and getting things done.

He credits Jeff Hastings,

TUDARE project manager and former Vernon County Conservationist himself, as a major influence in his own development as a project manager. Dave Vetrano, Former DNR fisheries biologist Dave Vetrano and retired NRCS District Conservationist for Vernon County, Jim Radtke, also mentored him. In one of the key county-level precursors to TUDARE, all three worked for years to find outside funding for projects in the county, obtain easements and team up with partners to get projects done. One of the first TU chapters to support that work was the Blackhawk Chapter of TU, which remains a major contributor to projects around the area.



TUDARE'S PAUL KRAHN

Paul Krahn has been doing stream habitat and restoration work for decades in Vernon County.

Hastings said, "There are over 40 counties in the Driftless Area and many of the local field offices have conservationists/technicians that are not trained in designing coldwater projects, such as bank stabilization with trout habitat. Paul will be working with county and federal staff on projects in those counties and at the same time helping them improve their job skills to develop future restoration projects."

Paul and his wife, Kim, live on the West Fork of the Kickapoo River with their two daughters.

—Duke Welter

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Responding to New Zealand mudsnails

An update on efforts in southern Wisconsin.



Bobbi Peckarsky, WU Dept. Zoology and Entomology

LOST BOOT CAKED WITH NEW ZEALAND MUDSNAILS IN BEC

This lost boot was found caked with New Zealand mudsnails on Black Earth Creek in Dane County by a DNR stream biologist in April.

By Amanda Perdzoek
River Alliance of Wisconsin

New Zealand mudsnail (NZMS) was first discovered in a macroinvertebrate sample taken from Black Earth Creek in Dane County in October of 2013.

Since then, partner organizations including Southern Wisconsin TU, Badger Fly Fishers, Black Earth Creek Watershed Association, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association (USRWA), the Department of Natural Resources, and River Alliance of Wisconsin have worked diligently to educate river and stream users about NZMS and prevent their spread.

Thanks to these efforts, NZMS has only been discovered on one other stream, Badger Mill Creek in the Upper Sugar River Watershed of Dane County, since the initial discovery in 2013.

This new population on Badger Mill Creek was discovered during routine monitoring conducted by the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District in September of 2016.

Here is a rundown of what has taken place and what is to come in response to the most recent NZMS discovery:

USRWA received a grant this year from the DNR to educate river users about NZMS, install signage, build wader wash stations and train volunteers to monitor for NZMS.

Sign posts were installed this past fall in the Upper Sugar River Watershed at popular access points. Signs will be placed at these points to remind river users to clean gear after leaving streams and prevent the spread of NZMS. Boot brushes will also be secured to signs for river users.

In late April, volunteers gathered to build 30 wader wash stations. USRWA is currently working to place those stations in the Upper Sugar River Watershed and on other local streams. Thus far, 18 stations have been placed.

USRWA is recruiting volunteers to monitor for NZMS in the Upper Sugar River Watershed. Several volunteers have already been trained and are now on the lookout.



Matt Krueger

WADER WASH STATION CONSTRUCTION

Volunteers worked diligently to build 30 wader wash stations on April 29 in response to the latest NZMS finding.

Water Action Volunteers (WAV), a statewide UW-Extension volunteer stream monitoring program, is currently working on an addendum to their monitoring protocols to ensure that their volunteers are trained in spotting and slowing the spread of NZMS.

The summer field season has started for DNR stream biologists, who are keeping an eye out for NZMS during their usual stream monitoring efforts as well.

Along with all these efforts, USRWA is also working with local schools to provide adult and youth education programs about the impacts of NZMS and how local citizens can prevent their spread. According to USRWA Executive Director Wade Moder, “the biggest takeaway from all this is, New Zealand mudsnails are so small, if

you’re cleaning your gear with the purpose of removing these, you’re also going to prevent the spread of any other species that might be present as well.”

Anyone interested in getting involved in the NZMS response in Southern Wisconsin can contact River Alliance Aquatic Invasive Species Program Director Amanda Perdzoek at aperdzoek@wisconsin-rivers.org, 608-257-2424 x 111, or USRWA Executive Director Wade Moder at usrwa@usrwa.org, 609-437-7707.

If you’d like to monitor for NZMS and other water quality parameters elsewhere in the state, contact DNR WAV Stream Monitoring Coordinator Ilana Haimes at ilana.haimes@wisconsin.gov, 608-266-3599.

Back Forty Mine update

By Matt Krueger
River Alliance of Wisconsin

Opposition continues to grow against the “Back Forty Mine,” a proposed open-pit sulfide mine a mere 150 feet from the Menominee River, the border river between Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Local and county resolutions against the mine are being debated in Brown County, Wisconsin, Marinette, Wisconsin and Menominee, Michigan. Resolutions have passed in Marinette County and the City of Peshtigo, as its substantial environmental risks become better understood.

Aquila Resources has received three of the necessary four permits it needs to operate from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Two contested case hearings have been granted over the mining permit to the Menominee Tribe and a local property owner.

Sulfide mines are notorious polluters, as they produce sulfuric acid, among other toxins, as a byproduct. But even among sulfide mines, the Back Forty is singularly dubious, for a number of reasons. Poisons such as cyanide would be dumped into the ground to extract gold. Processing of tailings (a toxic slurry of ore wastes)

would occur on-site, substantially enlarging the physical footprint of the mine, and the risk it carries.

The proposed pit would be more than 700 feet deep. The pit would have to be “dewatered,” which would draw down groundwater supply to nearby streams and wetlands.

On top of all of this, the mine would desecrate sacred sites of the Menominee Tribe, including the physical place of the tribe’s origin story, depress property values for nearby residents, and endanger drinking water both for adjacent local wells and downstream Marinette, Wisconsin’s municipal well, which draws from Green Bay, close to where the Menominee River enters the Bay.

Additionally, the mine’s engineered infrastructure would not withstand the catastrophic flood events that Wisconsin is seeing more frequently, such as the summer 2016 northwestern Wisconsin flood flows the U.S. Forest Service called five times a 500-year flood event, as the effects of climate change alter our rainfall patterns.

For more information about the environmental impacts of the proposed Back Forty Mine, visit <http://www.noback40.org/HowToHelp.aspx>, or view videos on the topic at <https://www.wisconsinrivers.org/noback40mine>.

The proposed pit would be more than 700 feet deep. The pit would have to be “dewatered,” which would draw down groundwater supply to nearby streams and wetlands.



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TU National Leadership Council Report

Kim McCarthy, Wisconsin TU's National Leadership Council Representative

Youth education coordinators

We have been asking chapters for quite some time to appoint a Youth Education Coordinator (YEC). The Wisconsin response has been good with many chapters having found someone willing to take on this important role.

Whether or not your chapter is currently involved in youth activities, having a coordinator will enhance the effectiveness of your youth education efforts. Whether it's Trout In the Classroom, Stream Girls, a Costa 5 Rivers Club, or any of the TU-supported programs, having a YEC on board will make your activities easier and more effective.

5 Rivers road trip

National has selected a group of young members who are part of different Costa 5 Rivers clubs to travel the west this summer in pursuit of the western native trout species. They will fish for the natives, look at TU's work in protecting and restoring the natives, interview people working hard to save native fish, and document it all on social media as it happens.

I offered, but my presence as a fishing chaperone was not needed. The hope here is that having youth

communicating through social media will be an effective way to get the message to a younger audience.

Second set of eyes

We are also approaching full compliance with the National TU mandate for all chapters to have a "second set of eyes on the books." Very shortly all of our chapters and the council will have met the mandate. Donors and members now have our assurance that we handle funds carefully and have taken precautions to make sure that our funds are used exactly as intended.

Litigation policy

National TU is reviewing its litigation policy. There will be news coming about what will be required of chapters or councils that are either directly involved in filing a litigation or that are being sued.

This is a situation the vast majority of chapters are never involved with, but if it does, there is more guidance on the way. Please note that this will have no effect on the great advocacy work that many of our chapters and members are involved with.

Our TU Wisconsin members do a tremendous job for trout. I hope all of you take time this season to get out and catch some fish while appreciating what we are working so hard to preserve.

Key Council goals spelled out in Strategic Plan

The WITU executive committee recently approved the Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Strategic Plan, which will guide our efforts during the next five years. The plan consists of goals that will help solidify Wisconsin Trout Unlimited for many years to come and serve as a base for future strategic plans. Each goal has been structured to help complete this plan, while also looking to the future.

Here are the goals:

- Put in place the tools required to ensure State Council sustainability by increasing membership and increasing membership diversity.
- Create a network of Trout Unlimited advocates.
- With the help of the River Alliance of Wisconsin, the Council has completed advocacy training for all its regions, and we have vastly increased the number of members who are willing to be advocates for Trout Unlimited. TU National is now encouraging councils and chapters to name an advocacy chairperson to serve as a "go to" person for National. When National TU wants its members to act, it can contact these chairs, who can then share the information with council or chapter leadership and members.
- We have started the most important part of our advocacy portion of the plan, as we have finally been able to set some funding

aside for a lobbyist to help our cause in Madison. We are in need of having someone that will keep us on pace and informed with what is happening with bills and can speak on our behalf.

- Increase the number and quality of projects to protect, restore and reconnect trout streams in Wisconsin.
- We are always working on ways to make it easier for our chapters to get more projects, and as the environment changes we have people contacting the council with ideas and project possibilities.
- Institute a program of goal-oriented angler science projects that address issues to further the State Council's mission.
- Develop chapter uniformity for youth membership and youth education growth.
- This is the front that will be seeing the most change in the next five years. We are encouraging each chapter to select a youth education coordinator, and nearly half have already done so. We have also named a youth coordinator for the Council. These coordinators will help us grow and unify all of the youth programs available to us.

It's exciting that within four months of us implementing the plan we are making great strides toward reaching our goals.

—Linn Beck

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Fishing for Dinner

Wisconsin invites a new cadre of anglers to the water's edge by way of the dinner table.

By Theresa Stabo, DNR
Fisheries Outreach Coordinator

Wisconsin is into its third year of inviting a new cadre of anglers to the water's edge by way of the dinner table. The goal is to increase the rate of consistent license buyers necessary to maintain financial and philosophical support for fisheries management work and healthy aquatic habitats.

Classes are offered to adults who may never have considered themselves anglers but have a keen interest in local, sustainable food systems and want to have a hand in harvesting it. Class instructors offer a glimpse at historical perspectives on Wisconsin's fisheries ecology and fishing traditions, inform beginners on how they can prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and provide the basics on fishing skills.

Next event July 14

This July, in partnership with the Driftless Folk School, we will be offering a Fishing for Dinner class that will lead beginners to some of the fabled trout streams of the Driftless Area.

Our basecamp will be the idyllic farm of Ann and Chris Mahan, which rolls along the North Fork of the Bad Axe River. Lodging for participants is whatever tent they bring and pitch themselves, unless they want to commute to a nearby motel. A recreation room can serve as group sleeping quarters for campers if soggy conditions prevail.

The class begins Friday evening, July 14 at 5 p.m. and ends Sunday by 5 p.m. Participants will learn about the waters of the area from retired DNR Fisheries Biologist Dave Vetrano, anglers' water rights from Water Regulations and Zoning Specialist James Brodzeller, and fishing techniques from stream ecologist Mike Miller, and shooting sports specialist and author of several books on cooking fish and game, John Motoviloff, the Wisconsin Fishing Team and others.

Techniques will focus on spinning gear, but we'll also dabble in fly fishing gear. All equipment (except waders, which may not be necessary) is provided, but participants are encouraged to bring their own if they have it, so that they can learn to use what they have. After fishing, we'll cook the catch.

Drawn to fishing for different reasons

People are drawn to fishing for a variety of reasons. An individual's attitude and philosophy toward nature shapes his or her experience on the water. Some fish for the challenge of out-witting a wary fish, some come seeking solitude while some bring their friends and make the fishing outing a social event. Still others seek a closer relationship with the food they eat and want to have a hand in harvesting their own meat. Not everyone can raise farm animals in their backyards, but they can go to the nearest lake or stream and catch a fish for dinner.

Regulations provide a full range of fishing experiences. Trout stream classifications and bag limits of many trout waters indicate that keeping an occasional fish will not have a detrimental effect on the long-term health of those populations. In fact, it seems that being able to eat a freshly-caught fish now and then is more likely to broaden support to protect water quality for trout and other living things. The more anglers that are on the water who can make the connections between good habitat, good fishing and a good dinner, the better off we'll all be.

DNR's "R3" effort

All of this is part of the DNR's Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation (R3) effort, whereby we enlist experienced outdoorspeople, local chefs, culinary arts instructors, and members of the sustainable and local foods community to encourage young adults to fish or hunt. We're looping back around to catch those people who missed the fishing boat



Theresa Stabo, DNR

NEXT DNR "FISHING FOR FOOD" EVENT JULY 14 IN DRIFTLESS AREA

In partnership with the Driftless Folk School, the DNR will be offering a Fishing for Dinner class that will lead beginners to some of the fabled trout streams of the Driftless Area.

as a kid or are new to Wisconsin and our fishing and hunting culture.

Starting close to our Milwaukee and Madison offices, the Fishing for Dinner program, has conducted nine community education-style classes for 127 new anglers, or those with limited experience. Now it's time to branch out from a lake orientation to our state's bountiful rural streams and increase the variety of opportunities we offer.

Competition for the time and attention of adults, especially young adults, to attract them to these classes can be a challenge, so we've diversified our outreach efforts. Now we exhibit at venues that appeal to a diverse mix of people who don't typically attend traditional sport shows. Look for us at events like Canoecopia, a paddlesport expo in March; the Wisconsin Local Foods Network Summit in January and the Midwest

Energy Fair in June.

We are also establishing a grant program and application process with a list of criteria, to enable other partners (such as Trout Unlimited chapters or members) to implement these classes. Grant recipients will have training to ensure that scope, content, duration and evaluation of their classes meet acceptable standards.

Share your passion

If you have an interest in sharing your love of fishing Wisconsin's coldwater streams and/or lakes, please contact me with your ideas. And, please pass the word about the July class to beginners. Contact Theresa.Stabo@wisconsin.gov, 608-266-2272, or go to

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/FishingforDinner/index.html>

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*Whenever
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I go to sit
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My every unquiet thought.*

This poem was written by Dan Holland in honor of Bob Hunt

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Get to know Brandon Schmalz, our new Wisconsin TU webmaster

Interview by Mike Kuhr, Council Vice Chair

Hi, Brandon. Thanks for volunteering to be our State Council webmaster. You've done some great work with the Fox Valley TU website and we're excited to have you helping at the state level. When and why did you decide to join TU?

I've been an active member for about two and a half years now. I started attending chapter meetings and work days, then became a board member and took over management of the chapter website.

When I first joined, I was looking for more information on local streams and wanted to meet other people who were as interested in trout fishing as I was. I certainly didn't expect to become this involved, but the more I learned about the challenges and issues facing coldwater resources, the more I wanted to do my part to help protect them. Along the way, I also learned a ton about local streams and gained several new fishing buddies.

I'm a Fox Valley guy, too... born and raised in Neenah. Hope you don't hold that against me. Have you always lived in Wisconsin?

I've lived in Menasha my whole life. The majority of my family lives in the area, so I've never felt the need to leave. I've been very fortunate to be able to travel for work and fun throughout the U.S. and the world, but I still cannot imagine calling anywhere else home.

Can you recall a moment in your childhood when you made a special connection with fishing or the outdoors?

I think I have to give credit to my stepfather for teaching me to trout fish when I was young. I remember catching my first trout at about 12 years old, on a fly that I tied myself. I managed to land a small brown on something that resembled a hares ear nymph, while letting the fly drift downstream, because I couldn't cast well enough to fish upstream. I was so shocked that my fly actually worked, and that moment has really stuck with me over the years.

We know volunteering for TU is very satisfying, but it doesn't exactly pay the bills. What do you do for a living?

I'm a computer programmer, mostly working with web-based technologies. Sitting at a desk and staring at a computer screen all day can be stressful and unhealthy, so getting out fishing is my countermeasure to stay fit and sane.

But it's also great to be able to use my professional skills as a developer to help TU effectively communicate via the website and help enable others to join and find information.

By the time this goes to press, you and your wife will have had your second child. Congratulations! Do you think having young children has changed the way you

view TU and its mission?

Thanks. I think now I want to make sure I'm setting a good example for my children, and that they have the same (or better) opportunities that I have had to enjoy coldwater resources and public lands.

I've got a two-year-old daughter and feel lucky that she likes to spend some time with me streamside. Have you taken your older child out fishing at all?

I brought my three-year-old daughter out with me earlier this year. We went to a stretch of river where I knew we could get close to rising fish. First we just sat and watched the river and she would giggle every time fish would rise. The splashier the rise, the funnier it was. Then I was able to land several fish, and she insisted on holding each one (after wetting her hands) and letting them go herself. It was a proud moment for me. She really loves just walking around in the woods and collecting things she finds. When we got home, I found a stash of acorns and wildflowers in her pockets.

I also like to bring her to Cedar Spring trout farm in Cascade and let her catch us a dinner of rainbows.

If you could go anywhere in the world on an all-expense paid seven-day trip, where would you go?

That's a tough question, but I think the top of my list would be an Alaska float-plane trip to fish for steelhead, grayling and dolly varden. I can think of other more exotic or distant destinations, but there is just something about chasing native fish in wild places that draws me in.

Aside from top secret fishing spots, do you have any favorite getaway locations closer to home?

The Pine River in Waushara County has always been a special place for me. It's where I first learned to trout fish and I know most of the river like the back of my hand.

Do you have any advice for other chapter webmasters that you'd like to share?


I think that the first step in building a site is to define what it is you are trying to accomplish with the website. This step is often skipped because the answer may seem obvious at first until you really stop and think about it. Then, create realistic goals for the site and rank them in order of importance. Once you understand what your top goals are, it makes it much easier to prioritize your time and measure the value the site is actually providing to your chapter.

Thank you for spending some time with us, Brandon. We look forward to working with you to make improvements to the Wisconsin TU website.




PROUD FATHER AND PASSIONATE TU VOLUNTEER


Brandon Schmalz is a computer programmer, mostly working with web-based technologies. He enjoys being able to use his skills to help TU effectively communicate via websites and help enable others to join and find information.









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FICTION

Palmered Windings: The Thurlow Chronicles

Fishing tales from the desk of Benbow Cheseman

INTRODUCING MAYBELLE FOONTZ

I suppose the question was inevitable, given the attention being given to gender and sexuality issues, but no, Thurlow and I are not gay, nor anything but fishing buddies. OK, I go with Thurlow to Elmer's Hair Emporium on alternate Saturdays while he watches haircuts [his favorite hobby next to fishing] and occasionally gets one, but that's because we're friends and because he often has things to say that are worth hearing. He has a running joke with Elmer in that he always orders his haircut "to go." Anyway, I'm married, and Thurlow has a girlfriend and perpetual fiancée, and therein lies a tale.

Her name is Maybelle Foontz, and she is the court reporter for the county's only and perpetual judge, The Honorable O. Felix Culpa. She and Thurlow met years ago in his courtroom when Thurlow was up on a DNR charge of fishing with live bait on an "artificial only" section of a trout stream, a charge that Thurlow insisted was factually incorrect and legally unjust. Specifically, the warden found Thurlow with a can of Niblets corn and three kernels impaled on the shank of a #12 3XL hook attached to his tippet. The warden said it was the equivalent of live bait. Thurlow said it wasn't neither, and insisted on a trial.

Maybelle took the notes. Thurlow chose to represent himself, and ar-



gued that the Niblets were, indeed, artificial, in that (1) corn kernels do not constitute a normal part of a trout's diet and (2) in size, shape and color they imitate fish eggs, which do, and are therefore artificial. Damned if the jury didn't acquit him.

Maybelle was so impressed that she pursued him, even enduring hours at Elmer's just gazing adoringly at Thurlow while he critiqued fades and buzz-cuts. Thurlow finally got the message, and things developed from there. They've been "engaged" for nine years. His nickname for her is "Maybe," which is cute and also as accurate a description of their relationship as possible in one word. They have a little boy, named "Skeezix," named after a character Maybelle found in the comic section of a very old newspaper while she was pregnant. More about him farther downstream.

Why aren't they married? Money, and Thurlow's sense of ethics. Wisconsin is a "marital property state," which means that if they married, he would have an undivided interest in everything Maybelle brought into the family income. Thurlow thinks that's unfair, as his contribution to their mutual well-being consists more of fish and game, and occasional cash from trapping and his equally-occasional employment as a handyman/mechanic. This way, he says, Maybelle keeps everything she earns, and what she contributes is a gift, not an obligation. This, he says, strengthens the relationship. I have yet to find a convincing argument otherwise.

A rock snot story:

An experience with didymo reminds us to be careful about bringing invasives to Wisconsin.

By Kim McCarthy

We hear a lot about various invasive species, but we don't always see first hand what a mess they can make in a great trout stream.

I recently took a trip to the Black Hills to attend a wedding. Not wanting to be late, I managed to arrive four days early. Having arrived early and just happening to have all of my fishing gear with me, there was nothing to do but fish for several days. The fishing was pretty good, but the Driftless Area can certainly spoil a person. One observation I made was that anyone buying the argument that the fish in Wisconsin are not getting enough to eat should go take a look at the fish in the Black Hills. Much, much less bulk. But, I digress from the topic I want to stress.

One of the creeks I took a look at was Rapid Creek; which is one of the premier fisheries in the "Hills". On my first day on Rapid Creek I immediately noticed a mess. I had never seen didymo, known as rock snot, in person. I think all of us have a tendency to view invasives as something in faraway creeks that we mostly read about. Seeing the kind of mess in person gives a person a whole new perspective. Long stringy strands of a whitish slimy looking material attached to thousands of rocks on the bottom of the creek. It attached to flies, leaders, knots, the rod, the reel, waders and boots. Not a pretty sight and far worse than I had pictured from reading reports about didymo.

My suspicions about what I was looking at were confirmed later in the day when I encountered a graduate student from South Dakota State University who confirmed that I was indeed seeing rock snot. When I questioned the student about how the state of South Dakota felt the invasive had arrived, he stated that it most likely had been transported from Montana on the equipment of traveling anglers.

That led to some serious washing of equipment before I sampled the fishing on other Black Hills streams and got me thinking about just how easy it would be to infect other waters.

Another observation I made was how many of the people fishing in the Hills had Wisconsin license plates on their cars. My opinion is that we are just one car load of unsuspecting anglers away from infestations of didymo in our state. I have no intentions of being the one who drags that mess to our home state. Having fished the last day back on Rapid Creek and being again exposed to didymo, my gear is now being scrubbed, frozen and bleached before I use it on any home waters.

What is the point of this story? It's pretty simple, actually. I'm sure, like myself, anyone reading this also does not want to be that person. If you are a



FISHING OUT WEST? DON'T BRING INVASIVES HOME.

Like many trout anglers Kim McCarthy enjoys out-of-state fishing excursions, particularly in the west. But he's careful not to bring home any unwelcome visitors, such as didymo (rock snot). When traveling out west, you'll notice plenty of Wisconsin license plates, meaning we are only one car load of unsuspecting anglers away from an infestation of didymo.

We want you, youth coordinators



TU National is encouraging each chapter to create a Youth Coordinator position. This person would help his or her chapter make better use of the incredible information and support available from TU National. Much of this information is available online.

This is a great opportunity to get involved with TU and really make a difference. If you are interested in serving as your chapter's Youth Coordinator, contact your local chapter leaders. Chapter contact information is available on page two of *Wisconsin Trout*.

Keep an eye out for upcoming Women's activities

The number of women's events and activities continues to increase. To make sure you don't miss anything important, keep your eyes on wituwomen.org and our Facebook page, Wisconsin Women of Trout Unlimited.

Brook trout genetics:

History and Future Management in Wisconsin

Understanding the population genetics of trout is critical for the effective conservation of wild trout populations. Population genetics concerns the genetic variation within and among trout populations and how such variation relates to adaptation to the environment.

“Wild” versus “Domestic”

A trout population can be defined as “wild” if the population is sustained by natural reproduction, the population has not been supplemented by the stocking of domestic or hatchery-reared trout in the past or present, and the population is subject to and defined by natural selective pressures.

“Domestic” trout reared in hatcheries over multiple generations have not benefited from natural selective pressures, whether in mate selection or survival through different life stages. As a consequence, domestic trout often exhibit poor survival when stocked in streams.

Wild trout have higher genetic diversity compared to domestic trout, which renders domestic trout populations less adaptable or resilient to changes in environmental conditions. The Wisconsin DNR’s “wild” trout stocking program is an attempt to limit the effects of domestication by obtaining fertilized trout eggs from wild broodstock. When producing trout to stock and deciding on where to stock them, genetics matters.

Early study observes distinction between them

An early study on brook trout genetics in Wisconsin was conducted in 1979 by Charles Krueger and Bruce Menzel of Iowa State University. They investigated the long-term

genetic effects of stocking brook trout from the Osceola State Trout Hatchery on wild brook trout populations in the Wolf and Fox River drainages.

They observed that the domestic hatchery stock was genetically distinct from most wild populations in their study and that wild variant forms of genes decreased in frequency as stocking intensity increased.

DNR studies began in 1993

In 1993, the Wisconsin DNR began an initiative to study the genetics of brook, brown, and rainbow trout across the state. Robert Fields from the Illinois Natural History Survey was contracted to analyze the genetics of 17 brook trout populations and 1 hatchery strain of brook trout in Wisconsin.

Fields and coauthor D. Phillip addressed the following objectives: determine the best genetic techniques to assess genetic differentiation among populations, define genetic differences between hatchery strains and wild populations, examine the genetic variability among the wild populations, determine which geographic areas and populations are most closely genetically related to the wild brook trout strains, and identify wild populations for preservation and management.

They divided the state into seven zones based on genetic similarities within zones and differences among zones, and they recommended that

Domestic” trout reared in hatcheries over multiple generations have not benefited from natural selective pressures, whether in mate selection or survival through different life stages.

genetically-distinct populations in one zone be managed separately from populations in other zones. (For example, do not introduce genetics from one zone into another zone.)

Populations were also identified that may be used for reintroducing brook trout to certain streams. They observed low genetic variability within some of the smaller wild populations, and they did not find evidence that stocking influenced the genetics of brook trout in sampled streams.

The study streams were not stocked with the St. Croix strain brook trout in use at that time but were thought to have possibly been stocked with Osceola strain brook trout. No Osceola strain fish were available for genetic identification, and genetic differences among sampled populations could not identify past stocking of Osceola strain fish.

Could Ash Creek brook trout serve as broodstock?

In 2007, Michael Hughes completed a master’s thesis at UW-Stevens Point (UWSP) with Brian Sloss, in which one objective was to use genetics to determine the suitability of brook trout from Ash

Creek as a broodstock source for Wisconsin’s wild trout stocking program in the Driftless Area.

They compared the genetic diversity of Ash Creek brook trout with 13 other populations across southwestern Wisconsin. There were high levels of genetic divergence among populations (that is, the accumulation of independent genetic changes through time attributable to reproductive isolation), but the majority of divergence was not related to the geographic proximity of one population to another.

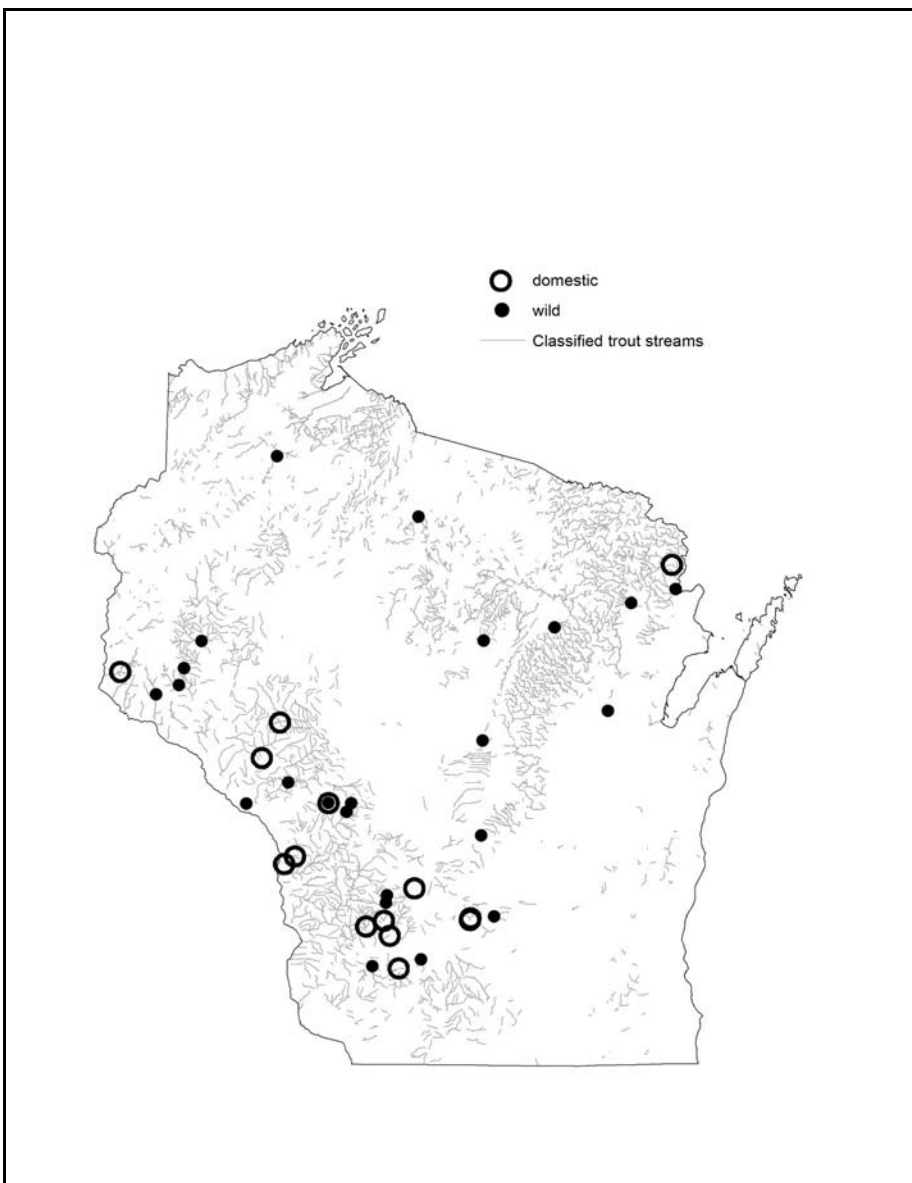
These results suggested that the studied populations were small, reproductively isolated, and influenced by genetic drift (the chance disappearance of certain genetic variants due to small population sizes) and brook trout population genetics were affected by historical stocking events that introduced genes from domestic trout into the native gene pools.

They concluded that it was difficult to say whether or not the Ash Creek population was genetically appropriate and regionally representative for stocking purposes.

New efforts to understand brook trout genetics

As the science of trout genetics has advanced, we have initiated new efforts to better understand brook trout population genetics across Wisconsin.

See **BROOK TROUT**, next page



County	Stream/spring pond	Genetics
Bayfield	Big Brook	wild
Columbia	Hinkson Creek	wild
Dunn	Cady Creek	wild
Dunn	North Branch Gilbert	wild
Dunn	South Fork Hay River	wild
Grant	Big Spring Branch	wild
Iowa	Lowery Creek	wild
Iowa	Pompey Pillar Creek	domestic
La Crosse	Johns Coulee Creek	domestic
Langlade	Hogee Spring Pond No. 1	wild
Marathon	Big Cain Creek	wild
Marinette	K C Creek	domestic
Marinette	North Fork Thunder River	wild
Marinette	Wausaukee River	wild
Marquette	Lawrence Creek	wild
Monroe	La Cross River, South Fork	wild
Monroe	Rathbone Creek	domestic
Monroe	Soper Creek	wild
Monroe	Squaw Creek	wild
Pierce	Cave Creek	wild
Pierce	South Fork Kinnickinnic River	domestic
Portage	Little Plover River	wild
Price	Foulds Spring Pond	wild
Richland	Ash Creek	domestic
Richland	Fancy Creek	domestic
Richland	Grinsell Branch	wild
Richland	Melancthon Creek	wild
Richland	West Branch Mill Creek	domestic
Sauk	Little Baraboo River	domestic
Sauk	Manley Creek	domestic
Sauk	Parfrey's Glen Creek	domestic
Shawano	West Branch Shiocton River	wild
Trempealeau	Elk Creek	domestic
Trempealeau	Joe Coulee Creek	wild
Trempealeau	King Creek	domestic
Trempealeau	Pine Creek	wild
Vernon	North Chipmunk Coulee Creek	domestic

I am a trout fisherman

Why we fish for trout, and the real reason why some folks don't make time to enjoy it.

By Dave Zueg

I am a trout fisherman. I have been for years, and hope I have another decade or two in front of me. But at this stage of the game I'll be satisfied with whatever comes along. Looking back, I was dealt a pretty good hand in all sorts of ways. OK, I might be a little light on big bucks, both kinds, but if you hunt for food and never got into the gambling thing, that can happen.

But time spent trout fishing is another story, and in that category, I'm doing just fine. Besides, if Dad's theory that days spent on a trout stream aren't counted against your allotted hours on this remarkable planet is true — he caught the biggest steelhead of his life on the Brule when he was in his 80's — I've got some bonus time coming.

This is an admittedly questionable theory, given the sizzling temperatures of summer and the fact that I'd be wearing chest waders. But regardless of the sweltering temperatures the other day, I told myself you're only young once. And then I made sure I didn't look in the mirror before heading for a trout stream not far away.

Nothing feels better than the cold water of a trout stream wrapping around you on a hot summer's day, especially after a half-mile hike down a dwindling deer trail, swatting deer flies and mosquitoes. This two-mile stretch of pristine trout water with no road crossings or fishing pressure felt like the embrace of an old friend when I sat on a rock a couple inches under water to cool down.

BROOK TROUT, from last page

In 2016, Wes Larson and his lab from UWSP began a new effort to better define brook trout population genetics across Wisconsin. They analyzed newly-collected genetics samples from brook trout populations across the state and combined genetic analyses from 37 wild trout populations in Wisconsin with similar data for brook trout populations in southeastern and northern Minnesota and Lake Superior and for eastern hatchery strains.

They identified supposed domestic and wild populations, explored spatial structuring of populations, and compared diversity between wild and domestic populations. They found that domestic and wild populations can be differentiated by their evolutionary relationships based on similarities and differences in their genetic characteristics. There was high genetic differentiation among populations despite their geographic proximity, as was previously observed by Hughes and Sloss for Driftless Area populations. Diversity was higher in wild populations, and populations isolated from one another by distance were not necessarily genetically different, which is likely a result of pervasive stocking across the state.

A result of particular interest was that the Ash Creek brook trout population showed evidence of genes from domestic trout, though our records show Ash Creek has not been stocked since the early 1970s. What does this mean?

The Ash Creek brook trout pop-

ulation is considered "wild" in the sense that it is not supplemented by stocking (and hasn't been for decades) and is sustained by natural reproduction. But analyses of their genetics indicates the presence of genes associated with domestic brook trout, and we therefore now consider Ash Creek as an unsuitable source of fertilized brook trout eggs for stocking in other streams.

Brook trout in the South Fork of the Hay River, however, were identified as genetically wild and are currently used as a source of fertilized brook trout eggs.

DNR fisheries staff will continue to work with UWSP to expand our brook trout genetics database, especially in the north, northeast and central sands areas of Wisconsin. We hope to identify more genetically wild brook trout populations and to determine whether or not they can be considered representative of the native brook trout that once populated trout streams across Wisconsin. We also hope that by sampling more streams in more areas of the state, we will be able to determine if there are regional genetic differences in wild brook trout populations.

This article was contributed by DNR Fisheries Research Scientist Matthew Mitro, DNR Trout Coordinator Joanna Griffin, Wisconsin Cooperative Fishery Research Unit's Assistant Leader Wes Larson and DNR Fisheries Supervisor David Rowe.

It had been a couple years since I'd fished this stretch on another hot summer's day. What I remembered most about that trip wasn't the fishing, which was terrific, but the bear I found sitting armpit deep in the river as I worked upstream. Thinking back, he probably looked a lot like I did today.

The big old boar just glared at me, not one bit interested in leaving his cool afternoon spa. It was pretty much a standoff with neither one of us willing to back down.

He wouldn't for obvious reasons related to cool water and me because the high banks of the ravine the stream ran through would mean a long walk back downstream to where I could get out and go around him. The discussion we had about who was going to leave was a quiet, calm and reasonable one on my part. He was more blunt, with a few snorts, some huffing and jaw popping, but eventually one old boar reluctantly backed off. You can probably figure out which one it was, just go with your instincts.

On the hike in, I'd been thinking about the DNR's report about why trout anglers quit fishing, and the survey that asked those who hadn't bought a trout stamp in the last three years why they gave it up. Although a few people mentioned it was because of the complicated

trout fishing rules, the study actually showed that only 12 percent listed that as a reason. But I wonder if some didn't use that for an excuse instead of admitting trout fishing isn't easy.

Another 35 percent said "time constraints" was a key reason for quitting. I'm guessing what they meant was they decided to do something else with their limited free time, like maybe chasing the bass that seem to have taken over the state, from the pedestal seat of a fancy boat with an oversized motor.

Part of me says "good, that means less competition." But that's not the attitude to have or the issue here. There are nearly 3,000 trout streams in Wisconsin with more 13,000 miles of trout water, and 41 percent of those are rated as class 1 streams, the best of the best. This doesn't include all the trout ponds that hold fish, too. The bottom line is that those of us still buying trout stamps don't have to worry about overcrowding.

It didn't really surprise me, but another survey showed the satisfaction rate for trout fishermen was more than 83 percent, which tells the story itself. Can you imagine getting those kinds of numbers from a survey of people who buy a deer hunting license? One thing for sure, we wouldn't have had to pay some guy from Texas \$125,000 to tell us pretty much what we already know.

It was interesting to read in the survey that most former trout fishermen started trout fishing when they were 21, quite a bit older than the age of others at the starting gate of outdoor activities. Most trout anglers say fishing with their father was a key factor in taking up trout angling, which was the case with me. I don't remember exactly how old I was when I caught my first trout, but I know I wasn't big enough to wear waders or even hip boots yet. Dad dropped me on a hole near the top

of the Horseshoe, a big bend on the Brule River, before heading downstream to work another run.

I remember being more interested in catching the frogs soaking up the October sun than fishing, but eventually picked up the old spin-cast rod and reel he left me with and tossed a spinner into the head of that pool.

The steelhead hit like a freight train, and then cartwheeled into the air before falling back into the river. I'm sure this story would have a different ending if it weren't for my uncle Neil, who was working the bottom of that pool. He gave me the encouragement and assistance I needed, especially after that old reel melted down like jilted teenager, courtesy of that chromer. Together we eventually landed that fish, pulling it in hand over hand like ice fishermen, then we both began to yell for Dad. I can still see him coming down that trail with a grin a mile wide. And you wonder why I still buy a trout stamp?

Back on the river, I got off my submerged rock in this gem of a trout stream and started fishing. I have no idea when the last time anyone fished here, but it might have been me a few years ago. One thing was clear, though; the trout were still here, eager, uneducated and willing, kind of like a young boy all those years ago on the Brule.

The encouraging part of that DNR survey was that the majority of the anglers who hadn't purchased a trout stamp in the last three years indicated a willingness to try it again when they have more free time. I know it's tough to carve out time for our pursuits and passions these days, with so many distractions and responsibilities. But I can't ever remember our trout fishery being more vibrant.

So if you decide to go, maybe I'll see you on the river. And don't worry, this old boar will be happy to move over for you.

Dave Zueg is a retired DNR warden and long-time outdoor writer. This article first appeared in the Wisconsin Outdoor News, and we thank them for permission to reprint it.

One thing was clear, though; the trout were still here, eager, uneducated and willing, kind of like a young boy all those years ago on the Brule.

Are you getting emails from TU?

Did you receive an email recently announcing the State Council upcoming banquet in Oshkosh?

Did you receive any email announcements from your chapter this past year regarding work days, banquets and other important chapter events?

Did you receive any email announcements recently from TU National regarding important environmental issues affecting TU members?

If you answered "no" to any of these questions, then you are truly missing out on much of the activity of TU.

TU National manages the mailing list for Wisconsin TU and the chapters, so if you want to receive emails, you need to make sure that TU National has your current email address.

Go to tu.org and log in, then go to email preferences and make sure they have your current email and mailing address. If you have questions about this process call 1-800-834-2419.

A Summer Mayfly

By Tom Lager

In my experience, mayflies are like “friends on the journey.” At times they are the destination, the center pin of the journey around which success pivots, such as the intense hex hatch. Sometimes mayflies are the ever-present attendant of the stream, facilitating success by filling in the gaps when catching slows, such as the enduring blue-winged olive larvae.

Other times, mayflies are just there, being part of the scenery, giving testament to the functionality of the watershed, such as a sparse, leisurely light ca-hill emergence.

And then there are occasions when mayflies are the hidden jewel, the unexpected that delights the trip with beauty, causing events to pause, at least for a short time. Such was the case on recent smallmouth bass fishing trip to Door County with my good friend Don Clouthier.

While stowing gear at the close of our first trip, a spinner-stage male mayfly landed for an instant on my hand, brightly illuminated in late afternoon sun. Then he was gone just as quickly. There was no evidence of its presence left, and no other mayflies on the wing; however, the vividness of its image remained.

The distinctiveness of wing-color pattern, the contrast of cello-

phane-clear versus the dark brown apex of the wing and the black brown body with exceedingly long graceful tails was evidence that I had not before seen this mayfly.

Certainly the abrupt appearance and sunlight enhanced contrasts of its form served to enlarge this experience in my mind and kept me busy for several days reviewing literature and internet sources in a failed attempt to identify this mayfly from my mental images.

The culmination of this experience was realized the following week during our second journey to Door County. We arrived at the parking area in time to observe the male mayflies, in bright sun-struck contrasts of color, dancing in undulating swarming movements of rapid wing-beating as by still-winged

downward glides. The scene was further enhanced by the fact that it was all occurring on and above a bright red sports car sitting in the parking area. The dark tinted windows and bright shiny red surface of the car attracted this small troupe of dancers to alight momentarily on its surface and then launch into their dancing flight, on sun-glinted cellophane wings, rising several meters in the air.

What a picture of contrasts: delicate natural beauty attracted to modern technology sleek in design

For me, as an eleven-year-old boy, I observed what I was to later understand to be a leptophlebid larvae migration up a stream that flowed through our family farm in Northern Minnesota.



Todd Franklin

and shiny-bright in color. This interlude remained with me throughout the day, as callibaetis mayflies sporadically emerged from wave-washed shoals adjacent to the bay.

Later, with hard evidence in hand, identification revealed these mayflies to be *Leptophlebia nebulosa*, a species within the genus of mayflies referred to as black quills by some anglers.

This species was first described in 1853 by Francis Walker, an entomologist with the British Museum; the description remains valid to this day, documented in now-classic entomology texts of the early 19th century.

The black quill has an unusual geographic distribution in that it occurs coast to coast across the northern tier of U.S. states and Canadian provinces and as far north as the Yukon. Within this range it is relatively uncommon, but can be found in considerable numbers.

I believe the patchiness of the *L. nebulosa* population distribution explains why few patterns such as Borchers' drake have been generated over the years.

The larvae commonly inhabit ponds, as well as eddies in streams, and the banks and shallow littoral regions of lakes. Prior to emerging, larvae often migrate upstream in very large numbers in small tributaries to marshes. In May and June they clamber to shore to emerge above the water line. The combined effect of large numbers and large larvae size (1 cm) contribute significantly to the food energy available to trout and other fishes in nearby watersheds.

While this species has limited potential to play a significant role in your catching success, it can enhance your fishing experience. When observed, this mayfly may serve to connect you to other experiences along the journey. For me, as an eleven-year-old boy, I observed what I was to later understand to be a leptophlebid larvae migration up a stream that flowed through our family farm in Northern Minnesota. I recall scooping the small wiggly critters from the stream to see them up close. They remain images vivid in my mind.

Wisconsin stream access laws summarized in wallet card

Having trouble remembering what Wisconsin law says about stream access? Stream access laws have changed twice since 2001, so WITU has created the wallet card below to summarize your rights.

The card below gives a concise summary of your current rights and responsibilities regarding stream access. The WITU State Council hopes this card will come in handy to settle any disputes you may have with landowners who believe you are trespassing.

Confusing change

Anglers and other stream users may remember that Wisconsin law was changed in 2001 to allow people to walk the exposed banks of rivers up to the

“normal high-water mark.”

However, that expansion of rights was *reversed* just two years later, and anglers have ever since been required to follow the old “keep your feet wet” rule while fishing.

Of note in the current law is that anglers can legally walk on private property whenever they encounter an “obstruction.” The DNR has interpreted an obstruction to not only include such things as fallen trees, but also “deep water.” This obstruction provision is not yet widely known, so this wallet card will help fishers and landowners better understand the current law.

Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited Stream Access Wallet Card

Your rights and responsibilities when accessing public waters that flow through private property.

Can I fish streams that flow through private lands?

Yes, all trout streams are considered “navigable” and, therefore, are public property. Streams are public even though the land on both sides of them may be private. Without permission, you may not cross private lands to enter or leave a stream. Enter the water at bridge crossings, public lands, or private lands under public easement.

Do I have to stay in the water?

Yes, but there is one exception. Wisconsin law was amended in 2001 to say you may exit the water “to bypass an obstruction.” Re-enter the water after the obstruction has been passed.

What counts as an obstruction?

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

Can I walk on the exposed shoreline up to the “ordinary high water mark”?

No, that provision in the statutes was only in effect for two years. Anglers must now follow the previous “keep your feet wet” rule. But you may still leave the water legally to bypass obstructions.

What if I come upon a fence across a stream?

Landowners may not obstruct navigable waters in a way that “impairs the free navigation thereof.” If you can pass under or over a single strand of barbed wire, the stream remains navigable. However, if several strands of wire or some other intentional obstruction prevents passage, the land owner is in violation of the law. Do not cut the wire. Instead, contact the DNR to investigate the illegal obstruction.

How does the “no interference” with hunting, fishing, or trapping statute apply to my fishing?

Animal right activists have generally preferred to harass hunters and trappers instead of anglers. Nevertheless, fishing is included in a 1989 Wisconsin statute that makes it illegal for someone to “interfere or attempt to interfere with lawful hunting, fishing or trapping with the intent to prevent the taking of a wild animal....”

This statute not only protects you from physical interference, but it protects the animals as well — someone cannot interfere with your fishing by “harassing a wild animal.” For fishers, this may be interpreted to mean that someone cannot interfere with your fishing by throwing rocks into water you are about to fish. Land owners blocking your legal access or preventing you from navigating around obstructions may also be violating this statute.

News from the Northwoods

With Laura MacFarland, TU Great Lakes Restoration Manager

“Seemingly Useless Parts”

Despite this cool spring, I was once again caught off guard by the vivacious arrival of summer. It's a crazy time of year as we scurry to survey future project sites, prep for the upcoming construction season and wrap up Trout In the Classroom activities. Meanwhile we're cranking away at the usual mundane tasks behind the desk. By June, I felt as if I was trapped in a time-lapse video, the alder leaves unfurling and the fawns growing before my eyes.

Yet amidst the chaos these past few months, I did manage to catch a few fleeting moments of stillness, as I once again became witness to the magnificent complexity and beauty of our riverine ecosystems.

Prior to accepting this position, the majority of my time on trout streams was spent wielding my trusty, old Orvis T3, staring at the water's surface. While fishing, I tend to approach a trout stream with similar vigor as the onset of summer. Crashing through the forest, I make a beeline to the stream to set my sights on casting lanes and pocket water, often oblivious to the other seemingly useless parts. No doubt, I would be a better angler if I could just slow down, but I admit that this has never been my strong suit.

While conducting field work this spring, I traded in that old Orvis for a heavy, unwieldy fiberglass survey rod. I had to extinguish the adrenaline of the hunt to practice the art of

observation. This pace, for which I am not accustomed to, has helped me zoom out a bit and appreciate the larger picture.

Last week, while wading to deploy temperature loggers, I paused mid-stream to watch the water boil with horny head chubs as they spawned, with the large males armed with their tubercles for battle and the smaller females darting in and out of nests. It was a beautiful show for which I could have taken for granted if I was simply stalking brookies.

Furthermore, keeping my eye on the horizon before leaf out this spring (instead of on eddy lines and undercut banks) I have observed otter, fox, fisher, porcupine, bobcat, coyote, water snakes, eagles, osprey, orioles, cedar waxwings and numerous other songbirds which I cannot identify. Meanwhile, while looking down, I have enjoyed the wood frogs, jack-in-the-pulpit, marsh marigolds, trout lilies and much more.



The list grows with each week in the field. On one particular day, I crossed paths with five separate bear, coming too close for comfort to a pair of cubs and a sow. The sow loudly protested my presence as she reared up on her hind quarters a mere 20 yards away. No doubt, these are the moments that I will reflect upon in the darkness of next winter and for many years to come, while the visions of individual brook trout in hand fade.

Granted, I probably would have noticed the sow and cubs even if I was just fishing. However, there is a great deal that I would have missed or at least undervalued. Cold or cool water streams, which we commonly, oversimplistically refer to as “trout streams,” as well as their floodplains, are just teeming with life. Some may be perceived as less desirable species, such as the creek chub or longnose dace. However, they are nonetheless a piece of the larger puzzle.

“Trout streams” are complex systems comprised of physical, chemical and biological processes that we

can only pretend to begin to understand. And as Aldo Leopold once said, “If the biota, in the course of eons, has built something we like but do not understand, then who but a fool would discard seemingly useless parts? To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of intelligent tinkering.”

Incidentally, this is the rallying cry behind the approach to culvert design that Trout Unlimited has adopted. The objective is not to simply ensure that a trout can swim through the pipe, but that all species are able and that the physical and chemical processes, such as the transport of nutrients and woody debris downstream, can continue unimpeded. A poorly designed or maintained culvert can act as a filter within a stream; inhibiting the movement of nutrients, sediment, wood and all taxa including invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles.

In the coming months, our work for the past year will hopefully begin to pay off as the 10 culvert replacements we have been assisting with will be implemented. These projects will reconnect more than 33 miles of coldwater habitat in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest to the benefit of all species. I look forward to sharing the rest of the story with you in the next issue of *Wisconsin Trout*. Meanwhile, I hope you have a wonderful summer exploring our coldwater ecosystems.

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*“The meaning of life is to find your gift.
The purpose of life is to give it away.”*

William Shakespeare

Remember TU as Part of Your Legacy

Have you considered making Trout Unlimited part of your legacy? For loyal TU members, making a bequest to TU in your will or trust is a wonderful way to continue supporting clean water and healthy trout populations. Help assure that TU is able to continue its good work now and into the future.

Should you decide that TU is worthy of a legacy bequest, be sure to specify in your will or trust if the bequest is intended to benefit National TU, the State Council or your local chapter.

Thank you for considering Trout Unlimited in your estate planning.

*Fly tying tips***Blending dubbing?***Try these tricks and techniques*

By Brian Smolinski

I blend a lot of dubbing. It's not because I think that the straight-out-of-the-pack, store-bought stuff isn't any good. I apparently just enjoy making things harder on myself. The problem with making my own dubbing blends is that I never got around to recording or following a recipe. I mix something up, mix a little more, then add a tiny pinch more of this or that. Since I was always just grabbing a little of this or that, I would mix it by hand, so what I would end up with was enough of a blend for maybe half a dozen flies. The next time I went to tie that fly, it would always come out different, since I could never match the blend exactly.

So I told myself last winter that I was going to blend up large quantities of my dubbing blends, creating a stockpile of each blend to last a few years. I told myself they would all be neatly labeled, so I knew exactly what blend went with which fly pattern, and so on.

I knew that mixing large amounts of dubbing wouldn't be easy. You really can't do it by hand. I have seen guys use two wire brushes made for combing dog hair to

mix it up and I have used other people's homemade coffee grinders to blend dubbing. Neither one of those methods really excited me, but I bit the bullet and picked up a cheap coffee grinder. Then I set into making a cover for the top of the grinder. That is one of the flaws of this method is that if you use the lid as is, all the dubbing fibers just float up into the empty space and don't get down into the blades.

Anyway, I got it together and mixed up my first batch and it worked, sort of. After a few long pulses my mixture was mostly blended. The problem I found is that certain types of dubbing blend perfectly, while other types blend just okay. They mix up, but in little tiny clumps which makes it difficult to use. I spent extra time while tying separating the fibers in order to dub the mixture tighter to my thread.

The solution came by taking an old small fish bowl type of merchandiser from the shop and connecting it to a can of compressed air used for dusting electronics. I used a plastic container that is round, I think a pint sized plastic food container would also be great, especially the cheap deli style ones, as long as they have a tight-fitting lid.

**COMPRESSED AIR MAKES AWESOME DUBBING BLENDS**

The force of the air moving around the container perfectly blends the mixture. Even better is the dubbing is super light and fluffy, making it the easiest dubbing to apply since none of the fibers are clumped and matted together.

Start by putting the lid on the container. Pop a whole mess of holes in the lid with a needle or bodkin, the smaller the better. You need a way for air to escape the container, but not large enough for dubbing fibers to get stuck in. Then enlarge one of the holes just big enough to fit the extension straw though that connects to the compressed air can.

Fill container with dubbing and

pull the trigger on the air can, the force of the air moving around the container perfectly blends the mixture. Even better is the dubbing is super light and fluffy, making it the easiest dubbing to apply since none of the fibers are clumped and matted together.

Brian J. Smolinski operates Lund's Fly Shop in River Falls.

*Favorite fly patterns***b smo's Pink Princess**

This hybrid of prince nymph and hot pink squirrel has proven to be a successful pattern for Lund's Fly Shop.

By Brian Smolinski

This fly was a custom order I got at the shop. This unnamed customer/friend asked me to come up with a fly that would be a combination of two very popular patterns: The prince nymph and the hot pink squirrel.

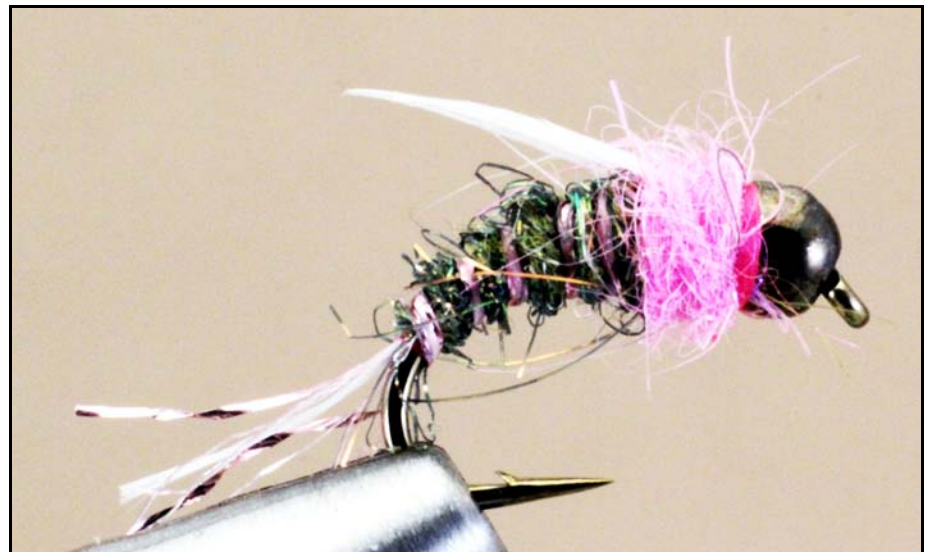
I decided that a dubbed body would be easier to create the desired profile, similar to the Lund's Pink Squirrels. I love the peacock color of ice dub, but prefer to mix some rabbit hair in with all my ice dub to get a dubbing texture I like.

Once I had the design down, I tied up a few and we took them out during this past early season for a little product testing. They seemed to work well on rainbows somewhere northeast of Hudson.

Instructions

- 1 – Apply a thread base.
- 2 – Tie in rib/tail material by capturing it under your thread with one end being about a half-inch long and the other long enough to counter wrap a rib. Then pull both ends down and wrap over with your thread.
- 3 – Dub a tapered body with the peacock mixture.
- 4 – Wind ribbing material over body and then wrap hook shank under the thorax to add some rigid bulk.
- 5 – Tie off ribbing material and trim, then dub over it to make the hot pink thorax slightly smaller than the size you desire, which step 6 will explain.
- 6 – Create a wing with two pieces of white goose biot. After lashing down biots, apply a small amount of the pink dubbing mixture again to cover thread wraps and create your desired thorax size.
- 7 – Finish and apply head cement.

MATERIALS LIST
b smo's Pink Princess
Hook: TMC 2457 or Daiichi 1120; size 14
Bead: Tungsten 7/64" black nickel.
Thread: UTC 70 denier fluorescent pink
Rib and tail: Veevus iridescent pink thread
Body: Blend of Ice Dub Peacock & Hare's Ear Plus Dubbin dark olive
Thorax: Blend of Hareline Dubbin fluorescent pink & Ice Dub UV fluorescent hot pink. small Ultra Wire
Wing: white goose biots

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Contact Todd Franklin at toddfranklinwistrout@gmail.com.

Streambank Protection program update

DNR working hard to attain 100-mile goal, as directed by the Natural Resources Board.

**By Paul Cunningham
SB Outreach and Policy, DNR**

Our deadline for the current fiscal year was June 15, and we were busy trying to secure signed option contracts before that date. About 23 offers are sitting out there with landowners, and we are waiting for them to reply with either a signed option contract or a rejection.

We are still struggling with biologist vacancies, as biologists are key to our SBP work. These include the Baldwin, Plymouth and Dodgeville offices. We are also dealing with numerous technician vacancies.

We are considering different outreach approaches and more involvement of TU chapters in hosting trout stream landowner events. One idea is streamside cook-

outs with experts on the Streambank Protection program and trout stream habitat work, as well as testimonials from landowners who have sold easements.

If we have a Knowles/Nelson Stewardship appropriation, we will continue to implement the Streambank Protection program to the best of our abilities. While we are behind our goal, we still aim to finish the 100 miles of SBP in the 2017-2019 biennium. We've got about 50 miles to go!

Check out our Facebook pages

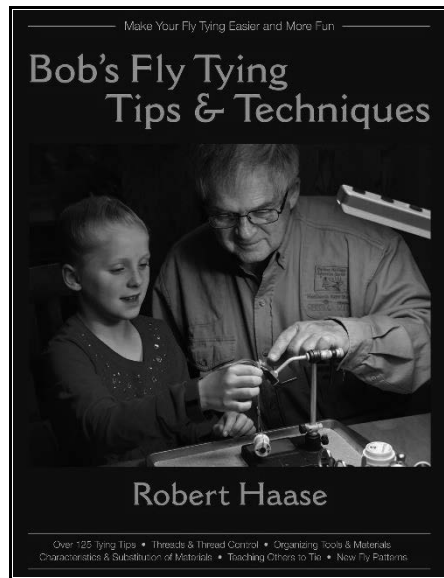
We're getting social. The Council now has an official Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Facebook page at [facebook.com/WisconsinTU](https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinTU). So go ahead and give us a "Like!" We've also set up a Wisconsin Trout Unlimited State Council "group" on Facebook for people to share upcoming event info and conservation-related news.



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Bob's Tying Tips Advice from the bench of Bob Haase

Part of the fun in tying flies is coming up with new fly patterns or modifying existing patterns. By tying your own flies, you can change how they are tied and come up with patterns that work even better than the originals. You will end up with patterns that you can't find in fly shops and something the fish have never seen before.

The statement "matching the hatch" does not always apply. I think it is important to learn about the aquatic insects that the fish feed on, their life cycles, and how to tie flies that represent them. That is the basis of tying flies. We need to know the basics before we can start breaking some of the rules. Some of the flies that fish well for me are those that don't represent any insect I've seen. Maybe the fly might look like an insect that the fish would be feeding on based on size or profile, but the color is much different. That's the case with my Flashabout Nymph.

What are some of the things that cause a fish to refuse a fly? Sometimes it can be because it doesn't look like the real thing. Maybe it is too large or small for the hatch that is occurring. Maybe it is the wrong color. Maybe it is because it looks like the real thing and the fish have become conditioned not to take it.

A number of years ago I spent time learning about and tying the most realistic hopper patterns that I could. I had a trip planned that fall for hopper fishing on the Bighorn River in Montana. I couldn't wait to see how well they worked. They didn't. The fish refused them but readily took a fly that was made out of foam and rubber legs called the Morrish Hopper. They were so conditioned that they would even refuse a real hopper tossed into the stream. Maybe that is why the fish took the Morrish Hopper. It looked different than the traditional hopper imitations and the real thing.

If you tie, you can slightly alter a pattern to make it just a little different. Maybe just different enough so that the fish might accept it better

than what it is used to seeing. Once you understand the characteristics of various tying materials, it becomes easier to determine what materials to use for modifying the fly. However, sometimes just a minor alteration will make a fly fish differently, which can be both good and bad. If you make too dramatic of a change, it may affect the fly so much that the fish will not want it at all. Just changing the color or size of a bead, tying it on a different hook style, or substituting a material that is more or less buoyant can make a lot of difference.

My casting is not my strong point. Presentation is just as important as the fly being used, and I strive to cast and present the fly to the best of my ability. My crutch is the ability to modify flies and create patterns the fish seem to like.

If you tie, you have an advantage over those who don't tie. You can make little modifications that might be just what is needed to entice the fish to take. If you don't tie, you might want to consider learning how to tie. It is fun, and it's very rewarding when you catch fish on your own flies.

Rather than provide a pattern for this issue, I am showing a few flies and describing how I modified them to be just a little different. Please look at them and then look through your fly box and pick out the 10 patterns you fish the most. Try to figure out what you like best about the flies and why you think they work so well. Then think about ways you might slightly change them such as using a different style hook, a different size hook, different materials or different colors. From these flies, pick out two or three that you might want to change slightly and tie a couple up with those changes.

Now take these new flies fishing and see how they work. With any good experiment you need to repeat the process to verify the results. This means you might have to fish them a few more times to see which patterns really do work the best.

Modifying fly patterns to make them fish better



LADY HORNBERG
Modified by using pink squirrel tail instead of natural or yellow. Also, I used pink hackle for the collar, instead of brown. Brook trout love pink and white, and this small change seems to work better on brook trout. This is my go-to fly for fishing brook trout and also a great fly for browns and rainbows. Think about how the pink collar helped make the pink squirrel so effective.



KEN'S KRAZY ANT ORIGINAL
Using hackle between body segments. A great fly pattern made out of shelf liner foam pulled apart to form the ant body. Anybody can tie this fly and the fish love it.



RAINBOW BEAD ZEBRA MIDGE
I modify the standard zebra midge with a multi-hued rainbow bead and fluorescent pink or chartreuse wire. The body is also coated with a UV Set Polymer to give depth to the body. These are small differences, but it out-fishes the same fly with a gold bead and no polymer.



KEN'S KRAZY ANT MODIFIED
Use a CDC puff instead of hackle. You can see it better in the water and it floats better. The tips of CDC also make more movement, creating an illusion of motion.



FLOATING MOP FLY
I tie the popular mop fly with permanent waterproofing such as Watershed to make it float better, and I hackle the front. Clip the hackle on bottom so capillary action doesn't draw the hackle below the surface. Most mop flies sink, so this allows you to fish a mop fly on the surface for bluegills.

Midwest Outdoor Heritage Expo a great success

By Bob Haase
WITU Education Chair

So often we determine success by numbers. In sports, it is the team with the highest score or number of wins. In fishing, it's the person who catches the most or largest fish. If we look at the numbers, the 2017 Wisconsin Outdoor Heritage Expo was a great success. We had 914 kids tie a fly, which was 164 more than last year. We also had five more TU volunteer tiers than last year. When you have 914 kids tie a fly in two days, that is a great success.

Just as important are all the other outcomes of an event like this. We had the kids tie a panfish fly that they could use to catch bluegills. In addition to helping them tie a fly, we described to the kids and their chaperones how they could use a spinning float (clear bobber) to provide the weight necessary to cast their fly with a spinning rod. Illustrated instruction sheets were provided on how to rig the spinning float and fly and how to fish it. More kids have access to spinning

rods than fly rods, and we want them to catch a fish on a fly they tied themselves. We are not trying to make them fly tiers or fly fishermen. We just want them to get them hooked on fishing.

Who knows what this might lead to? Hopefully the children and their parents will fish together, sharing time together outdoors, and acquiring a better understanding of nature and our environment.

We have outstanding volunteers who work well with the kids and provide a positive image of Trout Unlimited to the chaperones and everyone involved.

Maybe one of the kids is a future legislator or governor. Could these experiences affect their views and votes? Maybe someday they might even learn to

trout fish and become a member of TU. If you think this is all "pie in the sky" thinking, think about the first time you went fishing, who you went fishing with, and how it has affected your life.

While our volunteer tyers are teaching the children how to tie a fly, they are also talking about fishing and doing things outdoors. The communications that take place and making tying their first fly fun is im-



Bob Haase

JERRY SMET IS A MASTER OF TEACHING KIDS

Jerry Smet from the Central Wisconsin Chapter works with a youngster at the Midwest Outdoor Heritage Expo in May. Jerry has tied at youth tying programs including the Expo, Milwaukee Sentinel Sport Show, Montello Fish and Fun Days, Get Kids Hooked on Fishing Program in Fond du Lac, and many others all across the state. He has a special skill at teaching kids to tie.

portant. We have outstanding volunteers who work well with the kids and provide a positive image of Trout Unlimited to the chaperones and everyone involved. A special thanks to all the TU volunteers who helped make this event successful in so many different ways: Jerry Smet, Rand VanderSchaff, Tom Connelly, Bill Millonig, Mike Sandretto, Jim Murphy, Renee Sagal, Jared Sagal, Mike Stapleton, Scot Stewart, Jeff True, John Tucker, Bob Burke, Rick Frye, Bob Moss, Julie Vanenberg, Ed Kosik and Bob Haase.

We had a surprise when we arrived Thursday morning. Strong winds Wednesday night blew our

tent and a few other large tents down. They had our tent back up and we were tying by around 10 a.m.

Everyone at the Expo worked so well together, making it a positive experience for the kids. About 3,000 children from grades 4-6 and about 500 chaperones attended this year's event. Make plans now to attend next year on May 16-17, 2018, and maybe add some additional activities such as bug identification, knot tying, displays on conservation activities, stream monitoring, etc. The 2017 Expo was a great success in many ways and next year we are going to make it even better!

Watershed Access Fund

Summer 2017 update

The 2017 Watershed Access Fund campaign is in full swing and the response has been incredible so far. Thank you for your support.

Last year this fund helped secure an important easement link in the "Horseshoe" section on the North Fork of the Bad Axe River in Vernon County. Without your continued support of this program, this opportunity to obtain a public fishing easement here.

Chapters seeking to secure public access with the support of Watershed Access Fund grants can request up to \$7,500. Two chapters can pair up and each request a grant for a single acquisition, providing up to \$15,000 to secure an important easement.

Please consider making a generous contribution to the Watershed Access Fund this year. The ability to secure easements that may only be available for a short time is critical. Generations to come will thank us for securing places to enjoy the passion of fishing. Additionally, public fishing easements allow TU to support stream restoration efforts on those waters.

I wish you all a great 2017 fishing season!

Thank you,

Doug Brown, Wisconsin TU Watershed Access Fund Chair

2016 Contributors

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Louis Arata | Whitefish Bay WI | Edward Brockner | Beaver Dam WI |
| Henry Barkhausen | Winnetka IL | Russell Ciscen | Phillips WI |
| Ed Barnes | Middleton WI | William Creasey | Muscatine IA |
| Charles Barnhill | Madison WI | Terry Cummings | Rhineland WI |
| Jim Bayorgeon | Appleton WI | David Darling | River Falls WI |
| Michael Benish | Oregon WI | Bruce Davidson | Wauwatosa WI |
| Ron & Jolene Berg | Chippewa Falls WI | Steve Deery | Coloma WI |
| Mark Berggren | Madison WI | Richard Diedrich | Grafton WI |
| Blaine Biedermann | Madison WI | Richard Duplessie | Eau Claire WI |
| | | Mike Duren | Mazomanie WI |
| | | Jack Ellingboe | Prescott WI |
| Richard Boda | Boyceville WI | Harley Erbs | Rhineland WI |
| Stephen Born | Madison WI | | |

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Paul Feldhake | Port Washington WI | Dr. C. Emil Mueller | Boscobel WI |
| Joel Fisher | Biramwood WI | Keith Nelson | Waunakee WI |
| William Flader, M.D. | Madison WI | Eric Nelson | Chili WI |
| Richard Galling | Hartland WI | Herb Oechler | Wauwatosa WI |
| Daniel Geddes | Appleton WI | Winston Ostrow | De Pere WI |
| Don Glanzer | Loganville WI | Scott Quandt DDS | Green Bay WI |
| James J. Goodwin | Sturgeon Bay WI | Carl Rasmussen | Neenah WI |
| Colleen Grant | Eden Prairie MN | Bob Retko | Cedarburg WI |
| Dan Grauer | Wausau WI | James Ruether | Mosinee WI |
| John Gribb | Mt. Horeb WI | Michael San Dretto | Neenah WI |
| Jack Halbreghder | Sparta WI | Jeff Schmoeger | Cottage Grove WI |
| Stephen Hawk | Madison WI | Glen Schnadt | Richland Center WI |
| Ashton Hawk | Madison WI | P.R. Schumann | Hartford WI |
| John Hawk | New Holstein WI | Frederick W. Seybold | Madison WI |
| Donald Heinzen | Verona WI | Edwin Shultz | Prairie du Sac WI |
| Walter Hellyer | Egg Harbor WI | Michael Staggs | Poynette WI |
| Jerone Herro | Kimberly WI | Wayne Stockman | Spring Valley WI |
| Cline Hickok | Hudson WI | Thomas Towne | Rosendale WI |
| Nancy and Dan Hill | Spencer WI | Dennis Vandembloemen | Eau Claire WI |
| John Hoar | Ashland WI | Carol Vendt | Oconto WI |
| Charles Hodulik | Madison WI | John Voorhees | Hazelhurst WI |
| Harold Hoffman | West Salem WI | Dick Wachoski | Eau Claire WI |
| Scott Homann | Roscoe IL | Don Wagner | Gillett WI |
| Phyllis Hunt | Waupaca WI | Janis Watson | Thiensville WI |
| John & Judith Hutchinson | Sun Prairie WI | Donald Wellhouse | Kaukana WI |
| William Johnson | Hudson WI | Paul Wiemerslage | Hudson WI |
| Cliff Kremmer | Sparta WI | Stephen Wilke | Marinette WI |
| Larissa Lyon | Janesville WI | Dan Wisniewski | Middleton WI |
| Thomas Lyon | Fontana WI | Don Wolf | Madison WI |
| Brian Madsen | Ellsworth WI | Jared Wunderlich | DePere WI |
| Kevin Mahaney | Middleton WI | Wendy & Fred Young | Roscoe IL |
| Charles Martinson | Mt. Horeb WI | | |
| Peter Meronek | Stevens Point WI | | |
| Fred Mikolajewski | West Allis WI | | |
| Robert Moser | Milwaukee WI | | |

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter of TU
Wisconsin Clearwaters Chapter of TU
Marinette County Chapter of TU

Here is my contribution of \$100 or more to the Wisconsin TU Watershed Access Fund

Make your check payable to Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

MAIL TO: TU Watershed Access Fund
Attn: Doug Brown
R4800 Timber Ln.
Ringle, WI 54471

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

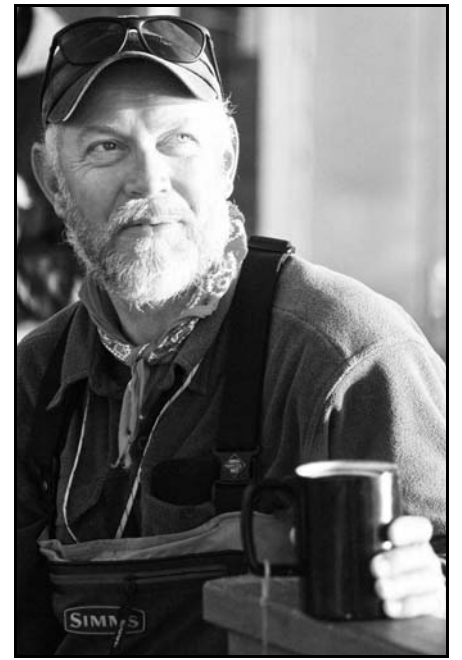




MIKE DVORAK

Photographer Mike Dvorak

Also featured is photographer Mike Dvorak of Robbinsdale, Minnesota. He is an award-winning photographer who has pursued documentary and editorial projects across the United States and around the world. Clients have included The New York Times, The Utne Reader, Universal Records (Paris and London), Fly Rod and Reel, Women's Sports and Fitness, Jazziz, High Note Records, The Sun, and the Minnesota Conservation Volunteer, among many others. He received his BFA in photography from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design in 1996. His personal work is now in the permanent collection at the Weisman Art Museum at the University of Minnesota.



BOB WHITE

Retired Dean Alan Haney

Our featured conservation scientist is Alan Haney, retired dean of the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point

Alan Haney retired from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 2007 after 40 years of college teaching, primarily ecology and related courses. His 12 published books are mostly of a technical nature, but "Laughing in the Wilderness," "Jewels of Nature" and "Following Old Trails," his three most recent, are written for general audiences. They draw heavily on the years he spent immersed in nature, often far from the beaten track, pursuing his research and love of wilderness.

"Laughing in the Wilderness" is a collection of short, mostly humorous stories about actual events that happened during preparation and adventures in wild places. "Jewels of Nature" looks into nature, using the lives of 92 species of birds common to the Midwest as the window. "Following Old Trails" is a study of the natural history of the Canadian shield as witnessed during an epic canoe trip from Lake Superior to Hudson Bay, following old fur-trade routes.

Haney continues to write, travel and lecture on a wide range of environmental and natural history top-

ics. He has been described by those familiar with his work as warm, wise and insightful, with an ability to take the reader with him into the natural world.

Activities galore

The event will consist of public displays of art and writing, presentations, panel discussions, forums, book signings, book readings, hands-on art and creative writing activities and a Saturday night reception, all with the purpose of experiencing and appreciating the interrelatedness of creative writing, art and conservation. A finalized schedule with details of the events will be published in early July.

This may truly be a once in a lifetime opportunity, so mark your calendars and make plans to attend. This event is being made possible in part by a very generous donation by the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited. In fact, the Council decided to schedule its fall meeting in Wausau that same weekend so TU members can enjoy the event and attend our meeting on a single weekend.

For more information go to wrvtu.org/confluence or contact John Meachen at troutrev@gmail.com or 715-571-5386.



ALAN HANEY

CONFLUENCE, from page 1

Gierach is the recipient of the Arnold Gingrich Angling Heritage Award from the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers of New York, the Federation of Fly Fishers Roderick Haig-Brown Award, and the PEN New England Cerulli Award for Excellence in Sports Writing. He was named Fly Rod & Reel Magazine's Angler of the Year in 2000 and was inducted into the Fly-Fishing Hall of Fame at the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum in 2015. He has received numerous awards for his columns and editorials from the Colorado Press Association.

Artist Bob White

Our featured artists include Bob White, an artist and author whose work expresses a misspent youth. Instead of doing his homework, his nose was constantly in the outdoor books and sporting magazines of the day.

Consequently, he has wandered between Alaska and Patagonia for more than three decades as an itinerant fishing guide, looking for gainful employment. He now paints and writes for a living, which is to say, he's still searching.

White has been influenced by such masters as Homer, Sargent and Fournier, and by more recent artists, such as Pleissner, Jacques and Sloane.

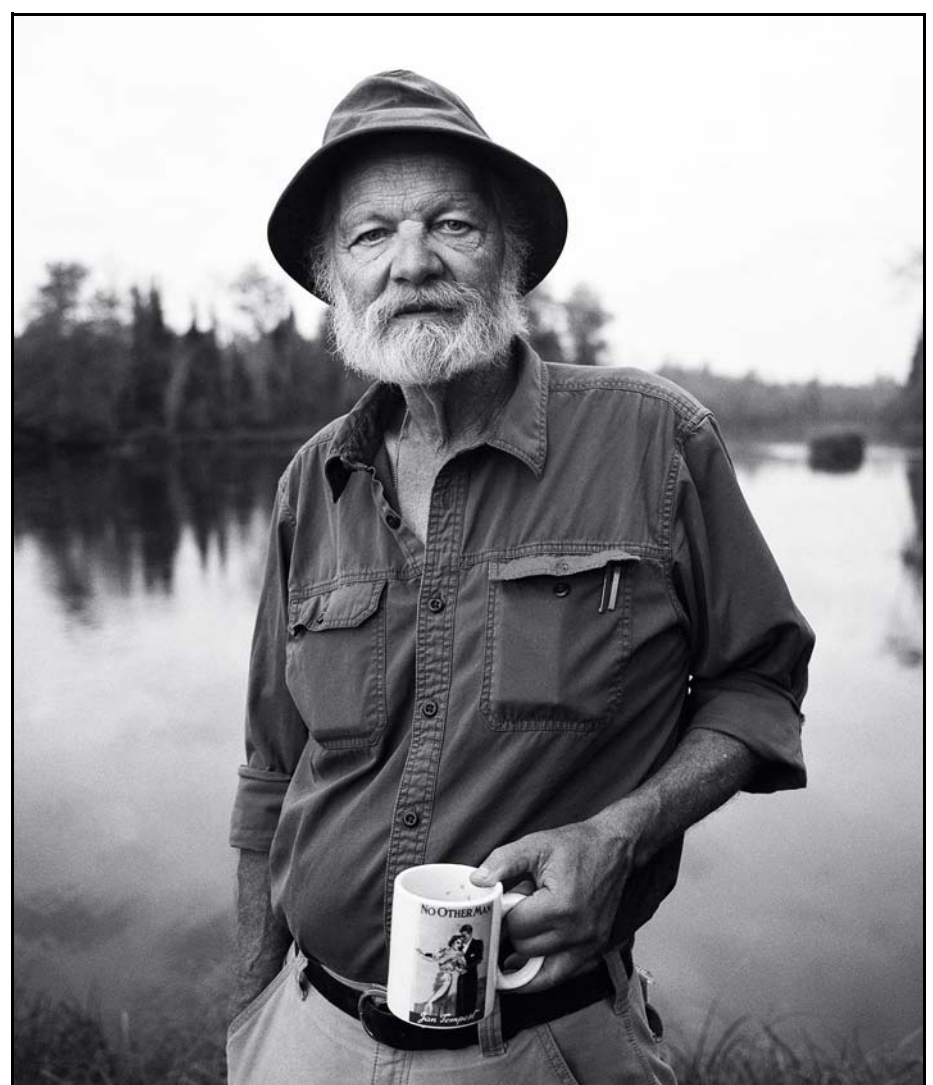
He works in watercolors, oils, pencil and ink, grasping the essence of a scene in a brief sketch. His ability to capture a fleeting moment through the eyes of a sportsman has earned him international recognition. His work hangs in the private

and corporate collections of sportsmen on six continents.

He has guided fishing and wing-shooting clients in Southwest Alaska and throughout Patagonia for more than three decades. He continues to host fly-fishing and wing-shooting trips to Patagonia, Alaska, Kamchatka and other destinations. The photographs that he takes of his guests in the field frequently appear in national publications and are often used as reference material for field and stream portraits.

White was inducted into the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame as a Legendary Artist in 2009. He was Fly Rod & Reel magazine's Guide of the Year in 1988. As the 1994 Artist of the Year for the Alaska State Parks Foundation, he produced and donated the artwork for the first Alaska State Parks Foundation print. His work has been presented twice in Fly Rod & Reel magazine's "Gallery." He has been featured as a guide and artist on ESPN's "Fly Fishing the World" and "Fly Fishing America," as well as on Ron Schara's "Minnesota Bound." He illustrated John Gierach's closing columns in Fly Rod & Reel magazine for nearly three decades. As an artist and columnist, he has been on the mastheads of Fly Rod & Reel, Ducks Unlimited, Midwest Fly Fishing, Traveling Sportsman, and regularly contributes to many other sporting publications in the United States and abroad.

Bob lives in Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota with his wife, Lisa, their daughter Tommy, and their awesome retriever, Frisbee.



JOHN GIERACH



Chapter News



ALTU WRAPS UP TIC PROGRAM

Trout In the Classroom concluded May 19 at Dell Creek. DNR Biologist Nate Nye provided the students with an excellent learning experience about stream ecology.

Aldo Leopold Chapter

Our Trout In the Classroom project with the fifth graders at Pinewick Elementary School concluded this spring when young rainbow trout were released in Dell Creek under the supervision of Fisheries Manager Nate Nye.

At our April board meeting, the annual election resulted in Mike Stapleton taking the reins as president, with Scott Allen staying on as vice president. Dan Endres has joined the board as our newest member, filling the position previously held by Tim Hood.

Also at the April meeting we approved a \$500 contribution toward a new habitat restoration project on Little Willow Creek in Richland County. Located upstream of the section worked on in 2016, this new project is a spawning area for the brook trout inhabiting this stream. Partnering with us will be the Blackhawk, Coulee and SE Wisconsin chapters.

A number of chapter members were able to partner up with the Coulee and SE Wisconsin chapters June 10 on Tainter Creek in Vernon County for removal of young willow sprouts. ALCTU supplied the sprayers and herbicide to help minimize resprouting.

Our annual fundraising picnic was June 13 at Habermann Park in Lodi. Approximately 30 members came out in the heat and humidity to swap stories, down a few brats and do their best to take home some more fishing gear. As for our two grand prizes, Jim Schaumer was the winner of an original trout stamp painting by Virgil Beck and Tim Hood took home a Sage ONE rod with a Vosseler reel as the rest

of us jealously looked on.

Wisconsin author Bill Stokes joined us that evening, entertaining us with anecdotes of his fishing and writing experiences and with selected readings from his recently released book "Trout Friends and Other Riff-Raff." Bill sold and autographed copies of his book afterward, then donated the proceeds to the chapter. He also won a box of flies to take home which, much to his relief, were large enough that he thought he would stand a fair chance of being able to tie one to the end of a leader.

ALCTU is proud to be named a recipient of an Orvis Conservation Grant in the amount of \$2,000 which is to be applied to construction of a boardwalk and educational viewing platform on the banks of Manley Creek, on land owned by the Riverland Conservancy in Sauk County. Construction will be completed in late fall 2017.

Carl Wegner, a Boy Scout from Portage who is working toward his Eagle Scout award, is planning a work day at Bear Creek to take place in September. Carl will design, procure materials and oversee construction of a new signage kiosk to be located at the parking pull-off in Highway 130. He will do the same for an access stile at the legal easement just north of the parking area and also organize brush removal along a short stretch of Bear Creek in the same vicinity. Most of the labor will be provided by the Boy Scouts with assistance from our chapter. The date is yet to be determined.

—Mike Stapleton

Blackhawk Chapter

At our March meeting, Israel Dunn came down from Madison and got our fishing juices flowing with his illustrated fishing program, including not only trout, but muskies and carp. In April, Scot Stewart, formerly with the DNR, presented lots of population data for the trout streams in southern Wisconsin, which included changes for brook trout and brown trout populations during the past several years.

We had a successful Annual Spring Banquet on April 24, with more than 120 people in attendance. The proceeds will allow us to continue supporting several stream improvement projects this year.

We've already had our first workday for the year, on May 16. TU members Dave Patrick, John Lusk, Tom Kautz, Rob Patrick and Terry Vaughn helped 20 Shabazz students build eight LUNKER structures, the majority to be in-

stalled as part of the Weister Creek project. Those "kids" really like to show their enthusiasm.

At our May meeting we approved sending \$2,000 each for projects on

the West Fork at Avalanche and for Warner Creek on the McCoy property.

—Dave Hinde

Central Wisconsin Chapter

The "Bob Hunt Commemorative" program in May 2017 was well attended. This program honors a person who has worked to enhance trout habitat. This year's speaker was Ray J. White, who lectured on "Restoring Trout Habitat in Wisconsin Streams, 1950-2015 - History and Science."

The River Keeper training seminar was held in May on the Waupaca River. Peggy Compton from UW-Extension and Dave Bolha from the Oshkosh office of the DNR, along with CWTU Riverkeeper Coordinator Bob Jozowski, presented an informational day for new riverkeepers. Participants learned to measure the velocity of the water, measure the width and the depth of the river, determine turbidity of the water, check the river temperature and oxygen content. Students had hands-on experience learning Entomology. What a lovely day.

Three new teams have been added, for a total of 32 teams, with more than 70 members. Bob Jozowski does an excellent job of organizing the teams, verifies the information and continues to educate the volunteers to make the program a success.

The volunteers collect river data monthly from May through September and submit it to the DNR so that stream health can be assessed. River Keepers are advocates for area streams, they are watchdogs for invasive species and environmental problems, and they are organized into small teams. The program has been in existence for more than 10 years and it has been conducted with the support of the UW-Extension and the DNR.

The river monitoring experience is fun and rewarding. It is a great way to meet new people and do something meaningful for future generations. CWTU is grateful to Bob Jozowski, program coordinator. If you are interested in partici-

pating, you can contact Bob at 920-765-1887 or email him at bobjowski@gmail.com.

CWTU's first workday of the 2017 season was held on May 20 on the White River, about two miles south of Wautoma. CWTU, FVTU and the Elliott Donnelley chapters were well represented. The Elliott Donnelley Chapter gave CWTU a nice donation for future stream improvement. TU assisted the DNR in building access trails, dredging, and 500 feet of log work. It was a great work day and was again well executed by Dennis Drazkowski, CWTU work day coordinator. Thank you to Elliott Donnelley TU and to all those who made the day a success.

The 40th Annual CWTU Fly Fishing School was in June at the Riverside Bible Camp in Amherst, under the direction of Dan Harmon III. The school is designed to make the student a better fly fisher. Classes and individual instruction in subjects as fly casting, reading the water, understanding fly hatches, selecting fly patterns, tackle selection, knot tying, fly tying demonstrations and much more.

The weather was warm and sunny. Each student had one-on-one fly fishing, stream-side instruction by an experienced fly fisherman and a wrap-up lunch for all.

The Casting Clinic and picnic were June 13 at Marble Park. Beginner and advanced casting lessons were taught. Rigging demonstrations were also presented. Jeff Treu organized casting instructors and worked with Bob Haase, who coordinated the rigging demonstration program. The public was welcome at no charge.

We have many more great and fun events coming up. See us on our website at CWTU.org.

—Laura Tucker



CWTU'S RIVERKEEPERS KEEPS GROWING

CWTU's Riverkeeper volunteers collect river data and submit it to the DNR to assess stream health. The program has been in existence for more than 10 years and it has been conducted with the support of the UW-Extension and the DNR. They now have 32 teams made up from 70 volunteers.

Chapter News



CWTU JOINED BY TWO OTHER CHAPTERS FOR WORK DAY
CWTU's first workday of the 2017 season was held on May 20 on the White River about two miles south of Wautoma. CWTU, FVTU and the Elliott Donnelley chapters were well represented.

Coulee Region Chapter

Put March 24 of 2018 on your calendar for the 4th annual Cozad's Driftless 1Fly event. This successful event showcases the excellent spring fishing in the Driftless as we raise money for youth outdoor activities. Last March, 15 teams put nearly 800 fish in the net (and released, of course) and the winning team was Family Fly Fishers (Jacob Khang, Mitchell Khang, Choua Khang and Sara Ennen).

In early June, members of CRTU, ALTU and SEWTU met on Tainter Creek for willow brushing, camaraderie and lunch. Thanks to Jason Freund for leading the charge and for the SEWTU crew for bringing all the equipment. It was a very hot day, but thankfully the wind was blowing to cool us off and keep some of the bugs away.

Curt Rees, Gavin Rees and Mark Kowaliw taught fly casting to students from La Crosse Central High

School on June 20 during their summer school PE class. Rick Kyte led a group of Desoto students in learning how to tie flies during their summer school program. CRTU paid for the stocking of a few hundred fish in Coon Creek for a Project Healing Waters group from Green Bay on June 24.

CRTU members will demonstrate fly tying and casting during the July 8 Youth Outdoor Fest, a city event that brings in more than 1,000 kids and their families to learn about outdoor activities in our area.

Coon Valley's Trout Fest will be held on Coon Creek on July 22. CRTU will again coordinate the kids fishing event to provide kids and their families an opportunity to have fun and catch fish. The kids fishing fun goes from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

—Curt Rees



COULEE JOINED BY ALTU AND SEWTU AT TAINTER CREEK
The Coulee Chapter teamed up with the Southeast and Aldo Leopold chapters to knock down more willows along a stretch of upper Tainter Creek in Vernon County. Big thanks to SEWTU for the workers, the food and the tool trailer.

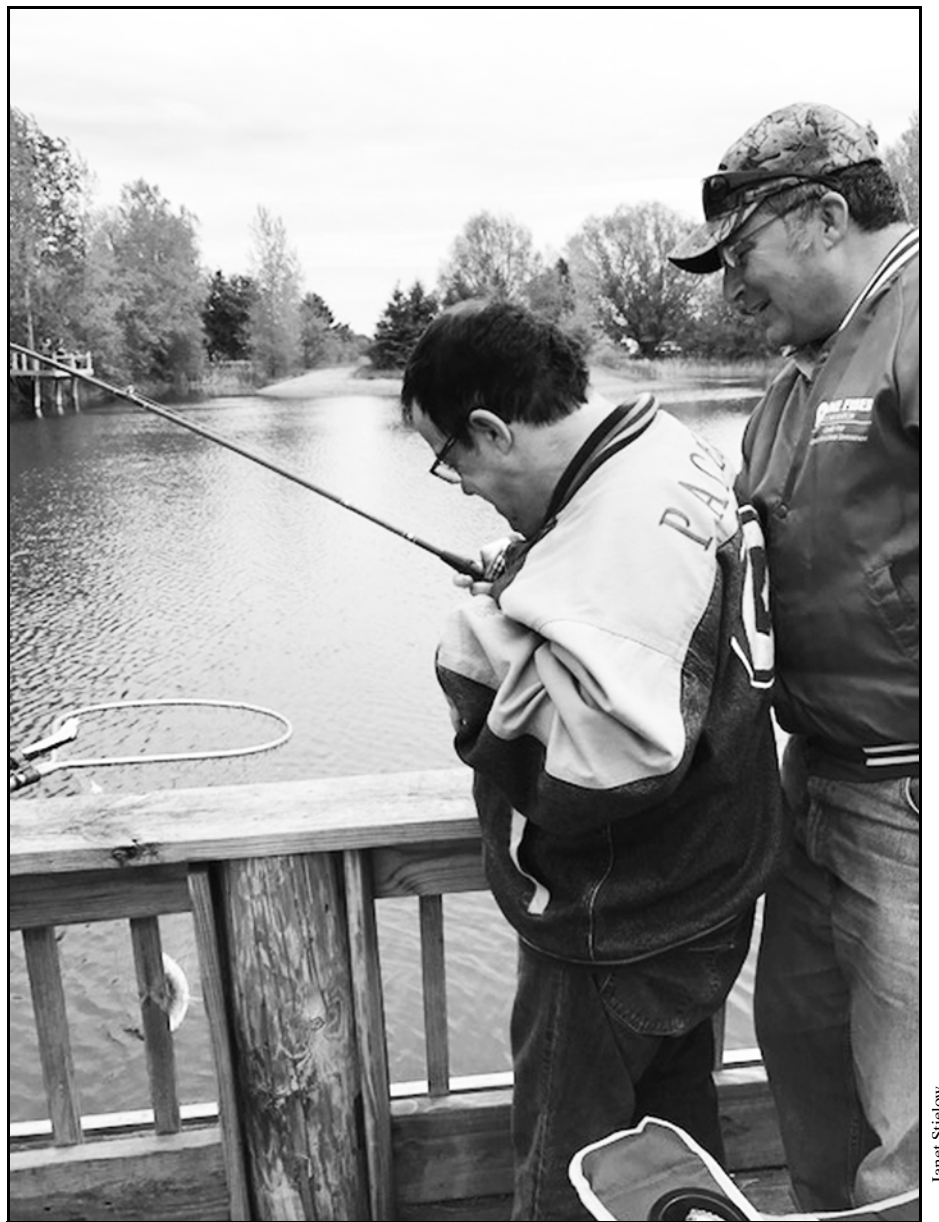
Fox Valley Chapter

Fox Valley TU has been very busy planning, organizing and carrying out a very interesting and ambitious spring and summer schedule for 2017.

Our March chapter meeting included election of officers and two new board members. Nate Ratliff was elected as the new chapter president, Dick Stielow and Al Johnson continue on in the roles of secretary and treasurer. There were also two new board members elected at the March meeting and those individuals are Graeme Hodson and Jeff Moureau. Several members of the executive committee have been reviewing and updating the chapter by-laws and those changes were also approved at the chapter meeting.

Our April membership meeting was the third annual Angling Adventure based in the Driftless Area in Avalanche the weekend of April 20-23. There were a number of chapter members who spent a few additional days earlier in the week "scouting out" the area so they could provide useful tips to weekend fishers. Chapter members Roger Genske and Dan Geddes organized the event, which included about three dozen chapter members, some of the crew from the Wild Rose Habitat crew, TU folks from other chapters, and friends of chapter members.

Tony Garvey was the Chief Chef this year as Bob Kinderman had a date with a turkey that weekend.



Janet Stielow

FVTU'S 39TH ANNUAL FISHING DAY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
Tim Fries pulls in a rainbow trout with Jerome Herro assisting. More than 60 people attended. Fox Valley TU is now planning the 40th annual event.

The fishing, camaraderie and learning/teaching experiences helped to create a great time for all. Chapter leaders hope we can continue to grow this event to include more individuals in 2018 and beyond. Please check our website for more about the weekend.

Our first Habitat Day was what has become the traditional opener for the year. On April 29 we met at the Davies Creek site. Elward Engle was not able to join us this year as he has in the past. We have learned a great deal about that project and the habitat of the area from Elward's informative walks along the stream and in the forested area along Davies Creek. That site was one of the very first stream improvement projects that our chapter was involved with many years ago. We spent the morning cleaning up some deadfalls, removing buckthorn, and just general cleanup of the area. The noon lunch cook, Jim Hlaban, provided a great meal to finish the day.

The Davies Creek cleanup and brushing project will continue with a group of young men from the Rawhide Boys Ranch throughout the summer. The Habitat Days with the Rawhide young men will be held on Tuesdays once a month throughout the summer. If you are interested in joining in with some of the chapter members who also help out, please contact Joe Bach and check our website for specific dates.

May 20 was the 39th Annual Fishing Day for People with Disabilities. The event was again held at Camp Shioc/Appleton YMCA Day Camp Pond and Facilities. The campgrounds were in excellent condition and the pond had more than

100 rainbow trout that were provided by The Silver Moon Springs Trout Farm. Everyone caught fish, enjoyed the noon meal, and all had a chance to share stories of past fishing days. The rain held off until after the picnic lunch and cleanup of the grounds were completed. More than 60 people attended, including fishers, family members, caregivers and chapter members. We would like to thank Kim Norton and the Appleton YMCA for partnering with us and we are now planning for the 40th annual fishing event in 2018.

The current chapter members wish to thank Del Schwaller and acknowledge the late Don Killoren and John Spalding for organizing and laying the groundwork for this very worthwhile event.

The chapter's other event on May 20th was a Habitat Day which united Central Wisconsin TU with Fox Valley TU on the White River. The chapter will be partnering with Central Wisconsin TU on a number of Habitat Days throughout the summer months, on the third Saturday of the month, through September. Again, please check our website for additional information.

There will be a number of chapter members involved with the Wisconsin Trout Unlimited Youth Fishing Camp later this month. The chapter has been very lucky to have a number of younger people join our ranks and they have provided a new level of enthusiasm that is greatly appreciated by everyone.

Nate Ratliff is the new chapter president. Brandon Schmalz has been doing a fantastic job with our website: foxvalleytu.org. Jen Erickson and Brandon have been keeping



Chapter News

our Facebook page up to date.

We have been busy, but we must remember that our efforts at the local level are to continue to protect our natural resources and preserve our important green spaces and the life in it. Continue to follow the state legislative happenings and contact your legislators to make sure that your voice is heard concerning Wisconsin's wildlife, water resources

and the total environment.

Our Bug Guy, Tom Lager, always reminds us to enjoy His creation. It is that time of year that we all look forward to enjoying time on the streams, rivers, ponds and lakes of Wisconsin. From FVTU: have a great and safe summer.

—Rich Erickson

Frank Hornberg Chapter

On Saturday, April 29, members of the Hornberg Chapter joined forces with the Bill Cook Chapter of the Izaak Walton League to improve two sections of the Tomorrow River and Poncho Creek. Working where the two streams meet, near what locals know as the Hot Shot Club, they cleared the banks of tag alder. Committed Ikes and Hornbergers were undeterred by the cold and windy weather conditions.

This year our chapter modified the format for our fly-fishing school. We invited students from previous years to return on Saturday, May 20, for advanced one-on-one instruction on local streams. Weather conditions were less than ideal; participants were met with periods of cold rain and wind. Ken Pierce and Brenda Gingles saved the day by graciously inviting all of the students to

their house for a hot lunch.

Our River Keepers stream monitoring team was on the water on Monday, May 22. We are checking conditions at the same location as prior years, on the Tomorrow River downstream from the bridge in Nelsonville. Continuing members of the team (Ken Pierce, Rick Foris, Mary Jo Pfankuch, Jean Klein, Brenda Gingles and John Vollrath) are joined this year by Jim Zack. Former members Ted and Cathy Carapezza have moved out of state. Steve and Cindy Roehrs, visitors from Washington State, were present for this first session.

June 24 is the tentative date for our next river work day. Members should stay tuned for final details on the place and time.

—John Vollrath



CHECKING FOR DISSOLVED OXYGEN IN THE TOMORROW

Stream monitor Ken Pierce (right) tests for dissolved oxygen in the Tomorrow River on May 22, observed by John Vollrath.

Green Bay Chapter

Green Bay Trout Unlimited, along with many other conservation and local groups, including the Navarino Nature Center, conducted a fly-tying demo and clinic as part of Navarino's overall Earth Day events on April 22. About 150-200 attended the event and Mike Renish, Dave Ostanek and Way Czapinski were kept busy the entire time.

In April several GBTU members, along with other local TU chapter members, attended a certified chainsaw training workshop with the DNR in Wild Rose. Instructor Lee Schauman from Chainsaw Safety Specialists, LLC, was our lead for day. Lee comes to us with more than 30 years of knowledge in the field. Trout Habitat Team Super-

visor Shawn Sullivan put this training together and we owe him a huge thanks for presenting us with this unique opportunity.

In early May GBTU also participated in our annual Trout Stocking of Haller's Creek, in partnership with the DNR. More than 270 brown trout were stocked in the creek and seven GBTU volunteers helped walk the fish in buckets to their new habitat. On June 1 GBTU held its annual summer picnic at NEW Zoo Pine Forest Pavillion, close to the creek that we stocked in May. Fun was had by all, with a potluck and yard games around the pavilion and about 30 members and family in attendance.

—Stausz Gruszynski

Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter

The Trout In the Classroom program that Kurt lined up for North Crawford school district was an abbreviated version of the learning experience that was planned. Water chemistry problems were a good

way to show kids how sensitive trout are to water quality.

We had a gathering with Driftless Conservancy members to get familiar with each other's organization. It was brats and beer on the Blue Riv-



CHARLIE IMHOFF RECEIVES AWARD FROM NOHR CHAPTER

Tim Fraley presents Charlie Imhoff with the "Friend of the Chapter" award at the Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter's annual banquet at the Castle Rock Inn.

er at Snowbottom Road. Unfortunately not many of the DC people could attend, so we shared brats and beer with passing anglers. We may have gotten a new member or two for TU.

We had our Annual Banquet in May at the Castle Rock Inn. We made more than \$6,000. Thank you to all who helped prepare, made donations and attended. Notably we had attending six college students from our UW-Platteville group and a nice couple from Alaska that we met on Snowbottom Road while meeting with Driftless Conservancy

members.

We awarded school grant program funding for four proposals, for a total of \$2,038. All of the projects include field work, and a total of 370 students will participate in Highland, Iowa-Grant, Boscobel and Belmont. Our Landowner Award went to the Wideroe property heirs. Our Friend of Chapter award went to Charlie Imhoff, who gave a wonderful speech on the landowner's perspective. The Golden Net Award went to Past President Todd Templen.

—Brian Larson

Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter

Spring has been a busy time for Kiap-TU-Wish. Chapter volunteers helped out at youth education programs, built LUNKER structures, obtained bids for a culvert replacement and mentored at a fly-fishing clinic. The chapter also continues to track the progress of the Kinnickinnic River corridor planning study in River Falls.

On May 1 the DNR started work on the Trimbelle River/Holst easement project. It's estimated that more than 160 dump trucks of rock will be used along the stream. Fairmount Santrol volunteers, under the leadership of Randy Arnold,

built LUNKER structures for later placement. Funding for the project is a mix of Trout Stamp funds and NRCS grant monies.

In May, bids were opened up for the Parker Creek culvert project. A Polk County representative supervised the opening. The low bid was slightly higher than the original cost estimate, but Kiap is optimistic that it will find a way to fund the balance. Replacement of the culvert is expected to occur this summer. Thanks to John Carlson and Gary Horvath for their efforts in securing project funds and local support for this unique project.



LEARNING ABOUT AQUATIC INSECTS

The Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter's TIC program teaches Rivercrest fifth-grade students about the aquatic insects that are important to fish.

Chapter News



Marina Manion

KIAP'S FLY-FISHING CLINIC A HUGE SUCCESS!

Kiap fly-fishing clinic participant Corie Hildebrandt shows off her first-ever trout. The chapter's newly reconfigured Fly Fishing for Trout Clinic was held in Glen Park in early June. Students were given casting lessons and learned about stream strategies, wading safety and knot tying.

All five Kiap-TU-Wish-sponsored TIC programs in Hudson, River Falls and Amery successfully raised and released their brown trout into the Willow River.

The release parties were festive affairs including insect collection/identification and flycasting instruction. Prior to the release, the kids attended Dean Hansen's Bugs in the Classroom programs. Dean does an awesome job, and the kids and teachers appreciate his hands-on teaching with real bugs.

In addition to TIC, Kiap-TU-Wish participated in environmental education programs with Meyer Middle School in River Falls and helped host the Ellsworth 8th grade field day with Fairmount Santrol at Pine Creek.

In total, Kiap provided educational programming to more than 400 students this spring.

The chapter's newly reconfigured Fly Fishing for Trout Clinic was held in Glen Park in early June. Students were given casting lessons for more than two hours, accompanied by lessons in stream strategies, wading safety and knot tying.

Joe Gathman from UW-River Falls gave a lesson in aquatic entomology using live samples from the lower Kinnickinnic River. After the chapter fed everyone a hearty sup-

per, students retired to the river for fishing, leaving only after it got dark.

The City of River Falls continues its series of technical talks on topics related to their Kinnickinnic River corridor planning process.

Recent talks included former Duluth Mayor Don Ness speaking on economic and neighborhood development, and Hydro Facilities and Relicensing.

These "Tech Talks" are part of the educational effort for the community as they wrestle with the decision that will determine the fate of the two dams on the Kinnickinnic River. Planning is underway for the next "Tech Talk," Dam Removal Alternatives, in July.

Our chapter is happy to report that the 2017 Hap Lutter Memorial Spring Appeal was a great success. We raised more than \$11,000 which will be used to continue stream project, education and advocacy efforts. The chapter relies on the financial and volunteer support of dedicated members to support cold-water conservation in our area. Thank you all.

—Tom Schnadt, Mike Alwin, Greg Olson, Gary Horvath and Maria Manion.

Marinette County Chapter

In April we had a highly successful banquet, which is our primary fundraiser for the year. We provided funds for the temperature monitors on the Oconto and Peshtigo Rivers.

On June 3 members participated in the Family Fun Day at the Marina in Menominee, Michigan, doing fly-casting and fly-tying demonstrations.

On June 10 the chapter teamed up with other local groups like the Peshtigo Lions, Peshtigo Recreation Department and Strike King lures to have a kids fishing day on the Peshtigo River.

We also work with the Coleman/Pound area to hold a kids fishing day the last weekend in May.

On June 23 the Marinette City

Recreation Department and Trout Unlimited will hold the kids fishing day at Stephenson Island on the Menominee River. This year we hope to have more than 125 participants in our youth fishing days.

Other activities that the chapter is involved with are the summer work days in conjunction with other local chapters like Green Bay TU and Oconto River TU.

This summer our chapter will also be brushing out some access trails to some of the trout streams in northeast Wisconsin. We found old access trails that are getting overgrown and almost unpassable.

—Dale Lange

Northwoods Chapter

In April U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fisheries biologist Henry Quinlan gave a great presentation on coaster brook trout. There was significant interest in this presentation within and outside our chapter, and we recorded it. The YouTube video can be found on our web site.

In May Dick Oehler spoke to the chapter about the UW-Extension/DNR Water Action Volunteer citizen monitoring program. The May meeting also included our annual election. The following positions have been filled: president, Jay Joppa; vice president, Bill Sherer; secretary, John Zatopa; treasurer, Terry Cummings; board members, Mick Mlinar, Dave Tipple and Jack Loomis.

In June Terry Cummings assisted Bob Haase from the Central Wisconsin Chapter with a Fathers's Day

tying clinic at the Presque Isle Library. Bob has graciously identified the clinic as a Northwoods Chapter event.

Also in June, Terry Cummings taught a fly-tying clinic at the Lake Tomahawk Park District's annual kids fishing day.

Chapter Workdays with the U.S. Forest Service have been scheduled for July 17 through July 20.

Chapter volunteers will again be assisting Laura MacFarland with her work inventorying culverts in the Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest.

The chapter will be sponsoring a camper at this year's WITU Youth Fishing Camp held at the Pine Lake Bible Camp outside of Wild Rose. Terry Cummings will be an instructor/mentor at the camp.

—Terry Cummings



Boyd Roessler

SEWTU AND ORVIS FLY FISHING 101

This is a photo of Eric Helm from Orvis, providing casting instruction at the Bayshore Orvis for a Fly Fishing 101 class

Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter

SEWTU has been very busy this spring providing outreach and educational opportunities, holding chapter meetings and kicking off our busy workday season.

We've been particularly busy with our education and outreach programs. SEWTU member Jay Zwerschnik organized our chapter's involvement at the Cabela's Fishing Classic last April in Richfield. This was a great opportunity to help teach a wider audience about our mission and encourage interested people to join TU. SEWTU members also assisted with the organization and helped judge the fly-tying contest held at the Cabela's Fishing Classic.

Also in April, Education Committee Chair Rick Frye did a great job organizing the West Bend Kid's Fishing Clinic at Regner County Park. SEWTU members volunteered at this event by teaching children about fishing equipment, providing casting instruction, and encouraging kids to try out some fishing tactics. SEWTU members also demonstrated fly tying and lure making for the kids.

Jim Wierzba of SEWTU and Erik Helm from the Orvis store in Bayshore Mall continued to build our SEWTU/Orvis partnership at the Orvis Fly Fishing 101 classes this spring. These classes met on Saturdays from April through June. Erik,

a strong supporter of SEWTU, leads the courses that include casting lessons, descriptions of tackle/tools, and knot tying. SEWTU members assist Erik during the classes. These classes are great opportunities for introducing people to the mission and goals of Trout Unlimited.

SEWTU members continued providing fly-tying opportunities. In May were the last two Oak Creek Community Center fly tying sessions for this season. Thanks to Greg Schick for organizing this. In addition, George Batcha organized and led weekly fly-tying classes for veterans. George has been running this program for years and has built a great program. Al Dalphonso and Ron Wojack have been leading fly-tying sessions at the Spinal Cord Unit of Milwaukee VA Hospital.

Now that summer is here, SEWTU is entering its busy workday season. In April our first workday of 2017 was a cooperative effort with several local environmental organizations including the Milwaukee Riverkeeper group. Andy Avgoulas, co-chair of the SEWTU Habitat Committee, helped organize this event. The workday took place on the Menominee River near Miller Park and continued our efforts in recent years to improve this accessible river corridor for lake-run salmon, steelhead and trout.



Chapter News

In May our chapter assisted the Lakeshore TU Chapter with a workday on the Onion River. The volunteers repaired structures and cleared brush. This workday was very successful, with large numbers of volunteers from both chapters. Much of our work involved cutting back tag alder that was growing over the stream, and replacing some of the cobbles and boulders that had rolled off LUNKER structures. Jim Wierzba deserves recognition for working closely with the Lakeshore Chapter to organize this day.

In June we returned to Tainter Creek in Vernon County for a workday with the Aldo Leopold Chapter and the Coulee Region Chapter. This was our third year working on Tainter and our work focused on removing willow saplings from along the stream. In addition to discouraging beavers from building dams, this work will also improve access to the stream. Thanks to Jason Freund, of SEWTU, Scott Allen from Aldo Leopold TU and Curt Rees from Coulee Region TU for organizing this workday. Ray Weiss deserves a big "thank you" for equipping and hauling the SEWTU trailer to the site, and Rick Larkin for cooking brats for our lunch. The June Tainter Creek workday coincided with the annual SEWTU Chapter Fishing Trip. We camped at the West Fork Sports Club near Avalanche during the weekend, and members fished after the workday.

In July SEWTU is planning on working with the SWTU chapter for another cooperative project at Sugar Creek in Dane County, building LUNKER structures. The 2018 workday will continue this work. Last year there was a great turnout from both chapters and we are expecting the same this year.

Our chapter meetings have been well attended and we've had some great, informative speakers, and we've also tried some new formats. In March, Kyle Zemple from Black Earth Angling Company, spoke to our chapter about smallmouth bass fishing on the Lower Wisconsin River. Kyle used videos, photos, and some great stories to teach our members about techniques and

equipment needed to take advantage of this great fishing opportunity in our back yard. Many of members in attendance were looking forward to contacting Kyle this summer to learn more about fishing "The Crash"!

We tried something new during our April chapter meeting and held our first SEWTU Donation Night. Many of our members have been acquiring and collecting fishing tackle and equipment for many years and often they have gear they no longer use. We invited youth and new chapter members to our meeting who may need more gear. We then held an informal donation event where members were able to give an item to a youth or new member. It was great to see veteran SEWTU members donate a rod or reel to a youth while explaining how the item was acquired or how to best use it.

Our April chapter meeting also featured the drawing for our Spring Raffle that Jim Folda organized. In addition, we held our chapter elections. Officers elected were: Todd Durian, president; Stan Strelka, vice president; Ivan Nohavica, treasurer; and Jim Folda, secretary.

Geri Meyer, co-owner and manager of The Driftless Angler in Viroqua, was our May speaker. Geri gave a great presentation on how important women are to Trout Unlimited and the fishing industry. She spoke about how our chapter can encourage more women to become involved in our sport and our mission. Geri also discussed Women's Fly Fishing Clinics and why TU chapters should recruit more women to become involved with our habitat, outreach and educational events. Geri's presentation was informative and engaging, and we are looking forward to putting her suggestions into action!

Now that summer is here, we will be taking a break from our monthly chapter meetings. We'll be busy at workdays, fishing and vacationing with family and friends. Our monthly meetings will resume in September. I hope everyone has a great summer, and many fishing opportunities this summer.

—Boyd Roessler

Southern Wisconsin Chapter

Have you checked out the all-new swtu.org? We're excited about our new and modern website that will work as well on a phone as it does on a computer. A lot of time went into winnowing and organizing the information to make things easy and intuitive to find. Photography was a big focus as we always have excellent photos following events, but the old website didn't offer a good way to feature them.

You can learn about activities, initiatives, opportunities and even a fly pattern. We're just getting started with it and excited to see where the new technology takes us in the future. A huge thanks to Kevin Graeme for lending his considerable expertise to this important outreach and engagement initiative.

Our annual Riversmith Casting Clinic did not bring out the best in Mother Nature, with damp, cold conditions, but it did bring out the best of TU. Despite the weather, people of all ages showed up to learn about casting, bugs, stream ecology, gear and more. Many thanks to our volunteer members who gave their time to introduce

people to the wonders of trout.

Our Stream Team has been busy making improvements along our cold waterways, including some that just received permanent easements. Considerable piles of brush have been created and then burned to make way for the sun and new native plantings. There is one final workday planned for Saturday, July 15, after which our crews will get some rest before starting up again this fall. Watch our website to learn more. We'd love to have you join us!

The Project Green Teen program at Malcom Shabazz High School in Madison is an environmental service learning class that addresses authentic environmental needs in the community. Our group supports the program with instruction on fly casting and tying, as well as sustainability efforts. The program year culminates in a camping trip to Avalanche to fish and work on stream restoration projects. Our volunteer crew provided the tips, tricks and encouragement to help the students experience the joy of catching a trout on the fly. These were memorable moments for sure.



Amy Klusmeier

SWTU HOLDS ITS ANNUAL RIVERSMITH CASTING CLINIC

SWTU's annual Riversmith Casting Clinic was made possible by a dedicated crew of SWTU volunteers that provided individualized instruction on equipment, reading the water, casting, Tenkara and (as pictured) entomology.

Many thanks, as well, to Fontana Sports Specialties and Patagonia for their generosity in offering a \$15,000 Environmental Grant Challenge for a variety of worthy charitable organizations. Through this opportunity, SWTU raised \$2,276 and won a \$1,000 grant! We appreciate our members and their donation

that help strengthen our efforts to conserve coldwater resources in our community.

Please stop by swtu.org for more news about our chapter and to check out our calendar of events. You can also find us on Facebook.

—Drew Kasel

Wisconsin Clear Waters

The Wisconsin Clear Waters Chapter concluded its regular monthly meetings for the spring in April, with a talk from Menomonee River guide Chris Jape. He gave us tips on fishing for smallmouth in general, and fishing on the Menomonee River in particular. He showed us his favorite fly patterns for smallies and demonstrated tying a few, including an innovative foam frog. A couple people brought their fly-tying kits and followed along. Most took mental notes and stuck to drinking beer.

Our annual banquet at the end of March was a success and should keep us in the black for another year.

We borrowed a page from the State Council this year and gave out some awards to conservation heroes in our corner of the world. Our recipients were:

* Conservation Educator: Nate McMahon, a science teacher at Menomonie Senior High School, who overcame some obstacles to get a Trout In the Classroom program going. Early setbacks included fungus attacking the trout eggs and not having quite the right pH in the water, but it has been part of the learning process. The chapter and Fairmont Minerals helped fund this project.

* Educator, Lifetime Achievement: Dave Reidt, a guidance counselor at Eau Claire North High School, started a fishing club in 2005 which has grown to an average of 60 students per year, including about 25 percent minorities and 15 per-

cent girls. Their activities include ice fishing, trout fishing and fishing on a float on the Mississippi River. Indoor programs include lure making, fly tying, and presentations on fishing-related topics.

* Stream volunteer: Dunn County resident Ted Ludwig spent 20 years with the U.S. Marines, followed by 20 years with the U.S. Postal Service. Since retiring, he has made stream and lake monitoring and teaching stream monitoring a nearly fulltime job. Most of the streams he monitors are in Dunn County. Not all are trout streams, but many are.

* Conservation landowner: Rick Allemann operates a four-generation, 250-acre dairy farm in Buffalo County. In 2016, with some assistance from the Waumandee Rod and Gun Club (also help from TU DARE and the federal farm bill), he did erosion control and habitat work on 2,000 feet of Danuser Creek, a brook trout stream. When severe floods hit last August, his stretch of Danuser Creek held up well, while many neighboring creeks and culverts were trashed. It was a real-world demonstration of the value of stream conservation. Rick plans to work on Waumandee Creek in 2017 and 2018. The Country Today, a farm/rural weekly newspaper that circulates statewide, picked up a news release we sent out on the Allemann farm and developed it into a feature story. The story is now on the "blogs" section of the Wisconsin Clear Waters web page at WCW-TU.com.

Chapter News



The chapter allocated \$7,000 for stream work, distributed to seven projects at the northern end of the Driftless Area, including one DNR project on Fall Creek in Pepin County, with the rest in Buffalo and Trempealeau counties. These include the North Branch of Elk, a tributary to Elk, two projects on Swinns Valley and two projects on Waumandee Creek.

The chapter has also allocated \$2,500 for Sand Creek in Dunn County and Xcel Energy is contributing \$2,500. The DNR had hoped to be working on Sand Creek this summer, but didn't get rock hauled before the spring thaw. We're waiting for next year. Chippewa Outdoor Resource Alliance, an alliance of sportsmen's clubs, mostly in Chippewa County, are also contributing \$3,900 for the work. Sand Creek is a small- to medium-sized creek that grows big trout.

It was during a winter session of tying big ugly flies for warm water fish that high school teacher and fishing guide Steve Wisner came up with the idea of a one-fly contest for western Wisconsin. The Eau Claire One Fly Contest, which will be based out of the Oxbow Hotel in Eau Claire, will be August 11-12.

The contest is roughly patterned after the One Fly Contest on the Snake River, but with a multi-species focus. Warm water species are allowed. Teams of three anglers each will fish within a 50-mile radius of Eau Claire.

Wisner decided that, like the big event in Jackson Hole, the Eau Claire One Fly Contest should be a fundraiser for a worthy cause, and he decided the cause would be the Wisconsin Clear Waters Chapter, so we are helping him out. Steve was also the emcee for our annual banquet.

It is a catch-and-release contest, with the five longest fish for each team being registered.

For more information check out our website at wvwtu.com or go to

Wisconsin River Valley Chapter

Greetings from the Wisconsin River Valley Chapter. I hope everyone is getting the opportunity to cast a line and view some beautiful scenery...hopefully with a river running through it. We did have plans in place to do some brush cutting on Spring Creek North of Merrill with the DNR fisheries crew in May, but a bout of heavy rain and unusually high current forced us to cancel. We plan to reschedule this event for Saturday, August 5.

In May, Bob Pils and Henry Kanemoto were demonstrating their fly tying skills as John Meachan and Linda Lehman were helping with fly casting to eager fifth graders from the area at the Taylor County Sportsman's Youth Expo.

econe-fly.com.

The chapter held a fishing outing to the Viroqua area in May. Some stayed in motels, some camped despite chilly weather. According to some accounts, trout were caught on nymphs and streamers.

A few chapter members joined Boy Scouts and some damp scout parents on a rainy April evening to plant trees along Hay Creek in Chippewa County. The Boy Scout moms were particularly tough.

Dennis VandenBloomen has mostly retired from UW-Stout after teaching international business, but continues to teach their fly-fishing class, with a little help from other chapter members. The spring weather didn't always cooperate, but the group got at least the fundamentals of fly fishing and some on-the-water experience.

Eight chapter members and 24 young anglers spent the morning of June 3 fishing on Knapp Pond on free fishing day. Most anglers used spin rods provided by the chapter. Some of the older anglers tried fly rods. The weather and fish cooperated.

Trout Celebration 2017 was June 10 on a restored section of Eagle Creek in Buffalo County. The event included youth fishing, a discussion of stream restoration and a stream shocking demonstration by the DNR. A number of clubs were involved, as well as TU DARE and Wisconsin Clear Waters TU. We donated a couple rod kits and volunteers.

Reel Recovery, a nonprofit organization that arranges fly-fishing outings for men with cancer, will hold a fly-tying session June 22 at the Lazy Monk in Eau Claire. Guide Steve Wisner will demonstrate how to tie one of his favorite smallmouth patterns, and other chapter members are invited to help with the fly tying.

—Joe Knight

present including fishing, kayaking, aquatic life and more. I was thrilled to sneak away for a few minutes to try out a paddle board. I did manage to fall in but got back on and even tried casting a fly rod from it. As I was figuring how to balance and cast

I was answering questions from a small group of kids that were curious about my weird looking fishing pole. It was a beautiful day and lots of fun.

—Linda Lehman

Wolf River Chapter

Our May Meet and Greet and workday scheduled with Green Bay TU had to be cancelled because of high water. Hopefully we will be rescheduling the work day.

All the rain has been great for the Wolf River fish, not so much for the fisherman, although we have had some good reports from people who have braved the high water. By

late May the river returned to somewhat normal levels and I have firsthand experience of mayflies hatching, including gray drakes right now, with sulphurs starting. The brown drakes won't be too far behind. Good luck and be careful out on the water.

—Andy Killoren

Oak Brook Chapter

The Oak Brook TU Chapter partnered with the Orvis Lombard store in Chicago's western suburb to obtain a 2017 \$2,500 Orvis corporate grant for stream restoration work on Weister Creek. The Oak Brook TU chapter provided financial support to the Weister Creek multi-phase project in 2016.

More than \$95,000 was funded for Phase 1 and Phase 2 work through 2016, with major contributions including about \$28,000 from Trout Unlimited chapters in Illinois (Oak Brook, Lee Wulff and Elliott Donnelly chapters) and Wisconsin (Blackhawk and Coulee Region chapters). Phase 3 construction should be completed by July 1, 2017. At that time the project will cover 7,540 feet of stream length, out of a planned project total of 13,000 lineal feet.

"The Weister Creek Project is now in its third phase of restoring a Class 1 trout stream to excellent conditions," said Dave Carlson, Conservation Committee Chair. "This grant will help with the private matching funds needed to keep this project progressing through Phase 4."

Oak Brook TU members will return to Sparta for a Beaver Creek stream restoration work day scheduled for Saturday, July 29, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The work day will be focused on building LUNKER structures for installation in nearby Beaver Creek by contractors. The chapter has been involved in stream restoration work in Sparta since 2014.

—Jim Schmiedeskamp



ORVIS YORKTOWN DONATES TO OBTU

Orvis Yorktown store manager Glenn Martenson and fishing department manager Zeph Michael (left) present \$2,500 check to OBTU's Dave Moore and Dave Lunardini.

Donate to Wisconsin TU via Thrivent

If you are a TU member and have investments with Thrivent Lutheran Financial, you may have the ability to make charitable donations to groups of your choosing through Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice program.

The Wisconsin Council of Trout Unlimited is now a listed entity within the Thrivent Choice pro-

gram.

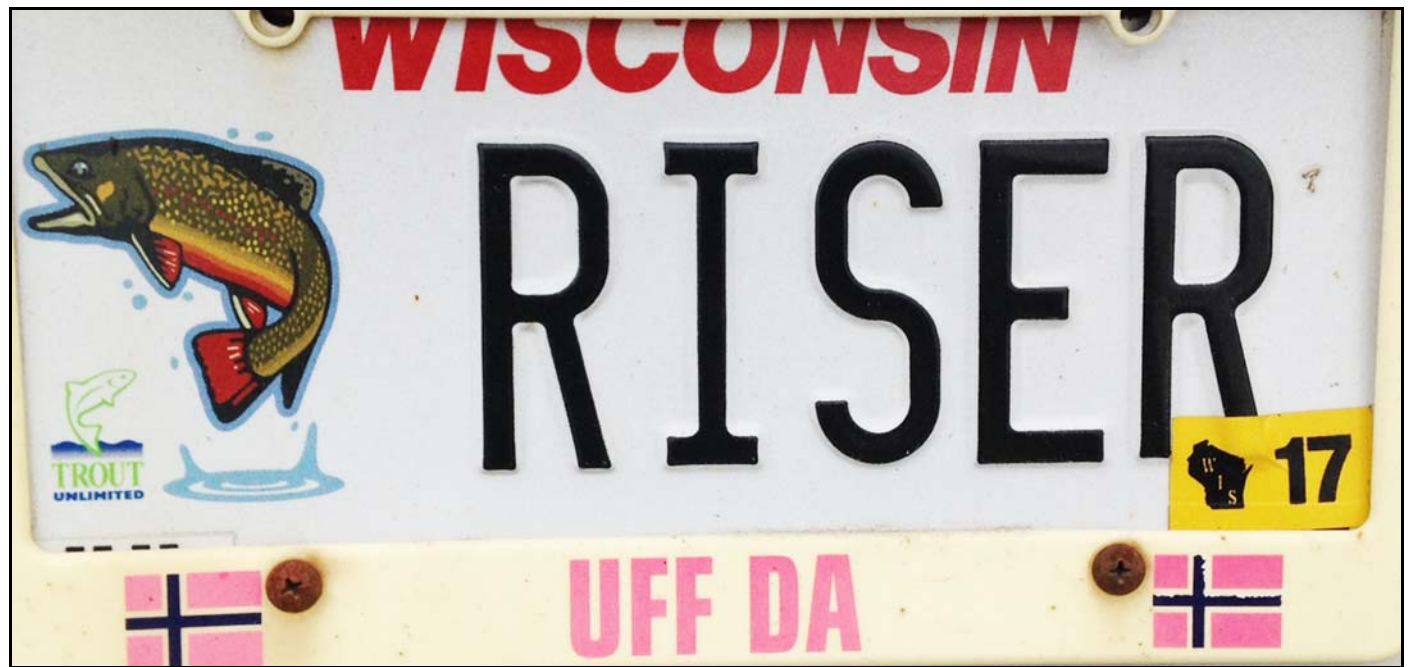
If you are a Thrivent member and have the ability to make Thrivent Choice donations, we would be honored if you'd consider including the Wisconsin Council of TU within your charitable planning, and making a donation to our cause.

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LEGISLATION, from page 1

Dredging under general permits simply provides less protection for this critical area, and may also increase the risk of releasing previously impounded polluted sediment or allowing invasive species to spread.

For such reasons, Wisconsin Trout Unlimited submitted comments to the DNR in opposition to allowing general permit dredging, and in favor of retaining individual permit dredging requirements.

High-capacity well bills

This bill is nearly identical to SB 239 and AB 874 from last year's legislative session. Last year, a version of this bill passed through both houses, but the versions were different and the two houses could not reconcile the differences, so the bill was not signed into law.

This year, the same bill was moved through both houses. These bills allow high-capacity well permit holders to move, rebuild, repair and transfer high-capacity wells without further DNR review. In effect, these bills would provide permit holders with perpetual permits, not subject to further review, regardless of changing circumstances, science or water levels.

Wisconsin TU engaged significantly in opposition to these bills again. Quite simply, Wisconsin TU believes that all high-capacity well permits should be periodically reviewed (for example, every 10 years). The simple fact is that our science progresses. Permits issued 20 years ago are based on antiquated science, just as permits issued today will be based on science which is outmoded in another 20 years. It makes sense to use the best available science to understand how high-capacity wells are interacting with one another, and how they impact ground and surface water. That can only be accomplished through periodic review.

Likewise, having periodic review of high-capacity well permits will ensure that all users, from the agriculture industry to lake property owners to businesses to municipal water supplies to outdoor enthusiasts, will have certainty. These various entities support economies that benefit our state, its jobs and its people.

To that end, Wisconsin TU members were incredibly active contacting legislators, testifying at hearings and sending emails in opposition to these bills. Unfortunately, these new bills did pass in both the Assembly and in the Senate and are currently with the governor's office for signature.

Part of the bills require that studies be performed in the Central Sands region to accurately determine the impact that water usage is having on the region's lakes, streams and water supply. Wisconsin Trout Unlimited believes and supports this modeling study, as it is a common-sense addition which clearly sets forth the areas which will be studied, and which is intended to help all water users in the region understand where and how groundwater exists, and what factors are impacting it.

By understanding water in the Central Sands, all user groups, from industry to municipalities to private

property owners to agriculture to sportsmen, will have certainty, and all user groups will be able to act accordingly. In short, Wisconsin Trout Unlimited believes that the study component of SB75/AB105 is a common-sense effort which will hopefully result in meaningful cooperation between all user groups in the future.

A recent movement has commenced, however, to remove funding from the biennial budget which would fund the modeling study discussed above via use of a line-item veto. As such, Wisconsin Trout Unlimited has remain engaged despite these bills being passed, and has drafted and sent a position to the governor's office urging that adequate funding be left in the budget to fully pay for the modeling study component of SB 76 and AB 105.

CAFOs

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited has previously taken a written position in opposition to concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) which cannot be shown to be guaranteed to prevent pollution to ground or surface waters. The simple fact is that highly-concentrated animal operations indisputably results in a significant amount of animal effluent. In many parts of Wisconsin the substrate beneath such operations is fractured bed-

rock. Many other parts of Wisconsin feature karst topography made up of soluble rock such as limestone and dolomite, which leads to underground passages, sinkholes and caves. When effluent, particularly liquid manure, is spread over such a substrate, it seeps in and downward, making its way into water tables.

Such pollution is a significant issue statewide, and notably in the Kewaunee County area, where a recent study paid for in part by the DNR revealed that up to 60 percent of sampled wells contained fecal microbes from both bovine and human waste. One researcher from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Research Service noted that in his professional opinion if a second round of studies was performed, the number of contaminated wells would jump to 90 percent. Researchers estimated that such contamination leads to the infection of 140 of the county's 20,000 residents each year.

In keeping with its previous position, and aware of the facts above, Wisconsin Trout Unlimited recently signed on to a resolution in support of a Statewide Moratorium on the Construction and Expansion of Industrial-Sized Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations in Wisconsin. It goes without saying that Wisconsin Trout Unlimited strongly supports cold, clean fishable water. We therefore support cold, clean drinkable water.

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited urges its members to reach out to their legislators and ask them to support a moratorium on industrial-scale concentrated animal feeding operations in Wisconsin.

Trout stamp fee increase

As most know, when trout anglers purchase trout stamps, the fee is placed into a segregated fund. That segregated fund must, by law,

be used for improving and maintaining inland trout habitat, or to conduct trout surveys. To be clear, trout stamp revenues are segregated funds and cannot be diverted for other purposes.

Trout stamps currently cost \$10, and have been at level since 2006. As the value of a dollar has decreased over the past 10 years, budgetary constraints on the DNR have increased. Quite simply, trout stamp fees don't go as far as they used to, and less stream habitat work is able to be accomplished.

As a result, a new multi-group effort involving every hunting and angling group associated with stamps was created to seek an increase in the various stamp fees. For an inland trout stamp, we're hoping to increase the fee to \$15.

WITU's chapters voted unanimously in favor of a fee increase, although some chapters differed on the amount of the increase, and when it should commence. Wisconsin Trout Unlimited recognizes that additional segregated funding for trout streams helps increase the economic impacts of trout angling, helps to bring youth in to the sport, helps support different methods of angling (fly, spin and bait) and helps to provide a benefit to all types of anglers across the state.

Given current DNR budget constraints, WITU believes an increase will help ensure that Wisconsin's incredible trout fishing opportunities continue to exist, and continue to provide quality recreational opportunities for Wisconsin residents and guests. Finally, WITU believes that even with the fee increase, Wisconsin's trout stamp will still be significantly undervalued in overall cost, and stream miles accessible for trout angling, versus our neighboring states.

As a result, WITU has and will continue to support this increase. To that end, WITU and its chapters urged members and the public to vote in favor of this increase at this year's Conservation Congress hearings. The vote statewide was overwhelmingly in favor. WITU members have also been active at the Capitol lobbying in support of this increase, and in contacting members of the Joint Committee on Finance seeking to have this item inserted as part of the ongoing budget process.

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited urges its members to contact their legislators, notably those on the Joint Committee on Finance, and ask them to support a \$5 trout stamp fee increase.

GLRI funding

As previously reported, political regime change brings policy change. Such is the case at the federal political level, where the recent presidential election resulted in a proposed complete evisceration of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funding.

GLRI was commenced in 2010 and provides funding to "protect and restore the largest system of

fresh surface water in the world – the Great Lakes." GLRI's Action Plan calls for funds to be distributed to remediate Great Lakes areas of concern, prevent and control the spread of invasive species, reduce nutrient runoff and associated algae blooms, and to restore habitat in order to benefit native Great Lakes species. These objectives clearly fall within Trout Unlimited's mission, and the funds that GLRI provides have directly aided the retention of staff in northern Wisconsin working on stream crossing and connectivity issues, and in fish passage efforts on the Menomonee River near Miller Park in Milwaukee, which reopened more than 25 miles of river to anadromous fish passage.

GLRI funds have also resulted in numerous toxin removals, such as on the Sheboygan River, as well as invasive species control, notably regarding Asian carp. It also supports nearshore health, wetland and habitat restoration and other projects right here in Wisconsin.

Expenditures in support of these objectives is a sound investment, as the value of the Great Lakes fishery has been estimated at \$7 billion annually. These projects put local citizens to work, and bring funds to local economies. In addition to helping local economies, GLRI funds also reduce local financial burdens. In Wisconsin's northwoods, for example, GLRI funds are used and support national TU staff in efforts to rebuild stream road crossings using best available scientific techniques, engineered to outlast "ordinary" crossings, such that local governments will have reduced future repair and replacement costs.

WITU, as well as TU's national office, via its Great Lakes advocacy organizer, lobbied Wisconsin's federal delegation in Washington, D.C. and Wisconsin regarding this issue. Historically, GLRI funding has enjoyed a good deal of bipartisan support across the Great Lakes region, and when it was proposed for complete elimination in this budget session, the vast majority of Wisconsin's federal delegates took action.

In a February, 2017 letter, nearly all of Wisconsin's Congressional members signed a letter in support of GLRI funding, including Representatives Sean Duffy, Mike Gallagher, Glenn Grothman, Ron Kind, Gwen Moore, Mark Pocan, and F. James Sensenbrenner.

A continuing resolution was then passed as part of a budget deal to avoid having a government shutdown. That resolution fully funded GLRI at \$300 million, its previous level, for the next budgetary cycle.

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited suggests that its members contact the legislators cited above and thank them for their activity in support of GLRI funding.

A new multi-group effort involving every hunting and angling group associated with stamps was created to seek an increase in the various stamp fees.

WITU and Trout Unlimited in general have also been active in supporting a federal bill which would prohibit net-pen aquaculture within the Great Lakes.

LEGISLATION, from page 25**Inland aquaculture**

In the last legislative session, a bill was introduced aimed at making significant changes to regulations regarding aquaculture facilities in Wisconsin. WITU actively engaged elected officials regarding this bill, and was able to work with the bill's sponsors and authors to have several amendments made to the bill. Those amendments addressed several concerns of Wisconsin TU with the bill.

First, the amendments ensure that changes made regarding water diversions applied only to existing facilities and existing diversions, such that the changes were not prospective, but only for already-licensed facilities. Second, the amendments ensured that a portion of the bill which would have redefined aquaculture as agriculture, such that aquaculture facilities would have been available to receive state-paid cost sharing on best management mitigation practices, was removed. Third, the amendments made clear that grading along stream banks would only be allowed when necessary to maintain existing, already-permitted aquaculture facilities.

Ultimately, last year's bill did not pass through the session.

Similar bills were brought back in this session (SB 95 and AB 160), and it was anticipated that the bills would have ample votes to pass. Such did occur, and both bills passed through their respective committees and houses, and the bill is now available for signature.

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited again worked during these bills processes

to ensure that the same amendments it had garnered last session remained in place, and found that an even more narrow definition was inserted regarding the geographic areas where water diversions may occur. This session other conservation organizations similarly worked with the bills' authors to secure changes and amendments to its language. Wisconsin Trout Unlimited thanks the legislature for hearing our concerns and working to address some of them within the bill.

Great Lakes aquaculture

WITU and Trout Unlimited in general have also been active in supporting a federal bill which would prohibit net-pen aquaculture within the Great Lakes. Representatives of WITU and the TU national office have lobbied in support of this bill to provide for the protection of the Great Lakes, and the huge fishing economy (\$7 billion annually, by some estimates) that they provide, notably at home here in Wisconsin.

We will continue to keep our members updated regarding this matter as the bill moves through the federal legislature.

Zoning ordinance training

In many parts of Wisconsin there is a lack of zoning ordinances. This lack of ordinances may lead to de-

velopment which is both undesirable to local residents and communities, as well as allow the construction of facilities which are harmful to coldwater resources and the economic engine that they provide for Wisconsin's citizens and businesses.

Getting out ahead of such issues with solid, sound and fair ordinances is the best course of action. Being proactive avoids damage being allowed to occur, and having to deal with its aftermath.

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited is actively seeking volunteers to help lead efforts to educate local municipalities regarding drafting and enacting ordinances aimed at protecting coldwater resources. If you are capable of aiding such efforts, or would be willing to donate funding to support such training,

please contact me at hek@sdelaw.com

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited is actively seeking volunteers to help lead efforts to educate local municipalities regarding drafting and enacting ordinances aimed at protecting coldwater resources.

Federal public land

The Trump Administration's budget also takes aim at key programs that are used to create, protect and maintain public land for anglers

and outdoor enthusiasts. For example, the budget looks to make cuts to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which has invested approximately \$171 million over the last four decades in Wisconsin for protecting places such as the Chequamegon-Nicolet National

Forest, the Ice Age Trail and the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway.

Public land and the Great Lakes are, and should continue to be, considered a national priority. Just look at the 30 million people that depend on the Great Lakes for clean drinking water or businesses, both large and small, that are a part of a \$7 billion fishery and \$16 billion tourist industry. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and open spaces are crucial for clean water, our jobs and our way of life. We cannot afford to squander these valuable resources.

Conclusion

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited and its Legislative Committee are dealing with a considerable amount of administrative and legislative issues at both the federal and state levels. To that end, we often ask our members to engage more often now than ever before, and our members continue to answer our call. We sincerely appreciate your efforts, even if they sometimes feel fruitless. We urge you to keep the course in your efforts and to remain engaged.

As always, members are urged to be polite, to thank their representatives for their service to the State of Wisconsin, and to respectfully request their support plainly and succinctly.

WITU thanks all of its members for their activity in support of our causes, and for their continued vocal efforts to protect our coldwater resources, and their fisheries. The work that our members perform is good not only for our trout streams, but for our state and its people.

**Driftless Area cabin for sale**

Set on 2.7 acres atop the bluffs near the Vernon/Crawford county line, with a view of the Mississippi River, this cabin is completely finished and includes some furnishings.

Drive any direction and you'll soon be crossing Driftless Area trout streams. And, since this cabin is 10 minutes from the only bridge across the Mississippi River between Prairie du Chien and LaCrosse, you can reach Iowa trout streams in as little as 30 minutes. That means year-round trout fishing opportunities.

The Mississippi River National Wildlife Area offers fishing, hunting, bird-watching, canoeing, boating and much more. Also, plenty of nearby DNR land for hunting, mushrooming and hiking in the hill country.

The cabin is approximately 16x28 and features a kitchen area and living room area on the main floor and a double-loft above to serve as bedrooms. This cabin is fully insulated, and features quality double-hung windows that tilt in for easy cleaning. During the colder months you can simply turn up the thermostat on a 200-amp wall-mounted heater or fire up the Breckwell wood pellet stove. Covered porch/deck overlooks the wooded property and Mississippi River.

The cabin includes a well share, valued at \$6,000-\$8,000, but is not currently plumbed.

Asking \$57,000. For more information contact Jenn Swiggum at 608-386-8026 or jswiggum@c21affiliated.com.

Items needed for Youth Camp

The WITU Youth Fishing Camp is in need of some items to help complete our inventory.

The camp needs waders and wading boots of all sizes, not just youth sizes. We have had some larger kids so we are in need of adult waders and boots. These items don't need to be new. If your donated waders leak, just let us know so we can repair them. They only need enough life in them to be used a couple of times a year.

We will also accept any donations that can be used as prizes for contests, such as rods, reels, flies, lures, nets, and other small items that can be given away.

Lastly, I know everyone gives so much to Trout Unlimited anyways, but any cash donation would be greatly appreciated.

You can mail any items or donations to me, Linn Beck at 160 W. 19th Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54902.

Thank you for considering this and thank you in advance for your donations.

—Linn Beck



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Driftless Rambler

With Duke Welter
TUDARE Outreach Coordinator

Gadfly gets his day in new book

A gadfly gets his day in a new book, "Lost in the Driftless: Trout Fishing on the Cultural Divide," but he doesn't fare well.

Tim Traver, a writer from Vermont with good conservation credentials, happened upon a character familiar to many in Wisconsin trout circles, Roger Kerr, and made him a central figure in his book. Traver wasn't familiar with Midwestern trout, or trout management, and initially relied on Kerr's view of the world to inform him. Over several years, several visits, and numerous letters and phone calls, Traver heard that world view time and again.

Chances are, if you have been involved with TU, DNR or a conservation group or some medium, you've received a pile of Kerr's hand-written letters over the years. My own file, a couple of inches thick, is full of his claims and poorly-supported statements. It even includes a letter he admitted he wrote on DNR stationery to which he signed the name of a DNR fisheries biologist. Also included are plenty of letters he's written and signed with the names of other people.

While he was once, decades ago, a DNR fisheries biologist, Kerr was transferred to real estate as a land buyer. Still, he often signs his letters to editors as a "retired DNR fisheries biologist."

Quixotic is one word that comes to mind for describing Kerr. He began with umbrage arising from personal differences with another DNR employee, and shifted it to an attack on trout regulations instituted by later fisheries biologists in the DNR. Notably, he thinks trout regulations should be simple and easily understandable and uniform, and hates the tiered system begun in 1991 to offer a diverse range of regulations on widely differing streams. Regularly, he and a small group of acolytes show up at meetings such as the Natural Resources Board, holding signs and playing a little guerrilla theater.

Kerr likes to take on TU, too, branding all its members as catch-and-release elitists who would never, ever think about keeping a trout. It's hogwash, but it doesn't stop him from repeating it to benefit his aims. He's said that about me for years, a flat-out falsehood, but I bet he now has clipped out my favorite trout recipes from this newspaper and I hope he occasionally takes a trout so he can use them.

Traver's inquiry springs from Kerr's criticism that despite having outstanding trout resources around

this region, Kerr thinks they are woefully mismanaged by DNR and TU is pulling the department's strings. Kerr claims trout angler numbers have fallen off—though they've been generally stable for more than 25 years—and it's because many, many streams have restricted harvest or tackle restrictions. The conclusion isn't warranted and the evidence doesn't support it, but that doesn't stop Kerr from attacking all his favorite targets.

Traver spends significant effort exploring changes in the culture of trout fishing over the last century, with some emphasis on catch-and-release fishing nationally. There, TU's historic advocacy of catch-and-release and the development of many protective regulations has evolved, and nowhere is that evolution more evident than in the Driftless Area.

With its numerous restored waters and healthy wild trout populations, we often hear from biologists

that these streams could bear significantly more harvest than regulations allow. As an angler, I often agree. We have enough 11 to 13-inch brown trout that cropping some off would help the overall size structure.

However, many biologists agree that once regulations are loosened to encourage more harvest, it seems the largest, highest-quality

trout are the first ones to go home in creels and coolers. Should we protect those fish with a harvestable slot such as 10-15 inches? I'm not gonna get into that fight; there's more productive work to be done out here.

The inquiry benefits from the author's wander through fisheries management literature, especially on the purposes and efficacy of special regulations in trout management. He pulls information from the long history of papers from the Wild Trout Symposium and a variety of other authoritative sources. Are special regulations justified in trout management? The author, after a review of the literature, says the answer among biologists is generally yes, and often results in anglers either flocking to them or leaving those streams.

In light of the fact that only a small percentage of Wisconsin's trout streams are covered by special regulations, somewhere between 5 percent and 10 percent, it's hard to believe Kerr's attacks on those regulations are justified.

TU comes in for some thoughtful scrutiny from Traver, including some time spent at the 2013 Nation-



al Meeting and National Conservation tour based out of Madison. That tour took two charter busloads of people out to see notable restoration work on Big Spring in Iowa County, Bear Creek in Sauk County, and Black Earth Creek in Dane County.

He mentions the "self-congratulatory" tone of the tour, which implies that the restorers didn't deserve to take some time to celebrate the work they did on massively degraded waters to bring them back to comparative health, with strong fisheries, habitat for a wide range of species and abundant public access. And, he suggests, just because TUs were among the hardest workers on projects doesn't mean they should be able to impose restrictive regulations on those streams.

Excuse me? Over the last 20 years, I don't know of one single project site in the Driftless Area where TU has pushed for catch-and-release or tackle-restricted regulations. Sometimes, for a period after a project, some harvest limits have been in effect to help establish a wild population. Occasionally, brown trout harvest is encouraged to help a brook trout population get a foothold. But the only person suggesting TU ties its projects to restricted fishing would seem to be the quixotic Kerr, jousting at another windmill in his mind.

But, he suggests, TU has it right in many ways: putting together partnerships to get more projects done; encouraging monitoring and science to see what changes have been wrought. While his title claims there's a "cultural divide," that's in large part a misnomer. Landowners and anglers and conservationists work together on these projects, undivided by trumped-up "cultural" concerns.

He rightly suggests TU should be at the forefront of encouraging more diverse populations to learn about and appreciate our streams, and to become willing to invest their time in those resources. Wom-

en? Youth? People who aren't white? The LGBT community? It's a work in progress, but TU is making strides in this area, with some notable successes at the chapter, state and national levels.

One part of TU's Driftless Area work doesn't get recognized very often, but I think Traver was trying to encourage it. When TU works with agencies to expand resources for restoration, we also, in the best of projects, are involving local communities in ways new to them. TU can't work indefinitely on every project, but works to spark a project, get it done and move on. When a community develops a stake in that stream, its members will continue to support it.

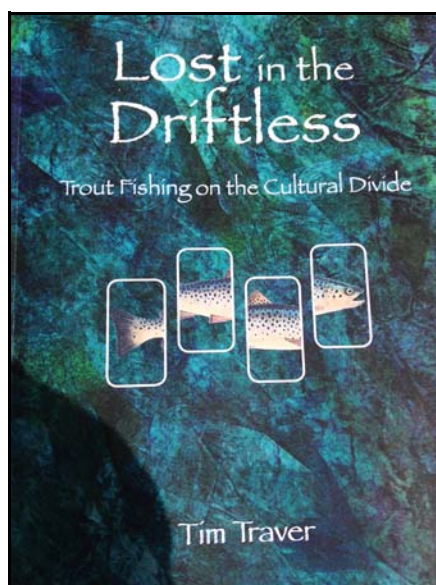
School students come out and test the waters, check for invertebrates, and help with work. The land trust and birders show up to help plant prairies and milkweed. Local conservation clubs, often important social institutions in these rural areas, love to work on streams in their neighborhoods where they'll be able to fish. TU and local partners combine to provide a free spinning outfit for every kid under 15.

Cultural divide? There may be bumper stickers for every political voice and candidate in the parking area, but these projects themselves are non-partisan and uniting rather than dividing. We are showing we can create environmental, social and economic benefits to these rural communities with our combined efforts.

My first read of Traver's book brought on some heartburn and wonder that his major protagonist would be taken more seriously than he deserves, but it took a re-read to understand that it's not a "trout war," as one headline writer put it, but instead a valuable, constructive movement out here, despite the buzzing of a gadfly.

"Lost in the Driftless: Trout Fishing on the Cultural Divide." Tim Traver, tottraver@comcast.net; Taftsville, VT. \$19.95.

Over the last 20 years, I don't know of one single project site in the Driftless Area where TU has pushed for catch-and-release or tackle-restricted regulations.



Support TU and get your Wisconsin TU license plate now. Go to www.dot.state.wi.us/drivers/vehicles/personal/special/trout.htm

Summer 2017 Update: Friends of Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

The Friends of Wisconsin TU is celebrating its 27th campaign! Since the program's inception in 1991, we have raised more than \$275,000, all of which has gone right back into your streams. At the February State Council meeting held in Oshkosh, several grants totaling \$10,200 were awarded, including:

- * Wisconsin Clearwaters Chapter, for maintenance of prior stream improvement projects
 - * Antigo and Wolf River chapters, to support DNR brushing crew based out of Antigo
 - * Central Wisconsin Chapter, to support the Wild Rose habitat crew
 - * Marinette and Wild Rivers chapters, to support the habitat crew for the Chequamegon/Nicolet National Forests
- The demand for grants from this program is be-

ginning to exceed our donations, so it is now even more critical that financial support from our members continues.

This year we are asking you to find businesses in your area that are willing to provide financial support. If you find any, please direct them our way, or engage them yourself.

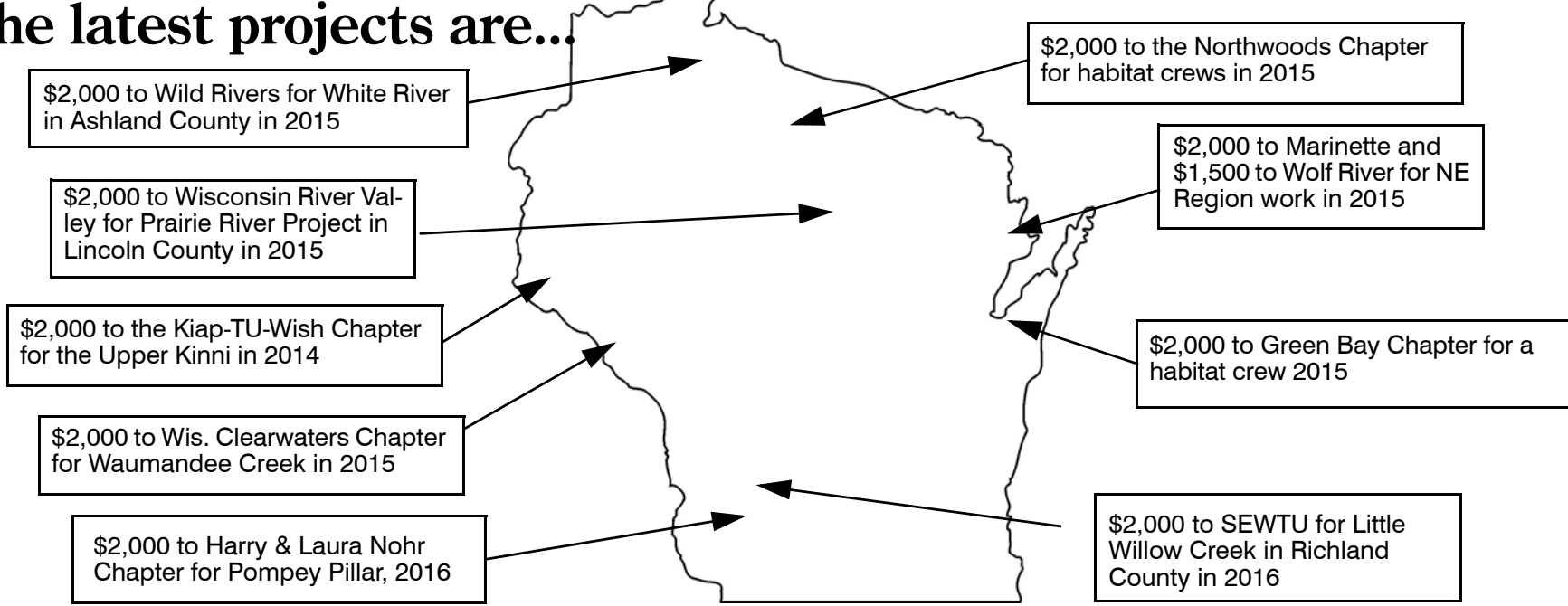
Please consider donating to the Friends of Wisconsin TU this year, so the habitat work on our precious trout streams can continue, and so you and future generations can enjoy those streams. Those who donate \$100 or more will have their names published in Wisconsin Trout.

Thank you and I hope you have had a great trout fishing season so far. Tight Lines
Doug Brown



Friends grants support DNR LTE crews like this one with Doug Weber, Kyle Siebers, DJ Loken.

Providing habitat improvement grants since 1991. The latest projects are...



Here are our Friends of Wisconsin TU

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Jason Anderson | Mukwonago WI |
| Edwin Barnes | Middleton WI |
| Charles Barnhill | Madison WI |
| Jim Bayorgeon | Appleton WI |
| Jolene Berg | Chippewa Falls WI |
| John and Susan Bleimehl | Verona WI |
| Stephen Born | Madison WI |
| Allon Bostwick | Port Washington WI |
| Maxwell Burgert | Neenah WI |
| Rick Christopherson | Norwalk WI |
| Andrew Cook II | Sister Bay WI |
| Bruce Davidson | Wauwatosa WI |
| Mike Duren | Mazomanie WI |
| Ed Eggers | Genoa WI |
| Jim Fleisch | Fox Point, WI |
| Jerome Fox | Two Rivers WI |
| D. James Fruit Jr. | Hartland WI |
| Scott Geboy | Fox Point WI |
| Dan Geddes | Appleton WI |
| John Gribb | Mount Horeb WI |
| Gordon Grieshaber | Mineral Point WI |
| Dean Hagness MD | Custer WI |
| Ashton & Stephen Hawk | Madison WI |
| William Heart | Ashland WI |
| Brian Hegge | Rhineland WI |
| Wally Heil | De Pere WI |
| Bob Hellyer | Boulder Junction WI |
| Walter Hellyer | Egg Harbor WI |
| Charles Hodulik | Madison WI |
| Jeff Jackson | Oconto Falls WI |
| Charles Jorgenson | Oconomowoc WI |
| John Kenealy III | Waukesha WI |
| Lane Kistler | Milwaukee WI |
| Ralph Klassy | Phillips WI |
| Mark Kraft | Madison WI |
| Barb and Joe Kruse | LaCrosse WI |
| Joseph Kubale | Dane WI |
| Thomas Lukas | Manitowoc WI |
| Thomas and Larissa Lyon | Janesville WI |
| Douglas MacFarland | Dousman WI |
| Brian Madsen | Ellsworth WI |
| Anna Magnin | Marshfield WI |
| Kevin Mahaney | Middleton WI |
| Kim McCarthy | Green Bay WI |
| Austin McGuan | Green Bay WI |

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|------------------------------|------------------|
| David Menke | Bristol WI |
| Cris Meyer | Middleton WI |
| Steven Miller | Sun Prairie WI |
| Steve Musser | Middleton WI |
| Herb Oechler | Wauwatosa WI |
| Cheryl and Winston Ostrow | De Pere WI |
| Donald Persons | Janesville WI |
| Randall Rake | Helena MT |
| Ron Rellatz | Merton WI |
| Thomas Rogers | Princeton WI |
| Tom Ryan | Whitefish Bay WI |
| Michael San Dretto | Neenah WI |
| Lisa and Todd Scheel | St. Germain WI |
| Jeff and Mary Schmoeger | Cot. Grove WI |
| James Schommer | Lodi WI |
| James School | Kaukauna WI |
| Jim and Marie Seder | New Berlin WI |
| Robert Selk | Madison WI |
| John Shillinglaw | Madison WI |
| George Shinnors | Antigo WI |
| Brent Sittlow | Hudson WI |
| Michael Staggs | Poynette WI |
| Mike Stary | New Richmond WI |
| Gary Stoychoff | Green Bay WI |
| Rick Szymialis | Waupaca WI |
| Julie & Todd Templen | Dubuque IA |
| Donald Thompson | Cumberland WI |
| Chuck Urban | Wauwatosa WI |
| Dennis, Becky Vanden Bloomen | E. Claire |
| Eric Van Vugt | Milwaukee WI |
| Greg Vodak | Stoughton WI |

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|---------------------------|------------------|
| Ken Voight | Sugar Grove IL |
| Don Wagner | Gillett WI |
| Denis Wandtke | Ogdensburg WI |
| Stephen Wilke | Marinette WI |
| Paul Williams | Madison WI |
| Dan Wisniewski | Middleton WI |
| Nancy and Roland Woodruff | Oshkosh WI |
| Norb Wozniak | Stevens Point WI |
| Robert Wyman | Beaver Dam WI |
| Frederic Young | Roscoe IL |

TROUT UNLIMITED CHAPTERS

Kiap-TU-Wish TU Chapter

Antigo Chapter

SEWTU Chapter

In Memory of Mike Rands.
Donation from Tom and Nan Siebert

Special Thanks to Todd Hanson for the donation from the sale of his books.

*Yes, I want to join the "Friends" of Wisconsin TU.
Enclosed is my check, payable to Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.*

MAIL TO: Friends of Wisconsin TU
% Doug Brown
R4800 Timber Lane
Ringle, WI 54471

Name

Address

City, State Zip

Phone #