



LIGHT LINES

SUMMER 1996

Volume 7, Number 3

HELP!

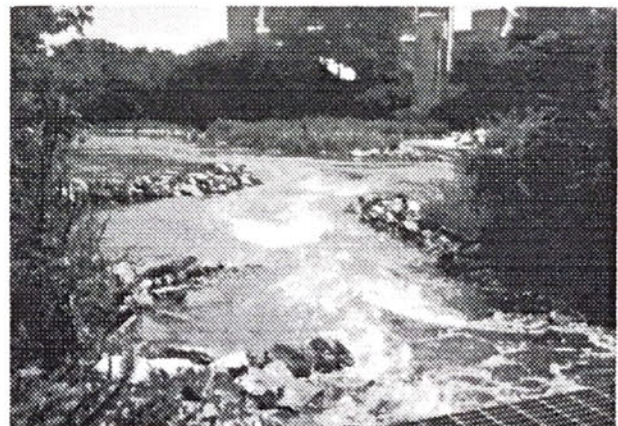
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We need everybody's help on this summers projects in Erindale Park. Bring your buddies, bring your spouse. It will be a lot of work to construct a bank stabilizer and current deflector in Erindale park, therefore we need all the help **YOU CAN PROVIDE!**

If you fish Erindale Park than come out and help. Make a difference that will immediately improve the quality of your fishing!

All we need is an afternoon, a morning, a couple of hours.

Meet at the Burnhamthorpe Parking Lot at 9:00 am on June 22 nd.



CRAA members working hard to improve fishing.

We Need Volunteers!

Credit River Anglers Association LIGHT LINES

Contributions are welcome from
members and non-members alike.
Send your articles, comments and suggestions to:

Light Lines Editor
Credit River Anglers Association
60 Dundas Street East, P.O. Box 48042
Mississauga, Ontario L5A 1W0

Or call the CRAA 24-hr Hotline

(905) 608-0169

Commercial advertising rates:
1/16 page - \$15, 1/8 page - \$30, 1/4 page - \$50
Maximum size 1/4 page.

Newsletter production: 200 copies per issue
Printed on recycled paper.

UPCOMING EVENTS

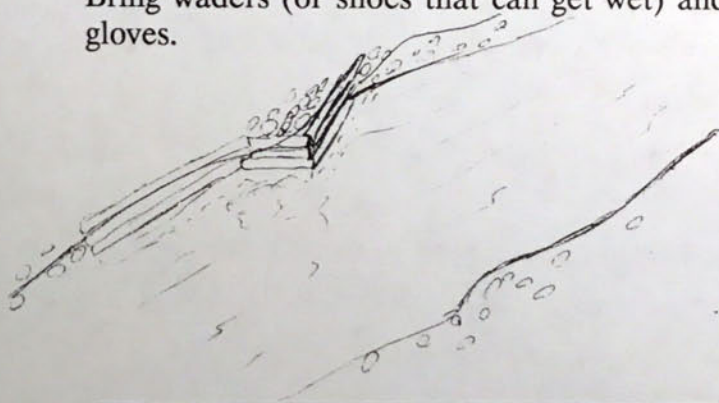
JUNE

22-23 ERINDALE PARK WORKDAY - 9:00am start

CRAA will construct a large bank stabilizer and remove debris near Burnhamthorpe Bridge in the hopes of creating a new pool.

Erindale Park has lost 70% of its large pools in the last six years and as a result fish do not hold in the park. The creation of new pools will space out fishing pressure and hopefully provide more fishing success.

Bring waders (or shoes that can get wet) and gloves.



JULY

7 URBAN FISHING DAY - LAKE AQUITAINE at 9:00 am.

This is an excellent chance for members to get involved in a community based event with hundreds of kids and their parents taking part. CRAA supplies some tackle, bait, and fishing know how to the youngsters.

Kids light up when they catch their first fish and it is sure to bring a smile to everyone in attendance.

AUGUST

17 ERINDALE PARK WORKDAY - 9:00am start

CRAA will continue with our work to stabilize eroding banks. On this weekend we hope to complete work where the glory hole once was. By constructing a pair of current deflectors we hope the river will create a new hole.

Bring your waders or wet shoes and gloves.

ANGLING SPECIALTIES

A DIVISION OF FIVE CHAINS ENTERPRISES CORP.
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Tel. 416-609-0804
Fax 416-609-0861

WEST
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*Charters
Arranged

NEW HOTLINE NUMBER (905) 608-0169

FISH LADDER - 1996

By John Kendell

Another spring fish ladder operation has passed and what a spring it was. In total CRAA manually lifted 993 steelhead. Of that number 300 were transferred up river by trailer to Georgetown. Again the transferred fish were tagged with red tags. The remainder were released above the Streetsville dam. The majority of the fish released immediately above the dam were given blue tags again.

We urge you to call the hotline to report any tagged fish you have caught, or catch this year. The information you report to us is invaluable to the future of the steelhead population of the Credit River.

This year we had our biggest steelhead ever, lifted on March 31 st, a wild female that weighed 19.9 lbs. On the same day we lifted fourteen other steelhead over 15 lbs. How is that for proof of all the big fish in the Credit! For the sixth consecutive year we also lifted more females than males, 57% female and 43% male. That's good news because males can spawn with numerous females.

TAGGED FISH RETURNS FROM 1995

In total we lifted thirteen fish that had been tagged last year, four of them had lost their tags so we could not identify them, however nine fish came in bearing blue and red tags. Six fish with red tags, three with blue. We learned some interesting information from the returning tagged fish. First, that we saw 4% of the fish we tagged from last year, a very high percentage for consecutive years. Normally steelhead skip a year before returning.

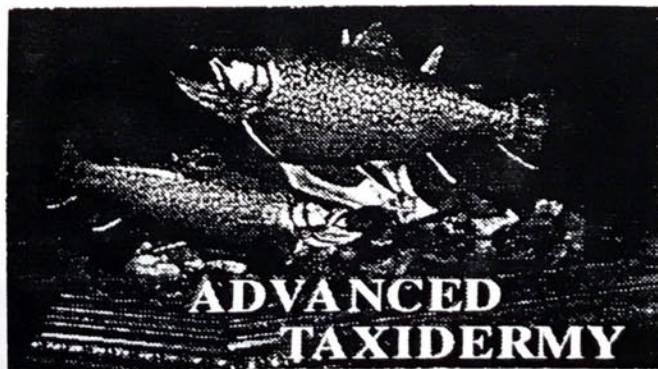
Most of the returning tagged fish grew an average of 10 cm to 12 cm and put on 2 lbs to 5 lbs. Also, 10 out of the 13 fish were females, showing that females are more likely to return to spawn than males.

1996 TRANSFER

CRAA owes a big thanks to one of our key volunteers at the fish ladder. Jerry Kaspard donated the use of his trailer and large van to transfer all the fish up the Credit River. That meant he was on site with all the equipment every night. He kept the trailer at home in his garage for six weeks and at every moment was more than happy to come out and help. Jerry is not retired, he just made sure he escaped the office at 5:00pm every day to be at the ladder. Perhaps the worst thing Jerry had to put up with was all the mud in his van at the end of the spring, but he says "it's worth it to see those big steelhead swim from our hands into some of the best water the Credit River has to offer."

Other volunteers who were always out were myself, Aaron Bodiam, Grant McGuie, Shaker Srouji, Jayson D'Andrea, Rick Matusiak, Alex Matusiak, Mike Wiedemann, Mike Evans, Jameel Mohammed, Rojan Rajaratnam, Kevin Velica and Chris Goh.

THANKS TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS AND WE HOPE TO SEE MORE OF YOU THIS YEAR!



MAKE YOUR OWN FLOATS

By Richard Schwan

This is a step by step outline for anyone who would like to make their own floats. Now is the time to do it so your ready for the fall.

MATERIALS

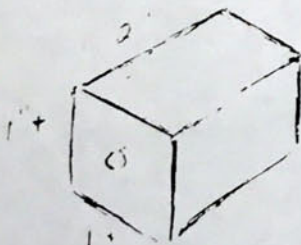
Balsa wood block (2x2x10, etc)
Bamboo sticks
Rubber tubing
Florescent paint (500 mL can)
Urethane or liquid gloss
Cardboard box
Sharp knife

TOOLS

Power drill
Small wood saw
Drill bits (1/16 to 1/8)
Sandpaper (Xfine, med, coarse)
Eye protection

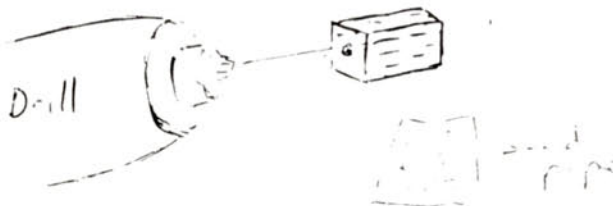
PROCEDURES

Cut balsa wood into small blocks with the saw. Each small block should be 1" to 1.5" wide, and 1.5" to 2" tall. The size of the block depends on how large you want the float to be.



Now take the smallest drill bit (1/16") and drill a whole through the centre of each block. Now secure your power drill in either a horizontal or vertical position. Using a large vice grip or a 'Black and Decker Workmate' to hold the power drill firmly in position. Now the drill is a lathe!

Insert a larger drill bit into the drill (3/32" to 1/8"). Now take a block that has been drilled and push it onto the larger drill bit. It should be a very tight fit. Now the block should be secured on the drill bit so it does not slip when the drill is on.



Get your coarse sand paper ready and turn drill on. Lock the drill in the on position, or tape the trigger so the drill can run continuously. Begin sanding from bottom to top.

Tip

-Hold the sandpaper on only one side of the float (so the sawdust is pushed away from you).

Shape as desired.



When finished check for any bumps or cracks. Sand down any bumps and fill in any cracks with glue. Continue the above process on each block of balsa wood to shape all the floats. I suggest making many different sized floats for all the different fishing conditions you will meet over the year.

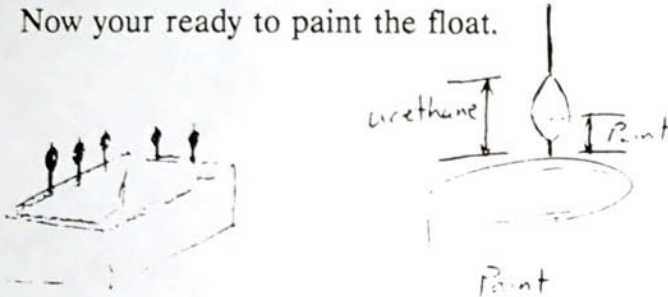
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MAKE YOUR OWN FLOATS

FINISHING THE FLOAT

Glue the bamboo stick into each float leaving the bamboo sticking out each end. Then cut the bamboo at the desired length and sand both ends to a point.

Now your ready to paint the float.



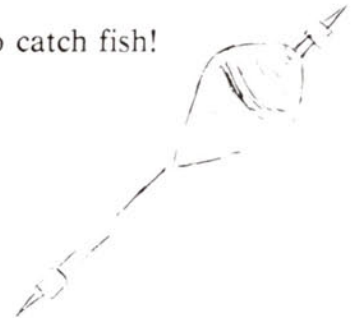
Take the cardboard box you have ready and cut it in half so it can hold a large number of floats (see diagram). Now open and mix the can of urethane and dip each float from the tip to the bottom of the balsa wood. Set in the cardboard holder to dry. This first coat seals the wood so the paint does not run through the wood.

When the floats are dry remove them from the cardboard. Now open the florescent paint and dip each float from the top to 1/4 to 1/3 of the balsa section of the float. Allow this coat to dry and repeat once or twice more.

Once the paint has dried (allow 24 hours) give each float two or three more coats of urethane. Be sure to let urethane dry between coats.

Finally cut the rubber tubing into 1/4" pieces and place on bottom and top of your new floats.

Now your ready to catch fish!



ANTI-FISHING MOVEMENT GROWING

Over the last decade the Anti-hunting movement has become well established in Canada, making it very difficult for hunters to pursue their sport. Well, now they're after anglers. **You had better take this threat to your fishing seriously, or you won't need those rods any more!**

The anti-fishing movement is just beginning and already they have had success with some politicians. According to 'Real Outdoors' the anti-fishing movement has initiated a draft amendment to Parks Canada that would illegalize all fishing in Canada's National Parks!

If the anti-fishing movement gets any larger your going to lose some of your favorite fishing water, **so take note!** Apparently the anti-fishing movement has targeted two places in Ontario; the first being Catch and Release tournaments, the second being the Grand

River where the special regulations are in effect. **Don't be surprised to see some on the Credit, especially during the fall salmon run.** These people don't seem to care about the hard work we do to improve the environment and the fisheries, they want you and I to stop fishing, period!

If you encounter a protester do not let them get the better of you, ignore them, or move to another fishing location. The last thing we need to happen is a couple of assault charges on the fishing community. Remember the law is on our side. Most land is private property so if your fishing private land (with written permission) and you run into a protester than call the police and have them arrested.

Fortunately the fishing media has caught onto this threat to our pastime so we may be able to fight it before it becomes a **BIG** problem. Lets hope so!

June 22 nd, 1996 on the Grand River
at Caledonia.

Lots of fun and games.

Starts at 9:00 am

HOT SUMMER DAYS

Flyfishing for smallmouth bass in the Credit

By Chris Goh (From 1994)

It was early morning and I had the river all to myself. As I stepped towards the pool, it occurred to me why I've always felt different towards the Credit at this time of year. The wet smell of spring, the soggy banks and the crowds that I associate with steelhead in March and April were all gone. There was a gentle lonely feeling about the river being so low, clear and quiet.

I tied on a small marabou muddler to my tippet and slowly stripped enough line from my reel to cast this weighted fly upstream and across. As the fly sank slowly, I mended downstream and allowed the current to pull the fly across the river slowly. Just as the fly swung across the rocks at the tail end of the pool, the water boiled and I felt the anticipated tug on the rod. I set the hook and was fast onto the first smallmouth of the day, just as the first rays of the morning sun peeked over the treetops.

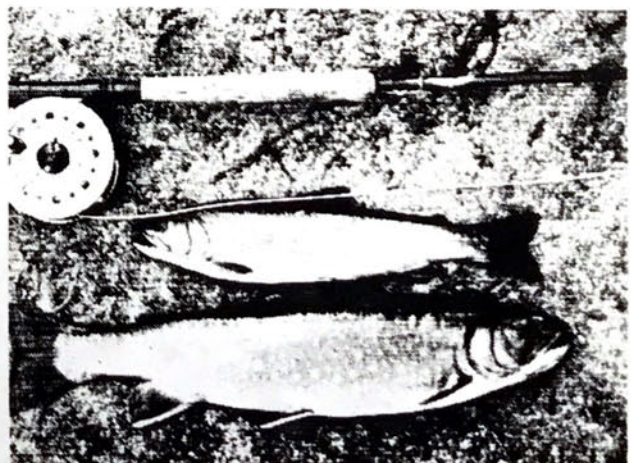
The Credit has become an excellent river for bronze backs, yet smallmouth bass fishing is still a much overlooked activity. The good news is that for many CRAA members, the river is right in our own backyard, so you can fish smallmouth everyday after work or supper, right until dark. Or you may like to try for them early in the morning, like I do.

Flyfishing for smallmouth in summer is not too different from stream fishing for browns except that the smallmouth is generally more cooperative than wary browns. Try casting for

fish at the head of pools, where the riffle tumbles in, bringing food in the form of nymphs, larvae, minnows, etc. Check out back eddies, especially if the eddy deepens significantly off a fast chute or a large obstruction. Fallen logs, large boulders and ledges are all likely spots.

Some flies have worked better for me on the Credit than others. The marabou muddler in white, olive and brown in sizes 6 to 8 have really produced. Woolly buggers in black and olive work well, stripped slowly along the bottom, or dead drifted in smaller sizes. Poppers work well early in the morning or later in the evening.

I have only really fished smallmouth in the Credit for the last two seasons and the time I have spent there has been rewarding enough to me to want to do it more often. After all, the three and a half pounders I caught last year should be pushing four and a half this year, right?



Funny looking Bass!