

A publication for sportsmen dedicated to the enjoyment, preservation, and improvement of salmon and trout fishing in the Great Lakes.



# The Tightline

February 2023

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHERMEN FOUNDATION

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

ISSUE 537

## Milwaukee Net Pens Making Progress

The generosity of the club and the success of our fundraising have allowed us to develop a new set of net pens. This is needed for several reasons. Our current nets are aged and require the Sailing Center docks to be installed in order for us to use. We have missed opportunities for stocking in the last few years due to not having the ability to "launch" the pens when the DNR needs them. Additionally, our pens were designed years ago and do not support a staging initiative where we can hold the fish for 2-3 weeks to allow the fish to imprint in the waters. This could result in more fish returning in the fall for spawning. Our new designs are intended to support up to 75,000 chinooks to be held and fed for up to 3 weeks.

Several of our members came up with a clever way to deploy the nets using modified pontoons and have been busy building a prototype that we hope to use this spring. The photo shows some of the progress that has been made so far on a 30' pontoon that we acquired. We also have a pair of 22' pontoons that will be modified. The permits have been applied for and we are in the initial planning phases for the spring stocking where we may receive up to 120,000 chinooks in Milwaukee.

A HUGE shout out to Dave Bowe for taking the bull by the horns and assembling a crew to design and build the pens. Much more work needs to be done and if you are interested in helping, please reach out to Dave.



*All Meetings are the  
second Tuesday of the Month.*

**New Berlin Ale House**  
16000 W. Cleveland Ave,  
New Berlin

**Next Membership Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**

**7 pm** ❤️

at New Berlin Ale House  
**GLSF Monthly Meeting,**  
**Guest Speaker –**  
**Rebecca Hansen, NOAA.**

All followed by one of Dave  
Bowe's raffles!

### Club Events

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### Membership Dues

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More Club News  
and Updates at  
[www.GLSFCLUB.com](http://www.GLSFCLUB.com)

### Upcoming Meetings

March 14<sup>th</sup> 🍀

April 11<sup>th</sup> ☔

May 9<sup>th</sup> 🌻

September 12<sup>th</sup> ☀️



## GLSF — MILWAUKEE

### Notes from your President



Brian Haydin

#### February Greetings GLSF Club Members and Associates,

Wow, what a reception! There isn't an official count, but the January membership meeting had the largest attendance in years where I counted over 50 people. I know this wasn't all just for me and the Speaker, Ryan Sander, so please tell me what we are doing right so we can keep doing it!

This month I wanted to plant a seed in everyone's mind. For those of you that aren't familiar with the WCC, their mission:

*The Wisconsin Conservation Congress is the only statutory body in the state where citizens elect delegates to advise the Natural Resources Board and the Department of Natural Resources on how to responsibly manage Wisconsin's natural resources for present and future generations. The Congress accomplishes this through open, impartial, broad-ranged actions.*

Bob Wincek and I are both representatives in our respective counties (Waukesha and Milwaukee) with Bob also serving on the district leadership. The Spring Meeting is coming up (April 3rd) and we need your support. Anti-sportsmen activists are already rallying the troops to install delegates who believe their rights trump ours. I expect that the April elections will be heavily attended and I strongly encourage you to mark your calendars so you can support like-minded candidates.

Speaking of getting engaged, I shared with the club my story. What I didn't squeeze in there was why I joined the club. Obviously to learn more about fishing the big pond, but more importantly I felt a calling to make a difference (see references to WCC, CDAC, etc). Making a difference requires a level of engagement, sacrifice of time and a steady stream of sweat. To accomplish that, I'd like to invite the members to join me on this journey by increasing your engagement as well.

Each of you can make a difference by volunteering for one or more of the many activities that the club does. One of the most precious moments that I have from the GLSF was of a mother's heartfelt story of wanting to introduce her son to fishing. But not knowing the first thing about fishing, she attended one of our fishing clinics where she learned to fish with her son. That woman was former Alder Woman Marina Dimitrijevic, who later helped me enthusiastically negotiate fishing access for the smelt fishermen.

What this has taught me is that each of us can make a difference with just the smallest effort. Please consider volunteering with the fishing clinic, cleanup days, the sports show, fish stocking or any of the other many activities the club does throughout the year. You never know when you will touch someone who can help you later.

Thanks again and Tight Lines!

**See you Tuesday, February 14th at 7pm**  
**– New Berlin Ale House for our GLSF Meeting**



Established  
1972

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please contact any of the directors regarding any information or issues of the coordinating activities.

### President

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All articles published are ideas and thoughts of the writer and don't necessarily reflect the ideas or beliefs of the GLSF Club or Foundation.

## Wisconsin Conservation Congress



The 2023 Spring Hearings will be held on sometime, hopefully, on April 10th. They have not been finalized at this time. However, if there is something you'd like address in the form of a proposed resolution, now is the time to be discussing it with your elected Conservation Congress representative. Feel free to reach out to Bob for Waukesha County or Brian Haydin for Milwaukee County if you have any ideas.

**Bob Wincek is one of the Waukesha County Conservation Congress Representatives. He is also a Vice-Chair of the Great Lakes Advisory Committee.**

**Brian Haydin is one of the Milwaukee County Conservation Congress Representatives. Both are the Chairpersons for their County and a member of the Bear Committee.**

How many members are aware that there is a Youth component to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress called the Youth Conservation Congress?

Their Charter is the same as the WCC and their members are mentored by members of the WCC.

To learn more, click the link below and read their newsletter. You might be amazed!

[https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/About/WCC/YCC/2023\\_January\\_Newsletter.pdf](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/About/WCC/YCC/2023_January_Newsletter.pdf)



Liv, YCC alumni enjoys ice fishing and already has several entries in the YCC virtual fishing contest!



Ari, YCC delegate from Jackson County caught this northern pike while fishing with friends.



## CALENDAR CORNER

[www.glsfclub.com](http://www.glsfclub.com)

Membership Meetings are normally held at the **New Berlin Ale House** – And Open to the Public  
16000 W. Cleveland Avenue, New Berlin at 7pm

### February 2023

**7 - GLSF Board Meeting** – New Berlin Ale House, 6pm

**11 - Kid's Ice Fishing Clinic at Greenfield Park**  
– 8:30am to 4pm

**14 - GLSF Membership Meeting** –  
New Berlin Ale House, 7pm, Program: Rebecca Hansen,  
NOAA – US Weather Service

### March 2023

**7 - GLSF Board Meeting** – New Berlin Ale House, 6pm

**14 - GLSF Membership Meeting** –  
New Berlin Ale House, 7pm,

Program: Laura Schmidt, Fisheries Biologist  
– Southern Lake Michigan Fisheries Team

**25 - 3rd Annual FREE GLSF Sponsored Salmon School**  
– New Berlin Ale House, 9am to 3:30pm  
Featured speakers are Dan Keating and Dan Small!

### April 2023

**4 - GLSF Board Meeting** – New Berlin Ale House, 6pm

**11 - GLSF SWAP Meet** –  
4pm to 7pm (Ale House North Hall) Followed by Monthly  
meeting at 7pm –Program – TBD

**18 - Kid's Spring Fishing Clinic** – Greenfield Park,  
8am – 4pm

For updated information please visit our club website at  
[www.glsfclub.com](http://www.glsfclub.com)

Group Login: glsfclub-member, password: fishing53151



## Fishing Clinic Coming up!

Reminder, a kid's fishing clinic will be held Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Greenfield Park (2028 S 124th St.). Volunteers are still needed and appreciated. Set up starts at 8:00 and clean up should go pretty quick.

Please let Brandon Witt (262-370-4295) or Ryan Flohr (414-349-2016) know if you are able to help.

Thank you!



## Practice Ice Safety on all Waterbodies this Winter Navigation Channels May Cause Unique, Changing Conditions

The Wisconsin DNR urges the public to practice ice safety on all of Wisconsin's waterbodies and remember that no ice is safe ice as they venture outdoors this winter.

Recent water rescues serve as chilly reminders that early-season ice on any Wisconsin waterbody is thin, weak and potentially life-threatening to anyone looking to get a jump on winter fun. None of the early-season breakthrough rescues were fatal incidents.

"Temperature swings, strong winds, currents, underground springs feeding lakes and rivers vary widely across Wisconsin," said Major April Dombrowski, DNR Recreational Safety and Outdoor Skills Section Chief. "These factors are why no ice is ever considered safe, especially not this early in the season."

### Get Ice Status from Local Sources

The DNR does not monitor ice conditions. If your plans include access to or use of an ice-covered waterbody, contact your local fishing clubs, bait shops or outfitters for ice conditions.

"These places routinely check ice conditions and can give you the best and most current conditions," said Dombrowski. "If you can plan your outing without any travel over ice, do it. And if you are going to be on some

ice, let someone know your plans and follow them."

### Conditions Vary On Waterbodies

A waterbody can have its own characteristics. Check if the lake has inlets and outlets. Know whether its narrows are spring-fed or have currents like rivers, both of which can thin the ice. Some smaller lakes can have aerators that are run throughout the winter, either covering a large area towards the center of the lake or may have smaller aerators placed by private property landowners adjacent to their shore and piers.

It is equally as important to stay alert for pressure ridges or ice heaves. These can be dangerous due to thin ice and resulting open water. They are often created, move or grow with changes in temperatures and high winds. Pressure ridges and ice heaves can happen on Wisconsin's largest lake, Lake Winnebago, a popular home to sturgeon spearers, and the Bay of Green Bay.

Have a plan in place noting where you will be and when you plan to return. Along with leaving a written note of your plans, keeping a charged cell phone is also recommended. [Check out the DNR's Ice Safety webpage](#) for more information on staying safe on the ice, including tips for creating ice claws and what to do if you fall through ice.

### Ice Safety Basics

Here are a few basic ice safety tips to remember:

- Carry a cell phone, and let people know where you are going and when you'll return home.
- Wear proper clothing and equipment, including a life jacket or a float coat, to help you stay afloat and to help maintain body heat.
- Wear ice creepers attached to boots to prevent slipping on clear ice.
- Carry a spud bar to check the ice while walking to new areas.
- Carry a few spikes and a length of light rope in an easily accessible pocket to help pull yourself – or others – out of the ice.
- If you fall in, remain as calm as possible. While attempting to get out of the water, call for help. Anyone who attempts to rescue you should use a rope or something similar to avoid falling through themselves.
- Do not travel in unfamiliar areas or at night.

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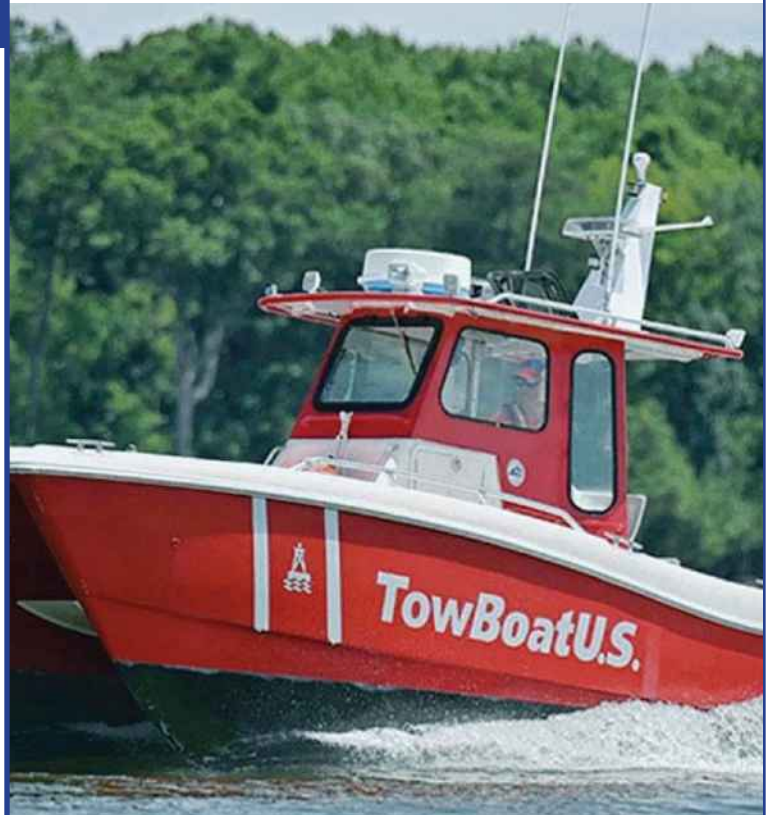
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MB411 8/17

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## Membership and 2023 Membership Dues

As of this newsletter, we are at 108 Regular members and 47 Senior Members on our roster. In January we had 154 members and this month, we have 155 members. We do need to continue to grow our membership! We have lost many members in the last 2 years who have not renewed their dues. Unless they notify me, I keep them on the mailing list in hopes they will become motivated to renew their dues. Please take the time to renew when you get the reminder messages. Over the next few months, many of you will be receiving these notices. It helps the club and helps support the Lake Michigan Fishery as well. If you have questions, please call Bob at 414-217-9752 or send him an e-mail at [bob@glsfclub.com](mailto:bob@glsfclub.com). You, the membership of this organization, are the life and blood that keep it alive! Please renew when notified. If there is something you would like addressed or changed, please see any board member, or better yet, consider volunteering for a future Board position.

To renew, you also have several options. You can continue to use the form on the back of the Tightline and send in, or hand in your check or cash at our meetings, pay with a credit card at our meetings, or renew on-line by logging in with your personal login and select the new membership option for either a Regular or Senior Membership. The website already knows it is you when you are logged in, so all you will need to do is confirm your membership data and input your credit card payment on our secure server connection.

I get notification of all transactions and verify that they are recorded correctly in the membership application to guarantee no errors are committed. When you do your renewal in this manner, 12 months gets automatically added to whatever date your membership was set to expire. This allows us to treat everyone the same. If you joined or renewed in October 2021, you will not see your reminders until September 2022. If you get a reminder that seems too soon to you, please contact Bob ([bob@glsfclub.com](mailto:bob@glsfclub.com)) and let him know so he can investigate. There are a few known bugs in our membership program which we hope will be resolved soon. There have been some inconsistencies with our membership module on our website, so if you believe our data is incorrect, contact me, I can give you your exact expiration date. I do keep a manual spreadsheet to track all memberships, because I too, do not trust our membership module. Just send me an e-mail at [bob@glsfclub.com](mailto:bob@glsfclub.com) or text message at 414-217-9752 and I will fix the error.

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## Now is not the time to drop your GLSF Membership!

Our environment lives on and in some cases needs our support. The good news for us is that our DNR is working, and they can now have face-to-face interactions. This is good news, after almost 2 years of quarantine.

There was an NRB Meeting on August 9-10. The Commercial Fishing Board was on the agenda to make a presentation and I heard it was a good one. They are asking for a commercial quota of the Lake Michigan Lake Trout. According to the agenda, there was no one at the meeting or online with any counter views.

This is a slippery slope as currently Lake Trout are listed as a Wisconsin Game Fish and according to the 2022 Wisconsin Fishing Regulations, Game Fish can only be harvested in Wisconsin by hook and line. How it's allowed on Lake Superior, I do not know, but there is a Lake Trout commercial harvest limit for Lake Superior, as well as a Tribal Harvest Limit. There are some Sport Fishermen who do not like or appreciate Lake Trout and they have been advocating that Commercial Fishing for Lake Trout should be allowed. If it is legally allowed, what happens when they start asking for Coho or Chinook Salmon, Rainbow Trout or Brown Trout? These are species stocked using our Great Lakes Sport Fishing Stamp funds. Without Sport Fishermen support, this is certainly a possibility.

At a recent virtual Wisconsin Conservation Great Lakes Advisory Committee Meeting this past Saturday, August 27th, we learned that the recent Whitefish rules and limits for Lower Green Bay were made permanent. Electronic reporting for guides as well as Commercial Harvest has been implemented. This will help the DNR monitor Whitefish harvest throughout the year. Additionally, Trap Net locations now must be reported to the DNR so that people can be made aware of potential navigation issues.

Your membership helps us support and work with the DNR to ensure that stocking of Lake Michigan Salmon and Trout will continue at levels high enough to maintain the current levels of harvest and the current size of the healthy fish being harvested. Please consider renewing and bringing along a friend as a new member, too.



3<sup>rd</sup> Ever Milwaukee Great Lakes Sport Fishermen "Thank You" Salmon School

**Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**

**9am to 4:00pm**

**New Berlin Ale House**

16000 W. Cleveland Ave, New Berlin, WI 53151

Seminars conducted by AM – Dan Keating, PM – Dan Small

**\*\* BUCKET RAFFLES \*\***

**We will have Fishing gear and Limited  
Services available on-site!**

**Advance Registration REQUIRED-**

**Click Here: [https://www.glsfclub.com/GLSF Seminars](https://www.glsfclub.com/GLSF_Seminars)**

**Admission Fee: FREE \* Open to the Public**

**\*(Free Admission ONLY to bidders on GLSF Raffles and all GLSF Members in  
"good standing" Everyone else will be charged \$50 for a GLSF Membership!)**

**Doors Open at 8am**

**Lunch available for purchase with advance registration –  
\$25.00 for a Buffet Deli-Plate Lunch, with a cookie**

**Free Coffee and rolls will be available at 8:00**

**There will be a cash bar in the room throughout the day**

**For more information see**

**[www.glsfclub.com](http://www.glsfclub.com) or call Ron @ 262-337-2225, or Bob @414-217-9752**

**See the activities page on website**

**See us on Facebook at**

**Milwaukee Great Lakes Sport Fisherman –  
Seminar Event**



## Great Lakes Basin Report

### Trudeau gives \$800M for indigenous-led conservation issues

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has announced \$800 million in funding for indigenous-led conservation projects covering almost a million square kilometers of land. He made the announcement in Montréal, which is hosting the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, also known as COP15. The four projects in Ontario, Nunavut, the Northwest Territories and British Columbia that will be funded starting next year are meant to conserve land and protect coastal and inland waterways.

Trudeau said the initiative will help Canada reach its target of conserving 25% of Canada's land and waters by 2025, rising to 30% by 2030. The project is being funded with the help of Project Finance for Permanence, PFP, a funding model that channels contributions from indigenous communities, all levels of government and the philanthropic community to provide long-term protection for land and water. In the Great Bear Sea on B.C.'s coast, the initiative will support a group representing 17 First Nations working to protect the Northern Shelf Bioregion, which includes many islands, rocky shorelines and deep fjords. In the NW Territories, funding will be directed to a partnership of 30 indigenous groups working to protect boreal forests, rivers and other lands.

In Ontario's far north, the initiative will fund conservation and protection activities. ✧

### Teaching youth to fish worldwide

In 2018, the International Game Fish Association set an ambitious goal of teaching 100,000 youth around the world how to fish ethically. In June 2022, the 100,000th child was taught during our IGFA Day celebrations. Although the initiative is complete, the work will continue around the world to establish future generations of ethical anglers. ✧

### Wisconsin sturgeon spearing season is almost here!

The Wisconsin DNR has published the [2023 Winnebago System Sturgeon Spearing Regulations](#). The 2023 sturgeon spearing season will open on **Saturday, Feb. 11**, and will run for 16 days or until any of the pre-determined harvest caps are met. If harvest caps are met early, a closure notice will be posted to the [DNR's Winnebago System Sturgeon Spearing webpage](#).

- Registration stations have been moved back to their pre-pandemic locations. All registration will once again be in-person with some locations offering a drive-thru option.

- The maximum width of a spear head is restricted to 18 inches or less and tines can only be arranged in a single straight line.

- Spearing of any species of fish other than sturgeon from the Winnebago system is prohibited during the sturgeon spearing season, except that a licensed sturgeon spearer with a valid unused sturgeon carcass tag and valid fishing license may retain or dispose of any carp taken incidentally while sturgeon spearing. Any carp incidentally speared must be removed from the water, bank or shore and properly disposed of.

As a reminder, all harvested sturgeon must be registered at an official DNR registration station by 2 p.m. on the day it was speared. Any sturgeon harvested from Lake Winnebago must be registered at one of the registration stations on Lake Winnebago. Likewise, any sturgeon harvested from lakes Poygan, Butte des Morts or Winneconne must be registered at one of the Upriver Lakes registration stations.

Continue to place harvested sturgeon on a tailgate or in an easily accessible location to aid in the registration process, and allow staff to collect important biological data, such as size, sex and tagging history. This information will help the DNR to properly manage the sturgeon population. [View the 2023 registration station locations in the new regulations here.](#) ✧

### Help prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species this winter

**MADISON, Wis.** – The Wisconsin DNR and UW-Extension are asking anglers to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species in Wisconsin's lakes and rivers while ice fishing this winter. Aquatic invasive species have made their way into Wisconsin's waterways. Still, anglers can reduce the transmission of these invasives even in the winter by checking for and removing any mud or plant material clinging to their gear, including sleds used to haul supplies, before leaving fishing spots.

Invasive species are non-native plants, animals and diseases that cause great ecological, environmental or economic harm. Aquatic invasive species can crowd out native plants and animals and threaten the quality of boating and fishing in Wisconsin waters.

Curly-leaf pondweed and Eurasian watermilfoil are two aquatic invasive species that remain hardy in the winter under the ice, giving them an advantage over our native aquatic plants. The plant-like algae starry stonewort dies back for winter, but its tiny, star-shaped bulbils can be present on plants yanked up through the ice or in the mud that can come up if the bottom is disturbed by augers. Disease and the larvae of invasive snails and mussels can also be present in the water and mud in winter.

Because of the possible spread of diseases like [Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia \(VHS\)](#) that can threaten fish populations, it is important to only buy minnows from a licensed Wisconsin bait dealer. Up to two gallons of water may be kept for minnows provided they will be used on the same waterbody or if no lake or river water from the fishing site(s) has been added. Dead bait must be preserved in ways that do not require freezing or refrigeration. Visit the DNR's [webpage on bait preservation](#) to learn more. Find more rules regarding bait in [the current fishing regulations](#). ✧





**February Trivia – Fun Facts About Pacific Salmon** Answers on page 14 (No Peeking!)

1. How many species are there of Pacific salmon?
2. Pacific salmon are named \_\_\_\_\_?
3. Which salmon are the smallest and most abundant species?
4. Which salmon are the largest (exceeding 50 kilos) but least abundant species?
5. Pacific salmon undertake anadromous migrations, which means what?
6. Pacific salmon are also semelparous, which means what?
7. Once adult salmon return to freshwater, they do not eat. How long can they go without eating?
8. How many kilometers per day do Salmon travel on their spawning journeys/
9. How many meters can a salmon jump to cross obstacles in rivers?
10. Females lay thousands of eggs (usually between 2,000 and 10,000), what percent survives?

Caution: When used as directed this product will light the water on fire. When the actual "Fire drill" occurs you should grab the nearest bouncing rod and yell FISH ON!



[www.FireFliesWI.com](http://www.FireFliesWI.com)

## Milwaukee Boat Launching Facilities Updates

According to Eric Lesch, McKinley Marina Manager, There have been NO construction meetings, contract contacts or news from the County Parks Board. That means they are remaining open until some type of notice is given. This is the same information posted on the GLSF Website.

If anyone living in Milwaukee County has an Alderman or a County Supervisor, or a County Parks Supervisor that they know, perhaps we could start a dialogue to see when the Boat Launches might get attention.

With no current connection or dialogue, we hope and pray than Marina construction does not get scheduled for July 2023, interrupting the County Air Show and our 23rd Annual GLSF Brew City Salmon Tournament scheduled for July 28-28, 2023, sponsored by Pratt Gears!



WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

## SALT AND STORM WATER

**MADISON, Wis.** – Wisconsin winters cause us to rely heavily on salting our roads, parking lots and sidewalks. But high salt use causes Wisconsin's lakes, streams and drinking water to suffer. The growing salt problem threatens our fish and other aquatic life, and our groundwater that supplies our drinking water. We can continue to keep our roads, parking lots and sidewalks safe by using the right amount of salt. Take action by participating in one of the winter salt certification training sessions held throughout the state.

[Wisconsin Salt Wise Partnership](#)



**It only takes 1 teaspoon of salt to pollute 5 gallons of water to a level that is toxic for freshwater ecosystems. We can all work together to use the right amount of salt!**

**WI Salt Wise Partnership: A coalition of organizations working together to reduce salt pollution in our lakes, streams and drinking water.**



# DECORE

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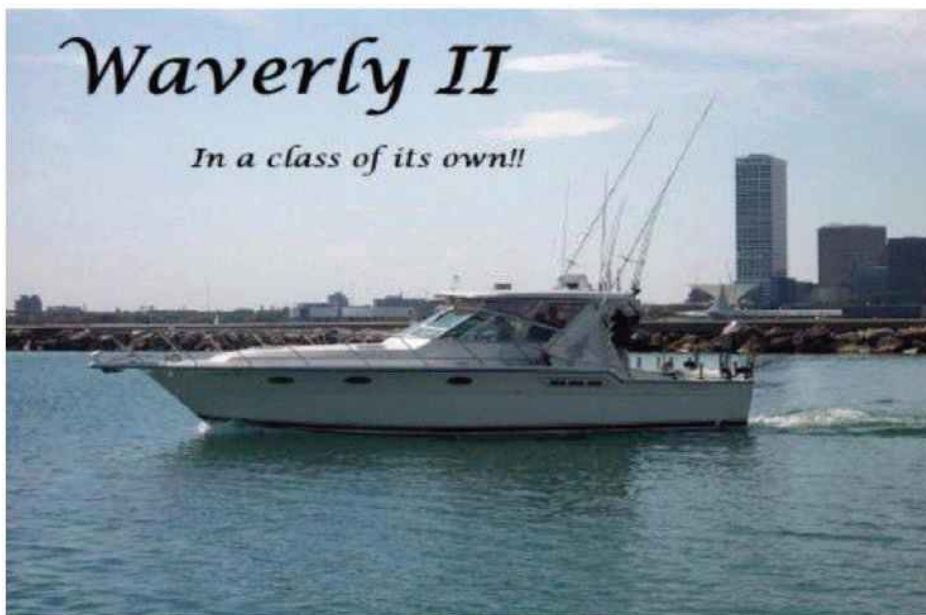


## A Reminder from our Great Lake Fisheries Manager of Southern Lake Michigan – Cheryl Masterson

For all the conscientious Fishermen wanting to help science in a big way for tracking our Lake Michigan Fish, the DNR in conjunction with Sea Grant has deployed an App Called the Great Lakes Angler Diary. The details on the Great Lakes Angler Diary and registration info can be found here –

<https://www.michiganseagrant.org/topics/fisheries-and-aquaculture/angler-citizen-science/great-lakes-angler-diary/>

Your Help is needed and appreciated as a volunteer to accurately fill out this Diary for every Lake Michigan Trip you take! It easy, fast, and free and helps the Sport Fishermen! Think about this for 2023!



**Captain Marc Sobeski**

**Phone: 414-247-1660**

**E-Mail: CaptMarc@att.net**

The Waverly II, our 36-foot CustomTiara is fully equipped with the latest Raytheon

state of the art electronics. This fully integrated system includes GPS chartplotter, HD Digital fishfinder, radar, autopilot, and more!





## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program - USFWS Midwest Region 3

January 26, 2023



Fish Lines monthly publication that highlights the recent news and work conducted by USFWS Midwest Region Fisheries personnel and their partners and friends. For questions or for more information contact the editor, email: [tim\\_smirjanski@fws.gov](mailto:tim_smirjanski@fws.gov)

### How do you tell the difference between diploid and triploid Black Carp?

BY CHRISTINA STAHL, MIDWEST FISHERIES CENTER

Fisheries Biologist, Jennifer Bailey, at La Crosse Fish Health Center has been answering that question for years. Her work has been a pivotal part of a recently co-published paper — *Establishment of Invasive Black Carp (Mylopharyngodon piceus) in the Mississippi River basin: identifying sources and year classes contributing to recruitment* in Biological Invasions.

The Black Carp was introduced for control of pond snails in aquaculture. It has specialized mouth parts and feeds exclusively on mollusks, making it an excellent biological control for snails in ponds, but a catastrophic invasive species in the wild. To reduce the risk of an invasion if the fish were to escape, the industry began producing triploid fish using a technique that causes them to have three (instead of two) sets of chromosomes, making them sterile. If escaped, they could not reproduce. Unfortunately, some of the diploid fish used as broodstock escaped during seasonal flooding events, leading to their establishment in the Mississippi River basin.

A key to identifying if an invasive species has been established in an area is knowing if there are individuals in the population that are reproducing. Knowing if the fish you catch are sterile or can reproduce is key— which is why U.S. Geological Survey research adapted flow cytometry methods to examine the chromosomal content of captured black carp from the wild. A tool normally reserved for human health research was used for the first time in fisheries management for the Black Carp study. Because of the success of the tool in this study, Bailey has expanded its use to other species and programs. Good tools are a key to good management. Unfortunately, this study revealed a new establishment of an invasive species in the Mississippi River Basin, but it's better to know what's going on in your watershed than to be in the dark.

Above: Blood samples in preservatives for flow cytometry. Credit: USFWS



### The Salmon are Coming...New Diet Study Begins at Genoa NFH

BY DOUG ALOISI, GENOA NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY

Sometimes a series of unfortunate events allows a station's empty tanks to be incorporated into some very meaningful research. Due to poor weather conditions in Lake Superior this year, the station was not able to receive lake trout eggs from Klondike Reef, a reef known to harbor a unique strain of lake trout known as —humpers—. This strain appears to survive well in the lower Great Lakes lake trout restoration programs of Lake Erie and Ontario, and plans are in place to maintain and redevelop a disease free captive broodstock.

But sometimes the best laid plans of mice and men open other windows of opportunity. This just occurred by freeing up a quarantine wing in order to receive Landlocked Atlantic Salmon eggs from the White River National Fish Hatchery in Bethel, Vermont in order to jump start a diet study of great interest to Great Lakes Fisheries managers. The study will examine the effects of varying levels of thiamine, a dietary essential B vitamin which impacts early life survival and potential future reproductive success. Alewife, an introduced species in the Great Lakes, contain a high level of thiaminase, an enzyme which breaks down thiamin in the body of apex predators in the system. This has been suspected of causing early mortality syndrome, a high-level mortality event in early life stage fry in the Great Lakes.

Determining what level of thiamin deficiency causes this syndrome will be beneficial to fishery managers and fish culturists in this region. The results could help guide fish feed production and use, help improve management practices to reduce introduced forage species and when possible, to control reduced survival and generational recruitment in wild and captive populations.

When the fry are ready to accept prepared diets, they will be transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Midwest Fisheries Center's wet lab in Onalaska, Wisconsin and the study will begin.

Above: Genoa NFH manager Doug Aloisi separates incubating eggs with a turkey feather. Credit: USFWS

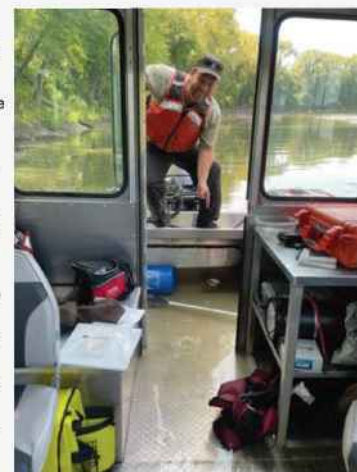


### There's Always More to Our Story...

#### Same Carp...New Tricks

WES BOUSKA, LA CROSSE FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION OFFICE

It is well established that jumping Silver Carp can be a hazard for boaters on the river. Any fisheries worker that has spent time on infested waters will undoubtedly have some war stories to tell, and the longer you deal with these fish, the stranger your encounters will be. I have personally been working in the vicinity of Silver Carp for over a decade now. They jump in the boat, they get slime and blood all over, and yes, they sometimes hit you. While annoying, those types of encounters have not really prevented fishery workers from getting their jobs done. The carp have realized this and have started to experiment with more aggressive techniques to drive us off the water :-). Here are some examples of new Silver Carp disruption tactics that I have experienced, and that others should be on the lookout for:



1. The fuel tank trick — upon jumping into the boat, the Silver Carp flops its way to the fuel tank, then thrashes violently on top of it until it has disconnected the fuel hose. This can lead to confusion among the crew when the outboard motor dies suddenly. Silver Carp especially like to do this when the boat is in high current and near obstacles or oncoming barge traffic.
2. Pulling the plug trick — once in the boat, the Silver Carp flops its way to the bilge, and then dislodges the drain plug. This can lead to panic among the crew who wonder why their feet are suddenly wet. Silver Carp like to execute this trick when expensive gear is deployed in the water, preventing the operator from getting on plane to drain the boat. Switch from flip-style to screw-in plugs to reduce the likelihood of this happening!
3. Breaking the window trick — When conducting hydroacoustic surveys, Silver Carp may try to break through the windows of the cabin. This can increase anxiety levels among the crew and lead to nervous twitching every time there is a loud noise. While my survey boat only experienced two cracked windows this year, rumor has it a Silver Carp actually broke through the window of a survey boat on the Lower Mississippi River this year, threatened the crew with a shard of broken glass, and then stole their wallets before returning to the water.

As you can see, Silver Carp tactics are evolving, becoming more brazen and sophisticated—). Safety officers and MOCC instructors, be sure to cover these scenarios at your next training meeting and be on the lookout for new threats. You never know what trick those pesky carp might try next!

The author managed to get the plug back in his boat after it was dislodged by a Silver Carp during a hydroacoustic survey in Pool 20 of the Mississippi River this fall, but not before taking on some water. Credit: Jenna Bloomfield/USFWS



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### February Trivia – (Continued from page 9)

1. There are **SEVEN** species of Pacific salmon. Five of them occur in North American waters: **Chinook, coho, chum, sockeye, and pink**. Masu and amago salmon occur only in Asia.
2. **Oncorhynchus**: The name is derived from the Greek onkos (“hook”) and rynchos (“nose”), in reference to the “kype” – the hooked jaw that forms in males during competition for females during mating season.
3. **Pink salmon**
4. **Chinook salmon**
5. Anadromous migrations, mean they reproduce in clean, cool, freshwater streams, but rear for a portion of their life in oceans, where they accumulate more than 99 per cent of their adult weight.
6. Semelparous means that the most adults die after reproduction and become nutrients and food in the freshwater systems. They are the nutrient backbone to coastal ecosystems.
7. Adult Salmon can go six months without food while transferring body fats into their gametes for reproduction.
8. Salmon often travel 50 kilometers per day. This is equivalent to running more than a marathon every day!
9. Salmon can jump up to two meters – the same height some Olympic athlete can jump.
10. Unfortunately, at present less than one percent of these eggs survive to the next generation.

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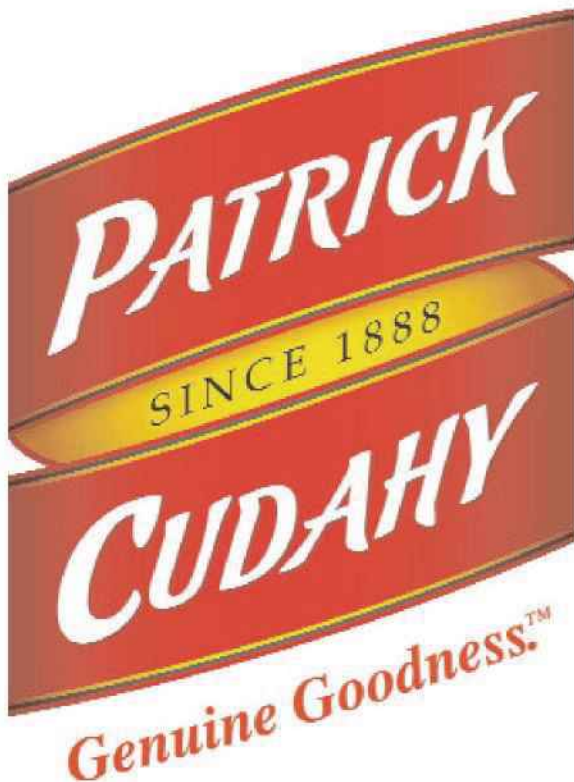
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## Thirteen ice fishing safety tips you need to know

During the winter months, frozen lakes host a flurry of outdoor activities. Anglers, ice shanties, and recreational vehicles are a common scene.

While many enjoy winter activities on the ice, these activities can lead to serious injury if the proper precautions aren't taken.

Before you head out on the ice this winter, check out these safety tips.

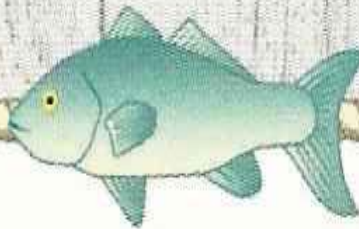


- 1. Share your fishing plans.** It's a good idea to share your plans with your family, friends, or neighbors. Let them know:  
The name of the lake you'll be fishing on;  
The location of your fishing hot spot (i.e. north shore, south shore, etc.); and  
When you plan to arrive home.  
If the fish are actively biting and you decide to stay out longer, notify them of your change in plans.
- 2. Bring a friend.** When going ice fishing, never go alone. A friend can:  
Provide an extra set of hands;  
Help you stay focused on safety; and  
Alert authorities if something goes wrong.
- 3. Talk to the locals.** They can provide information on ice thickness, water movement, and other information pertinent to the lake.
- 4. Follow these ice thickness guidelines.** Remember, ice is never 100% safe. Ice thickness can change very quickly.

2" or less - STAY OFF!	8" - 12" - Car or small pickup
4" - Ice fishing or other activities on foot	12" - 15" - Medium truck
5" - Snowmobile or ATV	
- 5. Purchase a flotation suit.** A flotation suit is the most important item you can buy. If you fall through the ice, a flotation suit will keep you warm and make it easier to escape the frigid water.
- 6. Carry a pair of ice picks/rescue claws.** Keep a quality pair of ice picks with you at all times. If you fall through the ice, ice picks make it possible for you to climb out. Don't skimp on this life saving device.
- 7. Carry a throw rope.** A throw rope can be used to pull a fellow angler to safety.
- 8. Leave the lake before dark.** Navigation at night can be treacherous. Without familiar visuals or a navigation device, you can become disorientated making it difficult to find your way off the ice.
- 9. Install proper ventilation.** If your ice shanty is heated, make sure you have good ventilation. A poorly ventilated shanty can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning.
- 10. Bring a portable power bank battery charger.** Cold temperatures can quickly drain your smartphone battery. A quality charger can save the day. I would recommend buying a high capacity charger. While they're a bit more expensive, they can provide multiple charges, and can charge multiple phones at one time. To avoid permanent damage, turn your phone off in extremely cold temperatures.
- 11. Respect the ice auger.** Ice augers are built to drill holes quickly and efficiently. Before operating it for the first time, read the owner's manual. In addition, avoid wearing loose clothing or jewelry. When you are finished with the auger, store it in a safe place. Lastly, always maintain sharp blades to avoid injury while drilling.
- 12. Stay hydrated.** Staying hydrated is very important. Dehydration can happen quickly in cold weather because your body is working hard to stay warm.
- 13. Layer up.** Selecting the right number of layers is important. Beginners to winter activities tend to underdress, especially if it's a sunny day. Choosing the right number of layers, based on temperature, can only be accomplished through trial and error. Before venturing out on the ice practice at home.

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### Current Dates for 2023 SW Lake Michigan Tournaments

Tournament	Port	Date
SU WI Open	Racine	TBD
Kenosha Classic	Kenosha	TBD
SU IL Pass the Passion	Northpoint	TBD
Salmon a Rama	Racine	July 15 thru 23, 2023
Super Sweepstakes	Racine	July 15, 2023
Two in a Boat	Racine	July 16, 2023
<b>Brew City</b>		
<b>Powder Puff – Warm Up</b>	<b>Milwaukee</b>	<b>July 28</b>
<b>Pro Division</b>	<b>Milwaukee</b>	<b>July 28 &amp; 29</b>
<b>Brew City Pro/Am</b>	<b>Milwaukee</b>	<b>July 29</b>
SU IL Open	Northpoint	TBD

### Hunters and Anglers Step Up Big Time for Conservation

A record amount of \$1.09 billion dollars is being distributed to the states for conservation purposes through the Federal Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson programs. Under those programs, sportsmen and women pay 11% excise taxes on firearms, ammunition and fishing equipment. Wisconsin will be receiving \$32.4 million this year, \$19.6 million for wildlife restoration and \$12.8 for fish restoration efforts. That is a 10% increase in funding over the previous year. For additional information on the funds and their use. [Click Here for more....](#)



January 19, 2023  
West Coast National

NEWS

## **Endangered Salmon Regain Access to Healthy West Coast Habitat through 20 Projects Funded by NOAA Fisheries**

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is one of the largest funding packages for salmon and steelhead recovery in the last decade. It promises to reopen many miles of crucial spawning and rearing habitat across the West Coast as climate change increases the urgency of recovery actions. These projects will help restore access to healthy habitat for migratory fish through:

- On-the-ground fish passage restoration
- Engineering and design
- Future project development
- Building the capacity of new and existing partners to design projects and manage multi-faceted restoration efforts

Fisheries recommended nearly \$105 million for 36 fish passage projects nationally, from the Biden-Harris Administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. These new projects will reopen migratory pathways, restore access to healthy habitat for fish, and build tribal capacity to participate in developing and implementing fish passage projects. Additional competitive funding opportunities will be announced in subsequent years.

### **Habitat Conservation**

"NOAA's Office of Habitat Conservation has a long history of building and supporting partnerships for habitat restoration. We execute large scale, high impact habitat actions through expert technical assistance and funding through our Community-based Restoration Program," says Jennifer Steger, Pacific Regional Manager for the Restoration Center in the NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation. "NOAA is excited to continue working alongside the tribes and all our partners to support the great work they are doing to conserve and restore habitat for recovery and sustainable fisheries."

"This investment in fish passage projects throughout NOAA Fisheries' West Coast Region will have tremendous benefits for people, fish, and the land," says Scott Rumsey, acting West Coast Regional Administrator. "We are fortunate to have exemplary partners in our State and local governments, tribes, non-government organizations, and local communities to help us carry this important work forward. Our partners bring their unique expertise to each project."

Funds will be used to remove dams, improve culverts, and otherwise improve fish passage. Projects will range from Southern California to the Central Valley, and north coasts of California, to the Oregon Coast, Puget Sound, and into the Columbia and Snake Rivers. They will benefit many salmon and steelhead populations listed under the Endangered Species Act and other migratory species, such as lamprey and green sturgeon. The projects will also support resident fish like listed bull trout, and help conserve essential fish habitat for managed fisheries. Several of the selected projects will benefit Chinook salmon populations that are important prey for endangered Southern Resident Killer Whales.

### **Informed by Science And Community-Driven Planning**

Project selection was informed by science relative to habitat restoration actions aligned with recovery plans and in support for listed and managed species. The latest science and research will support and help assess the effectiveness of restoration efforts and funds. Each species of fish has its own unique recovery plan developed in partnership with the affected community. NOAA Fisheries' West Coast Region is [completing reviews of 28 salmon and steelhead species](#) on the West Coast. Each review highlights the highest priority recommendations for the next 5 years for each of the species.

Together, the habitat actions implemented by these partnerships will help recover endangered migratory fish and support the sustainability of commercial, recreational, and tribal fisheries. They strengthen local partnerships, create employment opportunities, improve opportunities for recreation, and enhance resilience to climate change by reducing flooding and improving outdated infrastructure.



The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law includes promises to reopen many miles of crucial spawning and rearing habitat across the West Coast as climate change increases the urgency of recovery action. Credit: NOAA Fisheries







December 2022

Mr. Bob Wincek  
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If you have any questions about your gift, please contact us at (414) 266-6100. Thank you for making a difference to so many Wisconsin families. I cannot wait to see what we will continue to accomplish together!

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## Great Lakes Basin Report

## Scientists lead project to deter carp with sound

How do you stop an army of carp from invading the Great Lakes? Two Virginia Tech researchers are joining an effort to put up a defensive barrier made of sound waves.

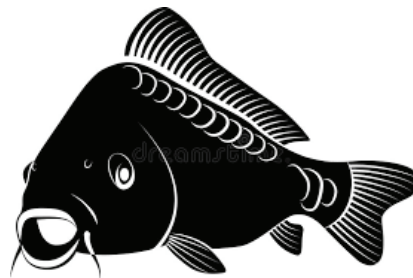
John Palmore, assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, has received \$340,000 from the Army Corps of Engineers' Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) to create new tools using sound waves to control the movement of invasive species of Asian carp. The center's mission is to deliver vital engineering solutions to secure the nation, energize the U.S. economy, and reduce disaster risk. One of its principal responsibilities is managing the nation's commercial waterway navigation infrastructure, including locks and dams.

A relatively new threat to those waterways comes from the presence of several invasive species of carp. Four species, known collectively as Asian carp, were introduced into targeted waterways in the 1970s to control harmful agents on aquatic farms. However, in the past 50 years, these large fish have moved beyond aquatic farms and now threaten the balance of aquatic life in lakes and rivers throughout the United States, gobbling up food and resources needed by other species. This threatens not only the fish that are going without, but also the fishing industries that depend on their health and wellness.

Carp's travel related to human activity on lakes and rivers can be both direct and indirect. When fishermen travel between two bodies of water, they often transport live bait as they go. Although adult carp are quite large, young carp may be the same size as smaller species used for fishing. As a result, transported young carp may be dumped into the water, grow to maturity, and breed in areas where they don't belong.

Carp also take advantage of the movement of boats and water where lakes and rivers meet. Those intersections are usually controlled with dams and locks. Dams control the amount of water, and locks control the movement of boats between bodies of water.

In the case of a lock, engineers construct a small waterway – large enough to accommodate a boat – between two more substantial waterways. When a boat enters, both sides of the lock are closed. Often, one waterway is higher than the other, so the lock will either be flooded so the boat can travel “uphill,” or drained so a boat can travel “downhill.” During that water movement, nearby carp enter the lock and make a new home in the waterway.



Palmore's research efforts with ERDC benefit the Brandon Road Interbasin Project, a multiyear, multimillion dollar project aimed at lowering the spread of carp, specifically from the Illinois Waterway into the Great Lakes, through lock movement. Because the carp move most easily through the lock transition, the idea is to keep them away from that area.

Considerable effort has been put into stopping the spread already, particularly to safeguard the \$7 billion yearly Great Lakes fishing industry. Protective measures include a combination of existing nonlethal barriers at locks and dams to deter the fish, including underwater electrical barriers, columns of bubbles, and

sounds played through the water. Palmore's team is diving into the efficacy of sound barriers when used in the locks.

“Out of all those technologies, acoustic deterrents are potentially the best in the sense that they are the most customizable,” said Palmore. “All fish are affected by bubble currents. Electric fences contain fish based on size but not species. For acoustic deterrents, each species hears within a different range. You have a selective mechanism to annoy specific species of fish.”

To keep fish at bay with sound, researchers combine different noises, such as predatorial sounds (like a dolphin), boat noises, and other irritants. The ERDC team has created the racket and tested its effect on the fish, while Palmore's team investigates the way sound travels in water to create computational models and improved applications. The team at Virginia Tech is working with a group of ERDC's Ph.D.-holding engineers, including Christa Woodley, David Smith, and Marcela Politano, to develop and test the tools being built.

“The goal is to generate a model that can be applied widely to rivers and dams,” said Palmore. “Information such as the shape of the riverbed and the lock, how often barges enter, and how long it takes to fill the lock are important to our study.”

In addition to the connection to the Brandon Road Interbasin Project, Palmore's work also is part of the Chesapeake Watershed Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, one of 17 such organizations across the United States that support sustainability science by providing research, technical assistance, and education to federal land management, environmental, and research agencies and their partners. ✧



## Great Lakes Basin Report

**Wisconsin NRB Meeting Jan. 25**

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board will meet in-person for the January board meeting to consider several proposed rulemaking documents, fish and wildlife matters, and donations. The meeting will begin at **8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 25**, originating from public meeting room G09, State Natural Resources Building (GEF2), 101 S. Webster Street, Madison, Wisconsin. [The Board will act on items 1-4 and 7-8 as listed on the agenda.](#)

The public is encouraged to watch the January board meeting on [the DNR's YouTube channel](#).

**The deadline to register for public appearance requests and to submit written comments is 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2022.** Remote testimony from the public via Zoom may be accepted. In-person public appearances are also welcome.

During the January meeting, several items the Board will be considering include:

- Approval of recommendations for the Fisheries Management 2023 spring fish and wildlife hearing agenda.
- Approval of recommendations for the Wildlife Management 2023 spring fish and wildlife hearing agenda.
- Approval of Land Donation - Northern Highland - American Legion State Forest.

[The complete January NRB meeting agenda is available on the DNR website.](#) ✧

**DNR announces grant to build fishing community**

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin DNR is accepting applications for the Angler Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation (Angler R3) grant program. Funding from the program is used to help grow the number of anglers in Wisconsin and expand angling activities. Cost-sharing funds can be awarded to individuals or community-based organizations, Wisconsin tribes, universities and schools.

“The goal of this grant is to help people connect with their fisheries and to build a relationship with the lakes and streams close to home,” said Theresa Stabo, DNR Angler Outreach Program Specialist

Past grant recipient projects include:

- High schools partnering with elementary schools to share fishing experiences
- Veterans’ groups focused on using the healing powers of flowing water
- Neighborhood centers where residents are underrepresented in the fishing community
- Organizations providing fishing experiences for people with physical limitations
- Nature centers that include fishing in their programming

The deadline to submit grant applications is February 15, 2023.

To review the application and guidelines, visit the [Angler R3 grant program](#) webpage and click on the “applying” tab. ✧

**Enroll in a Learn To Hunt or Learn To Fish program**

Dropping temperatures and snow in the air mean winter has settled in, bringing exciting winter hunting and fishing opportunities in Wisconsin. If you're interested but not sure how to get started, consider participating in DNR [Learn to Hunt](#) and [Learn to Fish](#) programs. These programs are intended for novice audiences and are family friendly. Parents are encouraged to participate with the kids so future outings become a family affair.

The DNR also tailors some programs exclusively for under-represented participants, including adult-only events.

All the programs provide a unique outdoor experience, fresh air and exercise, and the opportunity to feed your family and friends.

Hunting program registration is available [online](#). Programs available:

- Learn to Butcher & Process Deer
- Learn to Hunt Rabbits with Beagles
- Learn to Hunt Squirrel
- How to Cook Wild Game

Additionally, don't forget about [Wisconsin's Free Fishing weekend](#) on January 21-22.

The current [Learn to Hunt](#) and [Learn to Fish](#) program offerings, along with enrollment instructions, can be found on the DNR Events Calendar. The calendar will be updated as more programs become available. ✧

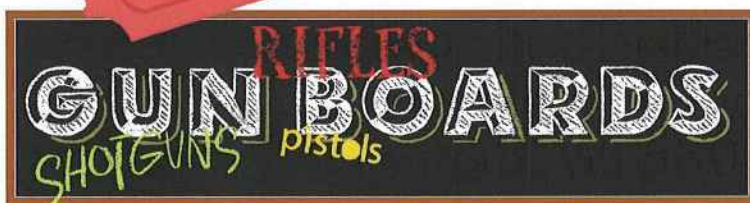
**2022 status of U.S. Marine and Great Lakes Ecosystems released**

NOAA has released its 2022 update of the National Marine Ecosystem Status [website](#), which provides easy access to NOAA's wide range of important coastal and marine ecosystem data. The website provides a holistic view of important ecosystem data and has been newly expanded to the Great Lakes in 2022. New indicators such as the number of days an ecosystem experiences a marine heatwave and changes in the distribution of species have also been added. For the first

time, the National Marine Ecosystem Status website includes indicators for each of the Great Lakes as well as the [Great Lakes Region](#) as a whole. Each lake has distinctive basin features, circulation, and ecology. In total, 13 ecosystem indicators are available for the Great Lakes, including lake ice cover and coastal population.

The indicators show that the Great Lakes ecosystems are stable with the exception of increasing intensity of

marine heatwaves, frequency of billion-dollar disasters, and value of the coastal tourism sector. The indicators were developed in partnership with the [Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory](#), and the data used on the website comes from a collection of NOAA, state-level, and international resources. ✧



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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Address 2 \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Boat \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Web Site URL \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people in the household \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ New Membership  
☐ Renewal Membership  
☐ Change of Address

Please fill-in all  
boxes that apply.

- ☐ Family Membership .....\$50.00  
☐ Junior Membership .....\$20.00  
☐ Senior Membership .....\$40.00  
☐ Associate (Silver Level) .....\$100.00  
☐ Associate (Gold Level) .....\$200.00  
☐ Associate (Platinum Level) .....\$500.00  
☐ Associate (Titanium Level).....\$1000.00

Charter Captain ☐ Yes or ☐ No

If Paying by MasterCard or Visa:

Expiration Date:\_\_\_\_\_ Security Code:\_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to: Great Lakes Sport Fishermen - Mail to PO Box 510332, New Berlin WI, 53151-0332