



# Hook, Line, and Sinker

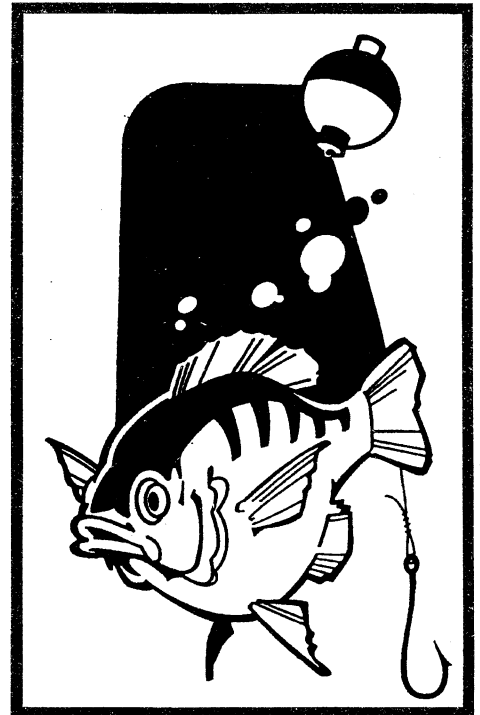
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## Annual Ice Fishing Contest

On Sunday, February 13th, we will host our 13th Annual Ice Fishing Contest on Sleepy Eye Lake. Everything is falling into place nicely for this year's contest. The date is set, tickets are being printed and prizes are being lined up. Al Zwach has volunteered to be this year's prize chairman and he could use some help. Collecting prizes for the contest is too much work for one person. Ideally there should be four people doing this

job. If you can help, even a little bit, give Al a call, please. Tickets should be available at the next meeting and we hope that all members will be able to sell some to make this year's contest the best ever. We will be operating our food stand and also selling raffle tickets the day of the contest. We will be needing help that day, so keep that date, February 13th, in mind.



### Dixon Lake Trip January 13th-16th

The trip is set and we are filling up fast. We will be leaving on Thursday, January 13 and returning on the 16th. Everyone who went last year had a great time and the fishing was pretty good too. This year we will stay an extra night so we will get a full

day of fishing on Friday. Two evening meals will be provided. Friday will be prime rib and Saturday is the Fish Fry. You have the option of angling or spearing, but if you want to spear, I will need to know in advance. The cost for cabin, meals and

fishing will be under \$100. If you are interested in this trip, contact Mike Deinken at 359-9650 or come to the next meeting.



### Club Calendar

December 30th	-----	Meeting at Club House 7:30 p.m.-MN DNR Speaker
January 13th-16th	-----	Ice Fishing Trip to Winnie
January 27th	-----	Meeting at Club House 7:30 p.m.
February 13th	-----	Ice Fishing Contest, Sleepy Eye Lake

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Let me start out by wishing everyone the best of holidays. And let me add to that by saying I sure hope we get some ice. I don't know about you but I am really looking forward to some ice fishing this winter. Ice fishing as many of you know is my favorite kind of fishing. No bugs, no boat to mess with, and no trolling with that motor droning on all day while sucking in the ufmes. The main thing about ice fishing though is to be cautious to a fault. We've all heard the horror stories and we all will probably hear more, so use your brains and common sense and don't push it.

Our meeting in December should be a good one. Let's have a good turnout so we can review some of our options for putting out the club fish houses. We also need to talk more about Clear Lake. We have some updates on the fishing contest and the winter trip to Third River on Winnie. If you bring a prospective member you will receive a free beverage of your choice for both you and your friend. The Jacket for the most new members signed up will also be announced.

Don't forget if you want to be on the agenda, call either Mike or myself. If you have an issue or news about our area fishing and/or water, we want to hear from you. Even if you don't call ahead, bring your thoughts to the meeting and you will be heard.

Lastly, the Hook, Line and Sinker prints all true fish stories so if you have one, make shre to submit it. We will even edit for structure but not content. See ya' at the next meeting.

## CLEAR LAKE UPDATE

At our last meeting we got some bad news about Clear Lake. It seems that the lake will not be treated this fall and most likely not in the spring either. Several of the landowners will not agree to having the treatment down. What we have is two or three landowners holding the angling public hostage in order to satisfy one petty grievance or another. It just doesn't seem right to me since the lake is public and does not belong to any one individual. There are several options available to use that have not yet been fully explained to us. At our next meeting we will have one and possibly two representatives from the DNR to explain the situation to us. Hopefully we can arrive at some type of solution that will allow us to fish Clear Lake. We would like to see a big turnout at the meeting because we want your input into what happens at Clear Lake.

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## Hook, Line, and Sinker

The Official Publication of The New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen

The Hook Line and Sinker is published monthly by copy haus for the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of respective writers and not to be construed as the opinion of the NUASF or its members. Send all correspondence and submissions to Mike Deinken, Editor, 1022 Spring Street, New Ulm, Minnesota 56073.

The NUASF Board

President - Scott Sparlin (359-2346); Vice-President - Jerry Carlson (354-8869); Secretary / Treasurer - Mike Deinken (359-9650); Board Members: Jim Huelke (354-3654), Dave Mecklenburg (794-7859), Ken Sutherland (354-4140).

# Editorial from the Mississippi Monitor

by Editor Scott Faber

In the next few years, residents of the Upper Mississippi River Basin will celebrate an inauspicious anniversary.

We will soon celebrate the 20th anniversary of regional efforts to solve the problems created by too much sediment being washed into the Upper Mississippi.

As backwaters and sloughs filled with sediment, resource managers worried that the nation's great river would no longer be able to support healthy populations of fish and wildlife.

Now, 20 years later, they're still worried. Little progress has been made. And, many of the same resource managers who worried 20 years ago are still unable to seriously address the problem today.

The reasons are both political and psychological.

The agencies are worried about the impacts of sedimentation - state Departments of Natural Resources, the Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - do not administer programs which could reduce soil loss.

And, the agencies which do not administer programs which can reduce soil loss - the state Departments of Agriculture and the Natural Resources Conservation Service - are not worried about the impacts of sedimentation.

In addition, sedimentation is a regional problem caused by poor land use practices in parts of five states. Resource managers must not only cross state boundaries but also federal jurisdictions - the Corps has three districts in those states and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has two regions.

After years of interagency turf battles, many long-time state resource managers believe the problem is too complicated to be solved.

Better to treat the symptoms rather than the cause, they say, by expanding efforts to dredge backwaters and sloughs that have already filled with sediment. They're also worried that a basin-wide program to address sedimentation would threaten funding for other pet-projects.

But, the basin's private stakeholders aren't ready to give up. Farmers, conservative groups, waterway users, and government officials have developed a plan to address sediment and nutrient loss on a regional scale. After using federal funds to build a basin-wide monitoring network, they would use computer models to identify high priority sub-watersheds and increase federal financial and technical assistance to target those hotspots. An advisory group of private stakeholders would guide the new program, called the Mississippi River Stewardship Initiative.

After twenty years of failure, maybe it's time to let the people - not the bureaucrats - decide the fate of the nation's great river. They can't do much worse.

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Have you moved or has your address changed? We need to know in order to stay in touch with you and keep you informed. Those of you who have a rural address will, or may have already been given a new address thanks to the enhanced 911 system. It will make things much easier and we would appreciate it if you get your address change to us as soon as possible.

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