

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# ONE Voice

*Outreach, News, and Events*

*Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge / Lower Great Lakes Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office*

## July 2016



**Failed Culvert Removed at Greystone Nature Preserve (July 5):** An old forest road culvert that failed in a 2015 storm was removed this month in Greystone Nature Preserve. The streambed was restored allowing fish to pass 3 miles of headwater stream in Slippery Rock Creek, in Brocton, Chautauqua County, NY. The Preserve plans on highlighting the stream restoration project in their

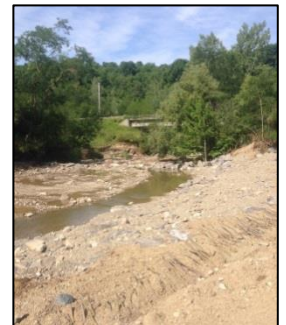
future environmental education programs. This project was funded through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. (Contact: Betsy Trometer)

**Invasive Species Don't Scare Me....or Do They? (July 11-12):** The Lower Great Lakes FWCO participated in the 3rd annual New York State Invasive Species Awareness Week (July 10th – 16th) at West Canal Park in Tonawanda, NY, and at the Seneca Park Zoo in Rochester, NY. Biologists talked to over 200 people about the negative effects of invasive species on native species, including taking over the habitats of native species, and competing with them for their food. The biologists developed a fun activity for kids, called fish-critters. Kids (and some adults too) pieced together body parts of fishes, like a puzzle, to create their own new species. We encouraged them to think about where their species would live and how it would survive. Watchcards and posters helped show how invasive species affect all New Yorkers - including hikers, highway personnel, birders, boaters, farmers and foresters. (Contact: Sandy Keppner)



**Erie Canal Teacher Workshop (July 14):** Lower Great Lakes FWCO biologists hosted a one-day workshop on the biology, ecology and history of the Erie Canal for fourth to tenth grade educators from across western New York on July 14 at Lockport Locks & Erie Canal Cruises. Teachers received materials to use in their classrooms, learned about fish sampling methods, and watched an electrofishing demonstration while cruising on the canal. The workshop was sponsored in cooperation with New York Sea Grant. (Contact: Denise Clay)

**Stream Restoration Completed Along Canadaway Creek (July 15):** Elevated silt and sediment loads in Canadaway Creek from erosion are negatively impacting the aquatic habitat. Headcutting of the streambed in one location was causing a barrier to fish movement. An engineered rock riffle was added to prevent further headcutting and allow fish to fully utilize the creek. Bendway weirs were installed along 0.2 miles to direct the main force of the stream to the center of the channel and reduce erosion. Resting pools were added to aid in fish migration. (Contact: Betsy Trometer)



**Outdoor Adventure Camp (July 20):** Lower Great Lakes FWCO biologists participated in the 2016 Outdoor Adventure Camp held at the Dunkirk Camp and Conference Center. One hundred and twenty campers from grades 4 through 9 rotated through various interpretive displays, and learned about stream ecology, fish aquatic insect sampling, and careers with the Service. Biologists used minnow traps and a beach seine to collect some of the local fish species such as creek chub, white perch, emerald shiner, various species of dace, and a number of crayfish. (Contact: Mike Goehle)



**Connecting with Urban Youth at Niagara Arts & Cultural Center (July 21):** On July 21, Lower Great Lakes FWCO worked with 65 Niagara Arts & Cultural Center summer camp staff and campers who braved the heat to come out to the NY State Parks' DeVeaux Woods (Niagara Falls, NY) for our Students, Nature and Photography program (SNAP!). This was a great opportunity for the campers to explore a little known park right in their city, to which most of them had never been! We hiked with the campers, teaching them about old growth forests, historic buildings, and the different animals found in the park. (Contact: Denise Clay)