

**NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

**SUBJECT:** Retirement Resolution - Thomas Bahti

**FOR:** MAY, 2007 **BOARD MEETING**

**TO BE PRESENTED BY:** Scott Hassett

**SUMMARY:**

Thomas Bahti retired on May 11, 2007 after 33 years of service to the citizens of Wisconsin. Tom served his entire career in the Green Bay area, working primarily in Wildlife Management. His knowledge on whitetail deer brought him to the fore-front on many controversial issues.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To accept Tom's retirement and thank him for the years of dedication and excellent service to the Department and our state's natural resources.

**LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:**

- |    |                                     |   |     |                          |          |
|----|-------------------------------------|---|-----|--------------------------|----------|
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required                              | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Background Memo                                       | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |

**APPROVED:**

Ron Kazmierczak / JRS  
Regional Director, Ron Kazmierczak / JD Smith

05/15/2007  
Date

Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf  
Scott Hassett  
Secretary, Scott Hassett

05/15/2007  
Date  
5/16/07  
Date

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/5

## ***Retirement Resolution***

Thomas M. Bahti, Wildlife Program Supervisor for the Northeast Region at Green Bay has retired from the Department of Natural Resources effective May 11, 2007, after 33 years of service to the citizens of Wisconsin.

Tom started his career as an LTE in November of 1973. In May of 1974 he became a natural resources specialist at Green Bay working in water quality. On February 25, 1979 Tom became an Assistant Area Wildlife Manager and worked in Shawano and Oconto Counties. In September of 1984, Tom promoted to the Area Wildlife Manager for the Green Bay Area. During the mid-1990 reorganization of the Department, Tom took an acting assignment as the Regional Wildlife Biologist at the Northeast Regional Headquarters. In 1997, the position became his permanent assignment and he served in that role until the next reorganization in 2002. Tom then became the Northeast Regional Wildlife Program Supervisor and stayed in that position until his retirement.

Tom's legacy includes the quality of the regional wildlife staff that are frequently recognized as the best of the best in their field. In 2002, the Northeast Regional Wildlife Team, led by Tom, was recognized as the Team of the Year, a prestigious award for a team. Tom was recognized as the Land Division Employee of the Year in Northeast Region in 2000 and received the Leadership Award from Wildlife in 2005.

In addition to his work in wildlife, Tom continued to help resource management as a credentialed law enforcement officer, working side by side with wardens for more than seventeen years. His dedication to the job was evident in many ways. Tom never assigned a task that he wouldn't do himself, from taking shifts in Black Earth processing samples to conducting hearings on various new initiatives.

***WHEREAS***, Thomas Bahti has served the citizens of Wisconsin faithfully and outstanding in the performance of his duties and has thus earned the highest commendation due an exemplary public employee;

***NOW, THEREFORE***, the Natural Resources Board at its May 2007 meeting at Menominee, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

*Natural Resources Board*

Christine Thomas, CHAIR