



THE SMALLMOUTH HORIZON

Helping to Protect and Preserve Quality Smallmouth Bass Fishing

September 2013

Wisconsin River Trip Coming up; Saturday, September 7

By Andy Davidson

We will meet at 8:30AM at the Eagle Inn on September 7 to discuss final plans for the float and the shuttles. The Eagle Inn is located at the intersection of Water Street (Business Hwy 12) and County PF on the north side of Prairie du Sac. In checking the river flows on the USGS Real Time Site, the flows as of 8/28 are slightly below normal flow for this time of year.

OPTIONS FOR FLOATS:

The first option is to go from the VFW Landing or the canoe landing just below the Highway 12 bridge to the County Y landing which is a float of about 5.5 miles.

Section option is to go from the landing just below the Hwy 12 bridge to the Ferry Bluff landing which is a distance of also about 5.5 miles.

The third option is to go from the canoe landing downstream (southwest) 1.7 miles from the Hwy 12 bridge to Ferry Bluff which is a distance of about 4.1 miles.

Hope to see you at the Eagle Inn. If you are planning on going on the trip or if you have any questions, please call Andy Davidson at (608)338-2639

Redesigned WSA Website

By: Jerry Pasdo

Our website hasn't changed in many years, and it all started last fall with, "What should a good website have?" After a review of other smallmouth bass organization websites, and those of other fishing organizations, even more ideas for a change came about.

Next, who's going to do it? With the help of a part-time web guru and our own Sandy and Gerry Zingg, our new website evolved. Sandy, especially, put the dedicated interest into pulling this together. After numerous updates and alterations to our old site, combined with the help of the web guru, a new site came into being. More importantly, the new format includes the possibilities of further updates and changes without the need of non-member, "expert input".

Our club owes a big thanks to Sandy for her hours and hours of commitment to get the alterations and updates incorporated into our new webpage. We are not a 500 member organization with unlimited funds, but our site is now very comparable to those clubs with more resources. Thanks, Sandy!!

Check our website:

www.wisconsinssmallmouth.com



Excerpted from:

Smallmouth Bass and Muskellunge Fisheries in Three Northwestern Wisconsin Rivers

By the Wisconsin DNR, Max Wolter and Dave Neuswanger

Summary of Major Findings

- The Flambeau River produced significantly higher angler catch rates of smallmouth bass (1.6 per hour of directed fishing effort) than segments of the Chippewa (0.9 per hour) and Namekagon (0.8 per hour) rivers, a pattern driven by the smallest size class of fish (7-11 inches). Angler catch rates of preferred-size smallmouths (≥ 14 inches) were somewhat higher in the Chippewa and Namekagon rivers than in the Flambeau.
- Catch rates for smallmouth bass were higher in mid-summer (July) than in late-summer and early fall (August-September).
- Significant differences in catch rates among inexperienced, average, and expert anglers (as discreetly rated by their professional guides) were evident for smallmouth bass but not for muskellunge.
- Muskellunge catch rates and sizes were generally similar among the three rivers. Catch rates were considerably higher than the statewide average for muskellunge and higher than rates for other lakes in the area, indicating a high-quality river fishing experience.
- Around 25% of all muskellunge encounters (follows, strikes, fish hooked and lost, and fish landed) resulted in a successful catch (fish fully subdued and intentionally released).
- Catch rates for muskellunge were variable, and seasonal patterns were not evident.
- Walleyes and largemouth bass were caught rarely and incidentally in all three rivers.
- Northern pike were caught at a higher rate in the Namekagon River than in the Flambeau or Chippewa rivers. It seems there were relatively fewer northern pike than muskellunge in most reaches.

You can read the entire report here: [Smallmouth Report](#)

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Articles, photos, and calendar events for the newsletter are encouraged and should be submitted by the 1st day of the month to: Dan Johnson, 426 Glenway St. Madison, WI 53711. Send to: johnson7@tds.net, editor.

Steve Winters
Board
(608) 524-6348
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On the Menominee

Photo by Andy Davidson



Photo by Rick Reece



Photo by Andy Davidson



Photo by Andy Davidson

Our Next Meeting:

**Tuesday
September 17th**

Fly Fishing for Muskies through the Seasons with a special emphasis on the Fall

*Bill Sherer of
We Tie It Fly Fishing Specialties*

Professional Guide, Fishing Instructor, Master Fly Tyer, and IGFA World Line Class Record holder for Muskies, Bill is one of the most accomplished, widely recognized, Musky Fly Fishing instructors in the country. Featured in the videos "Fish of 10,000 Casts", "Fish Catching Flies", "Proven Patterns" & "Larger Predator Patterns".



Upcoming Meetings:

Oct 15th	Jeff Butler
Nov 19th	Al Niebaur
Dec 17th	Christmas Party
Jan 21st	T.b.a.
Feb 18th	Ron Barefield
March 18th	Mike Jacobs
April 15th	WSA Annual Fundraiser

Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance meetings are normally held on the third Tuesday of each month. The Badger Fly Fishers meet on the fourth Monday.

Both groups meet at the Mapletree Restaurant on Highway 51, in McFarland, Wisconsin. Programs begin at 7:00 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m. **Visitors and guests are always welcome!**