

High waters, cold makes fishing late

By LEM MESSEE
Outdoors writer

Fishing is still slow, because of high waters and the extended cold spell.

The DNR's weekly report tells of "spotty" white bass fishing in Lake Erie, "a few crappies" in Lakeville Lake, "slow to poor" white bass fishing in the St. Clair River, "a few perch" around the Flat Rock dam on the Huron River.

State park user fees are also charged at such popular boat launches as Orchard Lake, Lakeville Lake, Harley Ensign and Selfridge Field. Entry is \$1 per car and \$2 if you haul a trailer. Boat launches are now open at three metroparks—Kensington, Stony Creek and Metropolitan Park. Besides a park admission, you will have to get a boat permit at \$2 a day or \$7 for the season.

MARK S. UNGER of 555 S. Woodward, Birmingham, earned a "gamefish release award" in the metropolitan South Florida fishing tournament. He caught and released three bonefish while on a charter boat in the Florida Keys.

IF INLAND lake fishing is still dismal, try one of the nature tours at the Huron-Clinton metroparks. Five good programs are on tap at Kensington Metropark, near Milford, and Stony Creek, near Rochester, in the coming week.

At Kensington's nature center are: "Star Walk" at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 25, with naturalist Steve Horn; "Spring Bloomers" at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 28, with naturalist Dave Molan, and "Bird-

ing for Beginners" at 9 a.m. Sunday, April 29, with Molan. Programs are free, but you should register in advance by calling the nature center at 885-1561.

At Stony Creek are: "Own Prowl" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 28 with naturalist Roger Bajorek; and "Photography in the Field" at 10 a.m. Sunday, April 29 led by area photographers. Register in advance by calling 781-4621.

You enjoy the outdoors more the more you know about nature.

DAILY CAMPER fees will range from \$2 to \$4 on 239 campgrounds in 14 national forests operated by the U.S. Forest Service.

Size of the fee depends on whether campgrounds have drinking water, toilets, refuse disposal and open-fire cooking facilities.

National forests tend to be less populated than state parks in Michigan. The state highway map doesn't even show national forest campgrounds, though they are certainly a natural asset of this state.

For information on these delightful, uncrowded campgrounds, write to the Forest Supervisor at these places:

Ottawa National Forest, Box 468 Ironwood 49938 (western UP).

Hiawatha National Forest, 2727 N. Lincoln Rd., Escanaba 49829 (eastern upper peninsula).

Huron-Manistee National Forests, 421 S. Mitchell, Cadillac 49601 (the Huron forest is in the eastern lower peninsula, the Manistee in the western LP).

Prof leery of China ties

After a whirlwind courtship with China, the United States would be wise to play the field politically, warns a noted specialist on Chinese and Asian affairs.

The U.S.-China treaty was the right thing done too late the wrong way," Owen Lattimore said during a recent visit to the University of Michigan for a guest lecture. Lattimore is professor emeritus of Chinese studies at Leeds University, England.

"Somehow the U.S. maneuvered itself into a position that made it look like it had winked at the Chinese attack on Vietnam," Lattimore said.

The U.S. could have avoided giving that impression by making some friendly overtures to the Vietnamese, such as offering them war compensations, he said.

BUT THE U.S. has a habit of underestimating the political sophistication of smaller countries, particularly in southeast Asia and Africa, Lattimore said. Furthermore, he said the U.S. follows the faulty belief that by controlling Russia and China it can plot the course of the rest of the world.

"The United States has this idea about subversion that is terribly insulting to the people of Asia and Africa, who are regarded as a bunch of nitwits, and all it takes is one crafty Russian or clever American to get there first and — hey! — the people become Democrats," Lattimore said.

He said that such a mentality is a hold-over from the days of mass immigration to the U.S., when

foreigners strove — and were pressured — to assimilate. But that kind of "Madison Avenue" hard-sell only works if people want it to, Lattimore stressed.

Iran is perhaps the first country in which the U.S. has heavily invested to have rebelled against "Americanization," Lattimore said, primarily because U.S. money was mismanaged there. Americans alienated Iranians by flaunting their money and privileges in that country, he said.

The U.S. is also being potentially careless with its money in regard to China, which has already broken contract promises to Japan, Lattimore said.

"China wants enormous credits from everybody in sight," he said, "but the world can't afford it."

The U.S. attitude toward China has been fickle in the past, because of a weak monetary bond between the two countries, Lattimore said.

"When you're losing real money, then you're wide open to ideological backlash."

CONSEQUENTLY, THE U.S. had to wait until it elected Richard Nixon, "the most reactionary president," to mollify conservatives so that the Democrats could pursue a treaty with China, said Lattimore.

"I remember an English friend of mine telling me that if you Americans had had 10-15 percent of the investment in China that we British have had since 1945, then you would have acted more sensibly."

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