Wood, Water, and Wildlife: Connecting the Dots

Jim Dexter, Chief

DNR Fisheries Division

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Michigan's World-Class Forests and Waters

- 20 million acres of forests
- 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, 11,000 inland lakes and tens of thousands of miles of rivers and streams

Healthy forests, healthy fisheries

- 80% of U.S. freshwater originates in forests
- Forests cover 34% of U.S. land; 56% of Michigan land

Wood is Good!

- Healthy fisheries rely on:
  - Clean water
  - Wood recruitment
- Wood provides:
  - Habitat
  - Grade Control
  - nutrients

Trees help streams!

- Trees:
  - filter water/reduce pollution
  - reduce erosion
  - Minimize the effects of flooding
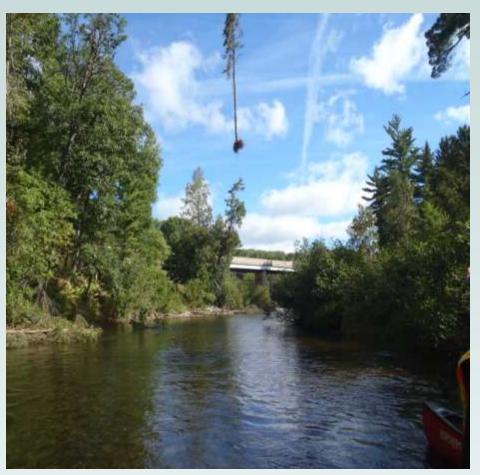 - Maintain habitat—shade, food, cover, enrich oxygen levels

Public land

- Fisheries biologists and foresters already work together on public land
  - Compartment reviews
  - Habitat improvement

Tree Drops

- Working together on the Au Sable
  - Lack of recruitment
  - Lack of habitat
  - Lack of channel diversity
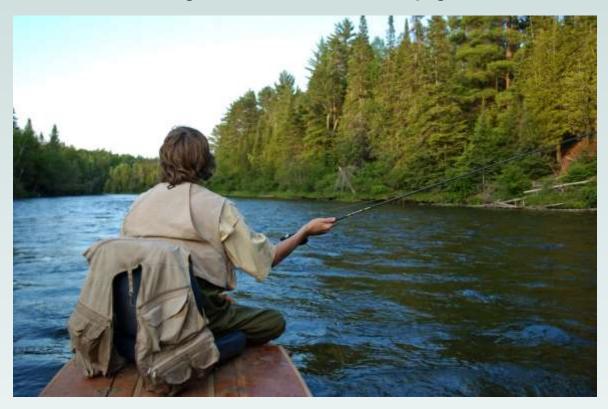 - Overall lack of!!

Private land

- How can biologists and foresters work together on private land?

Economics and Scale

- Commercial fishing: $12 million/year

- Sportfishing: $2.4 billion/year

- Forest Industry: $20 billion/year

We need to pay attention to: Fish Habitat and Land Use

- Urban land use

- Agricultural land use

- Forest land use

We need to pay attention to:
Fish Populations

What species are:

- Declining?
- Stable?
- Increasing?
- T&E species
- Extirpated species

Fish Habitat

- Stream or lake
- Water quality
  - Sediment
  - Temperature
- Structure

Final Harvests

Thinnings

Ruts

Stream Crossings

Regeneration

- Healthy forests provide quality fish habitat

Public Trust
&
Our Responsibilities

- Natural resources are reserved for public use
- Protect, maintain, and improve the resources

Thank You for Everything You do!