

Inside Region 3

An information product from the Accomplishment Reporting System

Volume 2, No. 7 External Affairs Office July 20, 2000

Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge Dedicated 50,000 Acre Former Military Test Site is Indiana's Third Refuge

America's National Wildlife Refuge System added another jewel to its collection Saturday July 8, with the official dedication of the new Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge in southern Indiana. With more than 50,000 acres of forest, grassland, and wetland habitat, Big Oaks encompasses one of the largest remaining contiguous blocks of habitat in the region.

Indiana Congressman Baron Hill and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Jamie Rappaport Clark joined Paul W. Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Housing) and Jimmy G. Dishner, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations) for the dedication of the 51,000-acre refuge on the site of the former Jefferson Proving Ground near Madison, Ind.

Big Oaks NWR provides managed habitat for 120 species of breeding birds, the federally endangered Indiana bat and 41 species of fish. The refuge is also home to white-tailed deer, wild turkey, river otters and coyotes. In addition, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources has identified 46 rare species of plants on the site.



USFWS Photo by James R. Fisher

For Wildlife, For People. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Director Jamie Rappaport Clark tells visitors that Big Oaks NWR will be open for public use, "consistent with precautions posed by unexploded ordnance."

Large blocks of unfragmented forest are extremely rare in the Midwest, and Big Oaks NWR represents a unique opportunity to protect interior forest habitat critical to neotropical migrant songbirds and other wildlife that cannot survive in smaller, scattered patches of forest. The refuge's 6,000 acres of grasslands also provide habitat for many species of grassland-dependent birds, which are declining at an alarming rate across the country as their habitat is developed. These

grasslands support one of the largest known populations of Henslow's sparrow, a once common grassland bird whose population has plummeted by more than 90 percent during the past 30 years.

The Service will operate Big Oaks NWR through a 25-year real-estate permit, with the Army retaining ownership of the land. The Air Force will retain use of a 1,033 acre bombing range, which is not included in the portion designated as a National Wildlife Refuge, and is located near the center of the former proving ground.

Large safety buffer areas separate the Air Force range from public use areas of the Refuge.

In 1940, the Army began testing ordnance on portions of the site that is now a National Wildlife Refuge. Public access will be limited to about 27,000 acres of the refuge due to the continued presence of unexploded ordnance. The Proving Ground was closed by the Army in 1995 as a result of the Base Closure and Realignment Act. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has managed wildlife resources at Jefferson Proving Ground since 1997, when the Ser-

continued from page 1

50,000 Acre Big Oaks NWR Dedicated

vice first entered into a three-year agreement with the Army.

Clark stressed that public access for wildlife viewing, hunting and other recreational activities will be provided at the refuge, consistent with precautions needed to warn the public of hazards posed by unexploded ordnance.

A public comment period on the

refuge management plans ended last month. The management plans are in the process of being finalized, and the refuge opened to the public on July 17.

The refuge will be open from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays, Fridays and the second and fourth Saturdays each month between April and November. Tours of the refuge will also be avail-

able by appointment throughout the year. Activities permitted under the interim agreement with the Army include hunting, fishing, wildlife photography, environmental education and interpretation, with other activities under consideration for the future. Visitors are required to check in and receive a safety briefing at the refuge office before participating in any activity at the refuge.

Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge becomes the third national wildlife refuge in Indiana, joining Muscatatuck NWR near Seymour, Ind., and Patoka River NWR near Oakland City, Ind. The current Refuge Manager at Muscatatuck NWR, Lee Herzberger, will become the Refuge Manager for the 58,000 acre Muscatatuck/Big Oaks NWR Complex.

Partners in the effort include: Indiana Department of Natural Resources; U. S. Army; U. S. Air Force; Indiana Air National Guard. *Dr. Joseph Robb, R3-Muscatatuck NWR*



Stone Bridge. Refuge Operations Specialist Dr. Joe Robb stands atop a stone bridge spanning Otter Creek on Big Oaks NWR. The creek is home to river otters recently reintroduced by the Indiana DNR.



-USFWS photo by James R. Fisher.

Leadership Discussion. Regional Director Bill Hartwig (sunglasses), Service Director Jamie Rappaport Clark and Refuge Manager Lee Herzberger discuss Big Oaks NWR with Indiana Congressman Baron Hill (back to camera).

-USFWS Photo by Scott Flaherty.

Refuge's Water Willow Restoration Benefits Fish, Birds, Invertebrates

Staff from the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge joined Illinois Department of Natural Resources and volunteers from Carterville Fishery Resources Office to develop a plan to restore water willow and other vegetation at Crab Orchard Lake.

Crab Orchard Lake, a 7,000 acre lake located within Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, has experienced a decline in its water willow (*Justicia americana*) population for the past several years. Water willow is an important aquatic plant for stabilizing banks and providing critical

breeding and nursery habitat for many species of fish. The systemic loss of water willow from the lake represents an environmental shift negatively affecting the fish, birds and invertebrate populations of the lake.

The goal of the restoration plan is to determine the best method and feasibility of transplanting water willow; develop guidelines for a larger restoration program and identify other plant species suitable for restoration purposes.

Seven physically distinct sites were selected along the shoreline of Crab Orchard Lake for re-vegetation. Preliminary results from these sites indicate that plots exposed to low or medium energy levels had varying degrees of success regarding plant growth, while plots exposed to high energy levels were less successful. Positive results from certain sites indicate that several of the planting configurations will provide the template for future restoration areas. *Chad Stinson, R3-Carterville FRO*

Ecosystem Conservation Society (ECS) of Japan Tours Mississippi River Refuges

Twenty two consulting engineers, biologists and ecologists of the Japanese Ecosystem Conservation Society (ECS) studied conservation practices at Trempealeau and Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuges during a group visit July 10.

The Society is interested in how Refuge staff are restoring habitat and researching habitat loss due to the effects from Lock and Dam 6.

The ECS members were very interested in how all the resource agencies on the river work together and what environmental laws and policies we have to promote this environmental restoration efforts. They also got some exciting first hand experience at wildlife observation at the Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge. Partners in the group's visit include the National Audubon Society, Minnesota-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Commission and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. *Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ*



-USFWS photo by Cynthia Samples

Survey Subject. A young heron stares back at Refuge biologists during their recent survey of a heron rookery on the Upper Mississippi River refuge.

Service Biologists Survey Heron Rookery on Upper Mississippi River Refuge

Refuge biologists were back in one of the heron rookeries on the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge recently to check productivity.

Surveys were conducted by of paddling out to the rookery in a canoe, then walking with eyes toward the tree tops.

Biologist Eric Nelson, Winona District, Biology technician Brian Pember and Ranger Cindy Samples inspected 10 percent of the colony, surveying more than 50 nests. Most nests contained two young herons. One nest contained five young. *Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ*

Mystery of Stoddard Island Rodent Damage Solved by La Crosse District Staff

The mysterious cause of rodent damage to trees on two recently created islands on the upper Mississippi River has been solved by biologists from the Upper Mississippi River NW&FR.



-USFWS photo by Lara Hill.

The culprit. One of 22 meadow voles trapped at Stoddard Islands.

Constructed in 1998, the Stoddard Islands were built as part of the Lower Pool 8 Islands Environmental Management Program (EMP) project. The islands were seeded with various planting mixes in the spring of 1999, including alfalfa, Canada wild rye and black-eyed susans. Trees were also planted on parts of Eagle and Sling-shot Islands in 1999. This spring, managers noticed that many of the planted trees were chewed, girdled or killed by rodents. How the unexpected rodents came to the island or what species they were was unknown.

On July 5, Service Biologist Lara Hill worked with Dr. Eileen Kirsch of the U.S. Geological Survey to set 39 traps in an effort to determine what species of rodents were inhabiting the

islands. After only one night, meadow voles (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*) were caught in 22 of the 39 traps (56.4% trap success). Many large healthy adults as well as small juvenile voles were trapped, indicating

a very large breeding population on the islands.

The voles probably came to the islands in the hay bales used by the contractor as mulch. The voles could have also crossed the ice or swam the short distance to the islands. It is anticipated that the voles will provide good forage for avian and terrestrial predators. Managers will discuss methods for protecting planted trees from expanding vole populations in the future.

The Stoddard Islands are a \$2.5 million dollar EMP project. Contractors vegetated the islands with grasses and forbs and trees. The voles destroyed about 80 percent of the trees planted on the islands. *Lara Hill, R3-UMRNW&FR-LaCrosse*

Rare Species Habitat in Wisconsin Gets Funding Boost

Rare species in Wisconsin will benefit from a recent grant award to four U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field offices there. The Service has awarded four \$156,000 grants to be used to restore habitat on private lands for the federally endangered Karner blue butterfly and the Eastern massasauga rattlesnake, a federal candidate species. The funding will be used as phase II of a habitat restoration project begun in 1999 by the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife program to benefit the two species.

The recipient field stations include: Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, Leopold Wetland Management District, Green Bay Field Office, and Wisconsin Private Lands Office. The funding was provided through the Endangered Species Incentive program which was set up by Congress to fund habitat restoration projects for federally listed endangered or candidate species.

Both the Karner and Eastern Massasauga have experienced severe losses of habitat through conversion of savannas and wetlands to agriculture and other purposes.

The funding will be used to restore 740 acres of Karner habitat on 25 properties, restore and protect 1,275 acres of Eastern massasauga habitat on 15 properties, provide technical assistance to other landowners in the work areas, and to develop Candidate Conservation Agreements with private landowners in the massasauga focus area.

James Ruwaldt, R3-Wisconsin Private Lands Office

Federal Aid Staff Educates Product Specialists at Cabela's

Staff from Region 3's Federal Aid office met July 11, with product specialists from Cabela's in Owatonna, Minn., to train and educate them about Federal Aid programs.

Cabela's, a popular retailer with outdoorsmen, has worked with Service Federal Aid programs in the past. Cabela's product specialists communicate significant information

to customers who buying excise-taxed products that support the Federal Aid program.

Federal Aid staff has also been invited to provide the company with new wording for its bronze plaque at the store's wildlife mountain. The plaques are being reworked to encompass an improved Federal Aid message. *Julie Morin, R3-Federal Aid*

Settlement Reached for American Chemical Services Superfund Site

A natural resource damage settlement agreement has been reached with the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRP) for the American Chemical Services (ACS) Superfund site in Griffith, Indiana.

The ACS facility had operated as a chemical/solvent recovery facility with limited chemical manufacturing capacity. During the course of its operations, ACS dumped and buried unrecoverable solvents, sludges, and oils on its property and in the adjacent municipal landfill. Approximately 40 acres of a larger wetland complex associated with Turkey Creek had been adversely impacted by activities at the sites. The Bloomington Indiana Field Office's (BFO) involvement began at the ACS site in 1989 when it provided technical assistance to EPA's Superfund program.

Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) settlement negotiations for this site originally began in 1993. After almost six years,

The ACS Site is the 19th Superfund site in Indiana for which the Service has achieved settlement of natural resource damage claim.

negotiations began again in April 1999. The settlement consists of the PRPs assisting the Lake County Parks and Recreation Department complete a major acquisition project of 243 acres valued at \$955,000. Project partners in that effort include Indiana Heritage Trust (\$400,000), Lake Co. (\$150,000) and North American Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA) (\$150,000).

The PRPs have contributed \$250,000 to complete this acquisition, and will give the trustees \$50,000 for wetland restoration costs on this property, and pay up to \$30,000 for our assessment costs. BFO, Indiana Department of Environmental Manage-

ment (IDEM) and Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) will prepare a restoration plan in cooperation with Lake County in the coming months to determine how to best utilize these settlement funds for restorations on this 243 acre acquisition.

The settlement is an example of how persistently advocating for natural resource damages within all available channels to the regulatory agencies and the PRPs (including bankruptcy proceedings) can result in protection and restoration of natural resource values.

The Bloomington Field Office, co-trustees IDEM and IDNR, and the Field Solicitor's Office worked very hard over the last six months to make this settlement a reality. This is the 19th Superfund/Oil Spill site in Indiana for which the Service has achieved settlement of natural resource damage claims. *Daniel Sparks, R3-Bloomington FO*

Service Hosted Workshop Examines Asian Carp Management

Columbia Fishery Resources Office (FRO) and the Region 6 Aquatic Nuisance Species Coordinator co-hosted an Asian Carp Workshop in St. Louis, Mo., April 19-20, 2000, to begin gathering input for the development of a Mississippi River Basin Asian Carp Management and Control plan.

The workshop reviewed the status, distribution, biology; ecological and economic benefits and impacts of Asian carp species and identify management and control alternatives to reduce or mitigate these impacts.

About 75 participants from state and federal natural resources agencies, universities, researchers along with

aquaculturists and their trade association representatives met to review current information and formulate management and control alternatives for grass, bighead, silver and black carp species.

Three of these exotic species have escaped and/or been stocked in the Mississippi River basin. They have become naturalized in many rivers and streams and are rapidly expanding their range and populations while producing adverse impacts to many native aquatic species and their habitats through competition and displacement. The fourth species, black carp, are believed to be currently confined to culture facilities, but pose a major threat to

already endangered freshwater molluscs should they escape.

Current status of target species was reviewed and facilitated breakout sessions identified economic and environmental impacts and benefits of each species. Additional sessions identified alternatives for reducing impacts and optimizing benefits through Preventing Spread, Detection and Monitoring and Controlling Populations.

Workshop proceedings are expected to be published and distributed by August and will serve as the basis for development of a Mississippi River Basin Management and Control Plan. *Jim Milligan, Columbia FRO*

Patoka River Refuge Restores Hardwood Forest, 66,500 Seedlings Planted

More than 66,500 seedlings from 11 species, including six species of oak, persimmons, hickory, ash, pecans and bald cypress were planted this spring in cooperation with contributing partners on newly acquired lands within the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Cane Ridge Wildlife Management Area.

Trees and planting were donated to cover 85 percent of the cost from private sources other than the U.S. Fish

and Wildlife Service. Heavy rains in June have resulted in excellent growth of these seedlings. Contributing partners include: Ducks Unlimited, Inc., Cinergy Corp., Southwest Indiana Four Rivers Project Committee - NAWMP, USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service and Multi-Resource Management, Inc. *William McCoy, Jr., R3-Patoka River NWR*

Winona District Adds 120 Acres to Refuge Wabasha County, Minnesota

The Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge recently gained an additional 120 acres following donation by an Iowa construction company that owned the land. The 120-acre "Barton tract" was donated by Mr. Lawrence Matteson of L.W. Matteson Incorporated, Burlington, Iowa.

The tract officially became a part of the Refuge in May when title was transferred to the Service. The tract adjoins other Refuge land and is located within the Zumbro River floodplain.

Matteson donated the tract as a condition for using a 29-acre tract of Refuge land near Wabasha, Minn. to empty sand from the Grand Encampment dredge spoil site on the Mississippi River's Pool 4.

The Wabasha site was contoured to predetermined elevations topped with black dirt and seeded with native warm season grasses. Matteson obtained the black dirt from another Refuge tract creating several wetland scrapes. *Bob Drieslein, R3-UMRNW&FR-Winona District*

Michigan Private Lands Office Assists Farm Service Agency Implement Debt For Nature Program

Michigan Private Lands Office assisted the Farm Service Agency (FSA) implement the Debt For Nature Program authorized by the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act.

The program allows current and delinquent FSA borrowers with loans secured by real estate to enroll in a 50, 30, or 10 year land retirement contract in return for debt cancellation. Service staff has evaluated 12 properties, proposed 682 acres for protection, recom-

mended land treatment practices, delineated contract boundaries utilizing Global Positioning and Geographic Information Systems (GPS, GIS), and developed contract descriptions.

Debt For Nature Program has the potential to provide benefits for migratory birds, endangered species, resident species, and their habitats, as well as reducing the financial burden to FSA borrowers.

Jeanette Bowles, R3-Michigan PLO

Carterville's Funding Proposal Promotes Ohio River Paddlefish Research

A Carterville Fishery Resources Office (FRO) proposal that will help close a critical data gap in a national paddlefish research database has been adopted by the Ohio River Valley Ecosystem Team and funded through the ORVE cost sharing program. The action will result in the purchase of needed coded-wire tagging equipment for field biologists doing paddlefish assessments in the Mississippi River basin.

The Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association (MICRA), an organization of 28 state natural resource agencies, initiated a Mississippi River Basin paddlefish stock assessment project in 1995. The lower-most 135 miles of the Ohio River have been identified as a critical data gap in that assessment. Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists have expressed a desire to assist with closing this data gap, however MICRA was unable to secure funds to purchase an additional set of coded-wire tagging equipment for the biologists.

Through cost sharing via the Ohio River Valley Ecosystem Team, MICRA has acquired the needed set of tagging equipment, and will soon start collecting the data needed to close the data gap in the lower Ohio River. Partners in the effort include: Ohio River Valley Ecosystem Team, Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association (MICRA) and Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife. *Greg Conover, R3-Carterville FRO*

New Bison Herd Highlights Big Stone NWR Prairie Day

Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge conducted its second annual Prairie Day on June 17, and the response was overwhelming. An estimated 800 people attended the event, held at the Refuge headquarters. In addition to Prairie Day, attendees helped Big Stone staff celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of 11,500 acre Refuge.

The huge turnout is incredible considering the small communities found out in rural western Minnesota, and illustrates the value of Big Stone NWR to area residents. Last year's Prairie Day attracted about 200 people.

Activities this year included wagon rides through the prairie, speakers reminiscing about the past 25 years of the Refuge, a bison BBQ, prairie wildflower tours, miniature train rides for kids, and informational displays from native plant and seed growers, conservation groups and local wildlife artists.

The amount of public participation encouraged Big Stone County officials to pay for the costs of food and other items associated with Prairie Day. Refuge staff now look forward to working with the county on future activities such as the Big Stone Bird Festival, Shorebird Festival, and Ref-

uge Week celebration.

A new bison herd, recently released on reconstructed native grasslands along the Refuge Auto Tour Route, was a popular attraction. The animals, owned by a private bison rancher, are part of the Refuge's native prairie interpretive program. Since the release of the bison on the Refuge, visitation along the tour route has been averaging 125 cars daily, up from about 10-20 per day. The increased visitation allows for a greater awareness of the importance of native prairies, prairie wetlands, and the ecological processes required to protect and maintain this fragile and rare ecosystem.

The bison are grazing via a Special Use Permit from June-September



-USFWS photo by Dan Sobieck

Food and Fun. (Left) Big Stone staffer Dan Dearborn prepares popular bison burgers for visitors. (Right) Some Prairie Day visitors toured the Refuge on a horse drawn cart.

each year. They will be returned to the private ranch in the fall, and return each summer to the prairies where their ancestors roamed free, once upon a time. Partners in the effort include: Big Stone Chamber of Commerce, Big Stone County, North American Bison Association, The Nature Conservancy, Prairie Chicken Society, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. *Ron Cole, R3-Big Stone NWR*



-USFWS photo by Dan Sobieck



-USFWS photo by Dan Sobieck

Refuge Attraction. A bison herd, on loan from a private donor, roams the prairie at Big Stone NWR.

Accomplishment Reports Received

The following Accomplishment Reports were processed by the ARS July 17. Reports received after that date will be listed in the next issue of Inside Region 3.

1. **Challenge Cost Share Project: Vegetation Restoration Project on Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge**
Chad Stinson, R3-Carterville FRO
2. **Refuge Partners With Community College for Exploring Wildlife on the Mississippi River Workshop**
Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ
3. **Removal of LaValle Dam Benefits Baraboo River Fishery**
James Ruwaldt, R3-Wisconsin Private Lands Office
4. **Federal Aid Staff Helps Educate Product Specialists at Cabela's**
Julie Morin, R3-Federal Aid
5. **Ecosystem Conservation Society (ECS) of Japan Tours Mississippi River Refuges**
Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ
6. **Children's Fishing Contest a Hit at Seney NWR**
Marianne Kronk, R3-Seney NWR
7. **New Refuge for Indiana: Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge Dedicated**
Joseph Robb, R3-Muscatatuck NWR
8. **Minnesota Lawmakers, Conservation Agencies, Tour Nature-Friendly Farm**
Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ
9. **LaCrosse District's Rodent Mystery Uncovered**
Lara Hill, R3-UMRNW&FR-LaCrosse
10. **Oak Savanna Environmental Education Curriculum Guide Completed**
Nancy Haugen, R3-Sherburne NWR
11. **Carterville FRO and Ohio River Valley Ecosystem Team Facilitate Ohio River Paddlefish Research**
Greg Conover, R3-Carterville FRO
12. **Service Cooperates in Canadian Study of Loggerhead Shrike Genetics**
Lori Pruitt, R3-Bloomington FO
13. **Watershed Biologist Represents North America at International Meeting In Switzerland**
Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ
14. **Brennan Construction Begins Work on Phase 2 Polander Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Project**
Bob Drieslein, R3-UMRNW&FR-Winona District.
15. **Wheelchair Accessible Docks Installed On Two District Landings**
Bob Drieslein, R3-UMRNW&FR-Winona District
16. **Service Biologist Discovers Possible Hazardous Site**
Lisa Williams, R3-East Lansing FO
17. **Winona District Gains 120 Acre Former Barton Tract in Wabasha County, Minnesota**
Bob Drieslein, R3-UMRNW&FR-Winona District
18. **Refuge Biologists Survey Heron Rookery on Mississippi River**
Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ
19. **Inside Washington Publication Talks NRDA With East Lansing Field Office**
Lisa Williams, R3-East Lansing FO
20. **Recreation Group Examines Beach Use on Mississippi River**
Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ
21. **New Bison Herd Highlight Big Stone NWR Prairie Day**
Ron Cole, R3-Big Stone NWR
22. **Two fishing platforms built and placed at Horicon NWR**
Molly Stoddard, R3-Horicon NWR
23. **Teacher Workshop on Oak Savanna Held at Sherburne NWR**
Nancy Haugen, R3-Sherburne NWR
24. **Rare Species Habitat Receives Funding Boost in Wisconsin**
James Ruwaldt, R3-Wisconsin Private Lands Office
25. **Leafy Spurge Attack Continues at Trempealeau NWR**
Lisa McCurdy, R3-Trempealeau NWR
26. **Boyer Chute Outreach/Optimists Club**
Cindy Myer, R3-Desoto NWR
27. **A Refuge Paddling Adventure**
Ed moyer, R3-Minnesota Valley NWR
28. **Summer Discovery Camp for Kids Held at Green Point ELC**
Becky Goche, R3-Shiawassee NWR
29. **NRDA Settlement Reached for American Chemical Services Superfund Site**
Daniel Sparks, R3-Bloomington FO
30. **Audubon Society Tours Driftless Area NWR**
Cathy Henry, R3-UMRNW&FR-McGregor District
31. **Flea Beetles Released on Driftless Area NWR**
Cathy Henry, R3-UMRNW&FR-McGregor District.
32. **Kentuck Lake - Walleye Restoration Project**
Frank Stone, R3-Ashland FRO
33. **Lewis and Clark Visitation**
Cindy Myer, R3-Desoto NWR
34. **Michigan Private Lands Office Assists Farm Service Agency Implement Debt For Nature Program**
Jeanette Bowles, R3-Michigan PLO
35. **Illinois Lt. Govenor Visits the Cache River Wetlands**
Elizabeth Jones, R3-Cypress Creek NWR
36. **Ninth Annual Family Fishing Fair Co-Sponsored By Mark Twain NWR - Brussels District**
Russell Engelke, R3-Mark Twain NWR-Brussels District

37. Endangered Karner Blue Butterfly Responds to Restored Habitat

James Ruwaldt, R3-Wisconsin Private Lands Office

38. 1st Annual National Fishing Day at Cypress Creek NWR

Elizabeth Jones, R3-Cypress Creek NWR

39. Patoka River Refuge Restores Hardwood Forest

William McCoy, Jr., R3-Patoka River NWR

40. Fiscal Year 2000 Minnesota Realty Review

Julie Morin, R3-Federal Aid

41. Motion to Enter Fort Wayne Reduction Dump Natural Resource Damage Settlement Consent Decree Filed

Daniel Sparks, R3-Bloomington FO

42. Picnic Recognizes Volunteer Contributions at Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge

Lisa McCurdy, R3-Trempealeau NWR

43. Refuge Visitors Tour Cache River by Canoe

Elizabeth Jones, R3-Cypress Creek NWR

44. Workshop Focuses on Native Fish Restoration in Lake Superior

Tom Busiahn, R3-Ashland FRO

45. Inner City Youth Celebrate National Fishing Week at Minnesota Valley NWR

John Leonard, R3-External Affairs

46. Upper Mississippi Refuge Hosts National Fishing Day Celebration

Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ

47. Muscatatuck NWR Hosts 300 For National Fishing Week Events

Donna Stanley, R3-Muscatatuck NWR

48. Non-game Bird Nesting at Squaw Creek NWR

Ron Bell, R3-Squaw Creek NWR

Editor's Note: Because of the large amount of Accomplishment Reports detailing National Fishing Week activities, and the great photos that accompanied them, the reports will be highlighted in the next issue of Inside Region 3.

Inside Region 3



Inside Region 3 is produced by the External Affairs Office, Region 3, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ft. Snelling, Minnesota. Items herein are selected from reports submitted from the field via the Accomplishment Reporting System. Photos in support of submissions are used by permission. Questions concerning *Inside Region 3*, or the Accomplishment Reporting System should be addressed to Scott Flaherty, 612-713-5309 or via email at: scott_flaherty@fws.gov

Equal opportunity to participate in, and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental disability. For information please contact the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office for Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street N.W., Washington, DC 20240. Federal Relay Number: 1-800-877-8339 TDD/TTY Available in alternative formats upon request.