State Game Farm Looks to the Future

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

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

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

Many hunters rely on pheasants released by DNR on public hunting grounds to pursue their sport. Birds are hatched and reared at the agency’s State Game Farm near Poynette.

The facility has been located at Poynette since 1934 and was last upgraded in 1982 with the addition of environmentally controlled breeding and rearing barns.

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

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

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

The State Game Farm also provides day-old chicks to conservation clubs enrolled in the DOC program. Cooperating clubs sign an agreement which states they agree to provide all labor and costs for raising the birds.

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

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

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

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

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

The evaluation of Wisconsin’s pheasant stocking program was conducted by Bob Nack, State Game Farm director, Poynette; Scott Hall, DNR upland gamebird specialist, Madison; and Marty Johnson, DNR wildlife biologist, Sturtevant; in cooperation with DNR’s Pheasant Committee; Don Bates, CWD operations supervisor (and former Game Farm manager), Dodgeville; and DNR South Central Region wildlife supervisor Eric Lobner, Fitchburg.

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

Happy Holidays from the W.W.F. Board of Directors

At Oregon in Dane County and Onida in Brown County:

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

November 3, 2009

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

Re: Proposed 2010 Deer Season Regulations

Dear Mr. Warnke:

The following are the additional written comments submitted to the Wisconsin Department regarding the DNR’s proposals to modify the 2010 Deer Season Regulations. Our proposal is strongly supported by the organizations listed at the end of this letter and best accommodates 1. an increased harvest opportunity which is critical in replacing earn-a-buck, 2. “shocks” to deer hunting and non-hunting recreational pursuits which are important for the full and early winter recreational landscape in Wisconsin and 3. best practices related to the important traditions of Wisconsin’s hunting seasons which are so important to “keep Wisconsin’s way” alive.

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

The Natural Resources Board directive to the Department and the public was to replace a six-day season and regular framework that would replace the Earn-a-Buck as a method of herd control. EAB is an extremely effective method of controlling deer populations. The viable methods of increasing antlerless harvest is to expand harvest opportunity with a second season.

The WWF supports the 16-day season starting November 6, 2010 in addition to the Wisconsin 16-day season before Thanksgiving opener because a higher percentage of does to bucks will be harvested on the later opening day and this better fulfills the Board directive to replace the antlerless kill aspects of EAB. Secondly, the Saturday opener has been a major focal point of uniform contracts, business schedules, school schedules, special hunting season schedules especially for families with offspring. The Saturday opener is also a tradition in the opening day.

Creating a 16-day November gun-deer season would be a radical change to deer hunting in Wisconsin. The Department needs to remember that the opening day of gun deer season is an important component of the social fabric of deer hunting in this state. Creating a 16-day November gun-deer season will lead to more uniform input into the muzzleloader hunting.

In management units under goal, the values in the quota system will provide a higher chance of antlerless kill in those units during a 16-day 16-day deer season.

2. The WWF supports a proposal reducing the 16-day 16-day in herd control units and 9-days in non-habitat units to a 5-day season. A straight 3-day season is a simpler regulation for hunters and for enforcement personnel. In addition, having a uniform 16-day 16-day deer season would be an aid in increasing antlerless harvest in those units that are over goal but still not in herd control and therefore would keep more units out of the unpopular herd control system. Lastly, having a uniform 16-day deer season will lead to more uniform input into the management units.

In management units under goal, the values in the quota system will provide a higher chance of antlerless kill in those units during a 16-day 16-day deer season.

3. The WWF supports a proposal reducing the first Saturday of November gun-deer season starting the second Saturday of October. The muzzleloader season would include an either-sex hunt. We strongly believe that the youth hunt should be an either-sex hunt. It is important to provide positive reinforcement to young hunters during their first gun deer hunt.

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

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

4. The Department strongly opposes the “unique” five-day October herd reduction season in the Kettle Moraine State Forest starting the Thursday nearest October 27th. There are many problems associated with this hunt. First, it will be confusing to deer hunters because it will differ from the other private and public lands in the deer management units in which the Kettle Moraine State Forest lands are located. KMSF parcels are scattered and there is a significant interspersion of KMSF lands and private lands within and adjacent to forest boundary. This will cause problems for hunters including being able to dispatch wounded deer that move off forest lands onto adjoining lands. Secondly, when asked, state conservation wardens have described the enforcement challenges and problems associated with this “clusterboard” season. Lastly, having the herd reduction season in the KMSF last rather than the one held elsewhere else in the state will lead to a major influx of gun deer hunters into the KMSF for its herd hunt reduction lead- ing to increased conflict with other non-hunting recreationists.

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

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

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

A truce was finally worked out which included an informal commitment by the Governor promising that any further extension of the gun deer seasons further into December. The Department and the Natural Resources Board should not rip the scab off that wound and extend later December gun deer hunting including a Holiday hunt.

6. The WWF supports the archery season as proposed by the Department.

The above positions are also supported by the Wisconsin Muzzleloaders Association, the Wisconsin Turkey Federation, the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Rifle Association, the Safari Club International Chapters of Wisconsin, the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs, Wisconsin Hunters United, the Northeastern Wisconsin Concerned Deer Hunters and the Wisconsin Conservation Communication. The WWF looks forward to the opportunity to submit these written comments.

Sincerely yours,

George Meyer
Executive Director Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Wisconsin Conservation December 2009

Governor Flip-Flops, Vetoes Board Appointed DNR Secretary Bill

November 16, 2009

Puyette: Today, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress supported in strong terms its great disappoinment in the action of Governor James Doyle to veto Assembly Bill 138, which the bill passed overwhelmingly by the Assembly and the Senate restoring the appointment authority of the Department and the Natural Resources Board to the Natural Resources Board. The Assembly passed AB 138 by a 61-32 margin and the Senate passed the bill by a 21-11 margin. In both cases, sponsors of the bill were absent from the vote. The Assembly later reconsidered a minor amendment to the bill by a 49-42 margin and sent the bill to the Governor. Governor Doyle was Attorney General in 2001 when the Natural Resources Board was removed from the Natural Resources Board. Governor Doyle at that time he was a strong and adamant opponent to the change. Federal pressure to accommodate the restoration of the appointment authority back to the Board, making it a very visible commitment to Wisconsin’s sportsmen and women, that he would sign a bill like AB 138 when it reached his desk was significant. In the end, he looked sportmen and women in the eye and gave them his word that he would sign such a bill.

The WMM is the major flip-flop on the DNR Secretary bill is exactly what gives some elected officials such a bad name for Wisconsin citizens,” said Jack Nissen of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. “Doyle really made up his mind to undo the work of Wisconsin sportsmen and women to get to their vote when he ran for office. It is very disappointing when the Governor, who has a public office in the state of Wisconsin does not keep his promises. Sportmen and women of this state should not, and will not forget the broken promises made by the Governor.

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

The sportmen and women are upset by the Governor’s actions and our eyes are on our state representatives and senators to see if they will override the Governor’s ill-advised veto. In the meantime, Ralph Fritsch (Towanda), Wisconsin Federation Wildlife Committee Chair “While the Governor is not running for office next year, our representatives and senators are and sportmen and women will not accept similar flip-flops on their part.”

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is the state’s largest conservation organization, comprised of 188 hunting, fishing, trapping and forestry related organizations that have over 100,000 members. The Wisconsin Federation, founded in 1914, is dedicated to conservation education and the advancement of sound conservation policies.

George Meyer
Executive Director Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Executive Director Activity

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Position

December 2009

Meadowlark VL — Over 500 people attended the 2010 Deer Hunt proposal session in a standing room only atmosphere, 600 Hunt proposal session was well attended and very well accommodated. Of the eighty people presenting their position, only one person spoke in favor of the Department of Natural Resources Bill, the attendees maintained a respectful decorum despite the “humble” conditions. ...Editor D. A. Gries
Wisconsin State Chapter of the NWTF, fall was a very busy time for the WWF. Send an email or testify at a meeting, I our members have been testifying at time to make a phone call, write a letter, Ralph has been working with members of the Board that the Federation remain as the Governors veto of the DNR secretary and for that I thank you.

Another thank you goes out to Wildlife Committee Chair Ralph Fritich. Ralph has been retired since July but you would never know it. He has been working diligently to Earn A Buck issue. As you may recall, Ralph was selected to serve as the Chairman of the Natural Resources Alternative to EAB committee. Since that time, Ralph has worked to work on this very time demanding issue. He has been working with members of the Wisconsin Governor's Council, Wisconsin Hunter's Rights Coalition, Wisconsin State Chapter of the NWTF, Quality Deer Management, Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association, SSCI Chapters of Wisconsin, Northeastern Wisconsin Concerned Deer Hunters, Hunters Alliance for Regulatory Communication, the NRA and the Wisconsin Muzzleloading Association. This coalition of conservation groups spent many hours working on the key issues of the proposed deer season framework. The results of that collaboration became the Federation's testimony statewide at the DIS's public hearings. Ralph, as always, was a true leader in that coalition, and represented the WFF interests well. Ralph's abilities and willingness to work with those other groups has proven to be very beneficial and we, as an organization, look forward to working with those groups in the future. Ralph's help on this and many other items, has been greatly appreciated and for that we thank you.

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

Please remember the WFF’s Calendar Program can be purchased at the office from Jonnie.

Happy Holidays.

Chuck Nosik
WFF President

Revised Shoreland Development Rules Approved by Natural Resources Board
Changes made under instruction of lawmakers

R esponding to lawmakers' requests, the state Natural Resources Board today modified proposed revisions to the state's shoreland development rules. Natural Resources Board members in June 2009 approved revisions to statewide shoreland development standards that have not been updated for the past 40 years. Those revisions provided more flexibility for shoreland property owners to make improvements to their existing homes, while enhancing protection of water quality, habitat and scenic beauty through new limits on hard surfaces that cause runoff, and new requirements that property owners "mitigate" or offset the impacts of expansions or new development. The June 2009 rule revisions were sent to lawmakers for their review, and they returned the matter to DNR in late September, with a request for rule modifications. Lawmakers expressed concerns that the rule revisions were too restrictive for properties farther from waterways, and not restrictive enough for development close to shorelines. DNR officials met with lawmakers and key stakeholders to develop language changes that would address legislative concerns, and brought those changes back to the Natural Resources Board.

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

Second, expansion of an existing home closer than 75 feet from the water is now more limited. Under today's rules, the building of the footprints horizontal within the shore zone setback, something that would have been allowed under the June revised rules. Expansion more than 75 feet from the water is still allowed.

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

Dec 31 Deadline for Tree City USA Application

"The Tree City USA program and the companion Tree Line and Tree Campus programs are great ways for generating support and recognition for your community and its tree resource," Joe said. "Become a Tree City USA and join the 1,353 Tree City USA communities nationwide." Municipalities can find the name of the Tree City USA program in their community on the DNR website.

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

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

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

2009 Firearm Sight In Activity

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

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2009 Firearm Sight In Activity

Flags Up! – Range is Cold! – Shooters Down Range!
**Wild Rose Hatchery Education Center Wins Top National Award**

*Madison – The Department of Natural Resources Wild Rose State Fish Hatchery renovation has been named the 2009 National Award winner, an honor recognizing the facility’s engineering design.

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

The American Fisheries Society, the nation’s oldest and largest professional fisheries organization, gives three awards for projects built with federal Fish Restoration funds, revenues collected through a federal excise tax on fishing and baiting equipment and revenues and returned to the states to enhance fisheries.

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

Accepting the award, along with DNR Secretary Marty福斯特, Fisheries Director Mike Staggs and Board Vice-Chair Jonathan Ela, were Wild Rose Supervisor Steve Fijaker, Assistant Supervisor Randy Larsen, DNR State Fish Protection Coordinator Al Kasza, and Theresa Stabo, the DNR aquatic education coordinator who designed the concept and features in the center.

“Wild Rose belongs to everyone,” said Stabo, addressing the visitors and Gabehouse. “It has been a pleasure to make it a welcoming and interesting place for everyone to visit.”

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

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

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

The education center was completed in 2009 as part of the first of three phases to renovate the century-old hatchery to meet environmental standards and regulations.

**Mount Horeb Woman to Lead National Drinking Water Group**

*Madison – A woman who directs state efforts to provide safe drinking water will lead a national safe drinking water group at a time of growing concern about water supply quantity and infrastructure.

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

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

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

The DNR program Jonas leads oversees the 5,446 public water supply systems in Wisconsin, which range from small restaurants and bars to cities up to the largest cities such as Madison and Milwaukee.

These systems have had an enviable track record of providing clean water to their 2.8 million customers.

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

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

**Badger Fisherman’s League**

*Ice Fisheree - Pewaukee Lake*

**Saturday, February 13th**

Curly’s Waterfront Sports Bar & Grill
W272 N2696 Lakeview Blvd, Pewaukee
Registration to fish starts at 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Main Raﬄe Drawing at 5 p.m.

**ICE FISHEREE - PEWAUKEE LAKE**

**BADGER FISHERMAN’S LEAGUE**

**ICE FISHEREE - PEWAUKEE LAKE**

**BADGER RAFFLE – PENNY RAFFLE – WALK AROUND**

Cash prizes paid for registered winning fish in several categories

**RAFFLE DRAWING AT 5 P.M.**

1st PRIZE – $500.00 CASH
2nd PRIZE – $250.00 CASH
3rd PRIZE – $50.00 CASH
4th PRIZE – $50.00 CASH

...and many more prizes!

**AWESOME MEAT RAFFLES!**

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

BADGER RAFFLE – PENNY RAFFLE – WALK AROUND

**DON’T MISS THE FUN**

Tickets $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00

LIC# R0003954A-83490

**Conservation Achievement Awards**

*Wisconsin Wildlife Federation*

W7303 County Hwy. CS
Peyotte, 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, fill out and copy of this form. Please note that you may use only one nomination form per species to be considered. Attach all supporting documents and send to the above address. Deadline for receiving nominations is March 10, 2010.

Name of Nominations: __________________________
Phone: __________________________
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.)

Nominations Made By [Please]:
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 typed or typewritten copy of a resume. Attach all supporting documents and send to the above address. Deadline for receiving nominations is March 10, 2010.

**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?
- To set and express an opinion of the WWF.
- Any member of the WWF Board of Directors.
- Any affiliate organization of WWF, regardless of size.
- Any individual associate or sustaining member—please contact an Associate Director or District Director to submit an on behalf.
- What should a resolution be submitted?
- Typed on official organization letterhead preferred.
- Signed by the author and/or 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 conservation and management or the environment.
- Issues of importance to the entire state.
- Mail your resolutions to:
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
W7303 Cty Hwy CS
Peyotte, WI 53955

Contact the office for additional information or for specific writing format guidelines.
(800) 857-4161
lorna@wiwf.org
Wisconsin Department of Justice

**Environmental Violations**

**Olsen Brothers Enterprises LLP and Paul E. Olsen to Owe $149,731 for Violations of Storm Water Management Law**

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has issued a citation against Olsen Brothers Enterprises LLP and Paul E. Olsen of Eau Claire, WI, for violation of the Storm Water Management Law. The violations were due to construction activities at a site located in Eau Claire, WI. Olsen was ordered to pay $149,731 in penalties and $200,000 in connection costs. Olsen had been ordered to remove the barge from the site. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Attorney General_ Over 50 Troublesome..." (see Wisconsin Department of Justice for more details).

**Wisconsin Department of Justice**

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

**EPA Settlements with Mercury Handling and Hazardous Waste Violations**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced settlements with companies and individuals for violations of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Hazardous Waste Management Act (HWMA). The settlements include penalties ranging from $500 to $7,500 for violations of the RCRA and $100 to $1,000 for violations of the HWMA. The EPA and the Department of Justice have also filed civil actions to require the companies to pay civil penalties and costs totaling over $1 million. The EPA has also entered into a consent decree with a company for violations of the HWMA.

**Wisconsin Department of Justice**

**U.S. Food & Drug Administration**

**FDA Takes Action Against Seafood Processing Company, Executives**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has announced that it has filed a complaint against a seafood processing company and two of its executives for violating federal food safety laws. The company, which processes smoked fish, was cited for a variety of violations, including failing to properly store food, failing to maintain adequate records, and failing to comply with federal food safety regulations. The FDA has also announced that it will seek a civil injunction against the company and its executives to stop them from violating federal food safety laws.

**Wisconsin Department of Justice**

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

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

Nami Resources Company, LLC, a company that operates a wastewater treatment facility in Wisconsin, has pleaded guilty to violating the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act. The company was cited for discharging pollutants into the Wisconsin River and for not complying with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act. The company paid a $100,000 fine and agreed to implement a corrective action plan to prevent future violations. The company was also ordered to pay $10,000 in costs and to conduct a comprehensive review of its operations to prevent similar violations in the future.
Associate Membership and Affiliate Clubs

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

**Nomination Deadline**
March 10, 2010

Nomination Form on Page 5

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**Associate Membership and Affiliate Clubs**

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

### Categories

- **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.

- **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.

- **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.

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

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

- **Soil, Air, and Water Conservationist**
  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.

- **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 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.

- **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.

- **Conservation 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.

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**Nomination Form on Page 5**
2010 Conservation Calendar

**Odds of Winning - 1 in 28 (365 prizes)**

**$20.00 Donation**

*A gift for all occasions*

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### December Prize Identification

**$100,000 in Retail Gifts and Prizes**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:** www.wiwf.org

**$5K ATV**

**June 21st**

**$1000 CASH**

**December 25th**

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### Calendar Sales Persons and Locations

**W.W.F. Office, W7303 County Road CS & Q, Poyntette, WI 53955-9690**

**608-635-2742, include $2.00 mailing fee**

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**DNR Fisheries Staff to Assist in Treatment of Illinois Shipping Canal**

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

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

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

Frank added that the retrotone application was a temporary measure and that Wisconsin would continue to push hard for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to operate the carp barrier at full capacity and to find a permanent solution for dealing with this invasive risk. "More than 35 million Americans depend on the Great Lakes, and our region's commercial and sport fishing industries contribute greatly to our regional economy," he said.

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

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

Questions regarding details of the operation should be directed to Chris McCloud, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, (217) 785-9075.
WASHINGTON – A new EPA study shows concentrations of toxic chemicals in fish tissue from nearly all 50 U.S. states. For the first time, EPA is able to estimate the percentage of lakes and reservoirs nationwide that have fish containing potentially harmful levels of chemicals such as mercury and PCBs.

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

The data showed mercury concentra-
tions in game fish exceeding EPA’s rec-
ommended levels at 49 percent of lakes and reservoirs nationwide, and polyde-
halogenated biphenyls (PCBs) in game fish at levels of potential concern at 17 percent of lakes and reservoirs. These findings are based on a comprehensive national study using more data on levels of contamina-
tion in fish tissue than any prior study.

Burning fossil fuels, primarily coal, accounts for nearly half of mercury air emissions caused by human activity in the U.S. and those emissions are a sig-
nificant contributor to mercury in water bodies. From 1980 through 2005, emis-
sions of mercury into the air decreased by 58 percent. EPA is committed to developing a new rule to substantially reduce mercury emissions from power plants, and the Obama Administration is actively supporting a new international agreement that will reduce mercury emissions worldwide.

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

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

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

EPA is conducting other statistically based national aquatic surveys that include assessment of fish contamination, such as the National Rivers and Streams Assessment, Sampling for the National Rivers and Streams Assessment is underway, and results from this two-year study are expected to be available in 2011. Collection of fish samples for the National Coastal Assessment will begin in 2010.

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

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

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

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

Incidental take refers to the uniten-
tional loss of individual endangered or threatened animals or plants that does not put the overall population of the species at risk.

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

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

The conservation measures to mini-
imize the adverse effect on this endan-
saged species will be incorporated into the proposed Incidental Take Authorization. Copies of the jeopardy assessment and background information on the slender glass lizard are available on the Incidental Take pages of the DNR Web site or upon request from Ron Palisko, Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Endangered Resources, 101 South Webster, Madison, WI 53707, (608) 264-0435. Public com-
ments will be taken through December 1, 2009 and should be sent to Ms. Palisko at the above address.

T he Early Bird Wins The Cash!!

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

Raffle Tickets Package

Must be bought prior to the banquet!

Pre buy and get $240 worth of raffle tickets for $100. The night of the banquet tickets will be sold (1-$10, 3-$20, 8-$50).

Cash Tables

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

ATV Raffle tickets can be pre-bought for $50, the night of the banquet they will be $20 each. The ATV raffle is limited to 200 tickets sold.

Tickets

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

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

Tickets are $10.00 to enter this drawing and you may enter as many times as you like; however you will not be able to buy tickets for this drawing the night of the banquet.

Conservation Sponsors Drawing

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

Reserved Tables

Tables are set at 8 but we will reserve tables for groups of 6 or more. Please contact Wayne Thayer, e-mail: wa68@wi6b.com or phone: 608-754-4965.

Grand Prize – $10,000

For additional ticket information, please contact Marge Spencer, Banquet Treasurer, 302 S. Academy St. Apt. #1, Janesville, WI 53548. Phone (608) 752-9946 or Wayne Thayer, Banquet Chairman, 3841 S. Arizona Tr., Janesville, WI 53546. Phone (608) 754-4965 or e-mail wa68@wi6b.com.

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

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

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

Gov. Jim Doyle signed into law Senate Bill 107 on Oct. 23. The law requires become effective Jan. 1, 2010. The law bans certain electronics from landfills and requires electronics manufacturers to register with the Department of Natural Resources and arrange for responsible recycling and disposal of consumer electronics including video displays, computers and printers.

“This is giant step forward in the state’s nationally noted recycling efforts,” said DNR Secretary Matt Frank.

Electronics manufacturers, recyclers, collectors and retailers and municipal officials involved with electronics recycling were encouraged to attend one of three remaining public stakeholder meetings in November the DNR is conducting to provide information related to the new electronics recycling law.

The DNR has also put together an electronics recycling media kit explaining the basics of the law, a general timeline for implementation, and statistics on electronics use and recycling.

The kit also contains a link to register for the public informational meetings, and several quotes from the DNR’s Waste and Materials Management Program director.

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

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

EPA Release

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

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

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

“We commend Wisconsin for taking the initiative to prevent further lead poisoning by ensuring that work that disturbs paint is done in a lead-safe manner,” said Mathur Mathur, acting administrator, EPA Region 5.

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

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

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

For more information about Wisconsin’s new program, including information on applying for certification or locating training, contact the Wisconsin Lead Program at 608-266-6876, or visit the state Web site at http://ldw.wisconsin.gov/lead.

Voluntary Urban Forestry Practices Aim to Protect Community Forests

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

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

“By taking reasonable and practical precautions today, we can help protect Wisconsin’s urban forests and other lands into the future,” said Thomas Boss, Department of Natural Resources foremost invasive plants coordinator.

Invasives spread easily when someone who has walked through an infested area accidentally transports seeds on their clothing or invertebrates on a vehicle; if firewood from diseased trees is moved from one area to another; when equipment is not cleaned after working in an infested area and seeds are moved to a non-infested site; or when no activity is occurring but invasive plants are allowed to “take over” a site. The damage caused by invasive species is widespread.

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

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

“Ultimately, everyone involved in the care and management of trees, shrubs and other vegetation shares in the responsibility of preventing and controlling invasives.”
Take Note!
Executive Director. Page 3.
Conservation Awards. Pages 5 & 8.

WWF BANQUET CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dist 4 Central WI</td>
<td>Laura Bali</td>
<td>Sat. Feb. 7, 2010</td>
<td>Shooters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jeff Chrusciak</td>
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<td>Platte, WI</td>
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<td>Dist 4 West</td>
<td>Tom Talman</td>
<td>April 3, 2010</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>(Stoughton)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dist 5 Fox Valley</td>
<td>Doug Griswold</td>
<td>March 30, 2010</td>
<td>Darby's Supper Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dist 6 North</td>
<td>Rudy</td>
<td>March 6, 2010</td>
<td>Club 95</td>
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<td>Black River Falls</td>
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<td>Hintz, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dist 9 West</td>
<td>Jack Nissen</td>
<td>March 6, 2010</td>
<td>Olympia Resort</td>
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<td>(Wausau)</td>
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<td>Oconomowoc, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dist 9 Milwaukee</td>
<td>Jeff Cheyfitz</td>
<td>March 26, 2010</td>
<td>Klemmer's Inn</td>
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<td>State Wide</td>
<td>Wayne Thayer</td>
<td>Jan. 30, 2010</td>
<td>Ho-Chunk Casino</td>
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<td>Conservation Banquet</td>
<td>Margo Spencer</td>
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<td>Wisconsin</td>
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2009WWF Print Available

“Morning Majesty” Brian Kuether
Edition Size: Signed and Numbered 400
Image Size: 17.5” x 24”
Price: $25.00
Remarkes are available for additional cost.
Shipping and Handling: $5.00

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
2009 Print of the Year

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

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

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

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

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

ORDER FORM 2009 “Morning Majesty”

Name ___________________________ Address ___________________________
City ___________________________ State __________ Zip ___________
Phone ___________________________

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

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
97703 County Road C8 & Q
Plymouth, Wisconsin 53071
608-655-2472

2010 WWF Calendar

19th Annual Kids’ Ice Fishing Clinics
Saturday, February 6, 2010
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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

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

- Waukesha County
  - Menomonee Park/Lannon Quarry, Townline Rd. (1/2 mile north of Good Hope Rd., Menomonee Falls (hosted by Badger Fishermen’s League)
  - Humboldt Park, 3000 S. Howell Ave. (hosted by Small Lake Sport Fishermen & Menomonee Fishing Club)
  - McCarty Park, 6214 W. Cleveland - wheelchair accessible (hosted by Southside Sportmen)
  - McGovern Park, 5400 N. 51st St. - wheelchair accessible (hosted by Glaucese Fishing Club)
  - Scout Lake, 5902 W. Loomis Rd. - wheelchair accessible (hosted by Walwyns Unlimited)
  - Wilson Park, 1601 W. Howard Ave.

- Milwaukee County
  - (hosted by Wisconsion Fishing Club)
  - Sponsored in cooperation with the Wisconsin Council of Sport Fishing Organizations, Milwaukee County Parks, Milwaukee County House of Correction Fish Dairy and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

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