



Illini Muskies Alliance

Thanks to the support of the Illini Muskies Alliance organizations, Muskies, Inc. and the Hoosier Muskie Hunters chapter of MI, the IMA is pleased to announce that we were able to present Curt Wagner, the biologist in charge of the Green Gene Project, a check for \$9,000 for the purchase of 750-10.5+ inch long Leech Lake strain muskie fingerlings. The fish were stocked into Lakes Mingo, Pierce and Sam Dale on November 30, 2007.

Project Green Gene is a 10 year research study to determine the best genetic strain of muskie to stock in Illinois and will help to determine the management stocking strategies for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for years to come. Some of the goals of the study will compare survival and growth of the various strains throughout Illinois, which will also aid management of similar lakes in the surrounding states.

This year, Leech Lake strain fingerlings were not available, so the IMA was asked for financial assistance to purchase fish from a private source. The fish are vital to the continuation and integrity of the study. Curt Wagner personally thanked each of the contributors on behalf of the Illinois Natural History Survey, Illinois Department of Natural Resources and University of Illinois, NRES Department.

The IMA is a statewide organization dedicated to the improvement of the muskie fishery here in Illinois. The membership of the IMA consists of all of the muskie fishing clubs and other interested organizations in Illinois. Thanks to the generous donations from the following organizations, the study was able to continue.

Chicagoland Muskie Hunters, Chapter of MI
Flatlanders, Chapter of MI
Fox River Valley, Chapter of MI
Hoosier Muskie Hunters, Chapter of MI
Illinois Musky Tournament Trail
Lake Shelbyville Muskie
Muskies, Inc.-Gill Hamm Research Grant
Quad County Hawg Hunters, Chapter of MI
Shawnee Muskie Hunters, Chapter of MI
South of the Border, Chapter of MI
South Side Muskie Hawks, Chapter of MI

On behalf of the IMA, I'd like to thank the donators.

Sincerely,

Ray Thompson
Chairman, IMA