



Fishin' Tales II

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

Volume 5 Issue 4

April 2021

DNR Drafts Walleye Management Plan for Inland Waters

A healthy, abundant walleye population is a big part of Michigan's fisheries. These native fish provide exciting opportunities for world-class recreational fishing and play an important ecological role as a top predator. Though several local, regional, and Great Lakes-centric walleye plans exist, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has drafted the first statewide walleye plan focused on inland waters. Seth Herbst, the DNR's aquatic species and regulatory affairs manager, is leading the initiative. He said this draft plan was developed to guide the department's management effort toward maximizing both angler satisfaction and the ecological benefits of walleye fisheries. "Walleye is a high-priority species for management in Michigan because of its ecological, social and cultural significance," Herbst said. "Walleye fishing is a big draw for anglers."



Although walleye reside in the Great Lakes, rivers, and inland lakes, Herbst said this draft plan takes a narrow focus on inland waters—primarily inland lakes—because the walleye management in those other bodies of water is primarily addressed in various other existing management or rehabilitation plans.

The new walleye management plan for inland waters aims to provide an overview of:

- The status of the species in Michigan.
- The biology and ecology of inland walleye populations.
- Angler perceptions about walleye management and fishing opportunities.
- A brief description of previous management efforts.

The plan also identifies several management goals that broadly address social and ecological characteristics of walleye fisheries, because both elements are key to successful future species management.

The DNR Fisheries Division developed the draft "Management Plan for Walleye in Michigan's Inland Waters" with assistance from Michigan State University Fisheries and Wildlife Department faculty and in consultation with Tribal governments. Learn more about the walleye species and management efforts at Michigan.gov/Walleye.

Courtesy of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council

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

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

On the Facebook

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On the OFFICIAL GROUP
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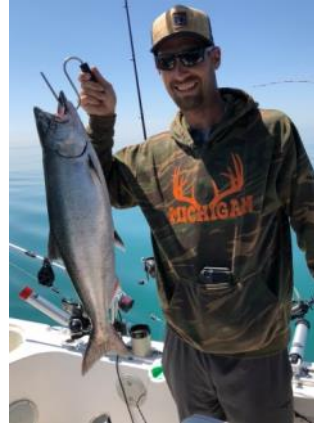
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Skipper of the year trolling tournament in St. Joe - Sat., May 1st

Well, here we go! St. Joe will kick off our first DAS Skipper of the Year tournament. It's been a long-awaited event for all of us skipper in the club. For many years, this port has been a top producer for some spring Kings, Coho, Steelhead and fat Lakers. These fish coming off the winter are looking to put on some weight and like to prowl the warm waters of lower Lake Michigan looking for baitfish. Over the years the mud line produced by the St. Joe river is a great place to start looking for fish. Moving south a couple miles you will see the condos with a large cement wall out front or a little further the chalet houses and all the way to Cook power plant are good areas that produce fish. Standard spreads out behind your boat will work just great to help zero in on your best set-ups. The last few years, Super Slims, and Stingers produced nice boxes of fish in an assortment of colors.



Tournament starts at 6:00AM
Fish calls at 9:00AM and 11:00AM
Pull lines at 1:00PM

Weigh-in at 2:00PM at West Basin Marina with lunch to follow.

For any additional info, call me at 248-890-4517 Blaise Pewinski.

Go to our website www.detroitsteelheaders.com to sign-up with our new on-line Entry Form on the 2021 SOTY page under 2021 Entry Form, or call Bob Ksionzek 586-531-9198 for help in signing up.

Please try to sign up by Thurs., April 29 7:00 pm to give us a chance to plan for the luncheon.

However, we will accept entries up until the tournament start.

GET THOSE HOOKS SHARP WHILE YOU HAVE TIME!

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 Photography

2021 SOTY Boat Trolling Tournaments

Date	Port	Port Captain	
May 1	St Joe	Blaise Pewinski	(248) 890-4517
May 15-16	Grand Haven	Jim Zanke	(586) 489-2041
June 5	Manistee	Fred Chartier	(248) 496-9512
June 19	Harbor Beach	Joe von Grabe	(586) 945-4334
July 31	Ludington	Bob Jones	(734) 751-1767
August 7	Onkama	Tom Gorguze	(248) 343-8397
August 28	Rogers City	Brad Walton	(248) 343-0291

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC. P.O. Box 297, Sterling Heights, MI. 48311-297

- New Member - \$35 Yearly
- Senior (65 & over)- \$20 Yearly
- Junior (under 16) - \$20 Yearly (Electronic Newsletter)
- Special Event Rate (New Members Only)- \$20
- Renewal - \$35 Yearly
- Address Change only

Amt. Paid \$ _____

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

Instructional Charter Raffle

Captain Mark Williams of Silver Addiction Charters will host an instructional 4 man/woman 4-hour afternoon charter on Friday July 30, 2021 out of Ludington, Michigan. The new Silver Addiction is a 38' Tiara. Captain Mark is a lifetime DAS member, past president, former Skipper of the Year, and represents the DAS on the Lake Michigan Citizens Advisory Board. This is a perfect day for DAS members as our trolling series has us in Ludington for our Skipper of the Year trolling outing on Saturday, July 31. Two winners will be drawn and each winner gets to choose one person to take along (4 people total). The winners may transfer their ticket to someone else if they wish. We will sell 100 tickets maximum at \$20 each during April and May. The drawing will be held during our May membership meeting. You can get your ticket online, at the April 27th meeting or call Carl Ventimiglia at (586) 615-7459.



Ausable Outing Results



On Saturday April 17th we had a low turnout at our Ausable River outing. Eleven people showed up, and that was more than the Steelhead. A couple were caught Friday by members of our club, but nobody caught any on Saturday. The weather wasn't too bad, a little chilly in the morning, but then the sun came out it warmed up. It turned out to be a pleasant day. I fished from Wednesday through Saturday and all I caught were suckers. That was about the same for everyone else on the river. Unfortunately, not one member was able bring a steelhead to the weigh in. So needless to say, there was nothing to weigh. We went to Wiltse's for a great lunch. Those who stayed at the Northern Traveler motel said that the accommodations were very good. That does it for this year, hope we have better luck next year, and get rid of this covid virus. See you at the next AOTY Outing in Algonac for Walleye, Gary Gross



Raffle Winners

Thank you to everyone who supported our Spring raffle. And congratulations to all the \$500 winners! In case you missed the livestream drawing, here is the list of lucky winners, and their winning numbers. Our fundraising Chairman, Carl Ventimiglia, did a great job running this event. Thanks again to everyone who participated.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Gary Gross #48 | Don Jasmin #74 |
| Danielle Titus #41 | Jon Martens #90 |
| Dick Shirk #8 | Carl Ventimiglia #67 |
| Ray Branbury #98 | Dennis Shirk #36 |
| Andrew Stockton #34 | Mark Paradise #18 |

2021 Annual T-Shirts

Comin Soon: Sorry for the delay but , our 2021 T-shirts wont be available for the April meeting. We expect to have them by the Algonac outing, possibly St. Joe.



March meeting Recap by Dan Chisholm



Gaspare Aragona , 2020 Angler of the Year

Through my eyes, the March member meeting at Dooley's Tavern was a clear sign that the DAS fishing club is coming out of the Covid-19 era in good health and moving forward. The topic was timely as our Spring trolling events are right around the corner and the speakers were two of the best you could ask for as we prepare for Salmon trolling. Our speakers, Adam Knudsen (Hiatus Charters) and Mark Williams (Silver Addiction) are two successful charter captains who charter out of Ludington, MI. They also share fishing strategies through Great Lakes Reel to Reel Outdoors Podcasts. Throughout their talk they took the perspective of smaller boats who are not able to run the multiple lines of a charter boat. They emphasized the importance of controlling speed and a consistent direction of troll in any current. They gave tips on how to maintain a consistent speed and direction of troll through a wind and chop that is trying to move your boat around, like it or not. Their talk ended with questions and answers from members. Their talk was on-point and useful for the coming season and they have been helping to get us through the Covid-19 thing with great and interesting information. Thank you, Mark and Adam.



Rodney Elnick, 2020 Director of the Year



Paul Gjeldum, 2020 Skipper of the Year, Member of the Year, Big Coho, and Big Trout

The evening did not end there. After we benefitted from the evening's speakers, we went right into the clubs' major fund raiser of the year where we raffled off ten winners of \$500 each. Carl Ventimiglia put together a terrific program where 100 tickets were sold at \$100 each with DAS profiting \$4,600 after expenses. This thing was well planned and well executed by Carl and I was really pleased to see the level of participation from club members. The club members really bought into

this and took it over-the-top as another indication that the club is doing well. The money earned will go a long way toward funding club activities and keeping the club moving forward. Thank Carl, job well done.

"But wait There's more." We normally do our club's competition award's for SOTY, AOTY, big fish award's, Director, and member of the year during our annual meeting in December. As you can assume, we were not able to do that due to Covid. At last month's meeting we were finally able to do in-person award's and recognize those successful anglers. Great job everyone.



Equalizer, 2020 Big King

Algonac Walleye Drifting Outing Saturday, May 8

As the weather begins to warm, the St Clair River walleye fishery starts to catch fire. For most local anglers, jigging Spring walleye is a favorite method for catching table fare. Even if you've never tried it, you probably already own the equipment required. Most any six-to-seven-foot rod, paired with a reel loaded with a low stretch line, is a good starting point. In the St Clair River ¾ ounce jig heads tipped with a plastic minnow or worm, are typical rigs. Adding a live minnow and stinger hook to the jig can improve your luck, but some days that's just overkill.

A vertical presentation is key so you can feel your jig bounce off the bottom as you drift. The fish you target are holding to the bottom and they can see your presentation heading their way. On the St Clair River anglers can keep six fish as long as they meet the 13" minimum length.

Contact Bob Paradise at 586 457-4073, or Tom Gorguze at 248 343-8397 if you plan on fishing this event. As usual, the entry is \$10 per angler, and



\$10 for the big fish pool. Let a port captain know if you plan on fishing this event by Thursday, May 6th so we can make lunch arrangements. Saturday registrations are too late. Memberships must be current to receive AOTY points. **The outing winner will be determined by total weight of your five-best fish. The big fish winner will be determined by length of the longest fish.** If there is a big fish tie, weight will be the tie breaker. **Anglers can only weigh fish they have personally caught**, so use separate or suitable method to mark each angler's catch.

Boats and anglers must depart from, and return to, the DNR North Channel boat launch. You can launch and leave the ramp at any time, but you can't start fishing until 6:30 AM. Pull lines at 12:30, but leave enough time to have your catch at the scale by 1:00 PM.

- Best 5 Walleye by weight
- Start and return from DNR North Channel Boat Ramp
- 6:30 AM – 12:30 PM fishing
- 1:00 PM Weigh-in
- Chairpersons: Bob Paradise 586 457-4073 & Tom Gorguze (248) 343-8397



Grand Haven SOTY May 15th & 16th

Grand Haven is an active small town with plenty of restaurants and lodging. Our mid-May tournament usually coincides with a beachfront kite flying event held there, so it is recommended to reserve rooms early. Airbnb and VRBO also offer houses to rent in the area. The municipal marina generally has plenty of room and reservations are available on the Michigan DNR website.

Grand Haven is the only two-day tournament the Detroit Area Steelheaders have. The two-day tournament is accumulative, so if the fish don't cooperate on Saturday, Sunday affords a second chance. We fish Saturday 6am to 1pm and Sunday from 6am to 11am. Luncheon is served on Saturday only. There are two independent big fish pools, one for Saturday and one for Sunday. The Kings and Coho generally cooperate with good catches!

Just a note about boat registration. We no longer have a 5am Captain's Meeting. **All registration is done online.** The registration form can be found at the DAS web site under the SOATY menu. Bob Ksionzek has made this incredibly easy to use. No downloading, just open the form, fill it out, and hit the submit button.

PLEASE REGISTER NO LATER THAN THE THURSDAY BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT. The earlier, the better. This is not an iron clad contract; you can cancel by phone or email to the port captain or tournament director -Bob Feisel. From a personal perspective, early registration is not only courteous, but gives the port captain a more accurate number for lunch. As port captain I have served as few as 6 fisherman and as many as 40 at tournaments. This often results in a great waste of both food and money. Thanks.

Jim Zanke – port captain – Grand Haven



April 27, 2021 Membership Meeting

Our April membership meeting will be held at Dooley's Tavern 51748 Van Dyke, Shelby Township, MI. In Person and on Zoom at 7:30 PM

Once again Hiatus Charters Captain Adam Knudsen and Silver Addiction Charter Captain Mark Williams will Pro-Zoom a Captains Round Table presentation along with Captain Winn Wolfe (Win-N-Angel) on fishing for Spring King's out of St. Joseph, Michigan. With our DAS Trolling tournament schedule set to begin on May 1st in St. Joseph this topic is Spot-On. Don't miss it.

If you are zooming in from home you can enjoy the entire round table but we will shut down the Zoom feature shortly after the round table discussion ends. For DAS monthly meeting business it will be best to attend in-person. Please mask-up and social distance.



Topic: Spring King Fishing out of St. Joseph, Michigan
Featured Speaker: Winn Wolfe a tournament pro based out of St. Joseph. "Winn-n-Angel"

We'll be heading back to River Bends park in May and holding summer meetings outside.

Dan Chisholm
 President

AOTY Schedule

Sat., May 8 Algonac - St. Clair River - Walleye Drifting Outing

- Best 5 Walleye by weight
- Chairs: **Bob Paradise (586) 457-4073** and **Tom Gorguze (248) 343-8397**

Sat., June 12 St. Clair - St. Clair River - Walleye Trolling Outing

- Best 5 Walleye by weight
- Chairs: **Ed Paehlig (810) 305-4536 / Rob Pinskey (810) 543-3191**

Sat., July 10 Sebawaing - Walleye Outing

- Best 5 Walleye by weight
- Chairpersons: **T.B.D.**

Sat., September 11 Sterling State Park on Lake Erie - Perch

- Best 5 Perch by length
- Chairperson: **Gaspere Aragona (248) 330-1774**

Sat., September 25 Manistee - Pier/Surf Outing

- Best 3 Trout or Salmon by weight
- James Anderson (313) 330-3680 / Laurie Gamblin (810) 730-2373**

Sat., October 30 Manistee

- Best 3 Steelhead
- Chairperson: **T.B.D.**

Sat., November 6 Manistee - Manistee Watershed

- Fish-Off with Metro-West Steelheaders
- Best 3 Steelhead by weight
- Chairperson: **T.B.D.**

Sat., December 11 Caseville - Lake Trout Outing

- Best 3 Lake Trout by weight
- Chairperson: **Blaise Pewinski (248) 890-4517**

Manistee Outing Results

For the Manistee outing we had a total of 27 people that fished against the Metro West club. I believe that all the DAS anglers fished the river. We won the fish-off and trophy plaque back after four years. The DAS total weight of fish was 71.12 pounds. The Metro-West total weight was 31.37 pounds. Bob Paradise took first place with 3 fish weighing a total of 24.97lbs, Second place was Rabih Abdalla with 1 fish weighing 14.59 pounds, Third place was James Anderson with 1 fish weighing at 11.38, Fourth place was Gaspare Aragona with 1 fish at 10.96 pounds, Fifth place was Roger Paradise with 1 fish at 9.22 pounds.



Big fish winner was Rabih Abdalla at 14.59, Bob Paradise had the second biggest fish at 12.38, and third biggest was James Anderson at 11.38. Winner of Rod and reel raffle was Ken Cione. A great Hot luncheon was provided by Mark and Anna



Angler of the Year (AOTY) Overall Standings To Date

	Entrant's Name	1-30 MB	2-06 SF	2-20 SB	3-27 MA	4-17 OS	Best 5	Place
1	GASPARE ARAGONA	1	16	50	4	50	121	1
2	BOB PARADISE	50	1	50	1	50	152	2
3	MARK WYRICK	4	5	50	50	50	159	3
4	MARK PIASECKI	3	7	50	50	50	160	4
5	ANNA KULPA	5	8	50	50	50	163	5
5	DINO RAPTIS	7	6	50	50	50	163	5
7	JAMES ANDERSON	50	13	50	3	50	166	7
8	DANIEL CHISHOLM	10	4	50	50	75	189	8
9	RABIH ABDALLAH	50	50	50	2	50	202	9
10	LAURIE GAMBLIN	50	9	50	50	50	209	10
11	NATE CASE	2	50	50	50	75	227	11
12	HARRY ORLOW	9	10	75	75	75	244	12
13	BLAISE PEWINSKI	75	2	50	50	75	252	13
14	KAHLED ABDALLAH	8	50	50	75	75	258	14
15	TOM GORGUZE	50	11	75	50	75	261	15
16	TERRICK PATTERSON	50	13	50	75	75	263	16
17	ROB PINSKEY	75	3	50	75	75	278	17
18	NATE CASE JR	6	50	75	75	75	281	18
19	JASON SHERRILL	75	13	75	50	75	288	19
20	DON JASMAN	50	50	75	50	75	300	20
20	SAMUEL ANDERSON	50	75	75	50	50	300	20

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Place Stamp
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

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LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

Membership Expires:



Upcoming Dates

- April 26 Membership meeting at Dooley's
- May 1, SOTY St. Joseph
- May 8, AOTY Algonac Walleye
- May 11, BOD Meeting
- May 15-16, SOTY Grand Haven
- May 25 Membership Mtg at River Bends Park
- June 5 SOTY Manistee
- June 12 AOTY St Clair
- June 14 BOD Meeting
- June 28 Membership Mtg at Riverbends Park
- July 13 BOD 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.

REMINDER:

Michigan's annual fishing license is valid from March 1 of a given year through March 31 of the following year. Don't forget to get your 2021 license. Visit a license agent or michigan.gov/Fishing for all the information you need to get started.

COVID 19 ANNOUNCEMENT

DAS activities are resumed 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 turnout as we emerge from the COVID-19 shutdown. 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.