



Aquatic species from another continent; great shot! Photo courtesy of Leigh McDougal

FishTales®

A Weekly Peek at Fisheries, Aquatic Ecology and Watersheds in the

USDA FOREST SERVICE

January 31 to February 4, 2005

Dave Cross -

I mailed this year's Rise to the Future nominations to our reviewers this week. We should be able to report this year's selections at the end of February! I would like to express my appreciation to those of you that took the time to write up this year's nominees. Additionally I would like to thank this year's reviewers. Their job this year will be difficult with so many worthy nominations.

I continued to work with WO staffs and OGC on a review of IAFWA's proposed language changes to the existing "policy and guidelines for fish and wildlife management in wilderness areas" document. The working group has completed the assessment and met with WFW's acting Director Anne Zimmermann and Wilderness Director Mary Wagner to brief them on the issues identified in the assessment. I also met with members of the Invasive Species Issues Team in the WO and discussed a draft proposal for a national conference on Invasive Species.

Bill Lorenz -

I worked with members of our staff and the BLM on the evaluation of nominations for the Forest Service and BLM awards that will be announced at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in March. I continued working on the review of Forest Plan appeals, and with Regional fisheries program leaders on target and accomplishment reporting.

News from Around the Country

- **The Natural Inquirer** - is a magazine created by the Forest Service for middle-school kids. Articles talk about scientific research conducted by Forest Service scientists on several aspects of the natural world, including trees, forests, wildlife, insects, outdoor activities, and water. First, kids will "meet the scientist" who conducted the research. Then they will read about the science, its relationship to the environment and then about a specific research project. The Natural Inquirer Web site includes links to past issues, activities for kids and projects and ideas for teachers. To learn more, go to www.naturalinquirer.usda.gov.
- **The 2005 State of the Salmon Conference** – Sunday, April 17, 2005– Wednesday, April 20, 2005 ~ Anchorage, Alaska, announces their Second Key Note Speaker: **The Honorable John A. Fraser** – John Fraser was born in Yokohama, Japan and raised in Vancouver. He graduated from the University of British Columbia and practiced law until his election to the House of Commons. During his years in Parliament, John Fraser served in key positions, including Minister for the Environment and Minister of Fisheries. He was the first person to have been elected Speaker of the House of Commons by his peers, a practice instituted in 1986. In 1994, John Fraser was selected to head the Fraser River Sockeye Public Review Board investigating the salmon fishery. He subsequently represented Canada as Ambassador for the Environment, responsible for Canadian follow-up to commitments made at the United Nations Rio Conference on Environment and Development. In September 1998, John Fraser was appointed Chair of the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council. From 1996 to 2003 he chaired the Minister of Defense's Monitoring Committee on Change in the Canadian Forces. He also chairs the Parliamentary Precinct Oversight Advisory Committee. John Fraser is a Queen's Counsel, an officer of the Order of Canada and a member of the Order of British Columbia and he holds the Canadian Forces Decoration. In 1999, he was awarded honorary Doctor of Laws degrees by Simon Fraser University, St. Lawrence University and

the University of British Columbia for his contributions to parliamentary government and environmental causes.

- **Continuing Education opportunity:** Advanced Concepts in Aquatic Ecosystem Analysis workshop (ACAEA) is FIRE. Forest Service Fish and Wildlife Continuing Education Program Leader Shelly Witt says this course was a big hit previously, so it will be offered again this year. Class size is kept fairly small (15 to 17 maximum) to ensure in-depth instructor/student ratios. There are 6 slots still available at this point in time. It is open to all natural resource professionals (fed and non-fed) interested in fire & aquatic interactions...such as the resulting analysis from the Hayman Fire. May 9-12, 2005

<http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/education/workshops/ACAEA/index.html>

- **FY 2004 National NatureWatch Award Selections**

National NatureWatch New Innovations Award

Fish Eye View of the Tongass National Forest Video

Pete Schneider

Juneau Ranger District

Tongass National Forest

USDA Forest Service, Alaska Region

[http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/usforest_2004.nsf/\(ReportWithPartnerSummary\)?OpenAgent&UNID=B111F2373491A63885256F41007FD1E2](http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/usforest_2004.nsf/(ReportWithPartnerSummary)?OpenAgent&UNID=B111F2373491A63885256F41007FD1E2)

National NatureWatch Exemplary Program Award, District-Level

Can you believe there were no nominations – no one had the time to simply send the name of a District that does exceptional NatureWatch work? This is sad!

National NatureWatch Exemplary Program Award, Forest-Level

“There was tie in the evaluations for the best Forest Program”

Lolo National Forest

TITLE	AUTHOR	PROGRAM	LOCATION	REGION/FOREST
✓	Bear education newspaper articles	David W Wrobleski	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District, MT

✓	<u>Sanders County Fair Display</u>	David W Wrobleski	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District, MT
✓	<u>Grizzly bear awareness sign</u>	David W Wrobleski	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District, MT
✓	<u>Thompson Falls Outdoor Education</u>	David W Wrobleski	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District, MT
✓	<u>Sanders County Waterfest</u>	David W Wrobleski	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District, MT
✓	<u>Thompson Pass Interpretive Signs</u>	David W Wrobleski	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District, MT
✓	<u>Remote Camera Education</u>	David W Wrobleski	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District, MT
✓	<u>D6/D3 Indoor/Outdoor I&E Programs</u>	Sandy Kratville	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Seeley Lake Ranger District, MT
✓	<u>D7 Indoor/Outdoor I&E Programs</u>	Sandy Kratville	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Superior Ranger District, MT
✓	<u>Montana Birding & Nature Trail</u>	Susan Reel	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Supervisor's Office, MT
✓	<u>Conservation Education presentations</u>	Susan Reel	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Supervisor's Office, MT
✓	<u>Seeley Lake Loon & Fish Festival</u>	Susan Reel	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Supervisor's Office, MT
✓	<u>Naturewalk Week</u>	Susan Reel	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest,

				Supervisor's Office, MT
✓	Fire Ecology Education Project	Susan Reel	NatureWatch	Northern Region, Lolo National Forest, Supervisor's Office, MT

Colville National Forest

Make sure you follow the link to the website for the Water Festival!

TITLE	AUTHOR	PROGRAM	LOCATION	REGION/FOREST
✓	Lake Roosevelt Water Festival	James E McGowan	NatureWatch	Pacific Northwest Region, Colville National Forest, Supervisor's Office, WA
✓	Fishing Festivals	James E McGowan	NatureWatch	Pacific Northwest Region, Colville National Forest, Supervisor's Office, WA
✓	Celebrating Wildflowers Program	James E McGowan	NatureWatch	Pacific Northwest Region, Colville National Forest, Supervisor's Office, WA
✓	Wildlife Education Activities	James E McGowan	NatureWatch	Pacific Northwest Region, Colville National Forest, Supervisor's Office, WA

National NatureWatch “New Viewing Site” Award:

No Nominations for a “New Viewing Site.” But, there were 25 new viewing sites in WFRP and some of them looked very good to me!

National NatureWatch “Just Like New” Award:

No Nominations for restoration of an existing viewing site. But, once again there were 28 viewing sites restored in the WFRP data and some looked very good to me!

National NatureWatch Exemplary “Presentation” Award

Central Oregon Wildlife Viewing Website

Shane Jeffries – Project Leader
Deschutes National Forests
USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region

[http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/usforest_2004.nsf/91d8cd6be3abe6a385256f500007a908/b33cde872ec96bec85256f480077e055?OpenDocument&Click=85256DF90002ACB3.a6f97cf07f4fe14088256af7006c6537/\\$Body/0.2EC](http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/usforest_2004.nsf/91d8cd6be3abe6a385256f500007a908/b33cde872ec96bec85256f480077e055?OpenDocument&Click=85256DF90002ACB3.a6f97cf07f4fe14088256af7006c6537/$Body/0.2EC)

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/wildlife/index.shtml>

This is the link to the website

National Naturewatch Photography Awards – WILDFLOWERS

Willard Peak Wildflowers
Wasatch-Cache National Forest
Teresa Prendusi - Photographer
USDA Forest Service, Intermountain Region

http://r4data01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/find_a_photo.nsf/findphoto.nsf/photo/CA7397279A1559AC87256F6500730A27?OpenDocument

National Naturewatch Photography Awards – WILDLIFE

The evaluators suggested we give awards for wildlife taken in the
“Wild” and Wildlife taken in “captivity.”

Wildlife in “captivity” award”

Saw-Whet Owl
Sue Reel – Photographer
Lolo National Forest
USDA Forest Service, Northern Region

[http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/usforest_2004.nsf/\(ReportWithPartnerSummary\)?OpenAgent&UNID=BBBCD65D6F5A9E5085256F470067AD2E&ff=R6](http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/usforest_2004.nsf/(ReportWithPartnerSummary)?OpenAgent&UNID=BBBCD65D6F5A9E5085256F470067AD2E&ff=R6)

Wildlife in the “Wild”

Red-cockaded Woodpecker and Bachman’s Sparrow
Joe C. Neal - Photographer
Poteau Wildlife NatureWatch Programs
Poteau Ranger District
Ouachita National Forest
USDA Forest Service, Southern Region

[http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/usforest_2004.nsf/\(ReportWithPartnerSummary\)?OpenAgent&UNID=0E807A74206A1D8585256F4F005E4BD2](http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/usforest_2004.nsf/(ReportWithPartnerSummary)?OpenAgent&UNID=0E807A74206A1D8585256F4F005E4BD2)

and, there was a tie

Eagle nest on Lake Oconee
Philip Jordan - Photographer
Chattahoochee National Forest
USDA Forest Service, Southern Region

http://r8data01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/find_a_photo.nsf/findphoto.nsf/photo/2B9400B650A5CC4485256F6A00542A08?OpenDocument

National Naturewatch Photography Awards –FISH

Leopard Darter
Richard Standage – Photographer
Ouchita National Forest
USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region
http://sv27x.r6.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/find_a_photo.nsf/findphoto.nsf/photo/B67C6BDA130B71C785256F470077A17A?OpenDocument

National Naturewatch Photography Awards - PEOPLE WATCHING NATURE

Bonnie Butte Hawkwatch
Alan Dyck - Photographer
Hood River Ranger District
Mt Hood National Forest
USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region
[http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/usforest_2003.nsf/\(ReportWithPartnerSummary\)?OpenAgent&UNID=1D6F200515D0BE7985256DCE0005FE65](http://wodata01.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/usforest_2003.nsf/(ReportWithPartnerSummary)?OpenAgent&UNID=1D6F200515D0BE7985256DCE0005FE65)

Second photo

- **TreeSearch** is available to everyone (www) to search for Forest Service scientific publications by title, author or keywords. Publications can be listed by research station.

TreeSearch is an online system for locating and delivering publications by Research and Development scientists in the USDA Forest Service. Publications in the collection include research monographs published by the agency as well as papers written by our scientists but published by other organizations in their

journals, conference proceedings, or books. Research results behind these publications have been peer reviewed to ensure the best quality science.

<http://treesearch.fs.fed.us/>

Regional Roundup: Region 9, Eastern Region - Nick Schmal, Regional Fisheries Program Leader

I've been keeping busy the past several weeks since the last Eastern Region Fish Tales submission. Some of the key efforts I am involved in—or recently completed—include: coordinating the implementation of FY 2005 Program of Work (POW) for the NRIS Water Module with good progress on the Superior and Monongahela NFs; migrating aquatic organism passage data into NRIS Water 1.2.3 and INFRA culvert module; filing of final 4(e) terms and conditions and 10(a) recommendations for Winter Hydroelectric project on the Chequamegon-Nicolet NF in northern Wisconsin; finalizing plans for the Aquatic Ecosystem Monitoring and Evaluation course to be held in Jacksonville, FL, during our Eastern & Southern Regions University at the end of February; reviewing and providing comments on the draft Shawnee NF Trails EIS; planning to attend the State Council Convention for Wisconsin Trout Unlimited February 5 in Oshkosh, WI; looking forward to reviewing submissions for the 2004 Rise to the Future Awards as a selection committee member; continuing the coordination of the third subregional AOP Inventory and Assessment “train the trainer” session scheduled for week of May 16-20 in Kirkwood, MO, as the Mark Twain NF co-hosts with the Regional Office and Missouri Department of Conservation; submitting a grant application to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for the Design for Aquatic Organism Passage at road/stream crossings workshop scheduled for October 2005 in Ashland, WI; coordination of Forest Service participation in the FERC relicensing process for the Taum Sauk pump storage hydropower project located in the East Fork Black River Watershed, Missouri; presented paper at the Wisconsin Chapter meeting of American Fisheries Society held in LaCrosse, WI, January 12, 2005; participating in two strategy teams related to the Great Lakes Collaboration for Aquatic Invasive Species, which will include Aquatic Invasives Species and Species-Habitat. Finally, I am coordinating with Nancy Berlin on Species-Habitat framework recommendations for the Forest Service, as well as preparing a slide talk presentation as an invited speaker at the 25th Natural Landscapes Conference February 12, sponsored by the Milwaukee Audubon Society.

Beginning this month, I am including the logo for the Eastern Region's Success Story Reporting System beside stories that were first submitted through that System. So when

you see you will know that the story was written by Forest employees and first appeared in R9's SSRS.



Regional Collaboration: Issue Area Strategy Teams – Key Areas for Great Lakes Restoration and Protection



The Eastern Region is involved in two of the eight newly formed Issue Area Strategy Teams made up of government and organizational representatives. These teams are the working bodies responsible for producing draft, recommended strategic action plans to be combined into the draft of the comprehensive Great Lakes Strategy for consideration by the members of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration. The strategic action plans from the Strategy Teams will be combined into a draft of the comprehensive strategy that will be provided to the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Members for review and consideration.

The Strategy Teams (listed below) were organized using the October 1, 2003, Council of Great Lakes Governors' and Mayors' priorities as a starting point. These Strategy Teams were created recognizing that, as the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration evolves, the Strategy Teams may also change; the need may arise to add, combine, revise, or replace the Strategy Teams. Nick Schmal and Nancy Berlin, Eastern Region NNIS coordinator and Regional Botanist, are members of the Habitat/Species Strategy Team (a), and Nick is active as a Drafting Team member for unintentional introductions on the Aquatic Invasives Team (d).

Overarching considerations

- Human health impacts and priorities

- Tribal interests and perspectives
- Research and monitoring

Issue Area Strategy Teams

(a) Habitat/Species Strategy Team

- (i) Addresses Governors' Priority: "Enhance fish and wildlife by restoring and protecting coastal wetlands, fish and wildlife habitats."
- (ii) Issues to be covered include, but are not limited to: Restoration/protection of habitat, native species, fisheries, coastal areas, wetlands, healthy forests, the natural hydrologic cycles and other critical natural features and areas.

(b) Indicators and Information Strategy Team

(c) Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxics (PBT) Reduction Strategy Team

(d) Invasive Species Strategy Team

- (i) Addresses Governors' Priority: "Stop the introduction and spread of non-native aquatic invasive species."
- (ii) Issues to be covered include, but are not limited to: ballast water management, National Invasive Species Act/Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act present and future implementation, the Illinois carp barriers and exploration of other potential barriers, rapid response protocols and strategies, prevention and mitigation procedures, outreach and education, and applied research.

(e) Sustainable Development Team

(f) Coastal Health Strategy Team

(g) Nonpoint Source Strategy Team

(h) Area of Concern (AOC) Restoration/ Sediments Strategy Team

Restoration Project Recognizes the Wayne National Forest



The Monday Creek Restoration Project (MCRP) is celebrating its 10-year anniversary throughout November and held an awards ceremony in which the Watershed Team at the Wayne National Forest was recognized for their continued support in the project. Watershed Group Leader Gary Willison and Forest Hydrologist Pam Stachler represented the Wayne's Watershed team at a banquet hosted by the MCRP on November 3, 2004, at the Olde Dutch Restaurant in Logan, Ohio. MCRP recognized several of their partners but gave special accolades to the Wayne for their consistent support over the past decade.

The Forest was presented with an award for their outstanding support of the MCRP, accepted by Willison. In addition, Stachler and Willison both received individual awards for their contributions to the partnership, and Stachler was recognized as one of the co-founders of the MCRP. MCRP Coordinator Mike Steinmaus noted that “without the expertise and support from the Watershed Team on the Wayne, successes on the ground would have been minimized.”

The MCRP and the Watershed Team have worked together for the last six years to improve the overall quality of the watershed. The MCRP was founded in November 1994 through the Office of Surface Mining’s “Clean Streams Initiative” and a partnership with Rural Action, Inc. The “Clean Streams Initiative” provides federal funding for cleaning up acid- and metal-laden streams on private and public lands.

The goal of the MCRP is to improve the overall health of the entire Monday Creek Watershed, which includes 116 square miles in Athens, Hocking, and Perry counties. Almost 90 percent of the Monday Creek Watershed is forested, and the Wayne manages approximately 40 percent of the land. The watershed encompasses roughly 15,000 acres of abandoned underground mines and 4,000 acres of surface-mined lands, all of which are in need of reclamation. Monday Creek was once a healthy and productive ecosystem. The unregulated coal mining practices of the early and mid twentieth century left a devastating mark on the land. This includes miles of streams polluted by acid mine drainage, freshwater streams captured by collapsed underground mines, and a landscape turned upside down by strip-mining.

Since the MCRP was formed, the water quality and presence of aquatic life has greatly improved. With the help of their many partners, the MCRP completed a dozen restoration projects over the last 10 years. These include the reclamation of gob piles, the construction of limestone channels to help neutralize acidity, and the installation of a limestone doser. The Watershed Team at the Wayne National Forest was involved in all projects completed on National Forest System lands.

The Wayne National Forest has, for the past six years, worked in partnership with other federal agencies, state agencies, local government organizations, colleges, and local citizens groups to improve water quality and ecosystem health in Monday Creek and other watersheds. Partners have committed more than \$2.5 million dollars to restoration projects on the Wayne National Forest. The Forest has committed approximately \$1.5 million. Direct contributions from partners are only one benefit to the Forest. Other benefits include data collection and expertise sharing, project conceptualization, negotiation, design, implementation, and monitoring.

The problems in the Monday Creek watershed are simply too big for the Forest Service to tackle alone. Many of these problems do not stop at the boundary lines because of the matrix of mixed ownership. “The partnerships allow us to work across boundaries and make a difference on the ground,” according to Stachler. “The investments made in establishing and maintaining partnerships are returned many-fold.”

Congratulations to the Watershed Team of the Wayne National Forest for your sustainable, outstanding work and continued partnerships as part of the Monday Creek Restoration Project!!

Allegheny National Forest Highlights Problems of Aquatic Invasives at Pennsylvania State Fishing Tournament

As part of the Allegheny National Forest's zebra mussel education program, a display was set up at the annual Pennsylvania State fishing tournament to provide the public with not only information about zebra mussels, but numerous other Non Native Invasive Species (NNIS) as well. The tournament is held each year on the last weekend in September in Tidioute, PA, along the Allegheny River. The tent/display was staffed by Alan Hilyard, the Forest's seasonal NNIS educator. The Forest is doing this educational outreach in hopes of preventing the introduction of zebra mussels into the river where two federally endangered mussels exist.



Mark Twain to Host Final Aquatic Organism Passage Inventory and Assessment Train the Trainer Workshop

The Mark Twain National Forest will host the third and final Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) Inventory and Assessment training scheduled for the week of May 16-20, 2005, at the Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center, Kirkwood, MO. The previous sessions

were held in Rutland, VT in 2003 (hosted by the Green Mountain and Finger Lakes NF) and Escanaba, MI in 2004 (hosted by the Hiawatha NF). In addition to the Inventory and Assessment training, three Design for Aquatic Organism Passage workshops were planned for Eastern Region forests and partners. The first design session was held last year in Laconia, NH, and hosted by the White Mountain NF and the San Dimas cadre.



The Region is planning to hold the final two design workshops in FY 2006, with the Chequamegon-Nicolet NF hosting one in October of 2005 and the other most likely back in Missouri during the summer of 2006. Eastern Region forests are working hard with partners to address trails, road, and stream crossing problems as part of restoring watersheds to proper functioning condition. The following abstract summarizes a presentation given in San Diego, CA, in October 2005 during the Advancing the Fundamental Sciences conference. It provides insight into the strong Roads and Trails program in the Eastern Region.

TRTR Funds—Successes in Watershed Restoration in the Eastern Region

Bonnie Ilhardt¹ and Kristine Smith²

Regional Watershed and Improvement Manager¹ and Regional Transportation Program Manager², Eastern Region, USDA Forest Service, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Abstract:

Eastern Region National Forests are largely comprised of lands that were cut over, burned, farmed and mined. In over 100 years of management of national forests, we have made great progress in improving the condition of the “lands nobody wanted,” but considerable work remains to address impacts to the aquatic component. Sedimentation continues to be the primary contaminant of concern in our aquatic systems. High historic sediment levels are sustained by persistent contemporary input, primarily from roads and trails. To improve the condition and health of our eastern watersheds, we need to address the delivery of sediment from our gravel and gravel-sand roads and trails. In addition to being a source of sediment delivery, many of the road and trail crossings are impediments to passage by aquatic organisms. The Roads and Trails for States (TRTR) program, which returns ten percent of the prior year receipts collected from national forests, has enabled the Eastern Region to make significant progress in addressing many of our road and trail stream crossing problems. Our TRTR program uses an integrated process to address the sediment problems at many of our high priority road and trail stream crossings. TRTR projects range from improving high use hiking trails on the White Mountain National Forest to replacing open slotted bridges on the Chippewa National Forest. Our landownership pattern presents challenges but also offers numerous opportunities for partnering with others to achieve success. Many forests have leveraged their TRTR funds with partners to achieve transportation, recreation and riparian-habitat objectives.

Planned Management of Aquatic Weeds to Improve Sport Fishing Opportunities in a 32-Acre Missouri Lake

The Mark Twain National Forest’s Poplar Bluff Ranger District, in partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), is proposing resource management activities for **Pinewoods Lake Project (#40507)**. The purpose of the project is to improve declining fisheries habitat and sport fishing opportunities at the 32-acre lake.



The 32-acre Pinewoods Lake on the Mark Twain NF in Missouri.

The proposed action involves controlling the amount of water shield (*Brasenia schreberi*), a noxious aquatic weed, using a combination of water draw downs, fertilization, and the aquatic herbicide **Renovate 3**[®] (Triclopyr; Environmental Protection Agency Registration # 62719-37-67690). More information for this proposal is available on the Mark Twain National Forest website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/marktwain/projects/index.htm>. Scroll down to and select **Pinewoods Lake Project (#40507)**.



Closeup of water shield (*Brasenia schreberi*)

Pinewoods Lake is evaluated yearly by MDC as part of their Cooperative Agreement with the Forest Service for fishery management. Water shield, a floating aquatic plant, is expected to cover approximately 40-50 percent of the surface area of the lake next summer. Ideally, 10 to 20 percent of the lake should be covered in aquatic plants. If more than 20 percent of the lake is covered by aquatic plants, extreme daily fluctuations in temperature, oxygen, and pH can be expected, and could result in fish kills. Excessive plant growth will interfere with shore, boat, and pier fishing opportunities, as well as create a potential boating safety hazard.

Recent efforts were unsuccessful in adequately reducing the percent of the lake covered by water shield. The Forest Service, in cooperation with MDC, has conducted two winter draw downs in the past three years. A winter draw down exposes aquatic plants to freezing temperatures which can temporarily reduce the infestation. The 2001-2002 winter draw down did serve to temporarily reduce the amount of water shield; however, the aquatic weed once again grew to a nuisance level in the summer 2003. The 2003-2004 winter draw down again reduced the amount of water shield. However, the weed is expected to reach excessive levels in the summer of 2005.

The Forest Service is proposing the use of **Renovate 3**[®] to reduce the density of water shield and help keep it at a manageable level. MDC would apply **Renovate 3**[®] by hand sprayers directly to the surface leaves of the floating aquatic plants in the spring and early summer when the plants are actively growing. No aerial application is proposed. The recreation area will be closed to public use during application, and other safety measures will be in place. The herbicide would be applied at the manufacturer's recommended application rate, and all precautionary statements listed on the product label will be

followed. There are no restrictions on use of the lake for recreational purposes or the consumption of fish following treatment.

Allegheny National Forest Staff Coordinate Fish Surveys on Allegheny Reservoir with Army Corps of Engineers

Gill-netting efforts on the Allegheny Reservoir in Pennsylvania document numerous fish species each year, including this musky (pictured below). Surveys are conducted each year by the Allegheny National Forest and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in April after ice-off, primarily to document the walleye population. The musky in this picture was released back into the reservoir.



TECHNICIANS OF DISCTINCTION

“Look—out on the water.”—“It’s a freighter.”—“No, it’s a Great White.”
“No, it’s Super Fisheries Tech!”

Ok, maybe that is a little over the top. But I work with a very capable Forest Service fisheries technician. His name is John Pagel, and he can be found at the important end of any significant fish habitat project you will find on the Ottawa National Forest. His first day on the job he looked down a line of eight-foot long fish bank structures called “skybooms.” There were 160 of them piled along a road and they stretched for 400 feet stacked three structures high. “John,” I said, “We have to put all these in the river, and when we are done, it has to look like we were never there.” “OK,” was all Pagel could say before completing what I consider to be one of the most significant stream habitat restoration projects ever completed on the Ottawa NF. Pagel had some help, but he provided the essential leadership needed to coordinate fish habitat crews from Wisconsin, seasonal fish techs hired by the Ottawa NF, a heavy machinery contractor, and one prison crew. Here is a picture of the work in progress.



Figure 1. John Pagel (white shirt just to right of backhoe bucket) supervising installation of skyboom bank covers on Cook’s Run.

Next Pagel worked with the Chicago Oak Brook Trout Unlimited (TU) club and the Copper Country TU Club on two riffle construction projects. One for steelhead trout in the Jumbo River and the other for brook trout in Shane Creek where we are also

cooperating with the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community to develop a wild strain of brook trout, the Jumbo (River) strain. This involves both restoration of quality habitat, but also evaluating the effectiveness of the stocking program. Figure 2 shows Pagel supervising a riffle spawning enhancement project,



Figure 2. Installation of a steelhead spawning riffle in the Jumbo River, with John Pagel (in red cap at far left), supervising the work of Trout Unlimited volunteers.

and in the next photo (Figure 3), looking for stocked Jumbo Strain Wild Brook trout. Monitoring both stream restoration projects and existing stream conditions is a big part of Pagel's position on the Ottawa. Pagel supervises up to two full survey crews in the summer doing such things as night-time electro-fishing for walleyes; fyke netting important lake fisheries to evaluate habitat and community health; night-time drift netting for juvenile lake sturgeon, a Regional Forester's sensitive species; intensive (basin-wide) stream mapping of important fish habitat conditions, and looking for red side dace, another RFSS species that may need special protection. He works directly with the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community to stock and evaluate the Jumbo Wild Brook Trout, and with Michigan DNR each fall to look for possible migrating (planted or wild) coaster brook trout. The latter often includes a three-mile walk into the Porcupine Mountain Wilderness with all the survey gear, which must be kept in tiptop condition for top performance. This fall, the coaster brook trout surveys were expanded to Maple Creek where Pagel had recently completed a coaster brook trout habitat restoration project.



Figure 3. John Pagel with the electro-fishing wands conducting a stream fish survey.

What did Pagel do for coasters? He accomplished nearly the impossible by opening up the mouth of Maple Creek and keeping it open. Open “says-a-me” Pagel declared as he constructed “logs” 16 foot long and 30 inches in diameter (using eight logs 16 feet long and 7 inches in diameter) and using several of these huge structures to establish a stable mouth for Maple Creek at Lake Superior (Figure 4). The fall survey, conducted annually with Michigan DNR for coaster brook trout, revealed three brook trout at the mouth of the stream. DNA samples were taken of these fish to possibly connect them to stocked coaster brook trout, or even wild coaster brook trout (distinct from the stream residents). None of the three fish was present before the mouth of Maple was open to Lake Superior, and we suspect that at least the largest of these was a coaster brook trout. Many difficulties were overcome accomplishing this project including transporting (by Lake Superior) all the large logs needed to the site, getting heavy equipment (backhoe and dump-forwarder) to the site under very difficult conditions, constructing the structure strong enough to withstand the fury of Lake Superior and finally, rehabilitating the site such that it was not clear that anyone had really been there. Through it all, Pagel stayed calm and directed the crew in a safe operation. In the five seasons, Pagel has directed more than 20 seasonal employees, only one accident (strained wrist) has occurred with no lost time accidents.



Figure 4. Installation of Elwd structures which will redirect Maple Creek into Lake Superior and keep the mouth of the creek open in the fall of the year when coasterbrook trout spawn. John Pagel can be seen in yellow hard hat in the foreground at left.

In addition to a “full schedule” of activities at work, Pagel manages to be an officer in the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, recruits students for the student requisition program which has brought us so many high quality summer students, is a member of the American Fisheries Society and participates in national AFS workshops and conferences, and is an officer of the local Forest Service Union. I feel lucky to work with Pagel and have greatly appreciated all the skill and enthusiasm he has brought to the Ottawa NF Fisheries Program.

**By Jerry W. Edde
Fisheries Program Manager
Ottawa National Forest**

Woody Stem and Fascine Workshop Hosted by Hiawatha NF



The Hiawatha National Forest recently sponsored a workshop entitled “Woody Stems and Fascine” at the Munising Ranger District’s Clear Lake Education Center. The Forest was able to offer this training through special Forest Service fiscal year 2004 funding in native plant materials. Approximately 25 students participated in the workshop, representing county, state, and federal agencies, along with non-governmental organizations and universities.

The Hiawatha NF workshop was co-instructed by Dr. Brad Rowe of Michigan State University and Alton Sims of Robbin Sotir and Associates in Georgia. It included classroom lectures, group discussions, and a class project. Our project, which was the placement of live fascines along a riverbank, will be available on video this spring.



Woody stem fascine bundle being installed along the Indian River by workshop students. The workshop resulted in an increased level of confidence in the application of techniques in restoration projects using native plants in stream-riparian ecosystems.

Regional Roundup Calendar

Region	Issue
Southern Region	1/28/05
Eastern Region	2/04/05
Alaska Region	2/11/05
Northern Region	2/18/05
Rocky Mountain Region	2/25/05
Southwest Region	3/04/05
Intermountain Region	3/11/05
Pacific Southwest Region	3/18/05
Pacific Northwest Region	3/25/05
Southern Region	4/01/05

Migrational Opportunities (Federal job announcements: http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/agency_search.asp)

- Outreach notice: The Coconino National Forest will soon be advertising to fill a PFT GS-0482-11 Fishery Biologist position. The position is located Supervisor's Office in Flagstaff, AZ. This position will be advertised thru Merit Promotion and DEMO.

DUTIES: The position will serve as the professional fishery biologist for Forest, with responsibility for planning, administering, and providing professional expertise in fisheries programs. Provides biological input into the fish habitat management program and assists in development of fishery management plans. This includes gathering, compiling, and analyzing data to determine fish habitat needs; determining key spawning, rearing, and overwintering areas; determining the need for and designing of fish habitat improvement projects; developing project plans for inclusion in Forest program of work; and studying and recommending solutions to special coordination problems involving fish habitat protection.

Works cooperatively with State, Tribal, and Federal fish and water quality management agencies. This includes gathering information for stream and lake management plans, surveys of fish occurrence, mapping key fish habitat for suitability and determining the need for fish habitat enhancement or restoration.

Participates on or leads interdisciplinary teams for the evaluation of the impact of Forest Service or non-Forest Service activities on National Forest lands, and the development of land management plans. Provides input to Forest plans pertaining to Fisheries Management and Aquatic Resource protection and enhancement.

ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY: The Coconino National Forest is headquartered in Flagstaff, Arizona. Although most people think of Arizona a hot desert, this is certainly not true in Flagstaff. Flagstaff is surrounded by the Coconino National Forest, which is primarily a ponderosa-pine forest.

The main access into Flagstaff is Interstate 40 from the east or west, Interstate 17 from the south and Highway 89 from the North.

ALTITUDE/CLIMATE: Flagstaff lies approximately 7,000 feet above sea level, which brings very mild summers and generally lots of snow in the winter. Freezing

temperatures usually occur from the first of October to the middle of May. Average precipitation is 21" per year, with most of this coming in the winter as snow, and in July and August with the monsoon rains. There is a very short growing season, which restricts the amount of vegetables that can be grown locally.

POPULATION: The population of Flagstaff and surrounding area is about 60,000 (1999). It is a fast growing community with increased housing construction every year for the past 10 years.

HOUSING: Government housing is very limited and is primarily for the seasonal workforce. Private housing, rentals, and apartments are available. Single-family home prices usually start around \$200,000 and up. Two-bedroom apartments start at around \$800.

SCHOOLS: Northern Arizona University (NAU) is located in Flagstaff. NAU is one of three primary universities in the state. It offers degrees in many different fields, including graduate programs. Coconino Community College is also located here and offers many undergraduate courses. Flagstaff has three high schools and several charter schools, private schools, and grade schools.

SHOPPING FACILITIES: Flagstaff has a mall, Barnes and Noble, Target, Walmart, Home Depot, Dillards, Sears, and several drug stores, grocery stores, hardware stores, etc.

MEDICAL FACILITIES: Flagstaff Medical Center is the primary care facility in town. The town hosts a great number of physicians, dentists, specialists (including a mental health hospital and cancer center), and elderly care facilities. The hospital also has numerous ambulances and a life-flight helicopter.

There are numerous optometrists, chiropractors, and veterinarians in the community.

CHURCHES: All religious denominations are well represented in Flagstaff.

RECREATION: There are numerous opportunities for outdoor recreation in Flagstaff, including mountain biking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, cross-country skiing, and down-hill skiing. Several athletic clubs, a non-facility YMCA, and the City of Flagstaff offer organized activities at several facilities, including some with indoor pools. These activities include swimming, soccer, basketball, baseball, softball, gymnastics, dance, and more.

TRANSPORTATION: Flagstaff has a commercial airport serviced by America West. Bus service is provided by Greyhound and train service by Amtrak. There are many car-rental agencies in town as well as a city-transportation system and commercial-cab services.

LIBRARY: There is a community library (at two sites), which also serves the outlying communities with a bus that visits sites on different days. Also, NAU has Cline Library.

MOTELS AND RESTAURANTS: Being located at the junction of two interstates (I-40 and I-17, and being the major community south of the Grand Canyon, makes

Flagstaff an ideal location for major corporations to locate both motels and restaurants. A variety of traditional, historic, and suite motels and hotels are available. There is a wide range of available restaurants, including fast food, and American and ethnic food.

CONTACTS FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce Website (www.flagstaff.az.us) or email (chamber@flagstaff.az.us).

Coconino National Forest Website (www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino) or call us at (928) 527-3600.

The Arizona Daily Sun website for local information and housing classifieds (www.azdailysun.com)

For more information on the position, contact Cecelia Overby at (928) 527-3460.

- **Job announcement:** The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) seeking applications for a National Fish Habitat (NFHI) Research Liaison, under cooperative agreement with the USGS Biological Resources Discipline. The Liaison will develop a comprehensive database using existing information on past and current fisheries habitat projects in the United States. The database will be used to develop a NFHI central clearinghouse for methods, protocols, and project designs for the National Fish Habitat Initiative Conservation Plan.

The successful candidate will follow a work plan developed jointly by the IAFWA and the USGS-BRD Fisheries: Aquatic and Endangered Resources Program. The Liaison will work primarily out of the IAFWA offices in Washington, D.C., in cooperation with the USGS-funded Science and Research Liaison. The position is available immediately, and is funded for a term not to exceed 12 months from entry onto duty. Salary will be based on qualifications and experience.

For further information, contact:

Dr. Russ Mason
Science and Research Liaison
International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
444 North Capitol Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 624-5853
rmason@iafwa.org

- **Director Public Lands Initiative**

Trout Unlimited (TU) is seeking to hire a national director for TU's Public Lands Initiative (PLI). The PLI was formed in 2002 primarily to organize TU members and other hunters and anglers in support of balanced, responsible public lands policies and protection. The PLI work is mostly in western states and has three divisions: Oil & Gas work; Roadless Lands Protection and Mining Restoration. Presently

the PLI has four full time employees with current plans to double that number. Please refer to: <http://publiclands.tu.org/> for complete information on the PLI.

The PLI Director position will involve oversight of the PLI program and its employees. The ideal candidate will have strong organizational, leadership and people skills, be able to delegate responsibility and handle strong personalities. The position will be housed in the western United States (likely co-located with another TU office, if possible). The person should be an articulate and passionate advocate for public land conservation, fishing and hunting, and able to work in collaboration with state and federal agencies, other conservation and environmental groups and industry representatives. The Director must have experience in managing budgets and staff and other attendant administrative requirements, well as experience in fundraising and grant writing.

Candidates must have strong written and public communications skills as well as good computer skills. The ideal candidate should have a college or advanced degree in a relevant field, live in a western state, and have a strong background of fishing and hunting and a love for wild places. Travel will be required. Fundraising experience will also be beneficial. Pay and benefits will be competitive.

If you think you would enjoy the team atmosphere that comes from working for an organization with a strong and broad conservation mission, if you want to ensure that America's last wildlands and watersheds remain intact for future generations, and desire to take advantage of a lifelong love affair with wild places, then email, fax, or mail your resume, cover letter and salary history to sportsmen@tu.org, Trout Unlimited, Attn: Chris Wood, 1300 North 17th Street, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22209, 703-284-9400 (fax).

- **Out reach notice** - The Gifford Pinchot National Forest is conducting outreach to identify candidates for an exciting and rewarding challenge as the Fishery Biologist at Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument (MSHNVN). The Forest is seeking to fill a permanent, full-time Fishery Biologist GS-0482-11 with a duty station of Amboy, Washington. The position will be advertised soon on the USA Jobs website: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>

For more information regarding this position, please contact Karen Thompson, Watershed Resources Manager, at (360) 449-7826, karenmthompson@fs.fed.us; or Cliff Ligons, Monument Manager at (360) 449-7800 cligons@fs.fed.us

- **Outreach Notice:** The Southern Region of the USDA Forest Service will soon advertise the position for Director of the Biological and Physical Resources (BPR) Unit. We plan to advertise it as a GS-15 or a GS-14/15. The results of this outreach will determine what grade(s) we advertise it.

The Southern Region of the USDA Forest Service encompasses thirteen Southern states, plus Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Fourteen National Forests and Grasslands, four National Recreation Areas and the Savannah River Natural Resources Management and Research Institute make up the Southern Region. The Region accounts for approximately ten percent of the total Forest Service workforce. Most of the 3100 Forest Service employees within the Southern Region work in field offices overseeing National Forest operations, about 300 work in the Regional Office in Atlanta. The Regional Office has five primary staff areas: Natural Resources, State and Private Forestry, Operations, Civil Rights, and Public Affairs.

If interested, please contact Roberta Moltzen, Deputy Regional Forester, Natural Resources, telephone at 404-347-4177, or e-mail robertamoltzen@fs.fed.us.

Hotlinks:

- Forest Service Fisheries and Aquatic Ecology: <http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/fish/index.html>
- Fish Your National Forests: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fishing/>
- National Fish Habitat Initiative (NFHI): <http://www.fishhabitat.org>
- Large-Scale Watershed Restoration Projects: <http://www.fs.fed.us/largewatershedprojects/>
- Fish Ecology Unit: <http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/fishecology/index.html>
- Watershed and Air Management: <http://www.fs.fed.us/clean/>
- National Fishing and Boating Week: <http://www.nationalfishingandboatingweek.org/>
- NatureWatch: <http://www.fs.fed.us/outdoors/naturewatch/>
- Forest Service Research Stations – One stop shopping: <http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/index.htm>
- Forest Service Research Station - Boise Aquatic Sciences Lab: <http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/>

Sensory Stimulation:

***"Some books are to be tasted,
others to be swallowed, and some
few to be chewed and digested."***

Francis Bacon

New Files for FishTales – FishTales can now be viewed in one of three ways. You can receive it via e-mail or go to our web site where it is available in a pdf or html version.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/resources/pubs/fish/fishtales/>

FishTales® is a weekly update of activities of the Fisheries and Aquatic Ecology Program of the USDA Forest Service. All information presented is subject to change as projects evolve, opportunities arise and issues unfold. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted to Dave Cross at dcross01@fs.fed.us or Bill Lorenz at blorenz@fs.fed.us no later than close of business on Thursday afternoons. We reserve the right to edit contributions for clarity, brevity, and wherever possible, a dash of silliness and irreverence.

Positions listed are for outreach purposes only and are not full announcements. Interested individuals should contact the forests referenced or consult the USAJOBS website.

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