



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Midwest Region

Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Program

Fish Lines

"Fishing for Fun"
Backpack Created by
Friends Group

**My Last Day in the Field;
the End of One Year of
Volunteering!**

**Little Turkey River
Restoration in the
Iowa Driftless Area**



Vol. 7 No. 3
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Fish Lines

Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Program - Midwest Region

The Mission of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service: working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

The vision of the Service's Fisheries Program is working with partners to restore and maintain fish and other aquatic resources at self-sustaining levels and to support Federal mitigation programs for the benefit of the American public. Implementing this vision will help the Fisheries Program do more for aquatic resources and the people who value and depend on them through enhanced partnerships, scientific integrity, and a balanced approach to conservation.

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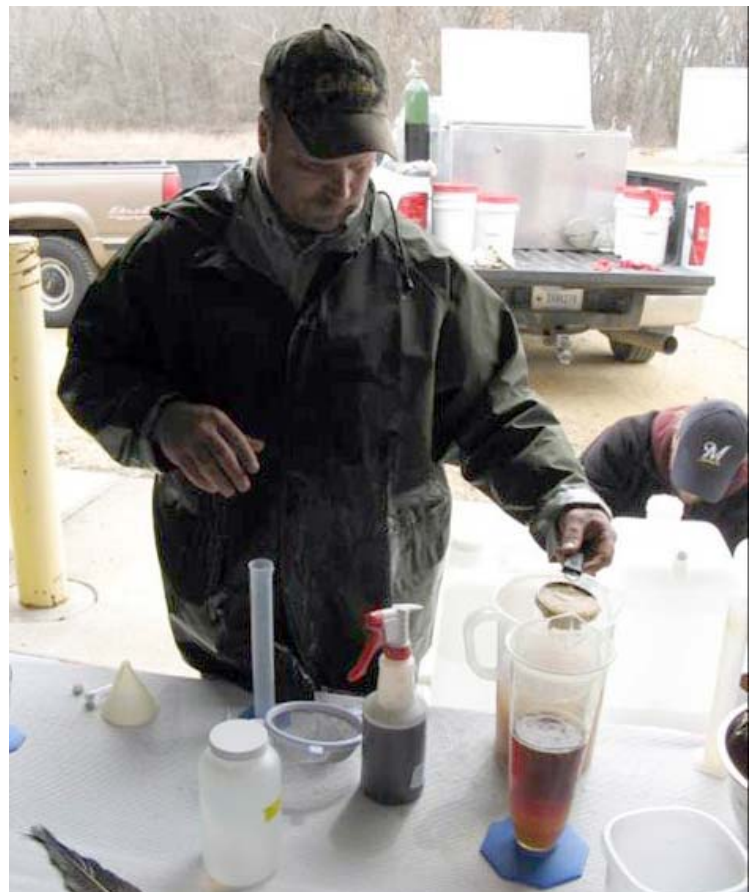
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-USFWS

Jim Luoma of the Genoa National Fish Hatchery adds eggs to a solution of iodine as part of a quick response research project jointly initiated by the hatchery and U.S. Geological Survey's Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center, to evaluate the safety of iodine egg disinfection to cool water fish eggs such as walleye and northern pike.

To view other issues of "Fish Lines," visit our website at:
<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Fisheries/library/fishlines.htm>

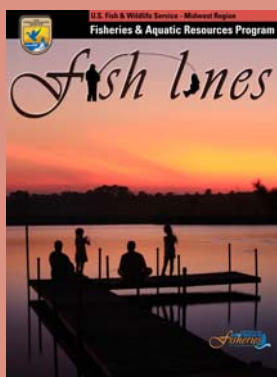
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-USFWS/KarlaBartelt

The Lackman family enjoy an outing on Colchester Lake near Norwalk, Iowa.

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Friends Group Creates a “Fishing for Fun” Backpack

BY HEIDI KEULER, LA CROSSE NFWCO

The average American child spends more time behind a television, computer screen and video game than ever before. We have also heard how child obesity, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and children who take medication for depression are on the rise. As these social and physical issues increase, children spending time outside has decreased and there is a disconnection with nature. If we can “disconnect” the power sources that have played a role in our children’s lives, and “reconnect” to new ones such as spending time outdoors, maybe we can impact not only physical and social problems of our youth, but also nurture future conservationists.



The *Friends of the Upper Mississippi Fishery Services* (FUMFS), La Crosse National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO), La Crosse Fish Health Center and Genoa National Fish Hatchery saw the need to get children outside and created a backpack similar to the one used by the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge (NW&FR). The logo of the refuge backpack is “Let’s Go Outside” and is aimed at getting children to head outside with their families. The FUMFS decided to create a similar backpack, but with an aquatic theme that contains hands-on activities relating to fishing, freshwater mussels, aquatic invertebrates and just spending time near water. Backpacks contain a telescopic fishing pole, tackle, fish identification cards, maps, a book on how to fish, aquatic invertebrate nets, instructions on invertebrate collection, magnifying glasses, mussel shells, mussel identification book, “Russell the Mussel Book,” scavenger hunts, a journal and many other items. The FUMFS will assemble, maintain and sell the backpacks to local businesses or organizations and then the backpacks will be donated to libraries, schools, churches, scouts and clubs. Backpacks will have the FUMFS logo and the patch of the organization that helped to fund it on the outside as well as “Fishing for Fun.”

Over \$3,600 in grants have been received to start the program, including grants from the La Crosse Rotary Foundation and Wal-Mart. Feel free to contact the La Crosse NFWCO for more information.

-USFWS

The *Friends of the Upper Mississippi Fishery Services* sponsors a “Fishing for Fun” backpack to encourage children to “get outside.” Backpacks contain a telescopic fishing pole, tackle, fish identification cards, maps, a book on how to fish, aquatic invertebrate nets, instructions on invertebrate collection, magnifying glasses, mussel shells, mussel identification book, “Russell the Mussel Book,” scavenger hunts, a journal and many other items.

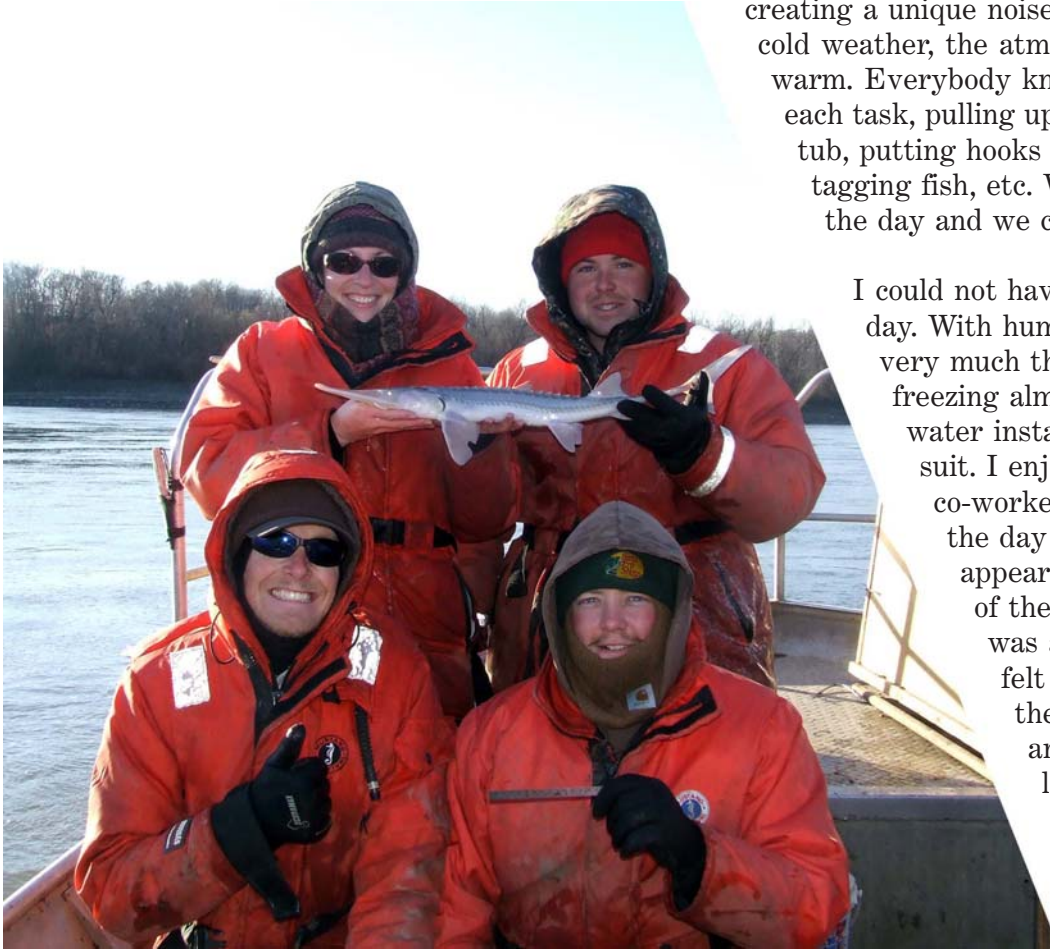
For further info about the La Crosse NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/lacrossefisheries/>

My last day in the field; the end of one year of volunteering!

BY MARIE DELATOURE, COLUMBIA NFWCO

On the morning of December 4th, I prepared my spare bag for my last trip to the Missouri River. It was a cold day, around 15° F when I went to the office. I made sure not to forget warm socks, warm hat, a second pullover, gloves and a thermos of soup! The weather was sunny. I was with Patty Herman, Adam McDaniel, Brett Witte and Colby Wrasse. Our job was to pick up trotlines; our work site De Bourgmont boat ramp on the Lamine River. When we left the boat ramp there was a thin layer of ice forming at the top of the water almost everywhere on the Lamine River. Unbelievable, it was the first time I saw that with the

crew. Driving slowly, we broke the ice on our way, creating a unique noise on the boat hull. Despite the cold weather, the atmosphere in the boat was good and warm. Everybody knew their job - we took turns with each task, pulling up the line, packing the line in the tub, putting hooks away in the box, measuring fish, tagging fish, etc. We had 510 hooks to pick up for the day and we caught very nice fish.



I could not have had a better crew for my last day. With humour and hard work, I enjoyed very much this last time on the river. It was freezing almost all the day; I could feel the water instantly becoming ice on my survival suit. I enjoyed my hot soup at lunch! My co-workers let me pick up the last line of the day and I saw my last pallid sturgeon appear at the top of the water, the fifth of the day and my 25th for the year! It was amazing, but at the same time I felt a twinge of sadness at the end of the line and after I picked up the anchor, because I knew it was the last one. This day we caught the biggest lake sturgeon I have ever seen at over 25 pounds. It was too heavy for our digital scale and the spring scale was frozen.

-USFWS/PattyHerman

Volunteer Marie Delatour (upper left) poses with an endangered pallid sturgeon and crew members from the Columbia National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office. This was Marie's last day on the river and her last pallid sturgeon - time to return to France!

was special for me. It was a wonderful day on the Missouri River - nice crew, nice fishes and a sunny day. I saw the three species of sturgeons present in the Missouri River, extreme weather which I cannot see on the northwest coast of France and worked with amazing people.

I came to the United States to learn English and gain experience, to improve my chances to get a job. I arrived in Missouri on the fifth of December 2007, and I left the 18th of December 2008. I spent one whole year in Columbia, Missouri. My volunteering began the second week of January 2008 at the Columbia National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO).

We took pictures and maybe a little more than usual this day because everybody knew it

because everybody knew it



-USFWS

Courtney Culler and Marie Delatour display a longnose gar captured during a 2008 fishery assessment on the Missouri River.

wildlife, the weather, the people, the landscapes, the river towns, the state and the Missouri River. In total, I had volunteered 1,620 hours.

I had the chance to work with enthusiastic, smart, very patient and hard working people who wanted to share their knowledge. I enjoyed working with them. I always felt like a part of the team; I felt totally integrated despite my differences since the beginning. My co-workers were considerate of me, and all did their best to make me comfortable. I made a huge improvement in my language skills, reading and writing. I learned a lot during this past year. It is much more than just a valuable work experience - it is an emotional, human life discovery.

This past year was a total immersion in the American life. I can see a lot of contrast and difference between French and American culture. I met such nice people; I had such a good time. That is an amazing enrichment in my life, and I enjoyed all of these experiences very much. This year of volunteering at Columbia, Missouri, is a real achievement for me. I never thought I would learn, discover and like it so much when I left France one year ago. I found so much more than I expected. That means so much for me - I cannot find all the words to tell you.

I would like to say, "Thank you so much to the Columbia NFWCO for allowing me to take part in this adventure; thank you to everybody who shared time with me at work or outside, who supported me; thank you for your wonderful lunch that you prepared for me before my departure; that means so much for me. I just hope I will see you again and maybe work with you again."

For further info about the Columbia NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/columbiafisheries/>

As a volunteer I had the chance to work on, and switch between, different projects at the office. I had the opportunity to work with almost everybody at the office and I used all the types of gear with the Fish Conservation Branch or the Missouri River Branch. I enjoyed very much each trip and each day in the field, cold or warm, dry or wet, day or night. I learned so much from the crew about everything. Every day was a discovery, even after 12 months: the



-USFWS/PattyHerman

Marie Delatour releases her last pallid sturgeon which highlights an exiting year of volunteer work with the Columbia National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office.

Little Turkey River Restoration in the Iowa Driftless Area

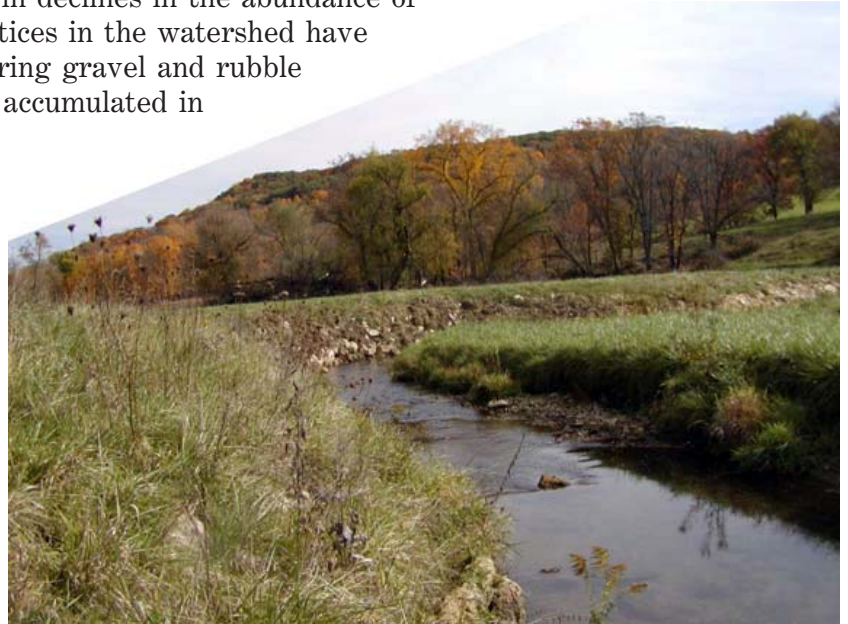
BY LOUISE MAULDIN, LA CROSSE NFWCO



The Little Turkey River is a coldwater trout stream located in northeast Iowa in Delaware County. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has identified the Little Turkey River as 1 of 25 priority streams in need of water quality and habitat improvement work. This Driftless Area trout stream is managed as a walk-in fishery, stressing a low intensity, but high quality fishing experience. Anglers make an estimated 2,000 trips a year to this beautiful stream. The upper two miles make up the coldwater portion of the stream. As the water flows downstream, it transitions into warmwater before emptying into the Turkey River, a smallmouth bass and walleye fishery. Poor in-stream habitat in the upper two miles has limited natural reproduction of brown trout and has resulted in declines in the abundance of brook trout and slimy sculpin. Past land use practices in the watershed have caused excessive soil erosion to the stream, covering gravel and rubble substrates used for spawning. Sediment has also accumulated in deeper pools that once provided cover for fish.

Partially funded through the Fish and Wildlife Service's National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP), objectives of the restoration project were to improve spawning habitat and overhead cover for brown and brook trout; as well as, increase suitable habitat for slimy sculpin and southern redbelly dace. This NFHAP project will complete habitat work in the entire two mile coldwater section. The first phase of the project was completed in the fall of 2008. Approximately 1,960 ft of actively eroding stream bank was stabilized and seeded with native vegetation. The second phase is scheduled for the summer of 2009 with plans to stabilize 1,430 ft of stream bank.

The Iowa DNR and Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) office



-Iowa DNR

Phase I of the Little Turkey River, Iowa, restoration project improved spawning habitat and overhead cover for brown and brook trout, as well as increased suitable habitat for slimy sculpin and southern redbelly dace. Phase II of this National Fish Habitat Action Plan project will complete habitat work in the entire two-mile stretch of the coldwater section of this river in 2009.

The Little Turkey River, Iowa, restoration project partners include private land owners, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Trout Unlimited, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District, Iowa Limestone Bluffs Resource Conservation and Development Council, Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory.

have also been working with landowners in the watershed to improve upland conservation practices. Willing landowners with assistance from the local SWCD office and DNR have installed conservation terraces, grassed waterways, erosion control structures, cover crops and other practices in an effort to reduce soil erosion and improve water and habitat quality for wildlife and fish on their lands. Upland conservation practices such as those mentioned previously have been coordinated in conjunction with the coldwater stream habitat work in an effort to more effectively improve overall watershed health. Thanks to efforts like these from local partners, the Little Turkey will continue to be a quality trout fishery.

For further info about the La Crosse NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/lacrossefisheries/>

Fish and Wildlife Service and Illinois DNR discuss Illinois Wildlife Action Plan

BY ROB SIMMONDS, CARTERVILLE NFWCO

In a continued effort to work cooperatively and effectively for the benefit of fish and wildlife in Illinois, Fish and Wildlife Service and Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR) staff met to identify coordination opportunities and to discuss progress in implementing the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan. This forum provides a focused opportunity for each of us to learn about the other's activities. Both agencies were surprised, in at least one way or another, about some projects being conducted by the other agency. Some of the topics discussed included identification of Illinois Conservation Opportunity Areas, wildlife habitat planning and tracking system, state-wide streams database, future of Illinois biodiversity and additional Illinois DNR efforts to increase efficiency. We also discussed several fishery-related coordination opportunities including the National Fish Passage Program, National Fish Habitat Action Plan and the Illinois Urban Fishing Program. Given the benefits gained from this opportunity to share information and better understand each other's interests and limitations, we're already looking forward to our next gathering!

For further info about the Carterville NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Fisheries/library/StationFactSheets/carterville.pdf>

Partnerships are essential for effective fisheries conservation. Many agencies, organizations, and private individuals are involved in fisheries conservation and management, but no one can do it alone. Together, these stakeholders combine efforts and expertise to tackle challenges facing fisheries conservation. The success of these partnerships will depend on strong, two-way communications and accountability.

From One Neighbor to Another

BY JAIME PACHECO, NEOSHO NFH

Brian Malaise of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) returned to Neosho National Fish Hatchery (NFH) this month to collect another 10,000 fish. After a devastating flood last year that washed away nearly half their annual production, Iowa asked for donations of surplus fish from nearby state and Federal hatcheries. Neosho NFH was fortunate enough to be able to donate 10,000 trout last summer also. Neosho NFH continues to help Iowa recover their rainbow trout numbers with surplus fish. We hope to help them restore recreational fishing opportunities, while simultaneously nurturing a friendship with our neighbor to the north.



-USFWS

Biologist Brian Malaise of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources loads his fish distribution unit with spring water to transport 10,000 rainbow trout from the Neosho National Fish Hatchery.

For further info about the Neosho NFH: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/neosho/>

Great Lakes Lake Sturgeon Coordination Meeting

BY ROB ELLIOTT, GREEN BAY NFWCO

More than 100 sturgeon scientists and enthusiasts from across the Great Lakes basin came together on December 3-4, 2009 on the shore of the St. Claire River in Port Huron, Michigan, for the 4th Great Lakes Lake Sturgeon Coordination Meeting. The purpose of these meetings is to provide a forum to foster communication and exchange of information among all interested groups relating to the study, management and restoration of lake sturgeon in the Great Lakes basin and to address emerging issues.



-USFWS/JimBoase

Great Lakes Lake Sturgeon Coordination Meeting participants gather at the poster session to exchange information about management and restoration of lake sturgeon in the Great Lakes basin.

Participants came from more than 35 different Federal, state, provincial and tribal natural resources agencies along with non-government organizations, companies and academia. A focus topic of this recent meeting was management planning, a process that many agencies have been, and are becoming more engaged, in at various levels and with varying success.

The two-day meeting incorporated a variety of opportunities to share and learn about current lake sturgeon rehabilitation efforts and issues, and discuss management planning ideas. Included were a mix of 17 oral and 18 poster and display presentations on a variety of topics including examples of management initiatives, rehabilitation tools and efforts and new research findings; three breakout group discussion sessions that considered the ecological, cultural, social, economic and ecological role of lake sturgeon, and developed example goals, objectives, strategies and benchmarks to address management and rehabilitation needs; a panel discussion regarding status designations of this species across the region; a lunch presentation on examples of underwater video support for sturgeon research and education in the St. Claire/Detroit River corridor; and an evening social and presentation exhibit.

For further info about the Green Bay NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Fisheries/library/StationFactSheets/greenbay.pdf>

These meetings have been held biennially since 2002 and are organized by Fish and Wildlife Service staff from each of the Great Lakes National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices (NFWCO) and with assistance from a steering committee of partner agency and organization representatives including Lloyd Mohr and Tim Haxton (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources), Tom Pratt (Department of Fisheries and Oceans - Canada), Nancy Auer (Michigan Tech Univ.), Ed Baker (Michigan Department of Natural Resources), Mike Donofrio (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources), Marty Holtgren (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians), and Dawn Dittman (U.S. Geological Survey). Funding for these meetings has been provided by the Great Lakes Fishery Trust.

Proceedings from this meeting are available on the Great Lakes Lake Sturgeon website and includes the presentations and posters presented during the meeting as well as abstracts, participant biographical information and breakout group discussion results. Proceedings from previous meetings as well as a wealth of information from many sturgeon biologists, researchers and organizations are also available on the website at: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/sturgeon/>.

Friends of Pendills Creek Hatchery celebrate a Productive Year

BY CURT FRIEZ, PENDILLS CREEK NFH

The *Friends of Pendills Creek Hatchery* once again have been very active this past year with a number of volunteer projects and activities being completed and even more in the works. The big project for the year was clearing, site preparation then construction of a new pavilion located on the Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery (NFH) public access site. Volunteers worked in excess of 500 hours to complete the project. This new pavilion will remain open to the public on a first-come, first-serve basis for picnics and gatherings. In another project, construction work was initiated at the public access site for a small deck and accessible board walk from the parking area down to Lake Superior. The boardwalk project will be completed this next summer as the Friends Group's funding and time warrants.

The *Friends of Pendills Creek Hatchery* is committed to their goal of enhancing public access and

educating children in the area of fisheries conservation. They have wanted to co-sponsor a kids fishing event at the hatchery for some time. With the help from State of Michigan prisoners, plans are to clear out an area along Pendills Creek to provide access for children to fish during an inaugural Kid's Fishing Day to be held this summer.

The Friends Group and hatchery staff have both benefited from the partnership - great strides have been made to enhance the public access site. The *Friends of Pendills Creek Hatchery* has future plans to replace a fish-friendly culvert with a 50 foot pedestrian bridge that will span the distance from the parking area across the hatchery effluent channel to the pedestrian board walk they are currently working on. Of course, this project is contingent upon funding being awarded thru some type of grant or by fundraising activities.

For further info about the Pendills Creek NFH/Sullivan Creek NFH: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Fisheries/library/StationFactSheets/pendills.pdf>

Alpena NFWCO Conducts Fall Lake Trout Assessment at Yankee Reef

BY SCOTT KOPROSKI, ALPENA NFWCO

Alpena National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO) has been conducting fall lake trout spawning surveys since 1993 at two offshore reefs – Six Fathom Bank and Yankee Reef. Both of these reefs are located in the central part of Lake Huron and have the preferred habitat of spawning lake trout - honeycomb limestone rock. Alpena NFWCO attempts to conduct a spawning survey annually at both reefs; however, the weather during the fall can be quite challenging with gale



-USFWS/ScottKoproski

Alpena National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office biologists Aaron Woldt (Lt.) and Adam Kowalski prepare to set nets during a lake trout spawning survey at Yankee Reef in Lake Huron.

force winds and high seas, which may not provide an opportunity to sample one or both reefs. This year survey efforts proved to be quite challenging due to weather. The priority reef in 2008 was Yankee Reef, which is located about 20 miles offshore of Tawas, Michigan. The *M/V Spencer F. Baird* arrived in Alpena on October 15th. Due to consecutive days of gale force winds and high seas, the staff from Alpena NFWCO waited until the end of the allocated three week period to conduct the lake trout spawning survey. On November 3rd, the *Baird* cast lines and departed for Yankee Reef. On board the *M/V Spencer F. Baird* was the vessel crew which consisted of Captain Michael Perry, Marine Engineer Robert Bergstrum and Seamen Fishermen David Bohn along with an Alpena NFWCO assessment crew which consisted of Aaron Woldt, Scott Koproski and Adam Kowalski.

Two 400' gangs of gill nets were deployed on Yankee Reef. Each gang consisted of one 100' panel of 4.5", 5.0", 5.5" and 6.0" stretch mesh and was fished for one night. The effort and sites have been standardized at Yankee Reef since the inception of this survey in 1993. In total, 95 lake trout were captured between the two sites, marking the third highest catch since implementing this survey. More notable is that over 23% (22 wild fish) of the total lake trout catch were unclipped fish (presumably wild), nearly doubling the previous record set in 2004 consisting of 13% (13 wild fish) of the catch. This year had the combined highest percentage and number of wild lake trout we have sampled since 1993. The increase in wild fish encourages staff and further justifies the Fish and Wildlife Service's efforts to rehabilitate lake trout in Lake Huron.

For further info about the Alpena NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/alpena/index.htm>

The Fisheries Program maintains and implements a comprehensive set of tools and activities to conserve and manage self-sustaining populations of native fish and other aquatic resources. These tools and activities are linked to management and recovery plans that help achieve restoration and recovery goals, provide recreational benefits, and address Federal trust responsibilities. Sound science, effective partnerships, and careful planning and evaluation are integral to conservation and management efforts.

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Genoa NFH participates in NRDA Settlement for Train Derailment

BY TONY BRADY, GENOA NFH

The mighty Mississippi River has seen its share of both natural and man-made impacts. On July 9th, these two forces combined to cause an Iowa, Chicago and Eastern (IC&E) train to derail two miles south of Guttenburg, Iowa. Heavy rains that were prevalent in June and July 2008 caused a large rock slide that damaged the train tracks, causing four IC&E railroad engines to end up submerged in a section of the Mississippi River that is part of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge - McGregor District. The engine derailment resulted in over 2,100 gallons of diesel fuel and transmission oil being leaked into the river. Staffs from the McGregor District and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) were instrumental in the emergency response and clean-up effort following the derailment. The accident occurred at a place in the river where there is a significant mussel bed present. This mussel bed is known to contain the Federally Endangered Higgins' eye pearlymussel and the candidate species sheepsnose and spectaclecase mussels. Surveys conducted after the clean-up efforts revealed that a significant portion of the mussel bed was damaged or destroyed. Genoa NFH was asked to be a part of the technical team overseeing the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) because of their mussel propagating and culturing experience.

The staff at Genoa NFH provided expertise on mussel culture techniques and costs of running a program for mussel reintroduction. In addition to mussels, the derailment also is believed to have been responsible for the death of at least one mudpuppy, an Iowa state threatened amphibian. Assistant Project

For further info about the Genoa NFH: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/genoa/>

Total Count of Sturgeon

BY MELISSA CHEUNG, NEOSHO NFH

Federally endangered pallid sturgeon are reared at the Neosho National Fish Hatchery (NFH) as part of the Pallid Sturgeon Recovery plan. An inventory was taken of all the pallid sturgeon on station. The total number is 3,328. This includes those from

For further info about the Neosho NFH: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/neosho/>



-USFWS

The mudpuppy is one of the many aquatic species cultured at the Genoa National Fish Hatchery.

Leader Jim Luoma was instrumental in providing information on mudpuppy culture to assist the trustees in the development of habitat restoration projects that would also benefit the mudpuppy. Luoma gained experience culturing mudpuppies while working at the Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

While the settlement is still pending, the work that has been done has brought together three segments of the Fish and Wildlife Service including the Ecological Services program, National Wildlife Refuge System and Fisheries, as well as the Iowa DNR to help plan the restoration of the lost fauna in this section of the Mississippi River.

the 2008 spawning season and the tagged fish from fiscal year 2007 that are currently being kept for a tag retention study. The hatchery also holds wild adult pallid sturgeon as a source of fish for the program.

Agencies combine Resources to Prevent the Spread of VHS

BY JAMES LUOMA, GENOA NFH

The year 2003 rocked the world of Federal and state agencies involved in managing the nation's fishery resources. The emergence of a new virulent strain (IVb) of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) created massive fish die offs in the Great Lakes region.

The threat of this disease to fish hatcheries and the nation's waterways caused dramatic changes in the fisheries management and fish hatchery world. Unlike salmonid species, it is not practical to hold the adults of many cool- and warmwater fishes raised in the nation's fish hatcheries. Traditionally, many species like walleye, northern pike and muskellunge have to be netted during the spawning season, their eggs collected, fertilized and then brought back to fish hatcheries for hatching, grow-out and eventual stocking.

Genoa National Fish Hatchery (NFH), located along the Mississippi and Bad Axe rivers in southwest Wisconsin, has been propagating coolwater fish with this type of protocol for decades to meet fish production requirements for Federal, state and tribal waters. Without using wild brood stock as a source of fish eggs, the Genoa NFH, along with countless other Federal and state hatcheries, would be unable to produce fish of coolwater species such as walleye, northern pike and muskellunge for stocking in the nation's water. Decades of evidence of other European strains of VHS and opinions from disease experts support that the new IVb strain transmits horizontally (fish to fish) rather than vertically (parent to offspring). Horizontally transmitted disease agents are possible to control as long as the method to control the disease is effective and is safe for use on treated species.

Fortunately, a protocol for treating trout and salmon eggs has been used for decades in the nation's coldwater hatcheries to prevent the spread of certain disease causing pathogens. The protocol used in the Federal hatchery system involves treating both newly spawned eggs and all incoming eggs in an iodine solution. To prevent possible virus transmission, the Genoa NFH has been disinfecting all eggs collected from wild walleye, sauger and northern pike brood stock since 2003, when Spring Viremia of Carp (SVC) and Largemouth Bass Virus (LMBV) were detected in the Mississippi River. Expert opinion concluded

that the Fish and Wildlife Service's coldwater egg treatment protocol would effectively kill the VHS-IVb virus plaguing the Great Lakes region, and experience from the Genoa NFH's cool water egg disinfection techniques implied target animal safety.

Most fish hatchery managers are still reluctant to treat eggs of coolwater species with iodine for fear of killing the eggs or reducing egg and fry survival. An urgent need was identified by the Fish and Wildlife Service to determine the safety of iodine egg disinfectant treatments to coolwater fish eggs. A quick response research project was jointly initiated by Genoa NFH and U.S. Geological Survey's Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center (UMESC) to evaluate the safety of iodine egg disinfection for coolwater fish eggs. The project was conducted during the 2008 fish production cycle and the results of the study are now available. This study looked at different factors to assess target animal safety at different exposure concentrations at immediately post spawn or after the eggs were allowed to "water harden" for 90 minutes prior to disinfection. Genoa NFH personnel captured wild brood stock northern pike and walleye during the 2008 spawning season, transported them to the UMESC research facility and spawned the eggs for research biologists who then commenced the study involving treatment eggs, incubation of the fry in a miniaturized culture system and the labor intensive task of enumerating and evaluating the fry for percentage hatch and deformities.

The data derived from this study indicate that the eggs of northern pike and walleye can safely be disinfected with the standard coldwater disinfection protocols. This cooperative study provides critical information to hatchery managers so that they can make informed management decisions for protecting their fish hatcheries and the entrusted public waters from potentially devastating diseases such as VHS-IVb.

Aquatic Invasive Species

Aquatic invasive species are one of the most significant threats to fish and wildlife and their habitats. Local and regional economies are severely affected with control costs exceeding \$123 billion annually. The Fisheries Program has focused its efforts on preventing introductions of new aquatic invasive species, detecting and monitoring new and established invasives, controlling established invasives, providing coordination and technical assistance to organizations that respond to invasive species problems, and developing comprehensive, integrated plans to fight aquatic invasive species.

For further info about the Genoa NFH: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/genoa/>

Columbia helps Hunters with Disabilities

BY CLAYTON RIDENOUR AND CHRIS MCLELAND, COLUMBIA NFWCO

Fisheries folks stepped beyond the gunwales of their boats to assist persons with disabilities during a special hunt at Mark Twain Reservoir in northeast Missouri. Applications to participate in the event were submitted by hunters with disabilities to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Project Office at Mark Twain Reservoir. Thirty-eight hunters traveled from all parts of Missouri and several states to take part in this 20th annual two-day hunt. The hunt is an important land management tool used by Corps Park Ranger Shelly Howald to reduce damage to forest lands caused by an overly-abundant deer population at



-USFWS/ClaytonRidenour

Hunter Calvin Pope displays his 8-point buck. Chris McLeland (background) of the Columbia National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office assisted with the special hunt held at the Mark Twain Reservoir in northeast Missouri.

The Fish and Wildlife Service worked alongside over 100 other volunteers to help make this event a success. From transporting hunters and processing deer to preparing fantastic home cooked meals for all, everyone put their best foot forward to ensure hunters had a terrific experience. Volunteers represented many groups including the Paris Lion's Club from Paris, Missouri, and sportsmen clubs from Missouri and Illinois. Equipment to transport hunters was donated by local businesses, and abundant food, including an excellent homemade thanksgiving dinner, was prepared and donated to the camp by several families and clubs.

Many volunteers make this event a regular part of their deer seasons and have been assisting with the event for the last 20 years. The dedication of all involved to assist persons with disabilities in an opportunity to hunt and enjoy the outdoors is a tremendous testament to their character. Volunteer efforts did not go unrecognized by the hunters who continually expressed their appreciation.

For further info about the Columbia NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/columbiafisheries/>

As the population in the United States continues to grow, the potential for adverse impacts on aquatic resources, including habitat will increase. At the same time, demands for responsible, quality recreational fishing experiences will also increase. The Service has a long tradition of providing opportunities for public enjoyment of aquatic resources through recreational fishing, habitat restoration, and education programs and through mitigating impacts of Federal water projects. The Service also recognizes that some aquatic habitats have been irreversibly altered by human activity (i.e. - dam building). To compensate for these significant changes in habitat and lost fishing opportunities, managers often introduce non-native species when native species can no longer survive in the altered habitat.

Mark Twain Reservoir.

Clayton Ridenour, Chris McLeland, Wyatt Doyle and Aaron Walker of

the Columbia National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO) started the hunt at 4:30 A.M. by guiding hunters to pre-set wheelchair-accessible hunting blinds deep in the forest. Each hunter used cellular phones to maintain contact with a base camp for regular safety check-ins and support. Support included requests for hot coffee, fresh pancakes and sausage, moral support and more deer. Columbia NFWCO helped hunters move among blinds, tracked deer that had been shot and accommodated support to hunters. There were 29 deer harvested from the 3,200 acre special hunt area. Among the highlights was a trophy 8-point buck harvested by 51 year old Calvin Pope of Palmyra, Missouri, during the first morning of the hunt. The buck's gross score was 144 5/8 inches with an almost perfectly symmetrical 8-point frame and very few deductions. Calvin's harvest points to the important role of hunters as contributors to healthy deer and land management practices, and illustrates the potential for trophy deer at Mark Twain Reservoir.

From Dreams to Reality - La Crosse NFWCO Reaches Out to Riverland Council Girl Scouts

BY HEIDI KEULER, LA CROSSE NFWCO

Heidi Keuler of the La Crosse National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO) presented the career of a fish biologist to approximately 30 Girl Scouts of the Riverland Council during their “From Dreams to Reality” program. This program provides Girl Scouts an opportunity to learn how working women have made their dreams a reality.

Approximately six other working women from the Coulee Region spoke to the scouts about their careers. Girl Scouts learned what type of education and

training is needed as well as what it takes to “get the job done.” Most interesting to the Girl Scouts were women that were the minority in their field and women who balanced a career with a family. Heidi fit both categories and enjoyed teaching the attentive audience about the “secrets” to her success.

Riverland Council leaders also spoke to Heidi about future outreach events including a possible overnight fishing trip guided by Fish and Wildlife Service women.

For further info about the La Crosse NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/lacrossefisheries/>

Giving Back to Neosho

BY DAVID HENDRIX, NEOSHO NFH

Neosho National Fish Hatchery (NFH) staff participated in the annual Christmas parade for the city of Neosho, Missouri, on December 6, 2008. Our participation gives us an opportunity to show our appreciation for the continuous support from our community. Hatchery staff decorated our fish distribution unit with lights and greeted thousands of onlookers along the parade route with smiles and waves. Hatchery manager Dave Hendrix drove the unit, while Sterling May, son of Assistant Manager Roderick May, volunteered to dress as our beloved mascot “Teddy the Trout.” Children were delighted to see Teddy, and our participation was well received by the local community.



-USFWS

Neosho National Fish Hatchery staff and their trout mascot prepare for the City of Neosho, Missouri, Christmas parade.

For further info about the Neosho NFH: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/neosho/>

Great Lakes Aquarium partners with Genoa NFH

BY JENNY WALKER BAILEY, GENOA NFH

Genoa National Fish Hatchery (NFH) welcomed a new partner to the hatchery grounds. The Great Lakes Aquarium in Duluth, Minnesota, sent two representatives to tour the hatchery and adopt some of Genoa's certified disease-free fish for use in exhibits that focus on Great Lakes Basin habitats and animals.

Besides fish, the Great Lakes Aquarium features amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, using an entire ecosystem approach to interpret Lake Superior biological interactions. Genoa NFH provided three species to enhance the aquarium's existing exhibits. Three (10 inch) lake sturgeon, six (4 inch) smallmouth bass and six (6 inch) sauger were selected by aquarium culturists for their exhibits. This partnership will help the aquarium in its mission, which is to "capture the wonder and excitement of Lake Superior, inspire responsibility for the world's large lakes and fresh water and create understanding of their value."

Partnering with the country's largest freshwater aquarium helps Genoa NFH attain its goal to provide quality educational experiences. The educational programming, accessibility to native North American fish and wildlife species and emphasis on stewardship

For further info about the Genoa NFH: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/genoa/>

provided by the professional staff of Great Lakes Aquarium reach over 10,000 American students per year, and many more visitors of all age groups.



-USFWS

Lake sturgeon from the Lake Superior basin have been raised at the Genoa National Fish Hatchery for restoration programs since 1995. A few fish are cultured to a large size for aquarium displays.

Annual Toy Drive A Success at Ashland NFWCO

BY GLENN MILLER, ASHLAND NFWCO

The Ashland National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO), along with the National Park Service Great Lakes Network Office and U.S. Geological Survey Lake Superior Biological Office teamed up and collected toys for the "Ashland Firefighters Toys for Tots and Teens" program. This is the seventh year the offices have contributed to this worthy program. Toys collected through this program are distributed throughout the surrounding Wisconsin counties of Ashland, Bayfield and Iron. This toy drive is in its 26th year and the program gives presents to between 500-700 kids each year.



-USFWS/GlennMiller

Pam Dryer of the Ashland National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office presents firemen with gifts for the "Ashland (Wisconsin) Firefighters Toys for Tots and Teens" program.

For further info about the Ashland NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/ashland/>

Scoring of the 2009 Tribal Wildlife Grants Program

BY FRANK STONE, ASHLAND NFWCO

Frank Stone assisted Regional Tribal Liaison John Leonard with the scoring of the Fish and Wildlife Service's 2009 Tribal Wildlife Grants (TWG) Program. This was a National scoring process by resource proposals of grant proposals submitted by tribes throughout the United States. Frank reviewed 21 proposals totaling 3.5 million dollars.

Each Region first had a review team score all proposals submitted to that Region. The Regions then forwarded their top ranked proposals to the National Panel. The proposals that were reviewed at the national level included regionally ranked proposals that scored above the top 50%. The TWG program provides new funding opportunities to tribes for activities that protect and restore habitats that benefit fish and wildlife species of tribal significance. The TWG program also supports the efforts of tribal governments to develop or augment their capacity to manage, conserve or protect fish and wildlife species of concern through the provision of additional funding and technical support.

For further info about the Ashland NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/ashland/>

Conserving this Nation's fish and other aquatic resources cannot be successful without the partnership of Tribes; they manage or influence some of the most important aquatic habitats both on and off reservations. In addition, the Federal government and the Service have distinct and unique obligations toward Tribes based on trust responsibility, treaty provisions, and statutory mandates. The Fisheries Program plays an important role in providing help and support to Tribes as they exercise their sovereignty in the management of their fish and wildlife resources on more than 55 million acres of Federal Indian trust land and in treaty reserved areas.

Tribal Partnerships and Technical Support

BY FRANK STONE, ASHLAND NFWCO

Last year, the Ashland National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO) sent out a letter to our tribal cooperators announcing that our office will no longer seek reimbursable requirements for short-term technical assistance projects. In an attempt to stimulate ideas regarding future technical assistance needs, Frank Stone mailed a similar announcement to our tribal cooperators to initiate discussion for the next round of resource projects.

The staff at the Ashland NFWCO is very excited about this new approach, in anticipation that our tribal relationships we have built in the past will continue to grow. We sincerely hope our tribal cooperators will consider contacting our staff to discuss any fish and wildlife technical assistance needs they may have.

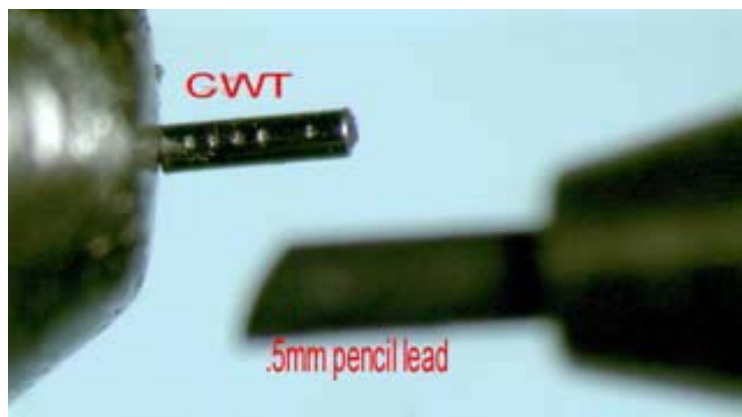
For further info about the Ashland NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/ashland/>

Conserving this Nation's fish and other aquatic resources cannot be successful without the partnership of Tribes; they manage or influence some of the most important aquatic habitats both on and off reservations. In addition, the Federal government and Fish and Wildlife Service have distinct and unique obligations toward Tribes based on trust responsibility, treaty provisions and statutory mandates. The Region 3 Fisheries program plays an important role in providing help and support to tribes as they exercise their sovereignty to manage their fish and wildlife resources on more than 55 million acres of Federal Indian trust land and in treaty reserved areas.

Lake Trout Coded-wire Tag Recovery

BY ADAM KOWALSKI, ALPENA NFWCO

Last November, biologist Adam Kowalski extracted and read coded-wire tags (CWT) from lake trout. CWT's are microscopic metal tags placed in the snouts of juvenile lake trout at the hatchery. Kowalski looked at Alpena National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO) lake trout caught during the lake whitefish fishery independent survey and fall lake trout assessment in Lake Huron. Kowalski also removed tags from lake trout



-USFWS

Coded-wire tags (CWT) are microscopic metal tags that are placed in juvenile lake trout at the hatchery prior to stocking. This magnification of a coded-wire tag compares its size to a pencil lead.

sampled by Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) creel clerks. Coded-wire tags are extracted by cutting lake trout snouts into smaller and smaller pieces until the tag can be seen and removed, then read under a microscope. Each tag's unique number can then be compared to stocking records to yield information such as stocking location, stocking date, fish age, fish strain and hatchery of origin. In total, Kowalski removed and read 200 tags from approximately 210 heads. Not all adipose clipped lake trout contain CWT's because some lake trout shed their tag and others experience fin regeneration that masks original multiple clip sequences. Additional lake trout heads will be received from the Bay Mills Indian Community and Michigan DNR creel program.

Data collected from lake trout CWT's are used in several ways. First, lake trout age data are used in population models that determine lake trout harvest limits for parties to the Year 2000 Consent Decree. Second, stocking location data are used to determine lakewide lake trout movement patterns. Finally, two existing studies to determine differences in survival between groups of lake trout reared under different culture techniques and differences in survival of various lake trout strains depend on analysis of CWT data.

Service Biologist will serve on Board of Technical Experts

BY CHARLES BRONTE, GREEN BAY NFWCO

Biologist Charles Bronte of the Green Bay National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO) was approved by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission at their December 2008 meeting to serve on the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC) Fishery Research program's Board of Technical Experts (BOTE). Bronte was nominated for the position by GLFC Science Director Charles Krueger in October 2008 to oversee the "Reintroduction of Native Deep-water Fish" research theme area. Members are selected based on their demonstrated strength in peer-reviewed research. BOTE identifies

broad areas of research in the biological and social sciences to support information needs that are essential to achieve a healthy Great Lakes ecosystems, including the research priorities identified by lake committees and the Council of Lake Committees, Fish Health Committee and other priorities as determined by the Commission. The Board oversees an annual research budget of around \$500,000. Bronte previously served (2001-2008) as a core member of the Sea Lamprey Research Board that oversees research on the biology and control of sea lamprey in the Great Lakes.

For further info about the Green Bay NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Fisheries/library/StationFactSheets/greenbay.pdf>

Science and technology form the foundation of successful fish and aquatic resource conservation and are used to structure and implement monitoring and evaluation programs that are critical to determine the success of management actions. The Service is committed to following established principles of sound science.

Research on Statistical Procedures for Fish Shape Analysis

BY CHUCK BRONTE, GREEN BAY NFWCO

Biologist Chuck Bronte of the Green Bay National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO), working with U.S. Geological Survey researchers, had a paper accepted for publication in the "Transactions of the American Fisheries Society," the oldest journal dedicated to fishery research. The subject of the paper was about how the analysis of fish shape is used for stock identification, description of new species and assessment of condition, but is frequently done on sample sizes smaller than those recommended in the literature.

The paper authors examined the stability of statistical outcomes of analysis of shape measures using different sample sizes from data sets of yellow and white perch from Lake Erie and siscowet lake

trout from Lake Superior. The analysis suggested that stable outcomes occurred when the number of specimens was 3.5 to 8 times the number of shape measures taken - anything less led to erroneous conclusions regarding the shape differences among groups of fish studied. The results varied by species and led to recommendations that similar evaluations be conducted for other species. Past work that used insufficient samples sizes may require re-evaluation of those results. Authors, reviewers and editors of future work should consider the effects of small sample sizes when conducting and evaluating fish morphology measures. The paper will be published in 2009.

For further info about the Green Bay NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Fisheries/library/StationFactSheets/greenbay.pdf>

Columbia completes Scientific Process: Disseminating Results

BY CLAYTON RIDENOUR AND JOSHUA SCHLOESSER,
COLUMBIA NFWCO

Clayton Ridenour and Joshua Schloesser attended the 69th Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, Ohio. The four day meeting brings together natural resource professionals and students from Midwest states representing local, state and Federal agencies, Universities, and several non-governmental groups and businesses to exchange information and results of studies.

At the conference, four presentations were presented from the Columbia National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO). Clayton gave

an oral presentation to a diverse audience that discussed a recently published study on habitat management for a group of native Missouri River fishes. Clayton also presented on two poster platforms the results of studies on *Age and Growth of Missouri River Chubs* and *Habitats of Young Sturgeon in Lower Missouri River*. A third poster presentation compiled by Patty Herman on *Evaluating Wound Treatments of Shovelnose Sturgeon Egg Checks* was presented by Joshua Schloesser.

For further info about the Columbia NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/columbiafisheries/>

Iron River Brook Trout Habitat Restoration

BY TED KOEHLER, ASHLAND NFWCO

Over the past three years, habitat restoration partners in northern Wisconsin have worked to restore brook trout habitat on the Iron River. Two separate landowners own adjacent sides of the creek at this location. By working together, the landowners and agencies involved produced a win-win for the land as well as brook trout and other aquatic species. Ashland National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO) worked with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bayfield County Land and Water Conservation Department and the landowner. The Fish and Wildlife Service participated in the project through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program.



-USFWS/TedKoehler

These anchored wood structures were installed at selected locations in the Iron River (Wisconsin) to restore large woody cover as well as create scour holes to expose spawning gravel.

drilled and wooden posts driven through both ends in order to anchor them to the substrate of the stream bottom. Using generator-powered water jets and good old fashioned sledge hammers, the wooden posts were pounded into the substrate. A crew from the Gordon Correction Center performed the majority of the labor and did an excellent job through both seasons of field work. In this case, not only will the public benefit from the restored habitat, but the crew from the correctional facility gained new experience and insight which will help them better integrate into back into society. Approximately 2,000 feet of brook trout habitat was restored, and miles of habitat downstream of the site was enhanced through reduced sediment and an improved fishery.

For further info about the Ashland NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/ashland/>

Drummond Island Fish Passage Project

BY ANDREA ANIA, ALPENA NFWCO

This fall on Drummond Island (Michigan), the Chippewa County Road Commission installed two (8-foot) diameter culverts at the Maxton Road crossing on McCormick Creek and the adjoining marsh complex. These culverts replaced two perched, undersized (3-foot corrugated metal) pipes at the road-stream crossing and one undersized (2-foot corrugated metal) pipe at the marsh overflow. This project restored fish access to 1.5 miles of upstream habitat and 150 acres of prime coastal wetland habitat for native northern pike and walleye populations in Potagannissing Bay, while improving hydrologic connectivity within the marsh.

For further info about the Alpena NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/alpena/index.htm>

Loss and alteration of aquatic habitats are principal factors in the decline of native fish and other aquatic resources and the loss of biodiversity. Seventy percent of the Nation's rivers have altered flows, and 50 percent of waterways fail to meet minimum biological criteria.

Over the course of the project, anchored wood structures were installed at selected locations in the stream to restore large woody cover as well as create scour holes to expose spawning gravel. The project was completed in two phases and the first reach of stream was restored in 2006. The second reach was then completed in 2007 and monitoring the stability of the site was performed in 2008. With the structures performing as planned and in no need of adjustment or additional work, the project was finalized.

Red pine logs were strategically placed to mimic natural conditions which once existed in the stream to restore the habitat for brook trout and other aquatic life at this site in the Iron River. The logs were

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducted design work for the project and plans to construct a cross vane fish structure downstream of the new McCormick Creek culvert after the 2009 spring runoff. Water temperature, stream velocity and stream survey data were collected prior to construction, and post-construction monitoring is planned to measure the fishery benefits of the new culverts. Partners for this project include the Michigan DNR, Drummond Island Sportsman's Club and the Chippewa County Road Commission.

Columbia NFWCO is back Under One Roof

BY BRIAN ELKINGTON, COLUMBIA NFWCO

Columbia National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (NFWCO) is back under one roof again! The people and projects formerly in our “Fish South” location have rejoined the rest of the office in the “Fish North” building. In February of 2007, the field station had expanded into two separate buildings to accommodate our growing size. This move did alleviate our ‘sardines in a can’ dilemma, but we found ourselves split between two buildings. When new office space became available in the “Fish North” building, we jumped at the chance to bring the office back together into one location.

Columbia NFWCO was given the opportunity to help design an entirely new layout of the office space, building extra rooms and offices to ensure it would be a perfect fit for us. Once the design and construction were completed, our crew of dedicated employees moved all of the offices to the new space. Thanks to the help of our employees, the move was carried out smoothly and efficiently, only taking three days to tear down “Fish South”, move the office and set up in the new space.



-USFWS/BrianElkington

New office space for the Columbia National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office has enabled all of its employees and programs to be back to a single location.

environment. Programs that moved into the new space included the Fish Passage Program, Habitat Assessment and Monitoring Project (HAMP), Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association (MICRA) National Paddlefish Stock Assessment Project, and fisheries management technical assistance for refuges and Defense Department lands.

For further info about the Columbia NFWCO: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/columbiafisheries/>

The Fisheries Program relies on a broad range of professionals to accomplish its mission: biologists, managers, administrators, clerks, animal caretakers, and maintenance workers. Without their skills and dedication, the Fisheries Program cannot succeed. Employees must be trained, equipped and supported in order to perform their jobs safely, often under demanding environmental conditions, and to keep current with the constantly expanding science of fish and aquatic resource management and conservation.

Included in the move were two elaborate cubicle systems as well as infrastructure for the largest inland fisheries database in the world that contains paddlefish information dating back to the mid 1980s. It was a labor intensive move accomplished largely by the persistence and determination of those involved. A single location for the office provides for a more efficient work envi-

Congressional Actions

111th CONGRESS; 1st Session; H. R. 500; To establish a collaborative program to protect the Great Lakes, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES; January 14, 2009

Mr. Ehlert (for himself, Mr. Dingell, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Slaughter, Mr. Levin, Mr. Kildee, Mr. Rogers of Michigan, Mr. Stupak, Mr. McCotter, Mr. Peters, Mr. Hoekstra, Mr. Upton, Mr. Kucinich, Ms. Sutton, Ms. Moore of Wisconsin, Ms. Baldwin, Ms. Schakowsky, Ms. Kaptur, Mr. Sensenbrenner, Mr. Higgins, and Mr. Conyers) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, Science and Technology, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL To establish a collaborative program to protect the Great Lakes, and for other purposes. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the “Great Lakes Collaboration Implementation Act”.

(b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Findings.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION

Subtitle A—National Aquatic Invasive Species

Chapter 1—Prevention of Introduction of Aquatic Invasive Species Into Waters of the United States by Vessels

Sec. 101. Prevention of introduction of aquatic Invasive Species into waters of the United States by vessels.

Sec. 102. Armed Services whole vessel management program.

Chapter 2—Prevention of the Introduction of Aquatic Invasive Species by Other Pathways

Sec. 106. Priority pathway management program.

Sec. 107. Screening process for planned importations of live aquatic organisms.

Chapter 3—Early Detection; Rapid Response; Control and Outreach

Sec. 111. Early detection.

Sec. 112. Rapid response.

Sec. 113. Environmental soundness.

Sec. 114. Information, education, and outreach.

Chapter 4—Coordination

Sec. 116. Program coordination.

Sec. 117. International coordination.

Chapter 5—Authorization of Appropriations

Sec. 121. Authorization of appropriations.

Chapter 6—Conforming Amendments

Sec. 126. Conforming amendments.

Subtitle B—Aquatic Invasive Species Research

Sec. 141. Findings.

Sec. 142. Definitions.

Sec. 143. Coordination and implementation.

Sec. 144. Ecological and pathway research.

Sec. 145. Analysis.

Sec. 146. Dissemination.

Sec. 147. Technology development, demonstration, and verification.

Sec. 148. Research to support the setting and implementation of ship

111th CONGRESS; 1st Session; S. 237; To establish a collaborative program to protect the Great Lakes, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES; January 14, 2009; Mr. Levin (for himself, Mr. Voinovich, Mr. Brown, Mr. Casey, and Ms. Stabenow) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL To establish a collaborative program to protect the Great Lakes, and for other purposes. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the “Great Lakes Collaboration Implementation Act of 2009”.

(b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Findings.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—INVASIVE SPECIES

Subtitle A—National Aquatic Invasive Species

Sec. 101. Short title.

Sec. 102. Findings.

Sec. 103. Definitions.

PART I—Prevention of Introduction of Aquatic Invasive Species by Other Pathways

Sec. 111. Priority pathway management program.

Sec. 112. Screening process for planned importations of live aquatic organisms.

PART II—Early Detection; Rapid Response; Control and Outreach

Sec. 121. Early detection.

Sec. 122. Rapid response.

Sec. 123. Dispersal barriers.

Sec. 124. Environmental soundness.

Sec. 125. Information, education, and outreach.

PART III—Aquatic Invasive Species Research

Sec. 131. Ecological, pathway, and experimental research.

Sec. 132. Analysis.

Sec. 133. Vessel pathway standards research.

Sec. 134. Graduate education in systematics and taxonomy.

PART IV—Coordination

Sec. 141. Program coordination.

Sec. 142. International coordination.

PART V—Authorization of Appropriations

Sec. 151. Authorization of appropriations.

PART VI—Conforming Amendments

Sec. 161. Conforming amendments.

Subtitle B—Asian Carp Prevention and Control

Sec. 171. Addition of species of carp to the list of injurious species that are prohibited from being imported or shipped.

Sec. 172. Dispersal barriers.

Subtitle C—National Invasive Species Council

Sec. 181. Definitions.

Sec. 182. Limitation on Federal actions.

Sec. 183. National Invasive Species Council.

Sec. 184. Duties of Council.

Sec. 185. National Invasive Species Management Plan.

Sec. 186. Invasive Species Advisory Committee.

Source is <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/bills/index.html>

Searched database by keyword = “fish”

Midwest Region Fisheries Divisions

National Fish Hatcheries

The Region's National Fish Hatcheries primarily focus on native fish restoration/rehabilitation by stocking fish and eggs, such as pallid and lake sturgeon and by developing and maintaining brood stocks of selected fish strains, such as lake trout and brook trout.

Hatcheries also provide technical assistance to other agencies, provide fish and eggs for research, stock rainbow trout in fulfillment of federal mitigation obligations and assist with recovery of native mussels and other native aquatic species.

National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices

National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices conduct assessments of fish populations to guide management decisions, perform key monitoring and control activities related to invasive, aquatic species; survey and evaluate aquatic habitats to identify restoration/rehabilitation opportunities; play a key role in targeting and implementing native fish and habitat restoration programs; work with private land owners, states, local governments and watershed organizations to complete aquatic habitat restoration projects under the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife and the Great Lakes Coastal Programs; provide coordination and technical assistance toward the management of interjurisdictional fisheries; maintain and operate several key interagency fisher-

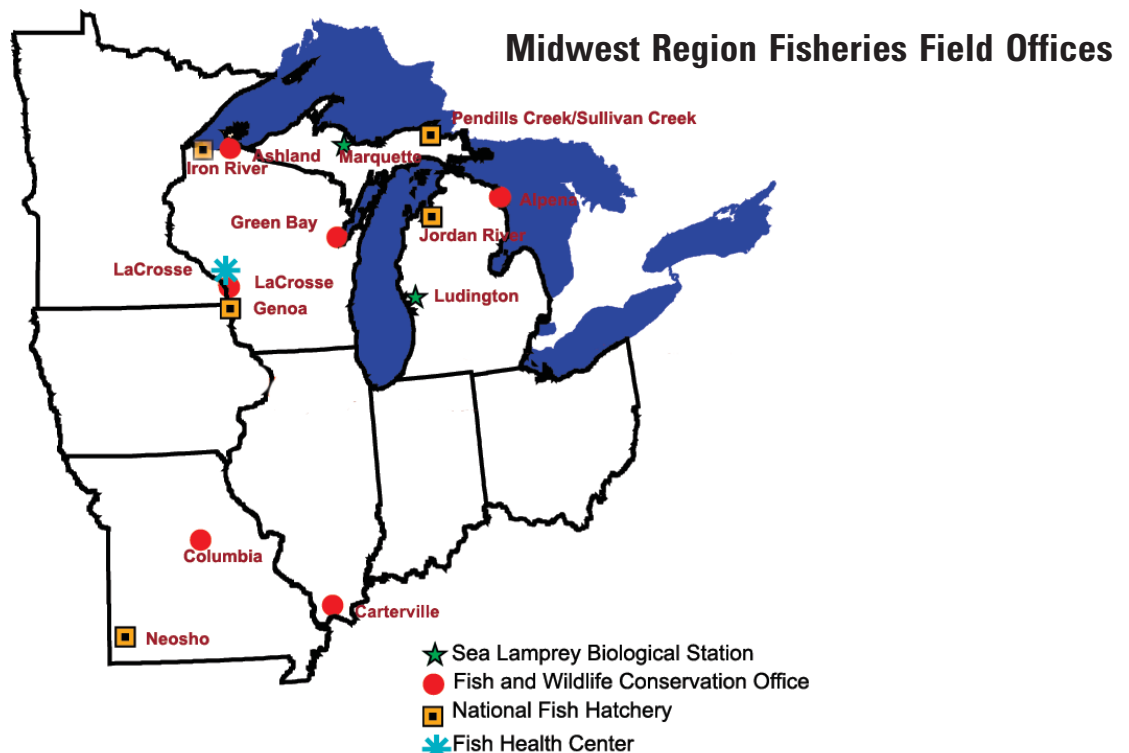
ies databases; provide technical expertise to other Service programs addressing contaminants, endangered species, federal project review and hydro-power operation and re-licensing; evaluate and manage fisheries on Service lands; and, provide technical support to 38 Native American tribal governments and treaty authorities.

Sea Lamprey Biological Stations

The Fish and Wildlife Service is the United States Agent for sea lamprey control, with two Biological Stations assessing and managing sea lamprey populations throughout the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes Fishery Commission administers the Sea Lamprey Management Program, with funding provided through the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of the Interior, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Fish Health Center

The Fish Health Center provides specialized fish health evaluation and diagnostic services to federal, state and tribal hatcheries in the region; conducts extensive monitoring and evaluation of wild fish health; examines and certifies the health of captive hatchery stocks; and, performs a wide range of special services helping to coordinate fishery program offices and partner organizations.



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Fish Tails

“Fish Tails” includes articles that are included in field station reports that are not published in the “Conservation Briefs.” These articles are categorized by focus area and includes the article title, author and field station. The website link, where the full article can be viewed, is highlighted in blue type.

Partnerships and Accountability

- Changing with the times - Incorporating an Adaptive Management Plan for the Missouri River
 - Wyatt Doyle, Columbia NFWCO
- Columbia Partners with Corps St. Louis District
 - Clayton Ridenour and Tracy Hill, Columbia NFWCO
- Missouri River Cooperating for Recovery Meeting
 - Tracy Hill, Columbia NFWCO
- Ongoing Chinese Sturgeon Conservation efforts Presented at Great Lake Sturgeon Meeting
 - Doug Aloisi, Genoa NFH
- Trying to Reduce Our Trash!
 - Melissa Cheung, Neosho NFH

Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

- Coaster Brook Trout Eggs Arrive at Genoa National Fish Hatchery
 - Nick Starzl, Genoa NFH
- Cold Days on the River
 - Andrew Plauck, Columbia NFWCO

Aquatic Invasive Species

Public Use

- A Friendly Visit
 - Melissa Cheung, Neosho NFH

Cooperation with Native Americans

Leadership in Science and Technology

Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management

- Monitoring Workshop Held for Bad River Watershed Fish Passage Program
 - Pam Dryer, Ashland NFWCO
- Huron Pines Technical Committee Meeting
 - Heather Rawlings, Alpena NFWCO

Workforce Management

- Biologist Attends Structured Decision Making Workshop
 - Andrea Ania, Alpena NFWCO
- Still Seeing Results of 2007 Ice Storm
 - Jeff Messens, Neosho NFH



-Minnesota Historical Society Loc# K2.9 NL r10

Water Under the Bridge

A Glimpse into our Proud Past
Fish Hatchery, New London, MN