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## *The Howl*

Preserving and protecting  
the Yellow Dog River  
watershed for the benefit  
of present and future  
generations







From left to right: Lynn Roovers (Treasurer), Chauncey Moran (Vice Chair/Director of Water Quality), Gale Hausfeld (Director of Community Relations), Sara Drury (Secretary), Benjamin Kent (Director of Education/Outreach), Marcia Gonstead (Director of Land Conservation, and Bill Kinjorksi (Director of Fundraising). Seated in the next row is Wendy Johnson (Preserve Coordinator) and Lorin Lardie

From the Chairman of the Board,

I awoke this morning to the sound of spring peepers. The songs of Grosbeaks and Robins soon drowned them out. I lay there thinking how fortunate I am to be living in a place where that is all I hear. Some nights I may hear coyotes yapping in the distance or a fox barking, but it is spring and there is very little traffic on the road and it is quiet.

I realize that is why I live here, and why I belong to the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve. We strive to keep this area quiet, beautiful, and full of wildlife. We also work to show others how to maintain and cherish this special place. Thank you to all who donate.

Emily and her specially trained team has put together a summer of activities designed to be educational and fun for everyone. If you are 8 or 80 you will find things that just may change your life. Keep an eye on our web site or call the office for the latest schedule, and get out and enjoy what we have.

Lorin Lardie

## New Faces Welcome Zac Luhellier!



Zachery Luhellier will be the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve's Environmental Education and Outreach Intern for the summer of 2009. The internship was funded by the Emerick Family Fund of the Marquette Community Foundation as a way to further YDWP's goals and mission. Beginning in June, Zac will take on conducting and leading outdoor recreation events, educational workshops, and generally increasing our presence in the media. We are confident that Zac will achieve these goals.

Mr. Luhellier has several years of experience and knowledge related to the watershed and the issues we face. He is very fond of the wild places in this area and whole heartedly wants to protect them. Currently, he is attending Northern Michigan University, pursuing a degree in Human Centered Design. Zac has been an active member on campus, co-chairing Students Against Sulfide Mining for two years, being a member of Michigan Student Sustainability Coalition, and several other groups. In his time that he is not working, he loves to hike, camp, kayak, and enjoy photography.

Please welcome Zac and attend some of the Yellow Dog Events that he has in store for you. If you need to contact him, email [zac@yellowdogwatershed.org](mailto:zac@yellowdogwatershed.org) or call our office at 906-345-9223.

## Yellow Dog Board of Directors

### Celebrate the Dog!

The 14th Annual Meeting of the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve will commence on Saturday, June 20 beginning at 2:00pm at Mike and Mary's on the River - off CR 550.

**Up for election** are 2 Officer positions (Vice-Chair and Treasurer) and 3 Director positions. Our members are eligible to run for any of these positions. Any nominations for these positions can be sent to

[ydpw@yellowdogwatershed.org](mailto:ydpw@yellowdogwatershed.org) or please call (906) 345-9223.

### CELEBRATE THE DOG!

14th Annual Meeting  
**SATURDAY - JUNE 20, 2009**  
 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
 at Mike & Mary's on the River - CR 550

**Elections for Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and 3 Directors**

* Live Music!	* Family Fun!	* Pre-Clearing!	* Free Food!
* Potluck!	* Raffle!	* Corned Beef!	* All Welcome!

For more... [www.ydpw.org/yellowdogwatershed.org](http://www.ydpw.org/yellowdogwatershed.org) or call (906) 345-9223

# Executive Director's Report By Emily Whittaker

I am enjoying very much this opportunity to serve as Executive Director for the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve. I have been working very hard to firmly solidify the foundations of this organization and to draw focus on all things in the watershed. While the mining often takes the front spot, rightly so, there are other things that should concern us as well. Sedimentation, ORV usage, erosion, invasive species, and many other issues present a degree of concern for us. As such, you'll be happy to hear that we have some new initiatives started that will address these. Since November, I have raised \$26,250 in grant funds for our program areas. Here is a brief description of what the funds will be used for:

**--ICL training-** In order for this organization to be the most effective, it needs a leader that understands the dynamics of how a non-profit works, what are the best strategies, and how to accomplish all of this work. I asked around about different trainings and I heard about the Institute for Conservation Leadership. Many informed me this was the best training I could get, so that's what I want for our organization. I applied and was accepted for a nine month program, working with environmental leaders from across the nation. At first, I was very hesitant; it had a hefty price tag attached. But, with a lot of hard work and networking, I have been whittling away at the cost. The total was \$7250 for the training. After grants applied for and received, our cost is now \$550. So, I am off to Boston in June and again in January with one of our board members. I feel that this is the best way I can provide our group with the know how and leadership skills that it needs.

**--Building-** In the last newsletter, we announced that our building will be up for sale coming early 2010. After much discussion, our group has decided to try to raise enough money to secure the building. The total purchase price is \$70,000. I will be writing grants to retrofit the building into a River Center, accepting private donations, and holding fundraisers to reach our goal. It's completely necessary for our group to have a secure base in which to operation from. The important work that we do could not happen if we did not have a central location and space to work. Please think about donating to make this happen.

**--Patagonia-** In December, we received notification that Patagonia awarded us \$3250. We were very delighted considering they select from a large national pool of applicants. The money will be used to assist with our Yellow Dog RIVERKEEPER® program and pay for aerial surveys, water quality monitoring, and more.

**--ESC-** In December, we were informed that the Environmental Support Center supported a proposal to assist in an Executive Director training described above. This grant will provide \$3000 to put toward the cost of the training.

**--RBC-** The Blue Water Project awarded our Yellow Dog RIVERKEEPER® program \$3500 in April. The money will be used to continue/expand our water monitoring efforts and pay for a new YSI meter that is needed for understanding the quality of our water.

**--NFF-** We applied for a grant from the National Forest Foundation and were pleased to learn that our proposal was accepted in March. Our group will be assisting the U.S. Forest Service in getting the McCormick Wilderness Area managed to baseline standards. This includes invasive plant surveys, air quality monitoring, and a recreation site survey. The grant award is for \$16,500 and will be used to pay for staff time, travel, supplies, and printing. For more information on the National Forest Foundation, check out <http://www.nationalforests.org/>. If you would like to volunteer in this program, please contact us at [Emily@yellowdogwatershed.org](mailto:Emily@yellowdogwatershed.org).

**--Education-** It was my pleasure to spend Earth Day with the students from Powell Township School. I delivered programs to the 3/4<sup>th</sup>, 5/6<sup>th</sup>, and 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade classes. The programs ranged from discussing water distribution around the world, using dendrochronology to assume climate conditions, and calculating our carbon footprint. The community's students have a great understanding of the natural world around them and it was quite a good time! Overall, we continue to reach out to schools and communities about the importance of water resources.

**--Website-** Very soon, our site will be switching to a content management system. This is an easier way to keep things up to date, while decreasing the amount of navigation. Look for our updated sight in the near future. Dan Cardin has been a huge help as well as netCorps Technology Assistance Program (see last newsletter about our award). Check out Dan in our Volunteer Shout Out! We have also created a Facebook account to increase our networking skills.

**--Nature Mapping-** Chauncey Moran, Lynnea McFadden of the Central Lake Superior Land Conservancy, Bill O'Boyle, and I traveled to Washington State in mid-May to participate in a Bio-Blitz. Our participation will make conducting a Bio-Blitz in our area a smoother process. We now have all of our hardware and software for the Nature Mapping program and will be hosting a training on July 24-26. The goal is to encourage citizen scientists and monitor biodiversity. Anyone interested in attending should contact us before that date.

**--Walk, Paddle, and Roll-** We are joining up with Freshwater Future and Save the Wild UP to host a summer long fundraiser for all of our groups. We will have three events throughout the summer; a paddle, a hike, and a biking event. There are two ways you can participate; 1. Sponsor us at [www.firstgiving.com/yellowdog](http://www.firstgiving.com/yellowdog) 2. Become a team member and collect sponsors for your participation in these events. Either way, you'll be helping out and getting a chance to have some fun in the watershed. Look at our events calendar to see when we will be walking, paddling, and rolling.

*Powell Township School 5th grade students learning dendrochronology*



*Picture: Emily paddling on March 19 near the mouth of the Iron River.*







## Sulfide Mining Update

### By Cynthia Pryor

The Kennecott prospect for opening a nickel/copper mine on the Yellow Dog Plains is still just that. There are many factors contributing to the inability of Kennecott to get moving:

1. **Rio Tinto has “deferred”** the Eagle Project until commodity prices rise again. (See article on ‘Rio Tinto the Company’)
2. **DEQ Contested Case Outcome** still pending. The Administrative Law Judge Patterson has not yet ruled on the combined cases presented April through October, 2008. This ruling will be his recommendation on whether to accept the decisions as made by the DEQ for the Eagle Mine mining permit and the groundwater permit. This judge’s recommendation will then be considered by DEQ Director Steven Chester for a final handling of these two permits.

**Impact:** While this litigation is not finalized Kennecott does not have working permits

3. **DNR Lawsuit reopened.** The original lawsuit entered in January 2009 against the DNR was dismissed by Circuit Court Judge Manderfield. This lawsuit had three parts: violation of Michigan Environmental Protection Act (MEPA); decision methodology to lease state land to Kennecott; and violation of the Public Trust Doctrine. We were able to re-open the case concerning the Public Trust Doctrine and that will be heard before Judge Manderfield in June.

**Impact:** If upheld, a violation of the Public Trust Doctrine would make the lease of state land to Kennecott null and void.

4. **EPA Underground Injection Permit (UIC) delay.** The EPA is requiring a federal permit to inject waste waters from the mine into the groundwater of the Yellow Dog Plains. There have been several requests for additional information from the EPA to Kennecott which have not been satisfactorily answered.

The EPA has also been investigating the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community’s assertions that Eagle Rock is a sacred site and must be protected from the mining impacts of this mining proposal.

Additionally, the EPA has requested information from Kennecott regarding their proposed re-flooding of the mine which may require an additional UIC permit.

**Impact:** Until the EPA grants these EPA permits, by DNR decree the lease of the surface is not executable.

5. **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Decision on Threatened and Endangered Species designation for Coaster Brook Trout has been rejected by the USFWS on May 15, 2009.** The petitioners Sierra Club and the Huron Mountain Club are assessing whether to appeal this decision or not. The listing was denied based on the issue of proof of genetic differences between the stream brook trout and the much larger coaster brook trout which moves from the stream to Lake Superior and back again to the stream for spawning.

**Impact:** If listed, more federal oversight would be brought to bear to the mining proposal - impacting the decisions of the EPA and may require additional work by Kennecott for the state permits as well.

6. **Humboldt Mill permit application** decision delayed until June 17, 2009. Kennecott filed an application December 26, 2008 to open a Humboldt Mill and minerals processing plant at the old Humboldt Mine in Humboldt Township. The first public meeting/hearing was held in mid-February with an April 15 decision deferred by Kennecott and the DEQ due to the DEQ requiring more information from the company.

**Impact:** Focus by the opposition is on the mining operation on the Yellow Dog Plains. If there is no mine there will be no processing plant. Technical issues abound concerning this permit application.

7. **New Facilities to the Eagle Mine** site require an amendment to the Mining Permit application. Kennecott has indicated that they will want to run electric to the Yellow Dog Plains and will want to build a new haul road south of the proposed mine to their proposed Humboldt Mill facility. The DEQ determined in a letter to YDWP last fall that any extension of electric from CR 550 to the Yellow Dog Plains or a new road through the undeveloped regions south of the proposed mine will require amendments to Kennecott’s mining application.

**Impact:** No facilities will be run without a permit process - for which we will demand public comment.



## Rio Tinto the Company by Cynthia Pryor

Rio Tinto is the third largest mining company in the world after BHP Billiton and Vale. It is a dual listed company consisting of UK based Rio Tinto plc and Australia based Rio Tinto Limited. Its operations are in 50 countries and have 160,000 employees working to find, mine and process metals such as aluminum, copper, diamonds, coal, iron ore, uranium, gold and industrial metals such as borates, titanium dioxide, salt and talc. It is the parent company of Kennecott Copper and the Kennecott Minerals Eagle Company.

In 2007, three months after being elected CEO of Rio Tinto, Tom Albanese took conservative mining giant Rio Tinto down a path that has proved to be strategically “regretful” to the prospects of shareholders and mining operations alike. Mr. Albanese, a young mining “whiz kid” pushed through the purchase of a Canadian aluminum company called Alcan at the top of the market. Rio subsequently accrued \$39 billion in debt which has proved a major hurdle to overcome, given the last year’s recessionary loss of stock value and the drastic fall of commodities across the board. Mr. Albanese and the board of Rio Tinto announced a deal in February 2009 with Chinese owned Aluminum Company of China (Chinalco) which would:

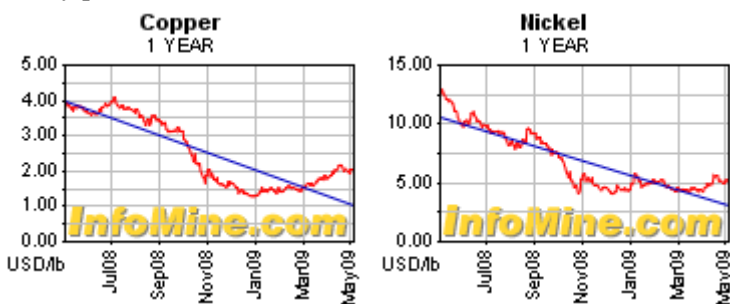
- Deliver US\$19.5 billion in cash proceeds to Rio Tinto
  - Allow Chinalco joint venture in certain high valued aluminum, copper and iron ore ventures
  - Issue subordinated convertible bonds which if converted would increase Chinalco’s shareholding interest in Rio Tinto to 19% in Rio Tinto plc and 14.9% in Rio Tinto Limited or total 18% interest in the Rio Tinto Group
- Chinalco would facilitate Rio Tinto’s access to an additional US\$21 billion in cash for project development with Chinese banks
- Rio Tinto would enter into a joint venture for exploration in China, partnered by Chinalco
- Chinalco would be entitled to nominate two new non-executive board members to the current 15 member Rio Tinto Board of Directors

The transaction must pass Australian regulatory oversight and be approved by shareholder vote, and while Rio Tinto will retain operational control of the joint venture assets, Rio Tinto shareholders are angry. Angry that Rio Tinto would put them in such a position of risk; angry that Rio is giving Chinalco full minority interest in their top “plum” assets including Kennecott Copper; angry that major shareholders were not given the same options in these key assets and angry that the board did not take advantage of last year’s BHP Billiton buy-out option at the top of the market - which would have netted shareholders a substantial return.

Rio must pass a key regulatory process in Australia which is being objected to by many in the government alarmed at key assets being put in the hands of foreign investors and alarmed that Chinalco, as one of Rio’s customers, would have unfair advantage in controlling prices of commodities.

The Australian government will be deciding the outcome of the Chinalco deal within the next few months and Rio Tinto shareholders will be voting on the deal sometime mid summer.

Rio Tinto continues to sell mining assets to raise money. Rio has laid off tens of thousands of workers around the world. Many operations, including the Kennecott Minerals Eagle Project on the Yellow Dog Plains, have been put on hold. Commodity prices have tanked.



- Nickel fell from a record \$13/lb to \$5/lb.
- Copper from \$4/lb to \$2/lb.
- Platinum products from \$2,250/oz to \$1,250/oz.
- Rio Tinto plc stock is crawling back from -\$493/share loss
- Rio Tinto Limited stock is half what it was a year ago at \$157.45.

So, angry shareholders, tanked commodities, sale of key assets to meet a huge debt burden and still conversations of BHB Billiton wanting to buy in. Tom Albanese has one last chance to make good at Rio Tinto - Chinalco or not Chinalco? - that is the question. Analysts have been skeptical since the February announcement and in May are calling the Chinalco deal ‘daft’. Rio Tinto is scrambling to keep shareholders happy, the Chinese government happy, Australian investors and their government happy, AND stay in business. Ouch.

# Riverwalking

By Chauncey Moran

0 degrees C on Migi wa sin (Eagle Rock) in Mid-March with gusty warm southwest winds pushing early migrating birds north. With the sun rising higher in the south, the warmer air blowing over 4 feet of crusted snow on the Yellow Dog Plains created a peaceful atmosphere around our perch on the southwest end of the Rock. Jeremiah and I could see memories on the horizon..... Towering white pines on the Panorama ridge in the McCormick Tract Wilderness that keep the waters of the Yellow Dog River falls cold before they quietly meander through 4 miles of alders laced with old and new beaver dams. Crow's Nest, a place that Fred Rydholm weaved in his many stories. The headwater stream of the middle branch, where is said that billions in ore lay asleep waiting to be extracted. Above the river, the giant black spruce with moss covered ground to lie as the warmth of an early spring and sprouting flora sips the unspoiled water in preparation for the hot summer. Gerry Mohlman, who guarded many forest stands serving with MDNR walked there with Emily Whittaker and shared much wisdom of these lands and our responsibility to the future. On the western horizon, hundreds of Jack Pine recovering from bud worm, many of which were cared for by Fred and June Rydholm at their home on the Yellow Dog Plains. Where we perch, Harlen Downwind, Ojibwa healer, spoke to us of Faith and Hope in the Creator.

Dad! Dad! A call wakes me from a reverie, Eagles! Eagles are coming! Like a line from the Lord of the Rings trilogy, Jeremiah breaks the silence, leaps to his feet and points to the now glaring horizon....Eagles migrating to their summer grounds glide along the shared wetlands of the Yellow Dog and Salmon Trout Rivers dancing on the warm air currents, rising and falling like a musical crescendo. Dad that is why they call this place Eagle Rock, right? He says with some confidence. I sit in silence; he senses the uniqueness of the moment to be savored. He sits quietly beside me and hugs me. I love Dad. Let's pray that things turn out ok, he says. So many memories continue.



*Chauncey on Clowery Bridge- Photo by Emily*

June-November 2008 details in volume 14 issue 1

**June** Area forest survey with MDNR forester Gerry Mohlman; Kirtland warbler survey of YD Plains lead by Nancy Moran identified singing male. Begin 20 CMI/DEQ water character measurements and physical condition of sites. Road Crossings and Culverts on the YD River and Little Pup Creek were reviewed...

Mulligan Plains Bridge crossing opens area to endangered plants surveys planned Photographed Kennecott contractor low flying aircraft (below 500 ft of surface) Monitor spraying of defoliant in migratory bird nesting area on the Yellow Dog Plains.

Assisted Geri Larson from Lake Superior Watershed Partnership in oversight with culvert installation on East Branch of Salmon Trout River crossing on the Northwest Road.

**July** Yellow Dog Watershed begins participating with International WATERKEEPER® Alliance

Attended fund raiser for Cedar Tree Institute hosted by Jon Magnuson YDWP hosted a Nature Mapping seminar held at Northern Michigan University.

## **August**

Yellow Dog Summer Protect the Earth Summit

North Rim STHW springs and NW road crossing water sampling.

Review Longyear LLC logging operations at headwaters of the Big Pup.

Prayers at Eagle Rock with Margaret Comfort

Walking with Margaret Comfort from Eagle Rock to Big Bay

Beaver Dam on Northwest Road threatening road integrity, removed.

Mulligan Plains road building and Silver Lake Basin Dam and plug replacement.

## **September**

Fire on Yellow Dog River by Camper dangers of unattended fires in outback

Trip to North Rim springs by Government officials.

Begin 20 CMI/DEQ monitoring with Emily Whittaker, Corey Howes, and John Anderson



*Mid-right photo-Winter sunset on the plains by C. Moran*

*Bottom right photo- Jerry Mohlman surveying land on the plains by Chauncey Moran*



Photograph wild rice at Salmon Trout headwater for cultural site identification....  
Conservation fest with MCCD and Emily Whittaker with area 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes.

### **October**

Monitoring of North Rim of Yellow Dog plains EPA water sampling for lab analysis  
Conclusion of Early Fall DEQ/CMi 20 site monitoring with Nancy and Jeremiah Moran

EPA meeting and comment for Underground Injection Control permit application  
Attended WUPAC advisory council meeting.

Powell School at the YD River and bug collection. Spring outing planned.

Huron River Watershed collaboration for EPA 319 grant proposal

### **Begin winter monitoring**

Monitoring CMI/DEQ 20 sites with Emily Whittaker, Chris Lawler and Amy Bason

### **November**

Conclusion of winter monitoring with John Anderson, Nancy and Jeremiah Moran  
Kalil Zender

Monitoring Huron River with Dave and Marcy Cella and Geri Larson of LSWP

Indigenous Earth Network seminar in Minnesota seminar on mining effects and planned exploration in North Central US and Canadian Provinces

### **December 2008**

Premier of film Mining Madness and Water Wars with panel discussion

Begin snow depth measurements on Yellow Dog Plains in vicinity of Eagle Project

and monitor activity. Operations ceased on 12-19 with DNR FMFM management over site. Construction of storage building on Kennecott land not yet completed.

New snowmobile trail that circumvents the Kennecott project extends thru Kirtland Warbler habitat. Notified DNR of possible encroachment by ATV during summer.

### **January 2009**

NRC meeting in Lansing praising DNR director Rebecca Humphries for establishing Upper Peninsula Advisory Councils. It continues to be a work in progress.

Monitoring of springs and sites on Salmon Trout Headwater and Yellow Dog Watershed by snowmobile access.

### **February 2009**

Snowshoeing with Emily above Yellow Dog River to Bushy Creek Falls. Spectacular overlooks and inviting snowy falls.

Michelle Halley gave updates on mining legal activity at Northern Michigan University

Surveying the Little Pup Wilson Creek Truck Trail culverts washout for grant funding from Great Lakes Commission. Several years and hundreds of photos have been taken of these sites. All stake holders (Longyear LLC, MCRC, MDNR, MFFM, and DEQ) have been contacted and have viewed the sites first hand. We are hopeful for positive outcome here.

Official field Survey by Dustin Taylor for Great Lakes Commission Grant Application.

Visit various sites on Salmon Trout Watershed and Yellow Dog River preparing for winter water sampling.

Salmon Trout Watershed water sampling begins on Northwest Road and AAA.

Much shoveling and breaking of ice was necessary for quality sampling.

### **March 2009**

Salmon Trout River North Rim springs water sampling continues with YSI casualty at -20F. With much appreciation to Rita Jack of Sierra Club this meter has given 5 sampling seasons' excellent reliable data. An updated replacement is planned.

Emily Whittaker visits Salmon Trout sites for reference and future backup plans.

Ice melts on Yellow Dog River.

### **April 2009**

Waterfest organizer Callie Youngman visits Yellow Dog Falls with Students for Sustainable Living.

Waterfest Jam session with Seth Bernard and Daisy May and Mining Madness movie at Jamrich NMU

Salmon Trout River Watershed water sampling with Cynthia Pryor and Contractor

Indigenous Earth Summit at NMU sponsored by Native American Studies Department. Another thought provoking engagement of what other tribal families are accomplishing by worshiping the Creator and evoking cultural family unity. Kudos to Aimee and Co.

Yellow Dog Plains Spring Ski with Cynthia Pryor and Kristi Mills

High water results in Spectacular rush over Falls on Yellow Dog River (see on website).

SWUP Scott Bouma, Computer wiz, friend and confident leaves his spirit in many and moves to Traverse City.

### **May 2009**

Monitor water levels with final snow melt Yellow Dog, Salmon Trout, and Huron Rivers

Planned site monitoring with Powell Township 5th-8th grades on Yellow Dog River

Bio-Blitz in Washington on May 14-18, see next newsletter for updates on this program



*Jeremiah and Nancy Moran at the Pinnacle Falls Memorial. Photo by Chauncey Moran*

Perhaps I have unintentionally omitted some event and many details; humble apologies many folks have continued to support our efforts. We humbly applaud you. Fred Rydholm was, is, and shall be instilled in our hearts a sense of place that can be recalled at any moment or place to aid in our resolve to keep on keepin' on.

We continue to pray and worship the Creator to become stewards to one another, sharing those gifts, having discerning mind and heart to engage that which is ours and let the Creator be the Creator. CUNVRV Remaining Faithful and Hopeful Rrr



## Yellow Dog Plains Keeper Passes On

By Cynthia Pryor

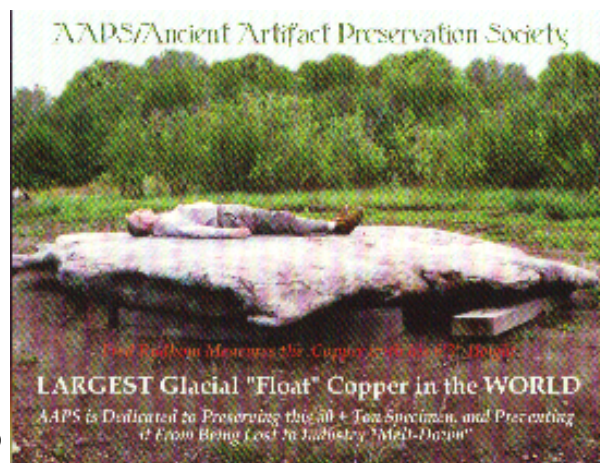
Fred Rydholm, that magnificent man! who has been the keeper of the Yellow Dog Plains since the 1950's died at his home April 4, 2009. Until one week before his death, he was telling his stories and reminiscing with old friends the highlights of his days. Fred and June. Together they built their cabin on the Yellow Dog Plains - on the Bentley Trail that was built in the days of big hats, long skirts and tall lace boots. Together they planted thousands upon thousands of trees to populate the 'sands plains'. Together they followed the changing of season from one year to next - in an ecstasy of delight in the wonderful place that is the Yellow Dog Plains.

Fred will be remembered by many as statesman, historian, educator and most of all - a story teller. His book 'Superior Heartland' is legend and is the bible for finding those old places that made this region a total bookcase of historical reference and famous people of those times. To honor Fred, there will be a Don Pennington film showing at Peter White Public Library on May 30<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. June is also planning a memorial to honor the man, Fred, at Eagle Rock in the afternoon of Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> also between 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Bring a picnic lunch, a deck chair/blanket and enjoy an afternoon of music and remembrances.

Fred was a personal hero to me --- and he brought to life the place that I now call home. Thank you, Fred.

## Fred's Glacial Float

June Rydholm is working very hard to see a dream that Fred had - come to fruition. Fred and the Ancient Artifact Preservation Society had a plan to purchase this huge float copper rock to be a centerpiece for a regional ancient artifact museum. (This is Fred lying on top of the copper rock!). There is a \$350,000 goal for the purchase of this float copper rock which weighs 40-60 tons. If you would like to help, or for more information, contact the organization at [www.aaapf.org](http://www.aaapf.org).



## Letter to Fred Rydholm

Dear Fred,

April 7, 2009

The rain is pouring down here on this Vermont farm and village and I am thinking about your life and your U.P. legacy. I was terribly sad to learn of your death, but am heartened to hear you died in a peaceful way. What a full and magnificent life you led! You impacted so many lives with your stories, activism, teaching and big heart.

I will never forget the way you told stories which were usually sparked by a casual question. That spark would lead from one story to the next, with June patiently waiting to get a word in, occasionally rolling her eyes. There would often be fantastic twists and turns to these tales leaving many of us wondering what was real and what was fantasy. For me these questions of reality were irrelevant because every element of your stories were real to you. I have come to see that we all have stories to make sense of our lives. We need more master storytellers like you; sad to say there will never be another Fred Rydholm. You were unique, and I feel blessed to have shared some time with you.

Your U.P. voice is what I associate with Michigan copper country. I hear your voice in the wind that blows off the waves of Lake Superior and causes the white pines to sway and dance. I hear your voice in the hoot of the great horned owl, the lonely call of the loon, or the howl of the moonlit wolf. I hear your voice in the people who are fighting to save what is left of this wild land. I hear your voice in the children that still see the wonder and magic in wild places. May they grow old and carry fantastic stories of what came before to their children and grandchildren. Fred, your voice is in the ear of my heart. Thank you for bringing so much to life about the past; for always having that sense of wonder and a passionate desire to learn more.

Your love of ancient cultures and the possibility of ancient cultural exchanges that were not accepted by conventional wisdom has inspired many of us to wonder and dream, and ask the question, "what if?" Our son, Cedar, has written a few stories inspired by this kind of inquiry. The way you framed the past in your stories and writings made the U.P. and indeed the world a much more interesting place. We will all miss your voice and great heart. As much as you loved the land and creatures of the U.P., you clearly loved its people as well. While you were a great environmentalist, you were also a quintessential humanist. It's very clear you truly loved life.

Fred, your passing makes me think of the great pines that have fallen over the years along the Fisher Creek trail at Huron Mountain. They were such great trees standing strong and tall through hundreds of years of storms and sunshine. You like them have fallen and like those trees whose passing enrich the soil of the forest and provide light and space for new generations of trees, you have enriched and will continue to enrich many generations of folks.

We'll miss you Fred!

Love

Jay



## Our Funding for Fiscal Year 2009-2010

**General Fund-** We use money from the general fund to pay our staff, our bills, and many seemingly little things that add up over a year! We anticipate about \$24,000 in income to use for the above mentioned purposes.

**Water Quality Fund-** Our work maintaining the excellent quality of water in our area uses this fund to pay for aerial surveys, photo processing, water quality equipment, and printing. Grant income makes up most of the money for this fund.

**Land Conservation Fund-** We steadily accrue income for this fund through accounts and save it for big purchases or easements.

**Sulfide Mining Fund-** The Sulfide Mining Fund has been used to augment work being performed in support of the Sulfide Mining Campaign that is a partnership between YDWP, National Wildlife Federation (NWF), Huron Mountain Club (HMC), and Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC). As part of that work, YDWP had partnered with KBIC and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) in the development of a water chemistry/monitoring program involving three USGS monitoring stations and the pulling of water from key sites in the region that would give us a low-level (most comprehensive) chemical baseline of the streams in the two watersheds. YDWP costs for these programs areas are as follows: East Branch Salmon Trout USGS Monitoring Site (1): \$19,000 per site per year: Water Chemistry Studies: \$15,000 per year - 15 sites monitored twice a year each. As most of the work currently being undertaken is of a legal nature, YDWP has committed their 2009 resource to the continuation of Water Chemistry work on the Yellow Dog and Salmon Trout Watersheds. We have received \$10,000 from the NWF to continue our water chemistry baseline work for 2009. We will again partner with KBIC and GLIFWC to develop a prioritized work plan that will cover as much of the region as we can afford. All dollars donated to the Mining Fund will be used to augment this water chemistry work in these two watersheds.

**Nature Mapping-** We receive mostly restricted donations for this fund and it is used in the upstart of a Nature Mapping Program in the Yellow Dog River watershed.

April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010

	General	Water Quality	Land Conservation	Mining Campaign	Nature Mapping	Total
<b>Income</b>						
Unrestricted	24000	0	0	0	0	24000
Restricted	1000	500	2100	11400	2000	17000
Grants	20000	7000	0	2000	1000	30000
Fundraising	4200	0	0	0	0	4200
Interest	100	0	100	0	0	200
Total Income	49300	7500	2200	13400	3000	75400
<b>Expenses</b>						
Communications/Ads	500	0	0	200	0	700
Wages	20000	0	0	0	0	20000
Professional Development	1000	100	0	0	500	1600
Fundraising	800	0	0	0	0	800
Grant Expenses	200	0	0	0	0	200
Contract Labor	4240	3500	0	0	0	7740
Dues and Subscriptions	500	250	0	200	0	950
Rental Fees	100	0	0	100	100	300
Insurance	2200	0	0	0	0	2200
Permits	25	0	0	0	0	25
Miscellaneous	300	0	0	250	500	1050
Payroll Expenses	2300	0	0	0	0	2300
Postage	750	0	0	200	25	975
Printing	2250	250	0	500	100	3100
Professional Fees	3500	0	0	10000	0	13500
Rent	1500	0	0	0	0	1500
Supplies	2000	1300	0	250	250	3800
Telephone/Internet	1320	0	0	0	0	1320
Electric	840	0	0	0	0	840
Water	300	0	0	0	0	300
Travel	1250	500	0	500	500	2750
Total Expenses	45875	5900	0	12200	1975	65950
Net Income	3425	1600	2200	1200	1025	9450

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

**YELLOW DOG WATERSHED PRESERVE, INC.**

MARCH 31, 2009

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 24,045
Inventory (Includes merchandise and donated items)	24,789
Equipment, less accumulated depreciation of \$9,968	2,974
Land (Includes land we purchased and own for conservation)	391,899
Prepaid rent	<u>3,750</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$ 447,457</u></b>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	\$ 44
Payroll taxes payable	<u>176</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>220</b>

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	73,792
Temporarily restricted	6,326
Permanently restricted	<u>367,119</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>447,237</u></b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** **\$ 447,457**



10 Rock in the clean Huron River- Photo by C. Moran



Yellow Dog Plains Ski- Photo by Chauncey Moran



**Annual Report**  
**Fiscal Year April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

**YELLOW DOG WATERSHED PRESERVE, INC.**

Year Ended MARCH 31, 2009

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>				
Contributions and memberships	\$ 47,877	\$ 20,624		\$ 68,501
Fundraising	3,983			3,983
Interest income	217			217
Grants	7,350			7,350
Assets removed from restrictions	19,964	(19,964)		
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>79,391</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80,051</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Program:				
Land conservation	3,250			3,250
Sulfide mining campaign	41,813			41,813
Water quality	327			327
<b>TOTAL PROGRAMS</b>	<b>45,390</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45,390</b>
Administration	30,309			30,309
Fundraising	3,236			3,236
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>78,935</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>78,935</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,116</b>
Net assets at beginning of year	73,336	5,666	367,119	446,121
<b>NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 73,792</b>	<b>\$ 6,326</b>	<b>\$ 367,119</b>	<b>\$ 447,237</b>

Note: The contributions and memberships amount of \$47,877 includes \$23,263 of non-cash contributions.

Statement of Functional Expenses

	Programs					
	Land Conservation	Sulfide Mining Campaign	Water Quality	Administration	Fundraising	Total
Depreciation	\$ 1,250	\$ 170	\$ -	\$ 2,329	\$ -	\$ 3,749
Education and outreach		11,212	327	333		11,872
Special events fees					3,236	3,236
Professional development		90		473		563
Bank and merchant fees		52		12		64
Contract labor		2,690		1,350		4,040
Dues and subscriptions		207		645		852
Insurance				2,017		2,017
Licenses and permits				20		20
Payroll		15,001		8,804		23,805
Postage and delivery				470		470
Printing and reproduction		3,979		3,484		7,463
Professional fees		300		4,445		4,745
Rent		1,250		3,670		4,920
Supplies	2,000	504		761		3,265
Telephone, email, web		412		1,205		1,617
Travel and entertainment		5,946		100		6,046
Utilities				191		191
	<u>\$ 3,250</u>	<u>\$ 41,813</u>	<u>\$ 327</u>	<u>\$ 30,309</u>	<u>\$ 3,236</u>	<u>\$ 78,935</u>

## Volunteer Shout Out



Give the man a round of applause. Dan Cardin is a friend of the Yellow Dog and he has been helping move us further into the realm of cyberspace. Dan's expertise in web development, software and security systems, and more have allowed us to stay up to speed with the fast pace of technological development. We need to be current and fresh with technology as it is a growing part of philanthropy.

Here is a little bit about the man Dan.

For high school, he went to Ironwood in the western UP. Dan moved to Marquette in early 2000 to continue his education in Computer Science. In 2004, he moved to Fairbanks Alaska with his wife Michelle to seek a Masters degree in Computer Science. In 2005 his daughter Jade was born. Michelle, Jade, and Dan stayed in Alaska until late 2007. They moved back to Michigan to be closer to family in early 2008. He also wanted to be in this area because they love the land and the sense of community that exists in the Upper Peninsula. In his spare time he hangs out with his family (Michelle, Jade, Jasper (born March 2009)), chops wood, renovates their house, and plays drums out in the garage.

If you see this red-bearded technocrat, give him a big bear hug and say, "Thanks Man!"

## New Members

Thank you to all who have donated, renewed memberships, or given in the name of someone.

### Caretakers

Karen Bacula

Keith & Vada Kepler

Wayne & Jane Phillips

Gerold & Lois Scherbert

Edward Voss

Clare Magee

Jill Bradford

Jan & Pete Peter

Jack & Marion Stringer

**Stewards**

Robert & Eeva Miller

Natalie Dale

Sue Schenk-Drobny

Chip & Karen Truscon

Cindy Long

### In Loving Memory of Leslie Hillberg

Larry & Helen Hillberg

### In Loving Memory of Lily Korpi

E.P. Hughes

### In Honor of Kathleen Heideman & Daniel Rydholm's Marriage

Rebecca Alm

Phebe Hanson

### In Honor of Clare Magee's

Erin Donovan

### In Loving Memory of Fred Rydholm

Ann Anderson

Donald & Anita Beltrame

Thomas Bolz

R. John & Ron Bullock

Bob Campbell

Ben Carlson

John & Patricia Case

Linda Dionne

Christopher, Linda & Sarah Edgar

Tom & Ling-Yu Edgar

The Farwell Family - Missy, Jay,

Linda, Skipper, Beth & Betsy

Col. William & Elizabeth Gray

Lydia Hoff & Isabel Edgell

Seth & Karen Johnson

James & Barbara Kidder

Arlene Ripple - Arvon Twp. Historical Society

Ann & Tim Rutkoske

Carrie & David Thomson

Dodie & David Wilcox

Robert Brebner

Barbara Nowinski

Susan Puncoschar

Robert & Eva Miller

## Events

Yellow Dog Events are always fun and they support our organization. Please check the dates and see if you can make any. Call 906-345-9223 if you need more info or check our website.

### Outdoor Events

Pinnacle Falls Hike-May 23 at 10am.

July 19-Lake Superior Day

Yellow Dog Summer- August 1-2

September 18-World Wide Water Monitoring Day

September 19- Annual Beach

Clean Up at Squaw Beach

September 26- Fall Hike

### Fundraisers

Please participate in the Walk, Paddle, and Roll  
[www.firstgiving.com/yellowdog](http://www.firstgiving.com/yellowdog)

Paddle Independence- June 6

Meet at Perkins Park at noon for lunch, then do a poker paddle at 1pm.

Orienteering Hike- July 12 at noon. Learn your way around and raise money at the same time.

Community Bike- August TBA

### Education

Fred Rydholm Film- May 30 at Peter White Library, 2-4pm

Kirtland's Warbler Survey- June 6-16

Sustainable Forestry- July 18 Nature Mapping Training- July 24-26

Rydholm Memorial- August 2 at Eagle Rock from 2-4pm

### Board Meetings

All meetings are at 303

Bensinger in Big Bay at 6pm.

Call to confirm.

Public welcome.

May 20

June 20-Celebrate the Dog at Mike and Mary's, 2pm

July 15

August 19

September 16- Meeting at Peter White Community Room

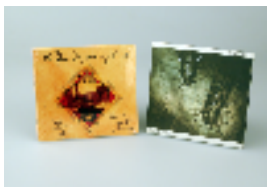
October 21

November 18



**Merchandise**—Sport your own or give as gifts! **Add \$5** to all merchandise orders for shipping please. In ordering, please leave phone number in case we are out of stock of something!

**NEW ITEM!**



**Music**

Yellow Dog  
Recording Project:  
\$10  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10=\_\_\_\_\_

Greg Brown's Yellow  
Dog CD: \$15  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15=\_\_\_\_\_



**YD T-Shirt**

Protect the River  
cotton short  
sleeve: \$15  
Circle your size.

M, L, XL, XXL  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15=\_\_\_\_\_



**Baseball Caps**

YDWP hats: \$15  
Circle your color.

Dark Green, Navy,  
Orange, Denim,  
Black, Khaki

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15=\_\_\_\_\_



**Postcards**

Package of 12 cards  
with all different  
photos. Waterfalls,  
sunsets, river shots:  
\$5

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5=\_\_\_\_\_



**Watercolor Notecards**

Lilies, dragonfly, turtle,  
feathers, and more.  
Pack of 10 different  
cards with envelopes:  
\$20

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20=\_\_\_\_\_

**Donations and Membership**

**Funds**

General Fund:\_\_\_\_\_

This helps support our administration, rent,  
and supplies.

Sulfide Mining Campaign:\_\_\_\_\_

This supports our work to keep sulfide min-  
ing out of the watershed.

Water Monitoring:\_\_\_\_\_

This supports our ongoing efforts to conduct  
science and collect baseline data.

Land Conservation:\_\_\_\_\_

This supports saving the wild places!

Total Donations:\_\_\_\_\_

*Thank You for  
Your Donation!*



Seth and May singing for the  
Yellow Dog

**Membership Levels**

River Student:\_\_\_\_\_  
Yearly renewal at \$15

River Caretaker:\_\_\_\_\_  
Yearly renewal at \$25-\$100

River Guardian:\_\_\_\_\_  
5-year renewal at \$150-\$500

River Steward:\_\_\_\_\_  
Lifetime membership at \$1000+

Total Membership:\_\_\_\_\_

**Check Out**

Your Name:\_\_\_\_\_

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City/State/Zip:\_\_\_\_\_

Phone or Email:\_\_\_\_\_

**Send this page and payment to:** Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve  
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Merchandise:\_\_\_\_\_

Shipping-Add \$5 if ordering:\_\_\_\_\_

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Membership:\_\_\_\_\_

Total:\_\_\_\_\_

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- Revelations 7:18

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who contributed to  
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tact Wendy at 906-  
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Pat Donohue, Josh White Jr., Feuillet, Tangled Roots  
Lucy Kaplansky, Cafe' Accordion, The Stairwell Sisters  
Mamadou Diabate, The Demell Syria Project  
Also Teen Scene Band: Rockband, The Melodys  
tickets are paid up, with no to charge  
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**Mary E. Luttinen**  
Certified Public Accountant

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Ishpeming, MI 49849  
Email: meluttinen@yahoo.com (906) 486.1099  
FAX: (906) 486.9260  
Toll Free: (866) 486.1099



# THANK YOU!

## CELEBRATE THE DOG!

*14th Annual Meeting*

### SATURDAY - JUNE 20, 2008

2:00 pm - Woo Flea Hours  
At: Mike & Mary's on Old River - CT 500

**Elections for Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and 3 Directors**

• Live Music!

• Potluck!

• Family Fun!

• Swimming!

• Flea Banzai!

• Campfire!

• Free Events!

• All Welcome!

Details... [www.ydnwp@yellowdogwatershed.org](http://www.ydnwp@yellowdogwatershed.org) or call (806)361-5179



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Watershed Preserve

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## Parting Shot

*Good Bye Winter, It Was Fun, See You Next Year!*



Winter Falls on the Big Pup Creek  
Yellow Dog River tributary  
Photo by Chauncey Moran



**Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve**  
**P.O. Box 5**  
**Big Bay, MI 49808**