



INTELLIGENT TINKERING

Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society Newsletter

To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of Intelligent Tinkering. – Aldo Leopold



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WCTWS Wildlife Inventory & Monitoring Technical Training Workshop

Are you looking to gain valuable experience and knowledge about surveying wildlife and their habitats in Wisconsin? If so, plan on attending the WCTWS's Wildlife Inventory and Monitoring Technical Training Workshop. The workshop is scheduled for September 15-16 at Treehaven (near Tomahawk).

There will be information on surveying small mammals, herpetiles, songbirds, marshbirds, and large mammals. Other sessions will include wolf howling, owl surveys techniques using playback recordings, and bat surveys. You will even get to set traps and check them the following morning.

For more information on the workshop, check out pages 3 and 4. For registration information, see page 5.

We look forward to seeing you in September!

Mark Your Calendars!

The WCTWS 2010 Winter Meeting is planned for March 4-5 with a welcome reception on the evening of March 3. The meeting will be held in the Stevens Point Area. Stay tuned for more details.

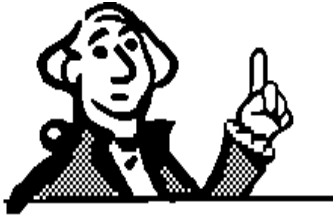
Renew Your Membership

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2009. There are numerous benefits of membership, including but not limited to, receiving the newsletter, professional growth through attending annual workshops and meetings, and much more!

You can renew by submitting the application on page 14 or online at <http://joomla.wildlife.org/Wisconsin/>



A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends to do otherwise. – Aldo Leopold



Presidents Soapbox

By Harvey Halvorsen

Want some money \$\$\$\$ to go to Monterey, California this Sept 20 – 24 to attend The Wildlife Society's annual conference? Check out our website (<http://joomla.wildlife.org/wisconsin>) for details and get your application in by the end of June to Lesa Kardash. \$750.00 each is available for up to 2 members to attend. As of June 16 nobody had applied for the travel grant.

Technical Training Workshop this September - For many years the climatic summer event for our members and their families was the summer Chapter meeting/camping trip. These usually were family-oriented and cast around the state. The Door County trip included fine boiled fish cuisine, cherry wines, pontoon boating to some estuaries, and of course the Rusch-Jurewicz-Buenzow trips to the big waters for salmon fishing. With dwindling interest the summer meeting/family campout was cancelled 2 years ago and replaced with our fall technical training workshops. This September promises to be another great session, our 2nd workshop. Look inside the newsletter to get a better understanding of what's being offered.

Our target audience is meant to be open! So you college professors out there sign-up with your students! If you're retired and seek the comfort of your wildlife buddies and also refresh your plant and wildlife inventory skills too... come sign up!

Calling all birders and amateur astronomers! The night programs will include bat survey and monitoring techniques. Then, if skies are clear, count on some telescopic observation of deep celestial objects. If you have a telescope and are willing to share, please let me know and bring it along. I'll also be looking for birders with spotting scopes and ask they bring them along for show and tell. I'm talking the big spotting scopes with objective lenses over 100mm diameter.

The winter 2010 meeting is being planned - We're in the beginning phases of planning our next winter meeting to be held at Stevens Point, March 4th and 5th (location TBA). Immediately after, the Wisconsin Duck Hunter's Conference starts on the afternoon of March 5th and runs into Saturday March 6th.

Our theme for our winter conference will be "Biofuels and Wildlife". President-elect Scott Walter is at work putting together the plenary session. If you know of someone with expertise in this subject area or who Scott should get in touch with please let Scott know.

Remember: If you'd like for me to invite someone to join our chapter of The Wildlife Society, please let me know. The new membership brochure that Jamie Nack spearheaded is a great piece of literature I'll use to convince new prospects to join our ranks.



Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society Wildlife Inventory and Monitoring Technical Training Workshop September 15-16, 2009

Here's your chance to learn new techniques or hone some rusty skills. This 2-day workshop will help you learn how to survey wildlife and plants. Day 1 features: how to survey small mammals, herptiles, songbirds, dove, marshbirds and large mammals. Plant identification and wildlife habitat assessments will also be covered. After dinner sessions will feature wolf howling, owl survey techniques using playback recordings, then bat surveys. Post-crepuscular will be telescopes and dark skies. On day 2 we'll check traps, trail cams and wrap up by noon.

Date: Tuesday – Wednesday, September 15 – 16, 2009

Time: Tuesday check in at 9 am; 9:30 am the overview and class portion begins.

Topics: Wildlife Inventory and Monitoring Techniques; Plant inventory and ID, Habitat Assessment

Location: Treehaven at Tomahawk (<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/treehaven>)

Lodging: At Treehaven, with overflow at Super 8 Motel in Tomahawk

Fees: Day 1 for WCTWS members is \$25, \$35 for non-members
Both days: \$55 for WCTWS members, \$65 for non-members. WCTWS will pay for the facility, lodging, lunch, beverages, breaks, and handouts. Non-member fee will include 1 year membership to the WCTWS.

This workshop for day 1 will provide 8 contact hours for TWS recertification & professional development or 12 contact hours for both days.

Please fill out the registration form on page 5 and mail to Dan Hirschert by September 1 along with payment.





Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society Wildlife Inventory and Monitoring Technical Training Workshop September 15-16, 2009

Tentative Agenda

Tuesday, Sept 15 –	Morning session: auditorium then outside
9:00-9:30 am	Check-in – doughnuts/bagels and coffee
9:30-10:00 am	Welcome and logistics – Harvey Halvorsen (<i>WCTWS</i>)
10:00 – 11:00 am	Small mammals trapping and ecology – Loren Ayers (WDNR)
11:00-12:00 am	Herpetiles inventory and monitoring – Jeff Lorch (UW-Madison)
12:00-1:00 pm	Lunch
	Afternoon session: outside
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Songbirds and marshbirds surveys – Andy Paulios and Ryan Brady (WDNR)
2:00 – 3:00pm	Large mammals counted correctly – Tim Van Deelen (UW-Madison)
3:00 – 3:30pm	Break
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Wildlife habitat assessment – TBA
4:30 – 5:00 pm	Unpack and settle in
5:00 – 6:00 pm	Dinner at Treehaven
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Plant ID Walk at Treehaven
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Wolf howling, owl call playbacks
8:00 – 9:00 pm	Bats surveys–
9:00 - ???	Night skies, optics, telescopes – Harvey Halvorsen (WDNR)

Wednesday, Sept 16

6:00 – 7:30 am	Check Small mammal traplines
7:30 – 9:00 am	Dove trapping techniques – TBA
9:00 – 10:00 am	Breakfast
10:00 – 11:00 am	Check trail cams, scent stations
11:00 – 12:00pm	Evaluations/Wrap up
12:00pm	Lunch on Your Own

***WCTWS Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Junction County UW Extension, Mauston, WI
April 1, 2009***

Submitted by Dan Hirschert, Secretary/Treasurer

Executive Board Attendance: Harvey Halvorsen, Jamie Nack, Scott Walter (10:50 am), Greg Kidd, Dan Hirschert, Lesa Kardash. Meeting Started 10:00 am

1. Recap 2009 Winter meeting

- a. Business meeting minutes – Harvey to review as provided to Lesa.
- b. Auction – Dan reported that the auction and garage sale produced approximately \$900 for the Chapter and overall the winter meeting netted \$1200.
- c. Awards – Ken Jonas reported that he was disappointed with quality of engraving on award knives. He has drafted a letter to the provider expressing his concerns and asking for explanation and reduced fees. The Board concurred with Ken's actions and will hear from him with results.
- d. Other – Jamie updated web page to include Winter meeting summary. Board decided to send next issue of Intelligent Tinkering to all winter meeting attendees. Harvey plans to request list from National of TWS members to contact non-Chapter members for recruitment purposes. The Board is pleased with the overall income of \$1200, priced so that attendees felt they were getting their moneys worth and will continue to attend. Ken Stromborg proposed that the student speaker award be formalized and included into the duties of the Awards Committee. The Board plans to address this item at next year's business meeting and hopes that Ken will continue to be a part of it. Other items discussed were providing evaluation forms for winter meeting attendees and ideas to bring more members and participation to the business meeting.

2. Legislative / proposed action updates - WCTWS Deer Committee member Keith McCaffery has provided input on our testimony for professional management and to keep as many tools available to help manage deer. Chuck Pils to testify on behalf of the Chapter. We plan to send our testimony to WWF and Pat Kaiser to keep them informed of Chapter's stance.

3. National TWS meeting in California – Scott expressed interest in attending. He will look into alternative funding through his Department. The Board discussed the two \$750 travel grants and will advertise in the newsletter and on the website for applicants.

4. Fall Technical Training Session in September...

- a. Location Tree Haven picked a mid-September time period to be firmed up by Harvey depending on vacancy. Planned to be a two day overnight event.
- b. Ideas – Inventory and Monitoring with one day focusing on wildlife and the next on habitat. Night activities to include nocturnal wildlife monitoring and night sky observation.

5. WCTWS Bylaws update – Harvey has been able to convert last electronic version to current format and will organize for group review.

6. Winter 2010 Meeting – The Board discussed joining with the Duck Hunters conference March 5-6 Ramada Inn Stevens Point. Items to be worked out included how we would overlap benefit of joint meeting, banquet arrangements. The Board did not finalize details or conclude with a set plan to pursue. Harvey to speak with past president who held joint Winter meeting.

7. Mail – The Chapter was provided with two CDs, The Story of the North American Model for Wildlife Conservation.

8. Next meeting – June 1 – Same location

Adjourn 2:07 pm

***WCTWS Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Juneau County UW Extension, Mauston, WI
June 1, 2009***

Submitted by Dan Hirschert, Secretary/Treasurer

Executive Board Attendance Harvey Halvorsen, Jamie Nack, Scott Walter, Greg Kidd, Dan Hirschert, Lesa Kardash, Kay Brockman-Mederas. Meeting started 10:12 am

1. Travel grants request to California – due June 30, 2009. Request that Lesa send out a reminder to members and also to include in next issue of Intelligent Tinkering. We have not received any applications as of today's meeting. Board discussed reasons why and how we could make it more attractive. We would like to discuss at next business meeting, potentially recommending only one grant.
2. Legislative updates: NR Board, Legislative Deer Hearings. With WCTWS Deer Committee consultation, Chuck Pils testified on our behalf to the Joint Fish and Wildlife Committee regarding the strength of science based management. Chuck also testified to the NRB regarding keeping as many methods available as possible to help manage the states deer herd. The Board would like to express our gratitude to Chuck Pils for representing WCTWS at these and past events.

The WWF recently opposed an increase to the population goal of wolves in Wisconsin and also opposed a moratorium on public hunting of wolves. Our WCTWS Wolf Issues Committee Chair Adrian Wydeven requested that the Board consider weighing in on this issue. Harvey to discuss with Pat Kaiser our representative to the WWF.

The next NRB meeting is June 24 and the DNR's Ten Year CWD plan will be discussed. WCTWS deer committee involved with drafting testimony and several names were discussed for possible WCTWS representation.

3. Approve WCTWS April minutes with the correction that Lesa Kardash was present.
4. Investments/ TWS reporting/Annual Budget. Dan submitted the IRS form 990 that reported that we are non profit and we earned less than \$25,000 annually.
5. Summer Issue of Intelligent Tinkering – June 15 deadline for all submissions. Lesa reported that she has been accepted into the TWS Leadership Program. This is a four month program that is geared towards exposing future natural resource professionals to key competencies.
6. Fall Technical Training Session in September 15 and 16...
 - a. Locations = Tree Haven security deposit \$250 has been paid.
 - b. Finalize agenda = Inventory and Monitoring subjects – Board discussed potential speakers and assigned contacts to members. Devised agenda with full first day and ½ second day. Discussed meals, lodging and costs. Members to contact Harvey with speaker confirmations. Harvey to block some rooms at local hotel in case maximum capacity (35) is met at Tree Haven.
 - c. Advertise in next newsletter.
 - d. Registration deadline of September 1.
7. 2010 Winter Meeting – March 4-5 Ramada Inn Stevens Point.
Theme: Biofuels and Wildlife. Scott researched multiple speakers for plenary session and provided members with recommendations for review. Meeting is held prior to, not overlapping Wisconsin Duck Hunters Assoc. Conference

Minutes continued on page 8

to attract retirees and agency personnel that often attend one or the other. Harvey to contact Ramada to inquire about rooms and potential discounts.

8. 2013 National TWS conference – National representatives to visit Madison and Milwaukee June 8-9 and June 23-24 respectively to meet with Chapter members and Visitor Bureaus to review each Cities potential for a conference. The bidding is still open to the southeast section as well. The final decision will be made at the 2009 National Conference.
9. Other business – UW Madison Student Chapter of TWS requested financial assistance for member expenses to attend and participate in the Quiz Bowl at the 2009 National Meeting at Monterey, California. Scott made the motion that we provide up to \$100 to each of the four attendees and at the completion of the conference that they provide a write-up of their experiences for our newsletter, seconded by Harvey, all in favor. Passed.
10. Next meeting – August 17, USDA-FSA conference room, Mauston, WI
11. Adjourn 2:32 pm

WCTWS Financial Report ***January 1, 2009 – June 12, 2009***

Submitted by Dan Hirschert, Secretary/Treasurer

STARTING BALANCE – 01/01/2009 **\$100,553.75**

INCOME

Membership	\$ 2,080.00
Winter Meeting	\$ 5,320.00
Silent Auction/Garage Sale	\$ 938.00
Investment Interest	\$ 1,471.34
Donations	\$ 5.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 9,814.34</u>

EXPENSES

Winter Meeting	\$ 5,042.37
Postage Box & Mailing Supplies	\$ 80.48
Brokerage Fee	\$ 20.00
Leopold Scholarships	\$ 2,000.00
Outstanding Student-TWS Membership	\$ 95.00
Student Speaker Award-Winter Meeting	\$ 100.00
WI Wildlife Federation Membership	\$ 125.00
WI Conservation Hall of Fame Membership	\$ 100.00
Mileage and Lodging for WWF Meetings	\$ 210.87
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 8,253.72</u>

CHECKING ACCOUNT - 03/16/09	\$ 4,939.61
CHECKING ACCOUNT – 06/12/09	\$ 3,192.09
SAVINGS ACCOUNT – 03/16/09	\$ 4,418.04
SAVINGS ACCOUNT – 06/12/09	\$ 4,852.49
CD #1 -12/19/08 (Matures 08/28/09- 1.84%)	\$ 1,872.37
CD #1 - 06/12/09	\$ 1,891.18
CD #2 –03/17/09 (Bjerke Account)	\$83,315.76
CD #2 –06/12/09 (Matures 09/24/09-3.45%)	\$84,042.37
CUNA BROKERAGE –03/17/09	\$ 7,186.17
CUNA BROKERAGE –05/31/09	\$ 7,637.24
TOTAL ENDING BALANCE – 03/17/08	\$101,731.95
TOTAL ENDING BALANCE – 06/12/09	\$101,615.37

Wisconsin as a Possible Host of the 2013 TWS Annual Conference

Submitted by Jamie Nack, Past Wctws President

For those of you who are not aware, states in the North-Central Section of TWS were asked to consider hosting the 2013 TWS Annual Conference. Wisconsin initially passed on the offer to allow neighboring states the opportunity to host since we hosted the conference in 2005 in Madison. No states in our section were up to the task, so a group of us including the WCTWS Executive Board and the arrangements committee chairs from the 2005 TWS meeting and the 2007 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference met and decided that we were willing to host the annual conference in 2013 if selected. Currently, TWS has extended the offer to host the national conference to states in the Southeast Section. Generally, at least two states compete to host the conference.

Karl Martin, Scott Walter, and Jamie Nack have agreed to be point persons for now and likely Co-chairs if the conference comes to Wisconsin. In June, TWS staff will be visiting Madison and Milwaukee to meet with Convention Bureau staff and the local point persons to determine which city will be proposed as the 2013 Wisconsin site. The final decision on which state/city will host the 2013 Annual Conference will be decided by TWS Council at the September 2009 Annual Conference in Monterey. We will provide updates to WCTWS members as we move forward in this process. If you have questions, please contact Karl, Scott, or Jamie.

Lesia Kardash Selected as a 2009 TWS Leadership Institute Participant

Submitted by WCTWS Executive Board

Lesia Kardash, DNR Wildlife Biologist, was one of fifteen participants chosen to attend the 2009 TWS Leadership Institute. TWS established its Leadership Institute in 2006 to provide a select group of TWS members with basic leadership training that will prepare them to move into leadership positions, both in their workplace and in the Society. With nearly 70 percent of leaders in the wildlife profession projected to retire in the next decade, TWS has a responsibility to prepare its members to meet the pressing need for well-prepared professionals.

All applicants are early-career wildlife professionals who were selected to participate in a variety of distance learning and hands-on projects, which will culminate in intensive mentoring activities and leadership workshops at the 2009 TWS Annual Conference in Monterey, California in September. A committee of TWS members and staff selected participants based on the applicant's academic record, demonstrated leadership capability or potential, and demonstrated level of excellence in their current position, or in a Chapter or Section of The Wildlife Society.

From May through September, participants will complete a wide variety of exercises, which include reading and interpreting leadership materials, presenting to peer groups, working collaboratively with each other, leading discussions, and developing summary documents regarding professional leadership. During TWS' Annual Conference in Monterey, the participants will meet for discussions, serve as mentors for students attending the conference, and attend Council meetings.

Congratulations Lesia, what an exciting opportunity for yourself and the WCTWS!

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

*Update from Bi-Monthly Meeting
June 13-14, 2009 Stevens Point, WI*

Submitted by Pat Kaiser, WCTWS Representative in WWF

George Meyer, Executive Director for WWF reported on three items that are of importance to the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and sportsmen/women of Wisconsin.

- 1) In the current Democratic budget bill a line item regarding the 'Stewardship Program' was inserted into the budget that would eliminate hunting, fishing, and trapping on some lands purchased via stewardship funds. Many sportsmen/women have contacted the legislative representatives asking that this be removed from the budget bill. As of June 13th, the Assembly has removed this item from the budget bill, however now this still has to be removed from the Senate version of the budget bill. (Stay tuned.. this will likely have been resolved before this printing of the WCTWS newsletter). Moral of the story – contacting your legislative representatives can make a difference !
- 2) Restoring Appointment Authority of DNR Secretary to Natural Resources Board; Assembly Bill 138 and Senate Bill 113 have been drafted and are in respective committee's. Appears to be broad support from both parties to move these bills forward.
- 3) Hunting Mentor Bill, Assembly Bill 222 and Senate Bill 167 have both passed with strong bi-partisan support.

The Wildlife Committee chaired by Ralph Fritsch identified several items for discussion.

- 1) Senate Bill 84 – this would require at least one DNR Board seat be held by a person with an agricultural background; and, require a minimum of three board members to have hunting, fishing, or trapping licenses. Motion to adopt was Approved!
- 2) Assembly Bill 250 – referred to as 'puppy mill bill' which establishes regulations for dog breeders. Sportsmen had no input into this bill as it was drafted. The wildlife committee made recommendations for amendments to the bill, including, a) it apply to those people that sell 25 dogs or 3 litters per year, b) a limit on inspection fee's of one time per yr., c) that sale of dogs be allowed at sanctioned or licensed dog trial events, d) establish a Citizen's committee to oversee citizen complaints. Motion to accept the bill if these amendments are added. Motion passed.

Other items of discussion that are not legislative bills.

- 1) Buckhorn Game Farm – Stan Hall property that had high incidence of Chronic Wasting Disease. Suggested that State of Wisconsin purchase the land or apply public nuisance lawsuit to guarantee permanent fencing of the property until land is determined safe from potential CWD transmission. Motion passed.
- 2) Wolf Population levels -- estimated 2009 wolf population of 680 (+ -) animals, apparently the DNR has suggested a 5 yr. moratorium on public harvest of wolves in the state.
 - A) Motion made that the 5 year moratorium be opposed; and, a recommendation made that the legislation and rule-making process be initiated on the harvest of wolves. Motion passed .
 - B) The current Wisconsin wolf population goal is 350 animals, but apparently the DNR has suggested increasing that goal for wolf population. Motion was made to increase the wolf population goal to 500 (+ - 25%) ie. allowing for population fluctuations. Motion passed.
 - C) The Wisconsin legislature has increasingly used legislative bills to suggest changes in hunting, fishing, and trapping regulations thus by-passing citizen input process. Motion was made 'That suggested regulations for changes involving hunting, fishing, and trapping be run thru the Spring Hearing Conservation Congress process, unless emergencies exist. Motion passed.

Jack Nissen, WWF President identified several goals he hopes to achieve this year. One specific goal discussed at some length was to set up a "electronic notification" e-mail system/process to notify WWF members of 'Hot Button – Critical Issues' that need immediate response from sportsmen/women. Example issue was the recent budget bill item insert removing hunting, fishing, and trapping opportunities from some lands purchased via Stewardship funds. Some outdoor user group organizations have established a process called the "CAMO COALITION" and the intent is to establish a similar process for the WWF.



ON THE DOCKET

STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Tim Andryk

STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

2009 – 2011 STATE BUDGET BILL – AB 75

The 2009 – 2011 State Budget Bill (AB 75) was introduced by the Governor in February, and at the time of this writing many items in it are being discussed and debated by both houses of the Legislature. I reported in the April 2009 newsletter on the items of WCTWS interest in the Governor's proposed Budget Bill, and will report on what is passed and signed into law in the Budget Bill in the next newsletter if the Bill is enacted by then. Once the Budget Bill is enacted, activity on many other bills will increase and many more bills will be introduced.

OTHER BILLS OF WCTWS INTEREST

NRB Appointment of DNR Secretary, Assembly Bill 138 (Rep. Black et al.) – This bill restores the authority of the State Natural Resources Board to hire and appoint the DNR Secretary. The Secretary would be appointed for a full 4 year term, eligible for re-appointment every 4 years. In addition, NRB members (who are appointed by the Governor) would begin serving immediately upon expiration of the term of the NRB member they are replacing. Currently, newly appointed NRB members must wait until they are confirmed by the Senate to be able to replace a serving NRB member whose term has expired. SB 113 (Sen. Wirch) is the companion bill in the Senate.

Trapping, Green Skins, and Sale of Animal Parts, Assembly Bill 150 (Rep. Hraychuck) – This bill requires the name, address, or DNR customer I.D. number of the operator to be on a trap, rather than the owner of the trap as is currently required. The bill also allows for possession of the green skin of fur bearing animals during the closed season for those animals, if the skin has a DNR registration tag or is taken by a landowner under nuisance animal control authority. The bill authorizes sale of a fur bearing animal that has a DNR registration tag or sale of a wild animal or its carcass for which there is an open season and no bag limit. It also authorizes the sale of squirrel parts, and liquid scent made from the carcass of a lawfully taken wild animal, except from a bear's gall bladder. AB 150 has had a hearing in the Assembly Fish and Wildlife Committee. SB 112 (Sen. Holperin) is the companion bill in the Senate and has had a hearing in the Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry and Natural Resources.

Aquatic Invasive Species, Assembly Bill 162 (Rep. Milroy) – This bill prohibits the placement or operation of any vehicle, watercraft, seaplane or object on navigable waters with aquatic plants or animals attached. It also prohibits the transportation or operation of any vehicle, watercraft or other object on a highway with aquatic plants or animals attached, or a seaplane from taking off with aquatic plants or animals attached. Authorizes DNR to conduct compliance investigations, and enter certain premises (other than a dwelling) where invasive species and vehicles, equipment or objects are stored that may transport or hold invasive species. AB 162 has had a hearing in the Assembly Fish and Wildlife Committee. SB 123 (Sen. Jauch) is the companion bill in the Senate and has had a hearing in the Senate Environment Committee.

Hunting and Fishing License Plate, Senate Bill 61 (Sen. Leibham) – The bill creates a specialty vehicle license plate for those wishing to express their interest in hunting and fishing. The plate will include a picture of a white-tailed deer on a background nature scene. There will be a \$15 issuance or reissuance fee and an annual fee of \$15 that will be deposited in the DNR Segregated Fish and Wildlife Account. These plates will only be issued though, if the Department of Transportation receives enough donations by June 30, 2013 to cover the initial production costs. SB 61 has had a hearing in the Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry and Natural Resources.

Crossbows For Non-Resident Seniors, Assembly Bill 86 (Rep. Hubler) – This bill expands the allowable use of crossbows for bowhunters, state residents 65 years of age and older, to include non-resident seniors as well. AB 86 has had a hearing

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On The Docket continued from page 11

in the Assembly Fish and Wildlife Committee.

Youth Hunting Mentor Program, Senate Bill 167 (Sen. Holperin) – This Bill allows those who are at least 10 years old to be able to hunt without a hunters education certification, if they are within arms reach of an adult mentor and there is a total of only one gun or bow between the hunter and the mentor. The bill also establishes fees for 10 and 11 year olds of \$5 to \$7 for most licenses, stamps and permits. In addition, it proposes to authorize those under 18 years of age to possess a firearm if target practicing at a gun range under adult supervision. SB 167 has passed the Senate and been forwarded to the Assembly for their action. AB 222 (Rep. Hraychuck) is the companion bill in the Assembly, although it does not include the reduced fees for 10 and 11 year olds at the time of this writing.

Golf Carts on State Lands, Senate Bill 188 (Rep. Holperin) – This bill requires DNR to permit the use of golf carts in Governor Tommy G. Thompson State Park and the Peshtigo River State Forest by persons over 15 years of age. The bill requires DNR to promulgate rules that allow the use of golf carts for at least the same hours and in at least the same places where golf carts were used before the State purchased these properties. SB 188 has passed the Senate and has been forwarded to the Assembly. AB 264 (Rep. Mursau) is the companion bill in the Assembly.

Group Deer Hunting Expansion and Uncased Guns in Vehicles, Senate Bill 222 (Sen. Decker) – This bill eliminates the requirement that those group gun deer hunting be in field contact with each other, and requires that a deer must be tagged by a member of the group within one hour of being killed. (Currently, must proceed to tag a deer immediately and group members must be within visual or voice contact). Also expands group deer hunting from just gun hunting to bow hunting for antlerless deer. This bill also eliminates the requirement that guns be in a case when in a vehicle and allows in stationary vehicles: loaded guns, loaded crossbows and uncased and strung bows. SB 222 has had a hearing in the Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry and Natural Resources.

Student Chapter Corner

University of Wisconsin - Madison



By Curt Rollman, President

Spring semester is over and, as always, it was a busy one. Our chapter completed some new and interesting events that we hope to continue in the future. We spent one weekend camping on a local farm and helped plant hundreds of trees to reclaim some of the old fields. Another weekend was spent exploring area caves; a new and muddy experience to many in the club.

We also had a very successful “outreach season” where we headed out to some local elementary schools. The highlight was “science nights” where our members host two 45 minute classes and teach local grade schoolers about local animals. Every year this turns out to be a rewarding experience for both the children and us.

We ended the year with our annual closing picnic. The picnic is a great time to get our members together one last time before everyone goes on their separate ways to live the life of a wildlife student in the summer (one LTE job at a time!).

As for the summer, it is all about preparing for the National Conference this fall. Our chapter is busy fund raising and organizing to send members to Monterey. Our members are excited about quiz bowl as well as the many great opportunities that present themselves at the National Conference, from networking to talks on current issues.

See you again in the fall!

University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point

No update.

Issue Committee Updates

Deer Issues Committee

During the last quarter, the committee has drafted letters for our WCTWS president to Sen. Holperin, Rep. Hraychuck, and NRB committee chair John Welter endorsing the DNR efforts for continued deer herd reduction toward goals. Testimony was also drafted for presentation at the legislative hearings and NRB meeting on deer management. Draft position statements on captive cervids and deer herd control remain in review. We expect that our committee will also be asked to draft testimony for the June NRB discussion of the CWD 10-yr plan that has not been "green sheeted" as of June 1.

Keith McCaffery, Chair
Dr. Jon Gilbert, GLFWC
Tom Bahti, Retired DNR

Dr. Chris Jacques, DNR
Dr. Tim Van Deelen, UW

Truisms

Contributed by Tom Bahti

Shamelessly borrowed, stolen and plagiarized from other sources

I'm over the hill....and picking up speed.

Judge a wood-chipper by his chips.

They said it couldn't be done....so we said to hell with it, and didn't do it.

A fool with a plan can outsmart a genius with no plan.

When the tide goes out, you find out who is swimming naked and who isn't.

Cats are smarter than dogs. You cannot get eight cats to pull a sled through the snow.

No matter where or what, there are makers, takers and fakers.

You don't always find out what a group is thinking by listening to the loudest voices.

Send me your sharp axe.

We learn from history what we do not learn from history.

To the Wisconsin Chapter of the Wildlife Society:

Thank you very much for presenting me with your generous scholarship. It means a lot to me and I appreciate it very much. I would like to thank you for supporting Wisconsin students pursuing a field in wildlife. This field is becoming increasingly important as we realize how we are affecting the environment and what we need to do to protect it and the animals that live therein. It is also important that we use our natural resources in a way that is sustainable for future generations. I will use this money to help fund my final semester here at UWSP. My next step is graduate school and ultimately I would like to acquire a job that will allow me to help the public understand the importance of our natural resources and that will allow me to help protect and preserve the environment. I also hope to be able to further our understanding of the natural environment through research of my own. I hope that you continue this great financial opportunity for future students pursuing a degree in wildlife. Thanks again for all your financial help.

Sincerely,

Ryan Stephens

WCTWS 2009 Membership Application

Name: _____ Affiliation: _____
 First Last

Address: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____
 City State Zip

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