



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

ONE Voice

Outreach, News, and Events

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

March 2016

Great Lakes Seminar (March 2): Lower Great Lakes FWCO biologist, Heidi Himes, presented to the Great Lakes Ecosystem Science Program at Buffalo State College on Early Detection Methods used by the USFWS for controlling invasive species. There were about 30 students and faculty in attendance. The students asked many questions about different early detection approaches and our involvement in invasive species work. (Contact: Heidi Himes)



WNY Sport and Travel Expo (March 10-13): For the 5th year in a row, the Lower Great Lakes FWCO and Iroquois NWR participated in the WNY Sport & Travel Expo held in Hamburg, NY. During the four day event, we were pleased to talk to and interact with almost 700 Expo goers. The display featured mounts of lake sturgeon and the invasive big head and silver carps, as well as information about the Duck Stamp program and upcoming public events. It was great to see so many people interested in the work of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. (Contact: Denise Clay)

Science Exploration Day (March 16): Science Exploration Day (SED) is an annual event held at SUNY Buffalo where local western NY high school students have the opportunity to hear from a wide variety of science professionals ranging from astrophysicists to doctors to naturalists on careers in science. Stacy Furgal discussed various stages in her training and career as a fish biologist, and the work being done by the Lower Great Lakes FWCO. Fish replicas and videos of fieldwork shown to students were very well received. (Contact: Stacy Furgal)

Erie County Envirothon Workshop (March 31): Fish Biologists, Curt Karboski and Stacy Furgal, led an aquatic themed workshop for this year's local Envirothon participants, who hope to continue on to state and national competitions. Envirothon is an environmental education competition for high school students where teams of 5 work together to test their knowledge in 5 different environmental categories and a current issue. Lower Great Lakes FWCO biologists gave a talk, and then hit the stream to demonstrate fish collection using a seine net, kick nets, and minnow traps. The workshop concluded with identifying fish and aquatic insects, giving students lessons in taxonomy and a chance to see organisms up real close! (Contact: Stacy Furgal)