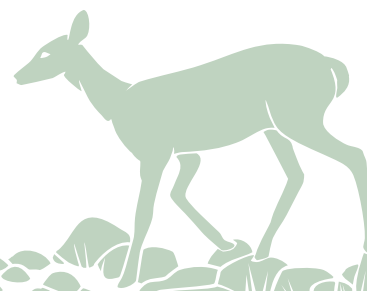




River Care Kids Clean Up!

Take 90 or so energized kids, a couple hundred hot dogs, lots of garbage bags, and one of region's busiest river accesses, and you have formula for the annual River Care Kids clean up project at Tippy Dam. The young river dogs from Wellston Elementary hit the banks and trails again to pick up after careless adults that litter this area. Although everyone agreed that the site was in better shape than in previous years, the kids can't understand why people would leave their trash behind. Hopefully, the stewardship lessons of this experience will help foster more respect for the natural world by the next generation.

Thank you to all of the youngsters and adult helpers for caring for the Manistee River, to Dennis Barthel of Advanced Tex Screen Printing for the fantastic River Care Kids t-shirts and helping with the project, and to the General Motors Foundation for supporting River Care Kids throughout northwest Michigan!





Antrim County's Green River Dam prevents upstream and downstream migration of fish.

private property." Signatories to the partnership agreement are: DNR, Friends of the Jordan, Antrim County Road Commission, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, Nestle/Ice Mountain, Antrim Conservation District, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited.

CRA project manager, Mark Johnson says that engineering plans for the dam removal should be available late in 2005, with construction sometime in 2006 or 2007. Grants from Ice Mountain and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are being used to fund the engineering costs. In addition to coordinating the technical activities, CRA will raise funds for the dam removal, and Johnson is optimistic. "It's been great to see the upsurge of partners rallying for tangible improvements in the watershed in recent years," he says, "including unprecedented support from DTE Energy Foundation, the Frey Foundation, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, to name just a few."

Project Update

The last of ten signatures was recently added to a "Partnership Agreement" for removal of the Green River Dam, which impounds water on an important tributary to the Jordan River.

In 2004, the Michigan DNR and then-new owners of the Green River Trout Farm in Antrim County settled a legal case allowing the State to remove the dam in exchange for allowing continued operation of the trout farm. At the request of DNR's Fisheries Division, CRA stepped in to bring together critical partners who will work together to plan and carry out the dam removal. The partnership agreement states that signatories "are united by common concern for the future of the Green River Dam and its potential impacts to fisheries, transportation, and



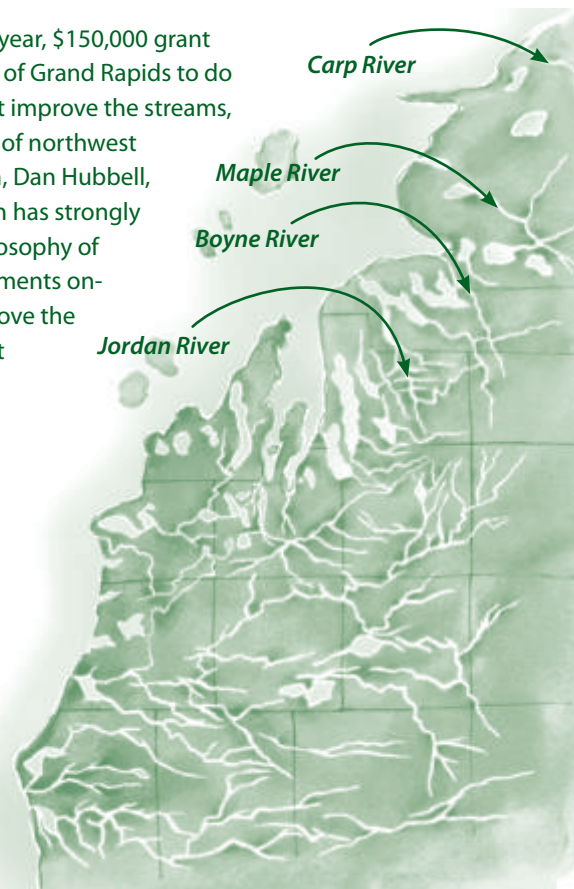
Protecting wildlife habitat is of special interest to farmer and CRA chairman Dan Hubbell.

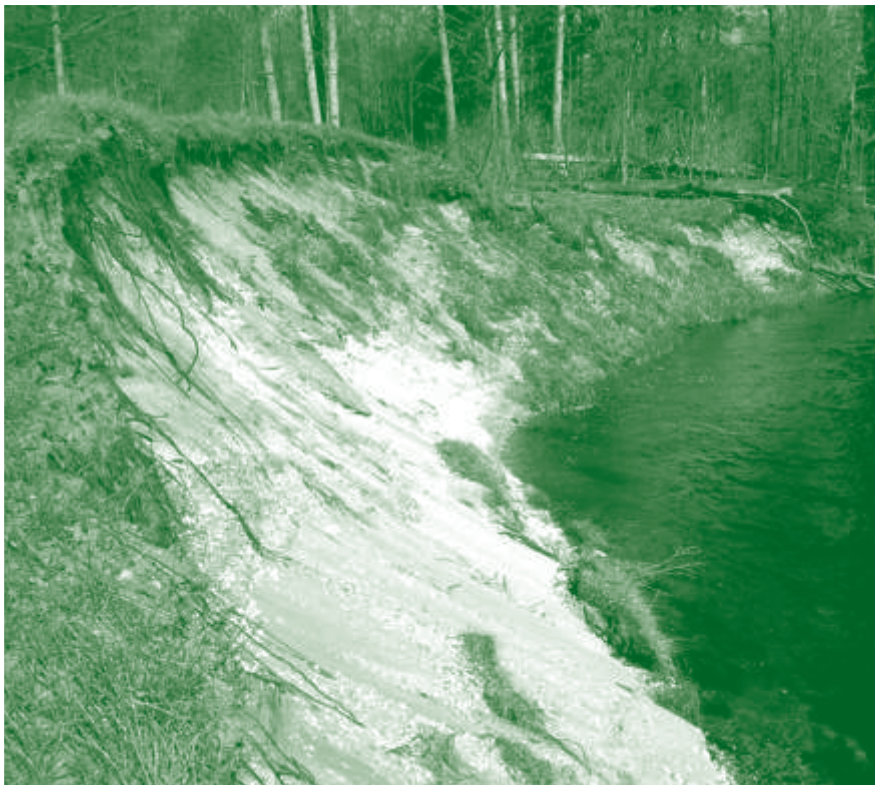
Michigan. With their recent grant, the foundation has committed over \$500,000 toward conservation projects in Emmet and Charlevoix Counties since 1999. This is in addition to nearly \$1 million in land protection grants in the same time frame. Furthermore, through CRA's River Care program, we've been able to multiply Frey's contribution several times."

Local steering committees on watersheds such as the Maple, Jordan, Boyne, and Carp Rivers will use the grant to plan and complete road crossing improvements, wildlife habitat projects in critical animal "pathways," land protection projects, and other high priority activities. These local committees will tap into expertise offered by regional groups including the Little Traverse Conservancy, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, "Friends-of" groups, Tribal groups, and Conservation Districts

Frey Funds Collaborative Effort

In June, CRA received a 3-year, \$150,000 grant from the Frey Foundation of Grand Rapids to do conservation projects that improve the streams, lakes, and wildlife habitat of northwest Michigan. CRA's Chairman, Dan Hubbell, says, "The Frey Foundation has strongly backed our common philosophy of making tangible improvements on-the-ground that will improve the quality of life in northwest





Sediment delivery from sites like this one on the Bear Creek negatively affect the health of the river.

Work in Progress

Work has begun on sites on the Big Manistee, Bear Creek, and Pine Creek chosen for restoration under the cooperative EPA Watershed Initiative grant for the Big Manistee watershed. This month, two eroding stream banks on Bear Creek have been stabilized with a combination of fieldstone and whole trees. Upper slope terracing and planting remains to be completed at the sites this fall. Four road crossing projects are being planned for this field season as well. In all, four banks and five crossings will be addressed, resulting in significant reductions in sediment delivery to the Big Manistee.

CRA is coordinating the construction work and the Little River Band, who was awarded the grant, is coordinating monitoring of the sites. Other partners on the project include the Manistee County Road Commission and US Forest Service.



Golfers Tee Up For Conservation

Over 120 friends of CRA joined in the fun of the second annual Greens Fore Streams golf outing hosted by Crystal Mountain. Perfect weather set the stage for great golf, food, and prizes. The ringer team of the Kochanny boys, Pat, Ron, Tim, and Paul, carded the winning score. Everyone enjoyed the challenge of the fly-casting contest coordinated by title sponsor host Bruce Richards of Scientific Anglers-3M and Dave Leonhard of Streamside Orvis. These guys can really throw a line. Renowned master of ceremonies and auctioneer, Bob Garner, entertained the crowd while helping detach the winning bidders from some cash to benefit CRA's programs. Thank you to all of the Greens Fore Streams sponsors, participants, volunteers and prize donators. Over \$21,000 was raised for sensible conservation work in northern Michigan!



Consumers Energy Area Manger, Robert Gluszewski (left) presents CRA Development Coordinator, Matt Thomas with a check for \$2,500 from the Consumers Energy Foundation, continuing their investment in natural resource conservation through the River Care Program.



Thank you for your recent support of CRA, River Care™ and Wild-Link™

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The CRA crew is ready to put their new Ford F150 truck to work! Made possible with a grant from the Norcross Wildlife Foundation and a great deal from longtime CRA supporter, Grand Traverse Auto, the classy black 4x4 will carry staff and equipment for fieldwork throughout our 13 county region.



Biology students from Troy Athens High School help out with restoration planting on the Pine River for the second year. CRA's River Care Kids program offers opportunities for young people from all over to become involved in diverse stewardship projects.

Upcoming Projects

The US Fish and Wildlife Service recently awarded CRA seven individual grants for restoration work on northwest Michigan streams in 2005 and 2006. Watersheds receiving funding include the Jordan, Pere Marquette, Betsie, Big Sable, and Big Manistee.

The grants range from \$8,000 to \$45,000 and are intended to improve fish habitat and provide fish passage. Projects chosen for this funding include dam removal engineering, stream bank stabilization, road crossing improvements, and stream rehabilitation. All projects will be matched with local funding through CRA's River Care program.

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Enclosed is my CRA Membership contribution:

- Contributor \$30 Supporter \$50 Sponsor \$100
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Conservation Resource Alliance

10850 Traverse Highway, Suite 1111, Traverse City, MI 49684

Thank You For Your Support!

Welcome, Mike Bishop!

CRA recently welcomed Mr. Mike Bishop to its Board of Directors. Mike resides in Lake Forest, Illinois with his wife and three children and has close family ties to Michigan. A passion for natural resource conservation



motivates Mike to help make a difference in Northern Michigan. He is a Senior Vice President with Equis Corp. in Chicago, a leader in commercial real estate development.

Looking For A Rewarding Career?

CRA currently has a full-time position opening for a project manager to coordinate community efforts that improve watersheds and wildlife habitat in northern Michigan. The position involves working with volunteers, agencies, and funders, with a challenging mix of field, management and outreach duties. Self-motivated individuals should send a cover letter and resume to CRA, attention: Project Manager Opening.



10850 Traverse Highway Suite 1111
Traverse City, MI 49684

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Stewardship Spotlight

As a strong supporter of environmental and habitat conservation organizations, Bass Pro Shops has often been recognized for its conservation initiatives and youth education program. The company's philanthropic efforts are primarily directed to fish and wildlife conservation programs, especially those with a strong emphasis on youth development in these areas. What a perfect match with CRA's common sense approach to natural resource conservation and stewardship. That is why we are so pleased to have Bass Pro Shops join CRA as a supporting business member. Started in 1972 with eight feet of display space in a retail shop, Bass Pro Shops has



grown to become the world's leading outdoor retailer with over two million visitors per month on their website!

Look forward to continued growth of this exciting partnership as we work with the Outdoors World store in Auburn Hills to share opportunities for involvement in River Care, Wild Link, and River Care Kids activities with guests visiting this amazing facility. Riley Daniels, Store Manager, envisions lots of possibilities for Bass Pro Shops to help make a difference in northern Michigan, the recreational playground of thousands of his customers. Thank you Bass Pro Shops! For more information on this partner organization, please visit www.basspro.com.

Mark Your Calendars!

On Friday, October 7, CRA will host its Biennial Meeting at NMC's Great Lakes Campus Building. The event, which is open to the public, will be from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. and will feature DNR Director Rebecca Humphries as the keynote speaker. Look for your invitation soon!