



ANNUAL ISSUE

FISHING TALES



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1987 ANNUAL ISSUE

Here's What We're All About...



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Mitchell: "1986 . . . Another great year!"

The past year was another great year for the Detroit Steelheaders. The Spring Thaw came early. All in all, the fishing was very good. The weather for boat tournaments was unbelievable. The river boys won the three-way tournament on the Big Manistee. The cookbook was printed. Once again, each of our annual fund-raisers was a success and the membership supported all of the club's efforts.

It would take too long to mention everyone who helped out this year, so let me just give a deserved "THANK YOU" to each and every one of you who did. I also want to issue a special "THANKS" to each member of the 1986 Board of Directors for all the support they gave over the year, and especially to Bob Ksionzek, Vice President; Bob Kring, Treasurer; and Mike Lehto, Secretary. The year 1986 will remain a special year for me, as it is my last year as President of the Detroit Steelheaders.

Part of the success of 1986 can be credited to the wives in the club. I don't remember a year when we have had greater support from a number of wives or girl friends. There were more women in the boat tournaments and working shows and committees than ever before. The year ends with the election of directors, and I fully expect to see several women on the Board (*the President is a prophet, too!*—Ed.).

The year started off with the Steelheaders taking part in the boat and fishing shows around Detroit. We had our displays at the Silverdome, Cobo Hall and Outdoorama. The speaker at the January meeting was Dennis Fijalkowski from Michigan Wildlife Habitat (MWH). Dennis told of MWH's past projects and some future thoughts.

February saw the second annual Dinner Dance and those who attended will tell you it was twice the fun of the first one. Tom Schrinel arranged for a great deejay and Jim Legenzoff rounded up great raffle prizes. Everyone raved about the event. Don't miss the next one! Life member Tom Nesbitt was the February speaker with one of his fine talks on fly fishing for steelhead.

March was the date of the SPRING SHOW! Don Kirchoff and Dennis Holoway did a fantastic job and produced one of the best shows we have ever had. Many club members helped out and we had a great lineup of speakers on hand. March is also the month when you start to think of the Spring Thaw. At the March meeting, we had Steve Jones to talk about the



BOB MITCHELL (r.), outgoing Detroit Area Steelheaders president, is shown with a copy of the club's newly published cookbook, one of the highlights of 1986 for Detroit Area Steelheaders. Also pictured (from left) are Dave and Bridget Smith, whose company printed the book, and Dr. Howard Tanner, former D.N.R. head, whose fisheries research project at Michigan State University will receive all net cookbook sales proceeds. Together, the net proceeds of the cookbook are being donated to Dr. Howard Tanner for his research at Michigan State University. It was, therefore, appropriate that our May speaker was none other than the "Father" of our salmon fishery, Dr. Howard Tanner. Dr. Tanner whetted our appetites with the prospects of 50-pound triploid salmon in the future!

April is the month when we have the drawing for the Annual Raffle. The 1986 grand prize was won by Frank Beste from Sterling Heights. Mike Zelkowski made the presentation at the meeting and seemed glad to see the boat and rig leave his garage.

April is also the month when we start our boat trolling tournaments. "Eagle" opened the year with "Ride of the Valkyries" at Benton Harbor and "Outlaw" won the tourney. In an effort to find better ways of sharing information among boats, and to give newer members a way to learn from some of the experienced crews, Tournament Director Ted Warrow instituted a new concept, Team Tournaments, where successful boats are paired with those who have been less successful. This program was a great success and lots of fun. Joel Garinger and his "Fishbusters" crew won the club trophy at the River Crab Stakes. The speaker at the April meeting was Ed McIntosh with a very informative talk on the use of LORAN-C.

May saw the debut of the long-awaited cookbook. The general consensus is that the wait was more than worth it. As you know, the cookbook is the result of a project that Ken Rogers had been working on for some time. Thanks to all of you who gave recipes to Ken, and thanks to Dave and Bridget Smith who helped get it

other than "Great Fishing!" August is the month most boat trollers point to and it's a "time to go fishing" month, so we limit the club activities to tournaments and the meeting. Members were surprised at the meeting by the showing of some salmon fishing videos. They were great!

Boat trolling starts to wind down in September, with 1986's last tournament at Frankfort. The anticipated coho fishery never panned out, but the steelhead more than made up for it. It was a summer I'll never forget, as my "Kemo" crew came through to help me win the "Skipper of the Year" award. It was not easy either, as the "Outlaws" pressured the "In-Laws" the whole summer! It was great competition. The battle for third place through fifth place was pretty tight, too.

September is also the month we start the surf and river tournaments. Unfortunately, someone forgot to tell the fish at Ludington, but, once again, the Detroit Steelheaders proved you don't always have to catch fish to have fun. Incidentally, I heard that one of our guys up there thought that the Swan technique has to do with diving . . .

The September meeting was highlighted by a panel discussion on river fishing. As usual, the waders took plenty of shots at the drift boats and the drift boats returned the favor. And both took their shots at the lake trollers! The best news is that you don't really have to choose one over the other. On the side, the members of the panel will tell you they like all three types of fishing. Variety is the spice of life and the only bad fishing is when you can't go fishing!

October was a month of high water due to all the rain, and the river fishing did not live up to potential. The Betsie River tournament was almost won by Tournament Director Dick Leonard except that nobody could see Dick's fish—including Dick! As such, Dick became the first recipient of the "Go Fish, Pinocchio" storyline award. Congratulations, Dick, and wear it proudly!! Member John Tymensky gave one of his great slide presentations on drift boat fishing at the October meeting. John always has a good talk and always has something to say. Thanks, John!

November is a month when most of our members are more interested in antlers than salmon or steelhead. However, a few crafty souls will tell you that this can be a great month for steelhead and the pressure is unusually light. For the second year, Detroit won the three-way river tournament with Metro-West and Saginaw on the Big Manistee. A lot of the credit goes to Mr. Ed's Honey Hole. Is it true, Ed, that you were drifting Gummy Bears? Or was it water dogs?

As I sit here writing this, I am looking forward to the Christmas party. We'll be electing new officers, partying, naming the Member of the Year, partying, naming the Director of the Year, partying, seeing Salmon Claus, partying, and just taking a few minutes to wish our good friends a happy holiday. At the same time, I hope each one of you stop to thank God for the great friends we have, the great fishery we have, and the chance to experience all of this in our lifetime. Thanks for all of your support in 1986, and good luck and good fishing in 1987!

—Bob Mitchell
President, 1986

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June is a busy month for Detroit Steelheaders. The fishing may be off a bit but the club is hard at work. This year's projects included a group of members helping with the Rouge River clean-up. Those who attended were very impressed with the "real" Rouge, and agreed that it has tremendous potential if we can get it back.

Another event that has become an annual event is the Special Olympics outing. Always one of the best-attended and most worthy events we stage, the 1986 outing was conducted jointly with our fellow Steelheaders at the Huron Valley chapter. Don Kirchoff and Dennis Holoway did another great job of organizing the event and even the walleye showed up! The speakers for the June meeting included Steve Tothe on marine radios and an excellent panel discussion on boat trolling.

July is typically the month when the fishing starts slowly and then quickly crescendos toward August. Once again, the ladies were "snake bit" with the weather at the Ladies Day tourney, but as always, it was still a great time for all who attended. The picnic was a sellout, with plenty of "land trout" (roast pig) to feed people on both days. I have already heard that the ladies are talking about Ladies Day 1987, with many of them stumping for one of the king ports as the site!

For the past few years, the feature of the July meeting has been Ken Rogers' demonstration with the "Boston Whaler" in the parking lot. This is the first chance many new members have to see a "set up" salmon boat and to ask all the questions about getting started. I always see a couple of old pros standing around just in case something is mentioned that they may have missed in past years. The "Kemo" crew also displayed the baitwalker rigs that they used to win the Oscoda tournament, and the one-pound balls that they used at the Ludington tourney.

What more can be said about August

FISHIN' TALES is published monthly by the DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS

The views expressed in FISHIN' TALES are those of members and the Editor. The purpose of FISHIN' TALES is to inform members of events which affect the Steelheader. It is our intention to teach, inform and guide members to respect and appreciate the Great Lakes, rivers and land around us.

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The list of Officers and Committee Chairmen for 1987 will be published in the February issue of Fishin' Tales.

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SPECIAL NOTE: Dennis Holoway, Membership Chairman, requests that all dues money and membership renewal forms be sent ONLY to:

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FULLY EQUIPPED 'FISHING MACHINE' IS TOP RAFFLE PRIZE

A \$5,000 salmon rig could be yours!

With the coming of a new fishing season, it's time once again to kick off our annual Boat Raffle. I'm really pleased with this year's prize package, and I think you will be, too! Five lucky people will walk away with some excellent prizes come April 28.

1987 Boat Raffle Prizes

- Grand Prize**
* 16 foot Yar-Craft boat, 40 horsepower Mariner outboard motor, Yacht Club trailer and Motor Guide trolling motor, supplied courtesy of Suburban Marine of Centerline, Michigan.
- Second Prize**
* Two Big Jon electric downriggers and trolling bars, courtesy of long time Detroit Area Steelheader supporter "Big Jon" of Traverse City, Michigan.
- Third Prize**
* Four Shimano Triton 200 GT reels and Shimano Triton downrigger rods, courtesy of Andy's Tackle of Melvindale, Michigan.
- Fourth Prize**
* A fishing charter aboard "Crystal Blue" courtesy of Captain Terry Hill of Detroit, Michigan.
- Fifth Prize**
* A tackle package worth over \$100.00, featuring proven salmon- and trout-catching baits.



GRAND PRIZE for the 1987 edition of the Annual Boat Raffle is this Yar-Craft boat, complete with a 40-horsepower Mariner outboard motor, Yacht Club trailer, and Motor Guide trolling motor, supplied courtesy of Suburban Marine of Centerline, SOMEBODY'S GOING TO WIN IT... WHY NOT YOU??!

The raffle drawing will be held on April 28, 1987 at St. Plus X Knights of Columbus Hall, 6177 Chicago Road, Warren, Michigan, during our regular April meeting.

Tickets for the raffle will be available at all member meetings, as well as at the various boat, fishing and outdoor shows. Cost of the tickets is three for \$1.00.

Since this Boat Raffle is the major fund-raiser of the year, I'd like to ask everyone to PITCH IN to ensure its success. We need plenty of help to

make this event the success everyone has come to expect. If you can work at any of the shows, or just want to sell tickets on your own, please call me at:

768-8200 - DAYS
826-3236 - EVENINGS

These tickets should sell themselves once you describe our fantastic group of prizes. Who knows, you might even be one of the lucky winners yourself!

-Mike Zalkowski
Boat Raffle Chairman

Spring Fishing Show is set for April 12

One of the surest signs that winter is almost over—the Detroit Area Chapter's annual SPRING SHOW—is nearly here. Mark your calendars! The date for this year's fishing extravaganza is SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 1987.

The show is being held again this year at the Dearborn Civic Center, off Michigan Avenue near Greenfield Road, (see map). The hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with a \$2.00 donation for admission. Senior citizens and kids get in FREE, and there is plenty of convenient free parking.

As always, the show offers all fisher-

men the finest selection of tackle and the latest in equipment, PLUS "How to..." clinics to show you how to catch the elusive and much sought-after Great Lakes Steelhead and salmon.

There will be seminars on river fishing, surf fishing and boat trolling. Other clinics scheduled during the show include ones covering fly tying, rod building, and smoking fish.

THERE WON'T BE ANY WRESTLING BEARS, OR "MACKINAC ISLAND" FUDGE AT THIS SHOW—JUST EVERYTHING TO DO WITH FISHING!!

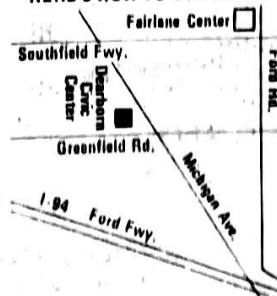
You'll have the opportunity to hear D.N.R. speakers, and well-known fishermen such as Dick Swan, Jerry Lee, Steve Hamilton and Don Calhoun reveal the tactics and tricks that work for them.

Finally, you will have the chance to buy the hottest lures at the best prices from the biggest dealers in the state.

If it has to do with Steelhead and salmon fishing, you'll find it at the 1985 Detroit Area Chapter Spring Show.

JOIN US FOR MICHIGAN'S BEST STEELHEADER SPRING SHOW!!!

HERE'S HOW TO GET THERE



Detroit Area Steelheaders History

The first organizational meeting of the Detroit Area Chapter was held on October 10, 1974. Many hours of planning went into the project after a feasibility questionnaire to MSSFA members in the area indicated interest in the Chapter concept.

The State Board of Directors had encouraged two of their own, John Makela and Tom Schneider, to spearhead the move because of the membership possibilities in the vast metropolitan area. Two other Steelheaders, Ed Raquel and Joe Sizemore jumped in and, as a committee of four, they founded the Detroit Area Chapter late one night in September, 1974.

Forty-one fishermen attended that first gathering at the Northwood Inn, discussing elections, finances, committees, and reading the by laws. But most of the talk was about fishing, naturally! It was decided that the "First Annual Meeting" would be held on December 4 and that that date would be the official beginning of the Chapter.

The Annual Meeting was attended by the State officers, with Tom Mandigo, MSSFA President, the featured speaker. Fourteen directors were nominated and elected at this meeting, while paid membership grew to over one hundred.

Since that time the Detroit Area Steelheaders (its present name) has had a monthly meeting for its members (now held on the last Tuesday of each month), and has grown to be the largest Chapter in the state.

Coming Events

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Hall, 6177 Chicago Road, Warren

January 27, 1987 ■ February 24, 1987 ■ March 31, 1987

SPECIAL STEELHEADER EVENTS

- * PONTIAC BOAT SHOW (Silverdome) January 21-25
- * DETROIT BOAT SHOW (Cobo Hall) January 31-February 8
- * BASS-O-RAMA SHOW (Pontiac) February 13-15
- * OUTDOORAMA (State Fairgrounds) February 20-March 1
- * STEELHEADER DINNER DANCE (K. of C. Hall, Warren) February 21
- * W.A.T.A. BIG MANISTEE RIVER TOURNAMENT February 28
- * BETSIE RIVER CLUB TOURNAMENT March 21
- * STEELHEADERS SPRING SHOW (Dearborn Civic Center) April 12
- * ANNUAL BOAT RAFFLE (K. of C. Hall, Warren) April 28

PLEASE NOTE: Vendors are welcome to set up and sell at the back of the hall during Member meetings. See President Mitchell regarding set-up fees and table placements.

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The tale of an "Outlaw"

It all started on Thanksgiving weekend, 1985. I was on vacation at Tippy Dam steelhead fishing, and was taking my boat down the stairs when I heard, "Hey Ed! Where's Brian and Bob?"

"Back home, eating turkey with the folks," I shouted back.

It was the "Outlaw" boys, Mark and Greg Clifford. Since it was their first time above the coffer, I told them a thing or two about fishing there. So we caught some fish and drank a bunch of beer together that weekend, and just hit it off real well.

During the winter, the guys asked me to fish the 1986 tournaments with them. Greg asked me what I thought the "Outlaw" might need in order to improve her fishing performance. In reply, I recommended a Beaver Troll, a trolling plate, and putting my X-15B Lowrance graph on the boat.

The second weekend in April found us getting the "Outlaw" ready for its first trip of the year, to Lexington. I had been up there the previous weekend with Gary Clark and had done real well. That Saturday morning I waited at Mark's house for the captain and his girlfriend, Cynde Klein, who would be going on her first trip after salmon.

After a short ride to Lexington, we were all set to start the trolling season. I mentioned as we left port that I have developed a personal tradition over the years that the captain gets the first fish each spring. We headed south of the pier heads about two miles and set our lines. Our wait was not a long one—a jungle bunny Bomber set down seven feet had the captain up and into action in a hurry, and my tradition was maintained!

With the tradition out of the way, it was now Cynde's turn. In the past, she had only caught a sheepshead and some small walleyes. Greg took the wheel while I reset the lines. It was a little rough that afternoon, so we were only running five rods. I had just cracked open a beer when we had a hit on a high line. I handed the rod to Cynde, along with a quick low-down on how to fight a salmon. As luck would have it, after two or three rod pumps it was gone.

All was quiet on the "Outlaw." I told Cynde not to worry about it—we would soon get her another fish on. About ten minutes went by, and then Cynde had another fish on . . . but just like the first one, it was soon gone. Cynde felt bad, but we told her it was no problem.

I told them, "All we need right now is a 'Kamikaze' salmon!" Greg had not heard of that type of salmon before, so I explained. "That's one of those salmon that takes all three trebles in its mouth!" I went to my spoon box, pulled out a red Stainless Steeler and put it down 15 feet. We trolled only about a half-mile when the number three downrigger rod popped into action. We told Cynde this was her fish all the way, handed her the rod and sat back to watch the show. To make a long story short, thank God for 7-pound kings that like red Stainless Stealers!

On to Benton Harbor and the first Detroit Area Steelheader boat trolling tournament of the season.

BENTON HARBOR ACTION

Greg took Friday off from work and ran the boat up early. Mark, coming



LADIES DAY WAS WET, but the adverse weather conditions didn't slow down the "Outlaw" fishing crew, shown here with their first-place catch.

off hand surgery two weeks before and sporting a full arm cast, and myself went up Friday night, full of anticipation.

When we got there, boy, were we surprised! Greg had fished all day with the "Sea Hunter" Fishing Team for one small salmon. They had marked a lot of fish, but no takers.

As we headed down the St. Joseph River Saturday morning, the question of the day was where to start fishing. In the past, some tournaments at this port had been won by fishing north of the pier heads and straight out, so we started out there. We went north, and then straight out into about 50 feet of water. We marked all kinds of bait fish and lots of big fish, but after 40 minutes of trolling with no hits, we pulled lines and headed south to the power plant.

It turned out to be the best move we could have made at that time! We set lines in 75-80 feet of water, and by the time we had three lines set, two rods had already popped. A double-header is a really nice way to get the tourney season underway!!

Greg and I finally got all six rods set, and before we could catch our breath, BANG . . . a triple-header! Mark, cast and all, was fighting one anyway, so we momentarily had no one driving the boat. It was mass panic briefly, but we finally managed to land all three kings!!

I reminded the guys that since we could only keep salmon, we would have to watch our size limit. That day, we caught and released some 33 salmon, along with ten lake trout. At noon we were still down at the power plant, with 13 fish in our cooler, and needing only two more for a limit. We all agreed that while we could probably place in the top five with what we had in the box, if we wanted to win we would need at least one big fish.

At 12:30 we pulled lines and moved at full power to the north. We soon set up shop, again in 75-80 feet of water, and started trolling out of the mud line. We had a rip on a planer board, but there was no hook-up. Mark, who was driving, said, "Look at the graph." The bottom was loaded with big fish. We had heard some radio talk earlier about fish on the bottom being lakies, but I put the number four downrigger, rigged with a black and gold spoon, right on the bottom anyway, just to see for myself.

The answer was not long in coming. Laker or salmon, we had a release, and the line was coming off the bottom fast,

too fast for a lake trout. It turned out to be a 14-pound king!

With that one in the box, we were one fish away from our three-man limit. Greg started going through the J-Plug box, looking for a hot color. Chartreuse spoons had been working all day, so Mark and I suggested a chartreuse No. 3 J-Plug. Greg set the line down about 50 feet, and we waited and watched.

With about 20 minutes left in the tournament, the rig with the J-Plug started screaming. Greg grabbed the rod and just hung on. This one was going to take a while, so I pulled the rest of the rods and we waited for the big salmon to come off the bottom. After ten minutes, Greg was beginning to make some headway and we got a glimpse of him—a sure 20-pounder! Greg did his job, I got the net under him, and then it was Budweiser time aboard the "Outlaw!"

The Benton Harbor pier heads never looked better to us than on that first warm weekend in April. The 'sure 20-pounder' turned out to be an 18-pound, 5-ounce king . . . close enough for me! It helped us to a first-place finish, the first in a Detroit Area Steelheader tournament for "Outlaw."

THE EPPINGER LIGHT LINE CLASSIC

The next event on tap for the "Outlaw" Fishing Team was the Eppinger Light Line Classic. Having fished Lexington all spring with success, we decided to enter this money tournament and try our luck. We were going to fish out of Port Sanilac for the two-day event.

Greg and I went up a day early to scout out the area. On our arrival Thursday night, the weather took a turn for the worse. A cold north wind was blowing about 30 miles per hour, and it was 30° outside—full snowmobile suit weather!

Friday morning, we awoke to find a frost-covered "Outlaw." After a quick breakfast we went out to see what was going on. The wind was still pounding hard from the north. We ran a little bit north, into waves three to five feet high and growing. Greg drove while I set the lines. After bouncing up and down for about an hour, I noticed that Greg was not talking as much as before, and was looking "a little green around the gills," as the saying goes.

Right in front of the Sanilac pier heads we landed a nice 14-pound king on a chartreuse Stainless Steeler. Greg was not looking the greatest. He did perk

up when I finally said, "Let's call it an early morning and go on in."

After tying up, we decided to check out the new sporting goods store in Port Hope. They just happened to have Bombers on sale, so Greg picked out a few more new colors that caught his eye, and I did the same. Incidentally, this tourney was the first for the "Outlaw" with outriggers.

On Saturday the wind was still blowing from the north. Our game plan was to head north about five miles and troll with the waves. Greg and I set the lines and waited for the first strike. My number four downrigger was the first to go, a spot Bomber was the bait (down seven feet), and the result was a nice ten-pound king in the box!

I reset the spot Bomber and, ten minutes later, it went off again, with another ten-pound king on the end. While I was fighting my fish, we had a release on the outrigger, set up with a J-13 orange and gold Rapala as the bait. Greg fought and fought what we thought was a monster fish in three- to five-foot waves, and what turned out to be a seven-foot-long tree branch! After pulling all the lines and retrieving our Rapala from the hungry tree branch, I noticed that Greg was not talking much again.

We headed into the waves for a while and then turned and started to troll south again. After we set up shop again, that was it for Greg for the rest of the day. Our captain was done for. The only person he talked to any more was some guy called "Ralph," over the side of the boat. Mark mentioned something about chumming the fish, but by then, Greg was under my raincoat sleeping on the chair. Now it was up to me and "One-armed" Mark to carry on.

It was 9:00, we had two fish in the box, and all the radio chatter was about slow fishing. We maintained our pattern of the day—run north and troll south with the waves.

On our third pass down, I took the straight Rapalas off the outriggers and replaced them with deep diver Rapalas, black and gold on one side and 'jungle bunny' on the other. I was giving Mark a break from driving when I heard a "think." Mark was looking, but did not see the outrigger rod. I ran and grabbed the rod . . . nice fish, but who was going to net it?

Greg was still out of action, so I got the fish to the side of the boat, handed the rod to Mark, grabbed the net and slipped it under the fish. Mark and I had a beer over that one!

Sometimes on past fishing trips, Mark seemed to be getting a little "green," too, but fortunately not this time. Maybe it had something to do with having too much to do . . .

I was still driving when Mark's outrigger had a rip. He said, "One arm and all, I'm going to have a try at this one!" I answered, "Go for it!" It was touch and go for a while. Mark was just getting everything under control when the fish came right to the back of the boat, swam into the downrigger lines and was gone.

That's how it went for the rest of the day. If I was standing near number one and number two downriggers, number three or number four would go off. One time, I had just missed a fish on number

Continued on Page Sixteen . . . /

Coho salmon may bow out due to cost, poor return

Coho salmon, the Pacific Ocean fish that wrought a miracle in the Great Lakes, may have outlived its usefulness in the freshwater seas, some Michigan fish biologists say.

Chinook salmon, which for nearly a decade were regarded as secondary to coho in the Great Lakes, may almost totally replace coho in Michigan's hatchery rearing program. Economics strongly favor the chinook.

COHO MADNESS

In 1967, when the first mature coho returned inshore prior to their fall spawning run, they launched what is widely regarded as history's most dramatic instant sports fishery. Fishermen literally went crazy. Several actually killed themselves in their lust for the silvery trophies.

Until then, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron had been ignored by all but a few perch fishermen and even fewer wire-line-jerking lake trout fishermen from Traverse City north. There was, simply, nothing out there to catch.

The 852,000 coho planted in 1966 in Lake Michigan were like the nuclear bomb hitting the sports fishing world. The next year, 2,200,000 more coho were planted and the fishery expanded as other Great Lakes states joined the salmon program. Today, the sports fishery is worth hundreds of millions of dollars to the economy.

But today the coho is an almost insignificant part of that fever-pitched madness. Chinook are the shining stars.

THE CHINOOK MOVE IN

The first chinook were planted in 1967—836,000 fingerlings. Only an occasional jack showed up the next two years. In 1969 and 1970, with biologists predicting that some of the now-mature chinook would weigh 50 pounds, only a few were landed. They were out there. They returned to the streams—nearly every stream along Lake Michigan—by the tens of thousands. But fishermen couldn't catch them.

For several years, some biologists suggested that raising and planting them was a waste. They were creating uncontrollable problems in dozens of streams and yet contributing little to the fishery.

The chinook might weigh two to four times as much, but coho were still the "king" of the big lakes.

By the mid-1970's, that started to change. Anglers caught onto the chinook, finding them inshore more of the year and easier to catch once the technique was mastered.

And something started happening to the coho. Fewer and fewer showed up. Today, lake fisherman land only four percent of the 2,800,000 planted each year. In contrast, they land 20 percent of the 6,000,000 chinook planted annually, according to Great Lakes creel census supervisor Jerry Rakoczy.

DOLLARS AND CENTS

Sure, four percent of nearly three million fish is a lot. And in the southern parts of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron, and off Marquette in Lake Superior, they produce dashing spring fisheries.

But when you start counting pennies, the coho just don't make good sense, an increasing number of biologists say.

It costs five times as much to rear a coho to planting size as it does a chinook, Department of Natural Resources hatchery Chief Harry Westers points out.

Eggs are taken from mature coho and chinook in the fall. Chinook are planted the next spring, as fingerlings. Coho are planted the following spring, a year later, as smolts.

Property owners want the amount of food used in the hatchery reduced so that it releases only about 400 pounds of phosphorus per year to the river and lake. Court orders have temporarily frozen the phosphorous output—including dead salmon in the river—at just over 900 pounds per year. As much as 1,100 pounds per year has been released to fertilize the river and lake.

If chinook, instead of coho, were reared in the hatchery, the D.N.R. could probably meet the property owners' target, Westers says.

COMPLICATING FACTORS

The chinook versus coho question may be more complex than it appears, both Westers and Rakoczy warn. Because chinook are in the lake three to four years, and the coho only 1½ years, the smaller coho consume fewer forage fish.

The declining forage base (alewives, smelt and other species game fish eat) has biologists deeply concerned. Some, it is accurate to say, are alarmed.

When the Great Lakes fishery restoration was launched, the lakes were literally overflowing with alewives. Tons of them died on beaches each year. Miles of beachfront were contaminated with putrid odors.

Today, only a small fraction of that early population of alewives survive to feed salmon and trout. Smelt numbers are never stable, and more game fish are turning to perch, small planted trout and salmon and other species for forage.

WHAT LIES AHEAD?

In the late 1960's and early 1970's, 12-pound salmon and 30-pound chinook were common. Last year (1985), Rakoczy reports, Lake Michigan chinook averaged 10.9 pounds when landed by anglers, with coho averaging 4.9 pounds. In Lake Huron, chinook were down to 9.8 pounds and coho to 4.5 pounds, on average for the same period.

For a number of years, Great Lakes biologist Myrl Keller has argued that the hatcheries should fin-clip enough of the salmon to determine which plantings contribute the most to the fishery. This spring (1986), more than 500,000 coho that went into Lake Huron were marked. If they don't show up in the fishery in large numbers, coho plans could be phased out in Lake Huron. Reprinted from the *Southwestern Michigan Steelheader*, November-December, 1986.

'FLOATING' LOANS? BE AT HOME AFLOAT!

We just received our copy of the tax bill, all 1,811 pages of it, and guess what? Makers of yachts and mobile homes will get a lift from it. On pages 170 ff., the bill torpedoed interest deductions on consumer debt. But mortgage interest in first and second homes is still deductible (pp. 172 ff.)

What's a home? According to the IRS, a home can be, among others, a "mobile home, boat or similar property"—as long as it has "sleeping space, toilet and cooking facilities."

One can only imagine what the loophole might do to boat design: How do you put a toilet in a rowboat? But it is perfectly obvious what it will do to boat finance. Minstar Inc.'s Irwin Jacobs tells of a friend who plans to sell his second home in Florida and buy a 72-foot Hatteras yacht (price: around \$1.5 million). "He could afford to pay cash, says Jacobs, "but he's planning to take out a mortgage in order to get the interest deduction."

Jacobs' Minstar owns Wellcraft Marine, AMF Hatteras, Lund American and Larson, and stands to benefit from the loose definition of "home." So, among public companies, does Acton, Massachusetts-based CML, which makes Boston Whalers, some of which come with heads and galleys. Beneficiaries among the recreational vehicle producers include Winnebago Industries, Fleetwood Enterprises, Coachmen Industries, Kit Manufacturing, Skyline Corporation, and little Thor Industries, makers of the Airstream.



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Get The Lead Out!!

There are times when the adaptation of an old technique or innovation can spell the difference between a successful day and another empty box. Over the past few years, I have been exposed to two techniques that every Steelheader can add to his arsenal. The beauty of each technique is its simplicity, but, make no mistake, each can be deadly. Another major advantage of the two techniques is the fact that they don't require that you buy a lot of additional, expensive equipment.

I partially attribute two of our tournament wins aboard "Kemo" in 1986 to use of these techniques, and charter boats use them to add to their catch. One technique involves the use of one-pound lead balls on droppers, and the other entails the use of Baitwalkers in front of dodgers.

ONE-POUND LEAD BALLS

The use of one-pound lead balls for fishing for lake trout and salmon is not an entirely new technique. In fact, it is the technique that was used by "wire liners" before anyone had ever heard of downriggers. The major difference is that monofilament line can be used, and droppers are used with the sinkers.

There are several reasons for using the technique. First, a boat can easily run two extra lines without risk of tangling with the downriggers since the lines rigged with the one-pound lead balls run well behind the boat and the downriggers. I recommend that you position them off opposite corners to keep them from catching each other.

Second, the one-pound balls will take a bait deeper than you can get them with most divers; 100 feet is no problem.

Third, lake trout, and often salmon, relate to the bottom structure, and these balls can be dragged right on or near the bottom.

Finally, most Steelheaders already have most of the equipment necessary to try the technique.

The basic set-up I use with them is a 10-foot diver rod with 20- to 30-pound test monofilament line. If you don't have a diver rod, use the longest, stiffest rods you have. At the end of the main line is a Les Davis sinker release (two to four pounds), followed by a 5-foot leader of 17-pound test line. Any kind of spoon, plug or dodger/fly combination can then be attached (See Figure 1). Try a spoon or J-Plug first. I don't attach the sinker directly to the release but first fashion a one-foot loop out of light monofilament (8- to 10-pound test), so the lure will run about a foot off the bottom and the lighter monofilament will break before the main line if the lead ball snags. Most of the charter boat captains (such as Captain Jerry Lee, who showed me this technique) use the Big Jon DR140 sinker release which doesn't require a leader. Either one is fine.

Once you hit your trolling speed, let out ten to 15 bars (basses of the level wind mechanism on the reel), or until you feel the sinker touching bottom. Knowing how many bars it takes to hit bottom will aid you in estimating the depth of the rig at a later time. Also, remember that boat speed will affect depth. If you speed up, you need to let out more line to reach the same depth.

If you have no hits after a period of time, either reel in a couple of bars, or let out a couple, until you have determined the best depth. Another good tip

is to cinch a small rubber band to the line at the reel. You can then reel the rubber band into the reel when you have a hit and later, when letting the line back out, you'll be able to reset your rig at exactly the same place. Once a fish hits, the rod will bob, the sinker will release and the rest is up to you.

BAITWALKERS AND DODGERS

The second technique is a lake trout method that works great if you have undulating sand or mud bottoms, such as you have at Oscoda. The theory is that I'm chicken to let my cannonballs drag in the mud, and too lazy to check them every couple of minutes. If I set them a foot or two off the bottom, they'll be ten feet off the first time I troll across a dip in the bottom. Savvy lake trout trollers will wish you this means no fish!

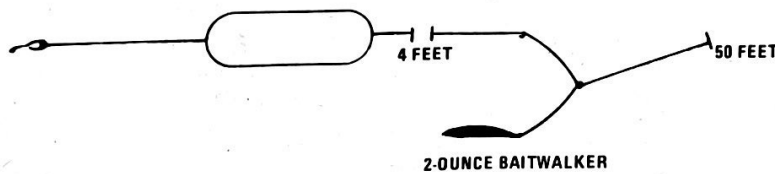
The Baitwalker technique allows you to keep your lures in the 'fish-catching zone' more often. I first heard about using Baitwalkers from "Joe Kool" in Oscoda, although he used white rubber grubs behind them (That's another subject!).

The idea is very simple. Tie a 1- to 2-ounce Baitwalker or other bottom sinker four to five feet in front of a dodger and squid, or peanut combination. Set the Baitwalker/dodger 50 feet back from the downrigger release, and set the downrig-

ger about five feet off the bottom (See Figure 2). The Baitwalker will then follow the bottom contour up and down as you troll. When a fish hits, the downrigger should release in the normal manner. One word of caution: Don't try this technique in a rocky area unless you like to lose lots of tackle.

I hope that the two techniques I have just described help you put fish in the box. They are not appropriate for all occasions, but there are times when they can save the day. The next time you're out fishing and looking for some extra help, why not "get the lead out" and give it a try.

-Bob Mitchell
"Kemo"



2-OUNCE BAITWALKER

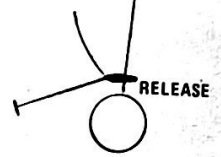
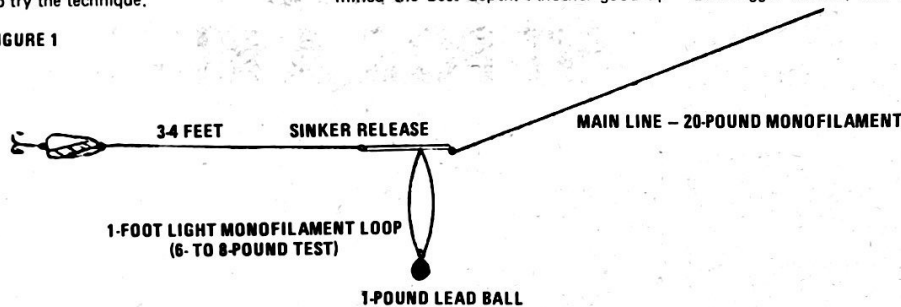


FIGURE 2

FIGURE 1



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Detroit Steelheaders win the big one!!

November 1, 1986 was the date, the Big Manistee River was the place, and the Metro-West and Saginaw chapters of the Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen's Association were the competition, as the Detroit Area Steelheaders battled it out for river fishing supremacy!

THE DAY

Saturday morning began with the temperature at 40° F and a slight wind blowing. That was great except for the fact that it was raining a light rain, just hard enough to make overall conditions miserable. Fortunately, the rain stopped and the clouds began to break up by about 9 o'clock, and by noon, the sun was beginning to make its presence felt; the day actually ended under a brightly shining sun!

THE COMPETITION

Metro-West, with 25 hearty and highly qualified "river rats" on hand, arrived with the idea of taking the Inter-Chapter trophy home with them, and Saginaw, with ten of their best "river rats," made their presence known, along with their determination to show Detroit and Metro-West that the highly prized trophy would be theirs. The 20 Detroit Area Steelheaders who showed up had their own ideas on the subject, too!

WEIGH-IN AND RESULTS

The official weigh-in took place at the Norman Township Hall. Between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. a lot of "river rats" showed up with a LOT OF STEELHEADS! The fishermen could not stop talking about the outstanding fishing they had just experienced!!

How good was the fishing? How about WOW!... UNBELIEVEABLE!!... DY-NO-MITE!!! The Detroit Area Steelheaders brought home the traveling trophy for 1986 by weighing in a whopping total of 136 pounds of fish on a total catch of 17 steelhead, good enough for a winning average of 6.8 pounds per fisherman!

Saginaw ended up second with an average catch per man of 4.4 pounds, while Metro-West, with its average catch of 2.2 pounds per "river rat," finished third this time around in the popular,



DETROIT AREA STEELHEADER "RIVER RATS" pose with their super catch that clinched victory in the November Inter-Chapter tourney on the Big Manistee. Among those pictured are: Jimmy Hartwick, Don Redman, Jerry Zabel, Steve Hamilton, Kevin Tymensky, Bob Kanas, Ed McIntosh, John Tymensky, Doug Karakas, Scott Kanas, Ed Yankoski II, Mike Tymensky, Scott Glaser, Greg Clifford, Mark Clifford and Brian Glaser.

highly competitive annual event.

THE SUCCESSFUL ONES

The tournament featured two divisions: the Boat Division and the Boot Division. Two Detroiters entered in the Boot Division, and our Bob Kanas 'walked' away with the trophy on the strength of a fine three-fish catch. Hats off to Bob for his excellent results in boots!

The Boat Division saw 18 Detroit Area Steelheaders entered, and Scott Glaser 'fished' away the Largest Fish trophy from some awfully good competition with a 10 pound, 9 ounce beauty. Good fishing and congratulations, Scott! Here is a list of other successful Detroit Area "river rats":

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Mark Clifford | 8 lbs., 5 ozs. |
| Greg Clifford | 8 lbs., 5 ozs. |
| Ed Yankoski II | 9 lbs., 4 ozs. |
| | 9 lbs., 3 ozs. |
| | 7 lbs., 11 ozs. |
| Kevin Tymensky | 7 lbs., 10 ozs. |
| Mike Tymensky | 8 ozs., 7 ozs. |

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Myles Planko | 5 lbs., 13 ozs. |
| | 5 lbs., 9 ozs. |
| Jimmy Hardrick | 6 lbs., 7 ozs. |
| Scott Glaser | 10 lbs., 9 ozs. |
| | 9 lbs., 7 ozs. |
| | 8 lbs., 14 ozs. |
| | 8 lbs., 7 ozs. |
| Bob Kanas | 9 lbs., 10 ozs. |
| | 7 lbs. |
| | 6 lbs., 7 ozs. |

THE PARTY

A dinner for all was held at the Norman Township Hall after the weigh-in, and the meal was just great! Catered by the K & R in Wellston, the salad bar was excellent, as were the t-bone steak and potatoes. Everyone I talked raved about the dinner and said they hoped it would be part of next year's event. There was lots of good cheer and camaraderie, a fitting wrap-up to a great day!

I want to give a hearty "Thank You" to all who participated, and especially to Jerry and Jackie from K & R. I hope to see everyone up there again in 1987!

—John Tymensky

Please...

Experienced sportfishermen often make strange discoveries while cleaning their catches! They find that the fish have gobbled all kinds of man-made objects that have fallen into the water. Key rings, false teeth, bottle tops, paper and plastic objects are just a few.

Many things that boaters casually toss overboard can be lethal to fish, especially items which resemble familiar foods. Filter tips from cigarettes can look temptingly like grubs. Crumpled bits of foil from candy wrappers become attention-getting reflectors of light as they flutter down through the

water. Wads of chewing gum look like fish eggs or other morsels.

Often a hungry fish will swallow any such item tossed overboard. As most of these objects are indigestible, they can harm or even kill a fish.

Also, as part of the sportfishing scene, it's a fact that litter from unconcerned boaters often helps to ruin the fishing grounds.

As the above examples so clearly show, littering by some pleasure boaters does happen, and it has all kinds of consequences. Be a boater who cares.

...Don't Litter!



KEN ROGERS, longtime Detroit Area Steelheader and Field Editor of Fishin' Tales, brought another project to successful completion in 1986. Ken collected favorite salmon recipes from a great many people in the club over an extended period of time and compiled them into a new cookbook, "COOKING FIT FOR A KING," which came off the presses in June. The Detroit Area Steelheaders are donating all net proceeds from the sale of the book to help support Great Lakes fisheries research being conducted by Dr. Howard Tanner at Michigan State University. Congratulations to Ken for his hard work on behalf of this worthwhile idea!

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1986: A season of waiting

Salmon Season, 1986. I'll remember it for a long time . . . not because it's the year I caught that "big one" . . . not because it's the year I caught the most fish . . . No, I'll remember it as "the year of waiting"—the year the big spawning run never happened.

My salmon fishing was done mostly in Oscoda during August and September. I was fortunate—fish were caught on each outing. In contrast, it was nothing like the previous season.

Each trip included many hours of searching for fish. Even a hit was a rarity. The salmon were very elusive. Naturally, this led to speculation by the fishermen on board to explain the low number of fish being caught.

In August, the general consensus went like this:

- The main run hasn't started.
- They're on the way, and by next week it'll be fishing as usual.
- We'll all be limiting out in three or four hours . . .

When the second week of September arrived and the salmon still hadn't, everyone had his own theory to explain the phenomenon. Speculation took on new dimensions. Everyone wanted to know where the fish were. Each person seemed to hope that someone knew the reason, that someone had the answer to explain what was going on. These are some of the most often-heard theories:

- The actual number of salmon planted was much lower than the figures released to the public.
- The fingerlings were eaten by natural predators before they could reach maturity.
- The young salmon died in great numbers because of a lack of forage, mainly alewives.
- Advanced technology and improved skills of the average fisherman has increased the spring catch of salmon to the point that fewer fish are available in the late season.
- The fishermen just don't know how to fish.
- More people are fishing, therefore fewer fish per catch.
- For reasons unknown, the salmon changed their migration pattern and didn't return to the planting area.
- Weather conditions during August and September were to blame. Too much rain . . . too warm a water temperature.

• Pollution has killed the young salmon and is responsible for erratic and abnormal behavior of the fish.

Obviously, a lot of serious thought went into this problem. Perhaps one of these theories is the answer. Maybe the true explanation is a combination of some or all of them. Or, it may be something entirely different.

I'm an optimist. I don't need an explanation for it. I'm sure 1987 will bring a typical "fishin'-as-usual" season, and 1986 will be just a memory of "the-year-it-didn't-happen."

—Barbara Limber

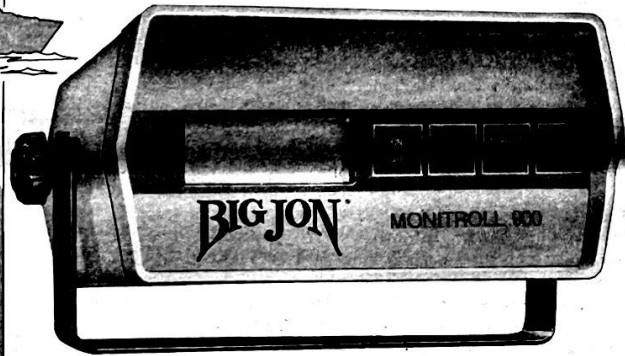
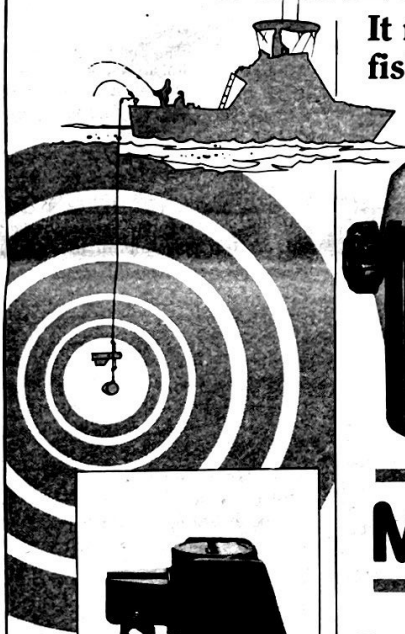


BARBARA LIMBER AND CAPTAIN MIKE ZELKOWSKI are shown aboard the "Predator" taking part in an organized effort by every charter captain fishing out of Oscoda. Each boat took different areas and depths in an effort to find the salmon during the months of August and September . . . Few were found!

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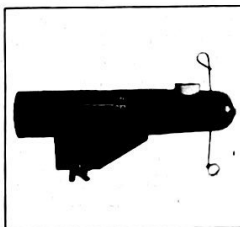
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Summer to fall, Huron fishing was poor

Sport fishing along western Lake Huron was very poor after the month of May in 1986. Almost everyone will agree, I believe, that during the Spring of 1986, sport salmon and trout fishing along these same shores was excellent.

Why was the fishing so bad from the months of June through October?

The following speculative comments resulted from practical experience, and from attending a panel discussion held at a meeting of the Blue Water Sport-fishing Association (B.W.S.A.). Participating in the discussion were Bill Deephouse, former D.N.R. fisheries head for Southeastern Michigan, and charter boat Captain Rob Helsler, along with many B.W.S.A. members.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The water temperatures were warm all summer and fall. The high winds we experienced pushed and kept these warm waters along the entire west side of the lake. For example, it was recorded at 100-foot depths that the water temperature was 64° F from top to bottom. These water temperatures might stop breeding instincts of salmon and keep them out in deeper waters.

Beyond water temperature, the extraordinary high winds and resulting rough water may have kept the fish scattered. This scattering may have caused some separate salmon schools to get "tangled up" with other salmon schools. Perhaps the salmon that should have returned to Harbor Beach, Oscoda and Lexington may have gotten mixed up with the fish from Rogers City. This mixing could be called "school capture." Putting this into anthropomorphic terms (actions of animals taking up characteristic actions of humans), the bigger school of fish could be saying to the smaller school, "Stay with us and follow us." One million fish are planted at Rogers City alone, and Rogers City had good fishing last summer and fall.

RESEARCH EFFORTS

In 1984, 400,000 fingerling chinook salmon were planted, in increments of 100,000 each, at Swan Creek, Harbor Beach, Oscoda, and Lexington. The question to be answered is: "Which fish would contribute to (be caught) and be attributed to which fishing ports at different times of the year, and would that be on a proportional basis?"

In the spring, summer and fall of 1986, each weekend the chinook catch was being monitored. During the Blue Water Classic, 370 fish were turned in, and of these, 13 were fin-clipped. During the River Crab Stakes, 5 fin-clipped fish were turned in. One of the fin-clipped fish at the River Crab Stakes turned out to be a coho salmon from Ohio!

The data collected to this point looked good, and it indicated that southern Lake Huron was a big 'mixing pot' and operated much like Lake Michigan. However, since those spring monitoring results listed above were compiled, not more than 10 fin-clipped fish have been seen during the entire summer and fall of 1986! One might ask, "Great research project. What happened to it?"

The D.N.R. says it still determined to do a study on these same fish, at Swan



"FISHBUSTERS" crew members Dave Prudhomme (left) and Bob Bouchey show off some nice lakers taken off Oscoda. But where did the salmon go??

Creek and Van Ettan Creek. They hope to look at 100,000 fish per week in the fall of 1987 at these sites.

THE CANADIAN CONNECTION?

Did most of the fish go over to the Canadian side of the big lake? Discussions with Canadian fishermen gives evidence that the fishing on the Canadian side was also poor, particularly on the Maitland at Goderich, and also on the Saugeen and Bayfield.

Could the fish have been taken by the 40 miles of Canadian gill nets that run up Lake Huron from Grand Bend? The D.N.R. knows that the nets are there, but does not know the numbers or species of fish taken by these nets. The D.N.R. does know that Canada has lots of natural reproduction of kings and steelhead as a result of the Michigan planting program.

SPRING OVER-FISHING?

As mentioned earlier, the spring-time is the best time to catch salmon and trout in southern Lake Huron. Even the two-year-old kings are being taken during this time. It must be noted that there are *not* an infinite number of fish out there.

It has been estimated that an average spring weekend will lure some 2,000 boats out onto the waters of Lake Huron from Harbor Beach to Lexington. At the rather modest estimate of each boat taking an average of five fish per eight hours of fishing (the estimated duration of an average fishing outing), there could be 10,000 or more fish being taken each of those weekends.

In addition, during the week at that time of year, it has been estimated that 700 boats are out on those same waters fishing on any given weekday. That suggests that another 17,500 or more fish are being taken out of southern Lake Huron each five-weekday period in the spring.

My question is this: "Could that number of fish being taken each week in the spring in southern Lake Huron (approaching 30,000 if the estimates are realistic) result in the supply of salmon being depleted by the end of May?"

THE SMOLTING FACTOR

In the spring, smolting (physiological changes) takes place. Does it take 36 hours to smolt, or two days, or two weeks for the "imprinting" to take place?

Maybe, how the imprinting of the fish takes place affects the rate of return to the planting site. If the fish are put into the lake after they have smolted, they will not imprint very well. Perhaps, this is why no fish have come back to Lexington, for instance.

Normally, the D.N.R. imprints the rivers on the Lake Michigan side, but on the Lake Huron side, the harbors are stocked instead. The fish have to imprint on something. The D.N.R. speculates that Harbor Beach has worked well in the past because the pharmaceutical company and other companies located there release some wastes into the water, and the fish may imprint to this water better than others.

THE LEXINGTON MYSTERY

Lexington is a big mystery. Every year for the past five years, 250,000 fish have been put in there. Yet, the D.N.R. has failed to create even a pier fishery, let alone a boat fishery at this port.

At Port Sanilac, only 125,000 fish have been planted each of the past five years. Nevertheless, Port Sanilac provides a fishery at least ten times better than the one at Lexington. Why? Port Sanilac is only 10 miles from Lexington.

The D.N.R. has a lot of figuring out to do. Maybe they should split the 250,000 chinooks slated for Lexington among Port Sanilac, Port Austin and Harbor Beach instead. Some D.N.R. officials have even suggested making one big plant at Harbor Beach. It has been proposed that Rockfalls Creek at Harbor Beach be dammed up. Unfortunately, this would cover M-25 highway and/or much of the farmland around the area. The D.N.R. has even considered fencing off Lexington Creek—perhaps this could be done to help imprint the smolts.

WHEN TO PLANT?

Planting times of salmon and trout have been detrimental to the fish. Last year, 125,000 steelhead were put in at Lexington during the smelt run. It was later determined that the smelt dippers dipped out most or all of these fish within two weeks' time!

Planted fish swim with the "Long Shore Drift" (counterclockwise currents), and within 12 days of being planted at Harbor Beach, they turn up at Port Sanilac and Lexington. Smelt dippers take these fish out in great numbers, too!

PREDATION

Sea gulls have also been observed feasting on planted fish. They will not leave an area until ALL the feed is gone. This has been noted at several sites, especially at Grindstone City harbor.

When discussing predation, one wonders if the walleye and perch also feed on the small planted fish to a detrimental extent. Boat trollers, it is worth pointing out, have taken goodly numbers of both those species using their downriggers and salmon/trout trolling spoons . . .

FUTURE PROSPECTS

The D.N.R. has promised that, in the future, it will take as much care as possible to ensure that the fish they plant will not be taken by the smelt dippers. However, no one can predict when the smelt will run, and the D.N.R. only has ten trucks to use for the planting of all those fish in one month's time.

Some Canadian B.W.S.A. members plant their own fish. The results of these plants suggest that the fish ought to be planted under the ice so they are protected from gulls, smelt dippers, etc.

As I write this article (New Year's Day, 1987) there isn't any ice on Lake St. Clair or Lake Huron, a phenomenon I can't remember ever happening before. Also, throw this year's *syzygy* (a rare alignment of moon, sun and earth) into the equation. Do these unusual occurrences indicate another puzzlement for Lake Huron salmon fishing during the 1987 season?

I am still optimistic about next year's fishing on Lake Huron, but I urge all who read this to take special note about what they experience on Lake Huron in 1987. If you spot something that might be detrimental to the fishery there, please MAKE CERTAIN you report it to the D.N.R., and to reputable sport-fishing organizations such as the Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen's Association and the Blue Water Sportfishing Association. Such universal vigilance should increase the chance that some corrective action will be undertaken.

We must ALL do everything we can to make the salmon fishing on Lake Huron better again!

—Joel Garinger
"Fishbusters"

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Detroit Area Steelheaders know how to have fun !!

ANNUAL STEELHEADER DINNER DANCE IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 21 AT K. OF C. HALL

The Detroit Area Steelheaders will hold their third annual Dinner Dance, on February 21, 1987 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Warren where the regular monthly meetings take place.

Last year's Dinner Dance was an overwhelming success. More people attended and had more fun than the prior one, which was itself a huge success! This year we hope to see even more of you on hand to help make this year's the best one so far!

Fellows, this occasion is the perfect time for all of us Detroit Area Steelheaders to repay our wives or girlfriends for all of the patience and understanding they have shown us as we have

avidly pursued our sport throughout the year.

This year, the dinner will be served "sit-down style," to eliminate the need for everyone to stand in line and serve themselves. However, it's still going to be an "all you can eat and drink" affair! Music will be supplied by a well-known local disc jockey for your listening and dancing pleasure.

In addition, there will be over \$500 worth of prizes given away!

The cost for this great evening is only \$35.00/couple, or \$20.00/person. For more information, call Tom Schrinel (463-7603) or Jim Legenzoff (839-8958). We hope to see you all there!!!



ROB GALVIN AND PEGGY FITZGERALD were among the many who had a great time at last year's Dinner Dance!

Outboard Marine Offering \$15 Million To Settle PCB Dumping Case With EPA

Outboard Marine Corp., hoping to resolve a ten-year dispute with the federal government, said it will propose to spend as much as \$15 million to clean up PCB's dumped into a Lake Michigan harbor.

The proposal could lead to one of the largest hazardous waste settlements with the Environmental Protection Agency. Outboard said it would present its proposal to the agency next month.

EPA approval, while not assured, seems likely; the proposal is based on negotiations between the company and the EPA. And Outboard, anticipating a resolution of the dispute, announced yesterday a \$15 million charge for its fiscal fourth quarter.

The company is the nation's largest maker of outboard motors. It was first accused in 1976 of dumping 1.1 million pounds of polychlorinated biphenyls over many years into a Lake Michigan harbor in Waukegan, 35 miles north of Chicago. Outboard doesn't deny discharging the chemicals, but contends the dumping wasn't harmful. The EPA, which sued the company in 1978, has said long-term exposure to PCB's may cause cancer. The chemicals are used in the form of a thick liquid in various industrial processes.

A company spokesman said yesterday that Outboard still feels it did nothing wrong, but decided that resolving the dispute was in "the best interests of everyone."

The case played a role in the well-publicized dismissal in 1983 of Rita M.

Lavelle, the EPA official in charge of the Superfund cleanup program. Miss Lavelle met privately with Outboard executives, which helped fuel criticism that the agency was pandering to the chemical industry.

The company said it met Miss Lavelle only at a luncheon and that executives never discussed a settlement with her.

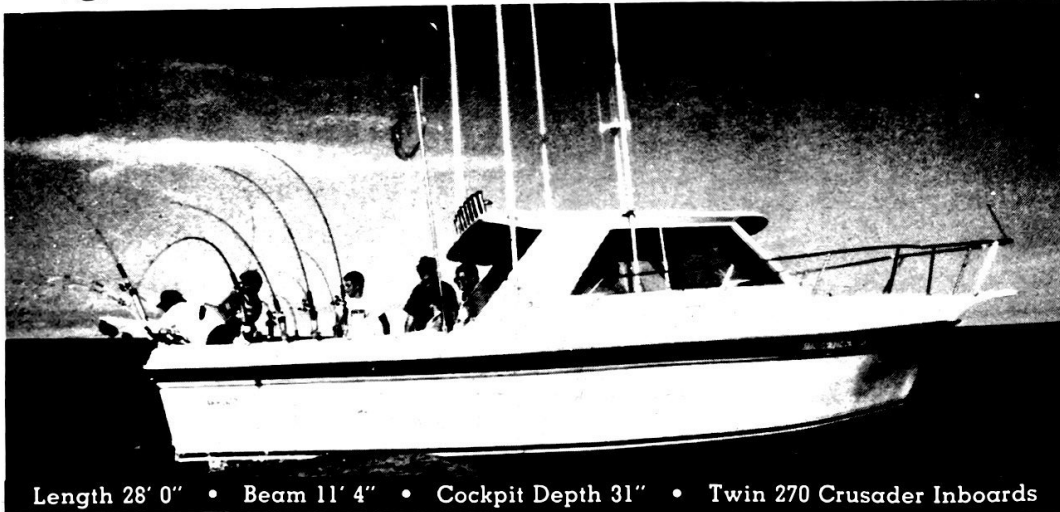
The \$15 million offer is far below the \$27 million the EPA has estimated for the cleanup. But an EPA spokesman said new technology has lowered the cost of many cleanups. "We're not looking for any dollar figure anyway. We're looking to get an acceptable level of cleanup," the spokesman said. "If they could do it for five dollars, we would take that."

Outboard wouldn't disclose details, but an important element of its proposal centers on the manner of cleanup. The company said the procedures it was suggesting wouldn't cause a major disruption of its plant operations in the harbor.

The largest hazardous waste settlement with one company was made by Westinghouse Electric Corporation. The Pittsburgh-based company agreed last year to clean up PCB contamination at six sites in the Bloomington, Indiana area at an estimated cost of \$90 million. Since 1980, the EPA has reached 350 settlements worth \$605 million. An EPA spokesman said that Outboard's proposal, if accepted, would be among the largest settlements.

Reprinted from the Wall Street Journal, November 7, 1986.

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"THE STEELHEADER"

As cold beats down from merciless skies, and a cool canyon breeze blows rain in his eyes;

There stands the Steelheader, soaked to the skin, in hopes that a fresh run of fish has come in.

The stream has some color as it rushes along, requiring lots of lead for the current is strong.

The man makes his cast at the top of a drift, and holds his pole high as it comes down so swift.

It bumps and it thumps over cobble and hole, he feels every action through the tip of his pole.

It stops and he jerks. Is it one for the bag? No, the lead found a crack, it was only a snag.

The line is much lighter for the lead weight is gone, he retrieved his line quickly to put more lead on.

The eggs hang so limply all bundled in yarn, they're losing their color and getting quite torn.

He ties on more lead with hands that are numb, then loses his balance, gets the hook in his thumb.

The thumb bleeds quite freely as hook is extracted, thanked God for the numbness as he calmly reacted.

He went back to fishing with new lead and eggs, got ready for casting as he steadied his legs.

hit, as it bumped and slid through the hole, nothing bit.

Oh, why won't fish bite? The phase of the moon? Should he try something brighter like spinner or spoon?

He put on a Steelie and cast in the hole, hit a tree limb and busted his pole. This true Steelheader wasn't discouraged by this, got his spare tip and continued to fish.

With persistence like that, his luck had to change, cast out his lure but misjudged the range.

Got hooked on a limb hanging over the stream, smiled calmly then let out a scream.

That scream was so loud that the morning air shook, he broke off his lure and replaced his hook.

He started a drift through the hole fast and deep. With that scream, how could any fish sleep?

He felt a slight tug as his line stopped its travel, gave a big jerk, and out of the gravel a big silver streak leaped high in the air, that big ironhead had accepted the dare.

To grab the man's hook as it went through the hole, and now with a lunge it bent the man's pole.

Swam down the stream as swift as an eel, the line fed out quickly at the scream of his reel.

The fish swirled and jumped and twisted in flight, the hook was set well and the drag was just right.

his body was shaking, especially his knee.

The fish slowly surfaced and laid on its side, he pulled it in slowly to a place he could slide.

The fish on the bank, what a beautiful sight, the troubles seemed worth it at the end of the fight.

The fish hardly wiggled till its head hit the sand, then exploded and jumped and escaped his quick hand.

The line gave a snap as the fish gave a flip, then went for deep water with hook in his lip.

Now a true Steelheader doesn't wave from his goal, so he packed up his gear and fished the next hole.

—Charles K. Ashbaker
Gaston, Oregon


Reprinted from the Central U.P. Steelheader News, December 1986.

Memorable First Steelhead




HOMER PUGH, a retired educator, is obviously enjoying his new leisure time! The autumn Algoma steelhead he's holding is Homer's first ever!! Detroit Area Steelheader William Wadiak escorted Homer on his first successful steelheading trip.

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Hamilton tells 'How to catch a winner!'

Saturday, December 6, 1986, was the Detroit Area Steelheaders' tournament day on the Big Manistee River. It started out with lots of snow, which thankfully ended by 8:30 a.m. so that no one was stuck down at the access site. In fact, the weather turned out to be the highlight of the day. It got above freezing and was partly sunny most of the day.

Unfortunately for our band of 12 intrepid contestants, fishing was slow. The entrant in the wader division hooked seven fish above the Coffey, but as Bob Kanas is a true sport, he left them all there. The boat division weighed in three steelhead: the winner, a 9½-pounder caught by me, a 9-pounder by Jim Hardrick, and a 4-pound, 5-ounce fish by Joel Garinger.

Sunday, while not part of the tournament, did provide some better action to the guys on the river. Jim Hardrick, Bob Allen and Doug Karakas caught two "steelies" on Jim's drift boat. Joel and I figured we would nail 'em trolling Manistee Lake at the Little Manistee river-mouth. We had to break some ice to get the boat to open water, but the fish were rolling around us and we anticipated a boat-load catch. After 2½ hours, we ended up with a boat-load of snow, no fish, but a good time.

Oh, on "How To Catch a Winner." First, make sure your line gets caught under the spool of your levelwind reel and you don't know it. This will do some interesting things. I know, as this happened to me with the winning fish, which hit a Hot 'N' Tot 150 feet below the boat.

Joel cleared the other three rods while I started reeling. I got the fish to within 100 feet when the spool wouldn't turn by (using) the reel handle. Checking the drag, it was jammed and gave line only grudgingly. So, not being able to reel in line and not having a working drag, I became somewhat concerned. Joel informed me that I had no excuse if I lost

this fish, as I had a good rod and 12-pound-test line.

I began the slow task of turning the spool with my thumbs to bring in the line inch by inch. After cramping both hands, the "steelie" was within 30 feet of the boat when the spool quit turning altogether. That was when I became a fly fisherman, retrieving the line with my left hand and



STEVE HAMILTON shows off his "reel" winner! holding it and the rod with my right.

The fish was within ten feet when he decided to make a spirited run for the snags on the other side of the boat. Turning, I fed line through my left hand until I became aware of another problem: the loose line had become wrapped up all around my legs. At least I knew the fish couldn't make it to the snags! As it turned out, the fish was pretty well played out by the long fight from my thumbs and was eventually netted by Joel.

So, now you know "How To Catch A Winner!!!"

—Steve Hamilton



DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS had a good time on the Big Mansitee last December despite slow fishing. Shown here are (front row, l. to r.) John Chwalibog, Steve Hamilton, Jim Hardrick, and Joel Garinger; (second row, l. to r.) Bob Allen, Scott Kanas, Bob Kanas, Ed McIntosh, and Doug Karakas; (back row, l. to r.) unidentified man, Ed McIntosh's son-in-law, and Ed Yankoski II.

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"Outlaw" had a great season!

... / Continued from Page Five

one downrigger and was busy resetting it when Mark yelled: "Ed! Number three!!"

We had that one rigged with a silver Flutterchuck set "20/20." Before I could get to the rod, a big king (10-12 pounds, easy) was out of the water twice! When I did get the rod in my hands, he spat the spoon right into the back of the boat and was gone. Mark was laughing, so I told him to shut up and buy us a beer. By the end of the first day, the "Outlaw" was in 16th place. We landed four out of the 12 fish we had on, and I kept saying to myself, "It's GOT to get better!"

And get better it did!! Sunday morning was beautiful on Lake Huron. We started out in calm seas, and Greg was all set and ready to go. With the lake like glass, we ran just a little north of the pier heads, and trolled north. We had just set the third line when Greg's outrigger had a release. This was his first fish of the weekend and, boy, it never had a chance! Next it was my outrigger, and shortly after we had our second fish of the morning. Mark commented, "Look at that—two hits and two fish."

I practically shouted at him: "Oh no! Don't even think that, Mark. I'm superstitious about stuff like that!!"

The next strike made me a prophet. Greg's outrigger went off again and I hadn't been fighting it for more than 40 seconds when it was gone!

While I was resetting the outrigger, Greg was tearing through the Bomber box looking for something new. He picked out one of the new ones we had bought at Port Hope, a watermelon-colored one. Greg let the new lure run out behind the boat on the water's surface. As he put the reel in gear, suddenly the water around the Bomber seemed to explode! He was into a BIG king!!

As we watched it jump, we judged it to be in the 18-20 pound range, probably the big fish of the weekend. On the third or fourth leap, he landed on the ten-pound-test line and broke it. Here we go again, I thought.

Greg went into the Bomber box again, to see what else he could find. Chartreuse had been a great color at Benton Harbor, he reasoned, so he tied on a chartreuse Bomber down, about 30. Dave Even on "Teacher's Pet" had called us to let us know he had taken some fish down that deep earlier.

By now, it was 10:00 and the wind was beginning to pick up again. I glanced at Greg, but he told us not to worry about "Ralph" today. Just after that, Greg's deep Bomber went off, and he landed that one in record time.

Ten minutes later, the same chartreuse Bomber went off again. I got to it first and soon put number four for the day into the box. Then it was my turn to go through the Bomber box, trying to find a pair to Greg's hot chartreuse. I came up with a close match and put it down. We were all watching the rods anxiously now.

The tourney only had another 90 minutes to go, and the wind was really starting to build up. We had 2'-4' waves by this time, but we were going to stick it out to the end. With one hour left, my number four rod went into action. The chartreuse Bomber did its job again. Greg got to it first and came up with our fifth fish of the day. Quickly, I reset the

hot Bomber, and five minutes later, the rod tip just dipped into the lake!

"FISH ON!" I yelled as I grabbed the rod. We had only 25 minutes left, so with a big fish on, we pulled all the remaining rods and took the cannonballs out of the water. I had two coaches behind me, telling me it was our biggest fish of the weekend, don't blow it now, etc.

The fish came to the side of the boat once, but took off again. It was a nice king, about 17 pounds. The next close pass he made was his last—right into the net!

We were six for eight for the day, but was it good enough to put us in the money? It turned out that luck was on our side, because the Sunday catch boosted us into fourth place and \$550! All in all, we had a great time!!

A MOTHER'S DAY KING

One of the more memorable kings of the year came on Mother's Day, a beautiful, calm day on Lake Huron. We were fishing out of Lexington about two or three miles north of the pier heads and had taken three small kings early in the morning. Greg started taking my spoon box apart, looking for something different to try.

He came up with a chartreuse and pearl Huron Herring. Greg put it down about ten feet off the bottom. We trolled for about 20 minutes, and then suddenly the rod that Greg had just set came to life. I set the hooks, handed the rod to Cynde and told her to hang on while this king decided to explore the Canadian shoreline across the lake. That king was taking line off the reel at a rate I have not seen in a long time!

By the time I took the rod back from Cynde to try to regain some of the line, I could see that only about 20 yards remained on the reel spool. I shouted, "Greg! Turn the boat, and I mean RIGHT NOW, and follow that fish!!"

Finally, I was able to get some line back on the reel, and I returned the rod to Cynde. She did a great job and ended up landing a big king.

THE HARBOR BEACH TOURNAMENT

Greg took "Outlaw" up a day early to make sure we got a well, and Mark, Cynde and I drove up late Friday afternoon. On the way, we stopped off to see an old friend in Port Sanilac, Dennis Schommers. Once in Dennis' store, I picked up some graph paper and mentioned that we were on our way to Harbor Beach for a tournament.

Dennis said, "If you want to win, go over to that Huron Herring display on the wall and pick out some black and gold, black and pearl, and black with 'glo-in-the-dark'." We gladly took his advice, thanked him, and went on our way. Greg was waiting for us with three salmon he had taken earlier in the day.

The tournament started out nice and calm for the first couple of hours—then the fog rolled in and the waves picked up. We went to the same spot where Greg had fished on Friday and set our lines. On my side of the boat, I started running the black Huron Herring I got from Dennis. Most times I won't put all the same color lure down; I like to let the fish decide

what color they prefer.

We had trolled for about a half-hour when we got our first fish, on a black and pearl Huron Herring. The second one came shortly after, on a black with 'glo-in-the-dark' Huron Herring! Right after we netted that one, Mark was in the spoon box looking for something to 'match the hatch' in the spoons we were using.

About then, Bob Kanas from "More 'N' Likely" gave us a call on the radio. He was about seven miles north of us and running into some bad weather, with building wind and fog. We kept our eyes open and went on with our fishing, picking up a fish here and there, all but one on black spoons.

With only one hour left in the tourney, the wind and fog Bob had warned us about arrived. Both Greg and Cynde were not feeling well . . . and the next thing I knew they were both talking to "Ralph" over the side of the boat. Maybe there's something to that 'chumming' after all . . . the number two rod came up with a fish on! I landed that king and we headed in a little bit early that day. Everything worked out well with another first-place finish for the "Outlaw" team!

LADIES DAY

Before I tell you about my favorite tournament of the year, Ladies Day, I would like to say a few things about Cynde Klein. At the start of the season, she had been fishing before, and on the boat before, but not under tournament conditions. Sometimes her work when steering the boat early in the season was not the greatest, but by mid-season there was no problem at all.

With a little coaching she is now able to fight fish as well as most of the guys in the club. Her only problem now is getting the rod out of the rod holder when a fish is on the other end. You see, Cynde is a little on the short side! The plans for next season have been made, and I can't wait to see her start netting fish!

This year's Ladies Day tournament was at Port Austin on the weekend after the Fourth of July. At that time of the year, you would usually find me at Michigan City fishing for summer-run steelhead. After hearing about Trail Creek down there catching fire after a diesel spill, I decided to stay away in 1986!

The "Outlaw" boys had never been to Port Austin laker fishing before, so the Fourth of July weekend seemed to be a good time to try it out, just before the tournament. The weather was up and down all weekend, but we still were able to catch some nice lake trout.

Our crew for Ladies Day included Cynde and Mark's wife, Kathy. The weather on Saturday was not the best for the ladies, that's for sure. We had 2'-4' seas and rain! We started out fishing where we had taken most of our lakera the weekend before, but this time the only thing we caught was the bottom, about five times.

Nothing we tried worked, so when the tournament was called early due to weather, I was happy. I badly needed an attitude adjustment, and that's just what I got that afternoon and night!

The next morning broke with some storm still passing through, but it went very quickly, and we were able to start the tourney again only a half-hour later. Before we got started, Bob Kanas and I had a chat with charter Captain Andy Key, an old fishing buddy from 'way back, and he told us where the lakera were and what they had been hitting the day before.

Armed with this information, we started at the Grindstone Reef in about 60' of water for the first hour—no runs or hits. Then we noticed a small pack of boats further out from us, in 100' feet of water. We pulled lines and ran to deeper water.

The girls had been taking turns all weekend on the fish and now Cynde was first up in the tournament. We were only planning to fish with four rods because of the rough seas, and we had three rods set when the first one down popped into action. Cynde brought a small laker to the boat without much trouble, so at least we had a start. We called Bob and told him we had our first fish, on that old favorite a dodger and peanut (How's that, Vince!).

I had a lot going on in this tournament. I was going after my third straight first-place finish. I also had \$10 bets with Mike Zelkowski and Bob Ksionzek that Port Austin would produce a bigger laker than was caught during the Oscoda tourney, a 13-pounder that Mike had caught.

Kathy was up next. Until the tournament, the only fish she had caught were three bluegill and a couple of small walleyes. My 'old favorite' went off again, and Kathy brought a nice 10-pound laker to the boat just like a real professional!

Another 'old favorite' laker bait for me at Port Austin is a small white Northport Nailer spoon. I put one on the Number Three downrigger, and results were not long in coming—Cynde was fast into another laker. We had six or seven lake trout in the box when my Number Three rod went off again. Kathy was up and ready for action. As I handed her the rod, the first thing she said was "Ed, this one feels heavy." Next it was, "Ed, it feels real light now." "Start reeling like hell!" I told her, "He's coming off the bottom now!!" Kathy did her job well, and when I netted that big laker, I knew it was the biggest in our catch. The real question was whether it was going to be big enough to win my bets! Only time would tell. We wound up the morning with ten lakera.

When it was our turn for the weigh-in, all eyes were on our cooler. Our ladies did a great job for us that day. We took first place in the tournament, beating out my two old partners from the "Least Likely" days, good old 'laker boys' Bob Kanas and Brian Glaser.

Oh yes . . . Kathy's big laker was big enough at 15 pounds, 5 ounces. Too bad, Mike and Bob. Better luck next time!

These are just a few of the highlights we enjoyed aboard the "Outlaw" in 1986. Thanks and congratulations to my fellow team members. We're all looking forward to another great year in 1987!

"Good Fishin'!"

—Ed Yankoski II
"Outlaw" Fishing Team

Useful information

TEMPERATURE PREFERENCES of some

COMMON FRESHWATER FISH

Species	Peak Temp.	Active Range
Brook Trout	58° F	48°-64° F
Rainbow Trout	60° F	50°-65° F
Brown Trout	60° F	50°-65° F
Lake Trout	51° F	44°-53° F
Coho Salmon	54° F	44°-58° F
Chinook Salmon	54° F	44°-58° F
Whitefish	52° F	44°-63° F
Smelt	50° F	43°-65° F
Alewife	54° F	48°-72° F

Steelhead ID - Fin clips tell the tale

With the introduction of stocked steelhead into Michigan's three Great Lakes and the ongoing steelhead (Midwest strain) research, it is now more important than ever to be able to properly identify steelhead. With the addition of the Skamania stocked steelhead program, additional confusion may result.

After that once I have had people tell me they caught a Skamania by asking how did they know it was a Skamania, they usually reply, "Well, it was big and it fought like crazy!"

At a recent boat show, a charter boat captain proudly displayed his 12-pound Skamania (stocked). Having been involved in the Skamania fishery, I knew that all Skamanias of that period had been fin clipped and this particular man had all of his. When I asked the captain how he knew that his was a Skamania, he quickly retorted, "Just look at how large it is!" I just walked away in disbelief.

Let's not belittle or downgrade our own Midwest steelhead strain. Our steelhead provides us with some of the best, if not THE best, steelhead fishing available unless you happen to ask a Skamania Steelheader.

Every once in a while, a Skamania gets credit for acrobatic leaps and lime zinging runs when in fact the steelhead is actually a Michigan strain! We can't forget that Michigan strain steelhead also get to a good size, though less often than Skamanias do.

There are very few monster steelhead in Michigan waters that don't put up a good to great fight. Regardless of a big steelhead's origin, on the big lake or on a river, a big steelhead is a BIG steelhead! Few of these proto sized steelhead come to the net easily. What is more, not only do steelhead tend not to come to the net easily, but once in the net, the next step identification isn't easy, either.

During the summer of 1983, Len Hauke, a former M&S F.A. president, fishing aboard Bill Bugg's "Billy Bugg," landed the second largest steelhead in the state's history. About a month later, Len told me how he fought his 24 pound, 10 ounce fish to the boat. While fighting

the fish, and when once it was in the boat, but they assumed it was another fourth-salmon because of its size. Early after in setting the lines, when they took another look at the fish in the boat, did Len and Bill recognize the fish as a steelhead?

I wonder how many good sized fish get in the face as small charmers. Even for the experienced angler, size and color can be deceiving. Maybe it's true what they say about boat trailers - any short fish is a subject. To prevent the scum of boat trailers, I have the abandonment of it is not true since all boat trailers release steelhead (overboard because these are great fish!).

The boat trailer and river angler not only have to concern themselves with identifying salmon versus steelhead, but also Great Lakes Skamanias. With both, Skamania and Michigan all planting Skamanias, one has to be aware of the different fin clips. In the future, fortunately, Steelheaders will not have to deal with or try to identify four different strains of summer steelhead, but only the Skamania.

Just about the time the angler thinks he has it pretty much under control, he takes a steelhead in Lake Huron with a fin clip that doesn't match any of the ones used by the Great Lakes states. This was the experience last summer of Metro West Steelheader Steve Kelenen. While fishing upper Lake Huron, Steve took a number of 11 to 13 pound fin clipped steelhead. After checking the fin clip records, it turned out that his mystery steelhead were from Ontario, the source of Canada's fin clipped steelhead.

Identification? Steelhead versus salmon, Skamania versus steelhead, steelhead versus Canadian steelhead, that just about does it, doesn't it? Not exactly. What about the fin clipped steelhead from Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin? We're not talking Skamanias, but our own Midwest strain. It is surprising how many non-Michigan steelhead show up in our waters, and vice versa.

Finally, after learning the above, can we now identify the steelhead we land? Well, not really. What if the steelie has no

fin clip designation? Oh boy! Since it isn't fin clipped, surely you can deduce that the fish is not a summer steelhead, since all Skamanias are fin clipped, can't you? Or, we cannot deduce only recently began fin clipping the Skamania angler.

Well, with no fin clip designation, it must be a wild or naturally reproduced Midwest strain steelhead, right? Not! The Great Lakes state fisheries divisions only fin clip a small percentage of its hatchery raised fish. Nearly all hatchery Midwest strain plants consist of unclipped fish. What you're trying to identify could be a naturally reproduced Skamania, or however labeled, a wild Humpback, Siletz or Rogue summer steelhead!

According to Indiana officials, it's pretty easy to tell the difference between Skamania hatchery raised steelhead and the Midwest strain. They say that nearly all Indiana Skamanias show signs of clip just in marked dorsal fins, while the Midwest strain shows little dorsal damage. Yet our Michigan hatchery manager said that he observes no difference in dorsal nipping caused by the more aggressive (the Skamania). Both strains, he believes, show about the same percentage of dorsal nipping. Does Indiana have more aggressive Skamanias, or is Indiana shipping Michigan wimp Skamania eggs?

What I'm trying to point out is that proper identification of steelhead, let alone other salmonids, can become confusing. Fin clip designation is only one tool used in identifying and studying fish species. What happens when hatchery raised fish fins are damaged by too much nitrogen is another confusing story. Until fish can talk, the best technique in identifying and learning the history of the fish you catch is through fin clip designation.

The fin clip list accompanying this article lists all fin clipped steelhead in Lake Michigan through the 1984 fish plants. Lake Huron anglers can check the Skamania and Rogue fin clip plants for Lake Michigan, as they are the same. The only other fin clip steelhead swimming around in Lake Huron is a 1981 adipose fin clip from Ontario.

STEELHEAD FIN CLIPS



Fin Clip	Year	Site
MICHIGAN		
FF	1981	St. Joseph, Grand, Grackley, Rogue, Flat, Fish, Looking Glass rivers
AdLV	1981	Little Manistee River
AdLV	1982	Little Manistee River
DAI	1983	Little Manistee River
RPLV	1983	Little Manistee River
AdRP	1984	Muskegon, Big Manistee, Para Manistee rivers (Skamania)
AdLV	1984	Little Manistee, Para Manistee, Muskegon rivers (Humpback)
AdRV	1984	Little Manistee, White rivers (Siletz)
LPRV	1984	Little Manistee, Big Manistee, Holsie, Boyne rivers (Rogue)
AdRV	1982	Big Manistee River
WISCONSIN		
Fin Clip	Year	Site
LP	1981	Shelbygan
BV	1981	Shelbygan
AdLP	1981	Manitowish
AdLP	1984	Oconto River
BV	1984	Oconto River
AdRV	1984	Oconto River (Skamania)
AdRV	1984	Road River (Skamania)
INDIANA		
Fin Clip	Year	Site
LP	1981	Trail Creek, Little Galumet (Skamania)
All steelhead were yearlings when planted		
LP	1983 FF	
Ad	1984 FF	

Keep a copy of the list on your boat or in your fishing vest. Let's all play detective on our Great Lakes waters. If you come up with a steelhead with fin clips and no match, let me know and I'll try to help.

-Don Calhoun



AUTHOR DON CALHOUN shows off this 6-year-old Indiana Skamania (note the 1981 AD fin clip). This beauty, which measured 39 inches, tipped the scales at 19 pounds.

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Don't neglect your first aid needs

"FISH ON!" It's an angler's favorite phrase. We spend countless dollars and hours trying to hook up with a real screamer!

Many anglers spend hundreds, even thousands of dollars to increase their chances of catching more and bigger fish. We subscribe to magazines, join fishing clubs, and attend shows to gain as much knowledge as we can to increase our catch. We don't bat an eyelash when it comes to buying rods, reels, tackle, waders, downriggers, graphs, radios . . . the list goes on and on.

Yet, when it comes to safety, the majority of anglers forget to stop by the local drugstore. Oh, there may be a few Band-Aids on board, or a bottle of Dramamine, though no one looks forward to an accident or injury to spoil the outing. But is that enough preparation to assist someone who needs first aid?

What do you need? Like fishing equipment, first aid kits run the gamut from sophisticated equipment to those containing the minimum essential supplies. Also as in fishing equipment, we all have our favorite combinations. I'd like to share a few ideas to consider, and supplies to include, when you restock or assemble the first aid kit for your boat. Most of the items can be found in your kitchen or medicine chest and assembled in just a few minutes.

On the boat, a sealable plastic container or small tackle box which is clean and designated for the purpose will do for storing first aid supplies.



DAVE EVEN, active Detroit Area Steelheader, proudly shows off this nice 23 pound, 11 ounce king salmon.

BASIC ITEMS FOR YOUR KIT

- ✓ Band-Aids—an assortment of sizes covers a multitude of 'sins'
- ✓ Two large compress (absorbent) bandages; even disposable diapers may be used
- ✓ One triangle bandage—you can make one from a 40-inch square cloth cut from corner to corner
- ✓ A small roll of 2-inch adhesive tape
- ✓ Six 3" x 3" or 4" x 4" gauze pads
- ✓ Six safety pins

- ✓ A needle
- ✓ Matches
- ✓ A pair of small scissors
- ✓ A small bar of soap—"hotel" size
- ✓ Roller gauze bandage
- ✓ Ace elastic bandage
- ✓ A small tube of antibiotic ointment
- ✓ Four Ziploc plastic bags
- ✓ Tweezers
- ✓ Whistle
- ✓ A pocket-sized space blanket, available at sporting goods stores

One note about medicines: the dampness and humidity inherent to boating activities has a detrimental effect on many medications. Check them frequently throughout the boating season to detect any changes. DISCARD any medication that looks different than usual. Is it larger, "flakier," or changed in color? Also discard any medication that smells different than normal.

A small first aid booklet or card is a handy reference if it is available on board, but in an emergency, KEEP YOUR HEAD. Common sense will carry you a long way.

Be inventive. With a few basic items, you can usually improvise to meet your needs.

Above all, your first aid kit, whether homemade or purchased, cannot help you unless it is available when needed. Always carry it with you.

—Dave Even
"Teacher's Pet"



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FOR SALE—One Pierce Simpson Bimini 25 marine radio, 10 channel, \$100.00. Four used Eagle Claw SF400 downrigger rods, 8 1/2', two Eagle Claw SF403 diver rods, 10', \$15.00 each. Used Sitex Kodon Model 767 LORAN C, in good condition, \$250.00. Call Ken: 757-5653

FOR SALE—Four Cannon Unitrroll downriggers in excellent condition, dual rod holders, two @ 24" arms, two @ 48" arms, \$425.00. Also one Big Jon 48" arm electric downrigger, \$125.00 or best offer. Call Dave Even: 981-2236

FOR SALE—1985 Aero Craft Mach II, 21', 170 horsepower Mercruiser, Shorelander trailer, Great Lakes ready, available with or without equipment. Call Doug Touchette: (313) 666-3475

FOR SALE—1974 Starcraft Holiday, 22' new canvas and side curtains, new carpet, new upholstery, fold down rear seat, compass, dual battery system, front and rear interior lights, fire extinguisher. Also 1974 135 horsepower Evinrude (complete 1985 rebuild), and 1974 Pamco trailer, new tires, refinished in 1986. Call Dennis McAtamney: 773-2615

WANTED—LORAN C unit. Please call before 8:00 p.m. Call Ed Kielan: 464-2035

FOR SALE—1986 Cherokee Hardtop, 25' with 9' 4" beam, Crusader inboard with heater/detroster, 600 hours, five Walker electric downriggers with adjustable double rod holders, 22' Parko outriggers, several flush-mount rod holders, two net holders, Sitex E27 LORAN, President radio, King 6" graph, extended trim tabs, 12-rod rod holder mounted on hardtop, Surf temperature gauge, drop curtain, and more. Charter-inspected, \$32,500.00 with above equipment, \$30,000.00 without equipment. Also, new 1987 25' and 28' Cherokees available. Call: (517) 738-8247

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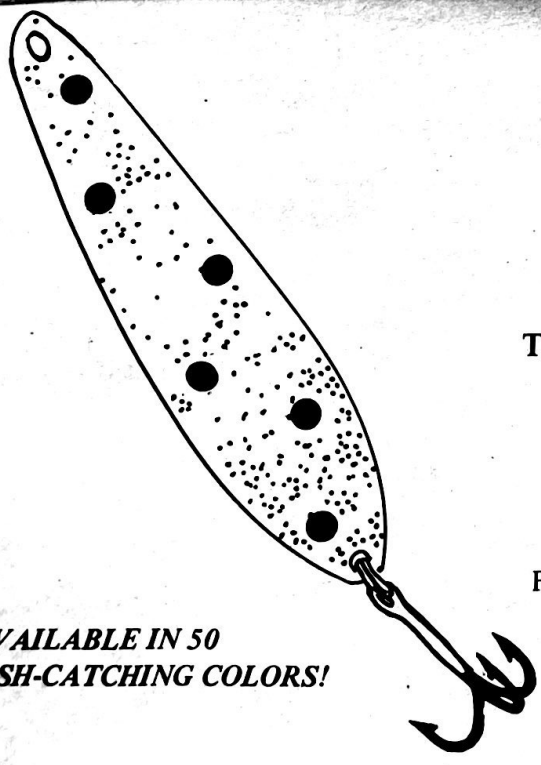
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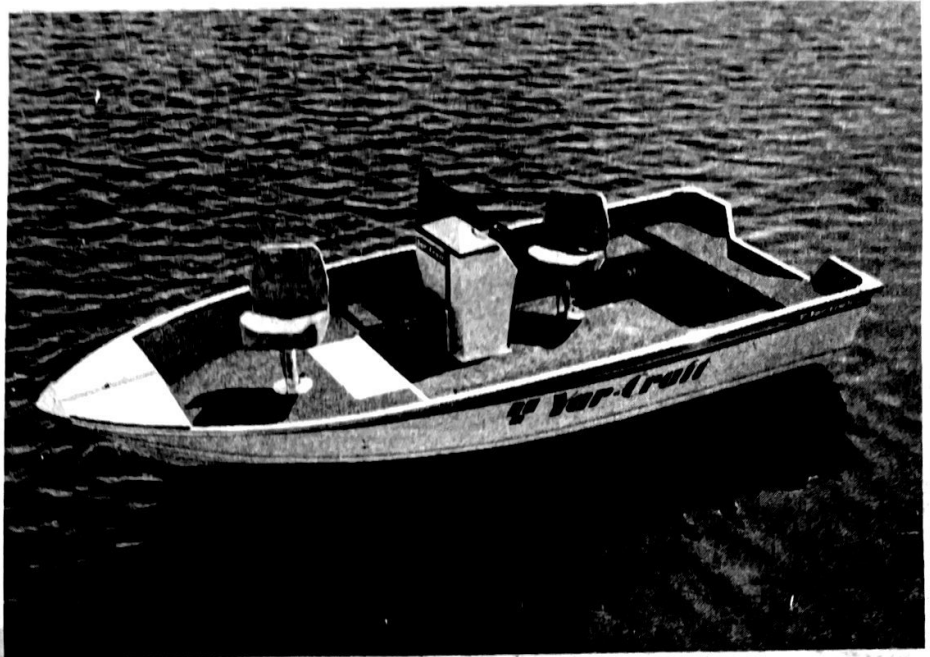
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