

Fish Futures Inc.

Conservation and Enhancement
of Freshwater Fisheries



www.fishfutures.net

Volume 4
Issue 3
Fall '05

Fish News

FISH WINNIPEG

CORPORATE AND MEDIA CHALLENGE

RAISES \$17,500+ FOR YOUTH-AT-RISK



Richard Guenette (guide) and John Armitage (on right) of Civic Pulse land this lunker catfish during the Fish Winnipeg Challenge

Also in this Issue:

Ask the Professor - Scholarship Winner - Projects Report

Fish Futures Inc. 200-1555 St. James St. Wpg MB R3H 1B5 (204) 487-6499 www.fishfutures.net fishfutures@mts.net



Managing Editor:

J. B. Toone

Send Submissions to:

jtoone7@shaw.ca

Contributors:

Rob Cann

Dr. Ken Stewart



Ask

the Professor

"Fish were very active around Lockport this year when the river was so high. What factors could contribute to this increased activity?"

Fish accumulate below the dam because of the high water velocity, which prevents many species from moving farther upstream. The dam itself also becomes a barrier to fish movement during high water because the fishway is not operating, and the lock channel is dry until the water level gets high enough for water to flow into it. The same thing happens at the Floodway Control Structure at St. Norbert, which completely blocks upstream movement of fish when it is raised. With a lot of big predators and smaller prey species confined in these areas, there is increased feeding activity, and that accounts for the good fishing.

However, these high water conditions may cause problems for fish. During late spring and early summer flooding, some species, most importantly channel catfish, are blocked from their upstream spawning movement. We don't know whether the cats have to go to a specific area to spawn, like salmon, or whether they can spawn successfully wherever they are from time to time. If reaching a specific spawning area is necessary, this flooding may cause the loss of most of that year class of young fish.

Another potential problem is that large numbers of fish attract large numbers of anglers. When the fish are stacked up, like that in the tailrace of a barrier, more fish are caught and kept by anglers. Fish that are released can often be stressed even if proper catch and release practices are followed. Anglers should be mindful of these factors when considering how hard to fish these area during the late spring/early summer spawning period.

Curious about Fish?

Send your Fish Biology / Habitat questions to: AskTheProfessor@shaw.ca

Dr. Ken Stewart Scholarship in Aquatic Biology and Conservation

This year's scholarship was awarded to Ms. Katarzyna Dyszy. She is continuing her studies of carp biology in Delta Marsh. Fish Futures has funded her work for several years. Ms. Dyszy will research carp feeding activity and determine what effect this activity might have on the use of breeding sites by frogs.

Ms. Dyszy is based in the Department of Renewable Resources at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, under the supervision of Dr. John R. Spence, the Department Chairperson. During her field work in Delta Marsh, she will be associated with Dr. Gordon Goldsborough of the Department of Botany, University of Manitoba.

In This Issue

Ask the Professor..... 2
Projects Report..... 3
What is Fish Futures?..... 4
Fish Winnipeg..... 4

Fish Futures Board of Directors

- Darryl Bohart
George Bones
David Carrick
Lorne Colpitts
Joel Hunt
Peter Kobar
Dan Rempel
Kenneth Stewart
Lori Thompson
Rob Tkach
John R. Toone
Duncan Wain
Tom Walker
Bob Williams



FISH FUTURES

PROJECT REPORT



Conservation and Enhancement of Freshwater Fisheries

The Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium Inc. (Namao)

Fish Futures Project Funding for 2005 - \$8,000

Their main objective is to facilitate multidisciplinary research on Lake Winnipeg by hosting an annual science forum where researchers can discuss past work, identify data gaps and develop a long-term research plan for Lake Winnipeg. The Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium Inc. (LWRC) will provide researchers with access to a dedicated and capable research platform (vessel *NAMA*O) at a reasonable cost to carry out the field aspects of this research. The LWRC is developing an educational program whereby high school and university students are taken on board the *NAMA*O to participate in research that is part of their curriculum requirements.

Save Our Seine River Environment Inc.

Fish Futures Project Funding for 2005 - \$8,000

Their main objective is to preserve, protect and enhance the natural environment and heritage resource of the Seine River. SOS was granted Intervener Status by the Province of Manitoba regarding the Red River Floodway Expansion. Fish Futures is helping to fund an engineering study that will assess the feasibility of the syphon for fish passage under the floodway. Funding is also being provided to hire a summer student under the Urban Green Team program.

Rural Municipality of Rosburn

Fish Futures Project Funding for 2005 - \$7,500

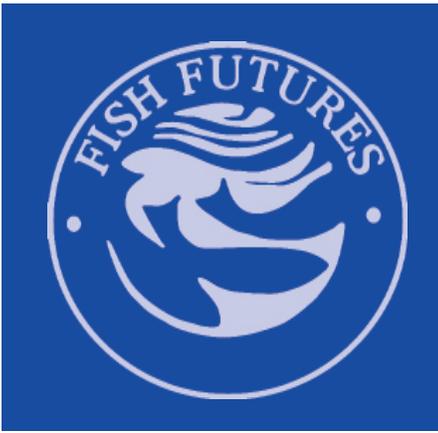
Their infrastructure project includes the resurfacing of the boat launches, the installation of new pipe docks, and the replacement of outhouse pits with washrooms at Tokaryk and Patterson lakes. Their partners in this project also include the Rosburn Game and Fish, Oakburn Game and Fish, and FLIPPR (Fish and Lake Improvement Program for the Parkland Region).

Red River Operating Clean-Up

Fish Futures Project Funding for 2005 - \$5,000

Their mandate is to foster community involvement in the environmental problems that are effecting the Red River. By pitching in, they encourage all Manitobans to take pride in their waterways and to do their part in maintaining their beauty. Last year, 41,000 pounds of garbage was removed from the Red River shoreline, including plastics, refrigerators, stoves, tires, monofilament fishing line, car parts, shopping carts, et cetera. This year, in addition to the clean-up, shoreline signage was erected in problem areas to better educate the public about the harm littering causes to the River.

Fish Futures supports fisheries projects in Manitoba. Funding applications are generally mailed in January, with application deadlines around the end of March. To have you or your group included in this mailing, please e-mail your particulars to Joel Hunt, the Projects Committee Chair - jhunt@gov.mb.ca.



*"Working Today
for Tomorrow's Fisheries Resource"*

What is Fish Futures Inc.?

Fish Futures Inc. is a non-profit, registered charitable organization dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of freshwater fisheries through:

- Sponsorship, development and encouragement of research projects.
- Habitat preservation, enhancement and management projects.
- Public education to increase awareness of the value of freshwater fisheries and the need for conservation and enhancement of fish stocks and habitat.

Fish Futures is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors comprised of members of the public and representatives of government, industry and the scientific community.

For more information about Fish Futures Inc. please contact us at:

Fish Futures Inc.
c/o 200-1555 St. James St.
Winnipeg, MB, R3H 1B5
(204) 487-6499

E-Mail: fishfutures@mts.net
Website: www.fishfutures.net

The 8th Annual Fish Winnipeg Media/Corporate Challenge Final Standings

2005 Media Challenge

1st Place:	Global TV	Total Fish: 852.2 cm.	Guide: Todd Longley
2nd Place:	Bob FM	Total Fish: 526.0 cm.	Guide: Steve Wintemute
3rd Place:	Thunder Voice	Total Fish: 354.5 cm.	Guide: Ed Friedlich

Biggest Fish: John Hendricks (CKY-TV) - 90.3 cm channel catfish
Delta Real Estate Conservation Award: Laurie Mustard (Winnipeg Sun)

2005 Corporate Challenge

1st Place:	Luke's Town Service	Total Fish: 1,198.9 cm.	Guide: Todd Longley
2nd Place:	Swancoat Investments	Total Fish: 1,192.5 cm.	Guide: Steve Wintemute
3rd Place:	Berkley Canada	Total Fish: 840.0 cm.	Guide: George Bones

Biggest Fish: Dan Rempel (Deloitte & Touche) - 90.5 cm channel catfish
Delta Real Estate Conservation Award: Arthur "Butch" Shapiro (Ensis)

This year's event raised over \$17,500 for the Fish Winnipeg youth-at-risk fishing program. Thanks to the generous support of our media and corporate sponsors, over 600 kids spent a day fishing in the city and received a free rod and reel combo.

Thank you to the local guides for volunteering their time, boats, and equipment. The Fish Winnipeg Media/Corporate Challenge is made possible through the cooperation of Fish Futures, The Complete Angler, The City of Winnipeg, and Manitoba Fisheries, in support of the Urban Angling Partnership.