

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION Missouri River Field Station

15302 LIV 2386, Chillicothe, Missouri 64601

2011 Pallid Sturgeon Broodstock Collection Call for Volunteers

The Missouri Department of Conservation is seeking volunteers to assist in the collection of pallid sturgeon broodstock in the Missouri River from Craig, MO to Glasgow, MO. This year's effort is scheduled from Monday April 4th through approximately Friday April 22th (including the weekends). We are seeking volunteers to assist in deploying and retrieving trot lines and processing large numbers of fish.

Currently, we have enough boats and sampling gear to outfit four collection crews. Although we can commit a substantial amount of staff time for this effort, we do not have enough workers to outfit all of the boats for this three-week effort. We are seeking able-bodied, enthusiastic volunteers to participate in this effort and help us maximize this effort. We will have two experienced staff members per boat so familiarity with the gear is not a prerequisite. Each crew will be running 8 to 10 trot lines in the morning then rebaiting the hooks (320 to 400 hooks) for the next day's efforts.

Bottom Line: We are looking for volunteers to help in the 2011 broodstock collection effort in the reach of the Missouri River from Craig, MO to Glasgow, MO. We are seeking persons that can work one, two, or more days. A typical day usually runs from about 8am – 5pm and consists of pulling trot lines (usually around 400 hooks), rebaiting the hooks with nightcrawlers, and then resetting the lines. Volunteers would need to bring their own raingear (you will want some protection from water/ fish slime even if it is not raining), watershoes/ knee boots, and a lunch. We will provide lifejackets, drinking water, sunscreen, and a fun day on the river!

Volunteers can either meet us at our Chillicothe office at 15302 LIV 2386, at our St. Joseph office at 701 James McCarthy Dr., or at their assigned boat ramp. If you would like to assist, please specify which date(s) you would be available, along with the general area you would like to meet us (see list of four general areas by boat ramps below). I would like to have this information by March 25th so I can get a schedule together and out to everyone by March 31st. Field work is based on weather and river conditions, so day-to-day cancellations may happen. Due to our safety policy, you must be covered under your own workman's compensation.

Upper Ramps: Craig, Rulo (NE), White Cloud (KS), Forest City, Amazonia, St. Joseph, Rushville

KC Area: Atchison, Leavenworth, Kansas City (KS), Liberty Middle Ramps: Cooley Lake, Sibley, Napoleon, Lexington Lower Ramps: Waverly, Miami, Brunswick, Dalton Bottoms, Glasgow

TO VOLUNTEER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Kyle Winders- <u>Kyle.Winders@mdc.mo.gov</u> (660)646-6122 ext. 247 OR Darby Niswonger- <u>Darby.Niswonger@mdc.mo.gov</u> (660)646-6122 ext. 248