STUDY PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Michigan **Project No.:** F-80-R-7

Study No.: 230520 **Title:** Evaluation of Michigan's inland fish stocking program and optimizing allocation of stocking resources by a system analysis.

Period Covered: October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006

Study Objectives:

1. Develop a conceptual model that identifies the objectives, constraints, and major components of the fish stocking program (see Figure 1).
2. Identify data and research needs for conducting stocking evaluation.
3. Identify criteria to quantify success of fish stocking and collect related data for these criteria by off-site angler surveys.
4. Build statistical models that quantify relationship between multiple measures of stocking success with stocking and non-stocking factors (e.g., travel costs, habitats, site attributes, and fishing regulations).
5. Use the stocking statistical models to predict consequences of different management scenarios on stocking success, to identify the critical trade-offs, risks, and uncertainties.
6. Use the relationship between angler-use and fish stocking in conjunction with historical fish stocking data to formulate an optimal reallocation of stocking resources.
7. Amend Michigan fish stocking guidelines to reflect stocking evaluation framework and specific criteria for selected species.
8. Update prescription process to include evaluation criteria.

Summary: No progress was made on this study due to reassignment of principle investigator Zhenming Su to other duties.

Findings: Jobs 1, 2, and 10 were scheduled for 2005-06, and progress is reported below.

Job 1. Title: Develop conceptual model.–No progress was made on this job due to reassignment of Zhenming Su to other duties.

Job 2. Title: Design off-site angler survey.–No progress was made on this job due to reassignment of Zhenming Su to other duties.

Job 10. Title: Write annual performance report.–This annual progress report was prepared as scheduled.

Prepared by: Kevin E. Wehrly
Date: September 30, 2006