

Wisconsin Conservation



Wire Clippers Required for Anglers Trolling with Downriggers on Great Lakes

MADISON – Starting May 15, anglers trolling with downriggers on Wisconsin's Great Lakes waters must have wire clippers on board that can cut their downrigger cables should they get tangled in commercial fishing trap nets or other obstructions below the water's surface.

The requirement is part of an emergency rule adopted late last month by the state Natural Resources Board and aimed at better protecting sport anglers on Lake Michigan and Lake Superior from hazards under the water, including commercial fishing nets.

"This rule requires the boat operator to have wire clippers on board and easily accessible, which many anglers already do," says Conservation Warden Supervisor Chris Groth, who leads the Marine Enforcement Unit for the Department of Natural Resources.

"The most important thing anglers can do is steer clear of the nets and other obstructions," he says. "Having wire cutters on board is a small but important step anglers can take to protect themselves should they get into a bad situation on Lake Michigan or Lake Superior."

Cutting any cable or line that gets tangled in an underwater obstruction is the only safe way for a boater to get free. Backing, circling or other attempts to retrieve the snagged gear is extremely dangerous because a boat tethered or caught on a rock or other object on the bottom can be swamped and capsize.

In June 2010, a boat carrying three anglers who were trolling in Lake Michigan near Sheboygan capsized after their downrigger cables got tangled in a legally set trap net. While in the water, one of the anglers suffered a heart attack and died.

Bill Horns, the DNR's Great Lakes fisheries specialist, says that new measures commercial fishermen must take also will better protect sport anglers.

Nets on Lake Superior must be marked in the same way as nets on Lake Michigan, and nets set on both waters must have reflective tape on the staffs of the flags marking them.

Horns says that having consistent net markers on both lakes will help increase angler awareness of the nets, what to look for, and the potential dangers they pose. If anglers bring a strong light at night, the reflective tape will be easier to see and allow the operators to steer clear of the nets.

DNR and UW Sea Grant will be releasing revised informational materials in coming weeks showing the new markings and boundaries. More information on trap net safety can be found on DNR's web site at <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/greatlakes/trapnets.htm>.

Ballast Water Permit Changes Now in Place

MADISON – Requirements for oceangoing ships arriving in Wisconsin's Great Lakes waters have changed in two major ways that officials say will work together to better protect Wisconsin waters from invasive species.

Effective April 1, the Department of Natural Resources modified requirements in its general permit that oceangoing ships arriving in Wisconsin ports must have. The ships must:

- Continue flushing their ballast tanks at sea to rid them of invasive species regardless of the federal government's requirements. Federal rules require such flushing now but are proposed to change. New research shows such flushing is much more effective than originally thought.

- Meet an international standard for the number of organisms left in ballast water after treatment, not the more restrictive numerical standard DNR had originally set. A panel of Great Lakes researchers and other stakeholders determined that technology wasn't commercially available to allow shippers to meet Wisconsin's original numerical standard so the number reverted to the International Maritime Organization standards, which is consistent with the standards set by most other Great Lakes states.

"Canadian research suggests that combining ballast water

exchange with the numerical standard by the International Maritime Organization may result in good protection for our Great Lakes and inland waters," says Laura Madsen, DNR coordinator of the ballast water permitting program.

"We think it's an effective one-two punch for aquatic invasive species that might be hitching a ride in ballast water."

Large commercial vessels take on and release water to help balance the vessel as cargo is loaded on and off; plants, animals and pathogens are sucked in as well and can be released in the Great Lakes. Releases of ballast water are the leading way invasive aquatic species such as the zebra mussel, quagga mussel and round goby have been introduced to the Great Lakes over the last century.

New research is showing that exchanging ballast water at sea can reduce by up to 95 percent the number of invasive species that have the greatest chance of surviving and causing trouble in freshwater bodies, according to Sarah Bailey, PhD, a research scientist for the Canadian federal government's Department of Fisheries and Oceans and a member of the Great Lakes Ballast Water Collaborative, a regional network of scientists and policymakers that Wisconsin asked to examine its treatment standard in 2010.

Older research had raised questions about the effectiveness of ballast water exchange and the variation among ships in how frequently and how well they performed the process. But Bailey's research is showing that done right, the plants, animals and pathogens are purged at sea as the ballast water is exchanged; organisms remaining in the tank are then subjected to the salt water taken in, which kills and weakens many of them, Bailey says.

"We've been completing analysis of flushing and finding such exchange is much more protective of freshwater ports than marine ports," Bailey says. "This idea of combining exchange with treatment may be a more meaningful increase in protection because you're now addressing two of the three factors necessary for a successful invasion, not just one."

The ultimate success or failure of any introduction of a harmful aquatic invasive species or pathogen depends on how many of the particular species are released over time; whether the receiving water's temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, and other environmental conditions are hospitable to the invader; and whether the food and predator situation is conducive to its survival and growth, Bailey says.

Wisconsin started regulating large commercial vessels entering its Great Lakes waters in February 2010, joining Minnesota, Michigan and New York in doing so to provide greater protection than provided as a result of federal permit requirements. The federal government has taken more than a decade to develop ballast water regulations and they are still not done.

Wisconsin's ballast water discharge general permit called for phasing in a requirement that new and existing oceangoing ships meet a treatment standard 100 times higher than the IMO standard. DNR was required to determine, by the end of 2010, if effective treatment systems would be available by the implementation date, and if not, revert to the IMO standard.

DNR engaged the Great Lakes Ballast Water Collaborative (Collaborative), a group of experts from academia, government, the shipping industry, testing facilities, treatment vendors and nonprofit organizations to review ballast water treatment technologies. The group concluded in a report that technology did not yet exist to verify whether a treatment system can rid ballast water of organisms effectively enough to meet the original Wisconsin standard.

"The technology is not quite there to support the higher standard. The good news is that research is showing that existing technologies may be more effective, and more protective, for freshwater systems than we thought," Madsen says.

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Much More Than Just Ducks Quacking

by David Verhage

I recently attended my uncle Arnold's funeral at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Holy Cross, Wisconsin. He was an avid hunter and outdoorsman. Since my father was not a hunter, this was the uncle that took it upon himself to teach me how to hunt and do it safely.

I've hunted since my teen years and it was Arnold who took me on my very first hunt. It was a rabbit hunt literally on the shores of Lake Michigan near Belgium, Wisconsin. There were four of us hunting that morning, my uncles Arnold and Emery, my grandfather and myself. Both Arnold and my grandpa had beagles and there were several of their dogs that accompanied us on that morning's hunt. I'll never forget that first hunt. The dogs had started a rabbit very close to the lake. I and the single 410 Arnold had borrowed to me took up residence on a sand dune to watch the action. It wasn't long before the dogs chased the rabbit out of the briers and it ran up the shore right at me. As the rabbit neared I took aim and pulled the trigger. After I shot, the rabbit just kept running. The dogs arrived shortly thereafter barking as they went

by. As my uncles and grandpa walked up to me they were all laughing because I had missed the rabbit. Just then the dogs stopped barking and we all walked over to where they were. As we got close to the dogs, I could see the rabbit lying there in a heap. I ran over to pick it up and displayed my trophy to all of them while saying "see I didn't miss." I've been hooked on hunting since that day and have had beagles myself for over thirty years. There were numerous hunts with Arnold since that morning, many rabbit, deer and turkey hunts as well as an elk hunt to Idaho. I enjoyed all of them and the time Arnold and I spent together.

Anyway, back to the funeral. After the church services there were military honors held out in the church parking lot. After the flag ceremony and the gun salute one of the men in the honor guard played taps from off in the distance. During taps several ducks flew over in formation quacking as they flew by. Standing there, admittedly crying, I was thinking that this was Mother Nature giving my uncle her version of a Fly By Salute. Her timing was perfect.

In Memory of Arnold Risch.

Thanks for sharing part of your life with me!

A Successful Spring Maple Program at the MacKenzie Center in Poynette, WI

by Ruth Ann Lee

The MacKenzie Environmental Education Center staff and volunteers spend a great deal of time and energy coordinating both the Maple Education program and the Festival each spring. This program incorporates forestry education, science and history into fun hands on, outdoor field trips for 4th and 5th graders. Students are learning the importance of trees, tree structure and function, photosynthesis, how to tap a tree, and how humans in history have made maple sugar and syrup.

Here's a short recap of what we've been up to the past 6 weeks or so. Our numbers tell the story of how busy we really have been, and the success of this program.

- Total # of volunteers: 67+
- Total Hours volunteers worked: 2,664 (Wow! Just for maple!)
- Registered school groups: 35
- Total school children: 1,423**
- Tours conducted: 119
- Sap Collected: 1,634 gallons
- Syrup production: 41.5 gallons

The Maple Syrup Festival on Saturday, April 2nd welcomed approximately 1,800 individuals to the grounds and they served approximately 794 people during the pancake breakfast.

In addition the MacKenzie Center has had several businesses and individuals that helped support both the education program and the festival.

Thank you to... Lathrop and Clark



Law Firm, Lake Wisconsin Lion's Club, Elsing Oil Company, High Country Electric, Tony & Stephanie Orr, Bill's Towing and Repair, Perfect Type and Print, Poynette True Value, Poynette Veterinary Service, Lodi Canning Company, Cress Funeral Services, Johnson Sales, Kohlwey's, Poynette Dekorra Fire Department, Shepherds Meadow Golf Course, Village of Poynette, MacKenzie Corners Gift Shop.

For more information about the Center and a list of our upcoming events, visit us on the web at <http://www.wiwf.org/education/MEEC.php> or phone 608-635-8105.

WWF Art Contest Winner... "It's a Keeper"



Robert Gilbert, New London, Wisconsin won the 2011 WWF Art Contest with his portrayal of a "keeper" pan fish. Congratulations Robert! WWF President Chuck Matyska (center) and Past President Jack Nissen (right).

Outgoing President's Award



WWF Secretary Tom Nissen awards his father, outgoing President Jack Nissen, a Thompson Center Triumph 50Cal muzzleloader on behalf of the Executive Committee at the 2011 Annual Meeting. Great Job Jack! - As usual !!! ...Dag

Executive Director Activity



Farm Groups, Paper and Timber Industries, Conservationists, Ecologists, Woodland Owners Are United in Opposition to Deer Regulation Bill

by George Meyer

What do the following groups have in common? Wisconsin Farm Bureau, the Wisconsin Paper Council, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association, the Wisconsin Farmers Union, Nicolet Hardwoods, New Page Paper Corporation, Lake States Lumber Company, the Wisconsin County Forests Association, Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters, the Wisconsin Consulting Foresters, the Wisconsin Chapter of the Wildlife Society, the Wisconsin Society of American Foresters, the Nature Conservancy, the Association of Retired Conservationists and many individual sportsmen and women, woodland owners and farmers.

The answer is that all of the above organizations and individuals have asked the Legislature to not pass Assembly Bill 99 and Senate 75 which statutorily remove the authority of the Department of Natural Resources from using techniques such as Earn-a-Buck and October Herd Reduction Seasons to keep the deer herd under control when excessive damage is occurring to Wisconsin farms and forests.

The groups recognized that the Wisconsin deer herd is very dynamic and historically shown a high reproductive capacity leading to a high degree of overpopulation in many of the over 120 deer management units. While at times

unpopular and probably overused by the Department of Natural Resources is the most effective method to reduce deer populations to the level tolerable to landowners. October herd control hunts are not unpopular and are the second most effective method to reduce deer populations.

Supporters of the bills indicate that extending hunting seasons into December and issuing more permits can control the deer population without the need for EAB and October hunts. When these methods were tried in 2006 and 2007 they failed to accomplish the goals of reducing the deer population in many units to goal. Even in the year 2000 cited by the proponents of the bill as an example of high permit issuance being successful, they fail to mention that 99 deer management units had an October herd control hunt that killed in excess of 67,000.

The opponents to this bill know that without Earn a Buck and October Herd Control hunts many deer management units will have excessive deer populations that will adversely affect Wisconsin farms and forests and will not be able to be controlled with remaining deer management methods. We also do not believe that the Wisconsin legislature will be able to respond quickly enough to prevent serious property damage to Wisconsin landowners.

The above groups are united in asking the Legislature to vote against SB 75 and AB 99.

Walleye Bag Limits Adjusted for Ceded Territory Lakes

MADISON – Daily walleye bag limits have been adjusted on 539 lakes in the Wisconsin Ceded Territory in response to harvest declarations made by six bands of Chippewa in Wisconsin, the state Department of Natural Resources has announced. These bag limits are effective between May 7, 2011 and March 4, 2012, inclusive.

There will be a three walleye bag limit for sport anglers on 226 lakes, a two-fish daily bag limit on 311 lakes, and a 1-fish daily bag limit on Potato (Rusk County) and Grindstone (Sawyer County) Lakes.

“We strive to work together with the tribes so they can exercise their court-affirmed rights while maintaining recreational opportunities for sport anglers and a healthy, sustainable walleye fishery for future generations of all of our respective constituencies,” said DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp.

Most off-reservation Chippewa tribal harvest takes place during the spring spearfishing season. Tribal spearers typically have harvested walleye from 170-180 lakes annually, regardless of the number of lakes initially declared. DNR will review tribal harvest following the spring spearfishing season and may revise bag limits upwards on lakes lightly or not speared. An administrative rule passed by the state Natural Resources Board in 1998 allows the department to adjust initial bag limits to reflect actual spring spearing harvest and projected summer harvests.

The adjusted walleye bag limits are available in portable document format on the fishing regulations pages of the DNR website. They will also be posted to the fishing regulations page of the DNR Fishing Wisconsin Web site and are being published as an insert to the 2011-2012 Guide to Wisconsin Hook and Line Fishing Regulations. Lakes not listed are subject to the regulations printed in the regulations pamphlet. Anglers should check the regulations for special size and bag limits that are in effect on specific waters.

Of 234 lakes declared by the Lac du Flambeau Band, 224 will have a daily bag limit of three walleye for sport anglers, while 10 lakes and chains will have a daily bag limit of 2 walleye. Those lakes are: Turtle-Flambeau Flowage (Iron County), Bearskin, Minocqua, and Squirrel Lakes, Willow Flowage, and the Tomahawk Lake Chain (Oneida), and Big St. Germain, Plum, Squaw, and Trout lakes (Vilas).

An on-going agreement with the Lac du Flambeau giving the Band authority to sell fishing licenses in return for making declarations at a level that allows a three walleye per day recreational angler bag limit was altered this year to accommodate tribal requests to harvest more fish. The Band declared 10 lakes at the two-bag level.

“That negotiated change assured that the three-bag agreement would be maintained on the majority of lakes the Lac du Flambeau traditionally spear. Further, the band has promised that it would not select any lake for a two bag two years in a row. We believe that on balance, the agreement is good for the northern tourism interests and the tribe,” Stepp said.

As part of a 1983 federal Appellate Court decision affirming Chippewa off-reservation hunting, fishing, and gathering rights, the six bands of Wisconsin Chippewa set annual harvest quotas for off-reservation lakes in the Wisconsin Ceded Territory. As part of court agreements, the Department of Natural Resources reduces bag limits for recreational hook and line anglers in lakes declared for harvest by the Chippewa bands to assure the combined tribal and recreational angler harvest does not jeopardize the ability of walleye to sustain its population in any lake.

For background information on Chippewa treaty rights, a description of the management and monitoring system used to ensure the long term viability of fisheries in the Ceded Territory, and to see data collected as part of that monitoring system, including walleye population estimates and creel survey summaries for all game fish, see the DNR Bureau of Fisheries Management Internet pages regarding the joint tribal and recreational fishery in the Wisconsin Ceded Territory.

“TELL PEOPLE YOU READ IT IN WISCONSERVATION”!!!

Chinook Harvests up 47% in 2010, Outlook Good for '11

MILWAUKEE – Lake Michigan anglers had a banner year of chinook fishing in 2010, with favorable winds and other factors helping to increase harvest 47 percent, state fishery officials say.

“It looks like our chinook salmon harvest by Wisconsin anglers was really good in 2010,” says Brad Eggold, the Department of Natural Resources fisheries supervisor for southern Lake Michigan, who just completed analyzing surveys of what anglers caught on that water in 2010. “I don’t see any reason that 2011 would not be another solid year.”

Eggold found that anglers harvested 315,294 chinook salmon from Lake Michigan in 2010, up from 214,621 in 2009 and 256,796 in 2008. More good news for Wisconsin anglers: they accounted for the bulk of the lake-wide haul.

“Total chinook salmon harvests reported by all agencies in Lake Michigan was 531,170 fish. Wisconsin angler harvest comprised 60 percent of the total, so we did extremely well in 2010,” Eggold says. “It looks like it was very good fishing on our side of the lake in 2010 with favorable wind conditions throughout most of the summer.

“If we get westerly winds and cooler water like we did in 2010, we’re going to see good harvests of salmon and trout in

2011.”

The 2010 harvest is lower than the average chinook harvest in the preceding five years (344,077) but is much higher than the average from 1988-2001.

Eggold says that the chinook salmon may have benefitted from a large number of young alewives produced in 2010; recent years have seen smaller year-classes of the invasive species. Because of the smaller year-classes of alewives and the overall decrease in the forage base, all the agencies around the lake reduced chinook salmon stocking starting in 2006. “This lakewide reduction in stocking looks like it was a good move and is paying off with better chinook growth and survival,” he says.

DNR and counterpart agencies cut stocking levels by 25 percent to better match the number of predators in the lake with the declining forage base. In 1989 the estimated combined lake-wide biomass of four forage species in Lake Michigan hit a peak of around 770 million pounds, most of it bloater chubs. Today, the total is less than one-seventh that.

In the 1970s, the prime suspect in the decline of native species was alewives where today quagga mussels and zebra mussels are usually blamed for changes in the ecosystem, according to U.S. Geological Survey research.

The invasive mussels feed on plankton at the base of the food chain. Quagga mussels are considered even more damaging than zebra mussels because they can live in a wider range of water temperatures, water depths, and they feed most of the year, even in winter when zebra mussels lie dormant.

The lake-wide stocking reduction is also showing up in improved condition of the chinook handled at the Strawberry Creek egg collection facility during fall, according to Scott Hansen, DNR fisheries biologist in Sturgeon Bay.

“The lake-wide reduction in stocking has taken full effect now and it seems to be working,” he says. “We’ve started to see the weights creep back up again.”

The condition stayed about the same or was slightly down from 2009, but is still significantly better than in 2007, “when we hit historical lows for weight at age for females,” Hansen says.

The average weight for 3-year-old-plus females in 2010 was 5.9 kilograms, down slightly from 6.08 kilograms in 2009, but up from 2007’s 4.87 kilograms.

Fish hatched in the same year the stocking reductions started taking place are now leaving the fishing through harvest or through natural mortality. With fewer mouths to feed, the existing forage base is stretching farther.

An effective Editor is Never Out of Touch!



April 2011 Annual Meeting Stevens Point – During his award acceptance comments after receiving the 2011 WWF Communicator of the Year Award, Wisconsin Outdoors News Editor Dean Bortz received a cell call and never flinched while carrying on the two conversations.

Wildlife Federation Resolution on the Night Hunting of Raccoon

Whereas, currently night hunting of raccoon is prohibited during the traditional November 9-day gun deer season.

Whereas, currently night hunting of Raccoon is allowed during all other gun deer seasons including the metro zone, the cwd zone, youth deer hunts and muzzle loader seasons.

Whereas, the night hunting of raccoons has not caused enforcement problems or user conflicts during these other gun deer seasons.

Whereas, all other small game hunting is allowed during the traditional November gun deer season.

Whereas, the traditional November gun deer season falls during the peak time for raccoon hunting.

Whereas, a change in the rules to allow night hunting of raccoon through the traditional November gun deer season except for the opening two days and the Friday before, would allow raccoon hunters to enjoy their sport and still allow a successful deer hunting season.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its annual meeting held in Stevens Point on April 8-10, 2011 reaffirms our position that the Conservation Congress work with the Department of Natural Resources to take needed action to eliminate any closure to night hunting of raccoon during any gun deer season, except for the first two nights and including the Friday before the opening day of the traditional November gun deer season.

Submitted by Ralph Fritsch on behalf of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Wildlife Committee

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Resolution on Dog Training Study

Whereas, hunting continues to be a major component of the professional management and conservation of wildlife in the United States; and

Whereas, the use of dogs while hunting has long been recognized as an important management tool that conserves wildlife species directly and indirectly; and

Whereas, for centuries various hunting dog breeds have been developed for the pursuit of game including upland and waterfowl bird species and the trailing of mammals by hounds; and

Whereas, the breeding, training and use of dogs to locate, pursue and retrieve game in this country has been a long-standing tradition passed down through families for many generations; and

Whereas, the training and use of hunting dogs has come under heavy opposition in some areas of the country; and

Whereas, restrictions to reduce or eliminate the training and use of hunting dogs are in part a move to end a longtime legal method of harvesting game; and

Whereas, dog training and trialing permits are being denied and rescinded, based on anecdotal evidence of harming nesting birds without any science based fact. and;

Whereas, nationally there is no study available to define the effects on birds of dog training or trialing during the time that birds are nesting.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its annual meeting held in Stevens Point on April 8-10, 2011 reaffirms its position of support for dog training and trialing and petitions the Department of Natural Resources to take needed action to initiate a scientific study, to study the effects of dog training and trialing on nesting birds.

Submitted by Ralph Fritsch on behalf of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Wildlife Committee

Support for Federal Legislation Removing the Wolf From the Federal Endangered Species List

Whereas, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation has been and continues to be a strong supporter of the Wisconsin and Federal Endangered Species laws; and

Whereas, the Federation has been very actively involved in the Federal and State agency efforts to recover the wolf in Wisconsin to a long-term sustainable levels so that it is now clearly eligible to be removed from the Federal Endangered Species; and

Whereas, the population goal set out in the Federally approved Wisconsin **Wolf Recovery and Management Plan** is 350 animals which has been attained and which led to the removal of the wolf from the State Endangered Species list in 2004.

Whereas, the Federal population goal for the delisting of the wolf is 100 animals combined for the State of Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan; and

Whereas, the Wisconsin DNR's official winter population estimate for 2009-2010 was 690 animals and it is widely believed by many Wisconsin citizens that the population is in excess of 1000 animals; and

Whereas, wolf depredation of livestock occurred on 47 farms in the state in 2010 up from the previous high of 32 farms in 2008 and 34 cases of depredation of dogs occurred in the state during 2010 including 14 cases involving pet dogs near homes and 20 cases of dogs in hunting or training situations;

Whereas, in 2010 there were 9 instances of wolf/human safety incidents involving seven wolf packs in five counties, with two of the situations in Jackson and Price counties reaching the level of wolf habituation with humans that was so serious that the DNR killed 15 wolves; and

Whereas, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has on three occasions initiated efforts to either delist or downlist the wolf in Wisconsin from the Federal Endangered Species list, with each of these efforts successfully challenged in court despite the clear evidence that the Wisconsin wolf population goals have been greatly exceeded; and

Whereas, the States of Wisconsin and Minnesota, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and other conservation groups filed legal petitions in May 2010 to once again initiate the process to remove the wolf in Wisconsin from the Federal list and the USFWS is currently reviewing the delisting; and

Whereas, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation in the fall of 2010, circulated a Citizens Petition for citizens to petition the Secretary of the Interior Salazar and the Wisconsin Congressional delegation asking them to support the delisting of the wolf in Wisconsin; and

Whereas, 36,739 people signed the Citizens Petition and in March 2010, the Federation delivered the petitions to the Secretary of the Interior and the Wisconsin Congressional delegation; and

Whereas, Federal legislation (HR 838) has been introduced in the US Congress removing the wolf from the Federal Endangered Species list in the States of Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, at its Annual Meeting in Stevens Point, Wisconsin on April 8-10, 2010, that if the US Fish and Wildlife Service does not delist the wolf from the Federal Endangered Species list in the current delisting process or if the US Fish and Wildlife Service does delist the wolf and their decision is challenged in Federal Court, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation shall support Federal legislation such as HR 838 removing the wolf in Wisconsin from the Federal Endangered Species list.

Now therefore be it further resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation distribute this resolution to the Secretary of the Interior, the US Congress, the Governor, the Legislature, the Natural Resources Board and the DNR Secretary.

Submitted by the Executive Committee of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Ralph Fritsch, Chair of the WWF Wildlife Committee and Chuck Matyska, Chair of the WWF Endangered Resources Committee

2011 WWF Resolutions

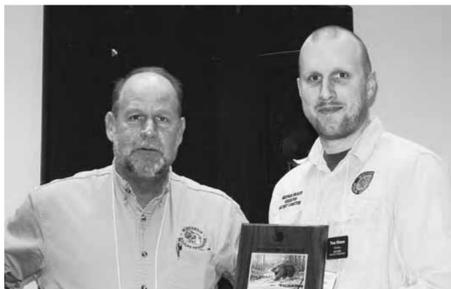


President Jack Nissen recognized Wildlife Committee Chairman Ralph Fritsch (Townsend Wi.) for his relentless efforts of research, review and discussions of Wisconsin's wildlife issues through committee activity and beyond.



WWF Officer Manager Jennifer Evans (Portage, Wi.) was recognized by President Jack Nissen for her timeless efforts and dedication on behalf of the entire WWF membership.

President's Awards



WWF President Jack Nissen recognizes Secretary Tom Nissen for his Executive Committee position diligence maintaining flawless records and always available for unexpected Federation business.

WWF Support for Continued DNR Payment of Aid in Lieu of Taxes to Local Units of Government for Land Purchased for Recreational Lands

Whereas, past and current Legislatures and Governors have been strong supporters of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund which since 1990 has purchased over 300,000 acres of land for fish, wildlife, parks, forests and natural areas in Wisconsin; and

Whereas, these Stewardship lands provide millions of days of recreational use, including hunting, fishing and trapping, for citizens from throughout the state and provide a strong recreational base to draw in hundreds of thousands of people from other states and thereby provide billions of dollars to Wisconsin's tourism economy; and

Whereas, when the Department of Natural Resources purchases land for recreational purposes, it is removed from the local property tax role and the DNR does not have to pay property taxes for the property; and

Whereas, in the past, to assist local units of government to offset this loss of property tax revenue, the Legislature instituted "Payments in Lieu of Taxes", however the amount of the payments were often as less than a dollar per acre; and

Whereas, because of this loss of property tax revenue, local units of government would often oppose the purchase of DNR lands for hunting, fishing and trapping; and

Whereas, the Legislature in 1991 remedied this situation by raising the Payment in Lieu of Taxes for DNR purchased lands to be the equivalent of what a private landowner would pay in property taxes for the property, thereby offsetting the loss of property tax revenue to the local unit of government; and

Whereas the proposed State Budget proposes to **totally** eliminate the Payment of Aid in Lieu of Taxes for any new DNR Stewardship purchases of land, which will hurt the revenue base of local units of government and lead to their opposition to further DNR purchases of land for hunting, fishing and trapping; and

Whereas, property purchased with Stewardship lands is open to broad recreational use by citizens from throughout the state and other states and it is unfair to local units of government to subsidize this wide-spread use through loss of local property tax revenue.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its Annual Meeting in Stevens Point, Wisconsin on April 8-10, 2010 does hereby strongly support the DNR paying Payments in Lieu of Taxes equivalent to the purchased lands' full property taxes and requests that the Legislature change the State Budget Bill to continue making such payments.

Now therefore it be further resolved that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation send a copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Legislature, the Natural Resources Board and the DNR Secretary.

Submitted by the Executive Committee of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and by Jerry Knuth, Chair of the WWF Forestry and Parks Committee

Continuing the Prohibition Against the Use of Stewardship Funds for Golf Courses

Whereas, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation has been a very strong supporter of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Funds for the purchase of public lands for wildlife habitat and hunting, fishing and trapping;

Whereas, state statutes provide that the Stewardship Fund must be used for nature-based outdoor recreational activities and also specifically prohibit the use of such funds for golf courses;

Whereas, in August 2008, the Wildlife Federation supported the Department of Natural Resources purchase of the 970 acre Rainbow Springs property in Waukesha and Walworth counties at a cost of \$10 million;

Whereas, as part of its approval of the purchase of the property, the Natural Resources Board allowed the golf courses to remain in operation for two years and then required that the lands be restored to wetlands;

Whereas, Duck Unlimited has agreed to restore the golf courses to wetlands and is seeking federal North American Waterfowl Conservation Act grants to accomplish the work;

Whereas, there has been serious indications that a legislative bill will be introduced in the State Senate modifying the Stewardship law and granting an exception to the prohibition against use of Stewardship funds for golf courses and thereby preventing the Rainbow Springs golf course from being restored to wildlife habitat;

Now therefore be it resolved: that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its Annual Meeting held in Stevens Point, Wisconsin on April 8-10, 2010 states its strongest opposition to a change in the Stewardship law prohibition of Stewardship funds for use for golf courses and further resolves to oppose the bill in the Wisconsin legislature;

Now therefore be it further resolved: that such opposition be forwarded to the Governor, the Legislature, the Natural Resources Board and the Department of Natural Resources and that the Federation work closely with its affiliates and other conservation groups in advancing its opposition.

Submitted by the Executive Committee of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Jerry Knuth, Chair of the Federations Forestry and Parks Committee

Emergency Resolution

WWF Support for Continued support of the EE Consultant for the WI Department of Public Instruction

Whereas, past and current environmental educators and statewide conservation organizations have been strong supporters of the position within the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for a statewide Environmental Education (EE) Consultant; and

Whereas, the EE Consultant position was recently filled after a long vacancy and has in a short amount of time served a great role in coordinating individuals, groups and organizations statewide to incorporate EE in a variety of ways. This is critical in keeping our state educated about the environment so that every citizen can have a connection to the outdoors and make informed decisions about our Wisconsin natural resources; and

Whereas, the proposed Wisconsin State Budget proposed to eliminate the Environmental Education Consultant position, which will hurt the recent efforts of this position to lead environmental education on a statewide basis, both in a formal and non-formal teaching classroom; and

Whereas, the EE Consultant position is important to our school children and environmental educators throughout the state and it is unfair to cut this much need position; and

Now therefore be it resolved that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its Annual Meeting in Stevens Point, Wisconsin on April 8-10th, 2011 does strongly support keeping the Consultant position for Environmental Education within the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction intact.

Now therefore it be further resolved that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation send a copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Legislature, and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Submitted by:

Ruth Ann Lee, Chair of the WWF Education Committee

Approved by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation board and delegates on 4-9-2011

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Resolution on the Sparring of Panfish

Whereas, presently divers can legally spear panfish in the State of Wisconsin waters,

Whereas, it is very easy for the divers to spear panfish in their underwater environment,

Whereas, panfish daily limits have been reduced over the past several years in Wisconsin to protect panfish species,

Whereas, the taking of large panfish by divers should be considered unethical and not in line with the "Fair Chase" concept,

Whereas, removing the largest of each panfish species by divers can and has had a dramatic effect on some Wisconsin lakes.

Therefore be it resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its annual meeting held in Stevens Point on April 8-10, 2011 requests that Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources modify the state fishing regulations to include "panfish" as a fish that cannot be taken by spearing in any Wisconsin waters.

Submitted by Robert M. Chojowski
3251 Mirage Circle
Plover, Wisconsin

Environmental Enforcement...

Wisconsin Department of Justice

The Village of Wilton Settles with the State for \$7,000 for Violations at its Wastewater Treatment Plant

April 28, 2011

MADISON – A civil environmental enforcement action against the Village of Wilton for violations at its wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in Monroe County has been filed and settled. Wilton discharges wastewater to the Kickapoo River under the authority of a Wisconsin Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit. An investigation by the DNR revealed that Wilton was discharging treated wastewater to the river and not sampling it as required by its permit from mid-December 2007 through April 2008. In addition, the complaint alleges that Wilton filed inaccurate discharge

monitoring reports for this time period.

Wilton has agreed to pay forfeitures, costs and attorney fees totaling \$7,000 for these violations. Wilton has also agreed to retain a second certified wastewater operator for six months to collaborate, consult and assist in actual operations, sampling, data entry and assess work load at the plant. This settlement was approved by the Honorable Todd Ziegler, Monroe County Circuit Court Judge, on April 26, 2011.

The violations were investigated by the DNR, who referred the matter to the Wisconsin Department of Justice. Assistant Attorney General Steven Tinker represented the State.

Judge Orders Forfeitures and Monitoring in Polk County Case

May 5, 2011

MADISON – Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen announced that Steven Hanson and Hanson Management have been ordered to pay \$10,230 in forfeitures for depositing fill in a wetland (a pond adjacent to Horseshoe Lake) and for failing to obtain a storm water permit for construction activities disturbing more than an acre of land. Hanson was also ordered to hire an environmental consultant to monitor the site for one year for the presence of invasive species. Polk County Circuit Court Judge Molly GaleWyrick imposed the penalties on May 4, 2011, for Hanson's illegal activities.

Hanson removed a hill and trucked in rocks to fill in a 1/3-acre pond located on his property in Polk County. After neighbors complained, the Wisconsin

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducted an investigation and asked Hanson to remove the illegal fill. Hanson repeatedly refused to cooperate with the DNR, who then referred the matter to the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) for prosecution. Hanson refused to cooperate with the DOJ during the prosecution of this case. After litigation began, Hanson finally removed the unlawful fill.

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

Hanson was found guilty in a companion criminal case in June of 2010. Assistant Attorney General Mary Batt represented the State in both cases.



Winneconne Contractor Ordered to Pay \$15,000 For Placement of Unpermitted Structures in the Wolf River

April 20, 2011

WINNECONNE – Winneconne contractor Radtke Contractors, Inc., has been ordered to pay \$15,000 in forfeitures, assessments and costs for placing unpermitted structures in the Wolf River at and adjacent to property located at 8943 and 8951 State Road 110/County Highway II, Town of Wolf River, Fremont, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, previously known as Weber's Landing and redeveloped as Wolf River Condominiums, in 2006 and 2007.

Wisconsin law prohibits the placement of any structure on the bed of a navigable water without a permit. According to the complaint, Department of Natural Resources staff worked with Radtke Contractors to develop a permit for piers at the Fremont property that would generally protect the Wolf River shoreline and near shore habitat and specifically protect the habitat for 15

mussel species, including one Wisconsin Threatened Species, which reside in the Wolf River at the site. Radtke Contractors constructed and placed 1 pier, 7 boat lifts and 5 permanent boat shelters not authorized by any permit, resulting in a footprint increase of 300% over what was permitted to the detriment of the Wolf River resource and statewide waterway permitting programs.

"Wisconsin law requires that contractors obtain and follow permits designed to protect public rights in the state's navigable waters," Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen said. "The Wisconsin Department of Justice will continue to work with the DNR to ensure that Wisconsin's water resources are safeguarded through compliance with the law."

Assistant Attorney General JoAnne F. Kloppenburg prosecuted the case for the State. Winnebago County Judge Thomas J. Gritton signed the order imposing the forfeitures.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Colorado Petroleum Distributors to Pay \$2.5 Million to Settle Clean Air Act Allegations of Illegal Mixing and Distribution of Gasoline

Action ensures that gasoline meets fuel quality and performance standards, protects people's health by reducing harmful VOC emissions

May 4, 2011

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Justice Department announced a settlement with Rocky Mountain Pipeline System, LLC, Western Convenience Stores, Inc., and Offen Petroleum, Inc. to resolve claims that they illegally mixed and distributed more than 1 million gallons of gasoline that did not meet Clean Air Act emissions and fuel quality requirements. The companies will pay a \$2.5 million civil penalty and conduct an environmental project designed to offset the harm caused by their failure to meet federal gasoline quality requirements. Gasoline that does not meet Clean Air Act standards for fuel can result in increased emissions from car tailpipes, which can harm Americans' health, affect vehicle performance, and in some cases can damage engines and emission controls.

"Complying with the Clean Air Act's fuel regulations is critical to ensuring that our nation's important emissions standards are met," said Cynthia Giles, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. "Today's settlement shows that EPA is committed to protecting the air we breathe by reducing illegal air pollution."

"Providing and distributing gasoline that fails to meet the Clean Air Act standards for fuel can have serious consequences for human health and the environment," said Ignacia S. Moreno, assistant attorney general for the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Justice. "This

settlement appropriately requires that the distributors undertake a project that will result in major annual reductions in emissions of volatile organic compounds in order to offset any harm they may have caused."

The companies produced millions of gallons of illegal gasoline by mixing natural gasoline, a byproduct of natural gas production, and ethanol with gasoline previously certified to meet Clean Air Act requirements at two terminals in Colorado. The Clean Air Act allows refiners to produce gasoline by adding other fuel sources to previously certified gasoline; however, the blended gasoline must still meet applicable emissions and fuel standards including compliance with sampling, testing, and quality assurance requirements.

The companies' gasoline blending operations may have resulted in more than 10 tons of excess emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which can produce smog or ground level ozone. Human exposure to ozone can cause lung damage, aggravate asthma, and cause difficulty breathing. EPA sets gasoline standards to reduce air pollutants from motor vehicles, such as VOCs, particulate matter and toxic air pollutants, because they contribute to serious public health and environmental problems. To offset any excess emissions, the companies will install a geodesic dome cover on a gasoline storage tank at one of the terminals where the fuel blending took place. The cover is expected to reduce VOC emissions by more than 8.6 tons annually.

The consent decree is subject to a 30-day public comment period and final court approval.

Terra Industries Inc. to Pay Clean Air Act Penalty and Spend \$17 Million to Install Pollution Controls

April 19, 2011

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Justice announced Terra Industries Inc., one of the nation's largest producers of nitric acid and nitrogen fertilizers, has agreed to pay \$625,000 in civil penalties to settle alleged violations of the federal Clean Air Act at nine of its plants in Iowa, Mississippi, and Oklahoma. As part of the settlement, Terra will also spend an estimated \$17 million to install and implement new controls and technologies that are expected to reduce harmful nitrogen oxide emissions at its facilities by at least 1,200 tons per year.

"Illegal air pollution from the production of nitric acid can leave the public vulnerable to long-term health problems such as respiratory illness and asthma," said Cynthia Giles, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. "Bringing Terra into compliance with the Clean Air Act will protect the public health of communities across Iowa, Mississippi, and Oklahoma."

"This agreement will require Terra Industries to make important improvements in pollution control technology at nine acid-producing facilities that will result in cleaner and healthier air for the benefit of communities in Iowa, Mississippi, and Oklahoma," said Ignacia S. Moreno, assistant attorney general for the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Justice. "This is a notable achievement in our efforts, alongside the Environmental Protection Agency, to address the largest sources of harmful air pollution and bring about company-wide compliance with the Clean Air Act."

Terra is a major U.S. producer of nitrogen fertilizers, including anhydrous ammonia, urea, ammonia nitrate, and urea-ammonium nitrate (UAN). The company also

produces nitric acid, a key intermediate in the manufacture of ammonium nitrate and UAN.

The production of nitric acid results in the emission of nitrogen oxides, which can cause lung damage, worsen respiratory diseases, contribute to acid rain, and lead to the formation of smog.

Terra, headquartered in Sioux City, Iowa, will pay \$325,000 to the United States and \$100,000 each to the state of Iowa, the state of Mississippi, and the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality co-plaintiffs in the action filed today in U.S. District Court in Sioux City.

Terra's nine plants covered by the settlement include four nitric acid plants at Yazoo City, Miss.; two each at Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, and Verdigris, Okla.; and one at Woodward, Okla.

According to the consent decree, Terra allegedly constructed, modified, and operated its facilities without obtaining appropriate pre-construction and operating permits, and without installing best available control technology for controlling air pollution. Terra also allegedly violated the Clean Air Act by failing to comply with applicable air emission limits and ongoing requirements for emissions monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting at some of its facilities.

Reducing air pollution from the largest sources of emissions, including acid facilities, is one of EPA's National Enforcement Initiatives for 2011-2013. The initiative continues EPA's focus on improving compliance with the new source review provisions of the Clean Air Act among industries that have the potential to cause significant amounts of air pollution. In fiscal year 2010, EPA's enforcement actions in the cement manufacturing, coal-fired power plant, glass and acid sectors led to approximately 370 million pounds of pollution reduced or treated, \$1.4 billion in estimated pollution controls and \$14 million in civil penalties.

...in Wisconsin and Beyond

U.S. Department of Justice

Seaside Aquaculture and Owner Indicted for Killing Protected Species

April 29, 2011

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – Seaside Aquaculture Inc., a fish farm located in Palacios, Texas, and its owner Khan Vu have been indicted by a federal grand jury for illegally killing approximately 90 brown pelicans, United States Attorney José Angel Moreno announced.

The indictment, returned Wednesday, April 27, 2011, alleges that Vu and Seaside Aquaculture Inc. did knowingly kill migratory nongame birds, that is, approximately 90 Brown Pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) without being permitted to do so from on or about Feb. 1, 2010, until on or about Feb. 1, 2011, in violation of The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA).

The MBTA provides protection for Migratory Birds. The MBTA prohibits, unless permitted by regulations, to "pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for shipment, ship, cause to be shipped, deliver for transportation, transport, cause to be transported, carry, or cause to be carried by any means whatever, receive for shipment, transportation or carriage,

or export, at any time, or in any manner, any migratory bird, included in the terms of this Convention . . . for the protection of migratory birds . . . or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird." These rules attempt to maintain an equitable balance between protection and preservation of migratory birds and recreational opportunities afforded through sport hunting. The brown pelican is a non-game migratory bird as defined in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 10.23.

Vu voluntarily surrendered this morning and has made his initial appearance before U.S. Magistrate Brian Owsley in Corpus Christi and was ordered released upon posting \$50,000 bond. A summons has issued directing a representative of the corporation, Seaside Aquaculture, appear for arraignment on May 9, 2011. Vu faces a fine of not more than \$15,000 or a maximum six-month prison term or both. Seaside Aquaculture Inc. faces a similar fine.

The case was investigated by agents from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Hugo R. Martinez.

Texas Egg Producer to Pay \$1.9 Million Penalty to Resolve Clean Water Act Violations

May 18, 2011

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Justice Department (DOJ) today announced that Mahard Egg Farm, Inc., a Texas corporation, will pay a \$1.9 million penalty to resolve claims that the company violated the Clean Water Act (CWA) at its egg production facilities in Texas and Oklahoma. The civil penalty is the largest amount to be paid in a federal enforcement action involving a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO). The company will also spend approximately \$3.5 million on remedial measures to ensure compliance with the law and protect the environment and people's health.

"By working with DOJ and our state partners in Texas and Oklahoma, we have reached a significant settlement that reflects the seriousness of Mahard's violations," said Cynthia Giles, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. "Large animal feeding operations that fail to comply with our nation's environmental laws threaten public health and the environment and put smaller farming operations at a disadvantage."

"This agreement is the result of extensive cooperation between the states of Texas and Oklahoma and the federal government to address multiple violations of the Clean Water Act at Mahard facilities," said Ignacia S. Moreno, assistant attorney general for the Environment and Natural Resources Division at the Department of Justice. "Ensuring the lawful handling of CAFO wastes will mean cleaner streams and waterways in Texas and Oklahoma, which is important for aquatic habitats, safe drinking water, and public recreation."

The CWA complaint, filed jointly with the settlement by the United States and the states of Texas and Oklahoma, alleges that Mahard operated a facility without a permit and discharged pollutants into area waterways. Mahard also allegedly discharged pollutants or otherwise failed to comply with the terms of its permits at six other facilities, including its newest facility near Vernon, Texas, where it also failed to comply with

the Texas Construction Storm Water Permit and to ensure safe drinking water for its employees. The states of Texas and Oklahoma also alleged violations of state laws.

Most egg production facilities generate various wastes, including wet or dry manure from chicken houses, wastewater from the egg-washing process, and compost from chicken carcasses. If done properly, these wastes may be sold or contained on-site in manure storage lagoons, prior to being applied to nearby fields. However, the joint complaint alleges that, as a result of Mahard's historic practice of over-applying waste to its fields, the soils at its facilities are saturated with nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) and, during and after rainfall, these nutrients are discharged into area streams and waterways. In addition, at several facilities, Mahard abandoned inactive and improperly designed manure lagoons rather than closing them as required by law.

As part of this settlement, Mahard has committed to comprehensive, system-wide changes in order to bring each of its seven CAFO facilities into compliance with applicable state and federal laws, permits, and regulations and to restore the lands to prevent future discharges to area waterways. The settlement mandates the performance of specific requirements, such as lagoon closures, groundwater monitoring, and the construction and maintenance of buffer strips along area waterways within the facility boundaries. It also requires on-going land restoration and management measures, such as restrictions on land-application of manure and livestock grazing.

Preventing animal waste from contaminating surface and ground waters of the United States is one of EPA's National Enforcement Initiatives for 2011-2013. The initiative continues EPA's focus on large and medium sized CAFOs that are discharging pollution without or in violation of a permit.

The settlement, lodged in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, is subject to a 30-day public comment period and approval by the federal court.



Two Irish Nationals Sentenced to Federal Prison for Attempting to Illegally Export Black Rhinoceros Horns

DENVER – Richard O'Brien and Michael Hegarty, Irish nationals from Rathkeale, Ireland, were sentenced recently to 6 months in prison for their role in an attempt to illegally export 4 Black Rhinoceros horns—a protected endangered species, the U.S. Attorney's Office announced today. Along with the prison sentence, O'Brien and Hegarty were also sentenced to 3 years of supervised release and the forfeiture of approximately \$17,600.

Richard O'Brien and Michael Hegarty pleaded guilty on May 3, 2011, to a federal charge of Smuggling Goods from the United States in connection with their purchase, from an undercover officer, of endangered rhino horns, a species of wildlife having the highest protection under the CITES Treaty (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora).

On November 13, 2010, O'Brien and Hegarty met with an undercover Fish and Wildlife Service agent in Commerce City, Colorado, and purchased four rhino horns for 12,850 Euros (approximately \$17,600 U.S.). After assuring the agent they (O'Brien and Hegarty) would not get caught removing the horns from the United States, O'Brien and Hegarty took possession of the horns, placed them in their rental car, and were arrested before leaving the area. In an earlier meeting with the undercover agent, O'Brien and Hegarty indicated their understanding that rhino horns could not lawfully be purchased in interstate or foreign commerce but stated any rhino horns would be shipped to Ireland concealed within furniture to avoid detection. Upon arrest, O'Brien and Hegarty told agents they intended to deliver the horns and some antique furniture items to an antique store so their co-conspirator John Sullivan could arrange onward shipment to Ireland. A search of the rental car revealed passports, luggage, a chest of drawers, four large packing boxes and shrink wrap that agents suspect might have been intended to pack the rhino horns.

A complaint was filed and ultimately the two arrested Irish nationals were indicted in Denver on November 29, 2010, along with John Sullivan, for their criminal activity of Conspiracy, Smuggling Goods from the United States, and

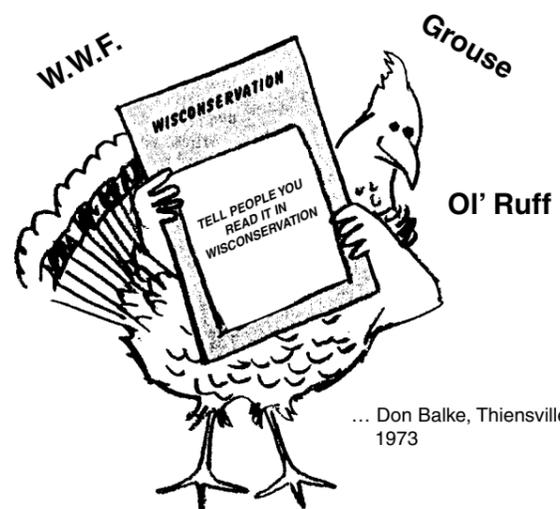
Money Laundering.

"The illegal trafficking in rhinoceros horns fuels the dangerous poaching situations we see in Africa, and that poaching has contributed to most species of rhino being listed as endangered. We will continue to pursue investigations into the unlawful trafficking in imperiled wildlife, and we're pleased that these men were held accountable for their crimes", said Steve Oberholtzer, Special Agent in Charge for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "We hope these sentences serve as a deterrent to others involved in this unlawful trade."

"The world does not have an infinite supply of wildlife like the rhinos at issue in this case," said U.S. Attorney John Walsh. "The prison term in this case for trading in rhino horns underscores the fact that we here in the United States are resolved to do our part to protect the shared worldwide inheritance these magnificent animals represent."

There are five species of rhinoceros. The rhino horns in this case are listed as endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Additionally, they are protected by CITES, a multilateral treaty of which the United States and the Republic of Ireland and 173 other countries are parties. Exportation of rhinoceros horns from the United States for commercial purposes is strictly prohibited by CITES and U.S. law.

According to TRAFFIC (a wildlife trade and monitoring program of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF)), the illegal rhino horn trade has serious consequences upon the wildlife resource and contributes to the poaching of rhinoceros. The popular demand for rhinoceros in Asian countries has increased in recent years because of a widely believed but false rumor that ground rhino horn can cure cancer. This has spiked the pricing for rhino horns with the current pricing around \$20,000 per pound. This prosecution is the result of an investigation conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, led by Agents George Morrison and Curtis Graves. The case was prosecuted by Senior Trial Attorneys Robert S. Anderson and Jennifer Whitfield of the Department of Justice's Environmental Crimes Section and by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda McMahan.



... Don Balke, Thiensville
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Take Note!

New Great Lakes & Trolling Requirements. Page 1

Adjusted Walleye Bag Limits. Page 3

2011 WWF RESOLUTIONS. Pages 4 & 5

Environmental Enforcement. Pages 6 & 7

WWF Awards. Pages 2, 3, 4 & 5

Editor D. A. Gries

Grellton Conservation Club

Sporting Clay Fundraiser Event

Hosted by: **The Lake Mills Conservation Club**

I-94 to HWY 89 (Lake Mills Exit). South on 89 1/4 Mile to HWY V-Left (East) on HWY V approx 2.5 Miles.

Watch for sign on Left. (920) 648-5758

June 12th
10:00 - 3:00 PM

50 Bird Individual Event @ \$20.00 per shooter
\$10.00 Lewis Class (optional)
Raffles & Fun

Proceeds to benefit Grellton Conservation C.E.O.
(Conservation Education Outreach)

Hunter Education and Mentor Hunts

*** Open to the Public ***

For more information contact Dennis Roth at 920-262-0194 or dkroth@charter.net

2nd Annual

Trash or Treasure Trap Shoot

Sponsored by:

Monches Fish and Game Club & Hartford Conservation and Gun Club

6000 State Rd/Hwy 60, Hartford, Wi.

**Across from Pike Lake !

Saturday June 11th 10AM to 3PM

Hourly Raffles – Food Available all day

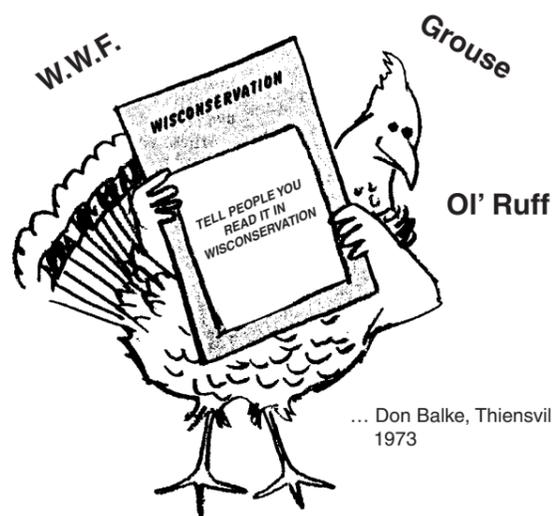
**Youth Category 16 and under

PUBLIC WELCOME !

May 2011 Calendar Winners



1	\$1000 Cash	David Groves, Sheboygan, WI	7214
2	Franchi I-12 Camo	Dennis Christopher, Jackson, WI	9040
3	\$100 Cash	Ron Orth, Menasha, WI	6092
4	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Scott Mueller, Brooklyn, WI	4219
5	\$100 Cash	Gerald Karlen, Edgar, WI	5474
6	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Janet Johnston, Sheboygan, WI	8484
7	Browning BLR 7mm-08	John Reichert, Johnson Creek, WI	3933
8	Becoming an Outdoor Woman for Two	Steve Kopiness, Watertown, WI	5529
9	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Daniel Rosinski, Racine, WI	9141
10	Tika T3 300	Tim O'Leary, Reedsville, WI	6173
11	\$100 Cash	Shelby Davister, Luxemburg, WI	5276
12	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Mark Schreiner, Port Washington, WI	4942
13	Remington 700 sps 270	Mark Hasenberg, Kenosha, WI	3482
14	\$100 Cash	Kenneth Schmidt, West Allis, WI	4516
15	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Rollie Kern, Beaver Dam, WI	2222
16	NEF A5 12 ga.	Jim Mueller, Kewaunee, WI	2805
17	\$100 Cash	SOLD AT BILLY B's BAR, Wautoma, WI	2355
18	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Brian Pantel, Sheboygan, WI	371
19	Benelli Nova 12 ga.	Joseph Woodworth, Kewaskum, WI	1175
20	\$100 Cash	Steve Lehmann, Watertown, WI	6333
21	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Lynda Briggs, Tony, WI	8752
22	Remington 870 Express	Gary Gagnon, Whitewater, WI	2665
23	\$100 Cash	Jim Sanford, Two Rivers, WI	207
24	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Jim Coon, Appleton, WI	3872
25	Marlin 917 VS 17HMR	Rich Schroder, Sussex, WI	1886
26	\$100 Cash	Butch Runge, West Allis, WI	9027
27	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Joey Kandler, Chilton, WI	6169
28	NEF Pardner Pump 12 ga.	Chris Merklein, Elkhart Lake, WI	7444
29	\$100 Cash	Brandon Knoll, Sparta, WI	58
30	Gander Mountain Gift Card \$100 value	Pat Strand, Stoughton, WI	7993
31	Marlin 917 17HMR	Valorie Strzyz, Pickerel, WI	3972



... Don Balke, Thiensville
1973

Berlin Conservation Club
2nd Annual

“Woods & Field” Youth Shoot

18 years old & younger (Hunter Ed. Certified)

Sunday June 26th 2011

9:00am – 3:00pm

\$10.00 @ 50 Bird events

\$20.00 100 Bird event

50 Bird

100 Bird

Sporting Clays (50 Birds)

Shoot one, two or all the events

Boys & Girls - Top Gun **Trophy** (each event & each age group)

Medals awarded by Age Group & Lewis Class

Ties – Shoot till you miss

For more information call Ken Keenlance at 1-920-361-0300

Food will be available

Berlin Conservation Club
W898 White Ridge Rd
Berlin, WI 54923
www.berlincc.org