

LUNKER HUNTER SPOONPLUGGERS MEETING JUNE 5, 2008

FISHING REPORTS

Don Stephens reported his grandson got an 8 pound walleye from Mona Lake, but fishing on the Grand River has been slow because of the high water. Tom Moore reported on the outing on Portage and Lower Herring lakes. He as well as Jim VanAsselt caught some nice walleyes and Smallmouth on Lower Herring Lake. Slowly backtrolling jigs and plastic Gulp baits worked well, as the speeds needed were slow. For his first trip this year, Jack Clark fished Murry Lake and reported no action yet. Dave Harding fished out of Port Sheldon Monday and picked up one salmon, but the action was slow. He covered from the bubbler to 200 feet with few fish seen. Bob Streck fished salmon out of Grand haven in May and caught several salmon. He also got some walleye fishing Muskegon at night. Charlie Myers has been fishing Murry Lake but action has been slow so far for him. He has gotten good information on musky from the Michigan Musky Alliance which he recently joined. He will be doing more casting for musky in early spring from now on. Terry Velting fished Portage Lake with Chase and John Bouws at the outing and they caught numbers of bass, pike, and walleye on the NE shoreline. The structure was a band of weeds from 8-10 foot depths which were drifted casting jigs and tubes. Thanks to Grant Hendrixson for info on that.

MEETING

10 attended the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for July 3rd. Everyone was reminded to participate as much as they can in the activities at the Muskegon Outing coming up July 9-13 at Fishermans' Landing. This is our biggest event of the clubs' year! We will need lots of help, especially at the Saturday evening meal. Fishing reports and structure drawing will be available every evening at the Hospitality Tent around 8:30 PM. Terry Velting will have his "Roving Tackle Store" available with Spoonplugs and accessories. Lake maps will be available at the Hospitality Tent. Come and join us. You will have a chance to meet, talk with, and learn from some of the best Spoonpluggers in the country!

PROGRAM

The study lake was Lake Macatawa near Holland. It is a darkwater lake connected to Lake Michigan that has a clean bottom for trolling and learning to Spoonplug. Weeds go to only 4 or 5 feet. The deep channel access allows large migratory fish to move in and out freely. It has large populations of baitfish and many species of gamefish, including smallmouth bass, walleye, pike, and musky. Large drum and catfish are in good numbers and can offer much excitement when the gamefish are not active. It has many good structure types, including wide sweeping bars, river channels, feeder cuts, and manmade rip rap. Don Stephens showed a video of John Bales drawing and explaining some structure from Lake Macatawa and how it was fished. It was mentioned that 6-12 feet were the most productive depths to fish this lake---making it considerably easier to fish than many of the clearwater lakes in the area. Next a copy of the contour map was projected on the wall and numerous productive structures were pointed out. Chase mentioned that he has caught his largest smallmouth bass (5 lbs) and his largest walleye (10.5 lbs) from this lake, as well as a number of muskies, up to 20 pounds. It is very close to Grand Rapids and has quicker access to Lake Michigan than at Grand Haven. Lake "Mac" should definitely be one of the lakes to check out at the Muskegon Outing!

Chase Klinesteker

P.S. June 29 fishing report update: The pike have started to move in area lakes, bass are being caught on inland lakes, and perch have been taken out of Holland in Lake Michigan in 30 feet, both north and south of the piers. Salmon are being taken in 90 to 180 feet of water in Lake Michigan.