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Two Free Films Showing at the Mineral Point Opera House

Films to be followed by community discussion

MINERAL POINT, WIS.—On Saturday, April 9 2011 the Harry and Laura Nohr Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Military Ridge Prairie Heritage Area, Blue Mounds Area Project, and UW-Extension Iowa County will host a free screening of two quality documentary films.

The first film will be the award-winning *Red Gold*, produced by Felt Soul Media and Trout Unlimited Alaska. *Red Gold* is a one-hour documentary film on the proposed Pebble Mine told through the unique and disparate voices of commercial, subsistence and sport fishermen of Bristol Bay, Alaska. At the headwaters of the two largest remaining sockeye salmon runs on the planet, mining companies have proposed to extract what may prove to be the richest deposit of gold and copper in the world. Filmmakers Ben Knight and Travis Rummel spent more than two months in Bristol Bay documenting the tension between mine officials—who say they will build a 'clean' mine that will leave the salmon's habitat untouched—and local fishermen who oppose the mine. This exquisite film goes beyond the conflict, offering a portrait of a unique way of life that will no longer exist if the salmon don't return with Bristol Bay's tide.

The second film, *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time*, is the first full-length, high-definition documentary film ever made about legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold and his environmental legacy. *Green Fire* shares highlights from his extraordinary career, explaining how he shaped conservation and the modern environmental movement. It also illustrates how Leopold's vision of a community that cares about both people and land continues to inform and inspire people across the country and around the world, highlighting modern projects that put Leopold's land ethic in action in a multitude of ways. Although probably best

known as the author of the conservation classic *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold is also renowned for his work as an educator, philosopher, forester, ecologist, and wilderness advocate. *Green Fire* is a production of the Aldo Leopold Foundation, the US Forest Service, and the Center for Humans and Nature. The Aldo Leopold Foundation is distributing the film to community screeners, and is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization based in Baraboo, Wisconsin. The foundation's mission is to inspire an ethical relationship between people and land through the legacy of Aldo Leopold.

The films will be shown back-to-back starting at 6:00 PM. Afterward the audience is invited to participate in a community discussion about both films, facilitated by professor Vince Kavaloski and Aldo Leopold's granddaughter, Madelyn Leopold. Admission is free and first-come, first-served. The Mineral Point Opera House is located on 139 High Street, Mineral Point, WI. For more information contact Katie Abbott, project coordinator for the Military Ridge Prairie Heritage Area, at (608) 935-2791 x134 or katie.abbott@rcdnet.net.