

# A Clear Vision for Wetlands

February 18-20, 2020 | Elkhart Lake, WI





## Wisconsin Wetlands ASSOCIATION

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### Download the Conference App

Available on IOS and Android devices. If you have questions, stop by the registration desk.

1. From your mobile device App Store, search for Events@TNC
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4. Enter the passphrase *2020wetlands* and your guide will download automatically!

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Cover photo: Samantha Foster

## About Wisconsin Wetlands Association

Wisconsin Wetlands Association is dedicated to the protection, restoration, and enjoyment of wetlands and associated ecosystems through science-based programs, education, and advocacy. We envision a state where wetlands are healthy and plentiful and support ecological and societal needs, and where citizens care for, appreciate, and interact with these natural resources. We are a non-profit, non-partisan, member-supported conservation organization.

As the leader for wetlands in Wisconsin, WWA focuses on advancing wetland conservation. Our work prioritizes providing tools and expertise to help others protect, manage, and restore wetlands. We actively engage in opportunities to advance wetlands as solutions to critical water management concerns at a watershed scale in ways that can be adapted across Wisconsin and beyond.

If you are not yet a member of Wisconsin Wetlands Association, we encourage you to show your support for wetlands and for our wetland conservation programs by becoming a member today!

Learn more and join online at [wisconsinwetlands.org](http://wisconsinwetlands.org)

## World Wetlands Day



February 2nd is World Wetlands Day, the annual worldwide celebration of wetlands that commemorates the signing of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on February 2, 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar. On World Wetlands Day, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and groups of citizens around the world take action to raise

public awareness of wetland values. WWA's Wetland Science Conference is held in celebration of World Wetlands Day each year. Learn more about World Wetlands Day at [ramsar.org](http://ramsar.org).

We work with Wisconsin wetland professionals and enthusiasts to nominate worthy Wisconsin wetlands for Ramsar designation, including the Kakagon and Bad River Sloughs (designated in 2012), the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands (designated in 2014), Chiwaukee Illinois Beach Lake Plain (designated in 2015), and the Lower Wisconsin River to be designated in 2020.

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Note: You can view abstracts and biographies at the registration desk, read them in the app, or download them in pdf format at [conference.wisconsinwetlands.org/abstracts](https://conference.wisconsinwetlands.org/abstracts).

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Welcome to

# A Clear Vision for Wetlands

Wisconsin Wetlands Association's 25th Annual Wetland Science Conference



## Conference Advisory Panel

**David Bart** UW Madison

**Tom Bernthal** WDNR (retired)

**Aaron Brault** Sheboygan County  
Planning & Conservation

**Dan Collins** Landscapes of Place

**Drew Fowler** WDNR

**Sally Gallagher** WDNR

**Jon Guntow** Stantec

**Tod Highsmith** WWA Board

**Kelly Kearns** WDNR

**Lauren Leckwee** Wisconsin Coastal  
Management Program

**Sarah Majerus** Stantec

**Nick Miller** The Nature Conservancy

**Travis Olson** UW-Madison Extension

**Eric Parker** Heartland Ecological Services

**Randy Poelma** Ho-Chunk Nation

**Dan Salas** Cardno

**Travis Schroeder** WDNR

**Susan Schumacher** We Energies

**Pat Trochlell** WDNR (retired)

**Dreux Watermolen** WDNR

WWA staff supporting these advisors:

Katie Beilfuss and Emily Buck. Logistical support  
provided by Fiorella Neira of Neira Event Group.

At last year's 2019 Wetland Science Conference, all in attendance shared ideas about our community of wetland professionals and enthusiasts and, specifically, how we should be working in order to achieve the greatest possible impact for wetlands in Wisconsin and the upper Midwest. The overwhelming answer: **Engage in watershed-scale planning and projects to restore healthy hydrology by building partnerships to increase active engagement in wetland conservation.**

This year, the Wetland Science Conference moves this idea to the next level, working to create *A Clear Vision for Wetlands*. We'll explore the latest wetland protection, restoration, and management techniques and approaches. We'll talk about wetlands as solutions in watersheds and communities. We'll share stories of our wetland conservation partnerships—what's working *and* what's not. We'll examine how the work we're doing now is supporting watershed-scale planning and projects to restore healthy hydrology and building partnerships to increase engagement in wetland conservation—and how we can refocus our work to better accomplish these larger goals.

Importantly, we'll also continue to build and strengthen our community, because only *together* can we remain energized, see possibilities, learn from one another, and accomplish the big tasks ahead. Thank you for being a member of this community and for working toward a *clear vision for wetlands*.

*"There is no power greater than a community discovering what it cares about."*

– Margaret J. Wheatley

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: Keynote Speakers

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**Wednesday, February 19, 9:00–10:10 am**

**Location: Grand Libelle Ballroom**

*Sponsored by Sterling*

### A Clear Path to Collaborative Wetland Restoration: Achieving Results at Scale



**Joanne Marchetta**  
**Tahoe Regional Planning Agency**

How do we move individual acts of watershed conservation to something more far-reaching and integrated? The stakes are higher than they have ever been with

the effects of changing climate setting in. What are best practices for growing your impact across larger landscapes? How can you shift your geographic scale, your mindset, and your processes to have far greater collective impact in the conservation work that you do? Hear how to take action that creates shared vision and joins public and private interests across boundaries all working together to sustain the long-term benefits of wetland conservation.

#### About the Speaker

Joanne Marchetta is the Executive Director of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, a bi-state agency that cooperatively leads the work to preserve, restore, and enhance the natural and human environment of the Lake Tahoe Region. Following graduation from the University of Michigan with a forestry degree and Catholic University with a law degree, she started as an environmental enforcement litigator for the Department of Justice in Washington D.C. Moving to US EPA, she negotiated some of the largest hazardous waste cleanup agreements in the state of California. Later at the Presidio Trust in San Francisco, she helped to transform the Presidio from an Army base to a financially self-sustaining national park. Joanne believes that natural resource professionals have unique opportunities to use landscape conservation to build collaboration, bridge divides, promote understanding, and heal divisions. Now more than ever, we need that!

### PLENARY PRESENTATION

**Thursday, February 21, 8:30–9:30 am**

**Location: Grand Libelle Ballroom**

*Sponsored by WDNR*

### Telling the Wetlands Story in an Era of Information Overload



**Matthew L. Miller**  
**The Nature Conservancy**

The Washington Post recently stated, “The secrets to the world’s problems are hidden in reports that no one reads.” Hyperbole? Perhaps. But the reality is that just doing the same old

report or press release is unlikely to reach your audiences when there are so many information choices. How can you be an effective communicator? Matt Miller, director of science communications for The Nature Conservancy, breaks down how to reach your audiences in ways that resonate, whether you’re talking one-on-one with a landowner, using social media, being interviewed by a reporter, or speaking to an audience of hundreds. Along the way, he’ll share fun examples of stories gone right—and a few that have gone a bit awry. You’ll never look at communications the same way—and you’ll remember some tips that help make you a better communicator about wetlands.

#### About the Speaker

Matthew L. Miller is director of science communications for The Nature Conservancy and editor of the organization’s popular blog, Cool Green Science. He is also the author of the book, *Fishing Through the Apocalypse*, published by Lyons Press. Matt is the recipient of the Jade Award, the highest conservation honor of the Outdoor Writers Association of America. He has worked for the Conservancy for 18 years, previously serving as director of communications for the organization’s Idaho chapter. His freelance work has appeared in regional and national magazines including Field & Stream, Backcountry Journal, Sports Afield, Living Bird, and many others. Matt holds a degree in English-Creative Writing from Penn State. An avid hunter, angler, and naturalist, he lives in Boise, Idaho, with his wife and young son.



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: Banquet Presentation

**Wednesday, February 19**

**6:30–9:30 pm**

**Location: Grand Libelle Ballroom**

*Sponsored by We Energies and  
Wisconsin Public Service.*

### Dam It: Seeing Beavers as Restoration Partners



**Ben Goldfarb**  
**Author, *Eager: The***  
***Surprising, Secret***  
***Life of Beavers and***  
***Why They Matter***

In *Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter*, award-winning environmental author Ben Goldfarb reveals that our modern idea of what a healthy landscape looks like and how it functions is amiss, distorted by the fur trade that trapped out millions of beavers from North America's lakes and rivers. The consequences of losing beavers were profound: streams eroded, wetlands dried up, and species from salmon to swans lost vital habitat. Today, a growing number of people—including scientists, ranchers, and passionate citizens—recognize that many ecosystems with beavers are far healthier, for humans and non-humans alike, than those without them. In his presentation, Goldfarb will describe beaver biology, ecology, and history; detail the many environmental benefits provided by beavers, including habitat creation, water storage, and pollution filtration; and explain how landowners and municipalities around the country are learning to coexist with these challenging rodents. The presentation

will also touch upon beavers' role in Wisconsin ecology and their unique management status within the state.

*Ben will also be leading a book group session on Wednesday afternoon to discuss *Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter*.*

*Note: The Banquet is a ticketed event open to conference participants and the general public who purchased tickets in advance. If you did not purchase a ticket, please see the conference registration desk for information about ticket availability.*

### About the Speaker

Ben Goldfarb is the author of *Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter*, winner of the 2019 PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award and named one of the best books of 2018 by the Washington Post. His journalism has appeared in publications including *Science*, *National Geographic*, *Audubon Magazine*, and *Outside Magazine*, and anthologized in the *Best American Science & Nature Writing*. His next book, on road ecology, will be published in 2022. He lives in Spokane, Washington, with his wife, Elise, and his dog, Kit—which is, of course, what you call a baby beaver.



BRIAN HANSEN

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: Workshops

*Pre-registration was required for workshops and capacity is limited.* If you did not sign up for workshops when you registered for the conference, please see the conference registration desk to find out if any workshops have space to accommodate you. If you are signed up for a workshop but can no longer attend, please let the registration desk know as several workshops have waiting lists.

### **Identification and Biology of Wisconsin's Aquatic Plants**

Thursday, February 20

9:30 am–12:00 pm

Location: Palm Garden DE

Instructor: Paul Skawinski, UW-Extension Lakes

### **Story Time: Become an Effective Wetland Communicator**

Thursday, February 20

9:30 am–12:00 pm

Location: Palm Garden F

Instructor: Matthew L. Miller, The Nature Conservancy

### **Amphibian Identification**

Thursday, February 20

1:30 pm–4:30 pm

Location: Palm Garden BC

Instructor: Rori Paloski and Rich Staffen, WDNR, and Josh Kapfer, UW-Whitewater

### **Introduction to Common Wisconsin Sedges**

Thursday, February 20

1:30 pm–4:30 pm

Location: Palm Garden DE

Instructors: Pat Trochlell, retired wetland ecologist, and Steve Eggers, USACE

### **Scenario Modeling of the Impacts of Groundwater Withdrawal on Calcareous Fens**

Thursday, February 20

1:30 pm–6:00 pm

Location: Palm Garden F

Instructors: David Bart, Steven Loheide, and Eric Booth, UW-Madison; Tom Bernthal, WDNR (retired)

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: Field Trips

**Thursday, February 20**

**1:30–4:30 pm**

*Pre-registration was required for field trips and capacity is limited.* If you did not sign up for a field trip when you registered for the conference, please see the conference registration desk to find out if any field trips have space to accommodate you. If you are signed up for a field trip but can no longer attend, please let the registration desk know.

Field trips will run in almost any weather (with the exception of hazardous conditions). Please dress warmly and wear sturdy boots. All field trips will depart from the Conference Center Entrance at 1:30 pm; please arrive by 1:20 to get checked-in.

### **Explore a Wetland Gem®:**

#### **Nichols Creek State Wildlife Area**

Field trip leader: Josh Jackl, WDNR

*Sponsored by NES Ecological Services.*

### **Managing Cattails and Partnerships in the Sheboygan Marsh**

Field trip leaders: Aaron Brault, Sheboygan County Planning & Conservation, and Jon Guntow, Stantec

*Sponsored by Merjent.*

### **Snowshoes and Wetlands:**

#### **Traverse the Kettle Moraine**

Field Trip Leaders: Jackie Scharfenburg, WDNR, and Dale Katsma, WDNR (retired)

*Sponsored by American Transmission Company.*

WEDNESDAY, February 19, 9:00 am - 9:30 pm

9:00 - 10:10		Plenary Session (Grand Libelle Ballroom)		Sponsored by Sterling		
		Welcome & Opening comments Conference Keynote: A Clear Path to Collaborative Wetland Restoration: Achieving Results at Scale Joanne Marchetta, Executive Director, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency				
10:10 - 10:40		Break (Villa Gottfried Room & Foyer)		Sponsored by Heartland Ecological Group		
10:40 - 12:00		Concurrent Sessions				
		Location: Palm Garden Ballroom A Wetland Challenges Moderator: Jason Granberg	Location: Palm Garden Ballroom BC WWA in Action Moderator: Katie Beilfuss	Location: Palm Garden Ballroom DE Science-informed Policy Moderator: Tom Bernthal		
10:40	Efficacy of non-native <i>Phragmites</i> treatment and impact on wetland plant communities in northeastern WI   Webster	Making every action count: Advancing a wetland conservation vision for Wisconsin   O'Brien, E.		Redefining WOTUS 1: A GIS-based model to predict the spatial extent of federally-protected waters and wetlands   Robertson		
11:00	Wisconsin Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Program updates   Scherer	Using wetlands to solve problems: Highlights & lessons from the field   Magyera		Redefining WOTUS 2: An assessment of potential impacts to Wisconsin wetlands and wetland services   Miller		
11:20	Invasive cattail residence time affects plant communities and below-ground processes   O'Brien, M *	Legislative updates & new WWA initiatives   Western Hauser				
11:40	Are microsatellite markers useful in detection of invasive plant species? A case study with <i>Typha domingensis</i>   Garcia *	Panel discussion and Q&A with WWA staff re: vision, projects, and legislative initiatives				
12:00 - 1:30		Lunch (provided - Grand Libelle Ballroom)		Sponsored by Cardno		
1:30 - 3:10		Concurrent Sessions				
		Location: Palm Garden Ballroom A Wetlands 101 Moderator: Dreux Watermolen	Location: Palm Garden Ballroom BC Wetlands & Water Management Moderator: Drew Fowler	Location: Palm Garden DE Special Sessions	Location: Palm Garden F	
1:30	Swamp, bog, or fen? An introduction to wetland types of Wisconsin   O'Connor	Prioritization of wetland infrastructure: An agency's approach to strategically manage impounded wetlands   Fleener		Book Club with Ben Goldfarb Author of <i>Eager: The Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter</i>	Tribal Wetland Programs Working Group Facilitated by Randy Poelma (by invitation only) Sponsored by the Forest County Potawatomi Foundation	
1:50	From wetlands with love: Wisconsin's Great Lakes coastal wetlands as important fish habitat   Seilheimer	Challenges and benefits of a large wetland restoration in an urban environment   Kraszewski				
2:10	Developing bioacoustic tools for wetland wildlife monitoring   Casper	Badger Mill Creek and its wetlands: A tale in watershed planning & implementation   Lennie				
2:30	WFQA 1: Floristic Quality Assessment for monitoring wetland plant community health: Theory, metrics, uses   Bernthal	Isotope tracers in nutrient source tracking (NST) of nitrate in surface and groundwater   Ahearn				
2:50	WFQA 2: How to use the WDNR timed-meander survey protocol and WFQA calculator   Trochlell	Wetland management through the lenses of the Wetland Review Process: What, why, and how   Fowler				
3:10 - 3:40		Break (Villa Gottfried Room & Foyer)		Sponsored by Ho-Chunk Nation		
3:40 - 5:00		Concurrent Sessions				
		Location: Palm Garden Ballroom A Wetlands & People I Moderator: Sue Schumacher	Location: Palm Garden Ballroom BC Wetland Flora & Plant Communities Moderator: Nick Miller	Location: Palm Garden DE Special Sessions	Location: Palm Garden F	
3:40	Connecting Milwaukee youth to urban wetlands   Grill	Climate-vulnerability of coastal wetlands in the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore   Johnson		Wetland Review Working Group Facilitated by Drew Fowler	Working Group: In Lieu Fee Wetland Restoration Priority Planning Facilitated by Thomas Pearce	
4:00	How many people does it take to protect a Riverway?   Mossman	Calcareous fens in Northwest Minnesota   Milburn				
4:20	New video suite: Landowners caring for wetlands   Beilfuss	Influence of flooding and gap size on the fate of UMRS floodplain forest canopy gaps   Oines *				
4:40	Mary Linton wetland poetry session   Highsmith	Clear as muck: Wetland soil physiochemistry as a driver of wetland plant community condition across Wisconsin   Marti				
5:00 - 6:30		Poster Session & Cash Bar (Villa Gottfried Ballroom, Villa Gottfried Foyer, and Grand Libelle Ballroom)		Poster session sponsored by WCMP		
6:30 - 9:30		Banquet & Presentation (Ticketed event - Grand Libelle Ballroom)		Banquet sponsored by We Energies and WPS		
		Banquet Presentation: Dam It: Seeing Beavers as Restoration Partners Ben Goldfarb, Author, <i>Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter</i>				



# THURSDAY, February 20, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

8:30-9:20 **Plenary Session (Grand Libelle Ballroom)** Sponsored by WDNR

**Welcome**  
**Plenary Address: Telling the Wetlands Story in an Era of Information Overload**  
 Matthew L. Miller, Director of Science Communications, The Nature Conservancy

9:30-10:30 **Concurrent Sessions**

	<b>Location: Palm Garden Ballroom A</b> <b>Wetland Conservation in Agricultural Landscapes</b> Moderator: Thomas Pearce	<b>Location: Palm Garden Ballroom BC</b> <b>Effective Wetland Restoration &amp; Management Techniques I</b> Moderator: Matt Angerhofer	<b>Location: Palm Garden DE</b>	<b>Location: Palm Garden F</b> <b>Workshops</b>
9:30	Minnesota's Small Wetland Program: Developing a wetland management program in the prairie region of Minnesota   <b>Maile</b>	Focusing management: Setting priorities when there's more needs than time   <b>Salas</b>	<b>Identification and Biology of Wisconsin's Aquatic Plants</b> <i>**Pre-registration required**</i> Instructor: Paul Skawinski	<b>Story Time: Become an Effective Wetland Communicator</b> <i>**Pre-registration required**</i> Instructor: Matthew L. Miller
9:50	Identifying actually restorable wetlands in the Rock River Basin   <b>Taylor</b>	Web based GIS as a means to track spatial and temporal treatments of wetland invasive species   <b>Del Prete</b>		
10:10	Wetland creation and management: Planning and execution of degraded farm field restoration   <b>Gall</b>			

10:30 - 11:00 **Break (Villa Gottfried Room & Foyer)** Sponsored by TRC Companies, Inc.

	<b>Location: Palm Garden Ballroom A</b> <b>Wetlands &amp; People II</b> Moderator: Travis Olson	<b>Location: Palm Garden Ballroom BC</b> <b>Effective Wetland Restoration &amp; Management Techniques II</b> Moderator: Travis Schroeder	<b>Location: Palm Garden DE</b>	<b>Location: Palm Garden F</b> <b>Workshops (continued)</b>
11:00	Wisconsin duck hunters and wetland conservation   <b>Bradshaw</b>	Five years of change: Insights from transect data on wetland hydrology and vegetation response at Deer Grove West   <b>Sulman</b>	<b>Identification and Biology of Wisconsin's Aquatic Plants, continued</b>	<b>Story Time: Become an Effective Wetland Communicator, continued</b>
11:20	Community-based wetland monitoring: Year one in review   <b>Robson</b>	Sheboygan River AOC: Long-term planning for aquatic and wetland habitat restoration success   <b>Rice</b>		
11:40	Providing a clear vision for wetlands through practical project management strategies for practitioners   <b>Englund</b>			

12:00 - 1:30 **Lunch (provided – Grand Libelle Ballroom)** Sponsored by Stantec

1:30 **Working Groups, Workshop, and Field Trips**

**Working Group and Workshops**

<b>Practitioners Working Group</b> <b>Location: Palm Garden Ballroom A</b> 1:30-4:30 pm Facilitators: Dan Salas	<b>Workshop: Amphibian Identification</b> <b>Location: Palm Garden Ballroom BC</b> 1:30-3:30 pm Instructors: Rori Paloski, Josh Kapfer, and Rich Staffen <i>**Pre-registration required**</i>	<b>Workshop: Introduction to Common Wisconsin Sedges</b> <b>Location: Palm Garden Ballroom DE</b> 1:30-4:30 pm Instructors: Pat Trochlell and Steve Eggers <i>**Pre-registration required**</i>	<b>Workshop: Scenario Modeling of the Impacts of Groundwater Withdrawal on Calcareous Fens</b> <b>Location: Palm Garden Ballroom F</b> 1:30-6:00 pm Instructors: David Bart, Steven Loheide, Eric Booth, and Tom Bernthal <i>**Pre-registration required**</i>
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**Field Trips, 1:30-4:30** *Pre-registration is required. Meet at the Conference Center Entrance at 1:20 to depart by bus.*

<b>Explore a Wetland Gem*: Nichols Creek State Wildlife Area</b> Field Trip Leader: Josh Jackl Sponsored by NES Ecological Services	<b>Managing Cattails and Partnerships in the Sheboygan Marsh</b> Field Trip Leaders: Aaron Brault and Jon Gumtow Sponsored by Merjent	<b>Snowshoes and Wetlands: Traverse the Kettle Moraine</b> Field Trip Leaders: Jackie Scharfenburg and Dale Katsma Sponsored by American Transmission Company
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**Green Shading = Pre-registration required**

## WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

Please complete the conference evaluation coming to your email inbox. Thank you!



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

### Special Sessions and Working Groups

#### Special Training: Wetland Processes as the Foundation for Wetland Management

**Tuesday, February 18**

**8:00 am–5:00 pm**

**Crystal Lake Room**

Instructors: Leigh Fredrickson, Wetland Management and Educational Services, Inc., and Drew Fowler, WDNR

*Pre-registration for this special training was required and the session is full with a waiting list.*

*Sponsored by WDNR, USDA-NRCS, and Ducks Unlimited.*

This training will focus on the foundational concepts required to recognize abiotic factors (e.g., climate, hydrology, soils) unique to each management site and link those conditions with the biotic communities that determine the potential for management success. The classroom training will present information at a level accessible to beginners and in a context meaningful to more experienced wetland professionals.

#### Book Club with Ben Goldfarb

**Wednesday, February 19**

**1:30–2:30 pm**

**Palm Garden DE**

Facilitator: Tracy Hames, WWA

Called “a marvelously humor-laced page-turner about the science of semi-aquatic rodents” by the Washington Post, Ben Goldfarb’s *Eager: The Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter* is “a masterpiece of a treatise on the natural world.” Winner of the 2019 PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award, *Eager* is a powerful story about one of the world’s most influential species, how North America was colonized, how our landscapes have changed over the centuries, and how beavers can help us fight drought, flooding, wildfire, extinction, and the challenges of a changing climate. Goldfarb will talk about *Eager* as the banquet presenter at this year’s conference. This book group session will give interested readers the chance for a more in-depth discussion with Goldfarb about his writing, the book’s messages, and how we can coexist with our fellow travelers on this planet.

#### Tribal Wetland Programs Working Group

**Wednesday, February 19**

**2:10–3:10 pm**

**Palm Garden F**

Facilitator: Randy Poelma, Ho-Chunk Nation

*Sponsored by Forest County Potawatomi Foundation.*

This session will provide tribal wetlands staff with the opportunity to more formally interact, share ideas and best practices, and identify opportunities for collaboration and growth. This working group contributes to efforts to foster long-term collaboration, dialogue, and exchange of information that supports and encourages strategic, effective efforts to restore and care for wetlands in Wisconsin. *By invitation only.*



## Bringing Wetland Reviews to Wisconsin Working Group

**Wednesday February 19**

**3:40–5:00 pm**

**Location: Palm Garden DE**

Facilitator: Drew Fowler, WDNR

Wetland Reviews are peer-conducted, collaborative, field-based brainstorming sessions that investigate management of wetland properties in the context of physical setting (including the broader landscape scale) and ecosystem function. Participants exchange technical information, work to improve critical thinking and assessment skills, and develop habitat objectives that are based on the physical setting, functioning of the system, and resources for appropriate life history stages of priority species. The review also builds relationships among biologists, hydrologists, managers, and other conservationists with a stake in wetland preservation, management, and restoration. Join this working group to learn more about the Wetland Review process and discuss opportunities to bring this technique to state wildlife areas and other wetlands in Wisconsin.

## In Lieu Fee Wetland Restoration Priority Planning Working Group

**Wednesday February 19**

**3:40–5:00 pm**

**Location: Palm Garden F**

Facilitators: Thomas Pearce, WDNR

The Wisconsin Wetland Conservation Trust (WWCT) In-Lieu Fee Program through the WDNR has been working to restore wetlands in Wisconsin since 2014. The ILF team has begun updating its Compensation Planning Framework, which sets priorities for future wetland mitigation across Wisconsin. In this working group, the WWCT team will share a summary of progress to date and discuss potential changes to the program, including more localized mitigation decision-making and stream mitigation. The team will then share their initial strategy for gathering stakeholder input for setting priorities and will gather priorities from the audience through a facilitated discussion. Through this brainstorming effort, the ILF program hopes to refine its strategy for developing the Planning Framework while initiating long-lasting partnerships with interested stakeholders.

## Practitioners' Working Group

**Thursday February 20**

**1:30–4:30 pm**

**Location: Palm Garden A**

Facilitator: Dan Salas, Cardno

This session offers an opportunity for wetland practitioners—including consultants, federal, state, and local regulators, land managers, and others—to discuss current issues relevant to their daily work. The agenda will be set by the facilitator with the input of those who participated in similar sessions at previous WWA conferences.



SAMANTHA FOSTER

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: Poster Session

Posters will be available for viewing from 8:00 am on Wednesday through 12:00 pm on Thursday in the Villa Gottfried Foyer. The Poster Session (when authors will be present to discuss their posters) will be held Wednesday, 5:00–6:30 pm.

*Sponsored by Wisconsin Coastal Management Program*

The code following the authors name is the author's poster number, which will also be displayed on the poster. Asterisks indicate that the presenter is a participant in the student presentation competition.

<b>Adrian Bethel*</b>	<b>(2)</b>	Population dynamics of the rare orchid <i>Neottia convallarioides</i> in the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
<b>Anna Haines</b>	<b>(8)</b>	County government approaches to protecting, restoring, and managing wetlands
<b>Sadie Hennen*</b>	<b>(1)</b>	Hydrostratigraphy of natural and constructed wetlands in Cumberland District, Daniel Boone National Forest, KY
<b>Taylor Lauscher*</b>	<b>(11)</b>	Phosphorus determination in the West Fond du Lac River
<b>Yu Li*</b>	<b>(10)</b>	Relationships between stream nutrient concentrations and wetlands in the Yahara River watershed
<b>Rose Mohammadi*</b>	<b>(4)</b>	Constructing a habitat suitability model for invasive European frogbit ( <i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i> )
<b>Mike Mossman</b>	<b>(7)</b>	Lower Wisconsin Riverway: A new Ramsar Wetland of International Importance?
<b>Christopher Noll</b>	<b>(6)</b>	Floristic composition of major wetland community types across four level 3 Omernik ecoregions
<b>Geoff Pociask</b>	<b>(9)</b>	Differentiating hydrologic conditions to support coastal wetland functional assessments in Illinois
<b>Logan St. John*</b>	<b>(3)</b>	Combined impacts of invasive hybrid cattail and European frogbit on Great Lakes wetlands
<b>Amy Staffen</b>	<b>(5)</b>	Climate change adaptation at two wetland sites



## Thank you!

More than 100 experts and enthusiasts have contributed to the planning and content of this conference. We would like to thank all of the presenters, field trips leaders, workshop leaders, and working group leaders for sharing their expertise with the regional wetland and water resource professional community. While it is not feasible to acknowledge every contributor individually, we offer special thanks below to individuals who have made especially important contributions to this event.

### Moderators

Thank you to the following partners for moderating conference sessions:

**Matt Angerhofer** Heartland Ecological Group

**Katie Beilfuss** WWA

**Tom Bernthal** WDNR (retired)

**Drew Fowler** WDNR

**Jason Granberg** WDNR

**Nick Miller** The Nature Conservancy

**Travis Olson** UW-Madison Extension

**Thomas Pearce** WDNR

**Travis Schroeder** WDNR

**Sue Schumacher** We Energies

**Dreux Watermolen** WDNR

### Field Trip Leaders

Thank you to the following individuals for their assistance planning, coordinating, and leading our conference field trips to sites in SE Wisconsin:

**Aaron Brault** Sheboygan County Planning & Conservation

**Jon Guntow** Stantec

**Josh Jackl** WDNR

**Dale Katsma** WDNR (retired)

**Jackie Scharfenburg** WDNR

### Student Presentation Competition

Thank you to Dreux Watermolen, WDNR, for initiating the student presentation competition and to Lauren Leckwee, WCMP, for organizing the judges and review. Thanks to everyone who judged the student oral and poster presentations, and to the students who participated.

### Student Scholarship Program Sponsors

Generous contributions made by The Nature Conservancy and Fund for Lake Michigan allow us to provide financial support to many students who are attending our conference. Students receiving conference scholarships are denoted with a \* in the list of volunteers below.



### Volunteers

We thank the following volunteers for assisting us with the many and varied aspects of conference logistics (\* denotes student scholarship recipient):

Adrian Bethel\*

Monika Blazs

Patrick Brodhagen\*

Samantha Garcia\*

Lee Hengesch

Sarah Hennen\*

Zoe Horns\*

Taylor Lauscher\*

Rose Mohammadi\*

Maggie O'Brien\*

Alexandra Oines\*

Gloria Rios\*

Isabella Scheibl\*

Logan St. John\*

Andrea Weissgerber

Amy Wroblewski\*

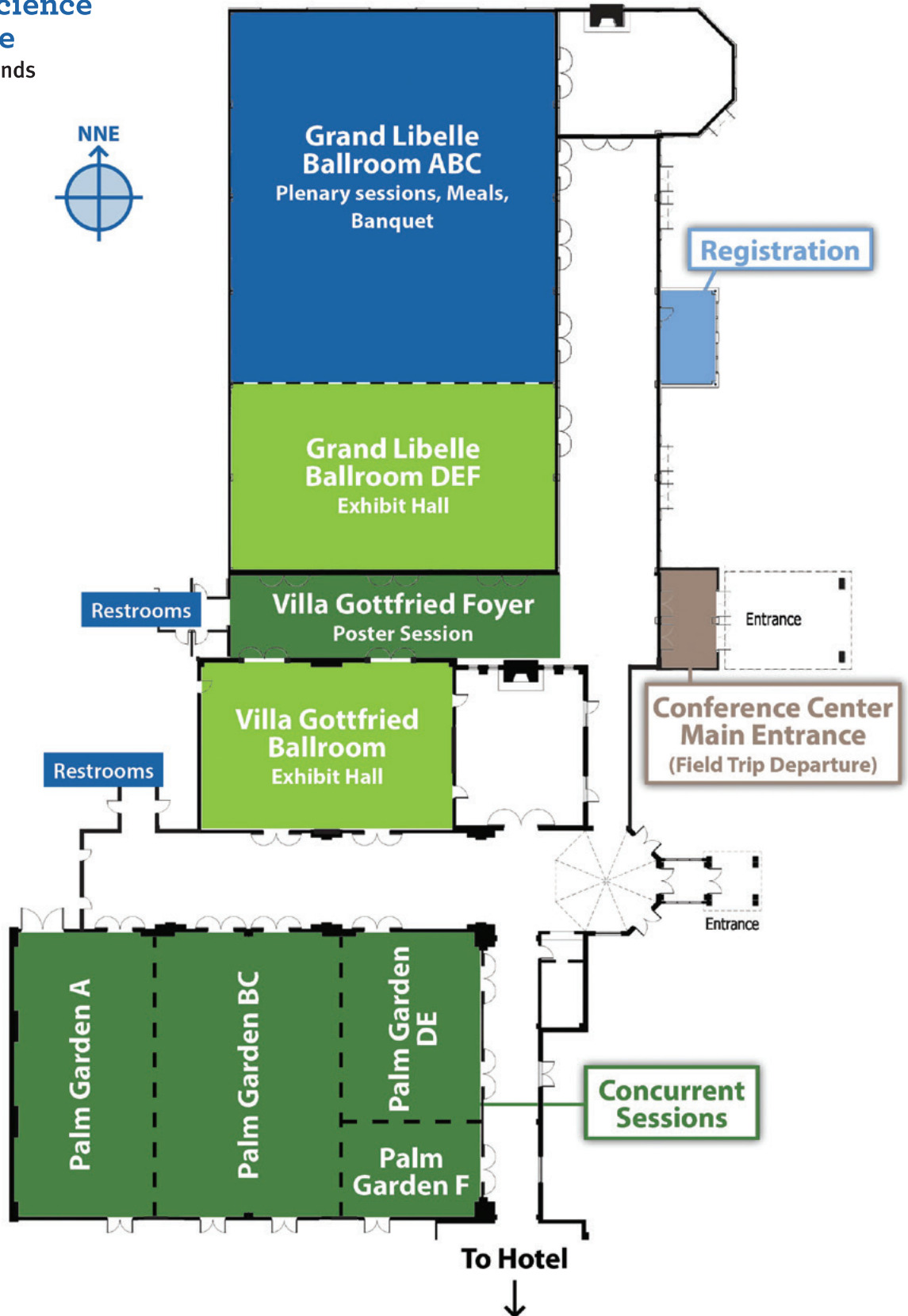


2020

## Wetland Science Conference

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