

Sturgeon General



Statewide Sturgeon News

Sturgeon Display at DNR Cheboygan Field Office

Sturgeon For Tomorrow is supporting an aquarium and display of Lake Sturgeon at the Department of Natural Resources Cheboygan Field Office located at 120 A Street, Cheboygan, MI.

Sturgeon for Tomorrow has worked with the Cheboygan DNR Field office to install a sturgeon tank for outreach purposes. The tank build took longer than projected and when it finally arrived the stand was damaged in shipping. We are working closely with the manufacturer to get a replacement stand so this can go into place and we hope to have it running in the near future. The Cheboygan staff are going to do some of the daily monitoring by feeding the fish while Sturgeon for Tomorrow board members will do the heavy maintenance such as water changes and tank setup. We hope to see you at the Gaylord Hunting Expo March 13-15 where we will have one of our outreach fish for viewing.

Winter 2020 issue

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Sturgeon Exhibit at the University of Michigan Museum of Natural History

The Museum of Natural History at the University of Michigan has a new Lake Sturgeon exhibit in the new Biological Sciences Building on the northeast corner of the U of M downtown Ann Arbor campus. The exhibit which is titled "Survivor: The Long Journey of Lake Sturgeon", explores the 150 million year evolutionary path of the Lake Sturgeon and its cultural significance to native populations and the cooperative efforts to support restoration efforts in the lakes and rivers of the Great Lakes area.

You will have an opportunity to see a juvenile Lake Sturgeon which lives in the exhibit.

Harrison Boy Scouts Honored with DNR Partners in Conservation Award

For 20 consecutive years, a Boy Scout troop from Harrison, Michigan, has spent one weekend a year volunteering to guard lake sturgeon from illegal harvest during the fish species' annual spawning run. For its dedication to this species, and to Michigan's natural resources, Scouts BSA Troop 645 earned the Department of Natural Resources Partners in Conservation award during the August Natural Resources Commission meeting.

"Troop 645 epitomizes the goal of involving the next generation in our state's conservation efforts," said Kristin Phillips, chief of the DNR's Marketing and Outreach Division, in honoring the group with the award. "The example this group of young people is setting today will leave a lasting mark on our state's natural resources."

Every spring, mature lake sturgeon – a fish species that is threatened in Michigan and rare throughout the United States – become vulnerable to poaching as they briefly leave Black Lake for spawning sites upstream in the Black River.



Scouts award: (L to R) Kristin Phillips, chief of the Department of Natural Resources Marketing and Outreach Division; Stan Smith, assistant scout master for Scouts BSA Troop 645; and Dan Eichinger, DNR director.

Continued on Page 3 (Boy Scouts Honored)

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www.sturgeonfortomorrow.org

Sturgeon General Newsletter

Printed by

Montmorency County Tribune

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From the President...

Happy New Year 2020!

A new year and a new decade, the possibilities are endless!!

Please join me in welcoming **Jay Woiderski** to the Board of Directors! Jay and his family have a long standing history in our outdoor heritage. Welcome aboard Jay!

We wish to express our gratefulness and sincere gratitude to the **Natural Resources Department at Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians (LTBB)** for nurturing our sturgeon in the classroom fingerlings at their Fisheries Enhancement Facility near Pellston. The Oden Hatchery typically holds our classroom sturgeon after the Black River Sturgeon Facility is winterized in late August. This year the Oden Hatchery quarantine building was not available because of the Grayling Initiative. **Kris Dey, LTBB Hatchery Manager** and his team stepped up and have been most gracious in rearing the

fingerlings prior to being deployed to classrooms state-wide.

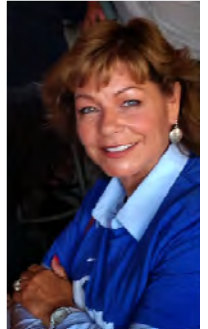
On January 9, 2019 State Representative Sue Allor (District 106) introduced **HB4018**. The bill would amend Part 487 (Sport Fishing) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to increase the fine for an individual who takes or possesses lake sturgeon in violation of Part 487. (MCL 324.48738) The bill would remove the 30-day minimum jail stay, and would increase the maximum fine to \$5,000. HB4018 passed in the Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation, Committee on Judiciary and the full house on September 3, 2019. The bill is now in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. **We want the thank all of our conservation partners and organizations for joining us letter writing, phone calls and testifying at the hearings! We anticipate this passing into law in 2020.**

In May 2018 the Center for

Biological Diversity petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to list the lake sturgeon in the United States as a threatened species under the federal Endangered Species Act. We believe federal oversight in Michigan is simply unnecessary. With decades of investments working collaboratively with conservation collaborators, we have made great strides toward lake sturgeon rehabilitation and recovery. The USFWS has jurisdiction over this petition and we will continue to monitor this closely.

Thank you all for your sustained support of our programs!

Brenda Archambo



Annual Membership Renewal

Please join us in our efforts to secure a brighter future for the majestic lake Sturgeon.

Your membership investment and contribution is the lifeblood of this organization and aids in the implementation of the Sturgeon Guarding Program, Guided Tours, Outreach and Education, Collaborative Research and Hatchery Operations, Habitat Improvements and monitoring, advocacy as well as supporting the development of the highly successful Sturgeon in the Classroom.

Use the included green membership renewal envelope or you can renew online using PayPal at:

www.sturgeonfortomorrow.org/membership.php

If your address is printed on this newsletter, your membership is valid through December 2020.



Boy Scouts Honored

In 1999 a group of local conservationists formed the Black Lake Chapter of Sturgeon for Tomorrow. Their efforts focused on helping the DNR protect and restore sturgeon populations in northern Michigan lakes and streams. One of the primary efforts has been to coordinate an annual “sturgeon watch,” where hundreds of volunteers stand guard along the Black River during the spawning season (mid-April through early June) to report suspicious activity and deter the unlawful take of this iconic fish.

When the troop learned about the project, it began a partnership with Sturgeon for Tomorrow, said Stan Smith, assistant scout master for Troop 645. This year has marked two decades of that partnership.

“We travel to the area and camp on state forest land each Mother’s Day weekend,” he said. “The kids had a blast that first year, and we have enjoyed the event every year since.”

In addition to the time the scouts dedicate to guarding the sturgeon, they also spend an afternoon working on a service project that protects the Black River.

DNR Partners in Conservation awards are given six times a year to individuals or organizations for exemplary contributions to conservation in Michigan. Award nominations are made by DNR staff members.

Sign-up for text message alerts during the season. Just provide your cell number at registration and you can get up-to-the-minute harvest updates on your phone.



2020 lake sturgeon season on Black Lake to begin Feb. 1 at 8:00 a.m.

The Department of Natural Resources has announced the 2020 lake sturgeon fishing season on Black Lake (Cheboygan County) will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 1. All anglers must register to participate in the lake sturgeon season.

The 2020 total harvest limit for Black Lake is seven lake sturgeon. However, to reduce the chance of exceeding this allocation, officials will close the season when one of two scenarios occurs:

- 1) Once the sixth fish is harvested, or
- 2) If five fish have been harvested at the end of any fishing day.

Fishing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. each day of the season. The season will either end at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 5, or when one of the above scenarios is met, at which point anglers will be notified on the ice by DNR personnel that they must immediately stop fishing for lake sturgeon.

Anglers 17 years of age or older must possess a valid Michigan fishing license. Anglers must have this prior to registering for the Black Lake sturgeon season.

The 2020 Anglers need to only register once for the entire season. An early registration will be held at the DNR Onaway Field Station from 2 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan 31. This station is located approximately five miles north of Onaway on Route 211. Anglers can pick up their fishing identification flags at registration and learn more about season logistics and sturgeon populations from the DNR.

Anglers unable to participate in the Friday registration may register Saturday, February 1 at the registration trailer at Zolner Road ending on Black Lake. Morning registration begins at 7 a.m. each day of the season. Anglers are highly encouraged to register on Friday, January 31.

Rehabilitation of lake sturgeon in the Cheboygan River watershed is a cooperative effort involving the DNR, the Black Lake Chapter of Sturgeon for Tomorrow, Michigan State University, various tribal agencies, and Tower-Kleber Limited Partnership.

For more details, anglers may call the Gaylord Customer Service Center at 989-732-3541 or visit www.michigan.gov/fishing.

If there are any changes to these regulations the information will be available at the time of registration.



Once a thriving species in the Great Lakes region, lake sturgeon were almost entirely depleted by human mismanagement and exploitation. Now, restoration efforts in the Saginaw Bay watershed and elsewhere in the Great Lakes basin seek to undo this damage and forge a new relationship between sturgeon and people — one that emphasizes the role humans can play in preserving the ecosystems around them.

For many, efforts to restore and protect sturgeon are urgent, due in part to the fish's long and unique history.

"Sturgeon are a very unique species — the fact that they have evolved over 200 million years and are still around today is amazing," said Mike Kelly, who directs the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network's Great Lakes office. "However, we have done incredible damage to the population over time. The work that we are doing now to rehabilitate the sturgeon population, I feel, is part of our responsibility to make amends for the damage that we have done."

Kelly specifically cited past and current projects such as dam removals and river channel restoration. Michigan Sea Grant has been involved in efforts to rebuild rocky spawning reefs for sturgeon and other native fish in Saginaw Bay and the St. Clair-Detroit River corridor. These reefs replace structures destroyed by dredging or sediment and provide necessary habitat for sturgeon to lay their eggs.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Michigan Sea Grant are also working with local partners and Tribal communities to stock juvenile sturgeon in Saginaw Bay-area rivers. The young fish are raised in hatcheries and released with the hope that they'll eventually establish new self-sustaining populations in their ancestral waters

Some of Michigan Sea Grant's recent efforts have focused on getting local residents directly involved in sturgeon restoration — including a pilot Adopt-A-Sturgeon program in Saginaw Bay that will raise funds to support a variety of initiatives, including Sturgeon in the Classroom and sturgeon release events.

The adoption program — which will be piloted on the Saginaw Bay Sturgeon Restoration website — is an opportunity for interested individuals to contribute to ongoing restoration efforts and stay connected to them over time. Modeled after comparable programs in the region, the pilot program allows sponsors to buy one of several adoption packages. The packages vary depending



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Nathan Carpenter is a senior at Oberlin College, where he studies environmental justice. Nathan spent several months in 2019 working in the Michigan Sea Grant Ann Arbor office as a Doris Duke Conservation Scholar. The Doris Duke Conservation Scholar Program at the

University of Michigan provides summer fellowships for undergraduate students aiming for conservation careers who are traditionally underrepresented in the field. Nathan’s primary project while working with Michigan Sea Grant was developing a pilot Adopt-a-Sturgeon program that could raise money for sturgeon restoration efforts.

on the level of the contribution, but they all contain a unique PIT tag number that is associated with a specific sturgeon released into the Saginaw Bay watershed. When an “adopted” fish is captured and then released by researchers as part of an assessment program, sponsors can use their unique tag number to view the data collected from their fish.

The efforts to recover those populations back to their glory days is something that’s going to take many generations to accomplish.

Michigan Sea Grant worked with a variety of partners to design the program, which will likely launch in Fall 2019. While the ultimate goal is for the program to become statewide, Michigan Sea Grant Extension Educator Meaghan Gass says starting in the southwestern corner of Lake Huron with Saginaw Bay is, in many ways, symbolic of the success of the ecological restoration work that made the adoption program possible.

“The Saginaw River and Bay is an area of concern,” Gass said. “These areas of concern were established following environmental degradation that occurred across the Great Lakes. The restoration of lake sturgeon signals that we are restoring the habitat and the ecosystem in the Saginaw Bay watershed.”

The adoption program seeks to capitalize on this progress by restocking the watershed with sturgeon raised in nearby hatcheries. Many fish will be released by residents at events that take place throughout the year. For many Michigan natives, these events are their first opportunity to actually see a sturgeon, despite the fish’s one-time prevalence in the region. Kris Dey, hatchery manager for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, hopes that such outreach events will



help residents develop a sense of connection with this ancient fish.

“The reason we have more outreach and involvement for sturgeon is because this species needs the public to be more aware and care for the future of this species,” he said. “Because sturgeon were decimated nearly 100 years ago, there are a limited number of people in the state of Michigan who can identify one, let alone have seen or held one in the wild. This disconnect from the fish causes us to devalue the relationship and lose our connection with the sturgeon.”

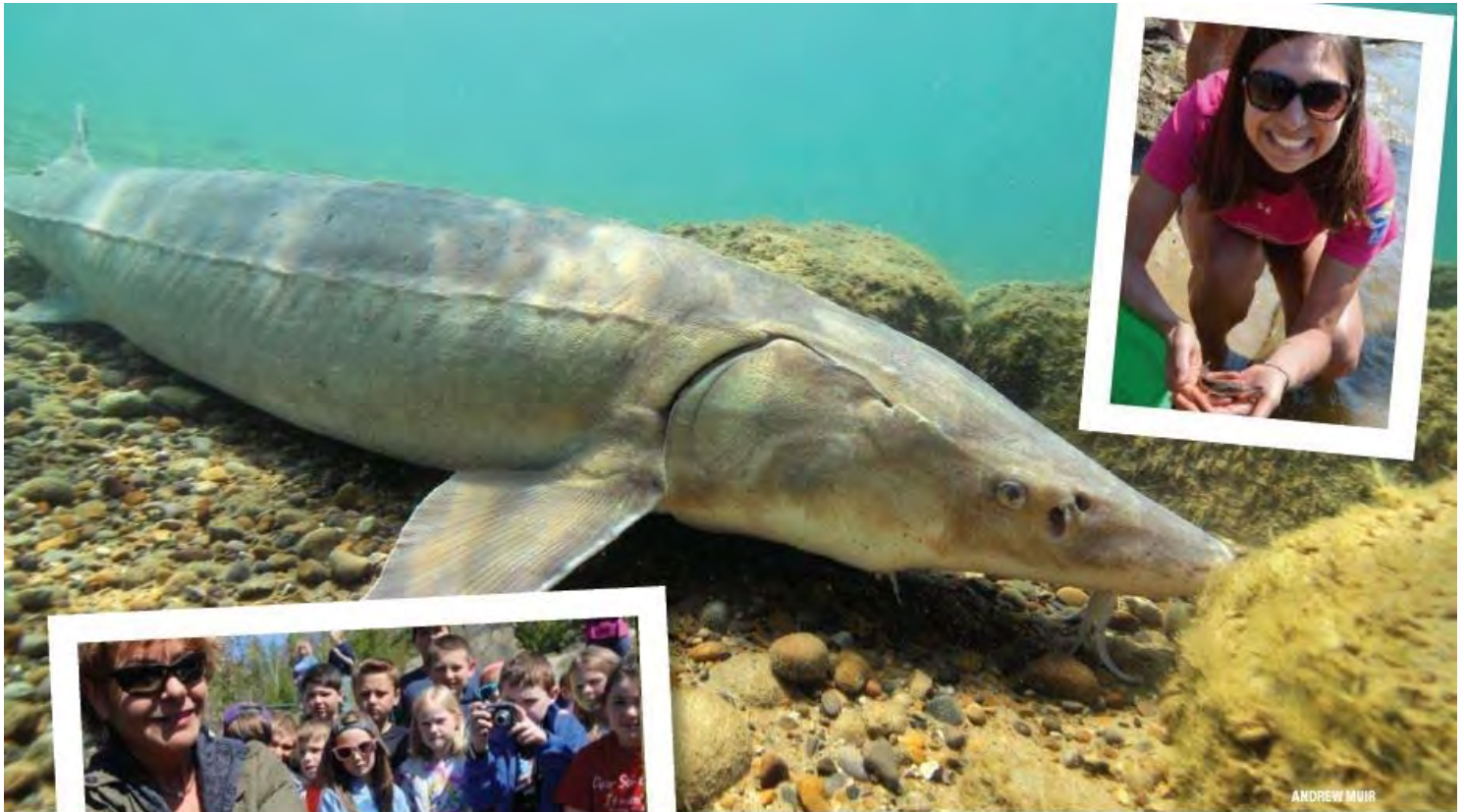
However, this disconnect has not always existed. Dey added that the lake sturgeon, or Nmé, has long been a culturally significant species to the Odawa people and other Native American communities in the region.

“Traditionally, we look to the Nmé clan members for wisdom and guidance,” he said. “In the clan system, your clan animal holds a very special and close relationship to you. The Nmé becomes viewed as a relative or family member...Nmé were a celebrated part of the lake and culture.”

For some Great Lakes Tribes, August’s lunar cycle is known as Sturgeon Moon, marking the best season for harvesting the fish.

For Dey, Kelly, and others, developing a sense of connection and personal investment in sturgeon restoration work is vital — and one of the primary reasons that programming like sturgeon release events, which the adoption program will help support, is so high-impact.

Continued on Page 6



ANDREW MUIR

“Watching kids handle small sturgeon and release them is an incredible experience,” Kelly said. “Giving people in the community the opportunity to play a role in the sturgeon rehabilitation events builds a greater sense of conservation and appreciation of sturgeon, our rivers, and our natural resources in general.”

Brenda Archambo, president of Sturgeon for Tomorrow’s Black Lake chapter, agrees. Archambo coordinates the Sturgeon in the Classroom program, which gives students the opportunity to spend a school year learning about and raising a sturgeon before releasing it into their local watershed. She described the moment at which students say goodbye to the fish they’ve spent months caring for.

“It’s a magical moment,” Archambo said. “It’s spiritual in a way...some of the students have really galvanized around the project and specifically the sturgeon — it’s quite bitter-sweet. Some of them cry because they’re emotional, whereas others are very happy that they’ve been able to contribute to the overarching program and bring the fish back to where it was born.”

Dey emphasized that the youth of today will be the conser-

vation leaders of tomorrow, and that developing a sense of connection between students and sturgeon will help ensure the long-term sustainability of restoration efforts.

“There is a teaching in the Native American community that tells us to not guide our decisions by thinking about tomorrow, but to think about the effect for the next seven generations,” he said. “I think sturgeon are an excellent example of this teaching. Any work we do today will need to be carried on by our children and their children’s children.”

Dey and Kelly both mentioned that any sturgeon stocked today are not expected to return for about two decades, meaning that restoration efforts are truly playing the long game. Still, Archambo says, the reward will be worth the wait.

“The efforts to recover those populations back to their glory days is something that’s going to take many generations to accomplish,” she said. “They’re a keystone species. They are an indicator of ecosystem health. And having those in your community and then being able to actually view them in the wild is really quite something.”

For the Tribes, the return of the Nmé to the rivers and lakes is like having a family member return home.

For Dey, this long-term outlook only increases the importance of engaging the public.

“In this system we are not anticipating our stocked fish to

return for another 20 years,” Dey said. “Which would make the full effect of stocking not realized for double that amount of time, because we need decades of stocking to give a range of ages and genetic diversity. Having public outreach and giving people a reason to care about, and care for, the sturgeon is just as important as the stocking efforts any of our agencies are conducting.”

Kelly says that, so far, these public outreach efforts have found success. He hopes that the adoption program will build upon that trend.

“We’ve built a great appreciation for this prehistoric species,” he said. “I think that people understand sturgeon and love that they are coming back. People continue to work to protect them and learn about them.”

Dey added that the cultural significance of a sturgeon resurgence would be enormous, particularly for Native American communities that have long valued the fish.

“Traditionally, there were celebrations along the rivers to wel-

come the Nmé back each spring, and hopefully our stocking celebrations will one day become Nmé run celebrations,” he said. “For the Tribes, the return of the Nmé to the rivers and lakes is like having a family member return home.”

For her part, Gass is optimistic that sturgeon restoration efforts in Saginaw Bay — including the adoption program — will be fruitful and will have a snowball effect that ultimately improves the overall health of the watershed.

“There are many partnerships and years of restoration work preceding the lake sturgeon reintroduction effort in Saginaw Bay,” Gass said. “I think, moving forward, the opportunities to collaborate — like how partners and community members are doing with the lake sturgeon — are available for other projects in the watershed. So I definitely feel optimistic about the future health of the Saginaw Bay watershed.”

Readers wishing to become involved in the sturgeon adoption program or to learn about upcoming release events can visit:

saginawbaysturgeon.org.

2019 Lake Sturgeon Research and Stocking Summary

By Doug Larson,

Research Assistant I,

Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan State University



The 2019 Black Lake research season began on April 26th when Michigan State University (MSU) and Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) researchers captured 3 adult Lake Sturgeon ascending the Upper Black River. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) data suggests that Lake Sturgeon Adults were in the river on April 18th, 2019, MSU sampled the river from April 26th, 2019 – May 30th, 2019

A total of 293 adult Lake Sturgeon were captured during the spawning season, of which 47 were captured for the first time (16.07%). Of the first time captures, three fish showed signs of hatchery origin. The largest single day capture was on May 9th, where the crew sampled 28 fish. The largest fish captured this year was a 6.4-foot female that weighed 137 pounds. Gametes were collected from spawning Lake Sturgeon and transported to the Streamside Rearing Facility for fertilization and rearing. In total 1,159 unique individual Lake Sturgeon have been captured in the Upper Black River since 2001.

In addition to raising eggs in the hatchery, wild larval Lake Sturgeon were captured as they drifted downstream. Previous research conducted by MSU and MDNR found that wild larvae represent the highest quality genetic source stock, so MSU and MDNR make an effort to fulfill all stocking quotas with fish captured in the wild, where possible. This year, larval drift sampling began on May 30th and continued until July 7th. Researchers captured 2,437 wild dispersing larvae at Site D, the fewest captured in a single season since 2015. As part of a graduate project, staff collected larval fish at two additional sites: The historical site for the sawmill and site C. In total researchers caught 6,131 drifting larvae across 15 drift nights. A contributing factor to the low drift numbers was the period extending from June 9th – June 20th in which rain events kept water too high for crew sampling.

In 2019, 520 Lake Sturgeon were released into the Black River. All fish that were stocked into the Black River were implanted with a passive integrated transponder tag, which will aid future management efforts. In addition, 521 Lake Sturgeon were released into Mullet Lake, all of which were implanted with a PIT tag.

At the direction of the Lake Sturgeon committee and in collaboration with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Black Lake Sturgeon for Tomorrow, and Michigan Sea Grant, 130 fall fingerling Lake Sturgeon were released into the Titabawassee, Flint, Shiawassee and Cass Rivers, respectively as part of an ongoing rehabilitation and research effort. This project will continue at an approximate density of 125 Lake Sturgeon from the Black River Streamside Rearing Facility for the foreseeable future.

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The Sturgeon released in 2019 reached an average length of 3.75 inches. This decline was likely to the sharp decline in average temperature in 2019. Indeed, the number of days exceeding 24°C (75°F), which averages 30±2 days in a typical year, was zero in 2019. Sturgeon growth is heavily dependent on temperature (Eckes et al. 2015; Black River, Unpublished Data) Increased size at stock out can be attributed to an improved feeding strategy developed and published by John Bauman.

During the fall juvenile Lake Sturgeon assessment, we captured 1 fish across 4 nights. Researchers conducted a mark-recapture assessment across four transects from the mouth of the river to Red Bridge nightly from dusk until completion during the week of July 29th, 2019. This assessment resulted in a calculated population estimate of 1; (95% CI; Lower: 0, Upper: --) Lake Sturgeon in the lower 4-km of the Upper Black River.

Research efforts in 2019 focused on factors contributing to reproductive success; particularly those that can be quantified by data collected from Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) antennas placed throughout the Upper Black River including migratory strategy, inter-annual migratory trade-offs and sperm quality. Additionally, 2019 marked the beginning of a project evaluating the factors contributing to olfactory imprinting by age-0 Lake Sturgeon. Graduate Student Jake Kimmel raised Lake Sturgeon under differing water combinations (ground water,



3 hatchery fish were captured in 2019

Black River Water) to differentiate when Age-0 Lake Sturgeon imprint on their natal water. Additionally, Jake monitored the changes in amino acid consistency in the Upper Black River as this has shown to differentiate imprinting in salmonid smolts. Analysis of that data is ongoing. Research evaluating the behavioral ecology of Lake Sturgeon in the context of modified stress environments both in the wild and the hatchery was completed in 2019. Two publications were produced from this work. Continuing research through MSU includes: the selective properties of female lake sturgeon ovarian fluid; downstream outmigration of drifting Lake Sturgeon and the consequences for recruitment; behavioral plasticity as a function of intra-species reproductive competition and its consequences for current and future reproduction; the interaction of predatory and herbaceous macroinvertebrates, fungi, antibiotics and lake sturgeon eggs; and feeding efficiency of Lake Sturgeon in the hatchery.



Record breaking 273rd fish captured in 2019. Also smallest fish of the year at 3.52" and 21.6 lbs.

Sturgeon in the Classroom: Aquarium Best Practices

On August 21, 2019 **Meaghan Gass, Michigan Sea Grant** Extension Educator facilitated a webinar titled "**Sturgeon in the Classroom: Aquarium Best Practices**". **Kris Dey, Hatchery Manager at Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians** Fisheries Enhancement Facility and **Douglas Larson, Research Assistant I, Black River Sturgeon Facility** at Michigan State University presented a step-by-step guide to raising Lake sturgeon in an aquarium setting during this webinar. We wish to thank the aforementioned individuals, participating educators as well as **Brandon Schroeder**, Northeast Michigan Sea Grant Extension Educator for providing resources to make this happen. The webinar can be viewed here:

www.sturgeonfortomorrow.org/sturgeon-in-the-classroom.php

Thank you all for your support and dedication to Lake Sturgeon outreach and education.

Please Join Us In Welcoming Jay Woiderski To Our Board Of Directors

Life long Cheboygan area resident Jay Woiderski joined the Sturgeon For Tomorrow Board of Directors in August of 2019. Jay has recently retired from a 34 year career of car hauling and can now devote more time to outdoor pursuits.

Jay and his wife of more than 40 years, Mary Kay, have both been active with Sturgeon For Tomorrow and you have probably seen them at our annual banquets.

We are pleased to have his expertise and commitment to our board.



Shivaree Weekend January 31 and February 1, 2020

Event Location: Black Lake

Near the former Black Lake Hotel
1701 Winifred Street, Cheboygan, MI 49721



\$5.00 En-



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, January 31

Entertainment tent opens at 3pm

3-6pm: *Acoustic tunes with Brett Harfert*



Register for Ice Fishing Contest and Poker Run (tent)

2-7pm: Register for Sturgeon Fishing:
211 DNR Field Station and tent

7pm: **Candlelight sturgeon ceremony**

6-10pm: (21+) Straits Shooters



SATURDAY, February 1

8am-2pm: *Sturgeon Season Opens*

Entertainment-Tent open at 8am: Cabin Fever Social,
Food, Beverages, Raffles, Bonfire—FUN!!

8am-6pm: Fishing Contest

11am-6pm: Poker Run

10:30am-5:30pm: Entertainment Tent:

Evan Archambo, soloist & DJ Rock'n the tunes...

11am-4pm: Youth Activities [Nautreology](#)

Live Sturgeon Exhibit

6-10pm: Entertainment Tent: **Electric Soul** (21+)

7pm: Announce Ice Fishing Contest Winners

8pm: Announce Poker Run Winners

9pm: *Shivaree Raffle Drawing*

10pm tent closes



Sturgeon In The Classroom Testimonial

Good Morning,

I wanted to share something with you that highlights the value of the sturgeon program. Every year, our middle school awards a scholarship to a graduating senior. One of the requirements is that the student must write an essay highlighting something that made an impact on them while they were in middle school. The letters are included with their applications and given anonymously to staff members that choose the winner. A teacher on the committee passed this letter on to me. It reads, in part:

“My most memorable experience happened in 2015 when I was in eighth grade. Mr. Gray’s class was given the unforgettable opportunity of having a class sturgeon. Getting to see the fish and learn about endangerment and how animals need to be protected was a pivotal point in my life, and has changed the way I view wildlife to this day. Mr. Gray continued this learning opportunity by taking us on a sturgeon cruise; we went out onto a lake, saw sturgeons in the wild, and were taught even more about them. This was when I learned how important all animals are to the ecosystem, and my biggest passion became saving wildlife and helping preserve the earth. If it weren’t for my time at Waldon, and especially Mr. Gray’s class, a large part of my current life would be missing.

This fall I am attending Oakland University as part of the Honors College. I am majoring in pre-medicine, and would like to minor in Environmental Studies. Once I obtain my bachelor’s degree, I am going to move forward into medical school. My ultimate career goal is to be a dermatologist, and I want to be an environmental activist in my free time.”

Olivia L. (I asked who it was)

Please feel free to pass this along to anyone that might benefit from knowing what kind of impact the “Educational Display of a Live Lake Sturgeon” program is having on students. Thank you.

Jon Gray, Waldon Middle School, Lake Orion

We accept contributions, memorials and honorariums for special occasions, like birthdays, anniversaries and special tributes. THANK YOU on behalf of your loved ones!!

In loving Memory of Ulis Janney

Mary Janney

In loving memory of

AnnaBelle (Uptegraft) Collver

Susan J. Race

In loving memory of

Robert “Bob” Shoemaker

William and Beverly Worden
Beth and Steve Worden

In loving memory of family Birthdays:

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From Karen Karr

In loving memory of

Patricia and Leonard Evans

John E. Engel

In loving memory of

Kenny Barber

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Matt and Tracy Barber

In loving memory of Carol Faner

Tom Faner and Alice Gaujanian

In loving memory of

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Michael and Elisabeth Worzniak

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Ann Minock

In loving memory of Joseph F.

(Sturgeon King) Maka

Joseph Maka

In loving memory of

Sam Patterson

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Ken and Cathy Borowicz
Jim and Renee Brown
Bill and Sharon Church
Mike Decent
Edward and Nadene Delana
James and Jean Deurwearder
Jim Felganauer
Bill and Sally Frary
Bob and Beth Garner
Craig and Deb Gronda
Dick Hopkins
Bill and Shirley Hoyle
Douglas and Jani Hunt
Michael Hyland
Jay's Sporting Goods
Marty Jones

Lyle and Lynne Lippard
Bryan and Anita Madison
Manzana's
Charles and Amy Maltby
Tom Martin
Fred and Linda Moulder
Alice and Curt Mushlock
Jim and Nancy Norton
James and Mary Paulson
Ed Ptasznik
Casey and Kristin Shimel
Steve and Dawn Showalter
David and Linda Steenstra
Eileen Steward
Joyce Stokes
Straits Area Federal Credit Union
Dan and Karen Stroup
Sunrise Communications
George and Constance Warner
Nick and Heidi Whitehead
Bob and Jackie Williams
Scott and Kim Williams
Jay and Mary Kay Woiderski
Carl Yost

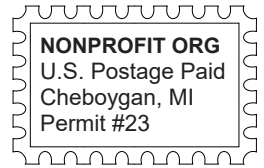
2019 Banquet Big Spenders

Keith and Karen Abrahamson
Art Archambo
John and Barb Archambo
Scott and Beth Archambo
Citizens National Bank
Roy Berry
Jim and Gina Burke
Pete and Judi Chimner
Ann Douglas
David Kerekes
Treisha and Doug Larson
Jim and Cheryl Little
Tom and Nancy Madison
Mary Mankin and Shawn
Rick Marshall and Chris Whitehead
Tony Merchant
Bryan A. Schram
Roy and Peg Sjoberg
Carla Skuse
Stan Smith

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Dedicated to the future of our sturgeon.

Sturgeon General Volume 21 Issue 1 WINTER 2020

Upcoming Events 2020

- January 31** Black Lake Sturgeon Shivarée
- February 1** Black Lake Sturgeon Shivarée
- 1** Black Lake Sturgeon Season Opens
- 20** Sturgeon Advisory Council Meeting

- April** Register for Sturgeon Guarding Program

- May** Sturgeon Guarding Program—All month
- 9** Guided Sturgeon Viewing Tours
Research: Netting, tagging and larval sampling

- June-July** Hatchery Rearing/Research

- August 22** Sturgeon Hatchery Tours and Release Ceremonies TBD

- September**
- 12** 22nd Annual SFT Banquet, Cheboygan

- October and November** Sturgeon in the Classroom deliveries



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Your Sturgeon For Tomorrow Board of Directors meets at the Black Lake Sportsman's Club on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm from March through October.

*Mark your calendars!
 22nd Annual Banquet
 Saturday, September 12, 2020*

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