



THE SPORTSMAN

“Conservation is Our Aim”



SYDENHAM SPORTSMEN’S ASSOCIATION,
 P.O. BOX 264 OWEN SOUND, ONTARIO,
 N4K5P3
www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/
 Affiliated with the OFAH, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters



SSA On Line

 Web Site

Volume 37 No. 3 March, 2017



THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING,

First Thursday of each month, October to June,
 September exception -> second Thursday

Thursday

March 9, 7:30 pm

AT THE CLUB HOUSE,

THE CLUB HOUSE is: on the
 Lincoln Park Road,
 in the township of Georgian Bluffs, or
 {082535 Side Road 6}, or
 {217567 Concession 3 Side road,
 behind Gord Maher Centre}

Dave Bishop of Delta Waterfowl,
 will speak about the great work
 that Delta Waterfowl does and
 the Great Lakes Initiative that
 they have developed to bring
 awareness to the importance of
 the Great Lakes Basin to
 Waterfowl and the overall
 health of North America!

President’s Message (March, 2017)

I hope everyone is getting through the winter safely, as today it is unseasonably warm and the annual Family Day weekend had tremendous weather. This will definitely hurt the main winter activities of hard water fishing for those who enjoy this. Another reminder that the March meeting will be a week later on the 9th to accommodate the preparation for the Conservation Dinner. As most of you know this year is a celebration of 150 for the country, 30 years’ for the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular and 70 years of the SSA. Another social dinner is in the works for June of this year and as last year’s inaugural meal was met with great success, this year’s is shaping up to be another repeat. If anyone is interested in bringing forth idea’s on how we can come up with a couple of events to celebrate the club’s 70th please forward them to myself or any other executive member and we can see if we can’t revitalize our once thriving Social offerings at the clubhouse. If we can get on these early enough we can encourage a sign up sheet to see if we should proceed.

It with great sadness as we have lost another one of our fine SSA members in the passing of Dave Hartrick. As most of you know Dave was a fixture at the Maher centre for many year’s as well as a loyal helper in the entire operation of the derby. His efforts in what he has done for the club will be missed but Dave’s memory will be with all that knew him.

The March General meeting will be held on the Thursday March 9th, which is the 2nd Tuesday in March.

This change is due to the clubhouse being used to organize prizes for the Conservation Dinner during the first week of March.

Thanks- **Jeff Caldwell**

Over 60 Years Promoting Conservation



Sydenham Sportsmen's Association

President: Scott Grimoldby
1st Vice President: Fred Geberdt
2nd Vice President: Bill Douglas
Recording Secretary: Jeff Caldwell
Past President: Mike Prevost
Treasurer: Dennis Wiseman
Correspondence Secretary: John Ford

Directors: Brian Clements, Wayne Gallagher, Chris Geberdt, Jim Hastie, Al Hillis, Jim Jansen, Ken Miersch, Ron Robb, Murray Smart

Please inform John Ford if your address, phone number, or, email changes!

Newsletter: Dave Skelton
Webmaster: Bruce Farrell
Membership: John Ford
Key Keeper: John Ford

Clubhouse Bookings:
Contact- Ron McCartney (Club Custodian)
Home 519-794-3456
Cell 226- 668-6031
ultrasoundkennel@gmail.com



FEBRUARY 2, 2017

PRIZE DRAW WINNERS

- 1. Hammer Jim Graham
2. Garbage bags Ken Miersch
3. Starfrit knives Scott Grimoldby
4. Tape measure John Snook
5. Micro towels Bob Hunt
6. Frank towels Doug Fearnall
7. Frank micro towels Randy Moore
8. Terry Cloths Ron Robb

Red tag - \$50.00 C.T.C.
Gift Certificate Ken Miersch

Thanks to all for participating
Brian Clements



Bird report for 2016.

I have a total of 30 runs with 690 boxes.

From that we fledged the following number of birds.
bluebird 342, swallows 1210, wrens 42, chickadees 10

Have monitor's that look after 459 boxes and from then fledged the following.
bluebirds 228, swallows 1100, wrens 132, chickadees 19

That will be a big flock if see all at one time.

WANTED HELP TO LOOK AFTER BIRD RUN

I am getting older and need help to check some of these runs anyone interested please contact me at bobhunt1@hotmail.ca or phone 519 376 7487. Hope to get a few good fellows.

Bob Hunt

Lake Erie: Southwestern Ontario's border lake is deteriorating, the only one of the Great Lakes doing so, scientists warn ...

Scientists, environmentalists, and policy makers from both the U.S. and Canada gathered in Toronto at the Great Lakes Public Forum to discuss a range of Great Lakes issues, including the health of Lake Erie.

In memory of

Sunday February 19,2017
David Hartrick passed away today at noon after a long and courageous battle with cancer? His volunteer efforts at the Maher Centre and on the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular Committee will be very much missed. Our condolences go out to Dave's wife June see page 10.

Thanks to those submitting material for this newsletter.
Anyone with articles for this Newsletter should get them to me by the 20th (or sooner) of the preceding month.
Dave Skelton 519-376-9554
dskel@golden.net

Grass carp have arrived in Great Lakes, study concludes:

Grass carp are considered the greatest invasive species threat to the Great Lakes because they "aggressively outcompete" native fish for food and are capable of overtaking an ecosystem, according to Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Posts: more information...

Great Lakes Fishery Commission Listen to an interview with the Commission's Communication Director on Up North CBC about the recently published Grass Carp Risk Assessment: <http://www.cbc.ca/.../windsor/grass-carp-great-lakes-1.3954946>

Submitted by **Jim Hastie**



Canada's Wetlands:

Did you know that Canada's wetlands make up approximately one-quarter of all the wetlands left in the world? It's true. And these wetlands are not just important for Canadians and our wildlife, they exert an ecological influence that has a global impact.

But, we have not been good stewards of our planet's wetlands. Their global loss is staggering. Since 1990, more than 64 percent of the world's wetlands have been lost.

Our wetlands at home have not been immune to these extreme losses. Over 72% of wetlands in southern Ontario and 50% of Nova Scotia's coastal salt marshes are now gone, and in BC's South Okanagan, only 15% of the original wetlands remain.

From the myriad species of birds that feed and raise their young there, to playing a major role in the global carbon cycle, Canada's wetlands matter to the planet. We have an obligation to Canadians and to the world to ensure their protection.

You can help conserve Canada's most sensitive habitats, like our wetlands.



Newsletter Facts:

From the information in a previous letter, the cost of printing and mailing 10 monthly issues of the newsletter is about \$2466.00.

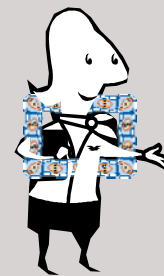
If 125 members receive the newsletter by mail, the cost \$2.00 per copy per month or \$20.00 a year.

Most members use the web site to read or print their own newsletter. About 370 households receive a notice by email each month stating that the newsletter is "posted" on the SSA website.

If you would like to have your copy from the web site, instead of receiving a hard copy by mail, just let John Ford know.

His email address is: **johnrichardford5@gmail.com**

Disclaimer:



The editorial comments in this Newsletter do not always reflect the policies or opinions of the SSA.

Reproduction of any SSA material in this document is encouraged by any paid up member of the SSA.

Leamington fisherman fined \$20K for commercial fishing violations

A Leamington, Ontario, fishing boat captain was ordered to pay \$20,000 after he pleaded guilty to 24 commercial fishing violations

For more SSA Pictures: Connect to the SSA website using
<http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/> then click SSA Gallery Images (right side)

SSA RENEWAL FORM FOR 2017 (TO BE COMPLETED BY 2016 MEMBERS ONLY)

(For your convenience SSA Renewal Memberships can be purchased directly on our website after Nov 1, 2016)

We need you to take a few minutes to help us update our records.

If you have a rural address, Canada Post requires your fire number and road as well as your rural route.

Membership Fees for 2017:

Memberships are based on the Calendar Year (January until December).

Family	Adult, Spouse, Children, includes full time students under 21	\$135.00
Adult	Individual	\$110.00
Senior Citizen	Age 60 & over	\$95.00
Student	Age under 21 (no magazine)	\$40.00
Add a Spouse	Additional fee	\$25.00
Junior	12 and under; no magazine	\$35.00
Juniors & Students	Magazine available for Juniors & Students for an extra	\$8.00
Property Gate Key	(With or without of the return of last year's key)	\$5.00

Check off your selections above

Total

Note: Help us save money and select to view the Newsletter on our website, please update your email address below. YES ___ NO ___

Please use reverse side for additional names, ages etc. for family memberships

NAME: _____	TELEPHONE: _____
ADDRESS: _____	POSTAL CODE: _____
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ (Please Update your Email Address)	
DATE OF BIRTH: _____ (Juniors & Students only)	

Wildlife Advisory Committee	Derby Committee	Fishery Advisory Committee
Public Relations Booth	Shotgun Shooting	Hatchery
Tree Planting	Social Activities	Derby Weigh In
Board of Directors	Fishing	I D P A shooting
Derby Fish Fries	Trap Shooting	Skeet Shooting
Sporting Clays Shooting	Cowboy Action Shooting	Handguns
Black Powder	Boat Draw Ticket Sales	Archery
Property Care	Wildlife Enhancement	Stream Work
Fish stocking	Hunting	Junior Activities
High Power Shooting	Earth Day	Fall Fair Gates
Computer	Other Interests (List Below)	Expertise (List Below)
Retired	Have ATT	Telephone Committee

TO MAINTAIN A STRONG AND VIABLE ASSOCIATION, ALL MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE. Please select activities of special interest to you from the list above. This information is used in planning work parties, committees, etc.

If you would like to purchase your renewal by credit card, please enter the number and expiry date below.

Name on Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Security Code as it appears on the back of the Credit Card: _____

Swap Meet, SSA

Sunday, March 5th, 8:30am till 12:30pm

Buy, Sell, Trade

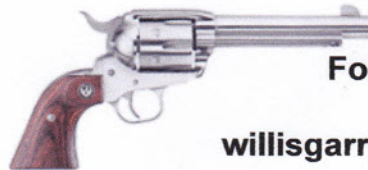
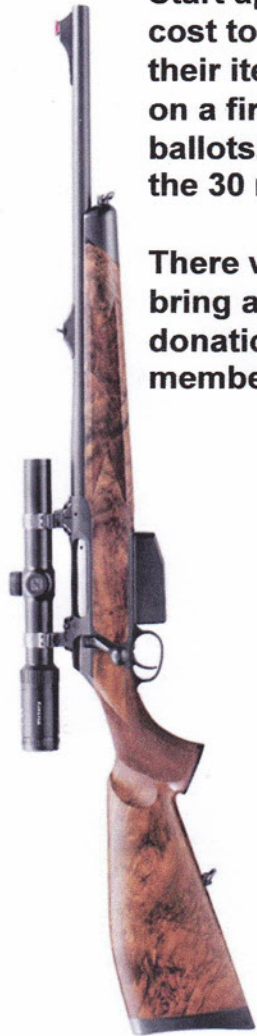


Fishing rods and reels? Another handgun, rifle or shotgun perhaps? Buy, sell or just come and browse. Set up a table or share a table. Dicker for the sale price. Sit and chat about hunting or fishing stories.

Plus Mini Auctions.

Start approximately 9am and will run for a max of 30 minutes. No cost to buy or sell. The seller has the option to view the bids on their items and decide to sell or not sell. Max of 8 items per auction on a first come basis. Items are numbered and bidding is done by ballots. Both bidders and sellers need to be in the building during the 30 min auction. A second auction is possible if there is interest.

There will be coffee and donuts to purchase for a \$3 donation or bring a lunch. There is no entrance fee and no table fee, but donations are always welcome. Tables open to Sydenham members and invited guests.



For more information contact:
Garry Willis at
willisgarry@rogers.com or 376-5347,
Stew Wallace at
swallace@bmts.com or 794-4423.



An **Application Form** may be obtained by using the link below.

<http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/> Top menu Bar -> **Membership**

Just fill in the form, and mail to the address on the front page of this newsletter, c/o **John Ford.**

Ontario Taking Next Step to Protect Water Resources <http://news.ontario.ca/ene/en/2017/01/ontario-taking-next-step-to-protect-water-resources.html?utm_source=ondemand&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=p>
January 18, 2017

Proposed Fee Would Support Better Groundwater Research and Management

As part of Ontario's plan to protect water resources, the province is proposing a new fee for water bottling companies that take groundwater.

Currently, water bottlers are charged \$3.71 for every million litres of groundwater they take. Ontario is proposing water bottlers pay an additional \$500 fee, which would bring the cost up to \$503.71 for every million litres of groundwater taken.

The proposed fee would help recover the costs of managing groundwater taken by water bottlers, including supporting scientific research, policies, outreach and compliance, and would further build upon Ontario's recent actions to protect groundwater, including:

Placing a moratorium on all new and expanded permits to take water from groundwater sources for water bottling
Reviewing existing rules for water bottlers and undertaking further research to ensure long-term groundwater protection, including considering the impacts of climate change and future demand on water sources.

Engaging Indigenous partners on groundwater management:

Consulting with communities and industry on changes to groundwater management practices.

People across Ontario are encouraged to provide their input on the proposed new fee for water bottlers through the Environmental Registry <[https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTMxNTQw&statusId=MTk5NDkw&language=en%20\(https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTMxNTQw&statusId=MTk5NDkw&language=en\)](https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTMxNTQw&statusId=MTk5NDkw&language=en%20(https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTMxNTQw&statusId=MTk5NDkw&language=en))>,

available until March 20, 2017.

Protecting Ontario's groundwater sources for future generations is part of our plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

QUICK FACTS:

If approved, the proposed fee would be among the highest in Canada.

Ontario finalized a two-year moratorium <<https://news.ontario.ca/ene/en/2016/12/ontario-moving-forward-to-protect-water-resources.html>> on new and expanded water takings by bottling companies on Dec. 16, 2016.

The moratorium will remain in effect until Jan. 1, 2019.

Ontario is also seeking feedback from the public on stricter rules for existing water bottling companies that use groundwater <<http://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTMxMDM2&statusId=MTk4NjI4&language=en>>.

The proposed rules are posted on the Environmental Registry for comment and will remain open until Jan. 31, 2017.

In Ontario, water bottling facilities must apply for permits to take water from groundwater sources if the facility takes more than 50,000 litres of water in a day.

Ontario's drinking water is among the best protected in the world <<https://news.ontario.ca/ene/en/2015/12/ontario-drinking-water-still-among-the-best-protected.html>>.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

New rules to protect and conserve water in Ontario <<https://www.ontario.ca/page/new-rules-protect-and-conserve-water-ontario>>

Use this link below to renew you membership! **Pay Pal or a Credit Card can be used**

<http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/>

Ontario's Invasive Species Act becomes law November 2016

On **November 3, 2016**, the Ontario Invasive Species Act, 2015, comes into effect. This statute provides Ontario with the power to make regulations prescribing priority invasive species and classifying them as either prohibited or restricted. This standalone piece of legislation was developed with the intent of holistically preventing and managing the introduction and spread of invasive species throughout Ontario and is the first of its kind in Canada.

Though species covered by this Act only represent a small fraction of the total number of invasive species that have already been introduced or have even become established in Ontario, by proposing the priority species for regulation, Ontario is taking a significant step in ongoing efforts to prevent the introduction and spread of these and other invasives in the province. Additionally, the Ontario Government's objective in this regard is to continue to work with new and existing partners to fulfill the actions set out in the 2012 Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan, including the ongoing programs being developed and delivered by the Invasive Species Centre, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Invading Species Awareness Program and the Ontario Invasive Plant Council. ²



There will be a Club Level Safety Course which is mandatory for SSA Members who have a valid RPAL and wish to shoot handgun at the SSA ranges.

Date is Saturday March 11th starting at 9:00 am at the Clubhouse. Course will run until mid afternoon and involves shooting outdoors so dress appropriately. The fee for the course is \$25.00.

For more information/course details or to register contact Peter Robson at 519-935-2086, e-mail: toller@amtelecom.net

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6 kms. North of Springmount

Volunteers - Thank you -

The Sydenham Sportsmen's Association would not function, if it were not for its many volunteers. Thank you to everyone that helps with our fund raising ticket sales, shooting range improvements, fish hatchery maintenance, wildlife projects, the Salmon Derby and the many other things that keeps our club going.

CBC News - Oct 04, 2016

Insect been wreaking havoc near border in Quebec and several 'hot spots' in province have been sprayed. New Brunswick is on the brink of another spruce budworm outbreak and the forestry industry.

Huffington Post Canada, b**y Jeff Wells - Sep 20, 2016

A new report released by the Partners In Flight coalition contains a shocking statistic - there are a billion and a half fewer birds now on the North American continent than there was in 1970. That's a loss like we are used to hearing about from distant history.

The SSA Executive



You can live to be a 100 if you give up all the things you want to live to be 100.

Woody Allen

Associated Press in CTV News - Sep 20, 2016

Mexican environmental authorities say they have closed seven sawmills operating illegally in the forest reserve that serves as the wintering ground for monarch butterflies that migrate to Mexico from the United States and Canada.

You laugh at me because I am different. But, I laugh at you because you are all the same!

It is more blessed to give than to receive. This saves having a garage sale!



Range Report - Shooting Sports

Bill Douglas and Al Hillis

Things are looking great for the Ranges in 2017, as we expect a lot of action in the upcoming months. We will keep you posted via our newsletters and most importantly on the Events Calendar on our website. Here are just a few of the events/courses we have planned in the near future.

1) The 2017 Interclub Trap Schedule

April 29th - being held at SSA

May 13th - being held at Blue Ridge

May 27th - being held at NGB

June 10th - being held at SSA

June 24th - being held at Blue Ridge

July 8th - being held at NGB

July 22nd - being held at SSA

August 12th - being held at Blue Ridge

August 19th - being held at NGB (the Georgian Bay Open)

Shoots being held at SSA will also appear on our website calendar. For further information contact Al Hillis at al.hillis@gmail.com

2) HANDGUN SAFETY COURSE:

There will be a Club Level Safety Course which is mandatory for new SSA members who have a valid RPAL and wish to shoot handgun at the SSA ranges. (details are available from Peter Robson and on our SSA website) The date is Saturday March 11th starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Clubhouse. Course will run until mid afternoon and involves shooting outdoors so dress appropriately. The fee for the course is \$25.00 and pre-registration is required. For more information/details/registration contact Peter Robson at 519-935-2086 or e-mail: toller@amtelecom.net .

3) HOLSTER TRAINING COURSE:

We will be holding a Holster Training Course on April 9th starting at 9:00 a. m. to approx. 1:00 p.m. This course or an alternate Holster Certification from an approved Club is mandatory prior to participation in any Defense Pistol or Cowboy Action courses, training or events at SSA. The fee for the course is \$20.00 and pre-registration is required. For more information/details/registration contact Jeff Caldwell at 226-668-4720 or e-mail: jrc870@gmail.com .

4) DEFENSIVE PISTOL COURSE:

There will be a Defensive Pistol 101 Course on May 6th starting at 9 a.m. to approx. 2 p.m. on the 100 yd. range. This course has several prerequisites required prior to taking, some of which are listed on our website. The fee for this course is \$20.00 and pre-registration is also required. For more information/details/registration contact Jeff Caldwell at 226-668-4720 or e-mail: jrc870@gmail.com .

Bill Douglas & Al Hillis



Membership John Ford

All SSA Memberships are Overdue---J Ford

Since our memberships are due on January 1, any outstanding are well overdue. This is the last newsletter that you will receive until your 2017 dues are paid.

If your dues aren't paid, you are not considered a member which will preclude you from using our ranges.

As well, trap and skeet fees will cost you more.

Please use the renewal form posted elsewhere in this newsletter. You can mail that it with your cheque, or use the on line store on our website. Finally, you can call me and pay with your credit card or debit.

My telephone number is 226-664-0960 and my email address is johnrichardford5@gmail.com

Thanks for helping!



SSA Gate Keys

We will have gate keys available at the meeting on March 9. Please remember that the locks are not changed until April 1 (no joke). As well, Bob Hunt will have keys available at the Maher Centre and Drew will have keys at Watson's Tackle House. The keys cost \$5 and can be paid with your membership or where you pick up the key. If you already paid, just tell Bob or Drew.

If you turn in the old key (blue) I will dispose of it for you.

The 2017 keys have a purple key spotter on them



Please help to reduce postage costs

The directors are looking for ways to reduce club costs. It was brought to our attention that the cost of mailing a paper newsletter is more than \$2 per copy. We realize that a number of our members do not have computers and need a paper copy so we are not trying to eliminate paper newsletters but to reduce them.

However, we know that many do have computers and can easily read the newsletter on our website.

Most of you who receive paper copies, simply read the newsletter and put it in recycling.

What we are suggesting is that you provide us with your email address. When Dave Skelton finishes the newsletter, he will send you a message that will include a link. If you click on the link, you will be taken directly to the website and the appropriate place to read the newsletter. What you read is in colour. You still have the option the print it in any part that you choose. I simply read it. As well, you can go to any newsletter in the past few years and read any or all of them. Doing this saves the SSA a substantial amount.

Please help us by providing your email address and permission to send you the email message.



OFAH Conservation Lottery Tickets for Sale

We have tickets for sale and for you to sell. This is the 43rd Annual Conservation Lottery. The total prize value is \$361,034.44 and the tickets cost \$3. Since the final draw isn't until May 26, there is still lots of time to sell them. The club realizes \$9 per book sold. Please help us!

Alewife are at a historic low

The USGS Great Lakes Science Center's bottom trawl survey found that yearling and older alewife biomass density dropped to 0.14 kg/ha in 2015, the lowest since monitoring began in 1973.

This does not mean that alewife completely disappeared from the lake, but it does mean that less food is available for predators in open water. Also, Age 8 alewife were once common, but no alewife over Age 6 were found in 2015 surveys.

In Memorium

David Hartrick---1942-2017

It is with regret that we inform you of the passing of long time SSA Member David Hartrick on February 11, 2017. Dave, as we all knew him, spent many hours working at the Maher Centre building nesting boxes of all types as the need arose along with a multitude of bird feeders. He also worked for long hours at the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular and could always be seen cooking at our many BBQ's. I often saw Dave, raking up the gravel at the big tent first thing in the morning. When we needed help on the Wildlife Advisory Committee, we enlisted Dave's help.

Dave was a most determined man and fought a long and courageous 5 year battle with cancer. For most of that time, he continued to work at the woodworking shop and for that deserves much credit.

We are indebted to Bob Hunt for helping Dave and making sure he was safe.

I am happy to have called Dave my friend!

John Ford



Chinook salmon will no longer be stocked in Lake Superior because the wild population has become is self-sustaining, the state (Michigan) said Thursday.

Officials with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources called the development a positive one for salmon populations and individuals who fish at the lake.

By surviving and reproducing, wild salmon have demonstrated a fitness for the Lake Superior environment, and that fitness will be passed on to future generations, ensuring viable fisheries for years to come," said Phil Schneeberger, DNR's Lake Superior Basin coordinator in a statement.

From a DNR hatchery perspective, money and effort from Lake Superior Chinook salmon rearing can now be redirected to other important programs."

Through DNR creel surveys, or surveys that track fish communities, the DNR documented wild versus stocked Chinook in Lake Superior since 2012. The department determined that more than 99 percent of angler-caught Chinooks in Michigan waters were from natural reproduction.

Other agencies around the lake including Wisconsin, Minnesota and Ontario reported similar findings, officials said.

According to the state, the findings were presented this year and received support from organizations including the Lake Superior Citizens Fishery Advisory Committee, the South Shore Fishing Association and the Central Upper Peninsula Sport Fishing Association.

The sport fishing community wants to see license dollars spent to promote the greatest good for the lake," said Mylan Koski, Lake Superior Citizens Fishery Advisory Committee Chair. "Given the lack of hatchery fish showing up in angler catches, continuation of stocking would be wasteful and poor stewardship. Sport fishing groups look forward to working with the DNR to identify future stocking and/or management actions to benefit recreational opportunities in Lake Superior."

In 2007, the state stopped stocking Lake Superior with coho salmon because populations had become self-sustaining. Since that time, the coho fishery has remained strong, officials said.

cwilliams@detroitnews.com