



## State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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### GREAT LAKES FISHERIES NEWS – JANUARY 2008.

If you have questions or comments about issues related to Great Lakes fisheries, contact Bill Horns by phone (608-266-8782), FAX (608-266-2244), or e-mail ([william.horns@wisconsin.gov](mailto:william.horns@wisconsin.gov)). We also maintain Lake Michigan and Lake Superior web pages:

Lake Michigan - <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/lakemich/>

Lake Superior - <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/gmu/superior/fish/fish.html>

**Let us know your thoughts about invasive fish species.** The Department has been working with the Governor's Council on Invasive Species to craft new administrative rules to identify, classify, and control invasive species. To learn more, visit [www.dnr.state.wi.us/invasives/classification](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/invasives/classification). In January six public listening sessions will be held across the state. Please look at the following schedule and plan to attend:

January 10 - SPOONER - [Spoooner Agricultural Research Station](#) W6646 Hwy 70

January 11 - RHINELANDER - [Learning Resources Center Theater](#) Nicolet College, 5364 College Dr.,

January 14 - MADISON - McKay Center, [UW Arboretum](#), 1207 Seminole Highway

January 15 - MILWAUKEE - [Tommy Thompson Youth Center \(Gate 5\)](#) State Fair Park, 640 S. 84<sup>th</sup> St.

January 16 - GREEN BAY - [Brown Co. Central Library](#) Theater, 515 Pine St.

January 17 - LACROSSE - [La Crosse Central High School](#) Commons (Room 126), 1801 Losey S. Blvd.

**Sturgeon stocked in Milwaukee River.** On October 6 the Department stocked 158 lake sturgeon fingerlings (8 to 9 inches in length) into the Milwaukee River at Thiensville. All the lake sturgeon were produced in a streamside rearing facility located in Newburg and operated in conjunction with Riveredge Nature Center. The primary benefit of using a streamside rearing facility for lake sturgeon is that they will be raised on a native water source throughout their entire early life. This will maximize their ability to imprint to this water source and may improve the odds that, at maturity in 15-20 years, the sturgeon will return to the Milwaukee River to spawn. The Milwaukee River sturgeon stocking project is funded through a cooperative effort among agencies and public partners. Wisconsin DNR, the Great Lakes Fishery Trust and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife provide the majority of the funding. This project is headed-up by Brad Eggold, our SER Great Lakes Supervisor.

**VHS rules.** The Natural Resources Board has adopted emergency rules dealing with VHS, and approved identical permanent rules, subject to review by the Legislature. Under the rules, boaters and anglers 1) may not leave the bank or shore of any water with any live fish or live fish eggs, including left over minnows, 2) must drain all water from bilges, ballast, live wells, bait buckets and other containers when they leave the bank or shore of any water, 3) may not use dead fish, fish eggs, or fish parts for bait, unless preserved by a method that does not require refrigeration or freezing, 4) may not use or possess live fish or live fish eggs as bait if obtained outside Wisconsin, and 5) may not transport by land into Wisconsin any water in boats, boat trailers, boating equipment or fishing equipment, including water in any bilge, ballast tank, bait bucket or live well. **There are exceptions.** For details visit [http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/pages/vhs\\_rules.html#1](http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/pages/vhs_rules.html#1).

**Green Bay yellow perch commercial harvest limits.** On December 5 the Natural Resources Board accepted the Department's recommendation to increase the total allowable annual commercial harvest of yellow perch from Green Bay from 60,000 to 100,000 pounds.

**Salmon Stamp report.** The latest Salmon Stamp expenditure report is available. I can send it to you. You can also find it by searching our web site (see above) or by going directly to <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/lakemich/Salmon%20stamp%20report%202004-2007.pdf>.