ADISON – Anglers looking for places to fish, tips to hook their favorite catch, or the latest fishing reports for the upcoming season can catch the latest information in the 2009 Wisconsin Fishing Report.

The 2009 Wisconsin Fishing Report is now available online. This free, annual 16-page newspaper is an angler’s guide to the 2009 fishing year, with fishing forecasts that Department of Natural Resources fish biologists provide for many popular waters statewide.

Anglers looking to target some of Wisconsin’s well known fish can dive into “Hook Your Favorite Catch” for tips on adjusting your sights, techniques and bait to increase your chances of success.

“A Year of Fabulous Fishing” provides anglers a month-by-month rundown of what’s bound to be biting and where, depending on the time of year.

In “Fabulous Fisheries Projects,” readers can learn about the work fisheries crews are doing around the state each year to protect Wisconsin’s fish and make fishing better.

“Get Hooked” will introduce readers to DNR’s Urban Fishing Program that encourages more people, especially children, to go fishing and helps to make fishing opportunities more readily available in urban areas.

Anglers will also find greater refrigerator materials such as fishing season dates, top 50 family-friendly waters and fish watching opportunities throughout the state.

Any drop in the state’s TB-free status will lead to $1.87 million annually in testing costs alone for farmers in order to continue to export cattle, not to mention the costs of euthanizing herds, carcass disposal, property disinfections, and risking consumer confidence and Wisconsin’s status as America’s Dairyland,” Zeckmeister said. In Michigan, the projected cost to producers over a 10 year period is $121 million.

The DNR deer health surveillance program began in January of 2007 when wildlife and other DNR staff took tissue samples from road kill deer. The lymph nodes in the neck of the animal were taken from adult deer and analyzed for CWD and other diseases. The entire deer hunting community also participated in the check.

“I want to thank all the hunters, meat processors, taxidermists, students and department staff that brought deer in for sampling” the wildlife supervisor said, “all of you were key to this project.”
Testimony of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation in Support of the WDNR's General Discharge Permit Regulating the Discharge of Ballast Water into the Great Lakes 3/23/09

Good morning, my name is George Meyer and I am representing the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, the state's largest conservation organization, comprised of over 164 hunting, fishing, trapping, and forestry-related groups throughout the State of Wisconsin. The Federation is virtually every conservation and environmental group in Wisconsin and are very supportive of the proposed Department of Natural Resources General Permit WI-0635535-01 regulating the discharge of ballast water into the waters of the State of Wisconsin.

Sportsmen and women throughout the state cannot believe that thirty-seven years after the passage of the national and state Clean Water Acts, international ships are allowed to discharge their ballast water into the Great Lakes without any permit or effective treatment. The results of these unregulated discharges are the presence of zebra mussels, quagga mussels, Eurasian Ruffe, round goby, white perch, spiny water flea, phragmites, possums, and over 150 other invasive species that have devastated the Great Lakes ecosystem and has economically important sports fishery. We all have seen the results, the collapse of the salmon fishery in Lake Huron, the expenditure of over $1.5 billion over the last 20 years to deal with the clogging of water and discharge pipes, the loss of 80% of the forage base for Lake Michigan's fishery and the severe fouling of our beaches just to name a few.

These invasive species just don't stay in the Great Lakes, they infest our inland lakes and are transmitted throughout the country. Wisconsin sportsmen and women contribute over $800 million through licenses, stamps and excise taxes to the state's Fish and Wildlife Account that is used to enhance and protect our fish and wildlife resources and their habitat. These hunters, anglers and trappers see that same habitat devastated by the irresponsible actions of international ships discharging their ballast water into our waters.

I spend virtually all of my time talking and listening to the sportsmen and women of this state. When it comes to the discharge of ballast water from international ships, they say that: "We are fed up with it and it has to stop now."

When will the shipping industry start acting responsibly and clean up its ballast water discharges? Hopefully it will be before the $7 billion a year Great Lakes fishery is totally collapsed. Every other industry or municipality in this state must treat their wastes and protect the water quality of the state. Why should the international shipping industry be free from comparable regulation? The Federation argues that the purpose of the State and Federal Clean Water Acts was involved as a young attorney in DNR in implementing the 1972 Federal Clean Water Act that required all industries and municipalities to treat their waste discharges. For the Great Lakes, industry has been demanding it on a voluntary basis. We are very sensitive to the Duluth-Superior Harbor dilemma where potentially higher regulatory standards on the Superior side of the harbor could drive shipping to the Duluth side of the harbor. The Federation does not want to see that occur. However the answer to that problem is not adopting the extremely weak standards advanced by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, it is Minnesota adopting the Wisconsin standards. We applauded the Natural Wildlife Federation and our Minnesota counterpart, the Minnesota Conservation Federation and their legal efforts to bring the Minnesota permit in line with the permits in Wisconsin and New York.

Lastly, we all agree that strong federal regulation is preferable to state regulation and we applaud the efforts of Congressmen Obey and Obet, Senator Feingold and the remainder of the Wisconsin congressional delegation to seek the adoption of equally strong federal regulation. However until that happens, and we have been disappointed for over twenty years, it is critically important for the State of Wisconsin to join the State of New York in adopting the proposed general permit for the discharge of ballast into the Wisconsin waters.

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation thanks you for the opportunity to testify here today on this critically important issue.

Submitted:
George Meyer
Executive Director
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Unprecedented Legislation Support for DNR Secretary Appointment Bill Has Overwhelming Conservationists Backing

March 16, 2009
George Meyer, Executive Director

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, the state's largest conservation organization, comprised of over 164 hunting, fishing, trapping and forestry organization, extends its deepest appreciation to the 68 state senators and representatives that have cosponsored Assembly Bill 138 which restores the appointment authority of the DNR Secretary back to the Natural Resources Board. The Board appointment authority was initially established by the Legislature in 1928 under the leadership of Aldo Leopold and other conservation leaders with the strong political backing of hunters, anglers and trappers.

The concept of a Board appointed Secretary is to promote professionally based natural resource management, with broad public input over direct political influence in natural resource decision-making.

"The sportsmen and women in this state overwhelmingly support the restoration of the appointment authority of the DNR Secretary to the Board," stated Lil Pipping (Ellskart Lake), Federation President. "When this measure is brought up before the Wisconsin Conservation Congress it receives 90% approval from the state's sportsmen and women."

"Wisconsin's hunters, anglers and trappers would like to thank each and everyone of the sixty-eight legislative cosponsors of the restoration bill," stated Ralph Fritsche (Kaukauna), WWF Wildlife Committee Chair. "A special thank you goes to our allies, due to the bipartisan efforts of the lead cosponsors of the bill: Representatives Spencer Black (Madison), Dean Kaufert (Neenah) and Mary Hulker (Rue Lake) and Senators Rob Wirch (Kenosha) and Rob Cowles (Green Bay)."

In the thirty-eight years of observing and working with the Legislature, I cannot remember a majority of both houses of the legislature endorsing a substantive piece of legislation of this nature," provided George Meyer, WWF Executive Director. "This incredible legislative support is a reflection of the deep seated feelings, tenacity and hard work of Wisconsin's sportsmen and women on this issue, it is really a visceral issue to Wisconsin hunters, anglers and trappers.

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is dedicated to conservation education and the advancement of sound conservation policies on a state and national level. The WWF is the state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation. For further information, please contact George Meyer, Executive Director, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at 608-516-5545.

President's Message

Vol. II Part XI

Well this is my last President's message. These past two years have gone by fast. I want to thank everyone who in anyway helped to make my presidency go smoothly.

During these years WWF has been involved in many issues, Stewardship renewal, Great Lakes Compact, fight to restore the appointment of the DNR Secretary back to the Natural Resources board and much more. We have provided the directors with the guidance needed for them to do their jobs, updated the By-Laws, Handbook, and in the process of getting the Cama Coalition up and running on our website and much more. During these difficult financial times that our nation is going through, we must continue to push for good turnouts at our banquets and calendar sales so this is our income to continue the great work we do.

I again want to thank everyone who supported me and ask everyone to support the new Executive Board coming into office as they will be facing some challenges. We have many Legislation issues in our coming year and need everyone to step up and do their part.

"Bravely yours in conservation, Lil Pipping, Outgoing President"
of Natural Resources.

Owens’s story begins on a Tuesday, the fourth day of Wisconsin’s 2008 gun deer season. He had been tracking a buck, and since he was 12, was driving around Burnett County, scouting public land, when he came upon a young woman dressed in a boyfriend, who had to eat crow for his tale. That’s why she was crying, Owens said.

“Tired. That’s a very nice boyfriend,” she said, “You got that right.”

She was maybe 19 or 20 years old, he guessed, short and slender. He noticed she was hunting with an old, dinged-up 30-30 lever action rifle, a museum piece, without a scope. He offered to find the deer for her and to field dress it.

“She would really do that?” she said.

He followed her into a thickly forested section of public land must hunters pass by because the woods are too dense to offer shooting lanes. After a long hike they came upon an oval-shaped opening, 50 by 100 yards, a leafy forest. It was her secret hunting spot. She said, passed down to her father and then to her, her father’s only child. She didn’t want to take pictures. Owens guessed she was trying to guard the secret of her younger brother’s hunting spot. Then she started hyperventilating. The excite ment of it all had finally hit her.

“She was way, maybe 19 or 20 years old,” he said. “She started hyper-ventilating. The excitement of it all had finally hit her.

“One couldn’t even get its shoulder off,” Owens said. “Some other hunters came by and helped load the buck. She asked them not to take pictures. Owens guessed she was trying to guard the secret of her younger brother’s hunting spot. Then she started hyperventilating. The ex citement of it all had finally hit her.

Owens easily found the deer lying helplessly in a patch of scrub oak. The sight of it took his breath away.

“Oh my God,” he exclaimed. “Do you know you shot a once-in-a-lifetime time deer?”

He was looking at a 13-point buck that would weigh more than 200 pounds after being gutted. Shooting with open season in hand, he shot it down at perfect angles. She showed Owens the ground blind she had formed with pine boughs. She’d dug a hole in the center, put a small plastic lantern down into it and an old stool on the ground above. She’d sit on the stool and wrap a blanket around herself, holding in the heat.

“Owens could do it, drag that buck to the road. His companion walked along with her on the other side of the girlfriends. As far as for Owens could tell, there wasn’t any net gain in forward momentum. He was soaking wet and sucking wind when they got to the road. He had no hope of lifting her trophy into her truck.

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Salmonella is Cause of Death in Pine Siskins in Sawyer County

Madison — Salmonella bacterial infection has been confirmed in the backyard of a wildlife expert in Sawyer County according to the Department of Natural Resources. The infection is suspected as the cause of death. “Salmonella infection is a common cause of mortality of wild birds at bird feeders and affects many bird species nationwide,” said Jasmine Batten, a microbiologist with the Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Health Team. “Most outbreaks in wild birds occur during the winter when they are nutritionally stressed and concentrated around bird feeders.”

Salmonella enteritidis (Salmonella typhimurium) live in the intestine and are shed in feces of infected birds. Birds contract salmonellosis through direct contact with infected birds or through ingestion of food or water contaminated with infectious feces, according to wildlife experts.

While all bird species can be susceptible to salmonellosis, house sparrows, common redpolls, American goldfinch, and mourning doves are among the more susceptible species and most commonly affected species at Wisconsin bird feeders.

“Salmonella is a common cause of mortality of wild birds at bird feeders and affects many bird species nationwide,” said Jasmine Batten, a microbiologist with the Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Health Team.

Public Health Significance
Salmonellosis is a public health concern because all strains of Salmonellosis are potentially pathogenic to humans and animals. However, it appears that wild birds play a relatively small role in the transmission of disease to domestic animals and humans.

While dogs and cats are rarely infected, pets should be discouraged from contact with infected birds or through ingestion of food or water contaminated with infectious feces, according to wildlife experts.

Salmonella is a common cause of mortality of wild birds at bird feeders and affects many bird species nationwide, said Jasmine Batten, a microbiologist with the Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Health Team.

How does NOAA track atmospheric carbon, a contributor to climate change?

Now is time to seek permission to access land for spring turkey season

“Giving them a Christmas card, a small gift, a thank you card,” Lawhern said. “You might be surprised how far your willingness to shovel manure for a whole day will get you.”

If you get permission, Lawhern says it is critical to be respectful and considerate of the property and the owner to be allowed to return the following season.

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Salmonella is a cause of death in Pine Siskins in Sawyer County.
State Parks and Recreational Areas

Buckhorn State Park

Named after Major Richard I. Bong, a Poplar, Wisconsin, native who was America’s leading air ace during World War II. The project was abandoned three days before concrete was to be poured - a tragic fate for one of Richard Bong’s visions.

How to Get There

Take Interstate 43 or US Highway 41 north to Green Bay. (If you take Interstate 43, exit to State Highway 57 north, drive about 37 miles to County Highway BB. Take right on County Highway BB and go about 1.8 miles. The park entrance will be on your left.)

• 9.2 miles of off-road bike trails
• 28.4 miles of hiking trails

The park's 2,200 acres have 20.4 miles of trails including 7.6 miles of marked cross-country ski trails. The park offers 24 tent sites and 30 campsites with tables and grills, and another 24 partially improved campsites.

Once designated to be a jet fighter base, Richard Bong State Recreation Area is a fittingly named park in honor of the late Richard Bong, a Flying Tigers pilot from Wisconsin.

Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit

The Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest is 38 miles long, extending from the village of Dousman along the Wisconsin River to the city of Whitewater. Forest Headquarters is 3 miles west of the village of Eagle on US Highway 80.

Cabin for people with disabilities

The park also offers a number of snowmobile trails.

How to Get There

Because of the unique areaway, the park also has a number of walking trails.

• 26 miles of hiking trails
• 17 miles of cross-country ski trails
• 9 miles of off-road bike trails
• 1.2 miles of trail for snowmobiling
• 1.1 miles of interpretive nature trails
• 0.5 miles of trail accessible for people with disabilities

Enjoy the cool shade of a wooded trail on a warm, sunny day.

High Cliff State Park

Cabin for people with disabilities

The park is named for its cobblestone, a lake which often is so calm it can’t be detected in a time of high water.

The park also features an accessible fishing pier, trails and a beach. The park also has a accessible trail, a bike lane and a boat launch.

Kettle Moraine State Forest—Southern Unit

The park has a three-mile off-road group camp, 42 campers in campsites, each of which is accessible for people with disabilities.

The park is named for its cobblestone, a lake which often is so calm it can’t be detected in a time of high water.

High Cliff is the only state-owned recreational area on Lake Winnebago, Wisconsin’s largest lake. The park has a marina, historic sites, a campground, picnic areas and shelters, a beach, woodsy wildlife, an observation tower, and a number of facilities. Many facilities including a specially-designed cabin, are accessible for people with disabilities.

In times of high water, Brevort Lake State Park is especially fantastic.

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There are 172 campsites at Buckhorn State Park in 23 groups. All sites have a picnic table and a fire ring, and are accessible for people with disabilities.

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The waterfowl hunting season is closed. Skiffs and boats are in dry dock. Decoys are bagged and hanging high and dry from the rafters of garages. However, the intensity of effort, dedication and enthusiasm of those individuals known as waterfowlers was never more obvious than interacting with the 200 plus in attendance at the 2009 Waterfowl Conference held in Stevens Point March 3rd – 4th. For the most part, camouflaged attire was the uniform of the day. These guys and girls look forward to the challenges inclement weather can produce.

The conference commenced at 1:00 pm Friday with an overview of the conference agenda, moving forward quickly to the scheduled speakers/presenters.

Department of Natural Resources staff – Tom Hauge Bureau Director Wildlife Management presented an update of the upcoming financial budget affecting waterfowlers. Chief Warden Randy Stark discussed efforts aimed at increasing involvement of youth in waterfowl hunting and outdoor activities. Migratory Bird Ecologist Kent Van Horn presented an update of the Mississippi Flyway Council activity and species migration. Warden Todd Schaller discussed the waterfowl enforcement “Concealment” Rule (When in vegetation concealment high enough and when is it not.)

The status and perspectives on the species of Scaup and Canvasback, Wetland Restoration projects were presented by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association staff.

Mr. Roger Hanson of the Green Bay Duck Hunters spoke of the organizations long standing and highly successful Duck Rescue and Relocation Program with equipment demonstration. How many of you “huh?” hens and their broods out of harm’s way as the spring season nesting and hatching activity interact with freeways, highways, roadways congested with the nemesis, the motor vehicle!

Winding down the afternoon heading toward the duck hunters party, a true southern gentleman Mr. Jim Ronquest, a multi year waterfowl calling champion representing RNT Calls of Arkansas, quoted a few tunes sending different messages to a imaginary on-site waterfowl. Jim’s accompanying video featured incoming multi duck species responding to his calling efforts. Someucks fell & some continued in flight.

Now that everyone was “charged”, we headed for the anticipated duck hunters party featuring an abundance of culinary accomplishments with posted ingredients, eliminating the mystery meat thought. If anyone did not get enough to eat, they simply weren’t hungry. The party featured silent auction opportunities from many of the conference manufacturing contributors.

Saturday featured a legislative update from Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Executive Director George Meyer followed by the increasing layout blind waterfowl hunting method presented by Mark Rongers of Mighty Layout Boys.

Delta Waterfowl Magazine Associate Editor Tori McCormick (Bismark, ND) spoke to Delta’s Vanishing Hunter Series and Mr. Tim Moser USFWS presented a video featuring Light Goose Management – primarily the devastation to the prairies in Canada by the snow goose specie.

Heading toward lunch, Mr. Tom Dokken (Oak Ridge Kennels/Deadfowl Trainers along with two black labradors, gave a verbal and physical demonstration of how to and how not to train a puppy. Thinking back of my own labrador puppy training episode, I qualify in the “how not to” category.

The afternoon activity offered breakout sessions in duck calling, dog training and more layout blind hunting. The effects of Biofuel Production on Waterfowl by Professor Todd Arnold, University of Minnesota – Mallard Bred Survival Study by Courtney Amsden, University of Minnesota PhD candidate concluding with a question and answer panel.

Speaking for myself, I came away from the conference with a better understanding of how I can improve my bag limit fulfillment expectations especially when it comes to overcalling and incorrect calling of approaching waterfowl and the need of researching decoy placement.

I know how to train a Labrador puppy, let someone else do it!

Looking forward to the 2010 conference – Be safe out there! If you don’t know the hunting regulations, stay home!

Volunteers Needed for Sturgeon Guard: Night Shift Volunteers Especially in Demand

O SHKOSH - Each Spring, hundreds of volunteers guard sturgeon at their spawning sites on the Wolf River to protect the fish from poaching. This rich tradition and partnership with the public is directed by Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement staff and funded, in part, by Sturgeon for Tomorrow, a local sturgeon conservation organization.

When sturgeon spawn, along the rocky shorelines of the Wolf River they pay little attention to people and are very susceptible to illegal harvest. To protect them, “Sturgeon Guard” volunteers maintain a presence at the spawning sites 24-hours a day throughout the spawning season, which usually begins in late April and lasts through early May.

When spawning begins, pairs of sturgeon guards are assigned to sites along the river for 12-hour shifts. Prior to assignment, guards check in at “Sturgeon Camp” just north of Shiocton, where they are fed a good meal, given a generous sack lunch and an identification hat (that they keep), and directed to their site. At the end of their shift, guards return to camp for another hearty home-cooked meal before they make their way home.

Currently Sturgeon Guard is much in need of volunteers to fill the overnight shifts. If you are interested in signing up for the Sturgeon Guard, send an email message to sturgeon.guard@wisconsin.gov (email is preferred), or call the Sturgeon Guard Coordinator at the DNR Oshkosh Service Center (920) 303-5444.

While it is impossible to predict the exact dates that spawning will occur each year, guards are routinely scheduled somewhere within a window from April 15 through May 5. Spawning generally occurs for a five to seven day period. DNR schedulers do their best to get all scheduled guards out on the river bank to see fish, but since nature dictates the spawning activities timing and duration, schedulers cannot guarantee all volunteers will actually get a shift.
## 2009 Wisconsin Hunting & Trapping Seasons

### Ruffed Grouse
- **Zone A**: Sept. 12 - Jan. 31, 2010
- **Zone B**: Oct. 17 - Dec. 8

### Bobwhite Quail
- Statewide: Oct. 17 (noon) - Dec. 9

### Sharp-tailed Grouse
- Oct. 17 - Nov. 8

### Pheasant
- Statewide: Oct. 17 (noon) - Dec. 31

### Woodcock
- Sept. 19 - Nov. 2

### Wild Turkey
- **Youth Turkey Hunt**: Apr. 11-12
- **Open Zones**:
  - Spring: Period A Apr. 15-19, Period B Apr. 22-26, Period C Apr. 29-May 3, Period D May 6-10, Period E May 13-17, Period F May 20-24
  - Fall: Sept. 12 - Nov. 19
  - (Fall season may be extended in 2009)

### Mourning Dove
- Statewide: Sept. 1 - Nov. 9

### Waterfowl
- Season dates for waterfowl vary annually. Duck and regular season goose regulations will not be available until August.

### Canada Goose
- Early Goose Season: Sept. 1-15

### Hungarian Partridge
- Statewide: Oct. 17 (noon) - Dec. 31
  - *Closed in Clark, Marathon, and Taylor counties

### Crow
- Jan. 25 - March 20
  - and Sept. 12 - Nov. 19

### White-tailed Deer (non-CWD units**)
- Due to pending rules, these deer seasons may be modified.
  - **Bow**: Sept. 12 - Nov. 19 and Nov. 30 - Jan. 3, 2010
  - **Gun**: Nov. 21 - Nov. 29
  - **Muzzleloader**: Nov. 30 - Dec. 9
  - **Youth Deer Hunt**: Oct. 10-11
  - **Statewide Antlerless Only**: Dec. 10 - Dec. 13
- **See the 2009 Deer Hunting Regulations for possible October gun hunts as well as for CWD hunt dates.**

### Cottontail Rabbit
- **Northern Zone**: Sept. 12 - Feb. 28, 2010
- **Southern Zone**: Oct. 17 (noon) - Feb. 28, 2010

### Squirrels, Gray and Fox
- Statewide: Sept. 12 - Jan. 31, 2010

### Raccoon
- **Non-Resident Furbearer**: Oct. 31 - Feb. 15, 2010

### Black Bear
- **Zone C where dogs are not permitted**: Sept. 9 - Oct. 13
- All other zones where dogs are permitted:
  - Sept. 9 - Sept. 15
  - Sept. 16 - Oct. 6
  - with aid of dogs only
  - with aid of dogs
  - with aid of bait
  - with all other methods
  - Oct. 7 - Oct. 13
  - with aid of bait
  - with other methods not utilizing dogs

### Coyote
- **Hunting**: Continuous open season except closed in the northern Wisconsin wolf management zone during the regular gun deer, December antlerless-only, and muzzleloader seasons.
- **Trapping**: Northern Zone: Oct. 17 - Feb. 15, 2010
  - Southern Zone: Oct. 31 - Feb. 15, 2010

### Fox (all species)
- **Northern Zone**: Oct. 17 - Feb. 15, 2010
- **Southern Zone**: Oct. 31 - Feb. 15, 2010

### Beaver
- **Trapping only**:
  - Zone A (Northwest) Nov. 7 - Apr. 30, 2010
  - Zone B (Northeast) Nov. 7 - Apr. 30, 2010
  - Zone C (South) Nov. 7 - Mar. 31, 2010
  - Zone D (Mississippi River) Day after duck season closes to March 15, 2010

### Mink
- **North Zone**: Oct. 17 - Feb. 28, 2010
- **South Zone**: Oct. 31 - Feb. 28, 2010
- **Winnebago**: Oct. 31 - March 15, 2010
- **Mississippi River**: Begins the day after duck season closes or the second Monday in November, whichever occurs first, and ends on February 28, 2010.

### Muskrat
- **North Zone**: Oct. 17 - Feb. 28, 2010
- **South Zone**: Oct. 31 - Feb. 28, 2010
- **Winnebago**: Oct. 31 - March 15, 2010
- **Mississippi River**: Begins the day after duck season closes or the second Monday in November, whichever occurs first and ends on February 28, 2010.

### Bobcat, Otter and Fisher
- **Permits required**:
  - **Bobcat**: Hunting/Trapping North of Hwy. 64 Oct. 17 - Dec. 31
  - **Fisher**: Trapping only Various Zones Oct. 17 - Dec. 31
  - **Otter**: Trapping only North Zone Nov. 7 - April 30, 2010

### Opossum, Skunk, Weasel, and Snowshoe Hare
- No season limits, bag limits, size limits or possession limits.

### Protected Species
- Hunting Protected Species, such as badger, woodchuck, wolf, elk, jackrabbit and flying squirrel is prohibited. See 2009 Small Game Regulations for more details.
2009 Wisconsin Hunting & Trapping Seasons

Permit Application Deadlines
Horicon & Collins Zones Goose Seasons
Fall Turkey
Sharp-tailed Grouse
Bobcat
Otter
Fisher
Spring Turkey
Bear
August 1
August 1
August 1
August 1
August 1
August 1

Early February

Drawing Dates
Horicon & Collins Zones Goose Season
Fall Turkey
Sharp-tailed Grouse
Bobcat
Otter
Fisher
Spring Turkey
Bear
Late August
Late August
Mid-September
Mid-September
Mid-September
Mid-September
Late January

South Central Wisconsin: Spring Burning
Aims to Improve Wildlife Habitat

Public Rights Flow Established for the Little Plover River

Land Acquisition and Recreation Grants Deadline is May 1, 2009

The Wisconsin Outdoor Alliance Foundation (WOAF) will hold its 4th Annual Expo for 4th and 5th grade students on May 14-15 at the Dodge County Fairgrounds. Three Wisconsin Outdoor Education Expos have been held at the Dodge County Fairgrounds in cooperation with student and teacher total attendance exceeding 15,000. This totally-free event features educational opportunities in archery, firearm safety, fishing, trapping, wildlife, sporting dogs, trail recreation and conservation heritage. On a scale of 1 to 10 rating the EXPO (1 being very poor and 10 being excellent), the average rating from teachers was a 9.4 for Expo 2008! “The Expo has been wildly successful, in order to continue to make this rewarding experience for youth, we need volunteers and sponsors,” explained Dan Gunderson, WOAF Executive Director. “The Camps require almost 500 volunteers and we are seeking a minimum commitment of four hours. The Expo is a totally-free event that requires significant sponsor support for items like 40’x100’ tents. “Tents are the biggest expense item and they are critical to the safety and enjoyment of our students,” Gunderson added.

If you would like more information go to www.wisexpo.com or call Heidi Hubble, Event Coordinator, at (877)429-9768.

2009 Sponsor:
Aids Leopold Sponsor: The Nature Conservancy, ATC Environmental Stewardship Fund of the Natural Resources Foundation, Weatherby Foundation International, Dane County Conservation League, Alliant Energy Foundation

Legacy Foundation: Wisconsin State Council of the National Wildlife Federation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Wings Over Wisconsin, Inc.

Heritage Partner: Whitetail’s Unlimited, Inc., Winnebago Land Conservation Alliance, Ojibwa Nation, Wisconsin Conservation Congress, AFSCME Council 24, Moniteau County Fish and Game Protective Association, Koplin Powersport, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 139, Pheasants Forever, Exxon Mobil Corporation Special In-Kind Contributor: Dodge County Fair Association, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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If you would like more information go to www.wisexpo.com or call Heidi Hubble, Event Coordinator, at (877)429-9768.
Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen announced that the Wisconsin Department of Justice had settled a lawsuit against Donald Gerlach and Wondra Technologies, Inc., for violations of the state environmental protection laws.

Gerlach allowed Wondra to remove fill, and after the State filed its lawsuit against Gerlach, Wondra removed approximately 5,000 tires on the Don Lee property, in violation of the lawsuit. Gerlach was allowed to remove fill, and Wondra removed approximately 5,000 tires on the Don Lee Company property in Milltown without a permit from the Department of Natural Resources.

Van Hollen said, "Not only do wetlands provide habitat for more species of plants and animals than any other type of landscape in Wisconsin, wetlands can store water to prevent flooding, purify water and moderate extreme weather conditions." The Department of Justice will continue to work with the DNR to ensure compliance with the law.

Assistant Attorney General Diane Milligun represented the State. The settlement was approved by Fond du Lac County Circuit Court Judge Steven W. Wenke.

Mullins Cheese, Inc. Found to Have Violated the State's Waste Disposal Laws

The Wisconsin Department of Justice has settled a civil waste disposal violation case with the company that operates a cheese manufacturing facility near Marsfield, which operates cheese manufacturing facilities in Marcellus and Marsfield. The settlement requires Mullins Cheese to shift to a new waste disposal system and spread more wastewater on its fields as allowed under a permit, landspread on land under a permit, spread wastewater too close to inhabited areas, and spreading wastewater on its fields as allowed under a permit. Mullins Cheese also agreed to a schedule of penalties for wastewater and landspread violations during the next two years.

The State was represented by Assistant Attorney General Steven Tinkham.

Appleton Area Developer and Construction Companies Ordered to Pay $510,000 for Construction Site Violations of State Environmental Laws

Michael Hagena, Hagena Land Investments, Inc., Timber Trail Investments, LLC, and Woodland Developments, LLC, all from Appleton, and Carl Bowser and Sons Construction Co., from Menasha, have agreed to pay $510,000 and to implement permanent post-construction measures to prevent land disturbance activities at two sites in Outagamie and Calumet Counties, to settle state lawsuit brought under the federal environmental protection laws.

Wisconsin law requires permits and the implementation of best management practices for land disturbance activities near or on wetlands and navigable waterways to ensure that those waters are protected from pollution erosion and sedimentation. The Department of Justice will continue to work with the DNR to ensure that Wisconsin's citizens are protected through compliance with the law.

Assistant Attorney General Joan F. Klepinger prosecuted the case. Outagamie County Circuit Court Judge Howard F. Froustick approved the settlement.

Four Arrested in Killings of Eagles and Other Protected Birds

Four men have been arrested by special agents of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the result of an undercover operation in the state. The investigation involved killing and trade of bald and golden eagles, and other protected birds, the Justice Department announced.

As part of the settlement, Donald Michaelson, the Don Lee Company and the Tire & Auto Center LLC, a Milltown, Polk County, have agreed to remove a pile of fill that is located near the Timber Trail site in Menasha, Calumet County. The Don Lee Company and the Tire & Auto Center have both stored fill that was not removed by October 1, 2009, and will pay $3,000 in forfeiture of the fill.

The accumulation of thousands of tires poses a seriousincrease in bald eagle populations and other species, said Assistant Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen.

The receipt of this settlement is a clear indication that the Department of Justice will continue to work with the DNR to ensure that Wisconsin's citizens are protected through compliance with the law.

Assistant Attorney General John F. Klepinger represented the case. Polk County Circuit Court Judge Robert R. Rasmussen approved the settlement.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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U.S. Dept. of Justice

Southeast Resident Sentenced to Three Years in Federal Prison for Illegally Killing and Selling Marine Mammals

A Anchorage, Alaska — United States Attorney Karen L. Loeffler announced that on March 9, 2009, Christopher R. Rowland, a resident of Anchorage, Alaska, was sentenced to 37 months in prison and fined $5,000 in federal court in Anchorage for his conviction for four counts of violating the Lacey Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Following completion of his sentence of imprisonment, Rowland will be on supervised release for three years. Rowland pled guilty to the four counts on December 22, 2008.

Rowland, age 42, was charged by the United States Attorney's Office earlier this year that the court that Rowland was extensively engaged in the illegal trade of marine mammals, including sea otter, sea lions and harbor seals and the illegal sale of their pelts. As explained to the court by the investigation agents, Rowland was engaged in a criminal activity known as "micro-harvesting" that led to a two-year undercover operation and the conviction of an undercover agent for his work with marine mammals in the state. Rowland was charged in 2008 and pled guilty to 12 charges.

Rowland informed agents that he was part of a network of people who were engaged in the illegal trade of marine mammals, and referred to the Department of Justice for prosecution of Mr. Rowland. The investigation led to the discovery of several marine mammal harvest activities near the state and federal agencies.

In connection with the sentencing, the United States Attorney's Office advised the court that Rowland was extensively engaged in the illegal trade of marine mammals, including sea otter, sea lions and harbor seals and the illegal sale of their pelts. As explained to the court by the investigation agents, Rowland was engaged in a criminal activity known as "micro-harvesting" that led to a two-year undercover operation and the conviction of an undercover agent for his work with marine mammals in the state. Rowland was charged in 2008 and pled guilty to 12 charges.

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Carbon dioxide is one of the major factors determining global climate and has been increasing steadily since the Industrial Revolution due to fossil fuel burning and other human activities. NOAA has created a computer modeling tool, called CarbonTracker, which allows users to track natural and man-made sources and sinks of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) through time by region and source.

NOAA’s CarbonTracker enables policy makers, industry, scientists, and the public to evaluate the effectiveness of their efforts to reduce carbon emissions and make more informed decisions about limiting greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere at local and regional levels. Atmospheric CO₂ measurements and observed winds from all over the globe are fed into CarbonTracker, which calculates CO₂ emissions (“sources”) and removals (“sinks”) for 135 ecosystems and 11 ocean basins worldwide. CarbonTracker then transforms the results into a color-coded map of sources and sinks. One of the system’s most powerful assets is its ability to detect natural variations in carbon uptake and release by oceans and vegetation, which could either aid or counteract societies’ efforts to curb fossil fuel emissions on a seasonal basis.

Using today’s data, CarbonTracker can distinguish surface emissions on a broad scale and plans are underway to further refine it on much smaller scales — even accounting for power plants, cars, growing forests, regional drought, and more at the city and vegetation, which could either aid or counteract societies’ efforts to curb fossil fuel emissions on a seasonal basis.

One Youth to Win Bear Hunting Opportunity

Poynette, WI — The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources will reward one talented youth with an opportunity to participate in a chance of a lifetime bear hunt!

To enter, any individual, age 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, or 16 must submit an original typed, double-spaced essay, 500 words or fewer, addressing this question:

“What is the importance of youth hunting today?”

Applicants must be 10 years of age or older with less than two years of hunting experience of any kind.

Entries must be postmarked by or e-mailed by May 1 to:

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
c/o Bear Hunting Essay Contest
W7303 City Rd CS & Q
Poynette, WI 53955-9690
Email: Jennifer@wwf.org
Phone: 608-635-2742

Entries must include the contestant’s name, address, e-mail address, birth date and phone number(s) on each page of the essay — and a completed, Learn to Hunt Program application available at: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife/hunt/bear/th.htm

The top-scoring essay will be chosen from each age category. The grand prize winner will be chosen by a random lottery of the top essays. The winner will be notified by telephone.

Scoring criteria are available at www.wwf.org.

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation’s Call for Calendar Photos for 2010

A Photo Contest sponsored by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation will be held to select photographs for its annual conservation calendar raffle program for the year 2010.

What can be submitted? Any color photograph of the WI outdoors; hunting, fishing & trapping activities; hunting dogs, plants, wildlife, scenery; etc. Photos can be as simple as a snapshot from your 35mm or digital camera!

Contest Rules

1. Anyone, amateur or professional may enter.
2. Colored photographs and entry form (below) must be postmarked on or before May 1, 2009 to be considered for the 2010 calendar.
3. Photographs need to represent Wisconsin; such as, hunting, fishing & trapping activities; hunting dogs, plants, wildlife, scenery; etc.
4. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Calendar Committee has the right to reject any or all entries.
5. Photos sent via email will not be considered. However, if selected you may be asked to send photo electronically.
6. Photos printed on regular copy paper via your computer will not be considered. Photo quality paper only.
7. All photos become the property of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation.
8. Individuals with photos selected for the 2010 calendar will be contacted by the WWF office in June.

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
CALENDAR PHOTO ENTRY FORM 2010

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is hereby authorized to reproduce the photographs submitted, if chosen for the 2010 WWF Raffle Calendar.

Title of Photo __________________________

Location where photo was taken __________________________

Name of Photographer __________________________

Address __________________________________________________

City __________________________ State ________________ Zip __________________________

Daytime Phone __________________________ Email __________________________

Please send entries and form to: Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Attn: Calendar Committee W7303 County Road CS & Q Poynette, WI 53955-9690

For further information please contact us at: 608-635-2742 or 800-897-4161

*Please duplicate as necessary.