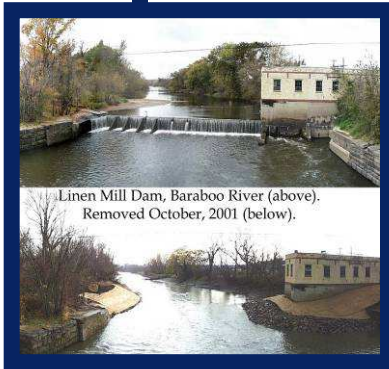


## Wisconsin State Wildlife Grant Success Stories

In the five years since its inception, the State Wildlife Grant Program has played an important role in the conservation of Wisconsin's wildlife. The following are some projects funded through State Wildlife Grants:



Linen Mill Dam, Baraboo River (above).  
Removed October, 2001 (below).

Linen Mill Dam, Photo  
Courtesy of Wisconsin  
DNR

### **Restoration: Working with Partners to Bring Back Wildlife and Natural Areas** **Linen Mill Dam Removal**

Rivers are important to many of our family traditions. Removal of the final dam across the Baraboo River in 2001 allowed this river to run freely along its entire 120 mile length for the first time in at least 100 years. The Linen Mill Dam was the lowermost dam (and the last of four dams removed) on the Baraboo and the most significant in terms of blocking fish migration in the river. Partially funded by State Wildlife Grants, the removal means that species such as lake sturgeon, walleye, sauger, bigmouth buffalo and freshwater drum will be able to access the upper reaches of the river for spawning. By conserving the fish and wildlife of this vital river, our own quality of life is enhanced.

### **Management: Proactive Measures that Benefit Wildlife and People** **The Great Wisconsin Birding Trail**



The Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail system, partially funded by State Wildlife Grants, is good for wildlife, good for the economy, and brings peace and relaxation to our busy lives. Highway-based driving trails link wildlife viewing sites within each region, leading travelers to the best birding and wildlife watching opportunities Wisconsin has to offer. Two regional trails have been completed with viewing guides, maps and bird checklists. The guides also list lodging and camping information, and a third trail is near completion. The trail has received the Wisconsin Rural Partners Inc. Top Rural Development Initiative award for 2005.

### **Conservation: Protecting Imperiled Land, Water, and Wildlife** **Wetland Restoration in Turtle Valley**



Turtle Valley, Photo  
Courtesy of Wisconsin  
DNR

Wetlands are an extremely valuable ecosystem for both people and wildlife, providing natural water quality improvement, flood protection, erosion control, and the economic and social benefits of family recreation. Turtle Valley State Wildlife Area is a 2,200 acre wetland and grassland restoration project located in the heavily populated southeast region of Wisconsin. State Wildlife Grant funds have supported restoration efforts to return the area to its natural state, benefiting both wildlife and people. In the spring of 2005 the appearance of three endangered whooping cranes on the site provided clear evidence that the wetland is helping us fulfill our obligation to conserve wildlife for future generations.

**Congress has appropriated \$6.6 million in State Wildlife Grants to Wisconsin since 2001. This has been matched with at least \$2.8 million state and partner dollars.**