



Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

Northeast Region Funding Meeting

Dec. 5, 2015 - 9:30 called to order

Roll taken - all present except WI River Valley (See Addendum A for list)

Agenda reviewed (See Addendum B for Agenda)

UPDATES

STATE COUNCIL - Linn Beck gave an update from the state. WI TU Banquet - 2/6/16 - Best Western Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center (Oshkosh) 855-230-1900 for reservations.

For more details, click or copy and paste:

<http://www.tu.org/blog-posts/2016-witu-banquet-tickets-available-now?gid=5765>

Please promote this event, as it's the only statewide TU Fundraiser. A no-cost Women's event will be offered at the same time as the business meeting. Tina Marie, Heidi, Laura are involved.

GREEN BAY - Adrian, Lee - 6 or 7 work projects completed this year. Focused on making streams more fishable to bring temps down and improve water flow. Education events - supplied fly tying materials for community events, sent 2 youth to camp, sponsored Trout in the Classroom and initiated a PHWFF chapter in Green Bay. Banquet turnout was around 300 this last year.

MARINETTE - Dale - Banquet attendance was about 235 people. Several community presentations were given where the chapter was able to do fly tying, casting demos. Fly tying class coming up for Cub Scouts. 3 days of Fishing for Kids, about 100 kids showed up. Offered a 4 week trout fishing seminar.

NORTHWOODS - Laura - Worked with the USFS & DNR on some stream projects (adding brush mats over half a mile of stream). Hosted presentations/community outreaches, attempted to do a program with veterans in Rhinelander (not successful - disappointing - looking at how to improve that).

WILD RIVERS - Bill - Projects on the White River and a tributary. Removed a dam. Planted & put enclosures around a thousand white cedars on DNR land; will follow up next year as well. Fly tying events pretty much monthly over the winter. After School Program - offered a fly tying class attended by about 300 kids came to the class last year. Sponsored a trivia night at a local family bar, about 60 people came and about 4 or 5 new members signed up as a result. Fishing expo the first weekend in April (in lieu of a banquet) - attendance of about 150 people. Students at Northland College are involved.

OCONTO RIVER - Dale - Work projects with GB chapter. Banquet was about 275 for attendance. Special needs fishing day. 1 kid sent to camp. Nursing home fishing day. Had a booth at the Oconto Co. fair. Set up a Trout in the Classroom also; 7 schools now with Trout in the Classroom and more are interested. Other community outreach programs also (fly casting, etc.).

ANTIGO - Scott - Banquet last Saturday in March, about 230 people. City Park kids fishing day in June. Working with a high school teacher to have a presence in his classroom. UWSP sponsorship (scholarship). Got the Antigo brushing crew a chainsaw sharpener. Remington Lake (storm sewer drainage pond) - working to create an urban fishing area with a floating dock. Held an ice fishing day for kids (thanks to the DNR for donating leftover stock). Contacting veterans services to work with them for a disabled vets fishing day next July.

WOLF RIVER - Tim - Sponsored a brat stand 3 weekends this last year - a LOT of work for little money. Work days - difficult to get people to show up. Worked with GB chapter on 9 Mile Creek. Hired a trapper for 5 more years to help take down the remaining colonies of beaver. Temp monitoring was completed. Miles of Wolf river exploration to document feeder creeks in order to improve the cold water environment long term. Presentations (Sept./GB TU - one of their most highly attended meetings in recent history).

SPRING POND UPDATE - Dave Seibl, DNR - 9 spring pond properties potentially for sale in Langlade county. Latest information is that those properties will NOT be offered for sale to anyone. Looks like this might be a win. HOWEVER, Blue Springs was put ON the list in the last few weeks - it's scheduled to be dredged next summer and is on the agenda today! - Continue to contact the Natural Resources Board. Preston Cole is probably the most sympathetic board member. GBTU met with several representatives 12/4 to discuss this as well.

DNR and USFS:

Shawn Sullivan, DNR - Busy season. Went through over 35 gallons of chainsaw bar oil this year! Not one accident report had to be filled out, with all these young adults who are so ideal but have a great blend of common sense. They represent a variety of focuses (wildlife, forestry, etc) but they're why the Lakewood Hatchery house was obtained and they'll be there next summer. Over 12 miles completed this summer (most years 10 - 15 miles) - hard structures, bank covers, intensive development slows down the mileage but the year is only half over (runs through June). Will have a pile of wood to cut at our sawmill, which will be starting in a week or two and will go until frost sets in and the winter brushing can start. Hoping to brush 5 - 6 - 7 miles this winter..

Chip Long, DNR - Cliff Sebro, fisheries tech at the Peshtigo Service Center retired. He was the only certified blaster for the WDNR. Aphis will take over beaver control. Big accomplishment for 2015 - we finished up the Hemlock Spring project (handout). 2-person brushing crew was funded through TU. Northern Oconto County Trout Alliance helped reopen the hatchery, which

was a source of great excitement in the Lakewood community and the volunteers were really stepping up as a result.

Ben Rolling, DNR - With 6 people working, finished 9 1/2 miles of stream habitat work, brushing and touch-up brushing as well as over 3/5 mile of just habitat maintenance on boom covers. Tore out some of the old ones that weren't holding fish any more and propped up good ones with spacer logs to keep them in place. Half-mile stream improvement (strict dig-and-pile) on the Evergreen. Beaver work, too, spring and fall mostly.

Tom Morris, USFS - South Branch Oconto - 9 nice log cover structures (take old Graves Rd all the way to the end). North Branch downstream of the former Knowles dam, put in about 12 logjam structures (50 - 60 trees) using capstan and winch to create whole-tree logjams which were getting use within 24 hours! (fish, wood turtles (state threatened species), other wildlife) NW of Waubeno, did tag alder remover (GB, Oconto work days) and brushing (using stumps, root wads there too), very natural/complex structures. Should last a long time. SW Creek - logs/complex large wood structures added, root wads. Antigo, Peshtigo, Wild Rose all worked to wrap up the Hemlock Springs project. Thanks to funding there were 3 seasonal employees brought on over the summer. 2 of the 3 will hopefully be back next summer (one was hired away full time part way through the summer) which helps make the work more productive. Nicolet Sportsman's Club in Waubeno started work on a project on the N Branch just downstream from Waubeno with funding from timber sales. Just had a meeting on Thursday with DNR, Inter Fluve, and Potawatamie - money coming in through Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for the head waters of the Oconto N Branch. This system is now successfully sustaining native brook trout and the new projects (including bridge removals, remnant dam removals (3 of them), road crossings, private property improvements) will bring temperatures down even more to improve the habitat for the brook trout. Working to re-establish the historic flood plains. The funding looks very favorable and it's going to really improve the habitat in the near future. Nicolet Sportsman's Club still has funding and will help on these projects going forward.

Sue Reinecke, USFS - The Natural Resources Board approved the beaver management plan for the state with limited controversy. There is talk of letting trappers come in and trap before Aphis gets in on some of the managed trout streams after the recreational cutoff dates. It's a good plan for many years going forward. Going to work with the DNR to identify which streams Aphis should be working on this spring. Focused on Alvin Creek habitat improvement. Should be able to use the capstan and winch in the N. half of the forest to do more habitat improvement. Did have some difficulty with summer help getting hired for full time jobs and leaving halfway through the summer but overall it was a productive summer.

Funding Requests FY 2016

The Process: We go through each project and each chapter pledges however much they feel they can afford. When sponsoring a very specific request, put a note in the memo section with reference to the project.

About the redrawing of regions in WI TU - Linn, TU - Last February, regions were realigned to keep them basically equally represented so that there were enough funds to support each region. Wild Rivers had been somewhat excluded from funding opportunities, for example. This realignment also better coordinated the types of projects being done based on the geomorphology of each area.

TU is more successful when we're thinking 'big picture' for works projects and funding, when we focus on 'One TU' and don't have chapters develop a 'my money is my money' attitude.

Chequamegon projects! - Sue - In 2016 and going forward, we can submit for the Chequamegon area. Before, they weren't part of the funding region so we didn't submit requests for projects for that area.

Note: Next year, invite DNR people from the Wild Rivers area.

Note: FRIENDS GRANTS - Must be applied for by the chapters - Get in touch with Linn Beck if you have questions about this as soon as possible to get this done. May 1st is the deadline to get the checks in (see Agenda, Addendum B, for more information).

FUNDING REQUESTS FY 2016

USFS

- ❖ CNNF Request, Seasonal Fisheries Technician = \$8,000
 - \$2,000 oconto PLUS \$2,000 Friends grant

- \$2,000 northwoods
- \$1,000 Marinette
- \$500 Wild Rivers
- \$500 GB

DONE

ANTIGO DNR

- ❖ 2-person, trout habitat brushing crew = \$15,000

- \$4,000 Antigo Plus \$2000 Friends Grant
- \$1,000 Wolf River (Plus \$1,000 Friends Grant)
- \$2,000 Marinette (Plus \$2,000 Friends Grant)
- \$2,000 GB
- \$1,000 Wild Rivers (Plus \$1,000 Friends Grant)

DONE

- ❖ Spring pond dredge fuel for Blue (Hunting River system) and Kedrick Springs (East Branch Eau Claire River system), both in Langlade County = \$2,400

- \$2,400 ANTIGO

DONE

- ❖ Garmin MAP 64S handheld GPS (trout habitat projects, beaver control work) = \$275

- \$275 ANTIGO

DONE

PESHTIGO DNR

- ❖ Temp. monitoring, Oconto River = \$2,400

- \$2,400 Marinette

DONE

- ❖ Heavy equipment operator/supplies = \$4,500

- \$3,500 GB
- \$600 Marinette
- \$400 Oconto

DONE

LAKEWOOD CREW (Wild Rose)

Sean Sullivan - There's a house at the Lakewood hatchery, the crew will have authorization to use the house & to operate out of it. This will really bring costs down. Lee Meyers - Beaver Creek work needs to be improved. There was a handicapped accessible fishing spot and getting this reestablished could be a really good opportunity for positive community relations.

- ❖ 2-person habitat crew in Marinette, Oconto, and Shawano Counties = \$15,000
(Was 3-person, but one of them will be funded by trout stamps)
 - \$2,000 Marinette
 - \$500 Wild Rivers
 - \$5,200 GB PLUS \$2,000 Friends Grant
 - \$3,200 from GB from Cress Grant, Movie Night
 - \$2,100 Oconto
- DONE

All funding complete.

Presentations:

Dan Iserman, UWSP

Lake MI Trib steelhead population counts, starting Jan. 1

Door Co. down to Pigeon River/Sturgeon Bay, Peshtigo, Milwaukee offices collaborating to mark/recapture estimates

3 streams - pit tag arrays to detect how many are actually migrating; arrays can be used in other places as well, like monitor effects of dam removal, areas/periods of stress (heat, low water). Will build arrays in-house to keep costs down (would cost \$15,000 each otherwise). Still need about \$1,500 to fully fund (arrays, RFID tags)

Project has been funded through stamp money

Would like to be able to do the genetics work and possibly monitor 2 more streams

Local help needed to maintain the arrays because they'll need batteries swapped out during the week. Easy to do, would save travel time/\$.

Jonathan Pyatskowitz - Trout Habitat and Access Coordinator - NE Focus Area Update

Stream bank protection program, North Branch Embarrass River - planning where to spend the money.

Menominee Reservation habitat field trip/Collaboration with Menominee & St. Norbert's College to set up stations to develop reference criteria for NE WI streams

Habitat projects - Trying to find more opportunities in Shawano county.

Shawn Sullivan (DNR Wild Rose) - Central WI habitat crew

Waupaca, Shawano, Waushara counties

Waupaca river projects

Lee nominated Paul Kruse for NE Regional Vice Chair, seconded by Dale Lang.

Dale moved to close the meeting, Wayne seconded it. Meeting closed at 2pm.

Addendum A: Attendance

Name	Chapter	Address	Email
Adrian Meseberg	Green Bay	315 S Michigan St De Pere, WI 54115	chritinaandadrian@hotmail.com
Lee Meyers	Green Bay	975 Pennings Ave De Pere, WI 54115	lmeyers12000@yahoo.com
Shawn Sullivan	Wild Rose	N6184 State Rd 22 Wild Rose, WI 54980	shawn.sullivan@wisconsin.gov
Dale Lange	Marinette	N2095 Cty RR Marinette, WI 54143	dhlange@centurytel.net
Bill Heart	Wild Rivers		wwheart@centurytel.net
Dave Brunner	Oconto River	5473 Cardinal Rd Gillett, WI 54124	dlbrunner@dlbb.us (plbb?)
Dale Halla	Oconto River	W2311 Zastrow Rd Cecil, WI 54114	lindadalehalla@gmail.com
Jonathan Pyatskowit	WI DNR	647 Lakeland Rd Shawano, WI 54166	jonathan.pyatskowit@wisconsin.gov
Dave Seibel	WI DNR	223 E Steinfest Rd Antigo, WI 54409	david.seibel@wisconsin.gov
Ben Rolling	WI DNR	223 E Steinfest Rd Antigo, WI 54409	benjamin.rolling@wisconsin.gov
Tyler Curran	WI DNR	223 E Steinfest Rd Antigo, WI 54409	tyler.curran@wisconsin.gov
Tom Moris	USFS	4978 Hwy 8 West Leona, WI 54541	tmoris@fs.fed.gov
Scott Henriks	Antigo	213 Mary St Antigo, WI 54409	hendriks51@yahoo.com
Tim Gregurich	Antigo	2044 5th Ave Antigo, WI 54409	-----
Sue Reinecke	USFS	 Park Falls, WI 54553	sreinecke@fs.fed.us

Name	Chapter	Address	Email
Terry Cummings	Northwoods	804 Birch St Rhinelander, WI 54501	tcmuddler@charter.net
Linn Beck	WI TU State Council Chair	160 W 19th Ave Oshkosh, WI 54902	chlbeck@att.net
Dan Iserman	UWSP	800 Resene St Stevens Pt, WI 54481	dan.iserman@uwsp.edu
Chip Long	WI DNR		christopher.long@wisconsin.gov
Paul Kruse	Chair		kruser2@new.rr.com
Dani Long	Assisting Secretary	418 Water St Chilton, WI 53010	danice.long@gmail.com

Addendum B: Agenda

N.E. Trout Unlimited Regional Meeting Agenda

Wild Wolf Inn- December 5, 2015 @ 9:30 am

Call to Order and Roll Call of Chapters

State Council Updates – Linn Beck -S.C. Chairman, Leadership/Membership Training,

Wisconsin TU Fly-Fishing Youth Camp, State Council Banquet 2016

Chapter Reports – Each chapter will have the opportunity to briefly describe 2015

projects/activities

DNR and USFS- Brief description of 2015 completed and ongoing projects.

Funding Requests FY 2016:

US Forest Service:

- CNNF Request, Seasonal Fisheries Technician =\$8,000

Antigo DNR:

- Two-Person, Trout Habitat Brushing Crew, = \$15,000;
- Spring Pond Dredge Fuel for Blue (Hunting River system) and Kedrick Springs (East Branch Eau Claire River system) both in Langlade County = \$2,400
- Garmin MAP 64S handheld GPS = \$275 (for trout habitat projects and beaver control work)

Peshtigo DNR:

- Temp Monitoring Oconto River, = \$2,400
- Heavy Equip Operator/Supplies = \$4500

Lakewood Crew:

- 3 Person Habitat Crew in Marinette, Oconto, and Shawano Counties = \$15,000

May 1st 2016 is the deadline for the funds pledged to agencies at this meeting.

Please send to: **(Made out to: WI. DNR or U.S. Forest Service)**

Paul Kruse

500 Saint Jude St

Green Bay, WI. 54303

Lunch Break: Lunch will be ordered individually from the menu.

WDNR- Jonathan Pyatskowitz (NEW Trout Habitat Coordinator) will speak on what he will be trying to accomplish in the coming year(s) with regard to easements and habitat work in the N.E Region.

WDNR- Shawn Sullivan (DNR Wild Rose) will have a presentation on the Central Wisconsin habitat crew in Waupaca, Shawano and Waushara Counties.

Election of Northeast Regional Vice Chair

Adjournment