

Wisconsin Conservation



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2009 Wisconsin Summer Deer Observation Period Underway

MADISON – July 1 marked the beginning of the three-month summer deer observation period during which DNR biologists, foresters, property managers and staff, wardens and staff from the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Forest Service record the deer they see as they go about their daily duties. The observations are one of many factors biologists use in developing deer population estimates and monitoring herd health.

Direct observations from the field are vital information for deer managers, especially in northern and central forest deer management units (DMU) where harsh winter weather can have a much greater impact on fawn production the following spring. In the northern and central forest regions observations are bunched into “population modeling” groups of 3 to 4 DMUs each and plugged into the department’s deer population estimating model. Each summer fresh observation data are put into the population estimation.

“Wildlife populations are estimated by blending science, hunter harvest, history and observation,” said Keith Warnke, DNR deer and bear ecologist. “Variations in local habitat and conditions, and nature’s whims make this challenging and it’s important to keep in mind that these are estimates. Deer movement and location are influenced by many factors beyond population numbers.”

In addition to DNR staff summer field observations, the department also mails a summer wildlife inquiry to about 5,000 rural landowners across the state. The landowner survey is not incorporated directly into population models but is compared to previous years as a signal of broad population trends.

The summer wildlife survey asks respondents to report observations of nine species of wildlife including coyote, red fox, skunk, bobcat, wild turkey, gray partridge, ring-necked pheasant, ruffed grouse and deer.

Farmland Regions

To people living in and traveling around Wisconsin it is not a surprise that there are ecological and climate differences between the southern farmlands and the northern forests.

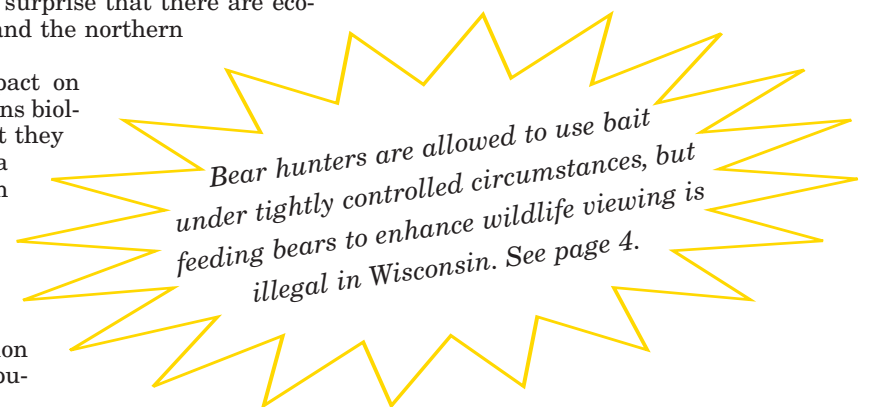
In most years, winter weather simply doesn’t have the impact on southern deer in the way it does in the north. So in farmland regions biologists don’t adjust the fawn-doe ratio yearly like in the north, but they do analyze summer deer observations for trends that suggest a change in reproductive success in the herd. Also the population groupings contain more DMUs compared to the northern and central forests.

“Summer deer observations are important to hunters because the number of fawns per doe are one factor that is included in the population model,” explained Warnke, “that is why we collect this information. They are also an important factor in overall population management as deer management units approach established population goals.”

Wildlife managers emphasize that deer populations vary across the state with some areas heavily populated and others less so. Local population swings are not always predictable in the space of a single season and can result in lowered viewing opportunity in a given hunting area. Having a flexible hunting plan can be an important factor in a successful hunt.

“In areas where deer are at healthy levels, fewer deer may be seen than in the past when populations were out of balance with their habitats,” says Warnke. “The traditional hunter’s skills and strategies of scouting, patience, knowledge of deer behavior and woodsmanship are worthy of practice and perfection.”

Info: Contact Keith Warnke (608) 264-6023 or Bob Manwell - (608) 264-9248



Bear hunters are allowed to use bait under tightly controlled circumstances, but feeding bears to enhance wildlife viewing is illegal in Wisconsin. See page 4.

Online Survey Seeks Opinion on Deer Herd Control Alternatives

A special advisory committee created at the direction of the Natural Resources Board and charged with developing potential alternatives to Earn-a-Buck (EAB) will be seeking public opinion through an online survey beginning July 25.

Visitors to the Special Advisory Committee for Hunter and Landowner Support of Effective Alternative Deer Population Control Methods Web site [deerherd.editme.com] can request email notification as soon as the survey is available on the committee’s website. Additional infor-

mation on deer hunting in Wisconsin is available on the Department of Natural Resources Web site.

The Natural Resources Board created the committee to represent a broad range of deer interest groups and to bring the board a set of possible EAB alternatives. The committee’s Web site is intended to be a source of public information on the committee’s work and lists the stakeholder organizations represented on the committee, the committee’s working notes and links to the same reference materials and data committee members are discussing.

The special advisory committee began work in early June 2009, will submit completed recommendations in early August, and is under a very tight timeline in order for any proposed changes to be adopted in time for the 2010 deer hunting seasons. The members of the advisory committee were invited to participate as volunteers from organizations representing deer hunters and landowners along with representatives of the deer science and research community.

Info: Contact Jason Fleener (608) 261-7589 or Robert Manwell (608) 264-9248

Wisconsin Natural Resource Board

The Wisconsin Natural Resource Board (NRB) has established a special committee to study and recommend potential alternatives to existing deer herd control methods such as Earn-A-Buck (EAB).

This Special Advisory Study Committee began work in early June 2009 and will conclude with its final report recommendations the first week of August 2009. The members of this volunteer advisory committee were from organizations representing deer hunters and landowners along with several individuals from the deer and research community.



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- Conservation Congress
- Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation
- Quality Deer Management Association
- Whitetails Unlimited
- Wisconsin Bow Hunters Association
- Wisconsin County Forests Association
- Wisconsin Deer Hunters Association
- Wisconsin DNR
- Wisconsin Hunter’s Right Coalition
- Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
- Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association

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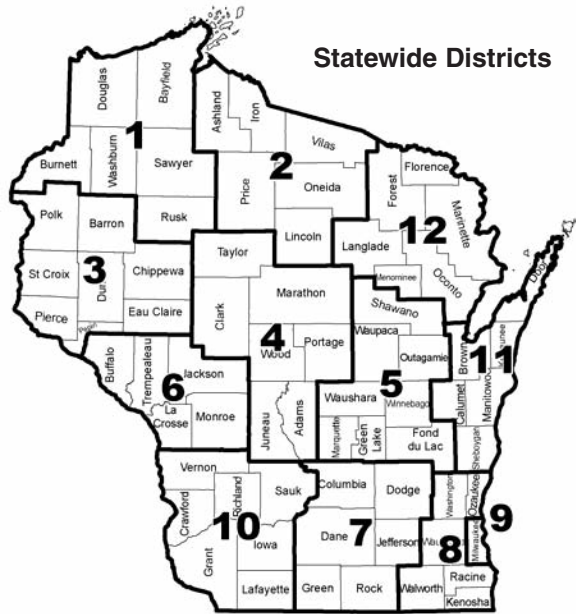
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Executive Director Activity



Large Turnout Supports DNR Secretary Appointment Bill

By George Meyer, Executive Director

On July 28th, the Assembly Natural Resources Committee chaired by Representative Spencer Black held a public hearing on AB 138, the bill which restores the appointment authority of the DNR Secretary back to the Natural Resources Board. Sportsmen and women from throughout the state turned out for the hearing in huge numbers. One hundred and seventy three individuals representing over forty conservation and environmental organizations testified or registered in favor of the bill. Only nineteen individuals testified or registered in opposition, mainly the usual business groups that support having a direct line from the Governor to the DNR Secretary and top staff. This is in contrast to the one hundred and forty-two in favor and eight opposed for a similar bill the last legislative session. The great majority of those showing support for the bill were hunters, anglers and trappers. Legislators were greatly impressed by the large turnout.

WWF President Jack Nissen testified and his testimony follows. Among others testifying were former Natural Resources Board Chair Herb Behnke and Nina Leopold Bradley, daughter of the great conservationist Aldo Leopold who led the efforts in 1928 to create a six-citizen Conservation Commission with the authority to appoint a professional resource manager as Director of the then Conservation Department.

For the first time ever, a DNR Secretary, Matt Frank, testified in opposition to the bill. His testimony was requested by the Governor's Office. His testimony was then followed by myself as former DNR Secretary. My testimony addressed the issues raised by Secretary Frank and also emphasized the problems caused by 1. the lack of continuity of agency leadership because of rapid Secretary turnover, 2. the lack of resource management experience by Governor-appointed DNR Secretaries and 3. the drastic increase of the Governor's involvement in day-to-day natural resource decisions.

The only conservation group not supporting the bill was the Hunter's Rights Coalition. They testified in a neutral way saying the DNR should be split into a conservation agency and an environmental agency. Overwhelming opposition to that idea was shown by committee members and the great majority of those attending the hearing.

Following is the official testimony of the Wildlife Federation presented by President Jack Nissen:

"Good morning Chairman Black and Committee Members,

My name is Jack Nissen. I am the President of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. The Federation is comprised of 168 hunting, fishing and trapping clubs located throughout the state who have a combined membership in excess of 100,000 members.

The Federation and the clubs we represent are very strong supporters of restoring the appointment authority of the DNR Secretary back to the Natural Resources Board. It is a fundamental belief of sportsmen and women in this state that natural resource management should be led by natural resource professionals not selected on a partisan political basis. This long-standing position goes back to 1928 when sportsmen and women in this state led by Aldo Leopold, Haskell Noyes, Bill Aberg and the Isaac Walton League were successful in getting legislation passed that established the Wisconsin Conservation Department headed by a natural resource professional appointed by the then six-citizen Conservation Commission. This system worked well with the Wisconsin Conservation Department and its successor, the Department of Natural Resources. During that period the Wisconsin DNR was recognized as one of the finest and innovative natural resources agencies in the country.

That system was abruptly changed when, without public hearing and without the support of hunters, anglers and trappers, a provision was placed in the 1995 state budget making the Secretary of the Department a partisan political appointee of the Governor. Ever since that time, sportsmen and women have worked very hard to have the Secretary's appointment authority restored to the Natural Resources Board. This question has been on the spring questionnaire of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress at least four times with the results always being in favor of restoring the Board authority by at least an 8 or 9 to 1 ratio. In the summer of 2004, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation conducted a scientifically valid poll of hunters, anglers and trappers in this state on this issue and seventy-nine percent of those surveyed stated that the Secretary's appointment authority should be restored to the natural Resources Board. There is no reason to believe that those numbers do not remain valid today. Just ask the membership of your local sports club when you attend their next meeting.

Now our Executive Director, George Meyer, will share his experiences and the policy reasons for having a Board appointed Secretary. Chairman Black, thank you for the opportunity to testify here today on behalf of the Wildlife Federation."

President's Report

Vol. I Part IV

Many thanks to everyone who took the time to contact their legislators concerning the many issues that the Federation has been involved in recently. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation was extremely effective in defeating this latest attack on the Stewardship Program. We were also instrumental in the passing of the Hunter Mentoring Bill, Green Fur Bill, repealing the early musky season and the bills designating the Brunsweler and Totagatic Rivers as State wild rivers.

The Federation's Conservation Calendars are now available for sale. If you are interested in buying or selling calendars please contact Jennifer at 1-800-897-4161. Maybe you know of a business that may be interested in selling them also. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation also is selling raffle tickets

for the 10 gun, deer hunting raffle; tickets are 1 for \$5.00, and 5 for \$20.00. These are 10 very fine firearms, the drawing will be held the Saturday of the opening weekend of the 9 day gun deer season at Club 95 in Hixton, Wisconsin. For more details contact 1-800-897-4161.

Please remember that by supporting the Federation's fundraisers your contributions continue to make us the voice of the Wisconsin Sportsmen. Without your financial support we would not be able to have someone working with the legislature on a daily basis.

Next month, I will be sharing with you the Federation's Learn to Hunt Bear Program and my first fishing trip to Canada.

Take Care!

Jack Nissen
President

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Road Reconstruction Project may Result in Incidental Take of Rare Snake

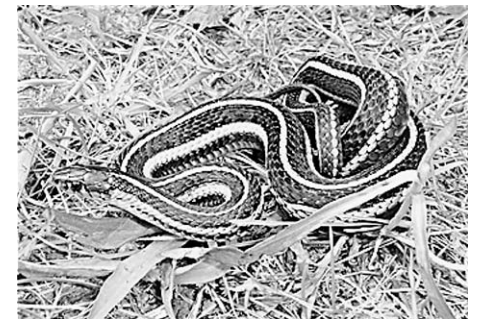
[EDITOR'S NOTE: Wisconsin's endangered species law (s. 29.604, Wis. Stats.) requires the Department of Natural Resources to notify the public when it proposes to authorize the incidental taking of a state endangered or threatened species.]

A road improvement project in the Town of Lisbon, Waukesha County may result in the incidental taking of a snake listed as a state threatened species under an authorization the Department of Natural Resources is proposing for the projects. The Town of Lisbon is proposing to extend the length of an existing culvert at the crossing of Hillside Road over the Bark River on both the east and west sides by 15 feet, respectively, as well as replace and extend the existing end walls. This is being done to provide a safer crossing for pedestrian and bicycle traffic and vehicles traveling on Hillside Road.

The proposed culvert extension will be constructed in habitat that is suitable Butler's gartersnake (*Thamnophis butleri*), a species listed as threatened in Wisconsin. The Department of Natural Resources is proposing to authorize the incidental taking of Butler's gartersnakes resulting from the culvert extension. Incidental take refers to the unintentional loss of individual endangered or threatened animals or plants that does not put the overall population of the species at risk.

The present road width is not adequate at this crossing to allow room for vehicles and safely provide for pedestrian and bike traffic. The proposed improvement to the Hillside Road crossing will provide a greater clear zone beyond the minimum deck of the bridge by lengthening the existing culvert. It will include the placement of fill and a paved shoulder over the extended culvert.

The loss of habitat will be mitigated by providing habitat connectivity for



Butler's gartersnake
WDNR Photo

Butler's gartersnake through a separate culvert upslope from the Bark River. This connectivity will result in an overall gain of available habitat on both sides of the existing culvert, which will ultimately benefit the snake.

DNR staff determined that the proposed project will minimize the impacts to the snake; is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence and recovery of the state population of the snake or the whole plant-animal community of which it is a part; and has benefit to the public health, safety or welfare that justifies the actions.

Copies of the background information on the Butler's gartersnake and the jeopardy assessment are available on the Incidental Take page of the DNR Web site or upon request from Rori Paloski, Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Endangered Resources, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707, 608-264-6040. Public comments will be taken through August 18, 2009 and should be sent to Rori Paloski at the above address.

More info: Contact Rori Paloski, DNR, Bureau of Endangered Resources, 608-264-6040.

Wildlife Out of the Wild & People

Recent Bear Encounters Underscore Importance of Keeping Wildlife Wild

EAU CLAIRE - Two recent incidents involving black bears in Wisconsin have captured the public's attention. State wildlife specialists say both incidents underscore the importance of keeping wildlife wild.



In rural Washburn County, a young bear that had become habituated to people and their residences encountered a woman outside her home and knocked her down. The bear stood over her and pawed at her for a few moments, scratching her face and shoulder and tearing her shirt. Then it moved on. The woman, who curled into a ball to protect her unborn child, sustained minor injuries.

One day earlier, a large black bear that found itself in the City of La Crosse drew a large crowd. People followed it with cars and video cameras till it was cornered in a fenced area of Myrick Park. With nowhere to go, the bear climbed a tree. The crowds ignored official requests to disperse, and the bear remained agitated. When it appeared it was going to leave the tree — in an escape attempt

that likely would have necessitated running through a crowd or across a busy highway — it was killed by two police officers and a conservation warden.

The situation had become dangerous, and the officers were fulfilling their primary duty — to protect public safety. It wasn't a decision made lightly. For more than a decade Department of Natural Resources officials in La Crosse have resisted calls to shoot bears in residential areas, seeking instead to educate people about co-existing with these magnificent wild animals.

"We've done everything in our power for 15 years to avoid shooting bears," said warden supervisor Steve Dewald. "Then this situation came up."

Both cases, wildlife experts say, demonstrate the need for wildlife to be left wild. When bears are left alone — when people refrain from feeding them and give them plenty of room — they generally do not pose a threat to human safety.

The La Crosse bear, which weighed more than 300 pounds, was a breeding boar, said Mike Gappa, one of the foremost bear researchers in Wisconsin.

"This is the time of year we see big boars showing up in places where they wouldn't normally be," said Gappa. "They do a tremendous amount of wandering right now."

The breeding season is typically from mid June to mid July with a peak around July 4. Large male bears will travel great distances to find a receptive sow, a female entering estrus. Problems occur

when such a bear unintentionally wanders into a city at night, generally by following a river corridor. Then the sun comes up, and the bear realizes something is wrong.

"They find themselves in a situation they don't want to be in," Gappa said. "Typically, what happens is the bear makes an attempt to get out of town, but crowds of people can keep cutting off exits as they attempt to get a better look at him."

With all avenues of escape blocked, the bear becomes fearful. It climbs into a tree because it feels safer there. Often, if people don't crowd too close, it feels safe enough to take a nap.

"In 95 percent of these cases, the situation takes care of itself," Gappa said. "As soon as that bear feels it is safe to come out of the tree and go home, he will. Usually they are gone in the night."

Gappa, who lives in Eau Claire, has a long history of responding to these situations. He retired from the state Department of Natural Resources six years ago after more than 30 years as a wildlife biologist and bear researcher. He currently works for the University of Wisconsin assisting a graduate student with bear research. He is still in the field every winter, tracking and tranquilizing bears and fitting them with radio collars.

Like other wildlife professionals in the DNR, Gappa feels badly that the bear in La Crosse was killed. He knows the officers on the scene did the best they could in a difficult situation.

Successfully tranquilizing a bear is no

job for someone without extensive experience, he said. Just being equipped with a tranquilizer gun and training is not enough, he said. Too many things can go wrong. Tranquilizers take a minimum of 15 minutes to work — during which time a bear may thrash around and fight the drug. This creates a logistical problem because situations like the one in La Crosse are rare. Even bear researchers, who use jab sticks to tranquilize bears in the winter, rarely use tranquilizer guns.

DNR professionals, city police and others will meet in La Crosse July 8 to discuss how best to prepare for such situations. Wisconsin's large bear population is expanding, and that means people in central and southern Wisconsin will be encountering bears more frequently.

Most troubling in the case of the young bear and the woman in Washburn County, Gappa said, are reports that neighbors of the woman were intentionally feeding bears. Feeding wild animals is sometimes considered a form of entertainment. They are fun to watch.

Bear hunters are allowed to use bait under tightly controlled circumstances (pdf; 55kb), but feeding bears to enhance wildlife viewing is illegal in Wisconsin.

"The last thing we want to do is encourage a bear to become unafraid or incautious around humans," Gappa said.

When the bear that encountered the woman outside her home in Siren is located or trapped it likely will be euthanized because it had previously entered the woman's home. It has lost its natural fear of humans and their residences.

Black Bear Facts and Tips for Getting Along with Bears

Ursus americanus, the American black bear, is a large and exciting creature. It can swim and climb trees with ease, smell food a quarter mile away and reach a bursting speed of 30 mph when charging or fleeing.

An adult black bear can kill a hunting dog with a single swipe from one of its powerful forearms. Fortunately, bears don't think of humans as food. Mostly people make them nervous and they shy away from humans.

But when people feed bears — even if unintentionally, as with bird feeders — they increase the odds of something going wrong. For this reason, a 2007 law requires that people cease feeding other animals, like birds or deer, if a bear has visited the feeding sites.

Bears don't see that well and their hearing is just okay. It's their powerful sense of smell that guides them, and it's the bear's nose that can get it in trouble. Although bears don't like being around people, they love people food and they have a special weakness for sweets.

"Never underestimate a bear's sense of smell," said Mike Gappa, a retired DNR wildlife biologist and bear researcher.

An empty candy bar wrapper in a camper's tent can attract a bear from hundreds of yards away, Gappa said.

People who regularly camp in bear country know the drill. They prepare food a good distance from their tents. They keep dishes and cooking utensils clean. All food, and anything sweet smelling, like toothpaste, is either stored in a bear-proof container far from camp, or is suspended from high tree limbs with two ropes to prevent a bear from reeling it in.

In the early 1980s, there were fewer bears in Wisconsin, around 5,000, nearly all of them north of north of State highway 64. With the advent of tightly controlled hunting their numbers have

grown dramatically and their range is expanding. A recent study puts the current population at about 36,000 bears.

Bear country is moving south and folks who have never had to think about living near bears now have that opportunity. Getting along with bears, Gappa said, is primarily a matter of common sense. Here are some tips:

- Take bird feeders down in mid April and wait until late fall to put them out again. Otherwise keep feeders at least 10 feet off the ground and five feet away from a tree trunk, suspended perhaps from a limb too thin to support a bear. If you see a bear near the feeders or evidence of a bear, remove the feeders and wait at least a month before replacing them. That's the law.

- Keep garbage cans tightly closed and locked inside a garage or other structure at night. Occasionally clean garbage cans with ammonia. Consider using a commercially available bear-resistant container.

- Bring pet food inside at night.
- Keep outdoor grills clean, and if a bear comes around, keep the grill stored inside.

- Keep compost piles a safe distance from the home. Do not compost meat, fish or other pungent scraps.

- If hiking in bear country, be especially alert at dawn and dusk. Keep children and pets close. Make plenty of noise. Rustle the leaves. The human voice carries far in the woods, so have a nice conversation or try singing a song. You get extra points if you sing in key.

Damage or nuisance complaints about bears, wolves and birds are answered by Wildlife Services, a division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The toll free number in Wisconsin is 800-433-0663 for problems south of Waupun and 1-800-228-1368, the Rhinelander office, for problems in northern Wisconsin.

Four Dogs Killed by Wolves as Bear Hunters Begin to Train Hounds

PARK FALLS — Wolves have killed four dogs and injured five others since the bear hound training period opened July 1, officials with the state Department of Natural Resources report.

Investigators from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services confirmed the wolf attacks. They took place west of Rhinelander in Oneida County, south and west of Neillsville in Clark County, east of Clam Lake in Ashland County and north of Argonne in Forest County. Three of the dogs killed were hunting hounds, the fourth was a pet that wandered away from its home in an area where hunting hounds are trained. All five of the injured dogs were bear hunting dogs.

Adrian Wydeven, DNR mammalian ecologist, said wolves have pups in rendezvous sites at this time of the year. It

is probable the wolves were protecting their young.

"We ask bear hunters to exercise greater caution and avoid training or hunting near known wolf den sites — hunters should be familiar with caution area maps on the DNR wolf web site," Wydeven said. All packs involved with dog incidents likely produced pups this spring.

Hunters may train dogs by pursuing bear from July 1 to August 31 each year. The gray wolf currently is listed as a federally endangered species and persons convicted of killing a wolf are subject to possible jail time and fines.

Caution area maps can be found on the DNR Web site.

More Info: Contact Adrian Wydeven, DNR mammalian ecologist, 715-762-1363 or Ed Culhane, DNR communications, Eau Claire, 715-839-3715.

Cedarburg Student Wins 2010 Wisconsin State Park Admission Sticker Contest

MADISON — A design featuring kids playing on a beach by Margaret Willden, a junior at Cedarburg High School, has been selected as the 2010 Wisconsin State Park admission sticker. It was selected from more than 340 entries.

The winning design will be printed on state park and forest annual vehicle admission stickers and displayed on more than 150,000 vehicles.

"We had some really excellent entries for our design contest this year, so selecting a winner was difficult," said Dan Schuller, director of Wisconsin State Parks.

John Springer, a senior from Iowa-Grant High School took second place in the contest for his design featuring fly fishing. Sam La Barre from Cedarburg High School took third place with a

design featuring snowshoeing.

The winning and honorable mention entry designs are available on the Department of Natural Resources Web site, along with past winning entries.

As winner, Willden receives an engraved plaque and a state trail pass, and will receive a 2010 annual vehicle admission sticker featuring her design when they become available this December. The design contest, sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, is open to all high school age students attending public, private, or parochial schools in Wisconsin.

Annual stickers are \$25 for a Wisconsin resident, \$10 for a Wisconsin resident 65 years of age and older, and \$35 for a nonresident. Residency is determined by the license plate of the vehicle.

2009 Waterfowl Survey Indicates Increase in Many Duck Species

USFWS Release 7/09

The preliminary estimate of total ducks from the 2009 Waterfowl Breeding Population and Habitat Survey was 42 million, which is 13 percent greater than last year's estimate and 25 percent greater than the 1955-2008 average, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today.

The Waterfowl Breeding Population and Habitat Survey samples more than two million square miles of waterfowl habitat across the north-central and northeastern United States, south-central, eastern, and northern Canada, and Alaska. The survey estimates the number of ducks on the continent's primary nesting grounds.

Overall, habitat conditions for breeding waterfowl in 2009 were better than conditions in 2008. The total pond estimate (Prairie Canada and United States combined) was 6.4 million. This was 45 percent above last year's estimate of 4.4 million ponds and 31 percent above the long-term average of 4.9 million ponds.

The annual survey guides the Service's waterfowl conservation programs under authority of the 1918 Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The Service works in partnership with state biologists from the four flyways – the Atlantic, Mississippi, Central and Pacific – to establish regulatory frameworks for waterfowl hunting season lengths, dates, and bag limits.

Highlights from the survey in the north-central United States, south-central and northern Canada, and Alaska (the traditional survey area) include:

- The estimated mallard population is 8.5 million birds, a 10 percent increase over last year's estimate of 7.7 million birds and 13 percent above the long-term average.

- The estimated population of 3.1 million gadwall is similar to last year's estimate and 73 percent above the long-term average.

- At 7.4 million, the estimated population size of blue-winged teal is the second highest on record, while green-winged teal numbers were at an all-time high of 3.4 million. Estimates for both species are well above their long-term averages (60 percent and 79 percent, respectively).

- The 3.2 million estimate for northern pintails is 23 percent more than last year but 20 percent below the long-term average.

- The estimated number of one million redheads is similar to last year and is 62 percent above the long-term average.

- The canvasback estimate of 662,000 is 35 percent more than last year's estimate and similar to the long-term average.

- The estimated abundance of northern shovelers (4.4 million) is 25 percent more than last year and 92 percent above the long-term average.

- The scaup (lesser and greater combined), estimate of 4.2 million, is 12 percent greater than last year but 18 percent below the long-term average.

Population estimates for American black ducks, ring-necked ducks, American wigeon, bufflehead, goldeneyes, and mergansers surveyed in eastern North America are similar to last year as well as their 1990-2008 averages.

This preliminary report does not include estimates from surveys conducted by State or Provincial agencies. The entire Trends in Duck Breeding Populations, 1955-2009 report can be downloaded from the Service's Web site at <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/>.

Root for the Home Team Giveaway Winners Announced

MADISON – A Nekoosa man has won the top prize in a Department of Natural Resources and Wisconsin Association of Lakes (WAL) giveaway aimed at preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species and VHS fish disease.

Steve Scarbury will watch the Sept. 5 Brewers game against the San Francisco Giants from a luxury suite in Miller Park, thanks to his name being drawn in the Root for the Home Team giveaway sponsored by DNR and WAL.

Scarbury, who lives on Lake Camelot in Adams County and is a member of the Tri-Lakes Management District, was among 740 people who took an online pledge committing them to follow key prevention steps. The three-week promotion ended July 5 and winners were selected in a random drawing July 6, 2009.

"We want to thank all the anglers and boaters who help prevent invasive species from getting a foothold in our beautiful lakes by taking these simple prevention steps part of their summer fun," says Tami Jackson, WAL director of

communications.

Four more prizes were given to pledge takers whose names were drawn. Bob Leick of Paddock Lake won a trolling motor; Outdoor writer Kevin Naze of Algoma won a fish locator; Chetek Lakes Protection Association officer Donald Freeman of Chetek won a handheld GPS, and Chris Hayes of Lisle, Ill., snagged a spincasting combo, tacklebox and bait bucket.

Karl Scheidegger, the fish biologist who leads DNR's fisheries outreach team, said the giveaway promotion was one of several efforts DNR and partners launched before the July 4 holiday – the busiest boating weekend of the year – to increase awareness of and adherence to the prevention steps.

"We want to thank WAL for helping make this a successful promotion – and we also want to salute each and every boater who took the pledge, they're lake guardians all," Scheidegger said.

More info: Contact Karl Scheidegger (608) 267-9426, Tami Jackson (608) 661-4313.

Practice is Key to Successful Bow Hunting

MADISON — When it comes to bow hunting, a state hunter safety specialist says practice is a must – but all practice is not equal.

"Not too long ago, archery practice meant a couple of bales of straw with a paper plate or pie tin attached," said Tim Lawhern, hunter education administrator for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. "The quality of targets has improved, but the routine remains the same."

The pie tin practice session remains effective to train the muscles, but fails to replicate what bow hunters face in real conditions. "Only when we can use these real life variables in our practice can we truly prepare for that shot-of-a-lifetime moment," Lawhern said, adding practice sessions in your hunting clothes while using your gear makes the most sense.

Real-life variables to work into practice sessions address distance, shot angles, body position and obstructions.

Distance

More opportunities are blown because hunters fail to correctly judge distance, Lawhern says. "Many of today's better-equipped hunters have addressed this issue with the purchase of a laser rangefinder," he said. With a touch of a button on the laser rangefinder, the hunter can know within a yard the range of the target.

But, Lawhern advises, using a rangefinder is not a replacement for the ability to judge yardage on your own – and there are ways to practice. "Try tossing an object in the yard and take a guess how far away it is, then step off the distance to judge your guess," Lawhern said. "You can do this walking in a park or in your yard working. Practice in both wooded and open areas. Perception is different in these areas."

Shot angles

When it comes to bow hunting, there are two kinds of shot angles: vertical and horizontal.

The vertical angle is the one formed by the hunter being either above or below the deer, Lawhern says. "These angles are most associated with tree stands," he said. "However, steep terrain can also play a factor in vertical angle."

A good way to practice for this is to shoot from either a tree stand or a deck. If it's not possible to do this in your own yard, try the local sportsman's or rod and

gun club. Many will allow you to shoot for a nominal fee. Use the available terrain to practice as many different shot angles and distances.

Horizontal angle is the angle at which the deer is turned in relation to the hunter. "Most of the time, we refer to it as quartering away, or quartering toward," Lawhern said. "The best way to practice for these types of shots is with one of the many 3-D animal targets available."

Some companies make models with scoring rings or quartering shots, or ones with anatomically correct vitals painted on the side of the animal. If you are unable to get such a target, the standard version is fine.

"Just remember when shooting at an animal that is quartering, it is crucial that you keep in mind the location of the internal organs, and plan a shot that will angle through both lungs, regardless of where the scoring rings are located."

Body position

Working various body positions into your practice routine is not difficult and doesn't require anything special. It is a matter of alternating shots from your normal stance with any other possible body positions that could occur during an actual hunt.

"These include planting your feet at various angles in relation to the target, as well as squatting, kneeling, or even sitting comfortably in your tree stand seat," Lawhern said. "Try to imagine as many scenarios as possible and work them into your practice routine."

Obstructions

Veteran hunters often will recall missing a target because the arrow collided first with a tree or branch.

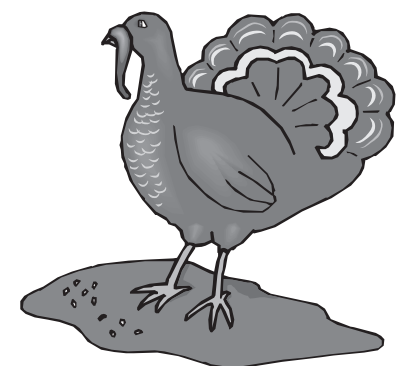
Using any obstacle at hand, place your 3-D target in as many real-life-hunting situations as possible. "This may cost you an arrow or two, but the practice will be invaluable," he said. "Further, make sure your shooting area is safe if you suspect you could have an arrow ricochet."

There is no way to prepare for every situation, Lawhern says. "But being able to judge distance, how and where to aim and make the shot regardless of your body position will boost your chances for success."

What's New for Fall Turkey in 2009?

- A proposal to add an extended fall season running Nov. 30-Dec. 31 is currently under legislative review. If approved, the extended season would take place ONLY in turkey management zones 1-5.

- In the fall 2009 season ONLY, hunters may use dogs to hunt wild turkeys IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES ONLY: Crawford, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Monroe, Richland, Sauk, Vernon, and Wood. This is a pilot program that may be extended statewide following review.



Antlerless Permit Sales

Bonus antlerless deer permits for regular deer management units and state park deer hunting access permits will be sold at the rate of one permit per person per day until a deer management unit is sold out or the hunting season ends. Permits for even numbered regular deer management units will go on sale Saturday Aug. 22 at noon until midnight. Any remaining permits again go on sale Monday Aug. 24 until they are gone. Odd numbered regular deer management unit permits will go on sale Sunday Aug. 23 at noon and will remain on sale until sold out or the hunting season ends.

Sharp-Tailed Grouse

Two sharp-tailed grouse units will have permits available in 2009. Sharp-tailed grouse units use the same boundaries and designations as deer management units (DMU). Drawings for sharp-tailed grouse take place in mid-September. There are 600 permits available for unit 2 and 35 permits for unit 8. This is a decrease from 2008 when 875 permits were available. Sharp-tailed grouse survey numbers as a whole were down. The decrease is likely a combination of cyclical grouse population dynamics as well as continued habitat loss or conversion.

Utility Giant to Pay Millions for Eagle Protection

USFWS Release 7/09

PacifiCorp – one of the largest electric utilities in the West – pleaded guilty today in Federal court in Casper, Wyoming, to unlawfully killing golden eagles and other migratory birds in the State. The company, which does business in Wyoming as Rocky Mountain Power, was ordered to pay over \$10.5 million for killing eagles and other protected birds.

The plea agreement responded to an information charging PacifiCorp with 34 counts of unlawfully taking golden eagles, hawks, and ravens in violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. PacifiCorp has killed 232 eagles in Wyoming from January 2007 to the present. The company, which pleaded guilty to all 34 counts, has been sentenced to pay a \$510,000 criminal fine and an additional \$900,000 in restitution and will spend the next five years on probation. During this period, PacifiCorp has been ordered to spend \$9.1 million to repair or replace its equipment to protect migratory birds from electrocution in Wyoming.

A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service investigation, which began in 2007, linked excessive eagle mortalities to PacifiCorp's electrical distribution and transmission facilities in six Wyoming counties (Sweetwater, Washakie, Hot Springs, Park, Converse, and Natrona). The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Wyoming filed Federal charges against the company based on this probe. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act makes it illegal for anyone to kill a protected bird (including eagles and other raptors) by any means without

first obtaining a permit.

Until this past year, PacifiCorp had failed to use readily available measures to address avian electrocutions in Wyoming – measures that could have saved numerous eagles and other birds. Under the terms of its plea agreement, the company must implement an Avian Protection Plan for the State that will include retrofitting and modernizing its electrical distribution and transmission system to reduce eagle mortalities.

Restitution paid by the company will support research and projects to conserve golden eagles and other birds of prey in Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, and Montana. Conservation organizations slated to receive funding include the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Hawk Watch International, the Wildlife Heritage Foundation of Wyoming, the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society, and the Murie Audubon Society of Casper, Wyoming.

This recent Wyoming investigation represents a continuation of the Service's longstanding efforts to reduce avian electrocutions caused by electric power infrastructure. For decades, the agency has worked cooperatively with industry, conservation groups, and tribes to eliminate or minimize electrocution risks to eagles and other birds throughout their range. While these efforts have emphasized partnership and problem solving, the Service has also taken enforcement action to protect these birds.

"When companies refuse to be proactive, and don't undertake readily available measures to prevent the deaths of eagles and other migratory birds, we'll seek criminal charges," said Resident

Agent in Charge Dominic Domenici, who oversees the Service's enforcement operations in Wyoming and Montana. "With mounting pressures on these species and their habitat, we simply cannot allow industry to kill birds when proven measures exist that can greatly reduce powerline electrocutions."

Electrocution of eagles or other large birds can occur when a bird perches on the cross arm of a power pole and completes an electrical circuit by touching two energized wires or an energized wire and a ground. Eagles collected by Federal and State officials are sent to the Service's National Eagle Repository, where they are distributed to Native Americans for religious and cultural use.

Avian electrocution and collision problems are not new: the first documented collision of a bird with a telegraph line occurred in 1876, and the first reported eagle electrocution on a transmission line was in 1922. Problems persist in many parts of the United States, including Wyoming, where Service special agents documented at least 1,031 eagles killed by electrocution since 1991.

The Service and the electric power industry have worked together for years on a national level to reduce the impact of powerlines on eagles and other birds. This partnership, which was formalized in 1989 when the Service and the National Audubon Society teamed with investor-owned utilities and universities to establish the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC), resulted in the 1996 publication and 2006 update of state-of-the-art technical guidelines for the industry titled Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines.

The Service and APLIC have also taught numerous "short courses" to train utility employees, resource agencies, and others on how to prevent bird electrocutions. Both actively encourage utility companies to develop and implement voluntary avian protection plans that include commitments to building bird-friendly power lines, conducting surveys to identify dangerous lines already in use, and making the changes needed to protect eagles, hawks, and owls.

"Measures taken under Avian Protection Plans can make a tremendous difference for raptor populations," said Emily Jo Williams, who oversees management of the Migratory Bird Program for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mountain-Prairie Region. "Electrocutions drop when companies step up and meet their responsibilities for protecting eagles and other birds."

PacifiCorp's Avian Protection Plan promises significant new safeguards for raptors in Wyoming. "While the criminal prosecution is significant, the company's commitment to preventing further electrocutions is what makes this case so important," explained Service Special Agent Tim Eicher, who conducted the investigation. "The standards in the plan for new construction and retrofitting of existing power lines and substations meet or exceed current suggested practices, plus the financial commitments to conducting risk assessment surveys and retrofitting dangerous lines are substantial," said Eicher. "This plan is the yardstick by which the efforts of other companies will be judged."

Plan Updated to Address Threats to Great Lakes Water Quality

MADISON – Wisconsin's roadmap for protecting and restoring its Great Lakes waters has been updated, and state officials hope it will put Wisconsin in the drivers seat for the \$475 million President Barack Obama has proposed for 2010 for Great Lakes ecosystems.

"We're pleased to see the president has put in substantial funding to restore the Great Lakes," says Todd Ambs, who leads the Department of Natural Resources water-related programs. "His proposal recognizes the hard work of Governor Doyle and the other Great Lakes governors who helped shape an unprecedented collaboration that went into developing a blueprint for protect-

ing and restoring these national water treasures."

"By updating our own state strategy we hope to show how Wisconsin will meet those national goals. The state will then be in a strong position to get more federal dollars to address water quality concerns impacting the Great Lakes."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is holding a public meeting in Milwaukee on July 21 on the \$475 million Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the funding plan for recommendations for restoring the Great Lakes. The meeting runs from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel Milwaukee City Center, Wisconsin Room, 611 W. Wisconsin Ave.

The initiative would provide funding to carry out recommendations developed through the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration, which brought together states, federal agencies, tribal nations, industry, conservation organizations and individuals to create a national blueprint for protecting and restoring the Great Lakes.

Wisconsin developed a parallel and complementary strategy with specific goals and recommendations for Wisconsin's Great Lakes waters. The 2009 Wisconsin Great Lakes Strategy: Restoring and Protecting Our Great Lakes, outlines an ambitious plan calling for a collective effort to address the major threats to these valuable resources. It lays out key priorities to:

- Stop the introduction and spread of non-native aquatic invasive plants and animals.
- Enhance fish and wildlife populations by restoring and protecting wetlands, rivers, streams and associated

uplands.

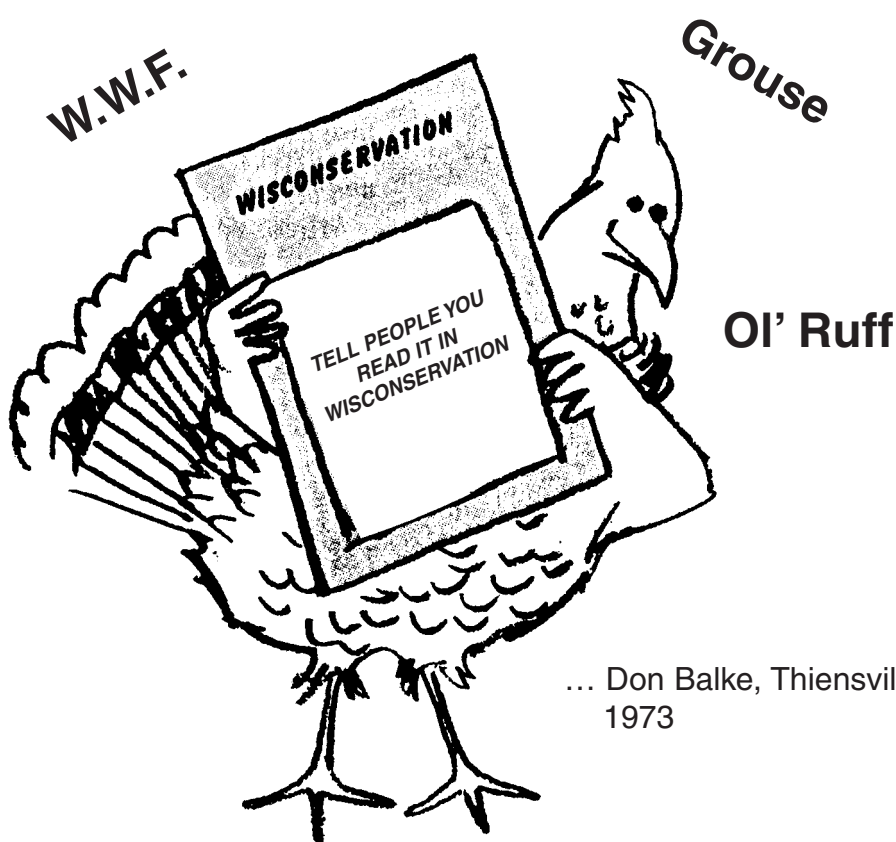
- Promote programs to protect human health against adverse effects of pollution in the Great Lakes ecosystem. Restore to environmental health the Areas of Concern (AOCs) identified by the International Joint Commission as needing remediation and other contaminated sediment sites in the Great Lakes Basin.

- Control pollution from diffuse sources into water, land, and air.

- Continue efforts to eliminate the introduction of toxins into the Great Lakes ecosystem that can build up and cause problems for decades to come.

- Adopt sustainable use practices that protect environmental resources and enhance the recreational and commercial values of our Great Lakes.

- Standardize and improve the methods by which information is collected, recorded, and shared within the region.



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Wisconsin Project Gets Federal Funding for Fish Habitat

The first of what's hoped to become a steady stream of federal money to restore fish habitat is helping expand a grassroots effort on Bayfield County's Eau Claire Chain of Lakes.



The \$15,000 in federal funding will enable the "Fish Sticks" project partners – the Eau Claire Conservation Club, the Eau Claire Property Owners Association, Bayfield Land and Water Conservation Department and the Department of Natural Resources — to expand their work with willing landowners to place trees from upland sources in shallow water in front of their properties. The trees will provide important spawning habitat for fish, insects for them, and hiding places in areas where much of this critical habitat had previously been removed.

"This is great news," says Mike Staggs, fisheries director for the Department of Natural Resources. "We've got a project funded and the promise of more."

Hoping to emulate the success of a long-running partnership to benefit waterfowl and hunters that restores open water wetlands, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has recently launched their National Fish Habitat Action Plan [fishhabitat.org].

"The idea is to bring together people at the local and regional levels who want to help improve fish and aquatic habitat," Staggs says. While government agencies are often important players in the partnerships, the local interest is critical.

Partnerships of public and private entities can apply to a National Fish Habitat Board for formal recognition, which allows them to get in the short line for federal funding from a variety of sources. As of March 2009, there were 10 formally recognized partnerships [www.fishhabitat.org].

So far, Wisconsin is part of two formally recognized partnerships, and part of three more "candidate" partnerships

now working toward formal federal recognition, Staggs says.

- The Eau Claire Chain Lakes "Fish Sticks" project is a project under the Glacial Lakes Habitat Restoration Partnership [www.midwestglacial-lakes.org] that was formally recognized earlier this year. The \$15,000 in stimulus money going to that project is the first federal money the partnership has received.

- The Midwest Driftless Area Restoration project has been formally recognized as a partnership and has successfully secured more than \$1 million in federal funding in recent years, most of it through the federal Natural Resource Conservation Service. [fishhabitat.org].

- States, tribes, federal agencies and non governmental agencies in the Great Lakes region are working now toward submitting later this summer an application for federal recognition of the Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership [fishhabitat.org]. President Obama has identified \$1.5 million in the \$475 million Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in his proposed 2010 budget to go to the partnership as seed money for that group.

- Wisconsin is participating in the Fishers and Farmers [fishhabitat.org] effort, a partnership to work with landowners to add value to farms while restoring aquatic habitat, both on site and downstream on the Mississippi River. Approved projects are led by landowners, with flexible cost-share funding and technical support provided by conservation partners.

- Wisconsin recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding to participate in a developing national reservoir habitat partnership. Many aging reservoirs (sometimes called "flowages" in Wisconsin) need habitat improvement and Wisconsin hopes to secure additional federal funding through this partnership, which is seeking recognition later this year.

Staggs serves on the steering team for the Glacial Lakes Habitat Restoration and Reservoir partnerships and long-time DNR fisheries management staff are assigned to focus on each of the partnerships.

"Fish Sticks" to Benefit Fish in Bayfield County

BAYFIELD – Call it the piscatorial Field of Dreams. Mere months after felled trees were dragged across the ice on Upper Eau Claire Lake as part of a grassroots partnership to restore fish habitat in the near-shore areas on this lake, hundreds of fish are using the trees.

Underwater photos taken earlier taken this month show a young muskellunge swimming past two tree trunks on the lakebed, a school of panfish darting through branches, and the dark stripe of bluntnose minnows.

"These trees are a piece of the fishery habitat puzzle that has been missing for quite a while and I am excited by the early indications of success," says Scott Toshner, the Department of Natural Resources fish biologist working on the project. "Hopefully, we can get enough waterfront landowners involved so that we will see positive benefits to the lakes fishery as a whole."

This year, the Eau Claire Lakes Property Owners Association and the Eau Claire Conservation Club are working with Toshner to find willing property owners to let them place more trees in the shallow water in front of their property on Upper, Middle and Lower Eau Claire lakes.

They learned recently that their "Fish Sticks" project will receive \$15,000 in federal funding through the Glacial Lakes Habitat Restoration Partnership. "It's a great opportunity to be able to expand the project," Toshner says.

The Eau Claire Chain project grew out of an earlier project on Bony Lake, another lake in the same chain, where property owners in 2007 launched one of the largest shoreland habitat restoration efforts in Wisconsin.

The next year, the Eau Claire Conservation Club got involved on Upper Eau Claire Lake, and 2009 saw a continued effort on Bony, Middle Eau Claire and Upper Eau Claire lakes by the club, the property owners and the DNR.

To date, 395 trees have been placed in Bony Lake, where there were only 89 pieces to begin with. Upper Eau Claire

has added 98 trees and Middle Eau Claire, 49 trees.

"These trees are very important habitat because they provide refuge, forage, cover and spawning areas for pretty much every fish in the lake for at least part of their life cycles," Toshner says. "The turtles, ducks, kingfisher, otter, mink, beaver and other wildlife are using it at the same time."

For this year's Eau Claire chain lakes project, the property owners association mailed out to its members a brochure the group helped Toshner develop. Members have also been talking the project up. So far, a handful of property owners have stepped forward, and Toshner expects that to increase.

He meets with interested property owners, explains more of the process to them, and if they still want to continue, works with them to sign an agreement that they will not remove down trees from their property and will keep the ones placed in their shallow water. In late summer and early fall, Toshner will meet with the property owners again to mark where they want the complexes of



Juvenile panfish swim among the branches of trees placed in shallow water in Bayfield County lakes.

WDNR Photo

two to eight trees to go. In winter, heavy equipment operators place the trees on the ice in the proper spots. The conservation club helps with the logistics of getting the trees harvested and to the proper site on the ice.

"The volunteer effort on this project is quite simply what makes this go," Toshner says.

More Info: Contact Scott Toshner (715) 372-8539.

Two-Year 'Time-Out' from New Mining Claims on Arizona Strip Watershed near Grand Canyon National Park

U.S. Dept. of the Interior Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. – After carefully considering the issue of uranium mining near Grand Canyon National Park, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar has decided to segregate nearly 1 million acres of federal lands in the Arizona Strip for two years while the Department evaluates whether to withdraw these lands from new mining claims for an additional 20 years.

"I am calling a two-year 'Time-Out' from all new mining claims in the Arizona Strip near the Grand Canyon because we have a responsibility to ensure we are developing our nation's resources in a way that protects local communities, treasured landscapes, and our watersheds," said Secretary Salazar. "Over the next two years, we will gather the best science and input from the public, members of Congress, tribes, and stakeholders, and we will thoughtfully evaluate whether these lands should be withdrawn from new mining claims for a

longer period of time."

The segregated lands include 633,547 acres managed by Interior's Bureau of Land Management and 360,002 acres managed by the U.S. Forest Service. The Department of the Interior is the federal agency charged with segregating U.S. public lands for possible withdrawal. The lands are within portions of the Grand Canyon watershed next to Grand Canyon National Park in northern Arizona and contain significant environmental and cultural resources as well as substantial uranium deposits.

An iconic American landscape and World Heritage Site, Grand Canyon National Park encompasses 1.2 million acres on the Colorado Plateau. The park, which draws 4.4 million visitors each year, is home to numerous rare, endemic and specially protected plant and animal species and contains vast archeological resources and sites of spiritual and cultural importance to American Indians. The Colorado River and its tributaries that flow through the watersheds of Grand Canyon National Park supply

water to agricultural, industrial, and municipal users, including the cities of Tucson, Phoenix, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

Under the Secretary's conventional withdrawal procedures, the two-year segregation has essentially the same effect as a withdrawal — it would prohibit new mining claims in the designated areas. Neither the segregation nor any withdrawal, however, would prohibit ongoing or future mining exploration or extraction operations on valid pre-existing claims. Those activities might proceed during segregation and any withdrawal. About 10,600 mining claims are located in the proposed withdrawal area and several current uranium mining operations await State of Arizona environmental permits. Neither the segregation nor the proposed withdrawal would prohibit any other authorized uses on these lands.

A notice published in today's *Federal Register* initiates a 90-day public comment period on the proposed withdrawal and segregation. Under the Federal

Land Policy and Management Act, lands proposed for withdrawal are immediately segregated for up to two years during which a decision on the proposed withdrawal may be made.

During the two-year segregation, studies and analyses will be conducted to determine if the lands should be withdrawn to protect the area from new mining claims. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, this process includes participation by the public, tribes, environmental groups, industry, state and local government, as well as other stakeholders.

These efforts will be undertaken under the leadership of the Bureau of Land Management in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the National Park Service and will be used in support of a final decision on the withdrawal.

By law, the Department can withdraw these lands for a maximum of 20 years. Only Congress can initiate a permanent withdrawal.

Take Note!

Deer Observation Underway. Page 1.

Executive Director Activity. Page 3.

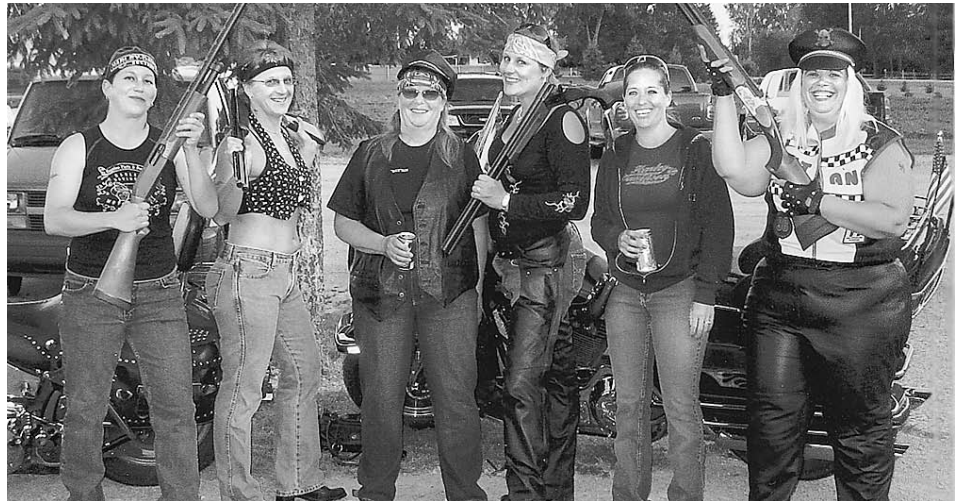
Bear Facts & Tips. Page 4.

Successful Bow Hunting. Page 5.

Fish Habitat. Page 7.

Editor D. A. Gries

"Sassy's Super Sexy Shooters" Outagamie Conservation Club



7/14/09 – Sassy's Trap Team wore biker colors during summer league competition. The team's shooting attire changes weekly. Team members (L-R): Jennifer Learman, Sandy Kohl, Nancy Feitzer, Kim Kortens, Team Sponsor Terri B. and Sara Mitchell.

2009 WWF Deer Rifle Raffle

10 Quality Rifles w/Cash Alternative Prizes
Raffle Drawing: November 21, 2009 - 7:00pm
Club 95, Hixton, WI

Need not be present to win!

\$5 each or 5 for \$20

Lic #R0018800B-80320

Tickets Available from WWF Office
W7303 Cty Rd CS & Q • Poynette, WI 53955
Toll Free: 1-800-897-4161

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Browning Bar Semi Auto | 6. Remington 770 Camo Bolt Rifle |
| 2. Browning X-Bolt Rifle | 7. Mossberg 4X4 Bolt Rifle |
| 3. Winchester Super-X Semi Auto | 8. Mossberg 464 Lever 30-30 |
| 4. Ruger M77 Hawkeye Rifle | 9. Marlin XL7C Camo Bolt Rifle |
| 5. Weatherby Vanguard Bolt Rifle | 10. Stevens 200 Bolt Rifle |

Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association (WWOA)

30th Annual Meeting

September 10th - 13th
Ramada Inn • Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Info found on website: www.wisconsinwoodlands.org
Annual Meeting for WWOA Members only!

2009 WWF Print Now Available



"Morning Majesty"

Brian Kuether

Edition Size: Signed and Numbered 400

Image Size: 17.5" x 24"

Price: \$25.00

Remarks are available for additional cost.

Shipping and Handling: \$5.00

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation 2009 Print of the Year

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Growing up in rural Wisconsin, Brian Kuether has always had an intimate familiarity with the natural world and the landscapes and wildlife which have surrounded him. At a very young age he spent countless hours observing, sketching and just being around animals.

As an artist, Brian is constantly experimenting with a sense of realism in his work. He patterns his work after that which moves him about a subject. His style reflects a certain amount of spontaneity and renders a slight impressionistic feel which creates an atmosphere that never dulls the viewer. Brian invites the viewer to experience life the way he sees it.

Brian Kuether is an artist of versatility. He paints landscapes, figures and portraits, as well as wildlife subjects. His favorite medium is oil, but he has worked with a variety of dry mediums as well, especially when working his studies.

Having traveled extensively throughout the country, Brian has been afforded the opportunity to sketch and paint on location, to visit museums, study master painters and to gather reference material from wilderness areas. His art has been collected throughout the world.

Brian may be contacted by email: bkdouble@yahoo.com

ORDER FORM 2009 "Morning Majesty"

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(608) 635-2742

Make checks payable to Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
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July 2009 Calendar Winners



1	\$1000 Cash	Devin Haines, Minnesota City, MN	5591
2	\$100 Cash	Dean Roh, Avoca, WI	2190
3	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Sharon Johnas, Medford, WI	6616
4	\$100 Cash	Don Stronach, Rio, WI	27
5	Franchi I-12 12ga 3"	Steve Brost, Sheboygan, WI	8353
6	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Jason Mayek, Mosinee, WI	866
7	\$100 Cash	William Engelbrecht, Manitowoc, WI	4421
8	CZ 527 204 Ruger Varmint	Paul Griffin, Hartland, WI	9470
9	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Wally Cartwright, Oshkosh, WI	7610
10	Mossberg Silver Reserve 28ga	Jill Mikelson, LaCrosse, WI	5587
11	\$100 Cash	Tom Dalton, Mosinee, WI	7691
12	Tika T3 Hunter 30.06	Alan Wrbanek, Sparta, WI	8426
13	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Lawrence O'Neil, Wisconsin Rapids, WI	1950
14	\$100 Cash	Timothy McIlquham, Chippewa Falls, WI	6044
15	Benelli Super Nova Camo 12ga	David & Kim Wagner, Neillsville, WI	528
16	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Kevin Shady, Fond du Lac, WI	2370
17	TC Omega 209x50 syn Thumbhole	Harlen Newlun, Camp Douglas, WI	3350
18	\$100 Cash	Jennifer Evans, Cambria, WI	5855
19	Ruger 10/22 Target ss lam	Chris Weier, Two Rivers, WI	9169
20	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Joel Powell, Star Prairie, WI	2277
21	\$100 Cash	Regg Reichelt, Menasha, WI	2380
22	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Dave Banker, Black Creek, WI	1535
23	Steven S Model 200 7mm-08	Lori Walker, Humbird, WI	68
24	\$100 Cash	William Schaefer, Montello, WI	355
25	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Robert Chingo, Ashland, WI	6701
26	Remington 870 exp 12ga	Karl Devroy, Green Bay, WI	3004
27	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Karen Lashway, Princeton, WI	9973
28	\$100 Cash	Jesse Zajac, Hillman, MN	2209
29	Savage 64 FXP w/scope	Dave Ross, Algonquin, IL	3394
30	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Andrew Densow, Manitowoc, WI	7
31	\$100 Cash	Joe Pieiome, Franklin, WI	7236