

Ron Brooks bio:

Ron graduated from Southern Illinois University (SIU) with a Masters of Science Degree, and is currently the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) Fisheries Division Director, the Mississippi River Cooperative Resources Association's (MICRA) chair-elect, and the current Ohio River Fish Management Team (ORFMT) Chairman. He worked as a Researcher at SIU for 20 years prior to coming to Kentucky in 2009. His Research led to developments of important fish marking techniques, large river telemetry arrays, and various culture techniques. Ron has numerous publications from his research, has presented information at many public and professional meetings, and has co-authored book chapters concerning his research of black bass and other research. Ron has researched Asian carp since 2003 in the Illinois River. He has worked with MICRA since 2010 to lead the effort of educating the public and various state and congressional legislators concerning Asian carp ecological and economic threats, lead his agency in the first and only commercial fishing tournament to remove large quantities of Asian carp from Kentucky and Barkley lakes to further get public notice of Asian carp issues in the Mississippi River basin, and has worked to coordinate efforts to bring commercial fishing businesses that would focus their products on Asian carp in Kentucky and the remaining Mississippi River basin. Ron also has made Asian carp issues a priority at KDFWR, and he and his staff have worked with the ORFMT to prevent Asian carp from expanding up the Ohio River since 2012.