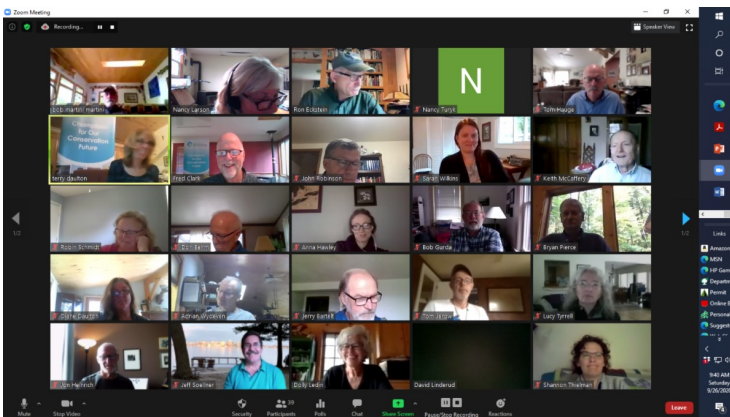




November News from Wisconsin's Green Fire

Gearing Up for the Giving Season



As winter approaches, we at Wisconsin's Green Fire are reflecting on a busy and productive year. Our year-end fund drive is in full swing and we want to express our thanks for your support that makes our work possible. In just this issue of our e-newsletter, you can see

our work across some of Wisconsin's most pressing and challenging conservation issues. Including chronic wasting disease, PFAS, metallic mining rules, and the recent delisting of the gray wolf as an endangered species.

This didn't happen by accident. We are able to work nimbly and on a full suite of conservation issues because of our members and donors who have stepped up and provided support when we have asked. Right now, as we approach our critical year-end bench mark, we ask you to make a donation to keep this critical work on track for 2021 and beyond. And a big THANK YOU, if you have already sent your gift.

DONATE TODAY!!

Hunting Season is Here! Help with Chronic Wasting Disease Prevention

The weather is getting cooler, and the days are becoming shorter. Deer hunting is underway, and the cherished 9-day gun deer hunting season is just around the corner! Unfortunately, chronic wasting disease is threatening this great Wisconsin tradition.



The good news is that the Sauk County deer carcass dumpster has arrived and is ready for use. It is located at the Sauk County Highway Headquarters at 620 WIS HWY 136, Baraboo, along with CWD sampling kiosk. Please help spread the word if you live in the area! Don't forget we are still raising funds to support that effort. You can [donate here](#).

Looking for more ways to help:

- 1.) You can let the hunters in your life know about CWD and the [resources](#) provided by the WDNR to help stop the spread of this devastating disease.
- 2.) You can practice [proper](#) deer carcass disposal by using a dumpster in your area.

CWD is a major issue on WGF's agenda. You can view a short video below, narrated by Russ Feingold, *WGF is a Critical Voice for CWD Research*

[Watch Russ Feingold's CWD Promo for WGF](#)

What is Next After the Gray Wolf Delisting?



On October 29, 2020, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) [announced](#) the delisting of gray wolves from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Species, which will mark the beginning of the next chapter of our long relationship with wolves in the Great Lakes region.

As wolves have reached healthy population levels in Wisconsin, Wisconsin's Green Fire (WGF) supports the resumption of state and tribal management of wolves in the state. However, current statutory mandates and the outdated 1999 Wisconsin wolf management plan hinder the effective conservation of our wolf population today. WGF urges the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to immediately resume work on developing a new state wolf conservation plan using the best science and public attitude data available on wolves.

Watch for our Opportunities Now 2.0 paper on the gray wolf in the coming month.

[Read WGF's Full Statement on Wolf Delisting and Recovery](#)

Call for Increased Scrutiny of Metallic Mining Rule



Flambeau Mine near Ladysmith, while operating

Wisconsin's Green Fire, along with nine other environmental groups, submitted comments to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), urging the Department to modify draft rules related to sulfide metallic mining ([See joint press release](#)). A 2017 bill passed by the state legislature made wholesale changes to mining laws and prompted

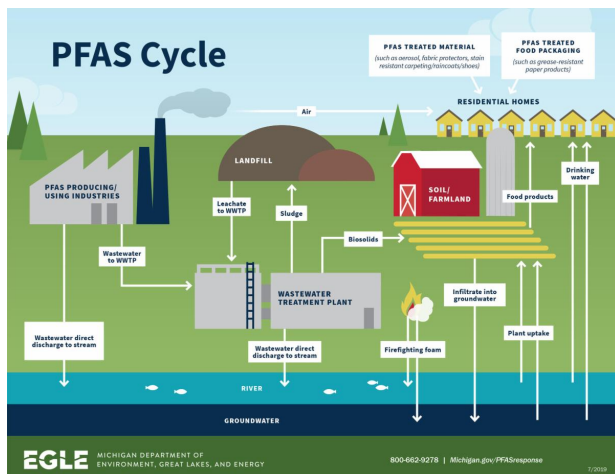
the current agency rulemaking process. While the 2017 law constrains WDNR's discretion in the rulemaking process, the groups offered numerous comments to bring additional clarity to the draft rules and to strengthen environmental protections.

Tom Jerow, Wisconsin's Green Fire's lead on mining issues participated in the multi-organizational review and commentary. "These rules provide the framework for protecting Wisconsin's environment from potential mining operations," Jerow said "Water resources are particularly sensitive and vulnerable to contamination from sulfide mining."

The WDNR is expected to review all comments received during the public comment period and to revise the draft rules based on those comments over the next two months. The agency will then submit the proposed final rules to the Natural Resources Board and the state legislature for approval. Both must approve the final rules by February 27, 2021 for them to take effect. For more information about the rules and comments you can contact Tom at:

tjerow@gmail.com

WFG Members Key to the Passage of New PFAS Fire Fighting Foam Rule



Wisconsin's Green Fire (WGF) member John Robinson testified before the Natural Resources Board (NRB) during its October meeting. His testimony focused on how to implement the new ban on PFAS in firefighting foam.

PFAS are a group of human-made chemicals known as forever chemicals. They persist in the environment and the human body and can accumulate over time. In

recent years, experts have become increasingly concerned by the potential effects of high concentrations of PFAS on human health.

Working along with the other statewide conservation lobbyists, Paul Heinen, WGF Legislative Liaison, helped coordinate expert testimony and messaging on the PFAS issue. This effort assured that NRB members received the most accurate scientific information to inform their votes. In the end, the NRB voted 5-2 for a strong rule instead of a weakened version.

Watch for a new Opportunities Now 2.0 paper soon on PFAS.

Members/Volunteers in Action - Monthly Spotlight

The History of Elk in Wisconsin



Wisconsin's Green Fire has a secret weapon when it comes to our outreach efforts, and it is largely due to our members and volunteers. Thank you!

This month's spotlight is a presentation given by University of Wisconsin-Madison graduate student Anna Brose & Board Member

and WGF Forestry Work Group Chair Ron Eckstein. Together they gave an informative webinar to the [Forest History Association of Wisconsin](#) on the history and current status of Elk in Wisconsin.

[Watch the Presentation](#)

Wisconsin's Green Fire in the News

Wisconsin's Green Fire is becoming a go-to source for natural resource focused stories across the state. Each month we will compile and share the latest pieces featuring our work.

- [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel: Feds Remove Gray Wolf From Endangered Species List, Returning Management to Wisconsin and Other States](#)

WFG Science Director Sarah Peterson is quoted in this story.

- [Wisconsin Public Radio: Trump Administration Removes Endangered Species Protection For Gray Wolf in Lower 48](#)

WFG Science Director Sarah Peterson is interviewed for this story.

Wisconsin's Green Fire needs your support now more than ever. Your donation assures that conservation issues are around the state are addressed with the best scientific information available.

[Support Our Work](#)

Wisconsin's Green Fire 715-203-0384 | info@wlgreenfire.org | www.wlgreenfire.org

STAY CONNECTED



Wisconsin's Green Fire

Voices for Conservation

