Published by The WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

Volume 46 Number 3 www.wisconsinaquaculture.com

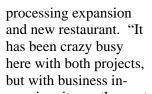
September 2013

# **September Board Meeting and** Members' Picnic to be Held at **Rushing Waters**



The WAA quarterly Board Meeting and Member's Picnic will be held on Thursday, September 19 at Rushing Waters Fisheries. Peter Fritsch, President of Rushing Waters and WAA Board member is looking forward to show off his

**Trout House** Restaurant





**Trout House Outdoor Patio** 

creasing, it was the next step," explained Peter. Construction began in the winter, starting with **Pouring Cement** the processing expansion and he is





**Processing Expansion** 

now working on the new restaurant, the Trout House. The board meeting will be 9-11a with a trout lunch starting at noon, followed with tours. All WAA members and their families are invited to attend.

Please rsvp to Cindy (Cindy@WisconsinAquaculture.com, 715-248-3657) by Monday September 16, so I will have a head count to give to Peter.

# Walleye Initiative - Rules Study Listening Sessions and Walleye Production **Grants Information Sessions**

Ron Johnson, UW - Extension Aquaculture Program

The UW-Extension Aquaculture Outreach Program is conducting two identical Listening and Information Sessions Regarding the Walleye Initiative for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. The first part of each meeting will be a Listening Session regarding Rules, Statutes and Policies that affect the Wisconsin Aquaculture Industry. This Listening Session is part of the directive by the Wisconsin Legislature to study the need for the regulations, the possibility of streamlining the procedures and to find bottlenecks that may be preventing the industry from expanding. The second part of the meeting will provide information on the Walleye Grant Program: pending rules governing the program, purpose, eligibility, application process and time line. Everyone who is interested in regulations concerning the aquaculture industry or wants information on the Walleye Grant Program should attend.

If you are unable to attend the Regulations Listening Session a comment period will be open from August 19 to September 20, 2013. Comments regarding aquaculture regulations should be sent to Ron Johnson, Aquaculture Outreach Cont on pg 4

# **Aquaculture Extension , Walleye Initiative** and Wisconsin Farm Raised Sturgeon Update

Ron Johnson, UW - Extension Aquaculture Program

## 1-Aquaculture Extension Contract -

The Governor's budget included onetime money for the Aquaculture Extension Program which includes salary, fringe and operation expenses for Jim Held and I which was appropriated in the DNR budget and will be in the form of a grant contract between DNR and UW-Extension. We have been working with UW-Extension Chancellor Ray Cross's office and DNR staff to write the language for the contract. This will allow Jim and I to continue working until June 30, 2014. [A great big thanks from Jim and I to Dave Gollon and the Board for your support and getting this accomplished]

Cont on page 6

## The CREEL

Sept 2013 Volume 46\* \* \* Number 3
WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION
www.wisconsinaquaculture.com

#### **EDITOR**

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Peter Fritsch, Rushing Waters Fisheries, Inc., Palmyra, WI 262-495-2089 PeteF@rushingwaters.net

# WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSN. COMMITTEES

The following are committees that were formed at the June meeting. If you are interested in joining any committee, please contact any committee member. The effectiveness of our committees and our organization are based on membership participation.

Committee	Members
Business Development Creation, review and development of business development tools for aquaculture	Peter Fritsch
Research & Education Coordination and review of research, training, educational programming	Dan Gruendemann Jim Held
Regulatory Policy Coordination, review and impact assessment of regulatory actions	Dave Gollon Terry Hogan Ron Johnson
Budget	Mike Kelm Terry Hogan Dan Gruendemann Cindy Johnson

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force - Aquaculture Member

Ron Johnson, 400 Hill Ave., Star Prairie, WI 54026 715-248-3657 Ron.Johnson@uwsp.edu

# AQUACULTURE OUTREACH SPECIALISTS – UW EXTENSION

Northern - Ron Johnson 400 Hill Ave., Star Prairie, WI 54026 715-248-3657 Ron.Johnson@uwsp.edu

Southern - Jim Held 302 S. Main St., Lake Mills, WI 53551 920-648-2902 JaHeld@nisc.edu

#### **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

Active (voting): \$50/ year, Associate (non-voting): \$25/ year Group(1 vote): \$75/ year, All memberships RUN FROM January to December and include annual subscription to *The CREEL* 

The CREEL reaches many potential customers four times per year. If your business involves the growing or selling of any aquaculture product or any necessary equipment, feed or services, advertising will be a great benefit to you.

The CREEL goes to press the 1st of February, May, August, and November. Please submit photo-ready ad copy and payment to the Secretary/Editor 1 week prior to this for inclusion in the upcoming issue Rates per issue are as follows:

1/8 page: \$30; 1/4 page: \$40; 1/2 page: \$60; Full page: \$100

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### MIKE KELM - QUIET SPRINGS FISH FARM

Hi All, hope your summer is going great, and that the fish are growing great. There has been a lot happening in Wisconsin Aquaculture, this year, and for the most part it is positive. The Governor's Walleye initiative has passed, and this has helped to provide funding for our Aquaculture Extension Agents, for another year. Without this, we would have lost our extension agents. We still have a challenge before us to secure future (more consistent) funding for these positions, so that we do not lose them permanently. Other parts of the Governor's Walleye initiative will also help the private aquaculture industry, here in Wisconsin. I want to thank all of you, who contacted their senators and representatives, in support of this initiative. WAA is not affiliated with any political party, however, because our industry is regulated by the state government, we have no choice but to be a voice of the industry to that government. That voice is each and every one, which chooses to get involved, and make a difference for Wisconsin Aquaculture.

Another part of this initiative, is a study that will be conducted by our Aquaculture Extension Agents. This study is geared at finding the barriers that inhibit private industry from working with the DNR, for fish propagation and stocking (primarily Walleyes). This can be anything from raising forage fish, to stocking fish, and could open other doors of opportunity for this industry. As with all ventures between

government and private sectors, caution and attention to details will be very important.

There have also been meetings about the possibility of rearing Sturgeon, in this state. This may be a bit down the road, but establishing a dialogue is a good start.

Looking down the road. Now is the best time to be planning for next spring. On our farm, we are reflecting on this past springs spawning and hatching, and are looking to implement improvements for next year. We have found that this is best done while still fresh in our minds. We have also found that using a digital camera, to take pictures, as well as videos, works great when trying to remember what actually happened. This digital record, can be reviewed again and again, to assist with improving a process, or procedure, or maybe even a simple piece of equipment. Digital pictures also work fairly well assisting with counting live fish.

And talking about planning, WAA (mostly Cindy) has been busy planning for the 2014 WAA conference. I hope that you will be planning on attending this event, with great opportunities to network with fellow fish farmers, and other industry related people.

Until next time

Mike

TABLE OF CONTENTS		
September Board Meeting and Members' Picnic to be Held		
at Rushing Waters	1	
Walleye Initiative - Rules Study Listening Sessions &Walleye Prod.		
Grants Info. Sessions - R. Johnson, UW-Ext/Aquaculture	1	
Aquaculture Extension, Walleye Initiative and Wisconsin Farm Raised		
Sturgeon Update - R. Johnson, UW-Ext/Aquaculture	1	
WAA Committees	2	
President's Message - Mike Kelm	3	
Correction to Silent Auction Donors	3	
From the Editor - Cindy Johnson	4	
2013 Calendar of Events	4	
UW-SP/NADF Project Summary - Greg Fischer, Facility Manager	6	
UW-SP/NADF Hatchery Tips - Greg Fischer, Facility Manager	11	
New Nonlethal Test Developed to Detect Fish Virus	11	
Agriculture Industry Page Highlights Careers in Diverse Sector		
Driving Wisconsin Economy	12	
SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available in Wisconsin		
Following Secretary of Agriculture Disaster Declaration	12	
SBIR Aquaculture Grant: RFA foe Phase 1 Proposals	13	
Aquaculture Day Photos	17	

Kids' Fishing Day at NGLVC and Farm Tech Days Photos	19
Federal Update on the Newly Named Interagency Working Group	
on Aquaculture	20
WAA Quarterly Board Agenda	21
Wisconsin Aquaculture Industry Advisory Council Minutes	21
Farmed Fish Production Overtakes Beef	23

The CREEL is published quarterly, March, June, September and December; WAA welcomes input and involvement from all interested parties.

Unless otherwise indicated, all articles are authored by *The CREEL* editor and/or WAA editorial committee. Editorial comments pertinent to other submissions are italicized and noted in parenthesis (ed.) All opinions expressed in *The CREEL* are those of the contributor/author and not necessarily those of the Wisconsin Aquaculture Association, its officers or directors.

#### Omission:

In the 2013 June Creel there was an omission in the list of Silent Auction donors.

WAA member Cheryl Gur & Irene Parker, Omega 3 Growers donated a Slue-Foot Sue figurine.

WAA thanks them for their donation and support!

## From the Editor

Fox Hills Resort, in Mishicot, has been chosen as the location for our 2014 Wisconsin Aquaculture Conference. The dates are March 7-8, so reserved those days on your calendar!

Photos of Aquaculture Day, Kids Fishing Day and Farm Tech Days are posted on Facebook, so give us a like and keep up with our postings. The powerpoints from the conference are now online - the Presentation page is under "For the Industry".

A Seafood HACCP workshop is scheduled for Dec 10-12 at the Ojibwa Casino Resort in Baraga. MI. An agenda and registration form is on WAA's website. If you have any questions, please contact the MSU Sea Grant office (Phone/Fax 906-226-3687) or Ron Kinnunen (MSU Sea Grant Educator) at <a href="kinnune1@msu.edu">kinnune1@msu.edu</a>. For those of you in food processing with new employees or planning to be in food processing, you should make plans to attend. The Seafood HACCP workshops that Ron offers are very reasonable compared to what others charge in other regions of the country.

Aquaculture Day results ranged from good, to fair to few in attendance. One farmer did tell me that he didn't run any ads in the local paper this year (not many in attendance) and he did previously and several hundred came. Flavorful Insight obtained several tv spots - Eau Claire, Rhinelander, Green Bay, 2 stations in Madison, plus articles in Ozaukee Press and The Country Today, and an interview with Pam Janke on the Farm Report. We will continue to look at ways to promote this day.

Hope you all had a good summer!

cindy

## **2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### **MEETINGS**

Location: Rushing Waters Fisheries, W301 Cty Rd H,

Palmyra, WI

Sept 19 WAA Quarterly Board Meeting, 8 - 9:30am

Sept 19 WAA Member Picnic

Location: Fox Hills Resort, 250 W Church St,

Mishicot, WI 54228 (920) 755-2365

Dec 6 WAA Quarterly Board Meeting, 8-10a

Dec 6 WAIAC Meeting, 10-noon

#### **LISTENING SESSIONS**

Aug 29 Dane County UW Extension Office Room A&B,

5201 Fen Oak Dr, Suite 138, Madison WI 53718

Time: 9:00 am to 1:30 pm

Sept 4 Wood County Court House Room 101, 400

Market Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Time: 9:00 am to 1:30 pm

#### 2014 WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE

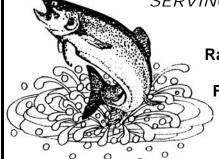
March 7-8 Fox Hills Resort, 250 W Church St,

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sevenpinesfishery@hotmail.com

Listening Sessions, cont from page 1

Specialist, 400 Hill Ave, Star Prairie, WI 54026 or at ron.johnson@ces.uwex.edu.

#### **Meeting Locations and Dates:**

Madison: August 29, 2013

Dane County UW Extension Office Room A&B, 5201 Fen

Oak Dr, Suite 138, Madison WI 53718-8827

Time: 9:00 am to 1:30 pm

### Wisconsin Rapids: September 4, 2013

Wood County Court House Room 101, 400 Market Street,

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495 Time: 9:00 am to 1:30 pm

University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including title IX and ADA requirements.





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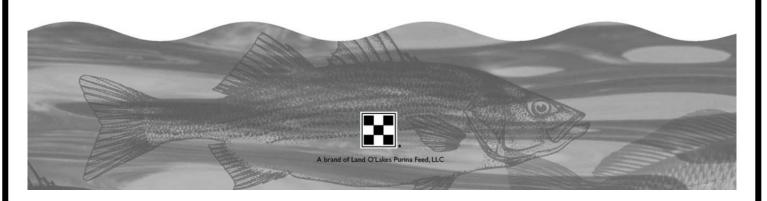


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# Updates, Cont from page 1

#### 2-Walleye Initiative -

Work has started at DNR (and Extension) to assign the work of each segment of the Walleye Initiative, establish time lines and figure out the logistics and interactions between agencies and the industry. Here is what I know so far —

**Fish Farm Capacity** – UW-Extension Aquaculture will take lead role on this study to be completed no later than June 30, 2014.

Fish Farm Study Rule Study – UW-Extension Aquaculture will take a lead role in soliciting input from the aqua culture industry in helping develop recommendations for the study to be completed by November 15, 2013. Jim and I will be doing two listening sessions (one in the north and the other in Madison) and then keep open a comment period for at least two additional weeks. We will need input from as many as possible in the industry.

**Grants to increase** Capacity – Statute 29.739 outlined that the DNR will need to establish emergency rules (without an emergency) to establish protocols, methods, eligibility, review process and awarding of grants. Tentatively, these rules will be sent to the Natural Resource Board (NRB) in a scope statement in September and will be voted on at the NRB meeting in October. This means Applications could be accepted after that date and the rules will establish the timelines for review and awarding, which is expected to occur during the winter. UW-Extension Aquaculture will provide technical and administrative assistance in the development of the grant program. Wisconsin Tribal Nations will also be eligible for these grants and it is yet to be determined how that process will be conducted.

Walleye Production Contracts – The direct payment for walleye production to the aquaculture industry will start July 1, 2014. In order to have the program in place on that date so the program can start, UW-EX Aquaculture will work with DNR to provide technical and administrative assistance in establishing criteria and how the program will operate.

## 3-Sturgeon Report -

Ron Bruch (DNR) and I met on July 17, 2013 to discuss a timeline and assign sections of the Lake Sturgeon White Paper Report. It was a very productive meeting and Ron and I will co-author the report with a deadline of October 1, 2013 to have a draft paper completed. The report will include Introduction, Management Program, Benefits, Concerns, and Recommendations. When the draft is completed we will circulate it for comments, then address comments, and have a final paper completed which will be sent to the Governor's Office, Secretaries of *continued* 

## Updates, continued

DNR and DATCP, key legislatures and interested parties. The paper will include aspects of the Walleye Initiative and how the industry is taking a larger role in Wisconsin fishery management. Ron Burch met with Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch on August <sup>5th</sup> to give her an update on the progress of the report. Ron Bruch has also sent to me a new Sturgeon Hatchery Manual written by Mikhail S. Chebanov and Elena V. Galich, both Russians, as part of a FAO Technical Manual (there is a link on WAA's website to this manual).

As new information comes forward we will keep you updated.



# University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility Project Summary – July 2013

Submitted by Greg Fischer, Facility Manager

Being located in northern Wisconsin, it is easy to forget that the UWSP-Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility has a dedicated technical staff that is working hard all year long doing research projects, conducting tours, and raising fish to help answer technical aquaculture questions. Unfortunately, we can't get out to all your farms and operations, but we are here and available to help with your issues. As a reminder on who the facility staff is and what we do, we have prepared this summary of ongoing 2013 projects and duties to help provide a better understanding of the facility operations.

#### Who Are We?

#### The UWSP-NADF Facility Technical Staff includes:

Chris Hartleb, Co-Director: Received his B.S. in Biology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, M.S. in Limnology from the University of New Hampshire, and Ph.D. in Fisheries Ecology from the University of Maine. He has been a Professor of Biology at UW-Stevens Point for 17 years where he has experience working with larval fish, cold and cool water aquaculture, and most recently aquaponics. He teaches courses in aquaculture, aquaponics, fisheries ecology, and field ecology. His present responsibilities at UWSP-NADF include administrative, budget and personnel management, grant writing, project development, data analysis, and aquaculture program advancement.

Matt Rogge, Co-Director: Received his B.S. in Biology from UW-Stevens Point, M.S. in Fisheries Biology from Iowa State University, and Ph.D. in Veterinary Medical Sciences from the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine. Matt has been Co-Director of the UWSP-NADF since August 2012. Matt has experience in working with larval fish culture, water quality analysis, fish pond ecology, and fish diseases. He teaches courses in introductory biology, genetics, and microbiology at UWSP. His present responsibilities *cont on pg 8* 



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SKRETTIN

Continued from page 6

at UWSP-NADF include administrative, budget and personnel management, grant writing, project development, data analysis, and aquaculture program advancement.

Greg Fischer, Facility Operations Manager: Received his B.S in Wildlife and Fisheries Management from Lake Superior State University in Michigan. Before coming to the UWSP-NADF, Greg worked with various tribal, state, private and federal agencies in designing, constructing, and managing multi-species facilities for conservation and aquaculture purposes with a variety of cool and coldwater fish species. He has over 20 years of experience with many species of warm, cool and coldwater fish in various rearing systems. His present responsibilities at UWSP-NADF include overseeing applied research and demonstration projects, facility staff, interns, volunteers, and all day-to-day activities involved with the operation of the facility.

Kendall Holmes, Lead Advanced Technician/Foreman: Received a B.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with an Aquatic emphasis and a Water Resources minor. Previously, he worked as Water Resources Coordinator and as a Fisheries Technician for the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa dealing with Lake Superior management. His hatchery experience includes state, federal, and tribal fish hatcheries rearing trout and walleye throughout all phases of production. Kendall has been the Lead Hatchery Technician at UWSP-NADF since 2005. Kendall is responsible for fish propagation, demonstration/research projects, supervising workers/volunteers, equipment and grounds maintenance.

Lisa Yolitz, Office Operations Associate: With an Associate's Degree in Computer Science and an appreciation for Wisconsin freshwater fish preservation, Lisa manages the Operations Budget and individual grants for NADF projects keeping us informed of financial details. In addition she monitors utilities, professional services, and equipment costs to maintain infrastructure and keep NADF running efficiently. Lisa has been with UWSP for over 10 years coming from the Fox Valley where she was the Specification Technician Manager at Bemis with a background in Quality Control receiving ISO QA certification.

Lance Bresette, LTE Technician: Graduated from Bayfield High School in 2005. He has attended Finlandia University and Northland College while pursuing his degree. Lance started working at UWSP-NADF in 2010 as a technician. His experience includes working with walleye, sauger, hybrid walleye, arctic char, white sucker, lake sturgeon, yellow perch, brook trout, lake trout, and rainbow trout in a variety of systems. Present duties include; feeding fish, cleaning tanks, recording mortality, conducting sample *continued* 

# UW-SP NADF Project Summary, Continued

counts, daily and weekly water quality monitoring, as well basic equipment and grounds maintenance.

Bob Stephenson, LTE technician: Received a B.S. degree from University of Minnesota in wildlife and conservation biology in 2012. Bob was hired this June as a LTE aquaculture technician at NADF. His fisheries work experience includes working with lake trout, sturgeon, and brook trout, electrofishing, stream restoration work and various field data collection work. Duties at the UWSP-NADF include water quality monitoring, data collection and analysis, daily care of fish and building /grounds upkeep.

Dan Brown, LTE entry level technician: Graduated from Bayfield High School and received an associate degree from University of Phoenix. Dan was hired this May to help with the Arctic Char Project at NADF. His duties include working with arctic char, sorting, grading, picking eggs, water quality monitoring, feeding and daily care of fish.

Derek Peters, UWSP Summer Intern: Attending UWSP in the Fisheries and Biology programs. Anticipates graduating with a Bachelor's degree in December 2013. Previous experience includes working at Max McGraw Wildlife and Fisheries Research Center in Ill.

#### What do we do?

#### **Tours and Technical Assistance**

Since opening the doors in 2005, the facility has hosted over 500 tours with thousands of people from all over the world. In 2012, facility staff hosted over 100 hands-on tours of the facility for interested groups from WI, MN, MI, SD, TX, IA, FL, WA, Quebec, Germany, and Switzerland. For 2013, we have provided technical assistance to hundreds of phone calls, emails and drop-ins looking for help with raising fish. This translates to several calls per week to help aquaculturists from all over the country solve various problems at their facilities.

#### Hands on Training at NADF

New this year, NADF has been offering extended period, hands on training at the facility for cold and coolwater recirculation systems, water quality monitoring, flow thru systems and pond rearing systems. Under a trial basis, several entities took advantage of this training this past spring with good results. If you are interested in learning more about this unique training opportunity at NADF please contact us for more information.

#### **Technical Presentations**

The UWSP-NADF shares research findings at various state and national conferences including the World Aquaculture Society Conference, International Recirculating Aquaculture Conference, Wisconsin Aquaculture continued on pg 9

Continued from page 6

Conference, and the Native American Fish & Wildlife Conference.

#### Walleye/Hybrid Walleye SBIR Project



Dan Gruendemann stocking saugeyes into an RAS at Northside Enterprises

The UWSP-NADF provided Dan Gruendemann and Northside Enterprises with intensively reared, feedtrained walleye fingerlings from out-of-season spawned walleye for the study. Facility staff has been

working closely with Northside Enterprises on rearing the fish and the operation of their RAS system. The UWSP-NADF and Northside Enterprises are currently working collaboratively on a USDA-SBIR funded project to determine the potential for raising hybrid walleye at a commercial level.

# Walleye, Sauger, Saugeye, and Yellow Perch Fish Shipments

The UWSP-NADF Facility staff provided approximately 10,000 intensively reared feed trained walleye, sauger, saugeye, and yellow perch to various Wisconsin fish farms, schools, and entities this year for use in their systems.

#### **Lake Trout Strain Evaluation**

Working collaboratively with Dr. Rick Goetz of NOAA (previously with UW-Milwaukee) to understand more about the various strains of lake trout, the UWSP-NADF technical

staff is now home to a captive broodstock of large lake trout that are over 5 years old. These fish were successfully spawned and multiple crosses of various strains were collected. Now the offspring are being reared at the UWSP-NADF to help answer some *Continued* 



Greg Fischer, Facility Manager, spawning broodstock lake trout at the NADF Facility.

# UW-SP NADF Project Summary, Cont.

of the questions regarding this species in the Great Lakes.

### **Arctic Char Project**

Based on the great results from earlier studies, UWSP-NADF is again raising Arctic Char indoors, this time in partnership with a private Wisconsin company, Aquaterra, who is sponsoring research to explore early life stage rearing temperatures and rearing densities for Arctic Char. The project is proceeding nicely and the staff has been able to collect some great data that will be beneficial to the industry. Aquaterra has provided over 5,000 pounds of arctic char to various local food shelves and tribal food donation programs from this project. This project will be wrapping up in the fall of 2013. Stay tuned for results following the end of the project.

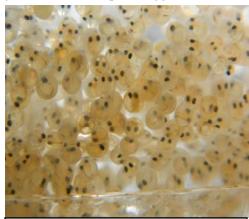
#### **NCRAC Yellow Perch Strain Evaluation**

Working collaboratively with the Ohio State University, the UWSP-NADF has been rearing yellow perch of two different strains in outdoor ponds. One strain is the improved OSU strain and the other strain is a local WI strain. Different attributes such as survival, growth, fillet yield, etc. will be compared during this study. The UWSP-NADF completed year 1 and is continuing this study in 2013 until final harvest in the fall. This study may provide some useful information concerning pond rearing yellow perch for Wisconsin and the Midwest.

# **Development of Lake Herring Propagation Techniques** in the Great Lakes

Building upon NADFs earlier success with lake herring propagation, this project is exploring the rearing of lake herring from start to finish. Some of the research questions involved in this project includes iodophore egg treatment,

incubation temperatures, larval feeds, and overall rearing of lake herring for production. Working collaboratively with **USGS** Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center and USFWS La-Crosse Fish Health Center, this study will



Eyed Lake Herring eggs in bell jar incubation unit at NADF.

help answer questions for future reintroduction of lake herring into the lower Great Lakes and is funded by the USFWS.

Cont on page 10

Continued from page 9

#### Whitefish/Sea Lamprey Investigation

Working cooperatively with Michigan DNR and Lake Superior State University, the facility is exploring the interactions between whitefish and sea lamprey. Presently, we are holding adult whitefish that were collected from trap nets in Lake Superior for monitoring and survival data. This research project is funded by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission.

# **Atlantic Salmon Broodstock Rearing and Evaluation Project**

The UWSP-NADF is working collaboratively with a private company to explore the development of an Atlantic salmon broodstock for possible future use in food-fish aquaculture. This strain of salmon has shown tremendous potential for the future. The fish onsite are 2 years old and should be spawning by age 4. Stay tuned.

# NCRAC Aqui-S 20E (10% Eugenol) Sedation on Yellow Perch and Tilapia for Transport

Working collaboratively with the USGS Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center, the UWSP-NADF conducted studies testing concentrations of Aqui-S 20E during simulated transport at a variety of loading densities to see its effects on sedation level, metabolic rates, and survival for yellow perch and tilapia.

### GIS-based Analysis of Sustainable Domestic Aquaculture Development in Wisconsin

The UWSP-NADF is working collaboratively with the GIS Center at UWSP to develop an evaluative GIS model to identify factors that contribute to a successful fish farm, based on years of operation, in Wisconsin. Then, using a multicriteria evaluation procedure, develop a predictive model that identifies physical locations in Wisconsin that share the successful factors identified in the evaluative model to assist the Wisconsin aquaculture industry in future expansion and growth. This project is funded by WI Sea Grant.

# NCRAC Evaluation of a Least-Cost Diet for Bluegill Sunfish

Working collaboratively with Lincoln University of Missouri, the UWSP-NADF raised age-2 bluegills in commercial fish ponds at Blue Iris and Peplinski Aquaculture fish farms and fed them an industry standard diet and a newly formulated least-cost diet for bluegill sunfish. Results are showing that growth of bluegills was nearly identical for both diets indicating the least-cost diet may provide a financial advantage to bluegill growers.

#### **Hatchery Effluent Reduction Project**

The UWSP-NADF is working collaboratively with the Red Cliff Tribe to reduce the impact of the facilities *Continued* 

# UW-SP NADF Project Summary, Continued

effluent into a local small tributary of Red Cliff Creek. Working together with the RC Natural Resources Department, RC Tribal Youth Intern Program and the Wisconsin Youth Conservation Corp., the facility staff is conducting some stream restoration and repair work to combat erosion near the facility effluent stream. The UWSP-NADF facility is also working with a private company, Parjana, to examine and monitor alternate ways to handle fish hatchery effluent in Wisconsin. This work may help to provide some alternate strategies for fish hatcheries and private aquaculture facilities in Wisconsin.

#### **Local School Aquaculture and Aquaponics**



Bayfield school students with barrel aquaponics set up they constructed.

The UWSP-NADF
has been working collaboratively for many
years with Ashland,
Bayfield and
Washburn Schools to
develop Aquaculture/
Aquaponics Programs
for many different
grade levels. The
UWSP-NADF staff
provides technical assistance, supplies, and
fish to assist the dedi-

cated teachers who are introducing aquaculture and aquaponics to the next generation of aquaculturists.

#### **Commercial Aquaponics**

The UWSP-NADF has been working with Nelson & Pade, Inc. in a public/private partnership to offer semester-long college courses in aquaponics. These are available as both online only and hybrid (online/hands-on) courses that can be taken for college credit or as non-credit courses. The UWSP-NADF also offers college credit for individuals who take Nelson & Pade, Inc. 3-day Aquaponic Master classes. Together in 2013, we hosted the first International Aquaponics conference and established the International Aquaponics Society. An aquaponic professional certificate program is in the works.

#### **Red Cliff Tribal Youth Intern Program**

The Red Cliff Tribal Youth Intern Program is collaborating with the WDNR, USFS, and the UWSP-NADF in 2013 to provide tribal youth summer internship opportunities. The intent of the program is to expose Red Cliff youth to Natural Resource careers and encourage them to pursue college degrees in their area of interest. By working with a number of different agencies in different fields, the program's intent is to allow the interns to identify where their personal interests lie, be it hatchery, fisheries, conservation *Cont on pg 11* 

Continued from page 10

enforcement, park management, etc. This year's interns are Anastasia Walhovd, Anthony Schultz and Brady Defoe. Anastasia is the Crew Leader and a recent college graduate. Anthony and Brady are high school students and are Crew Members.



# **HATCHERY TIPS-April 2013**

By Greg Fischer, UWSP-NADF Facility Operations Manager

## **Transporting or Hauling Fish**

In order to protect your investment, it is important to be prepared with good equipment and knowledge or hire a knowledgeable hauler to move your fish. We have seen many different types of fish hauling equipment come thru our doors to haul fish and it constantly surprises us how ill prepared some folks are.

Transporting fish properly is one of the most important aspects of a successful operation and in having a successful



rearing season. Improperly hauling fish can lead to adverse things such as; low oxygen, high/low water temperature, carbon dioxide

buildup, toxic levels of ammonia, etc. etc. All of these can lead to mortality or, at the very least, affect the performance of your fish once delivered. We have had some firsthand experience with low DO(dissolved oxygen) that did not kill some saugeyes but definitely affected their performance in later rearing.

Professional haulers have the necessary equipment and knowledge to effectively haul large numbers of fish safely. It is important to understand that not every Tom, Dick and Larry with a truck and a tank are professionals. Proper equipment on the truck may include items such as aeration and/or oxygen system, insulated tanks, monitoring gauges, and necessary backups to provide a safe, uneventful trip for the fish. Understanding how many fish to load, what temperature is safe, how far they can be carried without needing a water exchange is something a professional fish hauler will know. You should ask questions and get references before trusting your fish to just anyone.

Continued

# Hatchery Tips, continued

If you are going to try to haul your fish yourself, be aware of what you are getting into and think about the above items. Should you arrive with a Walmart cooler to transport 100 pds of rainbow trout for a few hours in the middle of summer with an aquarium aerator????? I think not. Might as well just pack some plastic garbage bags for the same result. Think ahead and plan accordingly, the fish will only be as good as you treat them. As always, first understand the biology of the fish you are trying to haul and raise. Feel free to contact us or one of the many hauling professionals in Wisconsin for more information.

# New Nonlethal Test Developed to Detect Fish Virus

June 15, 2013 New nonlethal test developed to detect fish virus

Ithaca, NY, USA – Cornell University, College of Veterinary Medicine researchers have successfully identified the presence of a deadly virus - the viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus (VHSV) - by using techniques that are not lethal to fish.

The current method to test if a body of water has infected fish requires sampling the major organs from many indigenous fish, because of concerns that less invasive samples might not be sensitive enough to detect the virus. In a study published in March's Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation (25:2), VHSV was indeed detected from fin and gill tissue biopsies, which cause little harm to collect.

"We were concerned about how many fish we were sampling for surveillance," said graduate student Emily Cornwell, first author of the study. "Up until this point, all of our sampling was lethal. We want to avoid taking fish that are important for sport or that are protected." Because the virus can span multiple regions, thousands of fish are typically tested, said co-author Rod Getchell, Ph.D. '02, senior research associate in microbiology and immunology.

Fish infected with VHSV display signs of external and internal bleeding, and commonly die within a few weeks. VHSV infection remains incurable, so minimizing its presence is paramount. Testing fish for the European strains of VHSV from samples collected nonlethally has been possible since 2009. However, "The Great Lakes genotype has only been known since 2005, so its pathogenesis has not been as well-studied," said Cornwell. "Even though the viruses are similar, they have different hosts they can infect."

This less harmful sampling will allow for more thorough and long-term VHSV studies, such as tracking the *Cont on pg 12* 

# Nonlethal Test, continued from page 11

disease's progression. "Fish can be asymptomatic, but then the infection can flare up. There are a lot of intricacies about the course of disease we don't understand," said Cornwell, who is in her fifth year of the dual DVM/PhD program at Cornell.

To test whether the Great Lakes VHSV strain could be detected from less invasive samples, the researchers collected small clips of tissue from the fins and gills of fish injected with VHSV. RNA extracted from fins and gills revealed a viral presence as successfully as RNA from several internal organs -- the current, but lethal, sample.

The traditional method also only successfully identified the virus about 50 percent of the time in one of the fish types used in the study, even though the fish were exposed to a million copies of virus. "The traditional viral isolation technique is not as sensitive, which is why we chose to inject the fish -- that way, we knew for sure that all of the fish were exposed," said Cornwell.

Regulations dictate that fish must be tested using the traditional viral isolation method, said Getchell. "For example, if you want to move fish from the Great Lakes -- a restricted area, you will have to use the approved techniques. The [new] molecular techniques, even though they're more sensitive, are not part of the regulations yet," said Getchell. Getchell remains hopeful that this study will help "tip the world in the molecular direction. The evidence is mounting, so, slowly, the rules will change."

**Secretary Newson Announces Job Center of Wisconsin Feature:** 

# Agriculture Industry Page Highlights Careers in Diverse Sector Driving Wisconsin Economy

Online employment site's new page developed with sector representatives

PRAIRIE DU SAC – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson announced the new <u>Agriculture Industry</u> page on <u>JobCenterofWisconsin.com</u>. The page is a one-stop online resource for information about agriculture careers, training resources, reports and other information about working in the agriculture industry. "Agriculture contributes \$59.16 billion annually to Wisconsin's economy and accounts for one in every 10 jobs," Secretary Newson said. "Even so, this mainstay of our economy has to contend with misconceptions about agriculture careers. This industry-specific page on our online *continued* 

## Agriculture Industry Page, continued

employment site, JobCenterofWisconsin.com. These are .... jobs that support working families and can move Wisconsin workers along the path toward greater independence and prosperity."

The Agriculture Industry page is the third page of its kind since <u>JobCenterofWisconsin.com</u> was launched in September 2008.

Highlighting a wide variety of jobs, the agricultural industry page was developed in partnership with the Wisconsin Agricultural, Education & Workforce Development Council (WAEWDC).

To see the rest of the story, go to <a href="http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/">http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/</a>
<a href="newsreleases/2013/130613\_ag\_prairie\_du\_sac.pdf">newsreleases/2013/130613\_ag\_prairie\_du\_sac.pdf</a>

# SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available in Wisconsin Following Secretary of Agriculture Disaster Declaration

ATLANTA - The U.S. Small Business Administration announced that federal economic injury disaster loans are available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private non -profit organizations of all sizes located in Wisconsin as a result of excessive rain and snow, and multiple periods of thawing and refreezing resulting in winterkill between Jan. 1 and May 21, 2013.

The disaster declaration includes the following counties: Brown, Buffalo, Calumet, Chippewa, Clark, Dodge, Eau Claire, Fond Du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Langlade, Lincoln, Manitowoc, Marathon, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Pierce, Shawano, Sheboygan, Trempealeau, Washington and Waupaca; and the contiguous counties of Barron, Columbia, Dane, Door, Dunn, Florence, Forest, Jackson, Jefferson, La Crosse, Marquette, Menominee, Milwaukee, Oneida, Pepin, Portage, Price, Rusk, Saint Croix, Taylor, Waukesha, Waushara, Winnebago and Wood in **Wisconsin**.

"When the Secretary of Agriculture issues a disaster declaration to help farmers recover from damages and losses to crops, the Small Business Administration issues a declaration to eligible entities affected by the same disaster," said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA's Field Operations Center East in Atlanta.

Under this declaration, the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program is available to eligible farm-related and non-farm-related entities that suffered financial losses as a direct result of this disaster. With the exception of aquaculture enterprises, SBA cannot provide disaster *Continued on page 13* 

## SBA Economic Disaster Loans, continued

loans to agricultural producers, farmers, or ranchers.

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates of 2.875 percent for private non-profit organizations of all sizes and 4 percent for small businesses, with terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines eligibility based on the size of the applicant, type of activity and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition. These working capital loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred. The loans are not intended to replace lost sales or profits.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at <a href="https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela">https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela</a>.

Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or by sending an email to <u>disastercustomerser-vice@sba.gov</u>. Loan applications can be downloaded from <u>www.sba.gov</u>. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Completed loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than March 3, 2014.

# SBIR Aquaculture Grant

# **RFA for Phase I proposals**

Please note the following information regarding the RFA for SBIR Phase I proposals with special note on the deadline and some detailed information on the 8.7 Aquaculture Topic found below. Please distribute this announcement to others in the small business aquaculture community that may wish to submit a proposal. USDA NIFA funds some Phase I aquaculture proposals in most funding cycles because it is a specific topic area. Successful Phase I grant award recipients can apply for Phase II awards after completion of research and assessment of findings for commercialization potential.

Regards, Gary Jensen

The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is seeking grant funding applications for high-quality research or research and development (R/R&D) applications containing advanced concepts related to important scientific problems and opportunities that could lead to significant public benefit. There are a total of 5 Government Wide Research Priority Areas. NIFA anticipates *Continued* 





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## SBIR Aquaculture Grant, continued

having approximately \$18,300,000 in total available grant funds for the program with an award ceiling of \$100,000. Applications are due by September 26, 2013.

#### 8.7 Aquaculture

Investigators with questions about the suitability of research topics or to arrange a telephone consultation are Continued on pg 14 encouraged to contact either, 1) Dr. Charles Cleland, NPL for SBIR Aquaculture at ccleland@nifa.usda.gov, (202) 401-6852 or 2) Dr. Gary Jensen, NPL for SBIR Aquaculture at gjensen@nifa.usda.gov, 202-401-6802.

#### **Background**

The Aquaculture topic area aims to develop new technologies that will enhance the knowledge and technology base necessary for the expansion of the domestic aquaculture industry as a form of production agriculture. Seafood production from the wild is under increased pressure due to overfishing and pollution and therefore aquaculture is increasingly an important source of farmed seafood and an important contributor to improve food security. In this context new technologies are needed to protect aquaculture species against disease and to improve production efficiency. Emphasis is placed on research leading to improved production efficiency and increased competitiveness of *Cont on page 14* 

# SBIR Aquaculture Grant, continued from pg 13

private sector aquaculture in the United States. Studies on commercially important, or potentially important, species of fish, shellfish and plants from both freshwater and marine environments are included. Food Safety is another important priority in Aquaculture. Technologies are needed to ensure the safety of aquaculture species from heavy metals and other hazardous materials and from human pathogens.

To meet these identified needs in aquaculture, the program's long-term goals (10 years) are to achieve improved aquaculture production resulting from improved reproductive efficiency in fish and shellfish; improved aquaculture production resulting from genetic improvement in fish and shellfish; improved aquaculture production resulting from improved animal health; improved aquaculture production with reduced water usage and improved production efficiencies; and cost-effective production of microalgae for use as aquaculture feed and as a source of valuable human food supplements.

#### **FY 2014 Research Priorities:**

Examples of appropriate subtopics for research applications from small businesses include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. **Reproductive Efficiency** – Novel or innovative approaches to improve reproductive efficiency in aquaculture species including: greater control of maturation, ovulation and fertilization; improved gamete and *Continued* 

# SBIR Aquaculture Grant, continued

- embryo storage; improved larval rearing techniques; enhanced reproductive performance of broodstock; improved methods for cryopreservation of sperm and embryos; and methods to control sex determination.
- 2. **Genetic Improvement** Novel or innovative approaches to improve production efficiency through genetic improvement of aquacultural stocks including: genetic mechanisms of sex determination; genetic basis for inheritance of commercially important traits, such as growth, cold tolerance, and pathogen susceptibility; identification of major genes affecting performance; application of molecular biology and genomics and the integration of this technology into breeding programs; and performance evaluation of aquacultural stocks and utilization of crossbreeding and hybridization.
- 3. Integrated Aquatic Animal Health Management Novel or innovative approaches to reducing acute and chronic losses related to aquatic animal health in aquaculture production systems through an integrated holistic approach including: physiological stress related to the quality of the aquatic production system; genetic, environmental, and nutritional components of aquatic health management; control of predation in aquaculture production systems; development of new vaccines or immunization procedures to enhance resistance to infectious diseases and parasites; development of diagnostic *Cont on page 15*

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# SBIR Aquaculture Grant, cont from pg 14

tests for specific diseases that pose a health hazard; and development of improved treatment methods for acute or chronic health problems caused by specific infectious or non-infectious agents, parasites, injuries and chemical and toxic agents.

- 4. Improved Production Systems and Management Strategies Novel or innovative approaches to improve existing or alternative production system design and management strategies including: development of biological, engineering and economic design criteria and models; enhancement of water quality in existing production systems through aeration, flow patterns, etc.; characterization, handling and treatment of effluent from aquacultural production systems; improved harvesting methods and strategies; and improved operating efficiencies for recirculation systems.
- 5. Plant Production Systems Novel or innovative approaches to improve the efficiency of algal production systems including: identification of new species with improved nutritional profile for use in feeding to other aquacultural species or as a source of valuable human food supplements; development of improved bioreactor technology; and development of better methods for harvesting algal biomass.

# SBIR Aquaculture Grant, continued

The June 19, 2013 USDA NIFA Grant Funding Opportunity Announcement Number USDA-NIFA-SBIR-003497 is posted at:

http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do? &mode=VIEW&oppId=236604

The Full Funding Opportunity Announcement is available at:

http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/sbir\_rfa.html
\* Specifically at:

 $\underline{\text{http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/14\_sbir\_phase\%}}{20I.pdf}$ 

Additional information about the USDA Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR) is available at: http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/sbir/sbir.html

Questions related to the various topic areas of the grant program may be directed to the appropriate SBIR National Program Leader listed on page 9 of the Request for Application posted at:

 $\frac{http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/14\_sbir\_phase\%}{20I.pdf}$ 

General questions related to the SBIR program may be directed to Elden Hawkes who is an SBIR Program Specialist with the USDA NIFA at 202 401 4002; fax: 202 401 6070; e-mail: <a href="mailto:SBIR@NIFA.USDA.gov">SBIR@NIFA.USDA.gov</a>



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Paul Williams - Owner of Owen and Williams Fish Farm, producers of game fish, grass carp, and catfish.





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Peter Fritsch - Farm Manager for Rushing Waters Trout Farm, the largest Rainbow Trout producer in the Midwest.





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# Federal Update on the Newly Named Interagency Working Group on Aquaculture

There have been several new developments as well as other actions related to federal interagency activities to support aquaculture development & science. These efforts are being coordinated by the newly renamed Interagency Working Group on Aquaculture (IWG-A) that has historically been known as the Joint Subcommittee on

Aquaculture (JSA). The National Aquaculture Act of September 26, 1980, Public Law 96-362, established by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Committee on Science (COS), Life Sciences Subcommittee (LSSC), an interagency coordinating group with the purpose to increase overall effectiveness & productivity of Federal aquaculture research, technology transfer, & technology assistance programs.

Currently, the IWG-A functions under and reports to LSSC of COS of NSTC under the Executive Office of the President. The following are recent actions and coming activities:

- A new charter for IWG-A was approved by LSSC, Office of Science & Technology Policy (OSTP) and Office of Management & Budget (OMB) for activities through Sept. 30, 2014
- A home page for IWG-A has been approved to be administered by USDA National Institute of Food & Agriculture for public outreach & information. It is anticipated to be functional in July.
- A Guide for Federal Assistance & Services for Aquaculture is under review & should be released by July. This electronic document will facilitate finding information on a variety of programs, services & topics across Federal government related to aquaculture.
- A Strategic Plan for Federal Aquaculture Research was submitted to LSSC for review & clearance. A DRAFT of this Plan was published in the Federal Register last year for public review & comment. Following LSSC review &

approval, the Plan will be reviewed by OSTP &OMB before final release.

• A charter to formalize the interagency Aquaculture Regulatory Task Force is under development. The Task Force will address milestones in the National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan related to aquaculture permitting efficiencies & frameworks in collaboration with the National Ocean Council. Activities will also improve regulatory efficiencies & streamline permitting for aquaculture operations, leverage existing *cont on pg 21* 

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# Federal Update, continued from page 20

research priorities to provide scientific information on interactions of aquaculture & the environment, & address permitting for shellfish operations in state waters & finfish in Federal waters. NOAA will continue to chair this new task force which has been active for over a year as an activity of IWG-A & the National Ocean Council in response to a National Ocean Council directive.

- Work will begin on a new interagency initiative to support jobs & innovations in the aquaculture sector as well as pilot projects with interested collaborators.
- Last year an aquaculture regulatory fact sheet series was developed on agency authorities and activities as an outreach product.

These fact sheets for numerous Federal regulatory agencies

# Federal Update, continued

can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.nasac.net/">http://www.nasac.net/</a>

• Quarterly meetings continue with invited non -Federal speakers & presentations to inform on different perspectives about aquaculture development in the Nation & feedback for Federal agency officials.

The current interagency leadership team:

Gary Jensen, Chair, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Jeff Silverstein, Executive Secretary, USDA Agricultural Research Service

Michael Rubino, Vice-chair, NOAA Office of Aquaculture

Joel Bader, Vice-chair, USFWS Fish and Aquatic Conservation Division

# <u>A GENDAS / MINUTES</u>

Wisconsin Aquaculture Association
Quarterly Board Meeting
Sept 19 2013
Rushing Waters Fisheries,
N301 Cty Rd H, Palmyra, WI

#### **AGENDA**

Minutes from 02-28-13 and 03-01-13 meetings and approval Treasurer Report and approval

Secretary Report

Committee Reports -

Regulatory

**Business Development** 

Research & Education

Upcoming Workshops Other Old Business

New Business

Adjourn

# Wisconsin Aquaculture Industry Advisory Council

# **June 25, 2013 DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

Location: DATCP Room 266, 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

<u>WAIAC Voting Members Present</u>: Peter Fritsch, David C. Gollon, Dan Gruendemann, Rebecca Nelson and Bill West. (Mike Kelm and Jeff Taylor excused.)

Others in attendance: Mike Bandli (DATCP), Terry Hogan (Hayward Bait), Cindy Johnson (WAA), Ron Johnson (UW-Ext), Al Kaas (DNR), Christine Lilek (DNR), Phil Moy (UW-Sea Grant), Matt Rogge (UWSP/NADF) and Mike Staggs (DNR).

<u>Call to order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. *Continued* 

#### Minutes from February 28, 2013:

Dave Gollon made a motion, with a second by Peter Fritsch to approve the February 28, 2013, WAIAC meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously by the Council.

#### Walleye Initiative:

Dave Gollon has worked with a number of legislators and the Governor's office to outline the Walleye Initiative. The initiative has passed the legislature and is currently waiting for the Governor's signature. The initiative creates a public-private partnership for increased walleye stocking and includes: 1) provisions for a 1 year extension to the UW-Extension Aquaculture Outreach positions; 2) a stocking capacity study; 3) provisions for a hatchery stamp; 4) a study of industry bottlenecks; and 5) grants for increasing capacity.

According to Mike Staggs, the initiative will help address a number of items and creates the opportunity for a number of entities to grow walleye. Once the initiative is signed t, the DNR will need to sort out the details. The DNR will have a short 2 year window for people to see impact from the initiative and ultimately the outcomes may focus on an increase in angler harvest.

There are high expectations on everyone's part and the industry needs to have strong participation in the listening sessions and workshops to help develop the program. Dave Gollon stated that if the industry and DNR cannot make this work, both sides will take a large hit from the legislature.

Work will begin as soon as possible by setting up several listening sessions to identify bottlenecks, regulations and issues impacting expanded private walleye production. For the listening sessions, industry representatives are asked to identify specific examples of what prevents growth, not general complaints. Along with this, the industry needs to identify niches private farms may fill (ex. grow out, contracted forages, hatching, etc.). They may need to break the larger project into smaller pieces to figure out and realize opportunities. The regulation and bottleneck study is due back to the legislature by November.

There is also a provision for grants to private Continued on pg 22

# WAIAC Minutes, continued from page 21

entities for increasing production capacity. These grants will be divided between tribal and private entities; will need to be transparent in operation; and the competitive criteria will need to be well defined. The DNR may need to establish an emergency rule to be able to make these happen more quickly. Industry representatives asked to be involved and aware of the emergency rule development. DATCP (DAD) may be able to help the DNR work out administrative procedures.

#### Work Team Reports:

Aquaculture Roundtable Teams:

Funding for Aquaculture Extension Positions – Walleye Initiative provides funding for the UW-Extension Aquaculture Outreach Specialists for 1 year. Thanks for the support and work from the industry to make this happen.

Research on feed and nutrition – Notes provided by David Garman

This is new area for UWM SFS as indicated at the last meeting. Progress to date:

Faculty position for research in this area was advertised

An offer has been made and in under negotiation at present.

The likely applicant is proposing to date late in 2013 subject to final agreement.

New facilities dedicated to innovative food production will be completed by September 2013

Discussions with USDA ARS on the research program will take place in July 2013.

Overview: This is a high priority area for UWM SFS and USDA ARS with the full research program being launched in 2014.

Bill West added he is doing some work with the School of Freshwater Sciences (UW-Milwaukee) on a project looking at fish meal and non-fish-meal feeds with perch. He said when this has been coupled with the out-of-season provided by the school, they have been able to achieve market-sized perch within 9 months.

On-farm Research - Peter Fritsch

Peter mentioned Rushing Waters is looking at some new feeds made without soybean meal. Feeds with high soybean meal content have resulted in problems with young fish. The new feeds are made with wheat flour and have been performing well.

Farm Modeling – Notes provided by Dean David Garman There has been little progress on this. A preliminary review of data indicated that there was an absence of economic and financial data in the public domain that could be used to develop and verify a model.

At this stage this not regarded as a high priority area for research and may be better treated as a business development/financing initiative as part of extension activities.

Industry/government partnerships – Cate Rahmlow As demonstrated by the Walleye Initiative.

Better partnerships/communications:

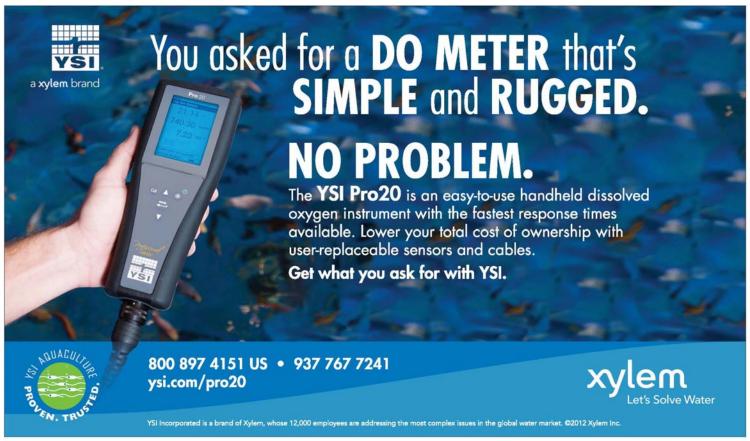
Integrated meetings – As demonstrated by the DNR work team meetings.

Integration of public/private partnerships – As demonstrated by DNR work team.

Online Education – No update was provided.

#### **Other Updates for the Council:**

<u>Aquaponics Conference</u>: Rebecca Nelson reported the conference held in June was well received by 150 participants. There were



#### WAIAC Meeting, continued from page 22

good speakers and topics covered a wide range, commercial-scale to mission work, and scientific research to low tech. One presenter, a student from California, was exceptional and the group would like to see if he may be able to come and speak with a number of the schools.

<u>SARE Grants</u> – Bill West participated once again in the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Grant reviews. This year there were 4-5 aquaculture proposals. For more information on the DARE Program, go to: <a href="http://www.northcentralsare.org/Grants">http://www.northcentralsare.org/Grants</a>

<u>Public Relations</u>: Ron Johnson asked the fish farmers present if they have seen an increase in culturally diverse groups \_Hmong, Eastern European or Hispanic) visiting their fee fishing operations or bait shops and whether greater education is needed to train workers on how to interact or reach out to those communities.

<u>Seafood Survey</u>: Phil Moy responded to questions about the Consumer Seafood Survey conducted by UW- Sea Grant. Phil said Sea grant is developing materials to publish the results. The survey primary concerns were public perception of safety, contaminants, environmental impacts and health benefits of eating fish.

<u>Asian Carp Study</u>: Mike Staggs said after the input Bob Wakeman got at the last WAIAC meeting, the DNR has decided to focus internally and review DNR stocking records.

NR 40: Mike didn't think there were any further changes. He said he will review his notes *Cont on page 23* concerning the possibility of moving mosquito fish from the prohibited list to the restricted list and then be able to issue a general permit for incidental situations. The attending fish farmers asked him to send the draft to the industry group when available.

Atlantic Salmon: Matt Rogge mentioned there is interest to have Atlantic Salmon stocked into Green Lake. The NADF is seeking interest from private fish farms to receive 30k eggs, hatch and supply 12-15k yearling fish for stocking next spring. The remainder the fish farm could use in their operations. Mike Staggs said an environmental assessment still needs to be done, but then the DNR may issue a permit.

<u>WPDES:</u> Peter Fritsch mentioned due to the aquaculture bill, Rushing Waters was no longer receiving WPDES billing notices and was glad for the change.

Sturgeon Workshop: He also asked if there were any further updates from the Sturgeon Workshop. Ron Johnson said he had been holding off a little to try to identify additional fish farmers that may participate in developing the report. He may go ahead and work with Ron Bruch to get a draft of the report prepared.

<u>Next Meeting:</u> The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, December 6, 2013, 10:00 am – 12:00pm at the Green Bay site of the conference.

<u>Adjournment:</u> A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Dave Gollon and seconded by Dan Gruendemann. Voting membership unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Bandli.

# **Farmed Fish Production Overtakes Beef**

JUNE 12, 2013 Janet Larsen and J. Matthew Roney

The world quietly reached a milestone in the evolution of the human diet in 2011. For the first time in modern history, world farmed fish production topped beef production. The gap widened in 2012, with output from fish farming—also called aquaculture—reaching a record 66 million tons, compared with production of beef at 63 million tons. And 2013 may well be the first year that people eat more fish raised on farms than caught in the wild. More than just a crossing of lines, these trends illustrate the latest stage in a historic shift in food production—a shift that at its core is a story of natural limits.

#### Full Article:

http://www.earth-policy.org/plan\_b\_updates/2013/update114

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Group - \$75 1 active membership and up to 4 associate members - farm employees, vendor employees, agencies, university, etc.

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