



Volume 15 Issue 12

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Commercial Fishing - MUCC

House bills [4567](#), [4568](#) and [4569](#) have less than two months before the legislative session ends to be passed into law. The bills would update decades old statute and protect game fish from commercial harvest. Senator Ed McBroom recently released a [report](#) based on the meetings he has had with stakeholders of the bills and plans to provide several amendments to the bills either this week or the following. MUCC stands ready to analyze these potential amendments and continue to protect game fish from commercial nets.

Chippewa Nature Center Hosts Lake Sturgeon

In September 2020, Chippewa Nature Center (CNC) in Midland was invited to participate in the Sturgeon in the Classroom (SITC) program, a partnership

between the Black Lake Chapter of Sturgeon for Tomorrow and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). CNC's young lake sturgeon arrived in mid-October and is from the Black Lake watershed in northern Michigan. CNC has special permits enabling it to have the sturgeon and will host it at least through summer 2021.

Staff will care for the sturgeon until it is released as part of the plan to restore the Michigan lake sturgeon population. The fish will be part of the sturgeon re-introduction program in the Saginaw Bay watershed and released in the Tittabawassee River. Historically, sturgeon was also found in the Pine and Chippewa rivers in Midland. Biologists tagged the sturgeon, allowing researchers to track its location and monitor its growth and health once it is released.

Sturgeon for Tomorrow – Black Lake Chapter has been coordinating the SITC project since 2013, and the Michigan DNR Fisheries Division has been facilitating the statewide program since 2015, including classroom education plans. SITC aims to increase awareness, understanding and appreciation for Michigan's state threatened lake sturgeon. The effort to restore the Saginaw Bay sturgeon population began in the 1990s with habitat restoration efforts, dam removals and education. The rehabilitation of Lake Sturgeon in the Saginaw River watershed plan prescribes the stocking of up to 2000 Lake Sturgeon (~5 inches) into four Saginaw River tributaries through at least 2028. Each year, up to 500 Lake Sturgeon will be stocked into the Tittabawassee, Flint, Shiawassee and Cass rivers. The first stocking event occurred in 2018. More information about the Saginaw Bay sturgeon restoration effort can be found at www.saginawbaysturgeon.org.

Jenn Kirts, CNC director of programs, shares, "We are very excited to share this special fish with our visitors. We are thrilled to be involved in the conservation of sturgeon, a species native to our area, through the Sturgeon in the Classroom program."

Locally, CNC worked with Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN) to arrange to host the sturgeon. WIN also provided a \$1,000 Action Grant to help develop a full exhibit around the sturgeon and its story. Additional support for the SITC program is provided by Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan Sea Grant, The Conservation Fund, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan State University and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Hosting live animals is nothing new to CNC. It first housed live animals in its

Visitor Center Ecosystem Gallery when it installed a reptile and amphibian exhibit in 2015. Currently on display are an American Toad, Gray Rat Snake, Eastern Milk Snake, Western Fox Snake and Eastern Box Turtle. All of these animals, as well as the sturgeon, are available for public viewing Monday through Saturday 8 am-5 pm and Sundays and select holidays 12-5 pm. Admission to the Visitor Center, located at 400 S Badour Rd in Midland, is free.

Questions regarding CNC hosting the sturgeon should be directed to Jenn Kirts, Director of Programs, at 989-631-0830 or jkirts@chippewanaturecenter.org.

Live the Stream Killat

If you're looking for something to watch while recovering from too much turkey, there is a nice fly-fishing film, "Live the Stream" available on amazon prime. This is an hour long show about Joe Humphreys and his life-long love of fly fishing.

Joe had a large number of life experiences, but mostly loved fly fishing. He was an instructor at Penn State and had a fly-fishing class there, along with other PhysEd topics.

The video is filmed mostly on Pennsylvania's streams. The State College area is right in the heart of some great PA fly fishing.

2021 Banquet

It looks like, that due to the CONVIT-19 pandemic, that we will not be holding our traditional banquet in 2021. We were extremely fortunate to have held the 2020 banquet before all the CONVIT-19 issues occurred.

The banquets are the main source of income for projects that the Chapter undertakes. For example, stream restoration on the Lane

Preserve which amounts to \$20,000 for a little over 1 mile of The Cedar River as it passes through the Lane Preserve. Other expenses are support of Michigan Trout Unlimited (MITU), Salmon in the Classroom (SIC) for 6 elementary classrooms in the area, etc.

The BOD is looking at options for the 2021 year to keep monies flowing for these and other worthwhile projects. We are in contact with other chapters, MITU and TUNA for ideas to raise funds for our projects.

If you have any ideas for fund raising projects that our Chapter can use, please contact Eric Johnson at Erick Johnson (2019) 989-430-5011

johnsonerick@scientificanglers.com

The Philosophy of

Trout Unlimited...

believes that trout fishing isn't just fishing for trout.

It's fishing for sport rather than for food where the true enjoyment of the sport lies in the challenge, the love and the battle of wits, not necessarily the full creel.

It's the feeling of satisfaction that comes from limiting your kill instead of killing your limit.

It's communing with nature where the chief reward is a refreshed body and a contented soul, where a license is a permit to use - not abuse, to enjoy - not destroy our trout waters.

It's subscribing to the proposition that what's good for trout is good for trout fishermen and that managing trout for the trout rather than for the trout fishermen is fundamental to the solution of our trout problems.

It's appreciating our trout, respecting fellow anglers and giving serious thought to tomorrow.

E. Sutton *Art Hausman*

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L. P. Martuch BOD Meetings

November 3, 2020 Scientific Anglers (Remote)

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John Winchester – Treasurer

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John Winchester (2020) 989-631-0122 jgwinch@att.net – Hatch Book

Steve Wilkowski (2019) 989-495-7151 – stevewilkowski@sictech.com - Vice-President / SIC



Committee Chairmen

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John Van Dalen 989-631-6873 jvdfish@gmail.com – Special Events

Interesting web sites

<http://www.martuchtu.org/Pages/default.aspx> Leon P Martuch Website

<http://h2o.usgs.gov> Hydrology data for all rivers in the US

<http://www.totalflyfishing.com> Fly Fishing Website

www.flyanglersonline.com Fly patterns, articles, and general information.

Disclaimer Statement

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<http://info.abrfc.noaa.gov/rfc-wfo.html> National Weather Service river forecasts

www.tu.org Home page Trout Unlimited.

www.steelheadsites.com Steelhead information

www.fedflyfishers.org Federation of Flyfishers Home Page.

<http://www.michigantutu.org/> Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited Home Page

www.fffglc.org Federation of Fly Fishers

www.lssu.edu Lake Superior State University. Fish cam at the power plant at the Soo

www.trailstotrut.com Website for trout fishing

On Line Fishing Log mydailyfishinglog.com

Guide to fly fishing waters of the US – www.kyndoutdoors.com

American Museum of Fly Fishing www.amff.com

Anglers of the AuSable www.AuSableAnglers.org

On AOL Look under Interest, Hobbies, and Fishing

We will publish more sites, as they become known. If you know of interesting sites let me know at t8monto@aol.com

Trout Unlimited has a membership program going. Our Chapter can greatly benefit by having you sign up a new member. Log onto www.tu.org/intro and you can get a special introductory rate of \$17.50. Be sure to enter code 250 so our Chapter will receive credit for the membership. This would make a great gift for your fishing buddy.

For membership problems, contact George Killat

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