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Tippets, Tapers & Tales

President's Message - March 2020

We had another great meeting last month with Josh Greenberg's presentation. Thanks again to Josh for coming down for the evening to be with us. Thanks also to club members Phil Stevens, Bob Ceru and Rick Lewandowski for staffing the Red Cedar Club booth this past weekend at the Quiet Adventures Symposium at MSU.



We have another informative meeting planned for March with Brad Petzke of River's North Guide Service joining us for a presentation on Fly Fishing the Upper Peninsula. This will be a joint meeting with the Lansing area Trout Unlimited club and will take place on Thursday, March 12th, from 6-8pm at Reno's East on Abbott Road in East Lansing. Please note the change in date and location from our regular meeting night. This is to accommodate Brad's schedule with him coming downstate to attend the Midwest Fly Fishing Expo that weekend in Warren.

With Spring just around the corner now, hopefully we can all get out soon to do some fishing. If you are still tying flies to get ready for the season, plan on stopping by on the 2 Sunday Tying nights the club has planned at Coral Gables and tie with your fellow club

members and guests that will be there.

See you at the March meeting.

Mark

Quiet Waters Table ----





1981 McKenzie Cup Winners

The Red Cedar Fly Fishers is a Charter Club of Fly Fishers International.

It's purpose is to promote fly-fishing through Education, Restoration and Conservation

March Program: Brad Petzke of Rivers North takes

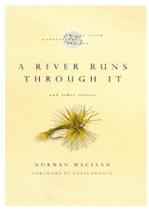
great pride in being the Upper Peninsula's Fight the Fish, Not the Crowds First & Only Full-Time fly-fishing guide service that provides a quality experience for every client because of our knowledge of the U.P. and its fisheries. Years of experience on the water has the reputation of being the Upper Peninsula's foremost authority on fly fish-



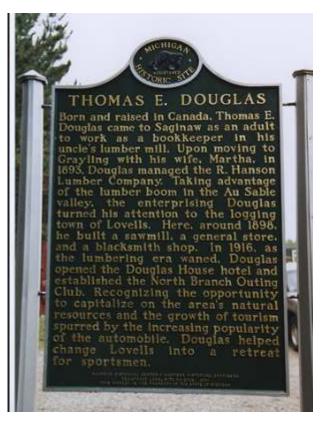
ing Upper Michigan. His talk will be on fly fishing the Upper Peninsula. Join us at Reno's East on Abbot Road in East Lansing.

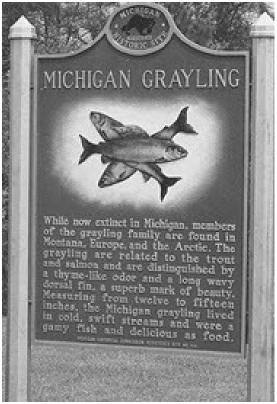
For those who have only seen the movie but never read the book:

"In our family, there was no clear line between religion and fly fishing. We lived at the junction of great trout rivers in western Montana, and our father was a Presbyterian minister and a fly fisherman who tied his own flies and taught others. He told us about Christ's disciples being fishermen, and we were left to assume, as my brother and I did, that all first-class fishermen on the Sea of Galilee were fly fishermen and that John, the favorite, was a dry-fly fisherman." ..Norman Maclean ~ A River Runs Through It



Two of Michigan's historical markers:





Ouiz	Time	Phil Monahan Fly Fishing Trivia
•	nich of these game-fish	
	A. Wiper	B. Tiger Muskie
	•	D. Splake
2. Who	first tied the Black Gh	ost?
	A. Herb Welch	B. Carrie Stephens
	C. Joe Brooks	D. Fly Rod Crosbie
3. True	or False ~ Brook trou	t are native to Georgia?
	A. True	B. False
4. Wł	no said. "If fishing is like	religion, then fly-fishing is high church."?
	•	n B. Norman Maclean
	C. Harry Middleton	D. Tom Brokaw
5 Whi	h famous angling hook	begins with the assertion, "Despite rumors to the con-
5. * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *		objective is: to catch fish"?
	, ,	esto" by Sheridan Anderson
	B. "Trout Bum" by John	•
	• •	Fly Fishing" by Tom Rosenbauer
	D. "Trout" by Ray Bergn	•
6 Whi	ch of these countries d	oes NOT have native brown trout?
O. 11111	A. Morocco	B. Croatia
	C. Mongolia	D. Portugal
	Ü	5
7. On v	vhat river would you fi	nd the stone temple built in honor of Izaak Walton?
	A. The River Itchen	C. The River Avon
	B. The River Dove	D. The River Test
8. In ro	d-building, what is the	"scrim"?
	-	of fiberglass or graphite that forms a lining under the principal
		working with the material when it is rolled around a mandrel.
		impregnating the material with resin.
	C. The matrix that hold	s the carbon fibers together.
	D. A fixed metal shroud	d over either the top or the bottom of the reel-seat cylinder
	into which one	end of the reel seat is placed.
9. Which	h of these is NOT a real	sunfish species?
	A. Redear sunfish	B. Orangespotted sunfish
	C. Green sunfish	D. Yellow sunfish

10. What kind of fly is the Juju Baetis?

C. Hairwing streamer

B. Nymph D. Wet fly

A. Dryfly



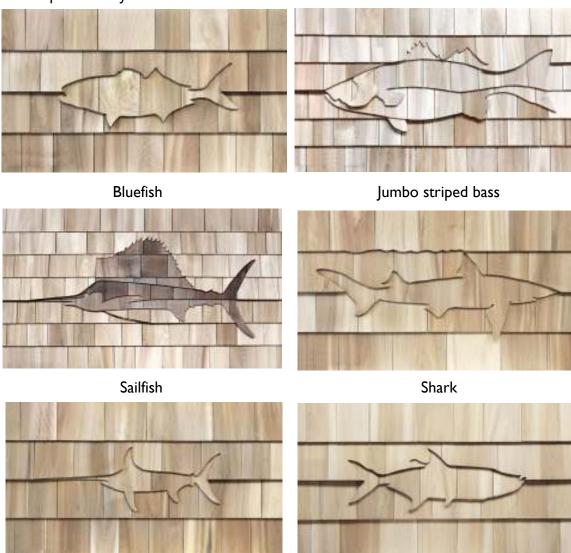
Description:

Curious about fly fishing? Learn from a local expert about the equipment involved, what kinds of fish you can catch in Michigan's river, what fish eat and how flies are tied. Then try your hand at casting a fly rod to get a real feel for the sport. This is a wonderful opportunity for people of all ages to come together through their common love for nature, being outdoors, and

desire to learn a new skill or get a refresher course.

Rick Lewandowski is the vice president of the Red Cedar Fly Fishers and an employee at Nomad Anglers. He's excited to share his tips and tricks for fly fishing with everyone who is interested in learning.

Need to dress up your house, cottage, barn, shed? Well go to www.mosaicshingles.com and look for a pattern. No trout yet, but they may do a special for you.



Swordfish Tarpon

Wyoming Game & Fish Explains How Stream Trout Survive Winter

Winter is an especially hard time for most wildlife. It gets really cold, the wind blows a bit more, there's often snow covering the ground, and ice forms on streams and lakes.

But did you ever wonder what fish do? Fish in lakes don't have many options aside from moving to deeper water. Fish in streams and rivers have a whole different set of challenges to deal with because of the wide range of habitat types in a river. Their survival depends almost entirely on how, when, and where ice forms.



Ice usually forms across an entire stream in late fall and gets covered with snow. This is an ideal situation for fish to survive the winter because they're safe from predators and harsh weather conditions. Fish move to areas where the stream is flowing slow and deep – like pools or underneath stream banks. Because there's snow on the ice blocking sunlight, fish do not move around much to try and eat during the winter. That's ok, because there's not much to feed on in winter and fish can live on their energy reserves for up to 5 months. Aquatic insects tend to hatch in the fall and are too small for fish to filter out of the water until the following summer.

While ice can be good for fish if it's a solid cap on streams, other kinds of ice can be their worst enemy. Before streams freeze over in the fall, in the spring just after ice-out, or during any warm spell that causes the ice to melt, sudden cold weather can cause the stream to form slush ice. For fish, slush ice is like a huge dust storm to you and me. As it floats downstream, the ice can clog the gills of fish that can't get out of its way. Some fish move to shallow areas along the bank where slush ice may not flow. Others go to deep pools where the slush ice usually floats over top. But all too often, the fish that move to the shore get caught and eaten by mink that hunt for food along stream margins all winter. Small fish that move into deep pools can be eaten by bigger fish that live there.

Michigan's looking for seasonal park workers:

If you love Michigan's great outdoors and are looking for a seasonal position with flexible hours, come out and work where you play! Join the more than 1,200 seasonal park workers hired each summer/fall to work in Michigan's 103 state parks, state forest campgrounds, boating access sites and harbors.

- Are paid between \$10 and \$11.60 an hour.
- May work up to 1,040 hours between April 19 and Oct. 17, 2020.
- Should be 18 years of age or have a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Should be willing to work weekends and evenings.
- Are required to pass a pre-employment drug test and background check.

To express interest in a position, please email DNR-PRD-NonCareer@Michigan.gov with the following information:

Name, ~ Phone number ~ Park or Harbor you're interested in,



WELCOME TO ISSUE THREE (Volume I) OF THE FFF ClubWire NEWS SERVICE, August, I 1996

GREAT LAKES COUNCIL STEELHEAD OUTING (FFF ClubWire). Can you imagine spending a long Autumn weekend in Central Michigan's piney woods on the banks of the famed Pere Marquette River? Leaves are changing color, the air is brisk and the native steelhead are making their fall run. The fishing lodge is at least 65 years old, the great room is dominated by a grand natural stone fireplace, there is a pool table on one side and a huge closed porch facing the river on the other.

Fly tiers and fly liars from allover the Midwest spin their creations from early morning till late at night. All the time you can look out from the front porch and see your fellow fly fishers trying to land some of those native PM steelhead. Or, of course you can fish for steelhead yourself on some of the other 10 miles of private water only accessible to guests at - the lodge.

It is a great time, perhaps one of the better ways to put a finish on the fly fishing year. Surprisingly, for lucky upper Midwestern fly fishers, this annual event has been going on for over 14 years under '-' the auspices of the Great Lakes Council and Jim Schramm. FFF members and nonmembers alike are welcome and this steelhead outing is not restricted to those from Michigan, Ohio or Indiana (the Great Lakes Council). If you are interested, the dates for 1996 are October 31-November 3. Give Jim a call at (616)869-5487.

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A BRULE RIVER BRUTE (FFF ClubWire). We know the Bois Brule River of far northern Wisconsin as the place where 5 presidents fished and where Calvin Coolidge set up the summer whitehouse in 1928. Who can identify the 5! presidents? In any case, the Brule originally was known for its monster i native brook trout. But few know that it is still a home to some really! big fish.

To illustrate this fact, Arrowhead Fly Fishers past president Rueben Swenson landed a brown trout estimated to weigh 23 pounds on a size #14 hare's ear, in a deep pool with a 6 pound test tippet. Rueben's fish measured 34 inches long, with a girth of 22 inches. Being a true fly fisher, Rueben returned the fish to the water, but a convincing photograph of him and his fish leave little doubt.

Does anyone know if a bigger brown trout has been caught on a fly in moving water? This question is relevant because of the very large brown trout caught commonly in the still waters of Lake Michigan (both Wisconsin and Michigan shores). Irrespective of the answer, Mr. Swenson deserves our congratulations. Now where on the Brule did he catch that fish?

Michigan: DNR to Launch New License Sales System



The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will move a new, more technologically advanced system for selling hunting and fishing licenses, hunting applications, and ORV and snowmobile permits online and at retail agent locations statewide. The new system will go live at noon Feb. 18.

The transition to the new license sales system will take place Saturday, Feb. 15, through noon Tuesday, Feb. 18. DNR licenses, permits and applications will not be sold in stores or online during that time.

For more information click on the following link: Michigan.gov/DNRLicenses.

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Just a few ideas if you're in the market for a new fishing vehicle this year. And yes, that's a 4 door Corvette in the second pic below in case you're wondering.























Edward Abbey quotes:

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- "The idea of wilderness needs no defense, it only needs defenders."
- "Life is too short for grief. Or regret. Or bullshit."
- "Freedom begins between the ears."
- "A world without open country would be universal jail."
- "If people persist in trespassing upon the grizzlies' territory, we must accept the fact that the grizzlies, from time to time, will harvest a few trespassers."
- "When the situation is hopeless, there's nothing to worry about."
- "I find that in contemplating the natural world my pleasure is greater if there are not too many others contemplating it with me, at the same time."
- "High technology has done us one great service: It has retaught us the delight of performing simple and primordial tasks – chopping wood, building a fire, drawing water from a spring."
- "There are some places so beautiful they can make a grown man break down and weep."
- Wilderness is not a luxury but a necessity of the human spirit, and as vital to our lives as water and good bread.
- One man alone can be pretty dumb sometimes, but for real bona fide stupidity, there ain't nothin' can beat teamwork.
- May your trails be crooked, winding, lonesome, dangerous, leading to the most amazing view. May your mountains rise into and above the clouds.



Boltlock ~ www.boltlock.com

If you drive a truck, haul gear or pull a trailer, then the BOLT Series of locks is for you. The BOLT Series of locks lets you set all your truck, trailer and equipment locks to work with one key – your ignition key!

Simply insert the truck's ignition key into the BOLT lock, turn it once and the lock mechanically and permanently learns the key code.

But convenience isn't their only benefit. BOLT locks are made by **STRATTEC**, the world's largest manufacturer of automotive locks and keys, and the main OE lock supplier for Ford, GM and Chrysler. Since BOLT locks use automotive technology and materials, they have the highest corrosion resistance rating on the market, and are nearly impossible to pick.

Whether you are a truck pro or a weekend warrior, you can't beat the convenience of BOLT locks. Why carry all those extra keys? Additional products on website.







Shuttle bike:



Do you own a bicycle, and want to go fly fishing? Don't own a jet or drift boat, no float tube, no kayak or canoe? Well Bunky, here's a new item to pack in for a float down the river or on the lake.

You provide the bike and check out this link to offer another method of transportation to your favorite fishing spots.

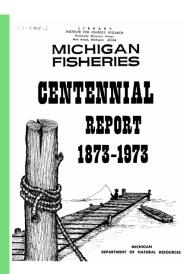
If you add a light on the front you can float at night as well. The possibilities are endless and when finished for the day, just break everything down and peddle home.

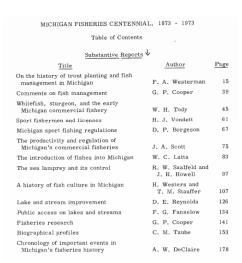
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M37PPSYIZNA

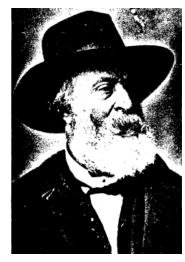
Michigan Fishing Information System: Check this DNR link for boat access sites, customer service centers, lake maps, state hatcheries, etc.

http://ifr.snre.umich.edu/MiFISH/

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George Jerome ~ First Fisheries chief 1873-1879

"The first of the State governments to take up artificial fish culture was Connecticut, the Legislature of which in 1857 passed an act making financial provision therefore."

Grayling - Before proceeding further with the development of trout fishing, a word about the gray ling seems called for. Among piscatorially minded people the fame of the grayling spread widely. As railroads were projected northerly through the lower peninsula, streams in which grayling were found became more readily accessible. This greatly intensified the angling pressure on these beautiful fish, which for sheer beauty and gameness could not be excelled by any other fish. The range of the Michigan grayling, Thymallus tricolor, was restricted to that part of the lower peninsula north of a line drawn from Muskegon across the state to Tawas Bay, and to a single upper peninsula stream, the Otter River in Houghton County. The most famous grayling streams were the Au Sable, Manistee, Muskegon, Boardman, Pine and the Hersey, the latter a tributary of the Muskegon River. No fish responded more avidly to the artificial fly. Long leaders to which three and even four flies were attached often yielded successive catches of three and even four fish at a cast. Many were wasted; in a few years their numbers dwindled; and soon the question arose, "What had become of the grayling?"

Brook Trout. There is some uncertainty as to when and where brook trout first appeared in lower peninsula streams. A pertinent paragraph taken from the Seventh Report of the State Board of Fish Commissioners for 1895-1896 is of interest: "Douglas Houghton, the eminent scientist, and the surveyor of a great part of the wild lands of this State, said of the streams of the lower peninsula, based on personal observation and examination, that they contained no brook trout. Mr. Bela Hubbard, an associate of Houghton, in his Memorials of a Half Century, makes the same statement, and they are corroborated by the early settlers, woodsmen and sportsmen. " The time of these observations was around 1840.

Rainbow Trout - The establishment of rainbow trout in Michigan virtually brought rainbows into the eyes of many anglers. It appears that Daniel C. Fitzhugh, Jr. of Bay City brought the first rainbow trout eggs from the West Coast in 1876 and, after hatching them, they were planted in the Au Sable River. Harold Hinsdill Smedley, in his Trout of Michigan, 1938, records this also that two years later, in 1878, Frank N. Clark purchased 125 yearling McLoud River rainbow trout from a private hatchery in San Francisco, part of which survived the trip to his private hatchery at Northville. Smedley relates that the first rainbow eggs taken in Michigan came from those fish, and that a second planting was made in the Au Sable River.

Brown Trout - It appears that Mr. Fred Mather, superintendent of the New York State Fish Commission, was responsible for the introduction of brown trout to Michigan, if not to America. Smedley relates that Mather was impressed by the trout he caught while fishing in the Black Forest in Germany and, while there, made arrangements to have some of the eggs sent to this country. "They hatched about the middle of March and were taken April II, in Car No. 2, and planted in a branch of the Pere Marquette River in northern Michigan." This seems to have been the first planting of brown trout in Michigan."

To check out the entire report, click on the following link: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/ SR06 542354 7.pdf

Robots in Flyfishing

by Bob Kren, RCFFer and sometimes Mr. Flyfisherpersonguy

Maybe you remember Ron Popeil, he of the Veg-o-Matic (it slices, it chops!) and the Pocket Fisherman Or Saturday Night Live's Bass-o-Matic ("Nice bass, Dad."). As tempting as it may be to imagine a Fly-o-Matic rod/reel/line/leader/fly gadget, we've become accustomed to more sophisticated, microchip gizmos, that almost think, sort of. Does the behavior of machines mean that they can "think?" Does cussing count?* Will these be able to read our minds? Will they form a union and make the usual unreasonable demands for dumb stuff like a living wage or safe working conditions? Let's imagine some onstream helpers, along the lines of already existent devices.

First, without much consideration, is the water-reader, Raoul®. It analyzes water velocities, clarities, temperatures, depths, distances, terrain, wind, and substrates The one thing it can't handle is what's behind you, like bushes and people. An upgrade for 360° observations will be available. Raoul® is in development, comes in either backpack or head mount, and weighs in at a mere 44 kilos. Instructions are available for a "small additional fee."

Ever seen a video of a cat riding on a Roomba? The Streamba® does the same thing, for you. It'll take you where you never dared go before, and boldly. Streamba® comes with both a seat, which you'll come to depend on, or something resembling a walker, without wheels, for standup fishing. You can set Streamba® for depths, telling it not to go in any deeper than three feet, which, since you may be seated, puts you in up to your neck. Its batteries give it a range of quarter of a mile, if you intend to turn around and get back to the access, that is. Just remember – if it runs out of juice, Streamba® weighs in at 97 pounds, an awful lot to lug back to your car. Definitely not going with you on a domestic flight, at least not without a hefty fee.

As if you aren't packing around enough stuff, already, there's the Net-o-Matic®, NoM® nets your fish, unhooks it, rinses the slime off the fly, revives and takes pix and releases your trophy. It even does the pix using a fish-eye (Get it? Fisheye?) lens to make your minnow a monster. Unfortunately, a software problem makes NoM® sometimes do those things in random order, making for laughter and glaring at by onlookers.

Have you ever fallen down in a stream and found your feet floating above you? Never happened to me, and besides, I always manage to flip over and get to my knees. The WaderSucker® is our lowest-tech gizmo, and the nicest thing about it is that you can imagine operating it by hand. All it is, is two four-foot long rubber tubes, that come together at Y-joint, thence to a single rigid tube up to a small electric pump, slung around your need. Just put a tube down each wader leg all the way to your tippy-toes, run the rigid tube under your wading belt, cinch the belt tight, and pump out every bit of air. So what if you look like you're wearing a taupe prune? And if you forget to put on your waders, the WaderSucker® will make a valiant attempt to suck the river dry.

WALL-E, Waste Allocation Load Lifter – Earth-class. surely the coolest animated character ever, has come to stream cleanups. He, or it, or whatever, along with a flying companion, EVE, Extraterrestrial Vegetation Evaluator (betcha you didn't know that!), cruise a body of water, EVE doing the spotting, WALL-E picking up various items and compacting them. EVE usually winds up in the weeds and bushes doing evaluating stuff, but WALL-E is so in love he/it really doesn't care. Speech software developers are working on voices for these two, but so far both sound like Duane Johnson® on helium.

The Alexoid® vest is worth every pound of its considerable weight, but most vests weigh too much, already, so there's little adjustment to wearing it. Alexoid®, or the slightly-seductive femme voice it uses, answers questions, makes suggestions, says creepy things like "I'm afraid I can't do that, Dave," argues with you, has the vest unzip what needs unzipping in Alexoid®'s shrill opinion Hey, with Alexoid®, who needs a spouse?

The AutoSwater® perches on your head, but it isn't for getting rid of biting bugs. The AutoSwater® has a small net, that it uses to snare flying insects, like a butterfly net in a lepidoppt ... leapidop ... butter-fly-catching person's hands. AutoSwater®'s database is huge, and covers every hatch, anywhere on Earth. If you have a good internet connection, that is Visor optional.

Where's Data, or R2D2, or C3PO? Look at the people around you onstream, and tell me that they're not here, already.

*I'm thinking of inventing a cuss-o-buddy, Big BlueAir®, that will scream out a variable amount of abuse, in several languages, to help you when you're frustrated and speechless onstream. G(##!&^ M(% ^#\$ etc. is a good start, and crowd pleaser. Try "Yf {ez" on for size! Bob K.

Michigan DNR Management Units

Each management unit covers the <u>watersheds</u> in their area - which includes the inland lakes, rivers and streams - in addition to the part of the Great Lakes that these drain into. Each unit has fisheries biologists and technicians that do research, conduct surveys, work with hatcheries to make stocking decisions, set fishing regulations, and work with their area <u>research stations</u>. All of this contributes to making sound decisions on how to manage Michigan's fisheries in both the Great Lakes and the inland lakes, rivers and streams. In 2019, staff from eight DNR fisheries management units completed 132 surveys of inland lakes and 101 stream surveys.



A Record 90 Dams in 26 States Were Removed in 2019. Here's Why That's Good News

A record 26 states removed a total of 90 dams in 2019 to revive rivers and strengthen communities and ecosystems around the country, American Rivers announced this week. "Small dams are everywhere, and many of them just persist through inertia," John Waldman, a biology professor at Queens College told the New York Times. "Until recently, no one had the wherewithal or energy to take these things down," the "Running Silver: Restoring Atlantic Rivers and Their Great Fish Migrations" author said.

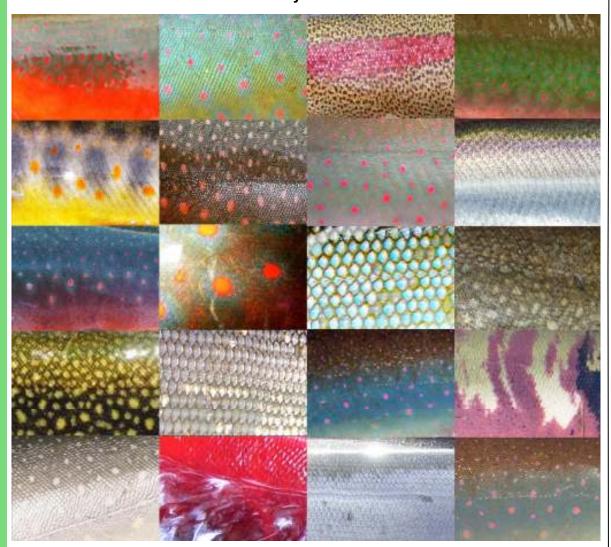
There are approximately 84,000 dams in the U.S. Dams are beneficial because they provide water for industry and innovation purposes. They can also provide hydroelectric power and ease river navigation. Dams can also save human lives, because they can reduce or prevent flooding.

"One of the most cost-effective ways to deal with outdated, unsafe dams is to remove them," American Rivers said in a press release. "Removing dams allows rivers to flow naturally, which can have benefits for water quality, flood protection, fish and wildlife habitat, ecosystem health and recreation."

The top four states that removed dams were: California with 23, Pennsylvania with 14, New Hampshire with six and Vermont with six. California removed 20 dams alone in the Cleveland National Forest, helping it easily top the list.

.....www.weather.com

The Beauty of Fish Scales



Check out this link from the US Fish & Wildlife Service for and in depth look at some of the fish representative above. How many can you identify?

https://medium.com/@USFWS/the-beauty-of-fish-scales-d116826e5470

Why Women Live Longer Than Men



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Remember, if a dog was the teacher, you would learn things like:

- When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.
- Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.
- Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure Ecstasy.
- Take naps.
- Stretch before rising.
- Run, romp, and play daily.
- Thrive on attention.
- Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.
- On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass.
- On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.
- When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.
- Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.
- Be loyal.
- Never pretend to be something you're not.
- If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
- When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently.

......FAOL ~ The Lighter Side





Steven Arnoczky with a pair of very nice steelhead from a cold Muskegon river last month.

Club tying night at Coral Gables.



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Field Notes:

- What was big was not the trout, but the chance, what was full was not my creel, but my memory-Aldo Leopold
- Quiz answers: I C 2 A 3 A 4 D 5 A 6 C 7 C 8 - A 9 - D 10 - B
- Outdoor Foundation Study: Half of the US population does not participate in outdoor recreation https://outdoorindustry.org/participation
- Michigan's Salmon in the Classroom Program Tracy Page, who coordinates Salmon
 in the Classroom for the DNR, said the department is gratified that the program has
 grown from a handful of classrooms in 1997 to more than 280 this year.

"This program is all about 'real science' and gives teachers a powerful tool for help ing kids understand the connections between their everyday actions and the effects on our natural world," Page said. "It's also great exposure to possible career pathways in natural resources."

If you know an educator (third-grade classrooms and older) who might be inter ested in the next cycle, which starts in fall 2020, the application deadline is April 15. Visit Michigan.gov/SIC for more information.

• Who would you like to have fished with the most? Send your answers to the newsletter editor and I'll publish them in April's issue.

Refrigerator Reminders

March

8th - Club tying night at Coral Gables 6:00-8:00

9th - National "panic day" ~ or the feeling you feel when you pull up to the access site for the first outing of the season. What did I forget?

I 2th - Thursday, not Tuesday at Reno's EAST restaurant on Abbot Road in East Lansing. 6:00 Hospitality, 6:30 Meeting. Program by Brad Petzke on fly fishing the Upper Peninsula.

22nd - Club tying night at Coral Gables 6:00-8:00

April

Ist - New fishing license required for the season.

2nd - The basic's of fly fishing - East Lansing Public Library 6:30 - 8:30

I4th - Tuesday: 6:30 Hospitality, 7:00 Meeting. Program by Nathan Beelman, Michigan DNR Conservation officer.

27th - "Morse Code Day" ~ or how you used to let your friends know the hatch started on this stretch of water.

www.redcedarflyfishers.org