

SPOONPLUGGING STUDY GROUP, FEBRUARY 20, 2003

“MIKE MORAN”

The second **video** was of **Mike Moran on Muskegon Lake** during the **1992 Muskegon Outing**. Mike is a **longtime Spoonplugging instructor** from the Chicago area who has **excellent skills and reputation as a successful fisherman**. Mike **first** went over the process of how he **researched Muskegon Lake** to find out as much about it as possible. He told me things about it that I didn't know, and I had fished it a lot (e.g. a 7 pound smallmouth was caught in Lake Michigan north of the pier). **After studying the map** and the structures shown, he determined that the **Snug Harbor area and the channel to Lake Michigan would be 2 prime areas he would want to fish**. Most on-the-water work filmed was of **trolling the channel with wire line**. Mike explained that he picked this area **due to the depth (30+ feet), clean bottom, and current(cold front conditions)**. He used a **100 and wire to reach the base breakline at 32 feet**. When I inquired **why not use a 700**, he responded that the **weather conditions and species (walleye) indicated we might be better using a 100 on a longer line**. **Mike recommended** to those that want to improve their Spoonplugging skills as quickly as possible, that **they take only Spoonplugs and a trolling rod out on the water and work over structures thoroughly by trolling**. This will allow fish to be caught and structure visualization skills to be enhanced. Mike said that **he goes back to the “Green Book” after every fishing trip and reviews material about the conditions and situations that he just fished**. He **then asks** the question **“what could I have done to improve my results?”** This greatly speeds up his learning and growth in his fishing success.

Chase Klinesteker



Mike at the Northern Indiana Spoonpluggers 2010 outing with 5 pound bass