



metro-west steelheaders

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February 1st General Meeting Speaker

Metro-West will have Great Lakes Charter Captain Steve Lenhart of "WILDTHING Charters" for our February 1st General Meeting Speaker. Steve starts his walleye charters on Lake Erie out of Toledo Beach Marina (Since 2007) in Mid-May and runs through the third week in July. Eight years ago, Steve started trailering his boat to Ludington for five weeks of Lake Michigan Salmon fishing through the end of August. Steve runs primarily a spoon & plug program for Walleye and a complete plug, spoon, fly and meat program for Salmon. Steve has tons of experience running all kinds of rigs for different presentations, so be sure to bring your questions.



The "Pres Sez"

First, I would like to say THANK YOU to Marc Traver for his work on organizing the Metro-West Steelheaders booth at the Ultimate Fishing Show (UFS). Marc was assisted by many members of the club in making it a very successful event. MWS members had many opportunities to talk with attendees while we cleaned fish caught in the trout pond or kids made their own crawler harness (thanks Tom Cunningham for supplies).

Don't worry if you missed out on helping at the UFS, the Outdoorama is coming up February 24 to 27. Please contact Robert Grech to sign up to help. Plus, don't forget our Sportsman's Banquet is scheduled for March 19, 2022. It's critical that we have a great attendance, so start selling those tickets.

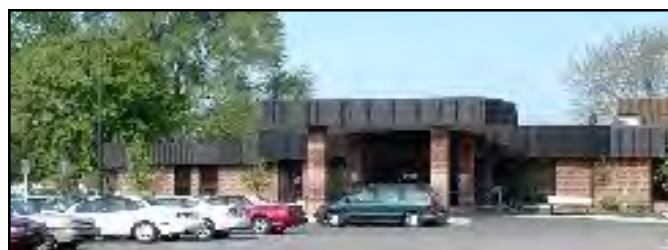
Tired of the cold already, don't worry we are only about 9 weeks from our first Manistee pier/shore/river event and 2 weeks later we start our big lake events at New Buffalo fishing for coho. The board has been working hard to find new speakers, so hope to see you for the general meeting on February 1.

Prez Schulz

THE METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS MEET THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7pm

Open to all members and public - Information below for resumption of physical meetings:

**LIVONIA SENIORS CENTER AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF FARMINGTON ROAD AND FIVE MILE ROAD -
15218 FARMINGTON RD, LIVONIA, MI 48154.**



METRO WEST STEELHEADERS

**38th ANNUAL
SPORTSMAN'S BANQUET**

Fishing Trips

Silent Auctions

140+ Raffles



Gun Raffles

Door Prizes

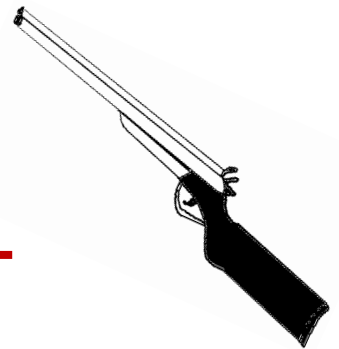
50/50 Drawings

March 19, 2022
5:30 PM – 11:00 PM

BURTON MANOR
27777 Schoolcraft Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150



\$55.00 PER PERSON
Includes Dinner and Open Bar!



★ **Profits help send kids to MUCC Camp** ★
And Salmon-in-the Classroom Projects



For Tickets contact
Carmen Zirles at 734-646-3079
cdzirles@charter.net
TICKETS ON SALE JAN 1, 2022

METRO WEST STEELHEADERS Sportsman's Banquette – Some Fun Pics



Metro-West Steelheaders 2019 Banquet Sponsors

The following people & businesses have made contributions to this year's banquet.

Please support those that support Metro-West.

Because of them this year's banquet will be a successful fundraiser.

4 STAR SUPPORTERS

Fish with Jim Outfitters
Angling Edge Guide Service
John Andersen
Church Tackle
Warrior

3 STAR SUPPORTERS

Zavotski Custom Meats
The Henry Ford
RC Fishing World
www.rcfishingworld.com
Zane Billings
Wolverine Tackle/
Silver Streak
Wilson Marine-Oakland

2 STAR SUPPORTERS

The Purple Rose Theatre
Detroit Red Wings
Cabela's
Bob Olari

1 STAR SUPPORTERS

MUCC
Imagine Theaters
Skunked No More/Flintstone
InterMedia-Outdoors

Special thanks to the club members, family and friends who made valuable contributions to the success of this year's banquet.

We would also like to acknowledge the long term table sponsors: Denny Cheshure, Ace DeVillez, Marty Drum, Bill & Melissa Gagnon, Rick Guerleki, Jeff Green/Jeff K., Dennis Kelley, Bob Olari, Mark Saven, Karen Westphal, Mark Davis, Larry Tabaka, Clyde Schoen, Todd Stav, Tim Tenbusch

We could not have done it without you!

THANK-YOU!



METRO WEST STEELHEADERS at the OUTDOORAMA Show 2/24 Thru 2/27



Outdoorama Show dates are Thursday Feb. 24th thru Sunday Feb. 27th. Booth Set Up is Tuesday Feb 22nd at 1 PM with Tear Down scheduled for Sunday at 6 PM. We need volunteers for all show dates , Set up and tear down. We are desperately needing volunteers for Saturday morning and afternoon. Remember that, working the booth for 4 hours gets you show credentials that allow you to visit the show at any time.

Chair: Robert Grech (989) 205-8054 rlgrech@wowway.com

METRO WEST STEELHEADERS Salmon in the Classroom Update



Only 3 active tanks this year, One of the four active schools for 2022 had equipment issues and was not able to pick up their eggs. The remaining three are doing very well with a high survivor rate. Munger Elementary School has a live YouTube feed to view their tank. It is: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-MnOSy_10A. "Sammy" the traveling salmon has started his tour beginning with Novi High school on the 18th of January.

MSSFA Steelhead Spectacular Fishing Seminar - February 19th



MSSFA

**MSSFA and D&R Sports Center
presents:
STEELHEAD SPECTACULAR & FISHING SEMINARS**

**When: February 19, 2022 - 9:00am to 4:00pm
Where: D&R Sports Center, 8178 W. Main St., Kalamazoo, MI**

Big Moe's Food Truck on site

Raffles and Door prizes

1/2 day Salmon charter, Rod reel combos, Smoker, Lures, and more!!!!

**5 Hands-on presentations
Bryan Buist - Charter Captain, Walleye**

Jim Brandt - Professional Fishing, Pan Fish

Roger Hinchcliff- River Steelhead

Hunter Engle - Charter Captain, Big Lake

Dana Bonny - Charter Captain, Big Lake

Only \$50

Space is Limited, so register now at www.mssfa.org or call 616 638 3273



MWS - 2/4 thru 2/6/22 Manistee River & Ice Fishing Outing



MWS Members and Friends,

Annually in years past, the club has been invited to host an event at "The Farm", which is the clubhouse of the Great Lakes Sportsman Club. This year, due to various reasons, we are unable to partner up with the Great Lakes Sportsman Club to hold the event at the farm, but we are still trying to get up north and do some fishing! We are hopeful that we can pick up "The Farm" tradition next year!

So traditionally, we have groups of guys that fish the river, and other groups that ice fish on the nearby lakes. The ice fishing group usually holds a big fish pot, as does the river fishing group. The river fishing event counts as one of the "River Angler of the Year" tournaments for point accumulation. The ice fishing group, well, I guess the biggest haul calls himself (or gets called) icehole of the year? HAHA!

So, let's see who has interest in fishing the river, and who has interest in fishing the ice. Please RSVP as soon as possible so that I have an idea of how many people are interested.

Once I have an idea of who is attending, and where everyone is fishing, we will establish a weigh in location, and visit one of the local restaurants afterwards for dinner.

Don't let the cold scare ya away! Some of the best river fishing of the year is had when the fair weather anglers are on their couch. As for ice fishing, dress appropriately, or hop in your shanty and fire up the heater!

BTW - the steelhead are big again this year! The photo attached is from about a month ago on the Manistee.

Look forward to hearing from everyone!

Adam

810-569-4184

METRO WEST STEELHEADERS at the Ultimate Fishing Show-Detroit



Chair: Marc Traver (517) 881-1174 marct457@gmail.com



This is a wrap-up of the 2022 fishing show. We had a easy set-up on the Tuesday before the show. Bringing us in two days before the show was great, we had lots of room to work with fewer people around.

The crowds seemed a little down this year and the people seemed to be pretty much zeroed in on the items they were interested in.

Never the less we managed to talk to a fair amount of people and signed eight new members plus signing on fifteen **"Friends of the club " members. These are** important to the club because these are people that think they might like to be members but would like to feel us out first. It is important we get them to a general meeting or to one of the events.



I would like to thank everyone who helped with the show in any form. Remember these shows DO NOT run themselves. Please volunteer to spend a few hours working for the club on the next two shows.

All in all I feel the show was successful and well worth the effort.

2021 December 14th MWS BOD Meeting Minutes



Deb Grech MWS Secretary

Metro West Steelheader's Board Meeting 12-14-21 R1

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM by Eric Braden.

Present: Adam Trenz, Bob Schulz, Brad Allan, Carmen Zirles, Dave Zawacki, Deb Grech, Eric Braden, Len Woods, Marc Traver.

Absent: Bill Gagnon, Robert Grech

Guest: Gale Frazee, Ralph Brown

President: Eric Braden opened the meeting regarding the minutes. The minutes were reviewed.

Secretary: Deb Grech emailed the November Monthly BOD Minutes. All were in favor and no opposed and it was accepted as written. Motioned to approve by Adam Trenz and Leonard Woods 2nd.

Treasurer: Carmen Zirles distributed the Treasurers report for November 1st thru November 30th.

Motion to accept the report was by Leonard Woods and 2nd by Bob Schulz. No opposed. It was voted and accepted as submitted. Went over the Summary of Forecast Expenditures/Cash Flow by Month Report.

Membership Director: Henry Nabors

Current membership is 150 members.

MSSFA Rep: Bob Schulz talked about the Tribal Negotiations Elections. Also talked about the Steelhead limits. Opening the Saginaw River Walley in 2023. He has the DNR speaker set up for January.

MUCC Rep: Marc Traver, The Bills on Walleye and Steelhead are on hold. 58, 59 and 60 house bills.

2021 December 14th MWS BOD Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Director: MWS SIC: Robert Grech SIC. He emailed literature to the board.

Director: Bill Gagnon was not in attendance.

Director: Len woods is to get in contact with Mike Hartrick regarding the Clothes and Hats etc.

We need 20 hats for the shows. Mike wants to give up this assignment. Kelly Nawrocki is the Embroider in Brighton. He had nothing else to add.

Director: Adam Trenz brought up the discussion on social media. Bob Schulz and Eric Braden talked about updating the Facebook page and the MWS website.

Director: Brad Allan confirmed the Kids outing date 6-4-22 and all supplies are already purchased.

Director: Dave Zawacki said the Walley in Lake Erie are abundant.

Guest: Buddy Brown has contacts that design websites, he will do some research.

Guest: Gale Frazee, He purchased ID tags for MWS Clubs inventory. IE: TV's, Fish Simulator etc.

New Business: Eric Braden, we talked about the flow chart. The VP position is open.

The MSSFA position is open. The Ultimate Fishing Show needs help, please sign up.

Old Business: Carmen stated the Sportsman's Banquet is 3-19-2022. 275 people are needed.

Tim Tenbusch and others needs to be acknowledged. The small boat schedule needs to be completed.

The website newsletter is available. The Bi-laws were voted on and approved.

The meeting was motioned to adjourn by Adam and 2nd by Eric and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Debbie Grech 12-14-2021

2021 Big Fish Contest — Results



Karen Westphal- Big Fish Contest Chair

Here are the final standings for the “BIG FISH CONTEST”, 2021. Such a great year for fishing, and plenty of entries for big fish! I would personally like to congratulate the winners. Well done to all of you who entered fish! It was fun to see things shape up through out the season.

RIVER ENTRIES:

FABIAN SEPULVEDA- 20.06 LB. KING, MANISTEE RIVER, 9/24.

***MICHELLE BRADEN- 30.04 LB. KING, MANISTEE RIVER, 9/25.



LAKE ENTRIES:

JOEY ELLIOT- 3.06 LB. WALLEYE.

KIRK TRAVER- 7.40 LB. WALLEYE, 6/30.

***JOEY ELLIOT- 8.46 LB. WALLEYE, 11/27.

***JIM ROBERTSON- 8.95LB. STEELHEAD, 7/30.



2021 Big Fish Contest — Results (Continued)

ROBERT GRETCH- 3.35 LB. COHO.

FABIAN SULPULVEDA- 5.46 LB. COHO

***DENNIS KELLY - 9.85 LB. COHO.

HERMAN CHRISTOFF- 10.15 LB. LAKER.

HERMAN CHRISTOFF- 14.15 LB. LAKER.

***MARK TRAVER- 21.07 LB. LAKER, 5/31.

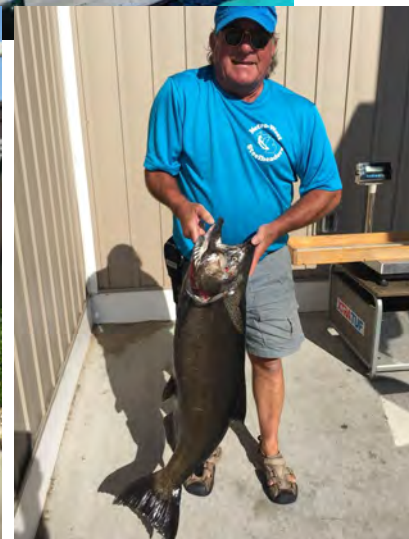


ERIC BRADEN- 19.05 LB. KING, 5/22.

DAVE HUTTON- 24.05 KING, 7/31.

KIRK TRAVER- 28.03 LB. KING, 8/25.

***KEITH TRAVER- 29.04 LB. KING, 9/2.



As most of you know, Marc Traver donated his winnings from last year, (\$314) to sweeten the pot for this year's contest, thanks again Marc! We had 55 contestants @ \$5 per person = \$275 for species. Adding in half of Marc's money, \$157, brings to total winnings for species to \$432. Divided by 6 winners= \$72.00 per winner.

The jackpot goes to Michelle Braden for her 30.04 LB. KING!!! WAY TO GO MICHELLE! Her total winnings= \$5 per person for jackpot, \$275.00 + half of Marc's donation, \$157= \$432.00, + species win of \$72.00 for her river category win, is \$504.00!

Well Done Michelle!

HAPPY NEW YEAR, KAREN WESTPHAL

2022 Calendar * * Metro West Steelheaders * * Livonia, Mich. * ***FEBURARY 1 General Membership**

- 4 - 6 Manistee River/Ice Fishing Adam Trenz
- 24 - 27 OUTDOOR- RAMA Showplace Novi Robert Grech/Chris Christoph

MARCH 1 General Membership Meeting

- 10 – 13 Novi Boat Show Bob Schulz
- 19 MWS Sports Banquet MWS Board
- 26 MI Steelhead Challenge Manistee River/Pier w DS Adam Trenz/Eric Braden

APRIL 5 General Membership Meeting

- 9 New Buffalo Coho Tournament Bob Schulz
- 9 Clinton River Clean Up Jay Labban
- 23 Detroit River/Lake Erie Walleye Robert Grech/Chris Christoph
- 30 Benton Harbor Coho Tournament Dave Zawacki/Kirk Traver

MAY 1 Benton Harbor Coho Tournament Marc/Kirk Traver

- 3 General Membership Meeting
- 14 Toledo Beach Walleye Bob Schulz
- 14 Bruin Lake Kayak/Small Boat Chuck Davis
- 21 Benton Harbor Salmon Tournament Sat Chris Thompson/Kruszewski
- 22 Benton Harbor Salmon Tournament Sun Brad Allan/Mark Platt
- 28 Pt Moulle' SM Bass/Walleye Keith Childs

JUNE 7 General Membership Meeting

- 4 Kids Fishing Outing at Kensington Park Brad Allan
- 4 Lake Erie Brest Bay Walleye Tournament Len Wood
- 4 Sterling St Park SM Bass & Walleye Eric Braden
- 11 Sterling SP Walleye Tournament Fabian Sepulveda
- 11 Grand/South Haven Salmon Pier Event Eric Braden
- 18 Muskie Tourney at lake Hudson Kayak/SB Michelle Braden
- 25 Silver Lake Kayak/SB Keith Childs

JULY 5 Club Summer Picnic Jim Robertson/Dave Zawacki

- 9 Tippy Dam Back Water Kayak/SM Eric Braden
- 14 Erieau Tournament – Thur. Erieau, Canada Clyde Schoen
- 16 Erieau Tournament – Sat. Erieau, Canada Henry Nabors
- 16 Huron River Kayak (Hudson Mills to Dehli) Keith Childs
- 16 Manistee River Cleanup Day @ High Bridge Roger Hinchcliff
- 28 Ludington Salmon Tournament – Thu Gale Frazee/Tom Abdelnour
- 29 Ludington Salmon Tournament – Fri Marc Traver/Dave Hutton
- 30 Ludington Salmon Tournament – Sat Dave & Kim Zawacki
- 31 Ludington Salmon Tournament – Sun Chair: Marc/Kirk Traver

AUGUST 2 General Membership Meeting

- 6 Independence Lake Kayak/Small Boat Chuck Davis
- 13 Salmon Tournament – Manistee – Sat Henry Nabors/Dave Hutton
- 14 Salmon Tournament – Manistee – Sun Marc/Kirk Traver
- 20 Lake Tournament – Frankfort Robert Grech/C Christoph
- 21 Salmon Tournament – Frankfort Bill Dodge/C Christoph

SEPTEMBER 6 General Membership Meeting

- 17 Muskegon Kayak/SB Salmon Eric Braden
- 10 Manistee River & Pier Tournaments Adam Trenz River Chair/Eric Braden
- 19 Captain/Crew/River Angler 2023 Calendar Mtg Kelley/Adam T/ River Chair/Nabors/Zawacki
- 23 Manistee River Tournaments Fabian Sepulveda

OCTOBER 4 General Membership Meeting**NOVEMBER 1 General Membership Meeting**

- 5 Manistee River/Pier/Shore Tournaments w DS Dave Zawacki/Eric Braden/Adam Trenz
- 19 PM River Tournament Marc Traver/Adam Trenz

DECEMBER 6 CHRISTMAS PARTY - HAPPY HOLIDAYS

- 10 Huron River Tournament Hinchcliff/Brown

MSSFA January Executive Directors Report



MSSFA Executive Director Report *Dennis Eade*

An order to extend the Great Lakes Fishing Consent Decree through June 30, 2022 was granted on November 29th. The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, and the State of Michigan joined in this motion while the Sault Ste. Marie tribe of Chippewa Indians' counsel originally indicated that his clients opposed an extension of the Decree, they have reconsidered, and they did not oppose the motion to extend the Decree. The Bay Mills Indian Community did not take a position on this motion.

The parties originally began negotiating the terms of the successor decree in September 2019. Due to the difficulty of negotiating during the COVID-19 pandemic, negotiations proceeded slowly. Consequently, the Court extended the expiration date of the Decree to December 31, 2020. When the negotiations still did not result in a successor decree, the Court extended the Decree twice more. The Decree is now set to expire on June 30, 2022.

MSSFA has been involved in protecting sport fishing since the very beginning of the first Consent Decree in 1985. We continue advocating for the sport fisherman today by participating as a principal member of the Citizens to Protect Michigan's Resources (CPMR) whose attorneys are present at the negotiation's table as *amicus curiae* representatives (friend of the court). Our opinions on the terms being discussed are solicited by the state and the federal representatives when terms which impact sport fishing are being considered. We continue to advocate for the tribes to exercise restraint and preserve regulations that share the resource of lake trout equally with sport fishers, limit gear used to trap nets and retain the fishing zones that have guaranteed each tribe exclusive access to their territorial waters.

The Natural Resources Commission meeting on the December 9th resulted in the passage of two amendments (to the Fishery Order; FO 200.22) which would add exceptions for establishing a daily possession limit of one (1) rainbow trout during the spawning period of March 15 through May 15th on several rivers. The amendment has a sunset provision and we will continue to monitor the effects of this action on fishing opportunity. A second amendment sponsored by Commissioner Cozad will allow for harvest of Walleye during the typically closed season in the spring on the Lower Saginaw River and will also remove the current gear restrictions for that same stretch of river. The effective date for this amendment was amended during the NRC meeting and will be Jan. 1, 2023 so it will not influence fishing/harvest opportunities this upcoming spring. I cannot believe I haven't received more push back on the NRC's decision to circumvent the established practice of having these changes vetted in the lake and cold-water committees before being voted on by the commissioners. This is serious breach of process that needs to be monitored closely by associations like ours who speak with one voice for the sports angler. The commissioners are listening to certain constituent groups like river guides and TU members who are steadfast in their belief in catch and release to preserve the fishery. When the science says that there is no threat to the fishery if we continue to harvest three steelhead per day, then there is not a substantive reason to change the bag limit. There is a five-year sunset provision on the Nyberg amendment so we will insist on receiving updates from the DNR fisheries folks on the effect these amendments have or don't have on harvest opportunity.

MSSFA January Executive Directors Report - (Cont'd)

This year is an election year in Lansing so not much legislation is going to get passed if history tells us anything about an election year. Appropriations and Budget items will get top priority. We will still need to be vigilant during the lame duck session to make sure bad bills don't get passed at the eleventh hour in December. There is a better than even chance the Senate may flip and the Democrats will be in charge. That may be an opportunity for us, since the Natural Resources Committee in the Senate is currently chaired by Ed McBroom (R) who stalemated the commercial fishing bills from moving from committee to the floor. A new committee chair may be more willing to move commercial fishing statute legislation that protects sportfishing through the committee process to a vote in the Senate in 2023. That means doing our best to influence the new majority leader in 2023 to pick a recreational fishing minded senator to chair the Natural Resources Committee. We have strong Republican allies and Democratic allies in the Senate that will assure bi-partisan support. Another good reason to use this time wisely will be to focus on providing MSSFA (myself and state board members) and other fishing associations to begin drafting bills that deal with effects of climate change on the fishery. Removing dams is critical in reducing stream temperatures and saving our cold-water species like steelhead, brown trout, Coho and wild Chinook salmon. Getting comprehensive legislation drafted to make decommissioning dams much easier will be very important. I will be working with our coalition partners in the Changing Seasons Work Group to make this happen in 2022.

The Fish and Wildlife Service's *Mass Fish Marking Program* will be recruiting staff this winter to begin working in the 2022 tagging season starting in March. These positions will be permanent intermittent (when folks are needed) that pay around \$16/ hour with OT. The positions will assist the Biologist in charge of the trailer operations by clipping and tagging the fish that are rejected by the Autofish trailer and loading the trailer with fish. All training will be provided and no previous experience is needed. Employees would be traveling to state and federal fish hatcheries around Lake Michigan on 5–10-day tours with all expenses (hotel, meals, mileage) paid. They are looking to hire about 6-8 folks. Location is not an issue as the employee would be traveling from their homes to the hatcheries for all tours.

Those interested should contact Chuck Bronte at 920.412.8079 for more information or go to USAJOBS.GOV to apply--the positions will be advertised as Animal Care Taker 2 for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This is a great opportunity for any of your chapter members who have recently retired.

Please support the upcoming Steelhead Spectacular Event at D&R Sports Center in Kalamazoo, MI on February 19th. We have some great speakers lined up and the door prizes and raffles are truly extraordinary so don't miss out.



MDNR Hatcheries/Stocking Update

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Additional angling opportunities created by successful fall fish stocking season

Jan. 18, 2022

Contact: Ed Eisch, 231-499-4118 or Sierra Williams, 517-230-8788

Eight different species, 672,478 fish, weighing in at nearly 13.5 tons – those are the totals from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources’ fall 2021 fish stocking efforts at 123 locations across the state.

“It was another outstanding fall fish stocking season that will provide enhanced opportunities throughout Michigan,” said Ed Eisch, DNR fish production manager. “When added to our successful spring and summer stocking efforts, that brings the total for 2021 to more than 18.2 million fish put into Michigan’s waters.”

The number and type of fish stocked vary by hatchery, as each facility’s ability to rear fish differs because of water supplies and temperature. In Michigan, there are six state and three cooperative hatcheries that work together to produce the species, strain and size of fish needed by fisheries managers. These fish must then be delivered at a specific time and location for stocking to ensure their success. Most fish in Michigan are stocked in the spring.

Fall fish stockings in 2021 consisted of eight species that included: brook trout, brown trout, channel catfish, coho salmon, lake trout, Eagle Lake and steelhead strain rainbow trout, walleye and muskellunge.

Marquette State Fish Hatchery (near Marquette) stocked 38,003 fall fingerling and adult brook and lake trout that weighed a combined 8,018 pounds. These fish were stocked at 46 locations, both in the Upper and Lower peninsulas.

Oden State Fish Hatchery (near Petoskey) stocked 37,000 Wild Rose brown trout and 113,863 Eagle Lake rainbow trout fall fingerlings that weighed a combined 4,093 pounds. These fish were stocked at four locations.

Platte River State Fish Hatchery (west of Traverse City) stocked 70,194 fall fingerling coho salmon weighing 2,999 pounds. These salmon were stocked in the East Branch of the AuGres River located in Iosco County.

Thompson State Fish Hatchery (near Manistique) stocked 349,213 fall fingerling steelhead that weighed 3,810 pounds at four locations. In addition, the first year of musky production was a success at Thompson, stocking 20,037 fish at 12 locations.

Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery (west of Kalamazoo) stocked 9,850 Great Lakes strain muskellunge fall fingerlings that weighed 1,083 pounds and were stocked at 13 locations.

Several fisheries management units (Northern Lake Michigan, Southern Lake Michigan, Central Lake Michigan, Lake Erie and Southern Lake Huron) also stocked fall fingerling walleyes in 2021. The Northern Lake Michigan management unit stocked 4,927 Bay De Noc strain fall fingerlings weighing 730 pounds, while the Lake Erie and Southern and Central Lake Michigan management units stocked 23,133 Muskegon strain fall fingerlings weighing 2,108 pounds.

Three sites were stocked with a total of 5,035 channel catfish from Ohio, with a total weight of 1,014 pounds. These fish were part of an annual agreement that includes Michigan providing Ohio with steelhead eggs in exchange for fall fingerling channel catfish.

Also as part of an annual cooperative exchange, 2,123 Northern strain muskellunge from the Wisconsin DNR weighing 685 pounds were stocked at four locations in both the Upper and Lower peninsulas. The Michigan DNR provided Wisconsin with Great Lakes strain muskies in exchange for these fish.

In general, fish are reared in Michigan’s state fish hatcheries anywhere from one month to one and a half years before they are stocked.

The DNR welcomes visitors to its state fish hatcheries and interpretative centers to witness firsthand the fish rearing process and to learn about Michigan’s waters. For more information, visit Michigan.gov/Hatcheries. For everyone’s safety, masks are recommended for all visitors entering public buildings.

To find out if any fish were stocked in your favorite fishing spot, visit the DNR’s fish stocking database at MichiganDNR.com/FishStock/.

DNR COVID-19 RESPONSE: For details on affected DNR facilities and services, visit this webpage. Follow state actions and guidelines at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus.



BIG FISH 2022!

Big Fish Coordinator: Karen Westphal



The 2022 Big Fish contest is underway! All existing members need to be entered by **April**. All new members have 30 days from join date to sign-up!

The cost is \$5.00 for the biggest fish in each category, and \$5.00 for the biggest fish caught over all for the year (Jackpot). The categories are: Wall-eye, Lake Trout, Brown Trout, Steelhead Trout, King, Coho, and Atlantic Salmon.

You can also send your entry to "Big fish Contest", 32160 W. 11 Mi. Rd. Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Make your check payable to Karen Westphal with "Big Fish" in the memo portion of your check. You can find the Big Fish Rules within this newsletter.

Good luck to everyone!
Karen Westphal



CONSERVATION PLEDGE

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the natural resources of my country;
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Karen Westphal Tues., Thur., Fri., Sat.

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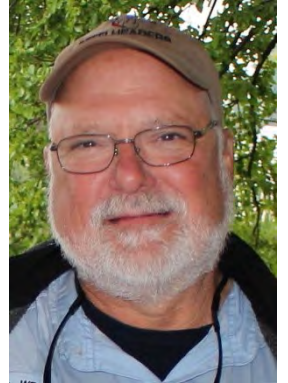
Jeff Zyck

ANNUAL MWS BIG FISH CONTEST - THREE WAYS TO WEIGH FISH

Submitted by Robert Grech AND Karen Westphal

Three Ways to weigh your Big Fish Entry

- . Certified Scale available at retail establishments
- . MWS Weigh-in Scales used at Club Events
(used before, during or after a tournament)
- Handheld Scales with a MWS Seal of Approval



Handheld Scale Seal of Approval Process

1. Bring your handheld scale to a meeting (Jan – April or by appointment at other meetings).
2. See **Robert Grech** to have your handheld scale tested.
3. Scale must be accurate within plus or minus one tenth of a pound for 1 lb, 5 lbs, 10 lbs and 15 lbs
4. If scale passes the four tests, the scale will have been VERIFIED and approved for use in the Big Fish Contest.
5. A Seal of Approval will be placed on the scale.
6. When submitting a Big Fish Entry, a picture must be provided with the fish being weighted on the approved scale with the Seal number showing in the picture.

Submit the Big Fish Application to **Karen Westphal** with pictures of the Angler and the fish and the fish on the HANDHELD scale with the seal showing.



BIG FISH RULES AND FORM

- Participant must be a member in good standing, spouse or child of a member of Metro West Steel headers.
- The contestant must be registered before the fish is caught.
- The entry fee of \$5.00 must be paid by the April membership meeting. A new member of Metro West must pay the entry fee within 30 days of the membership registration date to qualify.
- Fish must be caught in Michigan waters or during an official Metro West Tournament in Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, or Canadian waters.
- Fish must be caught by sport fishing method only. All DNR rules apply. During tournaments outside of Michigan, the local sport fishing rules will apply.
- The length of the contest is from Jan. 1st through Dec. 31st. Each entry must be submitted within 30 days of catch. Entry form must be complete with picture attached.
- Eligible species include Walleye, Coho, Chinook, and Atlantic salmon, Brown or Lake trout, Steelhead trout, and Brook Trout.
- There are two divisions, lake and river; the above species can be entered in either one or the other division, not both!
- In case of a tie, the first fish entered will win. Post mark on mailed entries will be the entry date. Entries can be mailed to: BIG FISH CONTEST/ 32160 W. 11 MI. RD. FARMINGTON HILLS, MI. 48336, OR TO: kclipper2014@gmail.com.
- All money will be distributed equally among winning fish.
- A registered scale with serial number, or the Metro West scale must be used to weigh the fish, and signature of witness must be given.
- One person may win a maximum of two categories.

Big Fish Jackpot –Separate contest

- Entry fee \$5.00; largest fish wins.
- All regular Big Fish rules apply except for 8, 10, & 12.

(Prizes will be awarded at the Christmas Party)

The April Meeting is the deadline for Big Fish sign-ups for existing members.

If you are new to our club, you will have 30 days from your joining date to enter the Big Fish contest. If you cannot make a general membership meeting, but would like to enter the Big fish contest, you can send your entry fee to:

"Big Fish contest"
32160 W. 11 mi. rd.
Farmington Hills Mi. 48336

Existing members entries must be paid by the April meeting, new members entries postmarked within 30 days of joining date.

Make sure you write the check to Karen West-phal, with "Big Fish contest in the memo portion of your check. The fee is \$5.00 for the Biggest fish in all categories, and \$5.00 for jackpot, which is the biggest fish caught over all. If you don't want to enter both categories, please specify which category you are entering. Most everyone enters both Big Fish and Jackpot to increase their chances to win more money.
Thank you, Karen West-phal

BIG FISH ENTRY FORM			
NAME			
ADDRESS			
CITY		STATE	ZIP
CATCH DATA:			
Date of Catch:		Fish Species:	
Lake or River Entry:		County:	
Name of Lake or River::			
Method:		Bait Used:	
FISH STATISTICS:			
POUNDS		OUNCES	LENGTH
Registered scale # or Inspectors name:		Picture of Fish Enclosed: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Witness to Weigh In:		Date	
I hereby state the above is true. Remember, form must be turned in within 30 days			
Angler's Signature:		Date	

WANTED: Volunteers for open Positions (As revised per 1/11/22 BOD Mtg)

METRO WEST STEELHEADERS

2022 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AND DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

<p><u>PRESIDENT</u> ROBERT SCHULZ CONSERVATION ACTION COMMITTEE (Jay Laban) SOCIAL MEDIA (Unassigned) Livonia Sr. Center</p>
--

<p><u>VICE PRESIDENT</u> ERIC BRADEN NEWSLETTER GUEST SPEAKERS (BOD)</p>
--

SECRETARY	TREASURER	MEMBERSHIP	MSSFA REP	MUCC REP
DEB GRECH	CARMEN ZIRLES	HENRY NABORS	[OPEN]	MARC TRAVER
		TERM EXP 2022	TERM EXP 2023	TERM EXP 2023
RECORD MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING	MONEY BANK ACCOUNTS, ATTESTATION AUDIT, BUDGET, FUNDRAISING, DONATIONS, Tackle & 50/50 raffles (Karen Westphal) COOLER RAFFLE (TBD) COMEDY CLUB (Karen Westphal) REFRESHMENTS (Marshall Walker)	C/C OF YEAR, CLUB CALENDAR, MEMBERSHIP DRIVE, WEBSITE: PORTS (Gale Frazee) CONSERVATION (Jay Laban)	MSSFA STATE REPRESENTATIVE, BY-LAWS, ELECTIONS	MUCC RERESENTATIVE, TRACKS MAGAZINE (?), MUCC CAMP SPONSORSHIP, KIDS CAMP (Karen Westphal)

DIRECTOR BRAD ALLAN TERM EXP 2022	DIRECTOR DAVE ZAWACKI TERM EXP 2023	DIRECTOR ADAM TRENZ TERM EXP 2022	DIRECTOR LEONARD WOODS TERM EXP 2023	DIRECTOR GALE FRAZEE TERM EXP 2024	DIRECTOR ROBERT GRECH TERM EXP 2024
KIDS OUTING, CHRISTMAS PARTY (Karen Westphal)	BOAT TOURNAMENTS CAPTAINS COMMITTEE, (Dennis Kelley) BIG FISH, (Karen Westphal) KAYAK/SMALL BOAT/PIER & BEACH GROUPS WARM WATER CHALLENGE (Eric Braden)	STREAM COMMITTEE (Adam Trenz)	METRO WEST WEAR (Unassigned) UFS (Mark Traver Chris Christoph) NOVI BOAT SHOW (Bob Schulz)	SOUND EQUIPMENT, FISHING MACHINE & TV, TOURNAMENT SUPPLIES (Jeff Bustos) FISH SCALES STORAGE UNIT LINE WINDER	SALMON-in-the- CLASSROOM COORDINATOR, OUTDOORAMA, WAIVER OF LIABILITY, INSURANCE, HAND SCALE VERIFICATION

Karen Westphal Tues., Thur., Fri., Sat.

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