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*The Newsletter of the Leon*

*P, Martuch Chapter of Trout*

*Unlimited*

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# The Landing Net

## ***ASIAN CARP STILL AN ISSUE***

### Asian carp found near shore of Lake Michigan

**6/24 - Chicago, Ill.** – A 19-pound Asian carp has been found near the shore of Lake Michigan, above a navigation lock that regional political leaders had been demanding the Army Corps slam shut to try to keep the invaders out of the world's largest freshwater system.

The fish confirms what DNA evidence had been telling fishery managers for months - that Asian carp had indeed breached an electric fish barrier on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, considered the last line of defense for Lake Michigan.

The bighead - nearly 3 feet long - is the first actual Asian carp found above the barrier, despite weeks of netting on the canal system and a \$1.5 million fish-poisoning program last month.

It was plucked from Lake Calumet, about six miles downstream from Lake Michigan, by a commercial fisherman hired by the state of Illinois to do routine fish sampling in the area.

"We set out earlier this year on a fact finding mission and we have found what we were looking for," John Rogner, assistant director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, said in a news release Wednesday. "This is important evidence and the more

information we have about where Asian carp are, the better chance we have of keeping them out of the Great Lakes."

The federal government said it has no intention at this time to order shut two navigation locks in the area, something regional politicians outside Illinois have been demanding for months.

The plan now is to continue "sampling actions" in Lake Calumet, which is north of the O'Brien lock, as well as other areas on the Chicago canal system. This will involve netting and electrofishing.

Biologists say a handful of fish making their way into Lake Michigan does not mean a self-sustaining population is going to get established. They say most initial invasions fail because the fish must find a suitable place to reproduce, then they must find each other, and then their offspring survive long enough to reproduce on their own. Then, of course, the cycle has to repeat itself. Over and over. "We remain firmly committed to achieving our collective goal of preventing Asian carp from becoming established in Great Lakes waters," said Mike Weimer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service assistant regional director of the fisheries and aquatic resources program.

Meanwhile, federal officials say they will do their best to keep it business-as-usual for the barges, tour boats and recreational boat owners who use the navigation

locks to move between the waterways and Lake Michigan.

"The Army Corps of Engineers will continue to operate the locks and dams in the Chicago Area Waterway System for congressionally authorized purposes of navigation, water diversion and flood control," said Col. Vincent Quarles of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Michigan Attorney General and gubernatorial hopeful Mike Cox said the find means that the region's "worst fears" have been realized, and he is considering further legal action.

The Republican led a coalition of Great Lakes states earlier this year, including Wisconsin, in a push to re-open a decades-old U.S. Supreme Court lawsuit over of the operation of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal.

He wanted the court to order the locks shut, something the court declined to do.

"President Obama and the Army Corps of Engineers have simply refused to take the threat seriously," Cox's office said in a statement.

But the news came as a relief to an industry group that depends on the navigation locks, which Army Corps officials say were never designed to be used as fish barriers.

"As the governments own studies have shown, lock closure undermines the resources and regional support necessary to solve this problem, while doing nothing to protect the Great Lakes," said Mark Biel, executive director of the Chemical Industry Council of Illinois.

Biel also said the fish find doesn't necessarily prove there has been a breach at the electric fish barrier downstream on the Sanitary and Ship Canal, a sentiment echoed by Rogner of the Illinois DNR.

Rogner said in a Wednesday conference call with reporters that he is not convinced the fish made it to Lake Calumet on its own. He noted that in the past

decade there were two occasions where Asian carp were found in Chicago lagoons, bodies of water not connected to Lake Michigan. Those fish likely were planted by individuals - live bighead were once commonly sold in Asian fish markets in the Chicago area.

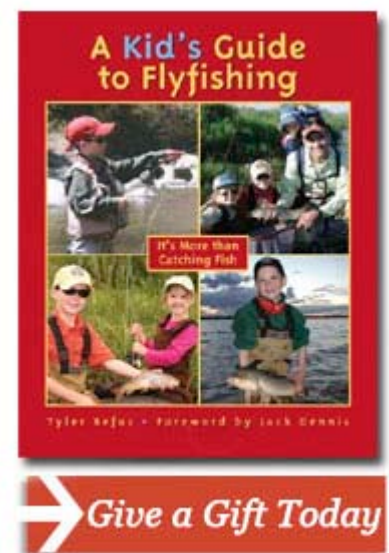
Of course, Rogner said it is also possible the fish somehow swam through the barrier; the Army Corps did not turn up the fish-shocking device to a level strong enough to repel all sizes of Asian carp until the middle of last year, when the first DNA tests indicated the fish were mustering in an area just below it.

Conservationists Wednesday said they weren't surprised by the news.

"The (environmental) DNA has told us for months that the threat is real. It's time to stop fighting about whether there's a problem, and move on to developing real solutions," said Thom Cmar of the Natural Resources Defense Council. "Asian carp are like cockroaches," he added. "If you find one, you likely have a much larger problem on your hands."

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

**Give a child a Trout Unlimited Youth Membership today.**



Spring is here; fishing season has started and now is the perfect time to introduce the special child in your life to the wonders of trout streams. TU's new Stream Explorers youth membership teaches kids about trout, the wild places where they live and the things we can do to protect them.

**For just \$12, your child, grandchild or other special young person will receive:**

- Four issues of *Stream Explorers* magazine (kids over 13 will receive **T**rouT magazine)
- Official TU membership card
- Stream Explorers sticker
- Access to activities and games at [www.streamexplorers.org](http://www.streamexplorers.org)
- Membership in a local TU chapter with the opportunity to get involved in classes, activities, projects or even a summer camp

**For a gift of \$24, the recipient will also receive [A Kid's Guide to Flyfishing](#):**

- Written by Tyler Befus at the age of 8, *A Kid's Guide to Flyfishing* (retail value of \$16) teaches kids everything they need to know to enjoy a day on the water.

Giving a child a TU Stream Explorer membership is a quick and easy first step in encouraging a life-long love of trout and coldwater conservation.

### Updating Cedar River Inventory

The Cedar River stream bank inventory is in the process of being updated. The inventory is the main item we utilize in planning our work on the river.

Sara McDonnell, Program Coordinator, University Outreach is coordinating the inventory. She has received the stream bank erosion inventory data sheets from the USDA-NRCS. This was the same methodology that was used for the original inventory done back in 1998/99. The Saginaw Bay RC&D has offered to provide training to those who are interested in taking this on as a summer project. Let me know if you are interested in wading sections of the Cedar River She can help pinpoint areas for you to inventory based on data that was collected last time around. We also have an intern here at UM-Flint that could assist.

If you are interested in working on this project, sign up

by contacting John Van Dalen at Little Forks Outfitters.

### Michigan Trout

At the Summer BOD meeting of Michigan Trout (MITU, formerly known as the Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited) several items that are of interest to chapter members were discussed and/or adopted.

Bryan Burroughs discussed his major activities which included work on the strategic plan, development director plan, and trout regulations. The dam settlement is progressing with data being collected on the damage and remedial action.

MITU voted to hire a development director whose primary job will be to seek funding for MITU. (Present studies indicate that MITU will be out of money in 3-4 years). While this may be a desirable position, my thoughts are this may hasten the monetary drain on MITU. A committee was formed to develop a job description and to interview prospective candidates. The target date for hire is the end of the 2010 year.

The Strategic Plan was adopted. This is a living document that will undergo numerous revisions as MITU grows. The Chapters have been asked to draw up their own brief strategic plan to keep MITU informed on what they are doing or intend to do in the future.

All Chapters will need to be re-chartered on an annual basis keeping in tune with TUNA requirements.

A full copy of reports given can be obtained on Michigan Trout's website at [www.mctu.org](http://www.mctu.org)

If you have any comments or concerns about MITU issues, please contact Harley Holsinger, Chapter President or Tom Monto, Chapter Representative.

### AuSable River Work Day

On Saturday, July 24, we are holding the [Huron Pines Oscoda County 11/11 Volunteer Event](#). Volunteers are needed to tackle a severe erosion site at the end of Van Luven Rd in Mio. The goal for the day is to install bio-technical erosion control methods. Coconut fiber logs will be installed to protect the toe of the slope and soil, seed, mulch and live plants will be used to stabilize the bank. Finally, brush will be placed on the bank to help dissipate rain water and to deter human traffic.

If you would like to join in the effort on Saturday, July 24 from 9:00am—3:00pm, Huron Pines could use your help. It is going to be a strenuous project, but work that needs to be completed to heal the river. Please RSVP to Patrick Ertel at Huron Pines by calling 989.344.0753 x19 or emailing [patrick@huronpines.org](mailto:patrick@huronpines.org). Volunteers will need gloves and work boots. Lunch and a t-shirt will be provided. This event is the sixth of eleven projects that make up the [Huron Pines 11/11 Volunteer Program](#).

Special thanks to the [Au Sable Big Water Preservation Association](#) and the Paul H. Young Chapter of Trout Unlimited for sponsoring this event.

### Chapter Strategic Planning Online Training: July 21

**Conservation and Education Issues and Opportunities Evaluation Matrix**

*Instructions:*  
 1. Collect feedback from your members and partners and other relevant information that comprise a small workgroup.  
 2. Fill out this matrix, adding new rows as necessary, to guide discussion about which projects to pursue in the upcoming year. Some groups like to use numerical rankings for each criterion, others prefer simply to take notes and use them to inform discussion and decisions.  
 3. Use the strategic plan template that follows to elaborate strategies for selected conservation and education projects.

Conservation and Education Issues or Opportunities	P, RC, BS, S (Circle one)	TU National - Y/N (Check one)	Urgency (See 1-2)	Significance to mission (See 1-2)	Deadline (See 1-2)	Agreement current and new members (See 1-2)	Identified Leadership (See 1-2)	Funding and Personnel (See 1-2)
	P, RC, BS, S	Y/N						
	P, RC, BS, S	Y/N						
	P, RC, BS, S	Y/N						
	P, RC, BS, S	Y/N						
	P, RC, BS, S	Y/N						

Strategic planning templates are available in the Tacklebox.

At 8:00 pm EST on July 21, TU's volunteer operations staff will host an online training session to help chapters prioritize issues and develop strategic plans that align

with the council and national plans. The training will use [planning templates](#) to get down to the basics. Contact [Rob Keith](#) for more information or to register.

### Get Your Hatch Guide

The Hatch Guide and pocket guide which is available from John Winchester. If you don't have a copy, give John a call and get one. Proceeds go for projects and improving our cold-water fishery. This guide really helps identify hatches and flies.

### Adam's Fly Print

We have some prints of the Adam's Fly by Beth Ward Donahue that celebrate TU's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Costs are \$120.00 and \$160.00 (remarked). Contact Ross Rosenbrock 989-662-6533, [rosenbrock@live.com](mailto:rosenbrock@live.com).

### State Council [www.mctu.org](http://www.mctu.org)

- Chairman – Kimberly Wetton
- Vice-Chairman – David Smith
- Secretary – Mike Lagowski
- Treasurer – Rob Smith
- National Council Rep – Pat Kochanny
- Tom Quail MITU Conservation Committee Chair

### Board of Directors

- Harley Holsinger 989-667-0581  
[hholsinger@holsingermfg.com](mailto:hholsinger@holsingermfg.com) - President
- John Johnson (989-835-6047) [jocko@tm.net](mailto:jocko@tm.net) – BOD/ Kids Day / Fly Tying
- George Killat 989-835-3793 [tugeorgek@charter.net](mailto:tugeorgek@charter.net) – BOD / Membership
- Jim Kridler - [jimkridler@aol.com](mailto:jimkridler@aol.com) - BOD
- Tom Monto 989-631-3079 [t8monto@aol.com](mailto:t8monto@aol.com) – BOD / Projects/ State Council Representative
- Mark Rapanos 989-8239-0976 [mkrapanos@charter.net](mailto:mkrapanos@charter.net) – Banquet Chairman

Steve Rapanos 989-837-2775 [srapanos@charter.net](mailto:srapanos@charter.net) - Secretary / Past President

Mike Read – (H) 989- 839-0152 - [read3655@charter.net](mailto:read3655@charter.net) – BOD

Ross Rosenbrock 989-662-6533 [rosenbrock@live.com](mailto:rosenbrock@live.com) – Projects

John Van Dalen 989-631-6873 [vandalei@mindnet.org](mailto:vandalei@mindnet.org) – BOD

John Winchester 989-631-0122 [jgwinch@att.net](mailto:jgwinch@att.net) – Treasurer/Hatch Book

Steve Wilkowski – [s.wilkowski@dowcorning.com](mailto:s.wilkowski@dowcorning.com) - BOD Vice President / Kids Day

Check out TU's Life Membership / Sage rod and reel offer and sign up today.

Take advantage of Trout Unlimited's Life installment program. Choose the Life Membership plan that fits your budget, get your Sage rod and reel, and start enjoying the benefits of Life membership right away.



[Simply complete our secure online form, select from TU's easy payment schedules, and YOU're in.](#)

Join our growing roster of Life Members today and look forward to these exclusive TU Life Member benefits:

- The Sage TCX 9-foot, 5-weight, 4-piece rod.
- The Sage 3850CF reel.
- TU's all new Simms Thirsty Trout bottle opener.
- A Life Member certificate, lapel pin and decal.
- A lifetime subscription to Trout magazine, TU's annual 16-month wall calendar and local chapter benefits.

And the greatest benefit of all...

- The special satisfaction that comes with knowing you have made a most meaningful commitment in support of the TU mission and vision, ensuring the future of the fisheries - and the sport - that you love.

[So sign up today](#) to become a Life Member through TU's easy installment plan.

Make a lifetime commitment to coldwater fisheries conservation and get your new Sage rod and reel.

Thank you.



*Lori Held*

Lori Held  
Membership Support  
Trout Unlimited

### Upcoming Events

July ?? Clean-up of tires in river

August – Kids Day

### Committee Chairmen

Dave Schweigert – Member (Fish-Shocking Chair)  
Jack Lehman – Member (Chapter Historian)  
Bill Holler 989-284-6566 [fwholler@chartermi.net](mailto:fwholler@chartermi.net) – Projects/Property

## Tire Removal

We will be undertaking the project of removing about 50 tires that were dumped into the Tobacco River at Farwell later this month or early August. When details have been worked out we will notify you via an e-mail

## Interesting web sites

<http://h2o.usgs.gov> Hydrology data for all rivers in the US

<http://www.totalflyfishing.com> Fly Fishing Website

[www.flyangersonline.com](http://www.flyangersonline.com) Fly patterns, articles, and general information.

<http://info.abrfc.noaa.gov/rfc-wfo.html> National Weather Service river forecasts

[www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org) Home page Trout Unlimited.

[www.steelhaedsite.com](http://www.steelhaedsite.com) Steelhead information

[www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org) Federation of Flyfishers Home Page.

[www.mctu.org](http://www.mctu.org) Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited Home Page

[www.fffglc.org](http://www.fffglc.org) Federation of Fly Fishers

[www.lssu.edu](http://www.lssu.edu) Lake Superior State University. Fish cam at the power plant at the Soo

[www.trailstotrout.com](http://www.trailstotrout.com) Website for trout fishing

On AOL Look under Interest, Hobbies, and Fishing

We will publish more sites, as they become known. If you know of interesting sites let me know at [T8Monto@aol.com](mailto:T8Monto@aol.com)

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Chairman – Kimberly Wetton

Vice-Chairman – David Smith

Secretary – Mike Lagowski

Treasurer – Rob Smith

National Council Rep – Pat Kochanny

## Membership

Trout Unlimited has a membership program going. Our Chapter can greatly benefit by having you sign up a new member. Log onto [www.tu.org/intro](http://www.tu.org/intro) and you can get a special introductory rate of \$17.50. Be sure to enter code 250 so our Chapter will receive credit for the membership. This would make a great gift for your fishing buddy.

For membership problems, contact George Killat.

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