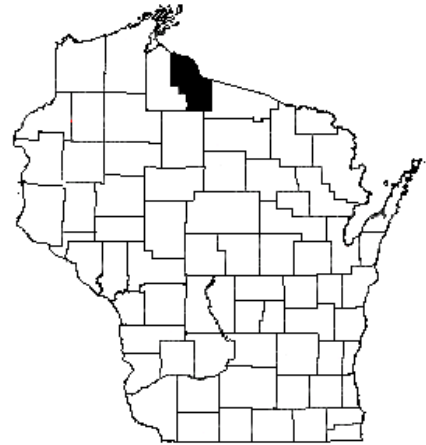




Fish and Wildlife Conservation

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

Iron County



County characteristics

- 788 sq. mi.
- Mostly forested with mixed northern hardwood forest types.
- 29,000 lake acres, which includes the 14,300-acre Turtle-Flambeau Flowage, 633 miles of streams and rivers with 336 miles of trout water.
- 7.4 miles of Lake Superior shoreline
- There are 6,932 residents living in Iron County



Public Land Open to Hunting and Fishing

- Iron County Forest: 174,089 acres
- Northern Highland State Forest: 32,960 acres.
- Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters: 35,000 acres
- 8,465 acres of State Wildlife, Fisheries, and Natural areas. **Locate DNR properties at:**

http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_lands_mapping.html

DNR Staff serving you

- 1 Wildlife Biologist; 1 Fisheries Biologist; 1 Fisheries Technician; 2 Conservation Wardens.
- Office: 5291 N State House Circle
- Staff also serves portions of Ashland County.

Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars

- Fisheries management/treaty assessments on lakes, rivers and streams.
- Habitat improvements; fish crib projects, walleye spawning reefs, beaver control, trout stream enhancement.
- Fish stocking, warm-water population manipulation, habitat protection, boat launch improvements, angler education.
- Provide enforcement coverage for all fish, game, environmental, and recreational activities in the county. Major violations addressed have included illegal poaching of fish and game, cabin shooting at night for deer and bear.
- In cooperation with Iron County implement wildlife management maintenance programs on the Iron County Forest.
- Monitor local wildlife populations of deer, bear, waterfowl, ruffed grouse, woodcock, frogs, pine martin, loons, eagles, osprey, and trumpeter swans.
- Provide wildlife damage and nuisance abatement information and assistance.
- Development and maintenance of the Little Turtle Waterfowl Management Area, a 260 acre waterfowl impoundment and open grassland.
- Mercer Warden has conducted group checks on the Turtle Flambeau Flowage to address over bagging of the walleye fishery.

Activities continued...

- Monitor wildlife diseases including CWD and West Nile Virus.
- Provide educational programs for schools, conservation organizations and civic groups.

Iron County Conservation Snapshots

25 DNR boat launch sites
ALIS Agents Supported
Deer, Turkey & Bear Registration
Stations



Fish Stocking Summary

- 13 Lakes Stocked with 149,070 fish in 2003-04
- 5 Streams and 3 Lakes Stocked with 74,570 Trout in 2003-04

County Success Stories

- Establishment and management of the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area property.
- Wildlife Management on the Iron County Forest, especially forest openings maintenance.
- Establishment and operation of the Northwoods Shooting Range in cooperation with the Northwoods Wildlife and Wetlands Club.
- Creation/enhancement of quality panfish angling opportunities through numerous population manipulation projects.
- Securing public access to three unique lakes/fisheries. Acquiring the total shoreline on 3 “wild” lakes.
- Community Warden projects include: Town of Knight Shooting Range, Town of Pence Archery Range, Youth Archery Program, and Kid’s Fishing day on Weber Lake. Numerous programs in local schools and clubs with the focus on our natural resources.
- Restoration of Canada geese, timber wolves, fisher, and trumpeter swans to the county.
- Wildlife staff provides input on county forest plans and helps develop wildlife projects on the Iron County Forest.
- Developed the Deadhorse Ruffed Grouse Management Demonstration Area on the Turtle Flambeau Scenic Waters Area. This site is intensively managed for ruffed grouse to provide educational information to private landowners and others seeking to learn about grouse management.

Statewide challenges to maintaining your hunting and fishing opportunities

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
 - Fish and wildlife stocking programs: Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres; Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts - Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth – urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management

Want to Learn More? Go to dnr.wi.gov/invest

March 2005