

Wild Rivers Tribune

WILD RIVERS CHAPTER

TROUT UNLIMITED

JULY 2024

Chapter Report

By John Simonson, Chapter President

Well, it seems to be a feast or famine type year so far. We went from serious drought conditions over the Winter to a very wet Spring. The rain has helped restore our cold water streams and rivers to a more normal level, if there is such a thing as normal anymore.



Thanks to the efforts from Bob Traczyk and Dick Berge, we had 22 students from Ashland High School participate in our WRTU Chapter sponsored student fly tying lessons over the Winter. Then a fly-casting clinic in April for the students. Followed by having the chance to catch a trout with the flies they had tied at the Les Voight fish hatchery in Bayfield on a rainy May day.

WRTU Chapter member Bob Traczyk helped make another great year for the Hurley students' trout in the classroom program. They released the brook trout fry they had raised in Weber Lake in Iron County.

WRTU Chapter donated \$1,500 to Wisconsin Rivers of Recovery. This year Wisconsin Rivers of Recovery has three drift boat trips planned for women veterans all guided by women. A special thank you to WI TU women members Wendy Williamson and Sarah Sanford for the expert guiding help. The third week of June they held the first of three Wisconsin Rivers of Recovery for Women and it was a great success.

Our chapter also donated \$500, along with the Brule River Sportsman's Club to help support the WDNR's Brule Hatchery Family Fun Day that will be held on August 17, 2024. Chapter members will also help with teaching fly tying and fly casting to kids.

On June 1, WRTU Chapter members along with the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service held the 24th Annual Kids Fishing Day at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center in Ashland, Wisconsin. Twenty-five years ago, WRTU Chapter members Jeff Carlson and William Heart were asked by Susan Nelson from the U.S. Forest Service about starting a Kids Day. It has been a wonderful success for

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Upcoming WRTU Chapter Events

July 20 – Fly Casting Clinic at Silverthorn Park in Seeley. Learn fly casting, knot tying, fly tying. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

August 10 – Tree Planting on South Fork of the White River. Meet at Rocky Run Road at 9:00 am. Volunteers needed!

August 17 – Family Fun Day at the Brule River Fish Hatchery in Brule, WI. 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Volunteers needed!



Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the June 12, 2024 Board Meeting of Wild Rivers Chapter of Trout Unlimited (virtual meeting)

These minutes were approved by virtual vote on June 14, 2024.

Chapter Members Present: Alan Brew, Bob Traczyk, Dan Bloomquist, Jeff Butler, John Simonson, Ken Benoit, Kevin Seefeldt, Larry Mann

Treasurer's Report

*June Treasurer's report was submitted by Bob on June 5th, 2024, and confirmed by Alan on June 12th, 2024.

*John moves approval of the report; all approved.

Creel Survey

*This initiative is up and running for the summer and so far there has been a good response.

*Wild River chapter members should encourage folks to participate in the survey as they have opportunities to do so at survey locations.

Volunteer Activity

*Hours were entered for Board members present.

*Link for recording hours in the future is https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1R7zY7Q_t-bixlpAD9TfHlj-W2SFu-xH/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=111985413799261048802&rtpof=true&sd=true

Mosquito Brook Initiative

*Frank prepared an abstract describing the project and is working to complete the grant submission process.

Silverthorn Park

*Will incorporate a fly-casting clinic with Larry and Wendy Mann

South Fork of White River

*August 10th tour of the area and then buckthorn removal and tree planting. Finishing with lunch.

*WI-DNR, Great Lakes Trout Unlimited, and Wild Rivers are sponsors

Brule River Family Fun Day Hatchery Event

*August 17, 2024

*Wild Rivers will help with fly tying and casting.

*They've also asked if we could help fund a sign for the event and maybe some 8-foot tables as well.

*John moves that we cover the cost of the sign (not to exceed \$150) and work with Heart Graphics to get the sign produced; Larry Mann seconds. All approved.

June Newsletter

*Send submission to John Simonson by June 22nd, and he will incorporate into a June newsletter.

Expo for 2025

*Planning to do the Expo in Hayward again, and likely at Flat Creek Lodge, but will need to confirm the venue price in the fall.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm. Next meeting: Sept. 11, 2024

Brule River Sportsmen's Club Raffle to Support Scholarship

The Brule River Sportsmen's Club is holding a fund-raising raffle, with cost \$10 per raffle ticket. Proceeds go towards the Club's College & High School scholarship. For prizes and how to purchase raffle tickets go to: <https://bruleriversportsmensclub.com/>

Free Fly Casting Clinic



Join us at
Silverthorn Park
Seeley, WI

July 20, 2024
10:00 am - 4:00 pm



Wendy Williamson, Orvis fly casting instructor

**Families
Moms, Dads, Kids
Learn fly casting
Fly tying
Knot tying**

Learn from WRTU Chapter members, including Larry Mann & Wendy Williamson

Silverthorn Lake Park is just north of the Seeley, about 8 miles south of Cable.

**All fly fishing equipment provided
snacks & beverages**

WI Women Veterans Rivers of Recovery Thank You

The inaugural all women Rivers of Recovery retreat occurred June 17-21, 2024. This retreat was special because we were able to have four women guides teaching, mentoring and guiding six women veteran participants. In the past we relied on our male counterparts to guide us on the rivers. Although the male guides in the past were always exceptional teachers and mentors the ability for lady veterans to learn from other women added another level of respect, security and comradery for the entire week. And thanks to the Wild Rivers Chapter of Trout Unlimited donation, you were also an integral part in making this a successful week. For without donors like you to support the monetary side of things, such as lodging and food, this just couldn't be possible.



Tree Planting on the South Fork of the White River

Come join us on Saturday, August 10 for a tree-planting session along the South Fork of the White River. Meet at 9:00 am at Rocky Run Road at the WI-DNR access point. Sign up online at <https://tu.myeventscenter.com/event/Project-Tour-And-Tree-Planting-At-The-White-River-95258>



Chapter Report

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families and kids ever since its beginning. This year's Kids Day turned out to be another great event despite the rain.

We have several events planned for this summer and we are asking for WRTU Chapter members to volunteer and help make these events a great success. For questions email john@wiflyfisher.com or call my cell phone (920) 212-0185.



Brule Family Fun Day

Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024 • 10 a.m. — 3 p.m.

at the
Brule State Fish Hatchery & Brule River State Forest
13847 Hatchery Road, Brule, WI 54820

It's Free!



— PARTICIPATE IN —

- Catch and release fishing
- Fly tying lessons
- Stream shocking demonstrations
- Casting lessons
- Fish filleting demonstrations
- Nature hike
- Kids archery lessons
- Gyotaku t-shirt painting
- Hatchery Tours
- Canoe trips on the Brule River
- And so much more!

Vehicle admission sticker will not be required the day of the event. For more information, email Angelica.Komarek@wisconsin.gov call 715-372-4820 or stop at the hatchery office.

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www.facebook.com/wildrivers.tu

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Check Out Our Website

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