## De Pere Riverwalk/Wildlife Viewing Area Fact Sheet

Project Description:

• Passive recreation facility that will link rare wildlife and fish viewing opportunities to Downtown De Pere.

**Project Features:** 

- Scissors bridge spanning from Voyageur Park to unnamed island.
- Recreational trail through island that will create accessible shore fishing in prime location.
- Construct a viewing trail approximately 10 ft above normal water levels, utilizing the old Claude Allouez Bridge. This portion of the trail would extend approximately 700 feet out into the river.
- Creation of an interconnecting walkway to downtown area.
- Path lighting.
- Accessible viewing of De Pere Locks.



Wildlife/Fish Resources:

The proposed facility creates a rare opportunity to view these animals, and various others.

- Spawning grounds for Sturgeon.
- Pelicans
- Bald Eagle
- Black Crown Night Heron
- Walleye
- Musky
- Blue Heron
- Gar

Economic Impact:

- Bird watching and wildlife viewing has highest percentage of people participating in Wisconsin.
- Over past 20 years wildlife watching (including bird Watching) has increased more than 266%.
- A study indicated the Sturgeon spawning activity in the Wolf River creates an approximate \$300,000 impact over a two week time period. It is estimated that close to 3000 people participate.
- Estimated that close to 500,000 people from the Chicago/Illinois travel to Wisconsin every year for viewing/photo of wildlife.



• Increased accessibility to the De Pere Locks. The Locks are currently an attraction that has brought in people from 27 different states and 12 different countries the past two years.







Wildlife viewing pier, utilizing old Claude Allouez bridge piers.



Sample scissors bridge.



Pier Elevation.



De Pere Lock and Dam, Registered Historic District.



Fox River Recreational Trail