



# Hook, Line, and Sinker

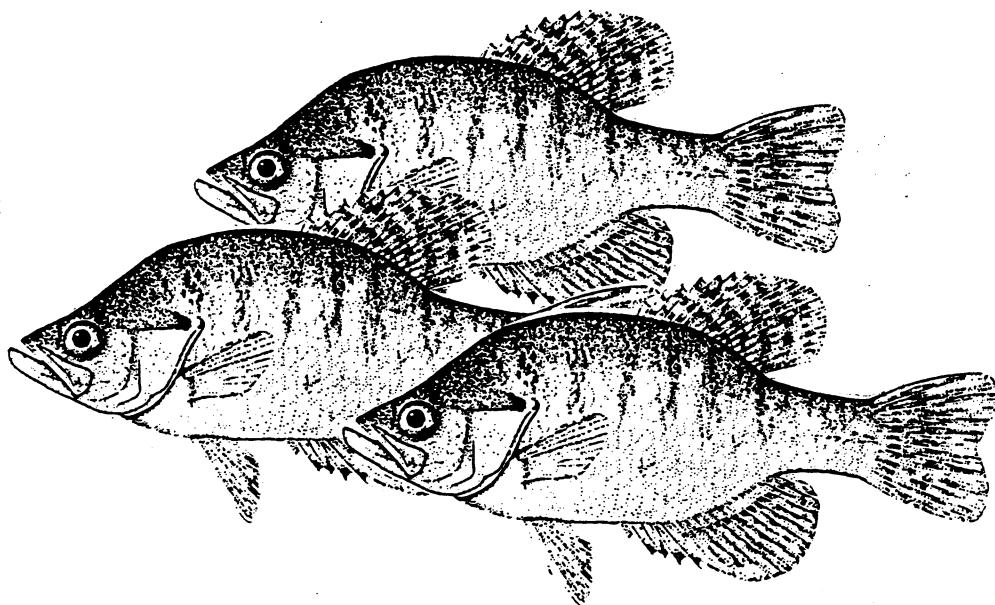
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## CRAPPIES ARE REAL SUCCESS STORY

# CLEAR LAKE UPDATE

At our last meeting Hugh Valient, from DNR Fisheries, gave us an update on the fish population at Clear Lake. As most of us know, there doesn't seem to be a lot of sunfish in the lake. The walleye seem to be doing all right though there were not a lot of them caught this winter. The bass are everywhere. Some days it was not possible to fish with two lines. The crappies, though, are the real success story. Last fall the test nets yielded an average of more than 150 fish per trap. As most anyone who fished the lake this winter can attest, at times the crappie bite was awesome. We have been very lucky this winter as we have not had to start the aeration system yet. With a little



more luck we may make it through the rest of the season. We did get some bad news though. There seems to be a carp population in the lake again. How big the problem is we are not sure, and what can be done about it, we

don't know. For now the lake looks to be in very good shape. One thing that would help would be a little more moisture to bring the lake level up for spawning this spring.

## Club Calendar

- March 27th..... Meeting at Club House 7:30 p.m.
- March 29th..... Minnesota River Banquet at Turner Halle
- April 10th..... Social Night 6:00 p.m.

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## From the President . . .

This month we will be having a local focus session for about a half an hour at our regular meeting. Local people have been selected by the Blandin Foundation to help compile a list of our communities assets and what we might like to see in the future as a focus that could enhance, diversify and revitalize our local region. Of course they will be asking about things specific to natural resources and even more so water sources. Give it some thought and bring your ideas to the next meeting in this regard.

We would also feature all of our regular business items and discuss designation of particular resources to on-going projects we have. Your input as always is invaluable for this kind of decision making.

We have a real number to shoot for in regards to this year's membership drive. So bring a member so one guy doesn't run away with it. And I think we all know who that is right now, but I won't mention any names.

With Spring right around the corner we will be looking at a date for clean up next month at the club office. If you have input on that please attend the next meeting and bring it up.

The final tallies from the fishing contest were quite pleasing and my most sincere thanks goes out to all the hard working members who gave it everything they had that day. Even the fish cooperated.

We heard at our last meeting of where we stand with Clear Lake. Right now it's a great success and we need to enjoy it. So go fishing for crying' out loud. The future is a crap shoot but, we are doing the best with the cards we've been dealt. Maybe sometime in the future we can address things more comprehensively like we wanted to do. We will certainly keep working towards that. If I have learned anything from dealing with natural resource issues it is that longevity and tenacity are the order of the day. In other words, where there's a will, there's a way . We just haven't found it yet.

If you are a river enthusiast (and I know a lot of you are) you will want to attend the annual Minnesota River Banquet this March 29th at Turner Halle. Look for the flyer in this issue of the "Hook Line & Sinker". You will note we have an early session at 2:30 p.m. called "River Talk in the Rathskeller" with a couple of focus topics. This was a success last year and is back this year by popular demand. It will be a great night as always and we will have the nailing speil this year if I can get Shtody to cut a decent piece of wood for us. Prizes for the speil will again be supplied by the August Schell Brewing Co. Call for reservations at 507- 359 -2346 and leave message as to who and how many.

I'll see you at the next meeting (if Glenn and I don't go smelting or sucker spearing).

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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

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## Social Night

Starting with the second Thursday of April, we will again start having Social Night at the Club House. This is a night we set aside for members to get together and socialize. A time when we can get to know each other better. The grill usually gets fired up so feel free to bring something along and have your supper out there.

## Buffalo Feed

Ticket sales went very good again this year. On the day of the feed we were scrambling to find any extra tickets. I am not sure yet if all the tickets were sold but we did come very close to it. We would like to thank all of the members who bought tickets, the ones who took extra tickets to sell and the guys who helped clean up at the Legion after the feed. This continues to be our easiest fund raiser. We want to make sure we don't lose it. Thanks again to everyone.

## Stoney Award

At our February meeting we again voted for and elected this year's Stoney recipient. The vote was very close, with only five ballots separating the top two. After all the dimpled and hanging chads were thoroughly examined, it was determined that this year the Stoney goes to Orin Schultz. We all know how hard working and energetic Orin has been at most every project during the past year. It's just too bad he is getting so old that we will probably only get another year out of him.

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