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-----EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear friends and colleagues,

The first snow of the season has fallen, barely dusting woods and wetlands, roads and rooftops with a light, wet powder. It's time to get my snow tires put on my old Volvo and pray—yet again—that the twenty-one year old classy tank will last another winter in Maine. Last weekend I stopped by my camp on Little Sebago Lake to store the canoe and marveled at the massive drop in the lake level. The distant Sand Bar was completely dry and decorated with a flock of ducks; our normally tiny beach stretched for several yards into the cove. I stood there shivering as I watched the whitecaps dip and dance across the lake.

In between monthly newsletters, ASWM has started to post one or two interesting news stories on the homepage, <http://www.aswm.org>, at the beginning of each week. We've also been organizing and updating the ASWM website. Be sure to check out the webpages on wetlands and farm programs, post-Rapanos court cases, hiring a wetland consultant, delineator certification, climate change and much more.

Reminder: The comments on the Carabell/Rapanos Guidance are due on December 5, 2007. For

a link to the Federal Register notice, *EPA and Army Corps of Engineers Guidance Regarding Clean Water Act Jurisdiction after Rapanos*, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-WATER/2007/June/Day-08/w11123.htm>

Special thanks to contributors for this month's issue: Kerry Strout, NEIPCC; Ralph Tiner, USFWS; Valerie Blum, LopezGarcia Group; Amy Belaire, Sustainable Sites Initiative; Tom Biebighauser, USDA Forest Service.

Have a happy Thanksgiving!

Leah Stetson
Editor, Wetland Breaking News

-----EDITOR'S NOTE

-----EDITOR'S CHOICE

Millions approved for wetlands project thanks to WRDA

By Tiffany Revelle – Lake County Record Bee – November 8, 2007

Work on a 1,600-acre ecosystem restoration project in Upper Lake moved one step closer to starting Thursday when the Senate voted to override a presidential veto. The vote overturned the veto of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). Now law, the act authorizes the project and funds 65 percent of the approximate \$46 million price tag. Among hundreds of projects across the country, WRDA authorizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to design and construct the Middle Creek Ecosystem Restoration Project in Upper Lake. The 1,600-acre project south of the confluence of Scotts and Middle creeks will restore 1,200 acres of wetlands and 500 acres of floodplain in the area. The project includes 57 percent of Clear Lake's watershed. Plans include raising about half a mile of Highway 20 east of Reclamation Road to the 100-year flood level, raising the Nice-Lucerne Cutoff east of the Rodman Slough bridge to the 100-year flood level, reinforcing metal PG&E utility towers in the area and creating gaps in the dilapidated levee system. For full story, go to: http://www.record-bee.com/local/ci_7410303 For more information on the WRDA, H.R. 1495, visit <http://www.thomas.loc.gov> and search for that bill.

For additional article on WRDA, see Ecological Society of America (ESA)'s Public Policy News Update, at: <http://www.esa.org/pao/policyNews/pn2007/11132007.php>

Calling All Wetland Specialists - Seeking Information on Growing Season – Fall Observations

Just a reminder that wetland ecologist Ralph Tiner (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) is compiling observations on start and finish of the "growing season" from across the country and your participation is invited. Growing season is used in wetland delineation to indicate the time of year when inundation and soil saturation have a critical effect on plants. Visible signs of the growing season are requested: 1) presence of flowers (e.g., witch hazel, asters, and goldenrods), 2) presence of green leaves on non-evergreen species, and 3) production of spores in clubmosses and other spore-bearing plants. Also of interest would be leaf drop (total leaf drop from deciduous woody plants), leaf browning (e.g., oaks and beeches) where such leaves persist through much of the winter, and herbaceous plant die-back due to killing frost. Observations for both wetland and upland plants are wanted. To participate please send your observations to: Ralph.Tiner@fws.gov. Please put "Growing Season Observations for _____ (specify area)" in the email subject block and for each observation, list the species, the observed feature, the observation date, general habitat (wetland or upland type), and site location (town, county, state). Your name and affiliation would also be appreciated for acknowledgment of contributors. This is planned as a multi-year investigation, so for regions where the growing season is year-round or

has already commenced, fall observations would be welcome now and observations of both spring and fall reported for future years. Thanks to all who are willing to help!

Experts speak on climate change

By Austin Bogues – Daily Press – November 18, 2007

Norfolk, VA. Jay Taylor isn't worried about people inventing a way to protect themselves from the effects of global climate change. He just wants them to pick up the tools to do it. He fears what could happen if the problem goes on. Taylor and other experts predict that over the next century the sea level might rise 2 to 3 feet in Hampton Roads. Taylor serves on the board of directors for Wetlands Watch, a conservation group dedicated to the preservation of wetlands. At a discussion Saturday hosted by the National Environmental Trust, Taylor addressed a handful of people at the Five Points Community Farmers Market at MacArthur Center. Strategically placed near a skating rink, they discussed the topic, "Is Virginia on Thin Ice?" For full story, go to:

http://www.dailypress.com/news/local/dp-news_climatechange_1118nov18,0,2315922.story

Climate Change 2007 – Fourth IPCC Assessment Report Released

The IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4), was recently completed. Earlier this year, the three IPCC Working Groups contributions to the AR4 were released. On the 17 of November, the last part of the AR4 was launched: "The Synthesis Report." For a direct link to the fourth report, go to: http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4_syr_spm.pdf To access online copies of the other three assessment reports, visit: <http://www.ipcc.ch/#>

Lack of Funding Shuts Down USGS Streamgages

ESA Policy News Update – November 13, 2007

Representatives of about 50 organizations from five Midwestern states met the week of November 1 to discuss one of the greatest challenges facing water resource management in the United States – the disappearance of the nation's streamgages. The meeting is one of several being held throughout the country to discuss the status of streamgaging carried out under the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Cooperative Water Program (CWP) and National Streamflow Information Program (NSIP). The regional meetings are being organized by the Interstate Council on Water Policy, a national organization of state and regional water resource management agencies. The Council became concerned about the loss of the nation's streamgages because its members rely on accurate water measurements to make management decisions. The gages provide information about streamflow, groundwater, precipitation and other water resource attributes vital to decisionmakers for a wide variety of planning, design and management functions. For full news release, go to: <http://www.esa.org/pao/policyNews/pn2007/11132007.php>

OR: Voters approve modifying land rules

By Peter Wong – Statesman Journal – November 7, 2007

Measure 49, which scales back the nation's most sweeping property-rights law, won handily statewide and among Mid-Valley voters Tuesday. Statewide and in Marion and Polk counties, two of Oregon's top agricultural producers, the measure passed with comfortable majorities. Measure 49 changes the property-compensation law that voters passed in 2004 as Measure 37. "We didn't get hoodwinked this time," said Don Dean, a South Salem resident who voted for Measure 37 but changed his mind after a neighbor filed a claim for a subdivision. "We didn't believe all the lies they were trying to spread -- and the numbers show it." Victor Cobos, a South Salem landowner, said he was surprised at the big margin in favor of Measure 49. He opposed it. "But the people have spoken, so what can I say?" Cobos said. "I think it's a blow to our basic rights, but that's apparently what people want. They must have been scared of all those subdivisions." Measure 49 makes it easier to build a limited number of homes on rural lands, and those limits are tighter

in some areas. But it blocks more extensive development allowed under the earlier law, which let state and local governments waive land-use regulations instead of paying landowners. For full article, go to:

<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071107/STATE/711070411/1042>

For related stories, go to:

http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071107/NEWS0107/711070457/1001&nav_category= and http://blog.oregonlive.com/elections/2007/11/measure_49main.html

Wetlands Data Viewing now available with Google™ Earth

Contact: Tom Dahl – US Fish & Wildlife Service – November 9, 2007

A file is now available to automatically load and view Wetlands Data WMS layers into Google Earth. This viewing method provides access to the wetland polygon data in combination with the Google imagery. Wetlands data are available for approximately 60 percent of the conterminous U.S., portions of Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Trust Territories. This service is provided through the USFWS Open GIS Consortium (OGC) compliant Web Map Services (WMS). Please note that Google Earth version 4.2, or higher, is required to run this file. For more information, please visit: <http://wetlandswms.er.usgs.gov/>

Mitigation of Impacts to Fish and Wildlife Habitat: Estimating Costs and Identifying Opportunities

New Report Available from the Environmental Law Institute (ELI). Every year, human activities cause significant harm to fish and wildlife habitat and the environment. Many of the impacts to these natural resources are never addressed. In certain cases, however, federal, state, and local laws and programs can require monetary or in-kind compensation for these impacts. A new report from the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) estimates that private and public expenditures for such compensation under key federal programs total up to \$3.8 billion annually. The report also highlights potential opportunities to use the fifty State Wildlife Action Plans to help direct these compensatory mitigation funds in a manner that could support state, regional, or local conservation objectives; and, in so doing, to help conserve fish and wildlife species and biodiversity nationwide and over the long term. You may follow this link to view and download the report:

http://www.elistore.org/reports_detail.asp?ID=11248.

For more information, please contact Jay Austin at (202) 558-3103, or austin@eli.org

11th Circuit Court Decides a Perennial Stream is Not Subject to Clean Water Act for a Section 402 Discharge

By Jon Kusler, Esq., Ph.D., ASWM

On October 24, 2007 the 11th Circuit Court of appeals (Alabama, Georgia, and Florida) overturned the lower, district court Clean Water Act convictions of several individuals for dumping waste water into a stream because the U.S. government had not sufficiently demonstrated that the stream had a "significant nexus" to navigable waters and was, therefore, a "navigable water" of the U.S. and subject to CWA jurisdiction. For a direct link to this article, go to:

http://www.aswm.org/fwp/robinson_11th_circuit_court_case_1107.pdf For a link to the Robison case, go to: <http://www.ca11.uscourts.gov/opinions/ops/200517019.pdf>

Judge Probst was the judge who heard the Robison Case in the lower courts. After the case was returned to the lower court, Judge Probst wrote a memorandum opinion explaining why he was directing the clerk to reassign the case. His memorandum opinion is well worth the read because this insightful and sometimes humorous response defines the issues faced in this case and future similar cases. For a link to a copy of his memo, go to:

http://www.aswm.org/fwp/judge_probst_post_appeal_110707.pdf

-----NATIONAL NEWS

Katrina, Rita Caused Forestry Disaster

By Marc Kaufman – Washington Post – November 16, 2007

New satellite imaging has revealed that hurricanes Katrina and Rita produced the largest single forestry disaster on record in the nation -- an essentially unreported ecological catastrophe that killed or severely damaged about 320 million trees in Mississippi and Louisiana. The die-off, caused initially by wind and later by weeks-long pooling of stagnant water, was so massive that researchers say it will add significantly to the global greenhouse gas buildup -- ultimately putting as much carbon from dying vegetation into the air as the rest of the nation's forest takes out in a year of photosynthesis. For full story, go to: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/11/15/AR2007111501359.html?referrer=emailarticle>

National Estuaries Program Celebrates 20th Anniversary and Wetland Successes

National Estuaries Celebrates 20th Anniversary Thanks to EPA's National Estuary Program (NEP), more than 1 million acres of critical habitat has been sustained or restored--- that's a figure that is just shy of the total area of the state of Rhode Island. The NEP, which includes 28 estuaries across the country, was developed 20 years ago to protect and restore these national resources. Stories of success and on-the-ground environmental results are evident from coast-to-coast. These examples help tell the story: Indian River Lagoon Estuary in Palm Bay, Fla., has rehabilitated 34,943 acres of wetlands; the Charlotte Harbor NEP restored 700 acres of Florida habitat by eliminating exotic plant species. It also founded the Babcock Preservation Partnership to save 91,361 acres from development; 81,000 students have learned about stormwater management through the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership's Schoolyard Stormwater Project; the Massachusetts Bays program has restored 13 shellfish beds; the Barnegat Bay Program in New Jersey has saved more than 32,000 acres of critical habitat; Coastal Bend Bays Estuary in Corpus Christi, Texas, secured \$6 million to protect more than 1,000 acres of wetlands; and the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program's dissolved oxygen surveys which documented hypoxia and anoxia in that estuary were a catalyst for Rhode Island to legislate a 50 percent reduction in nutrients from treatment plants discharging to the Narragansett Bay. The NEP was authorized under the 1987 Amendments to the Clean Water Act to improve estuarine waters, habitats and living resources by working with partners and the public. More information about the NEP: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/estuaries/>

North American Wetlands Conservation Act Small Grants Program

The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) has created a Small Grants program to promote long-term wetlands conservation activities through encouraging participation by new grantees and partners who otherwise may not be able to compete in the Standard Grants program. Also, the Council believes that a Small Grants program can be important in developing a pool of new partners/grantees who eventually might participate in the Standard Grants program. For more information, visit <http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/Small/index.shtml>. The deadline to apply is November 30, 2007.

-----LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Pelosi: 'WRDA Veto Override Reaffirms Congress' Commitment to Protect Americans From Natural Disasters'

PRNewswire – November 6, 2007

Speaker Nancy Pelosi issued the following statement today on the House voting overwhelmingly today to override President Bush's veto of H.R. 1495, the 2007 Water Resources Development

Act. The final vote was 361 to 54: "Congress overwhelmingly overturned President Bush's ill-advised veto of the Water Resources Development Act and reaffirmed our commitment to protect Americans from natural disasters such as floods and hurricanes. This long overdue legislation will allow for critical investments to protect communities from flooding by building and repairing floodwalls and levees, as well as restoring wetlands that absorb floodwaters. Much of our nation's infrastructure is outdated and in some cases crumbling, placing lives, property, and commerce at risk. The President argues that \$23 billion over 15 years is too much to spend on Hurricane Katrina recovery, flood control, navigation, hurricane protection, and environmental restoration across the country. Yet we are spending almost as much on the disastrous war in Iraq every two months. For full statement, go to: http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=ind&focus_story&STORY=/www/story/11-06-2007/0004699348&EDATE=TUE+Nov+06+2007,+08:17+PM

Senate committee votes to control Great Lakes nonpoint pollution

Contact: Tim Elder – Great Lakes Commission – October 25, 2007

Efforts to restore and protect the Great Lakes received a boost today when a U.S. Senate committee voted to reauthorize a key program supporting local efforts to benefit water quality in the Great Lakes basin. The U.S. Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee agreed to include language presented by Sen. Debbie Stabenow (MI) to reauthorize the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control as one of the conservation programs in the 2007 Farm Bill. The legislation identifies the Basin Program as a means of achieving one of the top priorities of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes – reducing nonpoint source runoff from rural and urban areas. "The Great Lakes Basin Program is one of the best examples of on-the-ground restoration and protection efforts we have going in the Great Lakes region," said Michigan Lt. Gov. John Cherry, chair of the Great Lakes Commission. "Since 1991, it has helped prevent more than 1 million tons of soil erosion and kept more than 5 million pounds of phosphorous out of Great Lakes tributaries. I'd like to commend Sen. Stabenow and the members of the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee for supporting our goals for protecting and restoring the Great Lakes." For full news release, go to: <http://www.glc.org/announce/07/10wrda.html>

CRS Report for Congress: Comparison of the House and Senate 2007 Farm Bills

Authors: Johnson, Renée, Geoffrey Becker, Ralph Chite, Tadlock Cowan, Ross Gorte, Charles Hanrahan, Remy Jurenas, Jim Monke, Jean Rawson, Randy Schnepf, Jasper Womach, Jeffrey Zinn & Joe Richardson (2007, Oct.) RL34228. Congressional Research Service. For a direct link to this report, go to: <http://www.nationalaglawcenter.org/assets/crs/RL34228.pdf>

-----STATES NEWS

VA: Corps says flood control is main goal of canal, so trees must go

By Deirdre Fernandez – Virginian Pilot – November 19, 2007

Fifteen years ago, city workers and hundreds of volunteers planted trees along a canal to fight erosion. Now, Virginia Beach work crews are mowing down some of the trees to improve the channel's ability to flush water during a rainstorm. By all accounts the maple, cherry and pine trees that cover the slopes and banks of the 2-1/2-mile canal have been good for water quality. But in the wake of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, federal officials are concerned that the vegetation could undercut the canal's primary purpose of preventing floods in the neighborhoods around Lynnhaven Mall. An inspection completed last year by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers found that the canal was minimally acceptable and recommended some of the vegetation be trimmed. The corps has stepped up evaluations of its flood-control projects after the levees in New Orleans

failed to contain flooding from Hurricane Katrina. For full story, go to:

http://www.redorbit.com/news/science/1149713/corps_says_flood_control_is_main_goal_of_canal_so/index.html?source=r_science

OR: On Biz: Commercial development on the west side of the interstate for Sutherlin

By Adam Pearson – News-Review – November 18, 2007

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has issued a public notice for Sutherlin Land LLC to develop land in a wetland area beyond the west boundary of Sutherlin. Sutherlin Land LLC has applied with the Corps to move 11,000 cubic yards of dirt for a commercial retail facility into a wetlands area and two unnamed seasonal tributaries of Cook Creek. On the 4.8-acre lot, 1.5 of the 3.7 acres of wetlands would be filled. The tributary would be rerouted to the western edge of the lot to join another drainage area. Stormwater would be treated in vegetated swales or settling basins to reduce the amount of sediment and pollutants reaching wetlands and waterways. For full story, go to: <http://www.newsreview.info/article/20071118/BUSINESS/71116042>

NJ: Jackson fined \$15,000 for road work done in wetlands

By Fraidy Reiss – Ashbury Park Press – November 18, 2007

Four months after the state Department of Environmental Protection found township workers building a road through wetlands without proper approval, the DEP announced it has fined Jackson \$15,000 for the violation. "They can choose to pay it or request an administrative hearing," DEP spokeswoman Karen Hershey said Friday. The violation at John F. Johnson Jr. Memorial Park occurred in the summer. A DEP inspector visited the park July 19 on a tip from residents and found workers building an access road from Butterfly Road to the back of the park, through an area that contains wetlands, streams and threatened endangered species, according to a violation notice the department issued. The DEP ordered Jackson officials to stop the work immediately; to remove all fill, pipes and rock that had been brought in; and to replant the area with "wetlands plants," according to the notice. That work was completed in August. For full story, go to: <http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071118/NEWS02/711180426/1070>

NJ: Owner: Wetlands contaminated

By Michael Gartland – The Record – November 16, 2007

Thirty-five acres of undeveloped wetlands are contaminated with lead, copper and arsenic, the landowner's spokesman said Thursday. The land in question is in the northern part of Paramus and has been the subject of a battle between the developer that owns it, Shamrock Creek LLC, and local environmentalists who want to preserve it as open space. Two weeks after voters in a referendum defeated a proposal to preserve the land, known locally as the Soldier Hill tract, the developer posted signs on the outskirts of the property warning of contamination. For full story, go to:

<http://www.northjersey.com/page.php?qstr=eXJpcnk3ZjczN2Y3dnFIZUVFeXk0NSZmZ2JlbDdmN3ZxZWVFRXI5NzlyMjA3OCZ5cmlyeTdmNzE3Zjd2cWVIRUV5eTM=>

MD: House passes bay cleanup effort at \$50 million a year

By Laura Smitherman – Baltimore Sun – November 16, 2007

The Maryland House of Delegates yesterday approved a plan for spending \$50 million a year to clean up the Chesapeake Bay after legislators dropped a proposal to assess controversial fees on homeowners and developers to pay for the effort. But the House and Senate must resolve differences over which revenue streams to tap for the cleanup effort. The two chambers have set aside money from various taxes for the Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund, formerly called the Green Fund. The House action would create the fund and govern how it would work; the chamber

voted 103-30 to approve the bill and send it to the Senate, which has not approved a governing bill. For full story, go to: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/politics/bal-md.green16nov16,0,1353548.story>

VT: Lowe's seeks wetland permit; Local group decries short comment period

By Jedd Kettler – County Courier – November 14, 2007

A 172,000-square-foot Lowe's Home Center store proposal for northern St. Albans Town - put on hold in 2004 - has returned to the table with the filing of a Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation wetlands permit application. If approved, the Conditional Use Determination would allow the developer to fill in and build on 59,930 square feet of Class Two wetlands and 99,450-square-feet of wetlands buffers, according to the application. The developer would be required to construct replacement wetlands as mitigation. The 15-day public comment period for the State wetlands permit ended on Wednesday, Nov. 7. Members of the local Northwest Citizens for Responsible Growth have filed a letter stating their initial opposition to the project and asking for an extension of the comment period. For full story, go to: <http://www.thecountycourier.com/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=4324&Itemid=>

MD: Taking from land preservation for bay program

By Tom Pelton – Opinion Blog, Baltimore Sun – November 13, 2007

Is it progress to take from one environmental program to give to another? In this case, does it make sense to take millions of dollars that would be used to preserve forests and fields, and instead hand the cash to farmers and stream reconstruction companies for runoff control projects? That's what the Maryland Senate, led by President Thomas "Mike" Miller, is proposing to do, and Gov. Martin O'Malley's administration isn't opposed to the concept. But the Maryland House of Delegates isn't yet on board. And some preservationists think it's a bad idea -- a modern form of robbing Peter to pay Paul -- that would undermine a successful and popular environmental program. Moreover, the critics say, preserving forests and open spaces is the best way to filter runoff and stop pollution into the bay. So cutting this effort for the sake of an unproven concept raises questions. The state Senate recently cast preliminary votes in favor of a bill that would take about \$20 million a year that would have gone to the more than 30 year old Program Open Space, which pays to preserve land and build playgrounds. The money would go instead to Senate President Miller's proposed new "Chesapeake Bay 2010 Fund." For full blog, go to: http://weblogs.baltimoresun.com/news/local/bay_environment/blog/2007/11/taking_from_open_space_for_the.html

CT: Proposed fund to guard Seymour wetlands

By Kate Ramunni – Connecticut Post – November 12, 2007

The town's wetlands are vulnerable to development, and the commission charged with protecting them wants to make sure that money is available to remediate any damage sometimes caused by construction. To that end, the Inland Wetlands Commission plans to meet Tuesday with the Board of Selectmen and submit a draft ordinance that would set up the Wetland Protection Fund, providing money to mitigate damage to the environmentally sensitive spots. "We are one of the first, if not the first, to do it in the state," said commission Chairman Steven Plotkin. While developers must abide by the town's wetland regulations, officials said damage can often occur during the construction process, causing runoff that needs to be cleaned up before it affects larger bodies of water. The fund, derived from permit fees, would be used for that purpose without having to take legal action against the developer to get the work done, Plotkin said. For full story, go to: http://www.connpost.com/localnews/ci_7437606

MN: Concerns grow about disappearing prairie potholes ecosystem

Minnesota Wire – CBS Broadcasting – November 12, 2007

The humble name given to "prairie potholes" the ponds, wetlands and small lakes dimpling Minnesota and the eastern Dakotas belies the mounting concerns here and nationally about their disappearance from the landscape. Potholes are considered key habitat for almost 200 species of migratory birds. But with federal inducements to plant more crops and the financial rewards of renting out the land, many farmers are ending land-preservation agreements. With a federal report warning of the need to protect them, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is doing flyovers to investigate whether potholes are being drained illegally. At stake is "arguably the most endangered ecosystem in the world," said Rex Johnson, a wetlands expert and wildlife biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fergus Falls. The U.S. Government Accountability Office warned last month that the Fish and Wildlife Service is falling behind in protecting the pothole region. The study estimated that it will take 150 years and billions of dollars for the agency to acquire enough land to sustain healthy bird populations. For full story, go to: <http://wcco.com/minnesotawire/22.0.html?type=local&state=MN&category=n&filename=MN--Topic-PrairiePoth.xml> For another story on prairie potholes, go to: <http://www.startribune.com/462/story/1543870.html>

AZ: Residents can take a guided tour of restored wetlands

By Nicole Squibbs – Yuma Sun – November 10, 2007

Just east of the Ocean-to-Ocean Bridge, where stagnant, foul-smelling water full of salt-loving plants once infected the area, there is now native vegetation, wildlife and waterfalls in the Yuma East Wetlands. Residents can walk through the restored wetlands area on a guided tour at 9 a.m. every Saturday, the first of which was this weekend. "I love the outdoors, and I love walking," said Terry Snyder, a Yuma resident for over a year. "It was free ... and I really wanted to learn about different plants in the area and what direction everything's going ... how we're progressing ... I'm excited about all the progress that's been made." For full story, go to: http://www.yumasun.com/articles/plants_37742_article_news.html/native_area.html

ME: Wetlands center launches children's series

By Jennifer Brockway, Friends of Unity Wetlands – Village Soup – November 8, 2007

Friends of Unity Wetlands announces a series of Saturday morning children's programs, set to begin Nov. 17 at the Wetlands Education Center, 93 Main St. Each program in the "Center Saturdays" series will include an indoor activity as well as some time exploring the outdoors. The programs are facilitated by students enrolled in the Teacher Education Program at Unity College and FUW volunteers. All sessions run from 10:30 to noon and are free and open to the public. Parents and children are encouraged to sign up in advance by phoning 948-3766 or emailing fuw@unitymaine.org. For full story, go to: <http://waldo.villagesoup.com/education/story.cfm?storyID=103122>

NY: City Pressed To Shift Wetlands Jurisdictions

By Joseph Wendelken – Queens Chronicle – November 8, 2007

A broad group of environmentalists continue to adamantly push for the transfer of 363 acres of wetlands throughout the five boroughs to different city agencies they believe are better able to preserve them. A seven member Wetlands Transfer Taskforce started reviewing 1,020 properties containing tidal or freshwater wetlands in 2005. Last month, they recommended that 82 properties, including 68 on 63 acres in Queens, be transferred to the control of the Department of Parks and Recreation. For full story, go to: http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19003387&BRD=2731&PAG=461&dept_id=574908&rfi=6

MO: Federal agency favors wetlands route for South Lawrence Trafficway

By Diane Carroll – Kansas City Star – November 7, 2007

The Federal Highway Administration is endorsing a route for the South Lawrence Trafficway that would go through wetlands south of Haskell Indian Nations University. The decision — to be announced today — is a breakthrough for supporters who have lobbied for years for the completion of the four-lane highway. They say it would ease congestion along 23rd Street in Lawrence and provide easier access from Kansas 10 to Interstate 70. But big hurdles remain before construction could begin. "The next step is probably — almost certainly — litigation," Douglas County Administrator Craig Weinaug said Wednesday. Also, Weinaug said, funding will have to be found for the project, whose cost is pegged at \$148 million. For full story, go to: <http://www.topix.net/content/kri/2007/11/federal-agency-favors-wetlands-route-for-south-lawrence-trafficway>

FL: Water reuse: a solution to drought in the Florida wetlands

By Bill Frogameni – Christian Science Monitor – November 7, 2007

South Florida is one of the wettest regions in the country, but this year it's caught in a drought. A leading indicator of the dryness – Lake Okeechobee – dropped to a record low of 8.8 feet in July. Now just below 10-1/2 feet, it is still five feet shallower than average. The region has tried to compensate. Its water-management district instituted the toughest usage restrictions in history last spring, allowing lawn irrigation or car washing only during certain narrowly defined times. "Water cops" were deployed to ticket scofflaws who misuse the water. But it's not enough, experts say. At stake is not only the drinking supply for more than 5 million people, but also the health of the Everglades and agricultural production. That's why South Florida is turning to another solution: water reuse. For full story, go to: <http://www.csmonitor.com/2007/1107/p02s04-usgn.html>

NC: Proposed complex prompts wetland worries

By Harrison Metzger – Blue Ridge Times-News – November 4, 2007

Ornithologist Simon Thompson sees a 396-unit retirement complex planned next to Jackson Park as a threat to the adjacent wetlands, bird habitat and duck breeding area. The project would encompass the hillside, with rock outcroppings visible across the wetlands from Martin Luther King Jr. (Four Seasons) Boulevard. "This marsh is one of the most important wood duck breeding and roosting sites in the North Carolina mountains," Thompson said in an Oct. 22 column in the Times-News. "Any development in this area would effectively become another barrier restricting wildlife flow from this marsh into the wetlands behind Jackson Park." For full story, go to: <http://www.blueridgenow.com/article/20071104/NEWS/711040395/0/OPINION02>

VA: Settlement Reached in Virginia Wetlands Case

Contact: Andrew Ames – EPA News Release – November 2, 2007

The U.S. Department of Justice lodged three consent decrees last week settling a civil action by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency against six defendants for alleged violations of a wetlands protection section of the Clean Water Act. The settlement, reached with Sea Bay Development Corp., Beechtree Park, Inc., Green Sea Farms, LLC, Elwood H. Perry, Frank T. Williams' Farms, Inc. and Ferrell's Backhoe Service, Inc., resolves allegations that the defendants discharged and/or controlled and directed the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States at an approximately 1,560-acre property in Chesapeake, Va., without a permit. The property, located west of Johnstown Road, east of Shillelagh Road, and south of the Whispering Pines subdivision, is known as the Sea Bay Site or Green Sea Farm. For full news release, go to: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/068c5c5bfcc090fb8525738700648d1e?OpenDocument>

CA: Wetlands restoration hits a wall

By Malia Spencer – The Lompoc Record – November 2, 2007

Years of City Council dysfunction and the limitations that come with a small city government with a small staff have finally taken their toll on a proposal to rehabilitate a Guadalupe wetland using state grant funding. For the past eight years, the city of Guadalupe has been trying to complete the Guadalupe School Lake Wetlands project, which sought to restore the wetlands behind City Hall and create an educational park aimed at the community and eco-tourists. However, with the effort languishing for almost a decade, groups supplying the funding are rescinding the roughly \$1 million committed to the project, leaving city officials disappointed. For full story, go to:

<http://www.lompocrecord.com/articles/2007/11/02/news/centralcoast/news03.txt>

MN: Group calls on representatives to hold field hearings on CWRA

International Falls Daily Journal – November 1, 2007

A St. Paul organization has called on three of Minnesota's U.S. representatives to conduct additional field hearings in Minnesota and elsewhere to allow citizens to express their views and concerns about the proposed Clean Water Restoration Act. In an Oct. 29 letter to U.S. Reps. Jim Oberstar, Collin Peterson and Tim Walz, the American Property Coalition claims that the three representatives control passage of the proposed bill, H.R. 2421, which the coalition says will expand federal control to all U.S. waters and most U.S. land. The letter requested that congressional field hearings be held in regions most affected including the Red River Valley, southern Minnesota and northern Minnesota. For full story, go to:

<http://www.ifallsdailyjournal.com/node/5481>

CA: U.S. EPA awards \$85,970 for central California coastal wetlands monitoring

Contact: Lisa Fasano – EPA News Release – November 1, 2007

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently awarded \$85,970 to San Jose State University's Moss Landing Marine Laboratory to develop a wetlands monitoring program. The project team will work with the California Coastal Commission and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Water Quality Protection Program to take an intensive look at area watersheds to provide a framework for further wetlands protection and water quality enhancement in the Central Coast. "We're delighted to strengthen the surface water monitoring network for the Central Coast watersheds and coastline", said Alexis Strauss, water director for EPA's Pacific Southwest region. "Through our collective efforts, we are using and understanding the historic and current water quality information as a critical step in restoring and protecting our streams and coast." For full news release, go to:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/5e26bccd6338ec3785257386006e6b99?OpenDocument>

NY: Nearly \$1 Million for Projects to Improve the Health of Long Island Sound

Contact: Elias Rodriguez – EPA News Release – October 29, 2007

Gathering together in Mystic, Conn., one of Long Island Sound's most environmentally significant coastal areas, top federal and state environmental officials announced 24 grants to local governments and community groups under the Long Island Sound Futures Fund. The \$917,650 will be leveraged by \$1.68 million raised by the recipients themselves towards the projects, providing a total of nearly \$2.8 million towards on-the-ground conservation in Connecticut and New York. "The Long Island Sound Futures Fund exemplifies how we can protect and improve the environment through collaboration and sharing resources," said Alan J. Steinberg, EPA Region 2 Administrator. "We are working hard to improve water quality, foster stewardship and educate the public about conservation." For full release, go to:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/3881d73f4d4aaa0b85257359003f5348/18140781847cdaa48525738300630751!OpenDocument> For more information on these

programs, go to: More information: - EPA information on Long Island Sound (<http://www.epa.gov/region1/eco/lis/index.html>) - Long Island Sound Study and Futures Fund (<http://www.longislandsoundstudy.net>) - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service information on Long Island Sound (<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/lirecovery.htm>) - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (<http://www.nfwf.org>)

VA: Waynesboro, Augusta County projects will receive state water grants

News Leader – October 26, 2007

Three local projects will get more than \$225,000 in state matching funds to improve water quality. The money is part of more than \$3.5 million in grants that will fund 38 projects statewide that reduce pollution from runoff, according to Gov. Tim Kaine. Local projects include: Augusta County: Low Impact Development retrofit for an eco-friendly water retention project in Greenville (\$40,000 state, \$47,601 local); City of Waynesboro: Regional water quality initiative (\$34,064 state, \$42,583 local); Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District: Residential septic management, Augusta County (\$148,395 state, \$149,546 local). For full story, go to: <http://www.newsleader.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071026/NEWS01/710260332/1002>

VA: Money to go for wetlands projects

Newport News Daily Press – October 25, 2007

The prospect of paying \$2 million into a state fund as compensation for wetlands in the path of a proposed extension to Commander Shepard Boulevard brought up the issue of whether the money could be used for other environmental projects in the city. The short answer is "no." The \$2 million is state money given to Hampton, specifically earmarked for wetlands mitigation related to building roads. The city is obligated by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to pay the \$2 million into a state trust if the city wants to go ahead and build Commander Shepard Boulevard over 11 acres of wetlands. The state decides how that trust money will be spent and where to develop wetlands to compensate for those lost to building roads. For full story, visit: http://www.dailypress.com/news/local/hampton/dp-news_wetlands_1025oct25_0,869503.story

-----RESOURCES AND PUBLICATIONS

Wetland Drainage, Restoration, and Repair

Author: Thomas R. Biebighauser, University Press of Kentucky. This book can help you build wetlands that look and function more like natural wetlands. Unfolding in detail exactly how many wetlands have been destroyed, this attractive volume shows how drained wetlands appear years later, and then describes how they can be successfully restored in fields, forests, and even at schools. See how boards, brush, rocks, and clay pipes buried deep in the ground hundreds of years ago continue to dry wetlands today, and how these forgotten features are often responsible for the failure of wetland projects. Learn how wetlands were drained from those who made a living converting them to farmland. The book reveals previously unknown clues that can be used to identify the location of destroyed wetlands, and determine how their hydrology was modified on the landscape. Gain knowledge of how to build naturally appearing wetlands from the author's own experiences restoring over 1,000 wetlands in 8-States and one Canadian Province. Learn how to become successful in obtaining government approvals for your wetland project, and about effective strategies for securing over \$500,000 to build wetlands in your community. For more information about this book, go to:

http://www.kentuckypress.com/viewbook.cfm?Category_ID=1&Group=197&ID=1396

New Biodiversity Website with Freshwater Conservation Resource Webpages

The Biodiversity Informatics Facility at the American Museum of Natural History's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation has launched a new website that includes webpages on freshwater conservation. For a direct link to this website, visit: <http://biodiversityinformatics.amnh.org>

Conservation Policies 2007: A Publication of Izaak Walton League of America

The League's official Conservation Policies, incorporating resolutions passed at the 2007 national convention, are now available online in PDF format at: http://www.iwla.org/publications/general/2007_Conservation_Policies_Web.pdf This booklet summarizes official positions developed by the Izaak Walton League of America over more than 85 years of work on conservation issues. These positions have been adopted formally as resolutions by League members at annual national conventions. They reflect the spirit of League concerns and actions at community and state levels in response to specific problems and they guide the work of League staff, chapters, and divisions as new issues emerge.

-----POTPOURRI

Sustainable Sites Initiative Drafts Guidelines for Site Development, Welcomes Comments

The Sustainable Sites Initiative is creating a comprehensive rating system and guidelines for sustainable site development of all sizes, with or without buildings. We need your help to make it better. The Initiative, a partnership between the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, and the United States Botanic Garden (USBG), in conjunction with a diverse group of stakeholder organizations, recently released the first preliminary report from the program. The goal of the Sustainable Sites Initiative is to identify the highest standards in sustainable site development and marry them to a practical, real-world approach that can be incorporated into other green rating systems or stand alone. The U.S. Green Building Council has already pledged to include Sustainable Sites in future versions of its LEED® Green Building Rating System. To make this program successful, the Initiative seeks input on all aspects of the content presented in the initial draft report. It must contain the latest science. It must be economically feasible. This draft document may be viewed at: <http://www.sustainablesites.org> and <http://emessaging.vertexcommunication.com/ct/3175692:1197910671:m:1:144511059:54B05A9D53CC52632AB887750F4AB883> Feedback on the preliminary draft is due January 11, 2008.

Duck season arrives in Coastal Bend, Texas

By David Sikes – Caller Times – November 18, 2007

It would be difficult to diminish the exuberance the start of duck season brings to the Coastal Bend. A lack of birds would do it. But longtime hunters here would consider this an unlikely scenario. And judging by the abundance of ducks we've seen during this young season and the glowing predictions for the coming weeks, even the casual observer or novice would say it couldn't be so. It's true, bird counts are high this season, thanks in large part to the conditions of wetlands and grasslands up north. Of course, this was not in my thoughts just before sunrise on opening day when I settled into a blind with Alton Voigt, his son Alan and Jim Remley. As the first flight of birds descended upon our spread, nobody said a word about the waterfowl breeding grounds in Canada and northern United States, which produces nearly 80 percent of Texas' winter ducks. For full editorial, go to: <http://www.caller.com/news/2007/nov/18/sikesoutdoors/>

The birds are back: good news along the Pacific Coast Flyway

By Glen Martin – San Francisco Chronicle – November 18, 2007

It's a scene right out of the Pleistocene: A gyre of thousands of white-fronted geese and snow geese, spiraling down to a field of stubble from a sky filled with purple and black cumulus. The sun is setting behind the western mountains, and the last shafts of light are incandescing the birds' pinions, making them flash like pink semaphores. The air almost solidifies with the gabbling and yelps from 20,000 avian throats. It is not a wall of sound: It is an El Capitan of sound, a Gibraltar of sound. It would be a little threatening if not for the fact that the calls are easily recognized as exuberance, as excitement, as raucous welcome. The geese are happy to congregate, pleased to be settling down together for the night. It is a stunning spectacle, but it is by no means a rare one - not at this time of year, not in the Sacramento Valley. The refuges, duck clubs, flooded rice fields and riparian woodlands of the Central Valley are the winter destination for the millions of migrating waterfowl - and shorebirds, raptors and songbirds - that ply the Pacific Flyway, one of the four routes used by the continent's birds during their spring and autumn migrations. For full story, go to: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2007/11/18/CM70T3FCJ.DTL&type=politics>

Ecologists transform schoolyard

By Katherine Mullen – The Gazette – October 25, 2007

Matt Isleib pushed open the chain-link metal fence at Urbana Middle School to reveal an ordinary stormwater management pond with grassy banks and a few shrubs. To science teacher Isleib, the manmade pond is a project waiting to happen. Isleib leads Urbana Middle School's Ecology Club, a group of 30 sixth- and seventh-grade students who are transforming the school's outdoor spaces into areas of ecological study and observation. Since Urbana Middle opened last year, the club has cleared a trail behind the school and installed "scout cameras" along the path to watch deer and other wildlife that gather by the trickling stream. For full story, go to: http://www.gazette.net/stories/102507/newmnew54147_32355.shtml

-----JOBS

Environmental Scientist/ NEPA Specialist

LopezGarcia Group seeks an environmental/NEPA specialist to join their Dallas, Texas firm. Job reference code: D-ES-0222. Job duties include the following: Assist with the completion of environmental documents in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) such as Categorical Exclusions, Environmental Assessments, and Environmental Impact Statements -Assist with fieldwork activities associated with NEPA documents or permitting compliance such as wetland delineations and threatened/endangered species surveys -Assist with the completion of US Army Corps Engineer and US Fish and Wildlife Service permit applications. For more information and to apply, submit resume to careers@lgroup.com For more information about this company, visit: <http://www.lopezgarcia.com/>

Restoration Ecologist

Archbold Biological Station (ABS), an independent not-for-profit ecological research center in south-central Florida with research, conservation, land management and education programs <http://www.archbold-station.org> seeks a restoration ecologist to join its team. Archbold manages: the Station a 5,200-acre pristine scrub preserve; the MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center (MAERC) a 10,500 acre cattle ranch; and the "Archbold Reserve", a 3,648-acre restoration site. Successful candidate will develop independent research program focusing primarily on the Archbold Reserve, <http://www.archbold-station.org/abs/reserve/resrvindex.htm>, with extensive potential wetland, grassland, scrub and hydrological restoration, including two new USDA

Wetlands Reserve Program projects. PhD and strong research track record required. Send letter, curriculum vitae, statement of how research accomplishments relate to this position, up to 5 relevant reprints, and full contact information for 4 references to Dr. Hilary Swain, hswain@archbold-station.org by January 4th, 2008.

Environmental Scientist with Wetland Experience –Baltimore & Richmond Positions

Positions for an environmental professional with 6-8 years of experience in environmental monitoring, wetland and stream mitigation, wetland delineation and permits. B.S. in biology, environmental science or similar field required. Work would include leading mitigation site selection studies, designs and construction monitoring, and post-construction monitoring. Experience with Maryland and/or Virginia regulatory process and agencies is highly desirable. For more information about these positions, visit: <http://www.wrallp.com/default.aspx?tabid=78> and more about the company at: <http://www.wrallp.com/>. Please forward resume to: Robert Siegfried Restoration Manager, Whitman, Requardt & Associates, LLP, 9030 Stony Point Parkway, Suite 220 Richmond, Virginia 23235 Tel (804) 272-8700 Fax (804) 272-8897 Cell (804) 402-3154 bsiegfried@wrallp.com

-----MEETINGS AND TRAINING

Public invited to learn about proposed water management rules

Residents of Southwest Washington interested in understanding the process of water management are invited to attend two upcoming open house meetings. The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) is proposing two water resource management rules for the Lewis and Salmon-Washougal Watershed Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs 27 and 28). The proposed rules are based on the work of the locally based watershed planning unit and will guide future water decisions in these two watersheds. Staff from Ecology and the watershed planning unit will be on hand to make presentations about the proposed rule and answer questions from the public. The open houses will be held at the following locations:

Tuesday, November 27
7 p.m.
City of Woodland
Council Chambers
230 Davidson Avenue
Woodland, WA

Wednesday, November 28
7 p.m.
Hazel Dell Elementary
Commons Room
511 NE Anderson Road
Vancouver, WA

For more information about WRIA 27 and 28 proposed rules:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/instream-flows/lewis_salmon_washougal.html

NEIWPCC's Annual Nonpoint Source Pollution Conference Calls for Papers

The Call for Abstracts for NEIWPCC's 19th Annual Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution Conference, Progress Through Partnerships: Collaborating to Protect Our Watersheds, is now available. The conference will be held May 19-21, 2008, at the Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa in Groton, Connecticut. The NPS conference website is: <http://www.neiwpcc.org/npsconference>. Abstracts are due by November 30, 2007.

Headwater Forum – Indiana State Conference Center

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Wetlands Program is about to host its third *HEADWATER FORUM* workshop on Friday, November 30th from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Indiana State Conference Center in downtown Indianapolis, IN. The IDEM Wetlands Program has initiated the *HEADWATER FORUM* to create a regional dialog to improve the

effectiveness of the Stream Permitting Process. The *HEADWATER FORUM* on November 30th will be the third in a series of four quarterly workshops focused on improving the regulatory approach to headwater streams, tributaries and ditches in Indiana. More information including agendas, meeting minutes and background material is available on IDEM's HEADWATER FORUM website at http://www.in.gov/idem/programs/water/401/headwater_forum/.

Coastal Terrestrial and Wetland Invasive Plants: Ecology and Practical Control and Prevention Workshop

December 6, 2007, 8:00 AM—4:30 PM at the Weeks Bay Reserve hosted by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, State Lands Division. Cost: \$85.00 on or before December 1, 2007. Registration fees include a breaks, lunch and materials. Seating is limited. For more information regarding workshop content, continuing education credits or detailed directions, please contact: Michael Shelton: (251) 928-9792 or michael.shelton@dcnr.alabama.gov For further information about the Weeks Bay Preserve, go to: <http://www.coastaltraining-al.com/>

Wetland Construction Design

December 4, 5 and 6, 2007 in New Brunswick, NJ. Course Fees: \$875 before 11/20/2007; \$895 after; \$855 multiple Course Code: EH0603CA08. The depth, duration and timing of water are the controlling factors in determining which plant communities will ultimately inhabit your constructed wetland. The single biggest mistake in botched wetland construction projects is failure to understand the source and quantity of water feeding your site. Learn the nine different ways to build a wetland, and more importantly, how to calculate the quantity of water going into your water budget for each type. Featured Topics: How to calculate water budget inputs using TR-55 runoff curves, climate data for direct participation and groundwater flows; the tricky task of predicting infiltration rates using field observations, test pits and soil texture; use of the Thornthwaite method for predicting evapotranspiration; field observations that help determine high-water points for ungauged streams; use of aerial photo interpretation in planning your project; how plants adapt to wetland hydrologic conditions, so you can make more informed plant selection decisions. For more information, visit: <http://cookce.rutgers.edu/courses/current/eh0603ca.html>

Wetlands in the 21st Century: Altered Landscapes and Changing Climates

January 31 – February 1st, 2008. This is the 13th annual conference of the Wisconsin Wetlands Association to be held in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Change is coming from all geographic scales, from local land use conversions and hydrologic alterations to global climate change. By 2030, Wisconsin's population is projected to be nearly 6.5 million, 20% growth since 2000. Associated development to support this growing population will result in landscape alterations that will have direct and indirect impacts on wetlands, especially in suburban areas where growth is projected to be greatest. For conference information, visit: <http://wisconsinwetlands.org/2008conference.htm>

Tundra to Tropics: Connecting Birds, Habitats and People

February 13-16, 2008, over 1,000 wildlife professionals will converge on McAllen, Texas to address the threats causing the rapid decline of many migratory bird species. Studies show that populations of once-common migratory birds such as the Cerulean Warbler have declined by 82% and the Rusty Blackbird has declined by over 90%. This will be the 4th International Partners in Flight Conference, which will focus on furthering bird and habitat conservation throughout the Western Hemisphere. For conference information, go to: <https://pif.secure.mpcstudios.com/Specials> For further information, contact Terry Rich with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service at terry_rich@fws.gov or Steve Holmer, American Bird Conservancy, 202-234-7181, sholmer@abcbirds.org.

Mangrove Forest Ecology, Management and Restoration

March 3-6, 2008, in Hollywood, Florida. The sixth "Mangrove Forest Ecology, Management and Restoration" training workshop will be held at the Anne Kolb Nature Center. The training site is within a 500 ha mangrove restoration project at West Lake Park operated by Broward County. The award-winning project was designed by Roy R. "Robin" Lewis III, who will be teaching the course. The emphasis is on cost-effective successful mangrove management and restoration. Cost for the course not including travel to Ft. Lauderdale, lodging or food is \$800, due by January 1, 2008 to Coastal Resources Group, Inc., P.O. Box 5430, Salt Springs, Florida, USA 32134-5430. Two qualified students will be allowed to attend for free, and can apply at any time for the two fee-waived positions. Registration closes December 31, 2007. For more information, visit: <http://www.mangroverestoration.com/> or contact Robin Lewis at LESRRL3@aol.com

American Water Resources Association - Wisconsin Section – Call for Papers

There is a call for papers for the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Section of the American Water Resources Association (AWRA). The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel in Brookfield, WI on March 6 and 7, 2008. The theme this year is "Great Waters of Wisconsin." AWRA is planning plenary, oral and poster sessions addressing both surface water and groundwater issues in Wisconsin. They are soliciting posters and presentations related to the theme as well as for general sessions on research related to hydrogeology, watershed management, hydrology, limnology, aquatic toxicology, water chemistry, aquatic ecology, and water policy. Please specify your preference for oral or poster presentation when submitting an abstract. Abstracts are due December 3rd. Please see the linked announcement for abstract format and submittal guidelines.

<http://www.awra.org/state/wisconsin/2008meeting/AWRACall2008.pdf> Abstracts are to be sent to Madeline Gotkowitz mbgotkow@facstaff.wisc.edu .

Scholarships Available for Students to Attend SWS Conference

The Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS) announces the availability of minority undergraduate student awards for travel to attend the annual SWS meeting in May 26-30, 2008 in Washington, DC. This has been a rewarding and enriching experience for many students the past four years. The SWS is committed to increasing diversity in its membership and is offering full travel awards and mentoring at the meeting for undergraduate students from underrepresented groups. These awards are supported by the National Science Foundation, the Washington meeting organizers, several SWS Chapters (Mid-Atlantic, Pacific Northwest, South Atlantic, and Western), and Huffman & Carpenter, Inc. The number of awards has been increased this year so there are more opportunities for applicants to receive an award. The interest areas of students in the program have been exceptionally broad and varied. Undergraduate student participants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States or its possessions. Application materials and additional information are available from Dr. Frank P. Day, Old Dominion University (fday@odu.edu). Application deadline is November 30, 2007.

Beyond Wetlands: Engineering the Landscape

June 11-14, 2008 – Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia. The 8th American Ecological Engineering Society (AEES) Annual Meeting will be at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA in June 2008. The theme of this meeting is "*Beyond Wetlands: Engineering the Landscape*" and will be structured to feature research and design of landscapes (regional planning, watershed management); ecological design and restoration of streams (including floodplains and riparian wetlands); ecological design of urban (built) systems (LID, Green Design); and research and design of remediation systems (phytoremediation, wetlands). For more information, visit: <http://www.cpe.vt.edu/aees/>

Restore America's Estuaries Conference

October 11-15, 2008. Restore America's Estuaries is pleased to announce the Call for Dedicated Sessions, Presentations and Posters for the 4th National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration - Creating Solutions through Collaborative Partnerships. The Conference will be held at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, RI. For more information on the conference or to submit a proposal, visit <http://www.estuaries.org/conference>

Association of State Wetland Managers' Wetland Breaking News - Providing a monthly briefing about the news and events concerning America's wetlands. Wetland Breaking News is an edited compilation of wetland-related information submitted by readers and gleaned from list-serves, press releases, and web sites from throughout the United States. The items presented in Wetland Breaking News do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or of the Association of State Wetland Managers. Send your news items, comments, corrections, or suggestions to news@aswm.org.

To subscribe or unsubscribe, send Internet e-mail to aswm-wbn-request@aswm.org. Type as the subject "subscribe" or "unsubscribe" (without quote marks).

"WETLAND BREAKING NEWS" Compiled and Edited by: Leah Stetson. Assistant Editor: Jeanne Christie.

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