

I want to follow up the latest email regarding the MMPA and our discussions about sharpshooting using FFS with a few thoughts.

At what point have things gone too far?

Being able to drive around any waterbody in the state at 5mph and find the muskies...

no matter where they are,

no matter what part of the lake,

no matter what time of year,

no matter what time of day or night,

no matter if they're resting, feeding,

deep or shallow,

even if you've never been to the lake before or even looked at a map.

Then determine how big the fish is,

how deep the fish is holding,

exactly how far it is from the boat.

And then watch your lure from the moment it hits the water,

count it down and precisely present it within inches of the fish from a cast length away,

and watch in real time how it responds to your lure,

watch it follow and bite,

or see a response (or lack thereof) that tells you what to do with your next cast.

Then move on and find the next one,

and the next one,

and the next one....

Over and over and over.

Dozens of times in a single day, sometimes even more.

Not long ago, this would have sounded like science fiction. Futuristic fantasy.

That's sharpshooting muskies. It's real, here and now.

These fish have literally nowhere left to hide.

What's next?

Real-time, live-image sonar like FFS but in 360 degrees?

Scanning large pelagic fish from up to a mile away?

Using drones with cameras to fly lures away from the angler and present them directly to the fish?

Sound like science fiction?

It's not. These things are real too. Saltwater anglers are doing exactly that, and more, right now. And it's coming here eventually.

So how far is too far?

Where is the line in the sand?

If not here and now, then where?