Don’t Forget 2013 Spring Hearings!

April 8, 2013

Proposed Rule Changes

Fishing
Walleye • Musky
Northern Pike
Sturgeon • Trout

Hunting
Waterfowl Hunting
(open water)
Pheasant • Bear • Deer
Feral Pigs • Wolves

Trapping
Bobcat • Muskrat
Otter • Fisher
Weasels

Q #33 – Use of Rifles Statewide for Deer Hunting

Q #65 – Horicon Zone Boundaries
Iron Mining Bill Passes State Legislature

By George Meyer, Executive Director

Iron Mining Bill Passes State Legislature

On this page are several maps which illustrate the size of this mine, its processing plant and its waste site. The footprint of these facilities are superimposed on some cities in Wisconsin so that you can appreciate the magnitude of this project. Just the "first phase" of this mine will be the largest open pit taconite mine in the world. The mine will be twenty-two miles long. To get your mind around that dimension, pick a community twenty-two miles long and imagine an open pit mine that size. Hundreds of acres of wetlands, many small lakes and miles of high quality streams will be filled in to create this project. Beyond that, just this mine, will require the construction of an additional three thousand feet deep. Eventually the mine will be fifteen thousand feet deep. To get your mind around that dimension, pick a community fifteen thousand feet long, one-half plus mile wide and one-thousand feet deep. Eventually the mine will be twenty-two miles long. To get your mind around that dimension, pick a community twenty-two miles long and imagine an open pit mine that size. Hundreds of acres of wetlands, many small lakes and miles of high quality streams will be filled in to create this project.

Beyond that, just this mine, will require the construction of an additional three thousand feet deep. Eventually the mine will be fifteen thousand feet deep. To get your mind around that dimension, pick a community fifteen thousand feet long, one-half plus mile wide and one-thousand feet deep. Eventually the mine will be twenty-two miles long. To get your mind around that dimension, pick a community twenty-two miles long and imagine an open pit mine that size. Hundreds of acres of wetlands, many small lakes and miles of high quality streams will be filled in to create this project. Beyond that, just this mine, will require the construction of a 300 Mwatt power plant to run the facility. Just the landfill for the first phase will cover 1000-1500 acres. This immense project will be constructed in the Bad River watershed, the highest quality remaining watershed in the state. The mine will be just upstream of Copper Falls State park. After the Bad River flows through the heart of the Bad River Indian Reservation, then into the Kakagon Sloughs which are an inter-nationally recognized wetland and then into Lake Superior, the highest quality lake remaining in the continental United States. Clearly this is not the watershed for lowering Wisconsin's waterway protections. Federal and Tribal regulations will still apply. It is anticipated that a final decision on any mining permits for a Penokee mine will be many years away due to the complex environmental studies that need to be done and the extensive litigation that will take place on a project in this location. The Board of Directors will possibly consider a weekend tour of the site and surrounding area on August 9 through 11, 2013 to further ascertain appropriate Wisconsin Federa-tion actions regarding this mine.
Letters to the Editor

Open Water Waterfowl Hunting

This is the second year of the three lakes in question here. Furthermore, because of the varied types of structures in these lakes, there are probably fewer and clearer water there, so they are few types of food scattered around the lake, affording birds a much larger number of spots to rest and feed. If a group of hunters who are driving in groups of more than two are feeding, the birds can return to their resting spots the same as well.

For the main advantages of waterfowl hunters statewide is over-crowding on one lake, hunting pressure is non-existent. For open water hunting has worked for many years and continues to do so, but I must point out that Winnebago is 137,000 acres in size, nearly ten times as large as Lake Poygan; they have a very limited number of areas available to them where they can rent and feed. If open water hunting is allowed on the lake, sooner or later, they will be chased off these areas by hunters who want to demote them. Since the lake is only slightly over 14,000 acres in size, they will not only ruin the opportunities for divers are feeding, the birds can relocate on any other area. Lake Poygan, which is the largest of those who hunt the openwater, but for all of the other ducks on lake as well. All of these may bring us to the conclusion of whether open water hunting season. Lake Poygan Sportsman’s Club and we urge those who attend the Spring Meetings to vote yes on the item of the open water proposal that deal with Lake Poygan, Winneconne and Butte Des Morts. Specifically, we are talking only about questions 53 & 54 on the bal- lot. We do not feel qualified to comment about the issues on other lakes which are con- cerned, nor do we feel that we have the right to do so. We feel that hunters in the areas where the other lakes are located should have the right to decide for themselves.

Sincerely,
Dan Budtebeck
Habitat Restoration Coordinator
Lake Poygan Sportsman’s Club

Little Plover River Update

22/30/2013

Editor, Wisconsin Conservation:

The Federation has been following the results of their monitoring and management of the Little Plover River “LPR” for more than a decade now. The LPR is a Class 4 trout stream located in the Town of Plain, Sauk County. This Federation has actively guided the Friends of the LPR through the public rights stage where a 4-6 ft. stream was included in the minimum stream size for the water quality section. This past summer we experienced another of those 6 week dry spells. Unfortunately, there was no flow left to maintain the minimum right at the same time that the growers needed high volumes of water for their crops. What that goes to show is that even the minimum flow of water is not sufficient to address the issues when we are not coming to Raising Lakes in this area are now getting into raising concerns about de- creases in lake levels, which makes for a lesser experience and experienced affiliated mem- bers are encouraged to stop by and visit The River on May 3.

Thanks again,

WWF Past President
High School Ice Fishing Club Activity

The 2009 WWF High School Club of the Year, New Holstein HS remains very involved in their quest to keep students active, outdoors season notwithstanding.

Club Mission: Create a lifestyle that involves good hobbies, keep kids active, and positively promotes the sport of fishing.

Club Goal: Get all of the high schools of Wisconsin out on the water and learn to enjoy Wisconsin waters. “It’s working!”

Numerous statewide high schools are participating in winter “on the ice” fishing competitions.

2013 Events: January 19th – National Guard HS Fishing Tournament
January 26th – State Open, Petenwell
February 23rd – State Championships, Lake Winnebago
March 2nd – High School Mixer, Chetek Chain

GREAT job NHHS! …WWF Editor

2013 calendars:

WISCONSIN WILDLIFE FEDERATION March 2013

WI Association of Beagle Clubs (Lori Tews)

➢ Jungle Jim’s Bar & Grill, Silver Cliff, WI (Alan & Carolle Walesh)
➢ JD’s Corner Bar, Ocola, WI (Jeff Domask)
➢ Horsin’ Around Saloon, Pittsville, WI (Scott Regalia/ Mary Ann Hahn)
➢ Hammer Down Bar, Hwy B, Mosinee, WI (Brian & Sally Loos)
➢ CARBO’S Junction Bar, Amherst Junction, WI (Steve Carbo)

The Wildlife Federation is announcing today the creation of a Conservation Leadership Corps in Wisconsin, focused on high school and college students. It is modeled on the highly successful Conservation Leadership Corps created by our counterpart organization in the State of Missouri: the Conservation Federation of Missouri (www.conservfed.org). It is designed to bring in ten to twelve high school juniors and seniors and college freshmen and sophomores and provide them with leadership training, training in the development of conservation policy and how to effectively advocate for sound conservation policies. The training will take place over the course of the 2013-2014 school year and will be done by experienced conservation leaders and professionals. The Conservation Leadership Corps members will then take very active participation in the 2014 Wisconsin Ice Fishing Federation meeting. The ultimate goal is to have scores of the new conservation leaders trained to become highly active in Wisconsin conservation organization in the next few years. All expenses for the Corps members will be paid by the Wildlife Federation and every member completing the training will receive a $250 scholarship.

Please provide this information and application to eligible students and schools in your community. More information can be found on the WWF website: www.wiwf.org (link on bottom of first page).

Additional 2013 Calendar Sales

Here are my super sales people/entities who really did a great job of promoting our 2013 calendar:

➢ CARBO’S Junction Bar, Amherst Junction, WI (Steve Carbo)
➢ Doug’s Sports Pub, Hwy 54, Plver, WI (Doug Berry & Chad Newby)
➢ Hammer Down Bar, Hwy B, Mosinee, WI (Brian & Sally Loos)
➢ Horsin’ Around Saloon, Pittsville, WI (Scott Regalla / Mary Ann Hahn)
➢ Jerry Petres, Rudolph, WI (Tagalong Beagles)
➢ DJ’s Corner Bar, Jola, WI (Jeff Damaski)
➢ Jungle Jim’s Bar & Grill, Silver Cliff, WI (Alan & Carole Walesh)
➢ Ads Rangeline Bar, Hwy X, Mosinee, WI (A. J. Kolodzie)
➢ Sunny Groove Farms, Plover, WI (Jesy & Barb Firkus)
➢ The Wilderness Sportsman’s Club, Rudolph, WI (Del Dietzler & Harry Calverley)
➢ WI Association of Beagle Clubs (Lori Towe)

THANK YOU! WWF President Jerry Knuth

WWF Creates Conservation Leadership Corps

By George Meyer, Executive Director

How many times have you looked around the room of your club meeting and reflect on all the gray hair in the room with few individuals, if any, under thirty years old. That is virtually the case with all conservation organizations in the state.

Now the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is doing something about getting young, new leaders involved in conservation.

The Wildlife Federation is announcing today the creation of a Conservation Leadership Corps in Wisconsin, focused on high school and college students. It is modeled on the highly successful Conservation Leadership Corps created by our counterpart organization in the State of Missouri: the Conservation Federation of Missouri (www.conservfed.org). It is designed to bring in ten to twelve high school juniors and seniors and college freshmen and sophomores and provide them with leadership training, training in the development of conservation policy and how to effectively advocate for sound conservation policies. The training will take place over the course of the 2013-2014 school year and will be done by experienced conservation leaders and professionals. The Conservation Leadership Corps members will then take very active participation in the 2014 Wisconsin Ice Fishing Federation meeting. The ultimate goal is to have scores of the new conservation leaders trained to become highly active in Wisconsin conservation organization in the next few years. All expenses for the Corps members will be paid by the Wildlife Federation and every member completing the training will receive a $250 scholarship.

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WISCONSIN WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Conservation Leadership Corps Application

(Please be concise and limit your response to two pages in length—the deadline date for applications is 4 pm on May 3, 2013)

1. What is your personal and professional interest in conservation?
2. What would you say are the high points in your life related to conservation, either from an educational, personal, or organizational standpoint?
3. Why do you want to be a member of the Conservation Leadership Corps with the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation? What would you like to get out of the experience?
4. Why is the concept of a Wisconsin Conservation Leadership Corps important?
5. What role do you see conservation organizations have in the future of conservation in Wisconsin?
6. Will you be willing and able to attend a majority of the training sessions?

Background and Contact Information:

Name:
Street Address:
City, State and Zip Code:
Email Address:
Telephone Number:
Present School:
Year in School (please specify whether High School or College):

Please include a name and contact information for a reference or references related to your conservation interest. The reference or references can be a parent, teacher or other adult that you have had contact with related to conservation. These references will be important in the selection process.

Please send applications to the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, W7303 CTH CS, Poynette WI 53955 or preferably electronically to Leah McSherry, WWF Leadership Corps Coordinator, at leahms25@wwf.org

REQUEST FOR 2014 Calendar ADVERTISEMENTS!

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation would like to offer you an opportunity to extend support by purchasing an advertising spot in our 2014 Raffle Calendar. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is a non-profit statewide conservation organization. Our organization is 60 years old and works toward protecting, outdoor sporting opportunities such as hunting, fishing, and trapping within Wisconsin.

Your purchase of an advertising spot that appears within our raffle calendar will help make our calendar program a success. Calendar ad space measures approximately 2” x 3.5” (minimum 2 ads and three ads appear together at the bottom of each month). What a great way to give your company or organization’s name and logo exposure for an entire month, statewide!

With your purchase of 6 ads space you will receive one free 2014 state-wide calendar! You can then buy additional ad space for $100 per month. Drawings are held each month in our office. The cost guidelines are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Calendar Ads</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2 ads</td>
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<td>20-24 ads</td>
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<td>25-30 ads</td>
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If you wish to purchase an advertisement(s), please send artwork for your business card, measuring 2” x 3.5” and the format of the advertisement to:

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, 7303 County Road CS-O
Pine Lake County Park
Merrimac, WI 53561

Please make check payable to the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation office at 800-897-4161. We look forward to receiving your advertisement(s) for 2014.

WISCONSIN WILDLIFE FEDERATION

CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP CORPS PROGRAM

If you wish to purchase an advertisement(s) and mail artwork, please send artwork for your business card, measuring 2” x 3.5” and the format of the advertisement to:

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, 7303 County Road CS-O
Pine Lake County Park
Merrimac, WI 53561

Please include a contact name and phone number.

Email: office@wiwf.org

March 2013
Oconto River Kids Adventures (ORKA) is a group of dedicated outdoorsmen and women whose focus is assisting kids with life threatening illnesses to harvest wild black bears.

**In 2012, the inaugural year for ORKA, volunteers assisted 7 kids with life threatening illnesses participate in the 2012 Wisconsin Black Bear Season. The season was a success with 35 barrels of crushed cones from a Green Bay company with the assistance of Kevin Naze, an outdoor writer, to provide the hunters with a free bear rug. The bear was butchered free of charge by Mootz’s Quality Meats in Pound, WI. No more bears would fall that evening.**

In May of 2012 Warden Paul rallied volunteers to assist with building 6 wheelchair accessible hunting blinds. By June 1st the project was well under way with 7 mentors recruited and 8 hunting locations set up for bear hunting.

Several Sports Clubs, businesses, and individuals donated building supplies, bait, and financial support to build handicap accessible enclosed stands, provide food, lodging, taxidermy, butchering, for 6 families. ORKA hoped to provide bear hunts to.

In August 2012 while Warden Paul was speaking at the Kelly Lake Sportsman Club meeting about ORKA, he met another group called “Take em outdoors.” “Take em outdoors” is another group that focuses on providing opportunities to wounded veterans and kids with life threatening illnesses. The President of “Take em outdoors,” Shad Lech, told Warden Paul that he knew a kid with Leukemia that wanted to get out on a bear hunt. With the 5 kids from USSA, 1 from “Take em outdoors,” and Eric’s Godson, ORKA was well on its way to a successful first year with 7 hunters lined up to get their 1st crack at a Wisconsin Black Bear.

**ORKA came about due to the kind heart and motivation of an Oconto County landowner from Illinois named Eric Bonatz. Eric contacted Conservation Warden Joe Paul of Lakewood, Wisconsin in the fall of 2010 and asked if he knew of some way to get some youth involved in hunting the land he loves but does not get to use as often as he would like to. Warden Paul gave Eric a few ideas. Late in the fall of 2011 Eric called Warden Paul and said he knew what he wanted to do. Eric’s Godson had been diagnosed with Leukemia several years earlier. His Godson was again at Children’s Hospital in Chicago undergoing treatment. Eric went to visit him at the hospital. Eric’s Godson has had complications with Leukemia for most of his childhood. During this visit to Children’s Hospital, Eric was struck by the number of kids there with serious life threatening illnesses. It was then that Eric decided that he wanted to provide hunting opportunities to those kids and asked the assistance of Warden Paul to get the ball rolling.**

Eric and Warden Paul decided to provide bear hunting opportunities to the kids since bears are plentiful in northern Oconto County. The project got a jump start early in the spring of 2012 with a donation of 35 barrels of crushed cones from a Green Bay company with the assistance of a local bear hunter named John Loeher. Loeher provided the barrels and the transportation of the bait from the company back to the Lakewood area.

In February 2012, Warden Paul contacted United Special Sportsmen Alliance (USSA) to see if they could assist with the project. USSA was able to come through with 5 kids and 3 zone C tags. Zone B bear hunting transfer tags were going to be very difficult to come by Warden Paul with the assistance of Kevin Naze, an outdoor writer, put together a short newspaper article. Much to Warden Paul’s surprise, he got several calls from very generous people who wanted to donate their zone B bear hunt tags to the cause.

In August 2012 while Warden Paul was speaking at the Kelly Lake Sportsman Club meeting about ORKA, he met another group called “Take em outdoors.” “Take em outdoors” is another group that focuses on providing opportunities to wounded veterans and kids with life threatening illnesses. The President of “Take em outdoors,” Shad Lech, told Warden Paul that he knew a kid with Leukemia that wanted to get out on a bear hunt. With the 5 kids from USSA, 1 from “Take em outdoors,” and Eric’s Godson, ORKA was well on its way to a successful first year with 7 hunters lined up to get their 1st crack at a Wisconsin Black Bear.

**On September 9, 2012 the hunters along with their families met their mentors. After sighting in their firearms they were off to their bear stands. By 5 PM one of the hunters had his bear down with mentor Bruce Wutruba, aka “Bear Man.” Bear Man has helped Warden Paul with Learn to bear hunts since 2006. USSA and local taxidermist Owen Morgan of Morgan Taxidermy teamed up to provide the hunter with a free bear rug. The bear was butchered free of charge by Mootz’s Quality Meats in Pound, WI. No more bears would fall that evening.**

All the hunters, mentors, and families met back at Mountain Springs Motel where Owners Bob and Carol Lepkowski generously provided free lodging for all the families. The families then ordered in dinners from the trackside deli at the Shell gas station in Townsend. The meals were all paid for by a generous donation from Mike and Amy Richling, owners of Animals Bear Trail Bar. The rest of the evening was spent around a campfire telling hunting stories and getting to know the families.

The next day, several hunters came back, but they were either unable to get shots, or the bears were not big enough the make the legal length of 42 inches. One hunter was able to see a small bear playing around for about an hour. He got a very awesome picture with his phone of the bear in the crosshairs of his scope several times while he waited for the mentor to tell him to pull the trigger. The excited hunter had to pass
Kids Adventures

Black Bear Hunt

on the bear, but he got a cool photo. The next day, he had the opportunity to watch a bear. The bear did not spook. It simply walked away from the hunter.

About two weeks into the season, a couple of the families returned. Karla Schuessler at the Port Townsend Resort provided free lodging. Another hunter was able to harvest a bear, this time with the use of hound dogs. The hunter explained to the mentors that one year earlier he had relearning how to talk after having a stroke during treatment for Leukemia. He said he would be alive if his younger sister had not donated her bone marrow crucial to his survival.

The experience has left many of the volunteers excited about continuing this project annually. ORKA has several challenges ahead to pull off another successful year. ORKA is in need of people to transfer bear tags for bear zones A, B, and C. In 2013, Zone B tags are half of the number issued in 2012 so finding them for the kids is going to be very difficult. If you know of someone who has bear tag that they may not get to use in 2013 encourage them to donate the tag to ORKA.

ORKA is also in need of motivated people to volunteer with future hunts. To volunteer or donate a tag you may contact Conservation Warden Joe Paul at 715-850-1818 or Eric Bonatz at 773-391-8363.


WISCONSERVATION March 2013
On February 13th and 14th, Ger- ritts Middle School (Kimberly) travelled out to the Outagamie Conservation Club for some outdoor ac- tivities – 57 students ages 12 to 14 years of age.

There were as many girls as boys in this year’s group. The kids sign up for as many events as they can cram into the two half day sessions. The club supplied two ATVs, and two snowmobiles for the students to ride – Provided youth bows, pellet gun, 22 Cal rifles, and youth shot- guns for target practice/trapping shooting. Also available was ice fishing equipment to try their hand at the club’s on-premise pond. Students arrived at 8:00am and were back on the road at 12:30pm. Many of the youth would never have an opportu- nity to engage in those outdoor activi- ties if this event was not part of the Ger- ritts curriculum – 10 years and counting. It’s amazing what kids can do without an Ipod, cell phone and computer. Par- ticipants must have had fun because they put on 278 snowmobile miles and fired over 1,000 pellets. There certainly is a need for more outdoor programs like this. A special thanks to Gerritts Middle School staff and the OCC volunteers.

Mike Kohl
Outagamie Conservation Club President

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Panfish Meetings

ADISON – Anglers and others are invited to share their ex- pectations for fishing for panfish in Wisconsin at more than two dozen meetings across the state in February and March.

“We want to hear from the public on what they want from their panfishing ex- perience to help guide us in developing a statewide plan for managing panfish popu- lations,” says Joanna Griffin, the Depart- ment of Natural Resources fisheries spe- cialist coordinating the effort.

The public meetings mark the opening phases of statewide outreach efforts by De- partment of Natural Resources’ fisheries management to better connect with anglers in Wisconsin. These first meetings will fo- cus on panfish management although other local fishery concerns may be covered at the meetings, she says.

Attendees at the meetings will be asked to fill out a short questionnaire to help DNR understand their concerns, issues and priorities for panfish. The question- naire and background materials presented at the meeting will be available online in coming weeks. DNR has long had management plans in place for game fish species, such as wal- eye, bass, musky and northern pike, and biologists and some anglers believe such attention is necessary for panfish.

“We know there have been proposals from the Conservation Congress in recent years and again this year to reduce the daily 25 fish limit on panfish on select lakes. Their concerns, along with our data analy- ses and modeling efforts, lead us to believe we need to take the next step and develop a management plan,”

As a category, panfish are by far the most common fish caught by anglers in Wisconsin although anglers report walleye as their favorite target. Wisconsin anglers reported catching 88 million fish in the 2006-7 license year, of which 57.7 million were panfish, according to a statewide mail survey done that year. About 27.5 million of those panfish were kept.

“We hope the feedback we get from an- glers can help us understand whether to stay the course, or if they want changes in their panfishing experience that could re- quire us to do something different, depend- ing on the particular waterbody and its capabilities.”

The dates, times and locations of the panfish meetings are listed below.

March 4, Shawano, Shawano Library, 5:30 p.m., 128 S. Sawwy St.
March 4, Burlington, Burlington High School Library (2nd floor) 6 p.m., 400 Me- Canna Pkwy
March 5, Mercer, Mercer Community Center, 6 p.m., 2640 W Margaret St.
March 6, Medford, Frances I. Simons Memorial Library, 7 p.m., 400 N Main St.
March 6, Adams, Adams County Com- munity Center, 6:30 p.m., M 5695 Cedar St.
March 6, Florence, Wild Rivers In- terpretive Center, Large Conf. Rm, 7 p.m., 5614 Forestry Dr.
March 7, Butternut, American Legion Hall, 6 p.m., 125 4th St. North.
March 7, Dodgeville, DNR Dodgeville Office, Prairie Room 7 p.m. 1500 W. John St.
March 7, Waushara, Waushara County Courthouse, Demonstration Room, 8 p.m.
March 9, Merrill, Merrill High School large conference room, 6 p.m., 1201 N Sales St.
March 12, Brule, Brule Ranger Sta- tion, 7 p.m., 6220 S. Ranger Road
March 12, Menasha, Germania Hall, 7 p.m., 520 Chote St.
March 13, Rhinelander, Rhinelander Service Center, 7 p.m. 107 Stuffle Ave.
March 13, Green Bay, Brown County Library Auditorium, 6:30 p.m., 515 Pine St.
March 14, Woodruff, Woodruff Town Hall, 7 p.m., 1418 First St. (Highway 47)
March 14, Wausau, Wausau Area Library, 5:30 p.m., 107 St. Main St.
March 14, Black River Falls, UW Exten- sion Office, 7 p.m., 227 S 11th St.
March 14, Woodruff, Woodruff Town Service Center, 7 p.m., 810 W. Maple St.
March 14, Waupaca, Waupaca Area Library, 5:30 p.m., 107 St. Main St.
March 14, Black River Falls, UW Extension Office, 7 p.m., 227 S 11th St.
March 12, Rhinelander, Rhinelander Service Center, 7 p.m., 107 Stuffle Ave.
March 13, Green Bay, Brown County Library Auditorium, 6:30 p.m., 515 Pine St.
March 14, Woodruff, Woodruff Town Hall, 7 p.m., 1418 First St. (Highway 47)
March 18, Balsam Lake, Polk County Government Center, East Conf. Rm. 7 p.m., 100 Polk County Plaza
March 18, Crivitz, Crivitz High School Auditorium, 6:30 p.m., 400 South Ave.

Don’t miss the opportunity to bring your class to the Wisconsin Outdoor Education Expo 2013, and it’s FREE!!!

Dodge County Fairgrounds, Beaver Dam WI
Thursday May 16th and Friday May 17th

Events at the Expo will be linked to specific areas of academic achievement including science, mathematics, history and physical education.

The Expo teaches outdoor skills, encourages ethical behavior and perpetuates Wisconsin’s hunting, fishing, and conservation heritage.

If you are interested in sponsoring, volunteering, organizing a new Expo activity, or attending the Expo, please contact Coordinator Jon Schopke 608-833-2404 or email jonschopke@tds.net

“This was our first trip to the Expo and it was a lot of fun. My students learned a lot and more importantly they were able to experience so many things they otherwise wouldn’t "without the Expo." Blessed Sacrament - La Crosse, WI

Outdoor Education Expo 2013 Sponsors:

- Theodore Roosevelt Sponsor ($10,000+) Wisconsin Friends of NRA
- Aldo Leopold Sponsor ($5,000+) Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin
- John E. Environmental Partner ($2,500+):
  Wisconsin Conservation Congress, Wings Over Wisconsin, Inc., Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Conservation League
- Legacy Partner ($2,500+):
- Heritage Partner ($1,000+):
  Wisconsin Conservation Congress, Wings Over Wisconsin, Inc., Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Conservation Alliance, Ice Age Trail Alliance Inc., Wisconsin Conservation War- den Association, Exxon Mobil Corporation, FPSOME Council 24, Manitowoc County Fish and Game Protective Association, Safari Club International Bighorn Chapter
- Special In-Kind Contributor: Dodge County Fair Association, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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- Environmental Partner ($2,500+):
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Camp Coordinator/Camp Sponsor: Archery Camp - Wisconsin Bow Hunters Association, Wildlife Camp - Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, Heritage Camp - Wisconsin Conservation Con- gress, Firearm Safety Camp - Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources/NRA Firearm Safety Camp Sponsor, Sporting Dogs Camp - Duck Creek Retrievers, Green Bay Pointing Dog Club, and Central Wisconsin Short-Shot-Pheasant Club, Trail Recreation Camp - Wisconsin ATV Associa- tion, Fishing Camp - Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Camping Camp - Gander Mountain, and Ed-Venture Camp - Blackhawk Technical College

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If you are interested in sponsoring, volunteering, organizing a new Expo activity, or attending the Expo, please contact Coordinator Jon Schopke 608-833-2404 or email jonschopke@tds.net
Hello Everyone,

My name is Jared Duquette and I am the new deer and elk researcher. I am a native of Michigan and recently finished my Ph.D. evaluating survival and predator-prey relationships of white-tailed deer near Kewaunee, WI. It’s been a while since our last update and Mike and I have been busy hiring and training new field crews, getting this year’s capture season under way, collecting harvest data, and getting the annual report finalized. The annual report on the second week of the buck and fawn studies will be released in the 5th of February and will be available for download on our website if you wish to have an electronic copy.

Capture has been going well, but has generally been influenced by shifting temperatures and snow conditions. As of January 28th, in northern study we have captured 12 adult bucks, 14 cotton bucks, 33 does, and 27 recaptures. In the eastern study area we have captured 8 adult bucks, 9 button bucks, 12 does, and 7 recaptures. Capture mortality is currently at 5% and as in the past we will all capture related deaths necropsied by the wildlife lab. We shifted our primary focus this year in the eastern study area to an area east of Shawano and the northern counties because it will allow us to collect information on deer in an area with more intensive agriculture within the study area. In the northern area we are primarily focusing on areas northeast of Winter because we have no animals collared in that area and it makes sense logistically. We have also been approved to do feral hog capture this spring and have started ordering equipment and planning for that study. We did a statewide press release this year for volunteers and most trapping days are filled with volunteers this year. I ask if you want to help us in the northern study area (Winter, WI) call 608-219-0771 to get scheduled and if you want to help in the eastern area (Shawano, WI) call 920-373-3565 to get scheduled. We are working seven days a week from now through the end of March and although we can’t guarantee you’ll see a deer, I would recommend participating during early February to increase your odds. We have also updated our website and are trying to add to it when we can (http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/ research/whitetail/deer.html). Please let me know if you have any other questions or concerns and I hope to see you in the field.

—Jared Duquette

Glancing Backwards

Preliminary results of the 2012 Wisconsin deer hunter wildlife damage program indicate that spending 24,988 hours in the field observing wildlife and on average saw 0.39 deer per hour statewide. The next most frequently observed species was turkey. A survey in the fall found that 3,107 surveys were returned. The survey asks Wisconsin deer hunters to report on wildlife they see while they are in the woods. In 2012, a total of 1,136 Wisconsin deer hunters sent in reports on 5,017 hunting trips. In all, reports were received from 71 counties and 124 of Wisconsin’s 139 deer management units. Trail cam photos can also be submitted.

“In each succeeding year hunters’ reports include more valuable data,” said Jessica Ross, who manages the survey for the Natural Resources Research & Education Council of Wisconsin, a division of Wisconsin’s Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit. “As year after year of data add up we are able to see emerging trends and changes in wildlife populations that help managers better understand what is going on in Wisconsin’s wildlife populations.”

The greatest number of observations were submitted for management unit 77M in southeastern Wisconsin with 188 observations, followed by DMU 53 in central Wisconsin with 180 observations. The southern forest region had 420 observations. The ski region had 425 observations.

Preliminary Results for 2012 Deer hunters reported 1,971 bucks, 4,244 does, 2,510 fawns, and 1,046 unknowns. Statewide, hunters averaged 0.39 deer seen per hour. Deer seen per hour varied across regions with the highest being the Eastern Farmland averaging 0.61 deer per hour and the low being the Northern Forest averaging 0.30 deer per hour. The Southern Farmland and Western Farmland saw 0.51 and 0.56 deer per hour, respectively. The Central Forest region averaged 0.28 deer per hour. Hunter sightings varied greatly by regions, with most sightings occurring in Wisconsin’s primary turkey range, the farmland and central forest regions. Antlered deer and does were the most frequently seen animal was raccoon.

Feeding and Baiting Ban Remains in Effect for Barron, Burnett, Polk and Waushara Counties

S Pooner, WI – A ban on feeding white-tailed deer in Barron, Burnett, Polk and Waushara counties – which was implemented May 10, 2011 due to the discovery of chronic wasting disease in a white-tailed deer on private land in Waushara County – remains in effect and will be enforced by Wisconsin conservation wardens.

Barron, Burnett and Polk counties are within a 10-mile radius of the location of the Waushara County property on which this CWD-positive deer was taken. State law requires that counties, or portions of counties, within a 10-mile radius of a game farm or free-ranging CWD-positive area are included in the feeding and feeding prohibitions with the addition of these four counties, baiting and feeding of deer is banned in 32 Wisconsin counties.

“We want to remind residents of the four counties that there is still a ban on feeding of deer in place,” said Region 7 Conservation Warden Dave Zoell. “Conservation wardens will continue to educate our public and use appropriate discretion if a feeding violation is discovered, but we have been initiated to assure the health of our deer herd.”

“Feeding – like baiting – of deer unnecessarily increases the risk of spread - ing CWD and other diseases,” said Tom Haage, director of the DNR Bureau of Wildlife Management. “Animal health is important to preserving our great hunting tradition and is a foundation of tourism and local businesses.”

Feeding and baiting increase risks of spreading communicable diseases, like CWD, by concentrating deer in one spot. Deer using one spot are more at risk for communicable diseases. Individual hunters can still feed birds and small mammals provided the feeding devices are at a sufficient height or design to prevent access by deer and the feeding devices are within 50 yards of a human dwelling.

The fine for feeding contrary to the ban is $343.50.

Youth Essay Contest

One Youth to Win Bear Hunting Opportunity

Peynotte, WI – The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources will reward one youth with an opportunity to participate in hunting a bear during the 2013 Wisconsin bear hunt.

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

“What is the importance of youth involvement in hunting today?”

Only “novice hunters” are eligible to be selected as a participant in the Learn to Hunt Bear Program. A “novice hunter” for the purpose of the Learn to Hunt Bear Program is:

“Novice participant” means for hunting any person who is 10 years old or older, who has not received a wildlife management permit or any hunting license year, including a class B bear license, for the species that would be issued in the specific educational outdoor skills activity they desire to attend.

Entries must be postmarked by or e-mailed by May 15 to: Wisconsin Wildlife Federation c/o Bear Hunting Essay Contest W7303 Cty Rd C54, Poynette, WI 53960 Phone: 608-635-2777 Email: Jennifer@wiwf.org Entries must include the contestant’s name, address, and email address, birth date and phone number(s) on each page of the essay – and a completed, Learn to Hunt Bear Program application is available at: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife/huntbear/SM.html Essays will be chosen from each age category. The grand prize winner will be chosen by a random lottery. The winner will be notified by telephone.
Urban Wildlife Damage Abatement and Control Grant

Seven Wisconsin municipalities have been awarded an Urban Wildlife Damage Abatement and Control grant to aid them in development and implementation of long-term management solutions for dealing with problems caused by white-tailed deer and Canada geese.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides a grant up to a maximum of $5,000 to communities to help them manage wildlife conflicts. All of the State fiscal year 2013 grant funds, totaling $25,000 have been awarded. Grant recipients and amounts awarded include:

- City Of Muskego, $2,500 to remove resident Canada geese. Perform required hunts and/or control measures. Remove and dispose of slice or dispose of goose to a charitable organization.
- City Of Wisconsin Rapids, $1,713 to implement managed deer hunts; purchase and install feeders and/or energy management programs.
- Village Of Sun Prairie, $1,000 to monitor and establish deer population estimates.
- Remove deer using sharpshooters. Remove resident Canada geese.
- City Of Sheboygan, $5,000 to develop a long-term deer management. Monitor deer population and establish population estimates.
- Remove deer using sharpshooters. In eligible for grant consideration, an applicant must be an urban area pursuing a TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) strategy.

Wisconsin在Early在Catch在Anchovy

March 2013

Urban Wildlife Damage Abatement and Control Grant

 Grants awarded to help Wisconsin municipalities deal with nuisance wildlife

Urban Wildlife Damage Abatement and Control Grant

Urban Wildlife Damage Abatement and Control (UWDMAC) grants help urban areas develop and implement non-lethal wildlife damage abatement and control strategies for problems caused by white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus) and Canada geese (Branta canadensis). UWDMAC grants are available for any town, city, village, county, or tribal government in an urban area. Who can apply

Any town, city, village, county, or tribal government in an urban area can apply for these grants. If you are uncertain if your governmental unit falls within defined urban areas, contact Brad Koele (608-266-2151).

Eligible projects

- Developing an urban wildlife population control plan.
- Monitoring wildlife populations and establishing population estimates.
- Removing deer using sharpshooters as population control.
- Trapping and deer.
- Improving deer habitat in urban areas.
- Removing resident Canada geese by approved DNR methods.

For more information, contact: Kari Boetham, Grant Manager, 608-264-2900. To apply contact Brad Koele (608-266-2151).

Deadlines

The grant application period opens on October 1 each year. The application deadline is December 1. Note: This year’s deadline is December 11 due to holidays. The application deadline is December 1, but since December 1 falls on a Saturday the due date for FY 2013 grant applications is moved to the next business day which is December 3, 2012. Grant awards are issued in January of the grant year.

Contact Information

For more information, contact: Kari Boetham, Grant Manager, 608-264-2900. To apply contact Brad Koele, Wildlife Biologist, 608-266-2151.

Water temperatures are higher then, as the early season progresses, the fishing pressures increase. The best spots for spring bass fishing generally do not occur in mid-April, as the fish become more active and aggressive.

Most trout streams open to early fishing with the exception of most Lake Superior tributaries and the majority state and federal lands. While the open streams, check the printed current trout fishing regulations pamphlet issued by the local DNR office. For artifical lures to fish artificial fly and classic models are not the fish in mind.

The best fishermen, probably out of 100 more opportunities in Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine. Readers can also find an interesting discussion of online water conditions on Wisconsin fishing pages of the DNR website. The DNR offers a publication on water conditions on some sort of psychological necessity, are optimists. They remember their best days on the water and look forward to better days ahead. But they are also pragmatists and are careful about their decisions.

On-line maps and interactive maps will make all of the trout waters easier to access. Some of the new websites provide detailed information on water conditions on Wisconsin waters. The DNR is the only one that can show you the current water levels and other information to help you find the data to search the on DNR website.

Hours of Canada geese. Perform required hunts and/or control measures. Remove and dispose of slice or dispose of goose to a charitable organization.

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Village Of Sun Prairie, $1,000 to monitor and establish deer population estimates.

Remove deer using sharpshooters. Remove Canada geese.

City Of Sheboygan, $5,000 to develop a long-term deer management strategy. Monitor deer population and establish population estimates.

Remove deer using sharpshooters. In eligible for grant consideration, an applicant must be an urban area pursuing a TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) strategy.

Wisconsin fishing license.

Biologists and others who study trout populations say that these are the good old days of trout fishing. Trout populations have generally increased statewide, and the number of fish in all sizes must be immediately released.

An inland trout stamp is required in addition to a Wisconsin fishing license.

Cast Your Ideas into Improving Fishing in the Driftless Area

A

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Andscaping your waterfront lot? Planning a pond? Need road and culvert repairs?

Now is the time to start planning for such projects and many people who need a permit to proceed with their project will be able to apply electronically in order to completely avoid expensive and time-consuming paper submittals, state waterway officials say.

“As always, we recommend potential applicants start early to find out if they need a permit for their project and how best to design to minimize its impacts to the environment,” said Pam Biersach, who directs the Department of Natural Resources watershed management bureau. “Such information may help people avoid needing a permit altogether or it may help speed the process, particularly if the project allows for them to use our new online application system.”

DNR launched an electronic permitting system for water-related projects a year ago and it can be used for projects that would have an impact on wetlands or waterfleas and require an individual permit. Fish crisis and other habitat structures, shore stabilization, swim rafts, grading, and putting in a pea gravel blanket are among the kinds of activities for which applications can file and pay online.

Our online system allows applicants to save dollars track the progress of re- quests online, provide the kinds of information which the agency uses in permit applications, and helps ensure projects get a more consistent and comprehensive review. It also protects Wisconsin lakes, rivers and wetlands,” Biersach says. “We encourage those who can to apply online.”

The online permitting system is found by searching the DNR website for key- words “water permit.” As with other internet-based services, there’s a quick and easy process for project proponents to set up an account with a password before beginning the application process, she says.

Right now, many waterfront projects requiring customized “individual per- mits” are available for online permitting, as are applications for the treatment of aquatic plants in certain waters and pat-trench de-watering general permits. In coming months, online application processes will be available for many more ac- tivities potentially affecting Wisconsin waters.

Common construction activities, when done near lakes, streams or wetlands, can have unintended side effects, including flooding nearby property, degrading downstream water quality, and harming fish and wildlife habitat.

To protect against these impacts and harm to fish and wildlife, recreational activities, and scenic beauty, Wisconsin water laws require DNR permits for all construction projects in the state. Applications for DNR permits are available, people can get the answers they need in a timely way and in a way that protects what drew them to the lake or wetland in the first place,” Biersach says.

“What is Sea Foam?”

Sea Foam Forms in This Way— but on a Much Grander Scale— When the Ocean Is Churned Up

You scoop up some water from the ocean in an alcohol glass and look at it closely, you’ll see it’s thatch full of tiny particles. Swarming contain dissolved salts, proteins, fats, dead algae, and a bunch of other bits and pieces of organic matter. Take this glass of ocean water vigorously, small bubbles will form on the surface of the liquid. Set foam forms in this way— but on a much grander scale— when the ocean is churned up by the surf. Many people who need a permit to proceed with their project will be able to apply electronically in order to completely avoid expensive and time-consuming paper submittals, state waterway officials say.

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### Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association

**Ties To The Land Workshops – Spring 2013**

Learn how to pass both your ownership and your vision for your woodlands to your heirs in one of four “Ties To The Land” workshops being held around the state in March and April. The two-session program focuses on maintaining family ties to the land from generation to generation by creating a succession plan to pass on to your heirs both your passion and the skills needed to be good stewards of the woods.

**Workshops are scheduled for:**
- **Dodgeville:** The Wisconsin DNR Dodgeville Service Center at 1500 North Johns Street on Thursday April 4 and Thursday April 18 from 6 to 9 p.m.
- **Eau Claire:** The Human Sciences and Services Building at UW-Eau Claire on Thursday April 4 and Thursday April 18 from 6 to 9 p.m.
- **Osceola:** The Kickapoo Valley Reserve Visitor Center at S3661 State Road 131 on Saturday April 6 and Saturday May 11 from 9 a.m. to noon.

**Cost for the workshops is $50 for WWOA members ($60 for couples) and $95 for non-members ($120 for couples).** Classes are limited to 30 participants, and pre-registration is required by March 15.

**Affiliate Club Activity.**

**Youth Essay Contest.**

**News from Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association**

**SPONSORSM’S RUMMAGE SALE**

- **Sponsor:** The Dodge Co. Sporting & Conservation Alliance

**Take Note!**

### 2013 Spring Hearings. Pages 1 & 4

**Executive Director.** Page 3

**Affiliate Club Activity.** Pages 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8

**Youth Essay Contest.** Page 9

**Chaseburg Rod & Gun Club**

**2013 Fish Fry Schedule**

**ALL YOU CAN EAT !!!**

**March 16th**

**5PM - 8:30PM**

**Sportsman Lane**

**Stoddard 608-483-2107**

**www.chaseburgrodandgun.com**