Brandon Keesler

Hatchery Manager Iron River National Fish Hatchery U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 715-372-8510 02/04/2025

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Iron River National Fish Hatchery, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Great Lakes Aquarium's lake sturgeon rearing program. This important initiative aligns with our shared commitment to the conservation and restoration of lake sturgeon populations within the Great Lakes region.

The Great Lakes Aquarium has demonstrated a strong commitment to aquatic education, conservation, and public engagement. By incorporating the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's remote rearing trailer into their efforts, they will enhance opportunities for hands-on learning while contributing to the restoration of this iconic species. This program not only benefits lake sturgeon recovery but also fosters greater public awareness and stewardship for native fish conservation.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Iron River National Fish Hatchery fully support this program and recognize the significant value it provides to lake sturgeon conservation efforts. We look forward to continued collaboration with the Great Lakes Aquarium to ensure the success of this initiative.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Brandon Keesler

Hatchery Manager Iron River National Fish Hatchery U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service