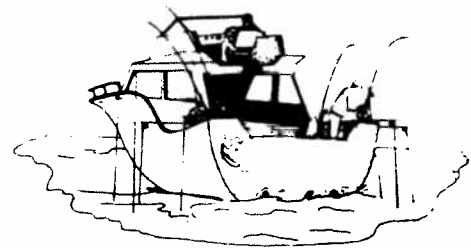




FISHING TALES



DETROIT AREA CHAPTER

MICHIGAN STEELHEAD AND SALMON FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHED BY THE DETROIT AREA CHAPTER

VOLUME 2

NUMBER 5

AUGUST, 1977

INDIAN NETTERS OPERATING

Indian commercial fishermen continue to operate without a license in the northern Lakes Michigan and Huron and from Baymills to Munising in Lake Superior.

Department of Natural Resources' officers say that since lake trout moved into deep water, Indian fishing activity has slowed down, but tons of fish are still being illegally gill netted. Few sportsmen, they explain are aware of the activity because it is offshore.

Indian netting is heaviest along the north shores of Lake Michigan and Huron, where fish are most plentiful in deep water and where there is light sport fishing activity.

In Lake Superior, from Munising east, fish stocks have been severely depleted by several years of intensive Indian gill netting, making it less profitable than the Lakes Huron and Michigan fisheries, the officers report.

However, they expect intensive on-shore netting to renew when cool water brings trout back onto the beaches in the Petoskey to Charlevoix areas this fall.

North Woods Call



Best Bets

FISHING REPORT

TIPS FOR AUGUST

Lake trout fishing is still in full swing the first few weeks of August. Almost all ports along Lake Michigan are good. Some of the best are Muskegon, Ludington, Manistee, and Frankfort. What seems to produce the most fish are attractors with fireplugs, clatter tads and small spoons. Favorite colors are chartreuse with red dots, shades of green and blue, and chartreuse with black dots. Dodger and fly or dodger and squid combinations work well also.

Ports on Lake Huron that have improved for lake trout are Harrisville, Oscoda, and of late Port Austin has been especially hot. Favorite lures here are also attracted with fire plugs, dodgers with flutter spoons, dodger and fly or squid and sometimes the blue and pearl Andy Reeker no. 3. Most success here has been fishing right on bottom.

Later in August, the Chinook and Coho start their migration runs to their home streams. Some of the best ports will be the Grand River in Kent County; (300,777) Chinook, Muskegon River; (300,135 Chinook), and Manistee with 652,578 Chinook and 600,000 Coho. As always Platte Bay will have a big run of Coho 500,000. The

best luck on lures for the Chinook are baits usually fished clean and run way from the ball; J-Plugs, Chargers, Tadpolllys, Miller Spoons, Loca's all work well. Dodgers and flies will take Coho, but most anything will work when you can find a school.

Over on Lake Huron, Harrisville has 200,000 Chinook, Oscoda 401,292 Chinook, 200,000 Coho. The Chinook start coming in here in the last two weeks of August and continue till late September. Best lures are J-Plugs, Tadpolllys, Williams Wablers, Flutter spoons, and Chargers. Their choice of color seems to change constantly so you must work them accordingly.

Another area that has a good amount of fish returning this year is the Huron River in our area. It has 201,180 Chinook and 200,000 Coho. We are hoping to get some boats together for a research trip in this area later in August or September. The fish have to come in and I believe they can be caught if we can find them. It would sure be nice to be able to fish in our own backyard instead of traveling two to three hundred miles. If we want the D.N.R. to continue these plantings, a research trip in this area would be worthwhile. If the Canadians would stop their netting around Pelle Island, it would help.

This about concludes the month of August, and with a little help from the fish, it should be an exciting fishing month.

Murrell Blackburn



Eric Mills, the smallest angler in the Port Austin Tournament, landed the largest fish, a whopping 18 lb. 9 oz. Brown. The secret is to grab the rod first, then yell "fish on!" (So you can't be beat to the rod.) see story on page 3.

LADIES DAY TOURNAMENT September 17 - Oscoda

A day for the ladies, arrangements set so far consist of a morning of fishing, a picnic, and a dinner to follow in the evening.

Rules for this tournament are as follows:

1. Each couple must consist of (1) member of Detroit Area Chapter.
2. Boats will leave harbor at 7:00 and all lines must be pulled up at 1:00.

(Continued on page 7)

THE CLUB

Hot Line 291-8249

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WEEKLY "HOT" TIPS ON WHERE TO FISH
and THE LATEST CLUB NEWS -

FISHIN' TALES
Published Monthly by
Detroit Area Chapter
of the
Michigan Steelhead and
Salmon Fishermen's
Association
2818 Vinsetta Blvd.
Royal Oak, MI 48073

The views expressed in this paper are those of the Chapter Members and the Editor. The purpose of this paper is to inform the Chapter Members of events which affect the Sportsfishermen. It is our intention to teach, inform and guide the members to respect and appreciate the Great Lakes, Rivers and Land around them.

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1977 MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Bonnie Brook Country Club
August 30
September 27
October 25

COMING EVENTS

August 30 Membership Meeting
September 10 Oscoda Boat Tournament
September 17 Chapter Ladies Day Tournament
September 27 Membership Meeting
October 1 Tawas Bay Tournament

BOAT TOURNAMENTS

September 10 Oscoda
Contact John Makela 583-1910
September 17 Oscoda "Ladies Day"
Contact Gary Gray 846-6482
October 1 Tawas Bay
Contact Jerome Vaerten 293-5862

Tournament Registrar
Don White

3500 Wards Point, Orchard Lake, Michigan 48033
682-5642

**RAINBOW FISHERY RIGHT
IN OUR OWN BACKYARD**

Many of us, Detroit Area Chapter Steelheaders, do not always get the chance to fish the "big waters" of the Great Lakes. Either we do not own a large enough boat or we are unable to take the "long weekends" required to travel to various ports around the State. I am one of these, but I've found a substitute fishery which I find to be most enjoyable.

It's no secret, but many of Southeast Michigan's lakes have been planted with various species of trout which surprisingly reach relatively large sizes. The rainbow trout is my personal favorite, and I've found a few lakes which offer good fishing for them. Orchard and Deer Lake in Oakland County and Appleton and Murray in Livingston County are my top choices. These lakes are easily accessible with a 12 or 14 foot boat and are within short driving distances of most of our homes.

For the fishing I do, I use a 12 foot aluminum boat and a 5.5 hp motor, although a 14 footer would probably be more suitable. My boat is equipped with downriggers and a flasher-type depth finder, both very valuable tools.

I've found my most productive method for larger rainbows to be trolling. My basic tackle set-up consists of a medium action seven-foot spinning rod and a good quality spinning reel filled with top grade 8-10 lb. test monofilament. To a snap swivel on the end of the line, I attach a set of four or five-bladed cowbells. These attractors, I feel, are the key to successful fishing. I prefer the hammered all-nickel cowbells, such as those made by

(Continued on page 7)

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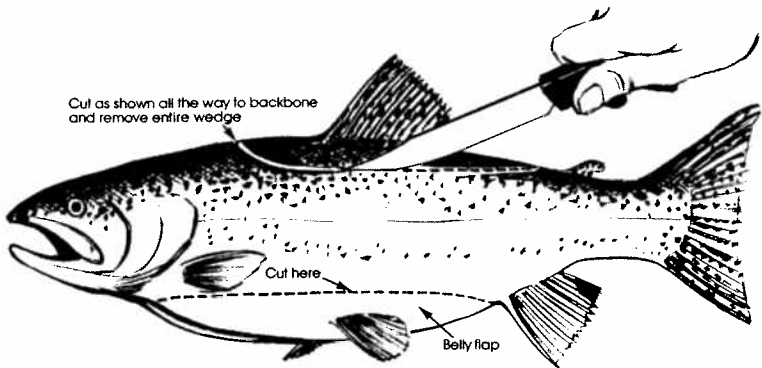
44375 GRAND RIVER NOVI

August Meeting

August meeting will be held at Bonnie Brook Country Club, Tuesday, August 30th, at 7:30 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Jack Hammond, Fisheries Director, DNR. After Mr. Hammond's speech, he will be more than happy to answer any questions you might have. There will be a trolling boat on display outside the clubhouse, and experienced fishermen on hand to answer and explain how to use the equipment on display. Trophies will be awarded to the winners of the Port Austin Tournament. We'll have our raffle as usual with some real fine prizes, Luhr Jensen, Charger, etc. Jackets will be available for pick up. The "Swap Shop" will be available for those who wish to use it. Registration for the Oscoda, Ladies Day and Tawas Bay Boat Tournaments will be available. Also (2) fish'n films will be shown at the end of the meeting, "Subarctic Adventure" & "Arctic Char & Grayling". Fishing Gossip, tales, tips and fish stories. Hope to see you there!

PROPERLY CLEAN & FREEZE YOUR FISH

The PCB threat in fish can be greatly reduced by removing the fatty parts where PCB's tend to be concentrated. This illustration below shows the two most important areas which should be removed. The fatty area around the dorsal fin, and the entire belly flap are the largest concentrated areas.



Another thing you can do to protect yourself is to skin all of your fish. Under the skin, there is a fine layer of fat which turns into oil when the fish is cooked. Precautions should be extended to the methods fish are cooked & smoked. Cooking styles should allow the runoff of all fish oils, don't nest your fish in foil, instead cook them on some kind of grill so the fats and oils drip below. In order to keep fish from burning, basting is required.

Despite all of these precautions, High Risk fish shouldn't be eaten at all by pregnant woman or children. Don't be fooled by this size of fish as to its amounts of PCB's and other contaminants, a small fish can be contaminated to a higher level than a larger fish, depending on its inhabitant.

To properly transport, freeze & store your fish, keep these

points well in mind. Fresh fish are very perishable. Before wrapping your fish, make sure that **ALL** the blood has been thoroughly rinsed off with clean fresh water. Wrap your fish in a moisture-proof paper or place in a tightly covered container, and place in the coldest part of your cooler or refrigerator. On all of your fishing trips, do not have fish frozen unless you can maintain fish frozen. Once thawed, do not refreeze, use immediately.

Keep canned fish in a cool dry place. Once opened, refrigerate. Wrap smoked fish and refrigerate. Pickle fish should be refrigerated. Dried fish should be kept in a cool dry place. Fresh raw fish will keep on a refrigerator shelf 1 or 2 days.

Smoked fish will keep 1 to 2 weeks on a refrigerator shelf.

Fish properly prepared for freezing will keep in freezer for 1 year. Fish kept in a freezer should be rotated whenever fresher fish have been added.

Gary Gray (Editor)

**SKIPPER OF THE YEAR STANDINGS
Through Port Austin Tournament**

CAPTAIN	BOAT	POINTS
Larry Atwell	Cobra	27
Chuck Cartwright	Tuna Boat	26
Murrell Blackburn	Fish'n 5	22
Jerry Lee	Sea Screw	17
John Makela	Sisu	16
Bob Kring	Drifter	14
Don Wainio	Flyin' Finn	12
Bill Brandt	Lay-Z-Boy	10
Howard Mills	Paramor	9
Clay Garrett	Blue Mist	9
Gary Gray	Nooner	8
Jim Treadaway	Okie Drifter	8

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A census taken on Lake St. Clair, showed that charterboats have taken more Muskies on the "Believer" than any other bait.

1977 Sarnia Salom Derby

1st & 4th Place	Chinook
2nd Place	Brown Trout
2nd Place	Coho

All on Drifter Tackle



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PORT AUSTIN BOAT TOURNAMENT

JULY 16, 1977



Larry Atwell (center), Skipper of the Cobra, and his crew placed 2nd. Larry's looking forward to continue his success in hopes of winning the Skipper of the Year Award.



Bob Kring (right), and his crew placed 3rd. After the weigh in Bob went back out to fish. When he returned to the dock, Bob was proud to say he had landed a 10 lb. 4 oz. Splake to top off a successful day.



Chuck Cartwright (2nd from left), Skipper of the "Tuna Boat" and his crew placed 1st with this fine catch of Splake & Lake Trout.



Murrell Blackburn (right) Skipper of the boat "Fish'n 5" returned to port once again with another fine bunch of fish. He placed 4th.

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The Port Austin Tournament was the most successful tournament to date. A total of 35 boats registered for what turned out to be an almost perfect fishing day: warm and overcast with calm seas. Fish from 26 boats were weighed in: 159 fish weighing over 1,000 pounds. The largest fish taken was an 18 lb. 9 oz. brown trout caught by Eric Mills, aboard the *Paramor*. Competition was so keen, it took a minimum of seven fish to place in the top ten of the tournament. Tournament winners as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 1. Chuck Cartwright | Tuna Boat |
| 2. Larry Atwell | Corba |
| 3. Bob Kring | Drifter |
| 4. Murrell Blackburn | Fish'n 5 |
| 5. Jerry Lee | Sea Screw |
| 6. | Sally E |
| 7. Ted Streussnig | Lucky Strike |
| 8. John Makela | Sisu |
| 9. Bill Brandt | Lay-Z-Boy |
| 10. Clay Garrett | Blue Mist |

A delicious buffet dinner at the Castaways Resort was enjoyed by our Chapter. After the dinner, Chuck Cartwright, as tournament winner, was presented with a certificate for a free, family weekend at the Castaways Resort, just west of the Port Austin Village limits. The certificate was provided and presented by Mr. Jim Walker, owner of the resort. We thank him for his congenial hospitality. We would also like to thank the people of Port Austin for their cooperation and hospitality. Special thanks to John Trofimuk, Tournament Coordinator, for all of his hard work in planning a most successful tournament.



Howard Mills and his son, Eric, along with chapter members and towns people await to see this huge Brown tip the scales to 18 lbs. 9 ozs.




John Trofimuk didn't place in the tournament as far as catching fish, but John sure placed 1st for the fine job he did in planning a most successful tournament. Nice job John.



Jerry Lee (left) and his crew got things together and had a successful day returning with 15 fish and placing 5th in the tournament.

FISH TIPS



SHARPEN THOSE HOOKS
Salmon have tough mouths and hooks used to catch them are usually larger, so it's very important that you sharpen them especially the large single hooks every time you use them.

courtesy, D. Peltier

**OSCODA
TOURNAMENT
September 10**

A large group of boats is expected to turn out for the 'big one' on the Saturday following Labor Day. The chapter trolling contest in Oscoda is the sixth in a series of tournaments to ultimately determine our "Skipper of the Year".

Last year, the King Chinook were at the pierheads where the AuSable River joins Lake Huron. Many large fish were taken and many were lost when our lines tangled props and downrigger wires off the pack of boats zig-zaging to avoid each other.

Some of the best lures included the #5 Williams Warblers, J-Plugs and Chargers. They are run clean, mostly about 60-100 feet behind the boat. The fish will be both north and south as well as in the immediate area of the river mouth. Look for them in 10 to 30 feet of water.

Trolling slower than normal generally provides best action. Heavier line than that used in open water is advisable when trying to land Chinook "in-close" to the pierheads and around the pack. Weather conditions shouldn't affect your success if you can present your lure to the fish.

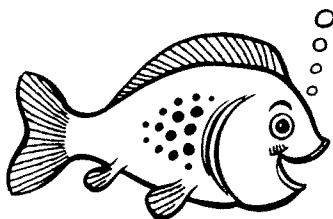
At this time of year, the tournament starts at 7:00 a.m., (first light). Lines will be pulled at 4:00 p.m. and all skippers should have their catch at weigh-in before 4:45. Tournament headquarters will be at Fellow's Marina - just upstream from the U.S. 23 bridge on your starboard side.

The tournament committee is planning a weenie (hot dog) roast immediately

following the weigh-in on the Oscoda Yacht Club grounds. The Yacht Club is next door upstream from Fellow's Marina. That will allow us to do some evening trolling when action picks-up again.

Oscoda notes:

In addition to the big plant of kings returning - look for a quarter million Coho, Steelhead and Brown Trout. Also, lakera will be out there in the thermocline. Detroit Steelheaders are invited to stay at the Holiday Shores Motel, on the Lake Huron side of U.S. 23, approximately 2 miles north of the state launch. Mick Higgins, proprietor, is extending a super discount for those of us who need a room. (Color TV, AM-FM Stereo, free coffee and some fine hospitality) Mick beaches his 19' Sea Ray I.O. on the swimming beach behind his motel. For more info, call him at 1-517-793-5741, or stop in at 5486 No. U.S. 23. Be sure you mention you're **Detroit area** to qualify for the discount quarters.



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"Canned Salmon"**

Cut fish in small pieces, soak in salt brine for 1 hour, then drain for 5 minutes. Place salmon in jars, skin side to glass. Seal pressure can at 10 lbs. for 1 hour and 40 minutes.

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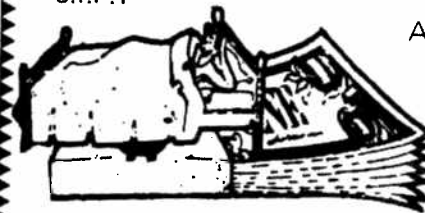
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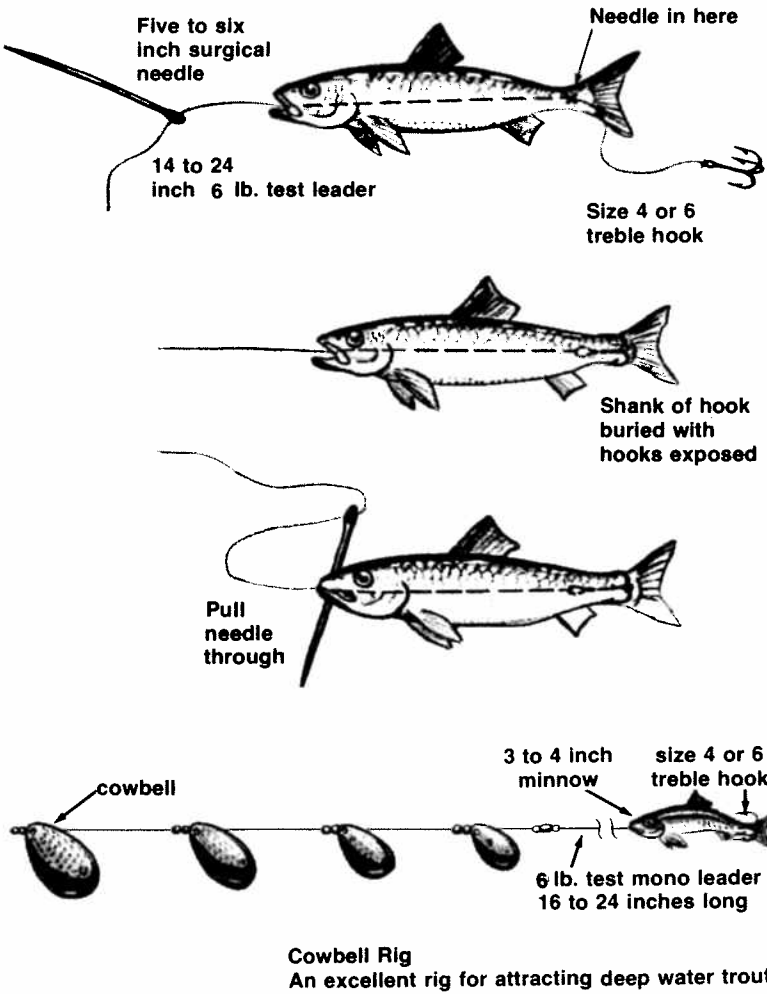
278-1337

RAINBOW FISHERY

(Continued from page 2)

Les Davis. For terminal tackle, I have two choices. First, the Flatfish in sizes F-3 thru F-6 and X-5 in colors of yellow with red spots, silver, gold, and pearl. I attach these baits to the cowbells with about 18 inches of 4-6 lb. test mono. The other choice is "sewn" minnows. (See sketch) I prefer 2-3 inch long shiners.

How To "Sew" a Minnow



Cowbell Rig
An excellent rig for attracting deep water trout

With these minnows, I use a 12 inch leader. Both of these baits work well. The Flatfish produces more fish, but the "sewn" minnows are better for larger fish.

Depending on the season, there are different trolling techniques I use. In spring and fall when the surface waters are cool, the rainbows usually cruise all over the lake within 10 feet of the surface. At this time, I simply "long line it." I'll troll the baits about 100-150 feet behind the boat in water 15-20 feet deep. A very slow trolling speed is necessary, just enough to keep the blades on the cowbells turning.

In summer, when water temperatures drive the fish deep, I search out the deweper holes in the lake. I've found water depths of 35-45 feet to be the best. The fish, at this time, are usually within 10 feet of the bottom. This is when I use downriggers. These make it easier to maintain a specific depth, as we all know. I'll usually run the baits the same distances behind the boat and again, at a very slow speed.

My personal record, fishing these smaller inland lakes, is a 20-inch 5 lb. beautifully colored rainbow. Knowing these lakes contain larger fish, as I've witnessed 8 and 10 lb'ers caught, I'll continue to fish them. I suggest to anyone who wants good action close to home, not to overlook this fishery.

Good Fishin', Bob Ksionzek

LADIES DAY TOURNAMENT

(Continued from page 1)

3. Amount of lines: (2) per person aboard, with maximum of (7) lines.
4. The men can set lines, net fish, and steer the boat. All fish must be reeled in by the ladies.
5. Weigh in will follow promptly after the return of boats, at Fellows Marina just above the bridge on the AuSable River.
6. The point system will be run the same as our chapter tournaments.
7. Trophies will be awarded to each lady aboard the top ten boats.
8. Entry fee will be \$1.00 per boat. All boats must be pre-registered. Register by contacting Gary Gray at 846-6482 or at the August

meeting. Those of you who are looking for room on a boat, or looking for another couple contact Gary Gray (first come, first served basis).

The Picnic will be put on by the boat tournament committee, the dinner that evening will be paid by the individuals who attend. (Pick up your own bill). The picnic and dinner will be held at the Oscoda Yatch Club. Dockage and boat slips will be available at the club and Fellows Marina.

If you have any questions regarding the tournament, please contact Gary Gray. If I am not home, just leave a message.

Gary Gray, Editor

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AUGUST 19 THROUGH OCTOBER 23

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\$500 — SECOND PRIZE	\$500 — SECOND PRIZE	\$500 — SECOND PRIZE
\$250 — THIRD PRIZE	\$250 — THIRD PRIZE	\$250 — THIRD PRIZE

—ALL PRIZES PAID IN U.S. SAVINGS BONDS—

Derby area begins at Whitestone Point (North of AuGres) on the South and ends at Sturgeon Point (North of Harrisville) on the North.

Please fill out the form below and mail or bring to one of the Chambers of Commerce listed below.

Be sure to enclose your \$5.00 registration fee.

Your official registrations will be sent to you immediately.

LAKE HURON KING SALMON DERBY ENTRY FORM

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100 W. Michigan
Oscoda, MI 48750

Tawas Area
Chamber of Commerce
402 Lake St.
Tawas City, MI 48762

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DETROIT AREA CHAPTER

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\$'s INCREASE FOR FISH & GAME

Michigan has received nearly \$3.9 million in federal funds for support of fish and wildlife and hunter safety programs in 1977. These funds come from excise taxes collected on hunting and fishing equipment purchased last year. The money is Michigan's portion of a total \$109 million distributed this year by the U.S. Department of the Interior under the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson aid to wildlife programs. This year's total is nearly \$25 million more than was distributed to the states in 1976. As part of Michigan's total \$857,258 is designated for fisheries programs and \$2.6 million for wildlife. Michigan also received the maximum allotment of \$315,000 for operation of hunter safety programs. Michigan ranks fifth among states in monies received.

DON'T LITTER WHILE BOATING

Experienced sport-fishermen often make strange discoveries while cleaning their catch! 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 that resemble familiar foods. Filter tips from cigarettes can look tempting 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 a part of the sport-fishing 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 pleasureboaters does happen and it has all kinds of unhappy consequences. Be a boater who cares. Don't litter!

Don't Change Your Address Without Letting Us Know

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PLEASE NOTIFY US AT LEAST 2 WEEKS BEFORE YOU MOVE.

1. Cut the address from this paper and paste or tape it in the space below. Or write you old address.
2. Write your new address below your old one and mail to:
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1817 Barrett
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