



# IOWA OUTDOORS

## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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CONSERVATION AND RECREATION DIVISION | [WWW.IOWADNR.GOV/NEWS/](http://WWW.IOWADNR.GOV/NEWS/)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: AUG. 4, 2009

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### **FREE FAMILY ARCHERY CLINICS**

### **\$1,000 REWARD OFFERED IN LAKE WAPELLO SHAD STOCKING CASE**

DRAKESVILLE, Iowa – The Iowa Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Bureau investigation into the presence of gizzard shad in Lake Wapello has eliminated all possibilities other than intentional stocking, and has state officials asking the public for information on the case.

Turn-In-Poachers (TIP) has joined the effort by offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to a successful prosecution of the individual or individuals involved in reintroducing gizzard shad into the newly renovated Lake Wapello. The TIP number is 1-800-532-2020. Callers can remain anonymous.

As part of the investigation, fisheries staff surveyed the ponds and basins in the watershed and found no gizzard shad, leaving the only way for the problem fish species to have gotten into Lake Wapello was by intentional stocking. It is against the law to introduce any live fish to any public waters in the state.

“We are confident that a person or persons intentionally put live gizzard shad in Lake Wapello, and that it happened after the project was completed on April 1,” said Mark Flammang, fisheries biologist for Lake Wapello. “This lake means a lot to the area economically and recreationally. We held fish for a year specifically for Lake Wapello to speed its return as a fishery and the lake was well on its way back until the shad were added. Now, not only do we have to lower the lake again, but we have to eliminate the fishery to get the shad.”

The incident remains under investigation.

“I would encourage anyone with any information to come forward so those responsible can be held accountable for their actions,” said Bob Stuchel, conservation officer with the DNR for Wapello and Davis counties. “It is by their hand that the fishery will need to be renovated again and that takes away the recreation and enjoyment from everyone.”

Fishing at Lake Wapello contributes an estimated \$700,000 per year to the local economy. According to Iowa State University’s Center for Agriculture and Rural Development, Lake Wapello hosts more than 81,000 fishing trips annually. The DNR had just completed a \$400,000 lake renovation, dam repair and watershed improvement project in April.

The public may also call Conservation Officer Matt Rush, at 641-777-7805, Park Ranger Chad Horn, at 641-777-7445 or Stuchel at 641-777-2169 directly with information on the case.

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[Electronic photos available upon request]

## **IOWA PHEASANTS FACE HARD TIMES**

By Lowell Washburn

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Currently in progress, the DNR’s annual August roadside pheasant count easily ranks as our most popular fish and wildlife survey. Although upcoming results of the spring nesting seasons have always been of great interest to Iowans, that interest may have never been higher than it is this summer.

Times are tough. After enduring a recent series of long hard winters, above average snowfall, abnormally wet and cool spring nesting seasons, unprecedented flooding during 2008, and a catastrophic ongoing loss of habitat, it is little wonder that

Iowa pheasant numbers have fallen. During the 2008 hunting season, the state's pheasant harvest plunged to a dismal 383,000 roosters which was the lowest ever recorded. No surprise that pheasant hunters are currently on the edge of their seats wondering what to expect when this year's season rolls around at the end of October.

"Habitat and weather are the two factors that always determine pheasant populations," says DNR Pheasant Biologist, Todd Bogenschutz. "Unfortunately, neither of those factors have been pheasant friendly during the last few years."

Annual snowfall is something that plays a critical role in winter pheasant mortality, says Bogenschutz. Plain and simple --- snow days kill pheasants. Statewide, Iowa received 32 inches of snowfall last winter. The norm is 25 inches of snow. And although this spring offered somewhat of a reprieve and a closer to normal weather scenario, overall temperatures remained below those needed for optimum production.

"Iowa pheasants really need a break," says Bogenschutz. "If we could get a mild winter followed by a warm and dry nesting season, we would see a big and positive change in pheasant numbers. Last year's flooding was a disaster, and this year was certainly better. Right now, we're hoping to at least see a moderate increase in statewide pheasant numbers when the August surveys are complete."

Gamebird populations are dynamic and it's normal for pheasant numbers to fluctuate up or down with changing weather conditions, says Bogenschutz. But what birds cannot compensate for is the loss of habitat. In 1993, more than 2.2 million acres of grassland nesting cover was enrolled in Iowa's Conservation Reserve Program [CRP]. Bird populations soared and hunters bagged nearly 2 million roosters that fall.

But as 10-year CRP contracts have expired, Iowa's grassland acreage has declined steadily --- particularly across the northern half of the state. Current CRP enrollment has dropped to 1.7 million acres statewide, and we're scheduled to lose another 85,000 acres [the equivalent of 132 square miles of nesting habitat] in the state this September. An additional 230,000 CRP acres will expire in 2012.

"It's hard for people to visualize what that kind of habitat loss really looks like," says Bogenschutz. "Most people can't accurately picture what something like 5,000 acres or 10,000 acres even looks like. What I tell them, is to close their eyes and try to imagine a 300-mile-long, eight-mile-wide strip of continuous CRP grassland running all the way from Omaha to Davenport. That's the amount of CRP nesting cover we've already lost in Iowa, with more coming out this fall. When you describe it to people that way, you can see the wheels start to turn," said Bogenschutz.

The good news is that, for the first time in a long time, Iowa farmers will soon have an opportunity to sign up and compete for a brand new round of ten-year, CRP contracts. Although no one thinks the program is likely return to its 1990s level, the new sign up does have the potential to stem habitat loss and increase grassland nesting cover for pheasants and other upland wildlife species.

"At this point it's really difficult to speculate what will happen, but one thing is sure," says Bogenschutz. "We definitely need to keep CRP on the landscape. We need to fight tooth and nail to keep every single acre that's still out there. At least 80 percent

of Iowa's pheasant harvest occurs on private land. Pheasant populations live or die by how those private lands are managed."

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## **PADDLING POPULARITY**

By Joe Wilkinson

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

When I was about 13, we spent much of the summer floating down the creek that dumped into what is now Carney Marsh. We never got far. The hole in our galvanized steel stock tank let it take on water to sink within minutes. I suppose that's why it had been dumped in the first place. We'd dump the water, drag it upstream and float down again.

These days, I've gone upscale--relatively speaking--gliding across Lake Macbride in a used kayak. Early morning paddles are great; a chance to watch the herons fidget as I approach. One chance meeting with an otter is my highlight. Evenings and weekends, the crowd picks up. Over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, it looked like a full-color, unorganized flotilla. Seems I'm not the only one who has figured out how much fun it is to get where you're going under paddle-power.

"Paddlesport activity has really increased--nationally as well as in Iowa," confirms John Wenck, with the Department of Natural Resources rivers program. "A survey by the U.S. Forestry Service indicates kayaking has increased 63 percent in the last four years; the highest jump for any outdoor activity. Our 'livery' operations in Iowa have more than doubled to nearly 60 in the last three or four years."

The hike in popularity is obvious at Lake Macbride Rentals. "We expanded from four to 12 kayaks when I took over three years ago. They're busy all the time," relays owner Tina Hoffman. "After the (May 30 'mini') tornado and the flood last year, we not only lost half our boats; we couldn't get north to buy new ones. People wanted to rent them and we couldn't get any." There are plenty now. A crowd of about 30 stood by Wednesday afternoon, waiting for a canoe, kayak or motor boat to tour the lake.

A few days ago, a couple Hardin County outfitters broke out the boats, as Lieutenant Governor Patty Judge and DNR Director Rich Leopold tested the waters of Lower Pine Lake. They were there to spotlight Iowa's designated water trails program. Leopold noted that Iowa has gone from zero to 166 designated water trail miles in five years. A stretch of the nearby Iowa River is among 900 more miles under development.

Tracy Morlan pulled up in his old bus, with colorful tubes stacked on top and crammed inside. You can't get much closer to Main Street than his address of Highway 175 and the Iowa River. "Every year it seems there are more people. They have a really

good time. They can visit as they float down the river," says Morlan, in his 16<sup>th</sup> year running 'Rock-n-Row Adventures' between Eldora and Steamboat Rock. "It's the things they see; to have a great experience and a story to tell at the end of the day."

Through much of Hardin County, the Iowa flows past steep banks and lush green vegetation. By the time it arrives in Johnson County, the river expands as it becomes Coralville Reservoir; not quite so paddler friendly, but still accessible as it takes on its primary function as a flood-control impoundment.

Look over a map of Iowa and you can tell eastern Iowa sees most of the canoeing and kayaking in the state. In a normal-rainfall year, streams like the Upper Iowa, Turkey, Maquoketa, Wapsipinicon; even the Yellow and Volga host a variety of paddle sports enthusiasts. Head across to the west, and the upper reaches of the Cedar, Iowa and Des Moines are popular, too. Across western Iowa, are some great stretches; along the Sioux Rivers, the Floyd, the Nishnabotna; the Raccoon as you float toward central Iowa.

While paddlers have enjoyed them for years, their popularity is taking off; helped in large part by organized efforts to bring attention to streams. Project AWARE has done just that in the last seven summers; utilizing hundreds of paddlers as river cleanup crews, removing tons of garbage on each week spent on the water. Many more cleanups are coordinated locally, instilling a sense of pride as those volunteers get back into their canoes and paddle down their improved stream corridors.

Stretches on many of them are being developed as water trails. "The designation offers people better access; maybe kiosks, brochures, interpretive information," explains Wenck. "You can learn what type of wildlife you might see on that stretch of the river; any historical amenities. It will lead to a better appreciation and a better respect for the river." The designations might also provide signage or other information, such as a low-head dam just ahead and how to safely portage around it.

And it does not necessarily mean bigger crowds or reducing the natural attraction of an area. Volunteers invested a lot of 'sweat equity,' for instance, to establish erosion-resistant canoe/kayak access points on the Skunk River. They call the effort 'Small Footprint Water Access;' emphasizing the desire of paddlers to keep their pastime simple. The same quiet beauty; the wildlife and vegetation, perhaps steep bluffs seen from just a few inches above the surface add to the enjoyment of a day on the water.

Still, with 36,000 registered canoes and kayaks (and more which don't have to be registered) paddling is a \$5 million economic boost for Iowa. "We have an untapped resource," stresses Wenck. "Most people are attracted to water...and are just starting to wake up to what rivers can offer for their quality of life. Minnesota likes to tout its 10,000 lakes. We should probably be touting our 80,000 miles of streams here in Iowa."

Especially, once you've moved past the stock-tank-with-a-leak stage.

**Learn Online 'Get Wet Clues'**

Get wet and have fun while you do it, using the water trails web pages, on the Iowa DNR website. Go to [www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov), click on Trails & Paddling (left margin), then again on Canoe/Kayak to find a variety of maps, web pages, other useful information.

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## **FALL KAYAK TRIPS BEGIN AT HONEY CREEK RESORT STATE PARK**

MORAVIA – Looking for an inexpensive, scenic fall get-away? Join DNR interpreters as they lead free overnight kayak adventures at Honey Creek Resort. Trips are scheduled Oct. 10-11 and Nov. 14-15.

“We’ll depart at 2 p.m. on Saturday, explore the lake and setup camp at 5 p.m.,” said Kenneth Hamilton, interpreter at Honey Creek Resort. “Then we’ll cook supper together and end the evening with a relaxing night paddle on Lake Rathbun. In the morning we will cook breakfast, break camp and arrive back at the resort by noon.”

Each trip is designed to reveal unique natural resources of Lake Rathbun. The October trip is scheduled during the fall leaf color change. Participants will also have the option to hike Rathbun natural shorelines. In November, paddlers will experience Lake Rathbun during the fall migration and have the opportunity for late season birding.

Participants need their own tents, sleeping bags and camping attire. Honey Creek interpreters will provide kayaks and life jackets, but individuals are welcome to bring their own.

Due to lower water temperatures, participants must have previous kayaking experience. An optional “refresher” kayaking lesson will be available for participants at 10:30 a.m. the morning of each trip.

Both trips are offered with no charge, however, pre-registration is required due to limited space. Interested individuals are encouraged to register early as these trips tend to fill quickly. Participants must be 12 years old or older and accompanied by an adult if under 18.

Those looking for shorter excursions can take advantage of additional kayaking programs at Honey Creek Resort. The next scheduled event is a meteor shower night paddle on Aug. 12.

“The Perseids meteor shower takes place August 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and with the lakes dark skies we could possibly see 60 meteors per hour,” said Hamilton. “Participants may bring their own kayaks or use ours but pre-registration is required and like all our programs, this is free.”

Additional programs will be announced as they are planned. For more information, or to register, contact Kenneth Hamilton at 641-814-3029 or [kenneth.hamilton@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:kenneth.hamilton@dnr.iowa.gov)

For more information about kayaking and other programs at Honey Creek Resort State Park visit [http://honeycreekresort.com/interpretive\\_programs](http://honeycreekresort.com/interpretive_programs)

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## **VOLUNTEER SPIRIT AND SPONSOR SUPPORT KEEP RIVER CLEANUP AFLOAT**

DES MOINES, Iowa – Originally scheduled as an 86-mile Cedar River cleanup, the Iowa DNR's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Project AWARE was forced to implement alternative plans as high water on the Cedar heightened concerns about volunteer safety. Fortunately, flexible plans, adaptable volunteers, and supportive sponsors provided volunteers ample opportunities to experience the diverse resources eastern Iowa has to offer.

Determined to make a difference, 269 participants joined the effort and removed more than 42 tons of trash from area waterways, including the Wapsipinicon River, Pleasant Creek Lake, and Cedar River tributaries of Big and Indian creeks. Volunteers also had an opportunity to clean up flood-impacted neighborhoods in Cedar Rapids and restore native prairie at Rochester Cemetery.

"I liked the creek paddling and that is something that I would never do on my own if not part of Project AWARE," said six-year river cleanup veteran, Susan Heathcote, after cleaning up Big and Indian creeks in Linn County.

River cleanup legend Chad Pregracke and his Living Lands & Waters crew also volunteered for Project AWARE, providing participants with an opportunity to clean the Cedar River's banks in and around Cedar Rapids and orchestrating a massive cleanup effort along the river near the community of Cedar Bluff. This cleanup netted nearly two-thirds of all the trash collected during the week and illustrated perfectly the role of community involvement and teamwork in the protection and improvement of our state's natural resources.

In addition to those who volunteered for Project AWARE, there are also those who made the event possible through financial and in-kind support.

"I'm sure I echo many others when I give my heartfelt thanks to the sponsors," said Melisa Jacobsen, a six-year Project AWARE veteran from Calamus who now coordinates a river cleanup of her own on the Lower Wapsipinicon River. "They help to make this all happen - positive learning experiences, excellent environmental cleanup

opportunities, and a wonderful culture of people coming together with a common goal!”

Staff with Project AWARE would like to extend a sincere and heartfelt “Thank You” to all those who volunteered to clean up the river and to all those who made it possible.

**Platinum Paddle Sponsors:** Cedar Rapids Linn County Solid Waste Agency · City Carton Recycling · IIHR – Hydrosience & Engineering · Iowa State University Recreation Services · Linn County Board of Supervisors · Linn County Conservation · Rockwell Collins · Rotary Clubs of District 6000 · Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust · The McKnight Foundation · United States Geological Survey · University of Iowa Hygienic Lab · Waste Management · Wendling Quarries Inc. · Iowa DNR - Financial & Business Assistance, IOWATER, Iowa Water Trails.

**Golden Yoke Sponsors:** Hunter's Specialties · Iowa DNR Law Enforcement · Iowa Geological and Water Survey · Pleasant Creek State Recreation Area.

**Silver Stern Sponsors:** Cedar County Conservation Board · Connie Struve · Dan Clark · Environmental Advocates · Gazette Communications · Hy-Vee, Inc. · Muscatine County Conservation Board · Palisades-Kepler State Park.

**River Rescue Sponsors:** Aero Rental and Party Shoppe · Alliant Energy · B4 Brands · Baker Lemar · Benton County Conservation Board · Boone County Landfill · Boy Scout Troop 242 · Can Shed LLC · Casey's General Stores, Inc. · Cedar County Solid Waste Commission · Cedar Rapids Audubon Society · Cedar Valley Paddlers · Central Iowa Paddlers · City of Cedar Rapids Parks and Recreation Department · CrawDaddy Outdoors · Des Moines Area Community College · Des Moines Chapter Izaak Walton League · Divine Engineering, Inc · DNR AmeriCorps Trails Crew · Environmental Professionals of Iowa · Goeke & Rasmussen · Guaranty Bank & Trust Company · Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association · Howard & Phyllis Ciha · Indian Creek Nature Center · Integrated DNA Technologies · Iowa City Landfill & Recycling Center · Iowa Conservation Education Coalition · Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation · Iowa Recycling Association · Iowa Rivers Revival · Iowa Soil and Water Conservation Society · Iowa Whitewater Coalition · Jean & Darrel Brothersen · Jean K Gordon · John & Michele Tuthill · Johnson County Conservation Board · Kevin Gleaves · Loparex · Mark Bohner · Metro Waste Authority · MidAmerican Energy Company · Mount Vernon Bank & Trust Company · Mount Vernon Community High School · Muscatine Chapter of Izaak Walton League · Muscatine County Sanitary Landfill · Pac-Kit Safety Equipment Co. · Prairie Winds RC&D · Quaker Oats · Rick's Grille & Spirits · Ruby Frantz · Seatasea Watersports · Snyder & Associates, Inc. · Springbrook Conservation Education Center · Stanley Consultants, Inc · Sticks in the Water · Stine Seed Company · Sue Caley · Teresa Kurtz · The Dental Practice, PC · The Nature Conservancy · Touch the Earth - University of Iowa Recreational Services · Townsend Vision Inc · UNI Outdoors · William L. Thomas.

**Life Jacket Sponsors:** Citizens Bank, Tipton & Anamosa · Clipper Windpower · Wilton Steel Processing

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## **RIVER TRASH TO ENHANCE DNR BUILDING AT IOWA STATE FAIR**

DES MOINES – It may be hard to believe, but the new gate on the west side DNR building at the Iowa State Fair isn't just a beautiful new addition...it's garbage. Well, that's what it's made of, anyway.

One way or another, the metals found in the gate made their way into the Winnebago, Shell Rock, and Cedar rivers. Last August, 221 volunteers on the DNR's Project AWARE river cleanup event worked together to remove 47 tons of garbage from these rivers and rescued this refuse from its watery grave. With a close look at the gate, the story of how this was done begins to unfold.

Alternating canoe paddles, for example, represent the method by which the trash was removed from the river. Oak leaves found on the paddles represent Iowa's state tree. Much like the mighty oak, our state's rivers help sustain our wildlife, our people, and our way of life. And secured to the wheel rim hubs below the paddles, water-main valve covers cast in aluminum sum it all up with one word...WATER.

This new gate is the first installment of a five-year project to replace all the gates on the west side of the building, and during this year's Iowa State Fair, fairgoers will not only have a chance to see this gate, they'll also have a chance to help create a new one.

On select days during the fair, fairgoers can help turn car parts, fence posts, rebar, and other trash into art that will be used for next year's gate. Ogden artist David Williamson will guide volunteers as they melt, hammer, mold, and shape scrap metal collected by 269 volunteers during this year's Project AWARE, which took place June 20-27, near the Cedar River.

Work will take place at the "Orange Cone Arena" in the courtyard west of the DNR building. Join the effort between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Aug. 14, 15, 16, 21, and 22. Formal presentations on the DNR Courtyard Stage are also scheduled on these days, during which fairgoers can help create lyrics for a collaborative song by sharing their thoughts about rivers and natural resources as part of an exciting interactive presentation.

For more information, visit the Project AWARE website – [www.iowaprojectaware.com](http://www.iowaprojectaware.com) – or contact Brian Soenen at (515) 205-8587 or [Brian.Soenen@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Brian.Soenen@dnr.iowa.gov).

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## **SOUTHWEST IOWA LOCATION ADDED TO DNR DIRECTOR'S PUBLIC FORUM SCHEDULE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Tammie Krausman, DNR, at (515) 402-8763 or [Tammie.Krausman@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Tammie.Krausman@dnr.iowa.gov).

BEDFORD– The DNR has added a public forum in Bedford at Lake of Three Fires to the DNR director's schedule of forums being held statewide this summer.

Richard Leopold, director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, will be holding the forums again this year to discuss natural resource issues with Iowans. The first forum will be held at Honey Creek Resort State Park on Thursday, Aug. 6.

"I really look forward to hearing from Iowa's citizens. Last year, we got great feedback and ideas from more than 300 attendees," said Leopold about the seven forums held last year. "Our relationship with Iowans is something we highly value within the DNR and we will work together on the things most affecting our natural resources."

Each public forum begins at 6 p.m. with Director Leopold outlining the DNR's top priorities, the environmental report card, providing an update on budget cuts and discussing local issues. Another hour-and-a-half will be devoted to answering questions from the public.

Other public forums scheduled for Leopold are as follows, listed alphabetically by city:

### **Bedford**

Lake of Three Fires State Park Lodge  
Tuesday, Sept. 8, 6 p.m.

### **Bellevue**

Bellevue State Park Lodge  
Thursday, Sept. 3, 6 p.m.

### **Clear Lake**

Clear Lake State Park Lodge

Thursday, Sept. 17, 6 p.m.

**Lehigh**

Dolliver State Park Lodge

Thursday, Aug. 20, 6 p.m.

**Moravia**

Honey Creek Resort State Park Lodge

Thursday, Aug. 6, 6 p.m.

**Sioux City**

Stone State Park Lodge

Thursday, Sept. 24, 6 p.m.

**Solon**

Lake Macbride State Park Main Lodge

Thursday, Aug. 27, 6 p.m.

###

**CLEAN UP DAY SET FOR BADGER CREEK**

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has scheduled a volunteer clean up day on August 8, for Badger Creek State Recreation Area, near Earlham, in Madison County.

Volunteers are asked to bring gloves and something to drink and to meet at the shelter on the east side of the lake at 9 a.m. The work will take place rain or shine and last until noon.

For questions about the event, contact Katlin MacBride, 515-771-1227 or by email at [katlin.macbride@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:katlin.macbride@dnr.iowa.gov)

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**FREE FAMILY ARCHERY CLINICS**

The City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation invites children and adults alike to test their aim with the Basics of Archery, free clinics. Participants will learn about

equipment required for the sport as well as skills.

Equipment including arrows, bows, targets, quivers, arm guards, and shooting gloves will be provided. There are two clinics remaining: August 10 and August 17, from 6 - 8:30 p.m., at the Cownie Soccer Complex, 2600 E. Hartford Ave.

The classes are a great way to enjoy the safe and fun sport of archery. The course will be taught by a certified basic archery instructor and is open to all ages. This program is a partnership with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. For more information call: (515) 248-6315.

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## **NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION TO MEET AUGUST 13 IN CLEAR LAKE**

CLEAR LAKE – The Natural Resource Commission of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources will meet at 8:30 a.m., Aug. 13, at the Lakeview Community Room/Bandshell, on North Lakeview Drive, in City Park, between Main Avenue and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North, in Clear Lake.

Commission and DNR staff will meet at 10 a.m., Aug. 12, at the Ventura Wildlife Management Unit for an update on Honey Creek Resort State Park, then at 1 p.m. leave for a tour of the area. The commission will have dinner at 5:30 p.m. at the Clear Lake Annual Steak Fry, held at Eagle Lake, 2558 Lake Avenue, near Britt. The tour and the meeting are open to the public.

Members of the commission are Kim Francisco, Elizabeth Garst, Carol Kramer, Gregory Drees, Janelle Rettig, William Bird and Tammi Kircher. The Director of the DNR is Richard Leopold.

The following is the agenda for the August meeting.

- Approve Agenda
- Approve Minutes of July 9 Meeting
- Director's Remarks
- Construction Projects
  - E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center, Dubuque County – Sanitary Sewer Forcemain
  - Burr Oak Lake, Emmet County – Wetland Restoration
- Small Construction Projects Contracts
- Land Acquisition Projects
  - Tuttle Lake Wetland Complex, Emmet County – Mitchell/Stoner
  - Otter Creek Marsh, Tama County – James and Susan Chizek

- Chain-O-Lakes Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Linn County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF)
- Red Rock WMA, Warren County - INHF
- Land Management Projects
  - Management Agreement, Decatur County – Little River WMA
  - Management Agreement, Louisa County – Upper Mississippi River WMA
  - Final Rule – Chapter 21, Agricultural Lease Program
- Final Rule – Chapter 15, General License Regulations
- Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 113, Restitution for Pollution Causing Injury to Wild Animals
- Contract with Lake Improvements Commission for Storm Lake Dredging
- Final Rule – Chapter 77, Endangered and Threatened Plant and Animal Species
- Cultural Resource Evaluation Contract with ISU
- Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program Grant Review
- Emergency Final Rule – Chapter 91, Waterfowl and Coot Hunting Seasons
- Agreement with Pheasants Forever and the Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Donations
- Natural Resource Based Business Opportunity Grants Program
- Council Bluffs Riverfront Development, Pottawattamie County
- General Discussion
  - Alcohol Use in State Parks on July 4<sup>th</sup> in Dickinson County and Lake Macbride
- Items for Next Meeting, Sept. 10, Dickinson County

**For more information, contact Melissa Speed, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, at 515-281-8650.**