GOT' ICE?

I AM A PANFISH PANZIE

THE MIGHTY PREDATOR PIKE

MIRROR RIGGING

Esox Lucius per GLACIES

Plus More Great “Stuff” Inside!
I'm so freakishly excited because it's just about that time; time for pan-fishing slabs once again through the ice! I've said it before and I'll say it again, "I've been a bluegill bum since the day I was wiggling my willie! There is no fish that I can think of that's flesh is so sweet, flaky and firm, yet so rewarding and for the most part, relatively easy to catch!"

Well I'm sorry to crash the party, but we all know that (easy) is an understatement come midwinter. Those once before feisty little freshwater piranhas sure can stubborn-up like an old mule come mid-season. Mid, meaning that inevitable time of waning oxygen levels and loss of green to brown weeds.

Most of us know through experience; what worked well for us on first ice really isn't going to work as well throughout the remaining winter. Although lots of folks will continue fishing the same way, they will be hard-pressed to continue catching our most sought after panfish; the crappie, bluegill and yellow perch.

When it comes to midwinter, the fishing will get tough without a doubt, especially with a long season ahead and even more so on those shallow bodied waters. When it's time to get down to business, you are going to have to finesse your way to get those fish to commit.

My old stomping grounds, known as “the middle grounds” are just outside the Bass Haven cut on Lake St. Clair in Mitchell's Bay, Ontario and where all my sparkling teenage ingenuity was tinkled with. It was here that I first discovered sight fishing. It didn't take long to figure out what the guys laying belly down on the ice were doing especially with parka hoods over their heads. These were the fellas who always had fish flopping around them on the ice. They were always a distance away from one another and especially the main crowd.

As a teenager, I saved all my newspaper route tips and got myself into one of those Dave Genz flip-over Fish Traps for the following season. Now I was sight fishing comfortably in first-class. I've learned a great deal about panfish just by watching them respond to various baits, lures and presentations. Of course, sight fishing had its limits to depth and water clarity but when the ice-fishing world was introduced to those first underwater Aqua-Vu cameras... well, I got me one of those to and into the deep I wandered.

You can't catch fish if you can't find fish, so being mobile is extremely important. Now that doesn't mean drilling a hundred holes and hopping around like a little squirrel scavenging for nuts. You must give each hole sometime to be fished. What it means is keeping an open mind to know when it is time to move, and your gear preparedness. If it takes you 10 minutes to pack up and move your butt, then you're not likely to move too often, are you? If it takes less than 2 minutes to grab your gear and slide over 20 yards or a mile... You're mobile. You will be more inclined to make many more moves and stay on fish then you would if you weren't mobile ready.

(Continued on page 4.)
Toronto Sportsmen’s Show

MARCH 18-22, 2020
International Centre, Mississauga

FISHING
HUNTING
BOATING
OUTFITTERS
TRAVEL
OUTDOORS

SHOP
TRY & BUY

Show Hours
10 A.M. to 7 P.M. - Wed. 18, Thurs. 19, Fri. 20, Sat. 21
10 A.M. to 5 P.M. - Sun. 22

FREE PARKING
FREE ADMISSION FOR KIDS*

TICKETS NOW ON SALE at TorontoSportsShows.ca

*FREE ADMISSION FOR KIDS 12 years and under when accompanied by an adult:
A Line From “Big” Jim

ICE, ICE & MORE ICE BABA!!!

Super excited about this issue as it offers such an intense blast of incredible ice fishing information, which is sure to help you get bit... From technique specifics to understanding the many applications of certain lures, we’ve got you covered.

We’ve got the original wild man Mike Borovic aka the Panfish Panzie on our pages for the very first time and he will not disappoint. Pencil are by far the easiest fish to contact under the ice and we have gone to a pile of experts to be sure you get bit this winter regardless of where you endeavour to fish.

It’s hard to imagine that just 20 years ago ice fishing was sitting in a wooden hut with your buddies and a few beverages. Now it is very serious with huge amounts of money invested to help you stay warm and be comfortable, while using some of the most advanced recreational electronics on the planet.

By the time you read this, the 3rd annual Canadian Ice Expo will have taken place in Barrie and by all indications it is going to be packed the whole weekend with newly emerged ice freaks and experienced ones alike. It is an event like this that really support the phenomenal growth in this portion of the industry that has taken place. Ice anglers have become a real force.

As the winter wears on we will also be scheduling several of the very successful HT Ice Tour events throughout southern Ontario and maybe even a bit further north, time permitting. These events are well attended and will be heavily publicized within social media as well as the venues they will take place at.

As always I have to urge you to put safety in the number one position and keep it there all winter folks. It’s really easy to stay safe with the use of a spud and ice picks around your neck when you hit the ice, and not in your tackle bag! Fish safe now....

“Big” Jim

IN THIS ISSUE

SPECIAL FEATURES

I Am A Panfish Panzie!..................2
The Mighty Predator Pike.............10
Head to the Basin for Giant Panfish....18
Jacks are Wild—Especially for Jumbos.28
Mirror Rigging......................32
Fisheries Assessment & Management.36
Esox Lucius per GLACIES............42
Ice Fishing 2020.....................44
Jigging Minnow Resurgence............50

DEPARTMENTS

A Line From “Big” Jim..............4
Target Walleye Report..............24
In The News.........................30
For the Love of Cooking................40
Classified & Community Events........54
Tubman’s Tips & Techniques...........55

Unsolicited articles are accepted and will be considered for publication provided they are original and have not appeared in other publications.

Publisher
“Big” Jim McLoughlin
Managing Editor
Tammy Wight
Contributors
Gord Pyzer
David Chong
Steven J. Cook
Tim Allard, Cameron Tait
Yonne Brown, Jeff Gustafson,
Mike Borovic, Jeff Matity
Box 214
Sedley’s Bay, ON KOH 3N0
Phone: (613) 387-8735
Email: info@justfishing.ca
www.justfishing.ca
All Rights Reserved
Reprinting or reproduction in whole or in part is forbidden, except by written permission of the publisher.

GET READY
Summer days will be back soon

ALUMACraft

FISHING

EXPLORING

CRUISING

PLAYING

Why → EVINRUDE

BEST IN-CLASS TORQUE
With 36% more torque than any competitive four-stroke outboard, the Evinrude E-TEC G2® delivers the most torque in its class. That’s the power of direct injection two-stroke technology.

LOWEST EMISSIONS
We don’t wait for Earth Day to be responsible. E-TEC G2 outboards produce less CO than any 150hp outboard on the market.

BEFTER FUEL ECONOMY
With an Evinrude E-TEC G2, you’ll spend a lot less at the pump because you’ll burn 15% less fuel than the leading four-stroke. That means more money in your pocket and more time on the water.

Visit Alumacraft.com to find your nearest authorized dealer.
Can you believe how many choices we have in ice rods today! When I was a young’un, you simply just made your own from the components of a previously broken rod. There wasn’t much in the way of an ice-fishing market; ice-fishing today has a much different feel and look to it than it did 40 years ago. Ice anglers were, and yet to some degree still are the DIY old schoolers of their own gear and we have come an extremely long way from the days of a wooden stick and cotton string.

A stroll through any well stocked bait store across the ice belt today will leave your head spinning. Rods today are manufactured and specialized to targeted species. We are in an era where there are literally dozens of companies, who are giving us a hundred different choices to choose from. With several quality hobby kits available, making your own custom rod is still an exciting option for many. It’s about having a rod that you have confidence in, your personal preference and your particular taste. So, if it’s the “Green Hornet” you’re after, then quit being a grumpy old man and get busy making one!

For nearly the first 20 years of my fishing life my favourite panfish ice-rod was a $6, 8-inch fiberglass ultra-light, cork-handled no-name. I matched it with a $2, (check out cash register counter top deal!) plastic bait cast, spooled with sewing thread. It might have been the “Green Hornet” but it too has caught more fish than John Gustafson has ever lied about!

(Continued on page 6.)

5TH ANNUAL LAKE SIMCOE CHAMPIONSHIP
ICE FISHING DERBY

FAMILY DAY WEEKEND

Sunday, February 16th, 2020

Proudly Presented To you by... CANADIAN TIRE KESWICK

1st Place: $10,000
$17,500 in CASH to be Won
Plus Extra Random Draw Prizes Including:
NEW Argo ATV!!

SIGN IN starts 6am
FISHING 8am to 1pm
WEIGH IN 9am to 2pm

Entry Fee $250 Per Team (2 People Per Team)

Register Online: IceFishingLakeSimcoe.com
Our desire is to put superior fishing gear in the hands of those who love this sport as much as we do. In doing so we are able to make good anglers great and make great anglers the best.

The Strongest, Most Abrasion Resistant line. Period.

The Thinnest, Most Sensitive line. For the lightest jigs (or presentations)

Special 100% Fluorocarbon formulated for Ice fishing.

Premium mono for quick hookups.

Mono for Cold Weather Flexibility.
I've never been much of a fan for spinning reels because it's inevitable, with a spinning reel you are going to get line-twist, which is going to cause your jig to spin, and spin, and spin and spin. Nothing turns fish off more than a spinning bait. And that is why I loved that little junk of a reel I had; because it stored line in a way that eliminated the line-twist. It wasn't even operational; it was just a thing to store the line.

In just recent years, there is no question that some incredible inline reels specific to ice anglers have been introduced and widely welcomed onto the ice. Some have free-spool capabilities and drag settings that are intriguing. The advantages of inline reels are far more superior to those sail-wire flipping spinners. Most of the time I'm using 2-4-pound test for yellow perch. When you get line twist developing in two-pound test line, the integrity of the line is compromised to less than the pound test rating.

I've taken a little step forward since the days of old and today I'm holding a 17-inch St Croix Legend mated with a Pflueger (fly-style) 101XLA reel for my pan-fishing. And the reason being is simple, it's fun to tussle jumbo Simcoe perch and the shorter length is easy to manage sight fishing in a small shanty. We've been together for a little while now and we're still in love. My other love mufins are worth some notoriety and when I'm in depths greater than 12' I'll make the switch to a Black Betty Free Fall by 13 Fishing or my Frabill 3.7.1. A quick internet search will reveal which companies are producing inline ice-reels for your shopping pleasures.

Now how many ice lures or jigs does one really need? Because there are thousands! And then another thousand to go along with that thousand. Whoa, there's a lot of darn jigs out there. Be careful when standing in the lure aisle... All those pretty colours and shiny things can make your head spin and cause fleeting blindness. I'm glad I'm not one of those guys. Don't get me wrong, I like to look at all those shiny things but I'm proud to say I only need what works and I barely have a handful of lures that I actually put to use.

However, my favourite for bluegills isn't even a jig or ice lure... It's a plain hook! When mid-winter gills get lockjaw silly on me, that's when I look to my go-to, and that is a #14 or 16 size hook tipped with a single spike for bait and that's it. That is my secret (please don't tell anyone). It works every time, all the time. It is so lethal it should be illegal! Even the most stubborn “bullgill” slurps up this morsel with no hesitation. You should see this thing dance, so tantalizing, literally just floats in the water... Makes me tingle from head to toe.

It is almost weightless and that is why you can't use anything other than sewing thread or the smallest of braided lines. This approach is a slower process as opposed to a weighted jig and best done within the confines of a warm shanty. This is what I call finesse fishing. Switch out the hook for a #10 or 12 and tip it with a Eurotackle original bloodworm or another similar plastic for yellow perch and see what happens. I dare you.

Just when we think we've seen it all in the way of new lures and techniques, of course a new lure materializes. Last year I spent much of the ice season with the world's smallest, lipless crankbait called the Z-Viber 1/16 from Eurotackle. This cute little guy is so versatile, it deserves to get wet. Works on soft-water and hard. I prefer to switch out the single hook for a #12 round bend treble and tip that with a Clevrdrift embryo soft head to give the fish something to bite on.

It can be said that panfish are the easiest to catch of any fish but we “ice bums” know that's far from the truth, because there are panfish and then there are panfish. ☺️

Editor's Note: Mike Borovic thinks like a fish. Literally born on the Detroit River/Lake St Clair waterway, where he has a love like no other for walleyes and a crazed obsession for panfishing. Occasionally on tv and as a contributing writer, he enjoys outdoor photography. Mike delightfully shares his experiences in order to assist educating other anglers. https://www.facebook.com/mike.borovic.eatmenverson@live.ca
60TH ANNIVERSARY
1960 2020
Vexilar

Flashers & Flasher Systems
Underwater Cameras
Accessories
SonarPhone®
Vexilar Wear

Vexilar, Inc. • 6667 West Old Shakopee Road, Suite 101, Minneapolis, MN 55438 • 952-884-5291 • www.vexilar.com

Celebrating 60 years of helping anglers catch more fish!
The Mighty PREDATOR PIKE

By: Gord Pyzer

Back in the “crazy days” of the late 1970s and ’80s, I was so smitten with northern pike that I pursued the big toothy critters with total abandon throughout the winter months. Truth be told, it was such a nonsensical obsession that if the drug of choice had been different, I’d likely be dead today.

But the drive laid the foundation and the fish taught me lessons that I’ve been able to cultivate and refine to this day. It helped immensely, too, that I was able to bounce some of my on-the-ice observations off some of the greatest minds in the science community. Some four decades later, we’re landing more and bigger pike than ever before.

LESSON 1 – An Ounce of Biology Beats a Pound of Tackle

I’ve used the analogy before, but if you remember the movie Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, you’ll recall the scene where the two outlaws are enjoying a carefree life of crime, wandering across the High Plains.

Then, Butch, played by Paul Newman, gets the strange feeling that the pair is being followed. He turns around in the saddle, scans the horizon with his binoculars, spots a lone horseman in the distance following their trail, turns to Sundance and asks, incredulously, “Who is that guy?”

The “guy”, it turns out, is Bill Pinkerton, head of the famous Pinkerton Detective Agency that later evolved into the FBL. At the time, Pinkerton’s Agency featured a simple poster with a huge eye and the caption, We Never Sleep.

In the parlance of Just Fishing!, it might better have read, We Never Stop Learning About the Fish.

One-hundred-mile-an-hour snow machines, high-tech sonar units, ultra-smooth ice augers, lightning fast tip-ups and the finest deadbaits money can buy will definitely help you catch more and bigger pike this winter. But if you don’t employ them properly, in the seasonally specific spots where big pike prowl, they will do you no good.

It is why I can equip you with every technological advantage, and then give Just Fishing publisher, “Big” Jim McLaughlin the barest of necessities and he’ll out fish you every single day.

Again, a quote from the past, from good friend, former colleague and former Senior Research Scientist with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Dr. John Casselman.

“It’s why I typically target Canadian Shield-type lakes at first ice, as soon as I can safely get out on them, and fish around moderately deep (20- to 30-foot) rock structures that most folks would associate with winter walleyes, yellow perch, whitefish and tullibees.

Indeed, I was originally targeting these other species when I stumbled onto the pike pattern. I reckoned the big toothy critters were eating the other fish, and still believe it to be the case. But things really fell into place when I lowered down an underwater camera the first time and saw the temperature of the water:

“Pike in the winter are very poorly understood,” says Casselman. “In fact, I’ve always said that we know less about what they do in the winter than any other time of the year. It is truly an unknown period of their life cycle. The more we learn about it, the more fascinating it becomes. What pike do in the winter is much more impressive than what they do in the summer.”

LESSON 2 – Take Their Temperature

According to Casselman, our winter pike fishing success is highly influenced by the temperature of the water, the amount of dissolved oxygen it holds and the quantity of light streaming through it. This undoubtedly surprises many ice anglers who mistakenly gaze out upon the frozen surface of a lake and see nothing but a void of cold, dark water.

It is anything but this.

For certain, you will not find winter water temperatures that approach optimal for pike, but then again, you won’t find mind numbing consistency either.

(Continued on page 12.)
TACKLE THE ICE

SEDONA®

HARDWATER FISHERMAN REJOICE!
Introducing the Sedona Ice Fishing Combo. Shimano has taken the Sedona, its long-time legacy reel, and paired it with our “next level” ice rod. From panfish to large walleye, this combo offers it all!

9 MODELS • 24” - 40” LENGTHS
LIGHT TO MEDIUM-HEAVY

fish.shimano.com
(The Mighty Predator Pike continued from page 10.)

It was a balmy 40°F close to the bottom and a near freezing 32.9 °F immediately under the ice and in the shallows. This is an enormous difference to a cold-blooded animal that can only regulate its body temperature and thus, its activity level, by swimming into warmer or cooler water.

It also helped explain, in part at least, why the late winter ice period is typically so spectacular.

Find a creek, stream or river flowing into a shallow weedy back bay or cove in late March and early April, and you'll discover amazingly tepid water and prodigious pike. The inflow is the hot water tap filling up the bath tub and the pike are your toes searching for the warmth.

**LESSON 3 – The Eureka Moment**

Take two otherwise similar lakes and the one with the clearest water will be the winter pike winner almost every time. Ditto, if you ice fish an extremely large waterbody. The clear water sections will typically excel.

I'll never forget connecting these dots independently and then listening to Casselman explain how he could regulate the activity level of pike in the laboratory with the simple twist of the dimmer switch controlling the lights. When he set the level between 300 and 700 lux, he could cause the fish to become immediately active.

Understand what I am saying?

Casselman could incite the pike to rise up from the bottom and become immediate visual predators, in a Pavlov dog type of response, the instant he adjusted the level of light. On the other hand, he could just as quickly put the fish to sleep by darkening the room.

I have a favourite pike lake I fish during the open water season that features heavily tannic stained water. For years it mesmerized me in the winter, typified by the day I spotted my tip-up flag fly and ran out to grab it. When I arrived, a pike was pulling out line so quickly and with such incredible force, the entire tip-up was bouncing dangerously up and down in the hole.

It was literally about to explode.

When I finally lifted it up and felt the line streaming out between my fingers, it was as though I'd hooked the caboose on a train.

I've landed pike in the 52- to 54-inch / 30- to 32-pound class but this fish was immensely bigger. When I tightened up on the line to set the hooks, they popped out.

Looking back on that day on the stained water lake, and the relatively few others when I was successful, I discovered that the sun was always shining brightly and there was never a time when deep snow blanketed the thick ice.

It was the eureka moment when the light bulb turned on in my head.

(Continued on page 13.)
LESSON 4 – The Dead Seas Scrolls

Living in Northwestern Ontario, amidst an embarrassment of pike rich waters, it will undoubtedly surprise you to learn that one of my favourite winter fisheries is a moderate size lake with crystal clear water that receives heavy fishing pressure during the open water season.

Truth be told, most locals refer to it as the "Dead Sea". I like that moniker because it dissuades winter claim jumpers.

What I’ve learned from the Dead Sea scrolls, however, is that while these lakes may be “fished down”, they’re never “fished out”. More importantly, northern pike are survivors, especially big pike and while heavy open water fishing pressure often removes a significant amount of biomass, it tends to be focused on the smaller and more moderate size fish. This means that the survivors have less competition for an otherwise expanding forage base, so they grow quickly and they grow big.

Now, I am not saying the ice fishing is easy, because it is not. But, if you don’t draw attention to yourself and hit the Dead Seas under ideal prime conditions – first ice, last ice, during mid-week, ideal weather conditions – and set up around the very best locations you can enjoy pike fishing that rivals the best fly-in experiences.

(Continued on page 14.)
LESSON 5 – Get Out of The Weeds

The two biggest mistakes a pike angler can make is, first, assuming the fish are always in the weeds and second, forgetting that seasonal patterns evolve.

Case in point: the open water fall interlude is a period of consolidation, when northern pike move away from the deep weed edges they have been frequenting throughout the summer months and set up around main lake shoals and points that break into deep water. If there is an associated ledge or feeding flat in the 10- to 20-foot depth range, so much the better.

It is worth noting, too, that this migration typically has nothing to do with decaying vegetation or a decline in oxygen. Instead, it is related to the pike following their white sucker, yellow perch and walleye prey to their deep water, late autumn and winter haunts.

Even more importantly, however, the big toothy critters are setting up to intercept and ambush the hordes of tublubes and whitefish that are shifting towards the shallow rock shoals to spawn.

I am betting you’ve experienced the almost non-stop big fish action that these late fall transitional rock piles can produce. So, here is my question: why would not you greet the ice fishing season around these very same structures?

Or, put another way, why in the world would anyone go back to the shallow weedy bays after they enjoyed such stellar action?

Understand what I am saying?

The transition between the fall period of consolidation and first ice is a natural ebb and flow. An evolution that often continues well after ice stretches across the lake. And it is the reason why, as I mentioned earlier, deep main lake rock structures are typically the best locations around, which you can start fishing when safe travel is guaranteed.

(Continued on page 16.)
ONE, TWO, ICE FISHING PUNCH

BLADE BAIT

10 NATURAL & GLOW COLORS
ONE-PIECE CONSTRUCTION
MUTLIPLE HOOK LOCATIONS FOR CUSTOMIZATION
1/32 oz & 1/16 oz SIZE OPTIONS
CHANGING HOOK DESIGN ADDS UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES

GUARDIAN GLOW
FIRE TIGER GLOW
GOLD
NEON PERCH GLOW
PEARL
HERRING
JOKER
SILVER
PERCH
GOBY

THE DRIFTER

6 COLOR OPTIONS
GIVE A LIFELIKE LOOK
SUPER SOFT, SALTED AND SCENTED

SMOKEN JOE
JUVENILE Goby
HALF A CADO
LAKE ONTARIO Goby
COLOUR X
GREEN PUMPKIN
WORKOUT
DIRTY WHITE

For more information, go to americanbaitworks.com
Freedom Tackle Corp & STH-Bait Co are registered trademarks of American Tackle Co. © 2009
The Pros use Cuda, now you can too!

(Continued from page 14.)

LESSON 6 – Get Chummy with Pike

If British angler, Nige Williams learns that someone has spotted a big northern pike, he says he will catch it.

Known as the Bounty Hunter for his relentless pursuit of individual fish, Williams has landed 165 pike in excess of 20-pounds – 21 over thirty pounds – and 2 that topped 40-pounds.

He says two ingredients have contributed to his success. The first is an almost exclusive reliance on big live and dead baits presented on quick strike rigs. He has caught only two pike over 30-pounds on lures. The second secret? Pre-bait your fishing locations.

“Few fish respond better than northern pike to pre-baiting tactics,” says Williams, who adds, “I can get them to eat hot dogs.”

According to Williams, the key to correctly chumming a location is doling out small chunks of food – suckers and tulibees are the ideal candidates across the ice belt – in a small steady stream, over several days, rather than one concerted effort.

Indeed, Williams says that big pike are so “programmable” that you have to match your chumming to coincide with your fishing time.

“A big mistake many pike anglers make,” he says, “is they pre-bait a spot in the afternoon for several days, on their way home from work. Then, they arrive on Saturday morning to fish it. But the pike aren’t there, yet. When you fish a spot at the same time you pre-baited it, you’ll find the pike waiting for you.”

(Continued on page 17.)
**LESSON 7 – Follow the Slush**

There is nothing I hate more than wading through wet knee-deep slush. But, if you fish shallow weedy pike lakes, especially lakes that are prone to winterkill, slush can be a godsend.

Dr. John Casselman confirmed the pattern many years ago and it has saved the day for me numerous times. But you need to know what caused the slush.

The weight of deep snow, for example, pushing down on the ice will often crack it, causing water to stream up through the fractures and mix with the snow on the surface.

Sorry, this kind of slush doesn’t cut it.

What is needed are mid-winter warm spells and melting thaws, especially accompanied by rain. The standing water on the surface eventually will find a crack in the ice through which to drain, or it will honeycomb the ice and filter down into the lake, giving the pike a much-needed blast of oxygen in an otherwise depleted environment.

And if you don’t think the fish will find it, consider that Casselman once placed a 200-foot long test net in a shallow study lake and caught over 300 northern pike crammed into the small area along the northeast shoreline that was receiving the bulk of the mid-winter sun.

So many pike were in the net that virtually every mesh contained a fish.

We have so many more winter pike lessons to learn.

---

**About the Author – Gord Pyzer:**


---

**The SWEDISH PIMPLE®**

**BRING ON THE HARD WATER**

Winter 2020
Midwinter can be a tough time for panfish enthusiasts. We face bitter-cold temperatures, thickening ice and snow, and increasingly elusive, uncooperative crappie, bluegills, and perch. Solving the midwinter panfish puzzle is possible however, if you know where to look. For my time and effort, deep flats and lake basins are the best locations from mid-January to the start of late ice.

**Narrowing Down Your Search**

If trudging offshore into the void of deep flats and basins sounds daunting, I won’t lie, it can be at times. What’s important to consider is deep-water panfish don’t swim around without purpose, like an oddball uncle who refuses to ask for directions despite being lost. Panfish location is linked to specific deep-water structures and forage. Here are structure elements to look for to find big panfish.

**Bars and Points**

A scenario unfolding on many lakes is as follows. In late fall, crappie, perch, and sunfish hold near healthy aquatic vegetation beds on mid-depth flats. Panfish gather near the greenery to eat baitfish, freshwater shrimp, insect larvae, crayfish, and other munchies. When ice arrives, panfish stay in these areas. Then, after a few weeks, they frequently move to nearby deep flats and basins, migrating along some type of structural edge. Find this route and you’ll find fish.

Points and bars are common pathways. What’s interesting is that upon arriving, panfish may continue to relate to the point or bar where it intersects deep flat or basin. Fishing around these areas is always a good starting point on midwinter outings.

**Steep Breaks With A Bend**

A couple years ago I attended a media event in Grand Rapids, Minnesota and spent an informative fishing session with multi-species expert and former Professional Walleye Trail pro, Scott Glorvigen. He showed me an ultra-finesse pattern using 1/32- to 1/64-ounce jigs tipped with maggots to catch daytime crappie from a soft-bottom basin during a horrible cold front. Here’s what I learned and, trust me, it applies to Ontario lakes.

The best basins are framed by shallow water. Fertile shallows create sediment and silt, and over time this debris gets to the basin floor, making habitat for zooplankton and other invertebrates.

Glorvigen prefers steep contours along the basin’s edge. Why? The biggest sediment deposits occur below a steep drop-off. The more debris, the more food for panfish. Makes sense.

A straight wall isn’t as good as one with an inside turn. The bend concentrates fish and delays their urge to wander. Glorvigen says crappie push zooplankton against these walls and inside turns. It’s not as fast-paced as walleye running bait, but it’s still a scenario of predators corning and concentrating prey in a confined space.

This doesn’t apply to just zooplankton eaters either. Crappie, perch, and sunfish love bends when feeding on scuds and...
ICE FISHING DERBY

SUBZERO ICE FISHING DERBY
January 18th, 2020
St-Andre d’Argenteuil Fishing Centre
340 Route du Long-Sault | Quebec | Canada
Lake of Two Mountains

FROM 8:00 AM TO 3:30 PM
$100 Per Participation Ticket

More than $60,000 in Cash & Door Prizes!

Prizes for Winners in the following categories:

PIKE
1st $3000 2nd $2000 3rd $1000

BASS
1st $3000 2nd $2000 3rd $1000

CRAPPIE
1st $3000 2nd $2000 3rd $1000

EVENT PRIZES BY:
Thanks to all who supported this event.

Contact:
St-Andre d’Argenteuil Fishing Centre
Martin Lavigne / Marie St-Denis
T: 450.537.3100
E: tournoi2019@outlook.com
other invertebrates. In fact, some of the best midwinter perch action I’ve had in recent years happened on a small lake in Calabogie. Fish were wandering back and forth along the bottom edge of a steep drop off and would stall and collect at an inside bend along the break. Banging a Rapala Jigging Shad Rap on bottom, then working it several feet off the floor had perch rushing in to eat like kids lining up for hot chocolate and donuts at a winter carnival.

**Dips And Bumps On Flats**

Uprisings and holes are other productive zones on flats. Depressions collect debris and sediment, which in turn support bloodworms and other invertebrates. Hard-bottom elevations, such as pea-sized gravel deposits or larger rocks and reefs, give baitfish, crayfish, and other forage places to hide. Food concentrates panfish in specific spots on dishpan areas.

Most depth changes also feature a bottom transition. This edge is attractive to panfish and gives them something to relate to on a flat. It’s kind of like how livestock huddle along fence lines and around trees in a field. Finding these edges and gathering spots is key to catching jumbo perch, slab crappie, and bull bluegills on flats.

Finding a depth change rewarded Rob Jackson and I during a panfish outing north of Kingston. Points and drop-offs didn’t produce fish, but our luck changed when we started jigging a small reef on a 30-foot flat with several ports panfish.

**Pro Tip:** Most lakes have a population of deep-water panfish oriented around humps and deep flats beginning in mid-summer. Even when the deep-vegetation-autumn scenario described earlier holds true, learning deep zones where brute panfish luck in open-water is time well spent in preparation for the ice season.

(Continued on page 21.)
Attractor Bait

A midwinter angler’s panfish box should carry many lures. Don’t leave home without 1- to 2.5-inch spoons, jigging minnows, lipless crankbaits and dough baits.

Big lures are great attractors. When setting through large, deep flats and basins, getting fish to reveal themselves is step one. Sure, you may not hook an inactive panfish using a large lure, but you can get its attention and coax it to swim over and reveal itself as a flicker on the sonar screen. Then you can switch to a downsized bait to tease it into biting.

Most days, 1- to 1.5-inch lures are best. Assertively jigging baits appeals to active fish. It’s also a good way to bypass passive panfish and appeal to the largest specimens. I’ve seen this play out many times, most recently in a small lake where a Rapala Ultra-Light Rippin’ Rap riled-up savage strikes from big slab crappie.

Getting rambunctious with a rattle lure, flashy spoon, or gliding bait can also activate a group of fish get them feeding. Bites come quick once fish get competitive. Unhook your catch quickly and get the bait back to the fired-up pack before they lose interest.

Subtle Soft-Bait Tricks

Finesse plastics teamed with ice jigs are other good combinations. While lead jigs are reliable, many anglers have switched to tungsten ice jigs. Denser than lead, tungsten lets anglers keep a compact profile but still “fish heavy.” Nowhere is this more important than in deep water.

I carry many plastics, but lately I’m sold on the fish-catching power of a finesse worm. Straight tails, like a Custom Jigs and Spins Wedge or Northland Impulse Bloodworm, work well when panfish are fussy. These tails are bite sized and have a subtle, swimming action perfect for finessing hits. It matches the profile of a bloodworm, a panfish winter food staple found in soft bottoms.

Another awesome bait is LunkerHunt’s Spade Grub, that has, well, a spade at the end. It gives the plastics a different action and vibration signature than a wispy finesse worm and can really rile up strikes. Keep in mind that panfish don’t need to be eating bloodworms for worms to work. I’ve caught plenty of crappie, perch, and sunfish eating scuds and other forage with this rig.

Bang the jig on bottom, then shake it while working it up the water column. Shaking the jig while keeping it just out of a fish’s reach works when aggressive panfish want to chase. When they’re neutral or inactive, tone things down using quivers, slow rod raises, and pauses to trigger bites.

(Continued on page 22.)
How Deep Is Deep

Deep is a relative term. Much depends on the water body. Twenty feet may be deep for panfish on a small, fertile, pothole lake. While crappie inhabiting a large infertile “lake trout” lake, aren’t shy to suspend over 30 to 40 feet. A fish of the flats, perch love deep dishpan areas in winter. Twenty-five to 32 feet is a common range on lakes 1 fish, but jumbos holding deeper is not uncommon across the ice belt.

A 1- to 1.5-inch tube is another favourite. There’s something about the slow, spiralling fall of a 1/32-ounce tube jig that big crappie and perch can’t resist. A white tube can portray a wounded-minnow. It’s also a stand in for a shad when worked with a twitch-glide-fall action.

A tube is also good at getting bites from bottom-feeders. Work it with short rod shakes mixed with pauses. This is especially deadly for perch rooting in mud and sand for food. Also worth some space in your tackle bag are plastic nymphs and micro creature-style baits. There are days when pannies can’t resist the multi-appendage flailing action of these plastics.

A couple winters back I had my eyes opened to how effective these baits are when Paul Vrooman of Ottawa put on a crappie clinic using a black Berkley Gulp! Hellgrammite on a mid-depth flat adjacent to a deep hole in a small, fertile lake. He worked the bait on and just off bottom using small micro moves and the panfish ate it like candy.

Reel ’Em Up with the Real McCoy

There’s no question real meat can save the day during a tough bite. Tipping a jig with maggots is a proven presentation for panfish. Reel regularly to keep the scent trail flowing. A small piece of nightcrawler can also be surprisingly scum-pot for cold-water pannies. Rob Jackson tipped me off to this a few years back. “You’re not going to guess what I’m catching these crappie on.” Jackson said as we drove to his secret crappie lake. “A jig tipped with a little piece of nightcrawler. It’s so basic, but I’m telling ‘ya they choke it.”

Low and behold, my friend and fishing guide was right again. I did put my own twist on the humble offering, though. While Jackson used a horizontal-style ice jig, I tied on a vertical, teardrop-style jig. We were pretty even in the number of fish we each caught, but I’ve seen teardrop jigs out-produce horizontal or 45-degree style ice jigs in scenarios involving fussy panfish.

Fishing a light teardrop in deep water isn’t a search tactic. Its fluttering action causes it to sink too slowly, but this is part of its charm for teasing bites once you locate persnickety panfish. If you don’t have any of these baits, they’re worth having. Consider them your midwinter panfish insurance policy. Custom Jigs & Spins Two Spot and JB Lures Candy Cane are examples of these jigs.

The jiggling moves noted earlier will catch fish when using live bait. But, when panfish are ultra-fussy, the best play can be doing nothing at all. Dead-sticking a jig just above fish displayed on the sonar will turn lookers into biters. The smell and taste of a juicy maggot or worm will do all the work for you, except setting the hook, of course.

Setting off into the void of deep flats and basins for nomadic crappie, perch, and sunfish is not for the faint-hearted. There will be days when the fish win the battle. While midwinter can test one’s resolve, the effort is worth it once you start icing portly panfish.

---


---

Top Grade Super Soft Plastics - Special Super Fine Salt Formula

X ZONE LURES

PRO SERIES

BASSMASTER ELITE SERIES PRO
BRANDON LESTER

TV SHOW HOST OF
FISHFUL THINKING
CHARLIE WRAY

PROVEN DESIGNS - PROVEN RESULTS

WWW.XZONELURES.COM

Winter 2020
RATTL’N VIBE MINI

The legendary Yo-Zuri RATTL’N VIBE Series has been a top seller worldwide for over 20 years. At 1-5/8” (40mm) and weighing in at 3/16 oz (5g), the new RATTL’N VIBE MINI is a smaller version of the Ratt’N Vibe™. Specifically designed to target all varieties of panfish, perch, walleye, crappie, pike, largemouth, and smallmouth bass for both open water and ice fishing. With its compact profile, fast sinking/swimming action on the fall, and fantastic color patterns, even the pickiest or most sluggish predators won’t be able to resist! As ice fishing techniques continue to be refined by anglers worldwide, the RATTL’N VIBE MINI is a sure bet! Available in 12 colors, there’s a RATTL’N VIBE MINI for every fishing situation.

YO-ZURI
FISH THE BEST™
Yo-Zuri.com
ICE FISHING PANFISH: INLINE VS SPINNING REELS
BY: BRETT MCCOMAS

We've come a long way from those wooden jiggle sticks your
grandpappy used to use in the darkhouse... handling in
panfish next to a wood-burning stove. Nothing wrong with that - but
if you're looking to up your game, there's a pile of new options for
hardwater reels.

So what's best? Spinning or new-school inline reels? We picked the brains
of a couple diehard ice-heads to get their scoop on the benefits of each:

SPINNING GEAR: There's a reason many old-school guys stick
with spinning gear for big panfish: It's worked for YEARS! Big-pannie
wizard John Hoyer is one of those fellas who loves him some
spinning gear on ice, so we tracked him down to get his take on
it all:

"Part of the reason I like spinning reels is the way I hold the
rod... I pistol grip, so the longer stem of a
spinning reel makes it easier to dial-in that
snappy cadence I like. Big bull 'gills pull hard... having a quality drag is
everything. I run a lot of the same high-end
spinning reels - size 10 Abu Garcia Revos -
I use in the summer (for panfish) on my ice
rods." Bonus points for getting a reel you can
use all year round.

A constant knock on spinning reels is line twist - Hoyer has a cheap
and easy way to combat it: "I'll change line a lot throughout the
winter, but I'll just swap out 50' or so at a time and connect "em with
a joiner knot. A little thing I do is to put a small piece of tape over the
joiner knot so the line doesn't get caught when dropping onto fish."

John kicks out a ton of incredible content and tips like this on his
Instagram and Facebook pages - for sure worth a follow this
hardwater season.

INLINE REELS: Essentially the little brother of fly reels, inline reels
give ice-heads a big spool that spits line out end-over-end. Biggest plus

Fish-head Adam Bartusek is a new-school ice junkie
who exclusively rocks inline reels for panfish. What he
had to say: "Having jig control on the drop is big for me.
On the inlines I use, you pull the line out... so if you see a
solid suspended mark on the way down you can stop your jig on a dime.
On some of the pressured lakes I fish in the metro, dropping too fast
passed fish can spook 'em... an inline slows me down in a good way."

Old-school inlines featured a 1:1 gear ratio, but a lot of new ones have
beefed-up gear systems. Adam's go-to -
the Clam Ice Spooler Elite - has a 2.3:1
ratio. This is a huuuuuge plus, especially
if you're fishing over deep water for
BIG basin dwellers.

Similar to John, Adam has a
unique way of gripping his reels: He opts for a more over-
the-top grip... keeping a finger on the blank at all times. "I use
this grip 100% of the time for panfish — inlines feel more
balanced in my hand."

More balance = better jig control... making those precise movements to
fool big, smart panfish.

CRAPPIES FOLLOW PLANKTON, WHO NEEDS A ROAD PASS, BRO'S PLASTIC MODS

Hit that magical window where crappies and zooplankton
collide can produce some seriously impressive results. It's all
about finessing your way onto their dinner plate and
doing so on their schedule.

Deepwater crappies can often be found following
the vertical migration of
zooplankton. Typically
we think of the "magic
hour" as being sunrise or
sunset, but it's important
to remember that sunrise can be as much as an hour later under the
ice - thanks to the lack of light penetration.

Increased light levels in the morning trigger zooplankton to
vacate areas higher in the water column and slide back towards
bottom. It's a similar situation
towards evening. Maybe you've
noticed the bottom 'lighting up' on
your flasher near dusk? Zooplankton
will begin to rise off bottom as the
light levels drop, and they feed
on microscopic plant-like organisms called phytoplankton. Mud
basins in the 22-34 ft range are where the magic happens.

Light line (no heavier than 3-lb test) and ultra-finesse tungsten
jigs are key for these filter-feeding crappies. A lure like the VMC
Tungsten Fly Jig has the perfect compact profile yet is still fishable
in deeper water. Basic colours such as straight glow, white and
occasionally black work great as Zooplankton are virtually

(Continued on page 26)
Already an OFAH Member?
Consider giving the Gift of OFAH Membership this season.

Membership is your Voice

OFAH PAPERLESS
$25

OFAH PAPERLESS plus
$33

All Memberships Include:
- $5 Million in OFAH members' outdoors liability insurance*
- Lyme Disease coverage & medical & travel expense coverage*
- 10 digital issues of Ontario OUT of DOORS. (Email address is required to access this feature)
- Member discounts* at Mako, TSC Stores, Honda Canada, BrokerLink and more. *Learn more at www.ofah.org

I AM CONSERVATION

ofah.org/membership | 1.800.263.6324
translucent. Working the lure fairly aggressively will help to call fish in, but subtle jigging movements that will seal the deal. Tip it with a Trigger X Nymph.

Hope this helps you catch more fish!

3 HOW TO CATCH LATE-ICE CRAPPIES YOU CAN’T CATCH.

May not seem like it, but it’ll be “late ice” before you know it. When the water starts to run back into the holes, panfish make a break for skinny water. Here’s how Jason Mitchell catches crappies you probably don’t even know are there:

Often those fish will be suspended just under the ice where they won’t even show up on your electronics. Too often anglers get in the habit of dropping their bait right down to the bottom and right past these fish.

Crappies may come in so high that they actually need to roll sideways to hit the bait to avoid bumping into the ice above. This is one of the best opportunities you’re going to get for aggressively-feeding crappies each winter.

Target these high-riders by fishing them from the top down — using a long rod to dip the bait just 1-2” under the ice before you move on, never needing to touch the reel in-between holes.

I like to fish horizontal jigs and longer-profile soft plastics this time of year so that they glide and swim like a small minnow vs quivering like an insect or invertebrate.

Slide the Palomar knot towards the jig — which goes against everything you’ve read. But causes the jig to really dart and slide out more on the stroke.

One of Jason’s favourites is the Clam Drop-Kick Jig. No matter which tungsten jig you’re using, it’s important to make sure they’re tuned, just like you would a crankbait in the open water.

Thanks for the info, Jason!

Visit — www.targetwalleye.com —
Consider signing up to receive FREE Target Walleye/Ice emails.
FEBRUARY 14-16, 2020

INDUSTRY ONLY BRANDS AND EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS!

ST. LAWRENCE CENTRE
MASSENA, NY

FREE PARKING!
FRI 1pm-8pm • SAT 10am-5pm
SUN 10pm-5pm

TICKETS
ADULTS: $12
CHILDREN 12 & UNDER: FREE!

MASSENAFISHINGEXPO.COM
Slab Grubbers have been the demise of many of Lake Simcoe’s famed “Jumbo” yellow perch!

By: David Chong

I know that it is only November but there is definitely a nip in the air from good old “Jack Frost”! Hopefully this means safe ice sooner rather than later. Ice fishing is what gets me through our winters up here. Luckily, I reside relatively close to one of the best ice fisheries in the world, Lake Simcoe! My favourite target species is the same as many of the countless ice anglers who descend onto Lake Simcoe ice annually, the yellow perch (Perca flavescens)!

Yellow perch are numerous on Lake Simcoe and as they approach the 12” mark and 3/4-lb., they earn the moniker “Jumbo”! Jumbo perch are not only a blast to catch and also delicious in the frying pan. On Lake Simcoe, which falls under the Fisheries Management Zone 16, there is no closed season for yellow perch. The daily limit under a sport fishing licence is 50 and under a conservation licence is 25. The possession limit is 100 for a sport licence and 50 for a conservation licence. There is no size limit but if you’re planning on making a meal of your catch, I find that the 9”-12” ones are the tastiest and easiest to clean or fillet!

The first key to successfully targeting these delicious cousins of the walleye is to locate them. Beneath the ice jumbo perch can be found anywhere from as shallow as 3 – 4 feet of water to depths of 40 feet plus. During a typical ice season, look for them shallow early on and then follow their migration out to greater depths. As the winter progresses then they will move back in shallower waters as they prepare for ice-out and their spawning season. Fundamental features to look for include hard bottom, vegetation, drop-off’s, rock piles, bottom transitions and of course, gobies!

Back in 2005, the introduction of an invasive species, the round goby (Neogobius melanostomus) changed the yellow perch’s diet drastically! What was formerly made up of shiners, crayfish, freshwater shrimps (scuds) now is made up largely of gobies! Where ever you can find the yellow perch’s preferred forage, which seems to be the round goby nowadays, you’ll find gobies!

If you’re not around fish then you won’t be catching any fish! Probably more so on the ice today than ever before, electronics are extremely instrumental in locating all species of fish and fish holding structure.

Today’s technology has expanded beyond my wildest imagination. Garmin’s Panoptix LiveScope, honestly has to be seen to be believed. It is Real Time sonar technology that can virtually show you the shape of the fish and help you identify the species. Absolutely you can go wild with these units and they are amazing but at the very least you should have a portable traditional sonar unit. Without a sonar unit, I don’t really even feel like heading out on the ice.

It is important to know that you’re around fish and Garmin’s Panoptix and Panoptix LiveScope units definitely make locating your target species easier. They will minimize the number of holes that need to be drilled. You don’t just see below your hole but also up to 200’ around your hole depending on the depth that you’re in. Being able to see fish around and beneath you allows you to make adjustments to your presentation in order to get them to bite!

If you’re around fish and aren’t getting bit, then it is time to change your presentation or offering. Sometimes it’s size, sometimes it’s colour. Other times you may just have to adjust the speed or totally change your presentation.

Of course, you can always tip your lure with live bait or apply a fish attractant like Liquid Mayhem to enhance your lure. Liquid Mayhem works extremely well with hard body baits because of it’s amazing adhesion properties. It is a gel scent and only requires a small amount to be effective. Crayfish, garlic minnow and shad are my favourite scents. Hopefully we’ll see a goby scent out in this lineup soon, then that will become my favourite! If you’d like to see a goby scent in the Liquid Mayhem, please let them know through their various social media outlets.

Let’s get down to the focus of this article – “Jack” spoons, which are my favourite lures for catching Lake Simcoe’s famed yellow perch. My “Jack” spoon of choice is the McGathay’s Slab Grabber. I do believe that “Jack” spoons originated out of Michigan and are based on very simple Russian spoons that were used for ice fishing. Made by Darin McGathay in Michigan, Slab Grubbers are probably the most popular artificial lures for “Jumbo” perch on Lake Simcoe. There is a wide selection of finishes, bead colours & sizes. Slab Grubbers are available in four different shapes, Diamond, Kite, Round and Fan! These shapes offer different fall and wobble rates. Diamond, Kite, Round and Fan is how I rate the fall rate from fastest to slowest. It is also the same order when I rate the width of the wobble rate from narrowest to widest! There are many factors to take into account when deciding what size and shape of Slab Grabber to use. The depth that you’re fishing in, the mood of the fish that you’re targeting, light levels and “Match the Hatch!” forage are all elements that you should take into consideration when selecting your spoon!

Aside from the various shapes, sizes and materials of Slab Grubbers there are also numerous different bead colours in a couple of different sizes. The combinations are almost endless so often your choice may come down to history and the confidence that you have in a certain shape, size, material or bead colour. I like to have a good variety of choices. My best suggestion is that you start with what you have confidence in and then make adjustments if they are not biting it!

Original Slab Grubbers are available in silver which is actual stainless steel and gold which is made of brass. They are available in 1-1/4”, 1-1/2”, 2” and the 3” Simcoe Slayer models. The new Drain Pipe series are made of a thicker heavier metal, which is silver on the back and gold on the inside. The Drain Pipes are only available in the diamond & fan shapes and 1-1/4”, 1-1/2” & 2” sizes. All Slab Grubbers employ a top-quality VMC hook.

If the bite is on or off, try changing something whether it be size, a shape with a slower fall rate and more wobble or sometime even just a
different bead colour can make the difference! Generally speaking, aside from the actual fall rate, I prefer a slower presentation. When fishing a “Jack” spoon less is often more – more bites that is!

There are a number of different presentations you can try! Lift and drop, then hold your Slab Grabber just off the bottom, basically deadsticking it until a perch grabs it. To check the mood of the fish, slowly reel and lift your Slab Grabber and watch on your fish finder to see how far they’ll follow. Retrieve your lure a few feet off the bottom and then again just hold it, quite often they will grab it while you have it deadsticked.

With the large abundance of the invasive round gobies in lakes like Lake Simcoe, presentations close to the bottom or right on it are usually really effective. Lift and drop, then just let your lure lay on the bottom. The perch will readily pick it right of the bottom. You can even lay your spoon on the bottom and shake it every so often, then just hold it there. You can occasionally pound your lure into the bottom creating little puffs of sediment, which mimics a goby.

Lake Simcoe is famous for its schools of “Jumbo” yellow perch!

Sometimes you have to draw the perch over to you so I always have a larger Simcoe Slayer Slab Grabber rigged up on a heavier combo and will “rope” it violently in order to attract perch to your hole. This involves ripping the spoon up & down as hard as you can. This creates a lot of flash and vibration which should arouse any curious perch in the area! This will often draw those hungry perch over to you, once they appear on your sonar, then you can slow down and fish for them!

I have had the pleasure of spending some time on the ice with the creator & manufacturer of the Slab Grabber, Darin McGathy! If you happen to run into him or any of our other American friends out on the Lake Simcoe ice, you might notice that they are using a very unique type of rod when fishing their Slab Grabbers. This rod is called an Arrow rod because it is constructed from an aluminum arrow shaft. The rod has a hook bent into it towards the rod tip. There also are a few guides and a couple of holders to wrap your line on. Darin’s set-up employs 12-1lb. test monofilament line and pinches down the barb on his lure, making his Slab Grabber barbless.

This obviously blows the theory about using light gear while fishing for perch out the door. There is no reel on these rods and they use a method called “wind milling” to deploy their lures, land fish and re-deploy their lures. It takes a little practice but once you master it, you can windmill a add a 6-lb. test Sunline FC Leader and a Stringeese Fastach Swivel to attach my Slab Grabber. It is very important that you always use some type of snap swivel with your Slab Grabber! Do not tie directly to the spoon as the sharp metal edge around the hole will surely cut your line.

Double your chances of catching “Jumbos” by tying out a “Donkey” rig which employs a Slab Grabber on the bottom and a drop shot hook above it. I like a #4 Stringeese Zero Twist Shot hook and will tie it anywhere from 6 – 15 inches above the Slab Grabber. As for the bait to be placed on your high hook, I use the HT Ice ScentZ shrimp or spikes which are scented and extremely durable! Your “Donkey” rig targets both fish on the bottom and ones that might be suspended off the bottom. It’s pretty exciting when you double up with two Lake Simcoe “Jumbos” on the top hook and one on the Slab Grabber. Image upwards of 4-lb. of Lake Simcoe “Gold” at the end of your line!

Pay careful attention to your top hook when you’re using a “Donkey” rig! If you hook a fish on the Slab Grabber and are not aware of your top hook as you retrieve it up to the hole, it can catch on the edge of your hook and cost you that fish. I’ve had days when the “Jack” spoon acts as nothing but an attractor. The flash and vibration of the spoon draws them in. They’ll show up on your sonar close to the bottom, then you’ll see the mark rise up and eat the bait on your high hook.

It is amazing how effective this simple lure is on jumbo perch! As simple as it seems there are many facets to this type of lure and its presentations. The importance of the bead, it’s size and colour should not be understated! As you can see in many photos of yellow perch caught on Slab Grabbers the fish usually has the bead in its mouth. How often have you seen this scenario where you are catching fish and then for some reason, they just stop biting? And yet you can still see them on your sonar unit, so you know the fish have not left. Often just changing to another Slab Grabber with a different colour bead will get them biting again!

Simply put, “Jack” Spoons such as Slab Grabbers are absolutely deadly on Lake Simcoe’s “Jumbo” perch! But if you’ve tried Slab Grabbers and are not having much success, my first suggestion would be to slow down and then to downsize! Jigging your spoon quickly may attract perch over to you but they may not bite. Stick up with a good variety at your local fishing tackle retailer and have a great hardwater season!

Fish Hard & Dream Big! Follow & stay in contact with us at: Facebook: @DavidChongFDDB, Instagram: @Fish_Hard, Twitter: @FishHardDave

Editor’s Note: David Chong is widely recognized as one of Canada’s top competitive tournament anglers. He is also an avid multi specie angler and is a strong advocate for affordable, accessible angling for all! David loves sharing his vast fishing knowledge and stories with anglers of all ages, beginners and pros alike!
Preparations are well underway for the 62nd annual Toronto International Boat Show, North America’s largest indoor boat show and everything that a Canadian boater needs, all under one roof. It all kicks off with Preview Day on Friday, January 17th, when the industry gets ready to showcase over 1,200 new boats and the latest in marine accessories; and consumers come out to get a first look at more than 100 new product launches that take place throughout the million square feet of show floor.

The Toronto Boat Show prides itself in annually presenting an engaging line-up of seminar speakers, experts, workshops, and new programming initiatives. A returning favourite feature is The Great Canadian Fish Tank 40-foot long aquarium is filled with 5,000 gallons of water and stocked with native Ontario marine life. Another awesome line-up of fishing experts and pros are ready to share stories and knowledge on a variety of topics ranging from fishing basics to tips on how to fish like a pro.

The World’s Largest Indoor Lake will host the Yamaha Fish Off where anglers of every age and skill level can participate, sign up on site to reserve your time with the experts. This “on the dock” interactive feature will improve or teach you casting skills in preparation for your summer on The Lake. The Kids Fishing Zone hosts a trout pond where kids learn how to catch and release live fish with the hands-on help of experts. There will be lots of prizes available to win so make sure to bring your young ones along! Along will all the educational fishing seminars and demonstrations, there will be hundreds of new fishing boats on display across the show floor.

Enjoy free admission for kids 16 and under, free parking on weeknights after 5pm, and sign up for the Captain’s Club to receive special members’ offers. Don’t forget to download the myShowApp to help you pre-plan, track exhibitors you visited, and find seminar schedules to make the most of your Boat Show visit.

WHEN: January 17 – 26, 2020
WHERE: Enercare Centre, Exhibition Place 100 Princes’ Blvd. Toronto, ON
TICKETS: Available online starting November 1st
WEBSITE: www.TorontoBoatShow.com
SOCIAL: Facebook Instagram Twitter @TorontoBoatShow

The 1st Annual Peterborough Tackle Swap & Fishing Show March 15th 2020

It is with great excitement that we announce that the Bowmanville Tackle Swap and Fishing Show that has taken place in the city of Bowmanville for the past seven years will now be relocating to a new location within the city of Peterborough at the Morrow Building within the Memorial Centre Venue and officially being rebranded as the Peterborough Tackle Swap and Fishing Show.

Due the size and growth of the show, we knew going into the 2019 show that we would have to find a new venue to better suit our needs for both vendors and attendees. After many months of searching we weren’t able to find something within the Durham Region to accommodate our needs for our date and we were quickly welcomed within Peterborough to continue the show platform there.

“We are extremely excited about this opportunity” says Leanne Carruthers who is the official show coordinator. “After talking to many vendors and attendees at last year’s show we noticed many of them were coming from the Kawartha Lakes Direction and this venue allows us to put our show in the heart of the Kawarthas, which is one of the mega meccas for fishing within Ontario. Now we can pull from the East, the West, the North and still the South along the 401-corridor making the show accessible for everyone”.

The Peterborough Tackle Swap and Fishing Show team looks forward to providing a fun family type atmosphere for all ages with Vendors selling everything to do with fishing.

You can check out more details on the event at www.peterboroughfishingshow.com as well as see a full list of vendors attending. Admission is $5.00 and the show will run form 10am-3pm.

Follow us on Facebook @Peterborough Tackle Swap and Fishing Show

Any interested parties can contact Peterboroughfishingshow@gmail.com or (905) 809-9682.

Save the date!

(Continued on page 31.)
NEW YEAR, NEW BOAT: The best place to find your next model is the Ottawa Boat Show

Boating season will be here before we know it, and as we look toward the year ahead, new models and trends are already emerging. Luckily, it’s easy to see them all in one place at the Ottawa Boat Show, where dozens of local dealers and retailers will bring their latest products under one roof this February 20th – 23rd.

For the deal-savvy shopper, a boat show is one of the absolute best chances to shop and compare for your next big purchase. While it can at least several days (if not weeks) to visit all the dealers around the region, the show makes this process much simpler. With all the newest lines, makes, and models in the same room, you can climb aboard dozens of options, talk to each dealer, and contrast the options all at once.

Whether it’s speed boating, fishing, or getting out with the whole family on a pontoon, the show allows each individual family to picture themselves in the perfect watercraft for their needs. Plus, additional products like canoes and kayaks, towables, gear, and services are also on display at some of the best prices of the year.

With special activities planned throughout the Ottawa Boat Show, visitors should plan at least a couple days to complete any shopping and enjoy the rest of the show. Families can look forward to activities geared toward the young boaters in the family, while fishing enthusiasts won’t want to miss presentations from pro staff and seasoned experts from across the country. A full seminar schedule and list of features will be posted to the show’s website soon.

The Ottawa Boat Show runs Thursday, February 20th to Sunday, February 23rd at the EY Centre.

Online tickets are available now at OttawaBoatShow.ca, along with all other important details.

---

R.A. Morrow Memorial Park, Peterborough, ON

1st ANNUAL PETERBOROUGH TACKLE SWAP & FISHING SHOW MARCH 15, 2020

TONS OF PRIZES

OVER 150 VENDORS

PETERBOROUGHFISHINGSHOW.COM
MIRROR RIGGING

High-Flying Decoy Manoeuvres for Big Perch

By: Jeff Matly

Visualize a picturesque lake in winter. Far below the surface, the cold, dark lake floor is quiet. Using their specialized swim bladders, now compressed under the extreme force of several atmospheres of pressure, perch are able to extract just enough oxygen from this balloon-like organ to foray, for a time, in the oxygen-starved basin waters.

Yes, an entire school of perch is spread out over the inky-black basin floor searching for crayfish, chironomids, tube-worms and other invertebrates buried in the pungent mud. The fish are keeping track of their position with respect to one another by feeling, at a distance, via their lateral line organ. In this manner, the basin floor is systematically combed and harvested of its abundant bounty.

SILENCE IS NOT GOLDEN

Then, out of nowhere, a commotion. A swoosh-swoosh followed by a smuck and then zing-swoosh-swoosh-grind, zing-swoosh-swoosh-grind, zing-swoosh-swoosh-grind. The school is alerted to what is perceived to be active fish feeding. All school mates in the immediate area converge on the target of sound, vibration and...flashing! Feeding frenzy! Bodies are flashing, the aroma of the disturbed mud and insects is all around and more greedy fish are in route.

Upon closer scrutiny, a tiny glowing figure, kicked up by the swirling current of the flashing body, is exposed and helpless. One member snatches the morsel. Game over! The perch is hooked and landed. The performance is repeated with perch after perch being triggered by the excitement and competition for the aquatic delicacies.

So, what was the cause of this domino-effect? Anyone who has ice fished a lot knows winter will test your skill, grit and stamina. Putting together a consistent program for any fish species can be tough. For nearly 40 years, one tactic that has produced for me whenever I encounter deep-water perch is what I call Dodger Fishing or “Mirror Rigging” and it is my privilege to share it with you here.

A proven multi-species decoy, I have not only caught perch, but: ciscoes, walleye and burbot. Even trout cannot resist the charm and allure of the “Rig”.

WHAT IS IT?

While no mirrors are deployed in the making of the rig, there are a few simple elements that make it work so well. But first, there are a wide variety of what are called “Search Lures” on the market today. Circa 1980, the first was the Pilki Spoon from Rapala, now replaced by the VMC Rocket Spoon.

Regardless of the vintage, each sports a small spoon and a tiny hook that are connected by an inch-length of chain. The homemade search lure, made famous by In-Fisherman Editor-in-Chief, Doug Stange in the 80’s, had a 2-3” piece of monofilament connecting spoon and tiny jig, replacing the chain. Either style presents a perfect marriage of flashy spoon, to plummet the baited hook to bottom, and delectable morsel with a measured amount of separation between them.

By comparison, the Mirror Rig might better be described as a “Search-and-Destroy Lure”. Again, the Rig is simple; no finesse here. The main component of the rig is a chrome plated, No.000 Luhr-Jensen dodger (very mirror-like) followed by a 9” piece of, what I prefer to be, hi-vis eight pound monofilament, which connects the dodger, and draws the attention to a 1/64 oz. glow-in-the-dark, #6 HT Marmooska jig sweetened with three maggots, a single waxworm or half of a jumbo mealworm.

THE SEARCH LURE VS THE MIRROR RIG

There are three main differences between the two. First off, the search lure’s primary purpose is to get a small bait (the tiny jig or hook) down to deeper water via the weight of the spoon. The spoon also adds some flash and vibration (perhaps like that of a single minnow) to help fish find the target. This is what the Search Lure does and it does it very well. They sink like a “rocket”, are stealthy in design and trigger fish in any depth of water.

The Mirror Rig, on the other hand, is much heavier because of the 5” dodger assembly.

(Continued on page 34.)
Gagnon Sports

Your Outdoor Superstore!

Durham Region's Largest Selection of Ice Fishing Products

Check Out Our Full Lineup of Huts & Accessories

OFFICIAL DEALER

Experts in Fishing, Archery, Hunting, Sport Shooting & Camping in Our Great Outdoors!

New Stock Arriving Daily!

385 Bloor St. West
Oshawa, ON
(905) 725-5798

www.gagnonsports.com

HOURS: Monday – Friday 9 am – 9 pm
Saturday 9 am – 8 pm
Sunday 10 am – 7 pm
Proper presentation of the rig is done via 10-pound test mono, spooled on a baitcasting reel. The steady, smooth deployment on the level wind spool behaves much like the tail of a kite and encourages the dodger to plane away from the hole. This results in maximum horizontal coverage each drop.

By comparison, the sudden spilling of line off of a spinning reel causes the dodger to tumble instead of plane, sabotaging the potential of the rig. The Mirror Rig excels in water over 20 feet; but, fishes effectively as shallow as 6 feet. It still sinks quickly but does that ever-important planing action that scoots off to the side of the hole allowing you to quickly fish a wide circular radius below each hole. This feat is what makes the rig so unique and deadly in deep water, decaying from a distance and consolidating scattered perch.

The final difference is the way the rig is fished. Unlike the search lure, that is fished vertically, with a hop-jiggle-pause; the Mirror Rig having been launched horizontally lands several meters from center. Then it’s “sweep-trolled” until finally resting below the hole. Hold it motionless, for a few a minute or so, before another launch.

**HOW DOES THE RIG DECAY PERCH FROM A DISTANCE?**

Let’s take a closer look. As the rig descends toward the lake bottom, its flat body hydrofoils off to the side, picking up speed and landing like an arrow in the soft lake floor. It sticks in the mud and sends off a cloud of scent and vibration.

A deliberate, three-foot lift and hold of the rod bursts the rig loose and gives it enough life to swoosh and shimmy its way above the bottom. This gives off a strong flash and vibration (perhaps not unlike that of a small group of foraging minnows or a single large perch after a meal).

Being a fair distance from the hole, it runs out of altitude and grinds its way to a halt in the silt, again, sending out a cloud of dust as well as dislodging delicate insect larvae hidden within their muddy haunts. Repeated lifts and holds continue the pattern of swoosh-swoosh-grind until the rig is directly under the hole.

Any perch following the rig either grab the tiny baited jig, as it sways seductively behind the dodger, or snatch the morsel as the rig comes to rest and is held motionless below the hole. This is the only lure I’ve ever used that literally combs the bottom for you, allowing coverage like nothing else.

**SKEPTICAL HUH?**

Most people look at me like I’ve grown another head when I pull out my yellow, 4-foot fibreglass rod and “open water” baitcast reel sporting this bizarre chrome-whirling contraption.

(Continued on page 33.)
However, when the conditions are right, it doesn't take long before their attitudes change.

Case in point, long-time friend and author of the popular book, Fishing Saskatchewan, Michael Snook, invited brother, Jason, and I to fish his lake at first ice. It was our first outing of the ice season and I always love Mike's company and stories. Well, I was to meet them on the ice and, of course, they already had a dozen big perch and two nice walleye in their buckets when I arrived.

The hot bite seemed over. So, while Jason and Mike plied the waters with finesse jigs, I pulled out my Mirror Rigging rod and focused on the perch potential of the spot. I started in the hole beside Mike where he had contacted a perch just as I'd arrived. I no sooner got the Rig to the bottomed when I felt a nudge and brought a chunky perch topside. I unhooked the perch, checked my bait and let it ride again. This time, I never even got to bottom. A cruising ciscoe snatched it on the way down, a welcome surprise.

Twelve perch and several ciscoes later, I was getting eyeballed big-time! Mike inspected this outrageous rig and tied one for himself. Now, Mike's does not readily subscribe to the "magic bait syndrome" and is very well outfitted with excellent lures, equipment and knowledge of his quarry. Having fished with Mike on several occasions had taught me that he is willing to try an alternate method if it means catching more fish! Catch fish he did and so will you if you give the rig a try the next time the shallow fish disappear.

Final note, fishing this deep-water pattern means high fish mortality due to barotrauma/the bends. The good news is that almost all fish bold enough to take on the mirror rig are keeper-size. However, if you find yourself blowing the swim bladders out of baby fish, please do me a favour and move down the flat 100 yards or more until you find some keepers.

Harvest selectively and when possible limit your kill, don't kill your limit.

About the Author: Jeff Matilidy
A Fishing Industry Professional for nearly 30 years as a Fishing Guide & Promotional Staffer, with Bachelor's Degrees in both Science & Education, Jeff uses his training in his job as a Fisheries Professional & Outdoor Educator (specializing in fishing via family business, GetFishing.ca) to reach out to anyone interested in learning about fish.
Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to figure out how many fish of each species are in that lake, their size/age/sex distribution, and their population trajectory.

And once you think you know what is in the lake, you have to figure out how it will respond to the round goby that was just introduced last year or to the shorter period of ice cover in the winter. Then you need to have some idea about fisheries mortality—fish that are harvested or die from catch-and-release. And you should probably take some time to listen to different user groups to understand their needs.

Don’t forget to consider legal obligations that require you to think beyond just the species of interest to anglers and other fish harvesters. You then need to take all that information and figure out what it means in terms of management actions (e.g., regulations, habitat restoration, education of resources users). If you can do all that, you are a fisheries assessment and management biologist!

On the surface, fisheries assessment might seem like an easy task but I can assure you that it is almost mission impossible. There is a common saying in the fisheries world: “it isn’t rocket science, it’s harder!” Nonetheless, there are fisheries professionals that try, on a daily basis, to ensure our fisheries are managed to meet diverse objectives (e.g., creating high-quality angling opportunities, enabling subsistence harvest of fish of ceremonial value by Indigenous peoples, protecting and restoring Endangered species).

But let’s go back to the field to better consider the enormity of this challenge.

Ontario is massive—larger than France and Spain combined. There are approximately 250,000 lakes and over 100,000 kilometres (62,000 miles) of rivers in the province. This is great for anglers but poses massive challenges to the fisheries assessment biologist. Ontario employs around 250 district biologists responsible for our fisheries resources.

Essentially this means that we manage for the “regional average” realizing that with any management action there may be some water bodies that “lose” and some that “win”. As an angler and taxpayer, you might find that frustrating but unless you want your government to spend as much (or more!) on fisheries as they do on health care and education, this is our reality.

The tools that we have at our disposal to figure out the composition of a fish community have changed little over time. We have Gill nets, trap nets, seine nets, electrofishing equipment, and fisher reports or creel surveys. Underwater cameras can be useful in some sites and there are also ways to use fancy fish finders (hydroacoustics) to census populations.

There are some new tools on the horizon. The University of Windsor in partnership with the University of Manitoba and Carleton University are leading a national research program to determine if we can use environmental DNA—pieces of DNA in water samples taken from a waterbody—to assess fish populations. Environmental DNA comes from cells (live or dead) that come from fish.

We are pretty good at being able to know if a species is in a water body but it remains a challenge with this new technology to figure out if there is one with one big fish or twenty small fish. Perhaps 5 or 10 years from now environmental DNA will be a refined tool but until then, we have nets and hooks!

We have also learned that anglers are complex! Anglers share information with
THE FAMILY DAY WEEKEND TRADITION

CANADA’S LARGEST FISHING SHOW!

OVER 100,000 SQ. FT.

FREE PARKING ALL THE TIME!

CELEBRITY SPEAKERS

PLEASE CHECK WWW.SPRINGFISHINGANDBOATSHOW.COM
FOR APPEARANCES AND TIMES

FEBRUARY 14, 15, 16 & 17, 2020

THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE - 6900 AIRPORT ROAD, MISSISSAUGA

BOATS

TACKLE

MEGATANK
PRESENTED BY CSFL

CLOSED DOOR SEMINARS

SAT. FEB. 15

MUSKIE SUNDAY

SUN. FEB. 16

CANADIAN PRO BASS TOUR ACADEMY

MON. FEB. 17

EXPERIENCE THE OUTDOORS...INDOORS!

KIDS TROUT POND • FLY TYING • CASTING LANE • RESORTS, LODGES & OUTFITTERS

ROCK CLIMBING • DAISY SHOOTING RANGE • ATVS • CAMPING & OUTDOORS • FISH CLEANING & COOKING DEMOS

www.springfishingandboatshow.com
Absolutely FREE with your first issue
You Will Receive
Receive the next 4 issues of $15.95 (US$) Delivered right to your door

Have "Just Fishing"

Low Subscription Price

The amount of surface water in Ontario is a blessing and a curse. There is a saying that the behaviour of the fish is potentially even more important. For years the fisheries management community has been trying to understand the behaviour of the fish. But now many recognize that the behaviour of the angler is potentially even more important. Thanks to technology, anglers now have access to various smartphone apps that they can use to improve their fishing experience. The keys to successful fishing are patience, practice, and persistence. When fishing gets tough at one location, the angler needs to be able to quickly shift fishing locations and patterns of fishing effort that can change rapidly. For years the fisheries management community was concerned with the amount of surface water in Ontario. The behavior of the angler is potentially even more important.

About the Author:

Dr. Coates is a professor of ichthyology at Carleton University (www.skelepot.com). He is also a Science Ambassador for the Canadian Museum of Nature. His research focuses on the impact of climate change on freshwater ecosystems.

The amount of surface water in Ontario is a blessing and a curse. There is a saying that the behaviour of the fish is potentially even more important. For years the fisheries management community has been trying to understand the behaviour of the fish. But now many recognize that the behaviour of the angler is potentially even more important. Thanks to technology, anglers now have access to various smartphone apps that they can use to improve their fishing experience. The keys to successful fishing are patience, practice, and persistence. When fishing gets tough at one location, the angler needs to be able to quickly shift fishing locations and patterns of fishing effort that can change rapidly. For years the fisheries management community was concerned with the amount of surface water in Ontario. The behavior of the angler is potentially even more important.
IT'S NOT LUCK, IT'S SCIENCE

Years of research have gone into creating the exclusive Berkley® PowerBait® formula. PowerBait tastes like food to fish, causing them to hold on 18x longer*. That means more time to feel the bite and set the hook.

* Based on controlled laboratory studies. Results may vary.
©2013 Berkley, a registered trademark of Plews Fishing, Inc.
Most times, the main ingredient in many recipes cannot be interchanged. The best thing about this recipe is that you can use steelhead, Atlantic or Pacific salmon, lake trout, even rainbow trout.

Steelhead is a fatty fish, and I don’t mean that in a bad way. Omega 3 Fatty Acids are a type of fat that our bodies cannot make on its own, it is an essential fat, simply put, we need it to survive!

SEARED STEELHEAD WITH APPLE FENNEL SLAW — (Serves 4)

Fatty fish needs to be paired with three ingredients to make it work: a citrus fruit, a clean crisp vegetable plus a little natural sweetness. When all of these ingredients are put together, you have a healthy and refreshing dish that the family will be begging for more!

INGREDIENTS:

50ml Duck Fat (or canola oil)
20-24 Young Potato
3 Cloves Garlic, finely chopped
Salt & Pepper
4 x 150-gram Steelhead Fillets
Kosher Salt & Pepper
15ml Canola Oil
15ml Pure Maple Syrup

Salad:
1/2 Red Apple, thinly sliced
125ml Fennel, thinly sliced
15 Sno Peas, thinly sliced
1/4 Lemon, juiced
30ml Olive Oil
Kosher Salt & Pepper

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350°F. Place melted duck fat or canola oil, potato, garlic, salt and pepper on a parchment lined tray, place in oven and cook till tender.

Prepare salad and set aside in the fridge.

Heat heavy fry pan on medium-high heat, add canola oil and wait for it to lightly smoke. Season steelhead and add to pan skin side up, sear till a light crust forms then flip over for 30 seconds.

Place steelhead on a parchment lined pan, brush with maple syrup and place in oven. Using a thermometer, cook until the fish is 140°F, remove and let rest.

Place potatoes on plate, add cooked steelhead and top with fennel salad.

Happy cooking!

Editor’s Note: Avid outdoors person, competitive angler, 2-time gold medal winning chef at the Culinary World Olympics and educator Cameron Tait truly loves being in the outdoors. Cameron is an active member of the Manitoba Wildlife Federation, Walleye Anglers Assoc. of Manitoba, Central Walleye Trail and on the Pro Staff team for Cabela’s Canada, Alumacraft/ Suzuki and Minn Kota Humminbird.

When not pursuing his passion for the outdoors, Cameron can be found surrounded by mouth watering food at the Paterson Globalfood Institute where this master chef shares his love of food with aspiring chefs.
B.J. TACKLE
Rice Lake's Fishing Tackle Specialist – A full Service Tackle Store for All Your Fishing Needs

WHAT'S HOT ON ICE

New Sienna Ice Combo
New Convergence Ice Rods
Jackall Deracoop
Eurotackle

SHIMANO

Jackall Cover Craw
Jackall Gavacho Frog
Jackall Archelon
Jackall Kaera Frog
New Power Pro Super 8 Slick V2
New SLX Rods & Reels
New Curado DC

SEE US AT OUR BOOTH AT:

QUINTE SPORTSMAN BOAT & RV SHOW
March 13-15, 2020

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
5103 Rice Lake Dr. Bewdley (905) 797-2632
As I come to accept that the boat is put away for the winter and the summer/fall fishing season is officially over, I actually start to get excited about ice fishing. To the onlooker, standing on a frozen lake on a cold, winter day and waiting for a fish to take the bait may make them shake their heads but, like many anglers, I believe ice fishing is a blast and just as exciting as fishing from a boat. There have been so many advances in electronics, clothing, baits, gear and vehicles, that ice fishing has moved to a completely new level. If you want to have a fun, be challenged and feel very rewarded – try fishing for “esox lucius per glacies” – pike through the ice.

Many anglers are re-purposing their smaller, low-profile baitcasting reels normally used for open water fishing, like the Shimano SLX 150, instead of using spinning reels, to help bring in bigger fish. Paired with a heavy or medium-heavy 28 – 36” ice rod, this combo will provide lots of power and decrease the time it takes to get the fish through the hole. For those that prefer spinning gear, a 1000 series reel is recommended although some anglers will use a 2500 reel from their summer season. New for the 2020 ice season,

Shimano has come out with longer ice rods in the Convergence and Sienna series as well as the Sienna and Sedona combos. Particularly good for fishing on the open ice, these rods are now available in lengths up to 42”. http://fish.shimano.com/content/fish/northamerica/en/homepage/FISHING_COMBO/ICE_COMBO.html

The good thing about pike fishing is they like to eat. They will strike virtually anything that crosses their path and they like “bling”.

(Continued on page 43.)
Your electronics come into play here because you can see, not only the action of your lure, but also the reaction of the fish as you move the bait in the water column. You will want to modify your presentation based on what the fish is doing and, because flashers are so quick to transmit signals back and forth, you will see this on the display in real time. You can slowly draw the fish up or down and see if any variations to the pattern can provoke a strike.

Manufactured by a Canadian company called Black Fox Fishing in Sault Ste. Marie, this ice rod holder can be set up and used in seconds. It’s easy to transport along with your other gear and the sensitivity can be adjusted to whatever species you are fishing. https://www.blackfoxfishing.com/

Using a tip-up or rod holder is a very slow presentation that sometimes closes the deal for a pike that is looking for an easy meal.

Along with being fun to catch, pike are aggressive predators that reach double-digit weights and are superior table fare, especially out of cold water. Ice fishing in general is a great social activity to bring family and friends together and, the more lines in the water, the greater your chances of attracting and landing a good ol’ winter pike.

About the Author: Yvonne Brown

Best known for Ontario Women Anglers and the Fishing 101 for Women program, Yvonne is a strong advocate for getting women and children outdoors and on the water. She is the first female to receive the Rick Ambury Award of Excellence.

Because we can use two lines during the ice season, I typically use one hole to attract attention and the other to present live bait. My preferred reaction bait is a Jackall TN60, which has proven itself time and time again, not just for pike fishing but for walleye and lake trout as well. The TN 60 is noisy, attracts attention, gives off a ton of vibration and looks like a wonderful meal for a hungry pike. Another new bait that Jackall came out with this year and I’m looking forward to using is the Deracoup Tail Spinner. This compact, shad-profile lure is perfect for vertical jigging and is equipped with a Colorado blade to create even more attention. http://www.jackall-lures.com/

Don’t forget to change your jigging pattern – sometimes faster is better than slower and vice versa. But, they may also be content in just watching it – kind of like window shopping – they are interested but they just aren’t ready to buy.

While the TN60 and Deracoup, as well as spoons and swimbaits on a jig head, are successful with aggressive pike and
I first attended the St. Paul Ice Fishing Show way back in 2005. This annual event takes place in early December in the Twin Cities and has been the biggest event in the ice fishing community for many years. I’ve only missed it a few times over the years because it’s such a fun show to attend. All of the manufacturers of ice fishing products are there and several retail outfits attend, kicking out the best deals you’ll find anywhere.

There was a quote that I heard back in 2005 that still resonates with me today, “Ice fishing is the fastest growing segment of the fishing industry.” Back then, shelters, augers, underwater cameras and flashers were all improving greatly, making it more pleasant to be on the ice and improving our success. Today, these products continue to improve every year and the ice fishing market continues to grow as more products become available to help us catch more fish and be more comfortable on the ice. Ice fishing is about more than drilling a hole, sitting on a bucket, drinking a beer and waiting for a fish to show up. Anglers today hit to ice to find and catch fish.

BE MOBILE

Recently, I was doing a seminar at the Winnipeg Ice Fishing Show and I was asked the question “how long do you fish in a hole without getting a bite?” My response was “If I don’t get a bite or see a fish on my electronics within five minutes, I’m on to a new hole or a new spot”. I went on to elaborate more by saying what I believe to be one of the most important rules that I follow in my fishing. It doesn’t matter what lure you’re using or what colour you’re using if you are not putting it in front of some fish.

Finding fish is always the most important element. This all leads into using the great electronics we have today to find fish, the efficient augers to drill plenty of holes and the equipment to allow us to be mobile on the ice.

I bought a new Strikemaster 4-stroke auger last year from Lake of the Woods Sports Headquarters in Kenora. When I told the owner, one of my best friends, that I wanted a new auger, a 4-stroke model, he told me I should consider one of the new electric augers. I dismissed that idea, worried that they would run out of juice after a few holes and were not as reliable as the gas models that had been around forever.

A few days later, a crew from Lindner Media in Minnesota visited me for a few days of ice fishing in Sunset Country. They brought an electronic auger with them and after a day and a half of fishing, I wanted nothing to do with my gas model. It wasn’t that the gas model was no good, it was, but it was so easy to jump off the snowmobile with the electric model, push a button and drill a hole.

Between six of us, it took all day, drilling dozens of holes to kill the battery, then a new one was inserted. I was impressed. Drilling

(Continued on page 46.)
ICE-tec

THE BEST LINE FOR THE WORST CONDITIONS

POWERPRO® EBT FORGES A ROUNDER AND STRONGER LINE

PTFE COATED FOR WATER REPELLENCY

ICE BLUE COLOR MAXIMIZES VISIBILITY

Make panfish action on the ice hot! Jig ‘em up with a new Sedona combo - Only from Shimano

Learn more at POWERPRO.COM
more holes allows you to cover more water and catch more fish. The electric augers are lighter and more efficient to use.

When it comes to electronics, I probably wouldn’t go fishing without having a flasher or sonar unit like a Humminbird Helix model to check the depth, see my bait and watch for fish. Can you catch a fish under the ice without using electronics? Sure, anglers have for years, but the fact is, you will have more fun and catch more fish if you use one of these units.

Flashers have been around for decades and still work great. They are timeless and one of the few things in the fishing industry where the technology does not become irrelevant after a few years. The newer Helix Ice machines allow you to use a flasher mode or a regular sonar picture if you prefer that, as well as have access to GPS, use Lakemaster mapping and to mark good holes with a waypoint.

The most important aspect of using a flasher or sonar unit is you have the ability to watch your bait and how fish react to it. It’s fun stuff to watch and you’ll be able to trick more fish into biting.

Finally, when it comes to being mobile on the ice, the sled-style flip-over shelters allow us to load up all the gear we want, even stuff for a shore lunch, hook up to a snowmobile and go anywhere we want to go. I have been running a Frabill Predator model for years, it has a big, heavy duty sled, an insulated tent and a roomy interior that two anglers can fish comfortably from. On cold days, these units make fishing much more enjoyable.

FISH ON-LINE

Anglers who fish in Ontario are very lucky to have a great tool available to them from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The Fish ON-Line website (Google it) has been around for several years now but I feel like many anglers have not taken advantage of it to help plan their fishing adventures. Have you ever driven past a lake on the side of the road and wondered “what fish species

(Continued on page 48.)
FISHING WORLD.ca

NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON, TO SERVE YOU BETTER.

2020 STRIKER ICE

SOUTHERN ONTARIO'S BEST ICE SELECTION

2411 Barton St. E. Hamilton, ON Phone: (905) 573-2288 or 1-888-258-0564
Frabill Pro-Thermal Tip-Up

When it comes to catching a trophy pike, ice season is the best time to catch one and using a tip-up with a quick-strike rig like a Northland Predator Rig tipped with a dead minnow or heining is the number one way to catch one. It's proven, hands down, across the ice belt. Set your bail about a foot above the bottom and be patient. Throughout the winter, set these up on the same spots you fish for walleyes. In March, pike move towards shallow bays where they will spawn immediately following ice-out. Set up on the first drop to deep water coming out of these shallow bays and you'll get your hands on a trophy plus pounder!

Editor's Note: Jeff Gustafson grew up on the shores of Lake of the Woods in Kenora, Ontario. He has made his living in the fishing community since he was a teenager as a tournament angler, guide, outdoor writer and fishing promoter. In 2019 he is competing on the Bassmaster Elite Series in addition to competing in several events in Ontario. You can find him on social media at @gusyoutdoors and on his website at: www.gusyoutdoors.com.

#1 Megabass Dealer in Canada

Megabass

Your One-Stop Shop for Fishing Tackle and Live Bait!

Megabass KEITECH SHIMANO DAIWA

Dolphins Rods Angler's Choice O.S.P

O.S.P Tackle Osprey Spiritual Performer

The ROD GLOVE Onigima Fishing Power Pro

3467 Sheppard Ave E
Toronto, ON M1T 3K5
facebook.com/projfishingtackle

With this website you can simply click on an icon attached to each body of water in the province and get a listing of the fish species in that particular lake.

You can also see which lakes are stocked with trout and the numbers that have been stocked in those lakes. You can look up lake or zone-specific fishing regulations, look at aerial maps of the province and even see depth maps of some waters on this website. If you like to do your homework before you go fishing, this site has an endless amount of data to explore. Check it out and thank me later!
Make Your Own Spinners! easy as 1 2 3

LureMaking.com has everything you need to make your own professional spinners, including a huge selection of spinner blades, brass bodies, clevises, wire shafts, and treble hooks.

1. Select your spinner components.
2. Slide hook, bead, brass bodies and bearing onto wire shaft.
3. Slide clevis and blade onto wire shaft and form end loop (see luremaking.com for simple wire bending techniques using needle-nose pliers).

Sonic In-Line Spinner
Classic French Spinner
French Bucktail Spinner
Magnum Double 10’s Spinner

LureMaking.com
Hepworth - Ontario - Canada - N0H 1P0

Canada's Largest Selection of Hard to Find Lure Making Parts and Components
Spinner Blades - Spoon Blanks - Plains - Bulk Fish Hooks - Jig & Sinker Molds - Bulk Terminal Tackle - Walleye Components - Musky Components
Visit www.luremaking.com to view our complete product listing of more than 10,000 lure making components.
Serving manufacturers, retailers and anglers for more than 25 years!
Minnow-shaped jigging baits, also called jigging minnows or swimmers, are some of the most consistent lures for putting fish on ice. Rapala and Nils Master have long produced baits, while Northland Fishing Tackle entered the game over a decade ago. Lately, however, more have arrived with next-generation innovations from ACME, Custom Jigs & Spins, Freedom Tackle, Lunkerhunt, and Phantom Tilly to name a few. Here is a snapshot of some noteworthy baits, along with tips from pros on fishing these deadly lures.

SHUTTING DOWN LINE SPIN

One trend seen in some new baits is a feature designed to reduce line twist, which is warranted given jigging minnows are notorious for twisting line given their trademark darting, arcing, and gliding action. One example is the Freedom Tackle all-metal Turn Back Shad that swings freely on its metal line tie shaft. Another is the Custom Jigs & Spins Rotating Power Minnow, which has a special swivel eyelet.

“One of the biggest advantages of the Rotating Power Minnow is the rotating eyelet up on top,” said Pat Kalmerton, a year-round guide from Wisconsin (http://www.wolfpackadventures.com).

“It swivels to keep the bait from spinning and when that twist is out of line, it means the bait doesn’t sit at the bottom of the hole and spin.” This pirouetting maneuver is a major turn-off and is sure to send fish swimming in the opposite direction for their next meal.

A workaround for lures without an anti-twist design is using a swivel. This is standard operating procedure for legendary Minnesota guide and Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame inductee, Tom Neustrom (www.mpconnection.com), who routinely ties a small swivel 18 to 24 inches above a Rapala Jigging Rap or a Snap Rap, two of his go-to winter lures for walleye and lake trout.

LONGER SWIMS & SUBTLE MOVEMENTS

While the Turn Back Shad and Rotating Power Minnow designs eliminate line twist, there’s more to the story. The ability of the bait to rotate allows an angler to impart unique swimming actions using specific jigging cadences. “Fishing it (the Turn Back Shad) is completely different,” said JP DeRose, professional angler and host of JP DeRose Breaking Boundaries television series.

“With traditional jigging minnow baits it’s a steady, rhythmic hop and they swim in a circle. You can still do that with the Turn Back Shad when you find the right rhythm, but where it really works well is when you’re video-gaming (with a flasher) and a fish comes in. Snap it hard it’ll dart out up to four to five feet. Then pause, bring the rod back down to the set position, and it’ll spin 180 degrees and come back right to the fish, which is a big trigger and hence the name Turn Back.”

The Rotating Power Minnow’s ability to move freely helps Kalmerton swim it in one direction to cover additional water away from the hole. He does this with a series of three jigging snaps, each lift raising the rod between one to two feet.

Between each snap, the rod is held still for a short pause, then snapped again upwards. This sequence causes the bait to stair-step upwards incrementally, swimming in the same direction while replicating an evasive baitfish. Working a flat basin may see Kalmerton begin the jigging stroke with the rod in the 5 o’clock position and end at 11 o’clock, raising six feet of line. After reaching the end of the jigging stroke, he lowers the rod to allow the lure to swim back to its starting position.

Kalmerton uses this one-directional swimming maneuver to fish rocky ledges in 8 to 15 feet of water for walleye and crappie. It is also a stealthy tactic for sneaking into the strike zone of a shallow-water pike holding off to the side of the ice hole without needing to drill directly over a fish.

The ACME Hyper-Glide has a distinct swimming action thanks to its specialized wings that open every time the bait falls. Located

(Continued on page 51.)
on either side of the bait, the wings replicate real fish fins, but their real virtue is the way they grab water to give the lure a unique gliding swim. This bait was key last year on a late-season crappie outing. Fish were high in the water column but scattered away from the hole, getting the Hype-Glide swimming far out to the side help me ice several quality fish.

The Rapala Snap Rap is the newest member of the brands jiggling minnow line-up and features a fast darting action. It’s absolutely deadly on trophy walleye. Neustrom also uses it for lake trout and other big predators because of its beefier profile and more aggressive action compared to a Jigging Rap. “I do use a little different cadence (than a Jigging Rap),” Neustrom said. “I lift it a little higher, maybe two feet, and I’ll snap it more.”

**SONIC ATTRACTION**

Rattles are another new and welcome feature to jiggling minnows. Take it from someone who has glued rattles underneath Jigging Rap tails. Kalmerton likes the Rattlin' Rotating Power Minnow for murky water as the sonic vibrations help attract fish from afar. He also uses it to stimulate inactive fish to chew. “If you’re after nap-time walleye or perch on flats and you’re stirring up the bottom then, yes, those rattles help,” Kalmerton said. “Hopefully, too you’re on a bloodworm patch and are stirring those things up to get the fish interested in feeding.”

The ACME Hyper-Rattle also has a rattle chamber. The Phantom Tilly is another rattling vertical jiggling bait. While the Turn Back Shad touts a unique audio signature. It has a glass bead on its metal shaft that knocks against the metal body creating a clicking and ticking sound.

---

**POTENT MULTI-SPECIES BAITS**

Bassmaster Elite Series Pro and year-round guide, Jeff “Gussy” Gustafson (http://www.gussyoutdoors.com/) relies on the Northland Fishing Tackle Puppet Minnow for a range of species in Northwestern Ontario’s Sunset Country Region. While Gussy has seen countless trophy lake trout, walleye and pike eat a #7 Puppet Minnow, he says smaller jiggling minnows are overlooked for giant panfish.

“When we fish for crappies and perch up around Lake of the Woods we are often fishing deep (25-35 feet) so having a bait that is compact but can get down to fish we mark on our flashers quickly, is important.” Gustafson said. “The swimming action of a #2 (1/8-ounce) Puppet Minnow absolutely selects for the biggest fish in a pack as well. I like to tip the middle treble with a couple of soft plastic Impulse Waxies.”

---

**IMPROVED RUGGEDNESS**

Ever take a long, bumpy snowmobile ride to a remote lake, only to find your tackle ox a mess and broken plastic tail fins on some jiggling minnows? It’s a frustrating site to behold. Companies have (Continued on page 52.)
taken note of the frailty of certain lures and produced more durable ones. DeRose notes the Turn Back Shad has a metal one-piece body. That means an ultra-durable tail.

The Rapala Snap Rap is another example. Upon getting my first Snap Rap, I was immediately impressed by the ruggedness of its hard-plastic top and wide tail fin. Lunkerhunt’s Straight Up Jig and the Rotating Power Minnow are also built rugged and ready for battle.

**PRO TIP:** Rapala’s new Jigging Rap Ice Jig Box is specifically designed for holding and protecting 3, 5, 7, and 9 sized Jigging Raps.

**HOOK PARTICULARS**

The business end of a jigging minnow is another area of refinement. Case in point *(pardon the pun)*: many lures have beefy hooks.

DeRose notes the Turn Back Shad’s tail hook is wider and more aggressive than many other jiggling minnows, while Neustrom appreciates the stout and wide gapped hooks on the Snap Rap when wrestling finned brutes. Lunkerhunt’s Straight Up Jig is also clad with well-proportioned, sticky hooks.

Custom Jigs & Spins, Freedom Tackle, and Phantom Lures have also not outfitted baits with a nose hook. This has a couple advantages. Kalmerton notes it eliminates some risk of the bait snagging itself in the line, which can sometimes occur when a jiggling minnow is snapped a tad too aggressively.

The other pitfall is an exposed nose hook can sometimes get snagged on the bottom of the ice in the final throws of battle. Kalmerton notes this gets increasingly dicey at the end of the season when the ice is soft and it is easy for a razor-sharp nose hook to catch the ice, giving fish ample time and leverage to shake free and escape.

Another advantage DeRose has found is the Turn Back Shad fishes clean when he’s pounding bottom to attract fish. Whereas a nose-hooked bait can pull up bottom, zebra mussels, and other debris. When perch and whitefish are bottom-feeding he also removes the treble hook. Then, by barely moving the rod he imparts a rhythmic, up-and-down motion to the bait, replicating a minnow feeding on bottom while making a silt cloud to attract fish. It is a sight few fish can resist without lashing out and attacking.

Attractor hooks continue as a trend. Nils Master has long offered this feature on its jiggling minnows. The Rapala WH Series Jigging Rap also features a special tiger eye attractor hook. The Rotating Power Minnow has an epoxy eye on its belly hook.

For those who prefer customizing baits, several brands offer clips, claspers and wire wraps that make quick work of upgrading the size of the treble, changing to a single hook, or attaching a dropper.

One modification I suspect we’ll see a lot of this season is adding VMC’s new Bladed Hybrid Treble to the belly of jiggling minnows. The hook’s a small willow blade adds extra flash and vibration, features that can both attract fish and trigger more bites.

**LOOKING GOOD**

As with many of the latest baits on the market, jiggling minnows sport impressive finishes and detailing. The Lunkerhunt Straight Up Jigs feature incredibly realistic baitfish profile and finishes. Rapala Jigging Raps are available in many high-definition Live Series patterns. The Northland Fishing Tackle Puppet Minnow *(see sidebar)* and Turn Back Shad showcase fish scale detailing. Realistic, reflective eyes are also found on many baits, along with a rainbow of colour options, including glow and UV finishes.

If your jig box is looking a little light when it comes to jiggling minnows, now is the time to stock-up on these potent lures.
EVERYTHING YOU NEED, RIGHT HERE!

2nd store location at Cooks Bay Marina

RELAX, you're here now.
EXPERIENCE ICE FISHING WITH COOKS BAY MARINA

Lodging
Gas
Parking
Food Truck

COOKS BAY MARINA
www.cooksbaymarina.com/icefishing

175 Gilford Rd. Barrie, ON L9L 1N9
1 (705) 794-6027

True North Fishing Outfitters

Lake Simcoe's Ice Tournament Of Champions

January 18th – February 14, 2020

Grand Prize: $2500
2nd Prize: $1500.00
3rd Prize: $750.00

Biggest Overall Perch $150.00
Biggest Overall White Fish $150.00

1st and 2nd place winners of each week will move on to the Tournament of Champions on Saturday February 15th

$100.00

A portion of proceeds will be donated to the Kelly Shires Breast Cancer Fund
UPCOMING EVENTS


Toronto International Boat Show January 17th to 26th, 2020, Enercare Centre, Exhibition Place: 100 Princes’ Blvd, Toronto, ON. Attend a seminar at the Fish Tank, or visit the world’s largest indoor Lake! So much fun! So much Fishing Fun! For more information visit: www.torontoboatshow.com.

Massena Fishing Expo – February 14th – 16th, 2020. St. Lawrence Centre, Massena, NY. Adult admission $12.00, Children under 12 FREE. Bass Tank Demonstrations. Check out the latest fishing equipment, lures & techniques presented by BASS & FLW professional anglers in addition to Industry professionals, captains & guides. Always a FAMILY favourite – Catch trout all day for FREE! Free Parking. For more information visit: massenafishingexpo.com.


The Ottawa Boat Show: February 20th – 23rd, 2020 – EY Centre – Airport Parkway & Uplands Drive. Feel like getting outside and having some fun? If your idea of the perfect summer is being on or near water and spending quality time with friends and family in the great outdoors, a visit to the Ottawa Boat Show will set you up with all the gear you need, destinations to explore and exciting things to experience that are readily available in the Capital Region. For more information visit: www.ottawaboatshow.ca.


ICE DERBIES


Massena Fishing Expo – February 14th – 16th, 2020. St. Lawrence Centre, Massena, NY. Adult admission $12.00, Children under 12 FREE. Bass Tank Demonstrations. Check out the latest fishing equipment, lures & techniques presented by BASS & FLW professional anglers in addition to Industry professionals, captains & guides. Always a FAMILY favourite – Catch trout all day for FREE! Free Parking. For more information visit: massenafishingexpo.com.


ICE DERBIES


Toronto Sportsmen’s Show: Canada’s Biggest Fishing & Outdoor Show for over 65 Years! March 18th – 22nd, 2020 – International Centre, Mississauga. 100s of boats, over 400 Exhibitors, $75,000 Toronto Sun Casting Pond, Ontario Out of Doors Hunting Hall, Great Outdoors Seminar Stage & much, much more. The Outfitters and Travel Expo showcases a massive selection of outdoor vacation destinations and activities. For more information visit: www.torontosportsmensshow.ca.

SubZero Ice Fishing Derby – January 18th, 2020. St-André d’Argenteuil Fishing Centre, 340 route du long-sault, Quebec. Entry $100 per person. More than $60,000 in cash and door prizes. Fish from 8:00 am – 3:30 pm. Prizes for winner in Pike, Bass & Crappie – $2500 for 1st, $1500 for 2nd and $500 for 3rd in each category. For more information or to register call: (450) 537-3100.


GUIDE SERVICES

Mark Thorpe Guiding Services, Trophy Muskies are our Specialty – Ottawa & Lawrence Rivers. Booking – 3rd Saturday in June – November. September & October is “Big Fish” & “Trophy” time. All equipment provided or bring your own. For more information contact: Mark at (450) 699-0599.

Fish with and learn from the best! Spend a day on the water with one of Canada’s top tournament fishermen, David Chong! Bass, Walleye, Pike, Muskie, Perch, Whitefish, Lake Trout, Crappie. Corporate, Loyalty Pricing and Gift Certificates Available! Please contact David at: (416) 993-3477 or e-mail at dchong@fishhurrdreambig.com.

AD CLASSIFIED AD RATES

Advertise your products, services or community events. Word ads: $20 for the 1st 20 words + $0.20¢ for each additional word. Send your copy to: “Just Fishing” by email to info@justfishing.ca.
Fishing Big Baits

Fishing for trophies with larger baits but concerned your tackle can’t handle it? Don’t be! When using larger baits, HT’s Polar tip-up can be adjusted to create heavier settings and increase the amount of “drag,” using several methods. For a slight increase in “drag” effect, simply place the flag wire on the notched side of the trip shaft. To increase the “drag” effect more, set the flag wire on the side of the trip shaft that causes the wire to travel UP the angled flag wire whenever the spool turns — this means the trip actually has to exert force downward on the spring loaded flag before releasing, which requires more overall force to trip the flag. To increase this “drag” effect even further, combine this tip with the above step by placing the flag wire on the notched side of the trip.

If this still isn’t enough pressure, loosen the set screw holding central tube mechanism in place, raise the tube and re-tighten the set screw with the tube set in this exaggerated position. This setting increases the angle of the flag wire against the trip, and provides the trip shaft is set on the side of the flag wire where the trip must travel up the angled flag wire to release, this increased angle requires the trip shaft to actually push the flag wire even further downward before tripping, thereby increasing the amount of force needed to trip the flag and creating an even heavier “drag” effect. The higher the angle, the more force, and thus the more “drag” you can create.

You can also bend a curve in the flag wire itself, which accentuates the angle of the flag wire against the trip shaft. This creates a considerable amount of additional drag, especially when this trick is combined with the raised tube mechanism described above. The deeper the bend, the higher the tension.

Jim Tubman Chevrolet
COMING SOON...
ALL NEW 2020 CHEVY SILVERADO DIESEL

Max Towing 9,300 lbs
Max payload 1,870 lbs
277 horsepower
460 lb ft of torque
1500 rpm

BRUCE SINGLETON
FLEET MANAGER
TEL: 613-733-4050 / CELL: 613-299-8969
tubmanchev.com

OIL CHANGE Starting from $39.95 +HST
IN AS LITTLE AS 30 MINUTES
We service all makes & models
Certified Service express

CHEVROLET COMPLETE CARE
2 YEARS/40,000 KM
5 YEARS/100,000 KM
2 YEARS/40,000 KM
5 YEARS/100,000 KM
2 YEARS/40,000 KM
5 YEARS/100,000 KM
2 YEARS/40,000 KM
5 YEARS/100,000 KM