

**NEW YORK STATE WETLANDS FORUM, INC.
2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE & MEETING**

MILLENNIUM HOTEL BUFFALO, BUFFALO, NY

APRIL 28 - 29, 2010

HOTEL INFORMATION

Rooms are available at the Millennium Hotel Buffalo, 2040 Walden Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14225. **Reservations should be made by March 29, 2010 by calling (716) 681-2400, fax (716) 681-8067.** To secure the rate of \$102 for a single or double, plus 13.75% tax, please let them know you are with the New York State Wetlands Forum.

DIRECTIONS

From Buffalo Niagara International Airport:

Take Route 33 West to Interstate 90 West to Exit 52 East (Walden Avenue East). The hotel is on the left side.

From North:

When taking the Rainbow or Queenstown Bridges, follow Interstate 190 South to Interstate 290 East to I-90 West to Exit 52 East (Walden Avenue East). The hotel is on the left side.

From East/West:

Take I-90 (New York State Thruway) to Exit 52 East (Walden Avenue East). The hotel is on the left side.



New York State Wetlands Forum, Inc.
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2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND MEETING

MILLENNIUM HOTEL BUFFALO, BUFFALO, NEW YORK • APRIL 28 - 29, 2010

Name: _____ Affiliation: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

ATTENDEE REGISTRATION (Pre-registration must be received by April 9. **All on-site registration is \$150.**)

Registration fee includes: continental breakfast, breaks, lunch, mixer (Wednesday, April 28), workshop materials, and field trips.

- Full Time Student (with valid School ID) - **\$50** \$ _____
- Speakers - **\$100** NYS Wetlands Forum Members - **\$120** \$ _____
- All Others - **\$135** Pre-registration plus NYS Wetlands Forum Membership - **\$155** \$ _____
- DINNER** April 28 Evening Dinner (check if vegetarian meal requested) - **\$35** \$ _____

NYSWF 2010 MEMBERSHIP

(Membership benefits include: conference discounts, NYSWF newsletter subscription, personal invitations to meetings and member-only events, and access to member-only section of web site.)

- One-Year Forum Membership - **\$35** \$ _____

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION (Exhibitors should contact Kevin Bernstein at (315) 218-8329 or kbernstein@bsk.com.)

- Exhibitor includes one registration - **\$250** \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

SPONSORSHIP If you are interested in sponsoring the 2010 Annual Conference and Meeting please contact Kevin Bernstein at (315) 218-8329 or kbernstein@bsk.com for more information.

For updated 2010 Annual Conference and Meeting information visit www.wetlandsforum.org.

Return this completed form and payment to New York State Wetlands Forum, Inc., PO Box 1351, Latham, NY 12110. Please make checks payable to the New York State Wetlands Forum, Inc. EIN# 14-1723859.



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March 2010

Dear Invited Guest:

Last year, Poughkeepsie. This year, Buffalo. Next year... who knows. We've been WAY too busy planning for this year to think that far ahead. But our hard work has paid off with a guaranteed worthwhile annual conference and business meeting agenda.

Quick: Which country won the most gold medals in the 2010 winter Olympics? If you said the U.S., you get 8 points for patriotism. But I'm afraid you're wrong. Hint: They beat us for the Gold in hockey. Men's AND Women's! Yep, O Canada! As they say, if you can't beat them, join them: We reached across the border to Bird Studies Canada for our keynote speaker, Ryan Archer, Marsh Monitoring Projects Biologist. The mission of Bird Studies Canada is to advance the understanding, appreciation, and conservation of wild birds and their habitats. Data collected are used to identify significant population changes and help direct conservation planning. Their techniques have been adapted world-wide, serving as a model not only for good research, but for gaining the enthusiastic contributions of thousands of volunteer citizen scientists.

Of course, Mr. Archer isn't the only excellent talk planned. If you can't find a topic or two (or twenty) on our agenda that interest you, I'd be surprised. In fact, I'd take that as a sign that either you are in the wrong line of work, or this mailing was misdirected. Let's hope it's neither. I think you can agree, any of the planned talks provide something valuable. If you are not up to speed on the Corp's Delineation Manual Supplement, don't worry, I understand Walmart is hiring. If you didn't even know the DEC is revising its mapping and classification regulations, where have you been? I suggest you be in Buffalo on April 28 and 29. Ever met Ralph Tiner? Yes, that Ralph Tiner, the guy whose books line your shelf. Or at least should. Now's your chance.

Field trip participants will be visiting three locations in the Buffalo area that feature wetland and natural area restoration and conservation projects. As always, these trips will be guided to help you learn as much as possible and to fully enjoy a spring afternoon in the field with your colleagues. So please join us in Buffalo for another educational, fun two days. And if you're a big hockey fan, well, just try your hardest to make Mr. Archer feel welcome.

See you in April!

Sincerely,

Kevin R. Bliss

Kevin R. Bliss, Chair
NYS Wetlands Forum
<http://www.wetlandsforum.org>

Per Article 13 of the NYS Wetlands Forum Bylaws, any member may make nominations to the Board of Directors by petition. Such petition shall be in writing, signed by at least ten members and filed with the secretary no later than 3 days before the meeting. Nominees shall not be nominated for a specific vacancy, but shall run at-large.

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. Rare and Endangered Species

- Status of the Hellbender in Western New York, Ms. Noelle Rayman, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- 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

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 Rosenberg, 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. 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 Morgensen, 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.

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, Ms. Theresa Hudson, 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 Staunch, 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, MacFarland-Johnson, Inc.