



Making Waves



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Another Pool Added to Tagging Efforts



By Kyle Mosel

During October, Tyler Harris, Katie Lieder, and I traveled to Muscatine (IA) to see if we could acoustically tag Asian carp in Pool 16 of the Upper Mississippi River.

Numerous efforts were made this year to capture Asian carp in several pools located upstream of Lock and Dam 16, but with no success. However, in recent weeks we located several tagged bighead and hybrid Asian carp in Pool 16 with manual tracking gear and a stationary acoustic receiver.

The next week we brought our surgery gear and several hundred



Kyle holds the first acoustically tagged Asian carp released in Pool 16.

yards of gill nets to see if we could capture Asian carp where three other fish have been located. After battling the cold and strong winds, six Asian carp were caught in Pool 16. The Nonindigenous Aquatic Species website (hosted by the U.S. Geological Survey) indicates that this is the first time a state or federal agency has captured and reported Asian carp here. Even though we would not like to see these fish advance upstream, being able to follow them will allow us to identify other sites for future Asian carp monitoring or control efforts.

In total, four silver carp and one hybrid Asian carp (weighing 15 to 25 pounds) were implanted with acoustic transmitters and released in Pool 16.

These "Judas" fish will be closely followed to see if they can help identify other sites in Pool 16 to capture, monitor, and possibly control the spread of Asian carp in the future. So far we have learned a lot from tagged fish in Pools 17, 18, and 19, so hopefully these new fish in Pool 16 can show us where they are residing throughout the year.



Bailey offloads data from an acoustic receiver that records the location of tagged Asian carp in Pool 16.



Tyler holds the bighead carp caught in Pool 16.

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Diving on the St. Croix

By Kyle Mosel

During September, several Region 3 scuba divers completed dives twice a week to check for gravid winged mapleleaf mussels on the St. Croix River near Saint Croix Falls (WI). Winged mapleleaf mussels are listed as endangered at both the state and federal level. This was, by far, the highlight of my diving season since I had the chance to observe several different mussel species displaying their lures to attract potential host fish. On one of my dives, we had the chance to observe two winged mapleleaf that were gravid and actively displaying. Nathan Eckert from the Genoa National Fish Hatchery brought these animals back as brood stock for future recovery efforts.



A female winged mapleleaf mussel is examined for signs of embryos within.

Welcome Aboard!



by Mark Steingraeber

We've all heard the saying "Third time's the charm." This statement rang true during October in a mutually beneficial manner when Jenna Merry resumed working at the La Crosse FWCO ... now as a permanent employee! Jenna first began working here during the summer of 2010 as a Student Temporary Employee while enrolled as an undergraduate at Winona State University. She returned to work here again in 2012, on a part-time basis, while enrolled in graduate studies at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse where she earned a Master of Science degree (Biology) in 2015. Jenna left our office earlier this year to work briefly for the Carterville FWCO in Wilmington, Illinois, where her primary duty was

Mark your calendars and expect the November newsletter to catch you up on everything that's happening Center-wide.



keeping Asian carp out of the Great Lakes. Jenna is a now a fishery biologist at our office whose focus will be to help prevent/control the spread of aquatic invasive species in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. Welcome home and back on board!

MFC

Newsletter

Announcement

The Midwest Fisheries Center (MFC) will be combining this newsletter with reports from the other fishery program offices complexed at the Center. That's right, starting next month you will read about what's going on with the La Crosse FWCO as well as the Whitney Genetics Laboratory, the La Crosse Fish Health Center, and Administrative staff at the MFC.

Many thanks to Mark Steingraeber, who has been responsible for editing/publishing *Making Waves* for over 5 years. He's done a great job and we'd like to acknowledge his efforts before turning the newsletter over to a new editor.

