



The Outrigger



Volume 41, Issue 12

www.kenoshasportfishing.com

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Special points of interest:

- Check out the new segment “Learn More” on page 2. Where you can find educational articles during the off season
- We need a Volunteer to take over Federation duties for Mark Hasenberg
- Fly Tying classes are scheduled for Tuesdays from 7:00pm—9:00pm at the Moose Lodge
- Mark your calendar, the club swap meet is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 16th from 9:00am - 12:30 pm at the Moose Lodge, 3003 30th Ave Kenosha
- Awards banquet is scheduled for Feb. 23, 2013 at the Boat-house

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Implanted tags giving biologists information on where stocked chinook originated

Courtesy of WI DNR, http://dnr.wi.gov/news/Weekly/Article_Lookup.asp?id=2397

STURGEON BAY, Wis. – Stainless steel tags smaller than a pencil lead and the “Dr. Seussian”[machine that can implant them in 8,000 fish per hour](#) are unlocking the secrets of chinook in Lake Michigan, the biggest predator on the big pond. Loaded with information about where and when each fish was hatched, the tags are already showing that chinook caught by anglers in Wisconsin waters of Lake Michigan were just as likely to come from Michigan as from Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service biologists recovered hundreds of coded wire tags from angler-caught chinook from Wisconsin ports during the summer of 2012.

“Our preliminary analysis indicates that about 41 percent of these stocked and tagged chinook originated from Wisconsin stocking sites and 34 percent originated from Michigan DNR stocking sites on Lake Michigan,” says to Nick Legler, the lead DNR fisheries biologist working on the project.

“Another 9 percent originated from Michigan DNR’s Lake Huron stocking sites, 11 percent originated from Illinois, and 5 percent originated from Indiana,” Legler says. “These tag returns will give us a much better understanding of how much of that mixing is occurring.” Legler cautions that it’s important to re-

member that the information biologists have so far is based on a few years’ tag returns.

“We expect much better information once we have four to five year-classes tagged and those returns analyzed.” Importantly, the tags will also eventually help better document just how many fish are naturally reproduced and how many come from hatcheries. That’s a key question because in the 1960s, when Wisconsin and other states first began stocking chinook to control alewives, an exotic fish, 100 percent of the chinook caught in the lake by anglers were from hatcheries, Legler says. In more recent decades, natural reproduction has come on strong in Michigan tributaries and a study started in 2006 and continuing in 2012 suggests that on average 55 percent of the 1-year-old fish in the lake were naturally reproduced.

“The key to a healthy fishery in Lake Michigan, which has a pretty disrupted ecosystem, is balancing predator fish like chinook with prey fish,” Legler says. “If more fish are being naturally reproduced, we need to take that into account when we stock.”

The states and Michigan tribes with management responsibilities on Lake Michigan recently agreed to adjust stocking starting in 2013 to offset the increased number of naturally reproduced chinook and low levels of prey fish.

More of these tag returns and the information they provide are expected in coming years because the tagging machines, (Cont. Pg..3)

Learn More: What causes alewives to die off in great numbers at certain times of the year?

Courtesy: University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute, <http://www.seagrant.wisc.edu/Home/Topics/FishandFisheries/Details.aspx?PostID=362>

The alewife (*Alosa pseudoharengus*), native to the Atlantic Coast, entered the Great Lakes through the Welland Canal and made their way to Lake Michigan by 1949. Alewives are not well adapted to the osmotic stress associated with life in fresh water. In freshwater, the salt concentration in a fish's body is higher than the surrounding water. For this reason water tends to leak into the cells of the fish, a process called osmosis. Freshwater fish must constantly 'pump' water out of their bodies; fish that are well adapted to a freshwater environment have larger kidneys than their saltwater counterparts. Because of this physiological stress, alewives are rather sensitive to disturbances in their Great Lakes environment.

Alewives spend most of the year in the deeper waters of the open lake, but come into near shore waters in the summer when they



Credit: Phil Moy, Wisconsin Sea Grant

are ready to spawn. Alewives begin to spawn when the water temperatures reach about 55-60° F. In their native habitat alewives are anadromous, swimming upstream to spawn in the spring. In the Great Lakes, the fish congregate near the outlets of rivers or streams or near harbors that occur at the outlet of a river. Generally, alewives begin reproducing at about two years of age. Alewives do not necessarily die after they spawn, but when the fish move from the deeper water to near shore areas they are exposed to fluctuating

temperatures. A severe change in water temperature, such as can occur with upwelling, can cause fish to die.

Underlying factors that relate to alewife mortality in the spring include: (1) their fragile condition due to the physiological stress of being in fresh water (2) a weakened condition due to lack of forage in the winter (3) stress related to spawning and (4) being exposed to rapid temperature changes when they enter near-shore waters to spawn. Whether we will see them die off in large numbers depends on population abundance, age of the fish, general physical condition, and the weather.



Credit: Phil Moy, Wisconsin Sea Grant


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BRUCE DENTICE

Chinook Tagging (Continued)

brought to Lake Michigan hatcheries by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service starting a few years ago, will continue to mark all hatchery-raised chinook salmon.

Those fish are now becoming big enough where they can be caught by anglers or are making their spawning runs up the tributaries where DNR and other states collect eggs.

Legler says that tags from chinook making their spawning runs up Lake Michigan streams will enable DNR and partners to know whether most of the fish stocked in Wisconsin return to the water in which they were stocked, or whether they stray from that site. This winter, DNR and USFWS biologists also will be analyzing tag returns in chinook processed at DNR's Strawberry Creek egg collecting facility. More than 800 chinook heads were collected for analysis at that facility, as well as at DNR egg collection facilities in Kewaunee and Racine.

"The tags that we collect from our spawning facilities during the fall will allow us to learn more about straying rates," Legler says. "They also can allow us to determine the exact age of a marked fish, and we can then compare each fish's age to its weight to evaluate growth rates, ecosystem predator-prey balance, etc. "In the future, Legler expects DNR will ask anglers who harvest chinook in the fall during the salmon runs on the tributaries to donate chinook heads to DNR for analysis of the tags in the fish.

"By collecting heads from anglers during the fall, we hope that we'll be able to acquire data that will help us to determine when and where mature salmon begin staging, before the fall spawning event."

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Nick Legler, 920-746-5112



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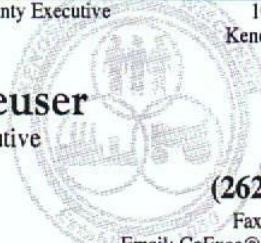
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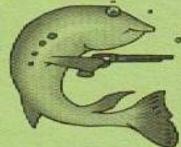


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The Twelve days of Christmas for the Salmon Fisherman



On the first day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me... A new speed and temp probe.

On the second day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me... Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

On the third day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me... Three 11" Flashers. Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

On the fourth day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me...Four Flasher boxes. Three 11" Flashers. Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

On the fifth day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me...FIVE 12 lb DOWNRIGGER BALLS. Four Flasher boxes. Three 11" Flashers. Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

On the sixth day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me...Six spoon boxes. FIVE 12 lb DOWNRIGGER BALLS. Four Flasher boxes. Three 11" Flashers. Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

On the seventh day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me...Seven packs of split rings. Six spoon boxes. FIVE 12 lb DOWNRIGGER BALLS. Four Flasher boxes. Three 11" Flashers. Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

On the eighth day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me...Eight magnum spoons. Seven packs of split rings. Six spoon boxes. FIVE 12 lb DOWNRIGGER BALLS. Four Flasher boxes. Three 11" Flashers. Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

On the ninth day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me...Nine packs of snap swivels. Eight magnum spoons. Seven packs of split rings. Six spoon boxes. FIVE 12 lb DOWNRIGGER BALLS. Four Flasher boxes. Three 11" Flashers. Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

On the tenth day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me... Ten colors of lead. Nine packs of snap swivels. Eight magnum spoons. Seven packs of split rings. Six spoon boxes. FIVE 12 lb DOWNRIGGER BALLS. Four Flasher boxes. Three 11" Flashers. Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

On the eleventh day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me... Eleven outstanding flies. Ten colors of lead. Nine packs of snap swivels. Eight magnum spoons. Seven packs of split rings. Six spoon boxes. FIVE 12 lb DOWNRIGGER BALLS. Four Flasher boxes. Three 11" Flashers. Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

On the twelfth day of Christmas my fishing buddy gave to me...Twelve red treble hooks. Eleven outstanding flies. Ten colors of lead. Nine packs of snap swivels. Eight magnum spoons. Seven packs of split rings. Six spoon boxes. FIVE 12 lb DOWNRIGGER BALLS. Four Flasher boxes. Three 11" Flashers. Two Captain's pack electric downriggers. And a new speed and temp probe.

DECEMBER 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	
2	3 <i>Club meeting 7-9 pm</i>	4 <i>Fly Tying</i>	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 <i>Fly Tying</i>	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 <i>Fly Tying</i>	19 <i>Board Meeting 7-9 pm</i>	20	21	22
23	24	25 <i>Christmas</i>	26	27	28	29
30	31 <i>New Years Eve</i>					

Important dates this month

- 12/03/12 - Club meeting at the Moose Lodge 7:00 pm
- 12/19/12 - KSFCA Board Meeting home of Tom Zapp 7:00 pm
- 12/04/12 - Fly tying 7:00pm—9:00pm at the Moose Lodge
- 12/11/12 - Fly tying 7:00pm—9:00pm at the Moose Lodge
- 12/18/12 - Fly tying 7:00pm—9:00pm at the Moose Lodge
- 12/25/12 - Merry Christmas
- 12/31/12 - New Years Eve

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<i>Fundraiser</i>	*Jim Hanrahan Jim Johnson
<i>Sunshine</i>	Al Johnson
<i>Supporting</i>	*Jerry Vigansky
<i>Membership</i>	*Dave Gehrke
<i>Membership</i>	Ray Hines
<i>Rearing Pond</i>	*Mike Smith
<i>Pike River</i>	*Mark Hasenberg
<i>Fly Tying</i>	John Larsen * Jim Zondlak
	*Jack Springer Scott Kessler
	Richard Kessler
	Matt Hetchler
	Al Dutkiewicz
<i>Publication</i>	*Troy Alley
<i>Electronic Comm..</i>	*Mike Smith Troy Alley
	Jim Hanrahan
<i>Guest Speakers</i>	Jim Zondlak *Jamie Hotzfield
	Jerry Vigansky

2012 Schedule of Club Events

- 02/06/12 - Board Elections
- 02/25/12 - Swap Meet
- 02/25/12 - Awards Banquet
- 03/10/12 - Kenosha Expo
- 03/11/12 - Kenosha Expo
- 03/29/12 - Annual Fundraiser Dinner
- 05/12/12 - Kids Fish-N-Fun
- 05/20/12 - Monthly Tournament
- 06/10/12 - Monthly Tournament
- 06/16/12 - Coho Classic Tournament
- 08/12/12 - Monthly Tournament
- 09/16/12 - Monthly Tournament
- 09/22/12 - Pike River Revival

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