

From: Schaal, Carroll - DNR
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2015 7:36 AM
To: DNR DL WD WQ LRS
Subject: FW: Goby lock treatment

Thought you might be interested in this.

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From: Kamke, Kendall K - DNR
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 6:20 PM
To: Hasz, Justine R - DNR; Hewett, Steven W - DNR; Romback-Bartels, Jean - DNR; Wakeman, Robert S - DNR; Schaal, Carroll - DNR; Sereno, Jennifer A - DNR; Hoodie, Harry R - DNR; Nault, Michelle E - DNR; McLennan, Robin - DNR; Culhane, Edward J - DNR (NER); Cunningham, Paul - DNR
Cc: Olson, Sanjay B - DNR; Thiede, Kurt A - DNR; Notbohm, Andrew - DNR; Baldock, Mark G - DNR
Subject: Goby lock treatment

The treatment of the Menasha lock to move the stranded vessels through up to Lake Winnebago occurred today and the operation couldn't have went smoother. Staff were on site early to get things ready. Boats began arriving around 8:30am and we closed the lower lock doors at 9:00 am (photo IMG_3938). Lock filling/chemical introduction commenced shortly thereafter (IMG_3942). Once the lock was filled, which only took about 10 – 15 minutes, we had one of the last boats in run his props for a short time to make sure the Rotenone was fully distributed in the chamber. The boat owners then disembarked and left the site. Then Bob Stark and myself spoke to the media present, which included all three TV stations and a reporter from the Post Crescent. Afterward, a number of us stayed on-site for a while to observe the treatment. Fish near the upper lock door starting appearing in distress within 15 minutes of the application (IMG_3960). Within an hour, there were dead or distressed fish throughout the lock chamber all the way to the lower doors. This indicated to me and the team that there was sufficient product throughout the chamber. Mark Baldock, Andrew Notbohm, Bob Hoodie and Michelle Nault were on-sight the entire duration of the treatment.

Fish that I observed in the chamber were gizzard shad, drum, whitebass, carp, emerald shiner, bluegill, yellow perch, walleye and smallmouth bass. The vast majority of the fish were gizzard shad, with small bluegill and shiners next. Only a single carp and walleye were observed. I got a key for the lock area and plan to stop back over the next couple of days to look for any sign of gobies that might float up after a day or two of being dead, though I don't think that we'll see any.

At 1:30 pm the bioassay cages with sacrificial gobies were lifted and there was 100% mortality of the targeted species. The boat owners were called and returned to their boats for departure. Once all the owners were aboard their vessels the "fleet" left the lock chamber at 2:30 pm (IMG_3967). This was fortunate as there was a pretty good NNE wind and many of the boat owner had to get down to Oshkosh. Getting them out early allowed them to make the trip safely in the daylight.

As I said earlier, the entire treatment process went off without a single problem. I attribute this to the highly trained and professional staff involved, from the planning phase, logistics, application, monitoring and PR. EVERYONE did a great job and it showed. Bob Stark and the boaters were all impressed and very happy. I want everyone to know that what we take for granted as "another day at work" was a GREAT job to the boaters, the FRNSA and the public. Thank you all for making this happen in a short time window!

On a more serious tone, some of us are scheduled to have another conference call a week from Friday to 1) debrief on the lock treatment, 2) discuss plans for monitoring/sampling both the lower Fox down to Rapide Croche and upstream in Lake Winnebago and upstream 3) get a group together to gather as much factual information on gobies in other waters and be solid on the science to back us up and 4) developing a decision for “next year” and a public involvement process to arrive at that decision. There is a practical need for this decision to happen by Jan. 1st or shortly thereafter, hence the need to keep the process moving this fall. I look forward to our continued discussions on this. And again a huge thanks to everyone involved.



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Kendall K. Kamke

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