



## Arctic grayling reintroduction gets critical support from Oleson Foundation

Michigan’s historic effort to reintroduce Arctic grayling to the state’s waters will be supported by a \$5,000 grant from the Oleson Foundation to the DNR.

To develop Michigan’s broodstock—a group of mature fish used for breeding—the DNR plans to source wild Arctic grayling eggs from Alaska. However, a vital piece of equipment is needed first at Oden State Fish Hatchery in Emmet County where the broodstock will be developed. Support from the Oleson Foundation will help the DNR acquire this urgently needed piece of equipment that will ensure no invasive disease or virus is inadvertently introduced to Michigan’s waters.

“The Oleson Foundation’s Board of Directors is pleased to support this incredible project,” said Kathy

Huschke, executive director of the Oleson Foundation. “It’s an amazing opportunity to recapture what was lost from northern Michigan’s environment more than 80 years ago due to overfishing and clear-cutting of our forests. This is truly a legacy project for all of Michigan.”

The DNR’s Fisheries Division and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians lead Michigan’s Arctic Grayling Initiative. More than 45 partners—including state and tribal governments, nonprofits, businesses and universities—support reintroducing Arctic grayling to its historical range.

Fish Chief Jim Dexter said the cost to reintroduce Arctic grayling is expected at around \$1.1 million, with virtually all of that amount being supplied through private and foundation support. To date, nearly \$425,000 has been raised for the

initiative. “A diverse group of partners has invested themselves toward attaining a shared goal, and that says something about the nature of this project,” said Dexter. “Michigan’s Arctic Grayling Initiative serves as a template for future efforts that include a variety of stakeholders.”

Other contributions from foundations include support from the Consumers Energy Foundation, the Henry E. and Consuelo S. Wenger Foundation, Rotary Charities of Traverse City and the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation. Plans are under way to recognize donors at Oden State Fish Hatchery.

“We encourage everyone to get involved so we can bring back this native fish,” said Huschke.

### Arctic grayling reintroduction

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## \$50 Million in construction projects approved for the USFWS

WASHINGTON – U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke announced \$50 million in approved funding to rebuild critical U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service infrastructure. The list includes projects like the rehabilitation of the water treatment system at the Dwight D. Eisenhower National Fish Hatchery in Vermont, replacing the Mary Lake fishing pier at Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge in Colorado and repairing Sandy Point public access road at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge in Texas—all dire maintenance and repair projects contributing to the \$1.4 billion backlog facing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages 566 national wildlife refuges and 38 wetland management areas and operates national fish

hatcheries, fish technology centers and fish health centers. The agency is responsible for over \$46 billion in constructed real property assets that include over 25,000 structures (e.g., buildings and water management structures) as well as nearly 14,000 roads, bridges, and dams.

“The President is a builder, he loves to build and he loves our public lands, so it is a natural fit that the Trump Administration is dedicating so much attention to rebuilding our aging Fish and Wildlife Service infrastructure. These approved projects are more than just line items on an Excel spreadsheet. For many sportsmen and women, National Wildlife Refuges are the only opportunities they have to hunt or fish,” said Secretary Zinke. “These

### Construction projects approved

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## Agencies to sample for grass carp in the Sandusky and Maumee Rivers

COLUMBUS, OH – Fisheries biologists from multiple agencies recently conducted a project on the Sandusky and Maumee rivers to assess their ability to capture grass carp.

Crews from the ODNR Division of Wildlife worked with Michigan DNR; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry; Minnesota DNR; Great Lakes Fishery Commission; The Nature Conservancy; U.S. Geological Survey; Quebec Ministry of Forest, Wildlife, and Parks; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; Michigan State University; The Ohio State University; and the University of Toledo for three days of sampling looking for grass carp.

The crews sampled June 12-14 and included the coordinated use of multiple electrofishing vessels and nets to collect adult and juvenile carp in the Sandusky and Maumee rivers. Over the three days, 30 grass carp were collected, 27 from the Sandusky River and three from the Maumee River, using refined sampling techniques to collect grass carp for research and removal. Although present in the system, grass carp populations are considered to be low, and this week's action reinforces this conclusion.

This week's planned action is part of continuing efforts to remove invasive grass carp, assess grass carp capture techniques and increase information on grass carp populations in the Sandusky and Maumee rivers. This year's planned response incorporated results from the 2017 coordinated unified response that tested grass carp collection strategies

and the potential to control this species in the basin. This is one part of a structured and measured approach to better understand and address grass carp in Lake Erie.

The increased knowledge of grass carp in western Lake Erie gained through this research allows natural resource agencies, working through the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, to collaboratively develop science-based management approaches and evaluate the effectiveness of different actions and strategies.

The grass carp is an invasive species in the Great Lakes region and is one of four species commonly identified as Asian carp. All species of Asian carp do not have the same

negative ecological effects. Grass carp present significantly different risks to the Lake Erie ecosystem compared to highly invasive bighead carp and silver carp.

An adult grass carp commonly weighs more than 20 pounds and can grow up to 48 inches long. The fish are primarily herbivorous, consuming large quantities of aquatic vegetation, and affect fish communities primarily through habitat modification.

Grass carp were actively stocked in private ponds in many states as early as the 1970s, and some have escaped. Grass carp have been detected in Lake Erie since the mid-1980s. Recent efforts to collect fish have resulted in low catch rates, indicating that fish are present in low densities. There is currently no evidence of negative ecological or economic impacts to the Lake Erie ecosystem attributed to grass carp.

ODNR ensures a balance between wise use and protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all. Visit the ODNR website at [ohiodnr.gov](http://ohiodnr.gov). ✧



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### Position Statement

Representing a major interest in the aquatic resources of the Great Lakes states and the province of Ontario, the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council is a confederation of organizations and individuals with a concern for the present and future of sport fishing, our natural resources and the ecosystem in which we live. We encourage the wise use of our resources and a search for the truth about the issues confronting us.

### Inland Seas Angler

#### GREAT LAKES BASIN REPORT

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## Sound-emitting technology to test whether warmer Mille Lacs is affecting walleye

In Minnesota, a new study is deploying underwater listening devices to find out why more young walleye in Lake Mille Lacs aren't surviving to adulthood. The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe is using a technology called acoustic telemetry to track the movements of the juvenile fish.

Band scientists hope to test a hypothesis that warming lake temperatures are one of the factors contributing to the recent decline of the iconic lake's walleye population. "What we're hoping to accomplish is to shed light on why there's elevated juvenile walleye mortality in Mille Lacs Lake," said Carl Klimah, fisheries biologist for the band's natural resources department.

Earlier this summer, researchers placed 61 acoustic receivers in a grid pattern about 3,000 meters apart throughout the lake.

This month, they will catch about 70 adult walleye, sedate them with an electrical charge and implant a transmitter tag in their bellies. The tags emit a sound picked up by the receivers when within range. Then the fish are released back into the lake.

Researchers will catch and tag 35 juvenile walleye in the fall and another 35 next spring, Klimah said. The tags allow researchers to glean a wealth of data about the fish's movements during different seasons.

"We'll know roughly where that fish is, we'll know what depth it's at, and what temperature it's occupying," Klimah said. "So there's a lot of information that comes with it."

That data will help band researchers test their theory that the lake's warmer temperature and clearer water — filtered by invasive species such as zebra mussels and spiny waterflea — are impacting young walleye. Researchers want to know if walleye, seeking their optimal water temperature of around 68 degrees,

## DNR upgrades outdoor recreation maps for mobile devices

Navigating Minnesota's woods and waters with a mobile device is now easier than ever with new digital maps available from the Minnesota DNR. Cartographers in the Parks and Trails Division have recently upgraded nearly all of the maps for Minnesota state parks, state water trails, off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails and public water access sites to geospatial (location-referenced) PDF files (or GeoPDFs for short). State trail and snowmobile trail maps will be available shortly.

"Our new GeoPDF maps are part of our ongoing efforts to improve the visitor experience," said Erika Rivers, director of the DNR's Parks and Trails Division. "Knowing exactly where you are at any given time takes away the worry about getting lost, so you can focus instead on having fun outdoors."

The GeoPDF maps are best read with Avenza Maps, a GeoPDF reader app, which is available for free from the Google Play Store (for Android devices) or the App Store (for iPhones). Internet access is needed to install the app and map files, but once they are installed, they do not need Internet access or cell phone service to function.

"The app relies solely on a device's built-in GPS receiver to track your movement," Rivers said. "Your location is represented on the map by a small blue dot, which moves as you move." For instructions to download: [DNR website](#). ✧

are being forced into smaller areas of the lake. That would bring juvenile and adult walleye closer together and could increase the likelihood that larger adults would eat the younger fish, Klimah said. The Mille Lacs Band received a grant of nearly \$200,000 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the study, which runs through the spring of 2019. ✧

## NMMA provides update on Canada's retaliatory tariffs

It has been an intense few weeks in the recreational boating industry. The National Marine Manufacturers Association advocacy staff on both sides of the border have been working around-the-clock to communicate to both the U.S. and Canadian governments that tariffs between the two countries do nothing to protect jobs or economies.

On Sunday, July 1, the Government of Canada began implementing its counter-retaliatory tariffs against U.S. products entering Canada, which includes a 10 percent tariff on recreational boats entering Canada from the United States.

NMMA has released numerous statements and spoken with many media outlets including the CBC, *Globe & Mail* and *New York Times* in Canada as well as the *Wall Street Journal*, Associated Press and BBC News in the U.S. to name just a few.

"All of our collective advocacy and media relations efforts, in addition to advocacy conducted by manufacturers, dealers, marine trade associations, and other stakeholders, helped ensure our voice was heard by the Canadian government," said NMMA Canada Pres. Sara Anghel.

Unfortunately, the trade war is bigger than the recreational boating industry, Anghel said. The Government of Canada feels it must hit the U.S. hard in the hopes that President Donald Trump will back down on aluminum and steel tariffs. "NMMA and our MTA partners will not stop fighting this cause," she added. NMMA Canada will return to Ottawa to request a grace period for boats and will ask for compensation for Canadian businesses, Anghel said.

For more info on the Canadian tariffs contact Anghel at [sanghel@nmma.org](mailto:sanghel@nmma.org). NMMA's Senior VP of Government and Legal Affairs, Nicole Vasilaros is also a resource at [nvasilaros@nmma.org](mailto:nvasilaros@nmma.org). Visit [NMMA's trade center](http://NMMA's_trade_center) on [www.nmma.org](http://www.nmma.org) for more. ✧

## DEC announces 2018-2019 Waterfowl Season dates

### Waterfowl hunting seasons provide diverse opportunities across the state

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos announced that information is now available about the state's upcoming waterfowl hunting seasons, including season dates and updated regulations.

"New York offers hunters the unique opportunity to see and hunt nearly all of the waterfowl species found in the Atlantic Flyway; from common eiders on the eastern end of Long Island to wood ducks in the North Country and mallards in the Finger Lakes," said Commissioner Seggos. "This year's season selections were developed by dedicated volunteer task force members and DEC biologists, with input from waterfowl hunters throughout the state. The task force members are charged with developing the best seasons possible by balancing the varied interests of hunters pursuing New York's diverse waterfowl species."

The [season dates and regulations](#) can be viewed in full detail on the DEC website. Waterfowl hunting zone [descriptions and boundaries](#) are available on the DEC website. A [summary of the task force meetings and the rationale for season dates](#) can be found on the DEC website.

### Youth Hunting Opportunities

Duck hunting seasons begin with designated "youth waterfowl hunts" in each zone of the state. Youth hunts allow young hunters to spend time afield with experienced adult hunters and gain necessary knowledge and skills to become safe and responsible members of the hunting community. Junior hunters (12 to 15 years of age) accompanied by a licensed adult hunter (including current HIP registration and duck stamp) may participate. The accompanying adult may not possess a firearm or shoot any birds unless the respective regular season is open. The daily bag limit for

## DEC releases technical briefs on New York State Fisheries

### Briefs highlight key findings from recent fisheries surveys

New York announced that technical briefs summarizing key findings and interpretation of DEC fisheries surveys are now available for public review.

The outcomes of large-scale research projects have always resulted in comprehensive reports, but do not document the full scope of our work. DEC will collect and analyze data from all of our fisheries surveys to create these technical briefs, which will be used to inform science-based fisheries management decisions.

Although written for technical audiences, such as fisheries professionals, these briefs are now available so the public can gain a deeper understanding of New York's fisheries and DEC's work managing the State's aquatic resources. Anglers will find many of the briefs useful with information such as species presence, size distribution, and relative abundance for sportfish populations.

The technical briefs will be developed for most fisheries surveys conducted since 2017. Currently, 16 technical briefs are available and additional briefs will be posted regularly as surveys are completed and analyzed. View [Fisheries Technical Briefs](#) ✧

ducks and brant during these youth hunts is the same as during the regular season, except three geese per day in all zones. The youth hunts are held on weekends in each zone of the state, as follows:

- Northeastern Zone: Sept. 22-23
- Southeastern Zone: Sept. 22-23
- Lake Champlain Zone: Sept. 29-30
- Western Zone: Oct. 13-14
- Long Island Zone: Nov. 10-11

A [complete list of season dates](#) can be found on the DEC website. ✧

## Share thoughts with DNR at July meetings

Michigan is providing its citizens an opportunity to share input and ideas on policy decisions, [programs](#) and other aspects of natural resource management and outdoor recreation opportunities. One important avenue for this input is the public bodies that advise the DNR and, in some cases, also set policies for natural resource management.

The following [boards, commissions, committees and councils](#) will hold public meetings in July 2018. The public is encouraged to attend. The links below will take you to the webpage for each body where you will find specific meeting locations and, when finalized, meeting agendas.

Please check these pages frequently, as meeting details and agendas may change and sometimes meetings are canceled.

### July meetings

- [Belle Isle Park Advisory Committee](#) – **July 19**, 9 to 11 a.m., Flynn Pavilion, Bell Isle, Detroit (Contact: Renee Parker, 517-284-6135)
- [Equine Trails Subcommittee](#) – **July 25**, 1:15 to 4:30 p.m., MSU Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, Lansing (Contact: Barbara Graves, 517-284-6112)
- [Pigeon River Country Advisory Council](#), **July 19**, 6 p.m., Pigeon River Country Headquarters, Vanderbilt (Contact: Scott Whitcomb, 989-983-4101)
- [Trails Advisory Council](#) – **July 23**, 10 a.m., Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center, Roscommon (Contact: Barbara Graves, 517-284-6112)
- [Western Upper Peninsula Citizens' Advisory Council](#) – **July 17**, 5:30 p.m., Michigan Tech Memorial Union Building, Houghton (Contact: Stacy Welling Haughey, 906-226-1331) ✧

## Brad Parsons named MN fish chief

Brad Parsons, a 31-year fisheries veteran and current central region fisheries manager for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, has been selected as the new fisheries chief for the DNR. He begins his new duties Wednesday, July 25.

“Brad brings a breadth of valuable experience to this important



job,” said DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr. “His years working his way up as a researcher in the field and then serving as regional fisheries manager will help us manage the state’s fisheries in ways that positively serve citizens, natural resources and local economies.”

Parsons, a St. Paul Park resident, has been the DNR’s central region fisheries manager since 2010. In addition to managing the region’s eight fisheries offices, he has played a key role in management issues on Lake Mille Lacs, and the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers. He also is the agency’s point person with the citizen-based Walleye Workgroup.

Parsons began his career at the DNR researching a range of topics including walleye populations, angler harvest and attitudes, wetland ecology and predator-prey interactions. As fisheries manager for the central region he was responsible for an area including Minnesota’s lake country, two major rivers, three major metropolitan areas and trout streams

in the southeastern part of the state.

Parsons will oversee a \$34 million annual fisheries section budget and a staff of 286 full-time and part-time employees. With personnel based in four regional offices, 29 area offices and 15 hatcheries, the fisheries section carries out research and management programs affecting state fish species and habitat.

Fishing is big business in Minnesota. Direct angler expenditures in Minnesota total \$2.4 billion and support 35,000 jobs, according to a 2011 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service survey. About 28 percent of Minnesotans go fishing, double the national average.

Parsons is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and has an advanced degree in fisheries from the University of Wyoming. He is the author or co-author of numerous peer-reviewed publications and technical reports. He replaces Don Pereira, who retired on June 8. ✧

## A PFD that’s Unwearable makes an emergency situation Unbearable!

This U.S. Coast Guard safety alert raises awareness of a potentially dangerous circumstance involving Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs). During several inspections involving different vessels, Coast Guard personnel discovered a significant number (>100) of unwearable type 1 PFDs that would have presented a problem for users if needed in an emergency. Owners and operators are reminded that regulations require PFDs onboard vessels to be wearable and in serviceable condition.

Normally, when a wearer dons the PFD, a person grabs both sides of the vest to pull the sides apart and the waist band strap moves freely through a slit opening. The user is then able to easily don the PFD by placing it over the head, passing the strap around the body, clipping the end onto the securing D-ring, and tightening the

strap securely.

During recent PFD inspections, inspectors discovered that the securing strap was secured at its bitter end, and was also fused to the side of the PFD by what appeared to be the shell coating or color-matching material. As a result, a user is unable to separate the halves of the PFD to open the gap and place over the head to wear.

Based on the number of problematic PFDs discovered, the Coast Guard is strongly recommending that owners and operators using this type of PFD inspect each one for this condition. If problematic PFDs are discovered, owners and operators are encouraged to report their findings to the Coast Guard Office of Design and Engineering Standards via email to: [TypeApproval@uscg.mil](mailto:TypeApproval@uscg.mil). Please

include the name of manufacturer, design number, lot numbers, and quantity of PFDs impacted. Also indicate if the coating had been touched up at any time, and the total number of similar unaffected PFDs onboard.

Note: The Coast Guard is deliberately not indicating the manufacturer's name until additional details and the scope of the potential problem are fully known.

This Safety Alert is provided for informational purposes only and does not relieve any domestic or international safety, operational, or material requirements. Developed by USCG Sector New York Inspections Department and distributed by the Office of Investigations and Analysis. Questions may be sent to [HQS-PF-fldr-CG-INV@uscg.mil](mailto:HQS-PF-fldr-CG-INV@uscg.mil). ✧

## DEC announces \$1.1 million in grants for Hudson River Estuary Communities

### *Grants will enhance river access and education*

New York DEC announced that more than \$1.1 million in new competitive grant funding is now available to help communities in the Hudson River Estuary design and improve recreational access and enhance education for people of all ages and abilities.

This funding supports Governor Cuomo's important investments to create new and expanded recreation opportunities for people of all abilities and provide increased access to New York's natural resources. New York's investments in our estuary programs support local communities to create a more sustainable environment while increasing resiliency to extreme weather and flooding.

Approximately \$950,000 is available for projects to provide new or improved accessibility at new or existing access sites for boating, fishing, swimming, and/or wildlife-dependent recreation along the shoreline of the Hudson estuary. This funding is being made available by the State Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) and the Natural Resources Damages Fund (NRD).

\$165,000 is available to support projects to enhance education about the estuary along the tidal waters of the Hudson and make opportunities to learn about the Hudson River Estuary more accessible to a wide range of people. This funding may be used to support development of plans or curriculum, purchase of equipment, development of web sites or mobile phone apps, and/or construction of physical improvements.

The deadline for applications is **August 22, 2018** at 3 p.m. Requests for Applications (RFAs) for "River Education" and "River Access" are available online through the [NYS Grants Gateway](#). Applicants may apply to one or both of the grant programs. The Grants Gateway is a web-based, grants-management system that streamlines the way grants are administered by New York State. The River Education and River Access RFAs include the application,

instructions, and detailed eligibility criteria. General information about the [grants program](#) is also available on the DEC website.

In the 2018-19 State Budget, Governor Cuomo sustained the record-high EPF at \$300 million for the third year in a row, providing funding for open space conservation, parkland stewardship, and other environmental protection projects, including grants to reduce flooding and restore the Hudson River Estuary.

#### **Projects eligible for Hudson River Estuary Access: EPF, \$200,000**

Funding is available for the following types of projects to improve access to the tidal waters of the Hudson and may be used to support development of plans, purchase of equipment, and/or construction of physical improvements. The minimum grant award is \$10,500, and the maximum grant amount is \$50,000.

#### **River Access projects for the Villages of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown: NRD, \$750,000**

Funding from the NRD Fund is available for projects on publicly accessible lands in the villages of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown. Projects may include planning, but must also include a shovel-ready component. The minimum grant amount is \$10,500; maximum grant amount is \$375,000.

#### **River Education: EPF, \$165,000**

Funding is available to support projects and plans to enhance education about the estuary along the tidal waters of the Hudson and to make opportunities to learn about the Hudson River Estuary more accessible and inclusive of individuals with diverse needs and abilities.

All grant applicants, including government agencies and not-for-profit corporations, must be registered in the NYS Grants Gateway to be eligible to apply for State grant opportunities. Not-for-profit applicants are required to "prequalify" in the Grants Gateway system. Prequalification must be completed

by **August 22, 2018**, at 3 p.m.

General questions about the Hudson River Estuary grants application process may be directed to Susan Pepe, Estuary Grants Manager, NYSDEC, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-3506; [HREPgrants@dec.ny.gov](mailto:HREPgrants@dec.ny.gov). To date, the Hudson River Estuary Program has awarded 495 grants totaling \$19,379,639. The grants are provided through New York's EPF and will be administered by DEC's Hudson River Estuary Program.

The Hudson River Estuary Program helps people enjoy, protect, and revitalize the Hudson River and its valley. Created in 1987, the program focuses on the tidal Hudson and its adjacent watershed from the dam at Troy to the Verrazano Narrows in New York City. ✧

## DEC unveils two expansions for a More Accessible Outdoors

DEC [recently announced](#) it has completed two sets of accessibility improvements in New York. [Basswood Pond State Forest](#) in Burlington, Otsego County received \$100,000 in improvements, including an accessible fishing platform, trail leading to the fishing platform, accessible parking area, and a new open field recreation area. In addition, Basswood Pond State Forest has a new trail accessible to mobility-impaired permit holders. The trail leads to a new, accessible waterfront lean-to.

DEC recently held an event celebrating [\\$50,000 in improvements](#) in [Pharsalia Woods State Forest](#) where a 150-foot accessible boardwalk leads visitors from an accessible parking lot to an impressive, accessible viewing platform. Bullthistle Hiking Club also developed a 1.5-mile trail near Round Pond and the viewing platform. [Plan your outdoor adventure](#) to one of these sites today. ✧

## Latest research on Sea Lamprey Control helping to protect Great Lakes Fisheries

**SOUTH ORANGE, N.J.** - A collaboration between scientists at Seton Hall University, Michigan State University, and the US Geological Survey (USGS), funded by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, has developed a technology using polymers for the controlled release of chemical signals into natural waterways. The purpose of this technology is to use organic chemistry and polymer/materials science to create materials for marine applications to help protect people as well as the health of our oceans and waterways by developing environmentally safe ways to control invasive species such as the sea lamprey.

This ground-breaking research, “A simple, cost-effective emitter for controlled release of fish pheromones: development, testing, and application to management of the invasive sea lamprey,” has been published in the scientific research journal, *PLOS ONE*.

The polymer emitter technology was developed in the laboratory of Professor James E. Hanson in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Seton Hall University, and field tested by Associate Professor Michael Wagner of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University and Dr. Nicholas Johnson of the USGS. The polymer emitters have a simple tubular design, filled with a mixture of a slowly dissolving, biodegradable polymer and a chemical attractant or repellent.

“This sea lamprey study demonstrates the flexibility of the polymer emitter technology for release of chemical cues in aqueous environments, after previous use with sharks and trout. For the sea lamprey, this gives us another technique to be employed in sea lamprey control,” explained Professor Hanson.

The sea lamprey, *Petromyzon marinus*, is an ancient jawless fish, native to the Atlantic Ocean and the

streams feeding into it. They are not native to the Great Lakes and it is believed that they gained access to the Great Lakes when the Welland Canal allowed the lamprey to travel around a great natural barrier. In their parasitic phase, they have devastated native fish species and damaged fisheries in the Great Lakes. The sea lamprey is a nocturnal fish that relies on odors to find prey, avoid predators, and navigate back to rivers to spawn.

In field studies, 3kPZS, a component of the male sex pheromone of the sea lamprey was released from the emitters. Emitters releasing 3kPZS were placed in simulated lamprey nests in the Ocqueoc River and behavior of tagged female lamprey evaluated, revealing attraction of female lamprey to the 3kPZS released by the emitters.

Traps on the Cheboygan, Manistique, and Muskegon rivers were baited with 3kPZS-containing emitters, resulting in increased capture of female lampreys. The field work with the sea lamprey demonstrates how the polymer emitter technology represents a far more cost-effective approach to releasing waterborne odors to control invaders than the use of pumps. The Great Lakes Fishery Commission is a joint effort of the United States and Canada to coordinate fisheries research and management on the Great Lakes.

“Sea lamprey control is essential to the \$7 billion Great Lakes fishery,” said Robert Lambe, executive secretary of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, the agency responsible for sea lamprey control, which funded this research. “Although we have reduced sea lamprey populations by 90 percent in most areas of the Great Lakes, the invasive pest can be tenacious. The commission is continually seeking ways to improve sea lamprey control. One promising technique is the use of chemical odor cues to attract or repel sea lampreys— attract them into traps, for instance, or

repel them away from good spawning habitat. The polymer emitter technology developed by scientists from Seton Hall University and Michigan State University brings us a big step closer to using chemical odor cues as a major sea lamprey control technique.”

More on this research is available by reading the article at *PLOS ONE* at <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0197569>.

*PLOS ONE* features reports of original research from the natural sciences, medical research, engineering, as well as the related social sciences and humanities that will contribute to the base of scientific knowledge. ✧

### Construction projects approved

*Continued from page 1*

projects have a tangible effect on a person’s experience when hunting, fishing or visiting a wildlife refuge. Today’s announcement is another step toward eliminating the \$1.4 billion in maintenance facing our nation’s refuges and hatcheries. It’s another step toward prioritizing infrastructure because it is an investment that bolsters local economies. And it is another step in prioritizing access for all Americans to our public lands.”

Secretary Zinke has made tackling Interior’s deferred maintenance backlog one of his top priorities. In April, he signed a memorandum of understanding committing Interior to follow President Trump’s One Federal Decision framework for processing of environmental reviews and permits for major infrastructure projects. In March, Interior announced the Secretary’s partnership with Congress on a bipartisan bill to address rebuild and repair National Park Service infrastructure.

To view the 86 projects: (7 in the Great Lakes region) [\\$50 million construction projects approved](#) ✧

## IL 2018 schedule of waterfowl blind site drawings

SPRINGFIELD, IL Mark your calendars for upcoming waterfowl hunting blind site random drawings to be held at several public hunting areas in Illinois on **July 28 and 29**.

Duck and goose hunters must register in person for waterfowl blind site drawings and must be present at the drawing—held at each location immediately after the registration period—to claim their blind sites. Mail-in registrations are not accepted. Unless otherwise stated, blind allocations are good for one year.

To participate in a drawing, all applicants must present a 2017 or 2018 regular Illinois hunting license (no apprentice or youth license), a 2017 or 2018 Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp at the time they register, unless exempted by law, and valid photo ID. Applicants must be at least 16 years old by the date of the drawing.

Applicants needing to purchase new licenses and stamps should do so prior to the drawing. Most blind drawing locations will not have license sales available. Licenses and stamps are available at any DNR Direct license and permit vendor, through [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov), or by calling 1-888-6-PERMIT (1-888-673-7648). Registrants are no longer required to possess a valid Illinois Firearm Owner's Identification (FOID) card to participate in blind drawings. ✧

## Fishing's Future one-millionth participant in Indiana

An important milestone in aquatic education will take place **July 28** in Indianapolis at Fort Harrison State Park. Fishing's Future, a national 501(c)(3) organization, will celebrate and recognize its one-millionth participant attending an angling education Family Fish Camp. Participants must register to attend this event. [For more information or to register.](#) ✧

## DNR considering changes to Lake of the Woods walleye and sauger regs

Angling regulations on Lake of the Woods and the Rainy River in northern Minnesota would change under a proposal being considered by the Minnesota DNR to reduce the number of walleye and sauger allowed to be kept in the winter on the lake, and on the river allowing only catch-and-release fishing for those fish in the spring.

"We recently went through a public process of updating the Lake of the Woods Fisheries Management Plan and identified several potential areas of concern with regard to current levels of harvest," said Phil Talmage, Baudette fisheries supervisor. "That's why we're discussing these potential changes."

The proposed changes would reduce the aggregate limit of walleye and sauger in the winter to align with the summer regulations on Lake of the Woods, and make spring angling on the Rainy River catch-and-release for walleye and sauger. The changes would go into effect March 1, 2019.

Anglers will see yellow signs at public water accesses around Lake of the Woods and the Rainy River notifying the public of the proposal. Future news releases will provide the details of a formal public comment period in the fall, and will include ways to provide comment to the DNR on the proposal. For more info on Lake of the Woods management: [mndnr.gov/lakeofthewoods](http://mndnr.gov/lakeofthewoods). ✧

## Free events in July throughout Indiana

**July 15** - [Veterans Shooting Sports Range Day, Roush Fish & Wildlife Area](#)

**July 17** - [Learn to Shoot: Basic Shooting for Families, Kingsbury Fish & Wildlife Area](#)

**July 28** - [The Waterfowl Experience, Lasalle Fish & Wildlife Area](#)

**July 28** - [Learn to Hunt: Waterfowl, Atterbury Fish & Wildlife Area](#) ✧

## LOC Summer Fishing Derby on Lake Ontario Biggest salmon gets \$10,000 grand prize

The Lake Ontario Counties (LOC) Fish Derby kicked off on Saturday and runs through July 29, offering weekly and grand prizes for catching the biggest salmon and trout. The derby is offering a total of \$29,000 in cash prizes. Each week, a total of 1,750 will also be handed out – \$1,000 for the biggest salmon and \$250 each for the largest lake trout, brown trout and rainbow trout/steelhead.

The current derby is one of three LOC contests this year. The spring competition ran from May 11-20. The fall derby, with its \$25,000 grand prize and \$68,900 in total cash prizes, runs from August 17 to September 2.

The area that can be fished includes U.S. and Canadian waters from the Niagara River on the lake's western end, to Henderson Harbor on the east. The entry fee is \$40 for adults, \$20 for youth (ages 10-15). For more rules and regulations, a list of weigh-in stations, places to register or to register online, go to [www.loc.org](http://www.loc.org). ✧

## Purple paint means no trespassing

Hunters, anglers, trappers and anyone who enjoys time in the woods will need to be aware of a new law that took effect July 1.

Per Indiana Code (IC 35-43-2-2), landowners may mark no-trespassing areas of their property with purple paint instead of no-trespassing signs. The purple-paint perimeter serves the same legal purpose as a "No Trespassing" sign. Painting can be done around the perimeter of the area where entry is denied on either trees or posts. The purple marks must be readily visible to any person approaching the property. For more information, see IC 35-43-2-2 at [iga.IN.gov](http://iga.IN.gov). ✧



## USGS scientist takes aim at Great Lakes invaders

Sea lamprey have a nasty bite. This blood-sucking parasite could kill more than 100 million pounds of Great Lakes fish annually if left unchecked, according to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. "If we didn't have controls, we wouldn't have a fishery to speak of—recreational, commercial or tribal," says Marc Gaden, communications director for the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. "Beyond that effect, they would destroy the ecosystem from the top down."

Nick Schloesser, a recent Univ. of Wisconsin-La Crosse graduate who is also a U.S. Geological Survey biologist, is adding to the body of knowledge to protect the world's largest collective body of fresh water from the bitter bite of the lamprey. He shared his finds related to using Environmental DNA monitoring to help control populations of lamprey in December as part of his UWL master's thesis project.

"This (eDNA monitoring) is

certainly state-of-the-art and something the fishery commission is interested in," says Gaden. It could save money and time in assessing streams and rivers to determine where to control lamprey, he adds.

To control sea lamprey, Canadian and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists begin by assessing tributaries to determine which ones contain larval sea lampreys. Lamprey are constantly sloughing off cells from their bodies, leaving remnants of DNA—called Environmental DNA—in river or stream sediment, says Schloesser. Through his UWL research, he found Environmental DNA monitoring could potentially be one more tool to determine the concentration of lamprey in a particular stream. Schloesser's finds could save time, money and effort as the typical method for monitoring sea lamprey is physical monitoring, says Hines. "eDNA allows for that rapid V screening—doing more waters, more

efficiently," says Hines. "It definitely serves a big need from a national and international perspective."

### Research project spawned from partnership

Nick Schloesser's research project is a product of UWL's long-term Cooperative Educational Agreement with the USGS Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center. A partnership between USGS and UWL's River Studies Center started back in the 1970s, allowing UWL students to conduct research with USGS scientists focused primarily on river science and fish health. Today the partnership encompasses a variety of UWL disciplines.

Hines says the collaboration brings strength to their team of scientists through professional interactions with UWL faculty. It also helps them attract talent as many of UWL's undergraduate and graduate students transition into full-time work at USGS. ✧

## DOI announces plan to increase recreational fishing opportunities

### Secretary Zinke designates new national trails and enhanced outdoor experiences

Alexandria, VA – On May 30, the Department of the Interior [announced a plan](#) designating 19 new National Recreation Trails in 17 states, many of which will enhance public space for recreational fishing. The plan is part of an expanded effort by the administration to improve outdoor recreational opportunities across the nation and one that the [American Sportfishing Association](#) (ASA) sees as a value to recreational fishing enthusiasts that have access to these trails.

New designations of [National Recreation Trails](#) are announced each year to regularly expand recreational opportunities on public lands. The National Recreation Trails Program is part of a robust outdoor recreation platform and is a valuable resource for outdoorsmen and women. The trails offer a wide array of outdoor activity including hikes, educational programs, bike rides, trail

rehabilitation projects, festivals and paddle trips as well as angling.

"Although not every designated trail leads to water, the sportfishing industry values Secretary Zinke's continued commitment to expanding outdoor resources, ultimately creating more opportunities for our nation's 49 million anglers," said ASA President Glenn Hughes. "For those who love to fish or are considering learning to fish, this is an exciting announcement as it expands our nation's resources and welcomes anglers as good stewards."

This announcement was made just prior to the beginning of [National Fishing & Boating Week](#) which ran from June 2, through June 10.

The following trails included in Secretary Zinke's designation are listed as having fishing opportunities:

- Florida - [Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park Trail System](#)
- Michigan - [North Western State Trail](#)

- Montana - [River's Edge Trail](#)

Trails that are near or improve the ability to get to fishing opportunities include:

- South Dakota - [Blackberry Trail](#)
- Tennessee - [Bays Mountain Park Trail System](#)

According to the DOI's announcement, the designation features outdoor access in both rural and urban areas and will add more than 370 miles to the National Recreation Trails system.

The system now includes more than 1,000 trails in all 50 states, allowing users to connect with nature while boosting tourism and supporting economic opportunities in diverse markets across the country.

To learn more about the National Recreation Trails Program, how trails are chosen and to search an online database of designated trails, [click here](#). ✧

## Federal Ammo unveils new enhanced Mobile Ballistics App

ANOKA, Minnesota – July 9, 2018 – Federal Ammunition’s new enhanced mobile app is a powerful tool to help hunters and shooters streamline and maximize all facets of the shooting experience. “Technology drives everything at Federal Ammunition,” said Federal Senior Digital Marketing Manager Angie Sullivan. “This all-new app brings a range of advanced tools to one convenient place and allows you to access them even while offline.”

Compatible with Apple and Android smartphones and tablets, the new ballistics app features updated ballistic calculator data and the ability to save ballistics, plus updated ammo recommendations and a fresh, new, user-friendly design.

“With the new Federal Ammunition app, hunters and shooters can quickly and easily determine the trajectory for any rifle or handgun load, and save the data for future reference,” Sullivan continued. “Plus, the app allows you to identify which ammunition to use in a variety of shooting situations, locate your closest Federal dealer and find a nearby shooting range where you can enjoy all the benefits of Federal’s industry leading products.”

The ballistics app also offers detailed information on the components and technology that set Federal Premium products apart from other ammunition. Consumers can get the app through the [iTunes Store](#) or [Google Play](#). ✧

## Apply by Aug. 17 for Camp Ripley archery hunts

Hunters can now apply for the regular archery deer hunts at Camp Ripley near Little Falls. The application deadline is Friday, August 17. [Full Story](#) ✧

## State Fair Fishin’ Pond volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help kids around the DNR Fishin’ Pond during the Indiana State Fair, August 3–19. Volunteers get free admission to the Fair on the day they work, a free Fishin’ Pond T-shirt, and the opportunity to teach kids how to fish. Volunteers are also needed to register youth and assist them with a fish coloring

Find out more >>

activity

This year DNR Fish & Wildlife will offer several free education presentations during the State Fair, August 3–19. Join us at the DNR Building for as many as you can:

Friday, **Aug. 3**: Paddlefish & Sturgeon, 6 p.m.

Saturday, **Aug. 4**: Wild Game Cookout, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Saturday, **Aug. 4**: Native Plants & Pollinators, 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, **Aug. 11**: Fish Cooking Demonstration, 2–4 p.m.

Sunday, **Aug. 12**: Wild Game Cooking Demonstration, 2–4 p.m.

Friday, **Aug. 17**: Living with Wildlife, 2–4 p.m.

Sunday, **Aug. 19**: Pond Management, 1 p.m. ✧

## Updated Cormorant Bill

Congressman Bergman’s Office sent out a notice indicating that Michigan Congressman Jack Bergman-R has introduced a slightly different cormorant bill – HR 6302 – up for consideration. This updated bill will allow the previous rules to be immediately reinstated until the new rules are completed. This is new text, and slightly different than HR 4429, the Cormorant Control Act; but it is similar in nature. This legislation is based on feedback from multiple stakeholders and it allows for the old rules to be reinstated until FWS can draft new rules. This will provide Michigan DNR and other affected states with the authority needed to effectively manage cormorants. ✧

## Arctic grayling reintroduction

*Continued from page 1*

The Oleson Foundation is a family foundation founded in Traverse City, Michigan, in 1962 to “help people help themselves.” The foundation makes grants to nonprofit organizations in northwestern Michigan in all areas of grantmaking. They are very supportive of environmental work to preserve and steward the beautiful landscape that makes our area spectacular and unique.

For more information about Michigan’s Arctic Grayling Initiative and answers to frequently asked questions, visit [MiGrayling.org](#). ✧

## Nature Photography Workshop

The Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) program is offering a Beyond the Basics – Weekend Nature Photography Workshop.

Join professional nature and landscape photographer Kurt Budliger and wildlife photographer and BOW instructor Angie Berchielli for this immersive, weekend photography workshop on **August 24-26, 2018** in the heart of the beautifully photographic Adirondacks.

This workshop is designed to help you take your outdoor photography to the next level. Participants will enjoy a mix of classroom slide programs, demonstrations, image critique, image processing lessons, as well as ample opportunities to practice newly acquired skills in the field.

The cost for this workshop is **\$500** and includes two nights double occupancy lodging, meals and professional instruction. You will need to bring your own camera and photographic supplies. See flier for [workshop details and registration directions\(PDF\)](#). Visit [Becoming an Outdoors-Woman](#) on DEC’s website!

For questions or comments:

Kelly Stang, DEC  
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518-402-8862  
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## Researchers use sweet treats to control carp

Researchers are hoping Asian carp have a sweet tooth in an effort to minimize their numbers.

Faculty from Joliet Junior College, members of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and commercial fishermen boated across the Illinois River from Starved Rock Marina to retrieve nets that included blocks made of candy.

Patrick Mills, chairman of the Natural Sciences department at Joliet Junior College, said the sweet treats could be used to attract the fish to larger nets.

“Asian carp are kind of like public enemy No. 1 in terms of invasive species because they essentially eat the plankton in the water, which the small fish eat,” Mills said. “So you’re basically killing the food chain of this base. That’s why these fish are so bad for our ecosystem as they’re basically killing the fish in their crib.”

Mills said if the department can find the right flavor to attract the fish, it could assist in controlling their population numbers and re-establishing a natural ecosystem. Additionally, Mills has done research on amino acids that could double the success of the candy blocks.

The researchers took boats out to retrieve nets that had been placed in the river along with the blocks of pineapple-flavored candy. The candy was placed in a bag with holes in it so the product would seep into the river.

Greg Taylor, of Taylors Candy, made the product specifically for this project and rode with the team to see the result. Taylor said his company also made blocks of garlic, which will be used in the future as well as aniseed, or black licorice flavor, which was tested earlier. He worked with researchers to determine which flavors would be enticing to the fish.

Mills added that the candy-based bait is also less destructive to the other species that call the river home. “There are many, many ways to get Asian carp out of the river and we want to avoid poison. We want to

have a nondestructive technique because the last thing I want to see is poisoning the river,” Mills said. “There are always the casualties of war and we don’t want the other fish to suffer,” he added.

The first catch of the day resulted in success as a large number of Asian carp were caught in one of the candy-filled hoop nets. The researchers pulled the carp from the water and tossed back the catfish.

Clint Garwood, of Joliet Junior College, said they hope to find a flavor that attracts the invasive species and leaves the natural residents. While there are some universal flavors, such as aniseed and garlic, others attract more specific species.

The candy blocks are large when held in a person’s hand yet small when compared to the rushing Illinois River, but Garwood said that’s not a problem as flavor is typically oil-based and mixes into the current.

“The fish smell but do so in a water environment so oils tend to come up. So they’ll smell something and that triggers them to forage,” Garwood said. “They’re super sensitive to what triggers them to find food. It’s like how a shark can smell blood a mile away. For these fish, they’re picking up a light scent even in a current like this.”

Pineapple doesn’t have a natural oil, so a synthetic flavor was created for the day’s test.

Garwood said the team had a good pull of fish throughout the day, but numbers were low compared to previous years.

Matt O’Hara, IDNR Asian carp Project Leader, confirmed this with local fishermen and said carp haven’t been as prevalent in the main channel yet for spawning. He added water temperature and current flow get them to the main channel, and their usual presence may be delayed as a result of the extended time it’s taken for spring weather to hit the area.

Garwood said the fishermen in the area already know where the fish

tend to reside, but the candy is an effort to speed up the process of catching the carp and removing them from the river. O’Hara said from there it’s up to the market to develop and create a demand for the fish on the mainland, such as China, where the fish have already been overharvested by commercial fisherman. He said if the fish becomes more popular for food, either human or non-human consumption, fishermen will more than happily continue to seek out the fish and lower their numbers.

Garwood added the situation is becoming severe as the fish are not only prevalent in the Illinois River, but also the Mississippi. The fish continue to travel north with the final line of defense being the electric barrier in Joliet, which shocks the fish and numbs them, causing them to naturally flow back downstream. After that is the (Chicago) Sanitary and Ship Canal and there’s Lake Michigan waiting,” Garwood said. “There’s an intense effort here to keep them out of the Great Lakes.” ✧

## Women & Girls Rifle, Shotgun, Pistol Clinic

A Women and Girls Shotgun, Rifle and Pistol Instructional Shooting Clinic is being offered Sunday, August 5, 2018, 9-4 p.m. at the Viola Rod and Gun Club in Hyde Park (Dutchess County in the Hudson Valley). Taught by Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) firearms instructor Jackie Emslie, this class is open to girls age 12-17 (who attend with a woman over age 18) and women regardless of their skill level or experience. All the information is on the registration form below. For more information, contact Jackie Emslie at 914-475-4901 or [jslie@earthlink.net](mailto:jslie@earthlink.net). Viola+20180805+rifle+pistol+shotgun.pdf

[https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/NYSDEC/2018/06/11/file\\_attachments/](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/NYSDEC/2018/06/11/file_attachments/). ✧

## Ohio to Host National Golden Smokey Award Presentation

**COLUMBUS, OH** – The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service will be in Ohio to present the Golden Smokey Award to selected candidates, including an Ohio resident. In the world of wildfire prevention, there is no greater honor than to receive a Smokey Bear Award, especially the national Golden Smokey Award. These special awards are reserved for people or organizations providing sustained, outstanding service, with significant program impact, in the wildfire prevention arena, according to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

**WHAT:** Golden Smokey Award Presentation

**WHO:** USDA Forest Service; Hosted by the ODNR Division of Forestry

**WHEN:** July 18, 2018, at 5 p.m.

**WHERE:** Vinton Furnace State Forest Headquarters; Vinton County; Directions available here: [goo.gl/maps/fpAmgh3keHK2](http://goo.gl/maps/fpAmgh3keHK2); GPS Coordinates: 39.199617, -82.396229

The banquet will start at 5 p.m., with the award presentation expected to follow around 6:15 p.m. Media attending the event are welcome to eat at the banquet.

This presentation will occur during the weeklong conference for the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters (NAASF). State foresters from 21 Midwestern and northeastern states will travel to Ohio for this conference. The group will tour Vinton Furnace State Forest where research is being done that impacts forestry across the eastern United States.

Vinton Furnace State Forest is one of the most biologically diverse ecosystems in the United States and home to more than 50 years of ongoing research. The tour will be led by research scientists from the USDA Forest Service's lab in Delaware, Ohio, highlighting the work they are doing to promote proper forest management.

## Online dove permits

Online applications will be accepted from resident Illinois hunters through June 30 for the first lottery for Illinois Free Dove Hunting Permits for hunting at select state sites. Applications may be submitted for the second lottery by resident hunters who were unsuccessful in the first lottery, residents who did not apply in the first lottery, and non-resident hunters for the second lottery drawing from **July 7-21**. After the second lottery permit application deadline on **July 21**, hunters may apply for remaining free dove permits on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 8 a.m. on July 28-Aug. 25. For more info, check the IDNR website at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/dove/Pages/OnlinePermitApplication.aspx>. ✧

## Check Your Boat Registration

The IDNR reminds boat owners in Illinois to check their three-year boat registration/decal and renew their registration if it expires in 2018. Renewing watercraft registration can be done online through the IDNR website at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) or at 866-867-3542. To renew registration, have available the watercraft's Illinois registration number, the first six characters of the watercraft's hull ID number, the first three letters of the registered owner's last name, and a credit card. As of June 1, 2018, new or renewed three-year watercraft registrations will expire on September 30 in the calendar year of expiration. Non-motorized watercraft, including canoes, kayaks, paddle boats, or sail boards in Illinois, longer need a Water Usage Stamp. For details: <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/boating/Pages/default.aspx>. ✧

Media attending the banquet and award presentation should RSVP by calling 614-265-6860 or emailing [stephanie.leis@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:stephanie.leis@dnr.state.oh.us). *ODNR ensures a balance between wise use and protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all. Visit the ODNR website at [ohiodnr.gov](http://ohiodnr.gov).*

## Largest artificial reef expansion in NYS history

In an effort to revive marine life populations, Governor Cuomo has launched the largest artificial reef expansion in the state's history. This unprecedented commitment will enhance 12 artificial reef sites beginning with six this year at Fire Island, Hempstead, Moriches, Rockaway, Shinnecock, and Smithtown with many more in the years to come. A map with coordinates for all of the artificial reefs including the six sites being enhanced this year is available.

The reef program will be developed through a multi-state agency effort to use retired steel vessels from the Erie Canal, and demolition materials from the Tappan Zee Bridge and other transportation and infrastructure projects. Material and vessels have been cleaned of all contaminants and repurposed.

Once the materials settle on the sea floor, the reef structure will begin to fill with various species of marine life and over time the structure will create a habitat very similar to a natural reef. We expect to see fish like blackfish, black sea bass, scup, fluke, hake, and cod move in to check out the new structure. Lobsters and crabs also take up residence in our artificial reefs, and encrusting organisms like barnacles, sponges, anemones, corals, and mussels cling to and cover the material.

Once again New York is leading the way and this new artificial reef program will increase marine populations and provide a boost to local economies and tourism. To download the [map and coordinates](#), and for more information about Governor Cuomo's reef initiative, visit [DEC's website](#). ✧

**Other Breaking News Items:**  
**(Click on title or URL to read full article)**

[Fort Wayne berm built to keep Asian carp out of Great Lakes](#)

The Fort Wayne berm was built to halt carp if flooding ever reached historic, 100-year levels, plus 2 extra feet. Since it was finished in 2015, there have been three times that floodwaters rose high enough so that carp could have crossed if no barrier

[Ohio governor to roll out new plan to combat Lake Erie algae](#)

Ohio's governor is set to announce a new plan to combat toxic algae in Lake Erie

[Michigan officials pledge \\$50M for shipping locks upgrade](#)

Michigan will commit \$50 million for a second Soo lock to accommodate 1,000-foot freighters that haul iron ore and other bulk cargo between Lake Superior and the other Great Lakes, if the federal government takes the lead

[Michigan ballast water rules face backlash amid invasive species fight](#)

Michigan would drop its own stringent ballast water discharge rules and adopt federal regulations for oceangoing freighters that transport goods in the Great Lakes under legislation approved this week by the Republican-led legislature.

[DNR studying decline of juvenile whitefish](#)

The Michigan DNR is partnering with 10 others to monitor lake whitefish in the Great Lakes. They are the most important commercial fish species in the region, and a popular item at restaurants

[Diver's photos show mussel-covered car at bottom of Grand Traverse Bay](#)

Traverse City-based diver Chris Roxburgh enjoys sharing photos and videos of his underwater discoveries online. But he didn't expect one discovery in particular to gain such popularity: A 1979 Ford Pinto sulking in the aquamarine waters of Grand Traverse Bay, covered in quagga mussels

[Millions allotted for Soo Locks](#)

More than \$65 million earmarked for Eastern Upper Peninsula projects has been allocated to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District for fiscal year 2018 under the official work plan rolled out early this week

[Study: Ships move non-native species in the Great Lakes](#)

A new study on ballast water discharge has found Great Lakes ships are moving non-native species from the lower lakes to western Lake Superior

[Fish levels declining again due to cormorants](#)

During the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources meeting in Alpena, Michigan, this week, a lot was discussed about the damage cormorants have caused to communities that depend on fishing as a source of tourism

[NOAA scientists study mussels in the Great Lakes](#)

Scientists will compare mussels from Lake Huron's Thunder Bay Island, a clean reference site, with those collected in very contaminated sites in the Great Lakes basin.

[Lake Erie walleye fishing is the best it's been in almost four decades](#)

The good walleye year for Lake Erie can be attributed to the winters of 2014 and 2015, which had lake freezes last longer than usual and helped with a late spawning season

[Home owners forced to abandon homes because of eroding Lake Erie shoreline](#)

High water levels, storms and a lack of freezing during the winter have led to severe erosion along the Lake Erie shoreline, leading some owners in Dunville, Ontario, to lose as much as 30 feet of their backyards. Now, six residents have been ordered to evacuate their homes

End