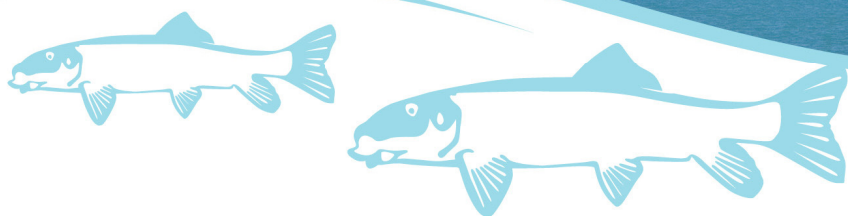


CITIZEN SCIENCE PROJECT

Mighty migrations of fish into Great Lakes streams



Join in the effort to document fish migrations in your local waterways!

Did you know that there are over 50 species of migratory fishes in the Great Lakes? A number of these fishes move from the main lake basins into rivers and creeks to spawn. These spawning migrations are not only important to sustain populations, but can also act as important sources of nutrients to local food webs.

In 2017, Shedd Aquarium and collaborators launched a citizen science project aimed at documenting the spawning run of two native Great Lakes species – the white sucker and longnose sucker. These species were selected because they move into tributaries in large numbers, are easy to see, and are found all over the Great Lakes. Volunteers collected data from 17 locations around the western shore of Lake Michigan and south shore of Lake Superior in this landmark effort. In 2018, we are hoping to increase the number of sampling sites and volunteers, and need your help to achieve this.

Looking for sites: Do you know a creek or river along the western side of Lake Michigan or southern side of Lake Superior that has a known sucker migration? Does it also typically have good water clarity to allow for seeing fish? If you know a site that fits these criteria, please contact Dr. Karen Murchie at kmurchie@sheddaquarium.org or (312) 692-2783.

Looking for volunteers: Do you have about 15 minutes/day for ≈4 weeks during Spring 2018 to commit to going to the same location to look for sucker presence? We would be looking to match citizen scientists to a location convenient to your home or work, and would consider teams of volunteers to monitor one location with good coordination. Training will be provided at the tributary you will be monitoring. If you're interested in potentially volunteering, please contact Dr. Karen Murchie (kmurchie@sheddaquarium.org or (312) 692-2783) and she will see if she can match you to a site.

For more information on the project, visit www.sheddaquarium.org

