

Wild Rivers Tribune

WILD RIVERS CHAPTER

TROUT UNLIMITED

DECEMBER 2025

Chapter Report

By John Simonson, WRTU Chapter President

It has been a super successful year for Wild Rivers TU Chapter, but now we turn our focus to 2026. I see 2026 as the year of improving our chapter's local community outreach and we need our members' help. As I have chatted this year with different people across Northwest Wisconsin I find most have no clue who we are or what we do. Wild Rivers TU Chapter is a lot more than just a bunch of fly fishing trout guys. We are coldwater conservation river champions that work to protect and preserve our coldwater watersheds across our seven Northwest Wisconsin counties.



On January 14th, 2026, we will be holding our WRTU Chapter Board of Directors elections. All chapter members are invited to attend our online Zoom meeting. (See next page for more details.) If you would like to consider becoming a board member, please feel free to email or call me if you have questions.

In our December Chapter's board meeting we approved donating \$5,000 to the Burke Center for Ecosystem Research to help fund a summer 2026 intern. The Burke Center has been doing amazing work on the Fish Creek Watershed and WRTU Chapter looks forward to helping them do more on Fish Creek in 2026.

Upcoming Spring Events

Below is a brief overview for some of the WRTU Chapter upcoming events:

January 14, 2026 – Wild Rivers TU Chapter Board of Directors election, via Zoom

March 21, 2026 – Sawmill Saloon in Seeley from Noon to 4:00pm. WRTU Chapter & Great Lakes TU Chapter Fly Tying & NW Wisconsin Aquatic Insects to Imitate.

April 18, 2026 - WRTU Chapter's Coldwater Conservation Symposium & Banquet at Lakewoods Resort in Cable, Wisconsin.

Becoming a River Champion by Volunteering

By John Simonson

WRTU Chapter is looking to get more people involved throughout our seven Northwest Wisconsin Counties, which include: Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, Iron, Sawyer, Burnett, and Washburn Counties. If you truly believe in protecting and improving our healthy coldwater watersheds and want to help, here are some simple ways to help us.

1. In 2026 we are going to create several coldwater conservation in-person presentations, and we will need help getting the word out. We will create posters that you can print and place in various business locations and at your local chamber of commerce.
2. Attend our April 18th WRTU Chapter Coldwater Conservation Symposium and Dinner Banquet at Lakewoods Resort in Cable. You can also volunteer to help us with the event.
3. We will be looking for volunteers to help us with our chapter's workdays on the White River, North Fork of the Clam River, Marengo River, Fish Creek and more.
4. We are going to have a special Fly Tying event on March 21st at the Sawmill Saloon, and we need help getting the word out throughout our area.
5. We have WRTU Chapter car stickers to place on your vehicle and are FREE!
6. WRTU Chapter will be offering a newly designed T-shirt and hats to show your support for our chapter and help us build awareness for Wild Rivers TU Chapter.
7. If you have writing skills and want to help us publish our chapter's newsletter I could use your help.

Notice I never mentioned money... we are looking for volunteers to help us champion our precious rivers right now, and it costs only your time! So please consider helping us.

January WRTU Chapter Board of Directors Elections

On January 14th we will be holding our online Wild Rivers TU Chapter Board of Directors elections. We presently have four board officers and six non-officer board members.

Chapter President: John Simonson
 Chapter Vice President: Frank Pratt
 Chapter Treasurer: Bob Traczyk
 Chapter Secretary: Alan Brew
 Chapter Past President: Kevin Seefeldt
 Board Member: Ken Benoit
 Board Member: Larry Mann
 Board Member: Wendy Williamson
 Board Member: Dan Bloomquist
 Board Member: Jason Nelson



*** All chapter board positions are up for re-election.*

We encourage all WRTU Members to attend the January meeting.

January 2026 WRTU Chapter Meeting

Date: Jan 14, 2026

Time: 06:00 PM Central Time

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87673039042?pwd=NnlwGKf1uIXDaanbj5L5mzCbbvonWr.1>

Meeting ID: 876 7303 9042

Passcode: 077493

Note: All attendees will be in a Zoom waiting room until I approve you to enter. This is to help prevent unwanted people from accessing our online chapter meeting. For questions please call or email me at: john.simonson@gmail.com or call/text me at 920-212-0185.

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*Chapter Activities
throughout the year...*



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See Our Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/wildrivers.tu

Wild Rivers Board Members & Term of Office

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Check Out Our Website

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For questions email us at:

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