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State Game Farm Looks to the Future

POYNETTE – Improvements to the State Game Farm, including a new hatchery and increasing cooperation with another state agency, are key recommendations coming out of an internal evaluation of the Department of Natural Resources' pheasant stocking program.

“We want to assure (that) all we do delivers high quality ring-necked pheasants to hunters using the most fiscally responsible means possible,” said Bob Nack, State Game Farm director.

“Constructing a new, fully-equipped hatchery, as recommended in the report, would underscore DNR's support for continuing production and stocking of pheasants from the State Game Farm in the long term,” he added.

Many hunters rely on pheasants released by DNR on public hunting grounds to pursue their sport. Birds are hatched and reared at the agency's State Game Farm near Poynette. The facility has been located at Poynette since 1934 and was last upgraded in 1982 with the addition of environmentally controlled breeding and rearing barns.

Pheasant stocking will take place on 71 properties in 28 counties during 2009. Pre-season stocking takes place during the week prior to opening day (Oct. 17 in 2009), with most properties stocked twice per week for the first three weeks of the season and once per week for the next month. In addition, the State Game Farm provides 800 to 1,000 pheasants annually to DNR sponsored Learn to Hunt Pheasant programs.

The program review looked at pheasant production alternatives and the Day-old Chick (DOC) program, evaluated the infrastructure at the State Game Farm along with future goals and strategies, and explored increased cooperation with the state Department of Corrections in raising pheasants.

The current hatchery has been in use since 1934 and the incubators are 1950's models. Despite the facility's age, Game Farm staff has done a remarkable job of maintaining aging equipment and producing high quality ring-necked pheasants, noted Mr. Nack.

The State Game Farm also provides day-old chicks to conservation clubs enrolled in the DOC program.

Cooperating clubs sign an agreement which states they agree to provide all labor and costs for raising the birds.

Under this agreement, the clubs may either release pheasants on private land open to public pheasant hunting or on approved state-owned lands or release birds on private land closed to public hunting, but they must return a percentage of the pheasants they raised back to DNR.

The DOC program currently involves 34 conservation clubs in 21 counties and the Game Farm normally provides about 35,000 rooster chicks to these clubs.

Both the DNR stocking on public lands and the DOC program “are extremely important to Wisconsin pheasant hunters,” noted the Game Farm director.

at Oregon in Dane County and Oneida in Brown County.

- Increase in the managed hunt fees at the Richard Bong State Recreation Area in Kenosha County.

The evaluation of Wisconsin's pheasant stocking program was conducted by Bob Nack, State Game Farm director, Poynette; Scott Hull, DNR upland gamebird specialist, Madison; and Marty Johnson, DNR wildlife biologist, Sturtevant; in cooperation with

DNR's Pheasant Committee; Don Bates, CWD operations supervisor (and former Game Farm manager), Dodgeville; and DNR South Central Region wildlife supervisor Eric Lobner, Fitchburg.

The state legislature in 2006 directed 60 percent of the revenue generated from pheasant stamp sales to the propagation and stocking of pheasants on state-owned lands. That same year, the cost of a pheasant stamp increased from \$7.25 to \$10.00 and in 2007 a stamp was required for all pheasant hunting statewide. Pheasant stamp fund revenue dedicated to pheasant propagation was about \$400,000 in 2008 and will likely increase in the future.



Based on the Wisconsin Pheasant Stocking Program Evaluation, DNR's Wildlife Management Bureau is recommending to:

- Continue in-house pheasant production at the State Game Farm.
- Prioritize capital development funds to build a new hatchery and equipment storage building at Poynette.
- Update the DOC program as requested by cooperating conservation clubs.
- Increase cooperation with the state Department of Corrections over the next five years. Currently, DNR has satellite rearing facilities at Correctional Centers

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Executive Director Activity

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Position

November 3, 2009

Mr. Keith Warnke
WDNR
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53717-1615

Re: Proposed 2010 Deer Season
Regulations

Dear Mr. Warnke:

The following are the additional written comments of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation regarding the DNR's proposal to modify the 2010 Deer Hunting Regulations.

This proposal is strongly supported by the organizations listed at the end of this letter and best accommodates 1. an increased harvest opportunity which is critical in replacing earn-a-buck, 2. "shoehorns" in the many competing hunting and non-hunting recreational pursuits which compete for the fall and early winter recreational landscape in Wisconsin and 3. best maintains the important traditions of Wisconsin's hunting seasons which are so important to "keep Wisconsin's hunters hunting."

1. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation does support a 16-day November gun deer season followed by a seven-day muzzleloader season provided that the 16-day season start on the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

The Natural Resources Board directive to the Department and the public was to formulate a season and regulatory framework that would replace the Earn-a-Buck as a method of herd control. EAB is an extremely effective method of herd control so one of the few viable methods of increasing antlerless harvest is to expand harvest opportunity with a sixteen day season.

The WWF supports the 16-day season starting on the traditional Saturday before Thanksgiving opener because a higher percentage of does to bucks will be harvested on the later opening day and this better fulfills the Board direction to replace the antlerless kill aspects

of EAB. Secondly, the Saturday opener has become a major focal point of union contracts, business schedules, school schedules, seniority systems and family schedules especially for families with out-of-state members returning for Thanksgiving. Having the 16-day November gun deer season start a Saturday earlier will be disruptive to many hunters and at best will likely reduce participation in the opening day. The Department needs to remember that the opening day of gun deer season is an important component of the social fabric of deer hunting in the state. Creating a 16-day November gun-deer season is a major change to Wisconsin deer hunters. As we have told Department officials repeatedly this year, creating a 16-day season **and** moving the opening day up a week is perceived by many Wisconsin deer hunters as a **radical** change to deer hunting in the state. The opinions of the supermajority of the multiple hundreds of individuals turning out for the DNR public hearings and opposed the earlier opener emphasizes that assessment.

Why a uniform 16-day versus a 16-day in herd control units and 9-days in non-herd control units? A straight 16-day season is a simpler regulation for hunters and for enforcement personnel. In addition, having a uniform 16-day season will be an aid in increasing antlerless harvest in those units that are over goal but still not in herd control and thereby may keep more units out of the unpopular herd control system. Lastly, having a uniform 16-day gun deer season will lead to more uniform input into the SAK formula.

In deer management units under goal, the variable quota system will prevent any over-harvest of antlerless deer in those units during a 16-day gun deer season.

2. The WWF supports a proposal requiring DNR to issue free herd control permits for a unit for two years before it becomes a formal herd control unit. This approach will more positively engage

hunters in shooting antlerless deer before a mandatory herd control season is scheduled. It will send the signal to hunters that they are being empowered to deal with the antlerless situation in the deer management unit they hunt in while also giving them fair warning that herd control measures will be on the way if the increased free tags do not successfully control the antlerless population in the unit.

3. The WWF supports a trial period of allocation of antlerless permits in units based on private versus public lands. This proposal is worth trying to see if it leads to increased antlerless kill on private lands. It may also take some of the hunting pressure off of public lands, many of which are being overhunted.

4. The WWF strongly supports having October "stacked" five-day firearm seasons starting the second Saturday of October. The stacked hunt would include an either-sex youth hunt. We strongly believe that the youth hunt should be an either-sex hunt. It is important to provide positive reinforcement to young hunters during their first gun deer hunt. This should be the weekend for scheduling youth learn-to-hunt deer programs also.

This five-day season starting the second Saturday in October should also be the October herd reduction season in those units that are in herd reduction. The increased activity of the youth hunt and a muzzleloader hunt will increase the potential for harvest during the herd reduction season.

A five-day muzzleloader antlerless-only season should also be part of the stacked seasons starting the second Saturday in October. As a result of limiting the December muzzle-loader season to seven days for the reason stated below, the muzzleloaders should be "made whole" by having an October five day season starting the second Saturday of the month.

5. The Department strongly opposes the "unique" five-day October herd reduction season in the Kettle Moraine State Forest starting the Thursday nearest October 27th. There are many problems associated with this hunt. First, it will be confusing to deer hunters because it will differ from the other private and public lands in the deer management units in which the Kettle Moraine State Forest lands are located. KMSF parcels are scattered and there is a significant interspersed of KMSF lands and private lands within and adjacent to forest boundaries. This will cause problems for hunters including being able to dispatch wounded deer that move off forest lands onto adjoining lands. Secondly, when asked, state conservation wardens have described the enforcement complexities and problems associated with this "checkerboard" season. Lastly,

having the herd reduction season in the KMSF later than the one held anywhere else in the state will lead to a major influx of gun deer hunters into the KMSF for its herd reduction hunt leading to hunter congestion and increased conflict with other non-hunting recreational users on the KMSF.

It is our understanding that a major reason for this "unique" season was a race scheduled in the Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine on the second weekend in October. The WWF would encourage that any potential safety concern with this race be dealt with by closing the area adjoining the racecourse to hunting on the day or days that the race takes place.

6. The December gun deer hunts should be limited to the seven day muzzleloader hunt starting immediately after the later opening 16-day November gun deer season. This would result in the same length of December gun-deer hunting as currently exists.

The Department and the Natural Resources Board should take into account the major controversy that took place when additional longer gun deer hunting opportunities were extended into December. While the gun deer season was successfully extended at that time, it was only accomplished with bitter controversy between gun deer hunters and snowmobilers. There were threats to close lands to hunting on one side of the dispute followed up by threats of closing lands to snowmobile trails on the other. Wisconsin communities and county forest administrators also weighed in heavily against extending the December gun deer season.

A truce was finally worked out which included an informal commitment by hunters not to seek any further extension of the gun deer seasons further into December. The Department and the Board should not rip the scab off that wounded relationship by scheduling later December gun deer hunts including a Holiday hunt.

7. The WWF supports the archery seasons as proposed by the Department.

The above positions are also supported by the Wisconsin Muzzleloaders Association, the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association, the National Rifle Association, the Safari Club International Chapters of Wisconsin, the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs, Wisconsin Hunters United, the Northeastern Wisconsin Concerned Deer Hunters and the Hunters Alliance for Regulatory Communication.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these written comments.

Sincerely yours,

George Meyer

Executive Director

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Governor Flip-Flops, Vetoes Board Appointed DNR Secretary Bill

November 16, 2009

Poyntette: Today, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation expressed in strong terms its great disappointment in the action of Governor James Doyle to veto Assembly Bill 138, the bill passed overwhelmingly by the Assembly and the Senate restoring the appointment authority of the DNR Secretary Bill to the Natural Resources Bill. The Assembly passed AB 138 by a 61-32 margin and the Senate passed the bill by a 21-11 margin. In both cases, sponsors of the bill were absent from the vote. The Assembly later concurred in a minor amendment to the bill by a 49-42 margin and sent the bill to the Governor.

Governor Doyle was Attorney General in 1995 when the appointment authority was removed from the Natural Resources Board and given to the Governor. At that time he was a strong and adamant opponent to the change. For the next fourteen years, Doyle advocated to restore the appointment authority back to the Board, making it a very visible commitment to Wisconsin's sportsmen and women in both his 2002 and 2006 campaigns for Governor. Doyle appeared at many meetings of sporting organizations like the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, stating that he would sign a bill like AB 138 when it reached his desk. In other private meetings, he looked sports men and women in the eye, giving them his word that he would sign such a bill.

"Governor Doyle's major flip-flop on the DNR Secretary bill is exactly what gives some elected officials such a bad

name for Wisconsin citizens," said Jack Nissen (Dousman), President of the Wildlife Federation. "Doyle really misled Wisconsin sportsmen and women to get their vote when he ran for office. It is very disappointing when the Governor, the highest official in the state of Wisconsin does not keep his promises. Sportsmen and women of this state should not, and will not forget the broken promises made by the Governor.

This issue has had more interest and public input than anything else that I have ever been involved with, but yet the Governor has seemed to have forgotten his obligation to do the work and the will of the people he represents."

"Sportsmen and women are upset by the Governor's actions and our eyes are on our state representatives and senators to see if they will override the Governor's ill-advised veto," indicated Ralph Fritsch (Townsend), Wildlife Federation Wildlife Committee Chair. "While the Governor is not running for office next year, our representatives and senators are and sportsmen and women will not accept similar flip-flops on their part."

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is the state's largest conservation organization, comprised of 168 hunting, fishing, trapping and forestry related organizations that have over 100,000 members. The Wildlife Federation, founded in 1949, is dedicated to conservation education and the advancement of sound conservation policies.

George Meyer
Executive Director
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation



Appleton WI. – Over 500 persons attended the 2010 Deer Hunt proposal session in a standing room only atmosphere – 300 hundred more persons than the room could accommodate. Of the eighty people presenting their position, only one person supported the Department of Natural Resources recommendation. Needless to say, the attendees maintained a respectful decorum despite the "humid" conditions.

...Editor D. A. Gries

President's Report

Vol. I Part VI

Autumn has come and gone and December is upon us. I hope you all enjoyed the outdoors this fall spending time with family and friends in the woods or on the water. The fall was a very busy time for the WWF. George has been working with the Board of Directors on many issues with the members of the Assembly and the Senate. Banquet committees are busy planning their banquets and our members are continuing to be the *Voice of the Wisconsin Sportsman*. Many of our members have been testifying at public hearings on Alternatives to EAB, Stewardship access and the DNR Secretary bill. To all of you who took the time to make a phone call, write a letter, send an e-mail or testify at a meeting, I would like to thank you on behalf of the entire organization. Now we will need to ask our legislators to vote to override the Governors veto of the DNR secretary bill. Remember it is through your efforts that the Federation remains the strongest conservation group in the state and for that I thank you.

Another thank you goes out to Wildlife Committee Chair Ralph Fritsch. Ralph has been retired since July but you would never know it. He has been working diligently on the Alternative to Earn A Buck issue. As you may recall, Ralph was selected to serve as the Chairman of the Natural Resources Alternative to EAB committee. Since that time, Ralph has continued to work on this very time demanding issue. He has been working with members of the Wisconsin Bowhunter's Association, Wisconsin Hunter's Rights Coalition, Wisconsin State Chapter of the NWT, Quality Deer Management, Wisconsin

Bear Hunters Association, SCI Chapters of Wisconsin, Northeastern Wisconsin Concerned Deer Hunters, Hunters Alliance for Regulatory Communication, the NRA and the Wisconsin Muzzleloaders Association. This coalition of conservation groups spent many hours working on the key issues of the proposed 2010 deer season frame work. The results of that collaboration became the Federation's testimony statewide at the DNR's public hearings. Ralph, as always, was a true leader in this coalition and represented the WWF interests well. Ralph's abilities and willingness to work with these other groups has proven to be very beneficial, and we, as an organization, look forward to working with these groups in the future. Ralph's help on this, and many other items, has been greatly appreciated and for that we thank him.

The October Board of Directors meeting was highlighted by the addition of two new clubs. The Federation unanimously approved applications for membership from the Rice Lake Rod and Gun Club and the Beloit Rifle Club. With the addition of these new memberships, our affiliate clubs now total 170! The Board of Directors also approved two new directors, Walt Camp from District 2 and Ed Rollins from District 6. The addition of new clubs and new directors is always an exciting time for the Federation. We look forward to working with all of them and wish them a warm welcome.

Please remember the WWF's Calendar Program can be purchased at the office from Jennifer.

*Happy Holidays,
Jack Nissen
WWF President*

Mentored Hunting Program a Quick Hit

More than 10,000 10- and 11-year-old mentored hunting licenses have been purchased since the September 1 start date of the new program.

The Mentored Hunting Law was created in close cooperation with Department of Natural Resources staff, hunting groups and the legislature.

"The enthusiasm and response to this new opportunity has been fantastic," said DNR Secretary Matt Frank. "Study after study shows it takes a hunter to make a hunter. Introducing kids to hunting in a relaxed atmosphere with close supervision is key to nurturing a love of the natural world, a conservation ethic, and what may turn out to be a lifelong love and passion for the outdoors."

"Hunting is an important tradition for many Wisconsin families," said Rep. Ann Hrachuck, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Fish and Wildlife. "This law allows parents to decide when a child is ready to join in the family hunting traditions. The mentor is required to be 'within arm's reach at all times' of the young hunter to provide safe firearm or bow handling supervision. Learning to hunt in a safe and controlled manner allows the mentor to share skills, ethics and an appreciation for the entire experience with the young hunter."

Five hunting license types can be purchased under the Mentored Hunting Law. Within two weeks of the effective date of the new law 2,125 licenses had been sold. Through Nov 8, a total of 10,016 licenses have been purchased.

The majority of licenses sold have been gun deer licenses at 6,775. Deer

archery sales have hit 1,097 and small game sales are at 1,895. Young hunters also purchased 247 fall turkey and 2 furbearer licenses.

And how have the young hunters been doing? A preliminary tally of deer registrations for the Oct 10-11 youth deer hunt (which is open to youth 10 to 15 years of age) shows that the harvest jumped from 989 in 2008 to 4,777 in 2009, a nearly 500 percent increase. There have been no reported hunting incidents involving any mentored hunters.

Wisconsin's Mentored Hunting Law has been identified as being the safest set of controlled conditions for youth hunting in the nation. Mentors must be 18 years old and licensed hunters. Mentors may only accompany one 10- or 11-year-old at a time and must be within arm's reach of the mentored hunter at all times. The pair may carry only one firearm or bow between them. All other hunting and trapping rules apply with regard to season dates, season rules, bag limits, clothing requirements and harvest registration. Mentored hunters of any age do not need to complete a hunter safety education course prior to hunting under these controlled conditions, and if age 10 or 11, can purchase a reduced fee hunting license. Mentors must have completed a hunter safety education course if born after Jan. 1, 1973 unless they can provide proof they have completed basic training through the U.S. armed forces.

More information on mentored hunting and hunting in Wisconsin are available on the DNR Web site.

Revised Shoreland Development Rules Approved by Natural Resources Board

Changes made under instruction of lawmakers

Responding to lawmakers' requests, the state Natural Resources Board today modified proposed revisions to the state's shoreland development rules.

Natural Resources Board members in June 2009 approved revisions to statewide shoreland development standards that have not been updated for the past 40 years. These revisions provided more flexibility for shoreland property owners to make improvements to their existing homes, while enhancing protection of water quality, habitat and scenic beauty through new limits on hard surfaces that cause runoff, and new requirements that property owners "mitigate" or offset the impacts of expansions or new development.

The June 2009 rule revisions were sent to lawmakers for their review, and they returned the matter to DNR in late September, with a request for rule modifications. Lawmakers expressed concerns that the rule revisions were too restrictive for properties farther from waterways, and not restrictive enough for development close to shorelines. DNR officials met with lawmakers and key stakeholders to develop language changes that would address legislative

concerns, and brought those changes back to the Natural Resources Board.

Today's approval changes the revised shoreland development rules, found in chapter NR 115 of Wis. Administrative Code, in two key areas. First, only properties within 300 feet of any lake, river or stream will face limits on the amount of roofs, pavement, and other hard or "impervious" surfaces. The revised rules adopted back in June would have required properties within 1,000 feet of a lake to meet these limits.

Second, expansion of an existing home closer than 75 feet from the water is now more limited. Under today's change, a property owner can build a second story or otherwise add-on vertically, if their existing house is at least 35-feet back from the water. But they cannot expand the building's footprint horizontally within the shore setback, something that would have been allowed under the June revised rules. Expansion more than 75 feet from the water is still allowed.

NR 115 revisions will now be returned to the legislature for final review. The revised rule is expected to go into effect in early 2010.

Dec. 31 Deadline for Tree City USA Application

MADISON - Wisconsin municipalities have until December 31 to submit applications to become Tree City USA communities.

Tree City USA is a recognition program started in 1972 by the national Arbor Day Foundation. Working in partnership with the National Association of State Foresters and state forestry agencies, the Tree City USA program honors communities that have made a commitment to nurturing, caring for, and celebrating the trees that make up a their urban forest.

There were 174 towns, villages, and cities throughout Wisconsin that earned Tree City USA award recognition in 2009. (Nationally, there are 3,310 Tree City USA communities.)

"Many Wisconsin municipalities already meet the criteria for being Tree City USA communities," said Jeff Roe, DNR urban forestry coordinator.

The criteria include: having a tree board, a tree commission, or a municipal department that has the legal responsibility for caring for public trees and that has the authority to develop and administer a local tree management program; a tree ordinance that establishes policies for tree planting, maintenance and removal; a local annual tree budget of at least \$2 per capita; and an annual Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

In Wisconsin, interested communities submit new and renewal applications to the Department of Natural Resources Urban Forestry Program.

"The Tree City USA program and the companion Tree Line and Tree Campus programs are great ways for generating support and recognition for your community and its tree resources," Roe said. "Becoming a Tree City community indicates a commitment by the municipality to its citizens to enhance the beauty, civic pride and livability of their community."

Towns, villages, and cities that receive Tree City USA awards are notified before Arbor Day. The communities receive a flag, a plaque, and special highway entrance signs that proclaim their status as a Tree City. As important as those items are, Roe said the designation is a way for a municipality to let visitors and residents know of their commitment to sustaining and improving their urban forest.

Tree City USA application materials are available on the DNR Web site. Any community interested in becoming a Tree City USA can contact the regional urban forestry coordinator who serves their community for information on the program, as well as help in improving their local forest resources. Municipalities can find the name of the regional urban forestry coordinator serving their community on the DNR Web site.

"We find the Tree City USA Program is a source of local pride and encourages better care of community forests, a resource that touches the lives of everyone in a municipality," Roe said.

2009 Firearm Sight In Activity

Flags Up! – Range is Cold! – Shooters Down Range!



WWF Affiliate Club *Twin City Rod & Gun, Neenah* conducted Firearm Sight In activity open to the public from October 1st thru November 19th. A total of 3,892 persons utilized the clubs facilities and range discipline. A job "WELL DONE" to all!
WWF Editor – WWF Photo

Wild Rose Hatchery Education Center Wins Top National Award

MADISON – The Department of Natural Resources Wild Rose State Fish Hatchery renovation has won a second prestigious award, one recognizing the facility's educational emphasis. The previous award recognized the facility's engineering design.

The Wild Rose State Fish Hatchery Education Center — a new building with aquariums and exhibits along with the restored, historic hatchery grounds — has received one of three Outstanding Project of the Year Awards given by the American Fisheries Society.

The American Fisheries Society, the nation's oldest and largest professional fisheries organization, gives three awards for projects built using Sport Fish Restoration funds, revenues collected through a federal excise tax on fishing and boating equipment and revenues and returned to the states to enhance fisheries and boating. Wild Rose won in the "Education" category.

The award was presented Oct. 21 at the Natural Resources Board meeting in Madison by Don Gabelhouse, fish chief for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and outgoing president of the AFS Fisheries Administration Section.

Accepting the award, along with DNR Secretary Matt Frank, Fisheries Director Mike Staggs and Board Vice-Chair Jonathan Ela, were Wild Rose Supervisor Steve Fajfer, Assistant Supervisor Randy Larson, DNR State Fish Propagation Coordinator Al Kaas, and Theresa Stabo, the DNR aquatic education coordinator who designed the concepts and features in the center.

"Wild Rose belongs to everyone," said Stabo, addressing the board and Gabelhouse. "It has been a pleasure to make it a welcoming and interesting place for everyone to visit."

While visitors may not remember how many eggs are spawned or fish are raised by the facility, they'll remember that this is a really interesting place and that our waters are interesting places to explore and fish, she said.

Staggs said after the presentation that the award "underscores the importance of having an aquatic education program as part of what we do, to get kids and others out on the water fishing and interested in our great aquatic resources."

"It's really great to hear that what we're doing up there at Wild Rose is recognized on the national level," he said.

The education center was completed in 2008 as part of the first of three phases to renovate the century-old hatchery to meet environmental standards and



A fish identification wall is a popular feature inside the new education center.

Randy Larson Photo

continue to meet stocking needs, particularly for Lake Michigan trout and salmon. It incorporates four historic buildings from the hatchery to share the story of Wild Rose and fisheries management.

Center favorites are the two large, free-standing aquariums that house fish species raised right at Wild Rose, the fish identification wall, many interactive exhibits geared for children and a meeting room available for staff or public use.

The historic hatchery grounds with restored buildings and a picnic area allow visitors and local citizens to continue to stroll the grounds and enjoy a picnic lunch in the picturesque setting, much as people have done for the past century.

"It's great that the visitor center, which is the focal point for visitors, gets recognized," said Fajfer, the hatchery supervisor.

This summer, Wild Rose's new cold-water fish rearing facilities received an Award of Excellence in Engineering from an international association, the Association of Conservation Engineers. That design reflected many of the innovations and other suggestions made by Wild Rose supervisors and staff.

More information is available on the Wild Rose State Fish Hatchery page of the DNR Web site.

Wisconsin annually receives almost \$14 million in SFR funding to use for project to enhance fisheries and boating.

Mount Horeb Woman to Lead National Drinking Water Group

A Mount Horeb woman who directs state efforts to provide safe drinking water will lead a national safe drinking water group at a time of growing concern countrywide about water quality, quantity and infrastructure.

Jill Jonas, 54, was recently elected the 2011 president of the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, a group comprised of counterparts that lead safe drinking water programs in the other 49 states, U.S. territories, the Navajo Nation, and the District of Columbia.

"Being elected is a reflection of the good work and dedication of our Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources staff," said Jonas, who has directed Wisconsin's Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater since 1999.

"The association is a nationally recognized leader on drinking water issues and we will continue effectively consulting and working with EPA, other agencies, associations, and local, state and national officials and legislators in assuring that our water is safe to drink," said Jonas. "It's important to be proactive and prevent the contamination of surface water and groundwater and assure its availability, because that's the

water we drink."

The DNR program Jonas leads oversees the 11,446 public water supply systems in Wisconsin, which range from small restaurants and gas stations up to the largest cities such as Madison and Milwaukee. These systems have had an enviable track record of providing clean water to their 3.8 million customers.

In addition, the program is responsible for helping assure the safety of the drinking water for the nearly 1 million households in Wisconsin that rely on private wells by overseeing private well and water system construction, operation and maintenance, and groundwater standard development and resource protection.

Jonas' past professional experience includes assisting the former Soviet bloc countries of Latvia and Lithuania develop groundwater and drinking water regulations and source water protection strategies, along with assisting surrounding Baltic/European officials on water issues and laws. She holds a master's degree in Natural Resources with research in aquatic toxicology and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education.

BADGER FISHERMAN'S LEAGUE ICE FISHEREE - PEWAUKEE LAKE

Saturday, February 13th

Curly's Waterfront Sports Bar & Grill
W272 N2696 Lakeview Blvd, Pewaukee

Registration to fish starts at 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
by Smokey's II Launch

Cash prizes paid for registered winning fish in several categories

MAIN RAFFLE DRAWING AT 5 p.m.

1ST PRIZE - \$500.00 CASH
2ND PRIZE - \$250.00 CASH
3RD PRIZE - \$100.00 CASH
4TH PRIZE - \$50.00 CASH
...and many more prizes!

AWESOME MEAT RAFFLES!

Fill Your Freezer & Various Meats
Beginning at 9 a.m.

BADGER RAFFLE – PENNY RAFFLE – WALK AROUNDS
DON'T MISS THE FUN!

Tickets \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

LIC# R0003594A-83490

OFFICIAL CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS!

For presentation at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation.

What is a resolution?

- A formal, written motion which follows a specific format.

Why submit a resolution?

- To set a course of action for the WWF Board of Directors to follow.
- To set and express an opinion of the WWF.

Who can submit a resolution?

- Any affiliate organization of WWF, regardless of size.
- Any member of the WWF Board of Directors.
- Any individual associate or sustaining member – please contact an Associate Director or District Director to submit it on your behalf.

How should a resolution be submitted?

- Typed on official organization letterhead preferred.
- Signed by the author and/or officer of the submitting organization.
- Mailed to the WWF office.
- Postmarked no later than March 10, 2010.

What topics should resolutions deal with?

- Issues pertaining to natural resources and their management or the environment.
- Issues of importance to the entire state.

Mail your resolutions to:

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
W7303 Cty Hwy CS
Poynette, WI 53955

Contact the office for additional information or for specific writing format guidelines.
(800) 897-4161 lonna@wiwff.org

Conservation Achievement Awards Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

W7303 County Hwy. CS
Poynette, WI 53955

OFFICIAL NOMINATION APPLICATION

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation invites you to nominate a person or group who has shown outstanding conservation effort and achievement in any of the categories listed. To make a nomination, send one copy of this form and a copy of a résumé. Attach all supporting documents and send to the above address. Deadline for receiving nominations is March 10, 2010.

Name of Nominee _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Award Nominated For _____

(For each nomination you must use a separate form. Please specify one of the categories for which the nomination is made.)

Nomination Made By (Name) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please Note Following Instructions:

1. Please read the general rules carefully.
2. Follow the outline covering the category for which the nomination is being made.
3. Attach typewritten copy of a résumé of achievements.
4. Include organizational memberships, affiliations, past achievements for which nomination is based on.

Wisconsin Department of Justice

Wilton Businessman Ordered to Pay \$56,700 For Environmental Violations

MADISON - Ronald Drews and his corporation, Drews Farms, Inc., of Wilton, Wisconsin has been found guilty of a series of civil environmental violations arising from his businesses, Trailside Bed and Breakfast and the Dorset Valley Schoolhouse Restaurant.

Drews was found to have violated Wisconsin's septage laws by pumping his septage from the businesses and dumping it on the banks of Dorset Creek on three occasions in 2006. Drews also dumped all of his personal and business waste into a foundation pit from 2000 until July 2006. The illegal solid waste was cleaned up in May 2009. The corporation also has a large manure pit that poses a danger of overflowing into Dorset Creek and was ordered closed.

On October 19, 2009, Dane County Circuit Court Judge Nicholas J. McNamara sentenced Drews and his corporation to pay \$56,700 for the violations. The total represents, \$37,190 in forfeitures and surcharges and \$19,510 to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Department of Justice for investigation and

prosecution costs. Drews and his corporation were also ordered to:

1. Stop any further septage collection or disposal activities unless and until they have come into compliance with the state's regulatory requirements;
2. Stop storing or disposing solid wastes on the property; and
3. Close the manure storage facility in compliance with state regulations by June 1, 2010.

Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen stated "This is an important case in the enforcement of Wisconsin's septage and solid waste laws. We will continue to work with the DNR to protect the waters of the state from illegal septage dumping, illegal solid waste sites near water and overflowing manure pits. Drews' violations affect not only his property but everyone down stream."

The case was referred to the Wisconsin Department of Justice by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and prosecuted by Assistant Attorney General Steven Tinker.

Rooster Fighting Breeder Charged

REDGRANITE - On October 6, 2009 members of the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation and the Waushara County Sheriff's Department executed a search warrant at the residence of David Janke in the Town of Leon in rural Redgranite, Wisconsin. The search warrant was the culmination of a long term investigation of allegations that Janke was raising and selling roosters for the ultimate purpose of having the birds fought.

According to the criminal complaint, Janke was selling the birds via the internet. As a result of the warrant 157 roosters and chickens were seized and are being maintained as evidence in the investigation. The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) assisted the Law Enforcement agencies by documenting, handling and transporting the roosters and chickens. The HSUS also provided assistance with identifying, inspecting and cataloging the birds as evidence.

Prior to the search warrant an undercover agent arranged for the purchase of 3 roosters from Janke for the express purpose of fighting the birds. A DCI undercover agent then purchased 3 roosters from Janke for \$900.

According to the criminal complaint, during the investigation a cock-fighting article

was discovered that Janke wrote in the July 2004 issue of the "Gamecock" magazine. That article described how Janke had preserved the "Pierce Wisconsin Shuffler," rooster bloodline. In that article Janke wrote how that particular bloodline was developed by Dudley Pierce, the founder of Pierce manufacturing. The bloodline dated back to about 1931. Janke also wrote on an internet posting on a rooster-fighting website that in the early years, (as far back as 1900) of the company that Pierce would often make more money fighting "mains" (roosters) than he would making trucks.

Janke was arraigned October 27 in Waushara County Circuit Court for 10 felony counts of possession of animals with intent that they be fought and 9 counts of a felon in possession of firearms.

A copy of the criminal complaint is available at: <http://www.doj.state.wi.us/news/files/20091027123046177.pdf>.

Photos of the roosters are available at: http://www.doj.state.wi.us/news/files/images_Janke/index.htm.

A defendant enjoys the presumption of innocence. The prosecution must prove its allegations at trial beyond a reasonable doubt.

Utica Energy Settles State Lawsuit Over Water Pollution Violations for \$280,000 in Penalties and \$200,000 in Connection Costs

UTICA - Utica Energy, LLC, which owns and operates an ethanol production facility in the Town of Utica, Winnebago County, has agreed to pay \$280,000 in penalties, plus at least \$200,000 to connect to the City of Oshkosh wastewater treatment system, to settle state claims under Wisconsin's water pollution laws. The judgment resolves charges that Utica Energy failed to comply with state laws governing wastewater discharges and drinking water supplies.

Utica Energy produces fuel grade ethanol at its Utica facility. Wastewater from the production process is treated at the facility and either discharged directly to a tributary of Sawyer Creek, which is a tributary to the Fox River, or land applied in the Lake Butte des Morts Watershed.

The Department of Natural Resources issued Utica Energy a Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) Permit in 2008, which authorizes Utica Energy to discharge the wastewater in accordance with the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions of the permit. The complaint charges that Utica Energy violated the terms of its 2008 permit by failing to conduct wastewater sampling, exceeding effluent limits, failing timely to submit required plans, and failing to report incidents of noncompliance.

According to the stipulation settling the lawsuit, Utica Energy will pay \$280,000 in forfeitures, assessments and costs, for the past violations. In addition, Utica Energy will pay at least \$200,000 to connect its wastewater discharges to the City of Oshkosh

wastewater treatment system. Utica Energy will also pay stipulated forfeitures of \$25-\$1,000 for each day that its wastewater discharge exceeds permit limits, until it completes the connection with the city sewer system. If Utica Energy does not connect to the city sewer system by September 2010, it shall promptly take all steps necessary to come into complete compliance with its current permit conditions.

Utica Energy also operates a drinking water supply system at its Utica facility. In 2004, the Department of Natural Resources issued Utica a

Conditional High Capacity Well Approval to increase the pumping capacity of one well and to construct a second well. The complaint charges Utica with constructing its high capacity well system by improperly placing the check valves and failing to install sample faucets. Utica Energy has corrected both deficiencies.

"Wisconsin law requires that industrial facilities manage their wastewater discharges and drinking water supplies by following their permits, so as to protect the public and the environment from harmful pollutants," said Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen. "The Wisconsin Department of Justice will continue to work with the DNR to ensure that Wisconsin's citizens and natural resources are protected through compliance with the law."

Assistant Attorney General JoAnne F. Kloppenburg prosecuted the case. Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge Barbara Key approved the settlement on November 5, 2009.



Environmental Enforcement

Olsen Brothers Enterprises LLP and Paul E. Olsen Ordered to Pay \$194,271.50 For Violations of Storm Water Management Laws at Two Construction Sites

MADISON - Lafayette County Circuit Court Judge William D. Johnston has issued a decision finding the Berlin partnership, Olsen Brothers Enterprises LLP and its principal partner, Paul E. Olsen, jointly and severally liable for numerous construction site storm water and erosion control violations that occurred during the construction of grain storage facilities in Belmont and Boscobel, Wisconsin.

The Court found that Olsen and Olsen Brothers began construction at their grain storage sites without permits, even though they knew that permits were required. They failed to implement and maintain required Best Management Practices to prevent environmental harm associated with construction site erosion, and failed to conduct necessary inspections so they did not know the harm that they caused.

In its decision, the Court stated: "[Defendants'] history in these operations appears to be that they would make the business decision, go forward with the project, and accept the costs for violation of the permitting procedure as a cost of doing business. Defendants uniquely argue that in so doing they should not be charged with forfeitures and costs assessments for potential damage from this practice, but for actual harm that has occurred." The Court further characterized the Defendants' conduct as failing to document environmental harm at the

construction sites, then claiming that they should not be penalized because no harm was documented. The Court noted it was apparent from the Defendants' evidentiary submissions that they felt "great disdain" for state regulations that applied to their projects and further noted that they continued their projects in violation of the law even after the an enforcement action was brought against them, and the State was compelled to obtain a restraining order to make construction cease at the Belmont site until a permit was obtained.

After finding Olsen Brothers and Olsen liable, the Court ordered them to pay a total of \$194,271.50, which includes \$109,000.00 in forfeitures, \$40,457.50 in statutory surcharges, \$11,304.80 for the Department of Natural Resources' investigatory costs, and \$33,509.20 for the Department of Justice's attorney's fees and costs.

"This case is about leveling the playing field for all of the other Wisconsin businesses who comply with the law," Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen said. "Judge Johnston made clear what we've been saying all along: It is not an acceptable business strategy to ignore environmental compliance at the front end of a project because it might be cheaper to pay for the violations at the conclusion."

Assistant Attorney General Diane Milligan and former Assistant Attorney General Shari Eggleston prosecuted the case.

Van Hollen Announces Settlements in Trempealeau County Environmental Violations Cases

MADISON - Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen announced that Thomas A. Callaghan has agreed to pay fines and costs totaling \$5,000 for his unlawful discharge of pollutants into the waters of the state without a permit namely, metal shavings from Trempealeau Manufacturing, Inc., into a storm sewer manhole that led directly to the Buffalo River.

After the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducted an investigation and referred the matter to the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) for prosecution, a criminal charge was brought against Callaghan for this 2006 violation of environmental protection laws. Callaghan pled no contest to the charge and was found guilty at a hearing on November 10, 2009. Trempealeau County Circuit Court Judge John A. Damon approved the plea agreement

entered into between Callaghan and the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

In a related case, Callaghan's employer, Trempealeau Manufacturing, Inc., which fabricates metal parts for industrial mixers, has agreed to pay forfeitures and costs totaling \$18,907 in a civil action arising out of the same discharge. Judge Damon approved this settlement on November 10, 2009. Callaghan and Trempealeau Manufacturing cooperated with the Department of Justice.

"For the protection of Wisconsin citizens and our natural environment, the Wisconsin Department of Justice will continue to work with the DNR to ensure that Wisconsin environmental laws are followed," Van Hollen said.

Assistant Attorney General Mary Batt represented the State.

Milwaukee County Man Ordered to Pay Forfeitures and to Remove Sunken Barge From The Menomonee River

MILWAUKEE - Franklin businessman Basil E. Ryan, Jr., has been ordered to pay \$37,691.25 for violating Wisconsin's water regulation laws since a barge in his possession and control sank in the Menomonee River in July 2006. In addition, Ryan must pay to remove the barge from the river.

The State filed a complaint at the request of the Department of Natural Resources, charging Ryan with maintaining an obstruction in the Menomonee River since the barge sank in July 2006. According to the complaint and evidence presented during prosecution of the case, the barge had been moored to property that Ryan had owned and used for his car towing business on 260 North 12th Street in Milwaukee. Ryan had been ordered to remove the barge in July 2005 in a separate legal proceeding, but he had not complied with that order. The barge was in significant disrepair, and it sank on July 13, 2006. The Department of Natural Resources asked Ryan to remove the barge, and obtained bids for the barge's removal for Ryan's consideration, but Ryan refused to remove the barge.

Assistant Attorney General JoAnne F. Kloppenburg prosecuted the case. Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge Barbara Key approved the settlement on November 5, 2009.

The State moved for summary judgment as to Ryan's liability, and the Court found

entered into between Callaghan and the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

In a related case, Callaghan's employer, Trempealeau Manufacturing, Inc., which fabricates metal parts for industrial mixers, has agreed to pay forfeitures and costs totaling \$18,907 in a civil action arising out of the same discharge. Judge Damon approved this settlement on November 10, 2009. Callaghan and Trempealeau Manufacturing cooperated with the Department of Justice.

"For the protection of Wisconsin citizens and our natural environment, the Wisconsin Department of Justice will continue to work with the DNR to ensure that Wisconsin environmental laws are followed," Van Hollen said.

Assistant Attorney General Mary Batt represented the State.

U.S. Food & Drug Administration

FDA Takes Action against Seafood Processing Company, Executives

The U.S. Department of Justice, on behalf of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, has filed a complaint for permanent injunction against seafood processor Haifa Smoked Fish Inc. of Jamaica, N.Y., and two of its top officers for violations of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

If the court grants the injunction requested by the government, the company would stop the manufacture, distribution, and sale of its products, unless and until it has implemented measures to correct insanitary conditions and control the pathogenic bacterium *Listeria monocytogenes* (*L. mono.*) at the Haifa Smoked Fish facility. The act refers to insanitary conditions as insanitary.

"This company has consistently failed to make corrections to improve the insanitary conditions under which it processes smoked fish products, despite frequent warnings to do so," said Michael Chappell, the FDA's acting associate commissioner for regulatory affairs. "The FDA will not tolerate food companies that fail to provide adequate safeguards to protect the public."

The company processes and distributes brined, cold-smoked, and hot-smoked fish and fishery products. The violations documented by the FDA pose a public health hazard because, without adequate controls, products made by Haifa Smoked Fish could become contaminated with (*L. mono.*) or other pathogens and could cause serious illnesses.

"The public must be able to trust that the food in their grocery stores is safe for them to

eat," said Benton J. Campbell, the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York. "We will continue to work with the FDA to ensure that companies that produce food under dangerous or insanitary conditions take corrective action to clean up their act."

Since 2001, the FDA and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM) have inspected the Haifa Smoked Fish facility on numerous occasions. The inspections revealed insanitary conditions that could lead to the contamination of the finished product with *L. mono* or other pathogenic microorganisms. The act refers to insanitary conditions as insanitary.

FDA analyses of samples taken during the inspections revealed that food products and environmental surfaces, including food-contact surfaces, were contaminated with *L. mono*. The defendants also continually failed to comply with FDA's Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) regulations. HACCP regulations require that seafood processors identify all food safety hazards likely to occur for each kind of seafood product, and develop and implement adequate plans to prevent and control those hazards.

The FDA issued warning letters to Haifa Smoked Fish in 2001 and 2004. In response, company officers promised to correct the violations. Subsequent inspections, however, revealed that the company did not make the corrections.

The complaint was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Settles with Wisconsin Mercury Handler on Hazardous Waste Violations

CHICAGO (Nov. 10, 2009) - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 has reached an agreement with Mercury Waste Solutions LLC, Union Grove, Wis., resolving alleged violations of federal rules on hazardous waste and toxic substances. The company, which recovers and recycles metallic mercury, has agreed to pay a penalty of \$54,000 to settle the violations.

Mercury Waste Solutions, located at 21211 Durand Ave., was the site of an equipment malfunction in 2003 and again in 2006. Under the company's Resource Recovery and Conservation Act permit the facility must be maintained in a manner that minimizes the possibility of a fire, explosion or release of a hazardous waste. EPA inspectors found that the company failed to do so.

The compliance order also resolves allegations that the company has completed several projects to address the violations and minimize potential risk including installation of an air scrubber, a mercury monitoring system

and an air breathing system that would supply air to employees in case of an incident. Mercury Waste Solutions has also upgraded its control system, sealed facility floors and built a training room.

The compliance order also resolves allegations that the company violated federal rules on PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) including failure to document PCB storage, prepare spill prevention and control plans, and properly mark the PCB storage area.

EPA regulates the proper cleanup, disposal, marking, record-keeping, storage and limited use of PCBs under the Toxic Substances Control Act. PCBs are a group of toxic chemicals, once used widely in industry as coolants and lubricants. EPA banned the manufacture of PCBs in 1979 because of evidence that they accumulate in the environment and present health hazards for people.

Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, EPA regulates hazardous waste from production to final disposal.

Milwaukee Company Agrees to EPA Order; Will Comply with Federal Rules to Protect Stratospheric Ozone

Chicago (Oct. 21, 2009) - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 has issued an administrative consent order to Midwest Iron and Metal to comply with EPA regulations designed to protect the stratospheric ozone layer. The order affects the company's scrap metal recycling facility at 6760 N. Industrial Road, Milwaukee.

Midwest Iron and Metal has agreed, among other things, to recover ozone-depleting refrigerants from each appliance and motor vehicle air conditioner that it accepts or to verify that refrigerants have been recovered according to EPA regulations. The company will keep a log of the details of refrigerant recovery.

EPA cited Midwest Iron and Metal in February alleging the company was in violation of federal regulations because it did not

recover refrigerant and did not obtain proper verification statements from suppliers of small appliances.

The allegations resulted from a July 2008 EPA inspection and a subsequent information request.

Chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants and certain substitute refrigerants deplete the stratospheric, or "good," ozone layer, allowing dangerous amounts of cancer-causing ultraviolet rays from the sun to strike the earth. Production of some of these chemicals was stopped in 1995, and federal law strictly controls their use and handling.

Information about EPA Region 5's air enforcement program is at <http://www.epa.gov/region5/air/enforce/index.html>. Potential environmental violations may be reported at <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/complaints>.

Wisconsin Department of Justice

Brookfield Man and His Corporation Sentenced For Illegally Storing Hazardous Waste and Obstructing Law Enforcement

BROOKFIELD - Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen announced that on October 20, 2009, the Honorable David C. Resheske, Washington County Circuit Court, sentenced Dale Knutson of Brookfield and his corporation, CAAP, Inc., for illegally storing hazardous waste on property in the Town of Erin in Washington County. Knutson was also sentenced for two counts of obstructing for giving false information to Washington County Deputy Sheriff Kevin Mass and DNR Environmental Warden Jenny Gibson.

On the hazardous waste felony, Knutson was placed on probation for three years and ordered to reimburse the DNR \$8,391.57 for its response costs, comply with the State's hazardous waste laws for the investigation and closure of the site as a hazardous waste facility, perform 100 hours of community service, and not handle or dispose of hazardous waste or hazardous materials without a license during probation. Knutson was also sentenced to 45 days in jail for obstructing Deputy Mass and 30 days in jail for obstructing Environmental

Warden Gibson. CAAP, Inc. received a fine of \$30,000 plus costs for the illegally storage of hazardous waste.

The case charged that Knutson and CAAP, Inc. between October 12, 2004, and October 19, 2005, stored acid, which was found to be a hazardous waste, in a van at Knutson's property without a hazardous waste storage license. The violation was discovered by Washington County Deputies as they investigated a suspicious vehicle complaint. The Department of Natural Resources was called in and continued the investigation. The obstructing charges arose from Knutson giving false information to law enforcement during their investigation. The defendants were convicted of these counts by a Washington County jury on August 26, 2009.

The case was investigated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Washington County Sheriff Department and was prosecuted by Assistant Attorneys General Diane Milligan and Steven Tinker.

FDA To Look Into Safety of Caffeinated Alcoholic Beverages

The Food and Drug Administration recently notified nearly 30 manufacturers of caffeinated alcoholic beverages that it intends to look into the safety and legality of their products.

"The increasing popularity of consumption of caffeinated alcoholic beverages by college students and reports of potential health and safety issues necessitates that we look seriously at the scientific evidence as soon as possible," said Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, principal deputy commissioner of food and drugs.

Of the combined use of caffeine and alcohol among U.S. college students in the few studies on this topic, the prevalence was as high as 26 percent.

Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, a substance added intentionally to food (such as caffeine in alcoholic beverages) is deemed "unsafe" and is unlawful unless its particular use has been approved by FDA regulation, the substance is subject to a prior sanction, or the substance is Generally Recognized As Safe (GRAS). FDA has not approved the use of caffeine in alcoholic beverages and thus such beverages can be lawfully marketed only if their use is subject to a prior sanction or is GRAS. For a substance to be GRAS, there must be evidence of its safety at the levels used and a basis to conclude that this evidence is generally known and accepted by qualified experts.

The FDA alerted manufacturers to the fact that the agency is considering whether caffeine can lawfully be added to alcoholic beverages. The FDA noted that it is unaware of the basis upon which manufacturers may have

concluded that the use of caffeine in alcoholic beverages is GRAS or prior sanctioned. To date, the FDA has only approved caffeine as an additive for use in soft drinks in concentrations of no greater than 200 parts per million. It has not approved caffeine for use at any level in alcoholic beverages.

The FDA requested that, within 30 days, the companies produce evidence of their rationale, with supporting data and information, for concluding that the use of caffeine in their product is GRAS or prior sanctioned. FDA's letter informed each company that if FDA determines that the use of caffeine in the firm's alcoholic beverages is not GRAS or prior sanctioned, FDA will take appropriate action to ensure that the products are removed from the marketplace.

In the past year, Anheuser-Busch and Miller agreed to discontinue their popular caffeinated alcoholic beverages, Tilt and Bud Extra and Sparks, and agreed to not produce any caffeinated alcoholic beverages in the future.

The federal agency with primary responsibility for regulating alcoholic beverages, the Treasury Department's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, requires that alcoholic beverages contain only ingredients that satisfy FDA's requirements for use.

In late September, the FDA received a letter from 18 Attorneys General and one city attorney expressing concerns about caffeinated alcoholic beverages.

For more information visit: <http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodIngredientsPackaging/ucm190366.htm>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Nami Resources Company, LLC Pleads Guilty to Violating Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts

London, KY. —The United States Attorney's Office, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Environmental Protection Agency jointly announced today that a resources company based out of London, Ky. pleaded guilty yesterday to charges that it discharged pollutants into a water source in Knox County that killed two fish on the threatened species list.

Nami Resources Company, LLC pleaded guilty to an information filed by the U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of Kentucky in August that charged the company with violating the Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts.

The company admitted that in 2007 it dis-

charged drilling and fracturing fluids without a permit into a water source in Knox County that killed two Blackside Dace and effected other aquatic life. Blackside Dace is a fish less than three inches long and primarily found in Kentucky's Cumberland River.

Both of the fluids that were discharged are typically used in the production of natural gas. The company was fined \$50,000 for the charges (\$25,000 for violating each act).

The case was investigated by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The United States was represented by Assistant United States Attorney Roger West.

Associate Membership and Affiliate Clubs

The Federation's Awards Committee solicits/invites your participation to nominate person(s) and organizations for the 2010 W.W.F. Conservation Achievement Awards Program!



CONSERVATION LEGISLATOR

For outstanding legislative accomplishment during the past year which has made a significant contribution to the preservation and management of our state's natural resources.



CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

For the outstanding contribution to the conservation effort by an organization in the state during the past year. Statewide or local bona fide organizations including sportsmen's clubs, civic organizations, etc., are eligible. Recipient should have demonstrated keen interest in projects and programs within the state which deal with basic and serious natural resource problems and have evolved an action program stemming from that interest.

YOUTH CONSERVATIONIST

For the outstanding conservation effort by a person who did not attain the age of 19 during the past year – Youth groups acting together in a conservation program are also eligible. The winner should have demonstrated ability, leadership, and accomplishment in any phase of conservation, either individually or as a group.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATIONIST

For outstanding accomplishment in making a significant contribution to the management and/or restoration of wildlife resources in Wisconsin during the past year.

CONSERVATION EDUCATOR

For the outstanding effort in conservation education in the state during the past year. The recipient should have accomplished and demonstrated recognized education methods directed toward the use or conservation of natural resources.



SOIL, AIR, AND WATER CONSERVATIONIST (3 categories)

For outstanding contribution to the conservation of our soil, air, or water during the past year. Recipient could be a landowner, administrator, or technician involved with such things as small watershed development, approved soil conservation measures, wetlands or estuarine conservation, wild river protection, establishment of air or water quality standards, control of specific air or water pollution problems, etc.

FOREST CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

For outstanding effort in forest conservation during the past year. Eligible areas of effort include tree planting, timber stand improvement, and other forest management practices with emphasis on the development of multiple-use programs on forest lands.



WARDEN OF THE YEAR

For outstanding efforts within the community on environmental and conservation issues, habitat restructuring and wise use of our natural resources.

CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

For the outstanding overall conservation effort and achievement in any field of natural resource management, for a significant contribution to the cause of conservation, or for meaningful progress or achievement toward a solution of a major conservation problem in the state during the past year. Nominees from all other categories can be considered for the Conservationist of the Year Award.

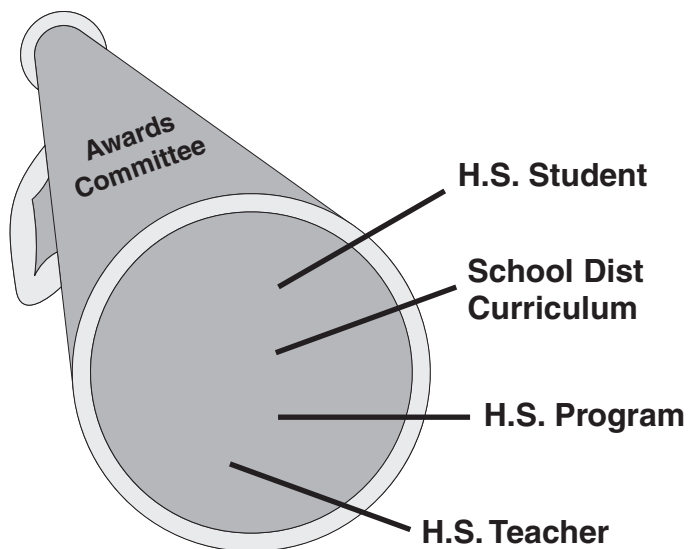
**Deserving persons' unselfish achievements should be appropriately recognized

CONSERVATION COMMUNICATOR

For the outstanding conservation effort by a person, newspaper, magazine, radio station, or television station in the state during the past year. Recipient of this award may be any recognized communication medium within the state. A person, organization, or group which has accomplished the most in creating a public awareness of the importance of natural resource conservation.

HUNTER SAFETY EDUCATION

This award may be given to an individual volunteer or a volunteer organization deeply involved in the hunter safety program. To an individual or team who, during the past year, accomplished an unusual degree of improvement, both in quality and numbers of youths completing hunter safety education courses.





2010 Conservation Calendar

120 Firearms

Odds of Winning - 1 in 28 (365 prizes)

\$20.00 Donation

A gift for all occasions

**\$5K ATV
June 21st**

**\$1000
CASH PRIZE
ON THE 1ST
OF EACH
MONTH**

\$100,000 in Retail Gifts and Prizes

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.wiwf.org

December Prize Identification

January 24th	Stevens S Model 200 7MM-08	July 26th	Remington 870 Express 12GA
February 19th	Benelli Nova 12GA 3.5 Syn	August 22nd	Remington 870 Super Mag Turkey 12GA
March 30th	Savage 64 FXP w/scope	September 16th	Ruger M77 Blued 30.06
April 15th	Marlin 1895 Guide Gun 45-70	October 27th	Mossberg 500 410
May 23rd	Remington 870 Super Mag Turkey 12GA	November 24th	Savage 17HMR Pkg w/scope
June 27th	Marlin 917 M2 17M2	December 25th	\$900 CASH

Calendar Sales Persons and Locations

W.W.F. Office, W7303 County Road CS & Q, Poynette, WI 53955-9690
608-635-2742, include \$2.00 mailing fee

Scott Dempewolf.....Appleton	Corky Meyer.....Kewaskum	Betty Borchert.....Oshkosh
Main Street Ed's.....Argonne	Ed Coppersmith.....Kewaunee	Doug Flouro.....Oshkosh
Schultz Shooting Supply.....Argonne	Greg Kloss.....LaCrosse	Dennis Reinhart.....Osseo
Laura Huber.....Arpin	Eric Olson.....LaCrosse	Parnell Tavern.....Parnell
Laurel Dewey.....Ashland	Ralph Scheck.....LaCrosse	Old Mill.....Phlox
Shirley Schroeder.....Beaver Dam	Firelite Lounge.....Lakewood	Jerry Schul's Sportsman Lodge.....Pickarel
Ed Dolata.....Berlin	Danz Bar.....Laona	Larry Vanderhoeff.....Plainfield
Doug Kurth.....Big Bend	Silver Lake Inn.....Laona	Jerry Knuth.....Plover
Jim Spielbauer.....Black River Falls	Joe's Place.....Lily	Dorothy Behr.....Plymouth
Ken Barbian.....Brookfield	Big 4+ Sportsman Club.....Long Lake	Dave Taylor.....Plymouth
Brule Sportsmen's Club.....Brule	Jim Falish.....Luxemburg	Al Phelan.....Port Wing
Jennifer Evans.....Cambria	Jim Gleash.....Madison	Derek Duane.....Poynette
Chuck Matyska.....Cecil	George Meyer.....Madison	Ruth Ann Lee.....Poynette
Gale Engel.....Chippewa Falls	Deb Schotten.....Mauston	Bev's Saddle Mound Tap.....Pray
Dave & Tami's Marsh Inn.....Collins	Dan Gries.....Menasha	Larry Freitag.....Sheboygan
Michael Pinter.....Cudahy	Doug Gries.....Menasha	Jim Meinert.....Sheboygan
Rev's Windbreaker.....Deerbrook	John Koester.....Menasha	Jean Reinemann.....Sheboygan Falls
Robert Fischer.....Dorchester	Louie Quella.....Menasha	Roger Borkowski.....South Milwaukee
Jack Nissen.....Dousman	Bruce Terwillegar.....Menasha	Bob Miller.....Sparta
Tom Nissen.....Dousman	Tony's Bar.....Menasha	Joe Zanter.....Sparta
Mike Rynearson.....Dousman	Dave Versteegan.....Menasha/Crivitz	Tom Hess.....Star Prairie
Doug Burrows.....Eau Claire	Ruby Schoengarth.....Merrillan	Jon Schaefer.....Stratford
Rick Baesemann.....Elkhart Lake	Don Hammes.....Middleton	Steve Pease.....Sullivan
Lil Pipping.....Elkhart Lake	Carolyn Brown.....Milton	Ralph Fritsch.....Townsend
Jared Wenninger.....Elkhart Lake	Marshall Kaiser.....Mosinee	Backhaus Retreat.....Wabeno
Mike Arrowood.....Fond du Lac	Jeanne Hrubes.....Muscodia	Rusty Wabeno Bowl.....Wabeno
Frank Micale.....Fort Atkinson	Jeff Niemuth.....Neenah	Jim Weishan.....Wabeno
Tom Dahlen.....Granton	Twin City Rod & Gun Club.....Neenah	Dave Chingway.....Watertown
Keith Pamperin.....Green Bay	Timberline Taxidermy.....Neillsville	Tom Cramer.....Watertown
Jim Kaddatz.....Greendale	Wayne Winter.....Neshkoro	Jim Huhn.....Watertown
Robert Golke.....Greenfield	Tim Ciminski.....Oak Creek	Bret Loescher.....Watertown
Larry Laehn.....Greenville	Jim's Sporting Goods.....Oconomowoc	Rick Lazarczyk.....West Allis
Deer View Lodge.....Hatfield	John Wagner.....Oconomowoc	Rick Todd.....West Bend
Kevin Dotesy.....Hixton	Craig Challoner.....Omro	Russ Hitz.....Wheeler
John Wetzzel.....Holman	Bob Kirk.....Omro	Mike Stueck.....Whitelaw
Jim Meinnert.....Howards Grove	Dan Billmann.....Oostburg	Jim Komscen.....Whitehall
Wayne Thayer.....Janesville	Brian Hobbs.....Osceola	Slim & Maryann's.....Zittau

DNR Fisheries Staff to Assist in Treatment of Illinois Shipping Canal

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will assist the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in chemically treating a portion of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal to prevent movement of Asian carp into Lake Michigan. The canal will be closed to all traffic beginning Dec. 2 for a period of four to five days, weather permitting.

Wisconsin will be sending state biologists and supplies to help with the chemical treatment aimed at keeping the carp from swimming into Lake Michigan during maintenance work on an electric barrier that normally keeps the fish from

moving into the lake.

"Asian carp are an invasive species and a grave threat to Wisconsin," said Wisconsin DNR Secretary Matt Frank. "The fish are present in the ship canal which provides direct access to Lake Michigan and Wisconsin inland waters. The barrier is our last line of defense and we are glad to provide any assistance we can to this critical effort."

Frank added that the rotenone application was a temporary measure and that Wisconsin would continue to push hard for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to operate the carp barrier at full capacity and to find a permanent

solution for dealing with this invasive risk. "More than 35 million Americans depend on the Great Lakes, and our region's commercial and sport fishing industries contribute greatly to our regional economy," he said.

Asian carp have been known to cause injury to boaters. The vibration of a spinning propeller excites these large fish and boaters have been struck when they leap out of the water. The carp also damage aquatic plants important to native fish species, potentially threatening fish populations and fishing, and contributing to water quality problems including algae blooms.

The current plan of action is to treat the waters of the canal with Rotenone, a chemical frequently used to remove undesirable fish from a water body. The chemical does not present a risk to people of other wildlife when used properly. Wisconsin DNR maintains a core group of fisheries employees (Rotenone Application Team) who possess experience in chemical treatment projects and understand all applicable rules and regulations.

Questions regarding details of the operation should be directed to Chris McCloud, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, (217) 785-0075.

EPA Study Reveals Widespread Contamination of Fish in U.S. Lakes and Reservoirs

EPA Release

WASHINGTON – A new EPA study shows concentrations of toxic chemicals in fish tissue from lakes and reservoirs in nearly all 50 U.S. states. For the first time, EPA is able to estimate the percentage of lakes and reservoirs nationwide that have fish containing potentially harmful levels of chemicals such as mercury and PCBs.

“These results reinforce Administrator Jackson’s strong call for revitalized protection of our nation’s waterways and long-overdue action to protect the American people,” said Peter S. Silva, assistant administrator for EPA’s Office of Water. “EPA is aggressively tackling the issues the report highlights. Before the results were even finalized, the agency initiated efforts to further reduce toxic mercury pollution and strengthen enforcement of the Clean Water Act – all part of a renewed effort to protect the nation’s health and environment.”

The data showed mercury concentrations in game fish exceeding EPA’s recommended levels at 49 percent of lakes and reservoirs nationwide, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in game fish at levels of potential concern at 17 percent of lakes and reservoirs. These findings are based on a comprehensive national study using more data on levels of contamination in fish tissue than any previous study.

Burning fossil fuels, primarily coal, accounts for nearly half of mercury air emissions caused by human activity in the U.S., and those emissions are a significant contributor to mercury in water bodies. From 1990 through 2005, emissions of mercury into the air decreased by 58 percent. EPA is committed to developing a new rule to substantially

reduce mercury emissions from power plants, and the Obama Administration is actively supporting a new international agreement that will reduce mercury emissions worldwide.

The study also confirms the widespread occurrence of PCBs and dioxins in fish, illustrating the need for federal, state and local government to continue efforts to reduce the presence of these harmful chemicals in our lakes and reservoirs and ensure that fish advisory information is readily available.

It is important that women of child-bearing age and children continue to follow the advice of EPA and the Food and Drug Administration on fish consumption as it relates to mercury. This study is also a strong message to state and local governments to redouble their efforts in looking for opportunities to reduce mercury discharges, as well as developing fish advisories, especially to reach those in sensitive and vulnerable populations.

Results from the four-year National Study of Chemical Residues in Lake Fish Tissue show that mercury and PCBs are widely distributed in U.S. lakes and reservoirs. Mercury and PCBs were detected in all of the fish samples collected from the nationally representative sample of 500 lakes and reservoirs in the study. Because these findings apply to fish caught in lakes and reservoirs, it is particularly important for recreational and subsistence fishers to follow their state and local fish advisories.

EPA is conducting other statistically based national aquatic surveys that include assessment of fish contamination, such as the National Rivers and Streams Assessment and the National Coastal Assessment. Sampling for the National Rivers and Streams Assessment is underway, and results

from this two-year study are expected to be available in 2011. Collection of fish

samples for the National Coastal Assessment will begin in 2010.

Rebuilding of Power Line May Result in Incidental Take of Rare Lizard

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.

The rebuilding and maintenance of an existing electrical transmission line from Plainfield to south of Coloma in Waushara County could result in the “incidental taking” of a lizard that is listed as an endangered species in Wisconsin, under a permit the Department of Natural Resources proposes to authorize for the project.

American Transmission Company (ATC) is planning to replace damaged utility poles, string new shield wire, and complete other maintenance activities along the transmission line known as Y-90 or Chaffee Creek to Plainfield located in the Towns of Coloma, Hancock and Plainfield in Waushara County.

Portions of the project corridor include habitat that is suitable for the state endangered slender glass lizard (*Ophisaurus attenuatus*), including oak savannas, sand prairies, old fields with sandy soils, and woodland edges. DNR biologists have confirmed the presence of the slender glass lizard in the vicinity of the project site and determined that the species is likely present and that the proposed project may result in the incidental taking of some lizards.

Incidental take refers to the uninten-

tional loss of individual endangered or threatened animals or plants that does not put the overall population of the species at risk.

However, the department has concluded that the proposed project will minimize the impacts to the lizard by adhering to conservation measures; is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence and recovery of the state population of these lizards or the whole plant-animal community of which they are a part; and has benefit to the public health, safety or welfare that justifies the action.

In order to minimize possible impacts to the slender glass lizard, the project will conduct work during the lizard’s inactive period, minimize the area of project disturbance, and restore disturbed areas to pre-existing conditions.

The conservation measures to minimize the adverse effect on this endangered species will be incorporated into the proposed Incidental Take Authorization. Copies of the jeopardy assessment and background information on the slender glass lizard are available on the Incidental Take pages of the DNR Web site or upon request from Rori Paloski, Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Endangered Resources, 101 South Webster, Madison, WI 53707, (608) 264-6040. Public comments will be taken through December 1, 2009 and should be sent to Ms. Paloski at the above address.

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation’s Annual Statewide Banquet

January 30, 2010

Ho-Chunk Casino & Convention Center
S3214 Hwy 12, Baraboo, WI 53913



Tickets

Tickets for this year’s banquet are the same as last year – \$125.00. This year we will be limiting the amount of tickets to 350. The doors open at 5:00 p.m. with cocktails (cash bar), followed by dinner at 6:30.

Room Reservations

Ho-Chunk will be holding a limited amount of rooms for banquet participants – so don’t delay. ROOM RATES: \$77.00 + tax (Double Queen or Single King). Room release date is January 22, 2010. **ROOM BLOCK CODE: IWWFA10. Room reservations must be made through the Hotel, Toll-Free: (800) 746-2486 or (608) 356-6210.**

The Early Bird Wins The Cash!!

Anyone registering on or before January 16, 2010 will be entered into an Early Bird Drawing. There will be **FOUR \$100 Winners** in this year’s early bird drawing.

Raffle Tickets Package

(Must be bought prior to the banquet)

Pre buy and get \$240 worth of raffle tickets for \$100.

The night of the banquet tickets will be sold (1-\$10, 3-\$20, 8-\$50)

Cash Tables

50/50 • Wheel of Fortune • Walk Around
& Honda Foreman TRX 500 Raffle

ATV Raffle tickets can be pre-bought 2 for \$50, the night of the banquet they will be \$50 each. The ATV raffle is limited to 200 tickets sold.

Conservation Sponsors Drawing

There will be **Four winners** in this year’s conservation drawing. **1-\$500.00, 1-\$250.00 and 2-\$100.00.** \$10.00 to enter this drawing and you may enter as many times as you’d like, however you will not be able to buy tickets for this drawing the night of the banquet.

Reserved Tables

Tables are set at 8 but we will reserve tables for groups of 6 or more. Please contact Wayne Thayer, e-mail: wat68@t6b.com or phone: 608-754-4965.

Grand Prize – \$10,000

For additional ticket information, please contact Marge Spencer, Banquet Treasurer, 302 S. Academy St. Apt. #1, Janesville, WI 53548. Phone (608) 752-9946 or Wayne Thayer, Banquet Chairman, 3841 S. Arizona Tr., Janesville, WI 53546. Phone (608) 754-4965 or e-mail wat68@t6b.com.

Winners are responsible for all state and federal taxes on their winnings and we will need social security number for any winnings over \$600.

Due to recent new federal gun laws, all winners of firearms will have to go through background checks. Make sure you have your driver’s license with you. Sorry for the inconvenience but it’s the law.

Corps of Engineers and Dairyland, Wis., Partner to Repair Radigan Dam

U.S. Corps of Engineers Release 11/09

SAIN'T PAUL, MINN. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, and Dairyland, Wis., signed a project cooperation agreement Oct. 28 to renovate the Radigan Dam in Dairyland.

The project will consist of removing old stoplogs from the dam and installing new split-leaf gates. Construction will begin in the spring of 2010 and is expected to be complete by the fall of 2010. The project is estimated to cost \$236,000 of

which the federal government will pay \$177,000.

Corps' projects such as this one are authorized and funded under the Northern Wisconsin Section 154 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2001. The program is to provide design and construction assistance to local governments for carrying out water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection projects in the four northernmost counties of the Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District.

Wisconsin's Electronics Recycling Bill Signed into Law

Manufacturers of certain electronic products sold in Wisconsin will be required to assume responsibility for the collection and proper disposal of discarded household electronic devices under a new recycling bill that has been signed into law.

Gov. Jim Doyle signed into law Senate

Bill 107 on Oct. 23. The law requirements become effective Jan. 1, 2010.



Bill 107 on Oct. 23. The law requirements become effective Jan. 1, 2010.

The law bans certain electronics from landfills and requires electronics manu-

facturers to register with the Department of Natural Resources and arrange for responsible recycling and disposal of consumer electronics including video displays, computers and printers.

"This is giant step forward in the state's nationally noted recycling efforts," said DNR Secretary Matt Frank. Electronics manufacturers, recyclers, collectors and retailers and municipal officials involved with electronics recycling were encouraged to attend one of three remaining public stakeholder meetings in November the DNR is conducting to provide information related to the new electronics recycling law.

The DNR has also put together an electronics recycling media kit explaining the basics of the law, a general timeline for implementation, and statistics on electronics use and recycling. The kit also contains a link to register for the public informational meetings, and several quotes from the DNR's Waste and Materials Management Program director.

More information is also available on the Managing Used or Discarded Electronics page of the DNR Web site.

Wisconsin is First State with Lead-Based Paint Renovation, Repair and Painting Program

EPA Release

CHICAGO (Nov. 12, 2009) – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 has announced that two of Wisconsin's lead-based paint programs have been federally authorized. They are the Lead-based Paint Renovation, Repair and Painting program, and the Pre-Renovation Education program.

Wisconsin is the first state authorized to administer and enforce the Renovation, Repair and Painting rule which mandates training and licensing in lead-safe work practices for construction contractors, property managers and others that work in homes and child-occupied facilities built before 1978. Gov. James E. Doyle has certified that the Wisconsin programs, to be administered by the division of public health, are at least as protective as EPA's and provide adequate enforcement.

The Lead-based Paint Pre-Renovation Education program requires construction contractors, property managers and others that perform renovations for compensation to distribute the lead pamphlet "Renovate Right; Important Lead Hazard Information for Families, Child Care Providers and Schools" to owners and occupants before starting renovation work.

"We commend Wisconsin for taking the initiative to prevent further lead poisoning by ensuring that work that dis-

turbs paint is done in a lead-safe manner," said Bharat Mathur, acting administrator for EPA Region 5.

"We are very pleased to be implementing these lead-safe renovation programs in Wisconsin," said Karen Timberlake, Wisconsin Department of Public Health secretary. "Renovators and rental property owners play a big part in protecting children from lead-based paint hazards in their homes. With the training and lead-safe work practices implemented with these programs, they will make even more, older Wisconsin homes safe for children."

Lead contaminated dust is the most significant source of lead exposure for children. Common renovation activities like sanding, cutting and demolition can create hazardous lead dust and chips by disturbing lead-based paint, which can be harmful to adults and children. Lead-based paint was used in more than 38 million homes until it was banned for residential use in 1978.

Lead exposure can cause reduced IQ, learning disabilities, development delays and behavioral problems in young children.

For more information about Wisconsin's new program, including information on applying for certification or locating training, contact the Wisconsin Lead Program at 608-261-6876, or visit the state Web site at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead>.

Voluntary Urban Forestry Practices Aim to Protect Community Forests

The challenge of addressing invasive species in urban and community forests has received a boost with a new publication on stopping the spread of invasive species in Wisconsin forests.

The voluntary guidelines "Wisconsin's Urban Forestry Best Management Practices for Preventing the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Species," are comprehensive, common-sense suggestions for everyone who works in, works with, and/or enjoys urban and community forests to protect them from the threat posed by invasives. The guidelines are available on the Wisconsin Council on Forestry Web site at [\[council.wisconsin-forestry.org/invasives/urban\]](http://council.wisconsin-forestry.org/invasives/urban).

"By taking reasonable and practical precautions today, we can help protect Wisconsin's urban forests and other lands into the future," said Thomas Boos, Department of Natural Resources forestry invasive plants coordinator.

Invasives spread easily when someone who has walked through an infested area accidentally transports seeds on their clothing or invertebrates on a vehicle; when firewood from diseased trees is moved from one area to another; when equipment is not cleaned after working in an infested area and seeds are moved to a non-infested site; or when no activity is occurring but invasive plants are allowed to "take over" a site. The damage caused by invasive species is wide-ranging. Invasives do not respect boundaries; they can spread from urban to rural forests and vice-versa.

The Wisconsin Council on Forestry, an advisory group that advises the governor on forestry-related issues, has worked in partnership with DNR Forestry Division staff and other stakeholder groups to develop a set of urban forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs). The urban forestry recommendations place a strong emphasis on the importance of prevention activities and the need for public awareness, and also offer practical suggestions that are easy to incorporate as standard procedures.

"The urban recommendations focus on the unique challenges presented by invasives in urban areas," Boos said. "The manual is addressed to arborists, urban foresters, nursery growers, retail-

ers, landscape architects, landscape contractors, grounds managers, non-profits, local governments, private property owners and others."

A major challenge of addressing invasive species collectively is the large and growing number of species that threaten Wisconsin forests. While the emerald ash borer and gypsy moth often get media attention, the problem includes invasive plants such as garlic mustard and buck-thorn and diseases such as beech bark disease.

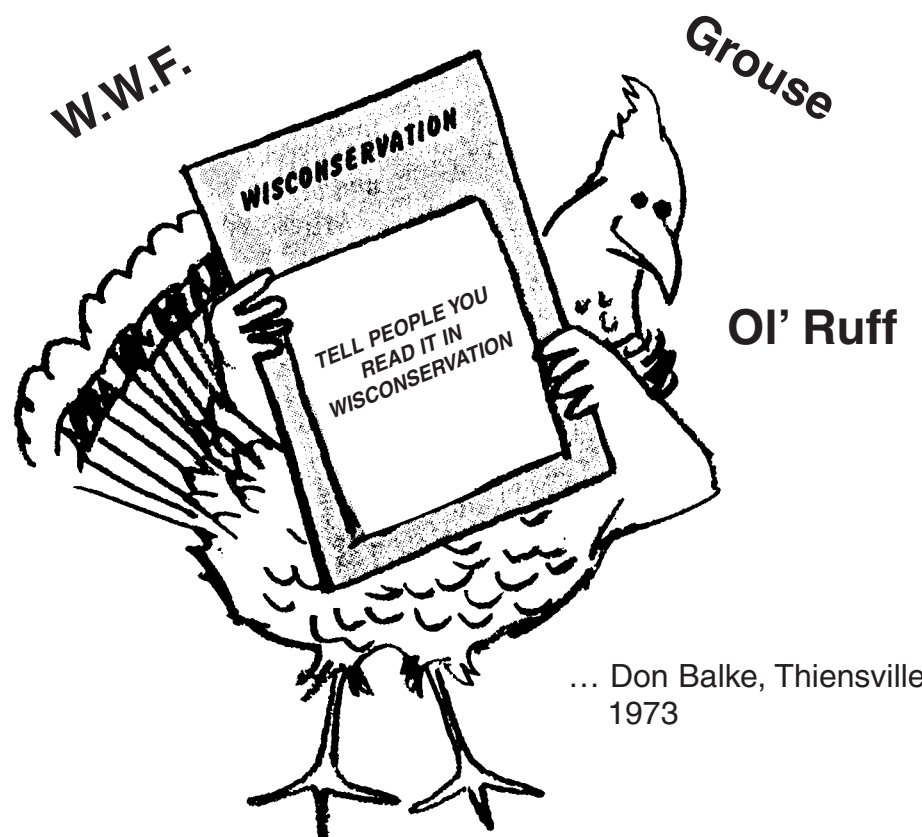
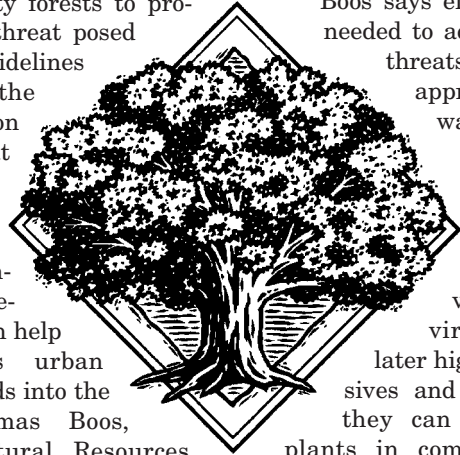
Boos says effective guidelines are needed to address many different threats and a wide range of appropriate responses. It was also necessary for them to be easily adapted to address newly emerging threats. "Not taking preventative measures virtually guarantees a later high cost to control invasives and the negative impact they can have on trees and plants in communities and other forested areas throughout Wisconsin," he says.

In 2004, the Wisconsin Council on Forestry identified the threat of invasive species as the most critical issue facing Wisconsin's forests and set out to develop BMPs to deal with them. Invasive species (including plants, insects, and diseases) can kill trees, reduce the benefits provided by forests, decrease overall biodiversity, and burden taxpayers with exorbitant control costs.

"By raising awareness of the problem, sharing information and adopting sound management practices, it is possible to ensure the jobs and the environmental, economic, and social benefits of Wisconsin's forests will remain strong", Boos said.

"We all have a hand in reducing the negative impacts of invasive species," Boos said. Invasives do not respect boundaries. Individual property owners, urban forestry practitioners, professionals, local, state and federal governments and special interest groups all have a hand in the management of invasives in our urban and community forests."

"Ultimately, everyone involved in the care and management of trees, shrubs and other vegetation shares in the responsibility of preventing and controlling invasives."



... Don Balke, Thiensville 1973

Take Note!

- Executive Director.** Page 3.
- Shoreline Development.** Page 4.
- Conservation Awards.** Pages 5 & 8.
- Environmental Enforcement.** Pages 6 & 7.
- 2010 Calendar on Sale.** Page 9.
- Winter Banquet.** Page 10.

Editor D. A. Gries

19th Annual

Kids' Ice Fishing Clinics

Saturday, February 6, 2010
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- **Free ice fishing instruction** including ice safety, knot tying, proper equipment and techniques.
- For children 15 years and younger; small children must be accompanied by an adult
- Taught by members of local fishing clubs
- Clinics will begin every hour starting at 9 a.m., with the last session starting at 2 p.m.
- All fishing equipment provided
- **No pre-registration required**, for more information, or groups of 20 or more, call 414-263-8614



Dress warmly and meet at one of the following park lagoons:

Waukesha County

Menomonee Park/Lannon Quarry, Townline Rd. (1/2 mile north of Good Hope Rd., Menomonee Falls (hosted by **Badger Fishermen's League**)

Milwaukee County

- **Humboldt Park**, 3000 S. Howell Ave. (hosted by Great Lakes Sport Fishermen & Milwaukee Casting Club)
- **McCarty Park**, 8214 W. Cleveland - wheelchair accessible (hosted by Southside Sportsmen)
- **McGovern Park**, 5400 N. 51st St. - wheelchair accessible (hosted by Okauchee Fishing Club)
- **Scout Lake**, 5902 W. Loomis Rd. - wheelchair accessible (hosted by Walleyes Unlimited)
- **Wilson Park**, 1601 W. Howard Ave. (hosted- by Wisconsin Fishing Club)

Sponsored in cooperation with the Wisconsin Council of Sport Fishing Organizations, Milwaukee County Parks, Milwaukee County House of Correction Fish Hatchery, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

WWF BANQUET CALENDAR

DISTRICT	CONTACT	DATE	LOCATION
Dist 4 Central WI	Laura Huber 715-569-4061 Jerry Knuth 715-344-0017	Sat. Feb. 27, 2010	Shooters Plover, WI
Dist 4 West (Neillsville)	Tom Dahlen	April 3, 2010	TBA
Dist 5 Fox Valley	Doug Gries 920-722-5484	March 25, 2010	Darboy Supper Club Darboy, WI
Dist 6 North Black River Falls	Ruby 715-333-2843	March 6, 2010	Club 95 Hixton, WI
Dist 8 West (Waukesha)	Jack Nissen 262-370-8154	March 26, 2010	Olympia Resort Oconomowoc, WI
Dist 9 Milwaukee	Jeff Chojnacki 414-764-6638 call after 3:30pm	March 26, 2010	Klemmer's Inn
State Wide Conservation Banquet	Wayne Thayer 608-754-4965 Marge Spencer 608-752-9946	Jan. 30, 2010	Ho-Chunk Casino Wisconsin

2009 WWF Print Available



"Morning Majesty"
Brian Kuether

Edition Size: Signed and Numbered 400
 Image Size: 17.5" x 24"
 Price: \$25.00
 Remarques 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: bkduble@yahoo.com

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Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
 W7303 County Road CS & Q
 Poynette, Wisconsin 53955
 (608) 635-2742

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November 2009 Calendar Winners



1	\$1000 Cash	Wayne Stadtmueller, Oshkosh, WI	8924
2	Browning BLR 81 7mm-08	Jeff Christel, Reedsville, WI	4950
3	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Chuck Wysocky, Altoona, WI	572
4	\$100 Cash	Iela Behrens, Iron Ridge, WI	5192
5	TC Hawken 50cal	Paul Bertrand, Luxemburg, WI	7386
6	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Mike Dietz, Sheboygan, WI	134
7	Tika T3 lite SS 270 WSM	Ronald Sippel, Cascade, WI	3067
8	\$100 Cash	Steve Held, Iron Ridge, WI	88
9	Benelli Nova 12ga 3.5" syn	Ron Arenson, Wisconsin Rapids, WI	9262
10	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Ryan Palubicki, Crandon, WI	2078
11	\$100 Cash	Glenn & Nancy Pfeffer, Caledonia, WI	1419
12	Remington 700 SPS syn blu 270	Jesse Boutin, LaCrosse, WI	3361
13	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Becky Cox, St. Joseph, MI	603
14	CZ Mallard 104 20ga	Bob Torger, Ferryville, WI	4170
15	\$100 Cash	Duane & Joan Culver, Wisconsin Dells, WI	2922
16	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Dan Jon Dall, Watertown, WI	6225
17	Ruger M77 blued 30-06	David Dixon, Burlington, WI	8224
18	\$100 Cash	Steve Pease, Sullivan, WI	7779
19	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Dale Peterson, Fort Atkinson, WI	5012
20	\$100 Cash	Eileen Miller, Sparta, WI	8331
21	CVA optima nickle/camo 209x50	The Dug Out - Jimmy, Manitowoc, WI	7765
22	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Mark Pettis, Hertel, WI	2290
23	\$100 Cash	Bob Burhop, Grafton, WI	8
24	Savage 17 HMR Pkg w/scope	Lynn Schubert, Lomira, WI	3855
25	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Cory Harrison, Menasha, WI	2476
26	\$100 Cash	Tim Behselich, Fort Atkinson, WI	7324
27	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Kenn Klement, West Allis, WI	1021
28	NEF Pardner Pump 12ga	Jacob Korth, Cecil, WI	1820
29	\$100 Cash	Grace Moseley, Tomah, WI	3319
30	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Jay Barrientes, Ixonia, WI	167