



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Inside Region 3
March 2006



Inside This Issue:

**Director Hall Makes First Visit to Midwest Region
Refuge Association Employee of the Year
Iowa's Mussels Coming Back**

Service Director Visits Chicago to Present Coastal Wetlands Grant

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Director Dale Hall made his first official visit to the Region as Director during a stop in Chicago on Feb. 1.

Director Hall visited Chicago to present a \$750,000 Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant to partners of the Hegewisch Marsh Project. Partners in the project included the State of Illinois, the City of Chicago and the Chicago Field Museum and the Conservation Fund.

Director Hall toured the Hegewisch Marsh site and then officially presented the check at an event hosted by Illinois Lt. Gov. Quinn and Chicago Mayor Daley.

In the spirit of cooperative conservation, the grant will be combined with an additional \$510,000 in funds from partners to restore 55

acres of Hegewisch Marsh, a coastal wetland of Lake Michigan in south Chicago.

During the presentation, Director Hall acknowledged the value of the project “This Coastal Grant Award recognizes the Hegewisch Marsh as an important part of a broader effort to restore and protect the resources of the Great Lakes Basin,” he said. “It is also a testament to the commitment of the City of Chicago and its partners to natural resources conservation. Chicago is truly a model for the nation in demonstrating how to integrate conservation into the urban landscape.”

As a part of the larger 4,800-acre Calumet Open Space Reserve, the Hegewisch Marsh Project will provide benefits not only to the fish and wildlife populations of the

Great Lakes, but also to the people of Chicago and the surrounding area, through a planned environmental center and increased opportunities to enjoy natural resources in the midst of one of our nation’s largest urban areas.

National Coastal Wetlands Conservation grants are awarded to states through a competitive process. The program is funded under provisions of the 1990 Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act, with money generated from excise taxes on fishing equipment and motorboat and small engine fuels.

Including the 2006 grants, the Service has awarded more than \$165 million in grants to states and territories since the program began. More than 200,000 acres nationwide have been protected or restored through the program.

The Hegewisch Marsh project is one of three projects in the Midwest Region to receive funding from the program this year. The other two projects are in Michigan:

Detroit River Wetland Restoration and Enhancement project will help the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and other project partners restore or enhance 65 acres in and adjacent to the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. The grant totaled \$746,000 with partners adding another \$535,000.

Keweenaw County Land Acquisition project will help the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and its partners acquire 1,475 acres along the coast of Lake Superior on the Keweenaw Peninsula in Keweenaw County. The grant totaled \$928,000 with partners adding another \$998,075.

Chuck Traxler, External Affairs

About the Cover



- USFWS photo by Michael Redmer

Nicole Kamins, of the City of Chicago Department of Environment, talks with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Director Dale Hall during a visit to the Hegewisch Marsh Project site. The Hegewisch Marsh Project was the recipient of a \$750,000 Coastal Wetland Grant. Director Hall visited Chicago to tour the site and meet with Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and Illinois Lt. Governor Pat Quinn.

Schomaker Named Refuge Employee of the Year

The National Wildlife Refuge Association has named John Schomaker, a planner in the Midwest Region's Division of Conservation Planning, as the 2006 Refuge Employee of the Year. This award is presented annually to an individual whose career has shown a commitment to the conservation of our natural resources, superior effectiveness in advancing the cause of wildlife conservation and a background that has demonstrated personal dedication to the cause of wildlife conservation, the cause of refuge management, and the mission of the refuge system.

Schomaker's impressive educational background includes an M.S. in outdoor recreation, a Ph.D. in recreation management and three years of teaching and research experience in wildland recreation and wilderness management at the University of Idaho. His career highlights include eight years in river recreation research for the U.S. Forest Service, nine years as the chief outdoor recreation planner at Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, and eight years as a conservation planner and regional comprehensive conservation planning coordinator in the Midwest Regional Office.

John will receive his award on March 23, at the 71st North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, in Columbus, Ohio. *Tom Larson, RW-Conservation Planning.*



- USFWS photo

Midwest Regional Office employee John Schomaker was named 2006 Refuge Employee of the Year by the National Wildlife Refuge Association.

Higgins' Eye Pearlmussel Found In Iowa River; First Documented Find in 80 Years

Midwest Region U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service divers, working with Iowa Department of Natural Resource biologists, located the first live Higgins' eye pearlmussel in Iowa's interior waters in more than 80 years. The mussel was found as part of a survey of interior streams associated

with recent recovery efforts for this species in a reach of the Wapsipinicon River near Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Since 2001, several interior Iowa rivers have received tens of thousands of juvenile Higgins' eye mussels -- by releasing host fish that were carrying the mussels as larval encystments on their gills -- as part of a range-wide recovery effort.

One of the many problems that biologists face with assessing the success of these types of reintroductions is locating released animals in these open riverine systems. The juvenile mussels can spend from days to months attached to their respective host fish until they reach

the release stage and drop off the fish as a free living mussel. Where these fish are located when this happens is a guessing game for field personnel who must then wait several years for the mussel to grow to a sufficient size to be detected, identified, and returned to the river. One state biologist made the analogy that, "It's more that a needle in a haystack- it's more akin to a needle in a hayfield!"

Given these challenges it was rewarding for project personnel to find the three-year-old mussel within one river mile of a release site on the Wapsipinicon River. Further survey operations are planned for areas adjacent to this site to see if other individuals from these initial stockings can be located, meanwhile the project will continue to reintroduce this rare mussel to areas across the Midwest where it was once a component of the wild mussel community. *Roger Gordon, Genoa NFH*



- USFWS photo

This Higgins' eye pearlmussel was recently found in Iowa's Wapsipinicon River. This is the first documented specimen of the endangered mussel found in an Iowa River in 80 years.

Czarnecki Appointed Great Lakes Commission Observer

Craig Czarnecki, field supervisor of the East Lansing Field Office has been appointed as an official Observer for the Great Lakes Commission.

The Great Lakes Commission is an interstate compact agency composed of governor-appointed and legislatively-mandated representatives of the eight Great Lakes states. Established by joint legislative action of the Great Lakes states in 1955 and granted congressional consent in 1968, the Great Lakes Commission seeks “to promote the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water re-

sources of the Great Lakes Basin.”

Craig was chosen because he is ideally suited to interact with the Commission on a full array of fish and wildlife issues.

An Observer's primarily role is to provide input to the Commissioners in the course of carrying out Commission business. The number may vary, but there are typically about 30 observers at any one time representing federal (U.S. and Canada) state, provincial, regional, tribal, and local entities interests.

More information on the Great Lakes Commission can be found on-line at <http://www.glc.org>. *Bob Kavetsky, East Lansing FO*

Rehabilitated Bald Eagle Released at Two Rivers Refuge

About 60 people came to watch a rehabilitated bald eagle being released back into the wild on Jan. 23, at Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge near Brussels, Ill.

The immature eagle was discovered at the refuge on Nov. 20. The eagle was unable to fly and appeared wounded, so a refuge employee and a graduate student captured the bird and took it to Treehouse Wildlife Center.

Staff at the Center noted that the right wing was bruised and X-rays revealed a shotgun pellet in the wing. Although there was no fracture, the shot was apparently enough to bring the bird down and the bruising was caused by it hitting the ground.

The eagle was held in an indoor cage so it could rest and give the wing a chance to heal. In De-

ember, the eagle was moved to an outdoor flight cage to build up its strength before being released.

Curt McMurl, Two Rivers NWR



- Photo by Refuge Volunteer Lynn Schreiber

Two Rivers NWR Assistant Refuge Manager Curt McMurl prepares to release the bald eagle.

Hail & Farewell

Region 3 is a dynamic organization. Quality employees are continuously coming to the region or leaving for new challenges.

Each month, we will do our best to publish a list of new and retiring employees. Names are provided by the Human Resources Office.

This month, we welcome the following new permanent employees: **Robert Nicolli**, RO-Realty; **Patrick Twohy**, RO - Realty; **Kyle Chambers**, Crab Orchard NWR; **Scott Holevoet**, Crab Orchard NWR; **Carl R. Lantz**, Crab Orchard NWR; **Robert Cail**, Middle Miss. River NWR; **Karen Viste-Sparkman**, Neal Smith NWR; **Sheree Dunn**, Chicago FO; **Louise Clemency**, Green Bay FO; **Katherine Walls**, Savanna District; and, **David Mosby**, Columbia, FO.

We also welcome the following term, temporary and student employees: **Sheryl Decker**, RO - Human Resources; **Joe Parr**, Big Oaks NWR; **Steven Gundersen**, Big Oaks NWR; **Deanna Robison**, Big Oaks NWR; **James Williams**, Columbia FRO; **Jared Fallon**, St. Croix WMD; **Chant Eicke**, Port Louisa NWR; and, **Ryan White**, Port Louisa NWR.

Finally, we bid farewell and say thank you to the following retirees: **Richard Tolbers**, RO- Federal Assistance; **Lawrence Zellar**, Seney NWR; **Kenneth Lammers**, Reynoldsburg FO; **William Kurey**, Reynoldsburg FO; **Robert Stifter**, RO - ABA; **Sharon Groenwoldt**, Upper Miss. Savanna Dist.; and, **Jean Hinkle**, Cypress Creek NWR.

Coaster Brook Trout Eggs Stocked in Wisconsin's Whittlesey Creek

Staff from the Ashland Fishery Resources Office, Iron River National Fish Hatchery and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources stocked coaster brook trout eggs raised at Iron River NFH into Whittlesey Creek.

Prior to stocking the eggs, crews pre-positioned egg boxes at selected locations in the creeks to reduce the time needed to stock the eggs. Egg boxes provide a substrate that is stable and can prevent sand deposition from smothering the eggs. An egg box consists of Astroturf bundles sandwiched within a frame that is anchored to the streambed with a rebar stake. The boxes were placed in areas of moderate to slow current that were out of sand deposition zones. When possible, boxes were also placed close to areas that will

provide habitat once the eggs hatch. Back at Iron River NFH, approximately 30,000 eggs from two distinct coaster brook trout strains of were

loaded into Astroturf bundles and moved to the stream in coolers. At the stream, the Astroturf bundles were loaded into the egg boxes and placed in the stream.

The egg stocking is part of the seven year experiment to restore coaster brook trout to the Whittlesey Creek watershed by stocking

different life stages. The success of this and other stocking projects in the stream will be monitored to evaluate their success. *Jonathan Pyatskowitz, Ashland FRO*



- USFWS photos
Jonathan Pyatskowitz (left) and Henry Quinlan from the Ashland FRO place egg bundles into an egg box.



Iron River NFH Biologist Steve Redman loads the eggs into an egg tray.



The egg boxes are placed in the stream and secured to the ground. Biologists will monitor the boxes until the eggs hatch and assess the success of this technique.



- Photo courtesy Al Hicks, NY State DOE
Biologists descend into southern Illinois' Magazine Mine to survey bat populations.

Deep in the Bat Cave

An Indiana bat survey exercise was held at the abandoned Magazine Mine in the southern tip of Illinois to help the Service quantify the amount of variability associated with winter bat population estimates.

Five survey teams from five states used their traditional survey techniques for estimating the number of Indiana bats within 52 designated clusters that ranged in size from tens of bats to thousands of bats. In all, 17 people entered the mine and participated in the exercise, including biologists with the

Service, U.S. Forest Service, four state agencies, three universities, an environmental consulting firm, a karst conservancy, and the private mining company.

Once the teams have finished calculating their estimates and/or have completed counting bats in their digital photographs they will be providing their data to Dr. Vicky Meretsky, associate professor at Indiana University, for statistical analysis. Dr. Meretsky helped design and coordinate the exercise and will be assessing the amount of variability among the five teams' estimates and techniques. *Andy King, Bloomington FO*

Around the Region



- USFWS photo by Steve Redman

The expert crew at Iron River NFH completed fin clipping about 1.2 million lake trout this winter. The seven staffers averaged clipping about 25,000 fish a day. The clipped fish will be stocked beginning in April.



- USFWS photo by Ted Koehler

Members of the Bad River Band Natural Resources Department release a sora rail that was banded as part of a three year study funded in part by the Service's Coastal Grant program.



- USFWS photo

Columbia Fishery Resources Office Biologist Geno Adams holds a paddlefish collected on the Missouri River.



- USFWS photo

Crab Orchard NWR Manager Dan Frisk rolls up his sleeve and donates blood during a blood drive held at the refuge visitor center.

Bob Kavetsky

Fish and Wildlife Biologist, East Lansing, Mich., Field Office

Believe it or not, growing up in the industrial east side of Detroit didn't make it any harder for me to develop a love for natural resources. Even though our backyard was mostly concrete, my parents always found a way to help keep the natural world a part of our lives. They planted a tree in what little yard we had for four of their five kids; however, as the youngest, they ran out of space for a fifth tree by the time I came around. We also spent many weekends at a family cabin on Bush Lake in Holly, Mich. It was there that I caught my first fish and really "touched" the resource for the first time. In grade school our library had a copy of "The Sign of the Flying Goose," by George Laycock. I remember reading that book in sixth grade, and it made a significant impression on me. Even in Detroit, in the heart of the nation's auto industry, kids could go down to the riverfront and catch fish or watch nighthawks catch insects out of the sky over brightly-lit car dealerships at night.

By the time I started college at Michigan State University, I knew I wanted to work in the natural resource field. I took my first job with the Fish and Wildlife Service during summer break at the Benson Wetland Management District in Minnesota. As a temporary GS-3 biological aide, I spent most of my summer maintaining Waterfowl Production Areas. But spending that summer on the prairie – a long way from the auto plants of Detroit – only reinforced my desire to have a career protecting natural resources. I also worked temporary jobs at Michigan State and at Ludington, Mich., before I gradu-

ated. After graduating with a B.S. degree in Fisheries and Wildlife, I served with the Peace Corps, as a Fishery Extension Agent in Nepal.

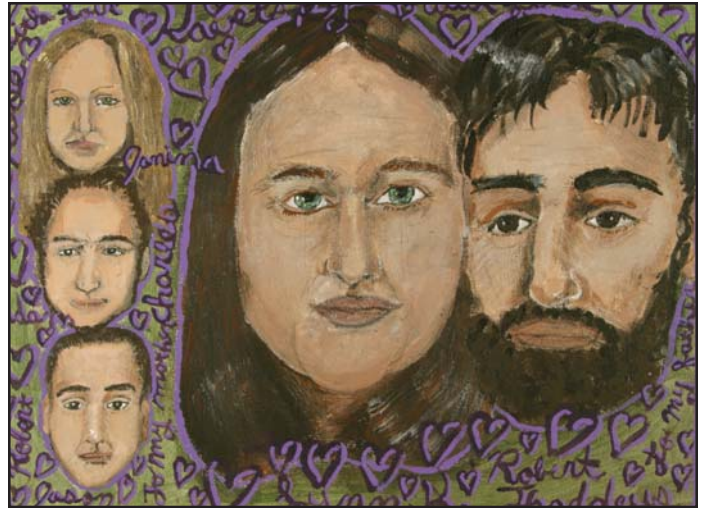
After returning from the Peace Corps, I managed to land my first permanent job with the Service as a part-time wildlife inspector in the Rosemont, Ill., Law Enforcement Office. While working in Rosemont, my wife and I started our family and I attended night school at Chicago State University, eventually earning an M.S. degree in Biological Science.

In 1983 we moved our family to Washington, D.C., where I worked in the national permit office. While in D.C., I learned how things were done from a national and international perspective. I worked on endangered species, CITES, and Lacey Act permits dealing with condors, elephants and many other species and issues. I spent four years in D.C., and when the opportunity to move back toward home and work in the East Lansing Field Office arose, I jumped at the opportunity.

The work we do here at East Lansing is exciting, diverse and important. We deal with a lot of regulatory issues, saying "no" to things that will negatively impact the resource. But, along with the "no," we provide other ways to

conserve resources, like the Coastal Program. The thing I like most about my job here is working with other agencies, private citizens and corporations to find ways to conserve natural resources.

Although none of my kids are following in my career footsteps, being outdoors has always been a part of our lives. My daughter has always loved riding horses and spends hours riding and taking care of those we maintain at our home outside East Lansing. The entire family also spends time outdoors and just being together. I also see the people I work with throughout the Service as family. I've known many of them for a long time and we all share the common bond of wanting to protect our resources. For me, going to NCTC is often like a family reunion. I don't think there are too many jobs where you can say that. It makes working for the Service special; it's an honor I've enjoyed for more than 30 years, and something I plan to keep doing as long as I can.



Bob Kavetsky's daughter Janina painted this family portrait showing Bob, his wife Lynn, daughter Janina and sons Jason and Adam.

Charlie Wooley

Deputy Regional Director

What is your most memorable experience while working for the Service?

The best days I've had with the Service have been out in the field. In particular, the work I did with striped bass while

working at the Panama City and Chesapeake Bay Offices. Working with these fish, touching the resource, and being on the water were good times. The opportunities we have working for the Service, the ability to see things and work with species that many people don't have the opportunity to see, are the best times.



Midwest Region Deputy Regional Director Charlie Wooley, and a nice large mouth bass spend a day on the water in central Minnesota.

What is the most important piece of advice you would give to someone you were mentoring?

Treat everyone as you would want to be treated yourself and always keep a positive attitude. I think this advice is solid in both your professional and personal life. Simple things like giving a smile and saying "hi" to folks goes a long way. Treating people with respect and showing attention to them really helps make their day better and it also helps keep you in a positive mood.

What was the last field station you visited?

My last official visit to a field station was during the dedication of the Kuftrin Waterfowl Production Area this fall. It was a great opportunity to recognize Steve Kuftrin for all his good work, and to spend time with many employees from western Minnesota. My last unofficial visit was to Mille Lacs NWR. Although I didn't actually set foot on the tiny island refuge in the middle of Lake Mille Lacs, I did float all around it while casting for muskies.

Looking into the future, what big changes do you foresee for the Service?

We have to continue increasing our focus on connecting with the American people. They must know why we are here and what we do. We all must play a part in helping them understand that what we do helps to ensure clean air to breathe, safe water to drink and healthy ecosystems for fish, wildlife and people.

What do you see as the most important things you do as Deputy Regional Director to help the Service achieve its mission?

The most important things I do are to help Regional Director Robyn Thorson take care of our people, advocate for the region and develop coalitions with our conservation partners. The activity I enjoy the most is helping to build coalitions of diverse groups and build consensus around an issue. The Service is in a great position to do this because while our mission lets us work on a great variety of issues, we don't always have the funding, staff or authority to get it

done on our own. We need help from other groups and that is where building coalitions pays off. By working together as a team, we can get the job done. And, getting the job done for our natural resources -- anyway we can -- is the most important activity any of us can do.

Charlie was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, and earned a B.S. degree in Aquatic Biology from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point.

His wife Julie and their two daughters, Sarah and Laura, have called Lakeville, Minn., their home since 1999.

Charlie began his career with the Service in 1976 doing temporary summer work while attending college. He's been stationed in Alaska (Kenai and Anchorage), Ann Arbor, Mich., Panama City, Fla., Annapolis, Md., Washington, D.C., East Lansing, Mich., and is now at the Regional Office in Minnesota.

Accomplishment Reports

The following accomplishments reports were processed between December 1, 2005 and February 1, 2006.

1. Galligan Farms Project, *Ted Koehler, Ashland FRO*
2. Genoa National Fish Hatchery Raises Rainbows to Assist in Endangered Mussel Recovery, *Nick Starzl, Genoa NFH*
3. Creek Chub PCB Research Published in *Journal of Fish Biology*, *Daniel Sparks, Bloomington FO*
4. 2005 Coded-Wire-Tag Data Compiled, *Aaron Woldt, Alpena FRO*
5. Sampling Protocols Evaluated for Invasive Ruffe and Round Goby, *Gary Czypinski, Ashland FRO*
6. NRDA Claim Submittal for the 2002 Mystery Oil Spill on the Rouge River Made Public, *Lisa Williams, East Lansing FO*
7. Science Policy Class Learns about Superfund and NRDA, *Lisa Williams, East Lansing FO*
8. Rail Survey in the Kakagon and Bad River Wetland Complex, *Ted Koehler, Ashland FRO*
9. Teachers Get WET WILD!, *Karin Magera, Crab Orchard NWR*
10. Service Sends Bat Surveyors Underground to Shed Light on Indiana Bat Population Estimates, *Andy King, Bloomington FO*
11. Lake Whitefish Age Determination, *Scott Koproski, Alpena FRO*
12. New Friends Group Established for Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, *John Hartig, Detroit River*
13. Technical Assistance Requested from the St. Croix Chippewa Indians, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*
14. Mingo Refuge Staff Promotes 'Wildlife First' As A Career Option In The Missouri Bootheel, *Vergial Harp, Mingo NWR*
15. Emerald Ash Borer Heading for Wisconsin, *Catherine Carnes, Green Bay FO*
16. Students at Baird Elementary Learn about Endangered Species, *Leakhena Au, Green Bay FO*
17. Endangered Higgins' Eye Pearlymussel Found in Interior Waters of Iowa for First Time in 80 Years, *Roger Gordon, Genoa NFH*
18. Michigan Stream Team Receives Funding to Begin Fieldwork, *Heather Rawlings, Alpena FRO*
19. Egg Stocking in Whittlesey and North Fork Whittlesey Creeks, January 2006, *Jonathan Pyatskowitz, Ashland FRO*
20. Czarnecki Designated Great Lakes Commission Observer, *Bob Kavetsky, East Lansing FO*
21. Bald Eagle Released Back to the Wild at Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge, *Curt McMurl, Two Rivers NWR*
22. Eagle Watch 2006 at Crab Orchard Refuge, *Karin Magera, Crab Orchard NWR*
23. Alpena Staff Repair Gillnets in Preparation for Spring Sampling Season, *Adam Kowalski, Alpena FRO*
24. Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge to Receive \$1.35 Million as Part of Deferred Prosecution Agreement with First Energy Nuclear Operating Company, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
25. Friends of the Neosho National Fish Hatchery attends Friends Workshop in Twin Cities, *David Hendrix, Neosho NFH*
26. Friends of Neosho National Fish Hatchery Purchase Rods and Reels for Hatchery's Annual Fishing Derby, *David Hendrix, Neosho NFH*
27. Crane Meadows NWR Honors 128 Volunteers at Recognition Dinner, *Nancy Haugen, Sherburne NWR*
28. Agencies Propose Plan for Wolf Damage Control in Michigan; Public Comment Sought – Congressional Notification, *Jane West, External Affairs*
29. Neosho National Fish Hatchery's Manager Participates on Outdoor Radio Show About Hatchery's Rainbow Trout Program, *David Hendrix, Neosho NFH*
30. Lake Huron Technical Committee prepares for the State of Lake Huron Conference, *Jerry McClain, Alpena FRO*
31. Sturgeon Restoration Effort on the Fond du Lac Indian Reservation, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*
32. Yes, Eagles Eat Fish, *Wells Adams, Columbia FRO*
33. New Web Page for the Midwest Driftless Area Restoration Effort, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*
34. Palet 05 Wetland Restoration Project, *Ted Koehler, Ashland FRO*
35. Terrestrial Wildlife Committee Herptile Monitoring, *Ted Koehler, Ashland FRO*
36. Geothermal Testing for the 'New Visitor Center' at the Neosho National Fish Hatchery, *David Hendrix, Neosho NFH*
37. Crab Orchard Refuge Hosts Wildland Fire Chain Saw Training, *Karin Magera, Crab Orchard NWR*
38. 'Master Naturalist' Course Started, *Scott Ford, Neal Smith NWR*
39. Friends of the Prairie Learning Center Agree on 2006 Budget, *Scott Ford, Neal Smith NWR*
40. Public Comment Invited on Draft Environmental Assessment for Double-crested Cormorant Management in Ohio – Congressional Notification, *Jane West, External Affairs*
41. Crab Orchard Refuge Visitor Center Hosts Blood Drive, *Karin Magera, Crab Orchard NWR*
42. Genoa National Fish Hatchery Staff Present Lake Sturgeon Study at 2006 National Coolwater Fish Culture Workshop, *Nick Starzl, Genoa NFH*
43. Service Contributes Moderator and Invited Speaker to Research Summit, *Michael Redmer, Chicago FO*
44. Mission Minded Meeting Held to Build Partnerships for Mussel Restoration Efforts in Cedar River, Iowa, *Tony Brady, Genoa NFH*
45. Public Comment Sought on Draft Fire Plan for Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
46. Six Hundred Pounds of Venison from DeSoto Refuge Hunts Go To Local Food Bank, *Cindy Myer, Desoto NWR*
47. Carterville Fishery Office Teams with NCTC to Enhance Educational Opportunities, *colby wrasse, Carterville FRO*
48. More Than \$15 Million in Coastal Grants Will Go To 12 States - Congressional Notification, *Jane West, External Affairs*
49. Technical Assistance Request from Tribal Cooperators, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*
50. Comment Period Extension Planned for Alternative E of Upper Miss Refuge Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan - Congressional Notification, *Jane West, External Affairs*
51. Ashland FRO's Web Page averages 56,000 Hits per Month!, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*
52. Comment Period Extension Planned for Alternative E of Upper Miss Refuge Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
53. Reward Offered for Information on November Killing of Canada Lynx in Northeast Minnesota, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
54. 2005 Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program at Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, *Ron Knopik, Minnesota Valley NWR*
55. A Minnesota Miracle!, *Matt Conner, Minnesota Valley NWR*
56. Students Learn Impacts of Invasive Species, *Gregg Baldwin, Marquette Bio Station*
57. Columbia Fishery Office Submits 10-Year Summary Report on Paddlefish Stock Assessment to MICRA, *Joanne Grady, Columbia FRO*
58. Alpena Fishery Office Staff Discuss Detroit River Lake Sturgeon with Detroit News, *Jerry McClain, Alpena FRO*
59. Final Report Provided on Study to Examine Round Goby Predation on Lake Trout Eggs, *Anjanette Bowen, Alpena FRO*
60. Self-Guided Auto Tour Nearing Completion, *Scott Ford, Neal Smith NWR*
61. Lake Sturgeon Recruitment Study in Missouri's Large Rivers, *Tracy Hill, Columbia FRO*
62. 1.2 Million Lake Trout Clipped at Iron River National Fish Hatchery, *Steve Redman, Iron River NFH*
63. Format, Dates and Locations Modified for January Public Meetings on Upper Miss Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
64. Snake-Friendly Development in Ohio, *Angela Zimmerman, Reynoldsburg FO*
65. Active Burn Year For Neal Smith Refuge Fire Crew, *Scott Ford, Neal Smith NWR*
66. Format, Dates and Locations Modified for January Public Meetings on Upper Miss Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan - Congressional Notification, *Jane West, External Affairs*

-- Reports continued next page.

Accomplishment Reports

-- Reports from previous page.

67. Service Gives Talk on Sturgeon Tag Identification Database, *Adam Kowalski, Alpena FRO*

68. Intern Learns About the Service, *Lisa Williams, East Lansing FO*

69. U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE WILL NOT APPEAL U.S. DISTRICT COURT DECISIONS ON GRAY WOLF DELISTING, *Jane West, External Affairs*

70. Spring Rise Collaborative Strategy Meeting, *Wyatt Doyle, Columbia FRO*

71. Reconnaissance of Whittlesey Creek and North Fork Whittlesey Creek, *Jonathan Pyatskowitz, Ashland FRO*

72. Coaster Brook Trout are Fin Clipped at Genoa National Fish Hatchery, *Nick Starzl, Genoa NFH*

73. Service Reads Lake Trout CWT's for CORA and Michigan DNR, *Adam Kowalski, Alpena FRO*

74. 2005 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, *Heather Rawlings, Alpena FRO*

75. Fifth Group of Endangered Whooping Cranes Depart on Ultralight-guided Flight to Florida - Congressional Notification, *Jane West, External Affairs*

76. Carterville FRO participates in 66th Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, *Greg Conover, Carterville FRO*

77. Kirtland's warbler Status Presented at 2005 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, *Christopher Mensing, East Lansing FO*

78. Symposium on grass carp regulations in the United States hosted at the 66th Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, *Greg Conover, Carterville FRO*

79. Biologist Presents Results of Lake Trout Tagging Studies at the Region 3 Fish Culture Meeting, *Aaron Wolcott, Alpena FRO*

80. Ludington Biological Station Employees Support the CFC, *Denny Lavis, Ludington Bio. Station*

81. Fifth Generation of Ultralight-led Whooping Cranes Reaches Florida Wintering Grounds, *Rachel Levin, External Affairs*

82. Holiday FUN With Puddles at Crab Orchard Refuge, *Karin Magera, Crab Orchard NWR*

83. Annual Pallid Monitoring Meeting, *Wyatt Doyle, Columbia FRO*

84. Merry Christmas Lakers, *Steve Redman, Iron River NFH*

85. Successful Partnership with Ducks Unlimited Improves Wetland Management at Fergus Falls Wetland District, *Stacy Salvevold, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC*

86. Sea Lamprey Barrier Constructed on Michigan Tributary, *Gregg Baldwin, Marquette Bio Station*

87. Award Honoring Representative Dingell (MI 15th), *Jane West, External Affairs*

88. Thunder Bay Project Implementation Working Committee Meeting, *Aaron Wolcott, Alpena FRO*

89. Michigan Stream Team, *Susan Wells, Alpena FRO*

90. Red Lake Walleye Restoration Effort, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*

91. Oesterriech Wetland Complex, *Ted Koehler, Ashland FRO*

92. Cutler Creek Culvert Replacement, *Ted Koehler, Ashland FRO*

93. Special Emphasis Program Manager Provides Learning Workshops, *Arlene White, ABA (DCR)*

94. New Preferred Alternative for Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Plan Released for Public Review and Comment

, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*

95. 25 Foot Tall Bald Eagle Shows Up at 27th Annual Eagle Days at Squaw Creek Refuge, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*

96. Neosho National Fish Hatchery participates in Neosho's Annual Christmas Parade, *David Hendrix, Neosho NFH*

97. Biological Opinion Completed for Shawnee National Forest Revised Land and Resource Management Plan, *Joyce Collins, Marion Illinois FO*

98. New Preferred Alternative for Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Plan Released for Public Review and Comment - Congressional Offices Notified, *Jane West, External Affairs*

99. Another Edition of the MTAN Goes to Print, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*

100. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Representatives Tour 'Clam Palace', *Doug Aloisi, Genoa NFH*

101. Chicago Office Secures Candidate Conservation Agreement with State and County, *Kristopher Lah, Chicago FO*



<http://midwest.fws.gov>

Inside Region 3 March 2006

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Midwest Region, Office of External Affairs
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