

Dear Wisconsin TU Member or Friend:

The current proposed Wisconsin Budget would 1.) cut all stewardship funding, 2.) eliminate over ½ of the Wisconsin DNR's 33 science positions, and 3.) render the Natural Resources Board only an "advisory" committee.

Wisconsin TU is strongly opposed to all three of these proposals. Stewardship funding is used to acquire streambank and fishing access, and that access is what makes TU's restoration work – and the hundreds of thousands of non-State dollars we leverage in the process -- possible. Access to fishing opportunities is incredibly good for Wisconsin, leading to the injection of BILLIONS of dollars in to our economy, and supporting over 20,000 jobs (ASA 2013 "Sportfishing in America" report).

Likewise, science positions within the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ensure that sound management decisions are made, so that robust fisheries continue to exist, and continue to attract fisherman from both in and out of State. TU strongly supports science-based management, and works with WDNR Fisheries biologists to ensure that our projects have good results, so that future generations will have improved angling opportunities.

Finally, the Natural Resources Board ensures that Wisconsin's anglers and hunters have an active voice in setting rules and policies which govern our outdoor resources. Rendering those voices "advisory" is simply a bad decision. The NRB creates a barrier between outdoor resources management and special interests, and should be maintained for the good of Wisconsin, its outdoors resources, and the huge economy that they create.

Click here for more information.

HOW YOU CAN HELP.

We need to tell our legislators that stewardship, science, and the NRB are good for Wisconsin, good for its economy, and good for Wisconsin jobs. Contact your legislators, and the members of the Committee on Joint Finance and ask them to restore stewardship funding, science position funding, and the authority of the NRB in the budget bill.

You can do this in three ways:

1. Click here to send an automated, pre-formatted e-mail to your specific legislators (all you have to do is fill in some basic information).
2. Please send e-mails or call all members of the Wisconsin Joint Committee on Finance. The members are:

Senate:

Senator Alberta Darling

Sen.Darling@legis.wisconsin.gov

608-266-5830

Senator Luther Olsen

Sen.Olsen@legis.wisconsin.gov

608-266-0751

Senator Sheila Harsdorf	Sen.Harsdorf@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-7745
Senator Leah Vukmir	Sen.Vukmir@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-2512
Senator Thomas Tiffany	Sen.Tiffany@legis.wi.gov	608-266-2509
Senator Howard Marklein	Sen.Marklein@legis.wi.gov	608-266-0703
Senator Lena Taylor	Sen.Taylor@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-5810
Senator Jon Erpenbach	Sen.Erpenbach@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-6670

Assembly:

Rep. John Nygren	Rep.Nygren@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-2343
Rep. Dale Kooyenga	Rep.Kooyenga@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-9180
Rep. Amy Loudenberg	Rep.Loudenberg@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-9967
Rep. Dean Knudson	Rep.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-1526
Rep. Michael Schraa	Rep.Schraa@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-267-7990
Rep. Mary Czaja	Rep.Czaja@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-7694
Rep. Chris Taylor	Rep.Taylor@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-5342
Rep. Howard Hintz	Rep.Hintz@legis.wisconsin.gov	608-266-2254

3. Please post about this on social media – Facebook, Twitter, etc., -- and help build a network of people telling their legislators why restoring stewardship funding, science position funding, and restoring the power of the NRB is good for Wisconsin.

In all communications, remember to be polite, be concise, and keep in mind that you represent over 5,000 other Wisconsin TU members. Remember to thank your members for their service, and time listening to your concerns.