



United States Department of Interior

Fish & Wildlife Service

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LOWER GREAT LAKES FISHERY RESOURCES OFFICE

MONTHLY REPORT July 2004



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LAKE STURGEON RESTORATION

Genesee River Restoration Experiment

This cooperative project between USGS, USFWS, and NYSDEC, funded by USEPA continues to be successful. In two nights of sampling early in July, 16 lake sturgeon stocked in September 2003 were captured. Two were sacrificed for contaminant testing, and two were recaptures of fish previously tagged on this project. This was our first instance of recaptures. The fish continue to grow well and seem to be expanding into different areas of the river.

GREAT LAKES BASIN ECOSYSTEM TEAM

State of the Lake Ecosystem Conference

Lake sturgeon are an indicator species for this conference. Emily and the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem Team Lake Sturgeon Committee updated the indicator report and submitted the draft to the organizing committee for consideration at the conference this fall.

INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM

Erie Canal

Mike, Geoff, and volunteers completed the Erie Canal aquatic plant survey (7/6-9, 12, and 16). Sites in Tonawanda, Rochester, Montezuma, Oswego, and Utica were surveyed. Notable invasive plants found included waterchestnut, Eurasian watermilfoil, and curly leaf pondweed. Additional plants will be identified later this fall.

Mike, Geoff, and Helen Domske (NY Sea Grant) conducted the first of two Erie Canal Science Educator's workshop in Lockport, NY (7/15). Twenty-two educators attended the workshop to learn about the Erie Canal and its role as a vector for invasive species. An electrofishing demonstration was also performed.

Asian Carp

Mike, Geoff, and Peter Krakowiak (volunteer) conducted the first LGLFRO Asian carp survey in western Lake Erie (7/26-30). Sites in Sandusky Bay and Toledo, OH, were monitored using trammel nets set overnight. No Asian carp were collected, however many common carp and smallmouth buffalo were caught.

GIS AND DATABASE MANAGEMENT

Lake Sturgeon Tributary Database

Chris and Emily updated the database with a new data entry form and distributed it to the contributors to update the database. Completion of the webpage and interactive GIS is scheduled for October. A progress report on this project was submitted July 15.

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.