

Vote Record

Senate - Committee on Environmental Resources

Date: 3/5/02
 Bill Number: SB 468
 Moved by: Cowles Seconded by: Baumgart
 Motion: Recommended for passage

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Sen. Jim Baumgart, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. David Hansen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Robert Wirch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Robert Cowles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Dale Schultz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion Carried

Motion Failed

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 468
MOTORBOAT GAS TAX ALLOCATION

February 28, 2002

By Roger E. Walsh
President Elect, Wisconsin Association of Lakes
Commissioner & Treasurer, Big Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District

Good afternoon. I am Roger E. Walsh, the President Elect of the Wisconsin Association of Lakes (WAL). I will be assuming the office of President in nine days at the Wisconsin Lakes Convention in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Several of you have attended this convention in the past and you are all invited to attend this year's convention. I am also a Commissioner and Treasurer of the Big Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District, where I have been a Commissioner for almost twenty years.

You have heard testimony today from WAL's Executive Director, Donna Sefton, and as the President Elect and soon to be President of WAL, I second her testimony and add my name in support of her statements in support of SB 468. Our organization is deeply committed to enhancing the water quality of all lakes in Wisconsin and feels very strongly that increasing the motorboat gas tax allocation is necessary for this lake water quality to improve. Costs of completing projects that improve lake water quality continue to escalate. In addition, more and more lake associations and districts have come to the realization that now is the time to do something to increase the water quality of their lake before it is too late. Both of these situations place extreme burdens on currently existing funds. The modest increase in funds that will be generated by increasing the formula from 50 gallons to 80 gallons is really needed to maintain the current level of lake water quality projects.

I also want to discuss with you the wondrous effects of Wisconsin's lake water quality grant program on Big Cedar Lake, a 1000 acre lake in Washington County between West Bend and Slinger. Big Cedar Lake is also located in populous Southeastern Wisconsin and is only a 40 minute drive from downtown Milwaukee. There is a lot of traffic and recreational pressure on Big Cedar Lake. I have owned property on Big Cedar Lake since 1974 and have been actively involved in improving the lake's water quality for almost 20 years during that period. Big Cedar Lake received a lake planning grant and a land purchase grant in the late 1970's and has received several other lake management grants since then. What is significant is what has been accomplished with those grants:

1. Reduction of sediments and nutrients reaching the lake due to the installation of multiple settling ponds in the lake's watershed, construction of manure storage facilities on dairy farms, and reforestation of key agricultural lands.
2. Maintenance and improvement of the lake's excellent water quality and fishery in spite of increasing urbanization of the watershed, evidenced by increasing water clarity, decreasing phosphorous and algae concentrations and reappearance of native aquatic weed species (Attached are three charts showing increases in water clarity, and

decreases in total-phosphorus concentration and chlorophyll-a concentration in the past 20 years in the largest portion of Big Cedar Lake)

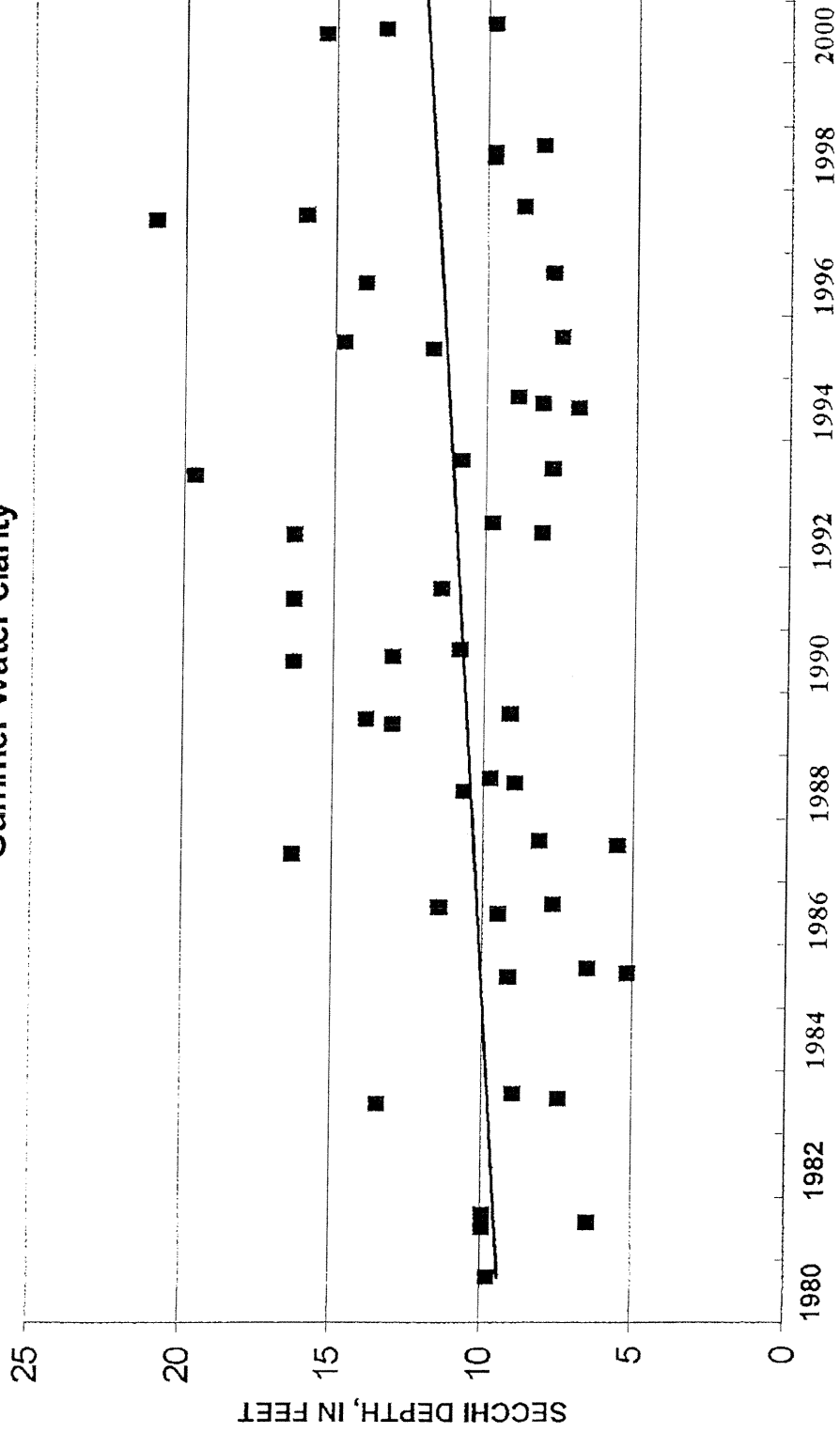
3. Improved public access and boat launch facilities at the lake, with installation of additional car/trailer parking sufficient to accommodate the statutory maximum boating density.

There has been joint participation in these projects with the District from the Washington County Land Conservation Department for pond design, best agricultural management practices and nonpoint source controls, with the United States Geological Survey for water quality monitoring, and with the Cedar Lakes Conservation Foundation for acquisition of conservancy lands, all with very helpful guidance from DNR staff.

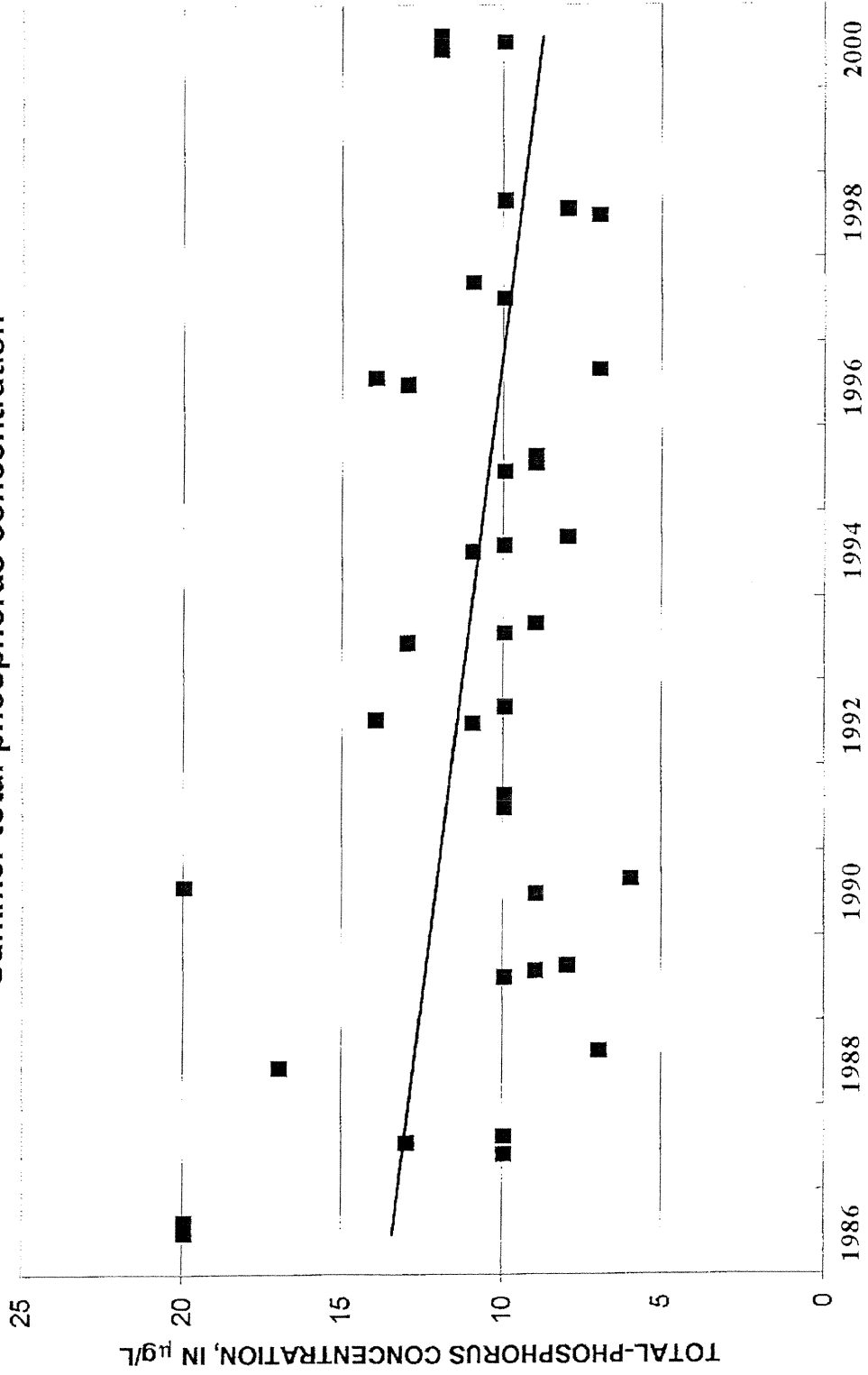
From our experience at Big Cedar, state funds allocated to lake management and nonpoint source controls produce measurable positive results. At Big Cedar, these results are the preservation and improvement of a vital recreational and natural resource for our own and future generations.

I invite all of you to take a boat ride on Big Cedar Lake this summer and see for yourself the positive results that can occur with these lake grants. The future of our lakes is dependent on these grants. The Wisconsin Legislature has traditionally been very supportive of improving the water quality of our lakes; we ask that you continue this support and adopt SB 468

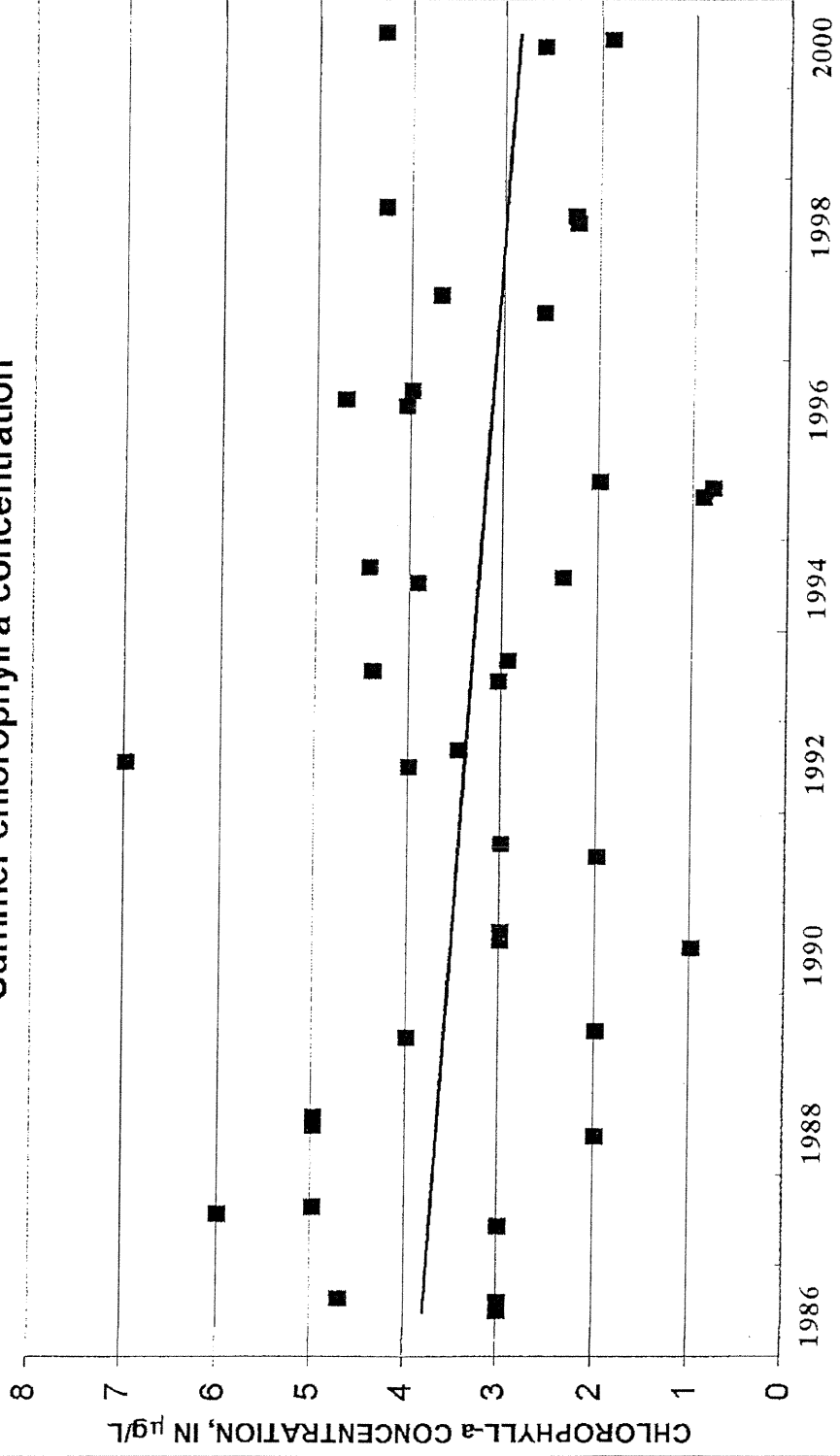
Big Cedar Lake, South Basin
Summer water clarity



Big Cedar Lake, South Basin
Summer total-phosphorus concentration



Big Cedar Lake, South Basin
Summer chlorophyll a concentration



STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 468
BY PAUL HEINEN
FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FEBRUARY 28,2002

THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL 468.

SENATE BILL 468 PROVIDES BADLY NEEDED FUNDING FOR A NUMBER OF WATER PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF WISCONSIN.

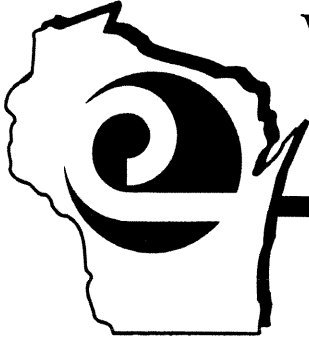
NEW FUNDING FOR WETLANDS PROTECTION GRANTS, THE CONSERVATION RESERVE AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM AND STAFF AT DATCP AND DNR TO IMPLEMENT THESE PROGRAMS IS VERY TIMELY. ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR LAKES AND RIVERS GRANTS AND ASSISTANCE TO RIVER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS IS BADLY NEEDED AS THE OUTSTANDING LAKES AND RIVERS GROUPS CONTINUE TO DO AMAZING WORK ON WISCONSIN'S WATERS WITH INSUFFICIENT FUNDS.

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE IS CUTTING GPR IN WATER PROGRAMS AS WE MEET AS THEY TRY TO FIX THE \$BILLION PLUS BUDGET GAP IN GPR. WATER PROGRAMS ARE HEAVILY GPR FUNDED AND WILL TAKE A DISPROPORTIONATE HIT FROM THESE CUTS. WE ARE NOT COMPLAINING...WE UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULT ECONOMIC TIMES.

DNR SECRETARY BAZZELL HAS ASKED US TO LOOK FOR SOURCES OTHER THAN GPR TO FUND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS. THE MOTOBOAT FUEL FORMULA IS AN APPROPRIATE SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR THESE PROGRAMS. THE BILL BRINGS THE OLD 1985 50 GALLON PER MOTORBOAT NUMBER UP TO A MUCH MORE REALISTIC 80 GALLONS PER BOAT.

IT IS ONLY FAIR THAT THE PAYERS OF THE TAX RECEIVE THE BENEFITS.

IT IS THE MANY GROUPS HERE TODAY, SPEAKING IN FAVOR OF SENATE BILL 468, AND SPEAKING FOR THE WATERS OF WISCONSIN, THAT DESERVE THIS FUNDING.



Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association

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WLWCA Homepage: <http://www.execpc.com/~wlwca>

To: Members of the Senate Environmental Resources Committee
From: Rebecca Baumann, Executive Director
Date: February 28, 2002
RE: Senate Bill 468

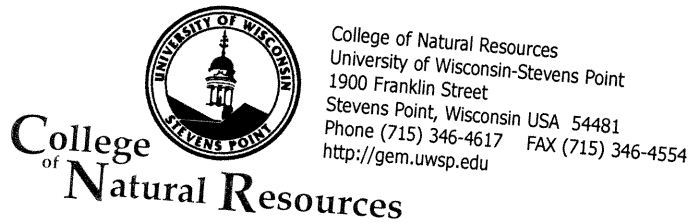
Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association supports SB 468.

The types of watercraft and the amount of usage by such water vehicles have changed dramatically since 1989, the year the gasoline tax formula was created. Since then, Wisconsin lakes and rivers have experienced a marked increase in water vehicle recreation activity and the resulting negative impacts on their water quality. Such events necessitate a more realistic analysis of fuel consumption and an allocation of additional funds from the gasoline tax to the conservation fund. SB 468 provides both.

Our organization supports SB 468 for another important reason. Wisconsin is participating in the federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program ("CREP") and has provided \$40 million in bonding revenue to match \$198 million from the USDA. The money in its entirety, however, must be used for installing best management practices to prevent soil erosion and nonpoint water source pollution, not staffing. To take full advantage of this program, the state needs to ensure that counties have more, not less, staffing. This bill authorizes the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection to make payments to counties that provide assistance in implementing CREP and to provide funds to counties, in addition to funds currently provided under the state's land and water resource management program, for staff to implement land and water resource management plans.

Conservation programs are currently under-funded while environmental problems continue to grow. SB 468's proposed alteration in the gasoline tax formula would begin to address some of the state's funding needs and ensure that the programs that are funded will also be staffed.

We urge your support of SB 468.



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SB 468 Hearing

February 28, 2002

Motorboat Gas Tax Formula Adjustment for Lakes/Water/Wetland Programs

Room 300 SE WI State Capital Building

Senate Environmental Resources Committee

Testimony of Wes Halverson, Ph.D.

Coordinator, UWSP Watersheds Center

1900 Franklin Street

224-C CNR Building

Stevens Point, WI 54481

Gentlemen,

In general, I am in favor of SB 468 except for one omission, which is funding for the Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center at UW-Stevens Point.

The Wisconsin Watershed Partnership Center will facilitate collaborative research and educational efforts among participating institutions to provide science-based knowledge for effective watershed management. Through outreach education, the Center will improve citizen, business and industry awareness and knowledge of impacts to the conservation of wetlands and watersheds. The Center's training programs will contribute to workforce development needed urgently to help meet comprehensive "smart growth" planning and sustainable development goals in Wisconsin's 2,000 townships, villages and municipalities, all of which have water quality and quantity issues to address for building a sustainable future.

The benefits to the State of Wisconsin are obvious. Foremost being the educational value of involving our 1500 College of Natural Resource students and faculty in watershed management projects that take into account all threats to human health and ecological integrity within specific watersheds of the state. It's an opportunity for them to integrate all of their knowledge of natural resources in the real world of system management. Our returning alumni tell us that this component of our educational curriculum is extremely important and should be strengthened. The process is often political and nasty, but watershed education can help our graduates face those uncertainties with poise and dignity. Reading about conflict resolution will not prepare them for the political conflicts that often accompany resource management. The watershed experiences will help them create personal wisdom, far beyond their textbook knowledge.

With funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency we have been piloting the development of a Watershed Center at UWSP for the past six months with modest success. Our first task was to develop cooperation between the other resource center on campus and that step has been achieved. The next step is to work with three pilot watersheds on building local capacity for watershed management. The three that have expressed interest in working with us are the Little Wolf River watershed in Waupaca County, Long Lake in Washburn County, and the Fever branch of the Galena River watershed in Grant and Lafayette Counties. These are three distinctly different kinds of watersheds and the experiences we gain will be highly transferable. We will be working with our colleagues at UW-Platteville as they build support for the Fever/Galena watershed within the agricultural communities surrounding the Pioneer Farm.

In addition, we will begin training secondary science teachers from 15 school districts along the Wisconsin River watershed this coming summer. Funding from the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program will allow us to work with 40 teachers over a two year period on water monitoring techniques. Our water resource faculty will train the teachers for one week each summer and the teachers will return to the campus with their students for a spring symposium on their monitoring projects. The UWSP Environmental Task Force lab will conduct split sample analyses for the teachers and help maintain high quality control of their data. The potential is high for additional teacher training in other aspects of watershed management and we are willing to work with teachers as they continue to improve their academic credentials. The school children of Wisconsin will benefit from our support of their teachers.

In summary, we respectfully request that SB 468 be amended at a future date and funding of the Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center be reinstated as it was in SB 443.

I hope you give us an opportunity to grow even stronger and we look forward to meeting with you in the near future. A strong UWSP Watershed Center will benefit the College of Natural Resources and our other initiative to develop the GEM Educational Center. Our CRN Dean, Victor Phillips, Associate Dean Randy Champeau and GEM professor Mike Dombeck look forward to meeting with you the next time.

WISCONSIN WETLANDS ASSOCIATION

2002 PROGRAMS

Wisconsin Wetlands Association (WWA) organizes diverse public events and produces educational publications for promoting wetland conservation in Wisconsin. The following is a summary of the WWA 2002 program activities.

- **Wetland Science Forum**-- On February 1, 2002, WWA will host its 7th Annual Wetland Science Forum in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. The theme for this forum is the science of wetland restoration, and we have a suite of good speakers lined up for that event. Our annual forums attract wetland professionals from the private and public sector. The forum is being held in collaboration with the annual meeting of the Soil and Water Conservation Society-Wisconsin Chapter on January 31. Their program highlights wetland policy and restoration.
- **Wetland Restoration Handbook**—WWA produced, together with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, its *Wetland Restoration Handbook for Wisconsin Landowners* in 2000. This handbook has been enormously popular, and over 6,000 have been distributed throughout the state. The popular handbook won the "Distinguished Document Award -2000" from the Wisconsin Library Association. WWA is planning a revision and expansion of the handbook for publication in summer, 2002.
- **Wetland Restoration Workshops**—In 2001, WWA piloted a training program in wetland restoration for landowners. This program is being expanded, and we plan to coordinate three wetland restoration workshops around the state in 2002. The *Handbook* serves as a textbook, and the authors of the *Handbook* are our instructors.
- **Wetland Resources Directory**—WWA has developed a database of almost 800 entries that includes individuals, organizations and corporations that are involved with wetland protection, research, conservation, regulation, restoration and management. The *Directory* is conveniently divided into chapters that include state and federal agencies, universities, non-profit organizations, and for-profit corporations. The *Directory* will have over 150 pages once it is published.
- **Teacher Handbook of Activities on the Biological Control of Purple Loosestrife**—In fall 2001 ten teachers joined WWA and the DNR's state coordinator for the bio-control of purple loosestrife at a workshop to develop a set of activities on wetlands and purple loosestrife for teachers (grades 6-12) to use in their classrooms. This invasive plant has spread extensively into many of our state's waterways and wetlands, and biological control is a safe and effective means to control it. WWA will field-test and publish this *Teacher Handbook* in 2002 for statewide distribution and use.
- **Purple Loosestrife Education and Monitoring**—WWA is expanding a state program that engages teachers and students in the fascinating effort to control purple loosestrife using safe biological methods. We will train teachers using our new activities (see above) for them to effectively teach and involve students in this program. WWA is also planning a statewide volunteer effort to record and monitor the distribution and expansion of purple loosestrife in order to develop a strategy for its control.
- **Farmer & Rural Landowner Wetland Education Program**—WWA is collaborating with various state and federal agencies to coordinate a series of workshops for farmers and rural landowners. These half-day sessions will introduce participants to the importance of wetland conservation and to the diverse wetland conservation programs that are available to private citizens.

Senate Bill 468 (Replaced SB443)

Testimony before the Senate Environmental Resources Committee

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Thursday, February 28, 2002, 2:00 p.m.

Capitol, Room 300 Southeast

Good Afternoon Senator Baumgart and Members of the Senate Environmental Resources Committee.

I am David Jelinski. I serve as Director of the Land and Water Resources Bureau in the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. I am here today on Secretary Harsdorf's behalf to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 468. We have also submitted a fiscal estimate for this bill that provides more detailed information concerning our comments.

We would like to thank the authors of this bill for proposing increased funding to the department for staff to implement the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, commonly referred to as CREP, and to provide increased grants to support county land conservation committee staff to work on CREP and to implement county Land and Water Resource Management Plans.

DATCP supports providing funding to the department and Counties for staff and support costs for:

Implementing the Wisconsin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- Goal is to enroll 100,000 acres into buffers to improve water quality and establish grassland areas for habitat for endangered grassland species and other wildlife
- The program provides 15-year agreement or permanent conservation easement options to landowners. DATCP estimates about 12,500 total landowner agreements and easements.
- Wisconsin's \$40 million contribution will leverage about \$200 Million in federal USDA funds over 15 years.
- 39 of 51 Counties have already agreed to participate in the Program with and additional 5 to 8 counties expected to participate. A concern is the lack of funding for staff.
- The state's bond revenue funds may not be used for state or local staff costs.
- The \$1.375 million per year is needed to support local staff working on CREP.
- The \$125,000 is needed by DATCP to hire project staff to work on CREP over the next 4 years.

The proposed bill will also provide needed funding to pay staff costs to implement County Land and Water Resource Management Plans.

- The fiscal estimate for ATCP 50 identified a need of between \$2 million and \$4 million annually for county staff and support costs to implement the performance standards and prohibitions

The proposed bill will provide a needed long term dedicated funding source for implementing these essential soil and water conservation programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify this morning. If you need any more information or have questions, I would be pleased to answer your questions.

I:\LW\USERS\keith\sb443Testimony.doc

Lisa Conley

516 Lac La Belle Drive, Oconomowoc, WI 53066 (262)567-5947

February 28, 2002

Chairman Jim Baumgart
Senate Environmental Resources Committee
Wisconsin State Senate

Dear Chairman Baumgart and Members of the Senate Environmental Resources Committee,

I am a lake volunteer. I have chaired the Lac La Belle Management District in Oconomowoc, and served as president of the Wisconsin Association of Lakes and the North American Lake Management Society. I love our lakes here in Wisconsin and have devoted most of my time in the past 20 years working as a volunteer to preserve and improve them.

While road building is an important industry in Wisconsin, it is just as important to have places worth going to. In Wisconsin, our lakes are prime destinations for tourists and residents alike. While in Wisconsin it may be easy to take the pleasures of lake life for granted, I hope you know that the quantity and quality and diversity of lake we have in Wisconsin constitutes a world class resource. Only Alaska and Ontario have more.

Taking care of 15,000 lakes is a big job – too big for our DNR. Because Wisconsin citizens and their communities care deeply about our lakes, we have organized locally and statewide to join with the DNR and the University Extension to put together a unique, nationally recognized partnership. Everyone in the state who appreciates our lakes benefits from this partnership.

The Wisconsin Association of lakes has worked over the years to secure funding for a for this program, which is designed to return gasoline tax money to protect and improve the hard working resources that generated this income – our inland lakes. The Lake and river grant programs funded with motorboat fuel tax give local communities incentive and support for lake protection and restoration projects.

The money granted to communities is multiplied many times by volunteer efforts and contributions that often greatly exceed what is expected of them. While our DNR and private water quality consultants provide the expertise for planning these projects, local support is the critical ingredient that makes for a successful and lasting lake improvement project.

This is a successful and popular program, and the demand for this grant program is growing. Recently the legislature has expanded the grant categories to include river and wetland projects. This money also funds water safety patrols, and public lake and river access development.

Many good projects are now being turned down for lack of funding, and the community momentum behind these grant applications is being lost. The formula that generates our income for this program is woefully out of date. Boat size, boat use, and horsepower have all increased dramatically. The result is that we no longer receive our fair share of state gasoline tax revenues.

SB 468 asks for a very conservative increase in our gas tax formula to help our grant programs extend to reach more communities. Our lakes and rivers and wetlands are all connected. While

we support the extension of our grant programs to cover additional kinds of projects and waterways you must recognize that this has stretched our grant programs.

Roads are important, but it is just as important to have places worth going to. Our lakes are those places.

Please help return a fair share of motorboat gas tax revenue to local communities - Please support SB 468.

Thank you for your attention, and the opportunity to speak before you today.



Lisa Conley
Past Chair, Lac La Belle Management District
Past President, Wisconsin Association of Lakes
Past President, North American Lake Management Society.



WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.

ONE POINT PLACE • SUITE 101 • MADISON, WI 53719-2809 • 800/542-5253 (in WI) • 608/662-0923 • FAX 608/833-7179

Testimony on Senate Bill 468 Motorboat Gas Tax Allocation

by

Donna F. Sefton, Executive Director
Wisconsin Association of Lakes

Good afternoon. My name is Donna Sefton. I love Wisconsin lakes and I am concerned about their future. That's why I serve as Executive Director of the Wisconsin Association of Lakes. I will be providing some background on the motorboat gas tax allocation and WAL's position. Some individual lake association members will also testify on how the funds have helped them to develop local capacity and have spurred volunteer efforts to protect Wisconsin water resources. Others have written you letters. If you were holding this hearing at the Wisconsin Lakes Convention in Green Bay next week, close to 600 lake enthusiasts would tell you how the motorboat gas tax funds have been used and increases are needed to continue leveraging local funds and volunteer efforts to benefit the water resources they care about.

The Wisconsin Association of Lakes is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection, preservation and restoration of Wisconsin's 15,000 lakes. We represent some 330 individual lake organizations whose membership tops 101,000. We also serve 17 countywide lake associations and many more individual "Friends of Wisconsin Lakes."

The Wisconsin Association of Lakes (WAL) fully supports Senate Bill 468, which corrects the unfair underestimate of motorboat gas tax revenues and provides support for critical water programs (lakes, rivers, and wetlands grants, and water quality protection through implementation of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program).

WAL was formed from the merger of the Wisconsin Association of Lake Districts and the Wisconsin Federation of Lakes in 1992. These predecessor organizations of WAL worked to establish the segregated Water Resource Account (created in 1987 Act 27) and its major funding source - the annual transfer of motorboat fuel tax revenue into the account. The account originally funded: 1) development of state and local recreational boating facilities, 2) lake planning grants, 3) dam inspection and safety, and 4) operation and management of the Fox River. In recent years, the legislature has expanded grant eligibility to include lake protection and classification, river planning and protection, shoreline and littoral zone restoration, and small-scale wetland restoration and water education grants.

The amount of the transfer to the Water Resources Account each fiscal year is calculated by multiplying the motor fuel tax on 50 gallons of gasoline (the 1987 estimate of annual per boat consumption) by the number of motorboats registered as of January 1 the previous fiscal year. That number is then multiplied by 1.4 to compensate for out-of-state boaters buying motorboat gas in Wisconsin and using Wisconsin waters.

This 1987 formula has not kept realistic pace with changing boat and motor types and their associated fuel consumption. Average motorboat horsepower has gone from 55 hp in 1990 to 87.5 in 2000. And many of the smaller horsepower engines today are personal watercraft and other vessels with significantly higher fuel consumption than the open hull boats with small outboards in common use years ago. Boat sizes and motor sizes have dramatically increased on today's waters. More than 40% of the boats registered in Wisconsin are between 18 and 39 feet in length. The result? Motorboat fuel taxes monies are being unfairly diverted to road improvement and maintenance.

email: wal@wisconsinlakes.org / website: www.wisconsinlakes.org

SB468 would raise the estimated annual fuel consumption allocation to 80 gallons annually, a slightly more realistic amount and the amount proposed by DNR in the 2002-2003 biennial budget. This 80 gallon estimate is still too conservative when compared with other Midwestern states: a 1995 Ohio study estimated that boaters used 299 gallons per year, and a 1999 Minnesota study estimated over 100 gallons.

The requested 80 gallon estimated reallocation would generate \$6.6 million annually, which is only 0.7% of the motor fuel gas tax revenues in the state. This amount would convert less than two miles of a two-lane highway into four lanes, but could make a substantial and important difference for water resource protection and preservation.

Under SB468, the increased funding would be used for several priority water resources initiatives which WAL has suggested and supports. Those major provisions include:

- Funding an additional \$1.4 million each for Lake Management Grants and River Protection Grants beginning in Fiscal Year 2002-2003.
- Creating a new Wetlands Protection Grants program funded with \$950,000 in FY 02-03. The program would provide 75% matching grants up to \$50,000.00 to local organizations for wetland protection, enhancement or restoration.
- Providing \$1.5 million to assist county governments in their administration of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and to implement land and water resource management plans. (This would leverage a total of \$240 million in federal and state funds in FY 02-03 under the CREP program to establish buffer areas around streams which have been shown to dramatically to improve water quality and habitat).
- Providing much needed funding to allow two specialists with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to administer the CREP funding. DNR would add 6.5 positions to assure support of wetlands mitigation and administration of the lake, river and wetland grants programs.

The lake and river grant programs have proven very successful and cost-effective, leveraging local matching funds and volunteer efforts to build local capacity to monitor, protect, and manage water resources. They have also funded positions in DNR to support the self-help monitoring program (with over 1000 volunteer) and provide direct technical assistance to lake, river and wetland organizations and positions at UW-Extension College of Natural Resources in Stevens Point to provide organizational and educational support for lake protection and management, including the Adopt-A-Lake Program and Water Education for Teachers.

Since 1990, \$6.2 million has been awarded for 850 lake planning grants. These grants require a 25% cost share and have leveraged more than \$1.6 million from local sources and in-kind volunteer efforts. Statutes (281.68) provides up to \$10,000 per grant for the following eligible activities: data collection; water quality assessments; fish, wildlife and aquatic life assessments, lake use assessments, nonpoint source pollution assessments, and information and education.

Since 1994, \$13.2 million has been awarded for 193 lake protection grants. These grants require at least 25% cost-share and have leveraged over \$3.3 million from local sources and in-kind volunteer efforts. Eligible activities are land acquisition, wetland restoration, ordinance development, activities in an approved plan, and lake classification. The per project cap is \$200,000, except for lake classification and ordinance development, which are capped at \$50,000. New Act 16 creates specific authority for shoreland

and littoral zone restoration. There are also special provisions for small (\$10,000) wetland restoration project to be used to help assure the preservation of these vital wildlife habitats.

At Twin Lakes in Kenosha County, these funds have been used to develop lake, aquatic plant, smart growth, and stormwater management plans. At Powers Lake in Kenosha Co., lake protection funds have been used for wetlands acquisition. Nelson Lake in Sawyer Co. began water quality studies last year and plans to apply for grants to allow for further management plan development. At Lac LaBelle in Waukesha Co. these funds have been used for an aquatic plant study, lake management plan, habitat restoration, and education for residents and visitors about enjoying and preserving the lake.

Regrettably, the lakes and rivers grant programs are currently oversubscribed, with over \$2.4 million in lake protection grant applications and \$2.1 million in river planning and protection grants unfunded since 2000. These communities have planned good projects that we do not have the funding to help them with. Furthermore, legislation enacted in 2001 provided newly eligible activities for lakes grant funding - shoreline and littoral zone restoration, wetlands restoration, small educational projects (including school district eligibility for funding), and increased demand for grants for aquatic plant management planning. This has increased the number of applications and broadened the participation, but also has added significantly to DNR's workload to administer the program.

Wisconsin lakes and rivers anchor the state's \$10 billion tourism industry, which is dependent on maintaining good water quality as offered by wetlands and cost-share (such as the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program) to prevent polluted runoff from agriculture, the state's No. 1 source of water pollution, which affects 90% of our lakes and 40% of our streams.

The Wisconsin Association of Lakes regards adjusting the motorboat gas tax allocation as a fair way to keep Wisconsin waters safe and enjoyable for all citizens and visitors, while protecting the economic values of these resources through lake, river, and wetlands grants to local entities and sufficient support staff to ensure these funds are administered appropriately.

Wisconsin highways and waterways: one gets us there; the other is the reason why so many visit and come to treasure this state. I have yet to meet a Wisconsinite who doesn't have a favorite lake. Lakes are important to all of us in this state. Not just because we are blessed with so many compared to other states; but because each lake is a special place for so many of us. Today we are not asking you to choose between maintaining the asphalt and concrete paths we journey on and protecting the watery jewels we are drawn to. Both are obviously important. What we are asking you to do is to fairly distribute the tax on the gasoline that fuels our cars and boats in this state. We ask you to pass SB468. Thank you for your consideration and support.

NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

Todd Ambs, River Alliance of Wisconsin (608) 257-2424
Donna Sefton, Wisconsin Association of Lakes (608) 662-0923
Charlie Luthin, Wisconsin Wetlands Association (608) 256-0565
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - FEBRUARY 28, 2002

BILL WOULD PROTECT WATERWAYS, LEVERAGE PRIVATE FUNDS AND VOLUNTEER POWER

Madison, WI: State and local environmental, conservation and sporting organizations are strongly supporting a new bill that would provide an additional \$6.7 million per year for river, lake and wetland protection and to fund the implementation of a new program that helps to reduce polluted runoff. Senator Rob Cowles and Representative DuWayne Johnsrud introduced the bill, which does not require any new taxes or revenue. At a hearing today before the Senate Environmental Resources Committee, advocates for clean water and healthy wetlands said the bill properly reallocates a fair share of state gas tax money and then uses that money to help folks work in their communities to protect their water resources.

“This legislation will take money collected as a tax for gas used in boat motors and send it to where it belongs, for programs designed to protect our waterways,” stated River Alliance of Wisconsin executive director Todd Ambs. “Legislators will decide if \$6.7 million per year is better spent on protecting our 15,000 lakes and 43,000 miles of rivers, or converting less than two miles of a two-lane highway into four lanes. We are confident that legislators will do the right thing for our most precious natural resource, our water,” Ambs concluded.

Currently, a state tax on motorboat fuel funds many of the conservation programs that protect water quality, recreational opportunities, water safety, and scenic beauty in Wisconsin. Since boat fuel comes from the same pumps as other motor fuels, a formula is used to estimate the motorboat fuel tax. This formula was set 15 years ago and has not kept pace with changing motorboat fuel consumption. Boating is on the rise and motorboat horsepower has increased across the board. Today, many smaller horsepower engines are used by fuel-consuming personal watercraft. More than 40% of the boats registered in Wisconsin are between 18 and 39 feet in length. That is more than double the number twenty years ago. The current state formula ignores these changes. The result? Motorboat fuel taxes are now used to fund road improvements and maintenance.

Donna Sefton, executive director of the Wisconsin Association of Lakes noted, “Our 330 member lake organizations who represent over 101,000 lake users regard an adjustment of the motorboat gas tax formula a fair way to keep Wisconsin waters safe and enjoyable for all citizens and visitors, while protecting the economic value of those resources.”

A broad array of state and local environmental, conservation and sporting organizations support the support the change to the current formula to correspond to the rise in motorboat fuel consumption. The Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and

Consumer Protection also support the bill. Senate Bill 468 would increase the formula to an average annual consumption of 80 gallons from the current average annual consumption of 50 gallons. This estimate is conservative when compared with other Midwestern states: a 1995 Ohio study estimated that boaters used 299 gallons per year, and a 1999 Minnesota study estimated over 100 gallons. The \$6.7 million this change would generate is only 0.8% of the motor fuel gas tax revenues in the state.

Under SB468, the increased funding would be used for several priority water resources initiatives. The major provisions would:

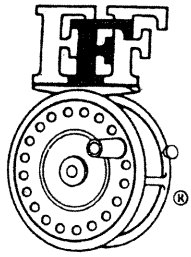
- Provide an additional \$1.4 million each for Lake Management Grants and River Protection Grants beginning in Fiscal Year 2002-2003.
- Create a new Wetlands Protection Grants program funded with \$950,000 in FY 02-03. The program would provide 75% matching grants up to \$50,000.00 to local organizations for wetland protection, enhancement or restoration.
- Provide \$1.5 million to counties to administer the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and to implement land and water resource management plans. (A total of more than \$240 million in federal and state funds will be available in FY 02-03 under the CREP program to establish buffer areas around streams to improve water quality and habitat. These funds would be used to enhance the ability of counties to use the CREP funds for these purposes.

Wisconsin lakes and rivers anchor the state's \$10 billion tourism industry, which is dependent on maintaining good water quality as offered by wetlands and cost-share (such as the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program) to prevent polluted runoff from agriculture, the state's No. 1 source of water pollution, which affects 90% of our lakes and 40% of our streams.

The lake and river grant programs have proven very successful and cost-effective, leveraging local matching funds and volunteer efforts to build local capacity to monitor, protect, and manage water resources. These matching grant programs are very popular and effective. The only thing that they lack is money. In fact, since 2000 lake protection and river planning and protection grant requests totaling more than \$4.5 million have not been funded.

Other organizations that have already endorsed the legislation include: Balsam Branch Partnership in Polk County, Bayfield County Lakes Association, Big Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District in Washington Co., Dane County, Druid Lake Management District in Washington Co., Friends of the Branch River in Manitowoc County, Inland Sea Society in Bayfield County, Lac La Belle Management District in Waukesha Co., Nelson Lake Association in Sawyer County, Polk County Land and Water Resources Department, Polk County Association of Lakes and Rivers, Post Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District in Langlade Co., Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter, Sioux River Watershed Council in Bayfield County, Twin Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District and Powers Lake District in Kenosha Co., Valley Stewardship Network, in Richland, Monroe, Crawford and Vernon Counties, WISPIRG, Wisconsin Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers, statewide, Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited, Wisconsin Wetlands Association, Wisconsin's Environmental Decade.

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FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS™
Conserving - Restoring - Educating Through Fly Fishing
WISCONSIN COUNCIL

February 28, 2002

Wisconsin Senate Environmental Committee:

My name is Phil Emmling and I am a member of the Badger Fly Fishers and the Vice President of Conservation for the WI Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers- an International organization. Our member clubs include the Traditional Anglers of WI in Racine, Milwaukee Lake and Stream Fly Fishers, the Hornberg Fly Fishers and Classic Anglers of WI in Green Bay, the Winnebago Streamers in Fond du Lac, the Northern Fly Fishers in Pembine, and the Helen Shaw Fly Fishers and Lakeside Chapter of Trout Unlimited in Sheboygan. There have been 2 River Protection Planning Grants in Grant County (Roundtree Branch of the Little Platte River and Castle Rock Creek) sponsored by the Land and Water Conservation District and completed by Trout Unlimited and the Federation of Fly Fishers.

The Wisconsin Council of FFF and its' member clubs encourage you to support SB468. We encourage you to increase support for river protection and lake management grants as well as support wetlands grants and nonpoint source control programs by supporting SB489.

I have direct experience with the Castle Rock Creek Rivers Protection Planning and nonpoint source Targeted Runoff Management grants. Members of the Castle Rock Creek Watershed Committee and I wrote the Castle Rock Creek, River Protection Grant that was funded in October 2000. I volunteered to complete a base flow and storm event, stream monitoring program (November 2000-December 2001) on Castle Rock Creek. The results of the monitoring demonstrate to the community that muddy water degrades the water and habitat quality of the creek by adding excess sediment, phosphorus, nitrogen, and coliform bacteria. Funding provided by the Rivers Protection Planning Grant allowed our group to send some samples to the UW Stevens Point- Environmental Task Force Lab and Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene to measure nutrients and bacteria. Some funds were used to allow volunteers to measure rainfall amounts, river stage height, turbidity, total suspended sediment, temperature, pH, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, biochemical oxygen demand, alkalinity, and hardness. Biomonitoring samples were collected by volunteers and sent to the UWSP College of Natural Resources at a cost of \$105 per sample. The UW- Madison, Environmental Chemistry & Technology Program provided an analytical balance, drying ovens, a portable turbidimeter, a flow meter, and professional consultation. The results of our monitoring indicate that the new 2001 TRM funding should be directed toward stream bank and barnyard problems.



The results of the volunteer monitoring at Castle Rock Creek have been featured in the winter 2002 issue of the Federation of Fly Fishers quarterly publication. The data set has been shared with a volunteer stream monitoring program in Montana. I will give a summary talk at the UW-Madison, Environmental Chemistry and Technology Program on May 3, 2002. A short talk and paper will be given at the National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC) 2002 meeting held at the Monona Terrace Convention Center on May 20-23, 2002. The insects collected from the creek have been identified and offered to the Harry and Laura Nohr TU Chapter/ UW-Extension volunteer stream program as a reference collection. The TU/UW EXT citizen program sponsors workshops held at the UW Richland Center campus.

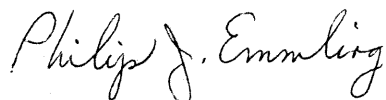
The Castle Rock Creek Watershed Committee used \$2,200 of the Planning Grant funds to construct an educational kiosk in Grant County near the creek on Highway Q west of the Town of Castle Rock. We developed a working relationship with the local landowner, WDNR, Grant County, and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

The Castle Rock Creek monitoring activity has helped bring additional funds to the area from the State of Wisconsin and USEPA. The 1999 TRM grant brought additional funds to local landowners for the 30% cost share from the Badger Fly Fishers (\$2,000), the Federation of Fly Fishers (\$2,000), the Madison Fishing Expo (\$1,000), the Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter of Trout Unlimited (\$10,000), and a local Fennimore conservation group (\$1,000). We used the 70% TRM funds to leverage matching funds from these conservation organizations. The USEPA recently funded (\$50,000) WDNR to develop a preliminary Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) model for the watershed. The TMDL work funded a real-time, stream height recording station that provides stream stage height data every 15 minutes and can be accessed from the Internet http://water.usgs.gov/wi/nwis/uv/?site_no=054070396&PARAMeter_cd=00065,00060. The TMDL work will continue for 1 or 2 more years. It should be noted that most of the River Protection Planning and all of the TRM funds were paid to Wisconsin businesses, universities, and agencies.

Copies of the Federation of Fly Fishers article, Montana communication, NWQMC abstract, and graphs of the August 2001 and February 2002 stage data are provided.

These activities and partnerships were made possible in large part by funding from the motorboat gasoline tax. The creeks, streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands of Wisconsin need SB468 and 489.

Thank you,



Philip J. Emmling
VP Conservation
WI Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers

Join us for the 2002 NWQMC National Monitoring Conference: Building a Framework For the Future

At the Monona Terrace Convention Center..



...in Madison, Wisconsin

Get more information
on location and
accommodations at
www.nwqmc.org

Conference Hotels	Hilton At Monona Terrace	Best Western Inn on the Park	Concourse
Room Rates	King - \$120 Double \$120	Single - \$99 Double - \$99	Single - \$114 Double - \$124
Reservation Cut-Off Date	April 20, 2002	April 20, 2002	April 8, 2002
Call for Reservations	1-866-403-8838	1-800-279-8811	1-800-356-8293

Registration Form

- Full Attendee \$225 Speaker \$100
 One-Day \$125 Exhibitor \$750 (Visit www.nwqmc.org for an exhibitor packet)

One-Day Attendees Please indicate which day you will attend: _____

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Fax registrations to:
405-516-4973

Direct registration inquiries and special needs
requests to Dan Yates at:
405-516-4972 or dan@gwpc.org

Wednesday, May 22, 2002

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM Track 4: Exploring Opportunities in Data Management	Moving Forward with Water Quality Data Elements	Applied Database Systems	Data Rich Indicators	Tools to Help Link, Explain, and Manage Data	Data Warehouses and Repositories
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM Break, posters highlighted					
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM Track 5: Making Sense of the Data	Considerations for Interpreting Data	Considerations for Developing Nutrient Criteria	Selecting Indicators and Categorizing Results in Environ- mental Evaluations	Data Evaluation Tools – Statistics, GIS, and Models	Examples and Experiences with Multimetric Indices
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM Speaker Luncheon, Conference Dedication and Award Presentation					
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM Track 6: Data to Information to Action	Communicating Results that People Can Understand	Volunteer Monitoring Programs Bridge the Communication Gap	Initiating Action at the Local Level	Computerizing the Environmental Movement	Communicating the Big Picture
3:00 PM – 3:30 PM Break, posters highlighted					
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM Building on the track presentations and discussions, we will use these working sessions to explore the relationship between the monitoring framework and the goals of the Council's four work groups. The results of these sessions will form the foundation of the report-back summaries Thursday morning.	Water Information Strategies The goal of this Council work group is to create and communicate goal- oriented monitoring design guidance that results in comparable information, over time and space, being produced in support of management decision making.	Methods and Data Comparability The goal of this Council work group is to explore, evaluate, and develop methods and approaches to measurement that facilitate collaboration and promote comparability between water quality monitoring programs.	Collaboration and Outreach The goal of this Council work group is to build and support creative partnerships among the many elements of the monitoring community, particularly by supporting the development of state and regional monitoring councils.	Watershed Components Interactions The goal of this Council work group is to provide a national forum to demonstrate how the interactions of the ground water resource with other components of the watershed can impact the ecological integrity of the entire system.	

Thursday, May 23, 2002

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM Concluding General Session: Summary report from the four Council workgroup discussion sessions, followed by an open-mike period.	
11:30 PM – 1:00 PM Lunch	
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<p>Adding Structure to the Monitoring Framework</p> <p>This interactive session will give participants the opportunity to look at a large visual representation of the "monitoring framework" and to brainstorm the missing pieces. This session will help guide the NWQMC's current and future efforts to promote and sustain the monitoring framework.</p>
<p>FIELD TRIP</p> <p>An afternoon field trip to three locations in the greater Madison area: La Fontaine Springs, Lake Mendota, and Black Earth Creek.</p> <p>We will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • effects of urbanization on the surface and ground water resource • approaches to monitoring and reporting beach contamination • impacts of urban and agricultural land uses on a world class trout stream • various biological and water quality sampling methods • new and unique in-situ instruments 	

NWQMC would like to recognize the sponsors of this event and thank them for their support:

US Geological Survey,
US Environmental Protection Agency,
US Fish & Wildlife Service,
US Department of Agriculture,
River Network,
Madison Water Utility

Methods and Data Comparability Board,
Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordination Council,
Tennessee Valley Authority,
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies,
Ground Water Protection Council and
Tetra Tech, Inc.

Building a Framework for the Future

Monday, May 20, 2002 - continued...

12:15PM - 1:30PM Lunch
1:30PM - 4:30PM Workshops
Clean Water Act (CWA)/Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Integration: The Ground Water Link – Part 2
Statistical Design and Analysis of Monitoring Programs (with emphasis on 305(b) and 303(d) preliminary listing process – Part 2
<p>Looking Beyond the Border: Building a Monitoring Framework for the Great Lakes Basin</p> <p>This half-day workshop will begin with brief summary presentations on current monitoring coordination efforts around the Great Lakes basin. The main focus of the workshop will be a discussion of the potential of future efforts to broaden monitoring collaboration for use in management of the Great Lakes. This workshop will serve as the second of several such discussions being held throughout the basin.</p>
<p>New Technologies</p> <p>This workshop will turn an eye to the future of monitoring for chemical and biological contaminants. Case studies will highlight experiences with new technologies, using a common framework to assess improved procedures and method performance from development to implementation. Workshop attendees will be invited to participate with speakers in a focused discussion of management and data quality issues associated with the use of new technologies for environmental monitoring.</p>
<p>Statistics for Everyone</p> <p>Scared of statistics? Then conquer your fears! This interactive session will be an overview of the statistical concepts commonly used in monitoring programs. We will discuss distributions, parametric and nonparametric statistical tests, regression models, and briefly touch on multivariate statistics. Lastly, we will spend some time on study design and the importance of statistical "planning". We will actually play with real monitoring data. Bring your own or some will be provided!</p>
<p>Celebrating Our Nation's Waters: Monitoring to Motivate, Stimulate, and Integrate</p> <p>This interactive session will focus on large-scale events and activities as opportunities for stimulating interest in monitoring, promoting stewardship, and integrating public and professional involvement. National Water Monitoring Day, the Great American Secchi Dip-in and other events, as well as The Volunteer Monitor Newsletter will be highlighted. Opportunities to introduce local and regional events will be provided during an extensive open discussion period.</p>

Each 90-minute session within the 6 conference tracks will include oral presentations followed by a question and discussion period.

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

8:00AM - 10:00AM Opening Session					
10:00AM - 10:30AM Break					
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Track 1: Setting the Stage for Monitoring	Collaboration: Meeting Multiple Needs through Monitoring Partnerships	Volunteer Monitoring Expands Your Reach	Watersheds: The Natural Basis for Monitoring Design	What's New at the State Level: New Ways to Meet Increasing Needs	Monitoring Design on a National Scale
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM LUNCH					
1:00 PM - 1:30 PM Break, posters highlighted					
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Track 2/3: Field and Laboratory Methods for Today and Tomorrow	Ground Water: Sampling and Analysis	Metals: Sampling and Analysis	In-situ Monitoring	Early Warning Monitoring	Enhancing Data Quality and Comparability Part 1
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Break, posters highlighted					
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM Track 2/3: Field and Laboratory Methods for Today and Tomorrow	Biological Monitoring	Nutrients: Sampling and Analysis	Screening Tools for Priority Contaminants	Remote Sensing	Enhancing Data Quality and Comparability Part 2
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Exhibit/Poster Session					
5:00PM - 7:00PM Reception					

This is a preliminary agenda and is subject to change. Please check www.nwqmc.org for frequent updates.

Sunday, May 19, 2002

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM Conference Registration

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Welcome Reception – Hosted by Council -All are encouraged to attend

Monday, May 20, 2002

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM Welcome to the 3rd NWQMC National Monitoring Conference

9:00AM -10:30AM Workshops (1.5 HRS)

Ground Water Network Design Issues

As a prelude to the workshop titled *Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act Integration: The Ground Water Link*, this session will explore some of the issues associated with designing a ground water monitoring program. By looking at real-life examples of ground water monitoring programs, we will explore challenges such as collaborating on a multi-agency level, incorporating new technologies, delivering timely and cost-effective information, and designing networks that approach ground water resources as integrated systems.

Surface Water Network Design Issues

As a prelude to the workshop titled *Statistical Design and Analysis of Monitoring Programs (with emphasis on 305(b) and 303(d) preliminary listing process)*, this session will explore some of the issues associated with designing a surface water monitoring program. By looking at real-life examples of surface water monitoring programs, we will explore challenges such as collaborating on a multi-agency level, incorporating new technologies, delivering timely and cost-effective information, and designing networks that approach surface water resources as integrated systems.

10:30AM - 10:45AM Break

10:45AM -12:15PM Workshops (1.5 HRS)

Clean Water Act (CWA)/Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Integration: The Ground Water Link – Part 1 (Continued after Lunch)

This panel presentation/discussion will focus on the role of ground water in determining the health of watersheds. Panelists will discuss new technologies in demonstrating and quantifying ground water contribution to streams, lakes and the marine environment as base flow, and how this contribution can influence such efforts as waste load allocation, TMDL and the restoration of impaired surface waters. The session will conclude by making recommendations for ways of using the GW/SW interaction in affecting better coordination between programs authorized by the CW and SDW Acts.

Statistical Design and Analysis of Monitoring Programs (w/ emphasis on 305(b) and 303(d) prelim. listing process) – Part 1 (Cont. after Lunch)

This is a short course focused on providing the background required to select a statistical survey design and subsequent statistical analysis appropriate for monitoring streams, rivers, lakes, estuaries, and wetlands. Course includes an overview of survey design options available, illustrated with actual examples from state 305(b) monitoring. We give the steps involved in the survey design process, the site evaluation process, data management, and statistical analysis. Course content will go beyond standard stratified sampling to more complex designs that are more relevant to states' 305(b) and 303(d) monitoring needs.

9:00AM - 12:15PM Workshops (3 HRS)

Looking Beyond the Border: International Issues of Cooperation and Comparability

Because water does not respect jurisdictional boundaries, nations share waterbodies and watersheds. Without integrated approaches to ensure consistent and comparable data across these boundaries, there is considerable redundancy, inefficiency, and potential conflict. This workshop will highlight examples of transboundary water management and related monitoring. Speakers will provide a context in which binational partnerships have successfully balanced environmental considerations with the need to provide water for growing industries and populations. We will explore the factors leading to true collaboration, the obstacles impeding progress, and the institutional framework required to ensure water quality data comparability and international cooperation.

Use NEMI First – The Role of NEMI in Monitoring Design

NEMI (National Environmental Methods Index) is a clearinghouse of environmental monitoring methods. The NEMI database contains method summaries of field and lab protocols for regulatory and non-regulatory water quality analyses. It is searchable over the World Wide Web, providing you with up-to-date methods information through a standard Internet connection and browser. This workshop will consist of a brief overview of NEMI functions and search options. The overview will also include interactive questions and answers from the audience. Following this initial introduction to NEMI's capabilities, the audience will be able to participate in hands-on training and use of NEMI. People attending the workshop are encouraged to bring with them examples of projects that they would like to use in their individual searches with NEMI. It will be instructive for people to compare the methods they plan to use (or did use) with methods in NEMI that meet their specific Measurement Quality Objective criteria.

Capacity Building for State and Regional Councils

Throughout the country, organizations involved in water monitoring are realizing that a critical and evolving approach to providing cost-effective, high quality data is the establishment of water quality monitoring councils or forums focused on coordination, collaboration, and comparability. We'd like to add another "C" into the mix— capacity building. This workshop will highlight efforts by water monitoring groups involved in collaborative entities. Through discussion, brainstorming, and sharing we will also explore how to develop partnerships, foster collaboration, and identify and breakdown institutional obstacles—in short we will look at how to build capacity within collaborative work.

Bridging the Gap Between Assessment of Condition and Diagnosis of Impairment

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires states to develop a list of waters that are not attaining water quality standards (a.k.a. impaired). Developing such a list requires an efficient and cost-effective process to assess whether a water body is impaired and to identify the location of the impaired water. Presentations will provide information about the data, tools, and methods used by states and other entities to aid in the development of their list of impaired waters, focusing on the potential for using watershed classification approaches in sampling designs and diagnosis of impairments. A facilitated discussion will provide the opportunity to use the expert knowledge of conference participants to identify the pros and cons of alternative design and analysis approaches to assessing probability of impairment and elicit input from managers on achieving the necessary balance in data quality needs to meet both 305(b) and 303(d) requirements.

Building a Framework For the Future

is dedicated to the energy, expertise and vision of

Elizabeth J. Fellows

The National Water Quality Monitoring Council proudly dedicates its 2002 National Monitoring Conference to the memory of Elizabeth Jester Fellows. Elizabeth dedicated her career to natural resources management and environmental protection. She was a tireless advocate for developing a nationwide framework for coordinating, collecting, assessing, and communicating water quality monitoring information and results. She served as the first Co-Chair of the Council and delivered the Keynote Address at the 2000 National Monitoring Conference in Austin, Texas. Elizabeth's dedication and leadership in the field of water quality monitoring serves as an inspiration to those who knew and worked with her. Her energy, expertise, and vision are sorely missed.

How clean is our water?

What is the condition of our surface, ground, estuarine, and coastal waters?

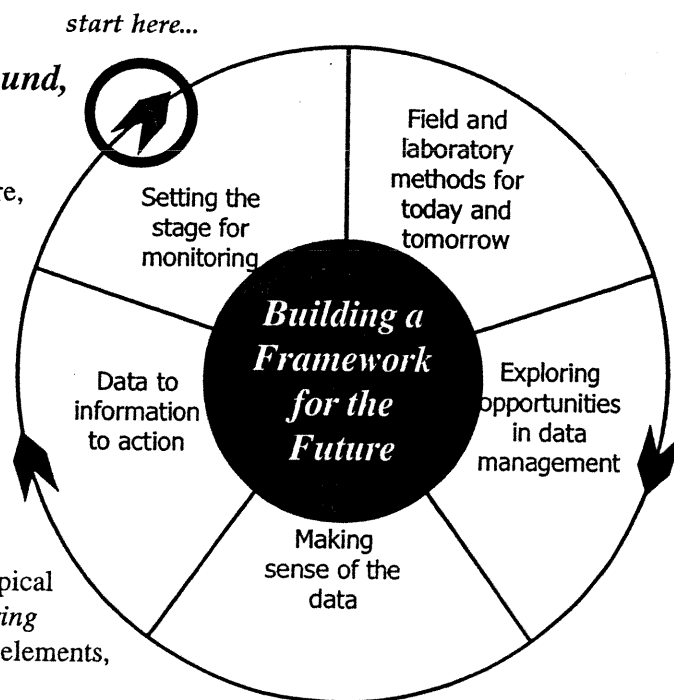
Answering these questions, today and in the future, requires us to build a framework for the coordination of consistent and scientifically defensible strategies that will improve water quality monitoring, assessment, and reporting.

This conference will provide participants with opportunities for sharing successes, discussing issues, networking with colleagues, and bringing new and innovative ideas back to their own programs.

Building a Framework for the Future is organized around several thematic tracks, each with a slate of topical sessions. Starting with *Setting the Stage For Monitoring* and ending with *Data to Information to Action*, these elements, taken together, provide a framework for monitoring.

The conference agenda will include plenary speakers, paper presentations, panel discussions, interactive workshops, facilitated discussion sessions, posters, exhibits, and field trips.

This will be a working conference where we will all play a role in identifying the issues and the steps needed to build a monitoring framework for the future!



www.nwqmc.org

On May 20-23, 2002, the National Water Quality Monitoring Council, is sponsoring our third National Monitoring Conference: "Building a Framework for the Future" at the beautiful Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin.

Building a Framework for the Future

Join us on Lake Monona!
May 20-23, 2002
Monona Terrace Convention Center
Madison, Wisconsin



2002 NWQMC National Monitoring Conference



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2002 National Monitoring Conference

NWQMC ABSTRACT MAY 20-23, 2002

COST EFFECTIVE / LEVEL 4 CITIZEN MONITORING

Citizen monitoring programs can provide data for a wide range of educational, watershed stewardship, and scientific objectives. The acceptance of citizen monitoring data into agency databases and the transfer of conclusions into public policy has been highly variable from state to state and at the federal level. Water quality professionals have been concerned about the QA/QC of the data. Citizen monitoring programs often minimize the QA/QC concern by limiting data collection to elementary biological surveys, elementary chemical testing, and verbal water use assessments. This paper presents a low cost (~\$750/21 samples/site/year) water quality-monitoring study combining volunteer labor and certified laboratory testing.

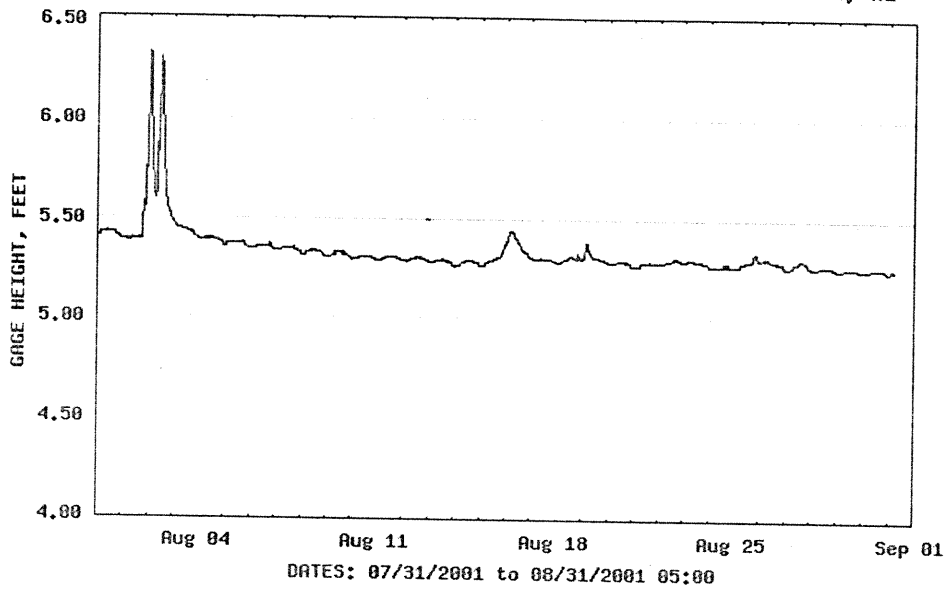
Volunteers collected 15 monthly (October 2000-December, 2001) and 6 event samples at 5 main channel and 2 tributary sites along 2.5 miles of a spring creek system in SW Wisconsin. The event samples included winter and summer base flow, spring melt, and early summer, mid summer, and fall rainfall events. All samples were analyzed by a volunteer for turbidity, TSS, pH, specific conductance, temperature, DO, BOD_{5d}, alkalinity, total hardness, chloride, nitrate, ammonium, and ortho P. The event samples were split and analyzed by volunteer methods and the UW- Stevens Point/ Environmental Task Force lab. The ETF lab tested for ortho and total P, ammonium, nitrate, Kjeldahl nitrogen, and chloride. The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene tested event samples for numbers of total fecal coliform (TFC) bacteria. Two event samples were analyzed for TFC and *E. coli*. Seven sites were monitored in November, 2000 and 2001 to provide qualitative macroinvertebrate data for calculation of diversity indices. Three representative "bug" samples per year were sent to the UW-Stevens Point lab in order to provide a short list of species that would help a volunteer process the entire sampling at 3/7 of the usual cost. Stage height boards were installed at the sampling sites to provide an accurate measure of stream water level at the time of sampling.

The data collected during the sampling program provided a cost effective and scientifically rigorous evaluation of the range of values for sediment and nutrient concentrations and bacteria numbers in the stream. Strong correlations were found between turbidity and TSS, TSS and TP, TSS and TKN, and TFC and BOD_{5d}. Volunteer data for "simple parameters" collected from 21 dates and 7 sites provided additional evidence for the validity of trends shown by the results of the limited laboratory testing. Water quality testing kits did not provide acceptable data for ortho P and ammonium.

CASTLE ROCK CREEK (Fennimore Fork) Real-time stream height for August 2001 and February 2002 at Homer Road bridge about 1/2 mile north of Highway Q.



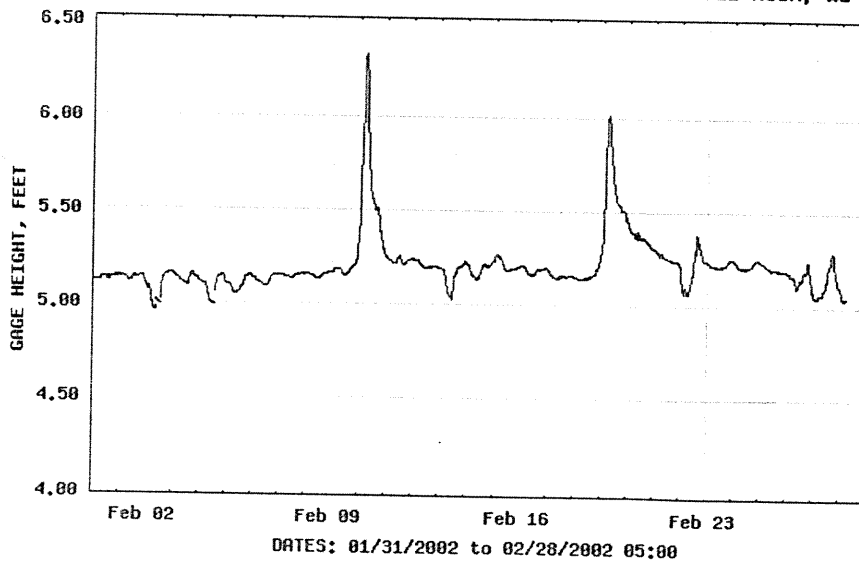
USGS 054070996 FENNIMORE FORK AT HOMER ROAD NEAR CASTLE ROCK, WI



Provisional Data Subject to Revision



USGS 054070996 FENNIMORE FORK AT HOMER ROAD NEAR CASTLE ROCK, WI



Provisional Data Subject to Revision

FFF's Conservation Watch

It's about Education, Stewardship, Advocacy

You've heard advocates for private gun ownership remark that the police can't be everywhere. Along those same lines, who is going to police our waters? You are.

Phil Emmling is already doing it at Castle Rock Creek under the auspices of FFF. Castle Rock Creek is a typical Midwestern spring creek that provides habitat for trout.

Emmling is the VP Conservation, Wisconsin Council of FFF. He's been honing his skills monitoring water quality since 1999, when he attended the tenth anniversary of the Missouri Stream Team in Columbia. The Badgers Fly Fishers sent Emmling to Austin, Texas, in July of 2000 for the National Volunteer Monitoring Conference and the National Water Quality Monitoring Council meeting. And again, in 2001, FFF sponsored Emmling at the National Nonpoint Source Pollution meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana.

In October 2000, the state of Wisconsin awarded Emmling and the Castle Rock Creek Watershed Committee a \$10,000 Rivers Protection Planning Grant. Emmling became steeped in the conservation issues surrounding Castle Rock Creek after FFF awarded he and the Badger Fly Fishers a \$2,000 Conservation Grant to install streambank protection and seek the best management land-use practices.

The Rivers Protection Grant funded the committee to construct an educational kiosk near the creek and to teach workshops on problems in the watershed. The grants also allow Emmling to conduct a water-monitoring program—to police the habitat quality of Castle Rock Creek.

The mission of the monitoring program promotes the Missouri Stream Team goals of education, stewardship, and advocacy. Emmling and the committee monitor Castle Rock Creek each month at seven sites along the creek proper and some of its tributaries. Besides collecting invertebrate animals in the fall and spring, they measure stream height, water temperature, pH, specific conductivity, total suspended sediment, turbidity, alkalinity, total hardness, dissolved oxygen, biological oxygen demand, and nutrients. The same samples go to certified laboratories for comparative testing of the total number of fecal coliform bacteria.

If action is progress, then progress is being made.

"These activities have stirred the pot enough that the USGS has installed a Real-Time stage height monitor," said Emmling.

While the stage height monitor follows over time the peak flow events, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will be looking into pollution loads in the stream.

"The citizen monitoring evaluation has produced a valuable picture of the biology, chemistry, and physical processes of a Midwestern trout stream impacted by historical and present-day land use," said Emmling.

The grants and Emmling's work is bearing fruit. The workshops educate local landowners, presenting the results educates

landowners that muddy water is measurable and measurements have meaning. Total suspended sediment can be correlated to high total phosphorus and nitrogen nutrients. The dissolved oxygen concentration in the creek can be severely reduced because the water has a high biological oxygen demand, Emmling has learned, and that correlates to the high bacteria counts during high runoff events. When the local landowners learn these things, it should encourage increased stewardship of the land.

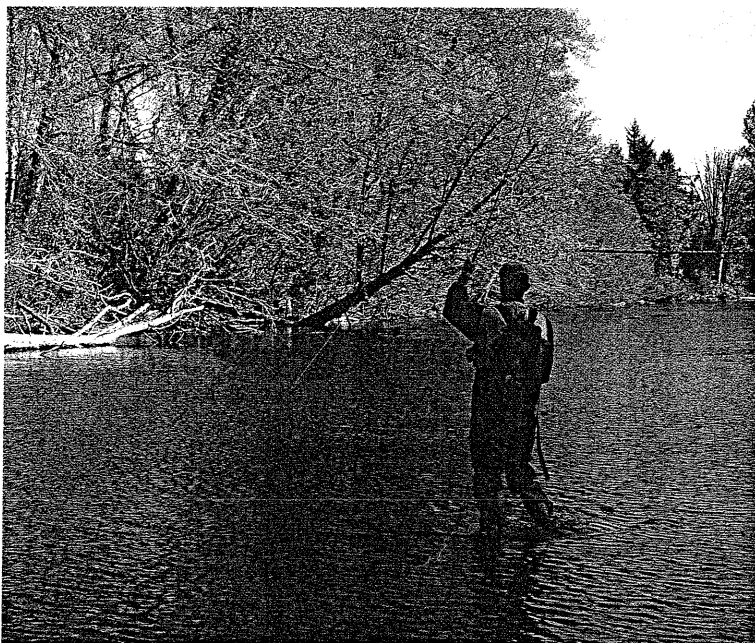
Emmling has learned the watershed needs more streambank protection and increased

participation in best management, cost-share programs. The watershed needs a shared vision to advocate for a clean creek that sustains multiple uses.

Emmling has sent the results of his work on the Castle Rock Creek monitoring study to the National Water Quality Monitoring Council; he may present his study results at an early 2002 council meeting.

"Citizen monitoring of the water and habitat quality in our nation's lakes, creeks, and rivers has increased rapidly in recent years," said Emmling. "Today, citizen-monitoring guidebooks are readily available from the EPA and water-quality information is available on the Internet from the USGS and NRCS."

According to Emmling, some states have had volunteer



Emmling has learned the watershed needs more streambank protection and increased participation in best management, cost-share programs.

NICK AMATO

Please turn to page 8...

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... Continued from page 6

monitoring programs for over 20 years. Established and new state programs are rapidly increasing their activities and numbers of participants. Nonprofit groups, such as the River Watch and the Izaak Walton League provide additional water-sampling protocols. Testing kits for monitoring a wide range of water-quality parameters are commercially available.

Tiger Muskies

Taking a northern pike on a fly is a kick. Same could be said for one lucky and patient enough to take muskel-lunge too. Fly-fishers in Washington have almost that opportunity. They can fish for tiger muskies in select reservoirs. Tiger muskies are the sterile hybrids of northern pike and muskel-lunge, and aptly named for their stripes. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists have been spying on the habits of tiger muskie, and what they learned can help you earn your stripes fishing for these unique hybrids.

The behavior of both northern pike and muskies are fairly well known. But not so for their hybrid offspring. Biologists fitted 16 tiger muskie, up to three feet long, with radio tags and followed them for up to 34 months in Mayfield Reservoir in the southern part of the state.

This study showed that tiger muskie

use different habitats in summer and fall versus winter and spring, and in warmer months, the fish are likely to move much less. Makes sense. There's probably more forage available in the warmer months—takes fewer trips to the grocery store.

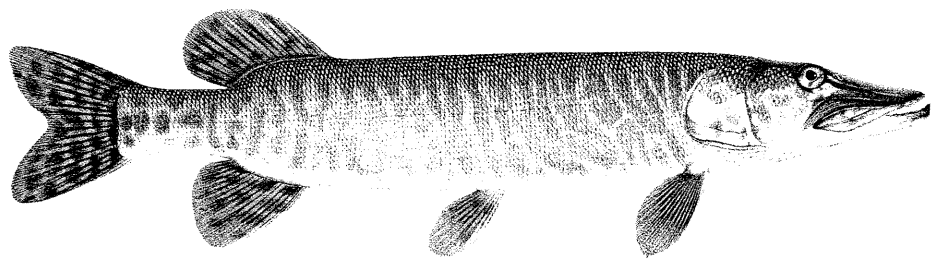
In the summer and fall, individual tiger muskies stayed in an area of about 120 acres; in winter and spring, that increased to 340 acres. From year to year, the same fish occupied the same home range much like northern pike and muskies do.

In summer and fall, tiger muskie lurked in aquatic vegetation in five to eight feet of water. But in winter and spring, they moved off shore to open water, 16 to 32 feet deep.

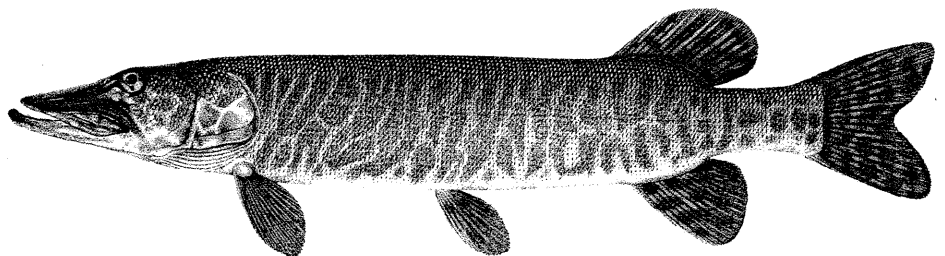
According the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, tiger muskie in Mayfield Reservoir apparently do not interact with trout. In warm months they are up in the weeds away from trout, and in colder months when they go deep, their metabolism and desire to feed is much less.

Tiger muskie are an aggressive sport fish, and since they are sterile, they cannot become an uncontrollable predator on other game fish. They could however, at the hands of wise biologists, become more widespread and create more fishing opportunities.

Tiger muskies in warmer weather are probably best sought like northerns, by stalking. It's like hunting and fishing at the same time.



Tiger Muskie (male).



Tiger Muskie (female).



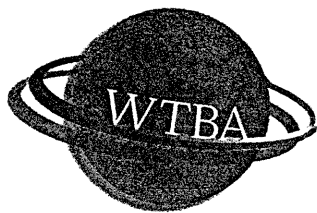
Philip J. Emmling

Associated Researcher/Lab Manager
Water Science & Engineering Laboratory
Environmental Chemistry & Technology Program

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Madison, WI 53706

608/262-2899
Fax 262-0454
emmling@engr.wisc.edu

Wisconsin Transportation Builders Association



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Madison, WI 53703

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e-mail: wtba@midplains.net ♦ www.wtba.org

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Patrick Stevens

DATE: March 1, 2002
TO: Senate Committee on Environmental Resources
FROM: Patrick Stevens, Corporate Counsel
RE: SB 468 (Motorboat Gas Tax Transfer)

The Wisconsin Transportation Builders Association (WTBA) strongly opposes SB 468.

SB 468 would modify the current formula for calculating the estimated motorboat gas tax that is transferred from the Transportation Fund to the Conservation Fund. Currently, about \$10.3 million is transferred from the Transportation Fund. This would increase the amount transferred by about \$6.3 million annually (more than 60%). This formula was last modified for fiscal year in 1992, when a 40% multiplier was added to the formula. These funds would be used to create a **new** program at DNR, create **new** positions at DNR and DATCP, and **increase** funding for a variety of projects.

WTBA opposes this Bill for the following reasons:

- **DNR's Motorboat Use Data.** Stakeholders have not been involved in the process of determining whether the current amount taken from the Transportation Fund reflects the amount of fuel actually used. We have no idea whether DNR's estimates are accurate. Obviously, DNR has a significant interest in seeing the amount of money transferred increased. WTBA would be willing to participate in a forum designed to develop an accurate tool for assessing the amount of gas used by motorboats.
- **Transportation Funding Needs.** From a transportation perspective, this attempt to increase the amount transferred could not come at a worse time. In the next Budget, the Legislature will need to deal with how to fund the Marquette Interchange and the long-term cost of rebuilding the entire southeast Wisconsin freeway system, without cannibalizing the established state and local programs. There will also be an interest in other new expenditures, such as passenger rail. Furthermore, for fiscal year 2003, it is likely that federal transportation revenues will be



American Road & Transportation Builders Association



substantially less than estimated in the last Budget (as much as \$140 million less). This shortfall will likely leave a hole in the State's transportation programs. This bill would increase these revenue problems.

- **Use of Funding.** A number of the proposed uses of revenue are not related to boating. Thus, this Bill is not consistent with the purpose of the Motorboat Gas Tax Transfer.

Please join WTBA in opposing this Bill. We apologize for not appearing at the hearing this matter. We incorrectly believed this issue had been removed from the hearing agenda.

Thank you.

Fiscal Estimate - 2001 Session

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 01-4984/1	Introduction Number SB-468
Subject	
Estimating the motorboat gas tax payment; funding for various DNR programs; authorizing payment to counties under the federal CREP program	
Fiscal Effect	
State:	
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	
Local:	
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts	
Fund Sources Affected	
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 20.115 (7)(st) and (7)(sv)	
Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations	
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature
DATCP/ Keith Foye (608) 224-4603	Don Akamatsu (608) 224-4747
	Date
	2/27/02

Fiscal Estimate Narratives
DATCP 2/27/02

LRB Number 01-4984/1	Introduction Number SB-468	Estimate Type Original
Subject		
Estimating the motorboat gas tax payment; funding for various DNR programs; authorizing payment to counties under the federal CREP program		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The proposed bill revises the formula used for calculating the estimated motorboat gas tax payment. The proposed bill allocates \$1.375 million for payments from DATCP to counties for implementing the conservation reserve enhancement program (CREP) under s. 93.70, Stats. and implementing county land and water resource management plans under s. 92.10, Stats. It also allocates \$125,000 to DATCP to hire two project FTE positions to work with CREP.

Background

Implementing CREP

The State of Wisconsin has signed an agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to implement the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The agreement gives the authority to enroll 100,000 acres of land into the program. The total estimated cost of the project includes about \$200 million in federal funds and about \$40 million in state bond revenue funds. The state has agreed to provide at least 20% of the total project funds in order to leverage the federal funding.

The 100,000 acres would be installed in various conservation practices including riparian buffers, filter strips, grassed waterways, upland grassland areas, and wetland restorations. The entire project area includes about 7.6 million acres of cropland and pastureland in all or portions of 51 counties. The goals are to significantly reduce sediment and nutrients in runoff from agricultural areas, install buffers to improve stream and lake health, and to establish increased habitat for endangered grassland birds in two grassland project areas.

To participate in the program, landowners will be required to sign a federal 14-15 year conservation reserve program (CRP) contract to be eligible for the federal funds and a concurrent state CREP agreement or a state perpetual conservation easement.

Much of the state's portion of CREP is being implemented by county land conservation committees. DATCP is in the process of signing county CREP contracts with willing counties to administer the program at the local level. DATCP is responsible for administering the program at the state level.

Implementing County Land and Water Resource Management Plans

S. 92.10 requires counties to develop county land and water resource management plans that provide the framework at the county level for soil and water resource management activities. The plans specifically must deal with the control of soil erosion and nonpoint source pollution. The plans must show the planned activities to implement the performance standards and prohibitions under NR 151 and ATCP 50, Wis. Adm. Code. Both of these administrative rules are currently being promulgated. All 72 counties have prepared and received approval from the department for the first round of county plans.

State Costs

CREP

DATCP was appropriated \$40 million of bond revenue funds in the 1999-2001 biennial budget for the program payments and payments for installing the practices made to landowners. These funds may not be used for any staff costs to implement the program. The department assumes, based on past experience with the federal CRP program, that on average, each landowner will enroll about 8 acres in a state CREP agreement or conservation easement. That results in about 12,500 total CREP agreements assuming that the entire 100,000 acres is enrolled in the program. DATCP needs 2.0 FTE project positions for four years to administer the state CREP agreements and perpetual conservation easements. The needed positions include 1.0 FTE project contract specialist position to review CREP agreements and easements, provide project information to

government agencies and the public, coordinate state activities with the federal government and counties, and make CREP payments through counties to landowners. DATCP needs a 1.0 FTE project information specialist-data services position to maintain the project database, develop a mapping program to track and evaluate the program, review legal descriptions for recorded easements, and work with the federal government and counties to report environmental benefits from the program and monitor compliance with the agreements and easements. The department also needs funds to prepare and distribute informational publications to communicate the maintenance requirements for the 12,500 landowners with CREP agreements and easements.

DATCP estimates that the two positions will cost approximately \$125,000. This includes about \$61,000 (\$46,000 in salary and fringe and \$15,000 for supplies and services) for the information specialist-data services position and about \$55,000 (\$41,000 for salary and fringe benefits and \$15,000 for supplies and services) for the contract specialist position. The department also needs \$9,000 to cover the costs of informational publications related to CREP.

County Costs

CREP

There are 51 counties that are eligible for the CREP project. DATCP estimates that of the 12,500 CREP agreements and perpetual easements, that 75% (9,400) will be CREP agreements and 25% (3,100) will be CREP conservation easements. The department assumes, based on the federal experience with CRP, that each agreement and easement will take county staff about 6 hours to process (75,000 hours). In addition, the added work related to the estimated 3,100 conservation easements has been estimated to take an additional 20 hours each, or a total of an additional 62,000 hours. The total county staff hours needed for CREP would be 75,000 hours for agreements and 62,000 hours for easements, or a total of 137,000 hours. The total county staff needs to process the state paperwork for CREP is estimated at 76 FTE (assuming 137,000 hours @ 1,800 hours per FTE). Assuming that each county FTE would cost \$55,000 for salary, fringe benefits, and support, the total cost to implement the state's portion of CREP would be \$4.18 million. This estimate assumes that USDA staff will complete all of the technical assistance and conservation planning required for the program. In many instances, county staff will assist federal staff that are providing technical services for CREP. However, based on the assumption that most of the technical assistance will be provided by federal staff, this fiscal estimate represents a minimum cost projection.

USDA estimates that they will provide about 19 hours per agreement that does not include structural practices (an estimated 10,000 agreements) and a total of 33 hours per agreement that does include structural practices (an estimated 2,500 agreements) to provide technical services, or an additional total of 272,500 hours (10,000 agreements X 19 hours per agreement plus 2,500 agreements X 33 hours per agreement). This again is based on the assumption that there are a total of 12,500 agreements that will result from CREP. The total hours for technical services, primarily provided by USDA (however many counties will assist) is an additional 150 FTEs based on 1,800 hours per FTE.

The proposed bill would authorize the department to pay the county up to \$250 per landowner agreement for the estimated 12,500 agreements and conservation easements. The total funding available from the proposed bill based on the \$250 per landowner agreement or easement would be \$3.125 million (\$250 per agreement or easement X 12,500 estimated agreements and easements) for CREP.

Implementing County Land and Water Resource Management Plans

Counties are required to prepare and implement county land and water resource management plans approved by the department. These plans provide the overall framework for activities to improve land and water resources and set local priorities for conservation.

DATCP currently provides in excess of \$8 million per year for staff and support grants to counties. This annually supports about 246 county staff implementing state programs such as the priority watershed program, farmland preservation conservation compliance, nutrient management, soil erosion control, and other county, state and federal soil and water conservation programs.

Counties will also be required to implement the new performance standards and prohibitions adopted in NR 151 and ATCP 50, Wis. Adm. Code under s. 281.16, Stats. These code revisions were part of the required redesign of the state's nonpoint source pollution abatement programs. The fiscal note for ATCP 50, Wis. Adm. Code estimates that the total costs to implement the performance standards and prohibitions is \$40 million to \$60 million per year over a ten year period, primarily for the required 70% cost sharing to landowners. County land and water resource management plans must provide work plans for implementing the performances standards and prohibitions.

The fiscal note for ATCP 50, Wis. Adm. Code, also estimates that there is already an unmet need for between \$2 million and \$4 million per year for county staff to implement the performance standards and prohibitions to reduce nonpoint source pollution. The funds available under the proposed bill will provide a long-term increase in funds to support local county staff to implement county land and water resource management plans.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The proposed bill would provide a long term funding source for grants to counties for working in the state's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) as well as other federal, state, and county soil and water conservation programs through implementing county land and water resource management plans. There is already an identified unmet need to adequately fund county staff to implement these plans and the performance standards and prohibitions being proposed through NR 151 and ATCP 50, Wis. Adm. Code, to implement s. 281.16, Stats. The unmet need to implement the performance standards and prohibitions has been estimated at between \$2 million and \$4 million, annually.

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2001 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 01-4984/1		Introduction Number SB-468	
Subject			
Estimating the motorboat gas tax payment; funding for various DNR programs; authorizing payment to counties under the federal CREP program			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes		\$116,000	
(FTE Position Changes)		(2.0 FTE)	
State Operations - Other Costs		9,000	
Local Assistance		1,375,000	
Aids to Individuals or Organizations			
TOTAL State Costs by Category		\$1,500,000	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S		1,500,000	
III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)			
		Increased Rev	Decreased Rev
GPR Taxes		\$	\$
GPR Earned			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S		1,500,000	
TOTAL State Revenues		\$1,500,000	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		State	Local
NET CHANGE IN COSTS		\$1,500,000	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE		\$1,500,000	\$1,375,000
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	
DATCP/ Keith Foye (608) 224-4603		Don Akamatsu (608) 224-4747	
		Date	
		2/27/02	

Fiscal Estimate - 2001 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number **01-4984/1**
 Introduction Number **SB-468**

Subject
 Estimating the motorboat gas tax payment; funding for various DNR programs; authorizing payment to counties under the federal CREP program

Fiscal Effect

State:

<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		

Local:

<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate		
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs	3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Towns <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counties <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others <u>Lake Districts</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	

Fund Sources Affected
 Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
 GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS Various

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	3/6/02

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 3/6/02

LRB Number	01-4984/1	Introduction Number	SB-468	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Estimating the motorboat gas tax payment; funding for various DNR programs; authorizing payment to counties under the federal CREP program					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Bill Summary: The bill revises the formula for calculating the estimated motorboat gas payment that is transferred to the water resources account of the segregated conservation fund from the transportation fund. Currently the formula is:

(number of registered motor boats) x (50 gallons) x (motor fuel tax) x (1.4 nonresident factor)

The bill changes the 50 gallons to 80 gallons based on increased average consumption per boat.

The bill establishes a wetlands grant program, funds wetland mitigation activities and positions, increases funding for lake and river management grants, and funds positions for grants administration.

Fiscal Estimate: Currently the motorboat gas tax generates about \$10.3 million annually. Modifications in the bill would generate an additional \$6.3 million per year. This would not be new revenue to the state, but would deposit existing boating fuel tax collections into the water resources account of the conservation fund rather than the transportation fund.

The bill increases by \$1,400,000 annually the Department's appropriation for lake protection grants and increases by \$1,400,000 annually the Department's appropriation for river protection grants, representing significant funding increases for both grant programs. Additionally, the bill creates an appropriation for wetland protection grants and provides \$1,348,300 annually for that purpose. The creation of the wetlands protection grant program and the increases to the lake and river protection grant programs are expected to increase the Department's grants administration workload by 4.0 FTE. The bill provides 4.00 FTE and associated funding for grants administration.

The bill also increases by \$75,000 annually the Department's appropriation for river protection nonprofit organization contracts, through which the Department contracts for river protection technical assistance.

The bill also provides \$479,800 annually and 2.50 FTE for wetland regulation activities relating to the Department's statutorily prescribed wetlands mitigation program.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

None.

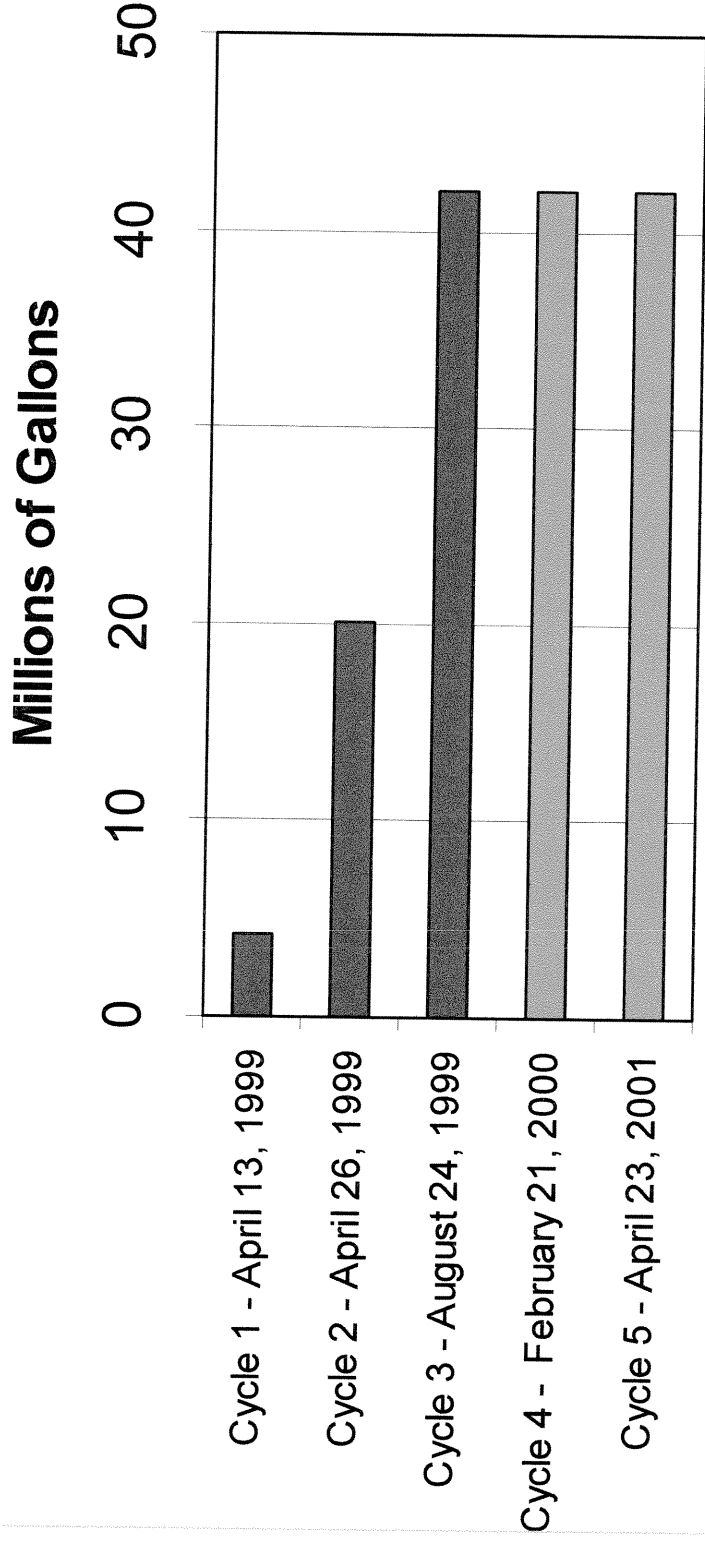
Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2001 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

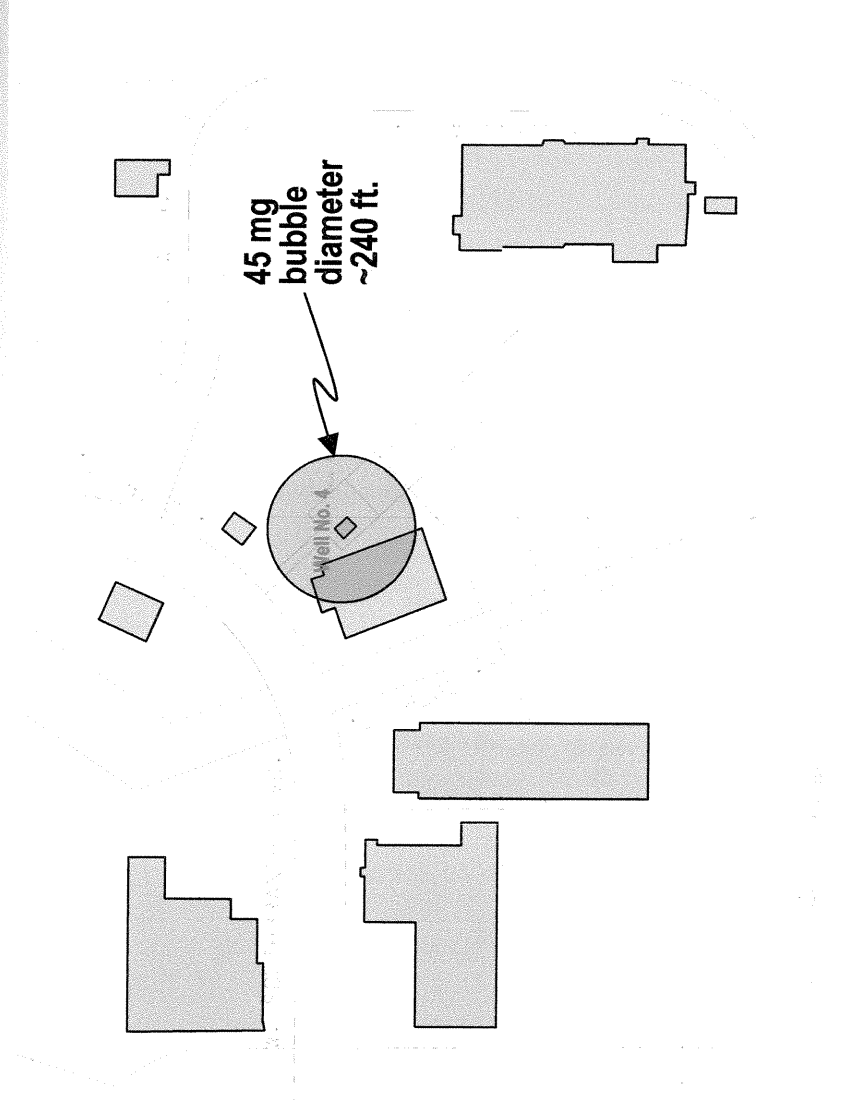
Original
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I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes		\$253,800	
(FTE Position Changes)		(6.5 FTE)	
State Operations - Other Costs		499,000	
Local Assistance			
Aids to Individuals or Organizations		4,148,300	
TOTAL State Costs by Category		\$4,901,100	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S		4,901,100	
III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)			
		Increased Rev	Decreased Rev
GPR Taxes		\$	\$
GPR Earned			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S			
TOTAL State Revenues		\$	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		State	Local
NET CHANGE IN COSTS		\$4,901,100	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE		\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794		Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	3/6/02

Oak Creek's ASR Cycle Testing Plan



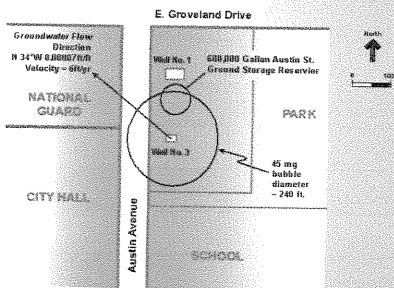
Well No. 4 is surrounded by private land



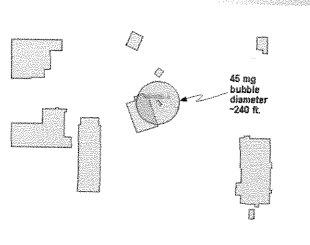
Economic Comparison

	Plant Expansion	ASR system (5 wells)
Total Capital Cost	\$7,865,000	\$2,986,000
Fixed Annual Cost	\$685,700	\$260,300
Annual Operating Cost	\$79,000	\$121,100
Total Annual Cost	\$764,700	\$381,400

Test Well Vicinity



Well No. 4 is surrounded by private land



Focus on Water

Two new centers at UW–Stevens Point seek to ensure our waters' sustainability.

BY VICTOR D. PHILLIPS, DEAN, COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, UW–STEVENS POINT
 RANDY CHAMPEAU, ASSOCIATE DEAN, OUTREACH AND EXTENSION
 MICHAEL DOMBECK, PIONEER PROFESSOR OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
 WES HALVERSON, WATERSHEDS CENTER COORDINATOR

Water resource stewardship to ensure freshwater quality and supply in perpetuity is a critical need shared by people locally and globally. Wisconsin has a strong leadership heritage in natural resource conservation and management, including water resources. The challenge of safeguarding water resources to benefit the health of the land and people is great, and collaborative, coordinated efforts by many groups, organizations, agencies, industries, and universities are needed. The Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters is helping facilitate a proactive spirit of cooperation through its "Waters of Wisconsin" program. [See more in Editor's Notes, page 3.]

In this paper we introduce what the College of Natural Resources (CNR) at the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point (UWSP) has to contribute toward capacity building for watersheds education and management in Wisconsin and abroad. We describe two new programmatic centers on our campus, based on longstanding strengths, which complement excellent water-related programs elsewhere in the state. Our new Watersheds Center and the GEM Education Center watersheds program focus on undergraduate and outreach education as well as international experiential learning to add to and extend efforts by other institutions and organizations conducting watersheds research, technical assistance, and policy development.

WATERSHEDS CENTER

In the summer of 2001, the Watersheds Center was established to coordinate interrelated units and programs within the UWSP College of Natural Resources and to facilitate collaborative work and education with external partners. The

mission is to partner with citizens and communities throughout Wisconsin in the collection, analysis, and dissemination of watershed-based information to ensure the enduring health and maintenance of our water resources.

Wisconsin is a water-rich state. Our lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater are the primary fuel for our state's economy. Business profitability, agriculture, forestry production, and citizen quality of life are all directly tied to our state's water resources. Because of its paramount importance, we need to make wise investments in managing both the quantity and quality of this precious resource. Management by watershed is considered the most comprehensive, efficient, and effective approach to managing water resources.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is encouraging the watershed management approach by states because it is proving to produce better environmental results and is more efficient relative to time and money. Wisconsin is pursuing a watershed management approach because it is a holistic, comprehensive approach to maintaining environmental quality. Although monitoring and managing entire watersheds may seem like a daunting task in terms of time and money, it is proving to be preferable to past approaches.

Wisconsin was recognized nationally for its pioneering efforts in watershed management when it created the Wisconsin Priority Watershed Management Program. Wisconsin established a goal of developing and implementing management plans that would accommodate all the 330 watersheds in the state. Recently, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) formally reinforced the watershed management

approach by reorganizing its water programs around geographic management units that are defined by river basins or watersheds. Also, the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Service (UWEX) has invested in a watersheds approach by working together with the Wisconsin DNR to hire basin educators to facilitate relevant educational programs within the watersheds. These are commendable, innovative steps that, along with the work of the Watersheds Center and others, contribute significantly to additional capacity-building efforts needed to foster watershed education and management approaches.

Yet, despite the importance of these issues to the state's economic future, few people understand the connectedness of watershed systems. Impacts of human activity on water quantity and quality must be better understood by Wisconsin citizens to better inform and enhance decisionmaking concerning water. At present, no educational entity brings together water-related programs into a coordinated watersheds focus.

The need for significant collaboration among relevant researchers and educators from different state agencies seems imperative if we hope to maximize the efficiency of state efforts directed toward a watersheds management program.

Collaboration, being one of the best approaches to sustaining environmental quality, should not be left to chance. Effective, well-planned collaborative partnerships increase the sharing of resources and facilities to provide watersheds education, networking, research, community service, and outreach.

Issues concerning the quality and quantity of freshwater will be a major economic challenge nationally as we move into the 21st century. The ability

of Wisconsin agriculture and business to expand and grow, or perhaps even operate, may be directly impacted by policies affecting water. People will form opinions concerning the propriety of many business practices based on their perceived opinions concerning how those practices will affect water quality. Recent disputes over the proposed siting of a Perrier bottling plant as well as the governor's efforts to support research to improve agricultural waste and nutrient management are indicative of the statewide policy discussions that will be ongoing.

GEM EDUCATION CENTER WATERSHEDS PROGRAM

Last summer, the USEPA awarded an enabling grant to the college's Global Environmental Management (GEM) Education Center for the GEM watersheds program. The goal is to provide training and outreach education for safeguarding the quality of surface and groundwater resources by developing, field-testing, and assessing a capacity-building model for cooperative international watersheds studies and education. The grant funds enabled us to hire core staff. Michael Dombeck, former USDA Forest Service chief, came on board as GEM Pioneer Professor and UW System Fellow for Global Conservation; and Wes Halverson, an experienced watersheds educator, joined us to coordinate efforts within the Watersheds Center and serve as the GEM Education Center watersheds program manager on the USEPA grant.

For the UWSP College of Natural Resources, the GEM Education Center is a unifying concept, program and planned facility serving as an international model for training natural resource leaders for success in the 21st century. A 10-year, \$70 million development plan, including \$20 million for programming and staffing and \$50 million for a world-class facility, is in progress. The initial GEM program thrusts are smart growth land use planning and watersheds education and management. The GEM Education Center watersheds program features study of, and learning opportunities associated with, selected watershed demonstration sites locally, regionally, and abroad. It is interested in holistic, integrated, interdisciplinary approaches to watershed-scale questions.

Selected pairs of "showcase" watersheds to be identified in Wisconsin and overseas using criteria that will be developed in concert with USEPA and collaborators abroad will offer unique monitoring, assessment, management, and practical as well as international training experiences for students and stakeholders. Working together with local citizens, natural resource management agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and private industry within specific watersheds offers tremendous learning experiences in planning and achieving mutually developed and often multifaceted goals.

Funds will be used to develop the watersheds program with stakeholder and local citizen input, to plan demonstration site infrastructure and projects with collaborative partners, and to build human resource capacity in watersheds and environmental management for students and working professionals. Benefits and outcomes will include holistic knowledge-based products developed from monitoring and assessment studies locally and abroad for implementing sound watershed management plans and land use practices; human resource development for meeting increased staffing needs of natural resource agencies, organizations, and businesses for integrating biophysical and socioeconomic components of watersheds; and increased capacity for building cooperative partnerships and team approaches to watershed management and conservation for sustainable development.

Examples of readily available educational materials developed and offered by CNR are listed below (and relevant websites may be found under www.uwsp.edu/cnr). Watersheds education is a longstanding strength of the college, and these watersheds program elements are featured in the Watersheds Center within the CNR at UWSP. Other watersheds curricular and informational materials available from state and federal agencies and other partners may be utilized as well.

CNR Academic Programs related to integrated watersheds management:

- Water Resources
- Other cross-disciplinary programs: Forestry, Soils and Waste Resources, Wildlife, Human Dimensions of Nat-

ural Resource Management, as well as CNR core course curriculum

CNR watersheds units offering Outreach/Extension Programs:

- Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center
- Environmental Task Force
- Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Program

CNR research units working on watersheds assessment and applications:

- Aquatic Entomology Laboratory
- Aquatic Toxicology Laboratory
- Environmental Task Force
- USGS Cooperative Fishery Unit

The products of the GEM Education Center Watersheds Program via the USEPA grant will be, first, a capacity-building model addressing training and outreach education for safeguarding the quality of surface and groundwater resources, disseminating an integrated watersheds curriculum, and addressing future educational needs and plans to achieve and sustain healthy watersheds.

Second will be an international watersheds conference hosted or co-sponsored by the GEM Education Center. Prominent in the program will be sharing results and evaluating the success of the GEM Education Center watersheds program capacity-building model by participating GEM staff and collaborators.

SUMMARY

The UWSP Watersheds Center and the GEM Education Center Watersheds Program contribute to a growing team of partner agencies, organizations, businesses, and citizen groups working together in the best interests of the waters, lands, and people of Wisconsin. Our focused strength in undergraduate and outreach education as well as international experiential learning will complement the attributes and assets of partners to embrace and resolve water resource challenges here and abroad. We look forward to building a sustainable future. ▾

**THE WISCONSIN WATERSHEDS
PARTNERSHIP CENTER,
AN INTERINSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION
OF THE
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
AND
THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

10/00

ABSTRACT

THE WISCONSIN WATERSHEDS PARTNERSHIP CENTER

Introduction:

Wisconsin is a water rich state. Our lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater are the primary fuel for our state's economy. Business profitability, agriculture, forestry production and citizen quality of life are all directly tied to our state's water resources. Because of its paramount importance, we need to make wise investments in managing both the quantity and quality of this precious resource. Management by watershed is considered the most comprehensive, efficient, and effective approach to managing water resources.

The DNR, in partnership with UWEX and the UW System, is proposing to establish a watersheds center that will partner with citizens and communities throughout Wisconsin in the collection, analysis, and dissemination of watershed based information. The center will be a central point of contact for citizens and will clarify for them the jurisdictions of participating agencies. This approach will link independent watershed efforts across the state, provide coordination and oversight of various "watershed based" research activities, fill gaps that currently exist in Wisconsin's watershed programs, and will reach out directly to citizens through students and interaction with partner groups.

Goal of the Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center (WWPC):

The Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center will

- Establish collaborative research and education efforts among participating institutions.
- Support professional development of staff and students working toward watershed management.
- Improve citizen, business, and industry awareness and knowledge of their role related to watershed management.

How/Where:

The WWPC will be established at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, College of Natural Resources (CNR). An inter-institutional advisory committee will direct the WWPC's efforts. The center will operate under a detailed annual plan of work.

Needs:

The WWPC will build upon, incorporate, and integrate existing partnership programs presently operating at the CNR (e.g., Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center, Wisconsin Lakes Partnership, Environmental Task Force, Land Use Education Center). In addition to existing resources, the following staffing is needed to fill identified voids.

- 1) Watershed Specialist/Center Coordinator
- 2) Watershed/Rivers Specialist
- 3) Watershed/Wetlands Specialist
- 4) Program Assistant
- 5) Two graduate research assistantships

Funding:

Base funding will be secured through the DNR budget process. Positions (FTE) will be provided through UWEX/UWSP. The annual projected cost for each of the first five years would be \$400,000 for personnel, supplies, services, publications and travel. The funding source for the WWPC would be the water resources account of the Conservation Fund. Staff of the WWPC would also secure supplemental funds in the form of grants and revenue generation.

Summary:

The combination of the technical and regulatory skills in the DNR with the education and research skills in the University will provide an unprecedented opportunity to significantly impact the state's progress toward watershed management. This program has broad-based support within each institution and among policy makers around the state.

INTRODUCTION

Increasingly, state, national, and international resource management agencies and related educational programs are proposing that more holistic approaches be used to pursue the goal of sustaining environmental quality. Traditional approaches that focused on one issue (e.g., sewage treatment) or one resource - soil or water or air - are important but have been shown by science to have limited success relative to improving the quality of entire ecosystems.

Reviewing the progression of human health care, it is clear that the medical sciences have come to promote treatment of the whole patient rather than simply individual parts. Indeed, the circulatory system impacts the respiratory system, which impacts the digestive system, which impacts the emotional system, etc. Likewise, environmental science has progressed to suggest that the most effective way to pursue environmental health and vitality is through management and education strategies that take into account the integrated structures and functions that comprise what we know to be the natural environment. Thus, proposed herein is the development of a Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center, which would serve as a significant step in building Wisconsin's capacity to provide a holistic integrated approach to managing environmental quality.

GOAL OF THE WISCONSIN WATERSHEDS PARTNERSHIP

The Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center will

- Establish collaborative research and education efforts among participating institutions.
- Support professional development of staff and students working toward watershed management.
- Improve citizen, business, and industry awareness and knowledge of their role related to watershed management

BACKGROUND

What is a watershed?

A watershed is a naturally occurring land drainage area. A watershed can be thought of as a large funnel. When precipitation falls on the ground it can infiltrate into the soil and become part of our groundwater resources or it can flow over the land and be funneled in a particular direction because of geographic characteristics like ridges, valleys, hills or mountains. Ultimately, it is funneled into some common collection point like a wetland, river, lake or ocean. The land area that creates a funnel into a particular collection point is called a watershed, and any given watershed may be connected to other watersheds. For example, a smaller river like the Plover River in Portage County has a watershed area that feeds it. However, the Plover River also feeds into the Wisconsin River watershed, which is part of the Mississippi River watershed, which in turn feeds into or is part of the Gulf of Mexico watershed. All houses, farms, towns, cities, etc. are found within one watershed or another. The quality of water within a given watershed is impacted by the quality of the air and land resources in that watershed or by the quality of connecting watersheds.

Why pursue a Watershed Approach to Environmental Quality?

Wisconsin is pursuing a watershed management approach because it is a holistic, comprehensive approach to maintaining environmental quality. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is encouraging the watershed management approach by states because it is proving to produce better environmental results and is more efficient relative to time and money.

Cleaning up water at a collection point such as a lake or stream is no longer viewed as the most appropriate approach to maintaining water quality. Because the water in a given collection point like a lake or river initially flows over a watershed area, it is a logical and a scientific conclusion that the quality of that water is impacted by any number of activities that go on over the entire watershed that feeds a particular water collection site. Thus, maintaining water quality requires that activities in an entire watershed be considered and managed. For example, pollution from a sewage treatment plant might be reduced after a new technology is adopted. However, the associated river or lake may be suffering from additional and subtler factors such as nonpoint runoff or air quality concerns, which must also be taken into account and are equally deserving of remedial management and educational programs.

Although monitoring and managing entire watersheds may seem like a daunting task in terms of time and money, it is proving to be preferable to past approaches. In fact, the Wisconsin DNR feels the watershed approach will be more efficient and effective than past efforts because it:

1. Consolidates point and nonpoint source pollution abatement activities;
2. Consolidates monitoring and assessment functions;
3. Consolidates groundwater-related activities;
4. Consolidates activities that affect aquatic habitat;
5. Consolidates management of consumptive uses of water;
6. Enables team budgeting to increase fiscal efficiency;
7. Consolidates support facilities and equipment;
8. Consolidates functional groups to maximize customer service and avoids duplication; and
9. Improves program performance measurement and communication of results.

Wisconsin was recognized nationally for its pioneering efforts in watershed management when it created the Wisconsin Priority Watershed Management Program. Wisconsin established a goal of developing and implementing management plans that would accommodate all the 330 watersheds that are contained within the state. Recently, the Wisconsin DNR formally reinforced the watershed management approach by reorganizing its water programs around geographic management units that are defined by river basins or watersheds. Also, the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension has invested in a watersheds approach by working together with the DNR to hire basin educators to facilitate relevant educational programs within the watersheds. Although these are innovative steps, many natural resource professionals agree that additional capacity building efforts are needed to support the continued effort to establish watershed management approaches. The development of the Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center would be a significant contribution toward this capacity building effort.

Why a Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center?

Issues concerning the quality and quantity of fresh water will be a major economic challenge nationally as we move into the 21st century. The ability of Wisconsin agriculture and business to expand and grow, or perhaps even operate, may be directly impacted by policies affecting water. People will form opinions concerning the propriety of many business practices based on their

perceived opinions concerning how those practices will affect water quality. Recent disputes over the siting of a Perrier bottling plant as well as the Governor's efforts to support research to improve agricultural nutrient management are indicative of the statewide policy discussions that will be ongoing.

Yet, despite the importance of these issues to the state's economic future, few people understand the connectedness of watershed systems. Impacts of human activity on water quantity and quality must be better understood by Wisconsin citizens if informed decision-making concerning water use is to occur. At present, no educational entity brings together water-related programs into a coordinated watershed focus effort.

The need for significant collaboration among relevant researchers and educators from different state agencies seems imperative if we hope to maximize the efficiency of state efforts directed toward a watershed management program. "Collaboration" being one of the best approaches to sustaining environmental quality should not be left to chance or episodic happenings. Effective, well-planned collaborative partnerships increase the sharing of resources and facilities. They work against needless duplication of efforts, help to standardize workable programs and, at the same time, set the stage for a diversity of input related to researching, evaluating, and implementing new methodologies. As George Meyer, Secretary of the Wisconsin DNR puts it:

"Partnership and collaboration have become a significant trend in our country's citizenship and government. So many of us are finding more and more of our work involves cooperative efforts and we find we accomplish more with such an approach... Our future depends on our ability to effectively work this way."

The Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center will serve as a formally established effort to pursue an integrated, collaborative watershed program between the WDNR, UWEX, and the UWSP/CNR. The WWPC would enable these constituents to work together in the pursuit of common education, research, and citizen outreach activities. Examples of programs and products that might be produced in each of these areas are presented below.

Education

- Develop collaborative inservice training programs for existing professionals in watershed management and/or associated areas.
- Develop and offer public education programs directed toward increasing public awareness and understanding of watershed management.
- Develop programs for university graduate and undergraduate students who are in training to secure employment related to watershed management (e.g., courses, internships, apprenticeships, and cooperative employment).
- Support basin educators and resource agents in the development of watershed management education programs and networks.
- Develop collaborative efforts to create and distribute public education materials that can be used to enhance public literacy related to watershed management.
- Collaborate on the development of educational materials and curriculums that can be used by watershed management professionals to educate stakeholders.

Networking

- Develop and implement collaborative networking events for watershed management professionals and stakeholders (e.g., conferences, workshops, and colloquiums).
- Establish and maintain a collaborative Web based networking system for development and exchange of watershed management information.
- Create, support, and maintain collaborative efforts between citizen organizations established to support watershed management (i.e., Wisconsin Association of Lake Districts, River Alliance, Wetlands Association, etc.).

Research

Develop, implement, and evaluate data and research programs that

- contribute to assessing the environmental quality or status of Wisconsin watersheds (including lakes, rivers and wetlands);
- contribute to the collection and analysis of integrated data related to surface and groundwater quality with watersheds;
- assess longitudinal change in the quality of Wisconsin watersheds;
- work to help identify and assess variables or land use practices that contribute to changes in Wisconsin watersheds;
- work to assess the needs of professional watershed managers relative to resources that will help them serve their clientele;
- contribute to assessing the degree of public understanding and commitment to watershed management and develop programs based on those results;
- create and evaluate technical, economic and education models developed to enhance watershed management.

Community Service and Outreach

- Provide assistance in organizing citizen efforts related to watershed management.
- Help citizen groups develop, implement, and evaluate testing programs related to watershed management (e.g., testing of water quality within lakes, rivers, wetlands, and groundwater aquifers).
- Help the public seek out and acquire technical resources needed to test water quality.
- Provide services and information to local governments relative to evaluation and maintenance of watershed quality.
- Provide public information and education programs related to watershed management.

The WWPC at UWSP

The Department of Natural Resources proposes placing the WWPC at the College of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. The WWPC will build on existing cooperative efforts that presently exist at the CNR. The combination of technical and regulatory skills in the DNR combined with the educational and research skills in the CNR and Extension will provide an unprecedented opportunity to create an understanding of watersheds by Wisconsin citizens, which will help pave the way for informed environmental and economic decision making in the future.

Initially, the establishment of a WWPC would draw from a number of relevant partnership programs together that already exist at UWSP. The WWPC would incorporate the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Program, Central Wisconsin Groundwater Program, Environmental Task Force and the CNR Land Use Education Center into its mission. In fact, these programs already exemplify model approaches to different facets of watershed management. Creating the

Watersheds Center would facilitate efficiency of common efforts while, at the same time, serving to enhance their unique missions. These existing institutions are also tied into strong collaborative efforts with the DNR and UWEX. Following is a brief description of each of the programs that will help make up the initial core of the Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center.

The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Program

This program exemplifies an existing collaboration between the DNR, UWEX, and the CNR. In fact, the operations and structure of the Watersheds Center will, in many ways, be modeled after the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership. The WLP is extremely successful at developing and facilitating the development of water resource education programs for the citizens of this state. In particular, WLP plays a central role in developing lake education and policy materials. Citizen groups, youth organizations, local governments, and related resource management professionals all look to the WLP for support in developing lake education materials and programs. Given that Wisconsin has a wealth of beautiful lakes that are heavily utilized by citizens, it has been extremely beneficial to have the outreach education support of the WLP.

The Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center

This program is a collaborative effort of the CNR and UWEX. It has become a significant resource for statewide efforts related to research and education about our precious groundwater resources. Indeed, the CWGC partners with DNR and other relevant state and federal agencies in the development of research that is helping professionals and citizens understand the real science and quantity/quality status of our groundwater resources.

The CWGC also plays an active role in developing groundwater education programs and materials. For example, they operate a statewide groundwater citizen education program. In this program, citizens learn about the groundwater resources in conjunction with having their own groundwater tested. This is an exemplary statewide water resource education program and thousands of citizens have benefited from this effort.

The Environmental Task Force

The Environmental Task Force (ETF) is a water resources education-program that centers its efforts around water quality testing. The ETF includes a state-certified water quality testing laboratory. The ETF provides water quality testing of groundwater and surface water. It advises citizens, agencies, and local governments on approaches to testing and maintaining water quality. The ETF also conducts and supports research projects related to water use and sustainability of water quality by citizens, businesses, and municipalities. The ETF is actively involved in providing testing and consulting services for both the rivers and lakes protection grants programs, which are administered through the DNR.

The Environmental Task Force has been particularly effective at integrating pre-professional students into its laboratory and advisory activities.

The Land Use Education Center

The Land Use Education Center is a collaborative effort of the CNR and UWEX with partnership investments by the DNR. It is established to provide campus-based and outreach education and research regarding land use planning. The Wisconsin Land Use Education Center was recently established to help address the increasing requests for land use planning assistance from local governments across Wisconsin as a result of the Smart Growth law.

Land use planning in Wisconsin will need to consider and include watershed management perspectives if it is done with sustainability in mind.

Other Partnerships/Collaborations

Initially, the four existing programs described above will serve as the core for establishing the WWPC. However, it is fully expected that other programs in the CNR, DNR, and UWEX will create partnerships or collaborate on research, education and outreach efforts of the Watersheds Center. Some examples of early collaborators would include:

- Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education
- Water, Wildlife, Soils, Forestry and Human Dimensions faculty of the CNR
- USGS Cooperative Fishery Unit at UWSP
- UWEX Solid Waste Education Center
- Basin Educators Program
- Wisconsin Association of Lakes
- University of Wisconsin-Madison and River Falls
- Various sections or bureaus of the DNR
- Wisconsin Rivers Alliance
- Wisconsin Wetlands Association

In summary, the fact that core partnership programs already exist at UWSP supports the siting of a watershed center at UWSP. To establish all of these resources within a watershed center at another location would be inefficient and most likely unaffordable. In addition, these existing programs have been extremely successful and are in command of networks that would be essential to the ultimate success of a statewide center.

How will the Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center Operate?

To secure formal collaboration of all partners (i.e., DNR, UWEX, and UWSP/CNR), it is suggested that the funding model used for the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership be replicated. That is, funds would be appropriated for the Watersheds Center through the DNR base budget. The monies would flow through DNR to UWEX to establish the Watersheds Center at UWSP/CNR. This approach has proven to provide adequate incentives for all partners to remain actively involved in pursuing the given mission.

Each institution would direct one of its staff to work as a liaison with the Center and serve on a WWPC advisory committee. In a functional sense, administrative policies (i.e., personnel/budget) of the UW-Stevens Point/CNR would be used in the day-to-day or year-to-year operations of the Center. Thus, all positions are administratively integrated into the university structure.

An advisory committee of relevant professionals, citizen groups, and other stakeholders will be established to provide advice to the Center staff relative to pursuit of its goals and various programs or projects.

The Center staff will be responsible for developing yearly plans of work, which will be the basis of personnel and program evaluation. Center and individual goals and objectives are determined after planning meetings with the Center advisory committee and after periodic assessments of client needs. Teamwork, collaboration, innovations, productivity and service will be key descriptors for the working atmosphere in this Center.

What resources are needed to make the Wisconsin Watersheds Partnership Center a reality?

Although many of the resources (i.e., technical, human, and financial) needed to create the Center are at UWSP, there are clearly some resource gaps that must be addressed or are still lacking. In particular, the following four positions and support funds are being requested to initiate the Center.

1. Watersheds Center Coordinator/Director.

This position would be responsible for providing leadership in the development, review, implementation, and administration of the Watershed Centers mission. Duties would include program development, facilitating networks/partnerships, procurement of funds, teaching, personnel supervision, budget maintenance, program evaluation, and reporting. This is the key leadership position and is indispensable relative to the various resources that will be needed to create a Watersheds Center.

2. A Watersheds Wetlands Specialist

An area of expertise that would be integral to the success of a watersheds center is a wetlands outreach specialist. This position would serve to integrate wetland information and perspectives into watershed education programs and research. No such position presently exists in the partnership institutions. Wetlands are an important component of environmentally healthy ecosystems. The public has come to recognize the ecological and economic importance of wetlands, which is exemplified by the development of the Wisconsin Wetlands Association and by the legislative initiatives or laws posted to protect wetlands. Many socioeconomic and ecological issues revolve around the management of wetlands within watersheds. As development continues, there will be an increasing need for professionals that can assist the public in the resolution of these wetland issues within a watershed perspective. No such position presently exists in the partnership institutions.

3. A Watersheds Rivers Specialist

An area of expertise that would be integral to the success of a WWPC is a river outreach specialist. This position would serve to integrate river information and perspectives into watershed programs and research. No such position presently exists in the partnership institutions. Rivers are an important component of environmentally healthy ecosystems. The establishment of the Wisconsin Rivers Alliance and the Rivers Protection grant program indicate the public's commitment to maintaining the quality of our state's rivers.

Many socioeconomic/ecological issues revolve around the management of rivers within watersheds. As development pressure continues there will be an increasing need for professionals that can assist the public in the resolution of these issues. No such position presently exists in the partnership institutions.

4. Program Assistant

A program assistant position would need to be established to provide secretarial/program support to the staff of the Watersheds Center. This position would provide communication support to the coordinator and staff of the Center. It would provide materials, development support, networking support, and administrative support.

5. Graduate Student Support

The Center and the future of watershed management would be well served by investing in the employment of graduate students. Graduate students are the professional leaders of the future. Meeting the goal of sustainable watersheds will require an ongoing effort. Building capacity to meet future needs is as important as meeting present needs. Graduate students will serve as staff of the Watersheds Center and as such will provide assistance in program development, research, citizen outreach, materials production, etc. At the same time, these hands-on experiences will serve to increase the skills and abilities of the students. Ultimately, these students will graduate and, applying the training received at the WWPC, will make significant contributions to the capacity of our state and other states and nations to meet the need for highly qualified watershed management professionals.

ANNUAL BUDGET

Positions

1.	Watersheds Center Director/Coordinator	\$65,000
	Benefits @34%	22,100
2.	Wetlands Outreach Specialist	55,000
	Benefits @34%	18,700
3.	Rivers Outreach Specialist	55,000
	Benefits @34%	18,700
4.	Program Assistant	26,000
	Benefits @49%	12,740
5.	Graduate Students 2@ 12,000	24,000
	Benefits 2@ 24%	<u>5,760</u>
	Total	\$303,000

Services and Supplies, Etc.

1.	Office, Publication, Telephone Services, Supplies & Travel	97,000
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Annual Grand Total \$400,000

Acknowledgements and Endorsements

This proposal is the result of cooperation and collaboration between many caring people. Cooperation and collaboration is the hallmark of Wisconsin's approach to environmental quality. Below is a list of individuals who deserve a "Thank you" for contributing to the development and pursuit of this important initiative.

NAME	AFFILIATION/OCCUPATION
Mr. Herb Benke*	Wisconsin Natural Resources Board
Mr. Jeff Bode	Section Leader, Lakes and Wetlands Section, Department of Natural Resources
Dr. Bryant Browne**	Associate Professor, Soil/Water Resources
Dr. Randy Champeau	Associate Dean, CNR/Director, Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education
Mr. Michael Dombeck*	Chief, U.S. Forest Service
Mr. Mike Dresen	Land Use Education Specialist
Ms. Tamara Dudiak	Water Resources Law Specialist, Wisconsin Lakes Partnership
Governor Tony Earl*	Former Wisconsin Governor, Partner-Quarles & Brady law firm
Ms. Laura Felda	Adopt-A-Lake Coordinator, Wisconsin Lakes Partnership
Dr. Ron Hensler	Professor of Soil Science
Mr. Bill Horvath*	Regional Director, National Association of Conservation Districts
Dr. Lowell Klessig	Coordinator, Wisconsin Lakes Partnership
Mr. Bob Korth**	Lake Education Specialist, Wisconsin Lakes Partnership
Dr. George Kraft	Director, Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center
Dr. William Kummer*	Professor of Physical Education & Recreation, Western Kentucky University
Mr. Alan Malm*	CEO, Semling-Menke Co., Inc.
Ms. Christine Mechenich**	Groundwater Education Specialist, Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center
Mr. Steve Menzel	Development and Public Relations Coordinator, CNR
Mr. George Meyer*	Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Senator Gaylord Nelson*	Former U.S. Senator and Former Governor of Wisconsin, Founder of Earth Day
Dr. Victor Phillips	Dean, College of Natural Resources
Dr. Byron Shaw	Director, Environmental Task Force
Ms. Dorothy Snyder	Project WET Coordinator, Wisconsin Lakes Partnership
Mr. Paul Strom**	Water Division Integration Team Leader, Department of Natural Resources
Dr. Stan Szczytko**	Discipline Coordinator, CNR Water Resources discipline
Dr. Christine Thomas**	Associate Dean, CNR/Director, Founder, Becoming an Outdoors Woman program
Dr. Dan Trainer*	Retired Dean, College of Natural Resources
Ms. Nancy Turyk**	Research Specialist, Environmental Task Force
Mr. Pat Walsh	Assistant Dean/Director & Program Leader, Community,

	Natural Resources & Economic Development, UWEX
Mrs. Mary Williams*	Retired Teacher & UWSP Administrator, Former UW Regent
Mr. Bob Williams*	Owner/Founder of Idea Associates, public relations firm
Mr. Louis Wysocki*	Potato Farmer/Formal President of the Wisconsin Potato Growers Association
Mr. Steve Willett*	Attorney, Stephen P. Willett, S.C.
Mr. Bob Worth*	CEO, The Worth Company (Retired)
Mr. Stan Gruszynski	WI Dept. of Ag. Rural Development Program
Mr. Allen Shea	Director, Bureau of Watershed Management, DNR, Madison

* College of Natural Resources Advisory Board

** Watershed Center Working Group

Watershed protection and

restoration for . . .

Rural Agricultural Land

USDA & U.S. EPA targets and tools:

- Conservation Tillage
- Crop Nutrient Management
- Pest Management
- Conservation Buffers
- Irrigation Water Management
- Grazing Management
- Animal Feeding Operations Management
- Erosion and Sediment Controls

Urban Developing Land

U.S. EPA targets and tools:

- Land Use Planning
- Land Conservation
- Aquatic Buffers
- Better Site Design
- Erosion and Sediment Control
- Stormwater Best Management Practices
- Non-Stormwater Discharges
- Watershed Stewardship Program

To learn more on the web

<http://www.epa.gov/watertrain/modules.html>
<http://www.info.usda.gov/nrcs/SandT/insta/institutes.htm>



UWSP Watersheds Center

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Affiliated with:



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Collaborating institutions include:
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S.D.A. Forest Service
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension



College
of Natural Resources

UWSP Watersheds Center



*"Get these remnants the river, in a few spots
hardly changed since Pat Burgan's day: at
early dawn, one can still hear laughing in
the wildest, perhaps our grandsons, har-
ling never seen & true, will never miss the
chance to set a cascade in singing waters."*

Aldo Leopold (1947)

UWSP Watersheds Center

Mission: To engage the faculty and students of the College of Natural Resources in partnership with citizens, communities and natural resource agencies in the pursuit of healthy watersheds and sustainable development.



How we will accomplish our mission

- **Establish** collaborative education, research and outreach efforts among participating public and private institutions.
- **Support** the professional development of educators and students working toward watershed management careers.
- **Improve** citizen, business, and industry awareness and knowledge of their possible roles related to watershed management.
- **Help** assure that future generations of Wisconsin citizens and visitors will continue to enjoy high quality recreational values linked to the abundant water resources of our state.
- **Build** the capacity of Wisconsin citizens and local governments to understand the ecological and hydrologic mechanisms that maintain the quality of watersheds and to assure the availability of safe and adequate water supply.
- **Advocate** the understanding that surface water and groundwater are coupled in an integrated system.
- **Encourage** land use planning compatible with the functions of a healthy watershed.



Through the human resource capacity of the College of Natural Resources the UWSP Watersheds Center will...

- **Mobilize** the energy and talents of 1,500 CNR students and their faculty mentors into interdisciplinary response teams that can investigate and propose solutions to a wide variety of watershed issues.
- **Recruit** watershed teamwork units that can address problems holistically from within existing units and programs, such as: the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership, Center for Land Use Education, Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center, Environmental Task Force-Water Testing Laboratory, Wisconsin Cooperative Fishery Research Unit, Aquatic Toxicology Lab, and Aquatic Entomology Lab.
- **Support** the teams that utilize the available talents and datasets from the five major academic areas of **Forestry, Wildlife, Water Resources, Soil and Waste Resources, and Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management.**
- **Promote** interdisciplinary collaboration throughout the University of Wisconsin system and with state or federal natural resource agencies, and non-governmental environmental organizations that have a vital role in watershed management.