

Lower Great Lakes *Fishery Resources Office*

Represented by Members of Congress:

Senator Charles E. Schumer (D)
Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D)
Rep. James T. Walsh (R-25th)
Rep. Thomas M. Reynolds (R-26th)
Rep. Brian M. Higgins (D-27th)
Rep. Louise Slaughter (D-28th)

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Purpose

The Lower Great Lakes Fishery Resources Office was established by the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 to support and encourage the restoration, protection and enhancement of fishery resources in the lower Great Lakes.

Public Use Notes

- Fish and Wildlife Festival 2006
- Erie County Fair
- Round Goby Round-Up
- Volunteer and internship programs

Management Activities

- Lead basin-wide and local lake sturgeon restoration activities.
- Investigate the Erie Canal's role in the introduction and spread of invasive species.
- Provide technical assistance to states implementing lake trout restoration initiatives.

- Lead management efforts for invasive Asian carp, including early detection and monitoring in Lake Erie and outreach initiatives in accordance with the national *Management and Control Plan for Asian Carps in the United States*.
- Provide technical assistance and leadership in managing federal lands and invasive species issues.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>

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Lake sturgeon

USFWS

Highlights

Participated in community tree planting in the town of Amherst, in partnership with the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of America, the town of Amherst, and the Air and Waste Management Association (Niagara Frontier chapter).

Continued efforts to advance public awareness about local environmental concerns through outreach events targeting general and specific audiences, including youth (K-12), anglers, boaters and other water users, and college students seeking careers in the environmental sciences.

Conducted a monitoring program to estimate the expansion of invasive round goby in the New York State Canal System. Local community members participate in an annual fishing event and reporting program.

As part of the Great Lakes Aquatic Gap Project, used advanced geographic information system (GIS) technology to evaluate biological

diversity of aquatic habitats and identify gaps in distribution and protection status.

Issues

Lake sturgeon have declined from historic abundances. The species is listed by New York as threatened and by Pennsylvania and Ohio as endangered.

Invasive species, such as Asian carp, snakehead, round goby, zebra mussel and purple loosestrife threaten native species and their habitats.

Although lake trout restoration efforts have been ongoing since the early 1980s, lake trout natural reproduction is limited.

Contaminants, habitat degradation and invasive species impact natural reproduction of lake trout and other species.

