

Waltonian Fall 2015

DIVISION RESOLUTIONS

By Jim Sweeney

June, 2015

ONE: SUPPORT INDIANA DNR FUNDING INITIATIVE

Whereas; the Indiana Department of Natural Resources has been underfunded by the Governor and the Indiana General Assembly for years, and

Whereas; the lack of funding by the state has resulted in facilities not being maintained, facilities being closed, activities reduced in scope, and

WHEREAS; the DNR and the State has sought private funding sources that compromise the conservation value of state parks, state forests, nature preserves, and other properties, and

WHEREAS; the state has over 200 professional positions unfilled due to the lack of funding, and

WHEREAS; state parks, state forests, nature preserves, state hunting and fishing properties attract millions of visitors per year, and

WHEREAS; DNR owned properties should be managed to protect its natural resources and to accommodate responsible recreation for the citizens of the state, and

WHEREAS; there is no convenient forum for the stakeholders of Indiana's natural resources to communicate in detail with the DNR leadership and professional staff.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Indiana Division of the Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention June 7th, 2015 in Portage, Indiana supports the creation of a statewide effort to get all conservation, hunting, angling, and outdoor recreation organizations in Indiana to pursue increased and permanent funding for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this effort should include an annual meeting between the DNR and representatives of their stakeholder groups as a forum to exchange ideas and set goals. This effort could be modeled after the Illinois Conservation Congress.

TWO: Support the Kankakee River National Water Trail

WHEREAS; the Northwest Indiana Paddling Association and friends in Illinois have proposed a Kankakee River National Water Trail for the entire 133 mile length of the river from South Bend Indiana to Wilmington, Illinois, and

WHEREAS; the National Water Trails System (NWTS) was created in 2012 under the National Parks Service to bring existing and new water trails together into one national network of trails, and

WHEREAS; participation is voluntary and designation as a NWT does not impose any new regulations on the waterway, does not interfere in any way with a landowner's rights or use of property, and does not interfere with local management of the waterway; and

WHEREAS; the NWTS designation comes with it an array of benefits, including promotional tools, technical assistance, networking, and access to funding, and

WHEREAS; a National Water Trail (NWT) can help the public explore and enjoy the history and the culture of the Kankakee River in both states, and

WHEREAS; an increased knowledge of the history and culture of the Kankakee River will encourage increased passion for the river and more and bigger stewardship initiatives, and

WHEREAS; a NWT designation will increase local recreational opportunities, improve public access to the river, promote physical activity, and provide a venue for increases environmental education.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Indiana Division of the Izaak Walton League of America assembled in convention, June 7th, 2015 in Portage, Indiana supports the creation of the Kankakee River National Water Trail for its entire length in Indiana and Illinois.

THREE: Oppose the Mounds Reservoir and Support the Mounds Greenway

WHEREAS; the Mounds Lake Reservoir is a proposal for a dam and 2100 acre impoundment on the West Fork of the White River in Anderson, Chesterfield, Daleville, and Yorktown that would inundate seven miles of the river, and

WHEREAS; it is being marketed to the public as a water and flood control project but in letters sent to the US EPA and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the proponents describe it as an economic development initiative, based on the real estate and development value of a new lake (impoundment,) and

WHEREAS; the impoundment will destroy miles of hardwood floodplain forest, part of a state park, a state nature preserve, and two significant archeological sites, and

WHEREAS; the cost to relocate hundreds of homes, businesses, and utilities will be incredibly expensive, and eminent domain will be used to acquire all the properties to be flooded, and

WHEREAS; an alternative plan, the Mounds Greenway has been envisioned as an alternative to the reservoir with a linear park and trail connecting the trails and parks of Muncie to the trails and parks of Anderson and the communities in between, and

WHEREAS; the Mounds Greenway will protect the West Fork White River as a free-flowing natural river and conserve bottomland hardwood forest, wetlands, and riparian habitats in the river floodplain, and

WHEREAS; the Greenway will provide a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities – trails for hiking and bike riding, access points for canoeing, kayaking and fishing, picnic and camping areas, and wildlife observation, and

WHEREAS; the Greenway will complement and be compatible with existing conservation projects and cultural sites, including Mounds State Park, Rangeline Preserve, Walbridge Acres Park, Camp Chesterfield and other facilities, and

WHEREAS; easements or land purchased for the greenway project will be from willing sellers only.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Indiana Division of the Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention June 7th, 2015 in Portage, Indiana opposes the proposed Mounds Lake Reservoir.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Division supports and endorses the Mounds Greenway plan as an alternative plan to the damming of the West Fork of the White River and destruction of its floodplain.

FOUR: Oppose the New Banquet/Conference Center on the Indiana Dunes State Park Beach

WHEREAS; the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Pavilion Partners LLC have entered into a contract to build a new banquet and conference center on the Indiana Dunes State Park beach directly east of the old Pavilion building, and

WHEREAS; the DNR and the Partners have negotiated this contract for almost three years without any notice to the public, and

WHEREAS; the DNR and Partners have promoted this plan as a restoration of the old park pavilion but not told the public that a new and separate building was part of the plan, and

WHEREAS; the previous ban on the sale and consumption of alcohol within the Indiana Dunes State Park has now been repealed and will be permitted within 100

feet of the existing building, the new building, and the parking lot, could lead to more of the same problems that caused the DNR to ban the use of alcohol at the State Park in 1990, and

WHEREAS; in their original proposal to the DNR, Pavilion Partners LLC stated that in addition to the banquet and conference facility, they plan to look into the possibility of a hotel and a marina as potential later developments, and

WHEREAS; the DNR and Pavilion Partners have not made any commitments to locate or make the new building less dangerous for migrating and resident birds; and

WHEREAS; the Porter County Chapter feels strongly that this project is trading public land for a private, commercial business, and

WHEREAS; the Indiana Division approved a motion opposing a new building on the beach at the Dunes State Park at the quarterly Directors meeting in South Bend on March 7th,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Indiana Division of the Izaak Walton League of America, assembled in convention June 7th, 2015 in Portage, Indiana, opposes the construction of a new banquet or conference center, or any other new building east of the Pavilion, on the beach at the Indiana Dunes State Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Division supports the rehabilitation and remodeling of the State Park Pavilion for the purposes of food and other concessions for the visiting public.

Submitted by

Jim Sweeney

FACTS FROM THE GREAT TRANSITION: DID YOU KNOW?

Earth Policy Release

May 27, 2015

The Great Transition, Earth Policy Institute.

The energy transition is moving fast. Wind and solar are the fastest growing sources of electricity on the planet. No longer marginal, renewables are moving to overtake fossil fuels and nuclear power in certain parts of the world.

In an extensive data collection of over 130 tables and 150 graphs, the Earth Policy Institute provides information on the key energy and transportation trends changing the world as we know it.

1. U.S. oil use fell 8.5% from 2005 to 2014.
2. Of the 523 U.S. coal-fired power plants, 190 have recently closed or plan to close.
3. Global nuclear power generation peaked in 2006.
4. Solar power is the fastest-growing electricity source worldwide.
5. Wind is now China's #3 electricity source behind coal and hydropower.
6. Some 40 countries with 860 million people could meet all their electricity needs with geothermal energy.
7. Hydropower supplies 16% of the world's electricity.
8. If the world continues to rely heavily on fossil fuels, the global average temperature could rise by nearly 11 degrees Fahrenheit (up to 6 degrees Celsius) by the year 2100.
9. Car fleets are plateauing or have begun to shrink in most major car markets, including the U.S., Europe and Japan.

10. There are nearly 370,000 megawatts of wind power installed in some 90 countries, producing enough electricity to power 90 million U.S. homes.

Supporting data sets for The Great Transition: Shifting from Fossil Fuels to Solar and Wind Energy and a PowerPoint summary presentation are available for free downloading at <http://www.earth-policy.org/tgt> .

CHANGING DIRECTION, CHAPTER 1.

Earth Policy Release

The Great Transition

May 29, 2015

[Over the next few weeks we will be releasing The Great Transition: Shifting from Fossil Fuels to Solar and Wind Energy in its entirety. Stay tuned for more exciting developments.]

The worldwide transition from fossil fuels to renewable sources of energy is under way. As fossil fuel resources shrink, as air pollution worsens, and as concerns about climate instability cast a shadow over the future of coal, oil, and natural gas, a new world energy economy is emerging. The old economy, fueled largely by coal and oil, is being replaced with one powered by solar and wind energy.

We can now see this new economy starting to take shape. We saw it in 2013, when Denmark generated 34 percent of its electricity from the wind. In January 2014, wind supplied a whopping 62 percent of that country's electricity. Portugal and Spain each got over 20 percent from wind in 2013, and Ireland, 17 percent. Indeed, on some days wind power supplies half of Ireland's electricity. In Spain, wind is challenging nuclear power to become the country's leading source of electricity. And for several days in August 2014, electricity generated from wind in the United Kingdom eclipsed that from coal.

We also see the new economy surfacing in the state of South Australia, where wind farms now supply more electricity than coal plants do. On September 30, 2014, power generation from the wind and the sun exceeded the state's electricity demand. In China, electricity from wind farms has surpassed that from nuclear power plants. And water for 170 million Chinese households is heated by rooftop solar water heaters.

In the United States, the start of the energy transition is on display in the hundreds of utility-scale solar power plants under development or construction in the Southwest. And Iowa and South Dakota are each generating at least 26 percent of their electricity from wind farms. The wind share in Iowa could reach half by 2018. Texas, which now gets nearly 10 percent of its electricity from wind power, is building huge wind farms and the long-distance transmission lines that will facilitate the sale of low-cost wind-generated power in Louisiana and Mississippi.

Solar and wind costs are falling fast, undercutting fossil fuels in a growing number of electricity markets. A July 2014 study by the Danish government projects that new wind farms coming online there in 2016 will supply electricity at half the cost of that from new coal and natural gas plants. In parts of Australia, which is experiencing a solar boom, the cost of producing electricity from the sun has fallen well below that from coal. In fact, a 2014 analysis citing government data reported that high electricity delivery costs mean that coal-fired power still could not compete with solar, even if the coal itself were free.

The energy transition is advancing rapidly in some unexpected places. Falling costs for solar and wind energy are opening the door for massive investments in Africa. Bloomberg New Energy Finance reported in August 2014 that there would be more renewable energy installations in Africa in 2014 than during the preceding 14 years. Wind and solar projects in Latin America are advancing even faster. Several concerns are driving the great transition from fossil fuels to renewables. One of these is climate change and its effect on our future. Another is the health impact of breathing air polluted by burning fossil fuels, as seen in the 3 million people who die each year because of outdoor air pollution. A third is the desire for local control over energy production and overall energy security.

Read the full report at <http://www.earth-policy.org/books/tgt/tgtch1> .

Supporting data sets for The Great Transition: Shifting from Fossil Fuels to Solar and Wind Energy and a PowerPoint summary presentation are available for free downloading at <http://www.earth-policy.org/tgt> .

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EAT CLEAN, GET LEAN

--6 Rules--

By Jessica Levine

[Taken from AARP, The Magazine]

Fad diets tend to only work in getting some weight off. They don't help much with keeping it off. Many, if not most, people using a fad diet will gain much of the weight back. Going up and down in weight is not the best for your health. It is better to work out a nutrition plan that will help your body function at peak efficiency.

It is called clean eating, and is pretty fundamental: It means opting for more of the foods we know are good for us--whole grains, fruits, vegetables, nuts and seeds, and good fats--and less of the stuff that we know is harmful, including salt, sugar, and trans fat.

Begin to eat this way and you will find that over time your healthy habits will retrain your taste bud to appreciate real food instead of the sugary and fries stuff that makes up much of the typical American diet.

The 6 Rules For a Smarter Diet:

1. Get back to Basics–

The primary tenet of clean eating is to eat more foods in their natural state: unsalted nuts, grass-fed and free-range meats, whole fruits and vegetables. It's common sense, really, but the truth is that much of what we consume today is chemically altered—"the maltodextrins and the high-fructose corn syrups and the stuff that doesn't exist outside of a factory," says Tamara Duker Freuman, a clinical dietitian based in New York. Try to swap in two more servings a day of real food and you will be on your way to better health.

2. Think Outside the Box–

Most food that comes in a box is processed in some way, which means it adds things you don't need or strips away some of a food's essential goodness. Even foods with real ingredients can be less than ideal if they have been processed. So try to choose foods with the least amount of processing. For example, your much better off eating a fig rather than a Fig Newton. The closer a food is to its original form, the better it is for you.

3. Check the Label–

Spend some time reading food labels. The healthiest foods are the ones containing the fewest ingredients. "If you can't pronounce an ingredient, you probably shouldn't eat it," says Michelle Dudash, author of 'Clean Eating for Busy Families.'

4. Know the Enemy–

Certain ingredients have no place in your pantry at all because they've been shown to affect cholesterol, blood pressure or blood sugar. These five should never cross your lips.

> Trans Fats. Look for "partially hydrogenated vegetable oil," "hydrogenated vegetable oil," and "shortening" in cookies, crackers and microwave popcorn. The by-product of hydrogenation—trans fat—raises bad (LDL) cholesterol and lowers good (HDL) cholesterol, increasing the risk for heart attack and stroke.

> Food Coloring. You might need a magnifying glass, but look for “blue 1,” “blue 2,” “citrus red 2,” “green 3,” “orange B,” “red 3,” “red 40,” “yellow 5 and 6” in baked goods, cereals and condiments. Synthetic food dyes have been linked with tumors in animal studies.

> Artificial Sweeteners. Watch out for “acesulfame-K,” “saccharin” and “aspartame” on any food claiming to be “low sugar” or “low carb.” Research shows that these may overstimulate our sugar receptors, making us crave sweet foods and making naturally sweet foods—such as fruit—less palatable.

> High-fructose corn syrup. Look for “high-fructose corn syrup,” “corn sugar,” and “corn sweetener” in everything from bread to salad dressing. These concentrated simple sugars cause a cascade of blood sugar and insulin spikes and drops that may have the unintended consequence of making us crave even more high-sugar, high-fat food, no matter how much we’ve just eaten.

> Nitrates and Nitrites. Scan smoked meat and jerky for the deceptively healthy-sounding ingredients “celery powder” and “celery juice.” They’re undercover additives, used to preserve the red color of the meat, and are associated with ovarian and kidney cancers, according to the long-running NIH-AARP Diet and Health Study.

5. Shop Smarter—

The following foods are essential for good health. What’s more, because they’re low in sugar and salt, and high in fiber and savory flavors, a little of any of them will go a long way toward satisfying cravings.

> Hummus. The protein in hummus keeps you full longer, and its high iron content increases energy.

> Peppercorns. Piperine, the substance that gives black pepper its pungency, blocks the formation of new fat cells.

> Tuna and salmon pouches. Cold-water fish support neurological function, are anti-inflammatory and, for those with cardio issues, have a mild blood-thinning effect.

- > Expeller-pressed canola oil. It's best for grilling and high-heat cooking.
- > Gelatin. Rich in amino acids—particularly glycine, which supports skin, hair, nail, joint and gut health—unflavored gelatin can thicken soups and sauces.
- > Sprouted-grain bread. Whole grains are especially beneficial for older adults deficient in vitamin B12. As we age, we tend to absorb less of this critical nutrient.
- > Garlic powder. Nearly as beneficial as fresh garlic, the powdered form strengthens the immune system, reduces cholesterol and fights cancer.
- > Chia seeds. Add these super seeds to smoothies and salads for a dose of healthy fats, fiber and protein.
- > Oats. They contain bone-beneficial iron and magnesium, plus fiber, which is a prebiotic—a food that feeds the good bacteria in your gut.
- > Fermented foods. Miso, sauerkraut and kimchi with live active cultures are full of probiotics, which aid digestion.
- > Quinoa and whole-grain pasta. These can provide the basis for fast, fiber-rich meals on those evenings when you find you don't have much time to cook.
- > Seasonal fruits and vegetables. Asparagus, green beans and cruciferous vegetables such as broccoli and cauliflower contain sulfur compounds that help you eliminate toxins that cause oxidative damage—the precursor to most disease. Blue and purple berries contain resveratrol, which promotes healthy aging by reducing inflammation and blood sugar and supporting the cardiovascular system.
- > Lean meats. Buy chicken and lean beef for the days you know you'll be cooking. If possible, choose grass-fed or sustainably raised options.

6. Eat At Home—

People who eat out frequently, whether at fast-food or full-service restaurants, consume more calories and, ironically, fewer nutrients, too, a recent study found. Conversely, people who prepare most of their own meals at home eat better and eat

less—even when they eat out. Here are some easy strategies to help you enjoy the clean-eating concept at home.

> Redefine home cooking. Simple is best. “Cooking can be bagged greens with some canned beans and chopped-up vegetables; it can be a piece of grilled salmon from the prepared-food section, and you toss it on your own greens,” dietitian Freuman says.

> Try one-dish meals. We were all raised on stews, so why stop now? “One-dish meals that contain a vegetable, protein and complex carbohydrate are a lifesaver,” author Dudash says. Try clean-food combos such as quinoa with chicken, carrots and snow peas, or orzo with salmon and red and green peppers. Simplify further by cleaning and chopping your vegetables in advance for a one-dish stir-fry, omelet or salad.

> Take it slow. This is not your mother’s Crock-Pot. The newest models of slow cookers allow you to program the time you want your food to be ready—so if you’re gone longer than the six to eight hours that most recipes call for, the device won’t continue to macerate your food until it is unrecognizable.

> Cook once, eat for a week. This is a great time saver. Roast multiple fillets of meat or fish and freeze them. All that will then be needed is to add fresh vegetables and whole grains, heat and serve.

>Sub citrus for salt. A splash of acid-lemon juice, lime juice or vinegar—can reduce your need to salt foods. Plus, it provides some immune boosting vitamin C.

> Try new tastes. Go beyond your usual condiments and add a burst of flavor without calories and fat. Try sriracha, pesto, Tabasco, even low-salt soy sauce.

Okay, now it is up to you.

ENDOWMENT

By Stan Jarosz

June, 2015

Thank you everyone who attended the convention at the Miller I.W.L.A. in Portage, IN this year. We were finally able to take care of some important business regarding the Endowment. For two years we have needed to update our By-Laws and we finally accomplished this task. We were able to do this because of all the members that showed up to give us a quorum to officially make these changes. Thank you to everyone for attending the meeting and for caring about the environment by being a part of the Izaak Walton League. Please remember, every Indiana Division member in good standing is automatically a member of the Indiana Endowment.

The Endowment is a separate 501(c)3 organization that will accept monetary donations in any form. In return the Endowment provides the opportunity for grants to be paid out. Key things to keep in mind when applying for a grant are; outreach programs, environmental education, programs involving the youth. Applications are available on the Indiana Division Webpage (in-iwla.org) and the submissions are due by August 1, November 1, February 1, & May 1. This gives us 30 days to distribute the applications to all members of the Endowment Board of Directors so they are aware of the grant when it comes time to vote on the grant at the quarterly Endowment Board of Directors meetings. Thank you again for all your support.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

June 2015

By Jim Sweeney

This is where I come from and my personal philosophy regarding conservation in Indiana and beyond.

I think the long term solution to protect wildlife in Indiana is public land. If you add up the acreage of every national park, national forest, national wildlife refuge in Indiana, then every state park, state forest, state fish and wildlife area, nature preserves, and then throw in all the county parks in Indiana, it would be less than 4% of the state and some of that is military land.

That is nowhere near enough land to protect the native plants and animals of the state in perpetuity and to provide recreational opportunities to a growing population. We need more public land in Indiana, more park land, more nature preserves (!), more fish and wildlife areas, more trails, etc. People look at a map of the state and they see a huge green chunk of southern Indiana that is the Hoosier National Forest, but know that only around 10% of that area is actually owned by the US Forest Service.

This past March I updated and sent throughout the state a guess editorial I wrote with Howard Anderson years ago. The column promotes the Non-game and Endangered Wildlife Fund and the Indiana Heritage Trust.

The column has only changed slightly from its original text. The dollars, dates, and statistics change each year. We send it to all the major newspapers in Indiana with the hope that some will print it that may not have printed it for a while. This year it was printed in the Indianapolis Star, the Gary Post Tribune, and the Lafayette Journal and Courier, possibly more.

Most people do not know that the only source of funds for the DNR's Wildlife Diversity Section is donated state tax refunds and direct donations. Luckily, these funds are generously matched by federal grants for the approximate 85% of Indiana species of wildlife without a regular source of funding.

The Indiana Heritage Trust is the state environmental license plate money that should be matched directly from the Indiana general fund every year but rarely is.

In the over 20 years of the existence of the Heritage Trust, the purchasers of the license plates have put more money into buying land for state parks, state forests, nature preserves, etc., than has the rest of the state. This is an important fact, the people that buy the license plates, about 46,000- 55,000 people per year or 2/3-3/4

of 1% of the state, have paid more into the purchase of the 56,000 acres protected in the program, than all the rest of the citizens of the state combined.; less than 1%. We need a dedicated and permanent funding mechanism in Indiana to buy more land.

This is a fact to consider when the Division debates one of the resolutions submitted for consideration on increased funding for the DNR.

At the Board of Directors meeting in March at the South Bend Chapter, the board passed a motion to send a letter to the Governor in support of increased funding for the DNR. The letter was sent to the Governor and the natural Resources Committee of both the Indiana Senate and House of Representatives. It was also read before 250 people at the DNR public meeting on the Dunes State Park by Pam Jasper of the Miller Chapter.

Indiana Conservation Alliance:

I am the Division representative to the Indiana Conservation Alliance, a statewide coalition of 27 different organizations that vote each November on their priorities for the upcoming session of the Indiana General Assembly and work towards meeting those goals.

This year's priorities and final dispositions are as follows:

1. Increased funding for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Friends are still reviewing the final budget but operating funds look to be largely unchanged, i.e., woefully inadequate. There is money for a new Inn at Potato Creek State Park, paid for by cell tower lease money on public land. The state finally did come up with the \$16 million they needed to pay into the Great Lakes Protection Fund, the last state to do so.
2. Budget support for the Indiana Heritage Trust and Bicentennial Nature Trust. Good evidence of what the Indiana General Assembly thinks of the Indiana Heritage Trust is the amount they are willing to contribute to the program from the budget; \$94,000 for each of the two years. 50,000 Hoosiers that support the program will invest \$1.16 million.

3. We had hoped the state would support The Indiana Bicentennial Nature Trust with an extension and more funds but that did not happen. Mitch Daniels created the program with \$20 million of state money and \$10 million from Lilly to increase the public land base in Indiana through the end of 2016, the state's bicentennial year. It has been a very popular program and the PCC actually received \$185,000 so far and will get another \$130,000 in July for another acquisition. There is about \$6 million left in the account and it is designed to run out by the end of 2016.

4. Clean Water Indiana. The Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups to implement conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs. The funding did not change from the previous budget, \$1 million from the general fund and 2.9 million of the cigarette sales tax money.

5. Defeat legislation that would make legal fenced deer shooting preserves in Indiana. The battle is one that we won on a close vote in the Senate. HB 1453 would have legalized the four high-fence hunting preserves in the state and set some rules for them. We still want to ban these facilities but the vote now sets the stage for the Indiana Supreme Court to make the definitive call on whether the Indiana DNR can regulate the animals on these "preserves" and regulate the industry.

Indiana Division Guest Editorial on Non-game funding:

Among the highest priorities of the Izaak Walton League of America is the conservation of the nation's wildlife and its rare and endangered species. The State of Indiana has two programs that allow you to be an active participant in their conservation.

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife Diversity Section is the only state program that focuses on rare and endangered species and is funded primarily by donations.

Most of the \$329,000 raised in 2014 was contributions by Indiana taxpayers that elected to donate part of their income tax refund on their tax returns to the Non-game Fund. The balance of the income comes from direct donations and most of this is matched by federal grants.

The bald eagle reintroduction has been so successful; the state has quit their annual eagle surveys. Osprey and Peregrine Falcon populations are growing steadily.

The river otter program has been so successful the DNR is now considering a trapping program. The IWLA will support trapping as long as it the population continues to thrive.

Good programs are in place for bats, reptiles and amphibians, fish, mussels, and more that will continue as long as funding is available.

Much of the responsibility of conserving wildlife in Indiana falls on the Indiana DNR yet only about four percent of the state is publicly owned.

The Indiana Heritage Trust was created to increase the amount of publicly owned land in Indiana, much of it for wildlife conservation. Over 56,000 acres have been protected since 1991. The only source of funds for the IHT is the license plate money and private donations.

The Indiana Bicentennial Nature Trust was created to buy more public land by 2016, most of the original \$30 million has already been committed to projects around the state in this wildly successful program.

You can be part of these programs. Look for the eagle logo on your tax form and make a tax-deductible donation to Nongame Fund or send them a check outright. The federal government typically grants \$2 dollars for every one dollar donated.

Tell your friends, neighbors, and coworkers to buy the blue "Sun and Eagle" license plate and help start a new nature preserve or buy an addition to a state park or a public hunting area.

Send donations to Indiana Endangered Wildlife Fund, 402 W. Washington, W273, Indianapolis, IN 46204. For more information on the Wildlife Diversity Section, go to <http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/endangered/anl.html> . For more information on the Indiana Heritage Trust, go to: www.in.gov/dnr/heritage.

You can make a difference.

Timothy R. Russell, President
Indiana Division Izaak Walton League of America
6735 Nebraska Ave
Hammond, IN 46323

THE ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSE PLATE

By Dean Farr

By simply choosing the blue Indiana Heritage Trust Environmental Plate, you are doing your part to preserve Indiana's natural heritage. All of the funds received from plate renewals are used for projects that protect the land, waters, and wildlife of Indiana – which means all Hoosiers can enjoy these natural treasures for generations to come.

Through the Indiana Heritage Trust, sales of the Environmental Plate have already saved more than 56,000 acres of Indiana's natural heritage, including:

Nature Preserves

State Parks

Forests

Fish & Wildlife Areas

Outdoor Recreation Areas

Historic Sites

See the map of protected areas on the website.

This translates into more areas Hoosiers can go:

Camping

Biking

Hunting

Fishing

Bird-watching

Trail-riding

Boating

And more!

Be a part of the effort to keep Indiana such a wonderful place to call home. When you renew, choose blue.

What is the connection between the Environmental Plate and Indiana Heritage Trust?

The Indiana Heritage Trust was launched in 1992 with a mission to conserve Indiana's natural resources and habitats. As the first specialty license plate in Indiana, the Environmental plate debuted in 1992 to help generate funding for the Indiana Heritage Trust. Since that time, funds from plate sales have helped protect numerous acres of Indiana's land, waters and wildlife.

How much does the Plate cost and how are the fees allocated? The Environmental Plate costs \$40, which includes a \$15 Bureau of Motor Vehicles processing fee. The remaining \$25 goes directly toward protection of Indiana's land, waters and wildlife.

Can I donate funds without purchasing an Environmental Plate? Absolutely! Private donations to the Indiana Heritage Trust are happily accepted at anytime. When you make a private donation, 100 percent of the funds go toward our preservation efforts.

Ready to renew? Here's how to get started:

Renewing is easy and we've made it simpler than ever with our step-by-step guide. Start by downloading our Guide to Renewing Your License Plate PDF.

Contact us at: Enviroplate@dnr.in.gov

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/heritage/4417.htm>

KANKAKEE RIVER REPORT

June, 2015

By Jim Sweeney

Kankakee River National Water Trail:

The application to create the Kankakee River National Water Trail has been submitted to the National Park Service and they hope to have it made official by the fall of this year. National Water Trails are a new and voluntary program to encourage outdoor recreation and education about rivers and watersheds. If approved, the NWT would run the entire 133 mile length of the Kankakee River from South Bend to Wilmington, Illinois.

Jasper County Surveyor:

Last fall the Jasper County Surveyor removed most of the trees and rebuilt the levees along 10 miles of the Kankakee River. They are quite fond of calling the river, "the ditch." They hope that lessens the negative feedback they receive for the destructive nature of their work. Rest assured that several more tons of sand is moving slowly to Illinois where it will join many more tons of Indiana sand increasing flooding and erosion problems there.

Soon, that entire 9.25 mile length will be treated with a herbicide to kill any surviving vegetation to get it ready to be covered with 6" riprap. It is amazing to

me that even in the new century with all the talk of “best management practices,” drainage boards still are not held accountable for the destruction they cause downstream.

LaSalle Fish and Wildlife Area:

The new property manager for the LaSalle Fish and Wildlife Area in Lake Village, IN has decided to drain a large, flooded bayou to turn it into a waterfowl resting area. They have switched Black Oak Bayou and another area in their roles for providing duck hunting opportunities and resting areas. This has upset a lot of local anglers because it was a great fishing spot. Apparently the DNR will be using an aerial application of herbicide to encourage a faster return of shallow water wetland vegetation.

We have not taken a position on the issue primarily because it could provide better habitat for a greater variety of birds but we do not like the fact that the DNR did this without meeting with the anglers as well as the duck hunters. They have alienated a lot of local fishermen.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2015

IDNR issues

By Dean Farr

Charity Gaming.

Pheasants Forever (PF) worked with Sen. Alting on adding clarifying language to Charity Gaming. First to allow state level groups that meet same criteria as national groups to use the comprehensive gaming license. If you recall 3 years ago there was concern that only selected groups would benefit from an easier licensing process. Now state level non-profit will have the same opportunity. Second is to make it easier for affiliate groups to qualify for gaming, under a parent group comprehensive license. Language will potentially benefit many other non-profits. Working with Sen. Alting and Leising, our proposal was amended into SB 327 which increase payout of some charity gaming. In our testimony at Senate hearing

PF mentioned its partners Ducks Unlimited (DU) and Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA). PF stated proceeds from charity gaming to help IDNR on maintaining public hunting areas and with private lands programs; that PF in a very small way helps to make up for IDNR funding shortfalls. Many thanks to chapters: Sycamore, Coal Creek, NE Indiana, and Quail Forever (QF) down in Evansville for seeking support among their Senators. Bill passed. This is just one small step to improve Charity Gaming with more to do. Everyone agreed we need a stream lined online licensing system but how to pay for it is the big challenge.

IDNR Funding Resolution.

Our proposed Senate resolution asking for a Summer Study Committee to look at IDNR funding was not introduced. Being supported by DU and QDMA, Sen. Crider our sponsor was told of a restriction placed on the number of resolutions allowed this year thus, this resolution was not introduced. Not to be deterred PF has with partners petitioned the Interim Summer Study Committee to ask questions of the State Budget Agency on how IDNR (licenses fees) are managed, how much is held in reserve and how much may have been reverted back to the general fund (i.e., \$3.8 M LARE reverted in 2010). Also ask for IDNR to explain current needs, current licensing, how the Federal match works and opportunities for new WMAs. Hope to generate ideas to maximize Federal match and bring money back to Indiana to invest for all.

Other Bills of Interest that Passed:

HB 1452 (IDNR bill) Natural resources matters. Allows the department of administration to sell abandoned railroad corridor property to an adjacent landowner under certain conditions. Adds supplies purchased for resale at properties owned or managed by the Department of Natural Resources to the purchases exempt from the public purchasing requirements. Allows the state forester to use a geographic information system for classified land inspections if a landowner chooses to not accompany the state forester on the inspection. Allows the director of the department to declare certain information confidential concerning endangered species. Allows the director to issue an order vacating a public highway within property owned or managed by the department. Provides that rules adopted by the department concerning the use of motorized carts at state parks and recreation areas must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Allows the natural resources commission to set the compensation rate for the development of game bird habitats. Removes the exemption for the sale of certain roe bearing fish from the requirement to have a roe harvester's or dealer's license. Allows licenses, stamps, and permits of the department that are purchased electronically to be validated through an electronic affirmation. Provides that trout and salmon stamps are electronically generated. Provides that a duplicate license to hunt, trap, or fish is valid only with the signature or electronic affirmation of the licensee. Establishes the date by which a fur buyer's report must be submitted to the department. Provides that a law enforcement officer may seize certain animals and items if certain laws are violated. (Current law requires seizure.) Allows certain floodway permits to be renewed for five years. Transfers administrative control of the flood control revolving fund from the commission to the Indiana finance authority. Increases the amount of a surety bond that a timber buyer must pay to engage in the business of timber buying in Indiana. Increases the maximum security required for a timber buyer's license to \$50,000 beginning January 1, 2017. Removes the requirement that a timber buyer designate a principle agent. Makes conforming and stylistic changes.

HB 1545 Hunting guide services. Amends the definition of "guide services" to include paid transportation for the purpose of hunting or fishing. Makes it a Class A misdemeanor for a person to: (1) provide guide services; and (2) knowingly or

intentionally transport an individual to private property to hunt or fish without the permission or consent of the landowner.

Commentary: commercial operator whether guides or hunting leases is a growing business in Indiana

HB 1208 Additional antlered deer licenses. Allows the department of natural resources to establish a lottery system to allow an individual to purchase a license to take more than one antlered deer within a one year period.

HB 1471 Recreational trails guidelines. Requires the division of outdoor recreation of the department of natural resources to develop recreational trails guidelines to address the following issues as they relate to recreational trails: (1) Clear statement of ownership and management of each trail. (2) Right-of-way inconsistencies. (3) Fence line issues. (4) Drainage issues, including tile drains. (5) Tree and brush control. (6) Weed and mowing issues. (7) Law enforcement jurisdiction issues. (8) Signage issues. (9) Conflict resolution procedures. (10) Appeal procedures.

** Commentary: nice idea but has no funding of its own; will divert money from other IDNR programs

SJR 2 Provides that the right to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife is a valued part of Indiana's heritage and shall be forever preserved for the public good. Provides that the people have a right, which includes the right to use traditional methods, to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife, subject only to the laws prescribed by the general assembly and rules prescribed by virtue of the authority of the general assembly to: (1) promote wildlife conservation and management; and (2) preserve the future of hunting and fishing. Provides that hunting and fishing are the preferred means of managing and controlling wildlife. Provides that this constitutional amendment does not limit the application of any laws relating to trespass or property rights. This proposed amendment has been agreed to by one general assembly.

** Commentary: Will now go to voters in next general election; could have had some consensus building

Charity Gaming Bonus HB 1435 Alcoholic beverage prizes. Allows a nonprofit corporation that is a qualified organization under the charity gaming law (qualified organization) to give bottles or cases of alcoholic beverages as prizes in a charity gaming event without obtaining an alcoholic beverage permit. Allows a qualified organization conducting a charity auction to auction alcoholic beverages in sealed bottles or cases that are purchased by or donated to the qualified organization. Prohibits alcoholic beverages that are auctioned or given as prizes from being consumed on the premises.

Above was extracted from the Indiana General Assembly's 2015 session web site. By Gogging on Indiana General Assembly 2015 <https://iga.in.gov/> you can read more on above bills and any other bill of interest. Source is the Legislative Services Agency.

PUBLIC LANDS AND FISH AND WILDLIFE

June, 2015

By Chuck Bauer

There are a few reasons to cheer. First, the U.S. Corp of Engineers and the EPA have finalized their wetlands protection agreement for small streams and isolated wetlands. This provides much needed protection for small streams and isolated wetlands. This is a win for all and IWLA was a key player. Second, purchases of public lands by both the IDNR and the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge continue as do purchases of land by numerous State Land Trusts.

The not so good news is the funding and manpower for the IDNR Division of Fish and Wildlife and State Parks is terrible. Many positions are left open. It is affecting services and habitat protection. Both Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage and Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) acreage is being targeted for less funding. There is a constant attack on the EPA at both the State and National levels.

The really bad news is that carrying capacity and Climate Change concerns are being challenged by both the House and Senate. Only the Administration has protected any land and challenged big Oil, Coal, and Utilities. There is no positive action in either the National House of Representatives or the Senate on any key environmental issues. There is plenty of negative action. The newest push is to sell of some Public Lands to raise revenue and cut expenses. We need to elect representatives who vow to lower CO2 emissions, are not climate change deniers, vow to protect and enhance Public lands, and protect our environment.

SECRETARY REPORT

By Stan Jarosz

June, 2015

We had a great convention this year, thank you all for attending. It was difficult leaving Saturday afternoon when we recessed the convention because I knew that I would not be attending the banquet, awards ceremony, and fundraiser auction. Instead my wife and I attended our nephews wedding and reception. However, all the evening events went well, we raised over \$800 during the auction and from what I was told everyone had an enjoyable evening.

I hope in the future more Ike members will consider coming to these division events. We have quarterly meetings (Sept, Dec, March), and the State Convention in June. These meetings are held at various chapters throughout the state and it is an excellent opportunity to see different chapters and meet other 'Ikes'. Every member in good standing can attend any of the meetings and listen in on the business of the division. If you would like to be a Board of Director, you can be a chapter elected B.O.D. from your local chapter. This is done annually at your local chapter election, and then you will be representing your chapter on the state level. The other way is to come to the B.O.D. meeting (especially in Sept) and potentially fulfilling a vacancy that may available on the state level. You may also consider placing your name as a candidate for one of the Director-at-Large spots that are voted on at the annual state convention in June. Either way, just coming to the

meeting and participating by being present is great. If there is an interest later we can explain what requirements are involved and hopefully satisfy your curiosity.

The other item I would like to remind all chapters about is please get me your updated information for the contact list that I print for every meeting. I know there are chapters that have had the same leaders for many years, and that is ok. But, there are other chapters that change leadership annually and I would like to keep this information up to date. These offices are president, secretary, and chapter director. Please include mailing addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses. This information also needs to be provided to National for the annual directory. Finally, no division can survive without member participation. A decade ago we had different people running the division and they did a fine job. But we have new blood as officers and directors and we would like to see more of you, so please consider coming to a State Meeting and listening in for a day. I think you will like it.

SEVEN SURPRISING REALITIES BEHIND THE GREAT TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

Earth Policy Release

May 13, 2015

The global transition to clean, renewable energy and away from nuclear and fossils is well under way, with remarkable developments happening every day. The Great Transition by Lester Brown, Janet Larsen, Matt Roney, and Emily Adams lays out a tremendous range of these developments – here are seven that may surprise you.

1. Solar is now so cheap that global adoption appears unstoppable. The price of solar photovoltaic panels has declined 99 percent over the last four decades, from \$74 a watt in 1972 to less than 70 cents a watt in 2014. Between 2009 and 2014, solar panel prices dropped by three fourths, helping global PV installations grow 50 percent per year.

2. Wind power adoption is rapidly altering energy portfolios around the world. Over the past decade, world wind power capacity grew more than 20 percent a year, its increase driven by its many attractive features, by public policies supporting its expansion, and by falling costs. By the end of 2014, global wind generating capacity totaled 369,000 megawatts, enough to power more than 90 million U.S. homes. Wind currently has a big lead on solar PV, which has enough worldwide capacity to power roughly 30 million U.S. homes.
3. National and subnational energy policies are promoting renewables, and many geographies are considering a price on carbon. Unfortunately, governments worldwide still subsidize the fossil fuel industry with over \$600 billion, giving this aging industry five times the subsidy that went to renewables. But by the start of 2014, some 70 countries, including many in Europe, were using feed-in tariffs to encourage investment in renewables.
4. The financial sector is embracing renewables – and starting to turn against fossils and nuclear. The financial services firm Barclays downgraded the entire U.S. electricity sector in 2014, in part because in its view U.S. utilities are generally unprepared for the challenges posed by distributed solar power and battery storage. In January 2013, Warren Buffett gave solar energy a huge financial boost when his MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company announced an investment of up to \$2.5 billion in California in what is now known as the Solar Star project. At 580 megawatts, it will become the world's largest PV project when complete in late 2015. MidAmerican had earlier bought the Topaz solar farm in California, now tied with Desert Sunlight, another California project, as the world's largest at 550 megawatts. As of its completion in late 2014, Topaz can generate enough electricity to power 180,000 California homes.
5. Coal use is in decline in the United States and will likely fall at the global level far sooner than once thought possible. U.S. coal use is dropping – it fell 21 percent between 2007 and 2014 – and more than one-third of the nation's coal plants have already closed or announced plans for future closure in the last five years. Major U.S. coal producers, such as Peabody Energy and Arch Coal, have seen their market values drop by 61 and 94 percent, respectively, as of September 2014.

6. Transportation will move away from oil as electric vehicle fleets expand rapidly and bike- and car-sharing spreads. Bike-sharing programs have sprung up worldwide in recent years. More than 800 cities in 56 countries now have fully operational bike-share programs, with over 1 million bikes. In the United States, by the end of 2012 some 21 cities had 8,500 bikes in bike-share racks. By the end of 2016, this is expected to climb to over 70 cities with close to 40,000 bikes. The share of carless households increased in 84 out of 100 U.S. urban areas surveyed between 2006 and 2011. And as urbanization increases, this share will only rise.

7. Nuclear is on the rocks thanks to rising costs and widespread safety concerns. For the world as a whole, nuclear power generation peaked in 2006, and dropped by nearly 14 percent by 2014. In the United States, the country with the most reactors, nuclear generation peaked in 2010 and is now also on the decline.

Chapter 1 of *The Great Transition: Shifting from Fossil Fuels to Solar and Wind Energy* is available online at www.earth-policy.org/books/tgt. Supporting data and a PowerPoint summary presentation are also available for free downloading. Data and additional resources available at <http://www.earth-policy.org>.

TREASURERS REPORT

By Patty Jarosz

June, 2015

This year is my third year as Treasurer of Indiana Division Izaak Walton League of America and it is the first year that I have felt completely comfortable with this position. The following are the current balances in the accounts as of May 31, 2015:

General Checking Account:	\$76,816.23
Youth Camp Checking Account:	10,134.96
Tech Credit Union Investments:	<u>69,746.59</u>
Overall Total:	\$156,697.78

Also available on file is the June 1, 2014 through May 31, 2015 Budget, Account Balances, Income and Expenses and Register Report. There was a bank charge for \$257.44 which covers the printing of new checks, deposit slips, check book, endorsement stamp and a ledger.

We received a letter from the student who received the scholarship from Purdue. The recipient is Monica Del Real and she is finishing her degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Science.

Chuck Siar contacted me that he is still getting a tax notice on property we own. I will be turning that over to President Tim Russell to see if he can get the address changed.

Only a couple of the chapters have provided me with a copy of their insurance policy. Note that it is a requirement of the By-laws that all Indiana Chapters are to provide the Indiana Division with a copy of their insurance policy.

I will be advancing to Bobby Wright the money to pay for the Hospitality room at the National Convention as well as money spent on refreshments and supplies for the room. Once Bobby Wright returns from the National Convention, he will give me copies of all receipts for the hotel room and expenses for the Hospitality Room. Bobby will also reimburse the Division any money not spent on the Hospitality room as he had done in the past. The Division will also be paying for the cost of the giveaways. Last year the Division budgeted \$400 for the room and Chapters and individuals donated \$950 for a total of \$1,350.00. Expenses from last year's National Convention were \$845.99 leaving \$504.01. So far Chapters and individuals have donated \$600 to this year's Hospitality Room and the Division has budgeted \$400 for the rental of the Hospitality room.

I have forwarded to Marvin Lahr a proposed June 1, 2015-May 31, 2016 budget as he will not be at the meeting this weekend. Marvin has approved the budget but I will be presenting it to the Finance Committee later today. All committee chairs were sent an email reminding them to submit a budget before the meeting. I only received a budget from Jim Daniels for the Waltonian.

WATER QUALITY REPORT

June 6, 2015

By Karen Griggs

Banquet Center Proposed for Public Beach

--Ikes say: "Not on the Beach!"

Construction of a new Conference Center and Banquet Hall on the Lake Michigan beach in the Indiana Dunes State Park has caused protests from the Indiana Division Izaak Walton League, Hoosier Environmental Council, Citizens Action Coalition, and Sierra Club. According to Ryan Sabalow, in a byline article in the Indianapolis Star May 11, The Pavilion Partners company plans a 17,000 square foot banquet and conference center.

At the March Indiana Division IWLA meeting, Herb Read said, "The first time that the public heard about the 'banquet center' adjacent to the historic bath house pavilion was a newspaper article in The Chesterton Tribune newspaper". Read protested that the state Department of Natural Resources had not even held a public hearing on the project.

Jim Sweeney said that the proposed 'banquet center' would be close to the restored Dunes Creek which flooded in 2008, undercutting the parking lot and concrete pad that would be the foundation for the new building. He said that a protest letter was sent April 29 to the National Park Service because funds from the federal Land & Water Conservation Fund had been used on the site and no permission for a change in use had been given by the federal authorities.

Charlotte Read said, "The IDNR had no good public process for citizen participation." The IDNR wants the existing pavilion refurbished, and the company that they gave

the okay to will use private money for the conference center. A bill that passed the legislature will allow alcoholic beverages in state parks, possibly attracting conventions.

Is the conference center needed? The Waterbird Conference Center already exists on the west side of State Road 49, the entrance road to the state park.

Action Alert:

Charlotte Read, Porter County Chapter, said that all activists should send the message “no new building on the beach” to Governor Mike Pence by e-mail and write the Governor:

The Hon. Mike Pence

Office of the Governor

State House, Room 206

Indianapolis, IN 46204-2797

E-mail mpence@gov.in.us

Tell him about your experiences as you hike the lakeshore, take your kids swimming, enjoy boating on Lake Michigan and watching the sunset over the lake. Use personal examples to tell about your personal ties and memories of the Dunes.

Also, send comments to your legislators. To find your legislators go to:

<http://www.iga.in.gov/legislative/find-legislators>

Grants for K-12 Teachers:

Teachers in grades K-12 may apply for small grants up to \$250 for field trips to Indiana State Parks or state-managed lakes. The applications must be postmarked by June 30.

Go to this website for grant application forms:

DiscoverOutdoorsGrants@dnr.IN.gov .

[ed note: Since you will receive this after the deadline, note the application language and be thinking about next year. Also, check out the website to see if the deadline might have been extended.]

Carp Control Bill in Congress:

The Alliance for the Great Lakes said that U. S. Representative Debbie Stabenow and Candice Miller introduced a bill called Defending Our Great Lakes Act. The bill “calls on the Corps of Engineers to implement risk-reduction measures at two sites: the Brandon Road Lock and Dam site on the Des Plaines River and in the Chicago Area Waterway System.” The Alliance called the detection of carp DNA a few blocks from Lake Michigan “very near the lock in downtown Chicago most alarming.”

Kankakee River News:

“The Jasper County Surveyor has stripped more than ten miles of the Kankakee River of all trees, bushes, flowers and weeds , leading to massive erosion and siltation. He plans to spray the herbicide Garlon in 2015,” said Jim Sweeney, representing the Friends of the Kankakee River. This has a major negative impact on the water quality of the river as it flows west into Illinois.

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources also plans to use the herbicide on the LaSalle Fish and Wildlife Area between Highway 41 and the Illinois-Indiana state line. The IDNR is draining a deep water fishery for shallow water wildfowl habitat.

For more information, call Jim Sweeney, 1773 Selo Avenue, Schererville, IN 46375, (219) 322-7239.

Does Your Chapter Teach Kids How to Fish?

Do you have a free Youth Day for fishing at your pond or lake at the chapter property? Does your church youth group have expertise in leading a float trip down the river? Does your chapter plan a day camp? Let us know. We can use a short news article that will help other chapter leaders get started on youth outdoor recreation for kids. Karen Griggs (765) 463-5215 or e-mail with Water Quality in the subject line to kgriggs10@gmail.com

Mercury Disposal:

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management states that mercury poisoning “can cause irreversible brain, liver, and kidney damage.” The agency states that coal burning is “a major source,” and published a Community Environmental Health page on its IDEM website to give the public some advice for disposal of mercury-laden hazardous waste . This mercury comes from antiseptic products containing thimerosal and merbromin, fever thermometers that contain mercury, metal halide and high pressure sodium lights, from fluorescent light bulbs, old chemistry sets, fever thermometers, and pre-1977 LAGear tennis shoes. IDEM provides Internet links to the nearest hazardous waste collection sites.

Public Hearing June 17 Coastal Zone Funds:

The state Department of Natural Resources Coastal Zone Program will hold a public hearing on June 17 at 6:30 p.m. in Woodland Park 21 Willowcreek Road, Portage. They want public input on grants for applied research, public access, habitat, land acquisition, planning, and emerging issues. Over \$800,000 will be available. [ed note: Since you will receive this news after the event go to the IDNR website to make comments.]

Wetlands Rule:

The Environmental Protection Agency and the Corps of Engineers have agreed on a federal regulation to protect wetlands and streams under the Clean Water Act. The regulation responds to court decisions that muddied the intent of the Act. It will not affect farmers.

For more information, contact the Conservation Director at the Izaak Walton League of America www.iwla.org

Department of Natural Resources Camps and Riverwatch Training:

The IDNR will hold three day camps at Mounds State Parks and about a dozen Riverwatch training sessions around the state in 2015.

Water Quality Committee:

Members of the Water Quality Committee are Karen Griggs, Chair, Charlotte Read, and Jim Sweeney. We meet during the quarterly Indiana Division IWLA Board of Directors. If you are interested in doing research, monitoring government meetings, and writing, call Karen Griggs at (765) 463-5215 or Jim Sweeney at (219) 322-7239.

YOUTH CAMP

By Stan Jarosz

June, 2015

If you receive this paper before the end of July there may be space left to send your child to the Youth Camp at Ross Camp in West Lafayette. At the time of this article submission we had 90 campers signed up, so if you are interested please contact us and find out if there is space available. The dates of camp are July 26 thru August 1, and the cost of camp is \$100.00. This is for boys and girls ages 9 - 15.

I wanted to send out this note to everyone thanking them for their support this year in our transition to the new park. We had several fundraisers this year to purchase additional mattresses so we could still provide for the same amount of campers. We also received private donations, and Keith and Dakota Halper managed a Go Fund Me page on Facebook to get us additional monies. Thank you to everyone for all your help and support.

The next article from me will be to tell how great this years camp was at the new park. Now for those of you that have already signed your children up for camp please remember, we are going to Ross Camp in West Lafayette, not Tippecanoe River State Park. If you have any questions, please contact me asap.