



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Inside Region 3

Information from the Accomplishment Reporting System for Mar. 25 - May 6, 2002

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Inside

Whooping Cranes Return to Necedah

Test Your Fish and Wildlife IQ

A Friend Retires

and much more...

Whooping Cranes Return to Necedah National Wildlife Refuge

Birds Fly Home on Instinct Alone

Four endangered whooping cranes, part of an experimental flock of cranes reintroduced to the wild last year by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Whooping Crane Eastern Partnership (WCEP), returned to their summer home at the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge in central Wisconsin April 19 following a 10-day, 1,175-mile migration from Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge in Florida.

The fifth whooping crane separated itself from the flock early in the migration, but arrived at Necedah on May 3.

Biologists Richard Urbanek with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Ann Lacy with the International Crane Foundation have been tracking the birds since April 9, when they began their northern migration from in Florida. The cranes arrived at Necedah NWR just after 6:30 p.m. local time April 19.

"It has been an exciting year," said Larry Wargowsky, refuge manager

at Necedah NWR "I thought I was amazed last year when the sandhill cranes made it back, but the arrival of these five cranes back to Wisconsin and the refuge has been nothing short of phenomenal."

The cranes left Necedah NWR last October led by ultralight aircraft piloted by Operation Migration Inc., a WCEP member. WCEP, a partnership of public and private conservation agencies and organizations, organized the project with the goal of reintroducing a migratory flock of whooping cranes into eastern North America.

The cranes and planes arrived in Florida following a 50-day, 1,224-mile migration that took them through seven states. Eight whoopers started the trip south, but one died on the way and two were killed by bobcats at the bird's winter home at the Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge on Florida's central-west coast. The return north is the cranes' first unassisted migration, guided

only by their natural instincts.

The five whooping cranes have made the trip to Wisconsin much quicker than many expected, and while this is not uncommon for the existing wild whooping cranes, it was cause for excitement for the study's project members.

"The birds flew much further and faster than we expected, they knew what to do on the return flight without the help from humans," said John Christian, assistant regional director for Migratory Birds with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Christian said the Service, like other partners involved in the project, is excited by near flawless success of the return migration.

"It's a real tribute to the tremendous partnership of agencies, organizations and private land owners that have worked together to help this magnificent bird regain its rightful place back in the wild," Christian said. "This big step in reintroducing a wild flock of endangered birds truly demonstrates the power of public-private partnerships."

The fact these whooping cranes are migrating independent of human-intervention is in itself a success for this first of many flocks to be reintroduced over the next decade.

Interior Secretary Gale Norton noted that the return of the cranes is the culmination of years of planning and execution by the Whooping Crane Eastern Partnership. "The partnership provides a blueprint for future recovery efforts for other threatened and endangered species, and I am proud that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Geological Survey continue to be a part of it," Secretary Norton said.



- USFWS Photo

It Really Works! Whooping cranes were raised and taught to fly behind ultralight aircraft at Necedah NWR, they "migrated" behind an ultralight to Chassahowitzka NWR (Florida) and now they have returned to Necedah NWR using only their natural instincts.

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Cranes Fly Home to Necedah

These whooping cranes will be monitored throughout the summer and as they migrate back south in the fall in an effort project biologists hope will teach them new aspects of whooping crane behavior and migratory instincts.

"These past days all of us, I believe, have gained new perspectives on the crane flyway, from Florida to Wisconsin -- it is fascinating to see the roost sites, these little water bodies the cranes have found on their way. Wetlands are critical to their safety and survival. With each day, we discover the birds' next choices -- it's so exciting!" said Jim Harris of International Crane Foundation.

Eggs for this year's study flock are already being collected, incubated and hatched at the U.S. Geological Survey's Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland.

The Whooping Crane Eastern Partnership is a consortium private organizations, government agencies and private donors working to reintroduce a migratory flock of whooping cranes back into eastern North America. The ultimate goal of the project is to reintroduce enough whooping cranes to the flyway to establish a self-sustaining flock containing at least 25 adult breeding pairs. More than 60 percent of the project's estimate \$1.8 million per year budget comes from private sources in the form of grants and donations. *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*

- Cover photo courtesy of Operation Migration

Service Breaks Ground For Green Bay Field Office

In mid-April, ground was broken for the new Service field office building in Green Bay, Wis. Ecological Services Field Supervisor Janet Smith and Mark Holey, fisheries project leader and their staffs joined Jim Madigan of the 7180 Limited Partnership group, owners of the new building, and Shaun McKeefry of C.S. SMET Construction Corp., the general contractor, in the ground breaking ceremony.

The Service's Law Enforcement and Fox River Natural Resources

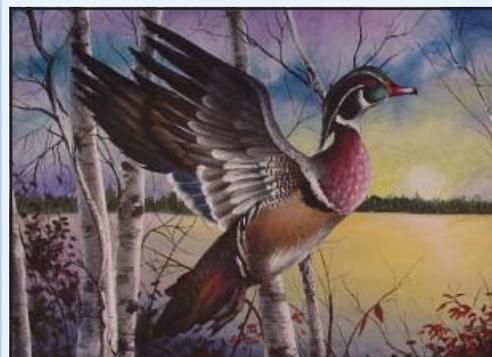
Damage Assessment programs also are part of the co-located field office that will occupy the new 17,000-square foot office and warehouse building. The new building will eliminate serious space constraints in the existing office and allow field equipment, now housed at a rented storage facility six miles from the current station, to be consolidated under one roof. The office building is expected to be completed in mid-October 2002. *Tracy Matthies, Green Bay Field Office*



- USFWS Photo

New Consolidated Facility. Green Bay Ecological Services Field Supervisor Janet Smith (left with shovel) and Fisheries Project Leader Mark Holey (right with shovel) broke ground on a new joint facility that will also house law enforcement and NRDA offices.

Wisconsin State Junior Duck Stamp Best of Show



Eric Wasieleski, 17, of Plover, Wis., was awarded "Best of Show" in the 2002 Wisconsin Junior Duck Stamp Contest for this painting of a wood duck. The judging was held at Necedah National Wildlife Refuge. Eric's painting travelled to the national judging in Washington, D.C., and won honorable mention.

Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District Snow Seeds 522 Acres

Broadcast snow seeding and partnerships enabled the Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District staff to seed more than 522 upland acres with native prairie grasses and forbs (wildflower) during March and April 2002. The seeding was accomplished on nine waterfowl production areas (WPAs), one Minnesota DNR conservation easement, two soil and water conservation district properties and a watershed district flood reduction project. A total of 16,000 pounds of locally harvested, high quality native prairie grass and forb seed was broadcast seeded on snow covered land to turn former cropland into habitat that will benefit migratory birds and resident wildlife.

The native prairie seed was harvested last fall on WPAs and state wildlife management areas in Clay and Mahnomon counties in Minnesota. Seed tests indicated that this seed contained 10 native grass and 10 forb species, which is a considerably more diverse seed mix

than most native prairie seed mixes. Through partnerships with the Minnesota DNR and innovative production techniques, the estimated cost of this high quality seed mix was only \$.27 per pound for a total of \$4,320. It could have cost as much as \$100 per pound or \$1.6 million to commercially purchase this seed.

This innovative seeding method entails broadcast seeding on snow covered upland areas during March and April in anticipation that the seed will be naturally planted in the soil as the snow melts and the top inches of soil becomes soft with moisture and warm temperatures. Broadcast seeding cuts planting costs as uncleaned seed can be used in the seeders and seeding is faster than with conventional drill type planters. This seeding method also permits a wider variety of grass and forb seeds to be planted, translating into considerably more diverse wildlife habitat. Snow seeding also permits the staff to



- USFWS photo

Seeding in Winter. Detroit Lakes WMD staff use a broadcast seeder and a tracked vehicle to seed native prairie grass and forbs over snow covered waterfowl production areas. This innovative technique has proven effective and cost-efficient.

complete the labor intensive seeding program before the hectic field season begins in May. Broadcast seeding has been successfully used by at Detroit Lakes WMD during the past several years to reduce upland habitat restoration expenses and increase habitat diversity for wildlife. *Les Peterson, Detroit Lakes WMD*

Staff Verify First Bald Eagle Hatches at Patoka River Refuge



-USFWS photo

A Sign of Good Things to Come. Bald eagles are making a comeback at Patoka River NWR.

Refuge Operations Specialist Bob Dodd verified a historic event at the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge on April 18, 2002. Dodd verified that a bald eagle hatched on an area of the refuge located in the lower reaches of the Patoka River in the Wabash Lowlands.

Refuge Manager Bill McCoy said this was the first eagle to hatch on the refuge and could not find any local residents who can remember the last time a bald eagle was produced in this area.

The nest is located in the first large tract of land purchased for the refuge in 1996. The site is on the South Fork Patoka River, a stream

that was devoid of aquatic life for more than 50 years due to damage from acid drainage from abandoned coal strip mines in the area.

Efforts to reduce and eliminate acid mine drainage have been accelerated due to the efforts of the Patoka South Fork Watershed Steering Committee. This citizens group has helped focus the attention of the Indiana Abandoned Mineland Reclamation Program on reclaiming some of the worst acid producing areas in the watershed.

Fish and other aquatic organisms are now beginning to survive and increase in the area. *William McCoy, Jr., Patoka River NWR*

George Hoffmann 'Retires' as President of Friends Group

May 2 marked the annual meeting of the Friends of the Upper Mississippi River Refuges (FUMRR) and a changing of the guard as long-time president George Hoffmann retired from his duties. Hoffmann gave a "State of the Organization" speech at the meeting; the text of that speech follows:

"The Upper Mississippi is a river of people with an obligation. By having each of us commit to taking care of the river and lands that drain into it, we ultimately take care of ourselves, our families and our communities. With this in mind, we created a unique citizens organization five years ago. We called it 'the Friends of the Upper Mississippi River Refuges.' Our mission became: To conserve the natural and cultural resources of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, the Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge and the Driftless National Wildlife Refuge.

Throughout our years of existence we have found Friends in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin who agree with our vision. In addition to

being citizens of our individual state and town, our members have become citizens of the Upper Mississippi River Community.

Our humble beginnings started in the early months of 1997. A group of people, citizens, interested in our refuges met. While we were NOT the first Friends group formed to support a refuge, we were unique none the less. We became the first Friends group to incorporate chapters into our framework.

From that time we built our membership, created chapters, campaigned for refuge improvements, established a national presence, developed community relations, published a noteworthy newsletter, devised an effective public relations plan and became known as an organization that the citizens could rely upon to protect and enhance our refuges.

But this isn't the end. On the contrary, it is only the beginning. We've achieved many

things in our first five years. We are aware that much more needs to be done and will be done.

We are entering into our sixth year with new leadership, new resolve and new goals. With your continued help and support we will reach greater heights than ever before imagined. We ask that our Friends, volunteers and the people in the Upper Mississippi River community join us on our quest for improved refuges.

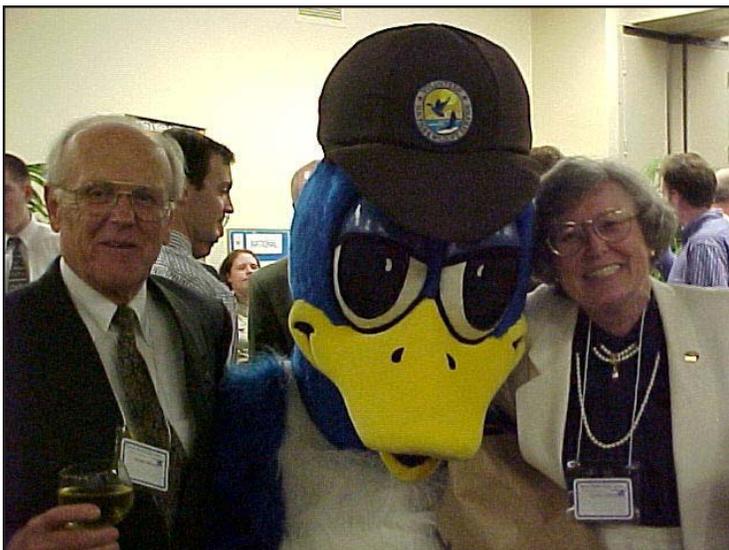
As Margaret Mead, the noted anthropologist so aptly put it: 'Never doubt that a small, thoughtful group of concerned citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.'

At the end of the annual meeting the new friends group president, Dr. Jim Eddy, awarded Mr. Hoffmann with a memorable time piece. We wish George well in his long list of pursuits and are grateful for his leadership - *staff of the Upper Mississippi River Refuges. Cynthia Samples, UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ*



- USFWS photo by Cindy Samples

For A Job Well-Done. Dorothy Hoffmann and George Hoffmann receive a memorial gift from new FUMRR president Dr. Jim Eddy (right).



- USFWS photo

True Friends of the Refuge System. George and Dorothy pose with Puddles, the Region 3 blue goose, at a reception in Washington, D.C.

Fergus Falls Staff Give Fish and Wildlife Test to Local FFA Students

Forty Future Farmers of America (FFA) members from five local chapters participated in a wildlife identification contest as part of the recent Fergus Falls Area Crop and Forage Show.

The test was developed and administered by Fergus Falls WMD Refuge Operations Specialists Stacy Salvevold and Charles Vukonich to help prepare the FFA members for their upcoming regional test.

The test consisted of 48 specimens and 60 questions about fish and wildlife.

A sample of the test follows:

Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC

Test your fish and wildlife IQ:

1. The following bird eats primarily earthworms:

- Ring-necked pheasant
- Wilson's snipe
- Pigeon
- All of the above

2. Unlike its close relative, this fish's lower mandible extends back beyond its eye:

- Smallmouth bass
- Green sunfish
- Largemouth bass
- White sucker

3. The young, when large enough to swim, often fall 10-15 feet from a tree cavity to the ground, and follow their mother to the water?

- Crow
- Wood duck
- Pintail
- Mallard

4. The female may lay as many as 20 million eggs in the ocean and when the young hatch they follow currents back to fresh water:

- American eel
- Lake trout
- Sturgeon
- Yellow perch

5. Which is not at least partially piscivorous?

- Muskellunge
- Walleye
- Carp
- Black crappie

6. Which of these nest strictly on the ground?

- Cooper's hawk
- Sharp-shinned hawk
- Northern harrier
- None of the above

7. Which of the following mammals has a naked tail?

- Muskrat
- Beaver
- Norway rat
- All of the above

8. The male will hold a breeding territory by crowing and often mates with several females in a season:

- House sparrow
- Sharp tail grouse
- Ruffed grouse
- Ring-necked pheasant

9. Which fish is a benthic feeder?

- Carp
- Catfish
- Sturgeon
- All of the above

10. This bird species maintains a monogamous relationship with its partner and often nests in small wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region:

- Canada goose
- Ruddy duck
- Mallard
- None of the above

11. Along with canvasbacks, which species of duck returns to the nesting grounds later in the spring?

- Snow goose
- Mallard
- Common goldeneye
- Blue-winged teal

12. What is the study of fish called?

- Ornithology
- Mammalogy
- Ichthyology
- None of the above

13. The _____ will often ride on their mother's back while swimming.

- Red-tailed hawk young
- Snow goose young
- Loon young
- Wood duck young

14. Which of the following fish is primarily a bottom feeder?

- Sturgeon
- Northern pike
- Largemouth bass
- None of the above

15. A white rump is characteristic of which of the following hawks?

- Broad-winged hawk
- Cooper's hawk
- Red-tailed hawk
- None of the above

16. Which of these is an obligate parasitic nester?

- Wood duck
- Grackle
- Snow goose
- Cowbird

17. Of the following species, which will climb trees to escape their enemies?

- Gray fox
- Red fox
- Mole
- Coyote

18. Describe a moose's antlers.

- Lobate
- Palmate
- Forked
- None of the above

19. Which of the following mammals are saltatorial?

- Woodchuck
- Mink
- Jumping mouse
- Raccoon

20. Which of the following is a cavity nester?

- Wood duck
- Mallard
- Pheasant
- Woodcock

Service Joins Interagency Response at Detroit River Oil Spill

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff from field offices and national wildlife refuges in Michigan were among crews from numerous federal, state and local agencies that responded to the call for cleanup and containment help following a large oil spill on the Detroit River April 11.

Lisa Williams, Craig Czarnecki, Dave Best and Carrie Tansy from the East Lansing Field Office led a service response team that help assess damage to wildlife caused by the spill of more than 10,000 gallons of used oil.



- USFWS Photo by Doug Spencer

Wildlife Damage. The 10,000 gallon oil spill caused damage to wildlife and habitat. These two mallards were among the injured wildlife.

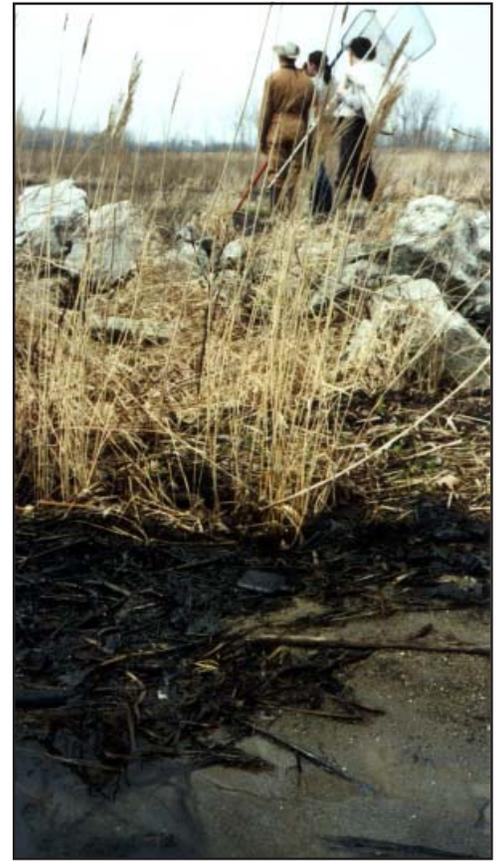
The team was later joined by staff from Ottawa Refuge, Shiawasse Refuge, and Alpena Fisheries Resource Office.

Lisa Williams helped staff the Coast Guard's Joint Operations Center, coordinating Service involvement. She was later interviewed by a reporter from WDIV-TV in Detroit.

The spill, thought to have originated in the Rouge River in Detroit, contaminated habitat along more than 17 miles of shoreline on both the U.S. and Canadian sides of the Detroit River and around Grosse Ile.

While most of the oil dispersed in the main channel, there was confirmed contamination on both Mud Island and Grassy Island, two properties owned by the Service. The spill area is within the boundaries of the recently established Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge.

The specific source of the spill has not been identified. An investigation into the source of the spill is continuing. *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*



- USFWS Photo by Doug Spencer

17 Miles of Oil. An oil soaked shoreline along the Detroit River after more than 10,000 gallons of used oil were released.

Unusual Sightings Attract Birders to Hamden Slough Refuge

The Bisson Lake area of Hamden Slough National Wildlife Refuge is attracting regional bird watchers, as strong south winds have blown in some rarely seen species. A Ross' goose, rarely seen east of the Rocky Mountains, was observed on the refuge 'frog pond,' on April 25.

The frog pond is a low, wet area just southwest of Bisson Lake. Members of the Fargo-Moorhead Audubon Society were delighted to discover the goose and quickly notified the birding hotline. Bird watchers descended on the site and were treated the next day with a

migrating Willet. Only one Willet had been previously observed on the refuge.

On April 29, two American avocets were observed in the frog pond. Avocets have only been observed twice in Becker County, both times in the Bisson Lake area. On April 30, the first Sand Hill crane observed on the refuge was seen also on the frog pond. Just to the south, a new 'booming ground' with four Prairie chickens was discovered by refuge personnel in mid-April. *Michael Murphy, Hamden Slough NWR*



- USGS Photo by Mary Gustafson

Identified Flying Objects. A Ross' goose and other unique species for the area were sighted at Hamden Slough National Wildlife Refuge in northwestern Minnesota.

Take Your Child to Work Day on the Upper Mississippi

“This is better than school!” exclaimed Hailey Samples as she stalked a painted turtle with the digital camera. Hailey was spending the morning with her Mom, Cindy Samples, interpretive specialist for the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge and the afternoon with her father, Rick Samples, sign painter at the Regional Sign Center. Why? It was in celebration of Take Our Children to Work Day.

“On these days we probably show the glamorous side of our work. The fun part. Not the hours on end sitting in front of the computer,”

stated Cindy Samples. Hailey helped set up bird banding mist nets in preparation for the International

Migratory Bird Day celebration. The nets were checked for tears and tangles and a few birds were caught and she helped band. Then it was off to experience photography. Hailey had the opportunity to photograph a great egret, turtles and pelicans.

The sandhill cranes flew to quickly but their call will be a lasting memory.

In the afternoon, Hailey had the opportunity to help place letters on an entrance sign for Sunkhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Oldtown, Maine with her father. “Yep, this is better than school!” Hailey again exclaimed.

Cynthia

Samples, UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ



- Photo by Hailey Samples

Pretty Nice Office! Hailey Samples took this photo of a great egret while spending the day with her Mom on “Take Our Child to Work Day.”

Service Completes Land Cover Analysis of Minnesota and Northern Iowa

The Fergus Falls Habitat and Population Evaluation Team (HAPET) office, in cooperation with Ducks Unlimited, recently completed an analysis of land cover data for the prairie pothole region of Minnesota and northern Iowa.

Spring and fall satellite imagery was collected and analyzed to produce a classified land cover layer in digital (geographic information system) format. The office also produced grassland density distribution maps, a protected and unprotected grass layer, and a woodland density distribution map.

These products when used in conjunction with other data will function as tools to help guide management decisions to benefit migratory birds within the prairie pothole region.

This information was distributed to national wildlife refuges and wetland management districts throughout the prairie pothole region of Minnesota and Iowa. *Rex Johnson, HAPET Office*

Adopt-A-Waterway Program Helps Volunteers Commit to Clean Up Ohio Streams

The Little Cuyahoga River near downtown Akron, Ohio, was the recent focus of a local trash cleanup effort. The cleanup was part of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Adopt-A-Waterway program. Under this program, concerned citizens and groups can commit to cleaning up Ohio streams by adopting a stream segment in their local community. This river cleanup was organized by EnviroScience, Inc., a local environmental consulting firm that adopted this urban portion of the Little Cuyahoga River. The event was

also sponsored by numerous local businesses.

More than 80 citizens helped with this cleanup effort, including Service biologist Angela Boyer from the Reynoldsburg Ohio Ecological Services Field Office.

This hands-on approach not only keeps Ohio's waterways clean but also promotes community spirit and pride. For their efforts, volunteers received an Adopt-A-Waterway certificate and patch along with a t-shirt provided by the local sponsors of the event. *Angela Boyer, Reynoldsburg FO*



- USFWS photo

Getting Her Hands Dirty. Service biologist Angela Boyer helps cleanup the Little Cuyahoga River near Akron, Ohio.

DeSoto Refuge Commemorates Steamboat Sinking

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge is unique among the system's refuges in being the only one with a historic steamboat wreck and its invaluable cargo. To commemorate the sinking of the steamboat Bertrand on April 1, 1865, the refuge hosted a day-long gathering of volunteer re-enactors and held a program at the excavation site.

Four hundred fifty-five people interacted with the re-enactors at the visitor center and 35 people participated in the "Walk With a Ranger" program with ORP Bruce Weber at the excavation site. An on-site computer helped people with Civil War ancestors trace their family history.

The refuge, which straddles the Missouri river, is shared by the states of Iowa and Nebraska. When the Bertrand sank at the DeSoto Bend, where DeSoto Refuge is now located, the boat and cargo was

deemed a loss. No one could have guessed then that the boat would be buried for 103 years in the mud of a Missouri River meander, and its cargo of everyday items would become a "national treasure."

The steamboat was rediscovered in 1968 and subsequently excavated. With the help of archeologists and conservators, the Bertrand became a time capsule of the Civil War Era.

Now one of the prime cultural resources of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the wreck and its 200,000 pieces of cargo attract visitors from throughout the United States and many foreign countries. Visitors come to see everyday items used on the American frontier in 1865. The Bertrand's cargo is the pride of the refuge's interpretive program and it has been visited by more than 3.1 million visitors since the visitor center opened in 1981.

Cindy Myer, Desoto NWR



- USFWS Photo by Bruce Weber

Looking into the Past. Young Tetriana Richards admires 1865 era clothing styles worn by re-enactors who helped DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge commemorate the sinking of the Steamboat Bertrand.

Detroit River Lake Sturgeon Survey Gets Underway

On Mar. 25, 2002, Fish and Wildlife Biologist Adam Kowalski and Fisheries Biologist Emily Zollweg began a lake sturgeon survey on the Detroit River. This survey consists of using eight setlines to capture and tag sturgeon, telemetry work to track previously transmitted sturgeon, and locating spawning grounds.

During the first two weeks of the survey three lake sturgeon were caught. These fish were floy and PIT tagged, weighed, measured and pectoral ray cut for aging and genetic testing.

Five fish with transmitters were located and tracked. U.S. Geological Survey supplied egg mats which were placed on suspected spawning sites to confirm spawning and egg collection. Collected eggs will be hatched and young examined for defects and contaminants.

The information collected during this survey will allow the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine the current population status of this depleted native species and to aid in recovery.

Telemetry results will tell us at what temperature sturgeon enter the river, what temperature spawning activity occurs and possibly where spawning occurs. Egg mats will confirm spawning sites.

A habitat assessment will be conducted on each spawning site confirmed. This will aid in the protection, enhancement and restoration of spawning habitat.

Outreach activities will also be conducted, including the education of fishermen on lake sturgeon activities and status. This effort will aid in the overall recovery of lake sturgeon.

Adam Kowalski, Alpena FRO

Restoration Planning For Roxana Marsh (Grand Calumet River) Underway

In 1997, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the state of Indiana and the Department of the Interior (DOI) settled a Clean Water Act (CWA) violations/Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) natural resource damage case against three industries in Hammond, Ind., for discharges of pollutants to the Grand Calumet River. As part of the settlement, the parties agreed to pay \$4.7 million to establish a trust fund, the Grand Calumet River Restoration Fund (GCRRF).

In 1999, an additional \$2.1 million was deposited in the GCRRF as part of a settlement of a 1993 CWA lawsuit with the Sanitary District of Hammond. The \$2.1 million is also directed to address the effects of sediment contamination in the West Branch of the Grand Calumet River.

The purpose of the GCRRF is to remediate and restore the West Branch of the Grand Calumet River, including particularly the management of contaminated sediments. As a trust fund, the GCRRF allows additional funds, including receipts from enforcement actions, to be

deposited and managed through the GCRRF to address environmental contamination in the Area of Concern.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), USEPA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), on behalf of DOI, act as administrators of the GCRRF. Administration is achieved through a Council of appointed representatives from each agency.

The GCRRF Council is now taking steps to evaluate potential remedial activities in the area of Roxana Marsh of the west branch of the Grand Calumet River. Using \$390,000 of the GCRRF Council



- USFWS photo

Determining the Extent of the Problem. Service biologist worked with contractors and staff from the state of Indiana to collect core samples from Roxana Marsh. These samples will be used to determine the extent of contamination and help biologist begin to remediate the damage.

contractor's staff collecting 21 surficial and 21 core samples in Roxana Marsh. The data from these samples will be used to determine the extent of contamination and be the basis for a remediation/restoration plan for Roxana Marsh's future. The GCRRF Council plans to use the toxicity data generated for us by the USGS Columbia Environmental Research Center to focus the restoration plan on the elimination of toxicity to aquatic organisms.

The GCRRF Council is also contemplating this same sort of characterization effort for the Indiana portion of the West Branch of the Grand Calumet River west of Indianapolis Boulevard. The GCRRF Council provided funds to FWS to hire Foster Wheeler to work with the Council to assess existing sediment information and identify data gaps and other engineering data needs. This effort will eventually lead to the development of remedial and restoration alternatives for the West Branch of the Grand Calumet River. *Daniel Sparks, Bloomington FO*



Developing a Plan. Roxana Marsh was contaminated by pollutants discharged into the Grand Calumet River. The Service is developing a plan to remediate the damage and restore lost fish and wildlife resources.

funds, FWS contracted Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation to implement the Council's plan for the chemical, physical and toxicological characterization of the marsh. During the week of Mar. 17 - 22, 2002, representatives of FWS, IDEM and IDNR labored alongside the

Williams Makes First Official Visit to a Refuge as New Service Director



-USFWS photo

First Visit as New Director. Refuge Manager John Mabery (right) leads Service Director Steve Williams (center) and Regional Director Bill Hartwig (left) on a tour of Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge.

Steve Williams made Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge his first official visit to a national wildlife refuge as the new Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The visit was just days after Williams confirmation and in conjunction with his attendance at the Region 3 Project Leaders Meeting held in St. Louis, Mo., this February.

Two Rivers NWR is located at the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers and is one of five refuges in the Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

One site visited during the refuge tour was the Swan Lake Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Project. When completed, a 50,000 g.p.m. pump station will dewater this isolated Illinois River side channel in order to consolidate bottom sediments, thus allowing aquatic vegetation to reestablish and improve water quality.

John Mabery, Two Rivers NWR

Accomplishment Reports Received

The following reports were processed by the Region 3 Accomplishment Reporting System for accomplishments completed between Mar. 25 and May 6, 2002. Employees can search reports using the Report Manager utility in the ARS.

Ashland Fisheries Office Assists Tribes With Spring Walleye Surveys
Frank Stone, Ashland FRO

George Hoffman 'retires' as President of Friends Group
Cynthia Samples, UMRNW&FR- HQ

Muscatatuck Refuge celebrates Arbor Day with 325 elementary students
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge help Youth learn to evaluate Wildlife Habitat with State Contest
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge and Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Restore Bottomland Hardwoods
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Bat Study Wins Graduate Student Top Honors
Charles Scott, Columbia FO

Unusual Sightings Attract Birders to Hamden Slough Refuge
Michael Murphy, Hamden Slough NWR

Izaak Walton League State Convention Tours Refuge
Michael Murphy, Hamden Slough NWR

Volunteers Commit To Cleaning Up Ohio Streams
Angela Boyer, Reynoldsburg FO

Motorboat Operator Certification Course - Twin Cities
Nick Rowse, Twin Cities FO

Take Our Children to Work
Cynthia Samples, UMRNW&FR- HQ

Detroit Lakes WMD Snow Seeds 522 Acres
Les Peterson, Detroit Lakes WMD

Multi-State/Federal Project for Approval of Drugs for Public Fish Production
Dave Pederson, Federal Aid

Oklahoma Man Pleads Guilty to Illegally Selling Protected Tigers and Leopards
Scott Flaherty, External Affairs

Prairie Wetlands Learning Center Hosts Many Training Sessions
Kenneth Garrahan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC

Seney Refuge Attends Community Tackle Party
Marianne Kronk, Seney NWR

Rydell Refuge Holds Earth Day Program
rick julian, Rydell NWR

Service Completes Land Cover Analysis of Minnesota and Northern Iowa
Rex Johnson, HAPET

Earth Day Wood Working For Wildlife Program Planned
rick julian, Rydell NWR

Fergus Falls HAPET Office develops farmable land values map
Rex Johnson, HAPET

HAPET Office Delineates Grassland Bird Conservation Areas
Rex Johnson, HAPET

continued next page

HAPET Office Helps Managers Maximize Waterfowl Benefits
Rex Johnson, HAPET

HAPET Office Developing a Digital Database of Restorable Wetlands
Rex Johnson, HAPET

Earth Day at Neal Smith Refuge
Don Jorgensen, Neal Smith NWR

2002 Detroit River Lake Sturgeon Survey Underway
Adam Kowalski, Alpena FRO

Experimental Flock of Whooping Cranes Return to Necedah NWR
Scott Flaherty, External Affairs

Service Participates in Annual Earth Day Celebration at Washtenaw Community College
Bob Kavetsky, East Lansing FO

Bald Eagle Hatches at Patoka River Refuge
William McCoy, Jr., Patoka River NWR

Service Participates in Local Water Quality Education Program
Michael Litwin, Bloomington FO

Muscatatuck Refuge Centennial Display Viewed by 22,000
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge Hosts Hiking Club from Louisville
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge Provides Environmental Education for 150 Students
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge Deer Hunt Attended by 4,200 Hunters
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge is Site of Sierra Club Outing
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge Volunteer Promotes Centennial at Franklin College
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge Helps with Newly Designated Resource, Conservation and Development Area
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Green Bay Fisheries Office Assists with Whitefish Study
Pauline Schuette, Green Bay FRO

Service Celebrates Groundbreaking for new Green Bay Field Office
Tracy Matthies, Green Bay FO

Riparian Habitat Protection/Restoration Agreement Reached
william hegge, Reynoldsburg FO

First Wireless Network for Fish and Wildlife
Greg Westfall, ABA (CSG)

340 Assist In Spring Clean-up At Sherburne NWR
Nancy Haugen, Sherburne NWR

Volunteer Highlights Exposition
Don Jorgensen, Neal Smith NWR

Sandhill Crane Numbers Continue to Rise at Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge
Lisa McCurdy, Trempealeau NWR

Wetland Restoration Programs Presented at Ohio Wetlands Workshop
william hegge, Reynoldsburg FO

Service Demonstrates Alternate Commercial/Assessment Gear for Possible Use in Green Bay
Robert Elliott, Green Bay FRO

Visitor Services Workshop at the Upper Miss NW&FR
Cynthia Samples, UMRNW&FR- HQ

Upper Miss. Refuge Staff Present at State of the River Meeting
Cynthia Samples, UMRNW&FR- HQ

Friends Group Receives a McKnight Foundation Grant to promote refuges
Cynthia Samples, UMRNW&FR- HQ

Homes For Our Feathered Friends
Clarice Beckner, Jordan River NFH

Big Oaks Refuge Completes 2002 Spring Prescribed Fire Season
Stephen Miller, Muscatatuck NWR

Service Joins Interagency Response to Detroit River Oil Spill
Scott Flaherty, External Affairs

Students Learn about Working for the Service
Cindy Myer, Desoto NWR

Twin Cities Federal Executive Board Visits Region 3's Regional Office
Anne Shea, External Affairs

Region 3 Fish Passage Course to be offered Tracy Hill, Alpena FRO

Budget and Finance Student Outreach
William Andersen, ABA (Budget & Finance)

Marsh Madness at the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center
Kenneth Garrahan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC

Puddles Visits Fergus Falls
Kenneth Garrahan, Fergus Falls

Prairie Harvest Prepared for Planting
rick julian, Rydell NWR

Genoa National Fish Hatchery Contributes to Local Aquatic Education
Doug Aloisi, Genoa NFH

Director signs Award Letter for Clean Vessel Grants for FY 2002
Julie Morin, Federal Aid

District Staff Speaks to Fergus Falls Chapter of Business and Professional Women
Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC

DeSoto Refuge Commemorates Steamboat Sinking
Cindy Myer, Desoto NWR

Jordan River Completes Lake Trout Marking Program
gene vaughan, Jordan River NFH

Muscatatuck Refuge Bluebird Box Program Fledges 50 Bluebirds
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge Partners to Restore and Enhances Outdoor Lab Area
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge Conducts Invasive Species Survey
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge Participates in North American Amphibian Monitoring Program
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge Completes Frog Deformities Survey - Normal Results Found
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Muscatatuck Refuge Secretive Marsh Bird Survey Finds Four Species
Susan Knowles, Muscatatuck NWR

Regional Accessibility Guidelines for Office Space Developed
Peggy Nelson, ABA (DCR)

Iron River National Fish Hatchery Brook Trout Get OTC Markings
Frank Stone, Ashland FRO

Otter Tail County Weed Meetings Attended by Wetland Management District Staff
Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC

Artwork Earns Wisconsin Federal Junior Duck "Best Of Show"
LuAnn Rochester, Necedah NWR
University Students Learn About the Service and Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration
Lisa Williams, East Lansing FO

Ashland FRO Participates in Wetland Restoration Workshops
Ted Koehler, Ashland FRO

Ephemeral Wetland Conference Held in Chicago
Michael Redmer, Chicago FO

Study Suggests Round Goby Act as Opportunistic Feeders
Gary Czypinski, Ashland FRO

2001 Surveillance for Ruffe Report Is Now On The Web
Frank Stone, Ashland FRO

Service Assists Michigan Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan Workshop
Bob Kavetsky, East Lansing FO

Third Grade Students Learn about Crayfish and Exotic Species
Henry Quinlan, Ashland FRO

Mallard Nest Cylinder Maintenance Completed at Fergus Falls
Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC

Detroit Lakes Fire Staff Present Fire Training Courses
Les Peterson, Detroit Lakes WMD

Restoration Planning For Roxana Marsh (Grand Calumet River) Underway
Daniel Sparks, Bloomington FO
Pelican Rapids Natural Resources Class Learns About Wildlife
Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC

Refuge Manager Speaks to Local Careers Classes
Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC

Surveillance Verifies that Ruffe Control is Working
Gary Czypinski, Ashland FRO

Junior Duck State Coordinators Get Funding for the First Time in Region 3
Anne Shea, External Affairs

Lake Christina Planning Meeting
Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC



Answers to IQ test on page 6.

1. B; 2. C; 3. B; 4. A; 5. C; 6. C; 7. D; 8. D; 9. D; 10. A; 11. D; 12. C; 13. C; 14. A; 15. D; 16. D; 17. A; 18. B; 19. C; 20. A

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**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Region 3
Office of External Affairs
1 Federal Drive
Ft. Snelling, MN 55111**

**Phone: 612/713-5360
Federal Relay: 1 800/877-8339**