

Wisconsin Conservation



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Planning Ahead!

2011 Spring Turkey Season

Preliminary permit levels for the spring turkey season are set at 225,420 total permits (not including Ft. McCoy or State Park & Disabled Only Hunting Zones). This is the same number of permits that were available for the 2010 spring season.

Total permits available for the 2011 Black Bear Hunt has not yet been determined. The Natural Resources Board will take up the proposed black bear quotas and harvest permit levels at its January meeting. The preliminary harvest for 2010 is 4,969 black bears, but that number will likely go up once all registration stubs are collected and entered. Hunters registered 4,009 bears in 2009.

MADISON – Wild turkey and black bear hunters have until close of business on Dec. 10 to apply for available permits for the 2011 Wisconsin spring turkey hunting season and the 2011 black bear hunting season.

Hunters interested in receiving email updates can sign up for the DNR's GovDelivery service. Just go to the DNR's website at dnr.wi.gov and click on the "Subscribe to DNR Updates" link under the Online Services heading. There, you can select your subscription preferences.

The 2011 Spring Turkey Season officially begins with the April 9-10 Spring Turkey Youth Hunt. The regular turkey season begins on April 13 and consists of six, 5-day time periods that end on May 22. The drawing for permits will take place in late January or early February. Successful permit applicants can expect to receive a postcard by mid-February. All applicants may also check their drawing status through the Online Licensing Center on the DNR website starting in mid-February.

Permit winners may then purchase their required 2011 Spring Turkey License (\$15 for Wisconsin residents and \$60 for non-residents) and 2011 Wild Turkey Stamp (\$5.25). Conservation Patrons and Senior Citizen Recreation Card holders do not need to purchase a turkey license or turkey stamp. The permit (carcass tag) will be printed at the time of purchase.

Permits remaining after the initial drawing for the 2011 spring turkey season will be issued for sale one zone per day on a first-come, first-served basis in late March, at a date to be specified later.

Youth Turkey Hunt, April 9-10

The fifth annual spring turkey youth hunt will be held April 9-10, the weekend prior to the opening Wednesday of the first time period of the regular spring turkey season.

Thanks to the new mentored hunting law, the spring turkey youth hunt will be open to youth 10-15 years of age, both residents and non-residents, with or without a Hunter Education Certificate of Accomplishment. There are special rules and regulations for those participating in the Mentored Hunting Program, and interested hunters should carefully review those rules prior to heading out to the field. You can follow the links above to find out more.

A spring turkey license, stamp, and a valid permit (carcass tag) are required to hunt during the Spring Turkey Youth Hunt weekend. All other existing rules and regulations in regard to turkey hunting zones, hours of hunting, bag limits and more apply. See the 2010 Wisconsin Small Game Hunting Regulations pamphlet, which includes the 2011 Spring Turkey Hunting Regulations, for details. Interested participants in the Spring Turkey Youth Hunt should apply for a spring turkey permit by the December 10th deadline. Applications cost \$3 and may be purchased at all authorized license agents, through the Online Licensing Center on the DNR website, at Wisconsin DNR Service Centers, or by calling toll-free 1-877-LICENSE (1-877-945-4236). Applications postmarked after the December 10th deadline, or filled out incorrectly, will not be considered for the drawing.

Applications for Special Turkey Hunts for Hunters with Disabilities also due Dec. 10

As a reminder to those hunters with disabilities who wish to hunt turkey next spring on private lands, there is an alternate opportunity available using a separate application and authorization form.

Applications to conduct a Spring Turkey Hunt for People with Disabilities on private land must be submitted using DNR Forms 2300-271 and 2300-271A. Forms need to be submitted by Dec. 10 to the local DNR Wildlife Biologist or Department office for the county within which the hunt will take place. Please note that any hunter applicant who applies for a disabled turkey hunt on private lands using the above forms may NOT also apply for a permit through the regular spring turkey hunting drawing. For additional information, please visit the Wild Turkey page on the DNR website.

Free Turkey Hunter Education Clinics Begin in February

Free Turkey Hunter Education Clinics will again be offered throughout the state, occurring February through April. Clinics cover turkey biology and behavior, turkey hunting methods, regulations, safety precautions, and hunter/landowner ethics. Each clinic is taught by a dedicated volunteer instructor or a DNR employee working on his or her own time, eager to share years of turkey hunting knowledge and experience with students. Clinic sites and dates are still being finalized. Information on where clinics will be held will be available on the DNR's wild turkey page of the DNR website in early January, at DNR Service Centers, or by calling (608) 264-8963. Additional clinics may be added after the initial listing. Hunters that do not find a clinic in their area at first should periodically check the webpage or a local DNR Service Center for updates.

2011 Black Bear Season

The 2011 Black Bear Season begins Sept. 7, the first Wednesday after Labor Day, and runs through Oct. 11. The opening week of Wisconsin's bear hunting season alternates -- allowing those who hunt over bait to go first one year and those who hunt with the aid of dogs to go first the next year. In 2011, hunters who use the aid of dogs will go first in those management zones open to hunting bear with dogs; the season for those hunting over bait and or using other methods will open Sept. 14. In Zone C, where hunting with dogs is prohibited, hunters may hunt bear over bait or by other means not using dogs from Sept. 7 through Oct. 11.

Preliminary harvest figures indicate bear hunters harvested 4,969 black bears in Wisconsin during the 2010 bear season. There were 33,930 hunters who submitted applications for the 8,910 Class A bear harvest permits available for the 2010 bear season. A total of 97,467 hunters applied for either a harvest permit or a preference point in 2010.

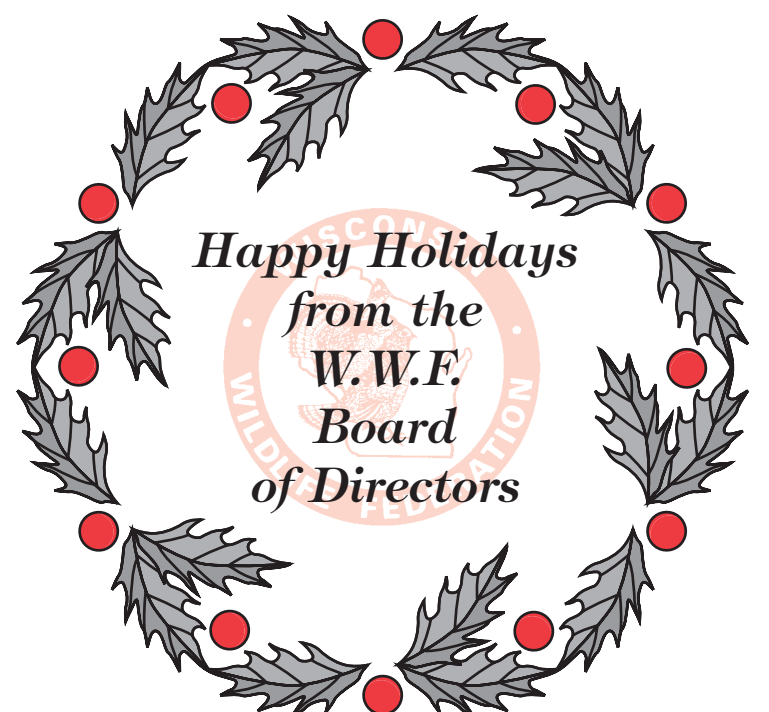
Applicants currently need to have collected between four and ten preference points in order to successfully draw a bear harvest permit. Hunters can check their preference point status in one of three ways: by visiting the online licensing center, by calling Customer Service & Licensing toll-free at 1-888-WDNRINFO (1-888-936-7463), or by contacting a local DNR Service Center.

The bear drawing is held each year in early February. Drawing winners will be notified via U.S. Mail shortly after the drawing. Drawing winners may purchase their 2011 Class A bear license beginning March 9, the start of the 2011 license year.

Total permit availability for the 2011 black bear season has not yet been determined. Proposed quota and permit levels will be taken up by the state Natural Resources Board at its January meeting.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: on spring turkey contact: Krista McGinley, (608) 264-8963; on Bear contact: Linda Olver, (608) 261-7588

Applications postmarked after the December 10th deadline, or filled out incorrectly, will not be considered for the drawings.



Take Note!

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Editor D. A. Gries

Wisconsin State Parks, Forests and Trails Candlelight Ski and Hike Events

Saturday, January 1, 2011

• **Blue Mound State Park**, Blue Mounds, (608) 437-5711 or e-mail - **Candlelight Ski, Hike, and Snowshoe**. Ski one and two mile lighted loops. Separate lighted trail for hikers, snowshoers, and leashed pets. Bonfire, straw bale warming shelter, free hot drinks and marshmallows for roasting. Hot food, baked goods, and commemorative shirts for sale. Sponsored by the Friends of Blue Mound State Park. 6-9 p.m.

Saturday, January 8, 2011

• **Harrington Beach State Park**, Belgium, (262) 285-3015 or e-mail - **Candlelight Ski and Hike**. Join the Friends of Harrington Beach and park staff to enjoy the park at night. Put on your skis to experience quarry lake by tiki torch or grab your hiking boots for a stroll. Refreshments available along with a roaring bonfire. Meet at the Welcome Center. 6-9 p.m.

• **Lapham Peak Unit - Kettle Moraine State Forest**, Delafield, (262) 646-3025 or e-mail - **Candlelight Ski and Hike**. Ski or hike on a 1-mile candlelit course with a bonfire, heated shelter, ice skating, and refreshments. Vehicle admission is required. Ski rental is available at the Evergreen Grove picnic area. Sponsored by the Friends of Lapham Peak. Homestead Hollow. 6-9 p.m.

• **Mirror Lake State Park**, Baraboo, (608) 254-2333 - **Candlelight Ski, Hike and Snowshoe**. Please Note that the date for this event is one week later than the usual date due to the New Years Holiday. Event sponsored by the Friends of Mirror Lake State Park. Two trails will be lit by torches. One trail is an easy 0.8-mile trail that will be available for everyone to use. The other trail is an easy 1-mile trail for classical skiing. The Friends will have a couple of roaring bonfires to warm up by, and will also have food, drinks and goodies for sale. Meet at the Beach Picnic area for a wonderful evening! 6-8 p.m.

• **Wildcat Mountain State Park**, Ontario, (608) 337-4775 or e-mail - **Torchlight Ski**. Enjoy cross-country skiing and night sky viewing. You can ski or hike a gentle 1.5-mile trail through the woods as 100 torches light the way. There will be a bonfire at the beginning and one at the half-way point. A grill will be provided for cooking. There will be an indoor warming area along with hot chocolate and snacks. Meet at the trailhead and indoor warming area located near the park office. Event begins at dusk and goes until 9 p.m.

Saturday, January 15, 2011

• **Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area**, New Auburn, (715) 967-2800 or e-mail - **Moonlight Snowshoe**. Join Naturalist Rod Gont on 1-hour (2-hour option available) snowshoe hikes by moonlight, starting at the Visitor Center.

Over 40 pairs of snowshoes for all ages will be available for those without them (please call ahead to reserve, no charge, donation accepted). The Visitor Center will be open, we'll have a fire going in the fireplace with hot cocoa available and two outside fires as well. If the turnout is large, a separate hike will also be led for the first hour. All ages are invited! A program about snowshoes will be presented at 6:30 p.m. The event goes regardless of weather. 7 p.m.

• **Governor Dodge State Park**, Dodgeville, (608) 935-2315 - **12th Annual Candlelight Ski/Hike/Snowshoe**. Walk or ski a trail lit with glowing candlelight. Warm up by the bonfire after enjoying the trail. Limited snacks and hot drinks will be available for sale. Weather and snow conditions determine the trail location. Didn't receive a park sticker for Christmas? Here's your chance to purchase one early and enjoy a year's worth of Wisconsin State Park memories. Meet at the Cox Hollow Beach area. Sponsored by the Friends of Governor Dodge State Park. 6-9 p.m.

• **Kohler-Andrae State Park**, Sheboygan, (920) 451-4080 or e-mail - **Winter Candlelight Hike and Ski**. Enjoy the winter wonderland at night with family and friends while skiing or hiking the two-mile cross-country trail. Almost 200 tiki torches will light the way for this annual event. Warm up afterwards by the fireplace. Refreshments will be available in the heated shelter building. Please, no pets, snowshoes or sleds allowed on the trail. Free Program. Vehicle admission sticker is required. Cross-country ski trail - stop at park office for map. 6-9 p.m.

Saturday, January 22, 2011

• **Kettle Moraine State Forest-Southern Unit**, Eagle, (262) 594-6200 or e-mail - **Candlelight Ski and Hike**. Ski or hike the 1.6-mile purple loop through the woods illuminated by 450 candles! No hills—no spills! The Nordic Trail is on Highway County H, about 3 miles south of Palmyra and 1.5 miles north of LaGrange. Ski Rental is available in LaGrange Store which donates \$2 per rental for next year's event. Hot beverages and food will be available for sale in the heated shelter. A bonfire and charcoal will also be available to bring your marshmallows and food you would like to cook. Dogs are allowed on ski trail - at this event only. No skate skiing or skijoring. Vehicle admission sticker is required. Meet at the Nordic Trailhead. 6-9 p.m.

Saturday, January 29, 2011

• **Lake Wissota State Park**, Chippewa Falls, (715) 382-4574 or e-mail - **Candlelight Ski/Snowshoe**. Lighted ski, snowshoe, walking trails. Refreshments are available. Call (715) 967-2800 to reserve a pair of snowshoes. Spon-

sored by the Friends of Lake Wissota State Park. 5-8 p.m.

• **Point Beach State Forest**, Two Rivers, (920) 794-7480 or e-mail - **Candlelight Ski/Hike**. Enjoy nature at its best! Join the Friends of Point Beach State Forest for our cross-country ski and hiking event. We will have a 1-mile candlelit trail through the pine and hemlock forest. Afterwards, cozy up to a blazing fire in our historic lodge building. Food, refreshment and entertainment will be available. Sponsored by the Friends of Point Beach. 5-9 p.m.

• **Whitefish Dunes State Park**, Jacksonport, (920) 823-2400 or e-mail - **Candlelight Ski**. Snow covered trails and the soft swish of skis combined with candle-light describes the scene at Whitefish Dunes State Park's annual candlelight ski. Join the Friends of Whitefish Dunes [exit DNR] for a night of skiing and fun. The picnic shelter will be open and the fireplace lit. Hot beverages and cookies will be provided. A candlelight hike will replace the ski if there is not enough snow. Meet at the picnic shelter building. 6-9 p.m.

Saturday, February 5, 2011

• **Blue Mound State Park**, Blue Mounds, (608) 437-5711 or e-mail - **Candlelight Ski, Hike, and Snowshoe**. Ski one and two mile lighted loops. Separate lighted trail for hikers, snowshoers,

and leashed pets. Bonfire, straw bale warming shelter, free hot drinks and marshmallows for roasting. Hot food, baked goods, and commemorative shirts for sale. Sponsored by the Friends of Blue Mound State Park. 6-9 p.m.

• **Kettle Moraine State Forest—Northern Unit**, Campbellsport, (262) 626-2116 or e-mail - **Candlelight Ski/Hike**. Sponsored by the Friends of the Kettle Moraine Northern Unit, the event will take place on the 1.2-mile Zillmer Brown trail off County Highway SS just west of County Highway G. This trail, lit by hundreds of luminaries, is rated "easy" and suitable for all skill levels. For this event only, hikers, snowshoers, and 4-legged friends on leashes are welcome. Afterwards, join us at the bonfire for warm cider and other refreshments. Meet at the Zillmer Trailhead. 5:30-8:30 p.m.

• **Mirror Lake State Park**, Baraboo, (608) 254-2333 - **Candlelight Ski, Hike and Snowshoe**. Sponsored by the Friends of Mirror Lake State Park. Two trails will be lit by torches. One trail is an easy 0.8 mile trail that will be available for everyone to use. The other trail is an easy 1-mile trail for classical skiing. The Friends will have a couple of roaring bonfires to warm up by, and will also have food, drinks and goodies for sale. Meet at the Beach Picnic area for a wonderful evening! 6-8 p.m.

President's Report

Vol. II Part VII

I hope you all enjoyed a great traditional deer season this year as well as a Happy Thanksgiving. Over the next couple weeks, the DNR will be totaling harvest numbers and it will be interesting to see the results. For years, Wisconsin Deer Hunter's have been in the nation's top ten deer harvested list. Also, Wisconsin continues to produce record book quality bucks across the state. We as mentors must continue to teach our young hunters the importance of the tradition of this hunt and put more emphasis in quality time with friends and less on filling every tag the DNR gives us.

The 2011 Wisconsin Wildlife Federa-

tion calendars make great holiday gifts for that hard to shop for person, and also make good landowner appreciation gifts. Calendars are available through one of the many locations printed elsewhere in this paper or by calling Jennifer at 800-897-4161.

The 2011 banquets are being planned and many have dates listed on the back page of this issue. Please remember that by attending a banquet, you receive 1 year membership to the WWF.

Happy Holidays to You and Your Families.

Jack Nissen
WWF President

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James Hautman Wins 2010 Federal Duck Stamp Contest

USFWS Release 10/10

James Hautman, an artist from Chaska, Minnesota, has been named the winner of the 2010 Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest. The announcement was made today at the David Brower Center in Berkeley, Calif., during the annual competition hosted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Hautman has previously won the Duck Stamp three times, in 1989, 1994 and 1998.

Hautman's acrylic painting of a pair of white-fronted geese will be made into the 2011-2012 Federal Duck Stamp, which will go on sale in late June 2011. The Service produces the Federal Duck Stamp, which sells for \$15 and raises about \$25 million each year to provide critical funds for conserving wetlands for the benefit of wildlife and the enjoyment of people.

Of 235 entries in this year's two-day competition, 11 entries made it through to the final round of judging. Robert Hautman, from Delano, Minnesota, placed second with his acrylic painting of white-fronted goose. Robert Hautman, a two-time previous Duck Stamp Contest winner, is the brother of James Hautman.

Kip Richmond of Apex, North Carolina, took third place with an acrylic painting of a pair of brant.

In the final round of judging, James and Robert Hautman's paintings were tied for first place. A tie-breaker vote was held to determine the winner.

"I'll tell you what, it just leaves you speechless," said James Hautman, who was in the auditorium as the judges voted his art the winner. "Even though I've won it before, it's tough to breathe sitting out there."

The Federal Duck Stamp Contest is the nation's oldest and most prestigious federal wildlife art competition in America. The Service is grateful to all the artists and other participants for their efforts to help support our nation's great outdoors.

"Once again, our panel of judges has chosen a beautiful work of art to grace our next Federal Duck Stamp," said Dan Ashe, Deputy Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "My sincerest congratulations to James on his astounding fourth contest win and to all of the artists who entered this year. By entering the Duck Stamp Contest you are all playing a role in supporting one of the world's most successful and effective conservation programs."

This year's five-judge panel included former California Secretary of Natural Resources Mike Chrisman; waterfowl biologist and professor John Eadie; wildlife artist Joe Garcia; retired U.S. Fish and



Wildlife Service biologist Jerry Serie; and wildlife biologist and duck stamp expert Carlo Vecchiarelli. The alternate judge was Gary Kramer, an outdoor writer and photographer.

Waterfowl hunters age 16 and older are required to purchase and carry the current Migratory Bird Conservation and Hunting Stamp – commonly known as the Duck Stamp when they are hunting. Conservationists, stamp collectors and others must also purchase the stamp in support of habitat for birds and other wildlife.

Ninety-eight percent of the proceeds from the \$15 Duck Stamp go to the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund which supports the purchase of acres of wetlands for inclusion into the National Wildlife Refuge System.

The cost of land acquisition continues to rise, resulting in reduced buying power for funds collected from stamp sales. The Service is proposing to increase the sale price of the Federal Duck Stamp from \$15 to \$25 beginning in Fiscal Year 2011 – the first price increase for the stamp since 1991. Increasing the price of a Federal Duck Stamp would bring an estimated \$18 million to \$23 million over revenues generated by the current \$15 price, which would allow acquisition of approximately 7,000 additional waterfowl habitat areas in fee and approximately 10,000 additional conservation easement acres in 2011.

Since 1934, sales of Federal Duck Stamps have helped to purchase nearly six million acres of wildlife habitat for the Refuge System. To date, Duck Stamp funds have been used to acquire habitat at hundreds of refuges in nearly every state. There are 550 National Wildlife Refuges spread across all 50 states and U.S. territories. A current Duck Stamp may also be used for free admission to any national wildlife refuge open to the public. Refuges offer unparalleled wildlife oriented recreational opportunities, including hunting, fishing, bird watching and photography.

Eligible species for this year's Federal Duck Stamp Contest were the brant, Canada goose, greater white-fronted goose, northern shoveler and ruddy duck.

Groundbreaking Virus Research Cited as Highlight

MADISON – Wisconsin research about viruses in groundwater that led to adoption this year of new rules to better protect public health is among the highlights cited in a new report on state activities in 2010 to protect groundwater.

The 2010 Groundwater Coordinating Council Report to the legislature highlights research by scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey, Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, and Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation that showed that viruses carried in municipal wastewater can seep out of leaky sanitary sewer systems and contaminate municipal groundwater wells. The viruses are not filtered out naturally as they seep through layers of soil and rock, as previously believed.

That work, and others on microbial contaminants recommended by the council and funded by the Department of Natural Resources, led to new rules requiring that all municipal water systems disinfect their water to kill viruses. The rules go into effect later this year.

"This research has a tremendous state and national impact on drinking water policy, with the result in Wisconsin providing better protection for many citizens who get their drinking water from groundwater."

"Research and monitoring are essential to state agencies developing effective science-based policy to protect the public and to identifying what research is needed is a main duty of the Groundwater Coordinating Council," says Bruce Baker, council chair and administrator of DNR water-related programs.

The Groundwater Coordinating Council identifies priority research issues, facilitates review and selection of research

proposals and helps to publicize results. The agencies make the funding decisions and pay the bills, Helmuth says.

The 2010 report also described recent research on arsenic treatment, the effects of nitrates on stream invertebrates, the occurrence of mercury in wetlands, extreme precipitation events and developing new tools for investigating fecal contamination.

The last one was successfully implemented in the last two years by DNR and UW-funded researchers who developed a "toolbox" to help determine whether microbial contamination of groundwater is due to human sewage or animal wastes. The suite of tests has been used around the state when well contaminations have been documented. They help investigators identify what caused the problem so they can more efficiently target cleanup efforts.

The 2010 report also assessed groundwater quality and the major threats to clean water, and includes recommendations, including evaluating the scope of manure pollution of groundwater, the occurrence and potential human health effects of pharmaceuticals and pesticide breakdown products in groundwater, and focusing research to better understand the links between land use and groundwater quantity and quality.

For the first time, the GCC report is available only electronically to save paper and the significant cost of printing the reports. It allows people to find the information they want more easily, Helmuth says. The report is displayed by chapter instead of as a single document, making it easier to locate specific information on groundwater legislation, groundwater quality, benefits from research projects, and other topics.

EPA Denies Petition that Sought a Ban on Lead in Fishing Gear

EPA Release 11/4/10

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has denied a petition calling for a ban on the manufacture, use and processing of lead in fishing gear.

In a letter to the petitioners, EPA indicated that the petitioners have not demonstrated that the requested rule is necessary to protect against an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment, as required by the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The letter further indicates that the increasing number of limitations on the use of lead fishing gear on some federal and state lands, as well as various education and outreach activities, call into question whether a national

ban on lead in fishing gear would be the least burdensome, adequately protective approach to address the concern, as called for under TSCA. EPA's letter also notes that the prevalence of non-lead alternatives in the marketplace continues to increase.

On August 3, 2010, the American Bird Conservancy and a number of other groups petitioned EPA under Section 21 of the Toxic Substances Control Act to "prohibit the manufacture, processing, and distribution in commerce of lead for shot, bullets, and fishing sinkers." On August 27, 2010, EPA denied the portion of the petition relating to lead in ammunition because the agency does not have the legal authority to regulate this type of product under TSCA.

Federal & Academic Scientists Return from Deep-sea Research Cruise in Gulf of Mexico

Government and academic scientists on a multi-week expedition to explore deep-sea coral habitats in the Gulf of Mexico have observed corals and associated communities of marine life that show evidence of recent damage. Today marks the conclusion of this year's cruise, the fourth of a multiyear collaboration sponsored by NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE). The expedition is chronicled at <http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov>.

Operating from the NOAA Ship *Ronald H. Brown* and using a variety of tools including the National Deep Submergence Facility's Jason II remotely-operated vehicle (ROV), researchers were working at a site 1,400 meters deep (roughly 4,600 feet) and approximately seven miles southwest of the Macondo wellhead when they visually observed dead and dying corals with sloughing tissue and discoloration.

Charles Fisher, Ph.D., professor of biology at Penn State University and chief scientist on the expedition, described much of the soft coral observed in an

area measuring about 15 to 40 meters as covered by what appeared to be a brown substance. Ninety percent of 40 large corals were heavily affected and showed dead and dying parts and discoloration. Another site 400 meters away had a colony of stony coral similarly affected and partially covered with a similar brown substance.

The 2010 expedition revisited many sites from missions in previous years and documented that in nearly all cases, there was no observed change. Until laboratory analyses are conducted, scientists cannot be certain what caused the impacts. Sediment and coral samples were collected with the ROV and were brought to the surface for analyses. Further testing will also determine if the substance is oil, and if so, whether it is consistent with the release from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

"These observations capture our concern for impacts to marine life in places in the Gulf that are not easily seen," said Jane Lubchenco, Ph.D., under secretary for commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "Continued, ongoing research and monitoring involving academic and government scientists

are essential for comprehensive understanding of impacts to the Gulf."

"Through the continued work of ongoing research projects such as this, BOEMRE scientists, other government scientists, academia and the public can better understand the potential effects of offshore energy exploration and development, including the possible effects of the Deepwater Horizon blowout and spill," said BOEMRE director Michael R. Bromwich. "Today's preliminary observations highlight the need for continued scientific research in the Gulf of Mexico."

"While this mission was not designed to be focused on oil spill research, the timing and location provided an opportunity to observe any impacts to our research areas," said Fisher.

The 2010 expedition was supported by a number of partners including NOAA, BOEMRE, Penn State University, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Temple University, Louisiana State University, Florida State University, the U.S. Geological Survey, the PAST Foundation, T.D.I Brooks International and C&C Technologies.

Celebrating 10 years of ocean exploration, NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration



and Research uses state-of-the-art technologies to explore the Earth's largely unknown ocean in all its dimensions for the purpose of discovery and the advancement of knowledge. The NOAA fleet of ships and aircraft is operated, managed and maintained by the NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, which includes commissioned officers of the NOAA Corps and civilian wage mariners.

BOEMRE is the federal agency within the Department of Interior responsible for overseeing the safe and environmentally responsible development of energy and mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf.

A Chronology of Wisconsin Deer Hunting from Closed Seasons to Antlerless Permits

FITCHBURG, Wis. -- Wisconsin has a long and storied tradition of regulated gun deer hunting, going back to 1851. There have been many changes over the years, but none more dramatic as those experienced by hunters during the 1990s and early twenty-first century.

- 1834 – Lafayette County, first reported crop damage by deer.
- 1851 – First closed season for deer, Feb. 1 – June 30; Native Americans permitted to hunt anytime.
- 1876 – Hunting with dogs prohibited statewide.
- 1887 – Two game wardens appointed by governor at a monthly salary of \$50; night hunting prohibited statewide.
- 1888 – Game laws published in pamphlet form.
- 1890 – First chief warden appointed.
- 1892 – Lawful to kill any dog running or hunting deer.
- 1895 – Sheboygan first county closed to deer hunting; deer cannot be transported unless accompanied by hunter.
- 1897 – First bag limit for deer, two per season; resident license costs \$1, nonresident license costs \$30; estimated license sales total 12,000.
- 1900 – Twelve hunters killed by firearms.
- 1903 – Estimated 78,164 licenses sold.
- 1905 – Salt licks prohibited.
- 1909 – Season 20 days long, limit one deer; first civil service exam given on a competitive basis for prospective wardens.
- 1910 – Deer populations drop to record low numbers due to unregulated hunting and market shooting.
- 1914 – Twenty-four hunters killed, 26 injured; license sales at 155,000
- 1915 – First buck only season.
- 1917 – Shining deer illegal while possessing a firearm; Conservation Commission delegated some powers related to deer season, but legislature retains authority to set seasons; deer tags (paper) required for the first time...they cost 10 cents.
- 1919 – Estimated kill is 25,152.
- 1920 – First use of metal deer tags...they cost 10 cents.
- 1921 – Wardens are instructed that "all deer found in possession...with horns less than three inches in length, is a fawn and should be confiscated."
- 1924 – Estimated kill is 7,000.
- 1925 – Legislature passes law closing deer season in alternate years.
- 1927 – No open season.
- 1928 – Deer hunters required to wear official conservation button while hunting; Game Division formed with Conservation Department; estimated kill is 17,000 with 69,049 deer tags sold.
- 1929 – No open season.
- 1930 – Estimated kill is 23,000 with 70,284 deer tags sold.
- 1931 – No open season.
- 1932 – Deer tag price is raised to \$1; estimated kill is 36,009 with 70,245 deer tags sold.
- 1933 – No open season; Conservation Congress, an advisory group representing public opinion registered at annual county hearings, begins to assist the Conservation Commission in establishing a deer management policy.
- 1934 – First bow deer season; estimated gun kill is 21,251 with 83,939 deer tags sold.
- 1935 – No open season.
- 1937 – Shortest deer season on record, three days.
- 1938 – Use of .22 rifle and .410 shotgun prohibited.
- 1939 – Licensed children between ages 12 and 16 must be accompanied by parent or guardian; buckshot prohibited statewide.
- 1941 – Deer predators rare, timber wolves nearing extinction; estimated gun kill is 40,403 with 124,305 deer tags sold.
- 1942 – Back tags required while deer hunting.
- 1943 – First doe and fawn season in 24 years.
- 1945 – First year of shotgun-only counties; wearing red clothing required while hunting deer.
- 1950 – First "any deer" season since 1919; estimated gun kill is 167,911 with 312,570 deer tags sold.
- 1951 – Deer hunting license and tag cost \$2.50; orange clothing now included under red clothing law; Wisconsin leads nation in whitetail deer kill for third consecutive year.
- 1953 – First season gun deer hunters required to register deer at checking station.
- 1954 – Two-thirds of bucks harvested are less than three years old; portions of Walworth and Waukesha counties and all of Jefferson County open for the first time since 1906.
- 1956 – 100th established gun deer season; registered gun kill is 35,562 with 294,645 deer tags sold.
- 1957 – Legislature authorizes party permit.

- 1958 – Longest deer season since 1916, 16 days; Rock County open for the first time since 1906; first harvest by deer management unit (in northwest and northeast only); registered gun kill is 95,234, of which 44,987 taken by party permit; 335,866 deer tags and 58,348 party permits sold, respectively.
- 1959 – First statewide deer registration by unit; Game Management Division of Conservation Department assumes responsibility for coordinating the state's deer program; first open season in Kenosha County since 1906.
- 1960 – Hunter not permitted to buy a license after opening day of gun season; Green and Racine counties open for the first time since 1906; all counties now open except Milwaukee; registered gun kill is 61,005, of which 25,515 taken by party permit; 338,208 deer tags and 47,522 party permits sold, respectively.
- 1961 – Resident big game license increased from \$4 to \$5; first use of SAK – sex-age-kill population-reconstruction technique for estimating deer numbers; hunters required to transport deer openly while driving to registration station; legislation authorizing unit specific quotas for antlerless harvest established.
- 1962 – Deer population above 400,000; deer management unit specific population goals established.
- 1963 – First year of quota party permits in eight management units; assassination of President Kennedy lessens hunting pressure.
- 1964 – Party permit quota extended to 32 management units.
- 1967 – Hunter Safety Education Program begins.
- 1970 – Registered gun kill is 72,844 with 501,799 licenses sold; 13 hunters killed.
- 1973 – No deer season fatalities.
- 1978 – Record registered gun kill is 150,845 with 644,594 licenses sold.
- 1980 – Blaze orange clothing required; first season of Hunter's Choice permit; new law prohibits shining wild animals from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Sept. 15 – Dec. 31; coyote season closed in northern management units to protect nascent wolf population.
- 1981 – Record registered deer kill of 166,673 with 629,034 licenses sold.
- 1982 – Another record registered gun kill of 182,715 with 637,320 licenses sold; three deer season fatalities.
- 1983 – Harvest continues to rise with another record registered gun kill of 197,600 with 649,972 licenses sold; experimental antlerless deer hunt in six southern management units to relieve crop damage.
- 1984 – Big jump in registered kill, fourth record harvest in a row of 255,726 with license sales totaling 657,969; handgun deer hunting allowed in shotgun areas; group hunting legalized. "Tagging of deer changed from gambrel to ear or antler.
- 1985 – Fifth consecutive record kill of 274,302 with 670,329 licenses sold; deer season extended in 21 management units; legislature further strengthens road hunting restrictions.
- 1986 – Gun deer season now nine days statewide; landowner preference program begins for Hunter's Choice permits.
- 1987 – First year of bonus antlerless permits; seven fatalities and 46 hunting accidents.
- 1988 – Handguns permitted statewide.
- 1989 – Record registered harvest of 310,192 with 662,280 licenses sold; pre-hunt herd estimate of 1.15 million deer; two fatalities and 37 hunting accidents.
- 1990 – Another record kill of 350,040, including 209,005 antlerless deer; record license sales of 699,275; pre-hunt herd estimate of 1.3 million deer; season extended for seven days in 67 management units.
- 1991 – Third consecutive year of record harvest, 352,330; hunters allowed to buy more than one antlerless permit; season extended to 72 management units, mostly in the north; first year of separate, seven-day muzzleloader season; salt licks legalized.
- 1992 – Though kill fourth highest on record, 288,820, many hunters voice discontent over lack of success and claim DNR raised expectations by pre-hunt harvest prediction of around 370,000; hunters allowed to apply for bonus antlerless permits in more than one unit; Natural Resources Board approves Secretary's recommendation to keep the gun season at nine days; new metro management units established around La Crosse, Madison and Milwaukee.
- 1993 – Harvest drops to 217,584, including 100,977 antlerless deer; pre-hunt herd population at 1 million with many units well below prescribed goals; 34 units, mainly in the north, designated as buck-only units; one fatality, 17 hunting accidents.
- 1994 – Hunters Choice permit availability jumps to 177,340 from 103,140 in 1993; six northwest management units remain buck only; herd beginning to build-up in southern agricultural range.

- 1995 – Harvest totals 398,002, a new state record; 32 accidents, one fatal; over 577,000 antlerless permits available with 414,000 plus applicants with 163,000 bonus permits offered to hunters; for the first time hunters can use their bonus or Hunter's Choice permits in either the gun, bow or muzzleloader seasons.
- 1996 – "Earn a Buck" requirement placed on hunters in 19 deer management units situated in agricultural range where existing deer seasons and permit systems aren't controlling herd growth; special four-day antlerless only season, state's first October hunt since 1897, takes place in 19 "Earn a Buck" units, resulting in a kill of 24,954 deer.
- 1997 – "Earn a Buck" provision scuttled; early Zone T season in seven management units and three state parks results in more than 7,000 deer killed; the safest gun season even with one fatality and 10 accidents.
- 1998 – An early October gun season for third year in a row held in one management unit, 67A; harvest of 332,254 is fifth highest; accidents total 19 with two fatalities; most units in all regions of the state estimated to be above prescribed goals due to the mild winter of 1997-98.
- 1999 – Early antlerless Zone T deer season held in seven mainly east-central management units and one state park; early archery season is extended through Nov. 18 in Zone T units; pre-hunt herd estimate is 1.5 to 1.6 million deer; 33 management units in the central and southern part of the state are designated "watch unit's" that are above population goals and may be designated as Zone T units next year if quota numbers aren't filled; resident deer license costs \$20; non-resident license costs \$135; record harvest of 402,204 deer.
- 2000 – Early four-day Zone T antlerless hunts produces kill of 66,417 deer; 97 of the state's 132 deer management units listed as Zone T; two free antlerless permits given to all hunters buying deer-related licenses; hunters kill a record 528,494 deer during the early antlerless only, nine-day, muzzleloader and late antlerless only gun seasons; nine-day gun harvest totals a record 442,581 (170,865 antlered, 271,573 antlerless); 694,957 licensed gun hunters.
- 2001 – Wisconsin's pre-hunt population estimated at 1.5 million deer; free antlerless permit given to all hunters buying deer-related licenses; 67 deer management units and nine state parks designated as Zone T; October and December four-day, Zone T antlerless hunts results in kill of 58,107 deer; nine-day gun harvest is the state's fifth largest, totaling 361,264 (141,942 antlered, 219,260 antlerless); chronic wasting disease (CWD) later identified in three deer harvested in the Dane County Town of Vermont.
- 2002 – Herd estimate at 1.34 million deer; DNR samples about 41,000 deer during the early Zone T antlerless hunt (Oct. 24-27) and opening weekend (Nov. 23-24) of the nine-day gun season to determine if CWD is present anywhere else in the state besides the Disease Eradication Zone in southwest Wisconsin; expanded hunting opportunities set-up in the CWD Management Zone and a gun deer season slated for Oct. 24 to Jan. 31 in the CWD Eradication Zone; October and November four-day, Zone T antlerless hunts in 25 deer management units produce a harvest of 36,228 deer; hunters register 277,755 deer during the traditional, nine-day season; number of licensed gun hunters drops about 10 percent with much of the decrease attributed to concerns about CWD; baiting illegal statewide in response to discovery of CWD.
- 2003 – Fall deer population estimated at 1.4 million; landowners in CWD Disease Eradication Zone (DEZ) can request free permits to harvest deer without a license and receive two buck tags per permit; earn-a-buck (EAB) rules in effect and no bag limits on deer in the CWD management zones; deer hunting license sales up 14 percent over 2002, but down 13 percent when compared to 2001; overall, DNR collects 15,025 samples for disease surveillance with 115 wild deer testing positive for CWD; all but two positives are from the Disease Eradication zones (DEZ) of southwest Wisconsin and Rock County; hunters killed 388,344 deer during the early antlerless only, nine-day gun, muzzleloader and land antlerless only deer seasons; salt, along with other legal types of bait again allowed outside of the 26 counties in or near CWD Zones, but bait (including salt) limited to two gallons.
- 2004 – Many deer management units (DMUs) in all regions of the state estimated to be above prescribed management goals with 48 DMUs designated as Zone T and 26 units as EAB; fall deer population estimated at 1.7 million deer; hunters issued one free antlerless permit for each license type (archery or gun) up to a maximum of two; during all seasons, hunters in the CWD DEZ and much larger Herd Reduction Zone (HRZ) are required to kill an antlerless deer before harvesting a buck; hunters kill 413,794 deer during the

early antlerless only, nine-day gun, muzzle loader, late antlerless only and CWD zone deer seasons; eight gun deer hunting accidents documented with two fatalities; all accidents are either self-inflicted or shooter and victim were in the same party; hunters set a new record of venison donations by giving 10,938 deer yielding nearly 500,000 pounds of venison for food pantries to feed needy people across the state.

- 2005 – Forty-five DMUs designated as Zone T units with unlimited antlerless permits and expanded gun hunting opportunities; hunters issued free antlerless permits for both archery and gun licenses; permits valid in any Zone T and CWD units; hunters in CWD units could get an unlimited number of antlerless permits at the rate of four per day; hunters harvest 387,310 deer during the early October, regular gun, late December and muzzleloader seasons combined, the eighth highest kill on record; 195,735 deer harvested during the opening weekend (Nov. 19-20) of the nine-day gun season; gun deer sales total 643,676, down one percent from 2004; DNR conducts CWD surveillance survey in the agency's Northeast Region where 4500 deer are tested and CWD not detected; 14 accidents, including three fatalities, during the nine-day season (Nov. 19-27); top five gun deer harvest counties – all located in central Wisconsin – are Marathon (15,871), Clark (13,918), Waupaca (12,260), Shawano (11,748) and Jackson (11,461).
- 2006 – Statewide harvest quota totals 469,385 antlerless deer; over 1 million antlerless deer permits issued to reach this quota; all hunters issued one free antlerless permit for each license type (bow and gun) with permits valid in any Herd Control, EAB and CWD units; hunters kill the fifth highest gun total (393,306) during the youth, regular gun, late December and muzzleloader seasons combined; 10 accidents, one fatal, with five self-inflicted and five with shooter and victim in the same party.
- 2007 – Again, over 1 million antlerless deer permits issued and all hunters again get one free antlerless permit for each license type valid in any Herd Control, EAB and CWD units; nine-day gun season (Nov. 17-25) earliest possible opening day under the current season structure; 402,563 deer killed during all gun seasons is the third highest total on record, surpassed only by 2000 (528,494) and 2004 (413,794).
- 2008 – 57 DMUs under EAB regulations and hunters must "earn" a buck sticker authorizing them to shoot a buck by first killing an antlerless deer; 51 DMUs are on the EAB "watch list" meaning they could be designated as EAB units in 2009 if a sufficient number of antlerless deer aren't harvested; most of southern Wisconsin lies within the new CWD-Management Zone (CWD-MZ) boundary and rifles can be used to hunt deer in previously shotgun only areas of the CWD Zone; traditional gun season runs from Nov. 22-30, the second latest possible opening day under the current nine-day season; hunting conditions considered above average throughout the state for most of the nine-day season; over 642,000 licensed hunters kill 352,601 deer during all gun seasons (103,845 antlered & 248,756 antlerless); nine accidents, one fatal, all either self-inflicted or shooter and victim in the same party, during the nine-day season.
- 2009 – Opening morning of the nine-day gun hunt had above normal temps with heavy fog throughout much of the state. No portions of the state had snow cover for the season's opening weekend. While conditions were conducive for hunters sitting in stands, deer activity and sight ability were probably reduced due to fog. Temps return to normal by mid-week, with little or no snow fall during the rest of the season. New Mentored Hunting Program permitted a licensed hunter 18 years or older to take out anyone 10 years and older for a hunt. Gun deer license sales 2.1 percent lower than in 2008. Hunters kill the 25th highest total during all gun seasons – 241,862 (92,754 antlered, 146,917 antlerless).
- 2010 – The 159th deer season. 19 DMUs in the north have buck only hunting during the gun and bow seasons. The total statewide antlerless harvest is likely to decline as the herd is allowed to grow in some areas. The buck kill will vary among units, but from a statewide perspective it likely will not change much. No EAB units except in CWD-MZ. Still, roughly half of the DMUs are in a herd control season structure where deer population estimates are currently 20 percent or more above goal. Hunters may now divide a deer into up to five parts (four quarters plus the head attached to the spinal column and rib cage) to facilitate removal from the field. Hunters are also reminded that deer abundance on the property or local level often does not reflect population trends on the larger scale. Pre-season scouting and talking with neighbors will give hunters a better chance of hunting in areas where deer are located.

Deer Research Projects Seek to Shed Light on Predator Impact on Deer Herd

MADISON -- Progress continues on new deer research projects designed to answer questions important to hunters and managers of Wisconsin's white-tailed deer herd.

"Many hunters are concerned with our deer population model accuracy and the impacts of predators," said Keith Warnke, big game ecologist for the Department of Natural Resources. "In response to those concerns the department is investing a record amount of its resources into this research."

While an audit by international wildlife experts found the department's deer population modeling system to be sound and one of the best in the country, Warnke said challenges remain that have led to the new research projects.

Two projects set to get underway this winter will look at the causes of death in bucks and fawns including the roles of predators, weather and hunters.

Hunter harvest is the largest cause of death for bucks. Biologists refer to the

portion of bucks killed by hunters each year as the buck recovery rate (BRR). Over the course of five years deer will be captured, tagged and monitored to determine their cause of death whether it is due to hunters or natural causes such as wolves, bears, coyotes, bobcats, weather and accidents. The Buck Recovery Rate is a key component of accurate deer population estimates.

"The distribution and abundance of predators on Wisconsin's landscape has changed over time," says Warnke. "From the time a doe is impregnated to the time the fall hunting season begins, a number of fawns are lost every year to various causes before and after birth including weather, food availability and nutrition, disease, predation and accidents."

This study will measure the role of predation on recruitment which is the number of deer added to the population each year by fawns surviving into the fall. Researchers will gather data on doe pregnancy rates and litter sizes and fawn survival and causes of mortality

from birth to the hunting season.

"We will also attempt to identify the specific predators of fawns, mainly wolves, bears, bobcats, and coyotes, and measure the impact predation has on recruitment," Warnke said. Little is known, Warnke acknowledged, about the impact of coyote and bobcat predation on deer in Wisconsin. Similar research is underway in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and the two states are sharing results.

Researchers, with the help of volunteers, will place deer traps in Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Price, Shawano, Waupaca and Outagamie counties at the close of the deer hunting seasons.

Captured deer will be fitted with radio collars and ear tags. In the spring, fawns born to monitored does also will be fitted with radio-telemetry collars.

In addition to the DNR scientists, researchers from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Wildlife Ecology, UW Applied Population Laboratory, and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point are involved along with

the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, Safari Club International, Union Sportsmen's Alliance, and Whitetails Unlimited.

These groups will be looking for help from the state's deer hunters. Warnke said this is an opportunity for hunters to assist biologists in gathering information on deer numbers in the state.

"We are encouraging all hunters and anyone else who is interested to volunteer to help on these projects," said Warnke.

Hunters can check the White-tailed Deer Research Projects page of the DNR website and follow the "Sign up today link" to complete the volunteer form. Or they can contact a local wildlife biologist.

DNR wildlife officials are committed to continually improving the quality of the state's deer management program. "Hunters play a critical role in this process," Warnke said, "and as the agency moves forward with its ambitious research programs, hunter involvement will be more important than ever."

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Environmental Enforcement

Wisconsin Department of Justice

Vinton Construction, Eggers Industries and Douglas Wanek Settle With the State For \$85,000 for Asbestos Violations During the Demolition of the Eggers Building

TWO RIVERS — A civil asbestos enforcement action arising from the demolition of a large industrial building owned by Eggers Industries at 1819 River Street, Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, has been filed and resolved, Wisconsin Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen announced today. All three named defendants have settled the case by agreeing to pay forfeitures and costs totaling \$85,000.

Vinton Construction Company, Eggers Industries, Inc., and Douglas M. Wanek, superintendent/estimator for Vinton Construction, were the subjects of a civil complaint alleging violations of asbestos regulations, including: failing to thoroughly inspect the facility for asbestos prior to commencing demolition activities, failing to remove all asbestos from the facility prior to demolition, failing to adequately wet asbestos before removal, failing to carefully lower asbestos, failing to wet all asbestos during stripping

operations, and failing to keep asbestos wet until collected and contained.

The settlement between the parties calls for Vinton Construction, Eggers Industries, and Wanek to pay forfeitures, costs and surcharges totaling \$85,000. The settlement was approved by the Honorable Judge Patrick L. Willis, Manitowoc County Circuit Court, on November 11, 2010.

Van Hollen stated, "Compliance with Wisconsin's asbestos removal regulations is essential in preventing a serious hazard to the environment and to public health. Failure to meticulously follow the regulations on the handling of asbestos can needlessly expose many unsuspecting citizens."

The violations were investigated by inspectors at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, who referred the matter to the Wisconsin Department of Justice. Assistant Attorneys General Steven Tinker and Mary Batt representing the State.



Republic Services Settles State Environmental Lawsuit For \$250,000

ST. FRANCIS — Republic Services of Wisconsin has agreed to pay \$250,000 to settle state claims under Wisconsin's air pollution and solid waste management laws for violations at the Kestrel Hawk Landfill in Racine and the Mallard Ridge Recycling and Disposal Facility in Delavan, Wisconsin.

The complaint states that Kestrel Hawk and Mallard Ridge each operates a landfill gas collection system, and landfill gas generated by the decomposition of waste is flared on site or sold off site as boiler fuel or fuel for a turbine generator. The Department of Natural Resources regulates the non-methane organic compounds in the landfill gas. Non-methane organic compounds contain volatile organic compounds and hazardous air pollutants, including benzene and vinyl chloride. Volatile organic compounds contribute to the formation of ozone, which can be harmful to human health.

Under Wisconsin law, Republic Services is required to obtain and follow air pollution control permits that control the emissions of air pollutants from the facilities. Wisconsin law also requires that Republic Services follow its landfill plans of operation.

According to the complaint, at the Kestrel Hawk and Mallard Ridge facilities in 2008 and 2009, Republic Services violated the facilities' air pollution control permits when it vented landfill gas when a flame

was not present and failed to shut down valves within one hour resulting in the release of uncontrolled landfill gas emissions to the atmosphere, failed timely to notify the Department of Natural Resources of the flame outages, and failed to keep the gas system running smoothly and effectively. At the Kestrel Hawk facility in 2008, Republic Services also violated the facility's landfill plan of operation when it failed to seed the intermediate cover, failed to clean and maintain storm water drainage ditches and structures, and failed to properly train landfill personnel conducting load inspections.

In 2004, Republic Services had settled another environmental lawsuit with the Wisconsin Department of Justice for \$475,000.

"Republic Services worked cooperatively with the Department of Natural Resources to take the steps necessary to ensure future compliance with permit and plan approval requirements," 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. Dane County Circuit Court Judge Patrick Fiedler approved the settlement on November 8, 2010.

U.S. Department of Justice

Florida Businessman Pleads Guilty to Illegal Trade in Elephant Ivory

WASHINGTON - Joseph Barringer, 55, the owner of a Florida pool cue company, pleaded guilty in federal court in Orlando to violating the Endangered Species Act in connection with the illegal export of African elephant ivory through an online auction site.

Barringer, the owner of Cue Components, located in New Smyrna Beach, Fla., manufactured custom pool cues and parts, including parts made from elephant ivory. Although his company's Web page stated that he did not sell overseas because it was illegal, he sold ivory laden pool cues to an undercover police officer of the London Metropolitan Police (Scotland Yard) who was working in coordination with special agents from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

A search warrant was executed at the offices of Cue Components and the defendant's home. Federal agents seized 197 pounds of elephant ivory and cut ivory pieces, according to documents filed in court, including 24 elephant tusk tips. Agents also seized more than 1,800 Cuban cigars which are considered smuggled because they are prohibited in the U.S. and can only be brought into the country via clandestine means.

According to the plea agreement, there is not evidence enough to establish whether or not the ivory was illegally smuggled into the United States, although the defendant made a practice to obtain statements from sellers indicating that the ivory he purchased was lawful. However, according to papers filed in court, Barringer sent an email in November 2007 to his customers, including the foreign undercover police officer stating: "We're loaded up and I do mean loaded up with beautiful elephant ivory right now. We have 6 pairs of tusks sitting here (actually in storage). We've been buying and hoarding it because we don't know when or where the next

ones will come from. And for some reason, we've been fortunate in buying a lot of tusks this past year. I think we are to the point where we can now safely sell in some quantity."

Barringer was charged with a misdemeanor violation of the Endangered Species Act for knowingly engaging in trade of ivory specimens, contrary to the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and without a CITES export permit and re-export certificate as a result of his sale of the pool cue containing ivory to the undercover officer in England. The penalty carries a maximum sentence of one year of imprisonment, one year of supervised release, and a fine of up to \$100,000, or twice the gross gain accruing from the crime.

The African elephant is listed as a threatened species under the U.S. Endangered Species Act and is also protected by the CITES, an international treaty regulating trade on endangered species to which the United States is a party. The global demand for elephant ivory led to devastating declines in the number of these giant animals, particularly in the 1970s and 1980s. Despite international efforts to control the ivory trade and stop the decline of elephant populations, prices and demand remain high, thus causing continued elephant poaching and illegal ivory finding its way into international and domestic markets.

The investigation was conducted by special agents of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement with assistance from London Metropolitan Police in London.

The case is being prosecuted by Senior Trial Attorney Richard A. Udell of the U.S. Department of Justice Environmental Crimes Section and Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Ambrose of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Florida, Orlando Division.

Former U.S. Fidelis Owners Barred From Telemarketing or Selling Auto Service Contracts in 11 States

MADISON — Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen announced a settlement with the former owners of U.S. Fidelis. The settlement ensures that the founders and owners of U.S. Fidelis, Missouri residents and brothers Darain and Cory Atkinson, will never again sell auto service contracts or telemarket in 11 states, including Wisconsin. The agreement also restricts how the duo advertises any other product or service and requires them to turn over nearly all of their assets to the bankruptcy court handling the dissolution of U.S. Fidelis.

U.S. Fidelis, which operated as National Auto Warranty Services and Dealer Services until its bankruptcy last spring, sold more than 400,000 consumers nationwide overpriced service contracts that were sold through illegal and deceptive means. Darain and Cory Atkinson are accused of plundering \$101 million in corporate assets for their own personal gain.

Attorney General Van Hollen stated "the Atkinsons bombarded Wisconsin residents with illegal robo-calls and deceptive mailings, and unfortunately persuaded numerous Wisconsin residents to purchase their auto service contracts. I am pleased that, through our concerted action with other states, we were able to halt their fraudulent sales practices in Wisconsin and elsewhere."

Attorney General Van Hollen, along with Attorneys General from ten other states, sued the defunct company and the Atkinsons shortly after March 2010. The states accused the defendants of a variety of illegal actions stemming from deceptive junk mail, illegal telemarketing robocalls and misleading TV ads. They alleged the company's solicitations misled consumers to believe their auto warranties had expired or would soon expire and confused customers into thinking that they were being contacted by a manufacturer or other entity affiliated with their original vehicle warranty. Many consumers who were led to believe they were purchasing a warranty providing "bumper to bumper" coverage of all major repairs later found the contracts full of exemptions.

The states also accused the defendants of violating Do-Not-Call laws and using technology to bypass caller ID and mask the origin of sales calls, refusing to allow consumers an opportunity to

review the complete written service contracts, denying valid refund requests, improperly obtaining consumers' personal information and violating state licensing and registration laws.

Wisconsin filed the settlement documents today in Dane County Circuit Court. The Atkinsons denied any wrongdoing but agreed to surrender at least 90 percent of their assets pursuant to a related bankruptcy agreement, including assets from 20 related corporations. The settlement also requires the Atkinsons to comply with a lengthy list of restrictions on future business and marketing practices. Specifically, they are prohibited from:

- Telemarketing in any of the participating states.
- Marketing or selling motor vehicle service contracts (unless employed at a dealership, and then only in connection with the sale of a specific vehicle).
- Misleading consumers about the source of an offer.
- Misrepresenting their relationship with a consumer.
- Representing that an offer is "exclusive" or "final" unless it can be substantiated in writing.
- Disproportionately targeting elderly consumers.

· Selling or providing personal information obtained from a consumer to unaffiliated companies for marketing purposes without the consumer's consent.

The Atkinsons owe the State of Wisconsin \$2,539,363 in civil penalties and assessments, as well as \$13,000 for costs related to the investigation and litigation. With the surrender of their assets, any recovery will come from the U.S. Fidelis bankruptcy. The states continue to negotiate with the bankruptcy estate to benefit creditors and consumers.

In addition to Wisconsin, the following states participated in the settlement: Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington.

Copies of the Consent Judgments are available at: http://www.doj.state.wi.us/news/files/Consent_Judgment_Darain_Atkinson.pdf and http://www.doj.state.wi.us/news/files/Consent_Judgment_Cory_Atkinson.pdf

Federal investigators continue probing whether U.S. Fidelis committed any criminal wrongdoing.

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation's



Annual Statewide Banquet



January 29th, 2011

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

\$10,000 Grand Prize

Over 45 Guns to be given away

1 in 5
Wins a door
prize

Top Door Prize Guns

- Kimber Model 8400
- Franchi 48AL field
- Tikka T3 Hunter
- Savage 116FCSS Stainless synthetic
- Browning BPS

ATV Raffle

Sportsman Table

\$125 per ticket

Only 350 tickets available

Shotgun Table

- Franchi 720 competition
- Browning Silver Hunter
- Browning BPS Trap

Unknown Raffle

Rifle Table

- Kimber Model 84M Classic Select
- Browning X-Bolt
- Tikka Hunter

Pistol Table

- Kimber Pro Crimson Carry
- Taurus Tracker 357
- Taurus Judge 410/45

Ticket Information:

Wayne Thayer (Banquet Chairman) 608-290-5151 wat68@t6b.com
 Marge Spencer (Treasurer) 608-752-9946
 Linda & Al Amundson 608-868-2258 allanwwf@centurytel.net

2010 WWF Print Now Available



"Training Day"
Scott Shearer

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 2010 Print of the Year

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in 1959 in Columbus, Wisconsin, Scott comes from a long line of artists and outdoorsmen. His father was an avid sportsman, taking Scott hunting whenever possible. Scott's mother was a fine artist, studying art at the American Academy of Art in Chicago. "As I grew older, I noticed, instead of shooting ducks I enjoyed photographing and sketching wildlife, as I sat in the blind with my Dad."

He spent his youth exploring the outdoors at his family's home which was surrounded by woods and wildlife. He spent weekends and summers at the family cottage on Lake Koshkonong near Edgerton.

Scott's high school art teacher encouraged him to pursue art and introduced him to one of her past students, local wildlife artist Terrill Knaack. "It was a great opportunity to receive his council and advice."

Scott went on to complete a BFA in Graphic Design from the University of Utah. Midway through his career in the graphic arts and printing industry, he decided to return to what he loved most, painting wildlife. He has studied with internationally known wildlife artists Terry Isaac and Lee Kromschroeder.

Today, Scott lives on the same family farm where he let his imagination wander as a child. This land is also where he finds inspiration for all his current paintings. "I enjoy catching those fleeting moments that you will never experience again."

ORDER FORM 2010 "Training Day"

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____

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

Make checks payable to Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
 Master Card and Visa Accepted

WWF BANQUET CALENDAR

DISTRICT	CONTACT	DATE	LOCATION
Dist. 9 Milwaukee	Jeff Chojnacki 414-764-6638 call after 3:30pm	March 25, 2011	Klemmer's Williamsburg Inn Milwaukee, WI
Dist. 4 West	Tom Dahlen	April 2, 2011	TBA - Appleton, WI
Dist. 5 Fox Valley	Doug Gries 920-722-5484 Jerry Lingnofski	April 14, 2011	Darboy Club Appleton, WI
Statewide Conservation Banquet	Wayne Thayer 608-754-4965 Marge Spencer 608-752-9946	Jan. 29, 2011	HoChunk Casino Wisconsin Dells, WI
Dist. 3 Rice Lake	Jack Nissen 262-370-8154 David Lorentz 715-931-8707		
Dist. 3 North	Brian Hobbs 715-294-3854	Feb. 19, 2011	Crickets Bar & Grill Amery, WI
Dist. 4 Central WI	Laura Huber 715-569-4061 Jerry Knuth 715-344-0017		Shooters Plover, WI
Dist. 6 North Black River Falls	Ruby 715-333-2843	March 5, 2011	Club 95 Hixton, WI
Dist. 6 La Crosse	Greg Kloss 608-788-0070 Michelle Graff 608-787-7637 or 608-797-1292 WWF PO Box 296 La Crosse, WI 54601	Feb. 5, 2011	Baus Haus 1920 Ward Ave. La Crosse, WI
Dist. 8 West Waukesha	Tom Nissen 262-719-5295	March 18, 2011	Olympia Resort Oconomowoc, WI
MacKenzie Banquet	WWF Office 800-897-4161	Oct. 8, 2011	MacKenzie Lodge Poynette, WI

November 2010 Calendar Winners



1	\$1000 Cash	Jill Guetzke, Campbellsport, WI	5641
2	Browning BLR 81 7mm-08	Russ Veberlein, Kaukauna, WI	4781
3	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Chad Peters, Adell, WI	8991
4	\$100 Cash	Jeff Pierce, Tomah, WI	5420
5	Ruger Hawkeye	Gale Everts, Sheboygan, WI	6824
6	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Michelle Liebenow, Randolph, WI	712
7	\$100 Cash	Jerry Behling, Racine, WI	6998
8	TC Hawken 50cal	Steve Rentmeter, Green Bay, WI	1110
9	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Tom Stepan, Mosinee, WI	3114
10	\$100 Cash	Jean Zahn, Muskego, WI	9565
11	Tika T3 lite SS 270 WSM	Andy Haasl, Chetek, WI	6520
12	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Helen Szleszinski, Rockford, IL	7275
13	\$100 Cash	Dale Kinder, Boscobel, WI	8811
14	Remington 700 SPS syn blu 270	Gary Senn, LaCrescent, MN	9808
15	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Frank Wiese, Madison, WI	7603
16	\$100 Cash	Larry Hudack, Wisconsin Dells, WI	4296
17	CZ Mallard 104 20ga	August Fortmann, Ixonia, WI	1553
18	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Jeff Klemke, Chippewa Falls, WI	8577
19	\$100 Cash	Ed Slaby, Pigeon Falls, WI	9144
20	Benelli Nova 12ga 3.5" syn	Larry Fortuna, Weyerhauser, WI	2121
21	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Paul Stefanski, Waukesha, WI	3673
22	\$100 Cash	Sam Honzik, Deerbrook, WI	229
23	Savage 17 HMR Pkg w/scope	Amanda Hopp, Oconomowoc, WI	9995
24	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Ron Inda, Mosinee, WI	9098
25	\$100 Cash	Jordan Jensen, Tomah, WI	5441
26	CVA optima nickle/camo 209x50	Jim Paulson, Kendall, WI	7400
27	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Don Hackbarth, Fond du Lac, WI	715
28	\$100 Cash	Kim Heffelfinger, Montello, WI	4926
29	NEF Pardner Pump 12ga	Tashina Meyer, West Bend, WI	913
30	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Donald Dean Rugg, Sparta, WI	5082