

# High-tech, tagged fish and anglers will help in Grand River study

A number of Grand River bass have gone high-tech to help the effects of displacement on the movement patterns of smallmouths in the river.

Researchers from the University of Waterloo have implanted transmitters on 20 large fish and others have been tagged with a small, numbered plastic discs attached near the dorsal fins.

"If an angler catches any of these bass, we would appreciate a call," says Christopher Bunt. "Algae may have grown over the tag, but can easily be scraped off to reveal the numbers."

"We're particularly interested in the location, date, tag color and number," added Bunt who also asked anglers to be aware that even though the fish were caught and released in the Grand River, they may enter tributaries such as the Speed and Nith rivers.

As a reward to anglers who help gather scientific data, there will be a draw for \$100 worth of fishing tackle at the end of the study in July 1999.

"We hope the information that anglers provide us will help clarify our understanding of the behavior of smallmouth bass and help us improve the quality of the fishery for many generations to come," said Bunt.

Anglers catching any of the tagged bass should call Bunt or Steven Cooke at 1-519-893-2530 and leave a message with their name and phone number. Alternatively, information can be reported to the Ministry of Natural Resources office in Guelph at 1-519-826-4955 or to Natural Sports in Kitchener at 749-1620.



**BILL THOMPSON**

out Curtis Engler of St. Clements who placed second with a 21.10-pound salmon, while Ken Vibe of Elmira was right behind in third place with a 20.60-pound entry.

Other top 25 finishers included Jeff Sandlak of Kitchener, who took fifth place with a 19.52-pound entry. Kitchener's Gerry Swartz and Waterloo's Mark Williams finished in 16th and 18th place respectively with 17.48-pound and 17.28-pound salmon, and Wayne Chamberlain of Cambridge placed 22nd with a 16.70-pound entry.

A total of 3,166 salmon and 628 trout were entered over the 16 day derby.

## Free fly-fishing seminars

The gang at Grand River Troutfitters are offering a trio of free fly fishing seminars starting Saturday when store owner Ken Collins asks, "What about those panfish?"

On Saturday, Aug. 29, Ryan Seibel of Canada's Youth Fly Fishing team presents, Carp on the Fly, and Collins is back at the head of the class with Tying for Fall Steelhead on Saturday, Sept. 5.

For more information, call 1-519-787-