



THE SMALLMOUTH HORIZON

Helping to Protect and Preserve Quality Smallmouth Bass Fishing

October 2010

Apple River restocking projects begins

WSA provides the funding



On September 16th, 1400 smallmouth bass were stocked at two locations near Highway 8 on the Apple River in Polk County. The fish were in good condition and ranged from 3-7 inches length. DNR fish technician, Mark Stanley assisted, and said that things went well. Mark reported being impressed with the size of fish received.

This section of the river is expected to benefit greatly from a recent dam-removal. There exists 26 miles of what appears to be very good habitat, presently holding a very small population.

Background on this project can be found in last October's [newsletter](#).

The fish were purchased from Gollon Fish Farm of Dodgeville. The cost to our club was \$2170. We had planned for a larger stocking costing about \$3000,

but the hatchery fell short of the number of smallmouth that they had hoped to raise this year.

At the same time, the Bone Lake Association had smallmouth stocked in Bone Lake. Its outlet flows into Fox Creek, a tributary of the Apple River upstream from our project area.

Next year, project leader Heath Benike of the Wisconsin DNR will sample this section of the river to evaluate the success of the stocking. Between our efforts and that of the Bone Lake folks, two modest year classes have been introduced near the old dam site.

If the results are favorable, then two more stockings may be planned. This would add another year class in 2011, and one more in 2012. Benike is hopeful

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that these efforts will succeed, and that they will provide the necessary seed source for a smallmouth fishery to become established.

Recent heavy rains in Wisconsin did not effect the Apple River as much as other rivers in the western part of the state. Polk County was on the edge of the heavier rains, and received only 2-3 inches of rain, compared to 4-6 inches just south of this area.

The rivers and streams did come up slightly (6-12 inches) but were not out of their banks, and no major flooding occurred near the stocking area.



Decals of our club logo (shown at right) are now available. They can be purchase at the meetings. The cost is \$5.



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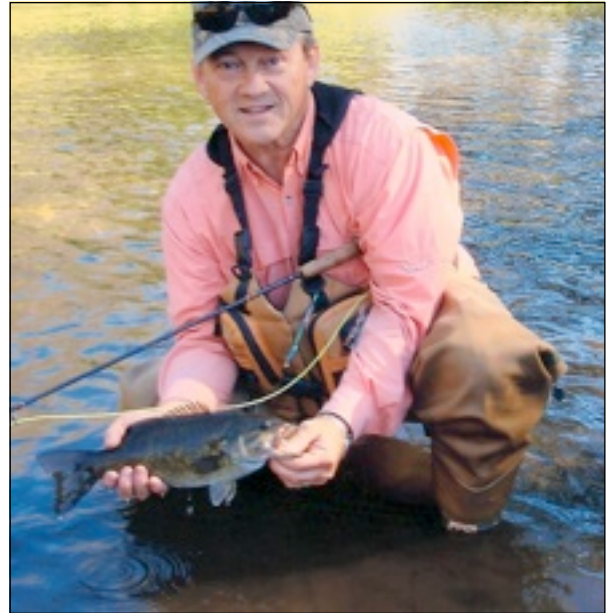
Articles, photos, information, and calendar events for the newsletter are encouraged and should be submitted by the 1st day of the month to: Dan Johnson, 426 Glenway St. Madison, WI 53711. Word files sent to: johnson7@tds.net are most appreciated.

Our Next Meeting:

**Tuesday,
October 19th**

Smallmouth Bass Fishing in Fayette County, Iowa

Mike Jacobs will present a program which highlights the smallmouth streams, and fishing opportunities available in this northeastern county of our neighboring state.



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, October 19th 7:00 P.M
Mapletree Restaurant, McFarland

Monday, October 25th 7:00 P.M
Mapletree Restaurant, McFarland

Tuesday, November 16th 7:00 P.M
Mapletree Restaurant, McFarland

Monday, November 22nd 7:00 P.M
Mapletree Restaurant, McFarland

Tuesday, December 14th
Mapletree Restaurant, McFarland

Tuesday, January 18th
Mapletree Restaurant, McFarland

WSA Monthly Meeting
Mike Jacobs - "Smallmouth Fishing in Fayette County, Iowa"

BFF Monthly Meeting
Mike Goeser, Alaska

WSA Monthly Meeting
Mike Pierce - "Wilderness Salmon Fishing for Lake Huron Kings and Pinks"

BFF Monthly Meeting

WSA/BFF Holiday Banquet

WSA Monthly Meeting
Andy Davidson - Making wooden bass plugs