

SUBJECT: Comeback Champs -- Osprey Recovery Program

FOR: JUNE, 2012 BOARD MEETING

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

SUMMARY:

As part of the NRB recognition items, the DNR recognizes the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation and the American Transmission Company for their critical roles in supporting Wisconsin's Osprey Recovery Program by installing nesting platforms along power lines for two decades. Their dedicated work, reflecting the efforts of the utility industry and concerned citizens in Wisconsin, helped the Osprey population recover in Wisconsin, leading to its delisting in 2009. Today, there are over 500 nesting pairs in 57 of 72 counties.

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:

Scott Hull
Bureau Director, Scott Hull, Acting

5/22/12
Date

Kurt Thiede
Administrator, Kurt Thiede, Lands

5/22/12
Date

Cathy Stepp
Secretary, Cathy Stepp

6/7/12
Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

Sumner Matteson, ER/6
Lance Potter, ER/6

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS; the osprey, one of Wisconsin's most unique birds of prey associated with our lakes, rivers, and waterways, suffered catastrophic losses due to pesticide contamination and loss of nest trees in the mid-20th century leading to its listing as state-endangered in 1972; and

WHEREAS; the goal of the Wisconsin Osprey Recovery Program in the mid-1980's was to establish a self-sustaining population of at least 300 pairs by the year 1990; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin Public Service Corporation personnel have dedicated time, energy, and skill for over two decades to provide osprey nesting sites by installing osprey nesting platforms along their many transmission lines; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin Public Service Corporation personnel have worked diligently and efficiently with Department wildlife managers to help bolster the state's osprey population to a level of over 500 nesting pairs, far surpassing the recovery level of 300, with more than 80% of the statewide osprey population nesting on transmission lines and towers;

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation's dedication to osprey recovery exemplifies the best in public-private partnerships; and

WHEREAS; The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources proudly hailed the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation as one of two Department "Comeback Champs" in June 2012;

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

Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

for outstanding service in helping to recover Wisconsin's osprey population

Dated this 27th day of June 2012

SCOTT WALKER
GOVERNOR