

Wisconsin's Green Fire: Announces major gift from Evjue Foundation

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Mercer, WI – Terry Daulton, President of *Wisconsin's Green Fire: Voices for Conservation* announced receipt of a significant grant from the Evjue Foundation. "We're pleased and humbled by the confidence that the Evjue Foundation has placed in the work we are undertaking to restore Wisconsin's Conservation legacy and the role of science as a critical tool in natural resource decision making." The Evjue Foundation's own press release indicates the grant is to establish a go-to organization staffed by scientists to answer environmental questions and to refute false claims.

Wisconsin's Green Fire (WGF) was formed in 2017 to counter the lack of scientific expertise being provided to decision makers, the media, and the general public around natural resource issues. WGF membership includes professionals from public and private colleges and universities, former and current Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), and other state and federal natural resource agency professionals. A survey of WGF professional members in 2017 found their combined years of natural resources experience totaled over 3,500. To date WGF's workgroups, led by the volunteer professional members, have provided expertise in proposed legislation and rules changes concerning the state's grey wolf population management, Chronic Wasting Disease and the Wisconsin deer herd, ruffed grouse

management, criteria for wetlands designations, and management proposals for state forests, to name but a few.

Daulton opined “Funding from Evjue will allow expansion of WGF’s public policy and education work, and we hope that as Governor-Elect Evers’ team begins to formulate natural resources policy, we can play a positive role in encouraging science-based management, research, and open public involvement in natural resource decision making.”

The Evjue Foundation was established by William T. Evjue, founder of the Capital Times newspaper. Mr. Evjue’s will provided for distribution of the income from his controlling stock in the newspaper back to the community, accelerating the giving. Since its inception, the foundation has awarded more than \$60 million in grants.

For more information on *Wisconsin’s Green Fire*, please visit www.wigreenfire.org.