

# Wisconsin



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## Wildlife Federations Challenge Ballast Water Rules

*Legal Action Shows Wisconsin's New Permit Won't Keep New Invasive Species from Entering the Great Lakes through Ballast Water Discharges from Foreign Ships*

**A**NN ARBOR, MI (Jan. 15, 2010) – The National Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Wildlife Federation filed a legal challenge that claims the state of Wisconsin's new ballast water discharge permit violates state law and won't prevent freighters from importing more invasive species, like zebra mussels, into the Great Lakes.

"Compliance with the Wisconsin ballast water discharge standards would not prevent invasive species from entering Wisconsin waters," said Neil Kagan, senior attorney at the National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes Regional Center. "Wisconsin officials have said prevention is the best way to protect the Great Lakes from new invasive species, but the state's ballast water discharge standards won't prevent new invasions. The state's failure to follow its own laws to protect water quality is the basis of our lawsuit." Wisconsin released ballast water discharge standards in a permit in November. The permit, which is set to take effect February 1, would require ocean freighters to treat ballast water, but the discharge standards are too weak to be effective.

The final permit is weaker than the draft version and contains a loophole that would allow ships to fall back to the weakest discharge standards. The permit runs counter to a state law that prohibits degradation of Wisconsin's waters, according to officials at the National Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Wildlife Federation.

"Wisconsin's ballast water discharge permit is a mirage – it looks good from a distance but a close examination reveals serious flaws," said George Meyer, executive director of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. "The permit creates an illusion that the state is getting tough on ballast water discharges."

Ballast water discharges by ocean freighters are the leading source of invasive species in the Great Lakes. Since the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1959, ocean ships have imported 57 invaders to the Great Lakes, according to government data. That army of invaders – which includes zebra mussels, quagga mussels and round gobies – have plunged the lakes into a state of biological chaos that costs people, businesses, utilities and cities at least \$200 million per year, according to Notre Dame University researchers.

The federal government has not enacted ballast water discharge standards despite numerous agencies working on the problem for the past two decades. The U.S. Coast Guard recently proposed national ballast water treatment standards.

Wisconsin and other states began developing ballast water discharge standards after the federal government failed to address the problem nationally. California and New York have passed the nation's toughest ballast water regulations.

An earlier version of Wisconsin's discharge standard was as stringent as those states' standards. Wisconsin should restore the level of protections put in place by those states, said Marc Smith, state policy manager at the National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes Regional Center.

"Absent federal action to confront the urgent threat of invasive species, Wisconsin and other states need to do all they can to keep harmful invaders out of the Great Lakes," Smith said. "Wisconsin's ballast water discharge standards aren't tough enough – the door will remain open for new invasive species to colonize and disrupt the world's largest source of surface freshwater."

Wisconsin's permit would not make ballast water discharge standards applicable to lake freighters.

Wisconsin – along with the Great Lakes states of Indiana, Minnesota, New York, Ohio and the province of Ontario – recently supported the state of Michigan's lawsuit against the state of Illinois to stop the invasive Asian carp

from entering Lake Michigan and the other Great Lakes.

"Wisconsin's willingness to step up to stop the Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes needs to be matched by action that protects its own waters from the

ongoing influx of invasive species brought into the lakes through ballast water," said Smith.

Preventing new invasive species introductions is one of the tenets of restoring the Great Lakes. The U.S. Congress and President Obama recently approved \$475 million to restore the lakes.

"We can't fully restore the Great Lakes until we put an end to this crisis of invasive species entering the lakes," Smith said.

Marc Smith, National Wildlife Federation, 734-255-5413

George Meyer, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, 608-516-5545

Jordan Lubetkin, National Wildlife Federation, 734-887-7109

### "The Great Lakes"



### Identify the Lakes



Answers on page 8

## President's Report

Vol. I Part VIII

In the next few days our legislators will be voting to over-ride Governor Jim Doyle's veto of the Independent DNR Secretary bill. I encourage all of you to contact your own representatives and either thank them for voting to over-ride the Governor's veto or encourage them to change their position and vote with Sportsmen and women on this issue. Sportsmen and women of Wisconsin overwhelmingly support having the DNR Secretary appointed by the NRB and not hand selected by the Governor.

Now is the time for us as sportsmen to speak out about this issue and call on our legislators to do the will of the people that have elected them to office. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation has been working on the Independent DNR Secretary for many months now and I can tell you this! We can get it done if we all call and tell our

Legislators to vote to over-ride.

Thank you all for your time, patience and dedication that has gotten this issue this far.

This winter has offered plenty of opportunity for Sportsman and women to enjoy the outdoors.

January has provided us with plenty of snow cover for the hunting enthusiasts and our lakes have lots of ice for us hard water anglers. Recently I spent a day on the ice that was, well, lets just say not what I had hoped for. As I was packing it in for the day I explained to a friend that while the fishing was less than stellar, I was just thankful for the time spent on the ice and for the opportunity to experience Wisconsin's great outdoors.

Have fun !

Jack Nissen  
President

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

## CNNF is Changing the Road Map

By Jerry Knuth

Forest, Parks & Recreation Committee  
Chairman

For those readers who have occasion to hunt, fish, trap or travel in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest "CNNF," there is good reason that you'll be able to continue to use those roads that have become familiar to you. You'll recall that about a year ago, the folks at the USDA-Forest Service who manage this national forest were ready to move forward with a federal mandate developed several years prior in which more than 2400 miles of roads and trails in the CNNF would be shut down to all motorized traffic with potential fines up to \$150 levied against those who might trespass on any closed roads. The 2400 miles of roads and trails represents almost 25% of the total access road miles within the CNNF system. In a meeting with Federation representatives (George Meyer, Ralph Fritsch and yours truly), Jeanne Higgins and her staff did express concern about the level of awareness from the user side especially those folks who are seasonal visitors. At that meeting in early 2009, it was agreed that a "soft enforcement policy" would be possible and that an education program using public comment would be the primary tool for implementation. The question was how to give a heads-up to the seasonal users - i.e. hunters, anglers, trappers and sporting dog owners. Thanks to a concerted effort on the part of the federal managers, the WDNR and a variety of publications such as WISCONSERVATION and Wisconsin Outdoor News, the word got out that those wishing to request a specific road opening could do so in writing. A MVUM Road Request Form was made available.

The following will give you an indication of the kind of response that the Forest Service received for this program. Thru September 4, 2009 the F/S received 208 comments suggesting roads to add to or remove from the 2009 MVUM. This resulted in 291 roads being evaluated with 258 roads forming the proposal which lead to the first 2010 MVUM

update proposal as released on November 2. Here's how those 258 roads break down:

- > On 7 roads, public motorized use was eliminated.
- > On 81 roads, public motorized use was increased.
- > On 5 roads, public motorized use was reduced.
- > On 2 roads, the public motorized use was increased and removed portions of the same road.

This resulted in 163 map corrections for the 2009 CNNF Map.

From September 4 to December 3, the F/S received approximately 300 comments from the public. These comments are currently being evaluated and a final decision is expected by March 1 when the 2010 MVUM is scheduled to be promulgated.

The Forest Service will continue to accept suggestions for roads to add or remove from the MVUM. Each road is then evaluated comparing resource risks with public value. Site specific vegetation management projects will continue to be proposed and analyzed at the District level and includes a transportation component for the roads within the project area. Likewise, site specific ATV trail/route development projects are also proposed and analyzed at the District level. The ATV trails will also appear on the 2010 MVUM.

Bottom-line, the public comment process appears to be working. We applaud the efforts of Jeanne Higgins and her CNNF staff who have responded to something in excess of 500 comments. We also commend the 500+ users who have been paying attention to the alert system and have taken time to express their concerns and have made good use of the opportunity for public comment. We will continue to monitor this program as it unfolds. If you still wish to weigh in on public motorized access issues in CNNF, you do have time. A good person to contact is Joan Marburger. Joan can be reached at 715-762-5178 or online at jmarburger@fs.fed.us.

### \*\*\* OFFICERS \*\*\*

**President** Jack Nissen, 1811 Ottawa Ave., Dousman, WI 53118, (262) 370-8154 cell. Email: countyhighway@yahoo.com \*Alt NWF Affiliate Delegate

**First Vice President** Chuck Matyska, Route 1 5055 Cty V, Cecil, WI 54111, (715) 745-6382. Email: mmatyska@yahoo.com

**Second Vice President** Larry Laehn, N1496 Greenwood Rd., Greenville, WI 54942, (920) 757-6099. Email: btiwi@netzero.net

**Secretary** Tom Nissen, 1811 Ottawa Ave., Dousman, WI 53118, (262) 719-5295. Email: t\_bone3624@yahoo.com

**Treasurer** Laura Huber, 6980 Woodland Lane, Arpin, WI 54410, (715) 884-2774. Email: laurahuber@ceas.coop

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / LEGISLATION

George Meyer, 201 Randolph Dr., Madison, WI 53717, (608) 516-5545. Email: georgemeyer@tds.net

## Wisconservation

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### WISCONSERVATION EDITOR

Daniel A. Gries  
Phone: (920) 725-4092  
Fax: (920) 725-1013  
wwfedt@att.net

### ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Ralph Fritsch  
(715) 850-2456

### WEB PAGE ADDRESS:

www.wiwf.org

### OFFICE ADDRESS:

W7303 County Road CS & Q  
Poynette, WI 53955-9690

### OFFICE PHONE:

800-897-4161 - Toll Free

FAX 608-635-2743

## Federation Applauds Committee Approval of Bills Requiring Ag and Sporting Members of NRB, Calls for Assembly Vote

January 19, 2010

Poynette: The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation today applauded the strong bipartisan 11-2 vote late last week by the Assembly Natural Resources Committee approving three bills, AB 84 introduced by Rep. Dan LeMahieu (Random Lake), AB 470 introduced by Rep. Amy Sue Vruwink, (Milladore) and AB 495 introduced by Rep. Chris Danou (Trempealeau). These bills statutorily require that the Natural Resources Board have a member with an agricultural background and three members that have had a license to hunt, fish or trap, seven out of the last ten years.

The Natural Resource Board and its predecessor, the Conservation Commission, have had membership that met the proposed sporting license requirement from 1928 through the present and the agricultural member requirement since the early 1970's.

"These bills are important to assure that in the future there will be sportsmen and women at the table when decisions are made that affect our hunting, fishing and trapping in the state," stated

Jack Nissen (Dousman), WWF President. "Also having a Board member with an agriculture background is also critically important because so many of the issues that the Board deals with such as deer management, animal damage or nonpoint pollution have an inordinate impact on farmers in the state."

"These bills have extremely strong support from hunters, anglers and trappers in the state," stated Ralph Fritsch, (Townsend), WWF Wildlife Committee Chair. "The Wildlife Federation is asking the Assembly leadership to schedule these bills for a floor vote in the near future in order to protect the long-term interest of hunting, fishing and trapping in the state."

The Wildlife Federation is the state's largest conservation organization comprised of 168 hunting, fishing, trapping and forestry related groups making up its membership. The mission of the Federation is to support conservation education and the advancement of sound conservation policies. For more information contact George Meyer, Executive Director at 608-516-5545.

# Public Hearings Set for Runoff Pollution Proposals

**M**ADISON – Proposals to further reduce runoff pollution are the topic of public hearings statewide in late January and February. The updates are aimed at reducing toxic blue green algae blooms, fish kills, contaminated wells and other problems fueled by pollutants running off urban areas and farm fields and entering Wisconsin lakes, rivers and groundwater.

“Runoff continues to pollute Wisconsin’s lakes, rivers and groundwater, threatening public health, recreation and our quality of life,” says Gordon Stevenson, who leads the Department of Natural Resources runoff management program. “Everybody needs to do their part – developers, municipalities and farmers – if we are to tackle blue-green algae problems, avoid well contamination, and prevent fish kills.”

The DNR is proposing to revise runoff rules passed in 2002 to reduce water runoff from urban areas, construction sites and farms and to update two grant programs that help pay for those controls. The rules are Natural Resources Chapters 151, 153 and 155 of the Wis. Adm. Code.

Stevenson says the proposed changes seek to reduce soil and the pollutants attached to it, particularly phosphorus, from agriculture and urban sources and also to fairly balance controlling runoff, also called “nonpoint source pollution,” between urban and agricultural sources.

Phosphorus is one of the top reasons why 700 lakes and river segments are proposed to be included on Wisconsin’s 2010 Impaired Waters List and nationwide has landed thousands of lakes and rivers on the nation’s impaired waters list.

A national panel of experts convened by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in August 2009 issued a report calling nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen “a growing environmental crisis” not just for fish and aquatic life, but also for drinking water supplies. The report, “An Urgent Call to Action” [PDF exit DNR] identified nutrient-related problems, their sources, and recommendations for solutions.

**Proposed revisions affecting agriculture**

Major provisions of the proposed rule changes seek to reduce the potential of croplands, pastures and winter grazing areas that contribute phosphorus to Wisconsin’s lakes, rivers and groundwater.

Farmers would have to meet a maximum average level of phosphorus allowed to come off their fields, with that average calculated over an 8-year period. DNR estimates that 80 percent of farmers will meet the average with little or no change in their practices.

There also would be a cap on how much

phosphorus can come off their field in any individual year to prevent catastrophic runoff events. And farmers in watersheds where an impaired lake or river has an approved cleanup plan may be required to meet more stringent standards.

Other proposals affecting farmers would prohibit them from plowing within 20 feet next to lakes and streams to keep stream banks stable and less vulnerable to erosion.

**Proposed revisions affecting developers**

Since the runoff rules became effective in 2002, the number of construction sites subject to them has increased dramatically as EPA dropped the size of sites regulated for stormwater from 5 acres to 1 acre.

DNR proposes stronger requirements for what developers must do after construction is finished to keep water from running off. The changes would encourage efforts to let the water soak in and stay on the site instead of running off the land or paved areas as stormwater.

**Proposed revisions affecting municipalities**

Proposed revisions to runoff rules that municipalities must meet would let some of them have more time to meet a 2013 deadline to reduce by 40 percent the pollutants carried in their stormwater. Municipalities asked for more time, saying the economic recession made it difficult for them to make the needed investments or to ask their ratepayers to absorb higher fees. Stevenson says that DNR agreed to let municipalities have more time if DNR determines they have made good faith efforts to meet the deadline. About 75 percent of municipalities met an earlier deadline for a 20 percent reduction.

A listing of public hearing dates and locations is below; more information about the proposed changes can be found online.

Each hearing will begin with a 1-hour informational session followed by formal testimony. The hearings will all begin at 1 p.m. on:

- Feb. 10, Madison, Lyman F. Anderson Agricultural and Conservation Center, 1 Fen Oak Court, Classrooms A & B (1st floor)
- Feb. 11, Wausau, Rib Mountain Municipal Center, 3700 N. Mountain Road (HWY NN)
- Feb. 25, Platteville, University North Room, Pioneer Student Center, UW Platteville, One University Plaza.

Written comments on the proposed rules may be submitted until March 12, 2010, via U.S. mail to Carol Holden, DNR – WT/3, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921 or by e-mail to carol.holden@wiscon-

sin.gov. Written comments will have the same weight and effect as oral statements presented at the public hearings. More information or a copy of the proposed rules and supporting documents, including the

fiscal estimate, may be found on the Nonpoint Source Program Administrative Rules page of the DNR Web site (click on the proposed rules tab).

## Horicon Marsh 2010 Lecture Series



WDNR Release 1/10

**Lecture Series Schedule:**

**February 10:** Northern Cross Science Foundation - Stargazing at Horicon Marsh

**February 24:** Randy Stampfl on Forest Management Practices

**March 10:** John Olson on Furbearers of Forest and Wetland - Wisconsin’s Amazingly Hairy Critters

**March 24:** Ricky Lien on Overview of Wetland Restoration and Management in Wisconsin

**April 14:** Mariette Nowak on Bird-scaping

**April 28:** Bill Volkert and Connie Ramthun on Living with the Land; Lessons in Natural Landscaping

**A**s part of an expanded education program at the new Horicon Marsh International Education Center, The Department of Natural Resources has developed a guest speaker program. These presentations are intended to provide programs on a wide range of natural resource and environmental topics that may be of interest to people in the area.

All lectures are on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. The education center is located between the towns of Horicon and Mayville on Hwy. 28, please use the lower entrance. A full schedule of our 2010 dates are listed below. If you have any questions or would like a full summary of the topics please email Liz Herzmann at elizabeth.herzmann@wisconsin.gov. See you there!

## “Mississippi River” Traffic

Lock and Dam 4 statistics for the 2009 navigation season

**ALMA, WISCONSIN** – Exactly 9,497 vessels and 7,760,740 tons of cargo passed through Lock and Dam 4 in Alma, Wis., during the 2009 navigation season from March 23-Dec. 5.

The MV Coral Dawn was the last tow to pass through Dec. 3.

Of these vessels, 743 were commercial, 8,672 were recreational and 82 were of the other category, such as government watercraft.

These numbers mark a decrease in navigation traffic but an increase in tonnage.

During the 2008 season, 9,522 craft passed through Lock and Dam 4 – 549 of them commercial, 8,902 of them recreational and 71 other. In 2008, the amount of commodities transported through this lock was 5,314,060 tons.

Navigation statistics fluctuate from year to year, depending on the weather, the flows and the length of the navigation season.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, constructed Lock and Dam 4 in 1935 and maintains it to this day. The lock’s last major rehabilitation occurred from 1988-1994.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, serves the American public in the areas of environmental enhancement, navigation, flood damage reduction, water and wetlands regulation, recreation sites and disaster response. It contributes around \$175 million to the five-state district economy. The more than 638 employees work at more than 40 sites in five upper-Midwest states. For more information, see www.mvp.usace.army.mil.

## 2010 Calendar Sales Persons and Locations

The W.W.F. Board of Directors encourages support of the fine businesses identified within. ...Dag

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

# Environmental Enforcement

## Wisconsin Department of Justice

### Well Driller Donald S. Fedie to Pay \$50,000 for Well Construction Code Violations

January 14, 2010

MADISON/MONDOVI - The Wisconsin Department of Justice has filed and settled a lawsuit against West Central Wisconsin well driller Donald S. Fedie and his company, Fedie Well Drilling & Pump Service, Inc. (collectively "Fedie"), for violations of state well construction regulations, Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen announced.

Well drillers are required by law to submit well construction reports and to test new wells for coliform bacteria within 30 days after constructing the wells. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requires timely well construction reports so that it can promptly identify well construction violations. The DNR, the State of Wisconsin Geologic and Natural History Survey, and other well drillers use the well construction reports to evaluate local geology. The DNR and well owners need bacteria test results so that they know new wells produce water that is safe to drink. According to the State's complaint, filed at the request of the DNR, the majority of the well construction reports for wells drilled by Fedie have been submitted late. Some have been years late; some have still not been submitted. Of the water sample reports Fedie has submitted, almost half are late; again, some are years late.

The complaint also charges Fedie with drilling one well too close to a land-fill and another well too close to a septic system without first obtaining variances from well code separation distances. Variances for these wells were sought two and four years after well construction. Had DNR imposed additional construction requirements as variance conditions, Fedie would have been in no place to implement them.

As part of the parties' settlement, Fedie has agreed to submit to DNR all known outstanding well construction and water sample reports. He will pay \$50,000 in forfeitures, fees and costs, and has also agreed to pay additional forfeitures if he submits late reports or fails to obtain necessary variances during the next two years.

In announcing the settlement, Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen stressed the need for the drillers of water wells of Wisconsin to obey the law. "The Wisconsin Department of Justice will continue to work with the Department of Natural Resources to insure that Wisconsin's well drillers comply with rules intended to provide safe drinking water wells for the citizens of Wisconsin," Van Hollen said.

Dane County Circuit Court Judge Nicholas McNamara approved the parties' settlement agreement. Assistant Attorney General Diane Milligan represented the State.

### Van Hollen Announces Settlement in Northern Wisconsin Environmental Violations Case

January 14, 2010

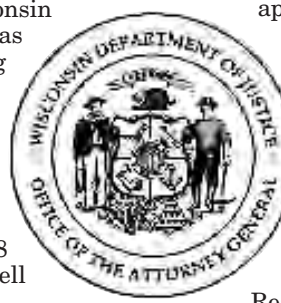
MADISON - Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen announced that Tom Butterfield, Inc. has agreed to pay penalties and costs totaling \$40,000 for a series of well drilling violations in Sawyer, Ashland, Burnett, and Washburn Counties. Tom Butterfield, Inc. is a Wisconsin corporation doing business as Tom Butterfield Well Drilling in Stone Lake, Wisconsin. The civil complaint filed in Dane County alleged that Tom Butterfield, Inc. violated Wisconsin well drilling laws by:

- Failing to notify 418 owners of impermissible well contaminants;
- Submitting water samples beyond the required time limits on 563 occasions;
- Filing late well construction reports on 329 occasions;
- Failing to maintain annular spaces at 3 wells;
- Improper grouting at 3 different wells;
- Improper casing at 3 of these wells;
- Filing an inaccurate report with the DNR regarding a well closure; and
- Numerous high capacity well violation at the Hayward Country Club.

While the case was pending, Tom Butterfield, Inc. and Thomas Butterfield

remediated the challenged wells and submitted the missing reports. Based on this cooperation and Thomas Butterfield's agreement to not renew his well drilling and pump installation licenses, the charges against Thomas Butterfield were dismissed.

On January 12, 2010, Dane County Circuit Court Judge C. William Foust approved the settlement agreement entered into between the defendants and the Wisconsin Department of Justice and ordered Tom Butterfield, Inc. to pay a penalty of \$40,000 for the violations.



"The Wisconsin Department of Justice and the Department of Natural Resources will continue to work together to investigate and enforce Wisconsin's regulations of well drilling. The State's well drilling regulations and reporting system are important to the consumers of the water and to avoid contamination of our state's ground waters by the improper construction of wells," Van Hollen said.

The case was investigated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, who referred the matter to the Wisconsin Department of Justice for prosecution. Assistant Attorney General Steven Tinker prosecuted the case for the State.

## U.S. Department of Justice

### North Carolina Ginseng Dealer Sentenced to Prison for Illegal Export of Ginseng Valued Over \$100,000

January 12, 2010

WASHINGTON - Howard William Ledford of Hayesville, N.C., was sentenced today in federal court in the Western District of North Carolina to serve one year in prison for illegally selling and transporting wild American ginseng into Georgia, the Justice Department announced. Ledford was also fined \$50,000 which will be placed in the Lacey Act Reward Account. Ledford pleaded guilty on Nov. 9, 2009, to two counts charging him with selling and transporting wild American ginseng in violation of the Lacey Act. Ledford admitted that in 2004 and 2005 he sold wild ginseng for approximately \$109,000 without the required export certificates and transported, or caused the transport of wild ginseng into Georgia from North Carolina.

The conviction arose from a three-year anti-poaching investigation intended to document the unlawful take, purchase, sale and transport of ginseng

and bear parts within and along the southern Appalachians by various individuals. The individual to whom Ledford illegally sold the ginseng, Chiu Hung Lo, aka Sherry Lo, also pleaded guilty on Nov. 9, 2009 and will be sentenced at a later date.

The Lacey Act is a federal law that makes it illegal to transport or sell plants taken, possessed, transported, or sold in violation of state law or regulation. Wild ginseng is considered a plant under both the Lacey Act and North Carolina law. It is unlawful under North Carolina law to export or ship any amount of ginseng out of the state without an export certificate issued by the state.

The case was prosecuted by the Justice Department's Environmental Crimes Section and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of North Carolina. The case was investigated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Office of Law Enforcement, with assistance from the National Park Service and Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Investigating Wolf Killings in Three States

January 12, 2010

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, is investigating 16 incidents of wolves being killed illegally in November and December of 2009 in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Two wolves were killed in Minnesota, eight were killed in Wisconsin and six were killed in Michigan in the last two months of 2009. It isn't uncommon to see a spike in the number of wolves killed in the fall, according to Greg Jackson, special agent-in-charge for the Midwest Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

"Wolf/human encounters are increasing every year and outdoor enthusiasts need to approach these encounters responsibly," Jackson said. "The law applies to everyone regardless of whether they agree or disagree with the level of protection currently afforded to wolves."

In Wisconsin, eight wolves were killed in late fall in Burnett, Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, Adams, Monroe and Jackson Counties and on two Native American reservations. Four of the wolves were radio-collared by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Two wolves were killed in Northern Minnesota in early November. One wolf was shot northwest of Grand Rapids, Minn., in the Ball Club area; the second was killed northwest of Two Harbors. The wolf killed near Two Harbors had been fitted with a radio tracking collar.

Six incidents of wolves being killed were reported in Michigan's Upper Peninsula in December. All of the wolves were discovered after their radio collars began emitting a mortality signal. "We know when a collared wolf dies," Resident Agent-in-Charge Tom Tidwell said. "We have no doubt that wolves without collars are getting killed too."

The dead wolves were found throughout the Upper Peninsula in Ontonagon, Iron, Menominee, Schoolcraft, Luce and Mackinac Counties.

The Service has a goal of conserving wolves in the United States, consistent with the intent of the Endangered Species Act. However, over the past decade Service decisions to reduce or remove protections for wolves in the Midwest have been legally contested. The most recent court action in 2009 once again placed wolves in the western Great Lakes under the protection of the Endangered Species Act. Wolves in Michigan and Wisconsin remain endangered under the ESA; in Minnesota, they are considered threatened.

"We have a healthy, viable wolf population in the western Great Lakes," according to Tony Sullins, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service supervisor for Endangered Species Act issues in Minnesota. "In that respect, we believe that we have met the intent of the Endangered Species Act in this portion of the wolf's range. Our ultimate goal for the wolf, and indeed for every imperiled species, is to remove the species from the list of threatened and endangered species in a manner that is both biologically sound and legally defensible."

"Delisting species that have recovered frees up precious resources and staff

time for those species still on the brink," Sullins added.

Service biologists are currently conducting a comprehensive review of gray wolf recovery and conservation in the United States. This team is examining the way the gray wolf is listed under the Endangered Species Act and will make recommendations on how wolf populations in the lower 48 states should be covered by the ESA. The results of the review will provide a roadmap for decision makers outlining listing issues and will provide an improved understanding of the wolf's conservation status in North America.

In the meantime, the Service is working with states and tribes in the western Great Lakes to address wolf depredation problems and other issues. In Minnesota, where the wolf is listed as threatened, the ability to address depredation has been written into the regulations. In Wisconsin and Michigan, where the wolf is listed as endangered, an Endangered Species Act permit is required for personnel to implement lethal control programs. State personnel may address depredation abatement using live-trapping and translocating animals within the state, and they may kill individual wolves that are a demonstrable but non-immediate threat to human safety. In addition, any individual may take an endangered species in defense of human life.

The Service is investigating the wolf killings in conjunction with appropriate state agencies and tribal law enforcement.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is offering up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons responsible for killing wolves. In addition, non-governmental organizations are also offering rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of people responsible for killing wolves. The Humane Society of the United States is offering up to \$2,500 per case, and Defenders of Wildlife is also offering a reward.

If you have any information related to these or any other incidents, please call the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, or the appropriate state department of natural resources. Callers can remain anonymous if they so choose. In Minnesota, please call Special Agent Ron Kramer at 218-720-5357 or the Minnesota DNR's TIP line at 1-800-652-9093. In Wisconsin, please call Special Agent Steve Stoinski at 920-866-1750 or the Wisconsin TIP line at 1-800-847-9367. In Michigan, please call Resident Agent-in-Charge Tom Tidwell at 734-995-0387 or call the Michigan Department of Natural Resources RAP line at 1-800-292-7800.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <http://www.fws.gov>.

### Van Hollen Announces Settlement in Wood County Environmental Violations Case

December 23, 2010

MADISON - Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen announced that Don Nikolai Construction & Supply, Inc., and Donald P. Nikolai, have agreed to pay penalties and costs totaling \$12,000 for its unlawful discharge of pollutants (sediment) into the waters of the state a stream that flows into Rocky Creek in Wood County.

After the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducted an investigation and referred the matter to the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) for prosecution, Nikolai Construction and Donald Nikolai were named as

defendants in a civil enforcement action for these 2008 violations of environmental protection laws.

On December 22, 2009, Wood County Circuit Court Judge Todd P. Wolf approved the settlement agreement entered into between the defendants and the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

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

Assistant Attorney General Mary Batt represented the State.

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

### EPA Settles with Third Wave Technologies on Hazardous Waste Violations

January 14, 2010

CHICAGO - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 has signed a consent agreement and final order with Hologic Inc. for alleged hazardous waste violations at its Third Wave Technologies facility in Madison, Wis. The fabricator of molecular diagnostics through a synthesis process will pay an \$87,400 penalty.

During a February 2007 inspection, EPA found multiple violations of the federal Resource Conservation and

Recovery Act at the Third Wave facility located at 502 S. Rosa Road. Specifically, EPA found that the company failed to obtain a hazardous waste storage license, train personnel and keep training records, maintain records, conduct and document daily inspection requirements for its hazardous waste tank system, and make service arrangements with state and local authorities.

EPA regulates hazardous waste from its production to final disposal under RCRA.

## Trumpeter Swans, Osprey Officially Removed from State Endangered Species List

Successful efforts to restore two bird species of concern in Wisconsin were officially recognized in November, with the removal of the trumpeter swan and osprey from the Wisconsin Endangered and Threatened Species Lists.

"The statewide populations of these two species have increased to the point where they no longer qualify as endangered or threatened under state statutes," said Department of Natural Resources Secretary Matt Frank.

Efforts to restore trumpeter swans have been dramatic, with the number of breeding pairs increasing nearly 100 percent over the last five years, according to Sumner Matteson, a DNR avian ecologist who participated in the recovery programs for both species. Wisconsin DNR wildlife managers, technicians, and research scientists, as well as scores of organizations and private individuals, contributed to the recovery effort, Matteson said.

The state Natural Resources Board last January approved a proposal to remove the two species from the list. That proposal required legislative review and was finalized with the revision of NR 27.03 Wis. Admin. Code, removing from the list the trumpeter swan as an endangered species and the osprey as a threatened species.

Trumpeter swans (*Cygnus buccinator*) — named for their resonant, trumpet-like call — are the largest waterfowl species in North America. They were present in Wisconsin until the 1880s. But they disappeared from Wisconsin due to market hunting and feather collecting.

Under a 1986 trumpeter swan recovery plan, Wisconsin biologists working with Mary and Terry Kohler of the Windway Capital Corporation flew to Alaska for nine consecutive years beginning in 1989 to collect swan eggs. In

east-central and south-central Alaska, pilot-biologist Rod King of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service identified nests ahead of the DNR egg collection team, which selected up to 50 surplus eggs that were then hatched in incubators at the Milwaukee County Zoo under the direction of curators Ed Diebold and late Kim Smith. After the eggs hatched, the young swans were either placed in a captive-rearing program or decoy-rearing program until they were released to the wild. The original recovery goal was to establish a breeding and migratory population of at least 20 pairs by the year 2000.

In 2009, biologists counted a record 183 trumpeter swan nests in 23 counties. Despite poorer nest success this year compared to other years, due primarily to drought conditions in northwestern Wisconsin where the largest percentage of nests occur most nest are located, a total of 317 young swans fledged from nests in Wisconsin this summer, Matteson says.

Ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*) nested in suitable lake habitats throughout Wisconsin before European settlement. The exceptions include the Mississippi River and, possibly, the Apostle Islands. Indiscriminate shooting and an expanding human population eliminated ospreys from southern Wisconsin. The use of pesticides after World War II caused the eggshell thinning syndrome that further reduced osprey populations in the 1950s and 1960s.

Starting in the 1950s, independent researchers Dan Berger, Charles Sindelar, Don Follen, and Sergej Postupalsky banded and inventoried ospreys in various locations in Wisconsin. Statewide conservation efforts began in the late 1960s when DNR game managers began limited aerial nest surveys and nest protection

work. The first major step in the recovery of the species was the removal of organochlorine pesticides from the osprey's food. Organochlorine pesticides were banned in Wisconsin in 1969. The ban can be attributed in large part to the efforts of Dr. Joseph Hickey and his colleagues at the University of Wisconsin.

In 1972, the osprey was placed on the state's list of endangered species. Intensive aerial surveys and nest management began in 1973. In 1986, a statewide recovery plan was developed with a goal to increase the number of breeding pairs in the state to 300. In 1989, when the statewide population reached 300 pairs, the status of ospreys was changed from endangered to threatened. The statewide population increased to just under 400 pairs from 1993 to 2002 and has been above 400 pairs since 2003. In 2008, 484 pairs of osprey nested in 49 of the state's 72 counties and produced at least 595 young.

Contributing to the species recovery, DNR wildlife biologists erected over 200 osprey nest platforms between 1972 and 1993. Since 1993, various power and transmission companies, including the American Transmission Company, the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, WE Energies, and the Wisconsin River Power Company, have provided secure nest sites through installation of osprey platforms on transmission line poles. Ospreys have excellent productivity and nest success on transmission lines outfitted with platforms. These nest sites appear not to be compromised by predators such as raccoons and great horned owls. More than 80 percent of the state's breeding osprey population now nest at sites with artificial platforms.

The DNR bureaus of Endangered Resources and Wildlife Management had many partners in the recovery efforts.

Among the organizations that have provided support for the Trumpeter Swan Program were the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc., Milwaukee County Zoo, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, General Electric Medical Systems, Windway Capital Corporation, Foundation of Faith, Zoological Society of Milwaukee County, Johnson Family Foundation, Society for Tympanuchus Cupido Pinnatus, Menasha Corporation, Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., federal Pittman-Robertson Federal-Aid-in-Wildlife Restoration Act, and the Endangered Resources tax check-off. The trumpeter swan Adopt-A-Swan program also provided additional funds. Volunteers from the International Crane Foundation for years have helped with swan round-ups in late summer, when trumpeter swan cygnets have been marked to allow for future observations.

Partners in the recovery of osprey included the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc., Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Land, American Transmission Company, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, WE Energies, Northern States Power, Dairyland Power Company, Wisconsin River Power Company, Consolidated Water Power Company, Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company, Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Wisconsin Audubon chapters, the Chequamegon and Nicolet National Forests, numerous conservation clubs, and many private landowners. Many biologists within the DNR and U.S. Forest Service have conducted aerial surveys, erected nest platforms, and have worked to ensure adequate funds during the last 35 years. The Bureau of Endangered Resources Eagle and Osprey Gift Account also provided funds.

## 2010 Wisconsin Waterfowl Hunters' Conference

Wisconsin waterfowl hunters are invited to attend the Eighth Annual Wisconsin Waterfowl Hunters' Conference which will be held on March 5 & 6, 2010 at the Ramada Inn in Stevens Point. The Conference is designed, developed and managed by a committee of independent waterfowl hunters. It is supported by individuals, conservation organizations and government agencies. Our focus since the inception of this Conference has been – Preserving and Enhancing Our Waterfowl Hunting Heritage and how can waterfowl hunting in Wisconsin be improved? Attendees can have a hand in determining the future needs for waterfowl management, research and hunting opportunities. Help determine that direction!

The meeting is open to anyone interested in waterfowl hunting; allows waterfowlers from around the state the opportunity to meet fellow hunters, management biologists and wardens; and to share questions, concerns, experiences and information that affect our waterfowl hunting heritage and future hunting opportunities.

This year's Conference program includes a variety of topics and presentations that waterfowl hunters will find stimulating and educational including updates from WI DNR's Bureaus of Wildlife Management and Law Enforcement on waterfowl issue and direction; Wisconsin legislative update; the ring-necked duck in Wisconsin; waterfowl habitat/production in Wisconsin, Wisconsin hunters restoring waterfowl habitat in Manitoba; waterfowl traditions and the unique wetland resource, past and present, the Mississippi River; Flyway Council update and more local issue; Status of the Nation Wildlife Refuge System by

USFWS Region 3 Refuge Chief. In addition, this year's agenda features presentations and opportunities for one on one discussions with Mark Rongers of Mighty Layout Boys on layout boat hunting, and Tom Dokken of Oak Ridge Kennels on dog training. On Friday evening, join Conference attendees at the festive WATERFOWL HUNTERS' PARTY.

For additional information on attending the 2010 Wisconsin Waterfowl Hunters' Conference please visit the website at [www.wisducks.org/wwhc.htm](http://www.wisducks.org/wwhc.htm) or contact one of the following: Jon R. Bergquist (NW WI) at [jonrbergquist@hotmail.com](mailto:jonrbergquist@hotmail.com) 715-268-5584; Don Gamble (NW WI) at [jadag@centurytel.net](mailto:jadag@centurytel.net) 715-595-6045; Joe Porten (NE WI) at [joeporten@gmail.com](mailto:joeporten@gmail.com) 920-743-3053; Gary Gagnon (SE WI) at [gagnon1@execpc.com](mailto:gagnon1@execpc.com) 608-883-2141; John Holmes (S WI) at [popplecop@hotmail.com](mailto:popplecop@hotmail.com) 608-742-3190 or Don Heidel (W WI) at [dblack saddle@centurytel.net](mailto:dblack saddle@centurytel.net) 608-526-4871. Preregistration deadline is February 20 and pre-registration is encouraged.

A block of rooms have been put on hold for those attending the workshop Fri and Sat and need a room to stay in. The planning committee has obtained a special rate from the Ramada Inn for those wishing to spend the night there. The phone number for the Ramada Inn is 1-800-998-2311. To get this rate, ask for the "Wisconsin Waterfowl Hunters' Conference" rate. Contact the Ramada Inn prior to February 15 to get the special room rate.

Preregister by February 20, 2010 and be entered into a special drawing. Preregister yourself and a friend who did not attend the Conference in 2009 and both will be entered in a second special raffle.

## Airplane Crash Claims Lives of Two Fish and Wildlife Service Waterfowl Biologists

USFWS Release 1/10

Two U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists died in the crash of their small aircraft on January 17th in western Oregon. Pilot-biologist Vernon Ray (Ray) Bentley, 52, from Blodgett, Oregon, and David Sherwood (Dave) Pitkin, 49, from Bandon, Oregon, died when their plane went down west of Philomath, Oregon. The two were returning from Newport, Oregon, after a day spent flying over estuaries along the Oregon coast, counting ducks, geese and swans for the Service's annual mid-winter waterfowl survey. Pitkin was a contract employee and had previously been a biologist with the Service's National Wildlife Refuge System for 15 years at the Oregon Coast NWR Complex.

"It is with great sadness I am confirming that we have lost a valuable part of our Migratory Bird Program and members of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service family," said Director Sam Hamilton. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families, loved ones and friends of Ray and Dave as we all struggle with this terrible loss. They were wonderful men who were dedicated to wildlife conservation, and played a vital role in helping the Service fulfill its mission. Their professional excellence was matched only by their love of the outdoors."

Director Hamilton also expressed his thanks to the Benton County Sheriff's Office, which led the search and rescue effort. Approximately 50 persons participated in the search, including search and rescue volunteers as well as law enforcement personnel.

At present, the Service is cooperating

with the Federal Aviation Administration and National Transportation Safety Board, the agencies conducting the investigation into the cause of the crash. The exact location of the plane crash is not being disclosed pending the investigation by federal authorities.

Every winter, select teams of Service pilot-biologists and observers take to the skies to survey North America's waterfowl during January in one of the oldest wildlife surveys, dating back to the 1930s. This effort is followed by additional surveys of waterfowl breeding grounds conducted during the spring and summer. The teams crisscross North America at tree top level, recording the number of ducks, geese and swans, and assessing the quality and quantity of wetlands and waterfowl breeding habitat. Service pilot-biologists fly more than 80,000 miles throughout North America during the multiple surveys. During their long history, their safety record of the Migratory Bird survey pilots is unparalleled.

These surveys are a model of partnership-driven conservation, with contributions from the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Canadian Wildlife Service, state and provincial biologists, and non-governmental cooperators. The program is believed to be the most extensive, comprehensive, and oldest annual wildlife survey effort in the world. Analysis of the information gathered helps determine the status of North America's waterfowl populations and plays a significant role in the setting of annual waterfowl hunting regulations. It also provides a vital tool to guide the decisions of waterfowl managers throughout North America.

## 2010 Wisconsin Waterfowl Hunters' Conference

March 5 & 6, 2010  
Stevens Point Ramada Inn  
1-800-998-2311

\*\*\* Ask for special waterfowl rate \*\*\*

Fee: \$20 includes Friday Night Duck Hunter Party!!!

Info:  
[www.wisducks.org/wwhc/htm](http://www.wisducks.org/wwhc/htm)

Preserving and Enhancing our Waterfowl Hunting Heritage

## Winter Q & A

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

**Q.** What technology does NOAA use to forecast and warn for winter storms?

**A.** NOAA National Weather Service meteorologists rely on a number of tools to make the best winter weather forecasts and warnings possible. Forecasts are largely based on information from numerical weather prediction models, while warnings also incorporate information from observations. Small variations in near surface temperature – even tenths of a degree – can determine whether precipitation will fall as snow, sleet or freezing rain, and this sensitivity makes forecasting these events a challenge.

### Surface Observations

NOAA has weather stations around the U.S. constantly taking measurements of temperature, humidity, wind and pressure. Forecasters use this data to predict the development or track the movement of a storm and to predict what type of precipitation will fall.

### Upper Air Observations

Weather balloons launched by National Weather Service forecast offices every 12 hours, measure the conditions in the atmosphere as they rise. The data is beamed to the ground to be analyzed and fed into numerical forecast models, so forecasters learn how the storm will behave, including where snow, sleet or freezing rain might fall.

### Numerical Weather Prediction Models

On a daily basis, NOAA runs several numerical weather prediction models to provide forecast guidance out to 14 days for the United States. These forecasts provide

information on the expected temperature, precipitation type/amount, and winds, which human forecasters use to make forecast and warning decisions.

### Satellite

Meteorologists study the images from NOAA satellites to understand the big picture. They look for features that signal winter storms, such as a large distinct comma-shaped cloud mass that can encompass several states. They watch how these features move over time to help forecast where the storm is heading next and when it will arrive.

### Radar

Radar gives clues about whether rain, sleet or snow is falling. Sleet shows up well on radar because it is a solid pellet of ice. Sometimes it can be mistaken for heavy snow on radar, so forecasters use both surface observations and radar to make accurate forecasts and warnings.

### Research

Scientists at NOAA's National Severe Storms Laboratory develop new weather radar techniques to help forecasters detect different types of winter precipitation. NSSL researchers make it easier for forecasters to handle the vast amount of data available to them, especially during hazardous weather. Both NSSL and NOAA's Earth System Laboratory work to refine and improve computer predictions of the weather. ESRL also studies how icing can form in clouds, and how these conditions can be detected to assist pilots in avoiding hazardous air space.

This month's expert: Dave Stensrud, NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory.

## High-Tech Research Plane Dispatched

NOAA's Gulfstream IV aircraft, known for investigating Atlantic hurricanes, will begin flying over the North Pacific Ocean to fill gaps in atmospheric observations, which will enhance forecasts of winter storms for the entire North American continent through improved computer modeling.

The highly specialized twin turbofan jet will be stationed at Yokota Air Force Base in Japan through February before repositioning to Honolulu in March. From these locations, the aircraft will be tasked by the National Centers for Environmental Prediction — a division of NOAA's National Weather Service — to fly into data sparse regions to collect information such as wind speed and direction, pressure, temperature and humidity. This data will be sent via satellite to global operational weather forecasting centers — and fed into sophisticated computer forecast models.

"These flights will help us better observe and understand the current state of the atmosphere over the Pacific, where most of North America's weather originates, in order to better predict future conditions across the U.S. and Canada three to six days in advance," said Louis Uccellini, Ph.D., director of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction in Camp Springs, Md.

These computer model improvements

will play an essential role in meteorological support for the Winter Olympics in Vancouver in addition to more precise precipitation forecasts along the U.S. West Coast and points further east.

NOAA incorporated the Japan-based missions into its annual Winter Storms Reconnaissance program in early 2009 — flying 332 flight hours and logging miles equivalent to circling the Earth five times. Prior to 2009, missions were flown from Alaska, Hawaii and the U.S. West Coast. By expanding the reach across the International Date Line to Japan, NOAA is essentially pushing farther upstream to observe areas of interest with greater lead times.

These missions showed significant positive impact to global numerical weather prediction models, increasing both accuracy and lead times for high-impact weather events. For example, model forecasts of precipitation amounts improved, on average, 10 to 15 percent.

The high altitude, high speed NOAA Gulfstream IV is based at the NOAA Aircraft Operations Center, located at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Fla.

\*NOAA understands and predicts changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and conserves and manages our coastal and marine resources.



# Associate Membership and Affiliate Clubs

Nomination Deadline  
March 10, 2010

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!

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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 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.

## 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.

## 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

## 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.

## Take Note!

- Ballast Water Discharge.** Page 1.
- National Forest Roads.** Page 2.
- Horicon Marsh Lecture Series.** Page 3.
- Environmental Enforcement.** Pages 4 & 5.
- Conservation Awards.** Page 7.

Editor D. A. Gries

## WWF - Q. & A.



## January 2010 Calendar Winners



|    |                                       |                                  |      |
|----|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|
| 1  | \$1000 Cash                           | Sue Peterson, Pine River, WI     | 9880 |
| 2  | Benelli Montefetro 12ga 26"           | Scott Huber, Arpin, WI           | 1074 |
| 3  | \$100 Cash                            | David Yonker, Tigerton, WI       | 212  |
| 4  | Browning Xbolt Hunter 30-06           | Brant Hooper, Columbus, WI       | 4014 |
| 5  | Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value | Toni Fillion, Berlin, WI         | 9728 |
| 6  | \$100 Cash                            | Rich Reichert, Menasha, WI       | 3897 |
| 7  | Remington 1187 Sportsman 12ga         | Tom Kutschenreuter, Pewaukee, WI | 7636 |
| 8  | Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value | Jim Schreurs, Sheboygan, WI      | 2897 |
| 9  | \$100 Cash                            | Tom Zunker, Eagle, WI            | 7079 |
| 10 | Ruger Hawkeye                         | Ken Haberkorn, Brookfield, WI    | 3686 |
| 11 | Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value | Ray Falkowski, Hartford, WI      | 8677 |
| 12 | \$100 Cash                            | John Dalby, Fort Atkinson, WI    | 6160 |
| 13 | TC Encore Rifle 30-06                 | Tim Babros, Galesville, WI       | 2010 |
| 14 | Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value | Marge Baker, Gilman, WI          | 8441 |
| 15 | \$100 Cash                            | Richard Rhodes, Watertown, WI    | 4553 |
| 16 | CZ Mallard 104 20ga                   | Allen Seeliger, Ripon, WI        | 2862 |
| 17 | Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value | Dallas Reebe, Sparta, WI         | 1818 |
| 18 | \$100 Cash                            | Robert Ellis, Soldiers Grove, WI | 5977 |
| 19 | Ruger 10/22 Target ss lam             | Jim Summers, Trempealeau, WI     | 6721 |
| 20 | Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value | Kenneth Ristau, Waukesha, WI     | 6250 |
| 21 | \$100 Cash                            | Susan Drews, Fremont, WI         | 272  |
| 22 | Steven S Model 200 7mm-08             | Joe Miceli, Milwaukee, WI        | 5607 |
| 23 | Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value | Randy Brossard, West Bend, WI    | 63   |
| 24 | \$100 Cash                            | Joe Feldbruegge, Colby, WI       | 3931 |
| 25 | NEF Pardner Pump 12ga                 | Edward Kuhn, Neillsville, WI     | 9477 |
| 26 | Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value | Thomas Schaub, Glenbeulah, WI    | 5268 |
| 27 | \$100 Cash                            | Janice Falen, West Allis, WI     | 7490 |
| 28 | Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value | Patricia Rhodes, Watertown, WI   | 4551 |
| 29 | CVA Kodia K pro blu/blk 209x50        | Bill Neary, Cambria, WI          | 6729 |
| 30 | Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value | Jeff Haasl, Wisconsin Rapids, WI | 5151 |
| 31 | \$100 Cash                            | Lori Billmann, Oostburg, WI      | 22   |



## Membership Application

Want your voice to be heard on environmental issues? A membership in Wisconsin Wildlife Federation will accomplish just that. Founded in 1949, the W.W.F. is Wisconsin's oldest citizen-led non profit conservation organization.

**Join Today! We speak to all outdoors issues.** A membership fee of \$25.00 per year also entitles you to a 12 month subscription of Wisconservation, the official publication of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation.

Forward your application & fee to: **W.W.F., W7303 County Road CS & Q, Poynette, WI 53955-6960**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

\$25 fee enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Master Card/Visa available - 1-800-897-4161

**Membership strength increases our voice strength!**

## MacKenzie Environmental Education Center Maple Syrup Festival

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2010  
8:00 am - 2:00 pm

- Guided tours of the sugarbush
  - Demonstrations of how to tap a maple tree for sap and how to make syrup
  - Interpretative talks about how Native American and pioneers made syrup
  - Home-made ice cream churned with an antique engine
  - Horse-drawn wagon rides (9am - 2pm)
  - Live, old-time country music
  - All-you-can-eat pancake breakfast (8am - noon) in our main lodge.
- Tickets are: \$7 (12+), \$5 (3 - 11)
- Food, drinks, and souvenirs sold by the Friends of MacKenzie
  - Raffle drawing at 12:00 noon

In addition, you can view the wildlife exhibit, walk through the arboretum, and hike the trails.



Maple Syrup Festival is hosted by:  
the Friends of MacKenzie,  
the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, and the WI DNR

The MacKenzie Environmental Center is located  
two miles east of Poynette on County Road CS.  
For more information, call: 608-635-8110

## WWF BANQUET CALENDAR

| DISTRICT                           | CONTACT                                                       | DATE             | LOCATION                             |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Dist 3 Rice Lake                   | Jack Nissen<br>262-370-8154<br>David Lorentz<br>715-931-8707  | March 20, 2010   | Rice Lake Elks Club<br>Rice Lake, WI |
| Dist 3 North                       | Brian Hobbs<br>715-294-3854                                   | Jan. 23, 2010    | Crickets Bar & Grill<br>Amery, WI    |
| Dist 4 Central WI                  | Laura Huber<br>715-569-4061<br>Jerry Knuth<br>715-344-0017    | Feb. 27, 2010    | Shooters<br>Plover, WI               |
| Dist 4 West<br>(Neillsville)       | Tom Dahlen                                                    | April 3, 2010    | TBA                                  |
| Dist 5 Fox Valley                  | Doug Gries<br>Jerry Lingnofski<br>920-722-5484                | March 25, 2010   | Darboy Supper Club<br>Darboy, WI     |
| Dist 6 North<br>Black River Falls  | Ruby<br>715-333-2843                                          | March 6, 2010    | Club 95<br>Hixton, WI                |
| Dist 6 West<br>La Crosse           | Greg Kloss<br>608-788-0070                                    | February 6, 2010 | Baus Haus<br>La Crosse, WI           |
| Dist 7                             | TBA                                                           | TBA              | TBA                                  |
| Dist 8 West<br>(Waukesha)          | Tom Nissen<br>262-719-5295                                    | March 26, 2010   | Olympia Resort<br>Oconomowoc, WI     |
| Dist 9 Milwaukee                   | Jeff Chojnacki<br>414-764-6638<br>call after 3:30pm           | March 26, 2010   | Klemmer's Inn                        |
| State Wide<br>Conservation Banquet | Wayne Thayer<br>608-754-4965<br>Marge Spencer<br>608-752-9946 | Jan. 30, 2010    | Ho-Chunk Casino<br>Wisconsin         |
| Mackenzie Banquet                  | Office                                                        | Oct. 9, 2010     | Mackenzie Residence<br>Lodge         |