



- Executive Committee     District Leadership Council     Annual Meeting

**Wisconsin Conservation Congress  
 Meeting Minutes**

<b>ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	04/21/2017	11:00 AM	Conference call
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**I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

<b>Meeting called to order by</b>	Larry Bonde at 11:00 AM
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**B. ROLL CALL**

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Larry Bonde, Dale Maas, Lee Fahrney, Kari Lee Zimmerman, Joe Weiss at 11:05
<b>EXCUSED</b>	Al shook, Mike Schmit
<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	
<b>GUESTS</b>	Dan Isermann

**C. Agenda approval and repair**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Larry stated there was no change to the posted agenda.
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion by Fahrney 2nd by Maas to approve, motion carried

**D. Public comments**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	There were no public speakers on the call
<b>ACTION</b>	No action taken.

**II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS**

- A.** [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC] [PRESENTER]

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	
<b>ACTION</b>	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

Proposed study on food web interactions among walleyes, lake whitefish, and yellow perch

Dan Isermann

- B.** in Green Bay.

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Dale introduced Dan with a brief overview of the presentation that Dan made at the last Great Lakes Forum meeting, then turned the discussion over to Dan.</p> <p>Dan outlined a proposed grant application based on information and input received from the Wisconsin DNR and Michigan DNR fisheries managers, recreational anglers, and commercial fishers. The purpose of the study is to better define predator-prey ratios and specific recovery targets for areas of concern associated with the Fox at Menominee Rivers. The results of these studies will help in better understanding what is needed to manage these species. Specifically, commercial fishers have observed that increase occurrence of juvenile Lake white fish in regurgitated diets of walleyes in their net's and are concerned that walleyes may be negatively affecting white fish recruitment. Biologist and stakeholders also suspect that expansion of the walleye population in southern Green Bay has suppressed yellow perch abundance. If this is true efforts to increase yellow perch abundance may require reductions in walleye density. However, if around grow be gobies serve as an effective prey buffer for perch, declines in perch abundance may largely be the result of other environmental factors. Furthermore reductions in walleye abundance (if they occurred) could result in fewer anglers coming to the region and may not greatly increase yellow perch and white fish abundance if walleye predation is relatively limited. Right now, managers and stakeholders must work with limited information on species interactions making it difficult to assess potential trade-offs associated with various management decisions. The results will be used by DNR and tribal fishery managers, fishers, and communities to help determine how management actions and natural fluctuations in these fish populations will affect the future viability of these important fisheries lastly, development of genetic techniques that can provide higher resolution in delineating white fish stocks will benefit both fishery managers and fishers, as these tools can be used to develop stock-specific management strategies.</p> <p>Have the Congress support this grant and send a letter to Sea Grant to that effect.</p> <p>Lee ask what was the degree of funding? Dan stated that if approved it was for \$200,000 over a two-year program with the source being Sea Grant a division of NOAA. They would use graduate students at UW Stevens Point.</p> <p>This would be a community outreach grant which comes out of federal dollars through NOAA.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion by Maas 2nd by Fahrney to have the chair send a letter of support on behalf of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress. Motion carried.

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

**III. MEMBERS MATTERS**

DISCUSSION	<p>Lee ask if Mark Schultz had called to ask for space on the DNR web for expanded explanation on questions? Kari stated she did not hear of anything at this time.</p> <p>Dale asked a question on COP pertaining to delegate's having a conservation violation. Larry stated that it would be up to the individual delegate to file a grievance on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>There are no other issues mentioned</p>
ACTION	N/A

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

MEETING ADJOURNED	<b>M/ Maas 2nd by Weiss to adjourn at 11:30 AM</b>
SUBMITTED BY	<b>Dale C. Maas</b>
DATE	<b>05/01/2017</b>