

# Fly Fishing for Steelhead in the Manistee River

Article and picture from Jim Reed, Howell, Michigan. The following information is from an E-mail letter from Jim to Don Winne on July 29, 2005.

I am a very avid fly fisherman and fly tyer who has frequently fished in Montana and Idaho, and other places like Saskatchewan, Catskills in New York, New England and Alaska, and all over the Great State of Michigan.

My fly tying skills keep me busy as I do demonstrations around Michigan, including the Great Lakes Council Federation of Fly Fishers and Trout Unlimited.

I do demonstrations for the Inter-national Federation of Fly Fishers at their Annual Conclave in Montana, and at the International Fly Tying symposium in Somerset, New Jersey. Some of my flies were most recently published in the *Art of Angling Journal*.

The Michigan steelhead in the photo was caught on a yarn egg pattern and after the photo the fish was released back into the Manistee River.

I am also filling out the subscription form for the *Riparian* magazine. Keep up the good work and thanks for doing what you do.

Best Regards, Jim Reed



Picture of Jim Reed and Steelhead caught in the Big Manistee River near Wellston, Manistee County

## Higgins Lake Road Ends – Backloters Lose Again

By Cliff Bloom

On October 20, 2005, the Michigan Court of Appeals again reaffirmed that backlot owners cannot utilize certain public road ends at Higgins Lake for permanent boat mooring, picnicking, lounging, sunbathing, and similar activities. See *Higgins Lake Property Owners Association v Gerrish Township*, Case No. 262494. A visiting (and impartial) judge allowed a sign to be posted at the road ends listing prohibited activities. The visiting judge also held that overnight boat mooring was prohibited. Finally, the visiting judge held that people who use the road ends improperly can be found to be in contempt of court, even if they were not a party to the earlier litigation.

The Court of Appeals upheld the decisions of the visiting trial court judge. This case is yet another decision in a long line of Michigan cases which prohibits permanent boat mooring, lounging, sunbathing, private shorestations, and similar matters at public road ends, and confirms once again that the Higgins Lake backlot owners involved are not above the law.

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