



New York State Wetlands Forum, Inc.
Annual Conference and Meeting

New York State Wetlands Forum, Inc. 2010 Annual Conference and Meeting

Millennium Hotel Buffalo, Buffalo, NY

April 28 and 29, 2010

Wetlands/Waters of the Great Lakes and Lake Plain

Agenda

April 28

6:30 – 7:30 **Exhibitor and Poster Setup**

7:30 – 5:00 **Registration and Review of Exhibits and Posters**

7:30 – 9:00 **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 – 8:35 **Opening Remarks** – Mr. Kevin Bliss, Chair, New York State Wetlands Forum

8:35 – 9:05 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS** – Mr. Ryan Archer, Bird Studies Canada

9:05 – 9:30 **BREAK and Review of Exhibits and Posters**

9:30 – 10:50 **CONCURRENT SESSION A**

1. Woodland and Vernal Pools

- **Developing a New Method for Assessing Functions & Values of Vernal and Woodland Pools**, Mr. Michael Fishman, Stearns and Wheler GHD

- **An Evaluation of the Ecological Underpinnings of Vernal Pool Construction – Are We Driving Blind on the Road to Hell?**, Mr. James Arrigoni, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry

- **The Upper Susquehanna Coalition's Vernal Pool Mapping Program**, Mr. James Curatolo, Upper Susquehanna Coalition

Moderator: Mr. Michael Fishman, Stearns and Wheler GHD

2. Niagara Frontier Local and Regional Issues

- **Conserving an Oxbow Wetland; Restoring the Buffalo River**, Ms. Margaret Wooster, Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper

- **Seneca Bluffs - An Urban Restoration Project 2002 – 2004 Lessons Learned**, Mr. Paul Fuhrman and Mr. Kris Erickson, Ecology and Environment, Inc.

- **Niagara River Emergent Wetland Restoration**, Mr. Edward Alkiewicz, New York Power Authority

Moderator: Mr. Donald J. Lockwood, MacFarland-Johnson, Inc.

3. Fisheries Management in the Great Lakes

- **Culvert Design for Fish Passage**, Mr. Gian Dodici and Mr. Carl Schwartz, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- **The Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Process – a Pro-active Tool for Natural Resource Professionals**, Mr. Michael Goehle, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

• **Nearshore Aquatic Habitat Classification – Great Lakes Aquatic Coastal GAP Analysis**, Mr. Christopher Castiglione, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Mr. James E. McKenna Jr., U.S. Geological Survey

Moderator: Ms. Anne Secord, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

10:50 – 11:10 **BREAK and Review of Exhibits and Posters**

11:10 – 12:30 **CONCURRENT SESSION B**

1. Coastal Resources

• **Coastal Environments along the International Section of the St. Lawrence River**, Dr. Michael R. Twiss, Clarkson University

• **Coastal Zone Management Act – Federal and State Consistency**, Mr. Jeffrey Zappieri, New York State Department of State

Moderator: Ms. Stephanie Wojtowicz, New York State Department of State

2. Avian Migration on the Great Lakes

• **Identification of Wintering Gulls within the Lake Ontario Lake Plain in New York State**, Mr. Bernie Carr, Terrestrial Environmental Specialists, Inc.

• **Wildlife Issues Associated with Tall Structures: The Peace Bridge Expansion Project**, Mr. Timothy Sullivan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

• **Avian Behavior in the Niagara River Corridor**, Mr. Terry Yonker, Marine Services Diversified

Moderator: Mr. Bill Hudson, Buffalo Audubon Society, Inc.

3. Stream Management Techniques

• **NYSDEC Stream Disturbance Permitting – a Focus on the New General Permit**, Mr. Kevin Bliss, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

• **The Use of Community Metrics and Health Indices to Monitor the Health of Restored Ecosystems and the Use of Adaptive Management Strategies to Promote Future Success**, Mr. John H. Roebig, Ph.D., HDR Engineering, Inc.

• **A Review of Stream Restoration Techniques**, Mr. Carl Schwartz, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Moderator: Ms. Melissa Toni, Federal Highway Administration

12:30 – 2:00 **LUNCH and Membership Meeting**

2:00 – 3:20 **CONCURRENT SESSION C**

1. Mitigation Strategies

• **A Unique Private/Public Wetland Mitigation Bank Partnership in the Hackensack Meadowlands of New Jersey**, Mr. Edward Samanns, The Louis Berger Group, Inc. and Mr. Richard Mogensen, Earthmark Mitigation Services

• **Vernal Pools: Mitigating for Indirect Impacts**, Mr. Richard Bolton and Mr. Edward Samanns, The Louis Berger Group, Inc.

• **Black Creek Park Mitigation Wetland**, Ms. Frances Reese, LU Engineers, Inc. and Ms. Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Department of Planning and Development

Moderator: Ms. Frances Reese, LU Engineers, Inc.

2. Watershed Plans in Action

• **Implementing the Plan - Overcome Your Fear of Commitment**, Mr. Jim Curatolo, Watershed Coordinator, Upper Susquehanna Coalition

- **From Plan to Project - Define, Design, Deliver**, Mr. Doug Gorby, Regional Biologist, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

- **Initiating Water Resource Recovery within Impaired Systems**, Mr. Kris Erickson and Mr. Victor DiGiacomo, Ecology and Environment, Inc.

Moderator: Ms. Sheila Hess, Conservation Connects

3. Wetland Mapping and Regulation in New York

- **Update on National Wetland Inventory Activities in New York**, Mr. Ralph Tiner, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Region 9 Freshwater Wetland Map Revisions on the Great Lakes Plain: Four Case Studies**, Mr. Chuck Rosenburg, Ms. Anne Oyer, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

- **Corps and EPA Clean Water Act Revisions**, Ms. Aimee Viens, Sterling Environmental Engineering, P.C.

Moderator: Mr. Kevin Bliss, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

3:20 – 3:40 **BREAK and Review of Exhibits and Posters**

3:40 – 5:00 **CONCURRENT SESSION D**

1. Landscape and Wetland Relationships

- **Nutrient Dynamics in Coastal Wetlands of Lake Ontario Affected by Algal Blooms**, Dr. Charlotte Roehm and Monique Wilson, State University of New York, Buffalo State College

- **Locating Karst Features on the Onondaga Formation that are Susceptible to Fertilizer Application**, Ms. Jill Libby and Ms. Alexandria Kuhl, SUNY Brockport

- **The Incorporation of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) Data on Invasive Species into Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) and Operations Activities**, Ms. Christine Colley, New York State Department of Transportation

Moderator: Mr. Edward Frantz, New York State Department of Transportation

2. Rare and Endangered Species

- **Population Monitoring and Critical Habitat Studies of the Short-Eared Owl and Northern Harrier in the Region 9 Lake Plain**, Mr. Chuck Rosenburg, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

- **Surveys for Rayed Bean and Clubshell Mussels in French Creek**, Mr. Darran Crabtree, The Nature Conservancy

- **Updates on White-Nose Syndrome in Northeastern Bats**, Ms. Noelle Rayman, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Moderator: Ms. Sandra Doran, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

3. Waterfowl Identification Primer

- **Mr. Michael Fishman, NYS DEC-Certified Waterfowl Identification Instructor, to provide a short course on waterfowl identification. This is a primer to the full Waterfowl Hunter Certification course.**

Moderator: Mr. Peter Gibbs

5:00 – 6:30 **COCKTAIL HOUR**

6:30 **DINNER**

April 29

6:00 – 7:30 **Spring Bird Walk** – Mr. Kurt Weiskotten, New York State Thruway Authority

7:30 – 8:30 **Registration**

8:30 – 8:35 **Announcements** – Mr. Kevin Bliss, Chair, New York State Wetlands Forum

8:35 – 10:00 **Interim Regional Supplement and Indicator Plant List Update**

- **Regional Supplement Update**, Molly Connerton, John Connell, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **Wetland Indicator Plant List - Comments and Update Process**, Mr. Joseph McMullen, Terrestrial Environmental Specialists, Inc.

Moderator: Mr. Joseph McMullen, Terrestrial Environmental Specialists, Inc.

10:00 – 10:15 **Break**

10:15 – 11:45 **Legislative and Regulatory Update**

- Ms. Diane Kozlowski – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Mr. Daniel Montela, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Mr. Timothy Post, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Mr. Kevin Bernstein, Esq., Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC

Moderator: Mr. Kevin Bernstein, Esq., Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC

11:45 – 12:00 **Closing Remarks** – Mr. Kevin Bliss, Chair, New York State Wetlands Forum

Field Trips – Mr. Kurt Weiskotten, New York State Thruway Authority

POSTER SESSION

Effects of Differing Hydrology and Substrate on Germination of Woody Plants in a Swamp Environment,

Alex Stauch, Vanessa Ricotta, Jonathan Sleeper and Jonathan Titus. Biology Department, State University of New York, Fredonia

Old Growth in the East? Forest Structure in Chautauqua County Swamps, Jonathan Titus and Priscilla Titus, Biology Department, State University of New York, Fredonia

Phragmites australis vs. Typha latifolia: A Competition Experiment to Observe Whether Typha Would be a Good Replacement Species in Areas Invaded by Phragmites, Michael A. Cross and Jonathan Titus, Biology Department, State University of New York, Fredonia

Ecological Value of Restored Versus Natural Wetlands in the St. Lawrence Valley, NY, Catherine E. Benson¹, Tom A. Langen¹ and Rick Welsh², ¹Department of Biology, ²Department of Liberal Arts, Clarkson University

Conservation Corner: Cerebrations for the Conscientious Mind; Awaken or Enrich Your Ecological Conscience, Donald J. Lockwood, McFarland-Johnson, Inc.