

Inside Region 3

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Higgins' Eye Pearlymussel Partnership Gives a Boost to Endangered Freshwater Mussel

Biologists in scuba gear and a partnership of workers armed with syringes and plastic buckets are among the front-line warriors in the fight to save one of the Upper Mississippi River's most imperiled species - the Higgins' eye pearlymussel. Beginning the week of May 14, biologists with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), and the Minnesota and Wisconsin Natural Resource Departments will collect federally endangered Higgins' eye mussels and produce young mussels at the Service's Genoa National Fish Hatchery in Genoa, Wis., for eventual release back into their natural habitat.

Freshwater mussels like the Higgins' eye are among the country's greatest at-risk species and face a multitude of threats, ranging from degraded water quality to loss of riverbed habitat. But the most pressing danger to the Higgins' eye and many other native mussels is the spread of the prolific, non-native zebra mussel which competes with native species for food and oxygen and can virtually smother other mussels.

"Our goal with the hatchery project is to take adult Higgins' eye mussels from areas already infested with zebra mussels, raise young mussels in the hatchery, and then release them in areas where they should be safe from that threat," said Pam Thiel, fisheries biologist at the Service's La Crosse Fish Health Center in La Crosse, Wis.

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Photo by Cindy French

Park Ranger Cindy Samples tells kindergarten students about the Service's Bird Banding Program during Summit Elementary School's Field Day May 10 at Wisconsin's Trempeleau NWR. For more on the Earth Day event see story on page 4.

Mosquito Control Policy Strives For Natural Balance on Midwest Refuges

Wet conditions throughout much of the Midwest may lead to a 'buggy year' for outdoor enthusiasts. At such times, Midwestern National Wildlife Refuge managers are often approached by local officials with requests to chemically treat refuge lands for mosquitos and flying pests. However, except in cases of imminent threats to human health, these requests will be denied in order to preserve the biological integrity of refuge lands.

'Mosquitoes may be an annoyance, particularly in wet years. But they are a part of the natural environment and a food source for a variety of other animals,' said Jim Leach, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Ser-

vice refuge supervisor who oversees National Wildlife Refuge activities in Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin. 'More importantly, the insecticides currently used to control mosquitoes can have a devastating impact on other insects, particularly aquatic insects, which are utilized by fish, amphibians and aquatic birds like ducklings as important food sources.'

Because National Wildlife Refuge managers strive to manage their refuges as naturally as possible, Midwestern refuge policies do not allow the use of mosquito treatments on refuge lands except

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Refuge Mosquito Policy Asks Visitors to Prepare for Bugs

in cases involving threats to human health, such as the transmission of a mosquito-borne illness. Even so, refuge managers still cooperate with local mosquito control authorities to monitor mosquito populations on refuge lands. Managers also take on the annual chore of removing old tires, barrels and other debris deposited on refuge lands by high spring water levels and runoff from adjacent private lands. Such debris may serve as artificial breeding sites for ‘container breeding’ mosquito species, many of which are potential carriers of human disease.

It can be difficult to identify one mosquito from another, but for scientists, species identification is an important distinction. While there are many different species of mosquitoes, relatively few actually have the potential to transmit disease to humans. Of the mosquito species which plague Midwesterners, research indicates that the treehole or container-breeding mosquito (*Ochlerotatus triseriatus*) is most likely to transmit

LaCrosse encephalitis, a rare but potentially fatal disease which has been found in the Midwest.

Many species of mosquitoes targeted for control by local mosquito abatement agencies (through the application of insecticides, most commonly methoprene and *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti)) are not known to be carriers of human disease. But controlling even these nuisance mosquitoes does carry a biological price.

A multi-year scientific study conducted in Minnesota found the use of methoprene and Bti significantly reduced non-target aquatic insect populations along with mosquitoes. Additionally, questions on the long-term impact of these pesticides on aquatic birds such as ducks and other marsh birds remain unanswered. For these reasons, federal wildlife officials hesitate to implement chemical mosquito control measures on refuges; opting instead to take a conservative approach, with an eye toward the

long-term health of these public lands.

‘In cases where refuge or waterfowl production lands are contributing to a human health threat, we will certainly work with local officials to do whatever is necessary to address that threat,’ said Leach, adding there is no evidence refuge lands pose any greater threat to human health than other wetlands. ‘But lacking human health concerns, we’re going to let the natural processes at work on refuge lands continue without human intervention.’

Despite the buggy forecast, Leach encourages refuge visitors to take advantage of spring and summer activities offered at National Wildlife Refuges. ‘Spring is one of the best times for wildlife viewing, especially for migratory birds and young mammals,’ he said.

Refuge officials also advise visitors to wear long-sleeved shirts and pants and apply insect repellent before venturing into areas where mosquitoes may occur. *Dan Sobieck, External Affairs*

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Partnership Gives a Boost to Endangered Freshwater Mussels

‘We hope we can keep this species going in the hatchery and in some remaining suitable natural habitats to prevent zebra mussels from eliminating the Higgins’ eye.’

‘We have a special facility at the hatchery – we call it the ‘Clam Palace’ – where we work with the Higgins’ eye. We’re hopeful that techniques we developed in 2000, the first year that we attempted this, will allow us to raise and release thousands of juvenile Higgins’ eye mussels, as well as some of the host fish with mussel larvae still attached,’ said Todd Turner, manager of Genoa National Fish Hatchery.

Biologists from the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin will search the bottom of the St. Croix River near Hudson, Wis., for female Higgins’ eye mussels. These ‘gravid’ females – those that have developing mussel larvae within them – will be taken to the hatchery, where staff work-

ing with syringes will open the mussels and extract the microscopic glochidia, or larval mussels. The collected glochidia, will be placed in buckets containing host fish – walleye, smallmouth bass, and largemouth bass – where they will attach to the hosts’ gills. ‘Freshwater mussels must have access to a host fish for this part of their life cycle, and each mussel species uses only certain fish species for hosts,’ Thiel said. ‘We know that Higgins’ eye pearl mussels will use these three fish species.’

Turner said that after the fish become infected with Higgins’ eye glochidia, they will be placed either in aquariums or in larger ‘raceways’ where the glochidia will be allowed to develop. After 2 to 3 weeks, some host fish with glochidia still attached will be relocated to sites along waterways unaffected by zebra mussels and either released directly or placed in the water in riverine cages over suitable

mussel habitat until glochidia drop off onto the streambed. Other host fish will remain at the hatchery while their glochidia develop and then drop off and are collected by hatchery staff. Juvenile mussels will be released into suitable habitat by mid-summer.

Listed as endangered in 1976, Higgins’ eye populations have never been abundant. Threats to the species include habitat loss and degradation. The added threat of the zebra mussel in recent years has pushed the species even closer to extinction.

Information on the Higgins’ eye pearl mussel, the Service’s fisheries programs, Genoa National Fish Hatchery, other endangered and threatened species, and zebra mussels may be found on the Service’s website at <http://midwest.fws.gov/endangered/clams/higginseye>. *Georgia Parham, External Affairs*



South Fox Island

Photo courtesy Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Service to Prepare Environmental Impact Statement for Land Exchange on Michigan's South Fox Island; Seeks Public Comment

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service, in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, are gathering information and public comment to develop an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed exchange of lands between the State of Michigan and a private landowner on South Fox Island, a 3,400-acre island located 30 miles northwest of Charlevoix in Lake Michigan. The Fish and Wildlife Service announced its intent in a notice published in the May 16, 2001, Federal Register:

The Service will hold meetings to gather information and provide an opportunity for public comment on June 5 at Leland High School, 200 North Grand Avenue, Leland, Mich. and June 6 at Charlevoix High School, 108 East Garfield, Charlevoix, Mich. Each meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and ends at 9 p.m.

At the meetings, representatives of the State of Michigan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service will present information on the proposed land exchange and the plans to develop an Environmental Impact Statement. Information gathered at the

meetings and during the public comment period will be used to prepare a draft EIS, which will be released for further public review and comment before being finalized. The EIS will evaluate several proposed land exchange actions on South Fox Island, including:

- Approval by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for exchange of 313 acres of state land – purchased by the State of Michigan using Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration funds, a program administered by the Service – for lands with equal monetary and wildlife restoration values.
- Approval by the National Park Service for exchange of 105 acres of state land with National Park Service interest for private lands with equal or greater monetary and recreational value.
- Exchange of 220 acres of unencumbered state-owned land for fee title and easements for private lands of equal value.

The proposed exchange would consolidate and confine most state lands to the northern one-third of South Fox Island. The southern portion of the island would feature three areas:

- The southernmost tip of the island,

which includes a lighthouse, associated buildings and part of the harbor area, would remain in state ownership.

- If transferred to private ownership, an unforested, sandy area bounded by forest on the north and south and water on the east and west would be placed in a conservation easement. The easement would prevent development and protect the endangered piping plover within its borders.

- The northernmost portion of the southern tip is forested and would be in private ownership if the land exchange occurs.

A map depicting this distribution is available on the Service's Region 3 website at: <http://midwest.fws.gov/NEPA>

For more information, contact the Service's East Lansing, Michigan, field office at 517-351-2555

Comments on the proposed land exchange may be addressed to Craig Czarnecki, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, East Lansing Field Office, 2651 Coolidge Road, Suite 101, East Lansing, Michigan 48823.

Electronic mail comments may also be submitted to fw3foxisland@fws.gov
Georgia Parham, External Affairs

State and Federal Agencies Examining Performance-Based Management Systems

Representatives from Region 3's external affairs and ecological services programs recently joined staff from federal and state conservation agencies to examine the benefits of environmental results management systems (ERMS) currently being considered for use by state and federal agencies. Scott Flaherty, of External Affairs, and Janet Smith of the Green Bay Ecological Services Field Office represented the Service at the Great Lakes Environmental Results Management Forum May 8-10 in Madison, Wis.

The three day forum was hosted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and facilitated jointly by the Green Mountain Institute, Wisconsin DNR and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. About 25 representatives from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Minnesota Departments of Natural Resources, Minnesota and Ohio Pollution Control Agencies, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and others attended.

The forum examined methods being used throughout the agencies to plan, collect and track results of conservation work. ERMS is based on the plan-do-check-adapt model with the goal of linking management actions to environmental results. Role playing exercises and a leadership panel discussion provided agency representatives with an

insight as to why ERMS/performance-based management are needed and what such systems can do for conservation managers, the public, legislators and others.

While all agencies are operating under management strategies that include GPRA or GPRA-like goals, most are lacking systems for reporting, tracking and managing agency successes and failures as they work toward accomplishing conservation goals. While some agencies have no systems in place, Indiana and Illinois have created and use ERMS systems. Region 5, USEPA provided a presentation on a GPRA-based system it is developing.

The group also worked to identify some of the components of a successful ERMS, and what it would look like when created. Many of the components identified by the group are already present in the Region's Accomplishment Reporting System (ARS). However, work still needs to be done in the planning and GPRA tracking areas of the ARS.

The forum provided good information about what is being done in the results-based management systems arena. Discussions with other agencies provided excellent ideas for future ARS enhancements. *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*

Summit Elementary Celebrates Earth Day at Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge

Earth Day was celebrated a bit late this year by 400 students, teachers and parents from Summit Elementary School in La Crosse County, Wis. The school group spent May 10 on Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge learning about everything from amphibians to bird banding to fish identification to radio telemetry. Bicycling, scavenger hunts, and guided hay wagon rides provided exciting and different ways to view the refuge wildlife.

The day was organized as a joint effort by U.S. Geological Survey, the Service and Summit Elementary including the principal, teachers, and administration. Refuge staff assisted with planning and logistics, made last minute preparations due to high water in the refuge pools, and conducted two of the many programs.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) staff from the Midwest Environmental Sciences Center in La Crosse, Wis., coordinated presenters from the USGS, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and volunteers. School staff helped plan the event, making several trips to the refuge before the event to facilitate in that planning. The enthusiasm of all involved including the students was apparent from the minute the buses arrived until the last bus was on its way home. Numerous 'thank you's' were received from students as they walked from program to program and came across anyone in a Fish and Wildlife uniform. Several parents planned return trips before the day was over. *Lisa McCurdy, Trempealeau NWR*

Muscatatuck NWR Expands Its Survey Work in Seep Springs Area

Muscatatuck NWR is expanding its survey work in the Muscatatuck Seep Springs Research Natural Area (MSS-RNA). The survey will include water table observation wells and pH monitoring to enhance the ongoing study begun in 1998.

The survey work is being done in partnership with Indiana University, Purdue University, the Muscatatuck Wildlife

Society and refuge volunteers.

The seep area, discovered in 1985, supports vegetation that is rare in Indiana, and so called "acid seeps" are considered rare habitat in the region. This study will enable Muscatatuck to continue to protect this valuable habitat while learning more about its unique features.

Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Great Lakes Ecosystem Team Funds Four Projects Supporting Sturgeon Restoration, Island Protection

The Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem Team recently funded four projects that support team priorities of lake sturgeon restoration and Great Lakes Islands protection.

For the past several years, field stations in the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem have been donating to a team kitty to fund smaller-scale, landscape-level projects in the ecosystem. This year \$14,500 was received. Eight project proposals were submitted and ranked at the team's spring meeting. Four of these proposals will be funded. The first and second ranked proposals are cost-shared by partners who are providing over 50 percent of the projects' costs.

The first proposal involves lake sturgeon data collection and monitoring by commercial fishers. The funding for this proposal will provide the lake sturgeon fishers with training and equip-

ment to gather data that will assist biologists in determining the number and distribution of sturgeon, their movement in the Great Lakes, and critical data on growth and reproduction. This project is an opportunity for biologists to work cooperatively with an important stakeholder group — commercial fishers from four of the Great Lakes.

The second proposal funds predator control for breeding piping plover on Crane and Temperance Islands in Lake Michigan. Predation of piping plover eggs and, in particular chicks, remains a significant factor limiting the reproductive success of the species in the Great Lakes.

The team's third-ranked proposal will fund the second and final phase of the team's website development. The purpose of the website is to provide a central clearinghouse for information on team activities and priorities — information that

will be useful to team members, interested public, and Congressional staffers.

The fourth proposal is also related to information-sharing via the web; it focuses on website maintenance for the Great Lakes lake sturgeon website. This site brings together intra- and international information and research regarding lake sturgeon in the Great Lakes and serves as the primary site for disseminating lake sturgeon information.

Partners in the projects include: Bay Mills Indian Community, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Chippewa/Ottawa Resource Authority, Lake Erie commercial fishers, Lake Michigan commercial fishers, Lake Superior commercial fishers, Lake Huron commercial fishers, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services
Leslie TeWinkel, Great Lakes Basin

Service Fishery Biologists Advise Missouri to Minimize Bridge Construction's Impact on Pallid Sturgeon

The Service's Columbia Fishery Resources Office (FRO) submitted its final project report to the Missouri Department of Transportation May 4 regarding the impact of a Missouri River bridge construction project on fish and wildlife. The report cites results from a 14-month survey of pallid sturgeon conducted by service biologists along the Route 19 Bridge Alignment Area.

Three pallid sturgeon, 14 pallid sturgeon/shovelnose sturgeon hybrids, and 1,990 shovelnose sturgeon were collected, primarily in wing dike scour holes in winter. More than 3,000 fish representing 39 species were collected during the survey.

The Department plans to build a new bridge across the Missouri River at Herrman, Mo. Construction should begin this summer. The



Photo courtesy Joanne Grady

Both shovelnose sturgeon (top) and pallid sturgeon (bottom) were found during sturgeon sampling on the Missouri River near Herrman, Mo.

current Route 19 bridge there will be demolished. The Service recommended the Missouri Department of Transportation avoid impacting the depth, substrate, and current of the available sturgeon overwintering habitat from November through May. The Service's recommenda-

tions will be included in the transportation department's biological assessment which will be submitted to the Service's Columbia Ecological Service's Field Office for further review.

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)-Columbia Environmental Research Center is conducting detailed bathymetric surveys of the area and will complete its work in July. This information when combined with the detailed fish catch data will aid the Service in protecting potential pallid sturgeon habitat.

The Columbia FRO will continue to work with the Columbia Ecological Services office and Missouri Highway Department during bridge construction to help reduce negative impacts to pallid sturgeon.
Joanne Grady, Columbia FRO

Region 3 Nearing Completion of Radio Conversion Project

Region 3 has embarked on an ambitious program of upgrading and replacing all of its VHF wideband FM radio systems, beginning in 1998. This program effort is expected to be completed in January 2005.

All of the National Wildlife Refuge System and Law Enforcement field offices in Region 3 are involved in the upgrading effort. To a lesser degree, certain Fisheries and Ecological Services field offices are also involved.

The radio upgrade effort was mandated by Congress as part of an on-going government program of auctioning off electromagnetic spectrum to private industry for the purpose of providing frequencies for many of the wireless communications devices on the market today. The VHF government band from 162-174 Mhz. was directly affected, and the band is being "refarmed" from a channel spacing of 25 KHz. to 12.5 KHz., ("narrowbanding").

The Department of Interior further mandated that not only must its bureaus "narrowband," they must also convert to digital operation, as well. This is a wise strategy, because following the initial conversion to the 12.5 KHz. bandwidth, the bandwidth per channel will be further reduced (after 2005) to 6.25 KHz. Analog FM operation with this bandwidth is not possible, therefore all of the Departmental radio systems will be ready for this "second round" as they will already be capable of digital operation.

The Region 3 effort began in 1998, when all of the Region 3 Law Enforcement radio systems were replaced. This included eight field offices and a total cost of \$223,000. In 1999, a scheduled effort was initiated to convert the Region 3 NWRS field offices to the new technology, and to complete the transition by December 31, 2004. *Bryce Shimmon, ABA (CSG).*

This table illustrates the status of the project at Region 3 refuges.

Year	Office	Status
99	Big Stone NWR	Complete
99	Cypress Creek NWR	Complete
99	Fergus Falls WMD	Complete
99	Minn. Valley NWR	Complete
99	Morris WMD	Complete
00	Agassiz NWR	Complete
00	Crab Orchard NWR	Complete
00	DeSoto NWR	Complete
00	Detroit Lakes WMD	Complete
00	Horicon NWR	Complete
00	Litchfield WMD	Installation
00	Mingo NWR	Complete
00	Muscatatuck NWR	Complete
00	Ottawa NWR	Complete
00	Sherburne NWR	Complete
00	Shiawassee NWR	Complete
00	Squaw Creek NWR	Complete
00	St. Croix WMD	Installation
00	Swan Lake NWR	Complete
00	Union Slough NWR	Installation
01	Hamden Slough NWR	In Process
01	Illinois River NWR	Pending/2002
01	Mark Twain Quincy	In Process
01	Two Rivers NWR	In Process
01	Great River NWR	In Process
01	Port Louisa NWR	In Process
01	Tamarac NWR	In Process
01	Detroit Lakes Repeater	In Process

Five Schools, 200 Students, Visit Rydell NWR for Environmental Tours



--Photo by Rick Julian

Students pause to spot turtles during a recent environmental tour at Rydell NWR.

Warm, rain-free weather is resulting in outstanding wildlife viewing opportunities for local schools conducting environmental tours at Rydell National Wildlife Refuge. This year, tour groups have ranged from preschool/kindergarten classes to eighth graders.

Larger groups are divided into teams and tour different trails looking for wildlife and spring flowers. The teams record their sightings and compared notes when they return to the visitor's center. Some teams sighted more than 55 different birds and animals, plus many butterflies and plants during their two hour-plus walks. Collecting wood ticks also became an integral part of some tour groups field day. A piece of masking tape, sticky side out and wrapped around the arm of the "team leader" (teacher), became the collection board. When

the teams returned for lunch they sexed and counted their collections.

It was obvious which teams left the trails for field explorations. Some individual team members "collected" over 40 ticks on their own! It's a good bug year.

The Sundew Bog Walk has become a big attraction. Guided small group tours are provided on the elevated board walk. "Touching the Moss" and observing the wood frogs has generated the most excitement. The bog is also alive with yellow warblers.

Many positive comments have been received from teachers accompanying the classes, and all have indicated an interest in returning next fall to assist with tree and flower seed collecting and planting on the refuge. *Rick Julian, Rydell NWR*

Service Involved in Red River Basin Flood Reduction Planning

Detroit Lakes WMD Joins Multi-Agency Effort to Balance Conservation and Flood Control

Spring flooding is again impacting residents of the Red River Valley in northwest Minnesota and eastern North Dakota. This year's costly flooding is reportedly one of the top five floods ever recorded in the Red River Basin. Watershed Districts have permitted extensive drainage to support agricultural practices and have attempted to control flooding damage primarily through large water impoundment projects. As a result, frequent disagreements have occurred between watershed districts and resource managers over the most effective and least environmentally destructive methods for reducing flood damage.

The controversy over differing flood control policies peaked in the mid 1990s when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) completed a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that examined the cumulative impact of the Basin's large flood control projects on natural resources in western Minnesota. As a result of the EIS, the Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group was formed. The Group's membership includes representatives from the Corps, Minnesota DNR, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), watershed districts, two conservation organizations and several concerned citizens.

The Group's mandate was to reach consensus agreements on long-term solutions for reducing flood damage, while protecting and enhancing natural resources. Flood Reduction Teams (FRT) were formed to deal with specific flood reduction projects in each of the six individual watershed districts along the Minnesota side of the Red River Basin. The Service's Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District (WMD) is actively involved in three watershed district FRT that fall within the WMD. Project Leader Mark Chase is a member of the Wild Rice River FRT, Refuge Operations Specialist Jason Barker is on the Buffalo/Red River FRT, and Biologist



--Photo by Bruce Albright, Buffalo/Red River Watershed District

Flooded farmsteads and railroad tracks near the intersection of the Buffalo and Red Rivers north of Fargo/Moorhead near Georgetown, Minn..

Les Peterson represents the Service on the Sand Hill River FRT. The Teams identify flood damage reduction and natural resources enhancement goals, guide comprehensive watershed planning, review proposed flood reduction projects, advance the permitting process, and facilitate conflict resolution in an effort to prevent the institutional gridlock.

All three Flood Reduction Teams in the WMD are actively working on flood reduction projects.

- The Buffalo/Red River FRT is presently working on six flood damage reduction projects that will provide off-channel storage, re-meandering of water courses, wetland restoration, and habitat enhancement throughout the watershed district.

- The Wild Rice FRT is working on the Dahlin Coolie project, which involves re-meandering of the water course, off-channel storage, wetland restorations, and grassland restoration in buffer zones that would enhance wildlife habitat and alleviate erosion problems. The Team is also preparing a comprehensive watershed plan and has identified several po-

tential projects in the watershed district that would provide environmentally sound flood control benefits.

- The Sand Hill River FRT is actively working on the Maple Creek flood control proposal. This project involves off-channel water storage along with wetland restorations and storage capability at the upper end of flood water control and enhanced wildlife habitat potential.

The Detroit Lakes WMD provides wetland restoration consultation and has donated native grass seed to restore and enhance some of the grass buffer zones along portions of the watercourses.

The Flood Reduction Teams provide a forum for philosophically diverse agencies to come together and reach consensus on tough issues. While philosophical differences will continue to exist, the process is moving forward and, ultimately, the people and wildlife who reside in the Red River Valley will reap the benefits of flood control and habitat enhancement projects that complement each other. *Les Peterson, Detroit Lakes WMD*

Accomplishment Reports Received

The following accomplishment reports were processed by the ARS during the period May 7-18. Reports filed during this period, but for accomplishments with dates occurring before April 18 are not listed here, but can be found by using Report Manager on the Accomplishment Reporting System.

1. **Refuge Mosquito Control Policy—A Natural Balance**
Dan Sobieck, External Affairs
2. **Status of Region 3 Radio Conversion Projects**
Bryce Shimmer, ABA (CSG)
3. **Environment Day at Youngstown Air Base**
Bill Kurey, Reynoldsburg FO
4. **More Than 200 Students From Five Schools Visit Rydell NWR for Environmental Tours**
Rick Julian, Rydell NWR
5. **Muscatatuck NWR Expands Survey Work in Seep Springs Area**
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR
6. **Birds Help the Service Reach the Local Community of the Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge**
Pam Dryer, Whittlesey Creek NWR
7. **Service Seeks Public Comment on Proposed South Fox Island Land Exchange**
Georgia Parham, External Affairs
8. **Great Lakes Ecosystem Team Funds Four Projects Supporting Sturgeon Restoration, Island Protection**
Leslie TeWinkel, Great Lakes Basin EcoTeam
9. **IMBD 2001: Winning Warblers at the Zoo**
Ed Moyer, Minnesota Valley NWR
10. **50 Birders Participate in Migratory Bird Day Events at Sherburne NWR**
Nancy Haugen, Sherburne NWR
11. **Ride for the Birds to Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day**
Becky Goche, Shiawassee NWR
12. **Local Student Gets Job Shadowing Experience**
Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC
13. **Summit Elementary Celebrates Earth Day at Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge**
Lisa McCurdy, Trempealeau NWR
14. **Partners for Fish and Wildlife/Private Lands Tour of Northern Michigan**
Heather Enterline, Alpena FRO
15. **Volunteer Orientation Held at Seney NWR**
Marianne Kronk, Seney NWR
16. **Detroit Lakes WMD Staff Contribute to Multi-faceted Red River Valley Flood Reduction Planning**
Les Peterson, Detroit Lakes WMD
17. **Service Joins State and Federal Agencies to Examine Performance Based Management Systems**
Scott Flaherty, External Affairs
18. **EEO Training for Region 3 Supervisors and Managers**
Peggy Nelson, ABA (DCR)
19. **Piping Plover Return to Great Lakes Beaches**
Georgia Parham, External Affairs
20. **Teaching With the Outdoors Workshop Sponsored by Seney NWR**
Marianne Kronk, Seney NWR
21. **Service Advises Missouri to Minimize Bridge Construction's Impact on Pallid Sturgeon**
Joanne Grady, Columbia FRO
22. **Presentation Given to Fergus Falls Community College Students about Wildlife Careers**
Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC
23. **Changes to Mingo Refuge Auto Tour Route Results in More Visitors**
Molly Mehl, Mingo NWR
24. **We Keep-on Diggin' at Mingo NWR**
Molly Mehl, Mingo NWR
25. **Personnel Assists Biological Science Technicians for Private Lands Projects**
Robb Morin, ABA (Personnel)

Inside Region 3



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