

From: [Doyle, Wyatt](#)
To: [Jacobson, Robert](#); [Colvin, Mike](#)
Cc: [Steven Krentz](#); [Dane Shuman](#); [Gerald Mestl](#); [Jason Goeckler](#)
Subject: Re: Pallid Sturgeon Population Assessment Project Version 2.0 workshop
Date: Thursday, February 02, 2017 11:45:43 AM
Attachments: [Doyle et al Shovelnose Gear Evaluation.pdf](#)

Rob and Mike,

Thanks for the monitoring workshop invite.

I think it would be valuable to have some information leading into the Monitoring strategy session and provide some suggestions below that could be easily looked at by Mike or others.

I don't recall the initial review of our monitoring program examining the different mesh panels of gillnet for effectiveness based on a targeted size class. You probably don't know that in the infancy of the program and for about 6 years we kept track of each panel of mesh 1.5, 2, 3 and 4 inch. It was denoted as GN81 or GN18 depending on which end went first. I was reminded recently of what others knew before I got here when I went through our shop's old nets and found the early 1990's nets were all 1 to 1.5 inch bar. I would suggest that the PSPAP data could be pinged to look at the power of using smaller mesh to detect early recruit (juvenile pallids). If we simply built a 200 foot net of a targeted mesh, our power would quadruple without additional effort. The 4 inch was useless for pallid sturgeon and 3 inch usually captured only the bigger pallids. Gillnets can also be built with higher hanging ratios to make them more "sticky" and get a wider size range of fish as well as hold more fish before they collapse. They can also be built with trammeling to give them structure in the current or hobbled to target sturgeon (commercial guys to do this). It is likely we could build gillnets that would be much more efficient towards our goals. Attached is my assessment of the gear types for a long time ago.

Wyatt

On Thu, Feb 2, 2017 at 8:58 AM, Jacobson, Robert <rjacobson@usgs.gov> wrote:

All,

Because of your expertise, experience, and interest you are being invited to a workshop intended to help reinvent the Missouri River Pallid Sturgeon Population Assessment Program - what we are calling PSPAPv2.0. The workshop is scheduled for March 21 at the Lied Arbor Day Lodge, Nebraska City, Nebraska. This is the day before the main sessions of the 2017 Missouri River Natural Resources Conference.

The PSPAP is being realigned and reinvented in conjunction with the new Missouri River Management Plan and EIS, including the new adaptive management plan. The intent is to improve support for decision making related to river management, recovery actions, and avoiding jeopardy to the species. This is an opportunity to apply your expertise to the evolution of this important monitoring program.

Additional information is in the attached document. Prospective attendees will be asked to do a fair amount of preparation for the workshop and there will likely be requests for follow-up input as the re-design process progresses.

Please respond to me by email about your availability or if you have any questions. Strong attendance at the workshop is essential to the quality of the re-design effort so I encourage you to save the date and plan to attend.

On behalf of the Missouri River Pallid Sturgeon Effects Analysis Team,

Robb Jacobson

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