

Fish Futures Inc.

Conservation and Enhancement
of Freshwater Fisheries



www.fishfutures.net

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Fish News

FISH WINNIPEG CHALLENGE **200 KIDS LEARN TO FISH**



**THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE AND MEDIA
SPONSORS WHO TOGETHER RAISED \$17,500**

In this Issue of Fish News

FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT FUND PROJECTS

FISH WINNIPEG CHALLENGE

INVASIVE SPECIES UPDATE

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FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT FUND
\$214,583 IN PROJECTS

The FEF Project Review Committee includes representatives of Fish Futures Inc., the Manitoba Wildlife Federation, Intermountain Fish Enhancement Inc., Swan Valley Fish Enhancement Inc., Manitoba Fly Fisheries Association Inc., Fish and Lake Improvement Program for the Parkland Region, and Manitoba Lodges and Outfitters Association. The Committee has recommended funding for the following projects in 2007:

Fisheries Research

Population Structure and Stock Identification of Walleye in Lake Winnipeg Using Micro-satellite Variation, Department of Zoology, University of Manitoba: \$34,519 to fund a graduate student using walleye DNA from Lake Winnipeg to determine if there are different genetic stocks of walleye and any recent genetic changes.

Netley and Grassmere Creek Watershed Habitat Assessment Organization, East Interlake Conservation District: \$25,000 for a habitat assessment in the Netley-Grassmere system leading to programs that will protect and preserve fisheries.

Habitat Assessment of North Basin Lake Manitoba Tributaries Organization, North West Interlake Water Management Association and Whitetail and Walleye Fish and Game Association: \$25,000 for a comprehensive habitat assessment leading to projects to help remove barriers and increase fish passage on four Lake Manitoba North Basin tributaries; Powderhorn, Bear, Boggy and Proulx creeks.

Spear Lake Seasonal Nutrient Loading Study, Lake of the Prairies Conservation District: \$13,200 for a study on Spear Lake, identifying sources of nutrient loading and potential prevention strategies.

Lake Evaluation Study Phase III, Fish and Lake Improvement for the Parkland Region: \$5,900 for an evaluation and help to identify lakes that have high development and tourism potential in the parkland region.

Fish Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement

Riparian Rehabilitation, Seine-Rat River Conservation District: \$4,600 to restrict cattle access to the river through the use of fencing, helping to protect valuable fish habitat.

Demonstration project of bioengineering techniques for stream bank stabilization on the Shell River, Lake of the Prairies Conservation District: \$3,083 to complete bank supports with the planting of spruce trees along the Shell River for demonstration purposes and to encourage other landowners to rehabilitate riparian areas.

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Fisheries Education

Educational Children's Fishing Book – Andrew Goes Fishing in Manitoba, Peanut Butter Press: \$23,379 to create an educational children's book about fishing in Manitoba. This book will complement the science curriculum and will be distributed to Manitoba schools.

Interactive Flex Fish Display Organization, Manitoba Fisheries: \$10,500 to design and create an interactive and educational display about Manitoba's fish species. The display will be used at public events such as boats shows and fish festivals.

The One That Got Away – Children's Books About Fish, Fish Futures Inc.: \$9,000 to create two children's books about Manitoba fish species. These books will complement the science curriculum and will be distributed to Manitoba schools.

Student Research at the Manitoba Science Academy: \$7,900 to offer fisheries research opportunities to high school students and to work on sturgeon projects with Dr. Steve Peake.

Fisheries Outreach and Stewardship

Creating Public Stewardship for Manitoba's Biggest Fish, Nelson River Sturgeon Board: \$18,500 for a public awareness campaign about lake sturgeon. The Nelson River Sturgeon Board will hire summer students to help develop publications and update their website.

Sturgeon Creek Interpretive Centre, Manitoba Wildlife Federation: \$5,000 for a feasibility study for the design of a safe and suitable on-site educational viewing opportunity as part of the Sturgeon Creek Fishway Interpretive Centre located at Grant's Old Mill.

WOW 'Window on the Whiteshell' - Stage 1 Feasibility Study, Manitoba Fly Fishers Association: \$4,400 to conduct a feasibility study for a viewing window at the Whiteshell fish hatchery site to help increase tourism in the Whiteshell area

Fisheries Development

Corstorphine Lake Aeration Project Organization, Fish and Lake Improvement for the Parkland Region: \$25,000 to purchase and install aerators on Corstorphine Lake.

The Fisheries Enhancement Fund represents a new public/private partnership that will oversee how fisheries enhancement projects will be funded in Manitoba. The FEF has a total of \$600,000 budgeted for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2008. The next deadline for applications is October 15th, as the FEF Project Review Committee will meet again in November. For information on applying for project funding, please contact Lisa Tack, the FEF Administrator, at 204-945-7787 or Lisa.Tack@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:

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The 10th Annual Fish Winnipeg Media/Corporate Challenge Final Standings

2007 Media Challenge

1st Place:	Shaw Cable	Total Fish: 766 cm.	Guide: Rick Thiessen
2nd Place:	Hot 103	Total Fish: 744 cm.	Guide: Phil Boiteau
3rd Place:	Global	Total Fish: 594 cm.	Guide: Jerry McKay
Biggest Fish: Dennis Chartrand (NCI Radio) - 86 cm. channel catfish			
Delta Real Estate Conservation Award: Walter Bernal (Global TV)			

2007 Corporate Challenge

1st Place:	AGF Mutual	Total Fish: 1,983 cm.	Guide: Phil Botieau
2nd Place:	Pitblado LLP	Total Fish: 1,874 cm.	Guide: Rick Thiessen
3rd Place:	Manitoba Hydro	Total Fish: 955 cm.	Guide: Dan Thibeault

Biggest Fish: Karen Smith (Steamatic) - 98 cm. channel catfish
Delta Real Estate Conservation Award: Dave Bockstael (Bockstael Construction)

Invasive Species Update

Rusty Crayfish: Rusty crayfish were found in Falcon Lake at the end of July. As a result, Fisheries Branch sampled ten sites around the entire lake to determine the distribution of the species. Rusty crayfish were found in five of the sampling sites, all located in the eastern portion of the lake.

Asian Tapeworm: Sampling has been on-going again this past summer on the Red River and Lake Winnipeg. Lab analysis will take place this winter and increased sampling is being proposed for next year to include tributaries of the River and south Lake Winnipeg. There were no obvious declines detected in emerald shiner catches from trawling efforts on Lake Winnipeg from the Namao this summer.

Spiny Water Flea: In July 2007, spiny water fleas were confirmed in the main basin of Lake of the Woods by fisheries staff from Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. This crustacean has also been reported on down-rigger cables by anglers on the U.S. side of Lake of the Woods. While spiny water fleas were observed in the Rainy River system in 2006, large numbers were observed in plankton drift nets during June 2007. This invading species has not been reported in Manitoba waters and sampling is being proposed for the Winnipeg River next summer.