



Hook, Line, and Sinker

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New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen • P.O. Box 294 • New Ulm, MN 56073 Web Site: newulmsportfish.org

Wild Rice Provision Seen as One of Many Threats to Minnesota's Great Outdoors

Does the Current Batch of Minnesota State Legislators Really Reflect the Values of the People Who Put Them There? If You Answered "Yes," No Wild Rice Hotdish (Among Other Natural Things) for You - or for Anybody Else for That Matter!

Saint Paul (April 20, 2011)—Minnesota Environmental Partnership (MEP), the statewide coalition of more than 80 conservation and environmental organizations, sent a tongue-in-cheek message to Minnesota legislators this week: Better enjoy your wild rice hotdish now, before our waters are too contaminated to produce our state grain.

To celebrate Earth Week, MEP asked Minnesota voters to send their favorite wild rice hotdish recipes to their state legislators to underscore the host of 'bad' bills and policy provisions that threaten Minnesota's lakes, rivers, and streams, natural areas, wildlife habitat, and parks and trails.

"While Minnesota legislators are at home in their districts this week, we suggest that they enjoy an iconic Minnesota wild rice hotdish—while we still have edible wild rice," said the group's executive director Steve Morse. He was referring to a policy provision tucked into the Senate environment budget bill that would remove sulfate standards for wild rice waters, threatening Minnesota's wild rice production and Native American heritage.

"During Earth Week, it is critical that all Minnesotans know there's an attack underway at the Capitol on Minnesota's Great Outdoors," said Morse, noting that there are scores of bills and provisions that rollback Minnesota's environmental protections cur-

rently under discussion at the State Capitol. "We ask Minnesotans to take time this week to tell their legislators that they value Minnesota's Great Outdoors traditions and demand that their lawmakers stop this assault on Minnesota's air, land, and water."

Among the other legislative measures that would rollback Minnesota's environmental protections:

Removal of the requirement that new coal plants providing electricity to Minnesota offset their carbon pollution, delaying the development of clean energy jobs.

- Lowering water quality standards for phosphorous discharges into Lake Pepin.

- Severe cuts to the general fund conservation budgets that would result in an end of services (and jobs), such as parks security, running water and grounds upkeep, in 10 to 12 state parks.

- Prohibiting new water rules to protect and restore Minnesota's lakes, rivers, and streams.

- Repealing protections and allowing development along the Mississippi Corridor Critical Area.

- Exempting large ethanol facilities from mandatory environmental review.

- Weakening permit standards for large feedlots.

"The vast majority of these provisions threaten Minnesota's lakes, rivers, and streams, and that goes against the wishes of the 1.6 million Minnesotans who voted to raise their taxes in support of the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment," Morse said.

Morse continued: "Earth Week is a time for all of us to reflect upon the Great

Outdoors legacy we want to leave our children and grandchildren. We ask our state legislators to share a wild rice hotdish with their families and friends this week, and then come back to work the following week, ready to protect our air, land, and water." And our wild rice habitat . . .

Minnesota Environmental Partnership (MEP), meppartnership.org.

Sierra Club North Star Chapter, north.star.chapter@sierraclub.org.

New Ulm Citizens for Clean Energy, email: new-ulm-citizens-for-clean-energy@google-groups.com. In association with Jessica Tatro, Sierra Club, jessica.tatro@sierraclub.org.

Who received all the recipes for wild rice hotdish? Your lawmakers, of course:

Senate District 21: Sen. Gary Dahms (R), Redwood Falls, sen.gary.dahms@senate.mn.

21A: Rep. Chris Swedzinski (R), Ghent, rep.chris.swedzinski@house.mn.

21B: Rep. Paul Torkelson (R), St. James, rep.paul.torkelson@house.mn.

Live outside District 21? Please go to www.house.keg.state.mn.us <<http://www.house.leg.stat.mn.us>> to find your senator and representatives.

Special thanks to Scott Sparlin, who forwarded this issue-paper to HL&S and is a seasoned 'ricer' himself; Steven Morse, Whitney Clark, Kara Cook, and Cathy Kennedy of MEP; and Margaret Levin of the Sierra Club, all of whom contributed to the content of this article. —ed.

Club Calendar

General Meeting at the Clubhouse Thursday, April 28th, 7:30 p.m.

Take-a-Mom Fishing Weekend (Panfish Only) May 7th & 8th

Minnesota 2011 Fishing Season Opener Saturday, May 14th



Fish House to be given away at the 25th Annual Contest at Clear Lake.



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From the President

By Jason Kuester

First things first, at the last meeting we elected our winner for the Stoney Award. The Stoney Award goes out to the member who gives time and time again. We all know there are many members that do this and I would like to thank all of our members for making this such a great organization. At the next meeting we will be presenting Eric Olsen with this great award. Thanks Eric for all your hard work and dedication to our club.

I would like to thank everyone that showed up for the Community Clean Up For Water Quality. We had many volunteers from the New Ulm Area Sport Fisherman club. After we got done cleaning up around town and down at the river we all headed out to the club house for spring clean up. Great job everyone!!!!

As everyone knows we have been trying to get an Ice Castle fish house. I have great news! We got a great deal on a 14' Ice Castle to give away at our 25th annual Ice Fishing Contest on Clear Lake. We will be voting on ticket amounts and other things pertaining to the fish house at our next meeting. I will have the fish house at the next meeting for everyone to see.

Mark your calendar for July 13th this will be the day for the kids fishing contest at Riverside Park. We will need many volunteers for this event. We will have more info on this in the next newsletter.

Spring is in the air and what a great time to bring our friends and family to the New Ulm Area Sport Fisherman Club. We are always looking for new members to join. If you know of someone bring them along and show them how much fun we have at our club. As always, bring a friend and each of you will receive a free refreshment of your choice!

Hope to see you at the next meeting!!

MEETING NOTES from March 31st

*Members present: 45+

*Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports were read and approved unanimously.

*Membership Update: Membership stands at 203 with 61 due; 3 new members.

*Area Lakes and Rivers Report: Clear Lake - Dodge pickup in the lake; aeration system is still operating; Madison Lake - Church Bar (Got beer?) some nice crappies.

*Clubhouse and Grounds Update: Clubhouse clean-up in about a month; Ken S. and Ron L. purchased an '89 25-horse Evinrude motor near BellePlaine; the seller took two motors in trade; discussion followed about how the gas must be mixed w/correct ratio of oil to gas. This may have been the problem with the last motor. There was talk of having two gas tanks and having Ron L. or Jim H. be in charge of the tanks. Jim will report at next meeting.

*Kari Beran, with Pro Kinship for Kids, gave a report: the group will be taking 30-50 kids on various outings this summer/fall; the outings will be dealing with water science and quality issues; a fishing trip is also proposed; Kari suggested an amount for a suitable donation, and the Studtmann Pond was brought up as a possible fishing spot for the kids, so the donation was tabled until the board has a chance to discuss and vote on the motion.

*E.E. Mecklenburg Scholarship Fund Update: Discussion was about monies (for exact amounts, please consult with Dave M.) given out last year, current applications from students, with winners

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426 North Minnesota Street
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507-354-3145



**Hook, Line,
and Sinker**

The Hook Line and Sinker is published monthly by **joyce reese graphic design** for the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of respective writers and not to be construed as the opinion of the NUASF or its members. Send all correspondence and submissions to **New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen, P.O. Box 294, New Ulm, MN 56073.**

The NUASF Board

President - Jason Kuester (381-2041); Vice-President - Gary Sprenger (359-9358); Secretary - Ross Nelson (507-766-0765) Treasurer - Tony Miller (354-2457); Board Members: Jim Hulke (354-3654), Mike Buechner (354-2739 s), Ken Sutherland (354-4140).
Hook, Line & Sinker Editor - Franz Kitzberger (359-8944)

Meeting notes continued from page 2

to be announced next month; the club also made a donation to the scholarship fund.

*Ice Castle Fish House Update: Jason K. reported that the original deal on the house was just on one house and it has already been sold; other deals will come up but will not last long; Jason requested approval from the club to purchase a house when Ice Castle contacts him with a new deal; motion was made and seconded to allow him to purchase a house at his discretion, when he thinks he's getting the best deal; no dollar amount was set; Tony M. will research any special requirements for a gambling permit on the raffle; ticket prices will be discussed and determined after the house is purchased.

*Berg's Landing at Clear Lake: Suggestion was made that we approach the Bergs and ask them if we could help them fix the landing after it took such a beating from wear and tear of the long winter. Club will follow their wishes.

*Report by Tony Miller: Income/Expenses/Donations were reported, along with a very healthy balance, from the Ice Fishing Contest; we should put a 'thank you' in the Journal; it was suggested that next year, the names of the winners should be recorded, Mark Fischer donated a Fox pelt to the club; pelt may be donated to the River History Center; it was decided to give Mark a gift certificate to the Liquor Mart for his generosity.

*Scott Sparlin Report: Community Clean-Up is April 23rd; meet at 9:00 a.m. at Riverside Park; Green card will be included in the Journal next week; Riverblast is on again! But the club will not be involved with the food service this year; CCMR Banquet will be held this year at Lola's Larkspur on April 30th at a cost of \$25.00 per person; starts at 5:00 p.m.; the "big barge" is still a work-in-progress.

*Willmar Studtmann Memorial Ice Fishing Contest Report: Contest was held March 12th with about 20 members present throughout the day; much fun was reported; revenue was duly reported and the E.E. Mecklenburg Fund was presented with a matching-fund check from the Studtmann family. Thanks to all for another great club success!

*Kids' Fishing Contest Plans: will be held on July 13th; it was decided unanimously to spend whatever is necessary to make the event a success.

*Stoney Award Nominations & Winner: Tony Miller, Eric Olson, Jason Kuester, Al Zwach, Wayne Forbrook, Dick Petermann, Ross Nelson, Jerry Carlson, Jim Liebl, Wyman Forbrook, and Joe Fellegly were nominated; the ballots were cast, and Eric Olson emerged the winner. Thank you and congratulations, Eric!

*Other Business: Ken Spoon Print will be raffled at next meeting: \$5.00/chance.

*Food for next meeting: Orv R. will prepare his "Infamous Orv's BBQs" and please bring a dish to pass if you're able.

*The NUASF website has been idle because Don B. has been snow-birding in Fla.

*Anyone interested in the Eric Olson-Lake Diefenbaker expedition, please see Jerry Carlson.

*An outburst from Ole: Please keep the clubhouse clean by getting the popcorn into your mouths!

FILLET BOARD - memberships due for April 2011

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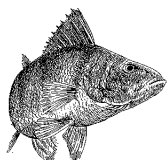
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