

“Cast About #3”

June 1st, summer finally here (?). This past year has sure been something else, as all are well aware. This will be a somewhat shorter newsletter as a complete June 26 information packet will be mailed to each officer, president, delegate and alternate in a week or two.

IDNR WISH LIST: Each received the wish list from IDNR a while back. Not knowing what Airstones were, I asked Scott Shasteen for help. Here is his reply, “Airstones are the oxygen bubblers that we use in hauling trucks to make sure the fish have oxygen when being hauled. They are typically a long ceramic rectangle with a metal frame”. We’ve already heard from a three Clubs of their donations, hope to hear from others. IDNR has been told to order the Airstones. We’ll announce and recognize Clubs donating to this at our June 26 meeting.
– YAY- I.M.A

June 26th meeting: As all realize, we are in a state of changing times. Right now we are scheduled to meet at Lake Evergreen at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday June 26 in the Sam Leman pavilion by the concession/boat ramp area. Reminder, daily boat launch fee is \$20.00. The starting time was set in order to permit those that want to fish prior to the meeting. Shore fishing is available all around that area. The concession stand (snacks & soft drinks) and boat rental will be open starting at 6:00 a.m. In case of bad weather we’ll meet in building next to main office where we’ve met before.

Lake Shelbyville -lake stocking, week May 24th 20,000 3” Muskies, May 20 – 315,000 walleyes, will get 11,000 Muskies in November.

Illinois Muskie Tournament Trail – A one day tournament on the Fox Chain on June 12th. Fishing 6-3. Headquarter at Musky Tales. Dinner and Raffle to follow fishing on Saturday.

Shawnee Muskie Hunters – 8th HS Muskie Tourney held May 15 on Mill Creek. 10 schools participated in 11 boats. No muskies we’re caught, but one participant had one on briefly and another had a followed but couldn’t get Muskie to bite. Winning team caught 20” bass.

Chicagoland Muskie Hunters – Our Club raised over \$1,400 on annual raffle. No monthly meetings during summer resume in September. 2nd outing on the Chain resulted in many fish contacts but none boated. Chapter has reported catching 8 fish from Illinois waters so far this season with 4 of them over 40” including a 45” and a 47.5”.

Flatlanders – Awards Banquet Friday night, June 4 5:30 – 9:30 P.M. For information contact cholke@mchsi.com Youth Day is June 19 from 8:00 a.m. – noon. Contact Dick Cholke (815)-222-1062.

IDNR Spring Muskie Trap Netting 2021 – Mike McClelland, IDNR Chief of Fisheries:

“The annual IDNR Division of Fisheries spring muskie trap netting resumed in 2021 after a reduction in effort for 2020 due to COVID 19. Trap netting was conducted all throughout March, with the largest fish netter being a 48.2’ female from Heidecke Lake – pending more date results as not all lakes have data available yet”. Data below are not yet official, but provide a look into what was collected this year.

Fox Chain: 100 fish in 19 net nights, top fish 47.1"
Heidecke Lake: 79 fish, 2.2 fish/net night, top fish 48.2"
Evergreen Lake: 73 fish in 19 net nights, top fish 47"
Kinkaid Lake 89 fish, 1.9 fish net night, top fish 46.25"
Pyramid State Park: 1 fish collected at Super Lake at 40"
Prairie Lake: 33 fish, top fish 47"
Peabody River King-Eagle Lake: 9 fish in 10 net nights
Otter Lake: 14 fish in 30 net nights
Johnson Sauk Trail: 20 fish in 10net nights
Lake George: 11 fish in 10 net nights
Lake Carlton: 32 fish in 10 net nights
Shabbona Lake: 35 fish in 10 net nights
Lake McMaster 13 fish in 20 net nights, top fish 43"
Johnson Banner Marsh 17 fish in 16 net nights, top fish 44"
Shovel Banner Marsh: 17 fish in 16 net nights, top fish 45"
Wheel Banner Marsh: 6 fish in 16 net nights, top fish 47"
Argyle Lake 19 fish in 20 net nights, top fish 47"
Double T Lake: 8 fish in 20 net nights, top fish 43"
Canton Lake: 1 fish in 20 net nights at 32"
Spring Lake MaComb: 2 fish in 16 net nights, top fish 27"
Lake Storey: 23 fish in 16 net nights top fish 46"
Pierce Lake: 75 fish, top fish 46.5"
Olson Lake: 10 fish

*Additional lakes including Lake Shelbyville were sampled, but data is not yet available.

A special thank you to Mike for sharing this information with us.

***Note as mentioned earlier, the :June 26 meeting informational packet will be mailed out on June 7th, it is now complete and hope that it is helpful.*

Bob Kerans, Acting IMA Chairman.