



THE SMALLMOUTH HORIZON

Helping to Protect and Preserve Quality Smallmouth Bass Fishing

May 2014

Thanks to everyone who made our fundraising auction a big success

Our ninth annual fundraiser will be our best effort to date. With just a couple of bills still out, it appears we made over \$5600 to be used towards this year's projects. Since 2006, we will have raised over \$41,000. We have been able to fund many worthwhile projects and have gotten thousands of young people exposed to fishing and the great outdoors.

Many thank-you's are due. First of all, thank you to those who attended and for their generosity. We had some real quality items up for bid and attendees went home with some great stuff to add to their arsenals.

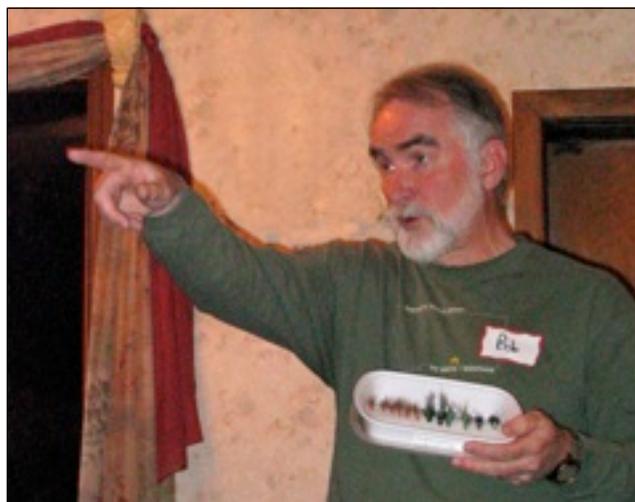
Kudos to those talented individuals who hand-crafted items from food items to lures and flies—your handicrafts always are a big part of the event.

A special thank you to all the guides who donated trips. Check out our website for contact information, and take time to book a trip with these guides. It'll be the highlight of your summer!

We also need to recognize the businesses and companies who generously donated items again this year. Our patronage will certainly help this tradition to continue.

And finally thanks to the board members for their help in organizing the event and solicitation of items, to Bob for being our auctioneer, and to Kathy and Linda for help at the desk and accounting.

In addition to all the members of WSA who donate considerable time tying flies, making baits, creating



Auctioneer Bob Harrison

wood crafts, providing edible treats, one member stands out in coordinating these efforts.

Without Mike Simon's diligent pursuit of trips, donations, and other services, WSA would not have had such a successful event.

So many of the afore mentioned groups benefit from our club's efforts, that Mike's work should not go unnoticed.

Between telling your favorite fishing stories when seeing Mike, just say, "Thanks, Mike, for all your hard work!"



Ron Bruch WDNR Photo

DNR fisheries veteran and sturgeon expert named new Wisconsin fisheries director

Ron Bruch takes over May 5th

MADISON - Wisconsin's next fisheries director takes over May 5 and is already well-known at home and abroad for nurturing Winnebago System's lake sturgeon into the world's largest population that supports a unique winter spearing season.

Ron Bruch, a Wisconsin native with family ties to Butternut in Ashland County and Milwaukee, and a 37- year veteran of the Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Management program, takes over from Mike Staggs, [who retires after 17 years](#)

Wisconsin Fisheries Advisory Council

By: Jerry Pasdo

On March 19th, I met with other fishery interests at the the Mead Wildlife Center, to become part of the initial Fisheries Advisory Council. The objectives of this organization, which will advise and work with WDNR and the Conversation Congress, are:

1. Launch the Wisconsin Fisheries Advisory Council and insure that representatives of member organizations could meet each other and discuss the purpose and the operating protocols of WIFAC.
2. Draft a list of current statewide fishery issues in Wisconsin.
3. Identify WIFAC tasks, products, and meetings timeline for 2014-15. Eventually the issues will be addressed and recommendations will be pre-

sent to the agencies responsible for implementation.

Over the years, individual fishing interests have petitioned or given input to the DNR and to various fisheries' representatives with their specific concerns. WIFAC is an attempt to bring the varied Wisconsin fishery interests together to discuss these topics.

Nearly 30 organizations were represented at the meeting ranging from specific fishery clubs:muskies, walleyes, trout, etc. to water related organizations such as outdoor communicators, WDNR, sporting heritage, Wisconsin women fishers, etc.

The goal is that each of the groups would represent their organization's interest as it related to fisheries in Wisconsin.

A short list of items of concern that relate to all fishery groups included: water access, funding, angler recruitment and retention, increase fishing opportunities, regulations and enforcement, aquatic invasive species, and habitat and water quality.

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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.

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(608) 233-6518
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This list does not exhaust all of the topics that will be addressed. One can see a lot of complicated issues needing to be dealt with, that one individual fishing group cannot accomplish by itself.

The increase in public participation at already strained Conservation Congress hearings may lead to

the possibility of having different hearings for local and statewide proposals, for example

As you can see, many fishery organizations are represented. Our Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance needs to have their mission statement and objectives represented along with those of other fishery interests. I will keep you updated and informed.

TRIPS

Would you like to catch a bunch of smallmouth?

Join us on the first of our club trips to central Wisconsin. We will be fishing several streams including the Red River, the Embarrass River, and the Little Wolf. The trip dates are June 20 (Friday), June 21 and 22.

These high quality streams are close to home and have some impressive fish. There will be an overnight stay in Shawano which is centrally located among these waters.

You don't need a large boat. Canoes, kayaks, or inflatable pontoons will work great on all of these waters.

Come along and enjoy the company of other smallmouth experts - Oops, I mean "enthusiasts".

Our second trip will be on August 30, 31, and September 1 (Labor Day Weekend) to the Wisconsin River. Depending on water levels, we will either be on the stretch from Merrill to Brokaw, or the just west of Eagle River. In addition to the river, there are numerous smallmouth lakes in the area.

Some of these lakes have been relatively inaccessible to larger boats in recent years due to low water, and these can have excellent smallmouth fishing. Both sections of the Wisconsin River have numerous smallmouth, walleye, and musky.

For more information and to let us know that you are coming, please contact Jerry Pasdo (608)345-2198 or Andy Davidson at (608)338-2639.

RIVER MILEAGE OF VARIOUS TRIPS

WISCONSIN RIVER MERRILL TO BROKAW

Merrill to Pine River Landing	3.92 miles
Pine River to Brokaw	9.7 miles

WISCONSIN RIVER WEST OF EAGLE RIVER

Cleveland Drive to canoe landing	3.7 miles
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LITTLE WOLF River

Big Falls to Little Falls	1.5 miles
Little Falls to Ketchum Road	2.85 miles
Ketchum Road to Hwy 110	3.97 miles
Hwy 110 to Symco	7.48 miles
Symco to Waupaca Cty Park, Manawa	4.89 miles
Manawa to Royalton	8.8 miles

EMBARRASS River

Caroline to Pella	7.44 miles
Pella to Rangeline Road	6.24 miles
Rangeline Rd. to Hwy 22	5.28 miles
Hwy 22 to Embarrass	4.18 miles

RED RIVER

Gilmer Falls Park to Maple Rd.	6 miles
Maple Rd. to Wolf River	4.5 miles

Our Next Meeting:

See you in September!

Upcoming Meetings:

Monday, May 19th 7:00 p.m.
Mapletree Restaurant, McFarland

BFF Monthly Meeting - 3rd Monday!
Steve Born, Hex Fishing

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!**