

Lower Great Lakes Fishery Resources Office Fact Sheet

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Charles E. Schumer (D)
Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D)
Rep. James T. Walsh (R-25th)
Rep. Thomas M. Reynolds (R-26th)
Rep. Jack Quinn (R-27th)
Rep. Louise Slaughter (D-28th)
Rep. Amory Houghton, Jr. (R-29th)

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Purpose

The Lower Great Lakes Fishery Resources Office was established by the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 to support and encourage the restoration, protection, maintenance and enhancement of fishery resources in the lower Great Lakes.

Public Use Notes

- Annual Fish and Wildlife Festival
- Lake sturgeon sighting program
- Round goby round-up (invasive species control)
- Volunteer and internship programs

Management Activities

- Lead basin-wide and local lake sturgeon restoration activities
- Investigate the Erie Canal's role in the introduction and spread of invasive species
- Provide technical assistance to states implementing lake trout restoration initiatives
- Assess quality and quantity of fish habitat in Great Lakes wetlands
- Provide technical assistance and leadership in managing federal lands and invasive species issues

Highlights

Biologists planted 400 trees and built and installed cavity-nesting bird and bat nest boxes on a 4-acre wetland in the town of Amherst, in partnership with the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of America, the town of Amherst, and the Air and Waste Management Association (Niagara Frontier chapter).

Started a program to place hatchery-raised juvenile lake sturgeon into tanks at participating schools in western and central New York. This initiative is designed to build awareness of sturgeon, a protected species in the Great Lakes, and to enhance environmental stewardship among students.

Hosted the annual Fish and Wildlife Festival to inform the public about our activities in the Great Lakes. About 1,200 citizens attended the event.

Used advanced geographic information system (GIS) technology to support our management activities.



Issues

Lake sturgeon have declined from historic abundances. It is listed by New York as threatened and by Pennsylvania and Ohio as endangered.

Invasive species, such as Asian carp, round goby, zebra mussel and purple loosstrife threaten native species and their habitats.

Although limited, lake trout natural reproduction is occurring.

Contaminants impact natural reproduction of lake trout and other species.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
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January 2004

