

Perry District Fisheries Newsletter

Spring 2020

Panic over Panoptix

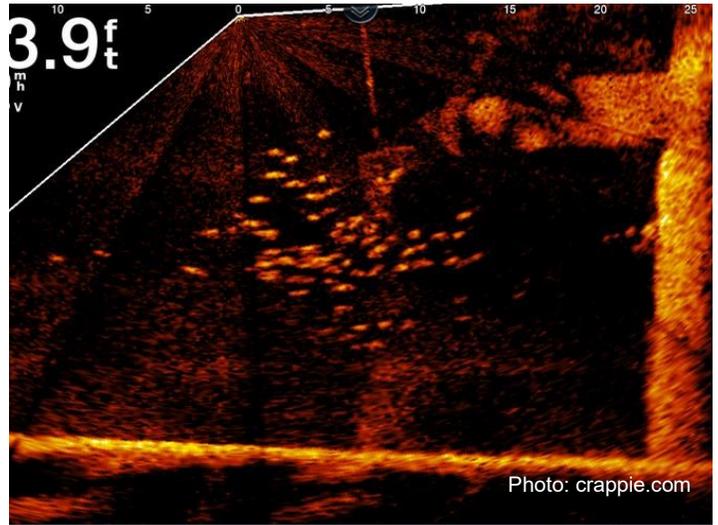
Special points of interest:

- Panoptix
- Walk-In Fishing Program
- Fishing for 50
- New Mobile Apps

Many anglers who own boats have some sort of depth finder. Some may have more than one, some may relay more than just depth information. It seems that these devices are moving more and more towards their alternate name: fish finders.

The latest and greatest device that has most anglers salivating is the Garmin Panoptix Livescope. This technology can easily cost more than a down-payment on a new boat but that isn't stopping many Kansas anglers from adding one to their rig. The Livescope system is like if you took an ice fishing flasher and crossed it with down-imaging sonar. It allows you to watch fish swim around brush piles in real time. It really is amazing and it is hard to imagine the fish finder business coming up with a way to top that, but it inevitably will.

The latest Livescope craze and every major bump in technology brings about a lot of questions from anglers and many of them center around the theme of tightening our regulations.



Anglers are worried about the new technology making it too easy to catch fish and causing overexploitation.

I will in turn ask you a couple of questions:

1. Were anglers able to catch their limits prior to livescope or any other electronics?
2. Do anglers with livescope or other advanced fish finders still need to follow regulations?

The answer to both questions is YES. The new technology does make anglers more efficient at finding fish but that is about as far as it goes. It is still up to the angler to successfully catch

those fish and get them in the boat. And that angler still has to follow the same creel and possession limits that the angler on the docks has to follow. He can only keep 20 or 50 crappie per day, depending on the lake, and he can only have 150 in his possession at any one time. He'll most likely just spend less time on the water to get those fish.

It can be likened to cars traveling down a road. Your dad's old beat up truck is (most likely) going to be able to make it the same 20 miles down the road that a new Dodge Viper can. The Viper will just get there a little faster. While it may be fun racing down the road every once in a while, not much is better than sitting on a dock catching fish with your friends.

New Walk-In Fishing Program

Wildlife, Parks & Tourism
Kansas

KDWPT is rebranding the Fishing Impoundments & Stream Habitats program (F.I.S.H.) to **Walk-in Fishing Access** or **WIFA**, and is sponsoring a contest to see who can create the best logo.

YOUR LOGO HERE

Enter for your chance to win \$2,500

Contest runs January 1—March 1, 2020

To learn more about this program and contest rules, visit:

KSoutdoors.com/WIFA_Logo
facebook.com/KDWPTFisheries



mately decided on what many of you already call it: The Walk-In Fishing Access Program.

So the head line is misleading, it really isn't a new program but rather a new name.

And with that new name we will have to update a lot of stuff: the website, the fishing regulation booklets, the fishing atlas, and of course our signage. Perhaps the most eye-catching part of those items is the logo.

We deliberated for hours and decided to hold a contest to allow the public to come up with a design for a new logo for our Walk-In Fishing Program. The exact rules can be found at www.ksoutdoors.com/WIFA_Logo but we will run through the gist of it here.

By the time this newsletter likely gets out, there will be a little bit less than a month remaining in the contest as all **entries must be received by March 1st.**

Entries can be submitted through the web address listed above and must be a high-resolution vector based EPS file. A black and white logo must be submitted but a color version of the logo can also be included.

Participants are allowed to enter up to three unique designs so why only submit once.

Did I mention that the person that submits **the winning design will receive \$2500?** No, I did not forget a decimal point; I meant to put two thousand five hundred dollars.

After March 1st, the same group of biologist from the beginning will sit down and pick the winner within 60 days. The winning design will then be given the prize amount in exchange for providing KDWP a royalty free, irrevocable, non-exclusive, and perpetual license to use the submitted artwork for advertising, promotional, or educational purposes.

Some other technical details include that no KDWP employees or their immediate families are eligible for the contest and KDWP reserves the right to not choose a contest winner if no suitable entries are received.

I think that about covers it! So break out those sketchpads, learn how to use some computer software, and then head over to www.ksoutdoors.com/WIFA_Logo and submit your winning design!

For the past year or so, a group of biologists from across the state have been working together to develop a plan to increase the popularity of our Fishing Impoundment and Stream Habitat Program.

The first thing we all decided on was that the existing name was misleading. It sounded more like a habitat incentive program than one created to give anglers more access to fishable waters. So we tossed around a whole bunch of names and ulti-

Fishing for 50...

I've mentioned before that I grew up in Iowa and am a pretty big fan of my Iowa State Cyclones. When I have time I like to stream some Des Moines sports radio to stay up to date. One of those shows does a monthly fishing report show with a friend of mine who works for the Iowa DNR. In one of those episodes, my friend brought another DNR employee on to share a really neat story that went something like this:

On Scottie Gritters 50th birthday he set out with the goal of catching 50 fish. He started trout fishing, catching all three species Iowa hosts. He then switched to a farm pond where he caught a Large-mouth Bass, some Bluegill and Redear. He finished off his birthday stream fishing for Smallmouth Bass. He began reflecting on how great of a day it was, ultimately pondering how difficult it would be to catch 50 different species of fish. He spent the next year trying to do just that. During his adventure he landed Band-tail Sculpin and Arctic Grayling in Alaska, Blowfish in Florida, and even a Lake Sturgeon out of the Mississippi River.

The following year he set a different goal: catch a fish in 50 different waterbodies. He fished 52 ranging from the Atlantic Ocean to the local creek. After that he set the bar a little higher: catch a fish on 50 different lures. Scott actually used some of those crazy contraptions that we all have tucked away in our tackle boxes. He tells the story of being in Canada and trying to catch a fish in a pike infested lake using a Lazy Ike. He fished it for one hour, not getting anything while his buddies were reeling in fish after fish. Out of the blue, one grabs the lure and he very quickly flipped it in the boat, relieved he was done with the lure. "Not so fast," said his friend as he handed Scottie a jointed version of the Lazy Ike. He claims that after slowing his retrieve, it swam exactly like a leech and caught a fish after a few minutes.

For his 53rd birthday he wanted to start including other people in his quests. His goal for this year was to fish with 50 different people, and have them catch at least one fish. Scottie has a lot of friends he could take, he even would take his relatives/friends' kids fishing. He would joke with

his companions that once they caught a fish they 'were dead to him' and on their own. In the end he fished with 17 new people, spreading his love for fishing.

The following year he set out to catch a fish in 50 different counties. He says that it was a great way to fish new waterbodies that he might have only seen stocked fish at for work or had only driven by and some of those new waters have become a new go-to location and a better reference for local anglers looking for advice.

Currently, Scott is 55 and working on his sixth adventure. He wanted to catch a fish in 50 different rivers or streams but that was sidelined by the same flooding that we saw here in Kansas. He audited to catching a fish in 50 different small ponds, including some older ones that he fished as a kid in southern Iowa and some more urban ponds.

Scott's adventures are interesting and fun to follow along. But more importantly, they inspire others to set higher goals. So, what will your adventure be for 2020?



Department of Wildlife, Parks
and Tourism

Perry State Park
5441 West Lake Rd.
Ozawkie, KS 66070

Phone: 785-246-4514
Fax: 785-246-0224
E-mail: nick.kramer@ks.gov

We're on the web!

www.ksoutdoors.com

Special points of interest:

- Panoptix Panic
- Walk-In Fishing Program
- Fishing for 50
- New Mobile Apps



New Mobile Apps

The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism has recently released two new mobile apps! The CamplT KS and HuntFish KS apps can be found in the App Store or the Google Play Store. And did I mention that it is free?

So, what exactly do these apps allow you to do? The CamplT KS app allows anyone who has the app installed on their phone to view information and pictures of all of the KDWPT managed locations that allow camping and make campsite or cabin reservations for whatever dates are available. Seems pretty convenient.

The HuntFish KS App allows users to purchase their hunting and fishing licenses right from their phones. They can also view their licenses, or if asked by a game warden,

show their licenses to said game warden. The hunting and fishing regulations are also available on the HuntFish KS mobile app so you can stay well informed on how many fish you can keep at each lake. If you are fishing with a wife, husband, kid, father, mother, or anyone else you can also add their profiles to the app and keep all of your licenses in one place.

Did you also know that you can have lake depth maps, brushpile locations, and Walk-In Fishing locations on your phone as well? Search your app store for ArcGIS Explorer. After installing, just search for KDWPT and download the most recent access maps, there is also information for WIHA properties.

These apps should help keep you up to date on your licenses, keep you on the fish, and when the fishing is just too good to go home, get you a campsite too!