Ruffed Grouse West Nile Virus Results Now Available

A three-year study is a region-wide effort to help better understand West Nile virus in ruffed grouse in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Photo credit: Paul Carr

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has received results from the first-year testing from the ruffed grouse West Nile virus surveillance project. The three-year study is in collaboration with the Minnesota and Michigan Departments of Natural Resources, Ruffed Grouse Society, Wisconsin Conservation Congress and Wisconsin SNR. The study is a region-wide effort to help better understand West Nile virus in ruffed grouse in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

Ruffed grouse harvested in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin during the 2018 hunting season were sent to the Northeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study in Athens, Georgia, to be analyzed. West Nile virus is transmitted by the bite of an infected mosquito, and there is no evidence that it can be spread by handling dead birds or by consuming properly cooked game. West Nile is one of several diseases that may at times affect native bird species. Signs can range from no clinical disease or illness, to heart lesions and inflammation of the brain, the lining of the brain and of the spinal cord. Many factors influence how severely the virus affects an individual bird.

Beginning in fall 2018, Wisconsin hunters assisted in the collection and submission of 235 of the 720 samples submitted by the three participating states. Hunter-submitted samples and provided contact information will be provided test results via email this week regardless of whether results were negative or positive.

“We are grateful to hunters for taking the time to submit samples from the birds they harvest. This work is only possible with their support, and we appreciate their patience in waiting for test results,” said Mark Witecha, Wisconsin DNR upland game ecologist.

Hunter-submitted samples underwent two types of testing to help us determine if the birds were exposed to West Nile. A blood test to determine if the grouse had developed an immune response to the virus and a heart test to look for traces of viral genetic material. As in humans, ruffed grouse can build up antibodies in an immune response to viruses they encounter. Even when the body fights off an illness, these antibodies are left behind in the blood.

Results from the blood samples indicate that 68 (29%) of the Wisconsin submitted samples had antibodies to WNV either confirmed (44 or 19%) or likely (24 or 10%). Results showed that two (0.9%) of the 235 grouse virus had evidence of the virus present in their hearts, but as both of these birds had also developed antibodies to the virus (from the accompanying blood test), the results do not directly indicate that these two were sick at the time of harvest.

In Michigan, West Nile exposure was detected in 28 (13%) of the 213 ruffed grouse blood samples with exposure to the virus either confirmed (10 or 4%) or likely (18 or 8%). Viral genetic material was found in four heart samples of Michigan ruffed grouse. The virus was detected in 34 (12%) of the 273 blood samples submitted with either confirmation (10 or 3%) or likely (24 or 9%). Viral genetic material was not found in the heart samples.

The virus has been present in Wisconsin since 2002 and was first detected in the state’s ruffed grouse population in 2018. Ruffed grouse likely have been exposed to West Nile before 2018; however, previous testing for West Nile virus was limited.

“Our continued efforts to provide quality hunting and fishing opportunities also builds on our best strategy to maintain a healthy grouse population that can handle impacts from parasites such as disease or weather,” Witecha said.

Ruffed grouse are one of the most popular upland game birds to hunt. They are often recognized for their distinctive “drumming” sound produced by males during the spring breeding season. Male grouse drumming can be heard as far as half a mile away, and the sound can attract many other species of birds. Urban areas and parks are common habitat for ruffed grouse.

The purpose of this event was to bring attention to the risks of lead shot and fishing tackle in the environment and its effect on loons, eagles and water fowl, not to mention its effect on wildlife that is a part of the local ecosystem. This is the best and longest running calendar raffle in the state. The funds we receive from the sale of the calendar support our programs that are approaching the threatened and endangered species population levels. The habitat we could also benefit from sportsmen. This bill would bring approximately $320 million of dollars of habitat funding back into the state of Wisconsin.

Executive Director Meyer also met with nine currently filled Wisconsin Senator and the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Executive Director attending a public hearing of the Wildlife Subcommittee of the Federal House of Representatives.

The above photo is of National Wildlife Federation President Colin O’Meara addressing Executive Director attending a public hearing of the Wildlife Subcommittee of the Federal House of Representatives.

The funds we receive from the sale of the calendar support our programs that are approaching the threatened and endangered species population levels. The habitat we could also benefit from sportsmen, women and women’s organizations including scholarships, and hosted by National Wildlife Federation’s senior communications coordinator Drew YoungDyke.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Conservation Leadership Corp. It’s from the generosity of good people like yourselves that guarantee that we will be able to continue these programs for years to come. If you don’t have a 2020 calendar that you can order and can always contact the office by phone (608-635-0600)

Until next month happy hunting, and be safe out there.

Craig Challoner
President
From A History of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

The George Mead Wildlife Area

In late 1949 and through 1950 the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company stated trying to smooth the way to build six additional reservoir impoundments on the tributaries of the Wisconsin River. They were: 1. The Little Eau Pleine River; 2. The Big Rib River; 3. The New Wood River; 4. The Copper River; 5. The Spirit River; 6. The Big Somo River. At the time it appeared that the first reservoir to be built would be the Little Eau Pleine Impoundment. Probably the second would be either the New Wood or the Big Rib. The project really came to life when Mr. Kyler, Vice President and General Manager, of the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company, called a meeting with club members and officers at his office on January 31, 1950. Although Mr. Kyler had indicated that the WVIC was ready to start building the reservoir, it was apparent that it was just a move to gain concessions from the public, as WVIC had no authority to flood roads, still had about 6,000 acres of private land to either condemn, or flood and pay damages on, and had not even applied a permit from the Public Service Commission who couldn’t move without approval of the Conservation Commission. (The WFFC) asked to have a study made of the wildlife and recreational values of the Little Eau Pleine Valley as soon as possible so we would know what was at stake in the controversy. Mr. Kyler... repeated claims of greatly improved duck hunting and fishing if the impoundment were built. (Les Woerpel) suggested we leave the determination of that up to the biologists after their survey was completed as they were better qualified to evaluate the changes than we were. To be continued.

70th Anniversary

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Wisconsin’s population lives in areas meeting federal standards for most of the state, with the greatest reductions found in the Milwaukee area. “Those data are consistent with the decreases observed by the state’s ground-based monitors,” said DNR Air Program Director Gail Good. “While the air program does not use the satellite data for regulatory purposes, it does help us understand overall trends and indicates that the reduction of this ozone-forming pollutant is widespread.”

The 2018 Air Quality Trends Report, along with historical reports and more information on air quality, are available on DNR website. Current air quality conditions in Wisconsin can be found on the Wisconsin Air Quality Monitoring Data webpage.

Air Program Report Shows Continued Improvements to Wisconsin’s Air Quality

Air quality in Wisconsin continues to improve, according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 2019 Air Quality Trends Report. Photo credit: DNR

Madison, Wis. - Air quality in Wisconsin continues to improve, according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 2019 Air Quality Trends Report. The report provides the latest official state monitoring data for air pollutants regulated under the Clean Air Act. This year’s report once again shows that concentrations of most pollutants continue to decrease throughout the state.

The continued decrease in fine particle (PM2.5) concentrations is one of several success stories highlighted in the report. In southeast Wisconsin, for example, PM2.5 concentrations were violating the 24-hour standard just a decade ago. Today, these concentrations are roughly 40% lower than the standard and continue to decrease. Since 2002, overall concentrations of PM2.5 have decreased by 35% across the state.

Other success stories include the 50% drop in emissions of ozone-forming pollutants like volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) and a 68% drop in sulfur dioxide emissions since the early 2000s. Due in part to these significant reductions, 94% of Wisconsin’s population lives in areas meeting all federal air quality standards.

Parts of six counties along the Lake Michigan shoreline are not meeting the federal ozone standard. However, emissions of ozone-forming pollutants continue to decrease across the state, as the federal standard has become more stringent. It is a priority for the department to continue to address the areas not meeting air quality standards through working with partners, conducting additional monitoring research and engaging with other agencies.

For the first time, this report also includes maps of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) derived from satellite data. From 2008 to 2018, the Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI) on NASA’s Aura satellite observed significant reductions of NO2 across most of the state, with the greatest reductions found in the Milwaukee area. “These data are consistent with the decreases observed by the state’s ground-based monitors,” said DNR Air Program Director Gail Good. “While the air program does not use the satellite data for regulatory purposes, it does help us understand overall trends and indicates that the reduction of this ozone-forming pollutant is widespread.”

Session 1, specifically with the guidance and wonderful teachings by Randy Stark and Mo Sook Park, focused on what leadership is and how to be an effective leader. The students discussed the difference between adaptive and technical leadership and how to effectively manage and be aware of their emotions and triggers in order to properly address and analyze a situation before proceeding with actions. Working across factions, various groups affected by a particular issue, and understanding the vast areas a situation may alter, was another concept the new students partook in. These are only a brief overview of a few concepts that were discussed in the first session.

The second and third CLC class sessions are centered around what environmental policy is and how to be effective in addressing or strengthening issues. The students observe in the state of Wisconsin and nationally. One such concern is Asian Carp prevention in the Great Lakes. The students will engage in activities that will allow for them to understand how to gather information and use the information to write a proposal, and how to meet with policy makers and properly present an issue to them. The fourth and final session of the CLC, the annual WFF meeting, allows for the current class to present their proposals to all organizations under the WFF and be open to questions and approval of their proposals. The Conservation Leadership Corps of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is an excellent class that allows the younger generations to learn how to have an active role and voice in adopting more environmentally conscious policies while networking with current environmental leaders to move towards a better future for all.
2020 WWF Calendar Sellers

Scott Humshouse 715-367-3025 Absonia
Paul Chandler 715-847-4567 Amherst
Carlot’s Junction Bar Amherst Junction
Bootleggers Bar & Grill Amherst Junction
Dave Vetere 608-411-1333 Bangor
Pat Quaintance 715-529-1799 Bayfield
Shirley Schroeder Beaver Dam
Dray and Carol Big Berthelot
Jerry Longf Synopsis 920-814-0247 Black Creek
Masters Boardman
Budweiser Bar And Grill Boyceville
Viking Bog & Gun Club C/O Brillon
Scott Danziger
Chuck Mattyeka 715-459-3562 Cecil
Oscar Stueck 920-335-3530 Chilton
Kayenne Quamey 920-803-9042 Clayton
Elmer Schill 920-336-8117 DePere
Kevyn Quamme 608-209-3842 Dalton
Pat Quaintance 715-209-1799 Danbury
Dan Gries 920-725-4092 Menasha
Leah McSherry 608-576-8646 McFarland
Alex Mertig 715-413-0213 Mason
Marshfield
Kiwanis Club Menards
Elmer Schill 920-336-8117 DePere
Kevyn Quamme 608-209-3842 Dalton
Elmer Schill 920-336-8117 DePere
Jeff Williams 608-405-0006 Deforest
Al Peters Dells
Great River Roadhouse Desoto
Gordon Schriner 262-435-3057 Dousman
Jack Nissen 920-270-0154 Dousman
Steve Brach 920-284-451097 Dousman
Dram Shop Dousman
Timmer Inn Downsville
Lit Pippiping 920-876-4132 Elk Lake Ranch
Shotgun Saloon Emeral
Kim Lang 920-423-9318 Fall River
Tim Grunewald 608-516-5545 Florence
Pepas
Karen Pecue 920-656-9300 Fort Atkinson
Dave Jerman Franklin
Connie Poblen 715-302-3063 Gleason
Judy Wolf 920-381-8598 Glenbeulah
M & M Bar Glendale City
Randy Terfenolk 715-656-7885 Grandon
The Settlement Bar & Grill Green Bay
The Dender’s Sportsmen’s Club Green Bay
Keith Koppman 920-494-0027 Green Bay
The Brown County Sportsman’s Club Green Bay
Jim Kalmbach 262-458-2088 Greenfield
Mike Westman Greenfield
Rocky Top Bar 920-820-0205 Greenleaf
Good Ol’ Boy’s Bar and Grill Hancock
Sawmill Saloon Hayden
Mark Lubbers 920-707-9029 Huffn Green
Kai’s Korners Huston
John Wietal 608-652-3348 Holmen
Outagamie Conservation Club Hortonville
Daniel Boone Club 414-416-4459 Hubertus
Tom Skilat 715-725-2049 Iron River
Wayne Thayer 417-545-9851 Jacksonville
Kris’s Almost Home Bar 920-052-9253 Johnson Creek
Mark Hasenberg 262-662-3500 Kanosh
Boxie Bar Knox
Greg Ricks La Crosse
Mr. Pizzol Colora Greenwich
Ken Lindburg 715-573-4304 Lake Nebagamon
Bob Ellingson 715-725-7729 Lakewood
Lisa Whiteman Larsen
Jim Falkh 930-262-1049 Luxemburg
George Mayer 608-411-5545 Madison
Dan Biermeier 920-287-2249 Menasha
Tracey & Scott Czechan 262-442-2382 Menasha
Rock-n-Roll Old Mill Tavern Plaistow
Sportsman Lodge 715-468-2702 Pickeral
Bev’s Rock & Roll Bar Port Washington
Dogg’s Sports Pub Plover
Chris Leghty 608-636-3770 Plover
Dave Verheage 715-370-0297 Plover
Jerry Knuth 715-370-0144 Plover
Sunny Grove Farms Plover
Nicky Boy Charters 715-416-3701 Plover
WAFF Office 800-807-4161 Poyntette
John Ballfanz 620-645-2310 Prairie Du Sac
Tom Hauge 620-647-5357 Prairie Du Sac
Penn’s Bar Pulaski
Dan Banier 920-656-4315 Rousesburg
Pumpkin Center Sportsmen Club Rushville
Dean Naumoto 715-244-3303 Rice Lake
Turbo’s Bar 608-472-0795 Richmond Center
Delbert Detler 715-412-2951 Rushville
Wilderness Sportsmen Club 715-861-3392 Rushville
Carmen Sanborn
Mike Durand 415-000-6200 Sheboygan
Sawyer Boldt 500-705-1465 Sheboygan Falls
Tom Gierke 830-883-0772 Sheboygan
J & J Game Farm 715-569-0134 Sheboygan
Jungle Gym Pub & Grub 715-573-2709 Silver Cliff
Snowy’s 921-452-0043 South Milwaukee
Backwood Bar & Grill Stevens Point
Wyatt Benton 920-857-7204 Stevens Point
Koby’s Bar & Grill Stevens Point
Trig’s Market, (At The Service Desk) Stevens Point
Joe Schaefer 608-894-2069 Stratford
Rick Badhauin 907-432-5819 Sturgeon Bay
Sullivan Saloon 262-280-1062 Sullivan
Sam Sauler 615-720-7095 Sycamore, IL
Susan Murphy 608-730-1981 Tomah
Maeve Looke 715-100-1291 Tomahawk
Rick Schaefer 715-586-8116 Tomahawk
Ralph Fitch 715-502-4951 Townsend
Al Schenew 608-970-8713 Union Center
Mike Murphy 920-216-8998 Valby
Dave Chingrey 920-352-3525 Valton
Mike Meyer 603-434-3939 Valton
Cody Kaminski 920-358-9445 Waunaake
Rick Laursenay 417-500-3038 West Allis
Scott Enz 715-263-8146 West Bend
Bundy’s Bar Westby
Joel Gods 715-572-4173 Wisconsin Rapids
Les Aleydon 715-511-3363 Wisconsin Rapids
Billy Weiberg 915-773-4554 Wisconsin Rapids
Club Chaparral 608-443-0394 Winneconne
Wildwood Bar & Restaurant Winneconne
Wildwood Bar & Restaurant Winneconne
2020 Conservation Calendar

Plays a great Landowner Thank you gift or a great Christmas present.

2020 WWF Calendar

2020 Conservation Calendar

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Calendar $20
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Min. Prize $100 Value

Free $1000 in Gifts and Prizes

$1000 Cash Prizes

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.wiwf.org

https://wwiwf.org/conservation-calendar-raffle-program/
**Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Legislative Summary**

### November 2019

**AB353** - Adjusts State Parks and Trail passes to be valid for a year from date of Purchase

**Status:** In Assembly Forests, Parks and Outdoor Recreation Committee

**WFV Position:** Supports this moderate change in the state annual passes to ensure one-year validity

**AB332** - Eliminates the need for purchasing passes for use of state trails

**Status:** In Assembly Forests, Parks and Outdoor Recreation Committee

**WFV Position:** Supports this moderate change in the state annual passes to ensure on-year validity

**AB335** - Grants publicly-owned filled lands for use as private development

**Status:** In Assembly State Affairs Committee; SB in Senate Natural Resources Committee

**WFV Position:** Oppose; Violates the Public Trust Doctrine protecting lakes and streams; set a bad statewide precedent

**AB341** - Synce Wisconsin firearms laws with Federal laws on Possession of a firearm of individual with a misdemeanor domestic violence conviction

**Status:** In Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee

**WFV Position:** Status: Support; Recent cases demonstrate that it is necessary to maintain firearm control

**AB389** - Increases legislative penalty for poaching a deer

**Status:** Hearing held in Assembly Forestry Committee; SB in Senate Sporting Heritage Committee

**WFV Position:** Support; The current reimbursement cost for poaching a deer is only $41.75. Bill increases it at our discretion.

**AB408** - Increases pollution discharge fees of large animal operations

**Status:** Hearing held on Assembly Agriculture Committee; SB passed Senate Natural Resources Committee

**WFV Position:** Support; Funds needed to regulate large animal pollution Discharges

**AB418** - Establishes bools for Conservation Permit Licensees for disabled veterans

**Status:** In Assembly Sporting Heritage Committee; SB 86 passed

**WFV Position:** Support; These individuals merit this consideration

**AB451** - Requires state groundwater health standards for PFAS (chemical pollutants)

**Status:** Hearing held in Assembly Environment Committee; In Senate Natural Resources Committee

**WFV Position:** Support; these chemicals also get into surface waters and land and show up in fish and wildlife

**AB413** - Authorizes the regulate buying and selling of water pollution credits

**Status:** Bill in Assembly Government Operations Committee and Senate Sporting Heritage Committee

**WFV Position:** Support; Funds needed to regulate large animal pollution Discharges

**AB426** - Requires the DNR to conduct a Lyme's disease public awareness program

**Status:** Hearing held in Assembly Environment Committee; SB passed Senate

**WFV Position:** Support; Lyme Disease is an important issue to sportsmen and women

**AB440** - Adjusts State Parks and Trail passes to be valid for a year from date of Purchase

**Status:** In Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**WFV Position:** Funds in support; Resident annual license for 16 and 17 years old reduced for first year the resident annual fishing license for 16 and 17 years old

**Status:** Bills are in Assembly and Senate Sporting Heritage Committees

**WFV Position:** Support; Goal is to provide new entrants into hunting and fishing

**AB455** - Specifies theft proof methods of storage of unattended firearms in retail facilities

**Status:** In Assembly Committee on Small Business Development

**WFV Position:** Net to take any position

**AB471** - Storage of firearms in homes with children

**Status:** In Assembly Ways and Means Committee

**WFV Position:** Oppose; This should be handled through an educational campaign; Sportsmen and women take firearm safety and now issues licenses and passes for children as young as 5 years old

**AB477** - Provides a mandatory background check for purchases

**Status:** Hearing held in Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee; In Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

**WFV Position:** In Assembly and Senate Sporting Heritage Committees

**WFV Position:** Status: Support; handgun background time frames should be same as long gun background checks

**AB492** - Prohibits a fugitive from justice to possess a firearm

**Status:** Hearing held in Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**WFV Position:** Status: Support; protects law enforcement

**AB499** - Requires an individual to report a stolen or missing firearm

**Status:** Hearing held in Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**WFV Position:** Status: Support; has to be done for insurance purposes now anyway

**AB515** - Expands background check requirement to all sales and transfers of firearms with certain exceptions

**Status:** In Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**WFV Position:** Status: Support; Needs revision regarding sales among family members and other changes

**AB546** - Changes sales tax on firearms for every firearm sold in state with funding going to shooting victim losses

**Status:** In Assembly Ways and Means Committee

**WFV Position:** Oppose; Currently already a 10% state excise tax on firearms and ammunition

**AB507** - Prohibits a fugitive from justice from possessing a firearm

**Status:** In Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**WFV Position:** Status: Support; Has to be done for insurance purposes now anyway

**AB511** - Allows a motor vehicle operator to operate a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol

**Status:** In Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**WFV Position:** Status: Support; hands down yes by manufacturers

**AB513** - Adjusts the state's laws to ensure that firearm laws are in line with state law

**Status:** In Assembly Ways and Means Committee

**WFV Position:** Status: Support; Has to be done for insurance purposes now anyway

**AB517** - Requires that commercial retail seller or transferee of firearms must furnish a secure, lockable container or a trigger lock for sold or transferred firearms

**Status:** In Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**WFV Position:** Status: Support; Has to be done for insurance purposes now anyway

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**Surface Water Sampling Reveals PFAS At Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport**

**MILWAUKEE, Wis.** - Sampling results sent to the Department of Natural Resources from Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport show per- and polyfluoroalkyl) substances (PFAS) were detected in several stormwater outfalls on the property property. In a letter sent to Milwaukee Mitch- ell International Airport, Wisconsin Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force on Oct. 17, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and military officials that the sampling data collected by the airport indicates that the PFAS contamination found in several stormwa- ter outfalls at the airport.

As a result, DPR is asking airport and military officials to take steps to prevent future discharges of PFAS from the outfalls, as well as to investigate the extent of contamination and prepare a cleanup plan. Outfalls are locations where stormwater exits the facility property, including但不限于, ditches and other structures that transport stormwater to the environment.

The DNR requested the airport sample the outfalls as part of reassessing an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and National Guard and the U.S. Air Force on Oct. 17, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is developing groundwater, surface water, and public drinking water stan- dards with recommendations for groundwater standards [https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/water/gws.htm] in June.
**Trump Rule Fails to Protect Communities from Toxic Lead**

Revised federal Lead and Copper Rule fails to put in place strong protections, fails to accelerate the removal of dangerous lead service lines

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Trump Administration revised the federal Lead and Copper Rule, announced today, fail to protect people and communities from toxic lead contamination. The National Wildlife Federation views the move as yet another instance where the Trump Administration is failing to protect the nation’s drinking water and public health.

“Justice delayed is justice denied — and the sad truth is that this rule will not help the vast majority of the millions of Americans living right now with the injustice of toxic lead in their water,” said Collin O’Mara, president and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation. “Lead is a neurotoxin. It poisons kids’ blood and brains. EPA had the perfect opportunity to adopt a science-based approach and to make sure that our nation can, and for all, provide clean, safe, and affordable water for all of the people who call this nation home.”

The National Wildlife Federation supports Lead and Copper Rule reforms, which include setting a strong national standard to lead out of people’s drinking water and putting in place an aggressive timetable for replacing lead service lines. The National Wildlife Federation also supports a robust federal investment in infrastructure to ensure that people have access to safe drinking water without experiencing large increases in water utility bills that they cannot afford.

**Dismantling the Roadless Rule for the Tongass National Forest Will Harm Wildlife, Old Growth Forest and a Robust Outdoor Recreation Economy**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today the Trump administration announced it would allow logging on more than half of North America’s largest intact rainforest. By reversing the National Roadless Rule for the Tongass National Forest, the administration is dismantling two decades of protections for the old growth forest and the diverse wildlife populations which live there.

The towering old-growth trees of the Tongass National Forest are a global treasure, said Collin O’Mara, president and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation. “Paving the way for clear cutting across 9 million acres is an ecological abomination. Rather than proposing any semblance of balance, this latest extreme administration proposal will irreparably harm local watershed, fish and wildlife populations, and the region’s robust outdoor recreation economy.”

“Nothing about the effort to exempt over 9 million acres of Tongass National Forest from the National Roadless Rule makes sense for the future of Southeast Alaska,” said Meredith Trainor, executive director of the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council. “The proposal to exempt the Tongass threatens fish habitat and the fisheries they support; undermines tourism by damaging the landscapes our visitors come to see; destroys deep, wild, forested habitat relied upon by species other than our own; and lifts up the crown jewel of the National Forest system, the big old growth trees of the Tongass National Forest, and assets that they are worth only as much as the lowest bidder is willing to pay.”

The Tongass National Forest is the largest forest in the United States and one of the largest intact temperate rainforests in the world. It is home to a diverse array of wildlife including wolves, Sitka black-tailed deer, brown bears and bald eagles. Every year more than a million visitors come to the Tongass to enjoy the old growth forest and to hunt, fish, hike and camp there. The forest helps power a robust economy of tourism, commercial and sport fishing and many other small businesses. In 2017, the outdoor recreation economy in Alaska generated $7 billion in consumer spending and supported 73,000 jobs.

The National Roadless Rule was signed into law in 2001 and has helped protect 58 million acres of inventoried roadless areas on national forest lands while giving flexibility for activities such as recreation, hydropower, mining access and wildlife response.

**Avoid transporting pests or diseases by buying local firewood near you will burn it.**

**DNR**

**Warm Up by the Fire Using Local or Certified Firewood**

**Avoid transporting pests or diseases by buying local firewood near you will burn it.**

MADISON, Wis. - October is Firewise Awareness Month, marking full the perfect time to learn about keeping Wisconsin’s trees safe from invasive pests that threaten our forests, parks and backyards. During Firewise Awareness Month, the Department of Natural Resources reminds residents and visitors to think about how their firewood choices can help protect the places they live.

Whether warming up around a bonfire at deer camp or inside curled up next to the fireplace, people in every state use wood fire to gather around. Avoid bringing in invasive pests or diseases by buying local, kiln-dried or heat-treated firewood, and gathering the firewood not too far from your home.

By using local firewood, you avoid moving pests to new places. If you do not know where to get local firewood, check Firewood Scout for a list of vendors near your yard. Just plug in your address, and Firewood Scout provides the chips.

If you cannot find a certified firewood vendor, the next best options are locally-sourced kiln-dried firewood or firewood that has been aged for at least two years. Kiln-dried and aged firewood are so dry that tree-killer pests cannot survive in it. Dry firewood is also lighter to carry, produces the most heat and the least smoke. When gathering firewood, look for signs that it has been thoroughly dried. If the wood is dry bare. Kiln-dried firewood may not have loose bark, but it is still dry enough to be free of pests and diseases.

In taking these precautions, you can minimize the risk of spreading emerald ash borer, oak wilt or other invasive pests and diseases into your favorite outdoor spots. For more information on firewood allowed into state campgrounds and quarantines that affect the health and movement of firewood, visit the DNR firewood page [https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/firewood.html].

**LITTLE PLOVER RIVER PHASE ONE**

The Federation has been following the ups-and-downs of the Little Plover River located in Portage County for more than a decade. Several years ago, the Village of Plover took the lead in forming the “Little Plover River Watershed Enhancement Project”. State, DNR, and County agencies joined with the Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers, the Wisconsin Wetland Association, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, and UWSP’s College of Natural Resources (CNR) to organize and implement the program. A good amount of time was spent securing funding. Credit UWSP’s Forest, Water and Water Resources Departments for taking up the challenge to improve wildlife habitat along the river between County K and Kennedy Avenue. This two-mile stretch had been managed for a very long time and had washed wide stretches in the stream. Professor Herman’s Water Resources Department selected David Palme, a grad student, to research the situation and then to implement recommended improvements. David spent a summer walking and monitoring stream conditions. Physical improvements began a year ago, during UWSP’s first session of the year when Professor Michel Demchik’s forestry students created an oak savannah and moved into thinning trees and brush for bundling efforts wrapped up with a tilt and chicken Creative Display along the side of Kennedy Avenue. State Senator Testin (24th Senate District) expressed interest in working on a day on the LPR “hot list.” The Mosinee Sportsmen’s Alliance got involved along with members of Trout Unlimited Chapters, Ducks Unlimited and several concerned citizens.

The bundling effort wrapped up with an extra credit Display Area just off Kennedy Avenue. State Senator Testin (24th Senate District) expressed interest in working on a day on the LPR “hot list.” The Mosinee Sportsmen’s Alliance got involved along with members of Trout Unlimited Chapters, Ducks Unlimited and several concerned citizens.

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2019 WWF BANQUET DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
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<tr>
<td>District 3</td>
<td>South (Ozaukee)</td>
<td>March 14, 2020</td>
<td>Cracker Barrel &amp; Grill, Amery, WI</td>
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<td>District 6</td>
<td>East (Fond du Lac)</td>
<td>Sept. 5, 2019</td>
<td>Shorter’s, Plover, WI</td>
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<td>District 4 &amp; West (Green Bay)</td>
<td>Sept. 4, 2019</td>
<td>American Legion, Green Bay, WI</td>
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<td>District 5</td>
<td>Fox Valley (Appleton)</td>
<td>April 1, 2020</td>
<td>Fox Hollow Banquet Facility, Appleton, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>District 6</td>
<td>La Crosse (New Location)</td>
<td>February 1, 2020</td>
<td>Black Creek, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 8</td>
<td>Black River Falls</td>
<td>March 7, 2020</td>
<td>Castle Hill Supper Club, Menomonie, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 9</td>
<td>(New Location)</td>
<td>March 13, 2020</td>
<td>Innsbruck Hotel, Pewaukee, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District 9</td>
<td>Milwaukee (New Location)</td>
<td>March 6, 2020</td>
<td>Hilton Garden Inn, Milwaukee, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Wayne Kelly</td>
<td>January 25, 2020</td>
<td>He-Chok Casino, Wisconsin Dells, WI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

October 2019 Calendar Winners

1. $1000 Cash Tim Powell, Montello 3954
2. Taurus Judge ’7’ Mag Brian M. Herlhy, Marshfield 3877
3. $100 Cash Lawrence Miner, Jackson 4266
4. $100 Gift Card to Cabale’s Eric Foley, Clintonville 7426
5. Browning Rook Action Slide Marc Leks, Tomahawk 6298
6. $100 Gift Card to Cabale’s Ron Holmes, Wausau 5006
7. Cooler Bag Set ( Assassins handle knife set with legs and) Jeremy Pinnes, Oak Creek 4331
8. Armas O/C 12 Ga Walnut With 5 Screw in Chokes John Thompson, Crivitz 9835
9. $100 Gift Card to Cabale’s Jeff Mangless, Burlington 4652
10. $10 Cash James Mass, Neosho 462
11. Winchester 20 Ga Walnut Shotgun Joseph M. Steiner, Hudson 20305
12. Bone Handle Knife Black Set with legs Fran Stanwix, Gillett, WI 7846
13. $100 Duck Trip Gift Card John Bash, Sports 7209
14. B&W VEL Pistol Tom Nissan, Door County 5709
15. $100 Cash Frank Minett, Racine 3254
16. $100 Gift Card to Cabale’s Bryce Cox, Milwaukee 9865
17. Armas 410 Walnut Pump-Shotgun 5 Screw in Chokes Steve Pfeiffer, Bruce 4481
18. $100 Duck Trip Gift Card Carl Metz, Beaver Dam, WI 6134
19. $10 Cash Emily Kubrowski, Milwaukee 3931
20. Cooler Bag Set (Assassins handle knife set with legs and) A.J. Grill, Milwaukee 6573
21. Savage Model 76 17 HMR Target Rifle Terry Williams, Graham 7419
22. $100 Gift Card to Cabale’s Karl F. Oldrich, Monomonee Falls 9600
23. Bone Handle Knife Black Set with legs Bill Edquist, Salem 8904
24. Ruger 10/22 May Shotgun Al Braunger, Elora 5152
25. $100 Duck Trip Gift Card Malahy Rider, Fort Atkinson 6767
26. $100 Gift Card to Cabale’s Mike Cooper, Winneshie Agency 7245
27. Weatherby 12 G.A. Cyk Josh Buckridge, Still Lake 7538
28. $100 Duck Trip Gift Card Bob Garmer, Racine 4697
29. Bone Handle Knife Black Set with legs Roes Marguros, Sheboygan 9223
30. Marlin Model 91 Bolt Action Rifle Chris Flanagan, Oconomowoc 9620
31. $100 Cash Scott Reddy, Mamihtic, MI 3012

2020 Calendar Donors

Platinum
Jon’s Sport Shop
Ecklund Motorsports
Fallin Fowl Outfitters
Dave Verhage

Gold
Becoming An Outdoor Woman
Nicky Bay Charter Fishing Services
Matthews Bow
Jeff O’Brien, CNH Outdoors

Bronze
Tri-County Sportswomen
Lil Pipping
Sheboygan County Conservation Association
Jim Swanson
Hotel Mead
Keith & Judy Pamperin
Bill Ballard

2019 WWF “Kitchen News”

Mallards with Wild Rice

**Duck ingredients**

- 2 whole dressed mallards
- 1 teaspoon salt divided
- 1 teaspoon pepper divided
- 1 small red cooking apple cored and wedged into 6 pieces
- 1 small onion peeled and wedge into 6 pieces
- 2 stalks celery sliced
- ½ cup red wine
- ½ cup water

**Wild Rice**

- 2 cups water
- 1 cup hand harvested and processed wild rice
- 1 cup portabella mushrooms
- 1 stalk celery thin sliced
- 1 carrot thin sliced
- Small onion chopped
- Cooking oil or butter

** Directions**

**Duck directions**

Sprinkle duck cavity with salt and pepper. Place celery, onion and apple in duck body. Tie legs together with string and secure wings next to body. Place ducks breast side up in baking dish and brush with oil. Pour wine and water in pan and arrange orange slice around duck. Sprinkle salt a pepper on top of duck. Bake for 25 minutes in 450°F oven. Cover pan and reduce heat to 325°F and bake for 1 ½ to 2 hours until meat reaches desired doneness. Discard stuffing before serving.

**Wild Rice directions**

Bring water to boil. Stir in wild rice. Cover, reduce heat and cook for 15 minutes. Heat oil or butter. Sauté mushrooms, celery and carrot in pan. Mix into wild rice after both have cooked. Heat on low for 20 minutes to let flavors meld.

Venison Stir Fry

**Ingredients**

Marinade

- ¼ cup soy sauce
- 3 tablespoons corn starch
- 3 cloves garlic minced
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon white pepper
- 1 teaspoon five-spice powder
- ½ teaspoon sesame oil

**Directions**

Brown both sides of pork chop in butter in a cast iron skillet. Remove from pan. Add onion and garlic and sauté until onion is translucent. In medium bowl, mix bread crumbs, celery seed, apple, basil, and oregano. Stir in onions and garlic. Slightly beat egg and stir into stuffing mix. Place pork chops back into cast iron skillet and put stuffing in pocket made in chops pork. Add boulion/wine mix. Cover and bake at 350° for about 45 minutes. Remove chops from pan and serve.