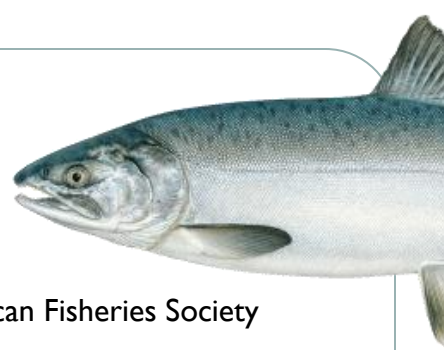




TELEOGRAM



The Newsletter of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

FALL 2018

Max Wolter— Editor

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE— Derek Ogle



Weather is often the default topic of conversation for many of us. However, weather has been the focus of conversation both locally and nationally this year. I hope that the severe flooding in northwestern and southern Wisconsin has not significantly impacted too many of you. I am proud, however, that our members are using their expertise to assess the impact of these catastrophic events on our aquatic resources. I suspect that our knowledge and

experience will be required more often in the future.

The Executive Committee of the chapter convened over the summer. Major topics of discussion were related to the new chapter website (see page 3), a new scholarship for students (also page 3), a new Student Affairs committee, a revamped membership database, the aftermath of last year's Midwest Fisheries and Wildlife Conference, proposed changes to the chapter's bylaws, and the 2019 annual meeting. It is inspiring to witness the dedication that your representatives put into making the chapter continue to function well.

The 2019 Annual Meeting will be held at the Tundra Lodge in Green Bay on February 19-21, 2019. Details about the meeting (how to register, how to submit an abstract, etc.) are elsewhere in this newsletter and on the website. However, I draw your attention to three items that will be addressed at the Business Meeting.

- 1.) The chapter bylaws have been updated to align with our usual practices and best practices as defined by national AFS. The revised bylaws have been reviewed by the Constitutional Consultant at national AFS, current members of the WI-AFS Executive Committee, and several past presidents of WI-AFS. The revised bylaws must now be approved (or not) by the membership and, if approved by the membership, sent to national AFS for final approval. We will send the revised bylaws to you this fall via our e-mail distribution list to facilitate the vote at the Business Meeting. It is important to have a quorum for this vote, so **please make plans to attend the Business Meeting (Wednesday afternoon) in Green Bay.**

Continued on page 2

See Page 2 and 3 for everything you need to know about the 2019 WIAFS Meeting

2019 WIAFS Meeting

Tundra Lodge, Green Bay

February 19-21, 2019

The 2019 Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be from the afternoon of **Tuesday 19-Feb** to early afternoon **Thursday 21-Feb** at the Tundra Lodge in **Green Bay, WI**. The registration fee will be \$100 for professionals and \$50 for students. Blocks of rooms have been reserved for the nights of February 19 and 20 at the Tundra Lodge.

Submissions for oral (10 and 15 minute slots) and poster presentations from all areas of fisheries and aquatic biology are welcome. We will again have “speed” presentations using a 10 minute time format intended for folks looking to share a brief overview of novel field techniques, works in progress, graduate student proposals, or future research projects. If you have something interesting to share, but are worried you may not have enough time to fill a 15 minute slot, please consider submitting a speed presentation.

Submission deadline for oral and poster presentation abstracts is February 1, 2019.

Visit the [WI AFS website](#) for more details

President's Message—continued

- 2.) A president will be elected at the Business Meeting for the 2020/21 term. Prior to 2016 the President position alternated between DNR and non-DNR folks. Including Dan Dembkowski who will assume the President position at this Business Meeting, the last three presidents have been from outside the DNR. Thus, our nominating committee will target a DNR person (or persons) to stand for election as President this year. Whether you are with the DNR or not, **please consider running for this position** if approached by the Nominating Committee (and feel free to contact me or any past president for an idea of typical duties).
- 3.) Dave Rowe will be stepping down as chair of the Raffle and Revenue committee after several years of good service on that committee (Thanks Dave!!). Thus, we will be seeking a new chair for this important committee. Steve Gilbert, long-time member of the committee, is willing to help someone transition to the chair position. It is difficult to imagine an annual meeting without a raffle, or the chapter budget without the funds that this committee generates. **Please contact me or Gilly if you are willing to take on this important task or if you would like to nominate another member for this position.**

While I still have some time left, I would like to say in this, my last, President's Message that it has been an honor to serve as your president this year. Please do contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Derek Ogle

New WI AFS Website—Brad Eggold

Due to issues with PayPal security issues, it was necessary to move our website from a private platform to now be included under the National AFS umbrella. The conversion of the website is now complete. With the new platform there are several significant improvements in both the look of the website and functionality:

- Improved consistent font and look of each page
- Improved use of tables to display information
- Better forms to capture abstracts, membership and registration fees

To access the website you can use the same URL as you have in the past - both <https://wi-afs.org> and <http://www.wi-afs.org> will take you to the website.

We are also looking for high-res, horizontal images to use on the website.

Please send to: Bradley.Eggold@wisconsin.gov

From the Judging Committee—Ben Heussner

Greetings Fisheries Folks,

2019 brings another year of the annual best presentation and poster competition focused on increasing our knowledge of fisheries management. How would you like to be a larger influence in the continued development of fisheries science? Well then; **sign up as a judge of either the poster or presentation sessions at the 2019 WiAFS conference!** Members that judge will benefit from the conference more by becoming more engaged and focused. Judges will also be able to provide feedback on improvement of the existing AFS judging process.

Please contact me at: benjamin.heussner@wisconsin.gov if you are interested in judging and I will put you on the waiting list. I hope to see you at this years' conference!

From the Scholarship Committee—Tammie Paoli

WI AFS will now be offering **two** \$1000 scholarships for Junior, Senior, or Graduate students at a Wisconsin college or university. These are the **Carroll Norden Memorial Scholarship** and the newly created **Tim Kroeff Fisheries Scholarship**.

In addition to those two scholarships, the **Joan Duffy Student Travel Award** is a \$200 award offered to a student who plans to attend the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference. The 2019 conference will be held from January 27-30, 2019 in Cleveland, Ohio. See midwestfw.org for more information.

Details on how to apply for these scholarships and travel award are on the WI AFS website, under Awards. Deadline to apply is December 15.

Please note that this is an earlier deadline than usual!

Best advice I ever got...

With DNR/UWSP's Tom Cichosz

What was the best advice you got during your career?

It came from my dad who told me “If you’re looking for utopia in the workplace, you won’t find it. No matter where you go or who you work for, there will be headaches – what will change is which headaches they are and who is giving them to you. You’ll settle in where those two things best mesh with your personality.” Hang in there and look at the bigger picture of what you get to do for a living and what it accomplishes...you may decide that it’s worth the headaches you have to be able to keep doing it.



Looking back on your career as a fisheries professional what is one thing you know now that you wish you'd known on day 1?

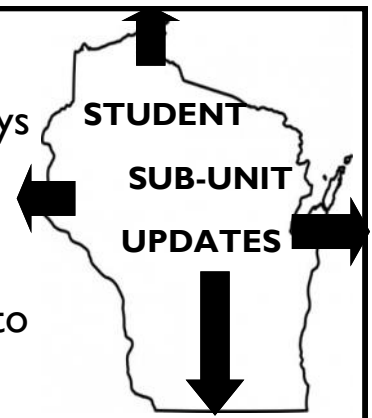
Pendulums swing. Always. Some more quickly and some more slowly, but they always move. Budgets, public opinions, political might, department policies, staffing levels are all pendulums. If any or all of them seem bad now, ride it out and it will get better. If it seems good now enjoy it, because sooner or later it will get worse. Change isn't always good or bad, but it is inevitable. Know that it is coming.

Can you identify any one experience or moment in your life that you would consider a professional turning point that set you on the path to where you are today?

Honestly, no - not a single experience. My career path evolved as a product of experiences gained in at least 6 professional positions in 5 states, all of which have differed considerably from one another. I guess if I have anything to offer here it would be to look at your career path like a highway...truck along, but don't be afraid to take an off-ramp...try a new path. If you like it, keep trucking. If not, there is always another on-ramp to bring you back to the path you were on before. You only see the path you're on after you've travelled it – looking forward it's a big unknown so be willing to explore.

UW Stout—McKenzie Librande

This year, the UW-Stout subunit has worked on a few Creek Surveys thus far. Our most recent annual survey was on the Gilbert Creek restoration site ten miles west of Menomonie. We are pleased to see larger Brook Trout, and a move in recently of Brown Trout to the area. In the weeks to come, our subunit will be demonstrating to our new members how to use a variety of equipment such as large and small seine nets, hoop nets, and fyke nets. We are looking forward to a few guest speakers from the DNR, as well. With our budget this year, we will be able to purchase equipment to host an ice fishing contest this winter in and effort to raise funds for the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference for a few members to attend. Overall, we look forward to the events to come this year!



UW Stevens Point—Jacob Bulitz

The month of September left behind much anticipation for an exciting year at the UW-Stevens Point Subunit. Campus involvement fairs at the University have provided several occasions to introduce incoming students to the organization, with very productive and encouraging results. Well-attended meetings were shared with several guest speakers, including DNR biologist Jennifer Bergman from Wisconsin Rapids and DNR Operations Team Supervisor Shawn Sullivan from Wild Rose. Guest speakers and social events are anticipated to enrich weekly meetings for the remainder of 2018.

Members are already looking forward to a number of exciting opportunities in the near future. The first weekend of October will include the Subunit's annual electrofishing survey of the Little Plover River, providing students with an excellent opportunity to shock, handle, and PIT-tag brook trout. Later in the month, members may find themselves taking part in an annual fyke net survey on the Wisconsin River, which will involve a wide and often unpredictable variety of boating and fish handling opportunities.



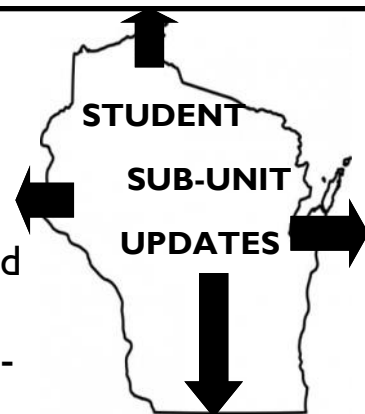
UW Green Bay—Angela Grimm

As the new academic year begins for the UW-Green Bay student subunit, members have been busy volunteering and planning for the upcoming year. Already, our members have volunteered assisting DNR personnel at the Strawberry Creek Chinook facility, in Sturgeon Bay, through-

out the salmon spawning season. Members also volunteered at the Besadny Anadromous Fish Facility open house in Kewaunee to help collect eggs from spawning salmon.

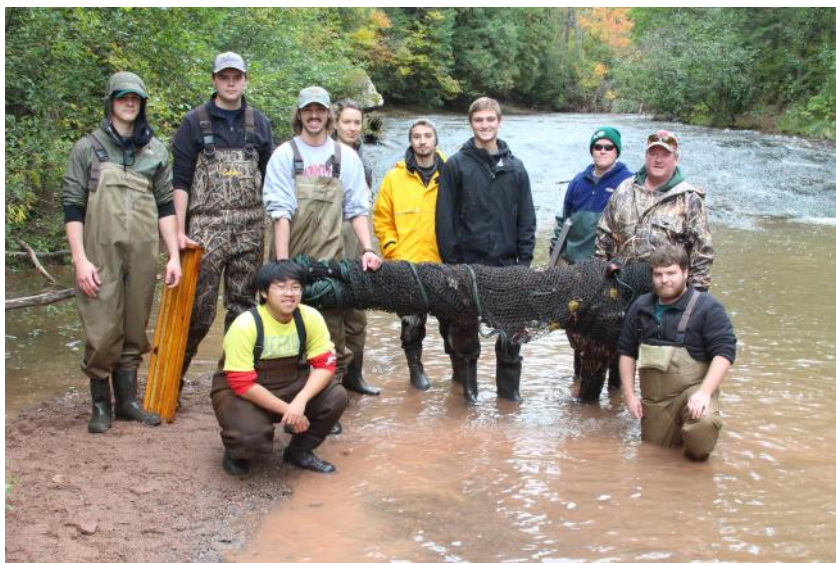
With many new faces joining our subunit, the club also decided it was time to update the UWGB AFS logo. We allowed members to have a voice in what they thought should be included in the new logo unlike the previously used one which had been created before any current members had been in the organization. With the basis being fisheries, it was decided that the logo should include fish instead of the traditional UWGB Phoenix.

Fitting the theme of new things for the club, we also have a year packed with fun and education activities such as fish I.D. trivia night, a documentary/movie night, fishing with other student organizations, talks about a future in fisheries, having a stream shocking day, and a trip to the Shedd Aquarium. There is a lot in store for our student subunit at UW- Green Bay this year!



Northland College—Joshua Lyons

It is good to get the subunit back together this fall. Over the summer, some of us worked with the USGS in Ashland, the USFWS in Ashland, the WIDNR in Bayfield, and the Idaho Fish & Game. Thus far, we have had an organizational meeting, helped the DNR seine salmon at Big Rock, and had Mike Seider from the USFWS come talk about pop-up satellite archival tags on Lake Trout in Lake Superior. Over the rest of the year, we plan to bring other speakers in to talk about fisheries. We also plan to attend the annual WAFS meeting. Furthermore, we will have members help with sturgeon spearing at Lake Winnebago. New members to our subunit this year have also brought fresh ideas with the hope to pursue some of those ideas this coming year. It will be a good year for our subunit.



2018 Photo Fishing Contest Closest in History of Competition

Luke Roffler and Max Wolter

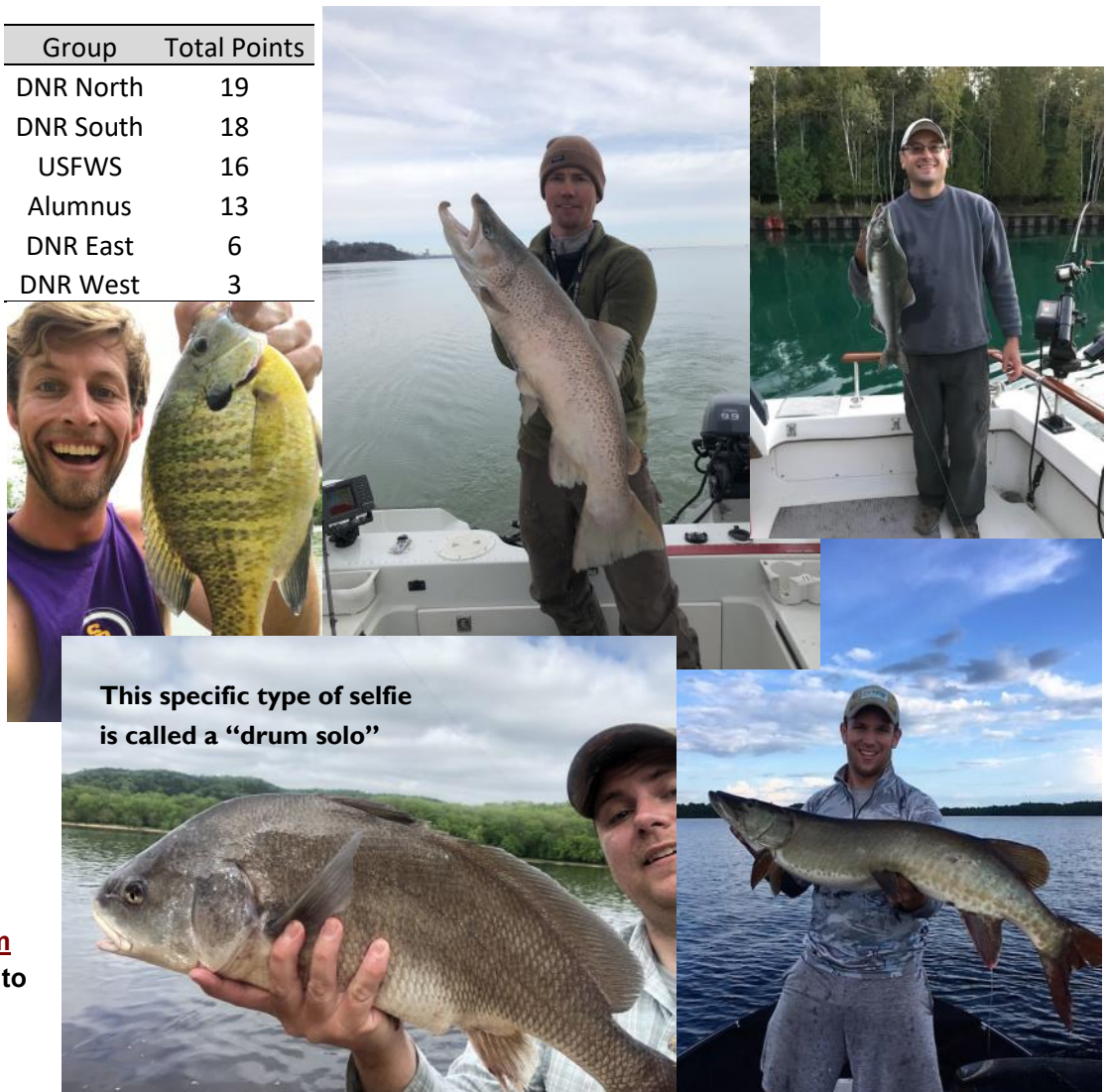
As of October 17, the annual WI-AFS Photo Fishing Contest is shaping up to have the closest finish in the three year history of the event. To date, 51 species of fish have been registered. Reigning champion Eric Geisthardt moved out of state and has only been able to manage a pathetic second place showing thus far, *only fishing on several weekends* when he is home. Scary. But it's left the door open just enough for Alex Latzka to take over first place for much of the summer. Latzka's lead is far from insurmountable.

New contest coordinator Luke Roffler notes that there is also an interesting competition this year among the agencies/regions. From Luke:

Well, my last WAFS Fishing update mentioned heat and humidity (which we definitely don't have anymore), plus an impending Brewers collapse (which I was also wrong about). But now the clock is ticking for those of you who want a shot at the title. Alex Latzka still leads the way, though 12 points certainly doesn't make him untouchable. North and South Districts are also running neck and neck, so my SAD colleagues need to keep those fish coming (NAD folks can have a nap). So get that walleye shocking wrapped up as quickly as possible, let that compound bow gather a little more dust, and keep the submissions coming!

Here are the leaderboards for the individual competition and the group competition:

Angler	Total Points	Group	Total Points
Alex Latzka	12	DNR North	19
Eric Geisthardt	10	DNR South	18
Tony Rieth	7	USFWS	16
Max Wolter	7	Alumnus	13
Brandon Bastar	6	DNR East	6
Dan Walchak	4	DNR West	3
Steve Gilbert	4		
Nick Berndt	3		
Dave Seibel	3		
John Lyons	3		
Andy Stevens	3		
Matt Kornis	3		
Evan Sniadajewski	2		
Joseph Gerbyshak	2		
Mike Seider	1		
John Kubisiak	1		
Scott Braden	1		
Brian Spangler	1		
Alex Bentz	1		
Mark Baldock	1		



Email wafsfishing@gmail.com
with a picture and the location to
submit your fish!

Classifieds:

WANTED

WI AFS Raffle Coordinator

Seeking outgoing person with a passion for helping others advance their career in fisheries to coordinate the raffle at the annual AFS meeting. Funds raised by the raffle support student scholarships and other WI AFS activities.

Qualifications: None, really. Some organizational skill is useful.

Ideal candidate should have an intimate understanding of the fair market value of a Menard's tee-shirt and should be able to identify which ticket goes in the bucket and which one you hold onto.

Interested candidates will likely be offered the job immediately. Contact:

Stephen.gilbert@wisconsin.gov

JOB OPENING

WI AFS Presentation and Poster Judges

Multiple positions open

Are you able to tell if things are good or bad? Can you stay awake through several consecutive PowerPoint presentations about cisco? If so, you may be the ideal candidate to serve as a judge at the upcoming WI AFS annual meeting.

Contact:

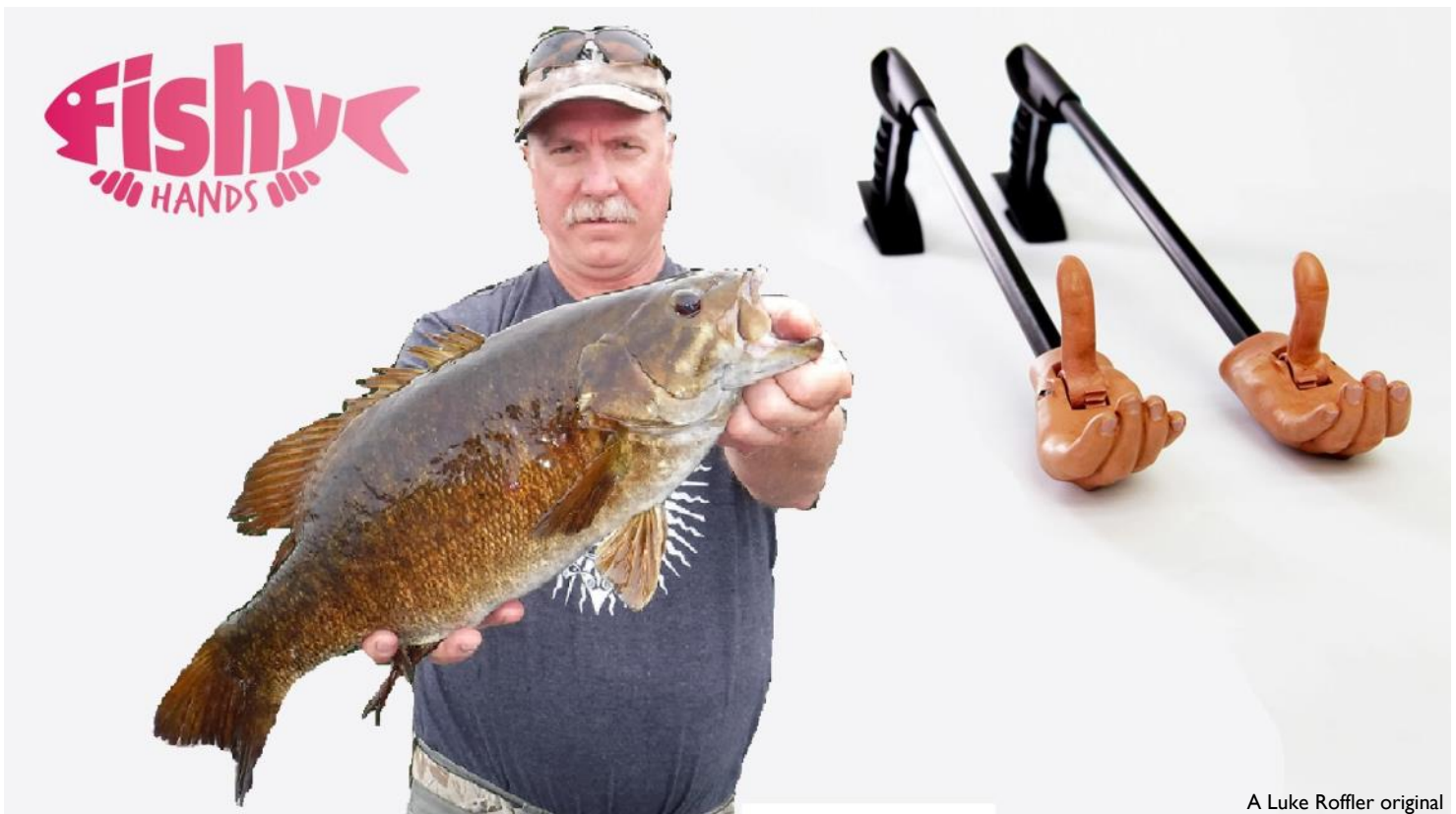
Benjamin.huessner@wisconsin.gov

SEEKING

Newsletter editor

For the love of God, release me from this prison.

Sponsored Content:



A Luke Roffler original

UWSP Develops New Breed of Fish

Stevens Point, WI – Researchers at UW-Stevens Points' Molecular Conservation Genetics Lab (MCGL) unveiled an exciting new genetically engineered fish this week. Years of experimentation and trial and error have produced what geneticists are calling the “Cheddar Crappie”, and it could change how fish are eaten forever.

“In the past if you wanted a fish fry you had to bread and season your fish to get it to taste less like fish and more like something else” said Keith Turnquist of the MCGL. “Now, with the Cheddar Crappie, a rich cheesy flavor is already in the fish”.

The results of this initiative are being called groundbreaking, but the impetus was actually accidental. According to MCGL lab director Dr. Wes Larson “This all started when Keith knocked over a bag of Flavor-Blasted® Doritos and some of the dust got in one of our solvents in the lab. We all just kind of looked at each other and said f&%\$ it, and we went with it. A few months later and boom, we’d unlocked the secret to engineering the Cheddar Crappie.”

While the Cheddar Crappie has been the most successful product the lab has turned out, there have been other fish/flavor combinations attempted. “The Parmesan Pumpkinseed was a disgusting failure. And we were never able to edit out the pin bones” said Turnquist. “Bourbon Bullhead looked promising, but the specimens were stolen from our lab, we think by Jeff Dimick.”

Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) have been a cultural hot button issue and have raised numerous questions of scientific ethics. The Cheddar Crappie project has not been immune to such controversy. When asked if it was appropriate to play God with the genetic code, Wes Larson responded by saying: “Wait. Are people comparing me to God? What are they saying, like, specifically? That I’m *like a God*? Or I *am* God? Just curious. Either way, I don’t hate it... it’s kind of exciting me in a way I have never felt before. I wonder if I can turn a grad student into a turtle!!”

In other news:

WI AFS’ Dan Dembkowski wins Best Professional Paper at Wrestlemania 35



Experts—Buckets probably not coming unstuck.



The Cheddar Crappie is already being discussed as a candidate to be the new Wisconsin State Fish.



Dr. Larson, shown here just moments before breaking into maniacal laughter.