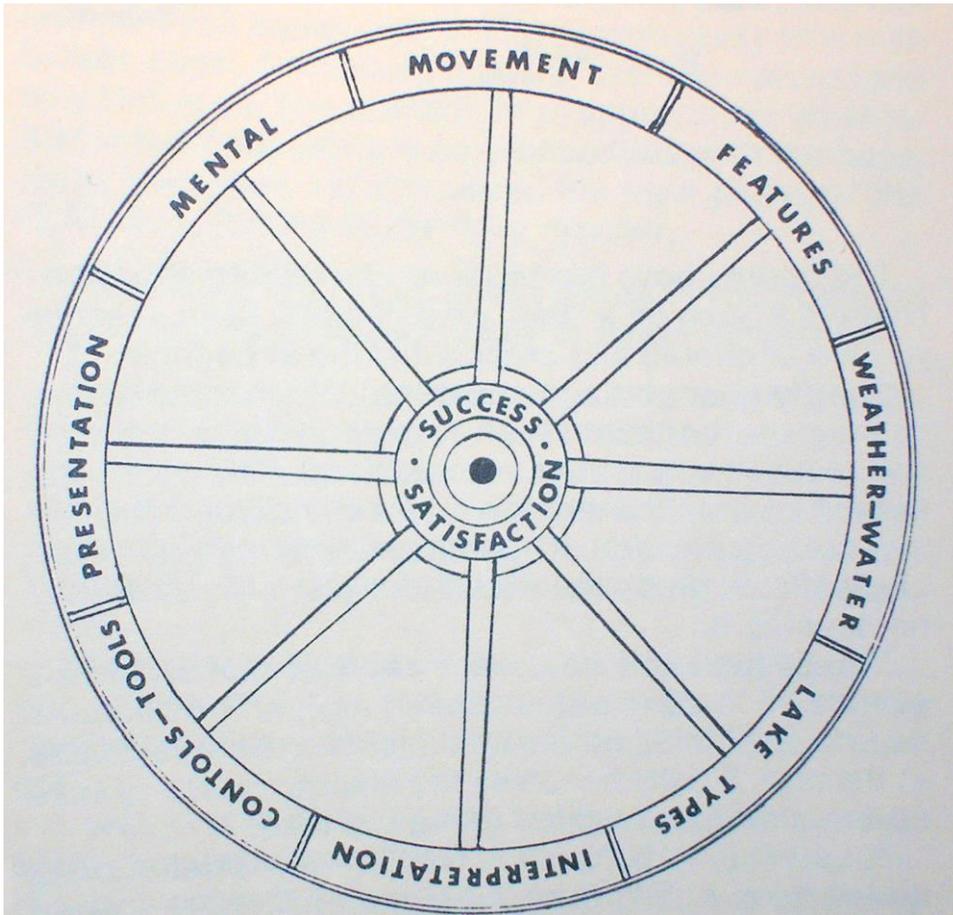


“CATCHING LARGER FISH”



All 8 areas of knowledge are needed for successful fishing

The program was a **seminar titled “Spoonplugging Basics”** that Chase Klinesteker had given in March at the Sport Show. It touched on the **8 areas of knowledge essential to one becoming a consistently successful fisherman**. The **“Wheel of Success and Satisfaction”** was shown with **Movements of Fish, Structure, Weather and Water, Lake Types, Mapping and Interpretation, Controls and Tools, Presentation, and Mental Aspects** all being **helpful** to a smooth ride in our **fishing endeavors**. Knowledge in all these areas is important but it can’t be learned in a short period of time. Spoonplugging study material was written to be used along with on-the-water experience to gain proficiency. That is why **it becomes a lifetime of study, growth, and increasing success**.

One of the subjects the seminar covered was how **Spoonpluggers seem to catch their share (and more) of trophy fish**. Successful fishing, as defined by Buck Perry, should include the catching of **large adult fish**. That is **the goal** of all Spoonpluggers, and our knowledge, tools, and procedures used are all aimed in that direction. **3 reasons** were given in the seminar as to **why Spoonpluggers catch more large fish** than the average fisherman.

- 1) **Our procedures require us to learn as much about a lakes' structures as possible.** This is mostly accomplished by trolling. We are fishing and at the same time learning structure detail. If we catch a nice fish, our search is considerably shortened. Then with detailed knowledge of the structures available, we can compare and select a few of the best ones, concentrating our fishing on them. As Frank Hamill has reminded us about the animals on the African savannah, "the biggest, baddest, and meanest get the best lie".
- 2) **Spoonpluggers catch large fish because we find the "hidden" structures or spots.** With heavy fishing pressure on many lakes, the "classic" structures that show on contour maps often have few adult fish on them. With the thorough trolling and straining of the water that our procedures require, we frequently find productive areas that are not on the map and other fishermen are not aware of. These are often found by catching a good fish on the troll and then stopping to fish and map the area in more detail. Many experienced Spoonpluggers get their biggest catches from these "hidden" structures.
- 3) **We always check the faster speeds, both casting and trolling.** The largest fish in a school are the strongest, most aggressive, eat the most, and can swim the fastest. They are usually caught first. And then speed should be increased to continue catching more.

Think about it. **Spoonplugging Procedures** and Guidelines are used in the above examples to **target the largest fish available**. Following procedures when on the water is essential to becoming a better Spoonplugger. **Do you follow procedures closely??**

Chase Klinesteker