Michigan. So entranced looked to be over 200 feet graph. If it was correct this heard stories of lost ves came into view. Adam had feet from the lake bottom boat which rose some 30 filled in, an outline of what moth below. As the pixels -[18x235]show the shape of a behe fish finder was beginning to mass. Their high resolution but this was a far larger -[18x290]the screen indicating a sin finder. They were accus -[18x334]taking shape on the screen -[18x380]er barriers while simulta -[18x441]neously blocking harmful species, most notably the destructive sea lamprey. Lessons from the project could have regional, nation -[18x508]al, and global implications. The ten-year project, led by the bi-national Great Lakes Fishery Commission, and is taking place at the Board -[18x540]man River’s Union Street Dam, located in Traverse City, Michigan. Heather Hettinger, Fisheries Management Biolo -[18x593]gist, for the MDNR provid -[18x625]ed a project update to the members of the Traverse City Area Steelheaders on February 7, 2018. The Boardman Dam, original -[18x647]ly constructed in 1894 as a hydropower generation dam, had no fish passage capabilities. The project in -[18x679]volved the removal of three dams on the Boardman River, with the goal of en -[18x687]hancing and restoring cold water habitat and allow fish passage up and down the system by reconnecting 160 miles of high quality river habitat. The Boardman resto -[18x720]ration project is considered to be the most comprehen -[18x753]sive dam removal and res -[18x775]toration projects in Mich -[18x786]igan’s history and one of the largest such projects in the Great Lakes Basin. The river restoration construc -[18x806]tion work of the Boardman Dam removal began in the spring of 2017 and will be complete in the late spring of 2018. Four dams, all within -[18x838]in 20 miles of the mouth of the Boardman, where it empties into West Grand Traverse Bay, came into fo -[18x859]cus for this project. Union Street Dam is about a mile upstream from the riv -[18x880]er mouth and controls the lake level of Boardman Lake. Five miles further -[18x912]down the path. “Our formal mission as an initiative is to restore self-sustaining populations of Arctic Grayling within its historic range in Mich -[18x944]gan,” said DNR Fisheries “Boardman” Continued on page 3

Re-introducing Arctic Grayling in Michigan

By Ed Golder

It’s been a little over a year since the Michigan Department of Natural Re -sources, in partnership with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (LRBOI), announced a new initiative aimed at bringing back a long-gone historical species to the Great Lakes state - Arctic Grayling. Michigan’s Arctic Grayling Initiative - so dubbed following the addition of more than 30 organizations to the DNR’s and LRBOI’s foundational partnership - is committed to re-intro -ducing this culturally-signif -icant species and has been making steady prog -ress since last June to head down that path.

“We are looking at an initiative that is going to help bring back a species that’s been lost for a long time,” said Wayne Lusardi, a maritime archaeologist for the State of Michigan. He estimates that number to be closer to 6,000 in the entire Great Lakes. In the past, it wasn’t against the law, scu -ba divers removed items which they found valuable or interesting. The Aban -doned Shipwreck act of 1988 prohibits removal of artifacts. This legislation also provides daunting fed -eral and state penalties for those who violate it. As a result, shipwrecks discov -ered since that time remain largely intact. The cold and sometimes downright frigid waters of the Great Lakes have kept these underwater time cap -sules an enticing dive loca -tion for shipwreck divers. In the interest of protecting the shipwrecks and divers from hazardous anchoring practices, a mooring buoy project has come together. It is a cooperative effort between the Coast Guard, Michigan DNR, Mich -igan Underwater Preserves Committee, and the Lake Carriers Association. The plan is to establish naviga -tional mooring buoys on the shipwrecks and divers from hazardous anchoring practices, a mooring buoy project has come together. It is a cooperative effort between the Coast Guard, Michigan DNR, Michi -gan Underwater Preserves Committee, and the Lake Carriers Association. The plan is to establish naviga -tional mooring buoys on...
185 shipwrecks throughout the Great Lakes. There are steps involved in securing this type of buoy so those on the water can expect to see them in various stages of assembly. 

Even today the anchors used by divers’ boats take a toll. “Any time an anchor hits them, it does damage” says Lusardi. Fishermen don’t damage the wrecks but they do lose a lot of fishing tackle on them. This lost tackle is expensive for fishermen and dangerous to divers. Divers encounter everything from trolling spoons to expensive Fish Hawk temperature probes lost on shipwrecks. Fishermen are of course free to fish at the shipwreck and the buoys should make them easier to either find or avoid. The mooring buoys will be first come, first served and please remember that state law requires a 200 foot safety zone from any dive flag.

Jason Blair, avid fisherman and scuba diver, says “If I based my fishing plans on the fish I saw diving, I’d never fish again”. Like most divers, Jason sees few sport fish but an abundance of burbot, a freshwater fish similar to an eel. He understands that trout and Salmon on are pelagic fish. According to Wikipedia pelagic fish are “neither close to the bottom, nor near the shore”. Fish at the upper end of the Great Lakes food chain tend to be in open water foraging for schools of alewives. That said, as of late foraging for schools of alewives, Salmon and steelhead don’t linger around structure like bass or walleye. It’s surprising though that there aren’t more fish besides burbot on these wrecks.

If fish are present, scuba divers do tend to see them. Zebra and Quagga mussels invaded in the 1990’s and have filtered the water so efficiently that visibility down under is remarkable. Divers from the 1990’s and earlier recall less than 5 feet of visibility and total darkness below 30 feet. Now with the mussels present, 30 feet visibility is common and 100 foot visibility is possible on occasion. Ambient light is present regularly below 200 feet now. Scuba divers use the weather buoys’ reports, with thermistors, to forecast visibility. Thermistors are basically a chain of thermometers below a buoy telling the temperature at depth in approximately 10 foot increments. The buoy offshore of the Cook power plant near Stevensville, Michigan, is one of these floating sentinels. More information can be obtained at the National Buoy Data Center website www.nrdc.noaa.gov. Like fishermen, divers delight in seeing a sharp temperature change indicating a thermocline. Scuba divers know it indicates good visibility below. A strong thermocline means settled, unmixed water which predicts clarity. Water clarity supports good pictures and can be a factor in how responsive fish are to lures.

Adam and his son had accidentally trolled through the location of the Ironsides, a ship wreck just off Grand Haven, Michigan. Her GPS coordinates are N 43° 02.898, W 086° 19.146. On September 14th, 1873 Ironsides sank during a violent storm about 3 miles offshore. There was no loss.
“Boardman”  Continued from page 1

upstream is where the Sa-
bin Dam was removed last
fall. Another mile upstream
the Boardman Dam was
removed. And 12 miles up-
stream from there used to
be Brown Bridge Dam. The
stream from there used to
fall. Another mile upstream
is where the Sa-

the Boardman River is a
cold water stream that lacks
the nutrients to be a highly
productive river system for
the fish species found in
the river. That’s because
the feeder streams which
support the Boardman flow
from forested areas and not
from agricultural lands that
provide the nutrients neces-
sary to support larger fish
than the 3-5 inch trout now
found in the stream. The
system will benefit from al-
loving all native species to
pass, such as lake sturgeon,
walleye, yellow perch, rock
carp, small mouth bass,
northern pike, lake trout,
musky, and brown trout. For
with the removal of the
dams, the temperature of the
water has dropped by nine
degrees and the river is at 56
degrees in August. This
temperature is ideal
for the passage of steelhead
tout and Hettinger said the
Fisheries Division wants to
see steelhead passed, and so
does she.
Because steelhead
spawn in the spring they
do not compete with brown
or brook trout for reds in
the fall as salmonines would if
allowed to pass upstream.
Steelhead eggs and emerg-
ing fry could provide food
for native trout in the area
and by so doing, benefit
all the species present in
the system. As stewards
of cold water fisheries, we
are aware of the impact of
global warming and how
climate change is affecting
our cold water streams. In
the decades to come, warm-
er temperatures are going
to change what we target
and how we fish. More
crappy and pan fish will abound
in streams in the southern
Lower Peninsula. Brown
tout and steelhead will no
longer be able to survive in
the warmer waters that
remain in southern rivers
and fishing will resemble
what it is in Kentucky and
Tennessee today. Cold wa-
ter streams like the Board-
man River will become
more important to
preserving steelhead and
tout fishing. The steps we
take today with initiatives
like the Boardman River
restoration project will be
looked upon as critically
important to preserving
the future of trout fishing.

Traverse City Area Steelheaders board (L-R): Henry Nabors, State Director;
Heather Hettinger, MDNR; Joe Crenz, President; Judy Seaver; Dick Hartrick,
Membership; Howard Seaver and Randy Richardson.

Boardman wood install.

2018 Tentative Print Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Print Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>12/15/17</td>
<td>01/05/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>02/16/18</td>
<td>02/23/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>04/20/18</td>
<td>05/04/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>06/22/18</td>
<td>06/29/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>08/24/18</td>
<td>08/31/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10/18/18</td>
<td>10/26/18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING NEWS

The Michigan Steelheaders
A multi-state, non-profit organization dedicated to educating the general public
and ethical fishing practices.

See your Michigan G-looms dealer!

AL & BOB’S SPORTS
2011 N 36TH ST
GRAND NAPLES, MI 49446
616-245-9159

NORTHYWOODS SPORTING GOODS
1009 WHITEHORN DR
BAILLIEeton, MI 49305
906-262-3000

CLEAR KID Tackle
12505 CHRISTIAN LAKE RD
EDWARDSBURG, MI 49112
269-414-4131

THE MIChigan Steelhead and SALMON Fishermen’s Association (MSSFA)
is a multi-state, non-profit organization dedicated to educating the general public
on improving, restoring and promoting sport fishing, the Great Lakes and their
tributary streams and rivers. Commonly referred to as The Michigan Steelheaders,
or simply Steelheaders, MSSFA represents sport fishing families in the Great
Lakes region. MSSFA encourages the strictest observance of sport fishing laws
and ethical fishing practices.

MSSFA, Publisher
Donna Eade, Advertising & Sales
Tel: 616-298-8842
E-mail: michigansteelheaders.org
babygl@charter.net

Barbara Aalderink,
Accountant
deneade@charter.net
Fax: 616-298-8847
Tel: 616-298-8842

Bonnie Eade, Advertising & Sales
Tel: 616-298-8842
babygl@charter.net
Fax: 616-298-8847

Stafford Printing, Printing
Hollister, MI
Fax: 616-298-8842
Cell: 616-298-8842

The Great Lakes Sport Fishing News (GLSFN) is the official publication of the
Michigan Steelheaders and Salmon Fishermen’s Association (MSSFA). Subscrip-
tions to GLSFN are through membership in MSSFA. MSSFA’s policies on
issues per year. Permission for reprint from this publication is normally permitted,
unless otherwise stipulated by the article, and proper credit is given to the author
and the publication. The GLSFN of MSSFA does not necessarily agree or support
the contents of articles within this publication. The views expressed are those of
the author(s) of the articles.

March/April 2018 Great Lakes Sport Fishing News Page 3
This is the time of year that many issues concern- ing Michigan’s fisheries are under review.

We have the Lake Mich- igan Technical Committee with members from each agency of the surround- ing Lake Michigan states, working together under the guidance of the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission, and studying Coregonus Spec- ies, Cisco (herring) genet- ics, and then charged with developing a “white paper” on the merits of beginning a Cisco restoration project in Lake Michigan. Once the white paper is finalized and made public, there will be time to comment.

The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, has post- ed public comments, and public meeting trans- cripts received during public comment period (August 7, 2017 – December 8, 2017) for the GLMRIS Brandon Road Project Report, the Great Lakes and Mississip- pi River Interbasin Study, Brandon Road Draft In- tegrated Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement – Will County, Illinois comment and pub- lic meeting can be found on the GLMRIS website located at http://glmris.anl.gov. During the last 16 years, the only impedi- ments to Asian carp enter- ing Lake Michigan have been two electric barriers installed by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineer across the Chicago Sanitary canal and one needs to be shut down when steel barrages carry petroleum to a refinery pass through the lock. It seems there could potentially be a spark which may cause pe- troleum vapors to ignite. Asian Carp in the Wabash River, are halted by a chain link fence and earthen berm separating the Wabash wa- tershed from Lake Erie. Dennis will meet with Governor Snyder’s office in May to learn more about the Governor’s plan to move forward with funding the $8 million annual cost of maintaining the recom- mended alterations to the Brandon Road Lock and Dam that the Army Corp recommended in its re- cently released plan to stop the carp from invading the Great Lakes.

A new initiative to bring back the Artic Grayling to a few of Michigan’s riv- ers was started in 2016 by MDNR, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, and Michigan Technologi- cal University. Talked with Todd Grischke, and learned that there were major grants and donations from individuals and the City of Grayling are making it happen. The first phase of the initiative is to collect stream habitat sam- ples and fish community data in the Upper Manistee River. This data collection allows both the evaluation of current stream habitat conditions and the de- velopment of criteria to deter- mine which other streams may provide suitable habi- tat for Artic Grayling. The plan is using the protocol from the Montana’s suc- cessful Artic Grayling pro- gram. Dennis met with Ed Eisch, the Michigan Hatch- ery manager, and will pro- vide more detail as the ini- tiative moves forward.

The Lake Huron Cit- izens Fishery Advisory Committee meeting on February 1, 2018 covered a number of issues. The Lake Trout overharvest by sports fishers in MHI (Roger City to Drummond Island) was solved by go- ing to a 2 Lake Trout daily limit in MHI. The research on Lake Trout in Central and Southern parts of Lake Huron suggests stocks are not holding up well and maybe decreasing. We have the resources to do mid-lake research with the new research vessel, Howard Tanneier. Once the mid- lake and inshore trawls are completed we should have the information we need to make an informed decision. This information would in- clude the Canadian harvest by Commercial and First Nation people. Then a TAC (Total Allowable Catch) can be established for all Lake Trout.

Since new legislation regarding an updated Com- mercial Fishing Statute has not been introduced as yet in the Senate, there will be no changes in the Com- mercial fishing for 2018 on Lake Huron. A report covering the 10 research nets south of Harbor Beach showed that 150 Walleye and 460 Lake Trout were released from these nets this past season.

There has been no prog- ress in reinstating compre- hensive Cormorant control to protect sport and com- mercial fisheries. The nest count and bird population has increased to pre-control times.

Perch and Walleye regu- lations for 2018 will remain the same.

The dates for the Spring Sea Grant workshops have been announced but agen- das are not set as yet. All will be evening meetings. The Thumb meetings will be held at the Uly Fox Hunters Club on M-19, on April 19, 2018. The Rog- er City Meeting will be on April 29, 2018. The dates for Saginaw, Bay City, and Cedarville are still pending. These meetings are open to the public.

~ Kenneth E. Merckel, 
President
MSSFA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Dennis Eade

Gov. Rick Snyder held a press conference in South Haven on January 21st announcing the creation of the Great Lakes Fish Partnership to block Asian carp from getting into the Great Lakes through the Branch-on Road Lock & Dam in Joliet, Illinois. The partnership includes recreation, environmental, conservation, business and civic organizations along with the governors of the Great Lakes States and Canadian Provinces. So far, 90% of the surface water area of the Great Lakes is represented in the coalition.

Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio and Ontario have signed onto the partnership which will guarantee the $8 million needed annually to provide the non-federal share of the funding to operate and maintain the improved system at the Branch Road Lock & Dam. Steelheaders were well represented at the press conference with South Haven, SW Michigan, Battle Creek, Grand Rapids, Holland, and White River all in attendance. We need all of our chapters to support this effort to speed up the installation of enhanced obstructions at the Branch Road Lock. Visit the website here blockasiancarp.org

As a result of the controversy over the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Department’s expressed intention of raising and planting Cisco in the Great Lakes, we have asked Dan O’Keefe, MSU Extension Educator, to join us for the February board meeting to provide context for the pros and cons of this project. Many of the participants in the Ludington Regional Fisheries Workshop expressed concern for introducing a strain that may not be genetically identical to the Cisco now populating the Grand Traverse Bays and showing up along the northern coastline of Lake Michigan. Others were concerned about Cisco becoming a prey fish on alewife once they grow to size where they compete with Chinook for the available forage. General sentiment was to gather more data before moving forward. Dr. Dan O’Keefe is planning a public workshop this spring to devote more time and attention to this subject and will notify us when and where it will be held.

The board of directors will select the 2018 Howard A. Tanner Award recipient at the board meeting. The award will be presented at the April 14th Presidents’ Meeting at the Michigan Historical Library and Museum.

Fish passage on the Boardman River in Traverse City, MI is becoming a controversial topic as the dam removals on the river continue. A number of local fly fishermen in the area object to allowing steelhead and salmon to move up the river when the project is complete. The TCAS chapter held a meeting on February 7, 2018 featuring Heather Hettinger, MDNR biologist and point person for the fish passage project. An article covering her presentation is in this issue of Great Lakes Sport Fishing News. The passage of steelhead and salmon would positively impact the river by putting more nutrients into the system, however, steelhead and salmon will compete directly with the brook and brown trout currently inhabiting the river and tributary streams.

I visited with MDNR Fish Production Program Manager, Ed Esch, on February 8th in Traverse City. MI. Ed is actively involved in overseeing the renovations to the Thompson State Hatchery (bids will be requested on February 19th) which will enhance cool water fisheries as well as cold water fisheries. The improvements include 27 additional facilities to raise 250,000 more walleye, 15,000 fall fingerling munkees and 220,000 more steelhead annually. A new geothermal well will be installed to provide ideal water conditions for raising steelhead. New feeders will replace the ones currently in use.

We talked about insuring the Atlantic salmon production program (currently managed at Lake Superior State University) is retained and a brood stock protected in the event retirements occur among the current staff members. Ed assured me that the president of the university has made it clear that the program will continue as a hallmark of the university’s curriculum because so many of the program’s students graduate to fill key fish biologist positions throughout the country. Ed is also excited about the Arctic Grayling Initiative action plan. The research focus area will work on a variety of items; including understanding relationships between resident trout and grayling, prioritizing streams for grayling introduction, and evaluating in-stream Remote Site Incubators (RSIs). RSIs allow fish to be reared and released directly in the streams to better allow them to imitate the waters they will hopefully reproduce in later on.

A number of important issues to benefit steelhead and salmon fishing are coming up in the months ahead. We expect the introduction of a statue to regulate commercial fishing to drop soon, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding is going to be a key issue and the new farm bill may have provisions to incentivize close system aquaculture which would help us defend the waters of the Great Lakes from commercial net-pen fish farming.
Grave Yard Shift Walleyes

By Jason Mitchell

So many fisheries come to mind where after dark patterns offer some of the best opportunities for catching fish. After dark strategies and locations however can vary dramatically from where we might find fish during daylight or twilight hours.

What happens so often to us as anglers is that we simply figure out one window or movement of fish and when that window ends, we assume that the bite is over. Could be setting up on a classic point anticipating the sunset bite. A classic pattern might start in deeper water and as the day progresses to where the sun hits the horizon, we find an intense window of fish activity on top of the point that might last half an hour. What so often happens is that after this intense flurry, we quit marking fish and assume that the bite is over. The bite might indeed be over if we don’t make any adjustments but the reality is that we can prolong the bite and keep catching fish if we move with the fish. Of course there are also basin and transition bites as well like what we often see on Red Lake and Mille Lacs after dark. Perhaps the toughest aspect of catching walleye well after dark is forgetting some of the lessons we tend to learn during the daylight.

So often, finding and catching walleyes is all about reading structure and focusing on edges. After dark however, you can throw that edge mentality away from structure well after dark. Large expansive flats in shallow water are a favorite location. That four to six foot sand flat that is several acres might be void of walleye activity during the day where even sunrise and sunset patterns seem to revolve around structure that breaks into deeper water. In the middle of the night however, walleyes will often push up and roam much shallower water than what some anglers would envision.

Walleye after dark play by a different set of rules. Make the right adjustments to capitalize on some of the “Walleye”

Continued on page 12

If people concentrated on the really important things in life, there’d be a shortage of fishing poles.

-Doug Larson
Recovering America’s Wildlife Act Introduced in U.S. Congress

By Brandon Butler, Driftwood Outdoors

The Act would dedicate $1.3 billion annually to the Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program to conserve fish and wildlife. The funds would come from the development of energy and mineral resources on federal lands and waters. “This is a very important and creative legislative initiative to enhance wildlife ecosystems across our nation through constructive partnerships in states,” stated Representative Fortenberry in a release from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. “The filing of this legislation is the result of the work of The Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America’s Diverse Fish & Wildlife Resources. This 28-member collaboration between leaders in wildlife conservation, industry, and government, made the recommendation that Congress dedicate $1.3 billion annually in existing revenue from the development of energy and mineral resources on federal lands and waters to state-based fish and wildlife conservation. The Panel was convened to evaluate and recommend a more sustainable funding approach to avert a fish and wildlife conservation crisis. Johnny Morris, the founder of Bass Pro Shops, and Dave Freudenthal, former Wyoming governor, co-chaired the Panel. “Each of us, as citizens of this country, has the responsibility to ensure diverse fish and wildlife resources are managed for future generations. Fish and wildlife need healthy habitats to thrive—enhancing our lives and providing many other benefits,” stated Johnny Morris, Founder and CEO of Bass Pro Shops. “State fish and wildlife agencies have a solid track record of accomplishing remarkable recovery and restoration successes since the early 1900s. However, enhanced funding is now needed to address today’s fish and wildlife habitat management challenges.” The Pittman-Robertson Act was established in 1937 to fund wildlife conservation through a tax on hunting and shooting equipment. The success of this funding model was used to pass the similar Dingell-Johnson Act in 1950 which supports sport fishing. These two Acts have supported state-based conservation for more than half of a century, but the time has come to significantly expand funding for conservation across the country. Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson put the responsibility of funding conservation squarely on the shoulders of sportsmen. As a sportsman myself, I am proud to pay these taxes and to contribute to funding conservation. However, sportsmen can’t be responsible for funding the future of all conservation on our own. Conservation requires the financial support of all Americans. “This bill will help thousands of wildlife species through proactive, collaborative, on-the-ground efforts. The approach is unique because it calls for early action to save struggling wildlife, rather than waiting until species are on the brink of extinction and need expensive ‘emergency room’ measures to recover. When this bill becomes law, we will increase wild-life populations, strengthen America’s economy, and reduce the need for regulatory measures,” said Collin O’Marra, President and CEO of the National Wild-life Federation.

Now, everyone who loves nature needs to let their elected member of Congress know you want them to make the right decision for the future of fish and wildlife and ask them to support Recovering Amer-ica’s Wildlife Act and vote yes on House Resolution 4647 (H.R. 4647). To learn more about this Act, and to contact your representative, visit www.congress.gov.

“Shipwreck” Continued from page 2

of life associated with the sinking but the lifeboats did not fare well in the large breaking waves onshore. Today the Ironsides is pop-ular shipwreck to dive on with the local scuba com-munity and is visited of-ten. Her entire story and many others can be found at michiganshipwrecks.org. This site has details on shipwrecks all over the Great Lakes but the time has come to significantly expand funding for conservation across the country. Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson put the responsibility of funding conservation squarely on the shoulders of sportsmen. As a sportsman myself, I am proud to pay these taxes and to contribute to fund-ing conservation. However, sportsmen can’t be responsible for funding the future of all conservation on our own. Conservation requires the financial support of all Americans.

“Shipwreck” Continued from page 2

of life associated with the sinking but the lifeboats did not fare well in the large breaking waves onshore. Today the Ironsides is pop-ular shipwreck to dive on with the local scuba com-munity and is visited of-ten. Her entire story and many others can be found at michiganshipwrecks.org. This site has details on shipwrecks all over the Great Lakes but the time has come to significantly expand funding for conservation across the country. Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson put the responsibility of funding conservation squarely on the shoulders of sportsmen. As a sportsman myself, I am proud to pay these taxes and to contribute to fund-ing conservation. However, sportsmen can’t be responsible for funding the future of all conservation on our own. Conservation requires the financial support of all Americans.

“Shipwreck” Continued from page 2

of life associated with the sinking but the lifeboats did not fare well in the large breaking waves onshore. Today the Ironsides is pop-ular shipwreck to dive on with the local scuba com-munity and is visited of-ten. Her entire story and many others can be found at michiganshipwrecks.org. This site has details on shipwrecks all over the Great Lakes but the time has come to significantly expand funding for conservation across the country. Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson put the responsibility of funding conservation squarely on the shoulders of sportsmen. As a sportsman myself, I am proud to pay these taxes and to contribute to fund-ing conservation. However, sportsmen can’t be responsible for funding the future of all conservation on our own. Conservation requires the financial support of all Americans.

“Shipwreck” Continued from page 2

of life associated with the sinking but the lifeboats did not fare well in the large breaking waves onshore. Today the Ironsides is pop-ular shipwreck to dive on with the local scuba com-munity and is visited of-ten. Her entire story and many others can be found at michiganshipwrecks.org. This site has details on shipwrecks all over the Great Lakes but the time has come to significantly expand funding for conservation across the country. Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson put the responsibility of funding conservation squarely on the shoulders of sportsmen. As a sportsman myself, I am proud to pay these taxes and to contribute to fund-ing conservation. However, sportsmen can’t be responsible for funding the future of all conservation on our own. Conservation requires the financial support of all Americans.

“Shipwreck” Continued from page 2

of life associated with the sinking but the lifeboats did not fare well in the large breaking waves onshore. Today the Ironsides is pop-ular shipwreck to dive on with the local scuba com-munity and is visited of-ten. Her entire story and many others can be found at michiganshipwrecks.org. This site has details on shipwrecks all over the Great Lakes but the time has come to significantly expand funding for conservation across the country. Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson put the responsibility of funding conservation squarely on the shoulders of sportsmen. As a sportsman myself, I am proud to pay these taxes and to contribute to fund-ing conservation. However, sportsmen can’t be responsible for funding the future of all conservation on our own. Conservation requires the financial support of all Americans.

“Shipwreck” Continued from page 2

of life associated with the sinking but the lifeboats did not fare well in the large breaking waves onshore. Today the Ironsides is pop-ular shipwreck to dive on with the local scuba com-munity and is visited of-ten. Her entire story and many others can be found at michiganshipwrecks.org. This site has details on shipwrecks all over the Great Lakes but the time has come to significantly expand funding for conservation across the country. Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson put the responsibility of funding conservation squarely on the shoulders of sportsmen. As a sportsman myself, I am proud to pay these taxes and to contribute to fund-ing conservation. However, sportsmen can’t be responsible for funding the future of all conservation on our own. Conservation requires the financial support of all Americans.

“Shipwreck” Continued from page 2

of life associated with the sinking but the lifeboats did not fare well in the large breaking waves onshore. Today the Ironsides is pop-ular shipwreck to dive on with the local scuba com-munity and is visited of-ten. Her entire story and many others can be found at michiganshipwrecks.org. This site has details on shipwrecks all over the Great Lakes but the time has come to significantly expand funding for conservation across the country. Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson put the responsibility of funding conservation squarely on the shoulders of sportsmen. As a sportsman myself, I am proud to pay these taxes and to contribute to fund-ing conservation. However, sportsmen can’t be responsible for funding the future of all conservation on our own. Conservation requires the financial support of all Americans.
MSSFA was organized in 1971 by a handful of individuals who knew that Michigan's newly formed trout and salmon fishery was something worth working to protect. They were a small group who wanted to not only protect their fishery, but learn how to catch their elusive prey and tell fishing stories.

MSSFA chapters have membership meetings with guest speakers to learn about all the aspects of sport fishing. MSSFA chapters also sponsor fishing clinics, seminars, sport-fishing shows, derbies and tournaments. And are active sponsors for fishing outings for kids, seniors, veterans and our handicapped.

For those who love to fish but have no means, MSSFA chapters sponsor a "Crews" program that allows a sign up as a crewmember for a day of fishing.

With a common goal, and a close working partner with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, MSSFA helps to enhance the resource and sport fishing in our rivers, streams, inland lakes, and of course the mighty Great Lakes. MSSFA is a front-runner at all levels of the legislature and in courtrooms and has spent countless hours working behind the scenes and attending hearings.

So why join the Steelheaders?...Got kids, love fishing. JOIN NOW! And become a member of the largest organized group of fishermen in the Midwest. There are chapters throughout the entire state. You too can help protect and preserve this world-class sport fishery for you, your children, and generations to come.

**The Great Lakes Sport Fishing News (GLSFN)**

The Great Lakes Sport Fishing News is owned and operated by The Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fisherman's Association.

Better than forty years ago, The Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fisherman's Association began to publish a magazine called the "Guide to Great Lakes Sport Fishing." Five years later the magazine became a monthly format called "The Great Lakes Steelheader." Today, the newspaper is called "The Great Lakes Sport Fishing News."

This paper has no paid writers and has a grass roots style. It's writers are the every day fishermen who share their techniques and fishing adventures. And has become well known for it’s "January Special Edition" or "Snow Show" that is seen at all the spring expos and sport, boat and fishing shows throughout the Great Lakes.

Information in the paper covers the entire Great Lakes basin region from Minnesota to New York including all five of the Great Lakes and their tributary streams.

Chapter members receive the paper as part of their membership. And because of the diversity of fishing in the Great Lakes, the information covers everything from river fishing, big lake fishing to inland lake fishing. The paper also offers a direct route to all the new products and techniques on the market through our advertisers.

Visit us online: mssa.org or e-mail info@mssa.org

---

**CHAPTER CONTACTS**

---

**M.S.S.F.A. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Birth</td>
<td>A.D.________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>Male [M] Female [F] other [O]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Address</td>
<td>_______ _______ _______ _______ _______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City, State, Zip</td>
<td>_______ _______ _______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**M.S.S.F.A. State and Chapter Dues (Yearly)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Membership Dues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traverse City</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midland</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traverse City</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Haven</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Haven</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitehall</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Joseph</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**M.S.S.F.A. Chapter Locations**

- Traverse City
- Midland
- Traverse City
- South Haven
- Grand Haven
- Whitehall
- Saint Joseph
- Grand Rapids
- Livonia
- Battle Creek
- Harbor Beach
- Grand Traverse Bay Region
- Grand Traverse Bay Region

---

**M.S.S.F.A. contacts**

- Dick Hartrick, Membership Dir.
  231-536-2271
  Dick758@aol.com
- Jim Vander Maas, Director
  616-644-4023
  jvmaas@charter.net
- Scott Stanke, President
  989-553-0972
  scottstanke@gmail.com
- Maintenance@saintjohn23.net
- Traverse City Area
  Joe Cross, Pres.
  711 Indian Trail Blvd.
  Traverse City, MI 49686
  248-505-0302
- Cascade, Membership Dir.
  214-398-3717
  cascabic@gmail.com
- Michigan Steelheaders
  Traverse City Area Steelheaders
  www.traversebaysteelheaders.org
- Mike Stites
  231-505-8210
  whyzap@charter.com
  Jean Polenke, Director
  231-505-8210
  whyzap@charter.com
- MSSFA Chapter Locations
34th Annual Charlevoix Area Trout Tournament
June 8-9-10, 2018

Brown Trout • Salmon • Steelhead • Lake Trout • Walleye
Over $17,500 Cash & Prizes!!

Registration: June 6th & 7th
East Park, Downtown Charlevoix
Entry fees: Adult Early Bird – by May 24th $30
After May 24th $35
Ages 5 & younger FREE (must register)
Registration and more info online:
www.fishcharlevoix.com

Tournament Dinner May 5th • Castle Farms, Charlevoix
Doors open at 5:30 • Buffet Dinner $30/person
(Catered by Matter of Taste)
Prime Rib Carving Station • Pasta with Chicken • Parmesan/Panko Encrusted Trout

MSSFA State Board of Directors, Officers and Committee Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip</th>
<th>Discount Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ken Merckel</td>
<td>13711 Ironwood NW</td>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>49461</td>
<td>10% &amp; Member Discount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Eade</td>
<td>Lake Michigan Citizens Advisory Fisherman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Committee Legislative</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Braden</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>49461</td>
<td>10% off parts and labor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerry Sickle</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Lake Erie Citizens Advisory Fisherman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Hamadanchi</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>49461</td>
<td>10% &amp; Member Discount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Vander Maas</td>
<td>Tribal Negotiations Committee Co-Chair</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Eade</td>
<td>Tribal Negotiations Committee Co-Chair</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roger Hinchcliff</td>
<td>Streams Committee</td>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>49461</td>
<td>10% &amp; Member Discount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renee Davis</td>
<td>Pays to Belong Coordinator</td>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>49461</td>
<td>10% &amp; Member Discount</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PAY$$ TO BELONG
A list of participating retailers is below. The most current information can be found on the MSSFA website:
Mssfa.org
In the spring we have a wide range of river conditions and steelhead can be found in a large range of water types and conditions. They can be spawning in a foot of very clear water on a sunny day or holding in a deep hole in a high, muddy river on a dark cloudy day. Almost all the freshwater fish that we pursue, including spring steelhead, feed or respond to intruders in their space primarily by sight. How well metallic lures like spoons and spinners reflect light tell us a lot about how well the fish can see them.

The amount of light that a metal finish will reflect is a really complicated subject. Light is made up of many wavelengths which correspond to many colors. The wavelengths that are absorbed versus those that are reflected determine the color of an object. White reflects all light while black absorbs all the wavelengths. A green lure reflects the green wavelengths and absorbs enough of the others so that it looks green.

The amount of light that a metal surface reflects is partly dependant on the kind of light that strikes it. For example some surfaces might reflect relatively more light under low light conditions at dusk or on a cloudy day. The quality of the metal surface also plays a role. Because of all the variables, we are going to generalize and just give approximate values as we describe the various metals used for spinner blades, spoons, and other metallic lures.

Silver reflects the most light, something over 90%, and gives a very white flash because it is reflecting most of the wavelengths of light. Gold is next in line, reflecting a percentage of light in the mid 80’s. It obviously best reflects the yellow wavelengths giving it the color flash it has. Copper and brass, which is a copper and zinc alloy, generally reflect between 70 and 80 percent of the light that strikes their surface. Nickel and chromium are at the bottom of the list in their ability to reflect light, generally around 60% or less. Their flash is rather dark too because they are bouncing back a lesser amount of light.

Nickel is a very popular metal lure finish because it looks good in the store and rarely tarnishes. Its mirror finish turns out to be a negative on a dark steelhead stream as it reflects its surroundings. Even though silver bounces back lots of light a shiny silver plate can also be mirror-like and not show up too well in a well shaded stream or in the depths of deep lakes. Thus I always use silver blades with more of a matte or frosty finish for my spinners when fishing turbid, stained, or well shaded water or on dark days. Gold has the advantage of never tarnishing and is a great finish for sunny days. Copper and brass are also good finishes when the visibility is good. Nickel is a good finish for when the sun is out and the water is very clear.

---

Metal Reflectivity

By Jim Bedford

Early spring steelhead on a gold spinner
“Grayling” Continued from page 1

Division Assistant Chief Todd Grischke.

Michigan’s history with the Arctic Grayling is long and storied. A striking fish with a sail-like dorsal fin and a slate blue color on its body, it was virtually the only native stream salmonid in the Lower Peninsula until the resident population died off nearly a century ago.

“The fact we have a town named after this fish indicates to me just how iconic it was and still is to many in this state,” Grischke said. “When you add in other factors - such as the fact they’re only native to Michigan and Montana out of all the lower 48 states - it just adds to their legendary status.”

In the 19th century, northern Michigan streams were filled with Arctic Grayling offering anglers plenty of opportunity to catch these unique fish. But a variety of factors slowly erased their presence, including the cutting of Michigan’s vast virgin forest in the 1800s.

“Logging practices during that time period used streams to transport trees that were harvested. The streams carried logs to mills for processing,” explained Grischke. “These practices greatly impacted the physical nature of those streams and basically destroyed stream habitats for fish, including grayling spawning areas.”

Additionally, the physical cutting of the trees caused blockages in many of those same streams, often displacing grayling from where they lived.

But this was just one issue that affected Michigan’s Arctic Grayling, yet another was the introduction of non-native fish species.

“Other types of trout were introduced into Michigan’s waters to create additional opportunities for anglers to pursue - but a consequence of this action was that grayling couldn’t compete with more aggressive fish like brown, rainbow or brook trout,” Grischke shared. “And then in the 1980s we, the DNR, stocked hatchery-reared yearlings into lakes and streams, but again to no avail.”

In each of these previous re-introduction efforts something critical was missing that prevented these populations from flourishing, but Michigan’s Arctic Grayling Initiative hopes to rectify that.

“We have learned from the mistakes experienced during these previous re-introduction events and plan to capitalize on new approaches,” said Grischke. “And forward,” said Grischke. “The only way this initiative will be successful if we continue to work together towards our mission, if you’d like to learn more about Michigan’s Arctic Grayling Initiative, visit migrating.org.

The four focus areas of the Action Plan include research, management, fish production and outreach and education.

The research focus area will work on a variety of items; including understanding relationships between resident trout and grayling, prioritizing streams for grayling introduction, and evaluating in-stream Remote Site Incubators (RSIs). RSIs allow fish to be reared and released directly in the streams to better allow them to imprint to the waters they will hopefully reproduce in later on.

Better imprinting means the initiative will be one-step closer to establishing a self-sustaining population of Arctic Grayling, which is really the ultimate outcome of this effort.

Goals for the management focus area will include evaluating key habitat criteria, establishing population goals, and working on regulations related to fishing for grayling.

The fish production focus area's work will center on experimenting with Remote Site Incubator designs, ensuring fish health standards are upheld, and maintaining a genetically diverse broodstock, which will be housed at a hatchery facility.

Lastly goals for the outreach and education focus area will be concentrated on informing the public on this initiative's efforts, identifying future partners, and creating a stewardship plan.

“The goals of these focus areas will be accomplished by partner representatives working together," Grischke shared. “The only way this initiative will be successful if we continue to work together towards our mission, if you’d like to learn more about Michigan’s Arctic Grayling Initiative, visit migrating.org.”

Above: Remote Site Incubators (RSIs)
“Walleye”
Continued from page 6

most intense walleye bites. On some fisheries, wall-eyed fish will also be more apt to eat much higher in the water column well after dark. We have seen many scenarios where we caught more walleyes after dark by fishing halfway down in the water column, especially for big fish. This is particularly true for set rods and tip ups with big bait.

Like any other time of year, full moon periods can make some after dark patterns better but there will often be feeding windows that happen in intense flurries through the night. Don’t expect activity all night long, wait out the windows because ninety percent of the activity will happen during ten percent of the time.

My favorite after dark locations and patterns are not necessarily classic wall-eye structure or breaklines that are close to deeper water. Typically, large flats or even basins and large shelves shine after dark. I use the whitetail deer analogy a lot when describing walleye patterns and movements. During the day, deer might follow an edge but after dark they are roaming fish or you can fish out of a shelter but in this situation, you have to realize that the fish are going to find you. This isn’t a situation where you can necessarily move around to find these random fish, set up so that at some point during the night these fish find you. The beauty of fishing well after dark is that these fish will be looking for you. What makes after dark patterns for walleyes so much fun is that these fish are typically much more aggressive and these fish are looking for a meal. The bites are often much more intense. These fish will peel off much more line off a tip up for example or hit a lure repeatedly.

When fishing after dark, I am a big proponent of using glow finishes on lures. Not always necessary but I have seen so many situations where we almost immediately caught a fish after charging a lure. When fishing after dark, there are random fish, set up so that at some point during the night these fish find you. This isn’t a situation, you have to realize that the fish are going to find you. This isn’t a situation where you can necessarily move around to find these random fish, set up so that at some point during the night these fish find you. The beauty of fishing well after dark is that these fish will be looking for you. What makes after dark patterns for walleyes so much fun is that these fish are typically much more aggressive and these fish are looking for a meal. The bites are often much more intense. These fish will peel off much more line off a tip up for example or hit a lure repeatedly.

When fishing after dark, I am a big proponent of using glow finishes on lures. Not always necessary but I have seen so many situations where we almost immediately caught a fish after charging a lure. When fishing after dark, there are random fish, set up so that at some point during the night these fish find you. This isn’t a situation where you can necessarily move around to find these random fish, set up so that at some point during the night these fish find you. The beauty of fishing well after dark is that these fish will be looking for you. What makes after dark patterns for walleyes so much fun is that these fish are typically much more aggressive and these fish are looking for a meal. The bites are often much more intense. These fish will peel off much more line off a tip up for example or hit a lure repeatedly.

When fishing after dark, I am a big proponent of using glow finishes on lures. Not always necessary but I have seen so many situations where we almost immediately caught a fish after charging a lure. When fishing after dark, there are random fish, set up so that at some point during the night these fish find you. This isn’t a situation where you can necessarily move around to find these random fish, set up so that at some point during the night these fish find you. The beauty of fishing well after dark is that these fish will be looking for you. What makes after dark patterns for walleyes so much fun is that these fish are typically much more aggressive and these fish are looking for a meal. The bites are often much more intense. These fish will peel off much more line off a tip up for example or hit a lure repeatedly.

When fishing after dark, I am a big proponent of using glow finishes on lures. Not always necessary but I have seen so many situations where we almost immediately caught a fish after charging a lure. When fishing after dark, there are random fish, set up so that at some point during the night these fish find you. The beauty of fishing well after dark is that these fish will be looking for you. What makes after dark patterns for walleyes so much fun is that these fish are typically much more aggressive and these fish are looking for a meal. The bites are often much more intense. These fish will peel off much more line off a tip up for example or hit a lure repeatedly.

Walleyes after dark play by a different set of rules. Make the right adjustments to capitalize on some of the most intense walleye bites.
It’s that time of year when the fish are starting to get a little conditioned to our ice-fishing presentations. In fact, it’s that time of year pretty much any time of the year. Fish truly do become conditioned to an angler’s choice of lures. Conditioned means they quit hitting, or at least are less likely to eat a particular bait than they used to be. Some examples follow, and also a couple of ideas on how to deal with conditioned fish.

I remember way, way back in the day when my dad took me fishing with him to Wisconsin over the Memorial Day weekend. It was an annual event for several years. Walleyes were always the target, and we usually used jigs. Then one year we discovered these minnow shaped baits that looked like something a walleye would eat. They had a black back and a silver belly. Trolling was prohibited on the lakes we fished, so we drifted when the wind was strong enough. We pulled these baits on 3-way rigs and caught walleyes like we had never caught them before. This went on for several years before we noticed the catching decreasing. We couldn’t figure out what had happened. Out of desperation to catch fish, we went to a tackle store to find a different bait to use. That’s where we discovered the same bait in a different color: Orange back/gold belly. We got some, rigged them the same, went back to the lake and started catching walleyes all over again. We figured the fish must have got tired of the same bait and wanted something different. That was my first exposure to conditioned fish, but it made an impact.

A few years later, I got on a very hot smallmouth bass bite on a local river. They were heavily schooled on a deeper water structure, and they were eating marabou jigs and minnows. Orange jigs were what I liked at the time, and that’s usually what I started with. But after catching a few bass, action slowed. I knew they were still down there, but I couldn’t get them to eat my orange jig. Again, desperation, or at least a very strong desire to catch more bass, kicked in. I tried a different color jig and almost immediately started catching fish again. When they slowed on that color, I tried another, and caught a few more. Eventually they quit eating or they moved and I couldn’t catch any more regardless of what I used, but I saw enough to know that those bass became conditioned to a particular color, and since then I’ve seen it with crappies and walleyes.

“Conditioned” continued on page 17
Love Those
Deep Basin Panfish

By Jerry Carlson

Many times I have heard anglers share frustrations over the lack of winter panfish that are showing up in their favorite honey hole. I have been known to make the same complaints from time to time. However, I have also learned the remedy for staying on winter crappies and bluegills.

When it comes to locations, I am all about deep basins. Although I do occasionally target some weed-oriented fish on some very clear lakes, I usually prefer focusing on deep water during the winter months.

The migration to deep basins happens each fall as the water begins to cool and the fish start to set up in their winter hangouts. In fact, I have had some great success catching late fall panfish in the same locations I will look for them during the hard water period.

This annual move to deep basins happens on lakes that do not have gin-clear water. Lakes with super clear water will often continue to support enough weed growth that panfish will stay shallow. However, on most lakes, when the weeds begin to die back in the fall, crappies, and sometimes bluegills, will move to a deep part of the lake.

On many of the lakes I winter fish, this deep hole, or deep basin, is found to be 25 to 35 feet deep. This depth often coincides with the deepest part of many of the mesotrophic lakes I target and is easy to locate on a lake map.

Occasionally, I will work deep crappies in over 40 feet of water. However, it is very difficult to release small fish when they are pulled up from these depths so I usually prefer water that is shallower.

There are two reasons that the deep basin migration takes place. First, fish seem to feel quite secure in the deep water. Secondly, there is little problem finding food.

The food part is easy to explain. All one has to do is examine the stomach contents of deep water panfish to realize they are eating plankton and invertebrates. The stomach contents will look like brown mush.

Although panfish will usually stage in the same locations each winter, there are other factors that may affect the quantity of these deep fish. Crappie populations can be very cyclical with years of high numbers and periods of low populations.

Also, these deep suspended fish are often susceptible to heavy harvest. This can reduce the number of fish available to be caught.

Because of these factors, I have a dozen or more lakes I check out each winter. Some years one lake produces while other years, I find the best bite in another location.

Often times, these suspended fish I target are known to many other anglers. It is common to see a cluster of ice houses over these winter panfish holes. Although this may not be ideal, I find that by fishing during the day, there is little competition at these honey holes.

Once last factor to consider. Because these fish are suspended, they are easy to locate with your electronics. If I don’t mark suspended fish up off of the bottom, I keep moving.

When I do find suspended fish signals, my most successful presentation is a small tungsten glow jig tipped with Euro larvae. I often thread on Maki plastic to use in conjunction with the larva.

Deep basins are ideal winter locations for panfish. They are easy to find, easy to check out and produce plenty of action.

About the author:

Jerry started his outdoor career in 1987 when he began writing for Outdoor Weekly. He currently writes about 130 articles a year for various publications in the Midwest. In addition to writing and giving numerous hunting and fishing seminars, Jerry does weekly radio shows on two St. Cloud, Minnesota stations: WJON and WWJO. He also authored a book called Details for Locate and Catching Fish. Hunting and fishing photos and articles written by Jerry, along with his email address, can be found at jerrycarlsonoutdoors.com. Jerry fishes all species but prefers crappies in the winter and bass in the summer. He also loves to hunt Canada geese in the fall.

2018 SCHEDULE

MANISTEE COUNTY TOURNAMENTS & EVENTS

Ladies Shake Down
May 26 - 27

Salmon Splash
July 27-29

Little River Casino Resort Presents

Monter Mania: Sept. 8-9

www.tournamenttrail.net

For info call: Carrie Padden 231-493-5000 - email: carrie@onekamamarine.com or Scott MacDonald 231-690-1102 - email: smac94@gmail.com

Manistee County has the most Tournaments on the Trail!

Multiple Divisions – Fun For All!
Catch 1 Fish, 3 Fish, 5 Fish, 10 Fish & more! 333 Only available at all events.

MCSFA Events
Salmon & Trout Derby: May 26 - Sept 3
Ladies Classic: June 22
Budweiser Pro/Am: June 23-24

Presented by:
The Manistee County Sportfishing Association
PO Box 91, Manistee, MI 49660
email: mcsfa91@gmail.com
www.mcsfa.org - 231-877-4074

Onekama Marine Inc.
Memorial Weekend “Shake Down”
May 25

Salmon Splash
July 27-29

Ladies, Shake, Pro/Am, Big Splash Cash & More!

www.tournamenttrail.net

Call Scott MacDonald 231-690-1102
email: smac94@gmail.com

Manistee County has the most Tournaments on the Trail!

Multiple Divisions – Fun For All!
Catch 1 Fish, 3 Fish, 5 Fish, 10 Fish & more! 333 Only available at all events.

Ladies Shake Down
May 25

Shake Down
Main Event
May 26-27

333

MCSFA Events
Salmon & Trout Derby: May 26 - Sept 3
Ladies Classic: June 22
Budweiser Pro/Am: June 23-24

Little River Casino Resort Presents

Monster Mania: Sept. 8-9

Find out more at www.tournamenttrail.net

www.tournamenttrail.net

2018 SCHEDULE
Looking to EXPAND your fishing capability?
Outfitting boats to gain maximum effectiveness to fish better and have a well laid out boat that allows your fishing equipment to improve your technique and presentation by working together, is what we have been doing for our customers for over the past 20 years.

When looking to expand your options Traxstech can show you how to add rod holders, downrigger mounts and other great accessories to your boat.

Whether you are able to use the mounting track, trolling bar, rail clamp, T-bolt mount, gimbals or Alumacraft bracket; we are sure that Traxstech can help you grow with a more functional fishing system. With our fishing experience and boat rigging knowlege we strive to help customers get more from their boat.

Fishing Systems By:

Traxstech
www.Traxstech.com

For our full product line or to find a dealer visit www.traxstech.com or call 989-845-5969

I haven’t been able to do as much ice-fishing as I would like so far this year. Between Holidays, hazardous travel and such, I’ve just been home-bound more than usual. When that happens, I start thinking, and when I think about fishing, I think of places I’ve been and places that I want to return to. Following are some of those places.

Big Stone Lake, Minnesota

Big Stone Lake on the Minnesota-South Dakota border has changed as a fishery in the past number of years. Back in the mid-80’s when I first visited Big Stone, walleyes were the deal, and the walleye population on Big Stone is still very good.

Then I went ice-fishing on Big Stone. We caught perch: Lots of ‘em and nice ones. Perch fishing through the ice on Big Stone continues to be outstanding. I should be out there right now.

Most recently, large-mouth bass and bluegills have taken some of the limelight on Big Stone. With all these different species available in good numbers, you can almost always find action on Big Stone Lake. Big Stone truly is an outstanding destination for the angler. Learn more about Big Stone Lake at www.bigstonelake.com or call 320-839-3284.

Clear Lake, Iowa

I should also be ice-fishing on Clear Lake in north central Iowa. Clear Lake is another lake that’s changed greatly, and for the better, in the past decade or so. Clear Lake didn’t used to be so clear, and it also didn’t have the variety and quality of fish that it now does. Water improvement projects have enabled walleye, musky, and panfish populations to increase dramatically. Walleyes are everyone’s favorite, but in Clear Lake, yellow bass are exceptionally popular in open water and through the ice. Yellow bass are outstanding on the table, and you can keep as many as you want. Clear Lake has truly become one of the Midwest’s premier fishing lakes. Check Clear Lake out at www.clearlakeiowa.com or call 800-285-5338.

“The Midwest” Continued on page 23
Some of the greatest Soft Plastic Insights for Crappie anglers often fall back on a fish wants to eat. Trout appearance of something that aren't necessarily a dead and water displacement so many productive lures, larvae or water beetle. Like year fish, perhaps an insect could be a young of the look like anything specific, but just an over anything that swims, crustaceans like aquatic insects like back ton like Daphnia to larval movements might consist from zooplank the diet for black crappie fish eat. During the winter, eral living organisms that all look that mimics sev- the hatch isn't practical because finding and catch- ing fish is often a game of straight up logistics. Use a realistic duplication of a backswimmer that is a quarter of an inch long and fish that drift by ten feet away... might not ever see you. Fish six feet below you might not see you. So, often, larger easier to find and see profiles catch more crappie simply because more fish come over to investigate. Once the fish close the distance and get close enough to scrutinize the bait, the lure simply has to look similar to some- thing the fish has eaten be- fore. So often when using these larger soft plastic profiles that might measure an inch or more, the pre- sentation becomes a game of keep away where you attempt to keep the pre- sentation above the fish so that the fish has to accel- erate and rise. Bigger pro- files move fish from further away. Attempt to get an aggressive reaction from the fish. So often when working soft plastics, there are often two basic thought processes to experiment with... be the bug or be the minnow. Replicating minnow movements might mean more abrupt slashes and snaps on the upstroke to raise fish. The small- er movements that hap- pen as the fish gets closer might resemble upward hops with stops and shifts mixed in. Replicating bug movements might consist of simply quivering the tentacles and vibrating the rod tip to impart a pulsat- ing action to the soft plas- tic. You can still raise the rod tip to impart a pulsat- ing action to the soft plas- tic tail the entire time. From there you can mix and match to the mood of the fish. So often when working soft plastics, there are often two basic thought processes to experiment with... be the bug or be the minnow. Replicating minnow movements might mean more abrupt slashes and snaps on the upstroke to raise fish. The small- er movements that hap- pen as the fish gets closer might resemble upward hops with stops and shifts mixed in. Replicating bug movements might consist of simply quivering the tentacles and vibrating the rod tip to impart a pulsat- ing action to the soft plas- tic tail the entire time. From there you can mix and match to the mood of the fish. So often when working soft plastics, there are often two basic thought processes to experiment with... be the bug or be the minnow. Replicating minnow movements might mean more abrupt slashes and snaps on the upstroke to raise fish. The small- er movements that hap- pen as the fish gets closer might resemble upward hops with stops and shifts mixed in. Replicating bug movements might consist of simply quivering the tentacles and vibrating the rod tip to impart a pulsat- ing action to the soft plas- tic tail the entire time. From there you can mix and match to the mood of the fish. So often when working soft plastics, there are often two basic thought processes to experiment with... be the bug or be the minnow. Replicating minnow movements might mean more abrupt slashes and snaps on the upstroke to raise fish. The small- er movements that hap- pen as the fish gets closer might resemble upward hops with stops and shifts mixed in. Replicating bug movements might consist of simply quivering the tentacles and vibrating the rod tip to impart a pulsat- ing action to the soft plas- tic tail the entire time. From there you can mix and match to the mood of the fish. So often when working soft plastics, there are often two basic thought processes to experiment with... be the bug or be the minnow. Replicating minnow movements might mean more abrupt slashes and snaps on the upstroke to raise fish. The small- er movements that hap- pen as the fish gets closer might resemble upward hops with stops and shifts mixed in. Replicating bug movements might consist of simply quivering the tentacles and vibrating the rod tip to impart a pulsat- ing action to the soft plas- tic tail the entire time. From there you can mix and match to the mood of the fish. So often when working soft plastics, there are often two basic thought processes to experiment with... be the bug or be the minnow.
“Soft Plastic”  
Continued from page 16
many ice anglers have discovered that bigger is often better for the simple fact that fish can find and see the presentation from a greater distance. The more fish you can pull into the cone angle of your electronics and the more fish you get a chance at, the more fish you can possibly catch.

The original Maki is about an inch-long profile that has five tentacles, resembling more of a squid than anything a crappie actually eats but this easy to find profile set the trend that fish can find and see the presentation from a golf ball. Soft plastic options that fish can see from several feet away can simply catch more fish. Finding fish is simply the most important component of catching fish and the soft plastics that are changing crappie fishing do a really good job of also enabling the fish to find you. You will find more crappie suspended over the Abyss this winter and catch more fish if the fish can simply find you. A profile, a silhouette, a contrast of color that is twenty or more feet away can simply be enough for the entire pack to roam your direction.

The combination of the larger profiled soft plastics in conjunction with horizontal tungsten jigs enables you to fish through the water faster and the added weight of tungsten also displaces more water and imparts more action on the soft plastic. The entire system working together can be seen and felt from further away. Start out fishing big in order to track down the fish. If need be, you can always scale down after you accomplish the most difficult task (finding the fish). Most days, however you won’t have to scale down. Throw the matching the batch ideal out the window this winter. Simply attempt to find and contact as many fish as possible and you will catch more crappie this winter.

About the author: The author Jason Mitchell is credited with pioneering many modern ice tactics for walleyes and earned a reputation as a renowned ice fishing guide on Devils Lake, North Dakota with the Perch Patrol.

Don’t miss the Michigan’s Biggest & Best Sport Show!  
73rd Annual

DEVOS PLACE  
MARCH 15-18

Ultimate Tackle Expo

Hunting & Fishing Seminars by the Best!  
Mark Romanack, Mark Martin, Joe Thomas and many more!

Don’t miss Big Buck Night West - Thursday featured on Michigan Out-of-Doors TV!  
Plus more features: Kid’s Shooting Ranges, Rock Climbing Wall, Trout Pond and much more!

Marvelous Muts!  
Best Place to Buy Your Boat!  
Dog Agility Act

“Soft Plastic”  
Continued from page 16

“Conditioned”  
Continued from page 13

“Ice anglers demanded designs became more popular and ice anglers demanded even larger profiles like the Maxi Maki and the Minni XL.

Despite the fact that crappie might be sucking in zooplankton, these fish are indeed predators that have a mouth big enough to fit a golf ball. Soft plastic options that fish can see from several feet away can simply catch more fish. Finding fish is simply the most important component of catching fish and the soft plastics that are changing crappie fishing do a really good job of also enabling the fish to find you. You will find more crappie suspended over the Abyss this winter and catch more fish if the fish can simply find you. A profile, a silhouette, a contrast of color that is twenty or more feet away can simply be enough for the entire pack to roam your direction.

The combination of the larger profiled soft plastics in conjunction with horizontal tungsten jigs enables you to fish through the water faster and the added weight of tungsten also displaces more water and imparts more action on the soft plastic. The entire system working together can be seen and felt from further away. Start out fishing big in order to track down the fish. If need be, you can always scale down after you accomplish the most difficult task (finding the fish). Most days, however you won’t have to scale down.

Throw the matching the batch ideal out the window this winter. Simply attempt to find and contact as many fish as possible and you will catch more crappie this winter.

About the author: The author Jason Mitchell is credited with pioneering many modern ice tactics for walleyes and earned a reputation as a renowned ice fishing guide on Devils Lake, North Dakota with the Perch Patrol.

Don’t miss the Michigan’s Biggest & Best Sport Show!  
73rd Annual

DEVOS PLACE  
MARCH 15-18

Ultimate Tackle Expo

Hunting & Fishing Seminars by the Best!  
Mark Romanack, Mark Martin, Joe Thomas and many more!

Don’t miss Big Buck Night West - Thursday featured on Michigan Out-of-Doors TV!  
Plus more features: Kid’s Shooting Ranges, Rock Climbing Wall, Trout Pond and much more!

Marvelous Muts!  
Best Place to Buy Your Boat!  
Dog Agility Act

“Soft Plastic”  
Continued from page 16

“Conditioned”  
Continued from page 13

“Ice anglers demanded designs became more popular and ice anglers demanded even larger profiles like the Maxi Maki and the Minni XL.

Despite the fact that crappie might be sucking in zooplankton, these fish are indeed predators that have a mouth big enough to fit a golf ball. Soft plastic options that fish can see from several feet away can simply catch more fish. Finding fish is simply the most important component of catching fish and the soft plastics that are changing crappie fishing do a really good job of also enabling the fish to find you. You will find more crappie suspended over the Abyss this winter and catch more fish if the fish can simply find you. A profile, a silhouette, a contrast of color that is twenty or more feet away can simply be enough for the entire pack to roam your direction.

The combination of the larger profiled soft plastics in conjunction with horizontal tungsten jigs enables you to fish through the water faster and the added weight of tungsten also displaces more water and imparts more action on the soft plastic. The entire system working together can be seen and felt from further away. Start out fishing big in order to track down the fish. If need be, you can always scale down after you accomplish the most difficult task (finding the fish). Most days, however you won’t have to scale down.

Throw the matching the batch ideal out the window this winter. Simply attempt to find and contact as many fish as possible and you will catch more crappie this winter.

About the author: The author Jason Mitchell is credited with pioneering many modern ice tactics for walleyes and earned a reputation as a renowned ice fishing guide on Devils Lake, North Dakota with the Perch Patrol.
FLUOROCARBON. FLOROCLEAR.
THE LEADERS IN STEALTH.

5 Things You Can Do To Protect The Great Lakes

Megan Feeley
Freshwaterfuture.org

Small actions can make a big difference! At Freshwater Future, we help thousands of communities around the Great Lakes protect their local waters so that, together, we can protect the whole of the Great Lakes. Individual actions are powerful, too! Here are five little things with big impact that you can do to help keep our lakes healthy and clean.

1. Watch What You Wash
One load of laundry can release more than 700,000 microscopic plastic fibers into the water system, polluting our waterways and disrupting the food chain. These fibers are shed in the washing machine filter to capture the microplastics released with each load of laundry!

2. Go Fertilizer-Free
Nitrogen and phosphorus contribute to the growth of algae, which—in a balanced aquatic ecosystem—provides food for fish and other aquatic life. But too much nitrogen and phosphorus is entering our waterways as a result of nonpoint pollution from fertilizers, creating an overabundance of algae. Toxic algal blooms can be prevented.

“Protect” Continued on page 19

Michigan Bills Could Dramatically Alter State’s Environmental Law

by Mitch Barrows
Freshwaterfuture.org

Michiganders, we need your help to stop two sets of bills that would undermine existing environmental protections and dramatically change how our environmental laws are implemented. If passed, these bills could impact all environmental law in Michigan, for years to come.

Senate Bill 652
Transfers decision-making power from environmental experts to a committee of stakeholders comprised primarily of industry representatives. There is no requirement that committee members have environmental science education, training, or experience—only that they have a stake in the outcome of decisions.

House Bill 5332
Creates a “science advisory board” filled with political appointees by the governor. None of these board members are allowed to work at relevant state agencies, such as the Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Natural Resources, or the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development—excluding first-hand knowledge from environmental experts in these departments. At worst, this advisory board would serve as a political tool. At best, this advisory board would be unnecessary and redundant.

Senate Bill 653 and House Bill 5332 change the appeal process for environmental permit applicants. DEQ decisions—like denied permits for mining or for development in wetlands—could be appealed to a board of the governor’s political appointees, and their decisions would be final.

TAKE ACTION
Email your Michigan senator and representative today. Tell them you want experts—not industry—making the state’s environmental decisions; tell them to vote “NO” on this collection of bills. Visit freshwaterfuture.org for links to contact your government and take action.

5 Things You Can Do To Protect The Great Lakes

Megan Feeley
Freshwaterfuture.org

Small actions can make a big difference! At Freshwater Future, we help thousands of communities around the Great Lakes protect their local waters so that, together, we can protect the whole of the Great Lakes. Individual actions are powerful, too! Here are five little things with big impact that you can do to help keep our lakes healthy and clean.

1. Watch What You Wash
One load of laundry can release more than 700,000 microscopic plastic fibers into the water system, polluting our waterways and disrupting the food chain. These fibers are shed in the washing machine filter to capture the microplastics released with each load of laundry!

2. Go Fertilizer-Free
Nitrogen and phosphorus contribute to the growth of algae, which—in a balanced aquatic ecosystem—provides food for fish and other aquatic life. But too much nitrogen and phosphorus is entering our waterways as a result of nonpoint pollution from fertilizers, creating an overabundance of algae. Toxic algal blooms can be prevented.

“Protect” Continued on page 19

Michigan Bills Could Dramatically Alter State’s Environmental Law

by Mitch Barrows
Freshwaterfuture.org

Michiganders, we need your help to stop two sets of bills that would undermine existing environmental protections and dramatically change how our environmental laws are implemented. If passed, these bills could impact all environmental law in Michigan, for years to come.

Senate Bill 652
Transfers decision-making power from environmental experts to a committee of stakeholders comprised primarily of industry representatives. There is no requirement that committee members have environmental science education, training, or experience—only that they have a stake in the outcome of decisions.

House Bill 5332
Creates a “science advisory board” filled with political appointees by the governor. None of these board members are allowed to work at relevant state agencies, such as the Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Natural Resources, or the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development—excluding first-hand knowledge from environmental experts in these departments. At worst, this advisory board would serve as a political tool. At best, this advisory board would be unnecessary and redundant.

Senate Bill 653 and House Bill 5332 change the appeal process for environmental permit applicants. DEQ decisions—like denied permits for mining or for development in wetlands—could be appealed to a board of the governor’s political appointees, and their decisions would be final.

TAKE ACTION
Email your Michigan senator and representative today. Tell them you want experts—not industry—making the state’s environmental decisions; tell them to vote “NO” on this collection of bills. Visit freshwaterfuture.org for links to contact your government and take action.

5 Things You Can Do To Protect The Great Lakes

Megan Feeley
Freshwaterfuture.org

Small actions can make a big difference! At Freshwater Future, we help thousands of communities around the Great Lakes protect their local waters so that, together, we can protect the whole of the Great Lakes. Individual actions are powerful, too! Here are five little things with big impact that you can do to help keep our lakes healthy and clean.

1. Watch What You Wash
One load of laundry can release more than 700,000 microscopic plastic fibers into the water system, polluting our waterways and disrupting the food chain. These fibers are shed in the washing machine filter to capture the microplastics released with each load of laundry!

2. Go Fertilizer-Free
Nitrogen and phosphorus contribute to the growth of algae, which—in a balanced aquatic ecosystem—provides food for fish and other aquatic life. But too much nitrogen and phosphorus is entering our waterways as a result of nonpoint pollution from fertilizers, creating an overabundance of algae. Toxic algal blooms can be prevented.

“Protect” Continued on page 19

Michigan Bills Could Dramatically Alter State’s Environmental Law

by Mitch Barrows
Freshwaterfuture.org

Michiganders, we need your help to stop two sets of bills that would undermine existing environmental protections and dramatically change how our environmental laws are implemented. If passed, these bills could impact all environmental law in Michigan, for years to come.

Senate Bill 652
Transfers decision-making power from environmental experts to a committee of stakeholders comprised primarily of industry representatives. There is no requirement that committee members have environmental science education, training, or experience—only that they have a stake in the outcome of decisions.

House Bill 5332
Creates a “science advisory board” filled with political appointees by the governor. None of these board members are allowed to work at relevant state agencies, such as the Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Natural Resources, or the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development—excluding first-hand knowledge from environmental experts in these departments. At worst, this advisory board would serve as a political tool. At best, this advisory board would be unnecessary and redundant.

Senate Bill 653 and House Bill 5332 change the appeal process for environmental permit applicants. DEQ decisions—like denied permits for mining or for development in wetlands—could be appealed to a board of the governor’s political appointees, and their decisions would be final.

TAKE ACTION
Email your Michigan senator and representative today. Tell them you want experts—not industry—making the state’s environmental decisions; tell them to vote “NO” on this collection of bills. Visit freshwaterfuture.org for links to contact your government and take action.

5 Things You Can Do To Protect The Great Lakes

Megan Feeley
Freshwaterfuture.org

Small actions can make a big difference! At Freshwater Future, we help thousands of communities around the Great Lakes protect their local waters so that, together, we can protect the whole of the Great Lakes. Individual actions are powerful, too! Here are five little things with big impact that you can do to help keep our lakes healthy and clean.

1. Watch What You Wash
One load of laundry can release more than 700,000 microscopic plastic fibers into the water system, polluting our waterways and disrupting the food chain. These fibers are shed in the washing machine filter to capture the microplastics released with each load of laundry!

2. Go Fertilizer-Free
Nitrogen and phosphorus contribute to the growth of algae, which—in a balanced aquatic ecosystem—provides food for fish and other aquatic life. But too much nitrogen and phosphorus is entering our waterways as a result of nonpoint pollution from fertilizers, creating an overabundance of algae. Toxic algal blooms can be prevented.

“Protect” Continued on page 19
Fish Tacos With Garlic Lime Crema

**Author:** Natasha of NatashasKitchen.com

Our all-time favorite fish tacos recipe! These are loaded with fresh ingredients and perfectly seasoned plump fish. Don’t skip the best fish taco sauce - an irresistible garlic lime crema. This recipe is parity sized and can be scaled down to feed a smaller crowd.

**Ingredients:**
- 1/2 cup Mayo
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 Tbsp lime juice (from 1 medium lime)
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp Sriracha sauce, or to taste
- 1/2 cup black pepper
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp cayenne pepper
- 1/2 tsp ground cumin
- 1/4 tsp cumin
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- Olive oil
- 1 Tbsp Butter
- 1/3 cup Mayo
- 1/3 cup sour cream
- 1/2 tsp ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp cayenne pepper
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- 1 lime cut into 8 wedges

**Directions:**
1. Line a large baking sheet with parchment or silicone liner. In a small dish, stir together seasonings: 1/2 tsp powdered, 1 tsp Sriracha sauce, 1 tsp garlic powder, 1 tsp Sriracha sauce, or to taste in a medium bowl or a large measuring cup and whisk together until well blended. It’s really fun and feels like dining out to serve the sauce in a squeeze bottle like this one.

2. Lightly drizzle fish with olive oil and top each piece with a dollop of butter. Baked at 375˚F for 20-25 min. If you want it to get a little browned around the edges, you can broil for 3-5 minutes at the end if desired.

3. Combine all the Taco sauce ingredients: 1/2 cup sour cream, 1/3 cup Mayo, 2 Tbsp lime juice (from 1 medium lime), 1 tsp garlic powder, 1 tsp Sriracha sauce, or to taste in a medium bowl or a large measuring cup and whisk together until well blended. It’s really fun and feels like dining out to serve the sauce in a squeeze bottle like this one.

4. To serve the tacos, toast quickly toast the corn tortillas on a large dry skillet over medium heat.

5. To assemble: start with a flour tortilla, add the fish then add remaining ingredients finishing off with a generous sprinkle of cotija cheese and finally that awesome taco sauce!

“Protect”
Continued from page 18 can poison fish, contaminate drinking water, and shut down beaches. Choose a phosphorus-free fertilizer, or better yet, skip the fertil-izer altogether and replace your lawn with native plants to filter out pollutants.

3. **Ditch the Aquatic Hitchhikers**
Humans have introduced more than 186 invasive species to the Great Lakes ecosystem. You can help prevent their spread by rinsing and wiping down your boats, puddleboards, kayaks, and other watercraft after use. Be sure to remove all visible plant and animal species, and let the watercraft dry completely before setting out in a new body of water. Don’t forget that parts of the craft not exposed to the sun or prop-er air circulation—such as ballast and bait tanks, live wells, and bilge areas—will take extra time to dry.

4. **Dispose of Meds Properly**
Traces of pharmaceutical drugs—including antibiotic, hormones, and psychoactive drugs—can be found in the drinking water supplies of over 40 million Americans. When we ingest medications, our bodies don’t absorb the full dosage and we expel the unused portion. Most water treatment systems can’t filter this out, and traces of our medications end up in groundwater, lakes, and rivers—disrupting the ecosys-tem. To reduce your impact, take only the medication you need, and dispose of unused pills properly—do not flush them down the toilet.

5. **Get Political**
Individual actions to re-duce your impact on Earth’s resources are important, but nothing can match the magnitude of society-wide shifts in energy and conser-vation policy. Vote for can-didates who are committed to protecting our water, get involved in local cam-paigns, talk to your repre-sentatives, or better yet, run for office yourself!

**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins

**Total time:** 55 mins  
**Prep time:** 30 mins  
**Cook time:** 25 mins  
**Total time:** 55 mins
2018 AuSable Steelheader’s Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Ultimate Sports Show</td>
<td>DeVos Place</td>
<td>Roger Bell, <a href="mailto:rossler@tco.net">rossler@tco.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Membership Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM, K of C Hall, Auburndale, Mi 48611</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 Battle Creek Steelheader’s Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Kalamazoo River Spring Steelhead</td>
<td>Allegan Dam</td>
<td>Location pending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Lake Michigan Coho Blast</td>
<td>Benton Harbor</td>
<td>Fish Camp, Benton Harbor Road, Benton Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Lake Michigan W3 Trip</td>
<td>Benton Harbor</td>
<td>Bring a child for a great day of fun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>2-12</td>
<td>Kalamazoo River Coho Slam</td>
<td>Allegan Dam</td>
<td>Bring a child for a great day of fun</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 Grand Haven Steelheader’s Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM, K of C Hall, Auburn, Mi 48611</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 Great Lakes Sport Fishing News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Membership Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM, K of C Hall, Auburn, Mi 48611</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 Grand Rapids Steelheader’s Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Board of Directors Meeting</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 Great Lakes Bay Region Steelheader’s Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Comments / Contact Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Big Manistee, Bear Creek</td>
<td>Call Henry Nabors, 248-225-4964, <a href="mailto:HHNabors@Ameritech.net">HHNabors@Ameritech.net</a>, or call 248 225 4964.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Annual Auction Fund Raiser</td>
<td>Held at the YWCA Hall, Midland MI. Preliminary at 11:00 a.m. Auction at noon. Food Concession available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Opening day of Walleye on the Tittabawassee River</td>
<td>Daybreak to 2:00 p.m. Weight in and dinner at 10:00 a.m. at Don Brown’s home with lunch to follow. 989-680-6455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Manistee Salmon Outing</td>
<td>Salmon going out 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bring a child for a great day of fun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Grindstone</td>
<td>Walleye going out 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Manistee</td>
<td>Salmon going out 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Ludington</td>
<td>Salmon going out 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Manistee</td>
<td>Salmon going out 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 Holland Steelheader’s Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sportsmen for Youth Day</td>
<td>Muskegon County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Membership Meeting</td>
<td>7:30 PM, Social Hour 6:30 PM, DeVos Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Spring River Contest</td>
<td>Grand &amp; Muskegon Rivers and their Tributaries, STC*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Year Long Fish Contest Starts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>7 PM, K of C Hall, Auburn, Mi 48611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Manistee Lfehouse Ladies Tournament</td>
<td>Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, Social Hour 6:30 PM, K of C Hall, Auburn, Mi 48611</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 Metro West - Livonia Steelheader’s Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Chair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>GOUTDOOR- RMA Showplace Novi</td>
<td>Robert Gesch/Chris Christoph</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 Michigan Steelheader’s Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Big Manistee, Bear Creek</td>
<td>Call Henry Nabors, 248-225-4964, <a href="mailto:HHNabors@Ameritech.net">HHNabors@Ameritech.net</a>, or call 248 225 4964.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Annual Auction Fund Raiser</td>
<td>Held at the YWCA Hall, Midland MI. Preliminary at 11:00 a.m. Auction at noon. Food Concession available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Opening day of Walleye on the Tittabawassee River</td>
<td>Daybreak to 2:00 p.m. Weight in and dinner at 10:00 a.m. at Don Brown’s home with lunch to follow. 989-680-6455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Manistee Salmon Outing</td>
<td>Salmon going out 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bring a child for a great day of fun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Grindstone</td>
<td>Walleye going out 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Manistee</td>
<td>Salmon going out 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Ludington</td>
<td>Salmon going out 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Manistee</td>
<td>Salmon going out 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If interested in fishing with us please email kathy@steelheaders.com. Visit our web page www.steelheaders.com
**2018 Southwest MI Steelheader’s Calendar of Events**

**Month/Date/Event**

- **September 13**: **Membership Meeting**
- **October 11**: **Membership Meeting**
- **November 8**: **Membership Meeting**
- **December 1**: **Winter Chapter Challenge Tournament**
- **December 13**: **Membership Meeting**

**Location/Contact Info**

- **September 13**: St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Elks Lodge 7:00 PM
- **October 11**: St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Elks Lodge 7:00 PM
- **November 8**: St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Elks Lodge 7:00 PM
- **December 1**: Contact Jim Modlin 269-208-3734
- **December 13**: St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Elks Lodge 7:00 PM

**Membership Meetings Held at:**
St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Elks 541, 801 Riverview Drive, Benton Harbor MI 49022

Monthly meetings second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM

No meetings in May or August

Contact: Jim Modlin 269-208-3734

**WEB Site:** Go to www.metroweststeelheaders.org

**Note:** All Board and membership meetings are held the third Thursday of each month except in January and March.

**If you have questions, contact Henry Nabors - HHNabors@Ameritech.net or call 248 225 4964.**

**Contact:**
- President Larry Tabaka 313-215-8879 / Membership Director Henry Nabors 248-225-4964

---

**2018 Thumb Chapter Steelheader’s Calendar of Events**

**Month/Date/Event**

- **March 15**: **Regular Meeting** 7:30 pm
- **April 19**: **Regular Meeting** 7:30 pm
- **April 21**: **Fish Fry** 7:00 pm
- **May 5**: **Can/Can Fishing Tournament** 6:00 am
- **May 17**: **Regular Meeting** 7:30 pm
- **June 2**: **Frolick Fishing Tournament** 6:00 am
- **June 9**: **Veterans Fishing Outing** 6:00 am
- **June 21**: **Regular Meeting** 7:30 pm
- **July 19**: **Regular Meeting** 7:30 pm
- **August 12**: **Pic Golf Road** 2:00 pm
- **August 16**: **Ladies Night** 7:30 pm
- **August 20**: **Regular Meeting or Tackle Swap** 7:30 pm
- **October 18**: **Regular Meeting - Election of Board/OFFicers** 7:30 pm

**Location/Contact Info**

- **October 18**: Thumb Chapter Steelheaders 7:30 pm

Contact Scott Stanke at 989-553-0972 for inquiries.

---

**2018 Thunderbay Steelheader’s Calendar of Events**

**Month/Date/Event**

- **March 5**: **Monthly Meeting** 7:00 PM
- **April 2**: **Monthly Meeting** 7:00 PM
- **May 7**: **Monthly Meeting** 7:00 PM
- **May 19**: **Algoma Tournament** 6:00 AM
- **June 4**: **Monthly Meeting** 7:00 PM
- **June 9**: **Presque Isle Tournament** 6:00 AM
- **July 2**: **Monthly Meeting** 7:00 PM
- **August 7**: **Monthly Meeting** 7:00 PM
- **September 3**: **Monthly Meeting** 7:00 PM
- **October 1**: **Monthly Meeting** 7:00 PM
- **November 5**: **Monthly Meeting** 7:00 PM
- **December 3**: **Monthly Meeting** 7:00 PM

**Contact:**
- rgoioch@comcast.net or dist24cm@aol.com for inquiries.
One more fishing location that I have developed a real fondness for: Kabetogama Lake in northern Minnesota. I would enjoy Kab even if it had no fish. Kab is wilderness although it’s not very far away from all the creature comforts. You’ll probably see deer, eagles, beavers, waterfowl, maybe a bear or a family of otters, you just never know what’s around the next island, and most people like that.

And, best of all, Kab has fish: Many, many fish. Big ones and eaters. Depending on when you go and what you want to catch, Kab can provide world-class fishing for walleyes and smallmouth bass, and the crappie fishing is pretty darn good also. Add in absolutely jumbo perch and northern pike and you’ve got an outstanding experience. Kab has a great selection of resorts on part of the lake, so you can find whatever you’re looking for in lodging. And then on much of the lake, there is absolutely no development, so there’s lots of lodging for the wildlife that abounds in the area. Go to www.visitkab.com or call 844-525-3522 to start your trip.

We’re fortunate to have so many wonderful fishing destinations in the Midwest. Lots of fish to catch and lots of other things to do. I am certain you’ll be happy at any of the destinations just mentioned.

To see new and old episodes of Fishing the Midwest television, new and archived articles, and fishing video tips, go to fishingthemidwest.com

2018 White River Steelheader’s Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Meeting at the Montague VFW, 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Meeting at the Montague VFW, 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Meeting at the Montague VFW, 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Meeting at the Montague VFW, 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td></td>
<td>No meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Meeting at the Montague VFW, 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Meeting at the Montague VFW, 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Meeting at the Montague VFW, 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Meeting at the Montague VFW, 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Meeting at the Montague VFW, 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact whpollock@netzero.net for inquiries.

Kevan Paul, Clear Lake Fishing Guide, with a spring walleye. Walleyes this size are not unusual on Clear Lake at any time of the year.

“Midwest” Continued from page 15

One more fishing location that I have developed a real fondness for: Kabetogama Lake in northern Minnesota. I would enjoy Kab even if it had no fish. Kab is wilderness although it’s not very far away from all the creature comforts. You’ll probably see deer, eagles, beavers, waterfowl, maybe a bear or a family of otters, you just never know what’s around the next island, and most people like that.

And, best of all, Kab has fish: Many, many fish. Big ones and eaters. Depending on when you go and what you want to catch, Kab can provide world-class fishing for walleyes and smallmouth bass, and the crappie fishing is pretty darn good also. Add in absolutely jumbo perch and northern pike and you’ve got an outstanding experience. Kab has a great selection of resorts on part of the lake, so you can find whatever you’re looking for in lodging. And then on much of the lake, there is absolutely no development, so there’s lots of lodging for the wildlife that abounds in the area. Go to www.visitkab.com or call 844-525-3522 to start your trip.

We’re fortunate to have so many wonderful fishing destinations in the Midwest. Lots of fish to catch and lots of other things to do. I am certain you’ll be happy at any of the destinations just mentioned.

To see new and old episodes of Fishing the Midwest television, new and archived articles, and fishing video tips, go to fishingthemidwest.com

Kabetogama Lake in Voyageurs National Park, Minnesota
**FREE SHIPPING**
on your next online purchase of $25 or more  
Coupon Code: SHIP4FREE

**Spring Fishing & Boat Show**

**MARCH 30TH – 31ST**

**HUGE SALES - MEET THE PROS**

**FREE Seminars – FREE Parking – FREE Admission**

**Current Specials!**

**Brad's Wigglers**

**Reg. $5.29**  
**SALE $4.99**

**Storm Hot 'N Tots**

**ONLY $3.99 ea.**

**Dreamweaver Spoons**

**10% OFF**

**Church TX-44 Super Planer Board**

**Reg. $49.99**  
**SALE $44.99**

**Ugly Stik Original 9' Downrigger Rod**

**#BWD1101**

**Reg. $54.99**  
**SALE $34.99**

**Ugly Stik Original 8' 6” Spinning Rod**

**#SP11862M**

**Reg. $69.99**  
**SALE $39.99**

**Okuma Big Lake Tournament Series Rods**

**20% OFF**

**TUF-LINE 27lb. 10 Color Leadcore**

**Reg. $16.99**  
**SALE $14.99**

**Fish Hawk X4**

**ONLY $599.99**

**Humminbird Helix 7 Chirp DI GPS G2N**

**#410330-1**  
**ONLY $599.99**

**Humminbird Helix 10 Chirp Mega DI GPS G2N**

**#410510-1**  
**ONLY $1,299.99**

**Minn Kota Ultrex 112 US2 I-Pilot Bluetooth 52”**

**ONLY $2,399.99**

**New Stock Arriving March 2018**

**New Stock Arriving March 2018**

**New Stock Arriving March 2018**