



United States Department of Interior

Fish & Wildlife Service
Lower Great Lakes Fishery Resources Office
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LOWER GREAT LAKES FISHERY RESOURCES OFFICE

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LGLFRO Staff

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Michael Goehle, Fishery Biologist
Sandra Keppner, Invasive Species Coordinator
Gail Testa, Administrative Officer
Betsy Trometer, Fishery Biologist
Mike Weimer, Fishery Biologist
Emily Zollweg, Fishery Biologist

Volunteers

LAKE STURGEON RESTORATION

Emily submitted progress reports for two EPA-GLNPO funded projects (1/29) titled "*Lake Sturgeon Contaminants testing in the Genesee River*" and "*Lake Sturgeon Habitat Use in the Genesee River.*"

GREAT LAKES BASIN ECOSYSTEM TEAM

Emily submitted a progress report (1/29) on the Lake Sturgeon Committee actions for 2003 related to the Great Lakes Strategy.

LAKE ERIE

Betsy attended a meeting regarding the Times Beach Feasibility Study hosted by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District (1/12). The purpose of the meeting was to update attendees on the progress of the Feasibility Study, contaminant cleanup and habitat restoration options, and public access progress. Participants were asked to give

feedback on various options for habitat improvement on the property.

Betsy attended a Buffalo River Remedial Advisory Committee meeting at the NYSDEC Buffalo office (1/27). The Friends of the Buffalo and Niagara Rivers received funding from the USEPA for coordination of the Remedial Action Plan and management of the Remedial Advisory Committee. Betsy volunteered to be a participant in the Habitat & Environs Technical Advisory Sub-group.

INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM Coordination

Mike G. distributed "*Recognizing Northern Snakehead*", and "*Watergardens and Introduced Species*" factsheets to the Washington Office for distribution during National Weed Awareness Week (1/16). 200 snakehead factsheets were also sent to partners at the Illinois Natural History Survey for distribution at outreach events.

Ruffe

Mike G. submitted a summary of the 2003 LGLFRO ruffe monitoring surveys to the Ashland FRO for inclusion in the 2003 report on Great Lakes ruffe surveillance activities (1/27).

FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (FEDERAL LANDS)

Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (NFARS)

Betsy and Cara completed and submitted the report, "*The distribution and abundance of purple loosestrife on the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, Niagara Falls, NY*" to NFARS this month.

Fort Drum

Emily completed and submitted reports on three projects performed at Fort Drum (1/23). These included "*West Creek and West Branch Black Creek: Brook Trout and Habitat Inventory,*"

“Fish Community and Habitat Inventory for Remington Pond, Fort Drum, New York,” and *“Assessment and Enhancement of the Recreational Fishery in Indian and Narrow Lakes.”* A proposal to sample fish in Remington Pond for contaminants in 2004 was also submitted for consideration.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Mike G. participated in the Akron High School career speaker series (1/27). Mike discussed the career of fishery biologist and described LGLFRO activities as well as Service wide programs to 15 students in grades 9-12.

Mike G. attended the Lancaster Middle School Career Day (1/30). Three, 20-minute presentations were given to 90 students in grades 7-8. Mike described LGLFRO activities, fishery and marine biology, and other programs within the Service.

Mike G. represented the LGLFRO at the Fragile Wilderness Exposition in Watertown, NY (1/31). The display included posters, factsheets, the “Genie” computer quiz game, live gobies, and the large lighted office display. Attendance at the LGLFRO display was tallied at 813 for the one-day event.

OTHER

Emily represented the office at the Region 5 Fisheries Project Leaders meeting at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) (1/5-9). She gave two presentations; the first on LGLFRO activities and the second on our Outreach and Education Program. Both presentations were well received and attendees especially enjoyed the video clip of the 2003 LGLFRO Fish and Wildlife Festival edited by Mike W.

Betsy attended a meeting on Environmental Cross-border planning for the Niagara Region hosted by the Canadian Consulate General at the Buffalo Club (1/6). Presentations were given on local and regional efforts on environmental planning. The meeting ended with suggestions on improving coordination of environmental planning along the Niagara River border such as the possible creation of an International Peace Park.