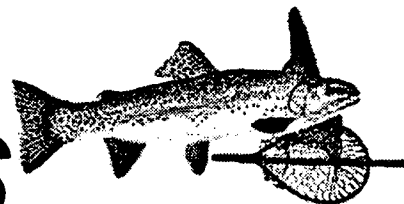


FISHIN'TALES



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Nov. 1997

FISH BIOLOGIST TO SPEAK

NOVEMBER MEETING

The scheduled speaker for the November meeting is Robert Haas; District DNR Biologist for Lake St. Clair. His talk will center on DNR observations of the various species of fish in Lake St. Clair.

COOLER OF CHEER!

The Detroit Area Steelheaders annual cooler of cheer raffle will again take place this Fall. The lucky winning ticket will be drawn at the annual Christmas meeting on Dec. 16. The lucky winner will receive a **128 quart cooler full of cheer, a big assortment of party snacks and \$100 in cash**; a prize well worth the one buck investment.

As in the past, an incentive plan has been developed to encourage you to sell tickets for this raffle.

For the November membership meeting, for every \$15 of cooler ticket sales turned in by a member, you will receive one chance at a **Winner's Choice Prize Package**. There are three prizes to choose from; a Daiwa spinning rod & reel, a Normark 50# digital scale or a 4-cell Mag-lite Flashlight. You will have your name put in the drawing two times if you sell

\$30, 3 times for \$45.

Finally, the overall top ticket seller will win a **Portable hand-held GPS unit**. (This is a great

ATTENTION RIVER RATS

Winter tournament Schedules for 1996-97 River Rats. For information call River tournament chairman Doug Karakas at 545-1181

Dec. 6 Ausable River
Jan. Clinton River Clinic
Feb. Higgins Lake
 --Ice Fishing
Mar. Manistee River

boat tool, so you may want to talk to your crew and pool your results.) Contact Ray Banbury - (810) 542-8007 or Rob Golaszewski (810) 778-0927 for additional tickets.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MEETING
DECEMBER 16 at our MEETING
PLACE 12 Mile & Rochester in Royal Oak.....

DIRECTOR ELECTIONS COMING DECEMBER

The annual election for the Detroit Area STEELHEADERS Board of Directors will take place at the Christmas meeting. There are six openings for election this year.

This is a chance to help direct our club and to give back some of what you have gained by being a member.

Interested parties should contact President Redmond, Mary Karakas or any other board member at the November meeting. All you have to do is to fill out a short form stating your interests and how you can help; then get your picture taken.

COMING EVENTS

Nov. 25..... Member Meeting
Dec. 16.....Christmas Meeting
Feb. 7.....Dinner Dance
Mar. 21.....Vegas Night

Feb. 20 - Mar. 1..Outdoorama
Feb. 18 - 22.....Silverdome
Mar. 3 - 5.....Palace Show



Oils, Aminos, Plants, Phermones
and Mr. Steelhead
By Mike Laverty

It seems every steelhead season seems to bring more and more fish attractants to the tackle store shelves, each offering added strikes to our baits of choice regardless of plastic or natural. Squirt it on, inject it, stick it, etc. It seems a bait or lure will not catch fish these days unless it has some type of fish attractant applied to it. Some fisherman will swear their fish catching prayers have been answered by the most recent version of shrimp or crawdad oil. Other fishermen will not even attempt to wet a line unless their favorite fish attractant has been added. Proven steelheaders can not even receive due credit for their skills anymore because of fish attractants. After a recent fishing day I happen to overhear a fisherman's comments after watching a top North Coast guide boat a third fish in a slow day, "He must be using some type of steelhead aphrodisiac."

To make matters worse every fisherman seems to have their own fish attracting concoction. Most have simply added a pinch of this, or teaspoon of that, to the brands from the tackle store and shaken them up together. This then classifies the concoction as truly their own, which makes it a proven fish catcher. The fact is, most all

fish attractants on the market come from one of four following ingredients or some combination of the four, oils, amino acids, plants, and Phermones.

Fish attractants that are oil based generally are developed by, you guessed it, smashing creatures like crawdad's, sandshrimp, herring and sardines into paste. The paste is then extracted for select compounds. These select compounds are then used to create the newest fish attracting formula. Oil based fish attractants are said to be on the low end of the scale for effectiveness in attracting steelhead or salmon. They will however, cause a fish to take a longer look at your offering or keep it in their mouth for a greater period of time before causing them to spit. Oil based attractants will mask human scent and most other offending odors. Products such as Smelly Jelly; Edge Products Hot Sauce; Fish Formula; Mike's Shrimp Oil, Riverside Lures Real Craw; and Cossacks Bait Products shrimp, Herring, and Salmon egg oils are thought to be primarily oil based.

Those attractants which include amino acids are based on evidence that combinations of amino acids can stimulate feeding in many fish species. Amino acids come from animal proteins and all living animals have their own unique amino acid combinations, giving each a distinct taste and odor. Few manufacturers of fish attractants use amino acids solely as the active ingredients in their recipe. Amino acids rate high at attracting and

stimulating fish from a distance. It is thought that Berkley's attractants are based on amino acids along with Pharmacal's Baitmate Live and Dr. Juice's Elixirs.

Scents such as anise, banana oil, and garlic are extracts from plants. These plant bi-products do not seem to have the same fish attracting ability as amino acids, but can cause fish to be of interested as they provide an aroma steelhead are not accustomed to smelling in their normal lives. Plant extracts are very effective in covering human odors along with others that might be present on your offering. A few plant scents are Cossack Bait Products Anise and Garlic Gel; Mister Twister Banana Oil; Atlas Mike's Glow Scent Jel and Anise Oil; and Fish Formula SparklScales.

Last, some fish attractants are based on Phermones or better classified as the elk in rut chemical. Phermones are chemicals that animals use to communicate with members of their own species. Steelhead release their own Phermones which are detected by the olfactory receptors of others. Fish in general, are thought to identify members of their species through the use of this chemical. Mating and courtship are also influenced by the chemicals presence. Phermones decompose rapidly and it seems their main function is to alert other fish of short term danger or attraction with little or nothing to do with feeding behavior. Dr. Juice Elixir is the only fish attractant that uses Phermones.

When looking at scents for

steelhead and salmon one has to keep in mind that most are developed for the warm water

**RUN FOR A DIRECTOR
DON'T FORGET TO VOTE**

fisheries with a few northwest exceptions like Catcher Company (Smelly Jelly) who's roots originated from northwest salmon and steelhead fishing scents. I am not to be misunderstood that steelheaders can not apply products from the bass anglers world without success, but about eighty percent of the products in the sportfishing world are oriented to the warm water creatures. For example when looking for a good attractant for steelhead one of the main items I concern myself with is how long the attractant will stay on my bait, plug, spinner etc. and be effective. I do not want to be applying the stuff every cast or every time I reel my plugs into the boat. It might be okay in the summer with warm temperatures, but in the winter during those cold icy

**SELL!
COOLER OF CHEER TICKETS
WIN A GPS!
TICKETS \$1
DRAWING DEC. 16**

trips, no way! Again, products that will work below the surface, or have good solubility are a must. These products tend to be mostly natural oils like shrimp, crawdad, and herring etc. They are not the

most effective in attracting distant fish, but offer a pleasant taste to Mr. steelhead and increase the ironheads retention time to ones offering. In most cases, especially when pulling plugs attracting distant fish is not critical, as the offering should be hitting the fish in the nose anyway. If the water is up with color an attractant with amino acids may be a better choice as it is more effective in bringing distant fish in for a look. Now you get the idea!

It is important to note that some fish attractants with natural bi products become toxic after a period of time. This not only becomes offensive to fish, but can also be hazardous to touch. Catcher Company's, Smelly Jelly products seem to lead the industry with a two year shelf life without spoilage. When using any fish attractant follow the manufacturers recommended application instructions which vary greatly depending on the product. Keep all attractants out of extreme heat conditions, for example the compartments of your drift boat during the summer. This will cook the brew to a terrible stench in which the fish with the greatest Phermones will pass.

As the amount of fisherman becoming increasingly attuned to the world of fish attractants, it is interesting how few are concerned with chasing the fish away with the chemicals that repel fish. Many common chemicals that ride to the river with the fisherman have a negative effect to Mr. Steelhead. Like it or not humans are stuck with scent that contains the amino acid L-

serine, which fish find pretty offensive. Some fisherman unfortunately have more L-serine than others, this is most likely the problem with your fishing buddy who is in the dry spell of his life. Or it could be he or she handles such items as tobacco products, sun screens, or insect repellents, which are all taboo to Mr. Steelhead. The use of any product on the market to remove the nasty scents we bring to the river are a good idea. Berkley's Sportsman's Odor Remover or Baitmate's NON SCENTS Odor Eliminator work well. Plain Lava or white Ivory soap seem to work as well.

DAS Venison Recipe

3 cups oil
1 cup soy sauce
1 cup honey
8 T green onions-tops & all
4 buds garlic
8 T vinegar
6 tsp. dried ginger
10 venison steaks
Marinate for 8 hours then grill medium rare turning 3-4 times.



SELL!
COOLER OF CHEER TICKETS
WIN A GPS!
TICKETS \$1
DRAWING DEC. 16

WANT ADS

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING COUNCIL

Honda 3 wheeler
 good condition, runs good
 \$350
 Honda 4 wheeler
 250R
 great condition, low hours
 \$750
 Doug Karakas
 evenings (248) 545-1181

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING COUNCIL

9.9 hp Force outboard 1992
 model \$700
 Bill Shackleton (313) 422-3386

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING COUNCIL

Looking for one or two people
 interested in a saltwater fishing
 trip to Central America or the
 Caribbean. Probably
 February. Cost \$2,000 - \$2500
 Steve Hamilton (313) 881-3871

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING COUNCIL

Luhr Jensen TECH REPORT #1 -
RIVER DRIFT FISHING
TECHNIQUES FOR STEELHEAD,
SALMON & TROUT (Revised)

Drift fishing is easy, fun and effective. The technique has gained popularity over the years as more and more streams across the country are supporting trout, steelhead and salmon runs. Whether a beginner or a more experienced angler, this Luhr Jensen Tech Report can help you become even more

successful using this method of fishing. Typical drift fishing waters consist of a series of pools and rapids, with the pools (drifts) holding feeding, resting or migrating fish. Drift lures fished through these pool areas, with the drift fishing technique, will often produce excellent results.

The basic drift fishing technique consists of casting across and slightly upstream, and then allowing your drift bobber and accompanying sinker to drift naturally downstream in the current, the sinker gently bouncing along the bottom. When your lure has drifted back near the bank, it is reeled in and another cast and drift made.

that your line be close to the bottom. Hence it is important to use a heavier line than you would ordinarily select for lake fishing as it will have to take the added bottom-scraping abrasion that comes with drifting. We recommend that you use a premium quality, monofilament line, such as Trilene XT or Berkley® Big Game.

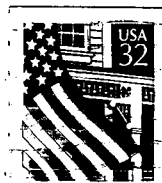
There are three instinctive reasons a fish bites a drift bobber: It's either hungry, protecting its territory or curious. Although strikes can be hard, they're often almost imperceptible. Some fish will only lightly mouth a bobber and this kind of "take" is very difficult to discern from the lure's ordinary bottomtapping.

Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc.
 P.O. Box 1255
 Sterling Heights, MI 48311-1255

Address Correction Requested



MEETING NOTICE — PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!



Buoyant drift bobbers simulate fish egg clusters, shrimp or other natural baits. Their success is attributed to color, action and buoyancy as they are drifted naturally along the bottom through fish-holding water.

Successful drift fishing requires

Many fish are lost or not hooked simply because the angler just can't detect these soft pickups. There are, however, two things you can do which will help you nab these light-biters: Use super-sharp hooks and add some yarn below your bobber.

**DETRIT AREA SIDESHEDS
1988 DINNER DANCE**

This years dinner dance promises to be one of the best. We have our Entertainment and DJ and an evening to be filled with mystery and supprises.

This years Dinner dance will be a very close second and maybe even top Elvis. Gather your friends and get your tickets early.

Tickets are available tonight or from Mary or Doug Karakas (Capt'n Hook) or by mailing \$30.00 per person to

1826 Brookwood Ave
Royal Oak, MI 48073
or calling 248-545-1181
Tickets requested after Jan 10th
will be \$35.00 per person



WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7, 1988