



INTERNATIONAL GAME FISH ASSOCIATION

April 2012

ASIAN CARP INVASION

"It's a huge concern," IGFA Captain Haydn Northey, who lives in Ontario, shares. "The possibility is just frightening."

"The entire ecosystem as we know it could collapse," adds Ben Wolfe, another IGFA Captain from Michigan. "It would be devastating."

And William Hilts, an IGFA Representative from New York, describes the issue as "a disaster in the making."

Anglers who fish the Great Lakes are vitally concerned about the possibility of invasive species of Asian carp finding their way from the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers and their tributaries into Lake Michigan. The fish - silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*) and bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*), which differ from the common carp usually considered a sport fish - have been popularized in online videos depicting silver carp leaping out of the water in huge schools and landing in boats. But they are far from popular with the anglers and fishing businesses along the Great Lakes.

[Read more in this issue of the International Angler >>](#)

HOT CATCH



Angler Eric Maurer was fishing the Chickamauga Lake, Tennessee, USA when he landed a potential 37 kg (80 lb) line class record for blue catfish (*Ictalurus furcatus*) - a species for which he has already achieved five world records from the same location, but most on 60 kg (130 lb) line class. Maurer was fishing with cut skipjack herring on March 15, 2012 when the 37.65 kg (83 lb) monster hit and after a 15 minute fight, Maurer had the fish subdued. He quickly took the necessary measurements and photos before releasing the fish alive. The current IGFA record stands at 36.28 kg



(80 lb) and was set in 1980 - making it the oldest record still standing for the species. [Check out more Hot Catches >>](#)

IGFA STORE



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BEST OF THE BEST HONORED AT WORLD RECORD ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS CEREMONY



"Fishing is a soulful experience," IGFA Lifetime Achievement Award winner Stan Nabozny told the crowd at the IGFA World Record Achievement Awards (WRAA) ceremony. "There's nothing like seeing a tarpon leap from the water, or an eagle fly down from the sky while you're out on the water. I'm overwhelmed and honored to be among such passionate anglers."

Passion was the word of the evening at this year's WRAA. Anglers arrived at IGFA headquarters in Florida from as far afield as the United Kingdom, Japan, Costa Rica and New Zealand to accept

Stan Nabozny (left) of The Woodlands, Texas, USA

TIP OF THE MONTH



Learn more about fly line ratings, cores, coatings, taper, cleaning techniques and more in this [IGFA tip of the month!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 28-29 [Pacific Coast Sportfishing Festival](#)

received the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award. To date he has caught 150 world records.

their awards for the past year's accomplishments. [Read more >>](#)

TELL CONGRESS TO SUPPORT *BILLFISH* CONSERVATION ACT



Your voice is critical in letting Congress know how important this Act is to recreational anglers. Please take action today and [email Congress Members in MI](#) and help great fishing last for generations to come. [Learn more about the Billfish Conservation Act of 2011 >>](#)

GULF RIGS TO BECOME 'ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT'



Anglers and environmentalists who care about the Gulf owe a major "thank you!" to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Late last week, the council unanimously voted to go forward with the process that will list the Gulf's decommissioned oil rigs as Essential Fish Habitat and Habitat Areas of Particular Concern, official federal designations designed to protect critical habitat. [Read more >>](#)

April 28 [Special Anglers Tournament](#)

May 5 -6 [Bank of America/Merrill Lynch cardholders receive FREE Museum admission](#)

May 19 [IGFA Summer Camp Open House](#)

June [Broward Attractions and Museum Month](#)

June 11 - [IGFA Summer Camp](#)

August 17

July [IGMR tagging event: Madiera, Portugal](#)

August 12 - 18 [IGMR tagging event: Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament](#)



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CAPTAIN JOSE WEJEBE REMEMBERED



The amazing life of celebrity fishing TV host Jose Wejbe came to a sudden and tragic end on Friday, April 6, 2012 when the experimental single-engine plane he was piloting crashed shortly after takeoff from Everglades City, Florida, USA. His life and the thousands of people he inspired with his fishing legacy were celebrated Sunday, April 15th at the IGFA Fishing Hall of Fame & Museum in Dania Beach, Florida. [Read more in this issue of the International Angler >>](#)

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