2019 Great Lakes Fisheries Heritage Trail Conference
>> Bay City, Mich. >> October 16-17, 2019 >>

“Exploring New Fishing Grounds”

**Wednesday, October 16th**
Exploring Bay City (Wenonah Park, 111 Center Ave.)

12:00 noon  **Registration and networking picnic** (provided) at Wenonah Park (located downtown Bay City, on the river).

2-3:30  **Community Tours** - exploring history, fishery heritage, and interpretive efforts (and future ideas and opportunities!): Historical Museum, Planetarium showing, and exploring vessels on the water (Bay Sail).

   2 p.m. – **Historical Museum of Bay County**: open to public all Afternoon; guided tour with staff begins at 2 p.m.

   3 p.m. - **Planetarium Showing**: “Mysteries of the Great Lakes” ($3/person – pay for ticket at registration table)

4:00 p.m.  **Bay Sail river cruise** – learn about *Science under the Sail* education programs with local Bay Sail organization.

6:00 p.m.  **Dinner** (on your own)

7:00 p.m.  **Business meeting** of Great Lakes Fisheries Heritage Consortium (open to all, following dinner location TBD)

**Thursday, October 17th**
DNR Saginaw Bay Visitor Center (3582 State Park Dr.)

GREAT LAKES FISHERIES HERITAGE TRAIL
*Exploring New Fishing Grounds*

7:30-9 a.m.  Registration and Networking

9:00 a.m.  **Welcome**, introductions, and opening remarks – Brandon Schroeder, Mich. Sea Grant

9:30 a.m.  **Panel 1: Bay City History and Fisheries Heritage**

   ● *Laura Ogar, Bay County Environmental Affairs and Community Development* – local government perspective

Updated 9.24.19
● **Samuel Fitzpatrick, Bay County Historical Society** – fisheries as part of Saginaw Bay’s rich maritime heritage landscape.
● **Todd Williams, Bay Port Fish Company** - values and traditions of fish and fishing in Saginaw Bay (past, present, future), a local fisherman’s perspective
● **Randy Terrian, recreational fisheries** - exploring the diverse, all-season values of recreational and charter fishing in the Saginaw Bay.

**Coffee Break**

10:45 a.m.  **Panel 2: Strategies for researching, documenting local fisheries stories**
- **Stewart McFerran, Journalist** – finding the angle, capturing the story – a journalist’s insights?
- **John Caplis, Alpena High School Science in the Sanctuary Class (via video)** – engaging students in researching and writing about local fisheries heritage stories
- **Jim Johnson, Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan** - gathering oral histories and video to capture knowledge and stories from local fishing families
- **Library of Michigan (invited)** - accessing, leveraging your libraries as research and documentation partners

**WEBSITE OPPORTUNITY**

**Noon**  Networking lunch (tours of Bay State Park Visitor Center)

1:15 p.m.  **Keynote speaker:**
*Dave Fielder, Dept. of Natural Resources, Fisheries Research*
Saginaw Bay fishery values and uses, challenges and opportunities

2:00 p.m.  **NPS boat documentation project (Justine Christianson, Ntl. Park Service)**
- Learn about a new HAER project opportunity to document Great Lakes Fishery Resources
- Explore values, ideas and opportunities for this project among our network
- Share, discuss ways in which we can support and partner in this project

3:15 p.m.  **Final remarks**

3:30 p.m.  **Adjourn and safe travels**

**Post Conference Opportunities:**
**Staying in the area a bit longer?** Let’s keep exploring!

- **Water treatment plant** – a future interpretive fishing village for Bay City? Visit, hear their ideas, share your ideas (located near Saginaw Bay Visitor Center).
- **Bay Port Fish Company** – visit and tour Bay Port Fish Company’s facilities and fish market (approx. 45 minute drive to Bay Port from Bay City).