

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - Jeff Roth

FOR: APRIL 2010 **BOARD MEETING**

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Matt Frank

SUMMARY:

Jeff Roth will retire after 26 years of service to the citizens of the state of Wisconsin

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Retirement Resolution for Jeff Roth

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

- No Fiscal Estimate Required
- No Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required
- No Background Memo

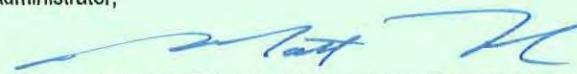
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached

APPROVED:



 Regional Director,

Administrator,


 Secretary, Matt Frank

03-08-2010

 Date

 Date
3-27-10

 Date

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/8
 Susan Krantz - NOR/Spooner

Retirement Resolution

Jeff Roth started his career in Wisconsin DNR in summer of 1976 by working as an LTE survey assistant at Park Falls. The next summer and winter Jeff worked as a creel clerk on the Pike Lake Chain in Price County. His competent diplomacy earned him a year-round position starting in November of 1977 to help manage fish populations and coordinate habitat work funded by the U.S. Forest Service on lakes and streams in the Chequamegon National Forest.

This evolved into a full-time position as project biologist under the DNR-USFS cooperative fishery management program from 1980 to 1984. During that time, Jeff led several innovative projects on lakes – sucker removals, panfish transfers, and one of the first experimental slot length limits for bass in Wisconsin (Wabasso Lake). He also coordinated many stream habitat improvement projects for trout at a time when fish managers routinely hired 5-10 summer LTEs and involved crews of 8-10 teen workers from the Youth Conservation Corps. Shortly after Jeff's project position officially expired, he was hired into his first permanent position with WDNR. Jeff was assigned to continue work on national forest waters as a fisheries technician at Park Falls starting June 11, 1984.

Jeff worked on national forest waters for another four years until he transferred laterally – still at Park Falls – to work on the full range of public waters. From mid 1988 to late 1992, Jeff honed his fishery management skills until he was promoted to his current position as fish manager for Ashland and Iron counties, stationed at the Mercer Ranger Station starting October 4, 1992. Because of his vast experience, Jeff was well prepared to work independently and effectively in a remote field station. As a result, he was re-classed three times in three years, becoming a senior fish biologist in May of 1995 – a position he has held in Mercer for the past 15 years.

As the inland fish manager for Ashland and Iron counties, Jeff has been involved in many challenging programs and rewarding projects. For several years he represented the Upper Chippewa Basin on the Technical Working Group of WDNR and GLIFWC biologists who coordinate management of fisheries shared with tribal harvesters in the Ceded Territory. Jeff managed a world-class fishery on the 13,766-acre Turtle-Flambeau Flowage. He personally coordinated walleye population estimates in 1997 and 2009, initiated innovative harvest regulations, produced an annual fishing brochure popular with anglers and tourism officials, co-authored one of the first stakeholder-influenced fishery management plans in the Upper Chippewa Basin in 2007, and in 2008 obtained first-time documentation of restored natural reproduction of lake sturgeon in a river-lake system that he stocked and began monitoring via radio telemetry and tagging over a decade earlier.

Jeff was instrumental in helping to locate, acquire, and preserve wilderness gems under the Northern Region's Wild Lakes Program. He also was very proactive in working with Water Division colleagues in our Water Regulation and Zoning program to minimize and mitigate the adverse impacts of human development on inland lakes and streams in Ashland and Iron counties.

Jeff Roth honored his commitments. In recent years he completed several walleye regulation evaluations and subsequent implementation of appropriate rule changes for many Ashland and Iron County lakes. It is no surprise that his performance reviews are laced with phrases like "produces quality reports in a timely manner" and "follows through on survey recommendations." But Jeff's legacy will be primarily his ability to work cooperatively with people and make friends for the Department. His calm, sincere demeanor and common-sense approach to solving problems have served the Department well. It will not be easy to fill his waders.

WHEREAS, Jeff Roth has served the people of the State of Wisconsin faithfully and well in the performance of duties and has thus earned the commendation due an exemplary public employee;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Natural Resources Board at its April 2010 meeting at Green Bay, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR