

# Lateral Lines

President Message from Ben Miller:

I hope everyone has had a fantastic summer filled with productive field seasons as well as good times spent with friends and family. I'm looking forward to reading about all the great work our members have engaged in this summer.

As my tenor as IN AFS president is coming to an end, I'd like to thank you all for the opportunity to serve in this position. While my day job changed shortly after being elected to the IN AFS Ex Com, shifting my daily focus away from fisheries science to broader land and water conservation work, I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity in this role, to remain engaged with the "fisheries community" and all of you great people. I look forward to remaining an engaged "past-president" and member, and seeing all of the great things our new leadership and our membership will do for this society. Hopefully many of you will be able to make it to our fall meeting at the Indianapolis Zoo! You can find those details below, in your email and on Facebook.

While my day job may have shifted away from a focus on fish, my time spent away from the desk has still managed to remain quite, well, fishy... I thought I'd share a couple of my recent fishy adventures, from small to large (the largest), since I no longer have many cool field work snapshots to share.



<p><b>'O'opu hi'u kole (<i>Lentipes concolor</i>)</b>                  1 of 4 fw species found only in Hawaii and one of only 5 fw fish native to Hawaii. Length up to 5 inches.  <small>Kauai, Hanakapiai Falls (November 2017)</small></p>	<p><b>Humuhumunukunukuapua'a (<i>Rhinecanthus rectangulus</i>)</b>                  A really, really long name. And Hawaii's state fish  <small>Kauai (November 2017)</small></p>
<p><b>Whale Shark – (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>)</b>                  Largest fish in the world, up to 20 meters.  <small>Isla Holbox, Mexico (August 2018)</small></p>	

News

**Current Officers**

**President:**

***Ben Miller***

**President Elect:**

***Drew Holloway***

**Vice President:**

***Daniel Arndt***

**Past President**

***Reuben Goforth***

**Secretary/**

**Treasurer:**

***Bri Ciara***

**Newsletter Editor:**

***Tom Bacula***

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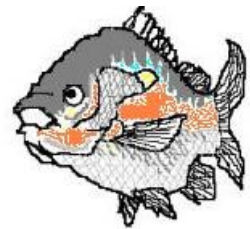
***www.indianaafs.org***

***&***

***Facebook***



*Thank you*



*Commonwealth  
Biomonitoring*



*Mark your Calendar*

2019 Indiana Free Fishing Days

April 20

May 18

June 1 & 2



# SAVE THE DATE!

**October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 | Indianapolis Zoo**

## COST

Free to all paid members!  
\$5 for all non-members

## RSVP

Everyone wishing to attend must  
RSVP by Weds. October 10<sup>th</sup>!

**RSVP to: [BCiara@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:BCiara@dnr.IN.gov)**

### Please indicate 3 things:

1. Attending Behind the Scenes Tour?
2. Attending 2pm Dolphin Show?
3. IN AFS member or paying \$5 at door?

## AGENDA

10 AM

IN AFS Business Mtg.

11 AM

Q&A Session:

Zoo Aquatics and Nutrition Staff

11:30 AM

Lunch and \*Behind the Scenes Tours  
(Please pack your own lunch!)

2 PM

\*Dolphin Show and H<sub>2</sub>O Quality  
Video

(\*Must RSVP for ticket)



Indiana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

# "Goes to the Zoo"



## Chapter News

### Awards Committee—Rob Ackerson

No report. Look for volunteer opportunities for the Spring meeting.

Rob Ackerson  
IAFS Awards Chair  
Phone: (219)369-9591  
[rackerson@dnr.in.gov](mailto:rackerson@dnr.in.gov)

### Newsletter Editor—Tom Bacula

Thank you to all who submitted information to the newsletter. With the busy summers submissions are lower than other times....more to come at the Fall business meeting, but looking to propose two newsletters a year. One would be in the spring looking forward to the upcoming field season and what occurred over the winter. The second newsletter would be in fall looking back at that field season. Contact Tom if you have any comments or suggestions.

### Continuing Education—Steve Andrews

The Continuing Education Committee and EXCOM are looking for suggestions for a fall workshop, so please send any ideas to [steven.andrews@navy.mil](mailto:steven.andrews@navy.mil). I am currently planning to retire sometime before the fall meeting and am considering my options for continuing to serve the Indiana Chapter of AFS. If anyone is interested in assisting with the committee, please let me or the EXCOM know. This committee has been one of the more rewarding ways that I have served the chapter, and I appreciate the opportunity and support of the membership.



**Indiana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society**  
**North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society**

**Keep up to date with all IAFS and NCD happenings by following us on Facebook!**



## All in a Days Work

### Muncie Bureau of Water Quality - Drew Holloway

This year the Bureau of Water Quality (BWQ) sampled 61 sites on the West Fork of White River and its surrounding tributaries. These sampling events yielded 11,245 fish representing 53 species. This year was also the first time we had our seasonal interns work on separate projects to present to the office. I was very impressed with the work they put in and the great job they did while presenting. Kaleb Eden, Ball State University, looked at our West Fork White River Rock Bass data from 2013 to present. He was able to use this data to look at yearly and site-by-site PSD and RSD results as well as a West Fork White River age length key for age classes. He will be presenting this information as a poster at the Spring IAFS meeting. Cameron Yeakle, Taylor University, had to create a project as part of his internship requirement through the university. He came in as a serious bass fisherman but ended up really enjoying the nongame species we see throughout the White River. His favorite fish was the Logperch and he decided to do a historical review using BWQ data. It was interesting to see where these fish turn up and their numbers. Cameron also will be presenting this data in the spring but a location is TBD. Lucas Foertsch, Purdue University, decided to look at our Stonecat Madtom data after realizing it was the only catfish species we sampled that he hadn't caught while growing up a catfish angler. His results were also interesting because we determined "not all riffles are created equally" as he put in his PowerPoint. The Stonecat is very habitat specific and only found in our riffles with large boulders. In preparation for dam removal on the White River, I decided to sample three different types of riffles and runs to help predict the fish community post dam removal. This data will be presented at IAFS this spring and also used for public outreach when discussing the changes associated with dam removal.

Photo from left to right: Cameron Yeakle, Lucas Foertsch and Kaleb Eden visiting the headwaters of White River on our last day of sampling.



## All in a Days Work

### IDNR Fish Management District 1: Tom Bacula and Bri Ciara

Oh what fun season we've had here at D1! This summer we completed several fish surveys as part of our Status and Trends sampling and to check on specific communities, completed several habitat and vegetation surveys, and began working with a few new partners on fish habitat projects which has been particularly exciting for us. In addition to field work, we also participated in several outreach events including a Family Learn to Fish Workshop in Hammond Indiana, Fishing How-to Workshops at the Becoming an Outdoors Woman, Biologist for a Day with the Michiana Girl Scouts, and manned fishing and fish fileting/frying stations at the Lafayette Outdoor Explore!, fished with other fish heads at the Indiana State Fair Fishing Pond, and gave a few talks about pond management. We could not have accomplished our work this year without our enthusiastic summer aide, Damon Binkley, from Grace College who just completed his second summer with us. We are currently enjoying an exciting fall searching for smallies on the Tippecanoe River. In a few weeks we will be surveying several of our Walleye and Sauger populations.

A few interesting finds (or lack thereof) this year included finding zero (0) Bass at Bass Lake, Starke Co. during a Largemouth Bass survey this spring, sampling a Northern Pike in a 8ft foot, highly eutrophic lake called Rupel Lake in St. Joe Co., a school of giant goldfish in Lowell city park pond, Evergreen Park, and some very strange water quality profiles at some otherwise nice lakes in LaPorte.

Some of the more exciting finds are coming in now during our Tippecanoe River Bass survey. We just completed mile 10 of 22 and so far collected 333 Smallmouth Bass, 8 of which have been over 19.0 inches. We've also seen way more Channel Catfish than expected with one over 10.0lbs! Our sampling sites span between Old Tip Town and just north of Buffalo, IN where the best smallmouth concentrations are. We are collecting all Smallmouth, Largemouth and Rock Bass, and Channel and Flathead Catfish for this survey. All of these are measured and weighed and then released. We are collecting aging structures from the Black and Rock Bass however for age and growth analysis.



Ohio Lamprey from the Tippecanoe River



Doug Keller, IDNR, holds two 18-19 inch Smallmouth Bass from Pulaski Public Access Site during 2018 Tippecanoe Bass survey.

## All in a Days Work

### **IDNR Fish Management District 5: David Kittaka, Debbie King, and Sarah Werley**

The Sullivan Lake creel survey is going well. We have a veteran creel clerk and are collecting quality interviews and catch data. Crappie remains the most popular species followed by bass, Bluegill and Saugeye.

Some of the highlights or “interesting” findings this year for status and trends (S and T) surveys included new lakes for us including; Brush Creek, in Jennings Co and Versailles Lake at Versailles State Park, Ripley Co. Brush Creek is a 150 acre reservoir that is bordered by the Muscatatuck National Guard Urban Training Center. Across from the state boat ramp it looks like a movie set from a 1980s Chuck Norris movie, ply wood shacks with grass roofs, and docks with rope railings. We had visions of a training village for water assaults. This appears to be a nice bass lake. In 0.5 hours of electrofishing we collected 49 bass 20 of which were greater than 14 inches, including 4 at one station that were 4.49 to 6.70 lbs. This is a Gizzard Shad lake that has a lot of crappie, Bluegill, suckers and carp. Versailles Lake is basically an impounded reach of Laughery Creek and the fish species collected is more representative of a riverine system than a lake. Sixty-two percent of the fish species are common in lotic systems, i.e. Gizzards Shad, Quillback, Golden Redhorse, Spotted and White suckers and carp. There is no aquatic vegetation and the lake is silted in to the stream channel. Versailles Lake is a nice place to kayak and is located in a beautiful setting. One lake was scratched from the list because we could not get a boat to the water, and there is no public shore fishing access. Keith Ruble Lake in Vigo Co. and Reservoir 26 on the Greene-Sullivan State Forest finished up the S and T surveys. We also conducted an initial fish survey of 12 acre Funk Lake on a newly acquired portion of the Wabashiki Fish and Wildlife Property. Debbie King and summer aide Sarah Werley are in the middle of aquatic vegetation and mapping surveys for this years’ fish surveys.

We are also working with South Fish Research, Greene-Sullivan State Forest and Bass Unlimited to construct and place fish habitat structures at Bass Lake in front of a handicap fishing dock. This will help shore anglers with limited mobility get closer to fish. The gin clear water will also enable us to document fish use in and around the structures using the Gopro and possibly divers with Gopros.

We will be conducting a fall Walleye, Hybrid Striped Bass, and Channel Catfish survey at Monroe Reservoir beginning in October.



Sarah (summer aide) walking on water

# All in a Days Work

IDNR Fish Management District 5: David Kittaka, Debbie King, and Sarah Werley  
Some pictures.

Buffalo at Versailles Lake



Brush Creek LMB



Brush Creek Village



Funk Lake Bluegill (Top) and Crappie (down)

Cormorants at Versailles Lake





# All in a Days Work

## IDNR South Region Fisheries Research: Sandy Clark-Kolaks and Andy Bueltmann

Since spring, Southern Fisheries research has been mainly focused on reservoir habitat enhancement and assisting others in sampling efforts. Habitat enhancement on Monroe reservoir is in full swing. Many donations (pallets and cinderblocks) have been made to the project from various local businesses and individuals. Along with donations, we have also had two volunteer build days which both had good turnouts and resulted in 79 built pallet structures and 10 Georgia cubes. To this point, all built structures have been placed in the upper end of Monroe Reservoir in depths around 8 to 9 feet. We plan on having another volunteer build day sometime in the middle of August to build more pallet structures. Our goal is to place a total of 160 pallet structures, 30 Georgia cubes, and 40 Jr Porcupine Cribs in the upper end of Monroe Reservoir by the end of this year (2018).



Volunteers building a pallet structure.

Along with dropping habitat, SFR also finished another year of Largemouth Bass sampling at Sullivan Lake and Cecil M. Harden Reservoir. Such efforts are being conducted at both lakes to monitor effects from past habitat enhancement projects. Results will be used to investigate if structure locations are attracting more Bass than non-structure locations. Further, Bass ageing structures are being collected every year to investigate if any differences in growth occur following implementation of the habitat enhancement project. Along with habitat work, SFR has also been out assisting others' with their sampling efforts. SFR assisted the US Forest Service with a stream fish survey on Salt Creek. This is the second year SFR has assisted the US Forest Service with this stretch of stream. The stream surveys are being conducted to monitor possible effects of logging in the area surrounding the stream. In addition, SFR also assisted D6 Fisheries this year with Status and Trends by conducting a survey on Buffalo Trace Lake in Palmyra, IN.



Funtoon dropping habitat



Sullivan Lake (Left) and Harden Lake (Right) Largemouth Bass

## Catch of the Day



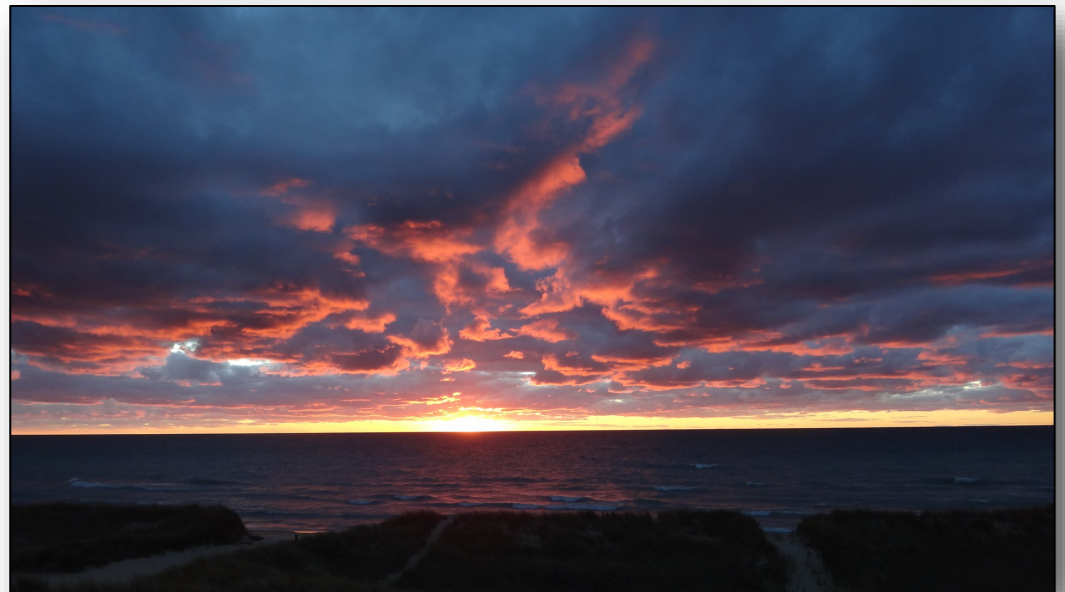
The charm of fishing is that it is the pursuit of what is elusive but attainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope.



John Buchan



Bryan Kalb with his first fly rod “beautiful and misunderstood *Cyprinus carpio*.”



Steve Andrews sunset over Lake Michigan.

Catch of the Day



Dave Kittaka “catch” or find of the day a dead Lake Sturgeon on the beach in Escanaba, MI and a nice evening of trolling with Dave’s son Payton on Lake Monroe.

# Catch of the Day



The Wipers of Lake Monroe. Andy Buelmann (left) and Tom Bacula (below).



Andy and Otter with a Walleye.



# Catch of the Day



The Andrews Family with some fish.

