CONNECTION WITH EDUCATORS

Environmental Education Curriculum Online

Fisheries Learning on the Web is a comprehensive curriculum about the Great Lakes ecosystem. Lessons are geared toward educators who teach upper elementary and middle school students. Each lesson is aligned with national and state curriculum standards for science and social studies and features a hands-on classroom activity.

Fisheries Learning on the Web (FLOW) focuses on the Great Lakes fisheries, food web, invasive species and water quality. FLOW is part of Michigan Sea Grant’s ongoing effort to provide K-12 teachers and non-formal educators with high-quality curriculum materials and interactive educational activities. FLOW provides teachers with hands-on activities that are "plug-n-play."

Updating the Module
The fishes unit, updated in 2007, features new lessons and activities that help students:
- Identify Great Lakes fish using a sample dichotomous key
- Understand fish habitat and life cycles
- Learn how scientists monitor fish populations, using GIS and other technologies

Filling the Gap
The State of Michigan’s grade level content standards will be added in 2008, assisting educators with an important tool to help incorporate environmental education content into the classroom. Michigan Sea Grant works with education specialists to ensure that FLOW is relevant for inquiry-based teaching. FLOW materials are designed to help Michigan educators by:
- Ensuring that lesson content clearly address objectives that are based on standards and benchmarks; and
- Providing meaningful assessment tools, including: learning objectives, student performance and recommended points.

Award-winning Curriculum
- National Association of Government Communicators Gold Screen Award
- Selected Teachers’ Top Web Picks: BRIDGE Web site for Sea Grant Ocean Science Center Education
- Site of the Month: University of Michigan, Michigan Today online magazine
- Site of the Month: Great Lakes Information Network, Great Lakes Commission

Send Us Your Feedback
Please send us your feedback about FLOW via our online form: www.miseagrant.umich.edu/flow/flow-feedback.html. FLOW was originally developed with support from the Great Lakes Fishery Trust in 2005. Michigan Sea Grant continues to support this curriculum effort.