

FISHIN' TALES

VOL. X * NO. 2

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DICK SWAN TO SPEAK!

FEBRUARY MEETING

Don't miss the February 28 meeting. Our scheduled speaker is no other than the legendary Dick Swan. Dick needs no introduction to long time Steelheaders. Mention needle rods, the "Big-C", lite lines, and the name Swan will come up. He invented light line fishing for steelhead. Dick specializes in light line fishing in rivers, in Great Lakes boats, in Indiana ditches; in fact, just about anywhere there are trout or salmon.

Dick is also known for telling it like it is whether the audience is a group of fisherman or the head of the DNR. Dick knows how to do it. He knows what's going on. He is will to share it with you. You won't regret it, unless you don't show up.

SHOWS CONTINUE

We still need help in manning the booth at fishing shows. The DAS will be at the Outdoorama and the Silverdome shows. If you can help, please call Mike Lehto at
810 - 478-9746.

RIVER CRAB TOURNEY

This year's River Crab Salmon Stakes Tournament takes place on April 29. Again this year, the River Crab is the first tournament on our club schedule.

Mr. Rob Helzer, of the Blue Water Sportfishing Association; co-sponsor of the event; will be at our Feb. 28th meeting. Rob will discuss the rules and prizes at this meeting.

The Bluewater Mental Health and Child Guidance Clinic of Port Huron and seven other Michigan agencies benefitted from the tournament last year.

Again this year, there is a \$5,000 prize for the club with the heaviest catch. The Board of Directors would like to see all of our club members try to participate in this tournament. Let's make this tournament the number one tournament on your schedule and help the club win the \$5,000.

Entry tickets and dinner tickets should be available at this meeting. If you have any further questions regarding the

River Crab, contact Don Redmond at 23655 E. Scott, Mt Clemens, Mi. 48043 or call (313) 469-8344.

1995 BOAT DIRECTORY

Don Redmond will be collecting information for the 1995 Detroit Area Steelheaders Boat Directory. See Don at the February meeting to complete a form or call him at (810) 469-8344, if you won't be attending.

The directory will be laminated for easy on-board storage

SPRING STEELHEAD

What's better, lite line with spawn or heavier line with spinners or hard baits? Ask most die hard steelheaders and they will give you an ear full. That's almost like asking if you are Republican or Democrat.

The lite liners will tell you about the finesse or sportiness of the lite line. They will tell you how fickle Mr. Steelhead can be; especially in low water conditions; and they will be right.

The hard bait fisherman's eyes will narrow and he will tell you about the vicious strikes you can get with a hard bait. He will tell

you about enticing steelhead out from trees or behind rocks to hit his lure and how his method works best in high water conditions; and he too will be right.

So, what is the answer? The answer is that both methods are great ways to catch steelhead. However, it is mostly a personal decision. The key is to first pick one method or the other and stick with it. Learn all you can and fish beside vets who know how to do the technique you choose. This is one case where it is far better to be a master of one technique than mediocre at two.

(By the way, don't cast spoons in the middle of a line of drifters or visa versa unless you want to see if you can swim in waders.)

All of the really great river fisherman have mastered one technique or the other. Sure there are some that use both, but when the chips are down, they will have their own preference. If you can't decide, grab some of the river rats at the meetings and listen to Dick Swan. The one thing that they all agree on is that they love to catch steelhead.

LITE LINER TIP

Have you tried a slinky? It's a piece of hollow cord that holds your split shot. West Coast steelheaders found that putting their shot inside these cords significantly reduced hangups. The first slinkys were made from

parachute cord.

You can now buy them commercially or make your own. If you can't find parachute cord, basketball hoop netting is another source for the hollow cord. Cut off a 4-6" length of cord. Seal off one end by using a flame. Fill with different numbers or sizes of shot. Seal off the other end and you're ready to go.

Use a snap swivel to hook through one end of the cord. Put your main line through the eye of the snap and attach the line to a barrel swivel so the slinky will slide free above the barrel swivel. Tie your leader to the other end of the barrel swivel and you're ready to fish nearly snag free.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Any new member who signs up between now and the end of March will receive a free florescent hat as a gift. A new member is someone who has not been a member for at least a year. Members sponsoring a new member win receive one chance in a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate at Lakeside Tackle. Receive one chance for each new member sponsored. Now is the time to get your buddy to join.

LAS VEGAS NIGHT

Be sure to mark April 1 on your calendar. This is the date for the 1995 Detroit Area Steelheaders Vegas party.

Look for more details in upcoming issues aor at the regular meetings.

FISHIN' TALES is published monthly by THE DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.

Views expressed in it are those of the authors, and the Editor. Its purpose is to inform members of issues and events affecting sport fishermen, and to teach and guide the public to respect and appreciate our Great Lakes, rivers, others waters and lands.

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LAKE HURON FISHERY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Fisheries is concerned with more creeping federalism, referring to NOAA's proposed Thunder Bay Sanctuary to create "a unique features sanctuary."

Fisheries will ask for language in the management plan (which becomes part of the enabling legislation) which recognizes that Michigan cannot delegate or relinquish its public trust responsibilities to the Great Lakes.

Robertson commented on his proposal to create a new GL Management Authority (minus the feds) to manage GL issues. Robertson was asked for a written proposal covering the management agency concept. Gorenflo indicated his support for the GLFC structure and its consensus approach to management involving the lake committees.

1994 salmon weirs/egg taking facilities produce 1.6 and 7 million coho and chinook smolts, respectively. All eggs will be taken again with new FELISA procedure for screening BKD infection initiated in '93. Beginning in '94 all coho eggs will be given a thiamin bath (vitamin B) to improve early hatching survival (EMS-Early Mortality

Syndrome). New York and Wisconsin have recently reduced the impacts of EMS using the thiamin bath on Atlantic salmon and summer steelhead. Michigan plans to treat 90 per cent of the '94 coho eggs and thiamin and leave the balance as an untreated control.

The Tempotech contract will continue to be honored until current litigation and ongoing investigations (grand juries in New York and Michigan are complete).

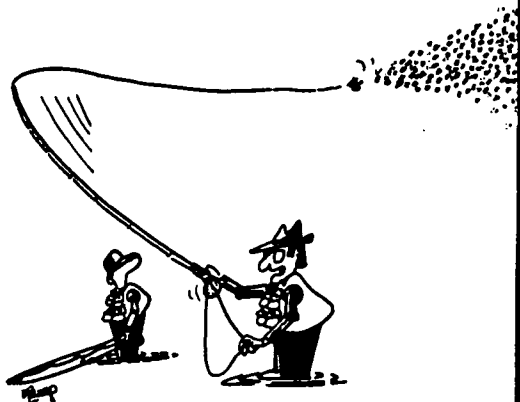
An alternative-year-stocking evaluation for Saginaw Bay walleye indicated young of the year walleye were just as abundant in '93 as they were in '94 at all locations except Linwood, sampled both years by trawl and with electrofishing gear. No fingerlings were stocked in '93, the first year of a 6-year, stocking/natural recruitment evaluation. During '94 a record 1.3 million fingerlings were released into the Bay. The plan includes pike stockings in the alternate years when walleye are not stocked. About 120,000 pike were released in '93. Some Great Lakes (spotted) musky may be stocked in the Bay in '95 along with pike fingerlings.

Sea Lamprey Update - Recent, increased funding from Canada (\$1.3 million, CD) and the U.S. commitment to match will allow full treatment programs over all lakes again in '95. Also, the GLFC is finally submitting funding requests to Congress that fully reflect their control responsibilities rather than modified "available-revenue-only" budgets. Their FY '96 budget request totals \$21.2 million in U.S. dollars.

Native American rights advisor Jim Ekdahl, former Law Supervisor at Baraga, has been named to a new coordinator position with the directors office. His job is to gather information on all Native American issues and administer programs dealing with this issue.

Gorenflo indicated new net marking rules have been accepted by all 1836 tribes and are being implemented in St. Martins Bay this season.

Pelt asked that the net marking issue (outside 2 mile radius plant site) be placed on the Executive Council agenda and the source of Mr. Ekdahl's position funding.



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