

Fish Futures Inc.

Conservation and Enhancement
of Freshwater Fisheries



www.fishfutures.net

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Fish News

FISH FUTURES BANQUET 2005 TAKING IT TO THE XTREME!



Boat not exactly as shown

This Year's Feature Auction Item

**2005 LUND 1900 Pro V IFS
with a 225 HP Mercury Verado outboard
and an EZ Loader trailer**

LUND
A Tradition of Quality

MERCURY

EZLOADER
BOAT TRAILERS

SEE PAGE THREE FOR MORE XTREME BANQUET INFO



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Ask

the Professor

"I often find walleye in deep water, and I do practice catch-and-release. Should I be concerned that I am causing harm to these fish by raising them from such depths?"

Bringing fish to the surface from any depth greater than about three metres (10 feet) may cause harm to the fish. Most fish with spiny fins, like walleye, perch, and bass, do not have a swim bladder duct that allows them to expel gas as water pressure increases.

If you want to release fish caught from depths of three metres (10 feet) or more, you must release these fish immediately. Do not put them in a live-well, not even for a few minutes. It helps to point the head of the fish down into the water, and then give the fish a downward push to get them started. The expanded gas in their swim bladder makes them too buoyant, and it's harder for them to dive back down deep.

If walleye are brought up from a depth of 10 metres (30 feet) or more, even though they may swim away when released, they will likely die within the next day or so. Walleye with bulging eyes and gut will not survive, and might as well be kept and eaten. Do not fish in 10 metres or more of water unless you plan to kill and eat your catch.

Walleye, like all fish, may also get a case of "the bends" when brought up from a depth of 10 metres (30 feet) or more. The gasses dissolved in their blood and body fluids are at equilibrium with the water pressure at their particular depth. When they are brought to the surface, the excess dissolved gas comes out of solution and makes bubbles in the tissues and blood. Only if the fish is released immediately and quickly gets back near the depth at which it was caught, will they have any chance of survival.

Anglers who are concerned about their local walleye fishery should pass on this information to like-minded individuals, and consider more seriously where they choose to fish and for what species. Remember, pike, musky, trout, and catfish all have the swim bladder duct. You may have seen bubbles when bringing up a large fish of these types from the depths.

Curious about Fish?

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

XTREME BANQUET

Thursday, May 5th, 2005

Fish Futures 17th Annual Banquet and Auction at the Royal Crown Banquet and Conference Centre

You do not want to miss the Fish Futures Xtreme Banquet. This year's feature Xtreme auction item is a 2005 LUND 1900 Pro V IFS with a 225 HP Mercury Verado outboard motor and an EZ Loader trailer.

The 1900 Pro V IFS features LUND's new patented IPS2 hull design, ProCapacity in-floor lockable rod storage system, legendary ProLong live-well system, ProRide suspension seats, on-board three bank battery charger, Sony AM/FM/CD stereo system, complete top set, and new SportTrak system for accessories. This exceptional LUND boat is powered by Mercury's latest and most technologically advanced 225 HP Supercharged Verado Four-Stroke engine (the World's most powerful four-stroke outboard). All of this technology securely cradled on one of EZ Loaders finest galvanized trailers. The EZ Loader TEZL102/1720/4000 boasts their new Oil Bath Hub System, full L.E.D. lighting system, and chrome rims.

THIS XTREME FISHING PACKAGE HAS A RETAIL VALUE OF OVER \$60,000.00. WOW!

Once again this year, you will be able to start the bidding early on this feature auction item by placing your bid on-line @ www.fishfutures.net. The top three bidders at the close of the web auction will be invited to continue the bidding live at the Fish Futures Xtreme Banquet (please see web auction rules below).

The Fish Futures Xtreme Banquet is a fun night in support of conserving and enhancing our freshwater fisheries resource. There will be many opportunities to win terrific prizes and bid on fabulous merchandise. Please see the enclosed tip-sheet for details on some of the choice items that will be auctioned at this year's exciting event. Expect to find adventure trips to the best lodges in Canada, outdoor camping, fishing and recreational equipment, and unique items, like an original soapstone carving of two walleye by world-renowned artist Larry Taraski.

Circle May 5th on your calendar. You really don't want to miss this one! It is going to be one Xtreme Banquet.

Web Auction Rules

1. You may bid on the feature Xtreme Fishing Package as many times as you like prior to the web auction closing on May 4th, 2005 at 4:00 PM CST.
2. The auction will be concluded at the Fish Futures Xtreme Banquet on May 5th, 2005.
3. The top three bidders in the web auction will receive a free ticket to the Xtreme Banquet.
4. The top three bidders from the web auction will bid against other Banquet guests for the final sale of the Xtreme Fishing Package.
5. Bidders who cannot be contacted and authenticated from their supplied contact information will be removed from the bidder list.
6. Fish Futures will remove any bids deemed illegitimate.
7. Payment of the live auction price by the successful bidder will be completed at the Xtreme Banquet.

Please note that all bidders will receive an e-mail confirmation of their bid. If this e-mail confirmation is undeliverable, the bid may be removed.



*"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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Quick Strikes

FISH FUTURES LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Darian Major has been appointed the new President of Fish Futures. The Board of Directors would like to gratefully acknowledge the outstanding work of Lorne Colpitts, the outgoing President. Thanks to his volunteer efforts, Fish Futures has grown and strengthened as an organization.

PROJECT UPDATE

A Fish Futures project grant helped fund the construction of riparian zone fencing along two-miles of shoreline on Lake Wahtopanah, near the town of Rivers, MB. Local entrepreneur and outdoors enthusiast, Ron Citulsky, worked in cooperation with the Rivers Fish and Game and the Little Saskatchewan River Conservation District to conserve the natural habitat and to restrict his herd of 100+ cattle from having access to the lake. Constructing the fence was a particular challenge because the terrain is rolling and rocky, with ravines and valleys. The buffer zone is now 20-30 feet from the shoreline, and will help protect the lake from nutrient loading and destructive hoof action. Lake Wahtopanah is an eight-mile long, man-made reservoir that borders Rivers Provincial Park. It is a sport fishery for walleye, pike, and perch, and the domestic source of water for the 1,100 residents of Rivers. Fish Futures applauds Mr. Citulsky and his proactive approach to conserving and enhancing this fisheries resource.

MANITOBA FISHERIES SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT EDUCATIONAL WEB SITE

To help connect youth with fish and fish-related topics, Manitoba Fisheries Branch has developed an educational website. Committees of local teachers work with branch staff to develop lesson plans and activities that promote fisheries sustainable development principles and concepts. These lessons are then posted on the internet for teachers to download and use in their classrooms. According to the positive feedback received to date, the website has been a resounding success and the teachers/students really seem to enjoy the lessons and classroom activities about fish. You will find fun and educational fisheries resources for children of all ages on the web at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/sustain/educate.html>