



# Fishin' Tales II

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974



Volume 5 Issue 2

February 2021

## Detroit Steelheaders to Partner with the CPMR

The Coalition to Protect Michigan Resources, by unanimous vote of its Board of Directors, has ratified the Detroit Area Steelheaders as an associate 'Class B' member. The DAS joins the ranks of member organizations currently represented by the Coalition. Our acceptance was based on previous contributions we have made supporting Consent Decree negotiations. The CPMR has been working intensely for almost two years with the State and other parties, negotiating the successor to the 2000 Consent Decree. Successful negotiations will ensure a fair and workable outcome of results for Michigan sportsmen. For the past 20 plus years, the current agreement protected state and tribal fisheries, and eliminated most gear conflicts in the 1836 Treaty Waters. Nearly one half of Lakes Michigan, Huron and Superior fall under this jurisdiction.

In negotiations the CPMR is represented by attorneys Steve Schultz and Christopher Patterson. Their legal expertise on this issue, and their extensive knowledge in negotiating, is highly regarded. DAS members might recall the presentation Chris made at one of our membership meetings. Chris and Steve have an unprecedented involvement and grasp of issues at stake in these negotiations. Steve Schultz's involvement in the issue goes all the way back to the Judge Fox Decision in 1979. Both attorneys understand the issues that must be incorporated into the new agreement that will allow sport fishing men and women to continue enjoying Great Lakes fishing that supports businesses throughout the state.

Because of the nearly countless meetings and the apparent long process ahead, the Coalition to Protect Michigan Resources cannot complete this challenge alone. Tony Radjenovich, the CPMR President says "We need not only the expertise and input from organizations like yours, but also from the sport fishing men and women of Michigan, and related businesses. We all need to come together to fund this effort. CPMR is willing and able to work with your organization on any type of fundraising event, Zoom meeting or conference call to raise funds, inform your members and answer their questions. If the CPMR is left on the wayside because of lack of funding, the sport fishing community will no longer have a voice in the management and sharing of the Great Lakes fisheries."

The DAS board believes the future of the great lakes recreational sport fishery is intertwined with a successful outcome to the Consent Decree negotiations, and has made a sizable commitment to that end. We are proud to have been recognized for our role. DAS members Mark Williams and Blaise Pewinski will represent the DAS at CPMR meetings. While their roles are limited, we will be provided updates of the negotiation's.

*A background of the negotiations appears on page three of this issue.*

### DAS Membership Meetings

Go Virtual for Now

Get the Latest Event Updates  
Online

You can still check us out:  
On the Interweb

[www.detroitsteelheaders.com](http://www.detroitsteelheaders.com)

Post to the message board and  
check out the entire site.

### On the Facebook

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detroitarea/steelheaders](http://www.facebook.com/detroitarea/steelheaders)

### On the OFFICIAL GROUP PAGE

Check out the new Facebook  
group page where you can  
post at:

[www.facebook.com/groups/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/)

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## Saginaw Bay AOTY Walleye Outing SATURDAY February 20, 2021

The DAS Nomads will meet at Bay City State Park for the 3rd AOTY event of the year. This will be a walleye only event. The ice this year on the bay has been iffy at best with all the strong winds we have been having. A good alternate spot will be the Saginaw River near Veterans Park. The Destroyer & railroad bridge are also spots that can be worth fishing. If the group splits up, Bob Paradise will lead a group on the bay. Bob says, "get there early cause he's heading out at 7:00 sharp." Check the post on the message board and Facebook page for the latest update. Make sure you are safe out there. Bring a float suit or life jacket, and fish with a couple people. Safety in numbers. Entry is \$10 for the event and lunch. The \$10 big fish pool is optional. See you then, Blaise Pewinski 248-890-4517

Fishing time is 7AM until 1 PM

Lunch and Weigh-in at State Park at 1:30 PM

Thanks to the generosity of our January Seminar Hosts, Capt. Adam Knudsen and Capt. Mark Williams at the first-ever DAS Zoom Virtual meeting last month, DAS members can take advantage of the discount codes below through February.

- 20% off at [www.strikeforceenergy.com](http://www.strikeforceenergy.com) Enter code BLR at checkout
- 15% off on \$100 or more from [www.capt-chuck.com](http://www.capt-chuck.com) Valid for February '21 Enter code Steel15 at checkout Online Only
- 15% off your order from their website [www.renegadeproductsusa.com](http://www.renegadeproductsusa.com) Enter Code: Reel15

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65 & over)- \$20 Yearly                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change only   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 16) - \$20 Yearly (Electronic Newsletter) |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Event Rate (New Members Only)- \$20             |  |

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## Consent Decree Negotiations with Michigan's Tribes - Some Background

This is the first in a series of updates that we will be posting to let those interested in the sport and commercial fisheries of the Great Lakes know what is happening in the negotiation of a new agreement between the State, the Federal government and the five Michigan tribes holding a Treaty right to fish in the Michigan portion of the Great Lakes. This update is presented by the Coalition to Protect Michigan Resources, an association of sportfishing and natural resource organizations that is participating in the negotiations.

Many are aware of the effects of the Treaty of 1836 and the right to fish the Great Lakes that it grants to five Michigan Tribes. For the uninitiated, though, this first update will give you a very brief background on how we got to where we are today. This background will be brief because the issues we currently face have been around for more than 50 years and books have been written that tell the history of the current issues.

Today, several facts are established regarding Tribal fishing in the Great Lakes: First, for almost 40 years, the law has been established that treaties negotiated between Michigan's tribes and the Federal government reserved to five Michigan Tribes, the right to fish commercially with whatever gear they wished in the waters of the Great Lakes from Grand Haven north in Lake Michigan, from roughly Alpena north in Lake Huron and from roughly Munising east in Lake Superior.

Second, the Tribes' right to fish is not unlimited. At a minimum, conservation needs limit tribal fishing activity. In addition, since 1985, there have been two agreements between the State, the Federal government and the five Tribes that set forth limits on all users of the Lakes, including limitations on the amount of catch, and the kinds of fishing gear and the areas where particular gear can be used. These agreements also provide for communication between the parties on a regular basis, coordination of law enforcement and the exchange of information. The first agreement was negotiated and became effective in 1985. It had a 15 year term. The second became effective in 2000 and had a 20 year term. The second agreement has been extended by the Federal Court to June 30, 2021 while the parties try to negotiate a new agreement.

Third, no one can deny that the fishery resources in the Great Lakes have been changing in the past few years. These changes have many possible causes, but the fact is that the Lakes' fishery stocks are not what they were 10 years ago.

Against this background, the parties have been in negotiations toward a new agreement to share the Lakes' fishery since last September. Due to the Covid pandemic, however, those negotiations have been conducted via Zoom and phone conversations. This has greatly affected the effectiveness of what negotiations we have had. You should also be aware that all parties, including the Coalition, have agreed to not to "disclose any proposal, response to a proposal, or the substance of any discussion [among the Parties] ...." Thus, we are somewhat limited in what we can share publicly.

Though we cannot discuss with you the Parties' discussions or proposals, a look at the agreement that has governed the relationship of State licensed and Tribal fishers for the last 20 years can give you a good idea of the things that are at issue now. Those include agreements on the areas of the Great Lakes where gill nets and trap nets can be fished by the Tribes, the species of fish that may be commercially targeted, and the limits on the catch of various species such as whitefish, salmon, lake trout and walleye, among others. A review of the Table of Contents of the "2000 Consent Decree" gives a good outline of the issues and complexity of the fishery and the Treaty right. The full agreement and other resources can be found at <http://protectmiresources.com/brief-history/>.

*In our next UPDATE, we'll discuss some of the issues facing the fishery and the negotiators as they try to reach a new agreement on fishing*

## February Meeting Announcement!!!

**The February 23rd general membership will be both virtual and in person.** The meeting will be 7:30PM at Dooley's Tavern, 51748 Van Dyke Avenue in Shelby Township. That's about a half mile north of 23 Mile Road. The meeting will be in person, and the presentation will be virtual.

The January member meeting was our first ever virtual meeting for a large audience. We had 41 people signed in and another 22 people looking in via Facebook. I was nervous as a cat, as I had never participated in a virtual meeting that large. Thanks in large part to the guidance of our two Charter Captain speakers, Mark Williams (Silver Addiction) and Adam Knudsen (Hiatus Charters) the meeting went exceptionally well. Adam and Mark put together a production they created entitled **"Tips and Tricks to Get Ready for the Season"**. They started with safety and maintenance and continued on to cover terminal tackle, rods, reels, and everything else that important for a trouble free start to a successful season. Following the "Lets Get Ready" presentation we managed to cover as much DAS business as possible. We will make a more satisfactory award presentation this month. I am eager to get back to normal.

Mark and Adam will be our featured guests again this month. The February presentation is Where to begin? No matter what type of fishing you are involved in there is always the same question when heading top your fishing hole. **Where to begin? This month's presentation will build off lasts months, Lets Get Ready, and focus on how to answer the question where to begin.**

Once again Captains Adam Knudsen of Hiatus Charters, and Mark Williams of Silver Addiction Charters, will give a presentation focusing on things that need to be taken into consideration when heading to your fishing hole. Weather, Networking and Morning Audibles will be discussed, along with a basic Nautical Chart discussion to help us all better understand what Captains are talking about when mentioning those "Numbers" on the water. They will of course be presenting a produced piece to better help convey the message and especially when showing the charts, and there will be a Q&A at the end. These presentations are part of Captain Adam's **Reel 2 Reel Outdoors YouTube Channel**, and they will be placed there for further reference the topics. The Meeting will be available on Zoom and the feed will open at 7:20, with the meeting to start at 7:30. **If you want to join the Zoom meeting follow this link: <https://zoom.us/j/96192501572?pwd=cWdEK0RVZ0pUY0IKNTVHmew5dXArdz09>**

## Sea Grant's Dan O'Keefe receives MSU Distinguished Academic Staff Award

Congratulations are in order to one of our favorite academic guest speakers. Your board of directors were proud to recommend Dan for this recognition, and we are pleased to announce that Stanley Moore along with Dr. Daniel O'Keefe have been selected to receive 2021 MSU Distinguished Academic Staff Awards. The Distinguished Academic Staff Award recognizes the outstanding achievements of those professionals who serve the university in advising, curriculum development, outreach, extension, research and teaching. Up to four MSU Distinguished Academic Staff Awards are given annually to members of the academic staff who are appointed as academic specialists or MSU Extension academic staff. These awards provide university-wide recognition and reward to outstanding individuals with careers demonstrating long-term excellence and exceptional contributions to Michigan State University.



**Daniel O'Keefe** is a Michigan Sea Grant senior Extension educator and has worked with stakeholders in seven coastal counties to apply science-based knowledge and address Great Lakes and southern Lake Michigan issues. His program areas and expertise include recreational and charter fisheries and aquatic nuisance species (ANS), among others. Dan's exceptional work ethic and integrity set a superior standard of excellence in Extension scholarship. He has earned a reputation with stakeholders as a neutral facilitator and purveyor of information. His many strengths include understanding and explaining the complexities of interjurisdictional Great Lakes fishery management, Great Lakes ecology and the intertwined histories of fishery dynamics and exotic invasions. Dan's many accomplishments during his time with MSU Extension / Michigan Sea Grant, including his research, his willingness to try new things and develop new initiatives, his commitment to being an honest broker, and his significant contributions to our Michigan Sea Grant program make him a valued member of our team and most deserving of this prestigious award.



## Tips n' Tricks -Trailer Boat Toolkit

Having a few tools on the boat can salvage a day on the water. Start with the basic essentials. By Mark Corke

When your boat breaks down, having a basic toolkit on board could make the difference between a minor irritation and pulling the plug on the day and calling BoatU.S. for a tow. Although it's difficult to plan for every eventuality, being ready with some basic tools could make you a hero. Most boaters will likely have a few ideas of their own, so use this list as a starting point and build from there. This is not a comprehensive tool kit (feel free to add your own widgets), but simply a basic compendium of tools for first aid maintenance.

### Mirror on a stick

Enables you look into places that would otherwise be inaccessible to the naked eye.

### Pliers

Perfect for tasks such as removing cotter pins from the propeller nut, and for other times that require a firm grip. Also add needle nose, water pump, and vice-grip pliers.

### Fuel filter

So it's not really a tool, but its vital to the health and well being of your boat engine, and you should always have at least one spare handy. You might want to include an onboard engine prefilter and water separator filter if these are fitted to your boat.

### Hacksaw

Not just for cutting metal, it can also saw through wood and fiberglass in a pinch.

### Caulking

Great for temporary fixes of leaking deck fittings. Can be purchased in an assortment of colors, so pick one to suit your boat finish. Some cure underwater.

### Multi-tool

If you carry only one tool, then a good multi-tool should be it. Includes pliers, file, screwdrivers, knife, small saw, and seemingly a tool for every problem.

### Rags

You'll never regret keeping a selection of rags on board to make cleaning up messes a snap. Microfiber cloths are the perfect choice for wiping down chartplotters and instrument displays without damage.

### Oil-absorbent pads

Helps prevent oil and fuel spills from finding their way into the bilge, or the water.

### Spray lubricant

Can be used for everything from freeing corroded fasteners to spraying a protective film on the engine. Follow manufacturer recommendations.

### Wire strippers/crimping tool

Hopefully you won't be doing any heavy-duty wiring jobs offshore, but a set of wire cutters with a built-in crimping tool and a few spare crimp connectors means you can always make lasting connections.

### Flashlight

Essential for finding that errant nut and washer that you just dropped into the bilge.

### Wrenches

At the very least, stash the wrenches that came with the motor onboard. You might want to add a couple of other frequently used sizes. An adjustable wrench is handy, too, but can be a tight fit in many places.

### Allen wrenches

These come in both metric and standard sizes. Choose the type that fits your engine.

### Hose clamps

Again, not really a tool, but they take up so little space in the toolbox that it seems silly not to have a few, and they could save your day if one fails. Bonus: A large hose clamp tightened around a spin-on filter can provide extra grip, but don't cut your hands.

### Adhesive tape

There are literally thousands of uses for tape. I once sailed all the way across the Atlantic with the head held in position with duct tape!

### Fuses

A blown engine fuse could be all that's preventing your engine from cranking over or your VHF from turning on. Make sure you carry a selection of sizes. Check your owner's manual; you may require a size or type that's particular to your engine. Blown fuses may mean an electrical problem, so address it when back at the dock. And never use a fuse with a higher rating than what you're replacing because it could damage the circuit.

### Marker

Good for a myriad of uses, from marking the change date on fuel filters, to permanently labeling cables.

### Screwdrivers

Carry a mix of sizes in both flathead and Phillips style. Don't forget stubby ones for confined areas.

### Toolbox

The extra money spent for a good waterproof toolbox is never wasted. It'll keep your valuable tools dry, in one place, and prevent them from corroding.

### Nut drivers

This screwdriver-type of tool is designed for tightening nuts and bolts without a ratchet. Carry some of the most-used sizes in both standard and metric.

### Multimeter

Indispensable for tracking down electrical faults, tracing live circuits, and testing the state of charge of the battery.

### Hammer

A small ball-peen hammer takes up little room in the toolbox. Good for everything from getting an ornery fastener to move to cracking lunchtime walnuts.

### Magnetic retriever

Drop a screw or other fastener in the bilge, and you'll be glad that you included this in the toolbox.

### Disposable gloves

Keep grease and dirt off your hands, then just peel them off your clean hands.

TIP To keep tools and prevent them from going rusty, spray them with a little WD-40 and store in an airtight box.



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## February 6, 2021 Selfridge Outing



For our first AOTY competition we got perfect weather but very few fish. Our second outing gave us a lot of fish but brutal weather. I will take the fish over weather every time. My car registered 9 degrees when we reached the ramp at 6:30, with wind speed from 15 to 20 mph. We had 22 anglers show up that Saturday morning. Most stayed at the Selfridge ramp but others spread out, from Metro Beach to Fair Haven. Metro Beach Day Sail ramp turned out to be a good decision for Bob Paradise because that is where he found his five perch that weighed in at almost four pounds. Fair Haven worked out well for Blaise Pewinski and Rob Pinskey as they came in numbers 2



and 3 in the competition with catches that weighed in at over two pounds each. Sixteen of the remaining 22 anglers came in with some kind of

catch and the shore lunch of pizza and chicken noodle soup wrapped up a pretty nice day of fishing on Anchor Bay.

We have been giving away a prize at the angler outings this year, and the Feb 6 gift was won by Don Jasman. A random draw of his sign-up number earned him a \$35 gift card to Cabela's. We also had a bit of drama this time as some DAS members pitched in to rescue a guy who had fallen through the ice. It took two of our members and some other local fishermen to haul a guy out of the water and get him to safety. Maybe we could say that was the best catch of the day. There is no safe ice. Be careful out there.



**Dan Chisholm**

Detroit Area Steelheaders  
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Place Stamp  
Here

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MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

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Membership Expires:



## Upcoming Dates

Feb 20 AOTY Ice Fishing Bay City State Park  
Feb 23 7PM Membership Meeting  
March 16 BOD Meeting  
March 25-28, 2021 Ultimate Fishing Show Novi  
March 27 AOTY Manistee River vs. Metro West  
March 30 7PM Membership Meeting  
April 8 BOD Meeting  
April 23 Abusable River Outing  
April 26 Membership meeting

**Memberships should be current to post scores in SOTY and AOTY events. After two months have passed, you will be removed from the mailing list. Please take a moment to check your expiration date and renew your membership.**

### We need your e-mail address.

Without someone volunteering to help with printing and mailing of the monthly newsletter, we will need to e-mail newsletters to members. There a dozen annual members, and over 30 lifetime members who do not have their e-mail address on file. If you would need to update your email address, please reach out to Bob Ksionzek, or Steve Prout. If you are interested in volunteering to help with printing, please reach out to any board member.

### COVID 19 ANNOUNCMENT

DAS activities are resuming with modifications to encourage social distancing, and promote safe practices. Face masks are suggested at gatherings, and we should practice good social distancing. We hope to see a good turn-outs as we emerge from the COVID-19 shut-down. It may be prudent for individuals with special health concerns to continue isolation. Please follow our website, message forums, and Facebook pages for more details on precautions, revised procedures, and event updates.