



Northern Illinois Spoonpluggers

Senior Spoonplugging Advisors:

Jerry Borst, Vic Saunders, Chris "Hoss" Blatzhiem, Chris Angsten, Bill Lorch

Treasurer: Ted Malo **Trustee:** Bill Lorch

Next meeting will be held on August 2nd!

Catch of the Month



Bill Lorch was out on a little lake, just across the Wisconsin border, in July when he boated this 45 inch muskie. This was one of four fish taken on the exact same spot as the rest. Mapping and interpretation and proper presentation of the lures were the keys to boating all four fish in short order. A 38 inch muskie and two nice northerns were caught prior to this beauty. This was the only spot, that produced fish, in the whole lake at that particular time. Conditions were hot, humid and prefrontal. GOOD STUFF!!!!

Meetings will be held at the VFW in McHenry (3002 W IL Rt 120) the 1st Tuesday of every month 7:30pm - 9:00pm. April - November.

Last month's attendees:

Jake Liobl
Bob Borst
Chris Angsten
Jerry Borst
Amy Destache
Ted Malo
Jim Taylor
Dave Hunt
Chris Blatzhiem
Bill Lorch

Welcoming new member:

Greg Geils

Northern Illinois Spoonplugger's Raffle.

Last month's winners:

Bob Borst - N.I.S. Spoonpluggers T-shirt
Chris Angsten - 100 series spoonplug

The raffles will get better as ticket sales go up.
Remember, when you purchase raffle tickets, you are supporting the club and future raffles.

Education Fund

A big thank you to Dave Hunt for his donation of \$20.00.
The club will welcome any donations from club members.

Fishing Report

Ted Malo caught a 22 inch smallmouth bass on a 250 spoonplug, tipping the weeds in ten feet of water on the southwest bar on Lake Delevan. Bill Lorch went to Kinkaid Lake over the 4th of July weekend with friend, June Bennett. Some nice muskies were caught. June boated a 43 incher and Bill got two 39 inchers, a nice 24 inch walleye, and lost several over the course of two days.

Jerry, Chris, and Amy have been fishing Lake Mendota in Madison, WI with great success in catching big northern pike.



Bill Lorch and daughter, Suzie, went to Lake Mendota in Madison WI and met up with Chris, Jerry, and Amy. They said they were catching them on the drop off, so that is what Bill and Suzie did. I guess they were right about the fish, as usual. Thanks guys...

Ideas that Work

If any members have any ideas about rigging techniques or helpful tips on anything to do with fishing, please let us know.

This month's helpful hint comes from Ted Malo: Spray the bunks of your trailer with PAM cooking spray to assist in smooth loading and unloading of your boat.

Thanks for the tip Ted!

Last Meeting's Recap

Last meeting's discussion revolved around how important throwing markers and establishing line sites are in your mapping and interpretation procedures. Once markers are in place, proper trolling procedures can be executed and line sights can be established in the process. Once this knowledge is gained, you can then draw your map. Chances are these structures will never change. Therefore, future trips to a lake you have mapped will, likely, result in more fishing and less mapping. Although, on future trips, to properly present lures, a marker or two may need to be set to void problems, in such cases where weeds exist.



Fourth of July weekend, Bill Lorch and June Bennett took a fishing trip to Kinkaid Lake in Southern Illinois. Arriving at the dock around 5:00 p.m., the boat was launched. The first structure was a wide sweeping bar.

Markers were set in place. The first trolling pass produced a 24 inch walleye. Consecutive trolling passes produced a 39 inch muskie and this 43 inch beauty. June fought this fish with confidence and got it in the net. I think she is officially hooked on spoonplugging. June was a real trooper. She never once complained about the heat. Good job June!

The following is a passage from Buck Perry's Home Study course "Mapping and Interpretation 1"

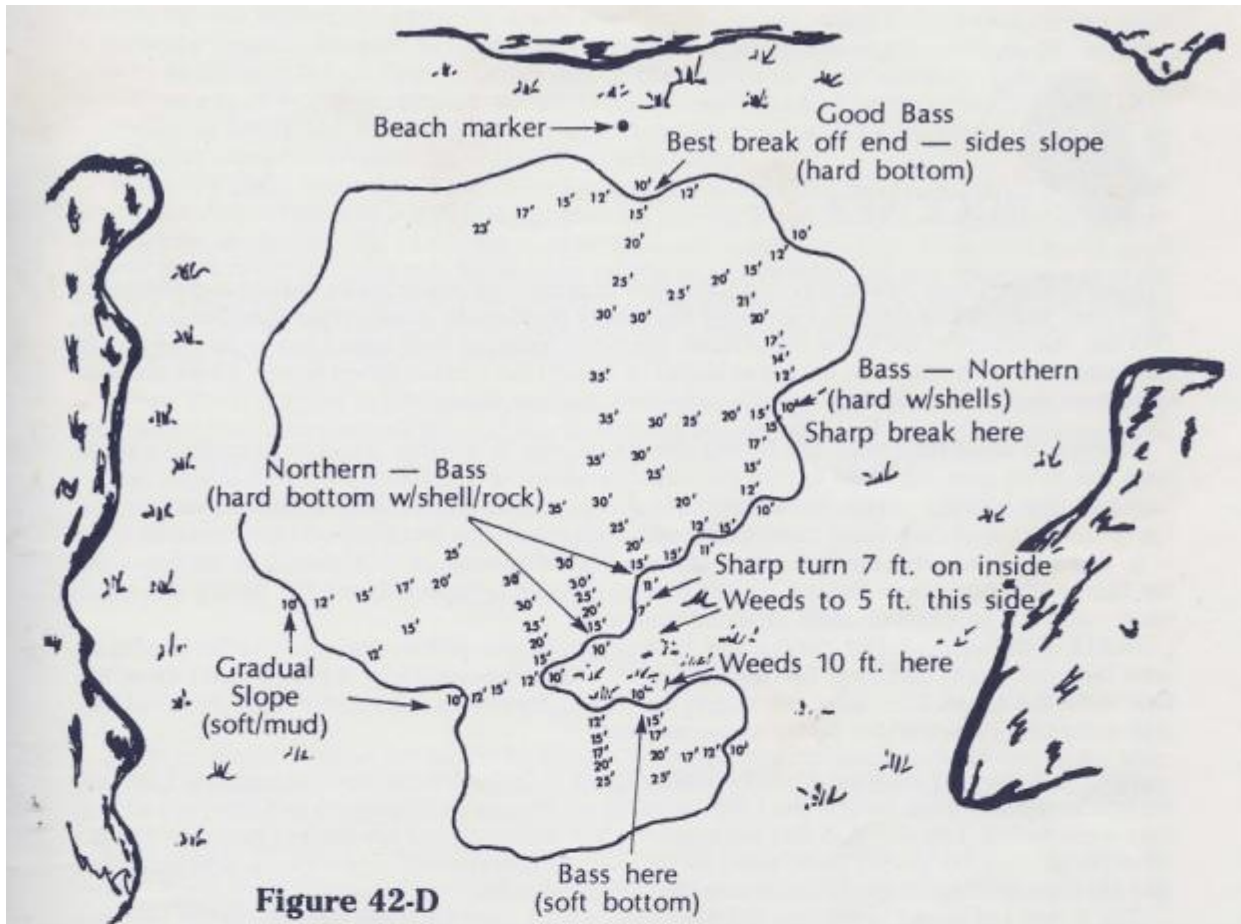


Figure 42-D
Bass here (soft bottom)

Figure 42-D is a top view of the larger section "B." Here again, not all the parts of the section produces. If you were to take the areas where fish can be caught in quality and quantity, and overlay them on the total lake (Figure 1), they would most likely appear as small dots.

By this time you should begin to see what we mean when we say, MOST of the time MOST of the water contains no fish. You should also begin to realize why you can't fish blindly, or haphazardly, and expect to "stumble" upon a fish. You should see if you do not understand the instinct and habits of the fish, and what part "structure" plays, MOST of the time you will be fishing where they AIN'T.

Your reaction to the above might be, "He isn't talking about my fishing water; he is talking about one isolated instance in the Midwest."

You wanna bet we're not talking about your fishing hole? This particular lake is a rather small body of water when compared with most important fishing lakes and reservoirs. We would go further and say, if you compared the productive areas for lunker fish in this lake to the overall size, percentage wise, it has more productive water than your lake! Furthermore, this particular lake was easy to work. We can't say the same thing about your lake.

All through the study, we have tried to impress upon you that **1 - the deepest water in the area is the home of the fish.** Here we have tried to hammer home the fact that **2 - most of the water contains no fish.** Both are such basic fundamental fishing facts that unless you grasp both of them fully, you will never be a successful fisherman! We are not using the word "never" carelessly; we mean just that. The word is NEVER.

It is only **after** you accept and fully understand these two basic principles of fish behavior that you will be able to go about solving the problems of the waters you fish. Do they apply to your lake? You can bet your life they apply to **ALL** lakes.