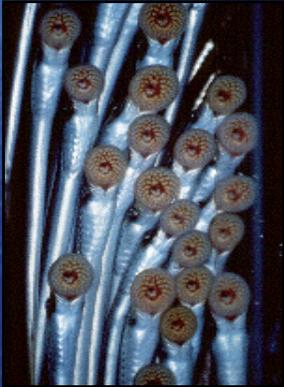




U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Overview: Alpena Fishery Resources Office Lake Huron Programs

Great Lakes Fisheries Leadership
Institute
September 27, 2003



Anjanette Bowen
USFWS-Alpena FRO



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Background Information

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principle Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.



- **Opened June 1992**
- **Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-646) "The Director shall establish one or more offices with necessary administrative and technical support services to carry out U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service operational activities related to fishery resource protection, restoration, maintenance and enhancement in the upper Great Lakes."**
- **GOALS - Protect the health of aquatic habitats. Restore fish and other aquatic resources. Provide opportunities to enjoy the many benefits of healthy aquatic resources.**



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Programs



Great Lakes Fishery Commission
Lake Huron Technical Committee



Lake Trout Rehabilitation
Lake Sturgeon Status and Trends



Lake Huron Treaty Assistance
Aquatic Nuisance Species
Fishery Management Assistance
Partners for Fish and Wildlife
Fishery Education and Outreach





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Lake Trout Rehabilitation

Lake Trout Coordinator – Jerry McClain



- **Quality at release study – examine ways to enhance quality for improved survival**

ACTIVITIES

- **Analysis of Coded-wire tag data – Lake Huron Tag Processing**
- **Strain comparison studies – examine survival of numerous strains of lake trout – Seneca Lake Strain**
- **Movement studies – examine movement of stocked lake trout**





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Lake Sturgeon Status And Trends

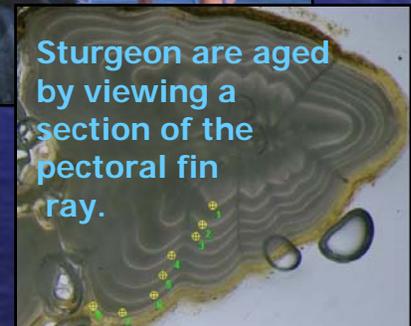
Lake Sturgeon Coordinator – Jim Boase

ACTIVITIES

- 1995 – initiated international and multi-agency lake sturgeon tagging program with commercial fishermen, OMNR, DNR, and USGS to gather status and trends information
- Over 6000 sturgeon tagged bi-nationally – database of biological information
- 1999 – investigate spawning populations in the Detroit River and 2002 St. Clair River



External tags are used to mark captured sturgeon.



Sturgeon are aged by viewing a section of the pectoral fin ray.

- Set lines are used to capture sturgeon and telemetry with sonic tags is used to track them



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Lake Huron Treaty Fisheries Management

Treaty Fisheries Unit Coordinator – Aaron Woldt

ACTIVITIES

- Conduct lake trout and lake whitefish assessments in 1836 Treaty waters through the Technical Fisheries Committee – Serve as Chair
- Assist in modeling of lake trout and whitefish populations to provide recommendations for safe harvest limits in 1836 Treaty waters – Serve as Co-chair
- Provide fish and wildlife management technical assistance to assigned Native American governments





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Fishery Management Assistance

ACTIVITIES

- Provide technical fishery assistance to other federal, state, tribal, local, and international management agencies.
- Provide fishery assistance on Shiawassee (Saginaw, MI) and Ottawa National Wildlife Refuges (OH).
- Members of the Lake Huron Technical Committee (and many sub committees – including the St. Marys River Fishery Task Group), Central Great Lakes Bi-National Lake Sturgeon Group, and Technical Fisheries Committee.



Photos courtesy of DTE.



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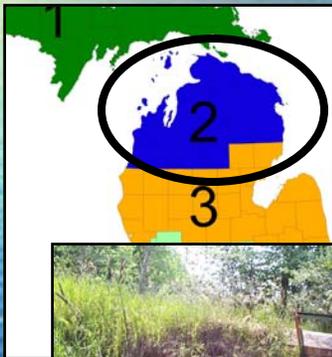
Partners for Fish and Wildlife



Partners Program Coordinator – Heather Enterline

ACTIVITIES

- Program began in 1999 – full time in 2001 covering 20 counties
- Work with landowners to restore habitat for fish and wildlife in shallow wetlands, grasslands, aquatic habitat, and riparian habitat
- Voluntary Program - No easements, or restrictions to use of property, within reason and do not have to offer public access to a restored site
- PFW Program requires a 1:1 match with non-federal entities.
- Wetland restoration, repair stream bank erosion, and restore in-stream habitat





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Aquatic Nuisance Species

ANS Coordinator – Anjanette Bowen

ACTIVITIES

- Surveillance for invasive fish species at ports from Sault Ste. Marie to Harbor Beach, Michigan
 - Population monitoring of native fish communities and invasive fish species including Eurasian ruffe and round goby at Lake Huron ports
 - Control efforts for removal of spawning phase Eurasian ruffe in the Thunder Bay River during the spring
- Assist in prevention of ANS spread and public education through outreach programs and distribution of educational materials to water users





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Fishery Education and Outreach

Outreach Coordinator – Susan Wells

ACTIVITIES

- Develop and distribute materials to inform and educate people about fish and wildlife, natural ecosystems and programs
- Hold open houses, fishing clinics and host public informational workshops
- Expand volunteer program working with communities, local schools and universities
- Participate in National Wildlife Refuge public events to highlight fisheries
- Maintain websites to provide educational material
<http://midwest.fws.gov/alpena>
<http://midwest.fws.gov/fisheries>
<http://midwest.fws.gov/sturgeon>
<http://greatlakes.fws.gov>





U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

For More Information

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Alpena Fishery Resources Office
145 Water Street
Alpena, MI 49707**

Phone: 989-356-5102

**Staff- Jerry McClain, Project Leader
Tracy Hill, Asst. Project Leader
Debra Turner, Administrative Tech.
Aaron Woldt, Treaty Fisheries Unit Leader
Anjanette Bowen, ANS Coordinator
Heather Enterline, Partners Coordinator
Adam Kowalski, Staff Biologist
Susan Wells, Staff Biologist
Scott Koproski, Staff Biologist
Jim Boase, Staff Biologist**