

2008 GREAT LAKES LAKE STURGEON COORDINATION MEETING

THOMAS EDISON INN
500 Thomas Edison Parkway
PORT HURON, MI 48060

Agenda

Wednesday (Cambridge Ballroom)

December 3, 2008

7:45 Registration

8:45 Welcome, Introductions, Meeting Goal, Objectives and Format

9:00 Presentations: Understanding and Managing Lake Sturgeon

1. *Michigan's St. Clair System Sturgeon Fishery: Results of an Angler Postal Survey*
- Gary Towns and Mike Thomas, Michigan Department of Natural Resources
2. *The role that lake sturgeon play in First Nation communities across Northern Ontario; with a case study on the Namaygoosisagagun First Nation lake sturgeon project completed on the remote system of Smoothrock Lake.*
- Kimberley Tremblay, Anishinabek/Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre
3. *Current development of the Lake Ontario Sturgeon Management Plan*
- Alastair Mathers, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
4. *Development of a Tribal Stewardship Plan for Sturgeon*
- Marty Holtgren, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
5. *Management lessons from ocean fisheries, can they benefit lake sturgeon and other Great Lakes species?*
- Nancy A. Auer, Michigan Technological University

10:20 Break

10:35 Introduction to Discussion Theme: Developing Management Plans

6. *Management Goals and Objectives for Lake Sturgeon*
- Lloyd Mohr, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Reflections on the historic, cultural, and ecological significance of lake sturgeon in the Great Lakes

11:00 Breakout Group Discussion Theme I: Management Goals:
Considering the Ecological/Social/Economic/Spiritual role of Lake Sturgeon in Management Goals
Part a) - The social/economic/spiritual role of sturgeon in the Great Lakes

12:00 Lunch (on your own)

1:00 Breakout Group Discussion Theme I: Management Goals:
Part b) - The ecological role of sturgeon in the Great Lakes

2:00 Breakout Group Reporting and Large Group discussion

3:00 Break

3:15 Presentations: Rehabilitation Activities and Examples

7. *Lake Sturgeon Relocation at Adam Creek. Is this a sustainable management practice?*
- Dave Barbour, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
8. *Montcalm Mine Initiatives to Protect Groundhog River Lake Sturgeon.*
- Laurent Robichaud and Pamela Reid, Montcalm Environmental Liaison Group
9. *Evaluating collection, rearing, and stocking methods for lake sturgeon restoration programs in the Great Lakes*
- Kim Scribner, Michigan State University

4:00 Lake Sturgeon Legislated Status Designations – Panel Discussion
– Implications for Management Goals, Objectives and Strategies
– Agency Examples
– Group Discussion

4:45 Adjourn for evening Poster Session, Buffet Dinner & Social

Wednesday Evening (The Abby Grand Lobby)**December 3, 2008****6:00 - 9:30 Evening Poster Session, Buffet Dinner & Social**

7:00 short remarks from poster presenters

8:00 & on door prizes and photo/art review and peoples choice award

Thursday (Cambridge Ballroom)**December 4, 2008****8:00 Presentations – Management Objectives: Examples and Recovery Planning**10. *Limiting Fishing Mortality, a Rehabilitation Tool*

– Lloyd Mohr, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

11. *Support for a Basinwide Juvenile Index Survey*

– Henry Quinlan, US Fish and wildlife Service

12. *Protection of lake sturgeon through the research and development of existing and emerging traceability technologies.*

– Kevin Reid, Ontario Commercial Fisheries' Association

13. *Advances on lake sturgeon recovery potential in Canadian designatable units: from allowable harm to recovery targets.*

– Louise Antonio Velez-Espino and Marten Koops, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Questions-large group discussion

9:45 Break

10:00 Discussion Theme II: Developing Meaningful Objectives and Strategies

What types of objectives fulfill the goal and what strategies allow objectives to be met

Work towards an "Example of a Management Plan template"

Breakout Group Discussion Theme II: Objectives and Strategies:

Part a) – Benchmarks, Actions, and Strategies: Measuring Success

12:00 Lunch Provided - Cambridge Ballroom (large group)Video presentation: *Focus on Support to Research Work in the St. Clair River*

– Greg & Kathy Lashbrook

1:00 Breakout Group Discussion Theme II: Objectives and Strategies:

Part b) – "Lets Build a Management Plan!"

Part c) – "What are remaining needs?"

2:15 Break

2:30 Breakout Group Reporting and Large Group Discussion**3:45 Presentations: New on the Lake Sturgeon Front**14. *In Situ Assessment of Lampricide Toxicity to Age-0 Lake Sturgeon*

– Lisa. O'Connor, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

15. *Assessment of a Restoration Stocking Program on Oneida Lake*

– Randy Jackson, Cornell Biological Field Station

16. *Conservation Strategies of Acipenseridae Species in the People's Republic of China*

– Doug Aloisi, US Fish and Wildlife Service

4:30 Adjourn (Wrap up and turn in evaluation forms)

Thursday Evening (for those able to stay)**December 4, 2008**Video Presentation: *The beauty and bounty of the Great Lakes* – a behind the scenes looks at the making of *Mysteries of the Great Lakes*. Provided by Greg and Kathy Lashbrook.

Poster Presentations – Wednesday Evening, Dec 3

Video Assessment (using scientific divers and under water video) of the Belle Isle lake sturgeon artificial spawning bed complex

- Jeffrey Allen, M. Black, G. Kennedy, M. Blouin, B. Manny, USGS – Great Lakes Science Center, Ann Arbor, MI

Recruitment and movement patterns of lake sturgeon in the Muskegon River system

- Matthew Altenritter, Grand Valley State University, Annis Water Resources Institute, Muskegon, MI

Genetic Study of Lake Sturgeon in the St. Mary's River System

- Jessica Comben and Barbara Evans, Lake Superior State University, Sault Sainte Marie MI

Successful stepping stones to sex identification of lake sturgeon by blood plasma hormones

- Jaquie Craig, US Geological Survey, Great Lakes Science Center, Ann Arbor, MI

*Lake Sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) Migration Patterns in Pic River, Ontario*

- Caroline Deary, Anishinabek/Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre, North Bay, ON

Success of Stocked Sturgeon in an Unexpected System

- Dawn Dittman, US Geological Survey, Tunison Laboratory of Aquatic Science, Cortland NY

Discovering sex determining genes in lake sturgeon

- Matthew Hale, Purdue University, Dept. of Forestry and Natural Resources, West Lafayette, IN

Lake Sturgeon Spawning Habitat Restoration Efforts in the Detroit River, 2004 – 2008; Lessons learned with regard to Habitat Creation

- Gregory Kennedy, Bruce Manny, and Jeffrey Allen, USGS - Great Lakes Science Center, Ann Arbor, MI

Educating and Engaging Stakeholders: Outreach Activities in Southwest Michigan

- Dan O'Keefe, Michigan Sea Grant, Grand Haven, MI

Montcalm Mine Initiatives to Protect Groundhog River Lake Sturgeon

- Laurent Robichaud and Pamela Reid, Montcalm Environmental Liaison Group, Xstrata Nickel Montcalm Mine, Timmins, ON.

*First Record of *Polypodium hydriforme*, an egg parasite, from lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) in the St. Clair River, Michigan*

- Michael Thomas, Michigan DNR, Lake St. Clair Fisheries Research Station, Harrison Township, MI

Lake Sturgeon status and management in the Niagara River

- Betsy Trometer, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Lower Great Lakes FRO, Amherst, NY

Manistee River Sturgeon Habitat Assessment

- Radley Watkins, Northern Environmental Technologies, Park Falls, WI
Marty Holtgren, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Manistee, MI

Use of otolith length in age determination of juvenile lake sturgeon

- Timothy Wilson and Nancy A. Auer, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI,
Edward A. Baker, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Marquette, MI

Great Lakes Lake Sturgeon web-based Information Sites:

Lake Sturgeon Tributary Database and GIS

- Chris Castiglione, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Lower Great Lakes FRO

Great Lakes Lake Sturgeon Web Page

- Angie Bowen, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Alpena NFWCO

Great Lakes Lake Sturgeon Tag Identification Database

- Adam Kowalski, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Alpena NFWCO