



Fishin' Tales II

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

Volume 3 Issue 8

August 2019



The Detroit River Comeback

The International Association for Great Lakes Research has issued a report entitled Great Lakes Revival. It highlights how remediation efforts of multiple harbors including the Detroit River, restores environmentally and economically as well. John Hartig is a science policy advisor for the IAGLR and scholar at the University of Windsor's Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research authored the sections on the Detroit River. Excerpts from the report on the clean-up and revitalization of the watershed follow. The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy provided the before and after pics. The full report is available on the IAGLR website, www.iaglr.org

The Detroit River flows approximately 32 miles (51.5 kilometers) from Lake St. Clair to Lake Erie, forming the international border between Canada and the United States. As far back as the 1970s, the International Joint Commission identified the river as a "problem area" and later designated it as one of 43 Great Lakes Areas of Concerns. Decades of pollution prevention and control, as well as cleanup, have resulted in substantial environmental improvements.

The Detroit River restoration, started in 1985, has played an important role in sustaining and furthering the restoration of impaired beneficial uses. Supporting this cleanup effort, the Great Lakes Legacy Act helped fund remediation of contaminated sediment in the Black Lagoon (\$9.3 million). In addition, the GLRI helped construct three fish spawning reefs (\$3.75 million), restore 29 Material storage piles, dilapidated and abandoned buildings, cement silos, and bottomland habitat off Belle Isle's South Fishing Pier (\$500,000), restore riparian habitat at U.S. Steel (\$670,000), restore Blue Heron Lagoon on Belle Isle (\$1.43 million), achieve brownfield cleanup and habitat restoration at the Refuge Gateway in Trenton (\$500,000), restore habitat around Celeron (\$8.61 million) and Stony (\$7.65 million) islands, and the remediation of 1 million cubic yards of contaminated sediment (\$154 million).

Since 1985 estimated environmental improvements:

- More than 97% reduction in oil releases;
- More than 98% decrease in phosphorus discharges;
- 4,600 tons/day decrease in chloride discharges;
- Substantial improvement in municipal wastewater treatment by upgrading all plants from primary treatment to secondary treatment with phosphorus removal;
- 95% reduction in untreated waste from combined sewer overflow discharges (i.e., in sewerage systems that carry both sanitary sewage and storm water runoff, the portion of the flow that goes untreated into rivers or lakes because of wastewater treatment plant overloading during storms);
- 85% reduction in mercury in fish;
- 91% decline in PCBs, a 92% decline in DDE, and a 94% decline in TCDD in herring gull eggs from Fighting Island.



July Membership Meeting

- **When:**
 - Tuesday, August 27, 2019 7:30pm
- **Where:**
 - American Polish Cultural Center
 - NW corner, 15 Mile Rd. & Dequindre
- **Featuring**
 - Director Bob Paradise, River Fishing
- **Other Happenings:**
 - Upcoming Angler of the Year Outings,
 - SOTY Tournaments
 - Tackle Raffles, 50/50 Raffle,
 - Every Member Drawing,
- **DAS On the web-**
 - www.detroitsteelheaders.com Post to the message board and check out the entire site.

Index

- ◆ 2 Membership News
- ◆ 2 July Speaker
- ◆ 2 SOTY Standings

- ◆ 3 30 Pound Club
- ◆ 3 Erie Outing
- ◆ 3 August Speaker
- ◆ 3 Platte Outing

- ◆ 4 Det River Revival contd

- ◆ 5 Olcott Results
- ◆ 5 Revival conclusion

- ◆ 6 SOTY Standings



Detroit Area Steelheaders

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- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| NEW MEMBER | RENEWED | DUE NOW | 1 MONTH PAST |
| TOM CURTIS | DAN DIDOCHA | BRAD WALTON | JAMES LORENZETTI |
| | STEVE HAMILTON | JIM PAEHLIG | 2 MONTHS PAST |
| | DAVE ROEHR | GEORGE VIDUSIC | ED PAEHLIG |
| | DAVID GRESHAM | LUIZ DASILVA | JOE RAYMER |



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July Speaker Recap

Our July Speaker was Captain Tom Curtis, from Curtis Custom Charters. In case you missed it, Capt. Tom covered his multi-species approach to fishing Lake St. Clair. It's a strategy that keeps customers happy by keeping them on active fish. From specifics on presentations, to seasonal movements of key species, his presentation offered something for everyone. When asked how often he moves while chasing perch, Tom replied he tries to identify his most proficient customer. "When that customer goes 5 or 10 minutes without a bite, it's time to move." Thanks for a great presentation Tom.



Skipper of the Year Standings 2019

Boat Name	Skipper Name	8/12/19								Best 4			
		St. Joe	Grand Haven	Harbor Beach	Ludington	Manistee	Olcott NY	Rogers City	Total Points	Best 6	Best 7	Best 8	
1 Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	5	5	3	2	3	1	75	9	14	19	94	
2 Hardtop & Tails	Jim Zanke	4	2	75	4	75	2	75	12	87	162	237	
3 Vicki's Secret	Bob Feisel	3	1	50	6	4	75	75	14	64	139	214	
4 Moonshot	Brad Walton	75	4	1	7	5	75	75	17	92	167	242	
5 Lake Buzzard IV	Fred Chartier	75	50	75	1	1	75	75	127	202	277	352	
6 Channing	Dan Chisholm	6	3	75	75	75	75	75	159	234	309	384	
7 Blue Horizon	Paul Gjeldum	50	75	2	75	75	75	75	202	277	362	427	
8 Bad Dog	Tom Gorguze	2	75	75	75	50	75	75	202	277	362	427	
9 Fish the F On	Brett Mauk	1	75	75	75	75	75	75	226	301	376	451	
10 Limitless	Mark Paradise	75	75	75	2	75	75	75	227	302	377	452	
11 Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	75	75	75	75	2	75	75	227	302	377	452	
12 Just Wastin' Time	Don Jasman	75	75	4	75	75	75	75	229	304	379	454	
13 Starfire	Jason Sherrill	75	75	75	5	75	75	75	230	305	380	455	
14 Sloppy Joe	Joe Von Grabe	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	275	350	425	500	



No. of Boats	8/12/19								Total For Year
	St. Joe	Grand Haven	Harbor Beach	Ludington	Manistee	Olcott NY	Rogers City	Total For Year	
Kings	7	6	5	7	6	3	0	34	
Cohos	4	6	1	4	7	4	0	26	
Lake Trout	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Steelhead	14	4	10	16	20	0	0	64	
Browns	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	
Atlantics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pinks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Totals	20	10	12	20	27	4	0	93	

Largest Fish of the Year			
Species	Wgt. (lbs.)	Boat Name	Port
King	24.00	Bobby's Toy	Manistee
Coho	2.25	Fish the F On	St. Joe
Lake Trout	15.45	Moonshot	Harbor Beach
Steelhead	5.25	Moonshot	Harbor Beach
Brown	0.00		
Atlantic	0.00		
Pink	0.00		

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.

P.O. Box 1255 Sterling Hgts., MI 48311-1255

Outing & Tournament Special— \$20 Membership Application

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member - \$35 Yearly | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal - \$35 Yearly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65 & over)- \$20 Yearly | <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change only |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 16) - \$20 Yearly (Electronic Newsletter) | |

Amt. Paid \$ _____

NAME		DATE	
ADDRESS			
CITY, STATE, ZIP		HOME PHONE	CELL PHONE
BOAT NAME		E-MAIL ADDRESS	

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Special People

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With all the large fish being caught this year, we invite all our members to share their stories. We will feature our fisherman friends, along with photos, documenting their pursuit of 30 pound salmon. If you are a member of the thirty pound club, get your story to Tom Gorguze at tgorguze@aol.com to be included in a future newsletter.



Reports up and down Lake Michigan have been filled with stories of 30lb + salmon being caught this summer. On Saturday August 10 three generations of Paradise's left the dock out of Manistee at 5:30am. Here is our story of a 20 plus year quest.

We heard good reports of big fish and good numbers being caught straight out of Manistee in 600' of water. We ran out and set lines as the sun was rising. After an exciting morning with 1 lake trout, 1 steelhead, 2 coho, and a small salmon we were wondering if the big fish were still around. Shortly after we heard the unmistakable sound of a screaming drag. The eldest member on the boat grabbed the rod before anyone could say FISH ON. The Inline board vanished beneath the surface as line peeled off the reel. Slowing the fish down was not an option as it worked its way through 1000' of backing. Luke and I cleared some lines on the starboard side and began to circle the giant. We made 2 complete circles before we got the backing on the reel and began to work on the 300' of copper. As the fish got close and you could see the big tail sharking through the water, we knew this could be the one we have spent the last 20+ years chasing. The big King pictured was caught in 660 feet of water and tipped the scale at 32.6 pounds. It came on a 300 copper with a white meat rig pulled behind a white paddle.

In two days of fishing the deep water on Saturday and Sunday we ended up 15 for 25. Our top three fish came in at 32.60#, 29.75#, and 24.50#.

Sterling State Park Perch Outing September 14

Hello fishermen! September 14th there will be a Perch outing for DAS anglers at Sterling State Park in Monroe. If you'll be attending, please call or text Gaspare Aragona a day before so he can get a tentative head count for lunch. Fishing starts 6 AM, and everyone will pull lines at 1 PM. A picnic and weigh-in will be at 2:00 PM. Look for our group on the grass adjacent to the ramps. Check our website and Facebook page for updates on this event. If your attending please get your worms and minnows from Jeff's Bait shop at 1756 N Dixie Hwy, Monroe Mi 48162 (Ph 734 289 4910). Jeff's is adjacent to the park entrance and he has been a very generous sponsor to our Special Friends event over the years. Be sure to let Jeff know you are a DAS member, and thank him for his continued sup-port. The winner of this event is determined by best 5 perch by length. There is a modest entry fee \$5.00 and optional big fish pool \$5.00. Participants are on their honor to keep their catch segregated from others on the boat. Help us keep these events fun.



Bob Paradise Talks River Fishing In Advance of the Platte River Outing

DAS Director, Bob Paradise will be our guest speaker at the August general membership meeting. Bob will be doing a presentation on methods and techniques for river, and surf fishing. When the weather starts to turn and fish run the rivers, it's a great time to target Salmon and Trout. We are excited to have Bob share his insights that

will keep you on fish this fall. He will have some great information for our Platte Bay-Platte River AOTY outing on September 28. The Platte River outing is fast becoming a club favorite. Most members fish the small section of the river between Lake Michigan and the weir, where the fish tend to stack up. If you plan on fishing this years event, you won't want miss this meeting.



Revival cont'd

This cleanup of the Detroit River has resulted in one of the most remarkable ecological recovery stories in North America. In the late 1960s, when the Detroit River was one of the most polluted rivers in North America, no bald eagles, peregrine falcons, or osprey were reproducing in the Detroit River watershed, nor lake sturgeon or lake whitefish in the river. Beavers had disappeared, as had the common terns from the 980-acre island park called Belle Isle. The Great Lakes Fishery Commission considered walleye to be in a state of crisis. Today, bald eagles, peregrine falcons, osprey, lake sturgeon, and lake whitefish are reproducing again, beavers have returned, common terns are back on Belle Isle, and the Detroit River is now considered part of the "Walleye Capital of the World".

Waterfront Revitalization

As recently as the early 2000s, abandoned buildings, underused street parking lots, material storage piles, and cement silos dominated a considerable portion of Detroit's waterfront between the MacArthur Bridge to Belle Isle and the Ambassador Bridge to Canada, prohibiting access to the Detroit River. For more than 100 years, city planners identified the highest and best use of this land to be "industrial" because of obvious revenue returns. Detroit was an industrial town with a working riverfront that supported industry and commerce. Over time, however, Detroit lost people and industries, and had much underused and undervalued riverfront land. Detroiters had long lost their connection to the Detroit River. They wanted to improve public access to it and redevelop it in a fashion that would improve quality of life, catalyze economic development, and help change the perception of Detroit from that of a Rust Belt city to one that is actively engaged in sustainable redevelopment.



Out of this growing public interest to reconnect to the Detroit River, the ecological recovery, and strong public and private support to revitalize Detroit, the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy was created in 2003 to transform Detroit's international riverfront into a beautiful, exciting, safe, accessible world-class gathering place for all. In 2016, the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy celebrated the completion of the first phase of its capital campaign, raising \$163 million to build 3.5 miles of the Detroit Riverwalk. Nearly 3 million annual visitors are already using it. The next phase will be to complete the former Uniroyal portion of the Detroit River Walk, the nearly 2-mile west riverfront, and other strategic connections to neighborhoods, and to ensure long-term operation, maintenance, and stewardship.



Revival Continued

Economic Benefits

In 2013, the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy decided to assess the impact of extensive riverfront improvements made since 2003. The organization hired CSL International to undertake an economic impact study, which noted not only significant economic impact associated with riverfront investment, but also the “transformation of a blighted area into a vibrant community asset.”

The study reported that as of 2012 the east portion of the Detroit Riverwalk, which stretches more than 3.5 miles, was 80 per-cent complete. CSL International documented that nearly 3 million annual visitors enjoy the Detroit Riverwalk and its associated green infrastructure. In 2012, the riverfront hosted more than 100 events, ranging from small weekly gatherings to large annual events like the River Days Festival.

“Without this early focus on cleaning up the river and improving water quality, this transformation of the river’s edge would not have been possible,” notes Mark Wallace, president and chief executive officer of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy. The revitalized riverfront is now a community asset that draws people to connect with their river once again.

Olcott Fisherman Battle the Weather

The weather played a key role in the Olcott tournament, just as it has in many of our tournaments this year! Bobby's Toy arrived late Thursday night to pre-fish Friday. He was greeted with high winds and a small boat advisory. Hardtop & Tails and Sloppy Joe arrived Friday morning to a continuation of the same high winds. It was decided at the 5 o'clock captains meeting Saturday morning to reconvene at 11am to re-evaluate the weather. Due to safety concerns, the tournament was postponed until the next day. Sunday morning greeted us with decreased winds and a very fishable lake.

Olcott NY Standings 8/10/2019												
Place	Boat Name	Skipper	# of Fish Weighed	Catch by Species & Weight		Best 5 Total Wgt	Best 5 Total Pts	Deduction Code	Points Deducted	Total Points	Place	
1	Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	3	K 18.85	K 17.45	K 8.10	44.40	59.40	NONE	0.00	59.40	1
2	Hardtop & Tails	Jim Zanke	1	K 14.50			14.50	19.50	NONE	0.00	19.50	2
3	Sloppy Joe	Joe Von Grabe	0				0.00	0.00	NONE	0.00	1.00	3

L A R G E S T	Boat Name	Species	Wgt	Number Caught	
	Bobby's Toy	Salmon	18.85		
	Bobby's Toy	Pool Salmon	18.85	\$30	
	Bobby's Toy	King	18.85	4	
	Bobby's Toy	Pool King	18.85		
		Coho	0.00	0	
		Pool Coho	0.00		
		Lake Trout	0.00	0	
	Sloppy Joe	Pool LT	0.00	\$15	
	Sloppy Joe	Steelhead	0.00	\$15	
	Brown	0.00	0		
	Atlantic	0.00	0		
	Pool Atlantic	0.00			
	Pink	0.00			
	Pool Pink	0.00	0		
	Total			4	

Deduction Code LEGEND	
L TSM	= Late To Skipper's Mtg.
LTWI	= Late To Weigh-In
1NFC	= No Answer 1 Fish Call
2NFC	= No Answer 2 Fish Calls
UCC	= Unauthorized Crew Chg.
DO	= Disqualified

Due to the postponement, the tournament was shortened to the required five hours. The weather seemed to have scattered the fish and our three boats struggled to find them. Nine o'clock fish call results showed Bobby's Toy with 5, Sloppy Joe with 1, and Hardtop & Tails with an empty cooler. The final two hours of fishing only netted one additional fish.

Bobby's Toy weighed 3 nice kings, 18.85 lbs., 17.45 lbs., and 8.1 he also had 2 non- weighable kings. First place netted him a \$150 cash prize from DAS. Hardtop & Tails weighed only 1 fish, a 14.5 pounder. Taking second place. Sloppy Joe opted not to weigh his fish in lieu of getting an early start home. Hardtop & Tails stayed over to fish Monday morning before going home. The additional time improved both the weather and the fishing. The skies



were overcast, and the winds subsided considerable. A 16 lb. king, 8 lb. king, an Atlantic, and a small steelhead were caught. Several small kings were thrown back to mature. Fishing was done from 6am to 9am. Port captain Jim Zanke provided lunch both days – Saturday and Sunday. An excellent hot meal of meatballs and noodles with gravy, coleslaw, buns, watermelon, and cookies. Participation was disappointing, considering Olcott is only 6 miles farther than Manistee from Sterling Heights. Only three boats showed up. A fourth had a late cancellation due to mechanical issues with his trailer. Even moving the tournament to August in hopes of better fishing and \$150 in prize money couldn't motivate more boats to join us. Olcott is a great little town. With a little more participation, we could make this an annual tournament like St. Joe, Grand Haven, Manistee, etc.

Detroit Area Steelheaders
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

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Membership Expires:



2019 AOTY Leaderboard

Event

Date	1/19/2019	2/4/2019	3/30/2019	4/13/2019	4/27/2019	6/15/2019	7/6/2019	9/14/2019	9/28/2019	10/26/2019	11/2/2019	12/7/2019	
Member	Mitchell's Bay	Bay City Saginaw	Steelhead Challenge	Oscoda Ausable	Algonac Walleye	St. Clair River	Sebewaing Beach	Sterling State Park	Platte River	Big Tom	Lakeshore Motel	Caseville Lake Trout	Best 4
Gaspere Aragona	2	5	1	2	6	13	8						10
Bob Paradise	1	3	6	4	10	21	50						14
Blaise Pewinski	4	6	50	25	4	1	50						15
Mark Wyrick	50	50	25	1	25	16	3						45
Dan Chisholm	6	25	50	25	13	18	9						46
James Anderson	50	1	4	25	25	50	50						55
Steve Prout	50	50	5	3	1	50	50						59
Mark Paradise	3	50	50	50	3	5	50						61

Upcoming 2019 DAS Key Dates

- Sat Aug 24, 2019 Rogers City Tournament
- Tue Aug 27, 2019 General Membership Meeting
- Tue Sep 10, 2019 BOD Meeting
- Sat Aug 14, 2019 Sterling Perch Outing
- Tue Sep 24, 2019 General Membership Meeting
- Sat Sep 28, 2019 Platte River Outing

2019 July Membership Meeting Facts

- Attendance: 44
- Featured Guest: Capt. Tom Curtis
- Featured Presentations: Fishing Lake St. Clair
- 50/50 Raffle Winner: Fred Chartier (\$110)
- Every Member Draw: Jay Legenzof