

Partnering For Watershed Restoration Monthly Update



December 2016

PWR Members:

Welcome to the monthly PWR e-mail update. We hope you find it useful. If you have updates under any of these categories (**Assistance, Funding, Events, Tools, News**) please pass them along and I will include them in future PWR e-mails. Meanwhile, please do not hesitate to contact me if you are in need of assistance with a project, have any questions, suggestions or updates related to the Partnering for Watershed Restoration (PWR). Thanks.

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PWR Website: [Click HERE](#)

PWR Updates

I hope that you are all having a great start to the winter season!

The PWR steering committee had a meeting in early December to discuss possible collaborative funding opportunities as well as an update to the PWR charter that will more clearly define the roles and expectations of members, the steering committee and the coordinator. When the new charter is finalized, I will send it out to all PWR members.

We also discussed the status of the PWR Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) geodatabase (culvert information and geographic information system (GIS) layers) that Luis Verissimo has been working on with Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC). It sounds like the project should wrap up in January, and then we can transition the data to a web server so that PWR members will be able to access the data. This is a huge project, and when it is all finished I am sure it will be a very valuable tool for PWR members!

We have a new member to welcome! I had a nice meeting with Will Cooksey, the new Senior Land Protection Specialist from The Trust for Public Land (TPL). TPL has been a PWR partner for years, and is a national organization that has been involved in the protection and preservation of thousands of acres of land in the PWR focus area. One such example was the 2008 acquisition of 2000 acres at Sturgeon River Gorge Wilderness on the Ottawa National Forest. The landowner (Wisconsin Electric Power Company) decided to put this property on the open market in 2007, and at the request of the US Forest Service, TPL worked with the owner to negotiate a conservation solution and raise funding for acquisition. This project preserved 6.6 miles of the Sturgeon Wild & Scenic River, as well as Sturgeon Falls. I was fortunate to be at the dedication ceremony in 2008 at Bear's Den Lookout above the Sturgeon River, and I look forward to working with Will and TPL on future PWR endeavors!

PWR FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[US Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program Great Lakes Restoration Initiative \(GLRI\)](#)

The Coastal Program is a voluntary, incentive-based program that provides technical and financial assistance to coastal communities and landowners to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat on public and private lands. The Coastal Program is not a conventional grants program, in that it does not solicit projects through a request for proposals. Instead, projects are developed strategically, in coordination with partners, and with substantial involvement from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) field biologists. The Coastal Program - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding is available to coastal areas within the U.S. portion of the Great Lakes basin which includes parts of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York. Closing date for applications is April 5, 2017.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 21, 2017

[Winter Stonefly Search](#)

Ann Arbor, MI

Come join a group of volunteers and experts to search for stoneflies! You will be guided through a stretch of stream or river in search of these little guys. Experienced researchers will educate you on how we determine the health of the stream or river you are visiting. Stoneflies live only in good quality streams and rivers, so this will help tell us about the problems in the water. . Adults and children welcome, but each child must be accompanied by an adult. The event is about 4 hours long and approximately half of that is spent indoors.

Contact: Jason Frenzel

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February 28 - March 2, 2017

[Wetland Science Conference](#)

Stevens Point, WI

Join other scientists and professionals of the wetland and water community of Wisconsin and the upper Midwest to share your wetland research, restoration, management, or outreach program; learn new identification and assessment approaches and techniques; hear about approaches to incorporating wetlands into watershed & community planning; discuss the latest in wetland science, planning, and protection issues; and look ahead to the future of wetland science and practices in Wisconsin and the Midwest.

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PWR TOOLS

Great Lakes Coastal Reporting Tool

The Superior Watershed Partnership has recently released the Great Lakes Coastal Reporting Tool. It is a simple way for people to provide information about coastal problems including: erosion sites, habitat impacts, polluted runoff, dumping sites and improper off-road vehicle use. Due to interest, the tool has just been expanded to include the entire shoreline of Lake Superior (both US and Canada) as well as all Great Lakes coastal areas in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan; Lake Superior, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron.

[Great Lakes Coastal Reporting Tool](#)

PWR PARTNERS IN THE NEWS

Chocloy Bayou Nature Preserve officially protected through the Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy

PWR partner U.P. Land Conservancy has been in the news the last several months for their work in preserving a natural area near the mouth of the Chocloy River just to the south of Marquette, MI.

From August 6, 2016 article - The land was sold by a private owner, and the U.P. Land

Conservancy, along with 20 other local and national organizations, wanted to keep this land as a natural habitat and nature preserve. An additional \$20,000 will still need to be raised for maintaining trails, installing signage, and paying staff. By next fall, there are plans to build a parking lot and trails through the preserve, but there won't be many changes to the land.

"We are partnering with the Marquette County Conservation District to remove the invasive species from the area, and then we will replant it with native species" said Andrea Denham, assistant director for the Upper Peninsula Land Conservancy. "There is quite a few different restoration projects that we will be doing in the area. We want to make it a healthy ecosystem and it's pretty much there, but we want to give it a little helping hand along the way."

[Link to TV6 News Story](#)



**I hope you all have a wonderful Holiday Season,
and safe travels to you and your loved ones!**

**REMINDER: Please send me your updates for the next PWR
newsletter!**

