

OF THE OUTDOORS | GARY HOWEY

‘Pitchin’ The S.D. Shoreline

BY GARY HOWEY
Hartington, Neb.

When it comes to walleye anglers in the upper Midwest, Ted Takasaki is one of the best, no matter what fishing methods being used or what body of water he'd be fishing on, Ted's going to catch fish!

We had the privilege of fishing with Ted last week on the Missouri River in the Chamberlain area a couple of weeks ago. The fishing in the Chamberlain area has been excellent as it has been throughout the Missouri system, with good numbers of fish.



Gary HOWEY

After last year's floods on the Missouri, there's been some concern as to just how the fishing would be in 2012. It didn't take long for anglers to realize the fishing on the system with all the water going through the dams hadn't negatively affected the fishing; in fact, the fishing this year is some of the best we've seen.

Our plan was to use live bait rigs (bottom bouncers with Lindy two-hook spinners) and work along a few of the numerous points in the river down from Chamberlain.

Ted guided his boat along the breaks of the first point moving along the break where his locator showed fish and it wasn't long before Team member Larry Myhre connected with the first fish a dandy 17".

The key to using spinners is to get the boat moving at the right speed in order to get the spinner blade working properly. If you're going too slowly, your bottom bouncer will drag and snag up on the bottom or your spinner won't spin correctly. If you're moving too fast the spinner will rise up, taking your bait up out of the fish catching zone.

Ted had the speed down perfectly as on each point we worked with one or two fish coming off of each point we fished. It wasn't long before a fleet of boats



Ted Takasaki of Sioux Falls is pictured with one of the walleyes taken while fishing near Chamberlain.

started making their way down river as the City of Sioux Falls Employees Fishing Tournament was going on and it seemed as many of the tournament boats had the same idea and would be fishing the same area we would.

As the tournament boats came into the area, we decided to get out of their way and switched to pulling Lindy Shadings out along a break near the middle of the river.

Once again, our rods bent over as the aggressive mails attacked our baits and for the rest of the afternoon, we trolled,

taking numerous walleyes with the largest being 19 to 20" range.

Our second day would be a short one, as we would need to pull out about noon to get back for appointments at the office. We decided to fish the area just below the I-90 Bridge, pitching Lindy Fuzz-E Grubs and their new Whatsit jigs up shallow which had been a deadly method no matter where we'd fished this spring as the method worked from Lake Sharpe to upper Lake Oahe as well as on several of the Northeast South Dakota Lakes.

The key to pitching jigs is to enter the

shallow water quietly and then to work your jig back towards the boat, hopping your jig back along the bottom. When pitching jigs, you'll need to keep your line tight to detect those subtle pickups.

Ted connected almost immediately with Larry and I coming in a close second and third.

When pitching jigs, you never know what you might catch as all species of fish will attack a jig if it comes with sight, some will hit it as soon as it hits the water or right at the boat.

Several northerns did their best to tear up our tackle with their razor sharp teeth; we managed to get some of them to the boat, while others broke us off, swimming off with our jigs.

On one cast, just as the jig plopped into the water along the shoreline, Larry connected with a good fish that wouldn't come off the bottom and after a short fight I slid the net under an 8-pound channel catfish.

Later on, I set the hook on a big fish, which stayed down like a walleye, but since I couldn't feel the head shake you'd feel when fighting a walleye, I wasn't sure what I had and after running me from the front of the boat around to the back, we landed a big drum.

Ted knew where to fish and had the methods to take the fish and we ended up with a great show and a good bunch of walleyes for a fish fry.

In order to be consistent fishermen, you need to be productive with numerous fishing methods. Pitching jigs up shallow is one of these methods for taking all game fish before they head for deeper water.

It's a relaxing way to fish and you just never know what you'll catch while pitching jigs into the shoreline.

Gary Howey, Hartington, Neb., is the President of Outdoorsmen Productions, Producer/Host of the award winning Outdoorsmen Adventures television series that can be seen throughout the upper Midwest and Co-Host of Outdoor Adventures Radio heard six days a week on Classic Hits 106.3 FM and ESPN Radio 1570 AM. More information on the outdoors can be found on his web site www.outdoorsmenadventures.com.

Mich. Measure Would Require Quicker Asian Carp Action

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP) — Federal engineers would be ordered to speed up development of a plan for protecting the Great Lakes from Asian carp under legislation awaiting final votes in Congress.

The measure would require the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to produce an expedited strategy for preventing species migrations between the lakes and the Mississippi River watershed at 18 potential entry points, including a network of Chicago-area rivers and canals.

House and Senate negotiators attached the provision to a highway funding bill on which both chambers are expected to vote by the end of June. Rep. Dave Camp, a Michigan Republican and member of the conference committee, said the amendment was "an important step to stop Asian carp from devastating the Great Lakes ecosystem."

The Army corps previously said it needed until late 2015 to finish studying the matter. But in May, Obama administration officials said a plan would be ready by the end of next year — similar to the deadline envisioned by the legislation.

However, the administration plan would simply present a list of options for Congress and the public to consider. The measure proposed by Camp and Sen. Debbie Stabenow, a Michigan Democrat, would require more detailed proposals — including steps to sever a manmade link between the Lake Michigan and Mississippi drainage basins at Chicago.

Asian carp have migrated up the Mississippi and tributary rivers and could reach Lake Michigan through the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal.

Anglers Land Proof That Mo. Still Has Giant Catfish

BY BRENT FRAZEE
(c)2012 The Kansas City Star (Kansas City, Mo.)

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Don't assume that all of the legendary catfish caught in Missouri came from the "good ol' days."

True, the Show Me State has a long history of producing huge cats. Riverboat captains on the Missouri and Mississippi rivers talk about fish as big as a man being reeled in.

But in a way, that history is still being written. Take it from Danny Calvert and Clay Smith, who both landed monstrous catfish in June — fish that turned back Missouri's clock.

First, Calvert and his friend, Bill Gilmore, wrestled a 98-pound blue cat into the boat near La Benite Park on the Missouri River. Then Smith and his mother Gladys, struggled to lift a fighting 84-pound flathead into the boat where the Osage River feeds Truman Lake.

Both fish are proof that Missouri still has plenty of river monsters (as the title of a popular television show would say) living here.

"I doubt if I'll ever have another day like that one," said Calveret, 27, of Excelsior Springs. "We were excited enough to catch that 98-pounder. "Then we go to the spot where we had put some bank lines out, and we caught a 67-pound flathead."

"I don't know what was going on that day, but the big ones were feeding. Those were two fish of a lifetime on one trip."

Not bad for a guy who was fishing the Missouri River for only the second time.

"I had been trying for the last three years to get a big one, but I couldn't get past 20, 25 pounds," Calvert said. "I had fished at Truman before that and we would always catch fish. But we could never bring a big one in."

That changed when Calvert went with a friend who has a veteran at fish the Missouri River. By the time Calvert went out, he knew to set his trotlines on the current side of the wing dikes and to use large Koi and green sunfish, for bait.

When Calvert and Gilmore pulled up to the trotlines, they knew something big had taken one of the baits. The line was headed straight up river instead of downstream.

"When we got that fish in, it took up a lot of the boat," Calveret said.

Little did he know that the boat was about to get a lot more crowded. When they pulled up to the bank lines, one of the poles was bent sharply.

They pulled the big flathead to the surface, and suddenly had two big passengers in their boat. By the time Calvert had the

fish weighed, they were already tourist attractions. Friends came by to gawk at the fish and dream of the day they would catch something like that.

"That was the trip of a lifetime," Calvert said. "You just don't catch two fish like that on the same day."

Smith and his family also experienced the trip of a lifetime in early June when they went set trotlines near the point where the Osage River joins Truman Lake.

With his mother Gladys, daughter Caitlyn and son Carter in the boat, Clay was trying to bring back some of the magic of his youth.

"My uncle Duke would always take me out and we would set lines on the Osage, near where he farms," said Clay, 35, who lives in Moberly. "I remember him catching some huge catfish, and he taught me a lot about how to do it."

"Still, I hadn't caught anything better than 35 pounds. I knew they were in there, but I hadn't caught them."

Smiths luck changed when he pulled up to his trotline and saw

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Independence Day Deadlines

The following deadlines will apply:

Thursday, July 5 newspaper	5 p.m., Friday, June 29th
Friday, July 6 newspaper	5 p.m., Monday, July 2nd
Saturday, July 7 newspaper	5 p.m., Tuesday, July 3rd

There will be no newspaper on Wednesday, July 4, 2012.

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan will be closed Wednesday, July 4th, for the Independence Day holiday.

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