

January 2016

# Important meeting to be held on Back Forty Mine permit application: Property lies along Menominee River

Public comments now being accepted and club members are encouraged to do so

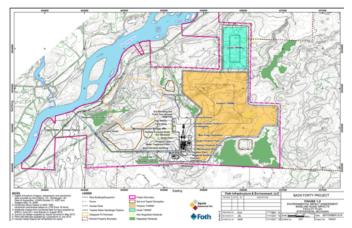
Anglers who have fished the extraordinary smallmouth fishery that is the Menominee River along the Wisconsin Michigan border are probably unaware of the massive sulfide deposits that lay beside and beneath them. This is within the section commonly know as Sixty Islands which is below the White Rapids Dam.

Aquila Resources has applied for a permit to establish their flagship Back Forty Mine here.

Aquila suggests to investors the potentiality to mine 721 million pounds of zinc, 532 thousand ounces of gold, 74 million pounds of copper, 4.6 million ounces of silver, and 21 million pounds of lead over the 16 year life of the mine.

Many river users and conservation groups are concerned for the future health of the river and Lake Michigan.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Office of Geological Survey, will conduct a public meeting on the application for a mining permit for the proposed Back Forty Mine by Aquila Resources Inc. The MDEQ received the application on November 12, 2015, and determined it to be administratively complete on November 26, 2015.



The purpose of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for interested parties to exchange information through informal discussions. The meeting will be held on January 5, 2016, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. CST, at the Stephenson High school, W526 Division Street, Stephenson, Michigan.

Interested persons may submit written comments by mail or e-mail until 5:00 P.M. Tuesday, February 2, 2016. Mail your comments to DEQ Back Forty Mine Comments, Office of Oil, Gas, and Minerals, 1504 West Washington Street, Marquette, Michigan, 49855; or via email to makij3@michigan.gov

A copy of the application may be reviewed at: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/deg/">http://www.michigan.gov/deg/</a>

0,4561,7-135-3311 18442---,00.html

Aquila has also explored sites in Marathon, Taylor, and Oneida Counties in Wisconsin.

**Correction:** An earlier edition of this newsletter misidentified the mining company as Aquila Resources Ltd. which is incorporated in Australia with 85% Chinese ownership.

The actual company is <u>Aquila Resources Inc.</u> which is incorporated in Canada and has a number of stockholders.

## Badger Fly Fishers to host annual event

The Badger Fly Fishers Spring Opener will be held Saturday, February 13, 2015 at the American Family Insurance Training Cen-ter, Building "A", 6000 American Parkway, Madison. The doors open at 8:00 A.M.

Featured speaker is Gary Borger. Gary is one of the world's foremost fly fishing educators. He has been a fly fisher since 1955, and since 1972 has taught classes and lectured internationally on all aspects of fly fishing for trout and salmon.

There will be a lively auction taking place after lunch, and a number of fine items will be available for bidders.

Throughout the day there is an assortment of master fly tiers, vendors, and bucket raffles. Tiers will be demonstrating traditional and innovative patterns including bass bugs, dry flies, nymphs, salmon and steelhead flies.

You will find more information on their website: badgerflyfishers.com

Go and join the fun!

## Spring 2016 FLY FISHING OPENER



## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2016

SPONSORED BY THE BADGER FLY FISHERS, MADISON, WI • www.badgerflyfishers.com 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. plus evening banquet



#### ATTRACTIONS

- · Commercial exhibits of the latest and finest in fly fishing equipment
- · Raffles, and lively auction
- · Fly tying demonstrations

#### LOCATION

American Family Insurance Training Center Bldg. A 6000 American Parkway Madison, WI

Use Surface Parking Lots

#### FEATURED SPEAKER

Gary Borger - Noted fly fishing expert and author

Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance Ltd.

2701 Gust Road /erona, WI 53593 (608) 843-3770

o://wisconsinsmallmouth.com/wordpres

Jerry Pasdo President

John Pritchard Vice President (608) 233-2774 (608) 877-0344

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Gerry Zingg (608) 233-7348

Rich Connor Board (608) 502-4618 zingger@charter.net rfconnor1@gmail.com

Steve Wall Board (608) 235-4587 s.wall7@frontier.com

Articles, photos, and calendar events for the newsletter are encouraged and should be submitted by the 1st day of the month to: Dan Johnson, 426 Glenway St. Madison, WI 53711. Send to: johnson7@tds.net, editor.

## MILLE LACS CHAPTER ROLLING

Your WSA was very instrumental in helping this chapter get going after a request for ideas from its founder, fishing guide and outdoors writer, Jim DaRosa. The lake is seeing extraordinary harvesting of smallmouth bass and the huge resort area needed an education and outreach effort similar to our efforts in Wisconsin. The following is a small part of their press release.

(Dec 4, 2015) Isle, Minn. - Local homeowners, business owners and concerned anglers have joined forces in Minnesota to form a new non-profit organization: the Mille Lacs Smallmouth Alliance.

Recently electing a dedicated board of directors, the organization is starting work on its mission. This non-profit (pending official 501c3 status) is dedicated to rebuilding, preserving and maintaining Mille Lacs as a world-class trophy smallmouth bass fishery.

The work includes educating fishermen, local businesses and visitors to the lake about the benefits of catch and release and advocating (with conservation officials) for sound bass-management practices.

The organization has set forth a premise that is healthy, trophy smallmouth bass fishery contributes to the economic vitality of the Mille Lacs Lake area through added tourism dollars.



Catch and Release Creates Quality Smallmouth Bass Fishing Become a member today! Support Catch and Release and let's all Free the Fighter!

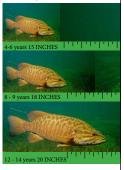
#### **Catch and Release Tips:**

- · Play the fish quickly
- · Wet your hands before handling the fish
- · Handle the fish firmly--but gently. Do not
- · Use a pliers to remove hooks
- · Cut the line if the fish is throat-hooked
- · Return the fish to the lake quickly
- · Gently ease the fish back into the water

Like us on all our social media including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Mille Lacs Smallmouth Alliance A 501(c)3 charitable non-profit organization (status pending) PO Box 167 Isle MM 56342

Smallmouth Bass Grow **Slowly in Mille Lacs** 



Please check their webpage www.millelacssmallmouthalliance.com and Jim's email info@millelacssmallmouthalliance.com. WSA will keep you posted of the chapter's efforts. Also, maybe there'll be a Minnesota chapter in the future.

## Michigan smallmouth bass state record broken

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has confirmed a new state-record catch for smallmouth bass.

The existing state record for smallmouth bass was broken in October by Greg Gasiciel of Rhodes, Michigan. Gasiciel was bait-casting with a green grub when he landed a 9.33-pound, 24.50-inch smallmouth bass from Hubbard Lake in Alcona County.

The previous state record for smallmouth bass was set back in 1906 with a 9.25-pound, 27.25-inch fish taken from Long Lake in Cheboygan County. Records show this fish was caught by W.F. Shoemaker.

## Club elections coming up in January

At a recent Board meeting, the following directors were nominated (all are current Board members): Jerry Pasdo, Mike Simon, Gerry Zingg, Dan Johnson, Rich Connor and Steve Wall.

John Pritchard has chosen not to run again and we thank John for his years of service.

The elections will be held at our January meeting and nominations will be taken from the floor. If anyone would like to know what's involved in being a Director, contact Jerry or Mike.

## **Our Next Meeting:**

## January 19th

## Roy Vivian

Tactics for Lake Mendota Smallmouth Bass and Walleye

Roy is a professional walleye tournament angler.

When he's fishing for fun you can find him on a river in the spring, usually the Illinois, Mississippi or Wisconsin Rivers.

In the summer he fishes the Madison chain of lakes, usually focusing on Lake Mendota.



## **Upcoming Events:**

January 19th WSA monthly meeting

Roy Vivian

**February 16**th WSA monthly meeting Abe Downs and

Dan Boggs Blackwater Fly Fishing "Fishing Strategies for Northern Wisconsin Rivers and Feeder Streams" March 15<sup>th</sup> WSA monthly meeting

Kip Vieth of Wildwood Float Trips

April 19th

WSA monthly meeting Annual Fundraising Auction

Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance meetings are normally held on the third Tuesday of each month. The Badger Fly Fishers meet on the fourth Monday.

Both groups meet at the Mapletree Restaurant on Highway 51, in McFarland, Wisconsin. Programs begin at 7:00 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m. Visitors and guests are always welcome!