

IR3

Inside Region 3

July 20, 2005

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Inside This Issue:

Earth Day Events

A Messy Study

Walrus and Wood Ducks

Lake Erie Watersnake Populations Meet Recovery Goals



- USFWS photo

Reynoldsburg FO Biologist
Angela Zimmerman holds a
female Lake Erie watersnake

According to the most recent Lake Erie watersnake population assessment, this endangered species has likely exceeded its recovery goal of 5,555 snakes. The population assessment, conducted in 2004, estimates the snake's population based on survey areas to be 6,500. When uncensused areas with suitable habitat were factored in, population estimates jumped to nearly 7,700. In addition to meeting the overall population goal, the snakes are also meeting island-specific population goals established for each of the four largest U.S. Lake Erie islands.

Other actions identified in the recovery plan are also progressing. Education and outreach efforts, intended to curb human harassment and killing of snakes, continue with the publication of LEWS News Volume 11, the distribution of "Watersnakes Welcome Here" signs, and the continued funding of Ph.D. student Kristin Stanford, "the island snake lady."

In addition, protection of the snake's habitat is continuing with the first official LEWS conservation easement purchased by the Lake Erie Islands Chapter of the Black Swamp Conservancy, and the completion of watersnake management plans for all Ohio Department of Natural Resources island properties.

Based on recovery progress to date, full recovery of the Lake Erie watersnake could be achieved by 2010. The 2005 population census, being conducted this summer, will further monitor the progress of the snake towards recovery. *Megan Seymour, Reynoldsburg ES*

East Lansing Field Office Wins National Award

The East Lansing Field Office was awarded a U.S. Department of Agriculture Certificate of Appreciation for "contributions to the Kirtland's Warbler Research and Training Program." Signed by Dale N. Bosworth, Chief, USDA Forest Service, the certificate originates via the Forest Service's "Wings Across the Americas" program.

The award recognizes Service participation with a unique cooperative effort between the USDA Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy, the Bahamas National Trust, and many others to gain additional insight on Kirtland's warbler habitat use on wintering grounds and to build local capacity in the Bahamas to manage for wintering needs.

As one of four award recipients nationally, the Kirtland's warbler project continues a unique and long-standing partnership between the parties on Kirtland's warbler

- see National Award page 5

About the Cover



- USFWS photo by Kurt Waterstradt

Reynoldsburg Ecological Services Field Office Biologist Karyn Tremper holds survey equipment as part of a joint ES-Private Lands Office evaluation of the potential Fields Brook NRDA restoration site.

The Reynoldsburg Field Office enlisted the help of Ohio Partners for Fish and Wildlife Biologist Kurt Waterstradt to conduct a joint on-site evaluation of a potential 45-acre wetland and forest upland restoration site for the Fields Brook NRDA.

While nesting Canada geese hissed and bufflehead circled above, biologists walked the site while envisioning how the area might look after restoration.

For many years, portions of the site have been diked, drained,

mowed, and slated for possible development. Currently, the local township park commission has proposed to acquire and restore the site using NRDA funds.

The site will potentially be reconnected to the Ashtabula River, providing fish spawning habitat, as well as flood storage.

There are still hurdles to jump in order to make the project a reality, but this one simple site visit with a knowledgeable partner has helped to buoy the potential for the long term success of restoring and preserving this important wetland habitat in the lower Ashtabula watershed.

Karyn Tremper, Reynoldsburg ES

Messy Study Will Help Determine Extent of Cormorant Predation on Fish

When the Grand Portage Tribal Natural Resources Department began to get concerned about the ecological impact of a growing cormorant colony in Lake Superior's Pigeon Bay, the Ashland Fishery Resources Office and the Iron River National Fish Hatchery offered their assistance to design and implement a double-crested cormorant study at the location. Tribal concerns focus on the impact of cormorants on the vegetation of the tribally owned Susie Islands, located adjacent to the cormorant colony. Studies have shown that the Susie Islands support unique and fragile sub-arctic plant communities. The tribe is also concerned with possible impacts on the native walleye, northern pike, perch, lake sturgeon and coaster brook trout populations of the Pigeon River.

The cormorant colony at Grand Portage has developed in the past 12 to 15 years and has virtually eliminated vegetation on the small

islands -- called the Boundary Islands -- where they nest. The Boundary Islands are actually in Canadian waters, so Lee Newman from the Ashland FRO contacted the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and they agreed to jointly explore the situation with the Tribe.

Service staff teamed with Grand Portage Tribal Biologist Ben Whiting to develop an innovative plan to gather information on the impact of the cormorants on native fish stocks. As part of the study, Iron River NFH personnel tagged 10,000 five-inch coaster brook trout at the Red Cliff Tribal Hatchery with coded wire tags. The tagged fish will be stocked at the mouth of the Pigeon River, about one-half mile from the cormorant nesting colony. Over the course of this summer, Tribal personnel will scan cormorant droppings on the nesting colony islands for the presence of the tags. The information gathered from this study will be used to determine the impact of predation on this lot of fish. Results of the study may help to determine future methods to help manage the cormorants and the effect they have on Tribal resources. *Lee Newman, Ashland FRO*



- USFWS photo

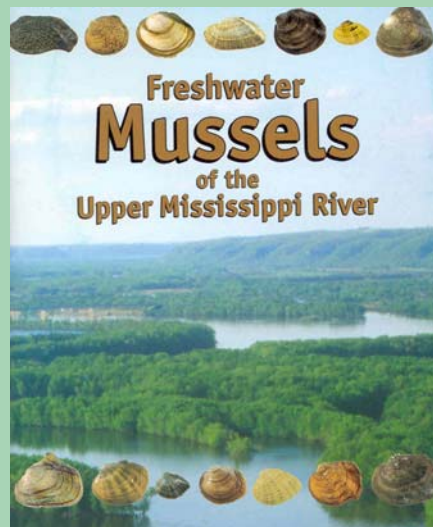
This cormorant nesting colony on the Boundary Islands, off the northeast shore of Minnesota in Lake Superior, is the site of the new study. Staff from the Grand Portage Tribal Natural Resources Department have the messy job of using hand held scanners to find coded wire tags in the cormorant droppings.



- USFWS photo

Iron River NFH Biologist Steve Redman uses a coded wire tag machine to implant tags into coaster brook trout used for the study.

Mussel Booklets Available



The booklet "Freshwater Mussels of the Upper Mississippi River" was recently reprinted by the Wisconsin DNR and partners including the Iowa DNR, University of Minnesota, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and others. The reprinted booklet includes new photos and information on natural history.

For information on how to obtain a copy contact Gary Wege or Susan Oetker at the Twin Cities ES Field Office.

People

Volunteer Events and Earth Day Celebrations Across the Region

Although the officially designated Earth Day for 2005 was April 22, field offices across the region used the idea of Earth Day to celebrate and improve wildlife habitat, educate the public and highlight the mission of the Service throughout the months of March, April and May.



(left) On April 16, staff and volunteers at Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge held a special event to commemorate Earth Day 2005. To help get people involved, refuge stewardship coordinator Al Murray recruited participants from a wide variety of groups. In all, approximately 500 volunteers participated, up from 180 people last year.

- USFWS photo by Scott Ford



(left) On April 27, 13 Cub Scouts and 35 sixth grade students helped Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge staff plant 350 trees at the Cass River Unit of the refuge in Bridgeport Township, Mich. The event had been originally scheduled for April 23, to celebrate Earth Day, but a spring snow storm postponed the event.

- USFWS photo by Becky Goche



(left) DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge kicked off its monthly Volunteer Workday on March 26. Volunteers, Friends Group members, and staff helped get the refuge clean ready for another great season. Eighteen bags of litter weighing approximately 500 lbs. were collected.

- USFWS photo by Chris Murcia

Hail & Farewell

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

Each month, we will do our best to publish a list of new employees, as well as those who have retired. Names are provided by the Regional Human Resources Office.

This month, we welcome the following new permanent employees: **Daniel J. Riger**, Minnesota Valley NWR; **Ronald L. Gunderson**, Fergus Falls WMD; **Jessica A. Larson**, Ottawa NWR; and **Terry L. Storey**, Detroit Lakes WMD.

We also bid farewell and say thank you to the following retirees: **Sandra M. Jackson**, Ecological Services - Regional Office; **Barbara J. Menough**, Human Resources, Regional Office; **Clionia (Clydee) Gillett**, Finance, Regional Office; **Gerald B. Dunbar**, Marquette Biological Stations; **Sharon J. Gilliam**, Desoto NWR; **Kenneth L. McConahay**, Ottawa NWR; and **Elizabeth D. Lhuillier**, Marquette Biological Station.



(above) On April 21, Anjie Bowen from the Alpena Fishery Resources Office and Bob Kavetsky (pictured) from the East Lansing Field Office represented the Service at Michigan's Earth Day event at downtown Lansing's Constitution Hall. More than 500 school children and their parents visited the Service display and learned about "Invaders of the Great Lakes."

- USFWS photo by Anjie Bowen

More People

Refuge Volunteer Celebrates 22 Years



- USFWS photo by Becky Goche

Robert "Bob" Grefe (pictured here demonstrating bird banding techniques for an interested child) became an official volunteer at the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge in 1983. But even before 1983, he had been helping refuge staff band birds. Grefe was recognized at a Volunteer and Friends dinner on April 27 and awarded his 4,000 hour volunteer pin.

Grefe has been instrumental in conducting refuge bird surveys and has personally seen 255 of the refuge's nearly 270 recorded species.

Grefe has been instrumental in recruiting and mentoring other birders for the refuge and has shared his love of birds through the years with children and adults alike with banding demonstrations and guided bird tours.

He currently serves on the Friends of Shiawassee NWR Board of Directors. *Becky Goche, Shiawassee NWR*

Ashland Fishery Office Hosts First Annual Northland College Student Volunteer Picnic

In appreciation of the all the hard work the Northland College student volunteers have done during the past school year, the staff at Ashland Fishery Resources Office treated this group to a Friday afternoon barbecue at a local park.

This group of dedicated students (pictured below) has accumulated more than 400 hours of volunteer service at the Ashland Fishery Office.

Tasks they completed ranged from entering data into the fisheries database, repairing gill nets and trawls, helping to staff lake sturgeon registration stations on Lake Winnebago, and various samplings including brook trout fry and invasive species surveys throughout the Lake Superior basin.

A majority of the students are also members of the newly formed Northland College Student Sub-unit of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. This past year was the inaugural for the Subunit and the Ashland FRO has been helping to mentor the students.

Unfortunately the summer has taken most of the students off on other work activities but the Ashland FRO is looking forward to having this great opportunity and the students' enthusiasm return this fall.

Glenn Miller, Ashland FRO



- USFWS photo by Glenn Miller

National Award -- from page 2

management. With known breeding grounds only in Michigan, species survivability depends on a cooperative effort that focuses on habitat management, cowbird control, and now, efforts in the Bahamas to understand and better manage for wintering habitat needs.

Mike DeCapita and Chris Mensing of the East Lansing Field Office have lead roles with field work, recovery team activities, and participation with collaborative initiatives. Herb Raffaele and staff of the Division of International Conservation have also provided assistance and funding to make the project possible. *Craig Czarnecki, East Lansing Field Office*

Steady in the Storm: Refuge Manager Stays Calm in the Face of Public Pressure

A man approached the microphone at the American Legion Hall, obviously agitated.

"You say you're here to listen," he said to Don Hultman and his U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service colleagues at a public meeting last month, "but I don't see any of you taking notes. This is all for nothing, huh?"

Hultman allowed the man to finish, then pointed at the video camera he uses to record every meeting.

"Smile, sir, you're on camera," he said, and the overflow crowd erupted in laughter. It marked a rare moment of levity in a long, intense spring.

Hultman, 52, manager of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, has hosted public meetings and public workshops along the river, from Wabasha, Minn., to Savanna, Ill.

More than 2,000 people have attended, all concerned about the sweeping changes proposed by the Fish and Wildlife Service to the 240,000-acre refuge.

While Hultman has worked in various roles for the Fish and Wildlife Service for a quarter-century and is no stranger to controversy, he admitted that his current tour represents the most sustained public role yet.

"In sheer size, scope and volume," he said, "this is the most unique experience I've been through."

The quiet, thoughtful Hultman has earned the respect of an anxious public, even among many who don't support the proposed changes, according to meeting attendees.

Gerold Becker, 48, an avid duck hunter and habitat committee chairman of the Chaseburg Rod and Gun Club, spoke out against proposed new hunting fees and questioned what he described as lax enforcement. While he strongly objects to

aspects of the proposed plan, he appreciates the public forums.

"I give those guys a lot of credit for coming out into the community and letting us express our opinions," he said. "I feel like Don and the staff sincerely want to hear our take on these issues."

Balancing act

When Hultman became refuge manager in October 2002, he knew what he was getting into, he said. The plan was already being discussed, and he was aware it would stir up heated emotions.

"This river is such a big part of people's lives and their personal expression of how they live," he said. "When we tinker with how people use it, it's a big thing around here."

That strong personal connection, combined with what Hultman described as "inherent mistrust of government," helps to explain the strong public involvement, he said. And he'd have it no other way.

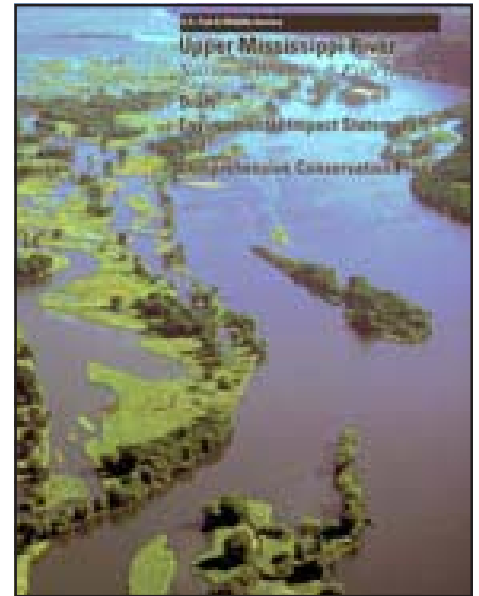
"If we're going to propose things we know are controversial," he said, "we should be willing to stand up there and let people confront us."

Jim Stutzman, a longtime friend who now works with the Fish and Wildlife Service in Montana, said Hultman is uniquely qualified for the task.

"His great skill is communicating," he said, "whether in a public meeting with 400 people or one-on-one over coffee."

Stutzman speculated that it was Hultman's communication skills that earned him his current job. Hultman had a hand in opening three other refuges during his career, and gained a reputation as a consensus-builder between competing interest groups.

The Upper Mississippi refuge, with 3.7 million annual users, more than any other wildlife refuge, pre-



As part of the comprehensive conservation planning process for the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Comprehensive Conservation Plan (EIS/CCP) has been released for public review and comment. The comment period ends August 31, 2005.

Based upon comments received to date, the refuge decided to develop a new preferred alternative. However, refuge staff will not begin to develop the new alternative until they consider all the comments submitted during the current comment period.

sents unique challenges even for a seasoned pro such as Hultman. He's charged with protecting the area's unique wildlife population while at the same time keeping the area open to recreational users, who crowd the refuge more each year.

Hultman said he doesn't regret taking the job at such a contentious time, and has no plans to leave once it's complete, which will probably occur next January.

"I enjoy the challenge," he said before reconsidering. "I mean, most days I enjoy the challenge."

Article By Dan Simmons, La Crosse (Wis.) Tribune. Reprinted with permission.

Around the Region



- Photo courtesy Minnesota DNR

Retired Minnesota DNR Area Manager Jim Breyen (left) is presented the Silver Eagle Award by Agassiz NWR Biologist Gary Huschle (right). Breyen received the award for his more than 20 years of partnership with the staff at Agassiz NWR.



- USFWS photo by Crystal LeGault Anderson

Pendills Creek NFH Administrative Technician Debbie Jones staffs an informational booth at the Sault Saint Marie Annual Spring Show. Jones, along with others from Pendills Creek and Sullivan Creek NFHs, used the event to help educate the local community about fisheries issues.



- USFWS Photo by Jody Millar

During the month of April, Twin Cities Field Office Biologist Nick Rowse (left), along with others from the Twin Cities and Rock Island Offices, flew with Regional Pilot Brian Lubinski to assess bald eagle nesting success in southern Minnesota. The study is conducted in coordination with the Minnesota DNR.



- USFWS photo by Corey Puzach

LaCrosse Fish Health Center Biologist John Whitney collects samples from northern pike retrieved from Pool 9 of the Mississippi River as part of a wild fish health assessment.



- USFWS photo by Nate Caswell

Crab Orchard NWR Manager Dan Frisk holds two nice largemouth bass captured during the annual electrofishing survey of Little Grassy Lake.

From Walruses to Wood Ducks

Muscatatuck NWR's New Manager Makes a Big Transition

As the new manager at Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge, I'm getting pretty good at answering the same question over and over again: "What made you decide to move to southern Indiana?" To understand why I hear that so often, keep in mind that my last assignment was to develop new remote sensing techniques for determining walrus populations along Alaska's coastline. Going from studying walruses in the Bering Sea to managing migratory bird habitat in southern Indiana didn't seem like that big of a change to me; change is something I'm used to. My career has led me to some unique and beautiful places. Southern Indiana is another stop in my quest to experience all that America has to offer.

I was born and raised in San Francisco and earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in biology from San Francisco State University. After graduating, I spent several years conducting marine research — from the Antarctic to the Hawaiian Islands. My first job with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was in 1992 as the manager of Tern Island National Wildlife Refuge, one of the Hawaiian Islands. The small — 30 acre — remote island only had a full-time staff of two, but a continual parade of researchers kept us busy. I think that is something you really need to experience in order to fully understand it. When you are isolated like that, there are no distractions from your work. You can really concentrate on the wildlife. It is a professional and personal experience like no other.

After one year on Tern Island, I moved to the main refuge office on Honolulu to manage several ref-

uges located in the central Pacific including the north-western Hawaiian islands. I was at the Hawaiian Islands NWR complex until 1997 when I accepted the position of deputy project leader at San Francisco Bay NWR.

I stayed in San Francisco until 2000, when I took a position in Alaska with the Service's Marine Mammals Management Branch. The job was to develop a better way to determine walrus populations through the use of remote sensing technology. The work was, at times, pretty intense. I spent a lot of time in small airplanes over vast expanses of ice. It started to make me think that maybe I should consider spending more time on the ground, closer to my family. I finished up my work with walruses prior to reporting to Muscatatuck NWR in late April.

I just returned to Muscatatuck after going back to Anchorage to pick up my wife Nina and our daughter Elise, who stayed in Anchorage so Elise could complete the school year. By driving the nearly 4,000 miles from Anchorage to Muscatatuck, we had a great opportunity to spend a couple weeks together as a family. Although it was one long drive, the chance to spend that much time together and the memories we will always have were certainly worth the effort. An added bonus was that by driving, we had a chance to see the gradual transition of the landscape. I think that helps make



- Photo courtesy Marc Webber

Marc Webber stands on sea ice far off the coast of Alaska during a 2003 walrus research trip aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Healy.

such a drastic change in our surroundings a little easier to handle.

As with many Service families, my family activities focus on the outdoors. We enjoy birding, wildlife photography and fishing. We are all looking forward to experiencing the change of scenery a move away from the Pacific coast to the middle of America will bring. I'm really grateful for the opportunity to get back to managing a refuge to ensure it can realize its full potential for fish and wildlife, as well as for the people who enjoy them.

So, the answer to the often-asked question: It's a big change from walruses, but my family and I really want to experience all this country has to offer. Working and living in southern Indiana will help us to gain a greater understanding and respect for the heartland of America.

Accomplishment Reports

The following accomplishments reports were processed between Mar. 15 and June 1, 2005:

1. Wildflower Folklore - this Month's Topic at Shiawassee NWR's First Wednesday Series, *Becky Goche, Shiawassee NWR*
2. Green Bay Fishery Resources Office Updates Great Lakes Fish Stocking Database, *Dale Hanson, Green Bay FRO*
3. New Managers Selected for Refuge Stations on the Upper Mississippi River, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
4. Morris WMD Wraps up Successful Spring Prescribed Fire Season, *Debbie Beck, Morris WMD*
5. City of Alpena River Walk Guard Rail Problem Solved, *Timothy Smigielski, Jordan River NFH*
6. Green Bay Fishery Resources Office Involved in Lake Trout and Burbot Surveys in Lake Michigan, *Dale Hanson, Green Bay FRO*
7. B&F Serving NWRs, *William Andersen, ABA (Budget & Finance)*
8. Private Lands on Fire, *Michael Engel, Wisconsin Private Lands Ofc*
9. A World of Wonder Starts at Whittlesey Creek Refuge, *Katherine Goodwin, Whittlesey Creek NWR*
10. Necedah NWR Visitors Go Behind-the-Scenes, *Bill Peterson, Necedah NWR*
11. Charge Card Delinquencies, *William Andersen, ABA (Budget & Finance)*
12. Tuesdays with DCR - Veterans Administration Presentation, *Peggy Nelson, ABA (DCR)*
13. Students Learn Importance of Biodiversity, *Katherine Mullett, Marquette Bio Station*
14. Windom WMD and Minnesota DNR Partner to Burn Remnant Native Prairie Sites, *Eric Earhart, Windom WMD*
15. Necedah Refuge Small Lot Sale a Big Success, *Bill Peterson, Necedah NWR*
16. Saginaw Watershed Lake Sturgeon Project, *Scott Koproski, Alpena FRO*
17. Ashland FRO participates in Migratory Bird Day at Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge, *Glenn Miller, Ashland FRO*
18. Big Muddy Refuge Improves Fisheries through Partnerships, *Tim Haller, Big Muddy NWR*
19. Smiles Indicate Genoa Fishing Day a Big Hit!, *Darla Wenger, Genoa NFH*
20. Upper Mississippi River Friends Group Sponsors Kids Fishing Day, *Doug Aloisi, Genoa NFH*
21. Sunshine and lots of Fish makes Kids Fishing Derby a Total Success, *Richard Nelson, LaCrosse Fish Health Center*
22. Interagency Wetland Delineation Training in Illinois, *Wayne Fischer, Illinois Private Lands Ofc*
23. The Results Are In, Lake Erie Watersnakes Are On the Increase!, *Megan Seymour, Reynoldsburg FO*
24. Spring Electrofishing of Missouri River Side Channels, *Louise Mauldin, Columbia FRO*
25. Help Arrives for Private Landowner After Catastrophic Wildfire, *Michael Engel, Wisconsin Private Lands Ofc*
26. Service Presents Results of Lake Trout Tagging Studies, *Aaron Woldt, Alpena FRO*
27. Unusually Large Lake Sturgeon Captured on Missouri River, *Cliff Wilson, Columbia FRO*
28. FBMS Forum, *William Andersen, ABA (Budget & Finance)*
29. Seining with Lincoln Elementary, *Susan Wells, Alpena FRO*
30. Stork Arrives at Pendills Creek Hatchery, *Tracy Roessner, Pendills Creek NFH*
31. Service Biologists Present at IAGLR 2005, *Timothy Smigielski, Jordan River NFH*
32. You Want Fry With Those?, *Nik Grueneis, Iron River NFH*
33. Kids, Kids and More Kids, *Clarice Beckner, Jordan River NFH*
34. Necedah Refuge Staff Visit Fort McCoy, *Bill Peterson, Necedah NWR*
35. Apple River Island Level I Survey Completed, *Judy Edwards, Twin Cities FO*
36. Missouri River Natural Resources Conference, *Jennifer Johnson, Columbia FRO*
37. New Water Control Structure at Blakesley WPA in Grant County Minnesota, *Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC*
38. Teamwork Key to Lake Sturgeon Restoration Project, *Scott Yess, LaCrosse FRO*
39. Lake Superior Survey Finds No Ruffe East of the Keweenaw, *Gary Czypinski, Ashland FRO*
40. Experience is Working at Iron River Hatchery, *Laurie Gucinski, Iron River NFH*
41. Leading, Lifetime, Learning Program Comes to Jordan River National Fish Hatchery, *Clarice Beckner, Jordan River NFH*
42. Experience is Working, *Laurie Gucinski, Iron River NFH*
43. A Big Ternout, *William McCoy, Jr., Patoka River NWR*
44. Lake Sturgeon Eggs Transported from Canada to the Genoa NFH, *Richard Nelson, LaCrosse Fish Health Center*
45. Coasters For Cormorants, *Steve Redman, Iron River NFH*
46. Brook Trout Retirement Party, *Steve Redman, Iron River NFH*
47. Birding at the Mouth of Whittlesey Creek, *Katherine Goodwin, Whittlesey Creek NWR*
48. Service Consults with USDA to Ensure Smooth Sailing for the Minnesota CREP, *Phil Delphey, Twin Cities FO*
49. Michigan Islands National Wildlife Refuge Fishery Survey, *Scott Koproski, Alpena FRO*
50. Alpena Fishery Office Assists with Coast Guard Training Exercises, *Scott Koproski, Alpena FRO*
51. ECO Intern Zoua Pha Arrives at Agassiz Refuge, *Margaret Anderson, Agassiz NWR*
52. Fish and Wildlife Research Exposition, *Jennifer Johnson, Columbia FRO*
53. Partners for Fish and Wildlife Presents to Life-Long Learners, *Heather Enterline, Alpena FRO*
54. Genoa National Fish Hatchery Staff Leads Field Trip for National Mussel Symposium, *Tony Brady, Genoa NFH*
55. Fish CPR and Equipment Demo, *Jonathan Pyatskowitz, Ashland FRO*
56. Watershed Monitoring Project Concludes for Horicon Refuge, *Molly Stoddard, Horicon NWR*
57. Regional Evaluation of the 2005 TWG and TLIP Grants, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*
58. Concord Academy Antrim Tours the Jordan River National Fish Hatchery, *Clarice Beckner, Jordan River NFH*
59. Biological Science Technician Completes Boat Safety Training, *Jennifer Johnson, Columbia FRO*
60. American Legion and USFWS Sponsor 13th Annual Fishing Tournament at Tomah VA Medical Center, *Heidi Keuler, LaCrosse FRO*
61. Fisheries Staff Assists With VA Hospital Fishing Tournament, *Corey Puzach, LaCrosse Fish Health Center*
62. 50 Largemouth Bass Transferred To Lighthouse Pond, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*
63. First Settlement for Part of the Natural Resource Damages on Kalamazoo River, *Lisa Williams, East Lansing FO*
64. Audio Conference on Reasonable Accommodation, *Peggy Nelson, ABA (DCR)*
65. Hatchery vs. Predator, *Tracy Roessner, Pendills Creek NFH*
66. Swim Free - Pendills Creek Completes Lake Trout Stocking for 2005, *Tracy Roessner, Pendills Creek NFH*
67. Project Completed; Spring Sampling on the Missouri River at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, *Andrew Starostka, Columbia FRO*
68. La Crosse FRO Shows Winona Middle School, "What's Inside a Rainbow", *Heidi Keuler, LaCrosse FRO*
69. Two Volunteers Are Back for More, *Tracy Roessner, Pendills Creek NFH*
70. Columbia Fishery Office Welcomes New Biologist, *Nicholas Utrup, Columbia FRO*
71. Appreciation Dinner for Commercial Fisher Partners, *Adam Kowalski, Alpena FRO*
72. Genoa Hatchery Assists Midwestern Tribes With Fisheries Management Programs, *Doug Aloisi, Genoa NFH*
73. Adding New Genes to the Pool, *Tracy Roessner, Pendills Creek NFH*
74. Region 3 Wild Fish Isolation Facility Clears Fish For Captive Broodstock Program, *Doug Aloisi, Genoa NFH*
75. Rice Lake Refuge Diversity Outreach, *Mary Stefanski, Rice Lake NWR*
76. Prairie Wetlands Learning Center Celebrates IMBD 2005, *Kenneth Garrahan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC*
77. International Migratory Bird Day Celebrated at Squaw Creek Refuge, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
78. SCEPT Karen Arnold Completes M.S. Degree on Least Bitterns at Agassiz and Mingo Refuges, *Margaret Anderson, Agassiz NWR*
79. International Migratory Bird Day Successful at Sherburne NWR, *Nancy Haugen, Sherburne NWR*
80. Rice Lake Refuge Celebrates International Migratory Bird Day, *Michelle McDowell, Rice Lake NWR*
81. International Migratory Bird Day at Ottawa Refuge a Huge Success, *Steve Dushane, Ottawa NWR*
82. Scout Fest 2005, *Anjanette Bowen, Alpena FRO*
83. Bird Festival! Wet but Wonderful!, *Jennifer Lilla, Trempealeau NWR*
84. One Day, Three Special Events at Neal Smith Refuge, *Scott Ford, Neal Smith NWR*
85. DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Passes with Flying Colors, *James Murcia, Desoto NWR*
86. International Migratory Bird Day at Como Zoo, *Matt Conner, Minnesota Valley NWR*
87. Distance Education with Horicon Refuge, *Molly Stoddard, Horicon NWR*
88. Fisheries Groups Clear Out Aquatic Weeds, *Corey Puzach, LaCrosse Fish Health Center*

Accomplishment Reports

89. Ashland Fishery Office Hosts First Annual Northland College Student Volunteer Picnic, *Glenn Miller, Ashland FRO*
90. External Affairs Assists Windom WMD With Goose Lake WPA Annexation Issues, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
91. Missouri Governor Declares May 14, 2005 Bird Conservation Day, *Kelly SrigleyWerner, Missouri Private Lands Ofc*
92. 700 Fifth Graders Converge on Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge, *Jennifer Lilla, Trempealeau NWR*
93. Genoa National Fish Hatchery Participates in Riverfest, *Tony Brady, Genoa NFH*
94. Service Provides Fishery Education Program for Saginaw High School, *Anjanette Bowen, Alpena FRO*
95. Vaccination of Genoa National Fish Hatchery Salmonids Completed, *Nick Starzl, Genoa NFH*
96. Oxytetracycline Used to Mark Coaster Brook Trout Fry, *Nik Grueneis, Iron River NFH*
97. La Crosse FRO Presents Shocking Demonstration at River Education Days, *Heidi Keuler, LaCrosse FRO*
98. "That's Hot!" - Burn Season Ends at Neal Smith NWR, *Scott Ford, Neal Smith NWR*
99. Wood Duck Boxes on Northern Wisconsin Partners Program Projects, *Ted Koehler, Ashland FRO*
100. Summary of Pallid Sturgeon Captures by Columbia Fishery Office, *Nicholas Frohnauser, Columbia FRO*
101. Level I Survey Completed for Parcel 7A, Savanna Army Depot, *Judy Edwards, Twin Cities FO*
102. Biological Science Technician Receives Safety Training, *Jennifer Johnson, Columbia FRO*
103. Horicon Marsh Bird Festival, *Molly Stoddard, Horicon NWR*
104. TV Captures Wildflower Seeding, *Michael Murphy, Hamden Slough NWR*
105. Pilot Master Naturalist Program in Illinois, *Wayne Fischer, Illinois Private Lands Ofc*
106. Squaw Creek Refuge Builds Float for Apple Blossom Parade, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
107. Mitigation at Last!, *Elizabeth McCloskey, Northern Indiana ES Sub Ofc*
108. RD Remarks, Photos, Marks External Affairs' Support to Annual Meeting of Minnesota TNC, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
109. Twin Cities Field Office Staffer Recognized as Civil Servant of the Year, *Dan Stinnett, Twin Cities FO*
110. Pallid Sturgeon Stocked in the Missouri River, *Tracy Hill, Columbia FRO*
111. Pallid Sturgeon Recovery Team Considers Stocking Question, *Tracy Hill, Columbia FRO*
112. Cooperative Prescribed Burn Conducted Between Agassiz Refuge and Minnesota DNR, *Larry Anderson, Agassiz NWR*
113. Wisconsin Wildfire Rages Through 3,410 Acres, *Donald Wiley, Leopold WMD*
114. Catfish Infested with Winged Mapleleaf Released in St. Croix River, *Susan Oetker, Twin Cities FO*
115. Endangered Winged Mapleleaf Mussel Cages Set for Production, *Tony Brady, Genoa NFH*
116. Shiawassee Refuge and Friends Group Sponsors Rainforest Program, *Becky Goche, Shiawassee NWR*
117. Alpena Fishery Office Assists Huron Pottawatomi Tribe with Wildlife Management Planning, *Jerry McClain, Alpena FRO*
118. Alpena FRO Provides Presentation on Aquatic Invasive Species in Northeastern Michigan, *Anjanette Bowen, Alpena FRO*
119. Broodstock Contaminate Issue in Michigan, *Tracy Roessner, Pendills Creek NFH*
120. Big Yearling Coasters Stocked at Pictured Rocks!, *Lee Newman, Ashland FRO*
121. Shiawassee Refuge Part of the Annual River Congress that Reached 675 Inner City Students, *Becky Goche, Shiawassee NWR*
122. Rice Lake Refuge Presents at Area III Envirothon, *Michelle McDowell, Rice Lake NWR*
123. Prairie Chickens Popular with Public, *Michael Murphy, Hamden Slough NWR*
124. New SCEP Student Clocks In at the Genoa Hatchery, *Doug Aloisi, Genoa NFH*
125. DeSoto Refuge Goes Batty!, *Cindy Myer, Desoto NWR*
126. Cold, Snowy Conservation Tour, *Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC*
127. Coaster Broodstock Grow Up at Genoa Hatchery, *Nick Starzl, Genoa NFH*
128. Service Implemented Protocol to Minimize the Effects on Federal and State-Listed Species, *Katherine Mullett, Marquette Bio Station*
129. DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Gets Re-leaf, *James Murcia, Desoto NWR*
130. Columbia FRO Participates in Missouri River Relief Education Day, *Wells Adams, Columbia FRO*
131. Biological Science Technician Attends Seminar on Micromodeling, *Jennifer Johnson, Columbia FRO*
132. Anderson, Copple Honored at Prairie Wetlands Learning Center Volunteer Banquet, *Kenneth Garrahan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC*
133. Into the Wilderness - Children's Fair, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
134. Saving Ducks During Take a Child to Work Day, *Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC*
135. Shiawassee Refuge Hosts Dinner for Volunteers and Friends, *Becky Goche, Shiawassee NWR*
136. Prescribe Burns - Squaw Creek Refuge, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
137. Shiawassee Refuge Volunteer Bob Grefe Celebrates 22 Years as a Volunteer at Shiawassee Refuge, *Becky Goche, Shiawassee NWR*
138. Service Releases Draft 15 Year Plan for Upper Mississippi River NW&FR, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
139. Career Day at Fountain City High School, *Scott Yess, LaCrosse FRO*
140. Cub Scouts and Sixth Graders Plant Trees at Shiawassee Refuge, *Becky Goche, Shiawassee NWR*
141. Friends Group Begins Capital Campaign, *Scott Ford, Neal Smith NWR*
142. Tuesdays with DCR - Islamic Resource Group Presentation, *Peggy Nelson, ABA (DCR)*
143. Lake Sturgeon Fin Clips Obtained for Viral Testing, *Scott Yess, LaCrosse FRO*
144. Ashland FRO Assists the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission with Spring Walleye Surveys, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*
145. Ashland Fishery Office, Iron River Hatchery Begin Cormorant Study at Grand Portage, *Lee Newman, Ashland FRO*
146. Earth Day Night Hike at Shiawassee NWR, *Becky Goche, Shiawassee NWR*
147. Live from Constitution Hall: 'Invaders of the Great Lakes,' Poster Contest, and AIS Awareness Week, *Bob Kavetsky, East Lansing FO*
148. Walleye Populations Surveyed in Northern Wisconsin, *Scott Yess, LaCrosse FRO*
149. Neal Smith NWR to become a Bird Conservation Area, *Scott Ford, Neal Smith NWR*
150. Introduction to Refuge Lands Geographic Information System (RLGIS), *Jane Lardy-Nelson, Refuges&Wildlife*
151. Pesticide Use Proposals in Iowa, *Mike Coffey, Rock Island FO*
152. 2005 Lake Sturgeon Restoration Program at Genoa National Fish Hatchery, *Roger Gordon, Genoa NFH*
153. Neal Smith Refuge Wins Recycling Award, *Scott Ford, Neal Smith NWR*
154. Genoa National Fish Hatchery Begins Endangered Higgins' Eye Pearlmussel Propagation Efforts for '05, *Tony Brady, Genoa NFH*
155. Mussels Foster Learning During Earth Week at Dakota Area Community School, *Heidi Keuler, LaCrosse FRO*
156. Missouri River Agency Coordination Team Meeting, *Tracy Hill, Columbia FRO*
157. Middle Basin Pallid Sturgeon Work Group, *Tracy Hill, Columbia FRO*
158. Mike Hickey, OMB Program Examiner Visits La Crosse Area Offices, *Richard Nelson, LaCrosse Fish Health Center*
159. Celebrating Habitat, *Tracy Hill, Columbia FRO*
160. Unusual Bird Observations at Squaw Creek Refuge, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
161. Bald Eagle Nesting, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
162. Biannual Work Day at Squaw Creek Refuge, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
163. Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Hosts Youth Turkey Hunt, *Terry Schreiner, Minnesota Valley NWR*
164. Earth Day at Neal Smith NWR, *Scott Ford, Neal Smith NWR*
165. 475 Participate In Spring Clean-up At Sherburne NWR, *Nancy Haugen, Sherburne NWR*
166. Hubert Humphrey Job Corps Student Completes Work Experience with ES, *Peggy Nelson, ABA (DCR)*
167. Sounds in the Night Hike at Squaw Creek Refuge, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
168. Stepping Up To Leadership Course, *Ted Koehler, Ashland FRO*
169. Genoa National Fish Hatchery Assists Geneticists in Advancing Mussel DNA Information and Technology, *Roger Gordon, Genoa NFH*
170. Carterville Fishery Office Participates in Annual Recreational Fishery Surveys, *Nathan Caswell, Carterville FRO*
171. Earth Day Career Presentation at Oconto High School, *Ken Stromborg, Green Bay FO*
172. Minnesota Bald Eagle Nest Survey, *Nick Rowse, Twin Cities FO*
173. Volunteers Play Huge Role in Broodstock Project, *Scott Yess, LaCrosse FRO*
174. Friends of the Upper Miss Fishery Service Meeting Hosted at Genoa, *Doug Aloisi, Genoa NFH*
175. Spring Ruffe Reduction Efforts Initiated in Thunder Bay River, Lake Huron, *Anjanette Bowen, Alpena FRO*
176. Lamprey Identification Train the Trainers Session Deemed a Success, *Michael Fodale, Marquette Bio Station*

Accomplishment Reports

177. The Fastest Clippers in the U.P., *Tracy Roessner, Pendills Creek NFH*
178. Pendills Creek and Sullivan Creek NFH'S Participate in 2005 Spring Show, *Crystal LeGault-Anderson, Pendills Creek NFH*
179. Prescribed Fire Season Begins on Refuges and Wetland Management Districts in Minnesota, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
180. New Invasive Plants Council Forms in Ohio, *Sarena Selbo, Reynoldsburg FO*
181. Spring Netting Yields Big Returns for Local Outdoor Enthusiasts, *Doug Aloisi, Genoa NFH*
182. ITP Issued to METC and HCP for Karner blue butterfly, *Tameka Dandridge, East Lansing FO*
183. Lake Trout Distribution Begins Early at Jordan River Hatchery, *Timothy Smigielski, Jordan River NFH*
184. Moving Ohio NRDA Restoration Forward With In-House Partnership, *Karyn Tremper, Reynoldsburg FO*
185. La Crosse Fish Health Center Completes Spring Health Assessment of Pool 9, *Corey Puzach, LaCrosse Fish Health Center*
186. Winged Mapleleaf Report Available, *Mark Steingraeber, LaCrosse FRO*
187. \$2,500 Reward Offered For Information Concerning Destruction of Eagle Nest near Sartell, Minnesota, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
188. Spring Health Inspection Completed at Genoa National Fish Hatchery, *Corey Puzach, LaCrosse Fish Health Center*
189. Parasites Causing Large-Scale Die Off of Water Birds on the Upper Mississippi, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
190. Kirtland's Warbler Program Receives National Award, *Craig Czarnecki, East Lansing FO*
191. Booklet Available — Freshwater Mussels of the Upper Mississippi River, *Gary Wege, Twin Cities FO*
192. U.S. Army Reserve Readiness Command Consults with Reynoldsburg ES Field Office on Indiana bat, *Mary Knapp, Reynoldsburg FO*
193. Wildlife Telemetry Workshop at Squaw Creek Refuge, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
194. 5,000 Rally in Support of Minnesota's Waterfowl, Wetlands and Waters, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
195. Northern Pike Hatch at Genoa Hatchery, *Nick Starzl, Genoa NFH*
196. Prairie Science Class Featured in Science Scope Magazine, *Kenneth Garrahan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC*
197. Indiana Bat Database in Ohio, *Christina Linterman, Reynoldsburg FO*
198. The Molluscans- Region 3's Mussel and Aquatic Snail Team- Kicked Off Successfully, *Susan Oetker, Twin Cities FO*
199. Bloomington Field Office 2nd Quarter 2005 Activity Report, *Michael Litwin, Bloomington FO*
200. Ohio Ecological Service Office Issues Draft BO to FHWA for Indiana bat, *Angela Zimmerman, Reynoldsburg FO*
201. Michigan Partners Program Completing Permitting for 2005 Field Season, *Heather Enterline, Alpena FRO*
202. Ashland Fishery Office and Whittlesey Creek Refuge Check on Stream Improvements, *Glenn Miller, Ashland FRO*
203. Cooperators Monitor Sea Lamprey Population in Chagrin River, Lake Erie, *Jessica Richards, Marquette Bio Station*
204. Congressional Visit to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Resource Center, *Richard Nelson, LaCrosse Fish Health Center*
205. Carterville FRO Submits Manuscript for Dredge Material Placement Study, *Nathan Caswell, Carterville FRO*
206. Visit to Congressman Michael Oxley's Ohio District Office, *Mary Knapp, Reynoldsburg FO*
207. 2005 Tribal Wildlife Grant and Tribal Landowner Incentive Grant Programs, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*
208. DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Gets a Spring Cleaning, *James Murcia, Desoto NWR*
209. Midwest Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake Meeting, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
210. Details and Volunteers Lend a Hand and Pendills and Sullivan Creek National Fish Hatcheries, *Tracy Roessner; Pendills Creek NFH*
211. Ashland Fishery Office and Whittlesey Creek Refuge Staff Search For Coaster Brook Trout, *Glenn Miller, Ashland FRO*
212. Boyne City Girl Scouts Tour Jordan River National Fish Hatchery, *Rick Westerhof, Jordan River NFH*
213. Green Bay Fisheries Office Provides 2004 Stocking and Creel Reports to the Lake Michigan Committee, *Dale Hanson, Green Bay FRO*
214. Iron River National Fish Hatchery Brook Trout Get OTC Markings, *Frank Stone, Ashland FRO*
215. Visitor Industry Partnership, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
216. Biologist Talks at Local College, *Adam Kowalski, Alpena FRO*
217. Windom WMD Hosts Interagency Fireline Refresher Training, *Eric Earhart, Windom WMD*
218. Alpena FRO and Jordan River NFH Team Up to Represent the Service, *Timothy Smigielski, Jordan River NFH*
219. Technician Receives Animal Care and Chemical Management Training, *Jennifer Johnson, Columbia FRO*
220. Report on Sea Lamprey Control Activities at Upper and Lower Great Lakes Annual Meetings, *Jessica Richards, Marquette Bio Station*
221. Illinois Mussel Habitat and Water Quality Assessment Method, *Mike Coffey, Rock Island FO*
222. Fishery Booth Makes Big Splash at Fishing Expo, *Scott Yess, LaCrosse FRO*
223. 450 Attend Habitat Day at Crane Meadows NWR, *Nancy Haugen, Sherburne NWR*
224. 2004 Ruffe Surveillance Report Completed and Available Online, *Gary Czipynski, Ashland FRO*
225. Genoa NFH Partners with Commercial Fishermen to Supply Fish for Fishing Expo and USGS, *Tony Brady, Genoa NFH*
226. Diversity Report Oct04-Mar05, *Kevin Brennan, Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC*
227. Carterville FRO Expands Sturgeon Tag Database, *Nathan Caswell, Carterville FRO*
228. Region 3 Fisheries Project Leaders Meeting, *Tracy Hill, Columbia FRO*
229. Service Biologist Co-Chairs Modeling Subcommittee Meeting for 1836 Treaty Waters, *Aaron Woldt, Alpena FRO*
230. Coaster Stocking and Gamete Collection on Isle Royale, *Nik Grueneis, Iron River NFH*
231. 61st Annual UMRCC Meeting Held in Dubuque, Iowa, *Jon Duyvejonck, Rock Island FO*
232. Thunder Bay Project Implementation Working Committee Meeting, *Aaron Woldt, Alpena FRO*
233. Lake Huron Basin Team Collaborates with the Fish Passage Program, *Susan Wells, Alpena FRO*
234. Prescribed Fires Planned For Service-Managed Land in 15 Wisconsin Counties, *Scott Flaherty, External Affairs*
235. Carterville FRO Completes Preliminary Data Collection for Mississippi River Habitat Restoration, *Nathan Caswell, Carterville FRO*
236. Agencies Report on PCB Injuries, Damage to Kalamazoo River Resources, *Lisa Williams, East Lansing FO*
237. "Back by Popular Demand"- Jordan River NFH "Fish are Fun" Will Return for Fall 2005, *Timothy Smigielski, Jordan River NFH*
238. Fish Health Inspection a Sign of Spring at Jordan River NFH, *Timothy Smigielski, Jordan River NFH*
239. Regional Science Fairs, *Ron Bell, Squaw Creek NWR*
240. Future Lake Trout Broodstock Come Out and Say 'Hi', *James Anderson, Sullivan's Creek NFH*
241. Alpena Fishery Resource Office Project Leader Travels to DC to Celebrate Habitat, *Jerry McClain, Alpena FRO*
242. Jordan River Hatchery Participates in Celebrating Habitat and Congressional Meetings, *Rick Westerhof, Jordan River NFH*
243. Lake Whitefish Ageing Workshop, *Scott Koproski, Alpena FRO*
244. Northeast Wisconsin Teachers Conference Outreach Event, *Catherine Carnes, Green Bay FO*
245. Jordan River Hatchery Representative Successfully Completes "The Academy", *Timothy Smigielski, Jordan River NFH*
246. STEP and Seasonal Jobs Presentation Given to University of Missouri Students, *Andrew Starostka, Columbia FRO*
247. Smithton Middle School Career Day, *Jeff Finley, Columbia FRO*
248. Diversity, *Lawrie Gucinski, Iron River NFH*
249. Invaders of the Great Lakes Seminar Hosted by Michigan State University, *Anjanette Bowen, Alpena FRO*
250. Fort Leavenworth, Missouri River Fishery Survey Winter field Work Completed, *Nicholas Frohnauer, Columbia FRO*

Editor's Note

After a several month hiatus, Inside Region 3 will resume its regular schedule. Our goal is to produce and electronically publish IR3 the middle of each month. Each publication will cover accomplishments from the previous month.

Thanks for your patience and keep submitting your accomplishments via the ARS at <http://ars.fws.gov> and emailing your photos to Chuck Traxler at Charles_Traxler@fws.gov.



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