Pipping received with Prestigious National Conservation Award
Affiliate Volunteer of the Year Award

WP member Lil Pipping received the award at the annual National Wild-life Federation in Washington state. The National Conservation Affiliate Volunteer of the Year is recognized as an outstanding National Wildlife Federation (NWF) affiliate volunteer who gives their time, talents, and service to support the conservation efforts of the Federation. The NWF cited Ms. Pipping’s many accomplish- ments when presenting this award. Lillian Pipping has spent decades dedicating her time to conservation. In 2007, she was elected presi-dent of the NWF after service as both 1st and 2nd Vice President. Under her leadership, NWF started the Conservation Leader Corp, working to inspire the next generation of conservation leaders. Lil has been involved in the Wisconsin Sportsmen Club (now known as Tri-County Sportswomen Club; LLC) since 1992, serving in nu-merous leadership roles. In 1999, she was elect-ed the first female president of the Sheboygan County Conservation Association (SCCS) and is still the only woman to serve in that position. In 2005, Lil and group of others formed the Friends of Broughton Sheboygan March to protect 14,000 acres of important wilderness area in the Sheboygan River watershed. Since its founding, Lil has served as president of the Friends of the Marsh. Through her active involvement in the organization, Lil has organized outdoor activity days, chaired debates for local election candi-dates, served on strategic planning committees, attended town hall meetings, raised money for outdoor education facilities, stalked yard signs on important conservation issues, advised neigh-boring counties on forming conservation groups, and led efforts to create a county stewardship fund-giving countless hours to better the place that she calls home. She started the Sharing the Spirit program, a way for sportspersons to help the elderly in the county and Hunters Against Hunger, a program through which hunters de-nate extra venison to local food Pantries. In all that she does, Lil leads by example and has been a true champion for women in conservation. Without a doubt, her leadership and dedication continue to leave an impact on Eastern Wiscon-sin. Lil and her husband Ken live in Ellhart Lake, WI. They have 5 children and 14 grand-children and 4 great grandchildren. In her twenty plus years of volunteer work with the NWF, Lil has also been Chair of the Calendar Committee, and the Awards Commit-tee. Anyone who has purchased a NWF calendar knows that a great deal has happened in the cal-endar and how much time and effort it takes to put together a calendar. Lil joined the NWF and became an active member because she believed in what they stood for and wanted to do what she could to help their cause as well as protect our environment and habitat. NWF has policies that they believe in, and before we work or sup-port something we do our homework on the issue and get as much scientific input as we can. NWF works together with its over 200 members and State affiliates to do the best we can for the best conclusion for the issue at hand. Lil states that her most important accomplishment as a NWF member is co-founding The Conservation Leader Corp. This group is made up of Junior and Senior High School students as well as college students to help give them the tools needed to do advocacy work and to teach them how to be leaders in the conservation world. When Lil is not working on conservation projects, she likes to fish, watch wildlife and be in the outdoors. Lil also was a deer hunter but she has retired from that sport. Congratulations again Lil Pipping.

Three Things to Know about the Sage-Grouse Secretarial Order
(and Three We Wish We Could Forget)

TJ Brown | National Wildlife Federation

Interior secretary Ryan Zinke issued a secretarial order on greater sage-grouse on June 9, 2017. The order initiated a review of management plans that have been in the works for years and were a result of unprecedented collabora-tion among state, local, and federal stakeholders. This order was not a surprise, as stakeholders had heard through the grapevines that it was com-ing, though the details were murky at best. Both Governor Hickenlooper (Colorado) and Governor Mead (Wyoming) signed a letter to Secretary Zinke encouraging him not to derail the work that has already occurred in developing these management plans. Unfortunately, Secretary Zinke did not heed their advice. Here are three things to know about the secretarial order:

1. It creates an inter-agency review team con-sisting of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the US Geological Survey.

2. It directs that review team to review sage-grouse management plans by state to determine if the plans “complement state efforts to conserve the species.”

3. As part of the review close attention will be paid to ensuring sage-grouse management plans do not impose the future of energy development. Now here are three things we really wish we could forget about this order:

1. It asks the review team to explore “creative approaches” to manage sage-grouse, such as captive breeding and setting population targets state by state. Both approaches are not supported by app-licable science, nor experts in the field. Generally, both these approaches are viewed simply as bad ideas.

2. This order basically ignores the work of count-less stakeholders in the American West – ranchers, business owners, sportmen, industry officials, lo-cal and state elected officials, outdoor recreation leaders, veterans, conservationists, and their part-ners in the U.S. government and state governments – who have invested tens of millions of dollars and years of work into creating and implementing lo-cally driven sage-grouse conservation plans.

3. Energy development on public lands, not conservation of sage-grouse, appears to be a prior-ity. In a news briefing and in a statement, Zinke emphasized aligning the conservation plans with Secretarial Order 3349, “Promoting Energy Inde-pendence and Economic Growth.” Provisions in the plans might be revised or rescinded based on the potential for energy and other development on pub-lic lands. Little matter that the plans do not affect energy development on more than 80 percent of the potential habitat area and about 50 percent of ex-isting energy leases on public lands are currently in production.

This review rightly has many stakeholders who worked on creating those plans on edge. Too many hours have been spent collaborating and develop-ing these plans to change course and ignore the hard work of so many stakeholders.

Looking to Western Governors to Save a Species and an Ecosystem

If the plans are derailed and the safeguards they contain aren’t followed, we risk losing an ic-nic Western landscape and the more than 300 spe-cies who live there. Photo by Jessie Johnson

Across the West, 11 governors and representat-ives from the states of California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming have all spent significant time and resources in developing these plans and they will be key to ensuring that these plans remain on track. The plans enabled the US Fish and Wildlife Service to determine that the greater sage-grouse would not have to be added to the endangered species list. Recently we have seen the governors of Colorado and Wyoming pub-licly ask Secretary Zinke to take a close look at all the work that has been done thus far and to not stray too far from the plans that have been pains-takingly developed in a bipartisan manner.

State governments, and especially governors, will be key players over the coming months in en-suring the sage-grouse conservation plans stay on track. They, along with Secretary Zinke, need to hear from everyone who has a stake in conserva-tion of the greater sage-grouse and its habitat. If the plans are derailed and the safeguards they con-tain aren’t followed, we risk having to take drastic measures that could affect hunting, recreation and other activities we now enjoy on sagebrush lands. We also risk losing an iconic Western landscape and the more than 300 species who live there.

Species and an Ecosystem

Looking to Western Governors to Save a
Assembly Bills
AB28/SB7—Clarifies expiration date of concealed carry permit
Status: Enacted into Wisconsin Act 3
WFF Position: Support, simple clarification of expiration date

AB10/SB2—Strengthens high capacity well pumping law
Status: In Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee
WFF Position: Support, protects lakes, streams and wetlands

AB61/SB6—Weakens protection against Chronic Wasting Disease
Status: Passed the Senate; Scheduled for passage in the Senate
WFF Position: Strongly opposes, a substantial weakening of deer herd protection from CWD

AB63—Exempts utility filling and dredging wetland permits in right-of-ways
Status: In Assembly Energy and Utilities Committee
WFF Position: WWWF opposes due to likelihood of damage to fish and wildlife habitat

AB74—Reinstates 48 hour waiting period for handgun purchase
Status: In Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
WFF Position: Oppose, weakens Second Amendment Rights

AB105/SB187—Removes high capacity well permit renewal requirement
Status: Signed into law, Wisconsin Act 10
WFF Position: Oppose, major weakening of stream, lake and wetland protection laws

AB157/SB171—Restores Natural Resources Board Appointment of DNR Secretary
Status: In Assembly Natural Resources Committee
WFF Position: Strongly support to reduce political natural resource decision-making

AB160/SB395—Changes wetland and stream alteration laws governing fish farms
Status: Awaiting Governor’s signature
WFF Position: Neutral, aquaculture industry worked with WFF and other groups to minimize adverse impact on streams and wetlands

AB203/SB160—Authorizes special free event for disabled vet to learn to hunt turkeys
Status: Hearing held in Assembly Natural Resources Committee
WFF Position: Awaiting hearing in Senate Sporting Heritage Committee

AB214/SB152—Removes federal wetlands law from the protected wetland list
Status: Passed the Senate
WFF Position: Support special recognition for disabled vets

AB220/SB178—Grandfathers fences on MFL lands owned by three beagle training clubs
Status: Passed by Assembly
WFF Position: Support, special recognition for disabled vets

AB246/SB177—Exempts Drainage Ditches from laws protecting streams and wetlands
Status: In Senate Agriculture Committee
WFF Position: Neutral, bill contains sufficient protection of fish and wildlife habitat

AB247/SB169—Bill substantially reduces regulations regarding possession of weapons
Status: In Senate State Affairs Committee
WFF Position: Hearing held in Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

AB281/SB180—Bill relates to municipal sewer service area under the Great Lakes Compact
Status: Passed the Senate Assembly
WFF Position: Support, no biological reason not to harvest, often a nuisance

AB314/SB247—Bill authorizes hunting from a lift attached to a motor vehicle
Status: Passed the Assembly Natural Resources Committee
WFF Position: Support, provides another safe hunting method

AB323/SB249—Bill transfers the woodchuck from the protected to game species list
Status: Passed the Assembly
WFF Position: Support, no logical reason not to harvest, often a nuisance

AB325/SB257—Removes minimum age limit to apply for bear harvest preference points
Status: In Senate Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage Committee
WFF Position: Support, bill is important to protect fish and wildlife habitat

AB346—Requires DNR to continue to publish Natural Resources Magazine
Status: Motion passed in Joint Finance Committee
WFF Position: Support, the magazine is valuable to subscribers and is totally paid for by subscribers

AB347—Restores Funding for 16 Research Scientists to the DNR
Status: Motion defeated in Joint Finance Committee
WFF Position: Support, the past elimination of those positions significantly weakened the necessary science information development for natural resources programs

Senate Bills
SB4—Overturns a DNR rule lowering the Lake Michigan Chub Quota
Status: Awaiting Governor’s signature
WFF Position: Oppose bill because of low chub populations

SB36—Clarifies expiration date of concealed carry permit
Status: Enacted into Wisconsin Act 3
WFF Position: Support, simple clarification of expiration date

SB59—Removes mandatory yard setback for the purpose of bettering wildlife habitat
Status: Passed the Senate
WFF Position: Support, no logical reason not to harvest, often a nuisance

SB70—Requires DNR to use $10 million a year for eight years to buy public land owned by the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
Status: In Senate Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage Committee
WFF Position: Support, allows the DNR to purchase land for hunting and fishing

SB138—Requires DNR to conduct a waterfowl trend study and make the results available to the public
Status: Awaiting Governor’s signature
WFF Position: Support, the trend study will provide important data for managing waterfowl populations

SB146—Restores Funding for 16 Research Scientists to the DNR
Status: Motion defeated in Joint Finance Committee
WFF Position: Support, the past elimination of those positions significantly weakened the necessary science information development for natural resources programs

SB153—Restores Funding for 16 Research Scientists to the DNR
Status: Motion defeated in Joint Finance Committee
WFF Position: Support, the past elimination of those positions significantly weakened the necessary science information development for natural resources programs

SB160/SB95—Changes wetland and stream alteration laws governing fish farms
Status: Awaiting Governor’s signature
WFF Position: Oppose, weakens Second Amendment Rights

SB162/SB153—Restores Funding for 16 Research Scientists to the DNR
Status: Motion defeated in Joint Finance Committee
WFF Position: Support, the past elimination of those positions significantly weakened the necessary science information development for natural resources programs

From the Calendar Chair and Committee

Woll the calendar is being printed as you read this and I hope that you have placed your order with the office for your drop shipment. You can have your calendars dropped to your sellers or directly to you. We also encourage every board member to at least sell 25 calendars. There are now new items on the calendar as we will now be giving gift cards to Cabela’s instead of Gander Mountain. We are also giving away an ATV – Can Am Outlander 450 4-wheeler or $4,000 cash. So these should be a selling point.

Also last year we talked about the acrylic holders for calendars to be placed in a business, if you are interested in one or two please let me know ASAP so we can make arrangements to provide them. Or you can also purchase them at an office supply store. They really are neat to use.

Now looking forward to the 2018 calendar, I would like to encourage everyone to start thinking about pictures to submit to the calendar. We are looking for pictures with wildlife in them, no people, just animals. Must be from Wisconsin. So please there is a form in the 2018 calendar to use and we would really like to receive those pictures from you.

Thanks,
Lil Pipping

Lil Pipping, Past President of the WFWF Federation and Chair of the Awards committee presenting to Sarah DeZwarte, her 2017 Conservation Educator of the Year Award.

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Legislative Summary 2017-2019 State Legislative Session
June 2017

Wisconsin Act 10

Wisconsin Act 5

Thanks.
June Public Meeting will Gather Feedback Regarding Outdoor Recreation in Northern Wisconsin

Feedback Regarding Outdoor Recreation in Northern Wisconsin

ADISON – Department of Nature Resources staff will hold a June 19 public meeting to gather input regarding the draft Northwoods Region Outdoor Recreation opportunities analysis. This initial Northwoods Region ROA draft identifies future opportunities to provide high-quality recreation experiences and the potential role of DNR-managed properties in helping to meet those opportunities within the region. A June 19 public open house will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Hodag Banquet Center, 1540 Pueblo Dr., Rhinelander, to outline current efforts in the Northwoods Recreation Department. The meeting will give brief presentations at 5:30 p.m.

Recreation Opportunities Analysis process will identify future needs

The Recreation Opportunities Analysis will generally describe recreation opportunities across the state and contain more details for each region of the state. While the ROA process moves forward, DNR will hold a June 19 public meeting to gather input regarding the draft Northwoods Region Outdoor Recreation opportunities analysis. This initial Northwoods Region ROA draft identifies future opportunities to provide high-quality recreation experiences and the potential role of DNR-managed properties in helping to meet those opportunities within the region. A June 19 public open house will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Hodag Banquet Center, 1540 Pueblo Dr., Rhinelander, to outline current efforts in the Northwoods Recreation Department. The meeting will give brief presentations at 5:30 p.m.

Editor’s Note: The Forests, Parks & Recreation Committee has been working on this Recreational Opportunities Analysis in the Northwoods Region since January 24th. Andy Lewandowski, Ed Lierman and Joel Wandowski has been working on this study in the Northwoods Region since January 24th. Andy Lewandowski, Ed Lierman and Joel Wandowski have been working on this study in the Northwoods Region since January 24th. Andy Lewandowski, Ed Lierman and Joel Wandowski have been working on this study in the Northwoods Region since January 24th.
DNR to Plug Old Industrial Pipes to Block Gobies

MADISON – Preliminary data from spring harvest events show that Wisconsin hunters experienced another successful spring season, said Mark Wiechman, Department of Natural Resources upland wildlife ecologist. ‘The spring turkey harvest exceeded my expectations even after the ice-out, which was a testament to the resilience and adaptation abilities of spring hunters. The Youth Turkey Hunt and Learn to Hunt events were also excellent this spring and continued to build momentum in Wisconsin for the future of our turkey population.’

A key objective of Wisconsin’s Wild Turkey Management Plan is to maximize opportunities for turkey hunters and ensure population stability. The plan aims to maintain and improve hunting opportunities while ensuring that harvest does not lead to population declines. Biologists in Wisconsin closely monitor harvest, hunter interference rates, and hunter satisfaction along with turkey populations through time, to maintain a successful and enjoyable spring turkey hunt.

The dark sky at Newport State Park. Photo Credit: Denny Moutray

For more information regarding turkey hunting in Wisconsin, visit dnr.wi.gov and search keyword “turkey.”

2017 Calendar Donors

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Bronze

Sheboygan County Conservation Assoc.
County Sportswomen’s
Jon’s Sport Shop
Hotel Mead
Jim Swanson
Lil Pipping

Sheboygan Falls, WI
Elkhart Lake, WI
Oshkosh, WI
Wisconsin Rapids, WI
Menomonie, WI
Elkhart Lake, WI

2016-17 Wisconsin Wolf Monitoring Data Now Available

MADISON – Wisconsin wolf monitoring data for the 2016-17 season is now available on the Department of Natural Resources’ wolf management webpage.

Monitoring efforts detected an overwinter minimum wolf count of 866 and 232 packs in 2016-17, this represents a 6.8 percent increase from the 2015-16 minimum wolf count (806 and 222 packs). Wolf counts are conducted in winter when the population reaches its annual low point. Wolf pups born in spring cause population increases, but are lowered by reductions resulting from pup and adult mortalities.

To view this information (found under the “reports” list) and learn more about wolves in Wisconsin, visit dnr.wi.gov and search keyword “wolf.” Data available include the 2016-17 overwinter minimum wolf count and packs identified during the monitoring period. These data were collected with the assistance of over one hundred volunteer trackers - these volunteers contributed roughly half of the over 14,000 survey miles in 2016-17.

To learn more about taking part in this monitoring program, search keyword “volunteer” and select “volunteers and other mammals.” Classes for new volunteers will be held in the fall of 2017. Wolves remain listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act and management authority is held by the Federal government. Federal listing status restricts state management, including any lethal wolf management tools. Currently, DNR staff use non-lethal state in response to wolf conflicts.

Newport State Park Designated as International Dark Sky Park

LILBON BAY, Wis. – Newport State Park, Wisconsin’s only wilderness state park, has now also become the first DNR park in the state to be designated an International Dark Sky Park, one of just 48 parks in the world to earn this prestigious designation.

Located on the western shore of Lake Michigan on the northern tip of Door County, Newport has a dark sky that offers excellent nighttime viewing with an undisturbed view of the eastern horizon. As a designated wilderness park, the 2,173-acre park offers plenty of dark skies and has minimal developments beyond the park office, picnic areas and trails.

Based in Tucson, Ariz., the International Dark Sky Association is a non-profit organization founded in 1988 that is dedicated to protecting the night skies for present and future generations. The association advocates for the protection of the night sky, educates the public and policymakers about night sky conservation, promotes environmentally responsible outdoor lighting and empowers the public with the tools and resources to help bring back the dark sky.

The idea for applying for the designation began four years ago when Ray Stonecipher, a local Door County amateur astronomer, approached Hefty about applying for the designation. The park also received assistance from supporting partners including the Door Peninsula Astronomical Society and Newport Wilderness Society.

The association has program guidelines that outline specifics for Dark Sky Park designation, which included sky quality measurements from 14 locations within the park, conducting astronomy education programs and developing a light management plan.

The association board unanimously approved Newport State Park as an International Dark Sky Park on April 27, joining the ranks of Big Ben, Glacier and Grand Canyon national parks. Of these 50 other state parks in the United States have received the designation.

The prestigious Dark Sky Park designation opens the park to local, regional, national and international astronomical clubs and societies, increasing tourism, especially ecotourism. Obtaining this honor will accord national and international recognition to Newport State Park and the Wisconsin State Park System, said Ben Bergey, Wisconsin State Park System director.

To learn more about the DNR’s efforts to protect night skies, visit the Department of Natural Resources website, dnr.wi.gov, for keyword “Newport.”

For more information on International Dark Sky Parks darksky.org/dsp/parks/ can be found on the International Dark Sky Association website darksky.org. For more information about Newport State Park, search “Newport State Park” on the Department of Natural Resources website, dnr.wi.gov, for keyword “Newport.”
Secretary Zinke Applauds President Trump’s Action to Restore America’s Energy Destiny

WASHINGTON – U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke today applauded the announcement of President Donald J. Trump’s decision to exit the United States from the Obama-era, market-driven agreement that sets the world course from the community of nations and abdicated its global leadership position. If the President wants to reverse course, then – but the decision to pull out of a global agreement negotiated with 194 other nations is nothing short of a dereliction of duty.

“Every American should remember what we are about to lose,” Zinke said, “and the harm being done to our communities, wildlife, and places we love.

“The Federal government has a responsibility to do its due diligence to protect the environment. We all agree that clean air and clean water are top priorities, but this was an example of another give-away to foreign interests and locks America into a system that would kill American jobs and hurt the American economy. It is time for the President to do his job and make sure our policies are consistent with our values and our foreign policy. It is also time to get to work and develop more energy, including offshore wind, to address the rising costs of energy and increase the reliability of our energy supply. But the President must also understand that the U.S. has an obligation to be a global leader in developing clean energy technologies for around the world – a trillion dollar clean energy market – and one that meets our energy needs and makes the world less secure. It harms American workers who should be innovating and manufacturing clean energy technologies for export around the world – a trillion dollar clean energy market – and at the same time it provides a competitive advantage to other countries. America has the skills, technology, mass and species extinctions as countries face higher temperatures, droughts, extreme weather events and sea level rise. It sentences America’s majestic natural landscapes and wildlife to an uncertain future.

“Now that the President has made his decision, we must re-focus on domestic energy development and take the reins of domestic leadership and act on climate. We have the work to do.”

Trump Administration Pulling Out of Paris Climate Deal “a Dereliction of Duty”

WASHINGTON – D.C. – President Trump announced today his intention to withdraw the U.S. from the historic 2015 Paris Agreement, a compact among over 190 nations to act on climate change. Under this agreement, the U.S. committed to work together with other countries to reduce carbon pollution with the aim of keeping global temperatures close to safe levels that scientists have indicated will meet the worst-case climate change impacts for our communities, wildlife, and places we love.

Collin O’Mara, president and chief executive officer of the National Wildlife Federation, said today:

“This is a momentous day for the American economy, the American worker, and for the millions of Americans who care about the future of our communities, our wildlife, and our planet.

“Every American should remember what we are about to lose. This is the first time since America emerged as the world’s superpower during World War II that the U.S. has retreated from the community of nations and abdicated its global leadership position. If the President wants to reverse course, then the decision to pull out of a global agreement negotiated with 194 other nations is nothing short of a dereliction of duty. Whereas Presidents of both parties have worked to keep our promise at home and safer abroad, today’s decision hurts the fastest growing part of our economy and makes the world less secure.

“It harms American workers who should be innovating and manufacturing clean energy technologies for export around the world – a trillion dollar clean energy market – and necessary for the development and successful implementation of climate change. Under this agreement, the U.S. would be required to report annually to the U.N. our progress on fulfilling our commitments.

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“Now that the President has made his decision, we must re-focus on domestic energy development and take the reins of domestic leadership and act on climate. We have the work to do.”

First-Ever Live Release Fish Records Set

ADISON – Four Wisconsin anglers have realized their place in fishing history by establishing the first-ever live release under the new live release state fish record program launched earlier this year by the Department of Natural Resources.

Rod Eberly of Appleton submitted the first ever application under the new live release state fish record program – and look forward to many more,” says Ben Halfen of Prairie du Sac who caught and released a 10.5-inch rock bass from the Rock River in Jefferson County. As of today, the Rock River has the world record for rock bass.

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Wisconsin Ruffed Grouse Survey Results Indicate an Increase in Breeding Grouse

M ADISON — Roadside ruffed grouse surveys completed in 2016 statewide had the highest average abundance in the last 15 years. In 2016, these surveys identified 156 roadkills statewide, which is a 32% increase from the previous high in 2015.

For complete survey results, visit: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/biological/.

"An increase in breeding grouse activity hopefully will mean an increase in grouse nesting and brood production which could mean more grouse for hunters to pursue," said Robert Gaudet, Nevada Wildlife Federation.

"The 60-day review by an Interior Department board president can save the herd. An order to list greater sage-grouse in Wisconsin won't affect energy development on more than 80 percent of the potential habitat area and less than 50 percent of existing energy leases on public lands are currently in production. We strongly encourage the collaborative effort to continue, so we can save the bird and save the herd."

Here are comments from some of the National Wildlife Federation's state affiliates:

"The secretarial order on sage-grouse could create more delay and impede what we in Colorado and others across the West want – growing, healthy sage-grouse populations that fulfill the purpose of its habitat. More delay and debate will only result in the continuation of a landscape that's crucial to a wide diversity of wildlife. Any review or changes to plans should focus on one goal in mind – avoiding further declines of the sage-grouse population to the point that drastic measures will be required to save it." – Suzanne O'Neill, executive director of the Colorado Wildlife Federation.

"The state of Wyoming has been at the forefront of sage-grouse conservation, having developed a strategy that was a model for other Western states. We've been all in and don't want all the work, time and collaboration to get side-tracked by the unnecessary review of the conservation plans; the very plans that led to the decision not to list greater sage-grouse. We don't want to jeopardize all our work and the good that has already been done. Now is the time to get on with the job of conserving the species and other land and other species."

"The majority of the river is managed as part of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, giving the Mississippi a natural beauty and wild character uncommon on major commercial river systems. "Refuges are typically managed for wildlife, and do not receive funding for non-wildlife dependent uses such as camping or beach-going," said Kendra Pednault, deputy district manager for USFWS. "We recognize the importance of the Upper Miss and its islands and beaches to multiple user groups. Partnership such as this allow us to leverage our resources and improve the outdoor experience for those users who are approaching and not detrimental to wildlife."

The work will be conducted primarily by a La Crosse-based WisCorps crew contracted by Wisconsin DNR. WisCorps has a long history of invasive species management, trail building and recreation management. The crew has certified herbicide applicators who handle the chemicals.

"WisCorps engages young adults in conservation projects throughout the Midwest," said WisCorps operations director Willie Bottorff. "We're excited to partner with the USFWS to make a difference for future beachgoers and help to preserve the body of water that is the heart of our community."
### 2018 WWF BANQUET DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>District 4 North (Oconomowoc)</td>
<td>Evan Manges, Business Manager</td>
<td>March 10, 2018</td>
<td>Oconomowoc, WI</td>
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<td>District 4 East (Flower)</td>
<td>Gary Fitzgerald</td>
<td>Sept. 7, 2017</td>
<td>Shooter's, Plymouth, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 4 West (Milwaukee)</td>
<td>Jan McLeod</td>
<td>Spring 2018</td>
<td>Hibton Garden Inn - Park Place, Milwaukee, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 10 (Wascon)</td>
<td>Gary Stock</td>
<td>Spring 2018</td>
<td>Chippewa Inn, Eau Claire, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 9 (Oconomowoc)</td>
<td>Greg Kronschnabel</td>
<td>March 30, 2018</td>
<td>Olympia Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 13 (Milwaukee)</td>
<td>Jay Moore</td>
<td>June 2018</td>
<td>He-Clunk Casino, Wisconsin Dells, WI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### June 2017 Calendar Winners

**1 $100 Cash**
- Mike Davis, Wisconsin Dells, WI

**2 Friends Instant Shotguns**
- Larry LaRue, DeForest, WI

**3 Gander Mountain Card $100/$100 Cash**
- Steve King, Sheboygan, WI

**4 1 Youth Bear Hunt Unit D - Wed. after Labor Day**
- Kathy Kahler, Fond du Lac, WI

**5 $1000 Cash**
- Amie Adkins, Evansville, WI

**6 Gander Mountain Card $100/$100 Cash**
- Jordan Calmes, Abbotsford, WI

**7 Franchi Instinct Shotgun**
- Larry LeMahien, Sheboygan, WI

**8 $100 Cash**
- Gregg Phillips, Merrimac, WI

**9 Gander Mountain Card $100/$100 Cash**
- Steve Ringelstatter, Spring Green, WI

**10 Gander Mountain Card $100/$100 Cash**
- Randy Stenback, German Valley, IL

**11 $100 Cash**
- Will Thies, Whitewater, WI

**12 Franchi Instinct Shotgun**
- Steve Huss, Appleton, WI

**13 Remington 770 Package - Father's Day**
- Ryan Johnson, Berlin, WI

**14 $100 Cash**
- Ethen Steffan, Killdeer, ND

**15 Savage 93-17 Package**
- Mike Davis, Wisconsin Dells, WI

**16 $100 Cash**
- Brenda Belk, Mauston, WI

**17 $100 Cash**
- Brenda Belk, Mauston, WI

**18 Remington 770 Package - Father's Day**
- Ryan Johnson, Berlin, WI

**19 $100 Cash**
- Brenda Belk, Mauston, WI

**20 $100 Cash**
- Brenda Belk, Mauston, WI

**21 Mossberg 100 Rifle**
- Kelly King, Big Bend, WI

**22 $100 Cash**
- Brenda Belk, Mauston, WI

**23 Remington 770 Package**
- Ryan Johnson, Berlin, WI

**24 $100 Cash**
- Brenda Belk, Mauston, WI

**25 $100 Cash**
- Brenda Belk, Mauston, WI

**26 Franchi Instinct Shotgun**
- Steve Huss, Appleton, WI

**27 $100 Cash**
- Brenda Belk, Mauston, WI

**28 Remington 770 Package**
- Ryan Johnson, Berlin, WI

**29 $100 Cash**
- Brenda Belk, Mauston, WI

**30 $100 Cash**
- Brenda Belk, Mauston, WI

### WWF “Kitchen News”

**Country-Style Groundhog**

**Ingredients:**
- 7 individual groundhogs
- 1 cup flour
- 1½ tsp salt
- ⅛ tsp pepper

**Preparation:**
1. Prepare groundhog by removing the small sacs in the back and under the forelimb.
2. Soak groundhog overnight in salted water. This will help remove the gamey flavor.
3. Combine flour, salt, pepper, and soda: use as a rub on the groundhog. Brown the groundhog in hot oil in the skillet, and sprinkle with sugar.
4. Reduce heat, add ½ cup water. Cover, simmer for about 30 minutes or until tender.
5. Cover meat with a lid and let cook for an additional 10 minutes.

**Smoked Wild Turkey Wild Rice Soup**

**Ingredients:**
- 1 wild turkey carcass
- 1 cup wild rice
- 1 cup celery sliced
- 1 cup Carrots sliced
- 1 cup Celery sliced
- 3 ramps finely chopped
- 1 cup of wild rice
- 1 cup Sliced mushrooms
- 1 wild turkey carcass
- 1 cup Onion diced
- 1 wild turkey carcass
- 1 cup Carrots sliced
- 1 cup Celery sliced
- 3 ramps finely chopped
- 1 cup Carrots sliced

**Preparation:**
1. Place turkey carcass in a big pot along with onions and cover with water.
2. Remove turkey carcass from pot and let cool slightly so it can be hand deboned. All ingredients except hand harvested wild rice.
3. If hand harvested rice is not available and mechanically harvested rice is being used, it can be added now. Return broth to a simmer. Debone the turkey meat and return to broth. Cook carrots and celery until al dente or slightly tender.
4. Stabbing the veggies with a fork is a good way to test for doneness.
5. Add wild rice and simmer for about 15 minutes or until wild rice kernels are soft open and the white insides show. Serve with sourdough or beer bread.

**Thanks to your great participation for this event, we are able to offer an even better array of weapons, i.e. IN EXCESS OF 50 GUNS BY BROWNING, FRANCHI, STEVENS, TRISTAR, KIMBER, TAURUS, RUGER, SMITH & WESSON AS WELL AS HENRY.

**Food and Drink:**
- Smoked Wild Turkey Wild Rice Soup
- Country-Style Groundhog

**Contact:**
- Steve Bauer @ (715)-341-7579
- Gary Fitzgerald @ (608)-566-4828

**Events:**
- 29th Annual Sporting Banquet
- 4E Banquet
- September 7, 2017
- Shooters in Plover

**Contact:**
- Steve Bauer @ (715)-341-7579
- Gary Fitzgerald @ (608)-566-4828

**Dates:**
- March 10, 2018
- March 30, 2018
- June 2018

**Location:**
- Oconomowoc, WI
- Milwaukee, WI
- Wisconsin Dells, WI

**Contact:**
- Steve Bauer @ (715)-341-7579
- Gary Fitzgerald @ (608)-566-4828