

SUBJECT: Comeback Champs - Trumpeter Swans

FOR: APRIL 2012 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Cathy Stepp, DNR Secretary

SUMMARY:

As part of the NRB citizen recognition items, DNR recognizes Mary and Terry Kohler for their critical role in supporting Wisconsin's Trumpeter Swan Recovery Program for over two decades, and provided the foundation for a growing trumpeter population that approached 200 nesting pairs in 2011, far exceeding the state's recovery goal.

RECOMMENDATION: This item is information. No action needed.

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:

Rebecca Schroeder  
Bureau Director, Rebecca Schroeder, Acting ER

4/16/12  
Date

[Signature]  
Administrator, Kurt Tiede, Lands

4/16/12  
Date

Matt McJannet  
Secretary, Cathy Stepp

4/18/12  
Date

cc: NRB Liaison  
DNR Rules Coordinator

## CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

*WHEREAS*; the trumpeter swan, one of Wisconsin's most majestic birds, and a symbol of wetland diversity, disappeared from the state in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century; and

*WHEREAS*; the goal of the Trumpeter Swan Recovery Program in the late 1980's was to establish a breeding and migratory population of at least 20 pairs by the year 2000; and

*WHEREAS*; Mary and Terry Kohler, volunteered their time and tireless energy to restoring trumpeter swans to the State of Wisconsin; and

*WHEREAS*; Mary and Terry Kohler personally flew DNR biologists Randy Jurewicz and Sumner Matteson to Alaska during 1989-1997 to collect and bring back a total of 385 trumpeter swan eggs, over 90% of which hatched at the Milwaukee County Zoo and were released to the wild; and

*WHEREAS*; Mary and Terry Kohler have played a critical role in supporting Wisconsin's Trumpeter Swan Recovery Program for over two decades, and provided the foundation for a growing trumpeter population that approached 200 nesting pairs in 2011, far exceeding the state's recovery goal; and

*WHEREAS*; The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources proudly hailed Mary and Terry Kohler as the Department's "Comeback Champs" in April 2012;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Scott Walker, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, commend

### **MARY and TERRY KOHLER**

for outstanding service in helping to restore the trumpeter swan to Wisconsin's wetlands.

*Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April 2012*

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SCOTT WALKER  
GOVERNOR