

Wisconsin Inland Trout Stamp by the Numbers Anglers Investment in Habitat is Paying Dividends

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited supports an increase in the Inland Trout Stamp Fee to help make trout fishing even better in Wisconsin.



Wisconsin has over 13,000 miles of classified trout streams and about 1,000 spring ponds. The Inland Trout Stamp was \$7.25 in 1992 and raised to its current price of \$10 in 2006.

On average, Trout Stamp funds improve and maintain 25 miles of trout streams and 1 spring pond every year. (source: WI Inland Trout Management Plan, 2019-2029).

If we keep pace for the next 20 years, that's 500 miles of improvements and 20 spring ponds.

If we increase the Trout Stamp to \$15, that's 750 miles of improvements and 30 spring ponds. (Estimates DO NOT account for rising costs of materials and labor)

Outpaced by Inflation:

\$7.25 Fee in **1992** adjusted for inflation would be **\$16.20** in **2023**.
\$10 Fee in **2006** adjusted for inflation would be **\$15.10** in **2023**.

Table 6: Annual Inland Waters Trout Stamp account activities, fiscal years 2011-2018.

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Beginning cash balance	\$394,044	\$351,350	\$402,377	\$508,242	\$666,611	\$627,515	\$552,282	\$389,738
Revenues	\$1,498,739	\$1,570,291	\$1,506,574	\$1,549,946	\$1,609,090	\$1,582,639	\$1,591,126	\$1,616,529
Total available funds	\$1,892,783	\$1,921,641	\$1,908,951	\$2,058,188	\$2,275,701	\$2,210,154	\$2,143,408	\$2,006,267
Total expenditures	\$1,541,433	\$1,519,264	\$1,400,709	\$1,391,578	\$1,648,186	\$1,657,872	\$1,753,670	\$1,661,315
Cash balance	\$351,349	\$402,377	\$508,242	\$666,611	\$627,515	\$552,282	\$389,738	\$344,952

source: Wisconsin Inland Trout Management Plan, 2020 - 2029

Note: Cash Balance includes funds allocated towards restoration projects in the following F.Y.

2019 Spring Hearing Results

Question #82. Would you favor a legislative change to an increase in the Inland Trout Stamp from \$10 to \$15 to allow more trout stream restoration?

70.3% answered YES

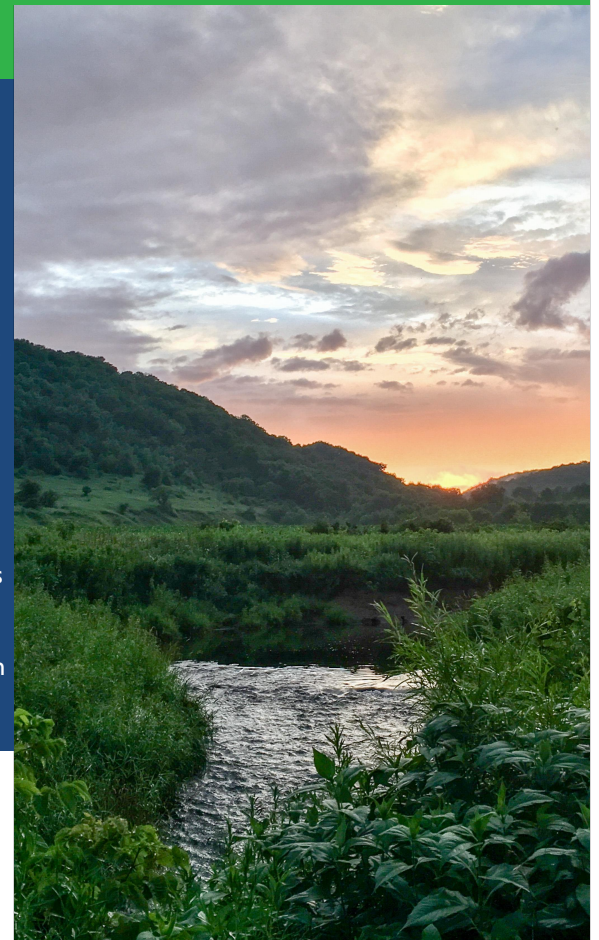
(5324 Y, 2241 N)

What Our Neighbors are Doing:

Iowa: \$14.50 trout stamp

Minnesota: \$10.75 trout stamp plus a 0.375% Legacy Fund sales tax to support conservation work

Michigan: In 2014, the Trout Stamp was eliminated. At the same time, the general fishing license was increased from \$15 to \$26 for residents and from \$42 to \$76 for non-residents.



Wisconsin Trout Unlimited is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization which consists of approximately 6,500 members in 21 local chapters working to ensure that future generations have access to cold, clean, fishable water.

<https://wicouncil.tu.org>

Wisconsin Trout Improvement Projects in the 2020-2021 WDNR Work Plan that are not funded or only partially funded due to a lack of revenues

Source: WDNR Trout Coordinator Joanna Griffin

Fiscal Year	District	Stream Name	County	Partners	Estimated length of stream (miles)	Impairment/Purpose	Total Funding Notes Estimated Cost
2020	East	Mecan River	Waushara		3.94	Access	\$11,538 not fully funded
2021	East	Mecan River	Waushara		3.94	Access	\$11,538 not fully funded
2020	East	South Branch Oconto River	Oconto		3.12	Access	\$14,423 not fully funded
2021	East	South Branch Oconto River	Oconto		3.12	Access	\$14,423 not fully funded
2020	West	Elk Creek	Trempealeau	Elk Rod and Gun	0.33	Eroding banks, Floods, Poor Trout Habitat	\$33,420 not fully funded
2020	West	Gilbert Creek	Dunn	TU-Clear Waters	0.47	Eroding banks, Floods, Poor Trout Habitat	\$61,640 not fully funded
2021	West	Mavking Springs	Lanai			Restore Spoil Site	\$11,300 not fully funded
2020	West	Plum Creek-Phase 1	Pierce	TU-KIAP	0.61	Eroding banks, Floods, Poor Trout Habitat	\$88,280 not fully funded
2021	West	Plum Creek-Phase 2	Pierce	TU-KIAP	0.61	Eroding banks, Floods, Poor Trout Habitat	\$84,960 not fully funded
2020	West	Timber Coulee	Vernon	FEMA/NRCS	1.89	Eroding banks, Floods, Poor Trout Habitat	\$353,336 not fully funded
2021	West	Timber/Bohemian Valley-FEMA	Vernon	FEMA/NRCS	1.89	Eroding banks, Floods, Poor Trout Habitat	\$383,816 not fully funded
2021	West	Trimble River	Pierce	TU-KIAP/NRCS	0.85	Eroding banks, Floods, Poor Trout Habitat	\$91,640 not funded
2020	West	Waumandee-Bork/RNL	Buffalo	NRCS/Buffalo Co LCD	0.16		\$40,602 not fully funded/grant
2020	West	Weister Creek 5	Vernon	Vernon Co LCD	0.35		\$45,120 not fully funded/grant
2021	South	Hefty Creek	Green	TU?	1.00	High banks, lack of wood habitat	\$24,900 not funded
2021	South	Honey Creek	Sauk		0.09	Erosion, Lack of Cover	\$18,000 not fully funded
2021	South	Karcher Creek	Kenosha	Wildlife Management, NHC	0.30	Braiding, siltation, warming, lack of natural morphology and flow regime	\$2,460 not funded
2021	South	LaBuddle Creek	Sheboygan	Lakeshore TU	0.38	Increased sedimentation and overgrown brush	\$13,000 not funded
2021	South	Manley	Sauk		0.42	Falling Structures	\$17,500 not fully funded
2021	South	Onion River	Sheboygan	Lakeshore TU	0.30	Failing (UNKER Structures (back cutting, safety issues, issues due to flooding)	\$2,980 not funded
2021	South	Southwick Creek	Walworth	SEWTU, the Village of Williams Bay, Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy, and private citizens	0.61	Frequent manipulation and relocation, lack of natural overhead cover and other habitat features, several large-scale fish passage impediments.	\$347 not funded
2020	South	Tichigan Creek	Racine	SE WI Trout Unlimited, Triangle Sportsmen's Club	0.55	Braiding, Siltation, Warming, Lack of Natural Morphology and Flow Regime, Fish Passage Impediments	\$18,420 not fully funded
2020	South	Vegetation Mgt. Crew	Grant, Iowa, Richland, Lafayette	TU (gift 9000)		Woody Shrubs, Invasive Plants	\$18,000 not fully funded with Trout Stamp
2021	South	Vegetation Mgt. Crew	Dane, Columbia, Sauk	TU (gift \$9000)		Woody Shrubs, Invasive Plants	\$18,000 not fully funded with Trout Stamp
2021	South	Whitewater Creek	Walworth	Southeast Wisconsin Chapter of TU	0.32	Ditching, straightening, warming, lack of overhead cover, lack of natural morphology and flow regime	\$3,200 not funded
2020	South	Willow Creek	Richland		0.75	High Banks and Erosion	\$41,000 not fully funded
2020	North	Big Brook	Bayfield/Douglas			Fish Passage	\$41,200 not fully funded
2021	North	Big Brook	Bayfield/Douglas			Fish Passage	\$41,200 not fully funded
2020	North	Hauer Springs	Sawyer		3.00	Access	\$1,169 not fully funded
2021	North	Hauer Springs	Sawyer		3.00	Access	\$1,169 not fully funded
2020	North	Streams list		APHIS		Beaver Management	\$10,000 not fully funded
2021	North	Streams list		APHIS		Beaver Management	\$10,000 not fully funded
2020	North	Various	Washburn/Burnett		10.0	Access	\$32,496 not fully funded
2021	North	Various	Washburn/Burnett		10.0	Access	\$31,850 not fully funded
2021	North	Various	Barron/Polk		4.00	Access	\$6,300 not fully funded
2020	North	White River	Bayfield	County/town		Fish Passage	\$37,376 not fully funded
2021	North	White River	Bayfield/Douglas	County/town		Fish Passage	\$38,381 not fully funded
2020	Great Lakes	Fourmile Creek	Bayfield		0.19	Sedimentation	not funded
2020	Great Lakes	Lost Cr No. 1	Bayfield		0.19	Sedimentation	not funded
2020	Great Lakes	Lost Cr No. 2	Bayfield		0.19	Sedimentation	not funded
2020	Great Lakes	Lost Cr No. 3	Bayfield		0.19	Sedimentation	not funded
2020	Great Lakes	Onion River	Bayfield		0.19	Sedimentation	not funded
2020	Great Lakes	Pikes Cr	Bayfield		0.19	Sedimentation	not funded
2020	Great Lakes	Saxine Cr	Bayfield		0.19	Sedimentation, Beaver Management	\$110 not fully funded
2020	Great Lakes	Sixoux R	Bayfield		0.19	Sedimentation	not funded
2020	Great Lakes	Thompson Cr	Bayfield		1.89	Sedimentation	not funded
2020	Great Lakes	Three Forks Tribs (1st Trib)	Bayfield		0.09	Sedimentation	not funded

CONTACT:

Mike Kuhr, WI TU Advocacy Chair
(414) 588-4281 mikek.trout@yahoo.com
Brandon Scholz, The Capitol Group
(608)210-3305 brandon@capgroupwi.com



Wisconsin Trout Unlimited is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization which consists of approximately 6,500 members in 21 local chapters working to ensure that future generations have access to cold, clean, fishable water.

<https://wicouncil.tu.org>

