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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2009-10

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on Environment...

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
 - (**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
 - (**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

* Contents organized for archiving by: Stefanie Rose (LRB) (September 2013)

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Environment

Senate Bill 6

Relating to: designating a portion of the Brunsweler River as a wild river.

By Senators Jauch, Cowles, Erpenbach, Holperin, Lehman, Risser, Plale and Taylor; cosponsored by Representatives Sherman, Berceau, Bies, Clark, Hebl, Milroy, Nelson, Pocan, Richards, Turner, Vruwink, Molepske Jr., Barca and Hubler.

January 21, 2009 Referred to Committee on Environment.

February 11, 2009 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present: (5) Senators Miller, Jauch, Wirch, Kedzie and Olsen.

Absent: (0) None.

Appearances For

- Bob Jauch, Poplar — Senator, 25th Senate District
- Gary Sherman, Port Wing — Representative, 74th Assembly District
- Tia Nelson, Madison — Herself
- Steve Born, Madison — Himself
- Nancy Larson, Madison — DNR
- Lori Grant, Madison — River Alliance of Wisconsin
- William Schultheis, Dousman — himself

Appearances Against

- None.

Appearances for Information Only

- None.

Registrations For

- Jeff Plale, South Milwaukee — Senator, 7th Senate District
- George Meyer, Madison — Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
- Jennifer Giegerich, Madison — Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters
- Amber Meyer Smith, Madison — Clean Wisconsin
- Dave Martin, Muscoda — Himself

Registrations Against

- None.

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

February 19, 2009

EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD

Present: (5) Senators Miller, Jauch, Wirch, Kedzie and Olsen.

Absent: (0) None.

Moved by Senator Jauch, seconded by Senator Olsen that **Senate Bill 6** be recommended for passage.

Ayes: (5) Senators Miller, Jauch, Wirch, Kedzie and Olsen.

Noes: (0) None.

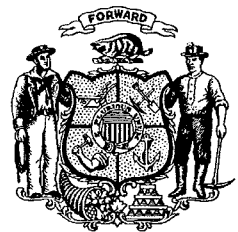
PASSAGE RECOMMENDED, Ayes 5, Noes 0



Elizabeth Bier
Committee Clerk



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



MARTIN HANSON

P.O. Box 707

Mellen, Wisconsin 54546

PHONE & FAX: 715-274-2344

12/28/06

BOB JAUCH & GARY SHERMAN

RE: A STATE DECISION ABOUT A "BRUNSWEILER RIVER AND SCENIC LAKES" PROPOSAL

THE MAP IS A SUGGESTION, THERE IS NOTHING ABOUT HOW IT WOULD BE MANAGED. THIS IS A DECISION FOR THE FOREST SERVICE AND THE D.N.R. AS IT IS NAVIGABLE WATERS.

THE BEST THING IS IT WILL COST NO MONEY.

ANOTHER QUESTION IS BEAVER DAM LAKE HAS 2 DAMS, A SPILLWAY AND A LOCK SECTION. THERE IS GRANITE LEDGE BETWEEN THESE BETWEEN THESE, THAT COULD

THAT COULD BE BLASTED OUT FOR A WATER FALL - ONE

FOREST SERVICE ^{ENGINEER} LIKED THIS AS THERE WOULD BE NO

MAINTENANCE. THE 2 OLD DAMS COULD BE BURIED WITH DIRT.

MAT DAHLMAN WITH NATURE CONSERVANCY, PERSONALLY LIKED THE IDEA. ENCLOSED IS AN ENDORSEMENT BY

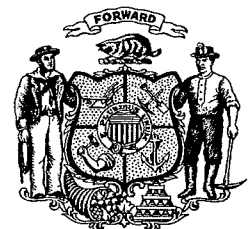
THE TOWN OF MARENGO AND A LETTER ABOUT ENDORSEMENT AND PERMANENT CONSERVATION EASEMENT TO PROTECT MY TIRE LAND.

MAT DAHLMAN ALSO SAID ANN ARCHIE, SUPERVISOR OF THE CHEQUAMEGON-NICOLET NATIONAL FORESTS WAS IS BEING REPLACED BY JEANNE HILL OF THE SAME FOREST, POSSIBLY IN THE FUTURE WE COULD GET TOGETHER.

Martin



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Martin Hanson Adjournment Honor
1/5/09

Senator Jauch moves to adjourn the Senate in honor of Martin Hanson who died in November but will always be remembered as one of the most important and revered environmental leaders of the last century.

Martin Hanson loved the land and lived his life to preserve it. He was happiest when he was in his beautiful property in Mellen, Wisconsin surrounded by the wildlife he cared for and the natural resources that sustained his life and his passion for protecting it.

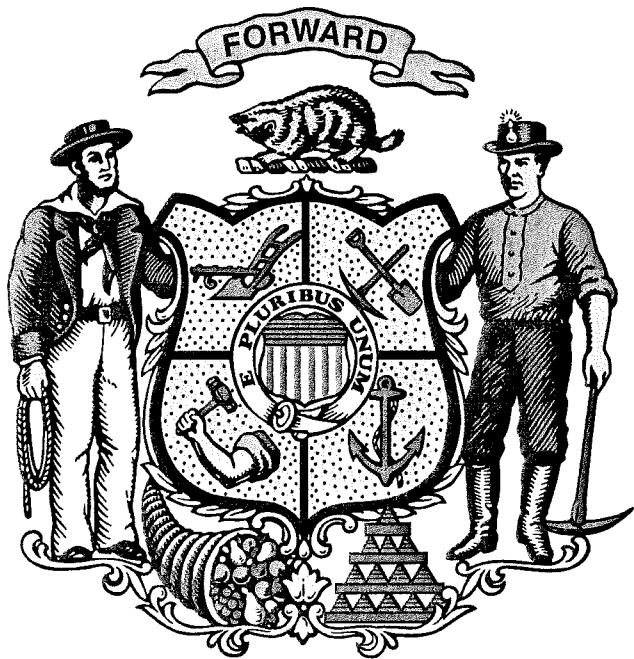
Martin will always be remembered and respected for his successful advocacy for major environmental policies that will protect our natural resources and enrich the quality of life for generations long into the future.

Gaylord Nelson, Congressman Dave Obey and countless other elected officials relied upon Martin for his spirited advocacy on a broad array of environmental causes, especially the protection of the Apostle Islands of Lake Superior as the Apostle Island National Lakeshore, the reintroduction of elk into the North Woods, and the creation of wild and scenic waterways.

I and others who know Martin have been blessed by his humor, have been motivated by his endless ideas and entertained through his wildlife videos and countless stories.

One of Martin's last projects was a request that the Brunswailer River that he loved so much be designated as a Wild River to protect this natural resource for the future. In respect of Martin and confirmation of this stewardship legacy, Representative Sherman and I are today circulating co-sponsorship of this legislation.

Martin is a member of an elite group of environmental champions, Gaylord Nelson, Aldo Leopold, Sigurd Olson, and John Muir who leave our natural resources so much cleaner and our lives richer through their energetic stewardship leadership.





Wisconsin Association of Lakes

A nonprofit group of citizens, organizations, and businesses working for clean, safe, healthy lakes for everyone.

4513 Vernon Boulevard, Suite 101 • Madison, WI 53705-4964

608-661-4313 • 800-542-5253 (in WI) • 608-661-4314 fax

wal@wisconsinlakes.org • www.wisconsinlakes.org

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Chair Senator Mark Miller
Room 317 East, State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

February 11, 2009

Dear Senator Miller and Committee members:

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for SB 12. We would like to thank Senator Jauch for introducing this important bill that will help protect sensitive shorelines and improve public safety.

Ensuring that recreational boating is safe for lake users and preventing unintended declines in lake water quality is an important priority for many of our Lake District and lake association members.

Boating too close to shorelines can contribute to shoreline erosion problems, reduce water clarity by stirring up lake bed sediments, release phosphorus—the nutrient responsible for algae blooms—from lake bed sediments, and harm fish habitat when propellers uproot shore land plants. This bill is a positive step forward to preserve water quality and prevent shoreline degradation.

We understand the word shoreline as used in the bill to mean the actual edge of the water. It may be useful to include in the bill draft a clarification that the intended meaning of "shoreline" is the "point where the water meets the land." Fluctuating water levels on Wisconsin lakes can lead to variability in shoreline location.

Establishing slow-no-wake zones in local boating ordinances is a common approach that balances different recreational uses with natural resource needs. More than 500 local boating ordinances have been passed across the state on lakes greater than 50 acres. We are pleased that the same protections are being extended to all lakes in the state, while recognizing that there are some locations where a more localized approach may be desirable to accommodate recreational use.

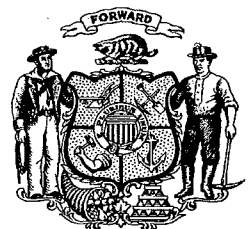
We appreciate the necessity of limiting high speed watercraft traffic near the shore to improve public safety for citizens who are fishing, swimming, and paddling on our shorelines. The exemption for water skiers is appropriate and perhaps could even be extended more broadly to allow water skiers exemption in circumstances where they are outside buoyed areas.

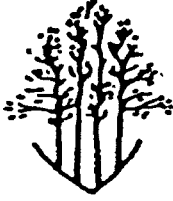
Thank you for your support on this important issue.

Tamara Jackson
Wisconsin Association of Lakes Director of Communications



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





Bayfield Regional Conservancy

P.O. Box 410 ♦ Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814 ♦ Phone 715-779-LAND
E-mail brc@brcland.org ♦ Website www.brcland.org

February 10, 2009

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Ellen Kwiatkowski
Executive Director
Lynda Nedden-Durst
Membership

Wisconsin State Legislature
Senate Committee on the Environment
Madison, WI

To the Members of the Senate Committee on the Environment,

I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill SB-6 designating the Brunswailer River, located in Ashland County, as a Wild River. For much of its length the Brunswailer is an outstanding resource water that flows through wetlands, lakes, forestland, and the Penokee Mountains before it joins the Marengo River on the Bad River Reservation. Many of our organization's members enjoy kayaking, hiking and bird watching along the rivers granite cliffs through hemlock, white pine and upland cedar forest. The forests of this area provide significant habitat for interior forest dwelling birds that, due to significant habitat loss throughout their range, are declining in numbers. These include species such as the black throated blue warbler, winter wren, pileated woodpecker, oven bird, and hermit thrush, among others.

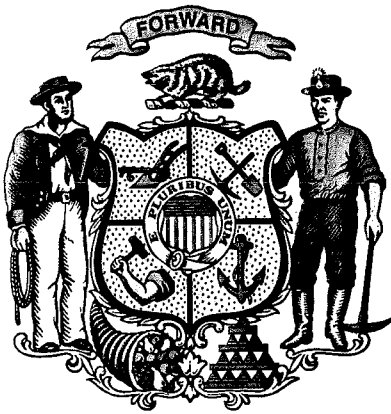
Due to its conservation significance, the Bayfield Regional Conservancy is actively working to protect land along the Brunswailer River and currently holds a conservation easement on 85 acres of property situated along its course. The easement prevents subdivision, development and clearing and ensures an intact shoreline along the river. The conservation easement was donated to the Conservancy in the Spring of 2008 by life-long conservationist Martin Hanson. Dubbed "Camelot North" by Martin's colleagues, the property was a northern retreat for Democratic policy makers for decades and many a seed of Wisconsin's significant conservation initiatives were germinated there with the help of Senator Gaylord Nelson, Rep. Dave Obey and others. A large stretch of the Brunswailer River, including Beaverdam Lake, flows through the property and Martin managed the land to restore and provide habitat.

Passage of Assembly Bill AB-7 would not only duly recognize the Brunswailer River for its outstanding conservation values but it would also honor the life and work of Martin Hanson. Thank you for considering this legislation.

Respectfully,

Ellen Kwiatkowski
Executive Director

*Protecting natural lands, waters, forests, farms and places of scenic,
spiritual and historic value in the Bayfield Region.*





RIVER ALLIANCE OF WISCONSIN

Senator Mark Miller, Chair, Senate Committee on the Environment
Members of the Senate Committee on the Environment
201 Southeast
State Capitol

Dear Senator Miller and Members of the Senate Committee on the Environment:

The River Alliance of Wisconsin is thrilled to voice our **support for SB 6**, the designation of the Brunswailer River as a Wisconsin Wild River, and to honor Martin Hanson with this special recognition of his long-time home river.

Over 40 years ago, a bill authored by Representative David Martin (Neenah, 1961-71) and co-sponsored by Robert Haase from Marinette and Paul Alfonsi from Minocqua proposed the creation of the Wisconsin Wild Rivers Program. Its intent was "In order to afford the people of this state an opportunity to enjoy natural streams, to attract out-of-state visitors and assure the well-being of our tourist industry, it is in the interest of this state to preserve some rivers in a free-flowing condition and to protect them from development," ss 30.26(1). The bill won broad, bipartisan support, passed unanimously in both the Senate and the Assembly, and was signed into law by Governor Warren Knowles in November 1965, making it the first law of its kind in the United States. The Pine and Popple Rivers in Florence and Forest Counties, along with the Pike River in Marinette County were designated as Wisconsin's first three wild rivers concurrent with the creation of the program. Three years later, U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson took the idea national, leading the effort to create the Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968.

As a result of their Wild River designations, the Pike, Popple and Pine Rivers have remained pristine, and the communities traversed by the rivers have benefitted greatly from the fishing and recreational opportunities they provide. Unfortunately, the Wild Rivers Program has not been put to use since those first designations in 1965. It is high time this underutilized program is resurrected, and designating the Brunswailer River as the first Wild River since 1965 is a fitting tribute to dedicated conservationist, Martin Hanson.

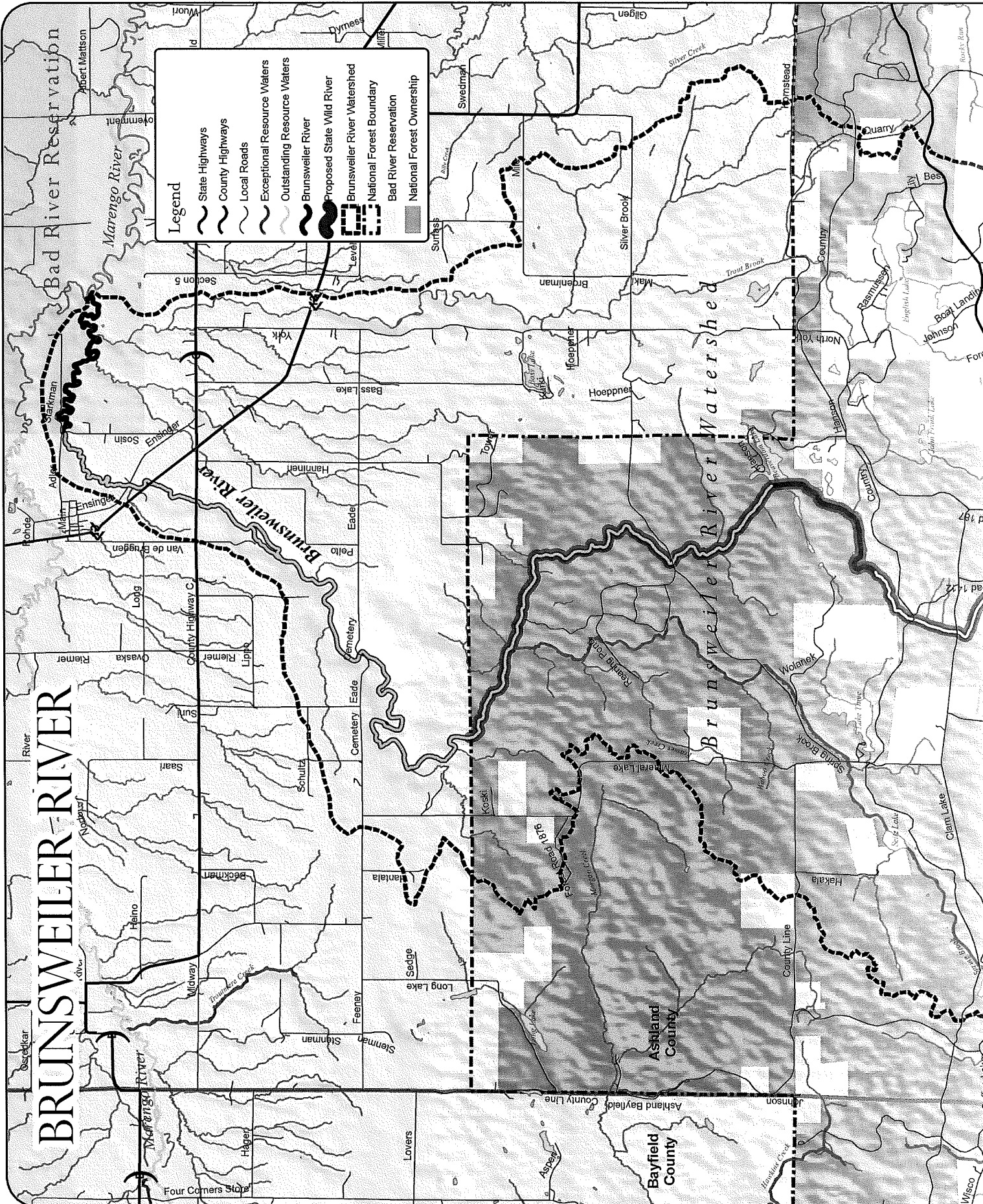
The River Alliance of Wisconsin urges your swift approval of SB 6, and looks forward to working with you toward Wild River designation of many other worthy rivers in coming years.

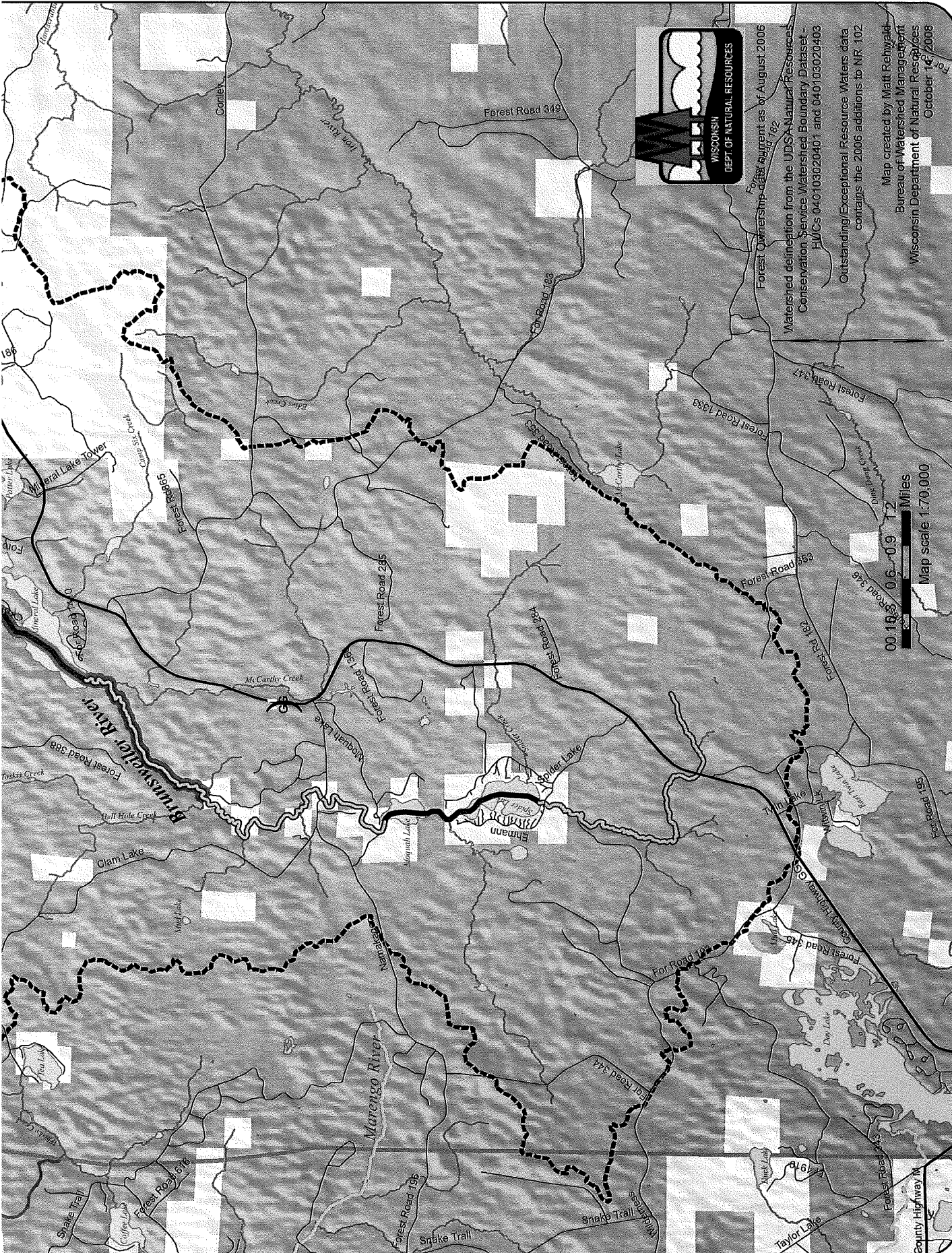
Sincerely,

Lori Grant
River Protection Program



BRUNSWEILER RIVER





WISCONSIN
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Forest Ownership data current as of August, 2006

Watershed delineation from the USDA-Natural Resources
Conservation Service Watershed Boundary Dataset -
HUCs 040103020401 and 040103020403

Outstanding/Exceptional Resource Waters data
contains the 2006 additions to NR 102

0.6 0.9
Miles
Map scale 1:70,000

Map created by Matt Rehyard
Bureau of Watershed Management
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
October 14, 2008