



## High Court rules for power plants, against Great Lakes fisheries

WASHINGTON – The Great Lakes fisheries lost their case at the Supreme Court on power plant cooling water and a measure to control fisheries losses. In a defeat for environmental and conservation groups, the Supreme Court ruled on April 1<sup>st</sup> that the Environmental Protection Agency may use cost-benefit calculations to decide whether to require power plants to make changes that could prevent the destruction of billions of aquatic organisms each year.

The legal issue rested on the interpretation of a provision in the Clean Water Act that authorizes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to require power plants to install "the best available technology for minimizing adverse environmental impact" from cooling water intake structures. The environmental concern is a serious one for aquatic resources and the sport fishing community.

Power plants pull more than 200 billion gallons of water a day from reservoirs, lakes and rivers to cool machinery or, in the case of nuclear power plants, to cool reactors. The practice kills large numbers of fish and other aquatic organisms that are drawn into intake pipes along with cooling water.

The decision affects more than 500 power plants that are collectively responsible for more than half of the nation's electricity-generating capacity. The plants use more than billions of gallons of water from nearby waterways each day for cooling, and they kill vast numbers of fish, shellfish and other organisms in the process, squashing them against intake screens or sucking them into cooling systems.

The environmental agency weighed the costs of making changes to the plants' cooling structures to

protect the organisms against their value expressed in dollars. Considering only the 1.8% of the affected fish and shellfish that are commercially or recreationally harvested, the agency concluded that the organisms at issue were worth \$83 million.

Requiring the plants to convert to closed-cycle cooling systems, which recirculate water, would have saved almost all the organisms but cost \$3.5 billion a year, the agency said. Instead, it ordered far cheaper changes that spared fewer organisms.

Alex Matthiessen, president of Riverkeeper, an environmental group, said in a statement the ruling in the case, *Entergy Corporation v. Riverkeeper*, No.07-588, allowed but did not require the use of cost-benefit analysis. He urged the Obama administration to adopt an approach more protective of the environment through new regulations. ♦

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## USGS Great Lakes Science Center needs angler help on Predator Diet Study on Lake Huron

The USGS is in need of diet information from angler caught predators during 2009 on Lake Huron to study what the predator fish are eating. They expect there will be very few alewives, some rainbow smelt but an abundance of chubs. Their goal is to learn how predators are responding to this novel forage base. Also in Saginaw Bay we have a growing walleye population and they want to estimate their predatory demand, especially on yellow perch. The USGS is asking anglers to remove and freeze the stomachs from the fish they catch because angler caught fish is the only way to get adequate data this year from Michigan waters.

It is important that anglers keep the samples cold until they can be

frozen to stop the enzymes in the stomachs from degrading the contents so they ask that you carry plenty of ice. Keep the fish on ice until they are cleaned and the stomachs can be frozen for study. They request that the anglers remove the entire stomachs and anything that may still be in their mouth and place them in a zip lock freezer bag for analysis.

If you catch a Chinook salmon they also ask that you remove a small scale sample and a small section (about 5 vertebrae) of their vertebrae below the adipose fin and place it in the bag as well. If you wrap the vertebrae in foil first it will help preserve the sample. The vertebrae

**USGS Study** *Continued on page 10*

## DNR needs angler input for trout/salmon studies Assistance with Lake Michigan and Lake Huron Trout and

The DNR is asking anglers to be on the lookout for coded-wire tagged Chinook salmon and steelhead. These fish can be identified by having only the adipose fin removed or "clipped." These fish also carry a tiny internal wire tag that is injected into the snout at the hatchery prior to stocking; the tag contains info on date and location of stocking. Info concerning harvest of these tagged fish is needed as part of several ongoing research projects.

"Since 1990, more than 15 million trout and salmon have been marked with adipose (Ad) fin clips and coded-wire tags, and anglers have helped us recover more than 75,000 of these tags," said Dave Clapp, manager of the Department's Charlevoix Fisheries Research Station. "Angler cooperation is an essential component of fish marking programs, and the result of these cooperative efforts is more abundant and healthier fish for the sport fishery."

Anglers catching a CWT trout or salmon should remove the head or the portion of the snout where the CWT should be located by cutting from behind the eyes to the back corner of the mouth. Place the snout in a plastic

## Fly fishing program at Wolf Lake Fish Hatchery Visitor Center

The Wolf Lake, MI Fish Hatchery Visitor Center announced Fly Fishing for Beginners programs taking place in May aimed at getting people outdoors. Fly Fishing for Beginners: Saturday, May 9, and Saturday, May 16, at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. Fly fishing basics will be explored including techniques, equipment and local hot spots. Participants must be at least 10 years of age. Pre-registration is required.

All programs are offered free of charge. For more info: Shana McMillan at 269-668-2876. ✧

bag and freeze. Along with the snout the angler should record the following data; the date and closest port or location where the fish was caught, the measured length, and the weight (if possible), along with angler contact information. A printable CWT data form is available online at: [www.michigan.gov/documents/coded\\_wire\\_tag\\_form-PR8550\\_35853\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/coded_wire_tag_form-PR8550_35853_7.pdf).

A letter telling where and when their fish was released and the age of the fish at the time it was harvested will be sent to every angler who includes their name and address along with the catch data. The data form should be put in a separate plastic bag and placed inside a larger plastic bag along with snout/head. This will assure that the data will stay dry and be legible when the snout is processed later in the lab.

Anglers should take the head/snout to one of our CWT head drop sites. A list of these can be found on the DNR Web site at [www.michigan.gov/documents/coded-wire-tag-drop-sites-July-2006\\_165267\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/coded-wire-tag-drop-sites-July-2006_165267_7.pdf) or by calling the Charlevoix Fisheries Station office at 231-547-2914.

Info on Coded-Wire Tag Program: [www.michigan.gov/taggedfish](http://www.michigan.gov/taggedfish). ✧

## IL IHSA Bass Fishing Finals

Last year, the Illinois High School Association decided to add bass fishing to its list of 35 authorized sports and activities. This decision made Illinois the first state in the nation to sanction bass fishing as a high school sport.

The 2008-09 high school bass fishing season started in October of 2008 and will be concluding with the sectional tournament in April. The first official high school bass fishing state finals in the nation will be held at Carlyle Lake on May 8 - 9, 2009. May 2009 also has been designated High School Bass Fishing Month. ✧



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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

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## Army Corps announces activation of new electric barrier Boaters urged to beware of lurking safety issues

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on April 8, activated Electric Barrier IIA in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal near Lockport, Ill.

The Army Corps has been operating a similar demonstration barrier in the Sanitary and Ship Canal since 2002. Both Barrier IIA and the demonstration barrier will operate at the same time to provide redundant back up. Both will operate at a field strength of one-volt per inch.

Chicago District Commander, Col. Vincent V. Quarles, hailed the activation of Barrier IIA as a significant step forward in halting the spread of invasive species via the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. He cautioned however, that much more work remains to be done. "The barriers are not a panacea," Quarles said. "They serve to plug the biggest hole, but much more work needs to be done and we all need to start looking at options for blocking other pathways."

Although Barrier IIA was designed to be able to operate at levels higher than one-volt per inch, the barrier has not yet undergone safety testing at higher levels. The Army Corps is working with the Coast Guard and marine industry waterway users to complete higher voltage safety testing this summer. The Army Corps is also working with fisheries biologists to determine the optimal voltage required to repel all sizes of fish, including smaller juveniles. Results of the safety testing and voltage requirement studies will be used to determine future voltage settings for the barrier project. In the interim, Quarles said the Army Corps and the Coast Guard are developing potential options for operating at higher voltages if juvenile fish are detected in the barrier area.

The U.S. Coast Guard has established a regulated navigation area and safety zone in the Chicago

Sanitary and Ship Canal around the navigable waters located adjacent to and over the barrier system. The temporary interim rule places navigational and operational restrictions on all vessels transiting those navigable waters, including the requirement for all commercial red flag vessels to be escorted through the area by Army Corps-provided bow boats.

All boaters are reminded to exercise extreme caution while traveling in the Sanitary and Ship Canal from the Midwest generation power plant to the pipeline arch, an approximately 1400-foot section of the canal from river mile 296.1 to 296.7. While traveling through the area boaters are advised to remain seated, stay out of the water, keep hands and feet out of the water, and closely supervise children and pets or send them below deck. Boaters are also advised not to linger or attempt to moor in the restricted area. ✧

## Learning Programs for women abound Weekend getaways thru Becoming an Outdoors Woman

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/bow/>

Here are some samples:

### Illinois

**Oregon, IL** – The DNR is hosting a workshop on June 12-14 at the Lorado Taft Field Campus in Oregon. The program will give women introductory experiences and instruction in various outdoor activities, ranging from the shooting sports to outdoor recreation to nature crafts and skills. The cost is \$185 and includes housing, meals, class instruction, use of equipment in classes, giveaways, and more. Get Registration packets at: <http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgmt/bow>.

### Michigan

**Scandia, MI** – A one-day workshop on July 18, for women who wish to learn more about the shooting sports. The workshop will be held 10 - 4 PM at the West Branch Sportsmen's Club, 1888 Engman Lake Rd. in Skandia.

It takes participants through various skill levels associated with shooting small bore and large bore rifles, shotguns, handguns and bows. The deadline for registration is July 1, and forms are available on the DNR Web site at [www.michigan.gov/bow](http://www.michigan.gov/bow) or by phone at (906) 228-6561. For more info: Sharon Pitz at (906) 228-6561 [pitzs@michigan.gov](mailto:pitzs@michigan.gov).

### Indiana

**West Lafayette, IN** – Indiana DNR's 2009 Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) workshop offers women a relaxed, non-competitive environment conducive for learning outdoor skills in a workshop designed.

The workshop will be held May 1-3, at Ross Camp in West Lafayette. The cost, including four classes, lodging and meals is \$175. The workshop is limited to 150 women. Register online at

[www.bow.IN.gov](http://www.bow.IN.gov) or by calling Danielle Shrake at (317) 232-4194.

### North Carolina

**Raleigh, NC** – Scheduled for May 16-17 at McDowell Nature Preserve, a pristine forest along a scenic lake near Charlotte, the event offers comfortable rustic accommodations for the overnight stay and a fun, educational opportunity to learn outdoor skills.

Basic fishing, archery, lake and stream ecology, kayaking, basic camping and backpacking, and outdoor cooking are among the activities planned. Open to women ages 18 and older. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, with an \$85 fee covering cost of materials and accommodations. Contact BB Gillen at (919)-218-3638 or [bb.gillen@ncwildlife.org](mailto:bb.gillen@ncwildlife.org) to register. For many more workshops: <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/bow/>. ✧

# WI – Up to 70 waters to be tested for VHS fish disease

## Expansion concerns in Lake Michigan

MADISON – Three years after VHS fish disease was first detected in Wisconsin waters, state fisheries officials are confident that good compliance with new rules and procedures can continue to contain the fish disease.

But they are keeping a close watch on lakes and rivers, particularly the Lake Winnebago and Lake Michigan systems where VHS has been found. VHS is not a human health threat but it can infect 37 different fish species and has caused big fish kills in other Great Lakes waters.

Testing is underway for VHS on up to 70 lakes and rivers across the state, and DNR fisheries staff is expanding efforts to look at susceptible species in the Winnebago System.

“We’re entering our third year with VHS in pretty good shape due to

the efforts we’ve taken to contain the disease and the cooperation we’ve had from people who can potentially spread the disease: boaters, anglers, bait harvesters, fish farmers and our own fisheries management staff,” says Mike Staggs, who leads the Department of Natural Resources’ fisheries management program. “We didn’t find VHS in any new waters in 2008 testing and that’s a credit to everybody who followed the new rules and procedures.”

Staggs is concerned, however, that 2008 saw VHS expand its range much farther south in Lake Michigan, killing round gobies and yellow perch near Milwaukee.

The disease poses a threat to southern Lake Michigan fish as well as increases the chance that VHS will inadvertently be spread by boaters and anglers moving infected live fish and contaminated water back and

forth between Lake Michigan and inland waters. Lake Michigan is the state’s most popular water and the one that people most often trailer their boat to and from, according to a 2007 DNR study of recreational boaters.

Sue Marcquenski, the DNR’s fish health specialist, is also closely watching what happens on Lake Winnebago and Lake Michigan to see if they exhibit the same pattern seen on some other Great Lakes waters where VHS has been detected. “My hunch is that there may be a lag time of at least two years after VHS causes an initial outbreak before we see fish kills in new locations, or in new species from the same location,” she says.

Staggs says that DNR will be carefully monitoring state waters for VHS this year and working closely with the public to prevent the spread of the deadly fish disease. ✧

## MI - New volunteer effort to provide disinfection stations at boat launches

A new volunteer effort is underway to establish boat disinfection stations at state boat launch sites to help slow the spread of a deadly fish disease, the Michigan DNR reports.

The effort will establish disinfection stations at boat launches around the state to slow the spread of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS). The citizen volunteer initiative is being led by Jack Hartmann of Eagle Harbor and the Michigan Lakes and Streams Associations.

“In order to be effective in reducing the risk from VHS, we need the public involved, and these stations are an excellent way to engage our boaters and anglers,” said DNR Director Rebecca Humphries.

The effort, guided by DNR staff, has led to the development of a clear set of instructions on how to establish disinfection stations away from boat launch ramps, the availability of an excellent disinfectant, and instructions for boaters on how to properly disinfect their vessels. All of this info will be available at [www.mlswa.org](http://www.mlswa.org) and allow lake

associations, boat launch operators and other interested members of the public to get boat disinfection stations established.

While the disinfection stations will not completely safeguard waters from being infected by new fish diseases or invasion species, they will help in the effort and will engage the public as partners in slowing and preventing the spread of fish diseases and invasive species.

“A system of boat disinfection stations is another positive step in partnering with the public to stem the spread of serious fish diseases and invasive species in the state’s waters,” said Kelley Smith, chief of the DNR Fisheries Division. “We encourage lake associations and other interested groups to help establish these voluntary stations around the state.”

Interested parties that wish to establish disinfection stations at boat launching ramps are reminded that they will need to get a permit from the entity that owns or operates the facility and that it is the responsibility

of the volunteer groups to maintain the station and the equipment.

“It is very important that all of the proper permits are obtained before moving forward with the disinfection stations. The review process may take several weeks to determine the feasibility for each site and to ensure proper locations for installation are identified,” said Jason Fleming of the DNR Parks and Recreation Division.

If the boat launching facility is a DNR operated facility, then the local DNR administrating unit should be contacted for initiating the permit process, Fleming said. All other public administered boat launch facilities, whether they are community, county, or federal, will require approval from those agencies for setting up a disinfection station. ✧

## Lake Michigan sport fish harvests down in 2008

### High fuel prices, bad weather contributed to fewer trips

MADISON, WI – High fuel prices in summer 2008 and bad fishing weather contributed to across-the-board decreases in the number of trout and salmon caught by Lake Michigan anglers in 2008, state fisheries officials say.

Lower forage base levels may have contributed as well to the lower harvests, and for Chinook, a lake-wide reduction in stocking levels since 2006 also may have shown up in anglers' creels in 2008, they say.

Anglers spent a total of 2.5 million hours fishing Lake Michigan and tributaries, down from 3.1 million hours the previous year. While angler effort has been slowly declining in Lake Michigan since the 1980s, anglers spent less time on the water in 2008 than in any other year than 2000, angler surveys show.

"The weather was off for fishing, and with gas at \$4 a gallon, more anglers decided they didn't want to go out and look for the fish," says Brad Eggold, Southern Lake Michigan fisheries supervisor for the DNR.

Unusual weather patterns kept the Chinook farther away from shore and scattered throughout the water column, and the coho fishing also didn't follow its normal pattern of starting off strong in spring in Kenosha area waters and slowly moving northward, Eggold says.

"In the past, when Chinook and coho numbers dropped, boaters went out 12 miles off shore to locate and catch steelhead," he says. "This didn't happen this year, most likely due to gas prices and consequently the catch for steelhead is low as are the overall salmon and trout catch."

Anglers who fish Lake Michigan tributaries were the only category of anglers tracked in the survey that actually spent more time chasing their quarry in 2008 than the previous year.

Wisconsin anglers pulled in more than 650,000 fish of all species from Lake Michigan, with decreases in harvests of brook, rainbow, brown and lake trout, as well as yellow perch, and Chinook and coho salmon. Lake Michigan anglers harvested 256,796 Chinook in 2008; that places

it in the top 10 years of harvest but down from the phenomenal 431,143 the previous year. The fish were larger, a good sign that the reduction in Chinook stocking instituted by Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan in 2006 is working to bring Chinook numbers closer in line with the forage base to sustain good fishing into the future, Eggold says.

"Chinook stocking was reduced lake-wide by 25% in 2006 to balance the amount of forage per numbers of fish," says Eggold. "Because of the salmon's maturity schedule, we saw little or no effect on harvest in 2007. The fewer, but larger fish in 2008 could be a sign that the reductions are doing what we needed them to do."

What can anglers expect for Lake Michigan fishing in 2009?

"Gas prices are half the price they were a year ago and provided the weather cooperates and prey base stays adequate, anglers should continue to see solid numbers of Chinook and a bounce back in coho," says Eggold. ✧

## OH OLEC to fund studies of Lake Erie algal blooms and fisheries

TOLEDO, OH – The Ohio Lake Erie Commission (OLEC) will provide grants for four studies that will investigate the causes and impacts of Lake Erie algal blooms, as well as physical habitat distribution within the Lake Erie fishery.

The University of Toledo, Department of Civil Engineering will receive \$15,000 for a project to determine the potential sediment contribution to *Microcystis* (a blue-green algae) bloom formation in the western Lake Erie Basin. Included in the research work, the project will address phosphorus in lake sediment as a potential trigger for algal blooms through re-suspension.

Ohio State U, Aquatic Research Laboratory will receive \$14,750 to use remotely sensed data — satellite imagery — to help better understand

physical habitat distribution in western Lake Erie and its influence on habitat use and recruitment of walleye and yellow perch. Also included is a test of the hypothesis that Maumee River discharge regulates yellow perch recruitment through nursery habitat creation. The research will create a database that will be made available to the research community and public.

The Ohio State U Dept. of Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology will receive \$167,040 for a study about phosphorus load, transport and biological use. Lake Erie appears to be undergoing a period of increasing eutrophication (excess nutrients) and it is unknown if this is due to increased biologically available phosphorus, a change in species ability to use phosphorus or some other related factor. The project will help to

determine how dissolved reactive phosphorus and increased *Microcystis* and *Lyngbya* (algae) blooms are related and where the blooms initiate.

Ohio State U, Ag Research & Development Center will receive \$74,955 for a two part project. First, an evaluation of soil testing laboratories will be completed using a series of 600 soil tests sent to the twelve laboratories that primarily serve Ohio. The evaluation will focus on the analysis of the submitted samples and the recommendations provided to farmers based on sample results. Second, data mining will be completed to review testing results for phosphorus and other soil characteristics from the labs. ✧

## MI DNR to limit walleye production in 2009

Michigan DNR will continue limited production of walleye fry for the 2009 season as a precaution against spreading (VHS) into inland waters, fisheries officials announced.

"We still don't have all the information we'd like on VHS," said Gary Whelan, DNR fish production manager. "We'd rather be cautious than risk being a vector for spreading this disease." VHS has been found in various parts of the Great Lakes and connecting waterways, which are where the best walleye broodstock sources are located.

Fisheries staffers will take eggs from walleyes in the Muskegon River and Little Bay de Noc. The Saginaw Bay/Tittabawassee strain will not be used again this year. Only the Thompson State Fish Hatchery will be used to incubate eggs as it maintains a separate facility that will prevent

the spread of potential VHS into steelhead-rearing facilities should infection occur. In addition, fisheries staffers will evaluate the feasibility of rearing additional walleye at private and tribal facilities.

Walleye egg-take will be spaced out over several weeks to maximize production, which will still be limited to six million fry if the outside facilities are not used. Fry spend only three to five days at the hatchery before being transferred to off-site rearing ponds, which require a large amount of DNR effort. Many external walleye rearing ponds exist throughout the state, but only those that are non-drainable will be used for rearing in 2009.

Currently, there is no proven method for disinfecting walleye eggs. All adult brood stock will be tested for VHS, as will samples of walleye

fry and fingerlings before they are stocked. Fingerlings will be stocked only in inland lakes in 2009 that have no inlets or outlets or into lakes with direct connections to the Great Lakes. No fingerlings will be stocked in the Lake Superior watershed. Thus, the program will be the same as was used in 2008, but is much expanded from 2007 when DNR did not raise any walleye statewide.

"If we can develop an effective method of disinfecting walleye eggs, we can increase production in the future," Whelan said. "In the meantime, we'd prefer to err on the side of caution rather than risk spreading VHS to new waters."

For more detailed information on this subject, the public should visit the Fisheries Division section of the DNR's Web site at [www.michigan.gov/dnr/fishing](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/fishing). ✧

## Panel sets Lake Erie yellow perch and walleye catch limits

YPSILANTI, MI – The Lake Erie Committee, comprising fishery managers from Michigan, New York, Ohio, Ontario and Pennsylvania, recommended a 2009 total allowable catch (TAC) of 12.012 million lbs. of yellow perch and 2.45 million walleye. The yellow perch TAC represents an increase from last year while the walleye TAC represents a decrease. The committee based this recommendation on the current strength of yellow perch stocks in Lake Erie and on the fact that walleye recruitment has been poor or moderate during the previous several years, with the exception of 2003.

### YELLOW PERCH

Stock assessment of yellow perch showed increases in abundance in all areas of Lake Erie relative to 2008. So, the committee recommended an increase in allocation of yellow perch to 12.012 million lbs. in 2009 from 10.160 million lbs. in 2008. An area-based sharing formula determines the allocation of these fish among the five jurisdictions on the lake. For 2009, Ontario's allocation is 5.714 million

lbs, Ohio's allocation is 5.277 million pounds, and Michigan's allocation is 0.186 million pounds. New York and Pennsylvania will receive 0.142 million pounds and 0.693 million pounds respectively. In 2008, actual yellow perch harvest was 8.33 million pounds or 82% of the TAC. A yellow perch management plan is under development and should be completed during 2009. The plan is designed to establish guidelines for yellow perch fishery management in Lake Erie.

### WALLEYE

The Lake Erie Committee set a binational TAC for walleye in 2009 of 2.45 million fish, compared to the TAC of 3.594 million fish in 2008. Actual walleye harvest in 2008 was 2.917 million fish, or 77% of the TAC. The Committee's Walleye Task Group—comprising scientists and field biologists—reported that walleye hatches had been weak in 2002, 2004, and 2006; below average in 2005 and 2008; and moderate in 2007. The last above-average walleye year class in Lake Erie was the colossal hatch of

2003. The Lake Erie Committee noted that the walleye fishery continues to be reliant on that ever-diminishing 2003 year class. The number of walleye in Lake Erie is expected to decline from 18.4 million fish in 2009 to 15.7 million fish in 2010. Because these abundance levels represent a fishery in "rehabilitation" status, the committee believes the reduced TAC is reflective of the current and projected state of the resource. ✧

## Fish cleaning station planned for Holland Park

Michigan DNR Parks and Recreation is partnering with the Big Red Foundation to construct a fish cleaning station at Lake Macatawa boating access site in Holland State Park. The fish cleaning station will be a 20-foot-square building with a cleaning table located in the center of the building. The building will be ADA accessible, open to the public. For more info: Joe Strach at (517) 641-4903, ext. 227. ✧

## Increased walleye limit for Upper Red Lake

### Governors Opener to be held at White Bear Lake

Anglers who fish Upper Red Lake will be able to keep four walleye this year. The new limit is one more walleye than last season and two more than when the lake was re-opened to fishing in 2006. Simultaneously, Gov. Tim Pawlenty will be fishing the opener at White Bear Lake with a host of writers and guests.

Harvest estimates for the winter season, which ended Feb. 22, were 52,000 lbs. Since that level is well below the safe harvest level of 112,000 lbs., the daily bag and limits could be increased. The current protected slot limit requiring all walleye from 17-26" to be immediately released will remain in effect for the early season, when angler catch rates are high. Beginning June 15, and for the rest of the season, all walleye from 20 to 26" be immediately released. Throughout the open water season, only one fish more than 26" is allowed.

The walleye size limit will revert back to the 17-26" protected range on Dec. 1. The adjustment is necessary because winter angling pressure has been consistently higher than open water pressure. The bag limit for the next winter season has yet to be determined but will be based on harvest estimates from the open water season. ✧

## Lake Mecosta access site undergoing improvements

The Lake Mecosta, Michigan boating access site, located in Mecosta County, is closed for needed site upgrades, including asphalt paving, improvements in drainage and barrier-free accessibility. Improvements will also provide more efficient use of parking space and enhanced maneuverability at the boat launch approach area. The project should be completed by May 15. ✧

## Safety Wading Tips for river anglers

► Dress properly for the water temperature instead of the air temperature to guard against the effect of hypothermia should you unexpectedly fall into the water.

► Wear an approved life vest.

► Wear a pair of quality-made chest waders and tighten a cinch belt at the waistline outside the waders to help prevent them from filling with water should a water immersion occur.

► Never wear waders while fishing from a boat

► Carry a large walking stick or wading staff to help provide balance while wading in a river. Use a pair of metal crampons or cleats, which fit over the boot portion of waders, to improve traction when wading across slippery rocks and other debris commonly found along river bottoms.

► Don't fish alone. Let friends or family know of your fishing plans.

Be properly licensed and know the fishing regulations. Avoid alcohol consumption and be aware of local ordinances and state laws that prohibit open displays of alcoholic beverages and public consumption of alcohol.

► Keep available extra clothing, be prepared to handle an emergency situation if it arises and stay informed of current and forecast weather and water conditions. ✧

## Bass Pro Shops 2nd Canadian location opened April 7th

Rocky View, Alberta – Bass Pro Shops, recently voted the #1 outdoor retailer in America by Sporting Goods Business Magazine, celebrated its 55th store's Grand Opening April 8th through Sunday, April 12th. The store opened at 8 AM Wednesday. The new Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World is the company's second Canadian store (the first is located in Toronto) and is an anchor in the new CrossIron Mills Mall being developed by Ivanhoe Cambridge. It is located at the intersection of Queen Elizabeth Highway II and Highway #566. ✧

## MI DNR says fish kills common in spring

It's not uncommon to discover fish kills or die-offs in early spring, the DNR reminds lakefront property owners, boaters and anglers. Typical winters with heavy snow and ice cover create conditions that cause die-offs of fish and other aquatic life.

Winterkill occurs during long, harsh winters, such as occurred in Michigan this past winter. Shallow lakes with excess amounts of aquatic vegetation and mucky bottoms are particularly prone to this problem. Fish and other aquatic life actually die in late winter, but may not be noticed until a month after the ice leaves the lake.

Trace amounts of dissolved oxygen are required by fish and all other forms of aquatic life. Once the daylight is greatly reduced by ice and snow cover, the aquatic plants stop producing oxygen and many die. The bacteria that decompose organic materials on the bottom of the lake require oxygen and work to use up the remaining oxygen in the water, once the plants stop producing it. This winter, many locations had perfect conditions for winterkill with heavy ice and snow cover, and a number of locations likely ran out of dissolved oxygen to support fish and other aquatic life. ✧

## MI DNR frog survey begins its 14th year

The Michigan DNR has started its 14th annual statewide frog survey. Declining populations of frogs, toads, etc. have been documented worldwide since the 1980s. Studies suggest amphibians are disappearing due to habitat loss, pollution, and disease. Michigan's annual survey efforts help biologists keep tabs on frog abundance and distribution in MI.

Surveys are conducted by volunteers along a statewide system of permanent survey route. Observers listen for calling frogs and toads at each site, identify the species present, and make an estimate of abundance. ✧

## IN fish survey at Prairie Creek reservoir

Anglers who frequent Prairie Creek Reservoir note that a fish survey is under way at the 1,252-acre Delaware County body of water.

Indiana DNR biologists are conducting the survey, with sampling also slated for August and October. Electro-fishing boats, gill nets and trap nets will be used to collect fish. Each fish will be counted and measured, and scale samples taken to determine the age and growth.

The DNR will use the data to monitor populations and identify fish management problems. The last fish population survey completed on the reservoir was in 1999.

“Our goal for this survey is to collect as many different kinds and sizes of fish possible,” said Rod Edgell, DNR assistant fisheries biologist. Although the survey is designed to collect data on the entire fishery, the October sampling will evaluate the walleye population. Since, 2001 approximately 62,600 two-inch walleye fingerlings have been stocked annually into the reservoir.

A survey report will be available to the public next winter. ✧

## Creel clerks to be interviewing again

AKRON, OHIO – Angler surveys will once again resume on Ohio's inland lakes for the summer. Creel clerks will be surveying anglers at six lakes in northeast Ohio and 18 lakes around Ohio on weekends through July 26, according to the Ohio DNR. The word "creel" originates from an old style woven basket used to hold fish.

The survey takes approximately five minutes to complete and anyone approached by a creel clerk is asked for his/her patience and cooperation. The lakes that will be surveyed this year in the northeast Ohio district are Atwood Lake, Berlin Lake, Clendening Lake, East Reservoir, Tappan Lake, and West Reservoir. ✧

## Get hooked on the 2009 Wisconsin Fishing Report

MADISON – Anglers looking for places to fish, tips to hook their favorite catch, or the latest fishing reports for the upcoming season can catch the latest information in the 2009 Wisconsin Fishing Report. This free, annual 16-page newspaper is an angler's guide to the 2009 fishing year, with fishing forecasts that Department of Natural Resources fish biologists provide for many popular waters statewide.

Anglers looking to target some of Wisconsin fish can dive into “Hook Your Favorite Catch” for tips on adjusting your sights, techniques and bait to increase your chances of success. “A Year of Fabulous Fishing” provides anglers a month-by-month rundown of what's bound to be biting and where, depending on the time of year.

In “Fabulous Fisheries Projects,” readers can learn about the work fisheries crews are doing around the state each year to protect Wisconsin's fish and make fishing better. “Get Hooked” will introduce readers to DNR's Urban Fishing Program that encourages more people, especially children, to go fishing and helps to make fishing opportunities more readily available in urban areas.

Anglers will also find great refrigerator material such as fishing season dates, top 50 family-friendly waters and fish watching opportunities throughout the state.

The [2009 Fishing Report](#) is available online for download and in newsprint form at local [DNR service centers](#) and select Fleet Farm and Gander Mountain stores. It is also included in the April 2009 Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine, which is available online and at many Wisconsin newsstands.

Be the first to get the online version of the Wisconsin Fishing Report every year by subscribing to [fisheries email updates](#) or following [\[fishwisconsin\]](#) on Twitter [\[twitter.com/home\]](#). ✧

## 2007 Inland Consent Decree provides for tribal activities

Michigan DNR reminds the public that certain fishing opportunities for tribal members under the 1836 Treaty are different than those allowed for state-licensed recreational anglers under Michigan law, and that these activities may be observed this spring.

As established under the 2007 Inland Consent Decree, tribal members may use spears or conventional fishing tackle to take walleye and steelhead in some waters of Michigan covered by the 1836 Treaty during periods when these waters are closed to fishing for State-licensed recreational anglers.

A map of Michigan covered by the 1836 Treaty can be found at: [http://michigan.gov/documents/dnr/treaty\\_1836\\_bounding-STATEWIDE\\_220728\\_7.pdf](http://michigan.gov/documents/dnr/treaty_1836_bounding-STATEWIDE_220728_7.pdf).

“We appreciate anglers' concerns when they see something unusual occurring, but we ask people not to interfere with Tribal members who are exercising their rights under the 2007 Inland Consent Decree,” said Nick Popoff, DNR fisheries tribal coordinator. “If you think a violation is in progress, you can call the DNR's Report All Poaching line (800-292-7800) and report it.”

The area ceded under the 1836 Treaty of Washington includes the eastern half of the Upper Peninsula and the northern Lower Peninsula. For information on the 2007 Inland Consent Decree, check the DNR Web site at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr). ✧

## Remington CEO tapped to lead Cabela's

Remington Arms Co. CEO Tommy Millner has been picked to succeed Dennis Highby as Cabela's new CEO and president. Millner spent 15 years with Remington, serving the past 10 years as its CEO. He is a former member of NSSF's Board of Governors.

Highby will assume the position of vice chairman of the board. ✧

## IL Repairs made to Red Hills State Park lake spillway

Repairs have been made to the spillway and spillway gate at Red Hills State Park in time for spring rains to begin refilling the lake, the Ill. DNR said. Water was drained from the lake last fall to assess damage to the spillway and allow for repairs.

A water leak through the concrete near the spillway tower at the 40-acre lake was discovered last year. Concerned that the damage could become worse, engineers recommended that the lake be drained and repairs be made as soon as possible.

The project involved replacement of the existing spillway gate, as well as replacement of the damaged grout seal between the spillway tower and the gate. The contractor also replaced the stem and stem guides that operate the gate — and removed and replaced the top 24" of the concrete tower where defective concrete was located.

As a result of the need to dewater Red Hills Lake last fall, IDNR Division of Fisheries personnel removed and relocated as many fish as possible and allowed anglers to participate in the salvage of fish from the lake last October. Fish will be stocked in the lake once normal water levels are restored. ✧

## Register now for fall hunter education course

MADISON, WI — People new to hunting should begin looking now for hunter education courses to be sure they are not left behind when hunting seasons open this fall. Wisconsin DNR Hunter Education Administrator Tim Lawhern says classes fill quickly so it pays to register early. Wisconsin law says anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1973, must have a hunter education certificate in order to purchase a state hunting license.

Upcoming classes are listed on the Recreational Safety Course pages of the DNR Web site. ✧

## \$8 million to restore wetlands in Ohio

Are you interested in developing a wetland? If so, the Ohio DNR and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) need to know.

The NRCS Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program that offers landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property through perpetual easements, 30-year easements or Land Treatment Contracts. The USDA NRCS manages the program and provides technical and financial support to help landowners who participate in WRP.

Interested landowners should contact the NRCS or an ODNR private lands biologist. In addition to paying the landowner for the easement, the USDA pays up to 100% of the cost of restoring the wetland. In Ohio, WRP was offered for the first time in 1995. To date, Ohio has 326 WRP easements (20,143 acres).

Wetland Team Members:  
Barbara Baker, (419) 429-8306;  
Danielle Balduff, (330) 830-7700;  
Gordon Starr, (937) 836-5428 ✧

## New striped bass regs for Delaware River

Harrisburg, PA — Licensed Pennsylvania anglers fishing the Delaware River and Estuary can now harvest striped and hybrid striped bass through May 31, a season that has been closed by the PFBC since 1992. Under the new regulations anglers can harvest two striped bass per day, 20-26", during the two-month season. The change is the result of the successful restoration of the striped bass population along the Atlantic Coast. The regulations are designed to allow some harvest of male striped bass, while still protecting most of the spawning female striped bass. For the rest of the year, there is a 28" minimum length and a two fish per day creel limit.

Seasons, sizes and creel limits vary along the river so check your regs. ✧

## Access problems continue for anglers

Some 23% of anglers report that one of their fishing spots has been closed to angling in the past three years, according to a January 2009 survey by Southwick Associates. This compares to 25% who reported loss of a fishing location in a similar survey a year earlier, in January 2008.

The access problem is most acute for freshwater anglers with 74% reporting a loss of access. Just 24% reported the loss of a saltwater location. Access loss for 2008 was 77% fresh water and 17% salt water.

In response to the loss of access, a majority of the anglers reporting a loss (56% in the 2009 survey; 54% in 2008) continue to fish as frequently as they did before the loss occurred, presumably at other spots that remain open to them. In 2009, only about 37% reported fishing less frequently as a result, a figure virtually unchanged from the year before.

Launched in 2006, [www.AnglerSurvey.com](http://www.AnglerSurvey.com) helps the outdoor equipment industry, government fisheries officials, and conservation organizations track consumer activities and expenditure trends. The list above represents only a small sample of the vast amount of information that is available from the complete survey results. The results are scientifically analyzed to reflect all U.S. anglers. Find out how a subscription to the complete survey data can help your business, government agency, or organization.

For more information, contact Rob Southwick at [Rob@southwickassociates.com](mailto:Rob@southwickassociates.com). ✧

## Torbeck to succeed Millner as Remington CEO

Madison, NC — Theodore (Ted) Torbeck has been named as Remington Arms Chief Executive Officer, replacing Tommy Millner, who has decided to take on a new challenge as the CEO and President of Cabela's. ✧

## IN Lake Manitou ramp closed by invasives

The Indiana DNR access site on Lake Manitou has been closed temporarily for an unspecified length due to invasive plants. All other public and private access sites remain closed, including the city boat ramp on the northwest corner of the lake.

The closure allows for treatment of hydrilla, an exotic, highly invasive plant that was first confirmed as being in the lake in August 2006. Last year, when the DNR relaxed access restrictions at the lake, it expected to have to re-close the area again due to the nature of the plant.

The closure will give DNR time to apply Sonar, a chemical that eliminates hydrilla plants, before boats are allowed to come and go. That treatment is expected to be done in mid-May, by which time many of the tubers should have sprouted and emerged through the sediment, making them susceptible to Sonar.

As long as hydrilla tubers remain in the sediments of Lake Manitou, fisheries experts will implement periodic access restrictions during periods when there is a risk of movement of the plant. Hydrilla tubers can sprout at any time water temperature is 55°F or warmer, which requires that a concentration that is lethal to the plant be maintained throughout its growing season to eliminate newly sprouted plants. ✧

## PA 2008 bear harvest

According to official 2008 bear harvest figures released by the Pennsylvania Game Commission, hunters took a total of 3,458 bears, which included 69 bears during the second archery bear season, Nov. 19-20; 2,951 bears during the statewide 3-day season, Nov. 24-26; and 438 bears during the extended season, Dec. 1-6, that was open in select areas of the state. This harvest ranks second among Pennsylvania's annual bear harvests. In 2005, hunters set a record harvest of 4,164 bears. ✧

## Commission expands crossbow hunting opportunities

New crossbow regulations approved March 11 by the Michigan Natural Resources Commission are designed to expand hunting opportunities, retain existing hunters and recruit new hunters, and offer a way for some hunters to continue hunting when facing physical limitations.

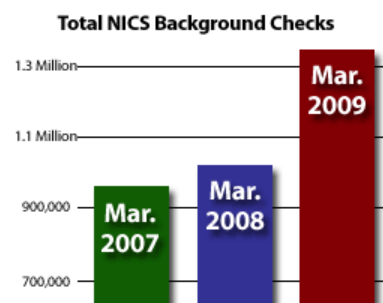
Under the new regulations, crossbows may be used:

- ▶ by anyone 50 years of age or older during the Oct. 1-Nov. 14 bow hunting deer season statewide,
- ▶ by any hunter age 12 and older during any hunting season in Zone 3 (southern Michigan), including the bow season,
- ▶ during any season in which a firearm may be used for both big and small game statewide.

Youth hunters must be at least 12 to use a crossbow. A free crossbow stamp will be required in addition to hunting licenses for those using crossbows. ✧

## Firearm sales continue to climb in March

Firearm sales continued to surge nationwide for the fifth straight month, extending a trend that began after the November elections.



Data from the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) show background checks on the sale of firearms jumped 29.2% in March over March 2008 and were up 27.1% for the first quarter of 2009 over the same quarter last year. The increase follows a 23% rise in February, 28% in January, 24% in December and 42% in November. ✧

## USGS Study *Cont. from page 1*

sample is used to determine if the fish is a hatchery fish or a natural reproduced fish as all of the hatchery fish are fed food laced with oxytetracycline as fingerlings.

The species they are looking for stomach samples from are: Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, Atlantic Salmon, Pink Salmon, Lake Trout, Steelhead, Walleye, and Smallmouth Bass. The following information is also requested: the port the fish was caught out of, the date, if it had a fin clip, length of the fish and weight.

This is a way for the USGS and the Michigan DNR to complete some studies that they will not be able to otherwise complete due to budget issues and they would like our help. They will provide you with all of the necessary material and even arrange to pick up the samples. You can get more information and some bags to put the samples in and arrange for them to pick up the samples by contacting the following:

Jeff Schaeffer at the USGS, 734-214-7250 or [Jschaeffer@usgs.gov](mailto:Jschaeffer@usgs.gov);

Jim Johnson at the Mich. DNR, 989-356-3232 or [Johnsoje@michigan.gov](mailto:Johnsoje@michigan.gov);

or  
Alpena Great Lakes Fishery Station - MI DNR, 160 East Fletcher, Alpena, Mich. 49766 ✧

## IL Upcoming Sporting Clay Tournament

Illinois hunters and shooters take note — the World Shooting and Recreation Complex (WSRC) in Sparta will be hosting the Remington World Cup Challenge on May 21-24, 2009. Advanced registration for this event is suggested and all shooters must be members of the National Sporting Clays Association. The WSRC has two sporting clay courses consisting of 15 stations each that will be used during the tournament. The WSRC is a premier destination for recreational vehicle enthusiasts, offering scenic camping areas as well as standard sites with electricity, water and sewer. ✧

## Michigan torpedoed its own Great Lakes Restoration Plan

### Small savings from wetlands repeal would be swamped by higher flood damages

Washington, DC – Just days after Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm unveiled an ambitious plan to restore the Great Lakes, she moved to knock out one of its main planks — the state's own wetlands protection program, according to Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER). Even the small savings Gov. Granholm hopes to achieve by repealing the state wetlands law would be lost in higher storm and flood damage, concludes a new white paper by state experts.

In January Granholm released a grandly titled Michigan's Great Lakes Plan, Our Path to Protect, Restore, and Sustain Michigan's Natural Treasures which stressed the central role of her state's wetlands program, considered one of the nation's best. The final plan crafted after months of meetings and public comments urged not just the retention but an expansion of the wetlands program.

► Restoring "500,000 acres of wetlands (10% of historic losses) and establish up to 1,000,000 acres of associated upland grassland buffers...by 2079, which will be the 100-year anniversary of Michigan's Wetland Protection Statute";

► Within the next three years, increasing the rate of wetlands restoration by 50 percent; and

► Securing federal funding to support the "wetlands protection program within the MDEQ."

Despite these lofty New Year resolutions, by her February 3, 2009 State of the State speech Granholm was advocating the State abandon its 30-year old wetlands law. This reversal came within the same month that President Obama proposed a half-billion dollar state-federal Great Lakes partnership.

"Restoring the Great Lakes is vital to the future of Michigan but to achieve that goal the state cannot just walk away

from its responsibilities," stated PEER Executive Director Jeff Ruch. "Governor Granholm knows better than to push a budget plan that is the equivalent of eating your seed corn."

A new white paper by the Michigan Stormwater and Floodplain Association puts the slight estimated savings from the wetlands repeal in perspective:

"The entire savings from eliminating the state's wetland protection act is reported to be 2 million dollars out of a 1.6 billion dollar deficit. The savings that would be generated by this proposal do not offset the loss of benefits that the residents of Michigan realize from having this permitting authority. [Case in point] these additional wetland losses and increased stormwater volumes will lead to increased flood losses (property damage) for the residents of the State of Michigan."

"Axing Michigan's wetland protections is the epitome of a 'pound foolish' economy," added Ruch. ✧

## High Court closes the book on New York City's lawsuit against gun makers

NEWTOWN, Conn. – Putting an end to nine years of litigation, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear New York City's request to continue a lawsuit that sought to hold firearms manufacturers responsible for the criminal misuse of firearms.

The city's lawsuit was originally filed in 2000 by Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and was continued by Mayor Michael Bloomberg. After the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act was passed by Congress in 2005, a federal judge threw out the New York lawsuit. Then in April of 2008, the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld that decision, saying the new law was constitutional.

New York's final recourse was to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, but the court refused the case. Among the companies sued were Beretta, Smith & Wesson, Colt, Ruger and Glock. ✧

## Wingshooting Clinics

The Illinois DNR and participating partners sponsor wingshooting clinics at sites throughout Illinois to help improve the shooting skills of participants. Youth/Women's clinics are designed to teach participants basic firearm and hunter safety and the fundamentals of wingshooting. Hunter clinics are designed to enhance the wingshooting skills of hunters and provide sound wingshooting practice techniques.

The clinics are conducted on weekends throughout the spring, summer and early fall. For a complete schedule, check the IDNR web site at <http://dnr.state.il.us>. Upcoming clinics include:

**May 2-3** – Hunter Clinic – Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA, Chandlerville (217/452-7741)

**May 16-17** – Youth/Women Clinic – Des Plaines Conservation Area, Wilmington (217/785-8129)

**May 30-31** – Hunter Clinic – Des Plaines Conservation Area, Wilmington (217/785-8129)

**June 6-7** – Hunter Clinic – Briar Knoll Hunting and Fishing Club, Amboy (815/857-2320)

**June 13** – Youth/Women Clinic – Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA, Chandlerville (217/452-7741)

**June 20-21** – Youth/Women Clinic – World Shooting and Recreational Complex, Sparta (618/295-2700)

**June 27-28** – Youth/Women Clinic – St. Charles Sportsmen's Club, Elburn (630/363-6180)

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## Big return of Columbia River Coho projected

A return of more than one million Columbia River coho — the largest run since 2001 — is expected to brighten fishing prospects this year from the Washington coast to the Upper Columbia River. Salmon forecasts also show strong coho runs to many of Washington's other coastal rivers this year, a flood of pink salmon to Puget Sound and improved hatchery fall Chinook returns to the Columbia River. ✧

# Amazing story behind the global warming scam

By John Coleman

The key players are now all in place in Washington and in state governments across America to officially label carbon dioxide as a pollutant and enact laws that tax we citizens for our carbon footprints. Only two details stand in the way, the faltering economic times and a dramatic turn toward a colder climate. The last two bitter winters have led to a rise in public awareness that there is no runaway global warming. The public is now becoming skeptical of the claim that our carbon footprints from the use of fossil fuels are going to lead to climatic calamities.

How did we ever get to this point where bad science is driving big government to punish the citizens for living the good life that fossil fuels provide for us?

The story begins with an Oceanographer named Roger Revelle. He served with the Navy in World War II. After the war he became the Director of the Scripps Oceanographic Institute in La Jolla in San Diego, California. Revelle saw the opportunity to obtain major funding from the Navy for doing measurements and research on the ocean around the Pacific atolls where the U.S. military was conducting atomic bomb tests. He greatly expanded the Institute's areas of interest and among others hired Hans Suess, a noted chemist from the University of Chicago, who was very interested in the traces of carbon in the environment from the burning of fossil fuels. Revelle tagged on to Suess studies and co-authored a paper with him in 1957. The paper raises the possibility that the carbon dioxide might be creating a greenhouse effect and causing atmospheric warming. It seems to be a plea for funding for more studies. Funding, frankly, is where Revelle's mind was most of the time.

Next Revelle hired a geochemist named David Keeling to devise a way to measure the atmospheric content of carbon dioxide. In 1960 Keeling published his first paper showing the increase in carbon

dioxide in the atmosphere and linking the increase to the burning of fossil fuels.

These two research papers became the bedrock of the science of global warming, even though they offered no proof that carbon dioxide was in fact a greenhouse gas. In addition they failed to explain how this trace gas, only a tiny fraction of the atmosphere, could have any significant impact on temperatures.

Now let me take you back to the 1950s when this was going on. Our cities were entrapped in a pall of pollution from the crude internal combustion engines that powered cars and trucks back then and from the uncontrolled emissions from power plants and factories. Cars and factories and power plants were filling the air with all sorts of pollutants. There was a valid and serious concern about the health consequences of this pollution and a strong environmental movement was developing to demand action. Government accepted this challenge and new environmental standards were set. Scientists and engineers came to the rescue. New reformulated fuels were developed for cars, as were new high tech, computer controlled engines and catalytic converters. By the mid seventies cars were no longer big time polluters, emitting only some carbon dioxide and water vapor from their tail pipes. Likewise, new fuel processing and smoke stack scrubbers were added to industrial and power plants and their emissions were greatly reduced, as well.

But an environmental movement had been established and its funding and very existence depended on having a continuing crisis issue. So the research papers from Scripps came at just the right moment. And, with them came the birth of an issue, man-made global warming from the carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels.

Revelle and Keeling used this new alarmism to keep their funding growing. Other researchers with environmental motivations and a

hunger for funding saw this developing and climbed aboard as well. The research grants began to flow and alarming hypotheses began to show up everywhere.

The Keeling curve showed a steady rise in CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere during the period since oil and coal were discovered and used by man. As of today, carbon dioxide has increased from 215 to 385 parts per million. But, despite the increases, it is still only a trace gas in the atmosphere. While the increase is real, the percentage of the atmosphere that is CO<sub>2</sub> remains tiny, about 41 hundredths of one percent.

Several hypotheses emerged in the 70s and 80s about how this tiny atmospheric component of CO<sub>2</sub> might cause a significant warming. But they remained unproven. Years have passed and the scientists kept reaching out for evidence of the warming and proof of their theories. And, the money and environmental claims kept on building up.

Back in the 1960s, this global warming research came to the attention of a Canadian born United Nation's bureaucrat named Maurice Strong. He was looking for issues he could use to fulfill his dream of one-world government. Strong organized a World Earth Day event in Stockholm, Sweden in 1970. From this he developed a committee of scientists, environmentalists and political operatives from the UN to continue a series of meetings.

Strong developed the concept that the UN could demand payments from the advanced nations for the climatic damage from their burning of fossil fuels to benefit the underdeveloped nations, a sort of CO<sub>2</sub> tax that would be the funding for his one-world government. But, he needed more scientific evidence to support his primary thesis. So Strong championed the establishment of the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. This was not a pure climate study scientific organization, as we have been led to believe. It was an organization of one-world government UN bureaucrats, environmental activists and

environmentalist scientists who craved the UN funding so they could produce the science they needed to stop the burning of fossil fuels. Over the last 25 years they have been very effective. Hundreds of scientific papers, four major international meetings and reams of news stories about climatic Armageddon later, the UN IPCC has made its points to the satisfaction of most and even shared a Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore.

At the same time that Maurice Strong was busy at the UN, things were getting a bit out of hand for the man who is now called the grandfather of global warming, Roger Revelle. He had been very politically active in the late 1950s as he worked to have the University of California locate a San Diego campus adjacent to Scripps Institute in La Jolla. He won that major war, but lost an all-important battle afterward when he was passed over in the selection of the first Chancellor of the new campus.

He left Scripps finally in 1963 and moved to Harvard University to establish a Center for Population Studies. It was there that Revelle inspired one of his students to become a major global warming activist. This student would say later, "It felt like such a privilege to be able to hear about the readouts from some of those measurements in a group of no more than a dozen undergraduates. Here was this teacher presenting something not years old but fresh out of the lab, with profound implications for our future!" The student described him as "a wonderful, visionary professor" who was "one of the first people in the academic community to sound the alarm on global warming." That student was Al Gore. He thought of Dr. Revelle as his mentor and referred to him frequently, relaying his experiences as a student in his book *Earth in the Balance*, published in 1992.

So there it is, Roger Revelle was indeed the grandfather of global warming. His work had laid the foundation for the UN IPCC, provided the anti-fossil fuel

ammunition to the environmental movement and sent Al Gore on his road to his books, his move, his Nobel Peace Prize and a hundred million dollars from the carbon credits business.

What happened next is amazing.

The global warming frenzy was becoming the cause celeb of the media. After all the media is mostly liberal, loves Al Gore, loves to warn us of impending disasters and tell us "the sky is falling, the sky is falling". The politicians and the environmentalist loved it, too.

But the tide was turning with Roger Revelle. He was forced out at Harvard at 65 and returned to California and a semi retirement position at UCSD. There he had time to rethink Carbon Dioxide and the greenhouse effect. The man who had inspired Al Gore and given the UN the basic research it needed to launch its Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was having second thoughts. In 1988 he wrote two cautionary letters to members of Congress. He wrote, "My own personal belief is that we should wait another 10 or 20 years to really be convinced that the greenhouse effect is going to be important for human beings, in both positive and negative ways." He added, "...we should be careful not to arouse too much alarm until the rate and amount of warming becomes clearer."

And in 1991 Revelle teamed up with Chauncey Starr, founding director of the Electric Power Research Institute and Fred Singer, the first director of the U.S. Weather Satellite Service, to write an article for *Cosmos* magazine. They urged more research and begged scientists and governments not to move too fast to curb greenhouse CO<sub>2</sub> emissions because the true impact of carbon dioxide was not at all certain and curbing the use of fossil fuels could have a huge negative impact on the economy and jobs and our standard of living. I have discussed this collaboration with Dr. Singer. He assures me that Revelle was considerably more certain than he was

at the time that carbon dioxide was not a problem.

Did Roger Revelle attend the summer enclave at the Bohemian Grove in Northern California in the summer of 1990 while working on that article? Did he deliver a lakeside speech there to the assembled movers and shakers from Washington and Wall Street in which he apologized for sending the UN IPCC and Al Gore onto this wild goose chase about global warming? Did he say that the key scientific conjecture of his lifetime had turned out wrong? The answer to those questions is, "I think so, but I do not know it for certain." I have not managed to get it confirmed as of this moment. It's a little like Las Vegas; what is said at the Bohemian Grove stays at the Bohemian Grove. There are no transcripts or recordings and people who attend are encouraged not to talk. Yet, the topic is so important, that some people have shared with me on an informal basis.

Roger Revelle died of a heart attack three months after the *Cosmos* story was printed. Oh, how I wish he were still alive today. He might be able to stop this scientific silliness and end the global warming scam.

Al Gore has dismissed Roger Revelle's mea culpa as the actions of senile old man. And, the next year, while running for Vice President, he said the science behind global warming is settled and there will be no more debate. From 1992 until today, he and his cohorts have refused to debate global warming and when asked about us skeptics they simply insult us and call us names.

So today we have the acceptance of carbon dioxide as the culprit of global warming. It is concluded that when we burn fossil fuels we are leaving a dastardly carbon footprint, which we must pay Al Gore or the environmentalists to offset. Our governments on all levels are considering taxing the use of fossil fuels. The Federal Environmental Protection Agency is on the verge of naming CO<sub>2</sub> as a pollutant and strictly regulating its use to protect our climate. The new

President and the U.S. congress are on board. Many state governments are moving on the same course.

We are already suffering from this CO2 silliness in many ways. Our energy policy has been strictly hobbled by no drilling and no new refineries for decades. We pay for the shortage this has created every time we buy gas. On top of that the whole thing about corn based ethanol costs us millions of tax

dollars in subsidies. That also has driven up food prices. And, all of this is a long way from over.

And, I am totally convinced there is no scientific basis for any of it. Global Warming: It is the hoax; it is bad science; it is a highjacking of public policy. It is no joke. It is the greatest scam in history.

To email John Coleman, [click here](#), for more info on the global warming scam: [Coleman's Corner](#).

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## Coast Guard Report on lost NFL boaters is grim

MIAMI (AP) – Two NFL players may have died just a few hours after the fishing boat they were in overturned in rough water in late February, possibly before rescuers were even alerted that they and two others were lost off the west coast of Florida, according to Coast Guard records of the boating accident.

In a 23-page report provided to The Associated Press under a Freedom of Information Act request, the Coast Guard documents two conversations it had with Nick Schuyler, a former University of South Florida player who was the lone survivor. Schuyler told them that, one by one, the other men took off their life vests and disappeared during the ordeal.

The report says the group went roughly 70 miles — or 62 nautical miles — to fish for amberjack on Feb. 28. Also onboard the 21-foot Everglades boat were Oakland Raiders linebacker Marquis Cooper, free-agent NFL defensive lineman Corey Smith, who played for the Detroit Lions last season, and former University of South Florida player William Bleakley.

The men's names were redacted in the report.

Around 5:30 p.m., the report said the group ran into trouble: Their anchor was stuck. Schuyler told investigators that he believed it was caught in a coral reef. They tried to free it, but water filled the boat and it capsized. Tossed into the cold water, the men managed to grab their life vests.

### Hypothermia Led to Loss of Hope

Schuyler said they held on to the boat for four hours. But as the night wore on, their will to survive appears to have weakened, and the effects of hypothermia were likely setting in. Schuyler told the Coast Guard that one of the men "freaked out" and took off his life vest and disappeared that night. Another one of the men started getting unruly and throwing punches later.

Schuyler told the Coast Guard the second man also took off his life jacket, dove under the water and was never seen again. The third man thought he saw land nearly two days after the boat capsized and decided to swim for it. Schuyler told the Coast Guard that one man said his life jacket was too tight and he took it off.

Officials have said that they eventually found three life jackets; one on Schuyler, another near the boat and a third underneath it. The bodies of the three who disappeared have not been found.

### Survivor's Account is Inconsistent

It's unclear how accurate the account is. Schuyler, who was found clinging to the overturned boat about 35 miles off Clearwater and nearly 48 hours after the accident, was suffering from hypothermia and has provided different accounts to the men's relatives. The family of William Bleakley, for example, said Schuyler told them that their son held on to the boat with his college teammate until he weakened and died. Schuyler has also

said that Bleakley helped him survive, talking to him and encouraging him during their last night together.

Marquis Cooper's father has questioned Schuyler's account that his son removed his life jacket. Schuyler has not responded to interview requests.

The group was expected home around sunset. One of the men's families contacted the Coast Guard around 1:30 a.m. on March 1 and a search began.

The Coast Guard records document their repeated attempts — and frustrations — as they attempted to find the small white boat in a stormy sea with heavy cloud cover and whitecaps making it tough to spot the vessel. Initial information the Guard received indicated the men were en route to a dive wreck about 58 miles from Clearwater Pass, Fla.

One person who called the Coast Guard reported that one of the men, presumably Cooper, had one week left before he was expected in California for football practice. The caller, whose name was redacted from the report, said the group "could have possibly tried to go farther out to fish."

One of the men's wives was able to find a handheld GPS device that he had left at home and had apparently used in previous trips to record the coordinates of favorite fishing spots. The Coast Guard used that data to refine their search, placing the likely location of the men about 10 nautical miles south of their expected destination.

The Coast Guard contacted the men's cell phone companies for help tracking their whereabouts, without success. They also sent them text messages stating that, "the CG is looking for you request you to contact us immediately." "Being these guys are inexperienced, don't look just at 50 NM offshore, there might be a possibility that they wized up and stayed close to shore, at least within visual of land," a Coast Guard officer wrote in one e-mail.

The same e-mail added that, "It might be worth considering getting the story out to media earlier than

later more people on the lookout both on land and water."

#### Weather, Plane Problems Hurt Search Efforts

During the search, the Coast Guard reported 14-foot seas offshore and wind gusts up to 30 mph. The newly released records reveal how the conditions hindered their mission. In one early search, rescuers were only able to cover 40% of their search area because of a storm front that moved in.

In another entry, a pilot's search was described as "ineffective, unable to see anything with current weather conditions during nighttime search, completely dark due to cloud cover." One aircraft had an engine problem

and never got out. A second aircraft was used but had problems with its radar during the first leg of the search; an alternative device proved useless in the poor weather.

More than 24 hours after starting their search, however, a sign of hope finally emerged. The Coast Guard cutter Tornado spotted Schuyler, looking small in the vast ocean and clinging to the boat's hull.

At Tampa General Hospital, Schuyler's doctor called it a "miracle" that he survived in the 63-degree Gulf water for nearly two days, and said he probably could have lived only another five to 10 hours. ✧

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