



P.O. Box 611337
Port Huron, MI
48061-1337

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Port Huron MI
READY SET MAIL
PERMIT #1228

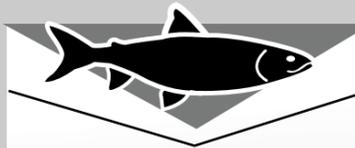
V33, # 6 • June, 2007



BLUE WATER Sportfishing



ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



**Board of Directors
Meeting:**
Tues. June 5th, - 7:00 pm
at McMorran

**General Membership
Meeting :**
Wed., June, 13th, 7:30 pm
at McMorran

Fish Stories

Attention
Club Members!

***We are looking for
images and pictures of
your fish stories to place
in the newsletter. If you
have a great story about
a recent fishing trip that
you want to brag about,
contact Mike Rymar at
(586)-215-3972 or at
mrymar@hotmail.com.***

***We would love to publish
your story.***

P.O. Box 611337
Port Huron, MI 48061-1337
1 (800) 255-0508 • Fax: (313) 841-3786
www.bluewatersportfishing.net
E-mail: fish@bluewatersportfishing.net

Michigan's Free Fishing Weekend

State recreation officials today announced Michigan's annual summer Free Fishing Weekend, June 9-10. For these two days, residents and nonresidents can fish without purchasing a fishing license, though all other fishing regulations still apply.

Michigan has offered Free Fishing Weekends since 1986 as a way to promote the state's diverse natural resources. With more than 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, 11,037 inland lakes and more than 36,000 miles of rivers and streams, Michigan's freshwater angling opportunities are among the best in the nation.

"Fishing is a great way to connect with nature, whether you enjoy the solitude of a wooded stream or a day on a lake or pier with family and friends," said Department of Natural Resources Director Rebecca Humphries. "I encourage all Michigianians to get out and try 'casting a line' and discover the many rewards that Michigan fishing has to offer."

To help new anglers get started, the DNR and a host of federal, state and local partners are conducting clinics, casting contests, fishing derbies and other fun Free Fishing Weekend events throughout the state. Most are designed for families and children. For a list of events in your area, go to www.michigan.gov/dnr and click on "Fishing," then click on the link for "Free Fishing Weekend."

"Many seasoned anglers view Free Fishing Weekend as a time to introduce friends or young people to this enjoyable pastime," Humphries said. "Mentoring others helps ensure Michigan's conservation heritage is passed along to future generations."

Many Free Fishing Weekend events are taking place in Michigan State Parks, in conjunction with the DNR's annual GO-Get Outdoors campaign which celebrates Michigan's outdoor recreation opportunities and the role they play in improving the quality of life for residents and visitors.

All motor vehicles entering a state park or recreation area must display a Motor Vehicle Permit, available for purchase at the park entrance. Cost is \$24 for a resident annual and \$6 for a resident daily. A nonresident annual is \$29 and a nonresident daily is \$8. - Michigan DNR

Brown Trout Record



Casey Richey, nephew of journalist Dave Richey, of Frankfort, MI on May 13 landed what will prove to be a new Michigan Brown Trout record. Shattering the old record by over 2 lbs, it will now stand in the record books and the third

largest brown trout on record. Casey's 36.13 lb brown trout also will set a new line-class record for brown trout being caught on 10 lb line in the records kept by the National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame in Hayward, Wisconsin. - GLSFC

Barrier Operations

The demonstration barrier is still running, though the condition of three of the remaining 12 electrodes is questionable. Failure of one more electrode is likely to result in failure of the barrier. The U.S. Coast Guard and Corps of Engineers have an agreement in place to operate the new barrier (IIA) on an emergency basis if barrier I fails prior to the completion of satisfactory safety testing on Barrier II.

The House has approved a bill that includes wording to fund and make permanent the Waterway Barrier. H.R. 1495, Water Resources Development Act was approved on April 19 by a vote of 394-25. We now need the US Senate to show a sense of urgency and pass a similar bill.

The new barrier is about 50% complete. It is being built in two parts, IIA and IIB. Barrier array IIA is complete and ready to operate pending the safety testing results mentioned above. Barrier IIB needs to be completed at an estimated additional cost of \$8 million.

The safety testing for IIA was completed last month. The Corps was able to successfully operate barrier IIA under three electrode scenarios without creating visible sparks between fleeing barges downstream. Final assessment of the data readings is being undertaken by the Corps. A determination regarding the safe operation of Barrier IIA will come later in the year, perhaps sometime this summer. Meanwhile, the Navy special dive team is conducting an assessment of the risk in a man overboard situation. Their report is due in September. - GLSFC

07' Blue Water Classic



The 23rd Annual Blue Water Classic was held May 19th and 20th. New to this year's tournament was the reopening of Harbor Beach. The top prize of \$10,000 would be again up for grabs making this tournament one of Lake Huron's top tournaments.

With 36 boats pre-registered and another 14 captains signing up at the captain's meeting, the field of 50 boats would be set full of top captains departing from Port Huron, Lexington, Port Sanilac and Harbor Beach in the morning. Several top boats had made the trip to fish (Strictly Salmon, Don Jimo, Ivanhoe, Gone Bad, Big Tuna, and Flippin' Silver). Also, five past winners would be present in the field, including both two time

winners (Skip Braun, Richard DeLange, Jason Fletcher, Tom Loy, and Craig O'Brien). The fish format of 12 fish, 9 of one species, was going to make for some very tight standings with such a competitive field of boats.

Saturday's weather forecast called for nice weather and that is exactly what the contestants received. Partly cloudy skies and a 1 ft. chop of waves. Perfect conditions for filling coolers full of fish. Several of the contestants would be able to pull in heavy boxes on day one. One of the first boats to weigh-in on

day one would be Martin Bringard and this crew onboard Flippin' Silver as they fished out of Port Huron. Martin and crew were able to weigh-in a huge cooler of 12 fish, 83.30 lbs., to sit on top of the leader board. They waited most of the afternoon for the other teams to bring their coolers from the northern ports. Cooler after cooler would be weighed; 9 thru 12 fish box coolers would make their way to the weigh-in. Several 70+ pound weighed would be announced including a 12 fish, 79.05 lbs., cooler by Richard DeLange and the Bite-Me-Too fishing team, but somehow Marty's catch would make it thru day one as the top catch.



Sunday was going to be moving day in two ways. First was that teams were hoping to again fill their boxes full of fish

and move up in the standings. Second was that the teams were greeted by a stiff north wind and 4-6 ft. waves. Again the crews would depart from port in the morning, and again several of the teams managed to put together several 9 thru 12 fish boxes despite the difficult weather.

This year, the tournament committee made the decision to change the way that the coolers would be weighed on day two. Coolers would be weighed as they made their way down to Port Huron, however, the top 20 teams coolers would be set aside until the end of the weigh-in time. At the end of weigh-in time, the top 20 teams from day one would be allowed to bring their catches to the scales in reverse order of the standings. This was to build a bit of excitement at the weigh-in, and it showed by the crowd of people hovering over the ropes as the teams weighed their fish.

Skip Braun and the Circus Act team were one of the boats to weigh their cooler early in the process and their catch of 12 fish, 74.45 lbs., would set the two-day total bar quite high at 137.75 lbs..

it was appearing that it would be tough for the team's two but together two monster catches. There would be several catches of 50 lbs.. one day and then 70 lbs. the next or vice versa. Then two teams, Bandit and Ka-Lee, both put together two 70+ lbs. catches to reset the leader board into the 143 lbs. and 148 lbs. range to take the lead.

Next to be weighed was last year's winner, Jason Fletcher and the crew aboard Rawhide. They sat in 4th place after day one at 74.05 lbs.. Then their monster cooler of 12 fish, 93.90 lbs.. Sunday catch would set them on top of the board at 167.95 lbs. with just three coolers left to go. The next three coolers would all need over 80 pounds to contend for the lead. They all had great catches, but they would all fall just a bit short. Captain Jason Fletcher and the Rawhide crew of Andrea Fletcher, Joel Anderson, Dan Fenner, and Gary Fletcher would be announced as the winners of the 23rd Blue Water Classic.

Top 10 Boats

Place	Boat	Captain	Fish	Weight
1	Rawhide	Jason Fletcher	24	167.95 lbs.
2	Ka-Lee	Don McMurray	20	148.50 lbs.
3	Bandit	Dale Bartlett	22	143.40 lbs.
4	Flippin' Silver	Martin Bringard	22	141.40 lbs.
5	4-C's	Craig O'Brien	19	140.15 lbs.
6	Circus Act	Skip Braun	24	137.75 lbs.
7	Ivanhoe	Jay Korneffel	20	137.15 lbs.
8	Fray'D Knot	Chris Siemen	18	135.15 lbs.
9	Big R	Ron Siewertsen	22	131.65 lbs.
10	Gone Bad	Bill Sturm	21	128.95 lbs.

Important Boating Dates

June 2	Port Huron Club Walleye Tournament
June 9-10	Michigan Free Fishing Weekend
June 22-24	Thumb Area Offshore Challenge
July 14-15	BWSA / Boy Scout Outing
July 29	Port Sanilac Club Perch Tournament
Aug. 18-19	Ludington Club Salmon Tournament

- LARGEST FISH** - 16.05 lbs.
LAKE TROUT by DON MCILMURRAY on KA-LEE
- LARGEST KING** - 11.60 lbs.
by JEREMY JENISCH on LONG LINES
- LARGEST BROWN** - 13.50 lbs.
by ERIC HUTCHINSON on TICKLED PINK
- LARGEST STEELHEAD** - 13.50 lbs.
by JEFF DAWSON on EARLY DAWN
- LARGEST WALLEYE** - 6.00 lbs.
by LARRY BUCKLE on FISH PATROL

- TIE FOR LARGEST COHO** - 3.45 lbs. &
LARGEST LAKE TROUT 10.75 lbs.
by HARVEY VAN HOEY BIG TUNA and CRAIG O'BRIEN 4 C'S

CALCUTTA (18 boats)

Rawhide	Jason Fletcher	167.75lbs	\$599.00
Bandit	Dale Bartlett	143.40lbs	\$514.00
Flippin' Silver	Martin Bringard	141.40lbs	\$307.00
4-C's	Craig O'Brien	140.15lbs	\$100.00