

# Fishin' Tales

October 2005  
Volume XXXI, Issue 10

www.detroitsteelheaders.org

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### October Meeting

The October regular member meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 25.

October will again include the **Fall Swap Meet**. Bring hunting or fishing equipment; except no guns please. This is a great way to get a stash of cash to spend on a new pair of waders or for the winter fishing shows.

**Elections** take place in December. There are several positions up for election for the Board of Directors. See a Director if you are interested in running.

As always, the general meeting takes place at 7:30 P.M. in the hall at 6177 Chicago Rd. (east of Mound Rd., North of 13 Mile Rd.)-Warren,

### CHINOOK STOCKING UPDATE As anticipated, DNR will recommend 25 percent Chinook cut for Lake Michigan

Sunday, September 18, 2005  
By Bob Gwizdz

GRAND HAVEN -- State fisheries officials will head to Kenosha, Wis., for an inter-agency Lake Michigan stocking meeting next Saturday prepared to recommend a 25 percent

reduction in Chinook salmon plants beginning in the spring.

The decision to recommend the cut came after fisheries division staff members met on Tuesday with the Lake Michigan Citizens' Advisory Committee, which gave the proposal a lukewarm go-ahead.

Department of Natural Resources biologists have said the big-lake salmon fishery is showing a number of warning symptoms, including a declining average weight of fish caught, that could presage a crash.

DNR officials identified four options -- status quo, a 25 percent Chinook cut, a 50 percent Chinook cut, or a 25 percent all species (excluding lake trout) cut -- and recommended the 25 percent Chinook cut.

Models show that a 25 percent cut in Chinook stocking could result in about a 10 percent decline in the overall harvest. However, Lake Michigan states cut Chinook plants by 27 percent in 1999 and catch rates now are as good as ever.

"The sentiment is to follow the recommendation of the agency," said Denny Grinold, a charter boat skipper who chairs the advisory committee. "I'm just uncomfortable that not everybody has had an opportunity to be heard."

Only one attendee at the meeting voted for one of the other options -- retired DNR

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fisheries biologist Jerry Rakoczy voted for maintaining the status quo -- as many participants abstained from the voting.

"The state's made up its mind," said Andy Pelt of the Michigan Steelheaders. "And if you looked at all the data, they're probably correct. But if this means Michigan takes the entire cut, well, no deal, we'll oppose that."

Jim Dexter, the DNR's Lake Michigan Basin Coordinator, said it was too early to talk about the tactics of achieving the cut, but the states had already agreed that the starting point for negotiating the cuts would be for proportional reductions among all states.

Michigan already stocks more than half the 4.3 million Chinook fingerlings released into the lake every year. In addition, natural recruitment from Michigan rivers could more than equal Michigan's stocking program, according to studies.

Dexter said he hopes to return from the lake-wide meeting with a consensus and present that decision to the Natural Resources Commission at its Oct. 6 meeting in Lansing.

Dexter said he welcomes comments on the proposal - send them to [dexterjx@michigan.gov](mailto:dexterjx@michigan.gov) -- until Sept. 30.

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**2005/06 Key Dates**

Oct. 25 - Member Meeting & Swap meet

Nov. 29 - Member Meeting

Dec. 20 - Christmas Party

March 11 - Sportsman's Game Dinner



### Christmas Gifts?

Thinking about Christmas Gifts? How about DAS Shirts, Hats and Jackets.

Hats are only \$12.00. Polo shirts (tan color) with small DAS logo start at \$21.00. Sweatshirts crew with small DAS logo start at \$22.00. Sweatshirts collar with small DAS logo start at \$33.00. Sweatshirts hooded with small DAS logo start at \$33.00. Sweatshirts hooded 1/4 zipper with small DAS logo start at \$37.00. Sweatshirts hooded (full zipper) with small DAS logo start at \$37.00

All sweatshirts are Navy Blue color. Jackets are Spring/Fall with large DAS logo on back and start at \$68.00. Jackets -winter (flees lined) with large DAS logo on back start at \$80.00.

Payment in full is required upon ordering. See Ty Voigt

### **COOLER OF CHEER!**

The Annual Christmas Cooler of Cheer is in full swing. The support of all of our members and friends has really made this a fun event. The lucky winning ticket will be drawn at the annual Christmas meeting on Dec. 20.

The lucky winner will receive a **100-quart cooler full of cheer, a big assortment of party snacks and \$100 in cash;** a prize well worth the one buck investment.

A special drawing for sellers will take place at the November meeting where anyone turning in \$20.00 will be entered into a drawing for a \$25.00 gift certificate. If you haven't sold your tickets by then, you can mail your money or turn it in at the meeting. Sell your tickets later and turn in the stubs at a later time.

Finally, the overall top ticket seller will win a \$100 gift certificate. I have plenty of extra tickets for everyone who needs extra tickets. Please feel free to call me or see me at the meetings.

Chris Nytko (586) 786-

### Check Your Label

Did you know that your mailing label includes the date your membership expires? The month and year your membership expires is below your name. If it's marked yellow, your membership may be close to expiring. Don't be disqualified from a tournament because you forgot to re-up. Regular memberships are still \$25, Senior \$10 and Lifetime \$150.

See Tom Moores at the regular meeting or send your check to the club post office box (1255 in Sterling Heights Mi. 48311-1255).





3- Sloppy Joe



GRAND HAVEN II



4- Molly Frair



5- Thors Hammer



1- Almost Paradise



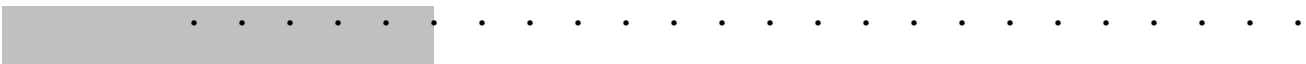
2- No Limit



6 - F Fish N Sea



7- Vicki's Seacret





### Asian carp seen in Upper Mississippi

People have spotted three species of Asian carp on the Upper Mississippi, and Wisconsin's DNR say that's a cause for concern.

While most have been seen closer to the Illinois River, the carp are now appearing up near Wabasha, Minn., about 65 air miles southeast of Minneapolis. That's almost two-thirds of the way up into Wisconsin, north of the Illinois state line. Many of the fish are caught by a dam near Keokuk, Iowa, but numerous carp are now flying over it. From GLSFC -Great Lakes Basin Report

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MEETING NOTICE – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

### Key Question on Chinook Stock cuts

Key questions are: "If Chinook stocking is cut, where does the money go?" "Will Michigan resume its normal Coho stocking program?" "Will they switch dollars/ capacity to other species?" "Will it be possible to get the hatchery capacity back when and if biology justifies increases?"

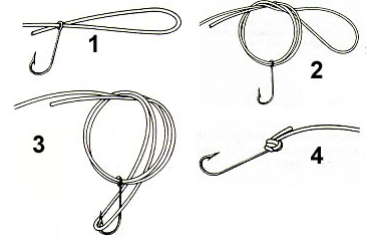
Currently, the four states stock 4.3 million Chinook fingerlings in Lake Michigan, with Michigan stocking over 2 million of them. There was no agreement on how to get to the 25% reduction, as the biggest concern was which ports would take the biggest hits. Some Michigan anglers expressed concerns that they would face the biggest cuts, but many present rightly pointed out the greatest amount of natural reproduction of kings takes place in Michigan rivers. Most realistic and practical



comments were that since most all natural reproduction was occurring in Michigan streams that's where the cuts should occur.

Still, it's likely that Michigan will wind up taking the biggest hit. Indiana only stocks 250,000 kings and Illinois stocks another 300,000. Since Michigan and Wisconsin stock the most, it would be reasonable to assume they should absorb more cuts than the other states. We'll see. From GLSFC -Great Lakes Basin Report

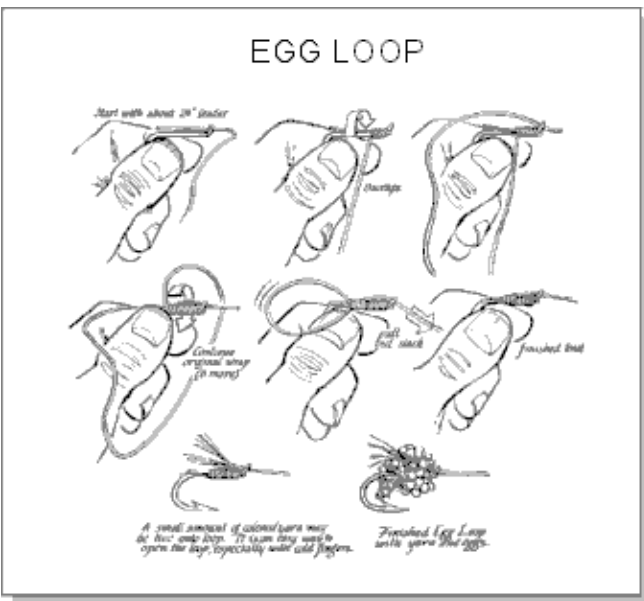
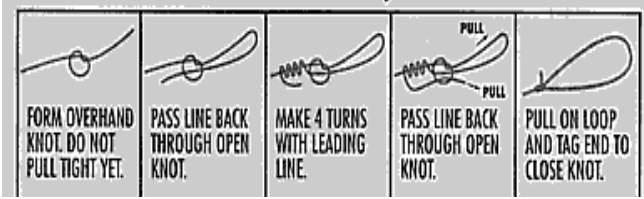
### Palomar Knot – 100% knot that's easy to tie



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# River Knots

## Loop



see: [www.netknots.com](http://www.netknots.com) for more info