New NRB Officers Elected

David Clausen
1265 58th Ave. Amery, WI 54001 715-286-3550

Christine L. Thomas
College of Natural Resources
UW-Stevens Point
Stevens Point WI 54481
715-346-1815

William Brutus
N2899 State Highway 49 Waupun WI 53963 920-346-5293

Jane K. Weihe
2400 Park Rd. Wausau WI 54401 715-359-2475

The public is welcome to attend any Natural Resources Board (NRB or Board) meeting unless it is noticed as a closed or executive session. The Board also provides opportunities for citizens to speak at Board meetings and to submit written comments about issues that come before the Board. Written comments may be submitted to the Board Liaison no later than three days before the Board meeting.

Public appearance guidelines
Public appearances mean speaking on items that are on the current Board agenda.

1. Public appearance cannot be made on the following:
   • use the agenda for public hearing authorization rather than for final consideration by the Board
   • items on the agenda for information only and on which the Board takes no action
   • items that the Legislature has requested the Board to modify

2. Public appearances are made at the time the Board considers an agenda item.

3. Organizations are limited to one spokesperson on an agenda item.

4. Individuals or organizations are limited to a maximum of five minutes before the Board unless the Board Chairperson limits presentations to three minutes. Please be prepared for either time limit.

5. Board members may question citizens following their presentations.

6. Individuals who wish to appear before the Board on complex issues are encouraged to mail or email written comments to the Board Liaison for Board members to review.

Citizen participation guidelines
Citizen participation means speaking on items that are not on the current Board agenda.

1. Citizen participation appearances are usually made at 1 p.m. on the day of the Board meeting.

2. Citizen participation is not permitted on matters that are currently in litigation.

3. Organizations are limited to one spokesperson on an issue.

4. Individuals or organizations are limited to a maximum of five minutes before the Board unless the Board Chairperson limits presentations to three minutes. Please be prepared for either time limit.

5. Board members may question citizens following their presentations.

6. The Board encourages individuals to confine their remarks to broad general policy issues rather than the day-to-day operations of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

7. Individuals who wish to appear before the Board on complex issues are encouraged to mail or email written comments to the Board Liaison for Board members to review.

Written comment guidelines
If you are commenting on a current Board agenda item, please include the following information in your comment:

1. Agenda item number
2. Whether or not you support the item
3. Topic or agenda item number and whether you support or oppose it
4. City of residence
5. Phone number
6. Email or mailing address, to receive confirmation of your appearance or receive a reply to your written comment

Email or call the Board Liaison to schedule citizen participation and public appearances before the Board. Email or mail written comments to the Board Liaison. Laurie J. Rose, Board Liaison. Office of the Secretary. Laurie.Rose@wisconsin.gov 608-267-7420 PO Box 7921 Madison WI 53707-7921

February 2013 Volume 40 Number 2
January 22, 2013

Ed LaBarre
3158 S. 63
Hayward, WI 54843

Mr. Wayne Nasi
4192 W. Finn Point Road
Hayward, WI 54843

Gentlemen:

This letter is in response to your letter regarding proposed mining legislation that you sent to the Board of Directors of the Federation and to some of our affiliate organizations. I am responding on behalf of our full 55 member Board and the affiliates that they very carefully represent. We represent 186 hunting, fishing and trapping groups in the state, many located in Northern Wisconsin. In addition, many of our Board members have done field trips and familiarized themselves with the Penokee Hills area and the Bad River watershed.

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is supportive of mining in Wisconsin and has not taken a position on the proposed Penokee Hills mining project. We also have supported legislative changes updating and streamlining Wisconsin’s mining laws and will continue to do as long as such changes do not significantly weaken Wisconsin’s mining law or significantly reduce the opportunity for public input into mining project decisions. The Penokee Hills project is before the Federation and our Executive Director has chosen in regard to last legislative session’s Assembly Bill 426 and the very similar Assembly Bill 1 and Senate Bill, which were introduced last week.

During the past year, we have worked closely with the Wisconsin Association of Counties on an alternative bill to update Wisconsin’s mining law and that bill was introduced by Senator Cullen, the Chair of the Senate’s Select Committee on mining, which heard over 20 hours of testimony from mining regulation experts such as Tim Sullivan, President of the WMA and our Executive Director, George Meyer. The provisions of the bill were worked out by Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Meyer.

Our Executive Director has extensive mining regulatory experience and has applied that knowledge and experience in analyzing AB1 and other mining related bills. We respectfully disagree with your position that the bill will weaken the environmental protection contained in current mining laws. Independent, non-partisan lawyers with the Wisconsin Legislative Council which works for the Legislature just released their analysis of AB1 and SB1 and indicated that the bills are “less stringent” than current environmental law.

They detailed which of the many provisions of current mining law have either been weakened or eliminated totally. Let me provide just one example. Current Subsection 293.12(3)(d) 44, Wisconsin Statutes, provides that in any DNR mining approval “…the destruction of filling in of a lake bed shall not be authorized notwithstanding any other provision of law.” That provision has been totally deleted in AB426 and SB1.

In conclusion, the Wisconsin Federation is completely opposed to mining in this state. We need for iron mining. We are reminded of iron’s importance when we drive our pickups and fire our rifles and Shotguns. But we also understand that in order to have good hunting, fishing, and trapping we need to responsibly protect our lakes, streams and forest. We can have both mining and quality fish and wildlife habitat in Wisconsin. Unfortunately, under AB1 and SB1, those do not accomplish that dual objective.

Sincerely yours,
Chuck Matsyka

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Testimony of George Meyer in Opposition to SB/AB1

Chair Tiffany, Chair Williams, Committees Members, I am Chuck Meyer from Cecil, Wisconsin and I am the President of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is comprised of 186 hunting, fishing, trapping and forestry-related organizations. We are the largest sportsmen and women’s group in the state.

The Federation is definitely not against mining. As we drive our pickup trucks and fire our rifles and shotguns we are constantly reminded of the need for iron in our daily lives. We have not taken a position against the Penokee Hills mining project before taking a position. It was introduced yesterday by Senator Cullen and the project before taking a position. It was introduced yesterday by Senator Cullen and the project before taking a position. It was introduced yesterday by Senator Cullen and the project before taking a position. It was introduced yesterday by Senator Cullen and the project before taking a position. It was introduced yesterday by Senator Cullen and the project before taking a position. It was introduced yesterday by Senator Cullen and the project before taking a position. It was introduced yesterday by Senator Cullen and the project before taking a position. It was introduced yesterday by Senator Cullen and the project before taking a position. It was introduced yesterday by Senator Cullen.

The Federation’s position is that it is appropriate to update Wisconsin’s mining laws and to establish deadlines for the DNR to go about their mining applications. We have in fact, worked closely with the Wisconsin Mining Association on bill that updates current mining regulations without reducing environmental protections. It was introduced yesterday by Senator Tim Cullen.

We believe that any changes to current mining laws in terms of protecting the environment, the public continuing to have input in mining decisions. That position was unanimously adopted by our 55 Board of Directors from throughout the State of Wisconsin. As you will hear from other Federation members today, Senate Bill 1 and Assembly Bill 1 do not meet that test.

The Federation respectfully asks your Committees to go back and modify these bills to bring them into conformance with the environmental requirements of the current mining law. Until then, the Wisconsin Federation renews our opposition to SB1 and AB1.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify before you today.
Associate Membership and Affiliate Clubs

The Federation’s Awards Committee solicits/invites your participation to nominate person(s) and organizations for the 2013 W.W.F. Conservation Achievement Awards Program!

Nomination Deadline
March 4, 2013
Nomination Form on Page 7

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.

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.

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

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

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

SOIL, AIR, AND WATER CONSERVATIONIST (3 categories)
For outstanding contribution to the conservation of our soil, air, or water during the past year. Recipient could be a landowner, administrator, or technician involved with such things as small watershed development, approved soil conservation measures, wetlands or estuarine conservation, wild river protection, establishment of air or water quality standards, control of specific air or water pollution problems, etc.

**Deserving persons’ unselfish achievements should be appropriately recognized**

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

Consortionist 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.

CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR
For the outstanding overall conservation effort within the community on environmental and conservation issues, habitat restructuring and wise use of our natural resources.

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

HUNTER SAFETY EDUCATION
This award may be given to an individual volunteer or a volunteer organization deeply involved in the hunter safety program. To an individual or team who, during the past year, accomplished an unusual degree of improvement, both in quality and numbers of youths completing hunter safety education courses.
The Great Lakes contain the largest supply of fresh water on Earth, holding about 21 percent of the world's total surface fresh water, or 69 percent of the world's 1.3 million square kilometers (510,000 square miles) of freshwater lakes. The Great Lakes are a single lake system, coupled with the large numbers of industrial and urban areas that line their edges, making the Great Lakes one of the world’s largest and most productive aquatic systems. The Great Lakes are also the source of drinking water for almost 40 million people. The Great Lakes are major transportation corridors for goods and people, with more than 30,000 commercial vessels and 40,000 recreational vessels using the waterways each year. The Great Lakes are also an ecological wonder, home to more species of fish and other aquatic life than any other freshwater ecosystem on Earth. The Great Lakes are also home to some of the world’s largest cities, including Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, and Toronto, which rely on the Great Lakes for their water supply. The Great Lakes are also an important economic driver, providing jobs and economic opportunities for millions of people in the region. But despite their importance, the Great Lakes face many challenges, including pollution, climate change, and overfishing. Climate change is expected to alter the flow of water in the Great Lakes, with some areas likely to experience more frequent and severe droughts, while others may see more frequent and intense flooding. Overfishing is also a concern, as many species of fish are at risk of overexploitation. Pollution is another major threat to the Great Lakes, with a variety of pollutants, including plastics, chemicals, and sewage, entering the lakes and impacting water quality and the health of aquatic life. Despite these challenges, there is hope for the future of the Great Lakes. Many organizations and individuals are working to protect and restore the Great Lakes, including through the development of new technologies and policies to reduce pollution, the restoration of damaged habitats, and the implementation of sustainable practices to reduce the impact of climate change. The Great Lakes are a precious resource and an important part of our national identity, and we must work together to ensure their continued health and vitality for future generations.
More Than 8,500 Bear Permits Available for the 2013 Season

MADISON – The State Natu- ral Resources Board today approved the Department of Natural Resources’ recommendation to offer an additional 8,525 bear permits for the 2013 Wisconsin black bear season. The board will issue 8,560 permits for the upcoming season with a harvest goal of 1,600 bears. The bear permits will be available for purchase Saturday, March 23. Applicants currently need to have applied for 2013 bear permits through the State of Wisconsin’s Online Licensing Center, by calling Customer Service Centers (Hours for service centers vary; check the DNR website for service center hours and days of operation), or at DNR Service Centers (Hours for service centers vary; check the DNR website for service center hours and days of operation). DNR Service Centers are open on Saturdays, or by calling toll-free 1-877-LICENSE (1-877-542-9686). Hunters should have their DNR customer ID number ready. Hunters with any questions about when or how to buy permits should call the DNR Customer Service Center from 7 a.m. through 10 p.m., seven days a week, at 662-8471.

Youth turkey hunt set for April 6 and 7

Youth aged 12-15 who have already completed hunter education and passed the state’s youth bear hunt harvest permit test are invited to sub- mit their preference by mail to the Department of Natural Resources, 2800 N. Ruszecki St. Wisconsin Dells, WI 53920-0337 or by calling Customer Service & Licensing toll-free at 1-888-WI-DRNR (1-888-943-7667). Hunters must be able to provide a copy of their completed hunter education and pass the state’s youth bear hunt harvest permit test. Hunters should also sign a legal declaration form to certify that they are making the request solely for hunting purposes. Hunters who have previously purchased bear permits can apply for a 2013 Conservation Patron License holder. Residents and non-residents are eligible to apply for these permits only for one of these programs.

Youth who do not successfully harvest a bear during the spring season will be able to apply for limited turkey permits for the fall season. Youths aged 10 and 11 may now also participate in the youth bear hunt on April 6 and 7 while accompanied by an adult aged 18 or older. In addition, youth hunters who have completed hunter education may hunt during the fall season. Non-residents purchasing a Wisconsin bear harvest permit are limited to one bear per season. Hunters who do not successfully harvest a bear during the spring season will be able to apply for limited turkey permits for the fall season. Youths aged 10 and 11 may now also participate in the youth bear hunt on April 6 and 7 while accompanied by an adult aged 18 or older. In addition, youth hunters who have completed hunter education may hunt during the fall season. Non-residents purchasing a Wisconsin bear harvest permit are limited to one bear per season.
Avoiding Coyotes in the Neighborhood

WASHINGTON – The Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPS) will spend approximately $300 million in pollution control technology, pay a civil penalty of $1.2 million, and spend $6 million on environmental mitigation projects to resolve violations of the Clean Air Act (CAA), according to a settlement announced by the Department of Justice and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

"This settlement will eliminate thousands of tons of harmful air pollution each year, thus improving air quality in Wisconsin and downwind areas," said Ignacia S. Moreno, Assistant Attorney General for the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division. "The agreement, which requires WPS to reduce emissions from both of its coal-fired power plants in Wisconsin, demonstrates the Justice Department's continued efforts, along with EPA, to bring large sources of air pollution into compliance with the Clean Air Act."

"EPA is committed to protecting communities from the pollution problems that matter most, including reducing air pollution from the largest sources of emissions," said Cynthia Gilson, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. "The pollution reductions and the significant investment in local environmental projects under this agreement will enhance the quality of life for the people of Wisconsin and neighboring states who have cleaner, healthier air."

"The resolution of the Clean Air Act claims against WPS not only ensures that this damage to our environment from past, excessive emissions will be addressed but that residents throughout the region will benefit from the latest technology, resulting in significant future reductions in air pollutants," said J. Huntly Standlee, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin. "The Justice Department and the EPA are strongly committed to promote innovative, alternative, and renewable sources of energy that also ensure that our next generation will breathe air that does not compromise their health. My settlement promotes both goals—and accomplishes environmental justice for all Americans."

The settlement, which covers the utility’s two power plants – the Pulkim plant in Allouez, Wisc., and the Weston plant in Rosholt, Wisc. – requires WPS to install new pollution control technology on one of its largest units, to continuously operate the new and existing pollution control and, if necessary, comply with ambient emission reductions and annual tonnage limitations. The settlement also requires WPS to permanently retire, refuel or repower four additional coal-fired units at the Pulkim and Weston plants. The actions taken by WPS to comply with this settlement will result in annual reductions of sulfur dioxide (SO2), nitrogen oxides (NOX), and particulate matter emissions by approximately 15,000 tons from 2010 levels. This settlement covers all eight coal-fired boilers at WPS’s two power plants.

WPS will also spend $6 million on projects that will benefit the environment and human health in communities located near the WPS facilities. WPS must pay $250,000 each to the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service, to be used on projects to address the damage done from WPS’s alleged excess air emissions. Up to $4 million will be spent on a renewable energy resources enhancement project, up to $1.2 million on a wood stove change-out project, and up to $100,000 on a community dial-a-winter project to convert food and/or animal waste to biogas or electricity. WPS may also fund a compressed natural gas or hybrid fleet conversion project, or a solar panel installation project.

Reducing air pollution from the largest sources of emissions, including coal-fired power plants, is one of EPA’s National Enforcement Initiatives for 2011-2013. SO2 and NOx are key pollutants emitted from power plants, have numerous adverse effects on human health and are significant contributors to acid rain, smog and haze. These pollutants are converted in the air to fine particles of particulate matter that can cause severe respiratory and cardiovascular effects on people, particularly children. Air pollution from power plants can cause severe respiratory and cardiovascular effects on people, particularly children. Air pollution from power plants can travel significant distances downwind, this settlement will also reduce air pollution outside of the immediate region.

This is the 25th settlement secured as part of EPA’s national enforcement efforts to control harmful emissions from power plants under the Clean Air Act’s New Source Review requirements. The total combined sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides reductions secured as a result of these settlements will exceed 2 million tons each year over all the required pollution controls have been installed and implemented.

The settlement was lodged in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, and subject to a 30-day public comment period and final court approval. It will be available for viewing at www.justice.gov/opa. More information about the settlement: www.epa.gov/enforcement/air/cease/wps.html.

U.S. Announces Clean Air Act Settlement with Wisconsin Utility

Wisconsin Waterfowl Hunters Party!!!

Preserving and Enhancing our Waterfowl Hunting Heritage

OFFICIAL CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS!

For presentation at the 2013 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 WF Board of Directors to follow.
• To set and express an opinion of the WWF.
Who can submit a resolution?
• Any affiliated organization of WF, regardless of size.
• Any member of the WF Board of Directors.
• Any individual or sustaining member – please contact an Associate Director or District Director to submit it on your behalf.
How should a resolution be submitted?
• Typed on official organization letterhead preferred.
• Signed by the author and/or officer of the submitting organization.
• Mailed to the WWF office.
• Postmarked no later than March 4, 2013.
What topics should resolutions deal with?
• Issues pertaining to natural resources and their management or the environment.
• Issues of importance to the entire state.
Mail your resolutions to:

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
W7303 County Hwy. CS
Poyntette, WI 53955

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

Conservation Achievement Awards
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

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 below. Send one copy of this form for each person or organization to be considered, and one copy of a résumé. Attach all supporting documents and send to the above address. Deadline for receiving nominations is March 4, 2013.

Name of Nominee

Phone

Address

City/State/Zip

Email

Position

Name of Nominator

Phone

Address

City/State/Zip

Email

Position

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

Nomination Made By (Name)

Address

City/State/Zip

Email

Position

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

Note:

Please Note Following Instructions:

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

WISCONSERVATION February 2013
**WISCONSIN STATE RECORD BROKEN AGAIN!!!**

Dusty Gerrits’ buck, nicknamed “Big Surprise,” broke the old Wisconsin Archery record for a typical whitetail by 1 6/8 inches. Gerrits was hunting on land near Waupun in Fond du Lac County when he dropped the new State Record.

The top archery buck in Wisconsin!

The top archery buck in Wisconsin!

With 12 points and an inside spread of 20 2/8 inches, the net score was 189 3/8 inches.

You can see “Big Surprise” at the Wisconsin State Hunting Expo at Shopko Hall in Green Bay, where it will be on display for the first time publicly!

Show dates are February 22, 23, & 24. Hours are Fri. 3-9, Sat. 10-7, Sun 10-4

Admission still only $8, kids under 12 FREE

Visit www.wisconsinstatehuntingexpo.com for more information about seminars, exhibitors, and the 3D archery shoot.