

UORB monthly project status report  
For March 2012 Board

### **Shad Harvesting**

Shad harvesting began on Lake Apopka on October 1, 2011. The harvest was extended to mid-February, even though the harvest consisted of smaller fish. By the end of the harvest, the fishermen caught nearly 550,000 pounds of shad and other rough fish. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission reports that sportfish populations have increased on Lake Apopka. Current low lake levels make it difficult to launch a boat at Magnolia Park or Winter Garden. Otherwise, fishing effort on the lake would be much greater given the large stock of fish.