



United States Department of Interior

Fish & Wildlife Service
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LOWER GREAT LAKES FISHERY RESOURCES OFFICE

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LGLFRO Staff

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Michael Goehle, Fishery Biologist
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Gail Testa, Administrative Officer
Betsy Trometer, Fishery Biologist
Emily Zollweg, Fishery Biologist

Volunteers

Eric Weber (student intern), Anthony Spadavecchia (student intern), Mike Prusakowski (student Intern)

LAKE STURGEON RESTORATION

Emily worked with two student interns to complete aging of lake sturgeon captured in 2003. The LGLFRO submission to the Central Great Lakes Bi-National Lake Sturgeon Group report was also completed and submitted for the 2002 activities.

Emily co-authored a poster titled, "*Initial Assessment of Habitat Use by Stocked Lake Sturgeon in the Genesee River*" with Dr. Dawn Dittman (USGS-Tunison Laboratory of Aquatic Sciences). This was presented at the New York Chapter American Fisheries Society (NYCAFS) 2004 Annual Meeting in Corning, NY (2/4-6).

LAKE TROUT RESTORATION

Kofi and Betsy attended the annual meeting of the Lower Lakes Lake Trout Coordination Group held

at Allegheny National Fish Hatchery (2/10-11). Topics discussed included lake trout assessment results, sea lamprey assessment and treatment for 2004 and 2003, stocking studies and new initiatives, coded wire tag status and potential mass marking program. Other topics included Early Mortality Syndrome studies, effects of round gobies, and general outlook for lake trout restoration in Lakes Erie and Ontario.

INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM

Coordination

Mike published the article, "*Keeping Track of Aquatic Invasive Species in the Great Lakes*" in the Winter, 2004 edition of the ANS Update, a newsletter of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species (2/18).

Mike presented at the NYCAFS Annual Meeting in Corning, NY (2/5). Mike's presentation was titled "*Preventing the Spread of Aquatic Nuisance Species through Pathway Management: The HACCP Approach*." He discussed ways natural resource professionals can reduce the spread of invasive species through HACCP planning.

GIS AND DATABASE MANAGEMENT

Chris attended the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service National GIS Workshop at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) (2/9-13). Chris presented, "*Acquiring and Using Terrestrial and Aquatic GAP Data*" during the ArcGIS demonstrations and workshop breakout session. The theme of the conference was "*Working toward a FWS Enterprise GIS*" which focused on implementing GIS throughout the Service and sharing data and expertise between programs and regions.

Chris attended the NYCAFS 2004 Annual Meeting in Corning, NY (2/6). He won the best

professional paper award for his talk titled, "*Great Lakes Aquatic Gap Analysis: Comparisons of the Analysis and Data.*" The paper was co-authored by Dick McDonald (USGS-Tunison Laboratory of Aquatic Sciences).

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Mike and Emily spoke to a Great Lakes Fisheries class from the University of Buffalo (2/17). Students learned about lake sturgeon biology and conservation in the Great Lakes and methods that fishery biologists use to assess fisheries, communities and habitats. 18 students were in attendance.

STAFF TRAINING

Betsy, Chris, Emily and Cara participated in Defensive Driving Training along with refuge staff at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge (2/24).

Mike attended a "*GPS Pathfinder and Data Processing*" course at NCTC (2/25-27). This course provides training in the use of the Trimble GeoExplorer mapping-grade GPS for data collection and use in GIS research.

OTHER

Emily, Mike, Cara and Chris attended the NYCAFS 2004 Annual Meeting in Corning, NY (2/4-6). Emily was co-program chair along with Mark Malchoff (NY Sea Grant). The focus of the meeting was "*Proactive Approaches for Aquatic Nuisance Species and Fish Diseases.*" Plenary speakers included Dr. Steve Brandt (NOAA-GLERL) and Dr. Phil Moy (WI Sea Grant).

This monthly report provides a brief, in-house report on recent activities, issues or events of the Lower Great Lakes Office. Its contents should not be used or cited elsewhere in any way without first contacting our staff. This is to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information.