**Minutes/ Agenda and Presentations**

**Tuesday Oct 11**

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|  | **UMRCC Fish Tech Section** |
| 13:00 – 13:15 | Greeting and handshake time |
| 13:15 – 13:20 | Welcome, logistics, and hand out meeting attendance sign-in |
| 13:20 – 13:30 | Approval of Spring Fish Tech Minutes --**Approved** |
| 13:30 – 13:50 | Standardized HREP sampling protocol in Lower Pool 9 – Jeff Janvrin |
| 13:50 – 14:10 | *Mussel Ad Hoc – Gritters/* *Schonhoff* |
| 14:10 – 14:30 | Asian carps in the Middle Mississippi River – Quentin Phelps   * Silver carp   + Taste test (majority preferred silver carp over tilapia and cncf)   + Other carp work includes:     - Demographics     - Food habits     - Early life history     - Effects on native fishes     - Carp in floodplain lakes     - Competition driving community/relationships     - Commercial harvest would help |
| 14:30– 14:45 | Asian carp: A Minnesota and Dieterman perspective – D. Dieterman   * Asian carp action plan (WI and Federal Partners)   + Assess threat and minimize   + Working with ACRCC (Tim)     - 50% positive eDNA in St. Croix for silver carp     - Contracted commercial fishers     - Additional eDNA tests     - Prevention is challenged by recreational use     - Mitigation using new technology supported by MN     - Outreach efforts on-going   + Is it too late?   + Barriers and locations are being discussed |
| 14:45 – 15:00 | Carp discussion  Hybridization of Asian carps – Jim Lamer   * Hybridization is occurring with 22-80% observed in wild |
| 15:00 – 15:15 | **BREAK** |
| 15:15 – 16:00 | Committee Reports (Please provide a written summary before or at the meeting to be included in minutes):   * Fish tech section **SUPPORTS** moving mussel tech section as a separate section.   + High water in 2011   + Mussel symposium – UMRCC Sponsored Dec 4-7   + Finding adult Higgins eye w/ gravid females   + Searching Iowa river * MICRA requests to provide a list of fishery goals/objectives |
| 16:00-17:00 | Agency Reports as time allows  Included after agenda/minute items below: |
|  |  |
| 17:00 | **Adjourn** |

**Agenda and Presentations**

**Wednesday Oct 12**

|  |  |
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| 9:00 – 9:05 | **Joint Fisheries and Wildlife Session** |
| 9:05 – 9:30 | UMRCC Coordinator's Report -- *Scott Yess*   * New host for website * Teachers Workshop – Wyalusing had 25 teachers * WQ Section updated database * Veg sampling (Lisa Reed/Mike Griffin)   + Pool 6 sampling complete   + Pool 14 sampling cancelled due 2012 * Fish Habits and Habitats PDF on website * Video committee – UMRCC history / accomplishments/future   + Tom Bolan reviewer, to be complete by spring meeting * Book committee   + Goals and strategies   + Short stories from the field * Executive board   + Guidelines for paper/poster award for students * OREIT Cindy Samples acting chair, looking for state person   + Fuel/Buss Grant     - 10 grants for schools up to $250 for field trip     - Preference to teacher workshop participants * Annual meeting Riverport, Winona, MN * To do: letter for carp control, mussels as tech section   *MICRA report –*   * Request of review for December (carp control) * Pool plans * Prioritize projects * Match up with LMRCC |
| 9:30 – 9:50 | Alligator Gar movements in Mingo National Wildlife Refuge – Levi Solomon   * Introductions in May 2007 |
| 9:50 – 10:10 | Elk in Missouri – Lonnie Hanson   * Re-introductions in 1999 |
| 10:10 – 10:30 | Elk? In Iowa - Terry Haindfield   * Control of escapees |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | **BREAK** |
| 10:50– 11:10 | Missouri’s expanding bear population – Jeff Beringer |
| 11:10 – 11:30 | Small mouth bass telemetry project - Mike Siepker |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | Hydro power in our large rivers - Amber Andress   * Status of effort |
|  | LUNCH |
|  | **UMRCC Fish Tech Section** |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | Agency Reports wrap up  *(Please provide written summary before or at the meeting to be included in the minutes).* |
| 14:00 – 17:00 | Inter-agency and small group discussion (topics and locations to vary) |

**Agenda and Presentations**

**Thursday Oct 13**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 9:00 – 9:05 | **Joint Fisheries and Wildlife Session** |
| 9:05 – 9:30 | Sturgeon in the UMR adjacent to Missouri – Dave Herzog |
| 9:30 – 9:50 | Developing a research framework about the relationships between lateral connectivity and floodplain river productivity – Ken Lubinski   * Handout attached below…A research Framework for…. |
| 9:50 – 10:40 | Hellbenders – Jeff Briggler (Missouri herpetologist) |
| 10:40 – 10:50 | **BREAK** |
| 10:50– 11:30 | Biology and commercial harvest of turtles in Iowa – S. Gritters and C. Dolan   * 133 commercial harvestes of turtles 2011 * 200,000 lbs taken * Many to pet trade * Under-reporting of harvest * See Time Magazine 2007 (keeping turtles from China) * Long term data missing for turtles   Missouri turtles (Biggler)   * Only big rivers * Looking at pop estimation/and take estimates |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | Floodplain climate adaptation and biofuel production – Chuck Theiling |

**AGENCY REPORTS**

**Illinois DNR – (Dan Sallee)**

* Skrewy water year, difficultg to get maonitoring data
  + too high then too low
  + Fabulous fishery
* Distracted with AC duty
* Rob Maher
  + Annual reporting for UMR and fish management N. of Hannibal
* Gary Lutterbie – retiring, others will do IL River and Streams duty
* 50% IDNR could retire now with 25% more within year
* Dubuque to Carbondale does not have a (river) biologist

IL Asian carp (Kevin Irons)

* Very busy throughout year, in upper IL and CAWS (most are aware)

IL LTRMP (Levi Soloman)

* Finishing up period 3
* 18 carp tours/media events to date
* Using Missouri trawl in IL River with successes
* Thad Cook is performing an Accuracy Assessment of remote sensing for veg.
* Director of IRBS, Greg Sass, took a position with WI DNR.

**Iowa DNR- Guttenberg (Scott Gritters)**

1) Right now getting ready for fall tailwater walleye surveys at Dubuque and Guttenberg.

2) Plan on doing the fall Centrarchids overwintering surveys with the Wisconsin DNR, Pools 9 to 11.

3) This spring we raised several million pike fry but had unusually cool water temps on the incubator and it took an extra 19 days to hatch… but they were in ideal condition. Pike on the river hatch much later and in much warmer water then their boreal counterparts!

4) Mussel surveys on the Iowa River early September.

• 30 people or so helped

• Surveyed at least 35 locations from the Coralville Dam to Hills Iowa

• Collected around 3800 mussels of 23 species.

• We think we collected FOUR Higgins eyes (almost certainly from our stocking effort, DNA needed to verify)

• Collected one recently dead Higgins eye. Maybe from our initial stocking in 2002?

• Collected a live butterfly mussel. This is only the third I know of from our interior waters in the past 20 years.

• Did not see paper pondshells, round pigtoe and muckets which we have rarely collected in this reach in the past

• Monkeyface mussels appear to be greatly reduced in number following the 2008 flood!

• Recued many stranded pistolgrips and yellow sandsell from the dewatering to work on dam!

• Created stockpiles of yellow sandshell, pistolgrips, hickorynuts and black sandshell for future propagation work by Genoa NFH.

• Lots of press covered this event: I am sure you can check out an article from Orlan Love in the Cedar Rapids Gazette. The Iowa City Courier? Did a full page article on this effort, plus you may be able to google KCRG and KWWL who ran TV stories on the 10 O'clock news.

5) Surveyed the upper portions of the Cedar, Turkey and Wapsipinicon Rivers including the Higgins eye stocking area on the Wapsi the third week of August.

• apr 48 Sites were searched.

• apr. 4079 mussel collected, 19 species, 7 state listed, 1 federally listed.

• Cedar: 1049 mussels collected, 12 species, 5 listed

• Little Wapsi: 215 mussels collected, 8 species, 4 listed

• Little Turkey (saude): 125 mussels collected. 8 species 3 listed

• Crane Creek: 191 mussels collected, 8 species, 3 listed

• Wapsi at Central City: 1555 mussels collected, 10 species, 1 listed (Higgins eye)

• Wapsi at Quasky/Troy: 883 mussels collected, 8 species, 1 listed

• Buffalo Creek: 61 mussels collected, 5 species, 3 listed.

• Other notable collections/observations:

• Brook lamprey (crane creek), rainbow darter (little turkey), rock bass (Little Turkey), snapping turtle (crane creek), child pacifier (Quasky), numerous other darters, shiners and madtoms to be identified later.

• Probably three species of crayfish of which two are native.

• Two of eight Higgins eyes at Central City were gravid!

• Buffalo Creek mussels may have experienced some deterioration from recent flood?

• We started out on the Cedar collecting muckets by the dozens, but never collected any at the other sites?

6) Assortment of permits but looking in the HEA as a viable platform to mussel mitigation.

7) Started water quality sampling on four of the lower tributaries to the Turkey River part of larger effort to sample all the tributaries of the Turkey basin and identify priorities for watershed projects. Guttenberg management still continues to do similar water quality sampling on the Upper Iowa River.

8) Scott Gritters is team leader of a group of Iowa DNR fish and wildlife biologists working on the commercial trade of turtles in Iowa. Commercial harvest of turtles and the price of turtle collected continue to increase as does the harvest trends. The Iowa DNR is looking at issues related to how to best manage commercial turtle species.

9) Scott Gritters is transferring to the Bellevue Management position; my old position is currently being filled.

Iowa (other comments)

* YOY blue suckers and skipjacks
* Pool 18 trammel netting (600 shovelnose)
* Mussel meeting at Fairport Hatchery
* Many education programs

Iowa Fairport Fish management Station (Bernie Schonhoff report attached)

Iowa Bellvue

* Northern pike research (transmitters + 700 floy tags)
* High numbers of northern pike and yellow perch
* EMP monitoring of poo12 (overwinter project)
* Mike Steuck regrets not making trip
* Kevin Hansen – Overwinter sampling WQ

Iowa (Chad Dolan)

* Lost Grove Lake - construction

**Minnesota Report**

* High water all spring and most of summer affected annual monitoring
* YOY Skipjack herring were collected in Lake Pepin and in Pool 8, 1 YOY blue sucker in L. Pepin.
* Asian carp monitoring and prevention planning kicked into high gear in 2011.
* State shutdown (3 weeks in July) including pre and post planning affected at least 1 month of sampling season.
* LSOHC funding proposal for FY2013 includes $300,000 for backwater habitat enhancement in MN waters
* Excellent spring and summer fishing in L. Pepin, especially for large walleye (7-10 lbs)
* Completed 3rd year of 4 yr catfish tagging project on L. St Croix and Pool 2
* Catfish angler diaries for metro area, Pools 1 and 2, St. Croix and MN R
* Catfish workgroup formed including anglers and biologists
  + Discuss issues important to anglers, many of which include concerns about non-resident catfish anglers and regs.
* VHS testing in Pool 2, L. St. Croix, and L. Pepin – ALL NEG
* Genetics on ccf – very similar to fish from IA, MO, and AR
* Pool 4 Creel begins this Dec for 2 years.
* P-phos –
  + 3M contaminant showing up globally
  + Consumption advisories have been issued, but changes rapidly

**Missouri (Open River Station, Q. Phelps)**

* American eel status/trends
* Shovelnose sturgeon management evaluation
* Age 0 habitat used by sturgeon research
* Feeding guild/reproductive guild approach to restoration (using pools 13-26 to guide pool 18 work)
* New Madrid Floodplain evaluation
* Jason Crites, WQ LTRMP went to MODOC – Fisheries
* Joe ridings is filling in

Missouri (Travis Moore)

* Work impacted by high spring water
* Drought after July 4
* Prime conditions for sampling does NOT equal low water
* Lake and Shovelnose Sturgeon work dominating.
* No AC specific work, however CPO has reported the lower end of tribs *bad* with YOY silver carp

Wisconsin

* New hires Troy Clement, Brenda Kelly, and new person for LTRMP Wisconsin
* WDNR re-org – charter agency
  + Straight line reporting to Madison
  + Restructure…river managers + inland counties
* Pool 8-9 catfish sampling and otolith collection
  + Also walleye/sauger
  + VHS study as source for otoliths
* Fall lake sampling ongoing
* Random runs at HREP sites
  + 500 walleye and sauger
* Lower Pool 9
  + YOY sampling/SMBS sampling
  + Phase III – $18million
    - Only 1 overwinter site in 3000 acres
* Lake Pepin Legacy
* Heidi Langhre health concern

**ATTENDEES (Signed-in):**

Tharran Hobson

Quinton Phelps

Jon Duyvejonck

Ross James

Bernard Schonhoff

Jeff Janvrin

Dan Dieterman

Joel Stiras

Kevin Hanson

Adam Thiese

Dan Sallee

Levi Solomon

Emily Lamb

Nick Bloomfield

Chad Dolan

Travis Moore

Jim Lamer

Chuck Theiling

Scott Yess

Ken Lubinski

Kevin Irons