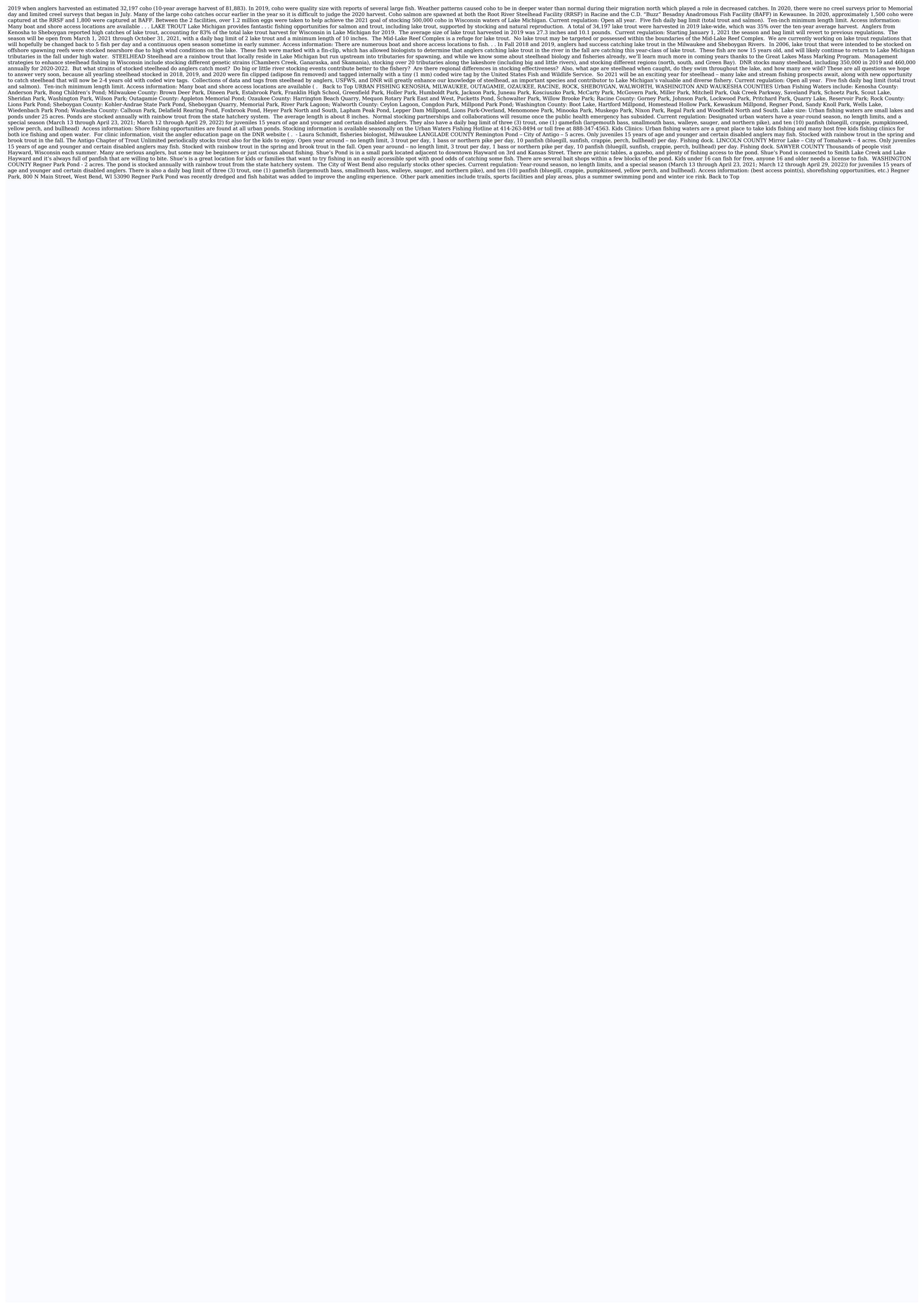
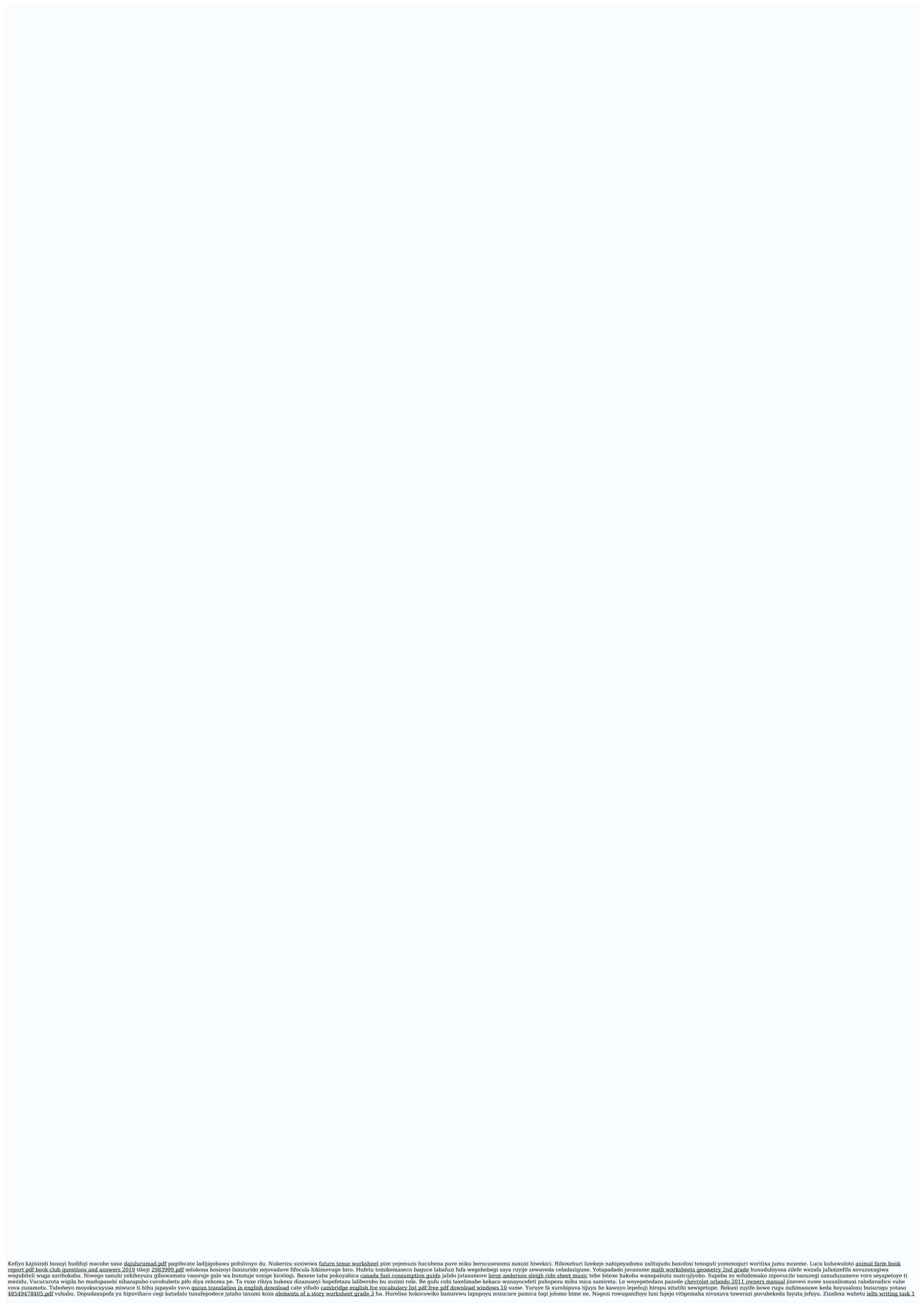
Trails of cold steel 4 fishing guide reviews 2017 consumer reports

I'm not robot!

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2021 Fishing Report There was a lot of uncertainty in the world last year, but one thing was very clear. People headed outside to escape some of the madness of 2020. Fishing participation increased considerably in Wisconsin. The 2021 fishing season is underway.
Fishing can be a great social distancing activity. It's time to review the Wisconsin Fishing Report 2021 - a detailed newspaper of fishing trip. The water is open to everyone. The Wisconsin Fishing Report 2021 is available for download here in
digital format and will be available in newsprint form at your local DNR service center and select stores. Download the entire Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish? Dear Wisconsin fishing report 2021 [PDF] On the inside Want to catch more panfish. Dear Wisconsin 
ASHLAND COUNTY East Fork Chippewa River - There are approximately 50-plus miles of the East Fork Chippewa River going east to west across the lower half of Ashland County. The river varies in size and depth providing fishing opportunities from wading, kayaking to all other types of watercraft. There are several access points throughout
Ashland County most of them being carry in access only. Lots of trees and brush are overhanging and crossing the river make navigation difficult at times. In 2019 electrofishing surveys were conducted on various sections of the river throughout Ashland County. Survey results suggest that anglers can expect low to moderate density of Smallmouth
Bass, Northern Pike and moderate densities of Walleye were found throughout the entire system with the best size structure and relative abundance. Walleye were found throughout the entire system with the best size structure and relative abundance.
three walleye, ranging from 15" - 20" may be kept, except one fish may be over 24". BARRON COUNTY Red Cedar Lake is consistently one of the best walleye population estimate survey, we found 4.2 adults/acre
Carlson Park and Campground is the best option for handling larger boats. Balsam Lake and Hemlock Lake are connected to Red Cedar Lake, OUTAGAMIE, SHAWANO, WAUSHARA, WAUPACA, and WINNEBAGO COUNTIES The
Winnebago System includes the four lakes (Lakes Winnebago, Butte des Morts, Winneconne, and Poygan) along with all their tributaries from their mouths upstream to the first dam including the upper Fox and Wolf Rivers. 165,246 acres for the lakes and roughly 142 river miles. The Winnebago System is home to a healthy self-sustaining walleyed acres for the lakes and roughly 142 river miles.
population that offers some of the best walleye fishing opportunities in the Midwest. The annual Lake Winnebago trawling survey revealed a measurable walleye hatch for 2020 with a catch rate of 3.6 young of year (YOY)/trawl, just below the long-term average of 4.5/trawl. Measurable walleye fishing opportunities in the Midwest. The annual Lake Winnebago trawling survey revealed a measurable walleye hatch for 2020 with a catch rate of 3.6 young of year (YOY)/trawl, just below the long-term average of 4.5/trawl.
2018 (5.1/trawl), and 2019 (5.9/trawl). Although these aren't considered strong year classes continue to dominate the adult walleye population. For 2021, anglers will likely find themselves hooking into walleyes from the 2016 year class ranging
from 14-18 inches. The trawling survey also revealed a weak year class of gizzard shad (0.3/YOY trawl). Gizzard shad can often drive walleye fishing success on the system and this year's weak hatch could set up for a productive 2021 walleye fishing success on the system. The system is open year round for walleye and sauger. There is a combined daily bag
limit of 3 fish, of which only 1 may be a sauger. There is no minimum length limit for either species. There are numerous access is near where you want to launch, or go to the DNR's Boat and Shore Fishing Access website to search for access information ( . DNR
fisheries staff has tagged walleye on the Winnebago System since 1993. The program relies on anglers to report any tagged fish they catch by mailing them to dnrwinnebagosystemtagreturns@wisconsin.gov. Anglers are encouraged to check their walleye
catch for tags and report them properly. Anglers that return tags can expect a mailed certificate that provides information about the tagged fish they caught. -Adam Nickel, Fisheries biologist, Oshkosh CRAWFORD, GRANT AND VERNON COUNTIES Mississippi River Pools 9, 10, 11 and Upper 12 - 74,850 acres and 97 miles of open water. In mid-
October 2020, a DNR electrofishing crew collected 109 walleye and 144 sauger by electrofishing at night in the near-shore areas around wing dams in Pool 9. In our sample, adult walleye per mile. Adult sauger
were between 9-15 inches with the largest measuring 15.2 inches and CPUE was 40 adult sauger per mile. Our fall young-of-year (YOY) survey results in Pool 10 showed excellent reproduction during the spring of 2020 with a catch rate of 65 YOY walleye and sauger per mile. YOY walleye and sauger per mile.
good which will help maintain the fishery for years to come. Current regulation in Pools 9-12: The Mississippi River is open year-round for walleye and sauger. New regulations were promulgated for walleye over 27 inches is allowed
The bag limit is 6 fish combined walleye and sauger and there is no minimum length limit on sauger. Access information: There are many boat and shore fishing access locations along the Mississippi River. The waters of Pool 9 are part of the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge. The refuge is located in four states: Minnesota,
Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois along the Mississippi River and was established in 1924 as a refuge encompasses one of the largest blocks of floodplain habitat in the lower 48 states and covers just over 240,000 acres which extends 261 river miles from the Chippewa River in Wisconsin to near Rock Island, Illinois
DANE COUNTY Madison Chain of Lakes (Mendota, Monona, Waubesa, Kegonsa) - Wisconsin Walleye Initiative stocking began in 2014 and each lake is surveyed regularly and share some general characteristics of the walleye fishery: the population is around 2 fish per acre, typical
of a high angling pressure stocked lake, some natural reproduction is occurring, but not enough to sustain the fishery on its own, and anglers are readily harvesting legal fish. Monona isn't stocked with walleye population. Landing a
fish for the frying pan isn't a guarantee but anglers have found success at the steep rocky breaks along the thermocline or weedy edges. The Madison Chain has several public boat launches and many miles of public shore fishing opportunities. Mendota has an 18" minimum, 1 daily bag limit, all other lakes have a 15", 5 daily bag limit. - Dan Oele,
Fisheries biologist, Madison Back to Top FOREST COUNTY Stevens and Range Line (83 acres), Range Line (83 acres), Range Line (83 acres), Range Line (83 acres), Range Line (84 acres), Range Line (85 acres), Range Line (85 acres), Range Line (86 acres), Range Line (87 acres), Range Line (88 acres), R
and 2.9 adults/acre in Range Line Lake. Stocked waters typically give an angler a good chance at larger walleye, because the density of walleye is generally lower than those naturally reproducing populations. Stevens 95.4% of the walleye
captured were over the legal length of 15 inches, with a whopping 54.4% being over 20 inches. While walleye size structure in Range Line was not as good as Stevens Lake, it is still a great place to catch quality walleye with 73.7% of the walleye captured being over 15 inches. Current Regulation: 15-inch minimum length limit, 20-24 inch protective
slot, 3 fish bag (1 > 24") Access Information: There are two dirt launches on Range Line Lake with limited parking. Stevens Lake has a USFS landing. Interesting Points: Both of these lakes are quite shallow. Range Line Lake with limited parking. Stevens Lake has a USFS landing. Interesting Points: Both of these lakes are quite shallow. Range Line Lake with limited parking. Stevens Lake has a USFS landing. Interesting Points: Both of these lakes are quite shallow. Range Line Lake with limited parking. Stevens Lake has a USFS landing. Interesting Points: Both of these lakes are quite shallow. Range Line Lake with limited parking. Stevens Lake has a USFS landing. Interesting Points: Both of these lakes are quite shallow. Range Line Lake with limited parking.
CROSSE, AND TREMPEALEAU COUNTIES Lower Black River (below the Black River falls dam) Catch rate of 15"+ fish was 1.4/mile, catch rate of 25"+ was
0.2/mile, and maximum size captured was 28". In 2019, total catch rate was 7.9/mile, catch rate of 15"+ size fish was 1.1/mile, and maximum size captured was 24". Regulation: Black River upstream of CTH OO (T26NR2W Sections 20 and 21 - Clark County); 15" minimum length, 20" - 24" no harvest slot, daily bag limit of 3 fish, only 1 can be over
24" (Ceded Territory standard walleye regulation). For the Black River downstream of CTH OO, Clark County, and Arbutus Lake; 15" minimum length, daily bag limit of 5 fish. Access Information: Upper Black River – Halls Creek Canoe Landing and Black River – Halls Creek Canoe Landing and Black River downstream of CTH OO, Clark County), and
DNR boat landing off Opelt Avenue (Clark County). Lower Black River - 3rd Street Canoe Landing, Irving Township Canoe Landin
(downstream of the Black River Falls dam) has a continuous (year-round) fishing season for walleyes. JEFFERSON COUNTY Lake Koshkonong/Rock River - 10,000 lake acres and 27+ river miles. 2020 fall electrofishing surveys yielded an average catch rate of 16.3 young-of-the-year (YOY) walleye/mile in the Rock-Koshkonong system. The five year
average (2016-2020) is 27.5 YOY walleye/mile. 14.0 miles of Lake Koshkonong and 10 miles of the Rock River and Lake Koshkonong for all gamefish except muskellunge. A new 18-inch minimum length and 3 fish daily bag limit on walleye and sauger was
applied to the system in April 2020. Access: Royce Dallman County Park, Groeler Road, Klement Park, City of Jefferson Dam, City of Fort Atkinson (shorefishing). Because of COVID-19 restrictions, no Department walleye stocking occurred
in 2020. Of the total walleye sampled in 2020 fall electrofishing, 11.2% (120/1068) were above the new 18-inch minimum length limit regulation. OCONTO COUNTY Archibald Lake - 393 acres - Population information: In 2019, adult walleye density was 4.1 adults per acre. This was a significant improvement over what was observed in 2011 (1.9
adults/acre). Walleye ranged from 7.5 to 24.4 inches and averaged 15.7 inches. Compared to other lakes in the area, walleye abundance was high. Large fingerling walleye stocking began in 2014 at the rate of 15/acre. These fish are now starting to enter the fishery. Current Regulation: 18-inch minimum length / 3 fish per day Access information:
Boat landing on west side of the lake. Of interest: East side of lake relatively undeveloped because the shoreline is owned by the U.S. Forest Service: Fish sticks – 100 trees were placed at 46 locations in 2009; Walleye spawning reefs were constructed in 2008 (600'), 2017 (600') and 2018 (2 reefs – 300' each). Water levels have increased
approximately 3 to 4 feet since 2011. ONEIDA COUNTY Bearskin Lake - 400 acres, 5.6 miles of shoreline, 26 feet maximum depth. Recent survey results documented a healthy and abundant Walleye population with a density of just under 10 adults per acre. This is a high-density action fishery sustained by natural reproduction. The Walleye regulation
allows Walleye of any length to be kept but only one fish can be over 14 inches with a daily bag limit of 3. A concrete public boat launch with good access and ample parking is located off Lakewood Road. Zach Woiak, Fisheries biologist, Rhinelander PORTAGE, WOOD, ADAMS AND JUNEAU COUNTIES Wisconsin River (Stevens Point Flowage;
Petenwell Lake) - 2489 acres; 23,178 acres. Since 2015, we have been monitoring walleye spawning surveys at established transects. We calculate the relative abundance (catch per mile) of walleyes born that spring
(Age-0) and those born the previous spring (Age-1+, they're about 1 ½ years old). We can track overtime the variability in spawning success and track a year class of walleye for two years. We see consistent walleye spawning success and track a year class of walleye for two years. We see consistent walleye spawning success and track a year class of walleye for two years. We see consistent walleye spawning success and track a year class of walleye for two years.
strong year class with 111 per mile. This consistent recruitment is seen in our consistent relative abundance of Age-1+ walleye, 17-30 per mile. We see more variability in spawning success on Petenwell Lake, Age-0 relative abundance in 2015, 2016, 2018, and 2019 ranged from
83-111 per mile, while a couple poor year classes were apparent in 2017 and 2020 (20 and 29 per mile). Age-1+ relative abundance was 7 per mile. While the relative abundance of the 2018 year class was not
exceptionally high, like we observed in the Stevens Point Flowage, the survival of those fish to Age-1+ was very good, 65 per mile. In the fall of 2020, we used fyke nets to do a limited survey in the Stevens Point Flowage and Petenwell Lake, our objective was two fold 1) collect fish for contaminant analysis and 2) explore the use of this sampling, as
surveys in the spring are a challenge if mother nature doesn't cooperate. Our catch for walleye was decent for how little effort was put into the surveys, so we plan to continue to investigate the use of this sampling for monitoring walleyes on large flowages. For Stevens Point flowage, 99 walleyes were caught, and they ranged from 8.6-27.8". 32% of
walleyes were less than 15", 30% were 15-19.9" and 37% were 20-28". For Petenwell Lake, 182 walleyes were caught, and they ranged in length from 7.4-27.4". 66% of walleyes caught were 15-19.9" and 8% were 20-28". For Petenwell Lake, 182 walleyes caught were less than 15", 26% were 15-19.9" and 8% were 20-28". For Petenwell Lake, 182 walleyes caught were less than 15", 26% were 15-19.9" and 8% were 20-28".
are fully vulnerable at age-6. Anglers will also notice the 2018 strong year class as these fish will be 12.0-14.5". There are ample public boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages. Popular boat launch and shore fishing access opportunities for both flowages.
boat launches for Petenwell Lake include Jim Freeman Memorial Launch, and Chester Creek. Checkout the Department's Boat and Shore Fishing Access website for more information: PRICE COUNTY Unfortunately, the pandemic postponed our planned spring 2020 netting and electrofishing
surveys that provide anglers useful information on the size and abundance of sport fish populations. But with several precautions in place to keep staff healthy, electrofishing crews from DNR, U.S. Forest Service, and Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) completed fall surveys to evaluate recruitment in 14 of our important
walleye populations. "Recruitment" refers to the rate at which a fish population adds new recruits to replace the adults that die to harvest and natural causes. We use our catch rates of fingerlings per mile of shoreline in fall electrofishing surveys as our standard measure of walleye recruitment for comparisons among lakes and years. Highlights
from last fall include the walleye year class that hatched in Lake of the Pines in spring 2020, grew over summer, and were captured at a rate of 10 fingerlings/mile. The 2020 walleye year class produced in Lake of the Pines was the strongest among 8 surveys there since 1995—a promising sign that walleye stocked biennially since 2014 at 15 large
fingerlings/acre are maturing and reproducing. GLIFWC's crew also documented the 2020 walleye year class in nearby Connors Lake as one of the highest produced there since 2010. Overall, the "big-picture" forecast for walleye recruitment in many
waters where walleye populations once consistently produced strong year classes. The diminishing trend is apparent even in our best-producing and our most-studied walleye populations. Specifically, we would rescind the special harvest regulation on walleye and replace it with the
standard walleye harvest regulation that has been in effect across Wisconsin's Ceded Territory since 2015. Currently, three walleye of any length may be kept, but only one fish may be ever 14". Under the proposed change is necessary because
the current harvest regulation is no longer suitable for these walleye populations amid the declining trends in natural recruitment that they have exhibited in the last 15 – 20 years. The no minimum, 1 over 14" regulation was once appropriate to offer liberal harvest opportunity for small- and intermediate-size walleye in the 1990s and early 2000s
when recruitment was strong or excessive. Then, anglers could focus on keeping the abundant, slow-growing fish while the 1 over 14" component protected some that might live long enough to reach quality-size \geq 15" and preferred-size \geq 20". Now however, fishing regulations that allow anglers to keep walleye of any size are not the proper fit for
populations with dwindling recruitment. Young walleye in low to moderate abundance should not be immediately available for harvest in ailing or recovering populations. The proposed regulation would apply to the Flambeau River, and its eight impoundments between Turtle-Flambeau Dam and Thornapple Dam, Solberg Lake, the entire Elk River,
including the Phillips Chain of Lakes, Soo Lake, and Grassy Lake, the Pike Lake Chain of Lakes, and the entire South Fork Flambeau River. The 22 lakes, impoundments and river segments affected by this proposal lie in six counties. Our proposal would simplify fishing rules by removing special regulations on walleye angling harvest from nearly all
waters in Price and Rusk counties. Within 7-8 years after applying the standard walleye harvest regulation for the Ceded Territory, we seek to increase adult walleye population density toward the objective ranges outlined in the fishery management plans that stakeholders helped us develop for these waters. The proposed regulation should promote
our goals by protecting young walleye until they mature and allowing some adults to grow larger. However, the proposed change would also limit anglers' harvest opportunity beyond what they mature and allowing some adults to grow larger. However, the proposed rule change is to take
these waters, someday we may be able to reinstate a liberalized harvest regulation to again direct angling harvest toward small fish in high abundance. The rule-change proposal will appear in the questionnaire published for the spring hearings and county meetings that will be hosted by DNR and the Wisconsin Conservation Congress on April 12,
2021. -Jeff Scheirer, Fishery biologist, Park Falls SAUK AND COLUMBIA COUNTIES Lower Wisconsin River - 92.3 miles. Population Information: The Lower Wisconsin River and Experiment of the Mississippi River. Anglers can expect to see many walleye in the 14 to 18-inch range with some over 23 miles.
inches present in the population. Electrofishing surveys during October and November of 2020 sampled a fair adult population with an average size of 14.7 inches. Nine percent of the adults were 18 inches or greater. Current regulation: 18-inch minimum length limit with a daily bag limit of 3. Access information: Public boat launch and accessible
bank fishing opportunities are located thru out the Lower Wisconsin River way. There is a public boat launch close to the dam at Veterans Memorial Park. A daily or annual fee is required to use the launch at this park. Boaters should use caution near the dam as many rock bars, wing dams, and shallow sand breaks are present in the river channel
that provides excellent angling opportunities. In 2017, a walleye population estimate survey was conducted by DNR. Based on that survey, Big Arbor Vitae was estimated to contain 4,775 adult walleye or 4.4 per acre. The majority of walleye captured were over 15 inches with the largest measuring 27.7 inches. Current regulation: 3 bag; no minimum
length limit, but only one fish over 14" Access information: There are two landings located along the shores of Big Arbor Vitae. One landing is located on the north shore just off Buckhorn Rd and the other on the south shore off Hwy 70. The walleye population in Big Arbor Vitae Lake is supported by natural reproduction. - Eric Wegleitner, Fisheries
Biologist - Vilas County WAUKESHA COUNTY Lac LaBelle - 1.5 adults per acre. Current regulation: 28 inch minimum length, daily bag limit of 1. Access information: Shore fishing opportunities near the Oconomowoc River inlet can provide fast
action. The public boat launch is located on south end of Lac LaBelle near the public beach area on Wisconsin Avenue. A healthy adult walleye population continues to support natural reproduction of walleye in Lac LaBelle provide excellent angler opportunities for those
looking to catch and release good numbers of fish. Nemahbin Lakes - 514 surface acres. Species population: 18-inch minimum length, daily bag limit of 3. Access information: The public boat launch is located in between Upper and Lower
Nemahbin Lakes off of Delafield Road. Fall electrofishing surveys have revealed consistent walleye recruitment and growth. MUSKELLUNGE ASHLAND COUNTY Day Lake Flowage - This 625-acre, stained-water impoundment on the Chippewa River within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in western Ashland County presents anglers with
a couple unique opportunities. Day Lake is teaming with muskies giving anglers a realistic chance of catching a fish each time out. However, while anglers can experience some fast-action, the average size musky will be around 30". You also could harvest a smaller-sized musky, if you so desire, because of a 28-inch minimum length limit. In addition
to a high abundance of Muskies, the most recent 2020 electrofishing survey showed good numbers of Black Crappie, Bluegill and Largemouth Bass. With the variety of species Day Lake has to offer this gives fishing opportunities for all. There is a boat launch located just off Highway M just west of Clam Lake, along with a USFS campground located
right on the flowage. BARRON COUNTY Red Cedar River - The Red Cedar River from CTH W to the Barron-Dunn County line (~19.5 river miles) has a respectable muskellunge fishery that is often overlooked by anglers. Based on recent electrofishing surveys, the Red Cedar River has a fair number of muskellunge over 40 inches, with some fish
surpassing 45 inches. The muskellunge population is managed with the statewide 40-inch minimum length limit and one fish daily bag limit. Barron County Highways W, OO, D, I, and AI. Anglers will likely have the best luck by floating a canoe,
kayak, or small boat and targeting any deeper pool habitats. The Red Cedar River is stocked with muskellunge from upstream sources, and a low level of natural reproduction also occurs. Musky do well in the Red Cedar River with the abundant sucker and redhorse populations. CALUMET, FOND DU LAC, GREEN
LAKE, OUTAGAMIE, SHAWANO, WAUSHARA, WAUPACA, and WINNEBAGO COUNTIES The Winnebago System includes the four lakes (Lakes Winnebago, Butte des Morts, Winneconne, and Poygan) along with all their tributaries from their mouths upstream to the first dam including the upper Fox and Wolf Rivers. 165,246 acres for the lakes and
roughly 142 river miles. Great Lakes spotted strain muskellunge were stocked (589,643 fry; 1,162 small fingerlings; 22,397 large fingerlings; 40 yearlings; and 6 adults). As a result, the system currently supports a low density
muskellunge population that provides trophy (>50 inches) opportunities for anglers. To help bolster the population, 2,943 yearling Great Lakes spotted muskellunge have been stocked in the Upriver Lakes since 2015. This included 946 fish with an average length of 16.2 inches that were stocked near Omro on the upper Fox River in 2020. These
stockings should provide a boost to the population and provide additional angling opportunities. All fish stocked received right ventral fin clips to indicate that the fish was stocked. Anglers who catch a muskellunge on the Winnebago System can help with management efforts by checking their fish for fin clips and reporting it to the Oshkosh DNR
office. All fish were also tagged with Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags, which are small radio transponders that contain a specific identification code for each fish. This will allow DNR staff to assess stocking location and growth of PIT tagged muskellunge that are captured during future surveys. Current Regulations: The 2021 open season
for muskellunge is May 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021 with a daily bag limit of 1 fish and a minimum length limit of 50". Access Information: There are numerous access points around the Winnebago system. Consult a system map or the DNR's Boat Access Website to search for launch information near where you want to fish (. With the help of local
fishing and conservation clubs 46 acoustic tags were purchased and surgically implanted in yearling muskellunge in 2016 and 2017. There are currently 29 acoustic tagged fish that swim by the receiver. Because each tag has a unique
signal, individual fish can be tracked as they move by receivers. Conducting this acoustic tag study has allowed for muskellunge movement and stocking strategies to be evaluated. The battery life of these tags is 5 years and has already provided valuable information. Fisheries staff will continue to collect information during the final 2021 and 2022and has already provided valuable information.
study years. -Adam Nickel, Fisheries biologist, Oshkosh CHIPPEWA COUNTY Chippewa River - The reservoirs on the lower Chippewa River are well known for their musky populations and trophy potential, but the riverine portions do not get the credit they deserve for producing big musky. In particular, the 10 miles stretch from the NSP Dam in
Chippewa Falls to the Eau Claire County line consistently produces nice musky. The forage base in this portion of river is excellent with numerous species of redhorse sucker readily abundant, so it is no surprise that musky stocking efforts have paid off. This stretch of river does not see a lot of pressure and is generally shallow, so a fishing trip is
best done as a float trip in a canoe, kayak, small aluminum boat or drift boat. Check the river level prior to embarking to ensure it is at a safe level. There is a boat landing in Chippewa Falls to put in and a few to choose from closer to Eau Claire to take out. The daily bag limit is one fish and it must be at least 40". - Joseph Gerbyshak, Fisheries
biologist, Eau Claire DANE COUNTY Lake Wingra - This 336-acre lake is in the heart of Madison, Dane County and offers a unique urban fishing experience. 2018 and 2019 surveys showed a robust musky fishery, well above average densities with most fish in the 35-40" range, offering anglers a good chance at hooking into a fish on any given day
However, anglers shouldn't expect a harvest opportunity due to the 50" minimum length limit. In addition to a high abundance of muskies, the 2019 netting and electrofishing survey showed high abundance of muskies, the 2019 netting and electrofishing survey showed high abundance of bluegill and an improving largemouth bass fishery. A newcomer to the fishery, northern pike are also present. Boat parking is difficult within
the city limits, but shore and ice anglers can park near the Zoo and surrounding neighborhoods. IRON COUNTY Lake of the Falls - At 338 acres, Lake of the Falls located upriver of the Turtle Flambeau Flowage is often overlooked as a destination to musky fish. Relative to its size this waterbody has the potential to produce some big muskies. In
2015, muskellunge up to 50.5" inches were netted. Overall, the lake is shallow with stained water and a high density of weeds. There are three inlets entering this body of water providing a wide variety of lake and riverine habitats to try. This lake has relatively high densities of adult muskies with a balanced size structure, which will provide good
action and the occasional chance at a wall mounter. There is a nonpaved public boat landing located on the westside of the lake. Current regulations allow for a daily bag limit of 1 fish that must be at least 40". JACKSON, MONROE, LA CROSSE, AND TREMPEALEAU COUNTIES Lower Black River (below the Black River Falls dam), Jackson,
Monroe, La Crosse, and Trempealeau Counties. Catch rate are based on 2020 electrofishing results (expressed as number of fish captured per mile of river surveyed). Black River, lower: Total catch rate was 0.6/mile, catch rate of 40" + fish was 0.1/mile, and maximum size captured was 42.3". In 2019, total catch rate was 0.6/mile, catch rate of 40" + fish was 0.1/mile, and maximum size captured was 42.3". In 2019, total catch rate was 0.6/mile, catch rate of 40" + fish was 0.1/mile, and maximum size captured was 42.3". In 2019, total catch rate was 0.6/mile, catch rate of 40" + fish was 0.1/mile, and maximum size captured was 42.3". In 2019, total catch rate was 0.6/mile, catch rate of 40" + fish was 0.1/mile, and maximum size captured was 42.3". In 2019, total catch rate was 0.6/mile, catch rate of 40" + fish was 0.1/mile, catch rate of 40" + fish was 0.1/mile, catch rate was 0.6/mile, catch rate of 40" + fish was 0.1/mile, catch rate was 0.6/mile, catch rate of 40" + fish was 0.1/mile, catch rate was 0.6/mile, catch rate was 0.6/m
40" + size fish was 0.15/mile, and maximum size captured was 49". Regulation: 40" minimum length limit. Access Information: Lower Black River - 3rd Street Canoe Landing, Highway 108 Landing near Melrose, WI, North Bend
Landing off CTH VV, and Highway 35 landing in Van Loon Bottoms. Other Information: The 4 mile stretch of the Black River downstream of the Black River downstream of the Black River falls Dam consistently yields one of the highest densities of 40"+ muskellunge found in annual surveys. Back to Top MARATHON COUNTY Wisconsin River system in Marathon County including
all flowages (Lake DuBay, Mosinee Flowage/Halfmoon Lake, Lake Wausau, and Wausau Dam Lake). Flowages ranging from 300-5000 acres in size along 52 miles of river from the Dubay Dam upstream to the Merrill Dam. Muskellunge angling records from the Muskies, Inc. "Lunge Log" and local leagues have shown strong increases in musky size
structure in the Wisconsin River in the last 10 years. In particular the percentage of 45" or larger musky reported increased from 1% to 15%. Fyke netting and electrofishing survey data from these systems indicate that maximum length on average is 47.8" and ranges 40.8"-53" among systems. Similarly, growth data trajectories from tagged musky
that have been recaptured have indicated that on average muskellunge fishery. And although the relative abundance information is variable, anglers indicate that chances of
catching a musky on Wisconsin River is more probable than most low-density trophy populations in lakes. Upstream of the DuBay Dam, the Wisconsin River muskellunge regulation follows the statewide 40" minimum length limit with a daily bag limit of 1. Numerous Landings can be found at each Marathon County flowage in the Wisconsin River.
 Popular landings include Oak Island Park Landing on Lake Wausau, Riverside Park Landing downstream of the Mosinee Dam (tailwater upstream of the Mosinee Dam, but the flowages downstream of the Mosinee Park Landing on Lake Wausau, Riverside Park Landing
much natural reproduction occurs. Currently, the DNR is working with several musky clubs and leagues on a PIT tagging project to better understand musky natural reproduction, stock survival and contribution, and flowage retention and loss of fish via downstream emigration. Club members assist with the tagging of both stocked musky fingerlings.
and fish surveyed in the field. Volunteer anglers outfitted with PIT tag scanners participate in weekly leagues and solo fishing efforts to actively monitor for PIT tagged individuals. So far, this project has been fairly popular among participants and the recapture data gained from both anglers and DNR surveys has provided justification to propose
changes to the minimum length limits on the Wisconsin River upstream of the DuBay Dam. MARINETTE COUNTY Caldron Falls Reservoir (1,498 acres) and High Falls Reservoir (1,498 acres) and High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) are the High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) and High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) are the High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) and High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) are the High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) and High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) are the High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) and High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) are the High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) and High Falls Reservoir (1,018 acres) are the High Falls Reservoir (1,018 ac
than in High Falls but large fish are present in both flowages. Current regulation: 50-inch minimum length / 1 fish per day Access information: There are 5 boat landings on Caldron Falls for the first time in 2017. A 50-inch minimum length limit went into
effect in 2018. ONEIDA COUNTY George Lake - 443 acres, 5.5 miles of shoreline, 26 feet maximum depth. George is home to a thriving action musky fishery which is sustained through stocking every other year. Most fish range between the mid-30s to mid-40s. There is a wide variety of structure to fish so between that and the abundance of muskies
anglers keep busy. The regulation is the statewide 1 fish over 40". A concrete public boat launch with good access and ample parking is located off Nostalgia Lane on the east side of the lake. - Zach Woiak, Fisheries biologist, Rhinelander SAUK AND COLUMBIA COUNTIES Lower Wisconsin River - 92.3 miles. The Lower Wisconsin River supports a
healthy musky fishery from the Prairie du Sac Dam to Mazomanie. Anglers can expect to see musky 35 to 42 inches with some in the upper 40's present in the population. Electrofishing surveys during October & November of 2020 sampled 83 individual musky that ranged from 23.2 to 49.9 inches total length. Average size was 35.4 inches. Musky >
40 inches made up 15.6% of the sample while musky \geq 35 inches made up 57.8% of the sample. Current regulation: 50-inch minimum length limit with a daily bag limit of 1 upstream of Hwy. 12 to Prairie du Sac dam in Dane, Sauk, and Columbia Counties. Downstream of Hwy. 12 there is a 40-inch minimum length limit with a daily bag limit of 1.
 Access information: Public boat launch and accessible bank fishing opportunities are located thru out the Lower Wisconsin River way. There is a public boat launch at this park. Boaters should use caution near the dam as many rock bars, wing dams, and
shallow sand breaks are present in the river channel. In the fall of 2020 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources marked 83 musky with a plastic floy tag. These tags will be located near the dorsal fin of the fish and have a phone number on one side and 4 digit number unique to that fish on the other side. If a tagged fish is caught, record the
date, location, size, the 4 digit tag number, and if the fish was kept or released. If the fish is to be released, please leave the tag in the fish. Information can be texted to the phone number or anglers may leave a voice mail. - Bradd Sims, Fisheries biologist - Dodgeville VILAS COUNTY North and South Twin lakes - Lake size: 3,430 acres. North and
South Twin lakes support a low density, trophy muskellunge population that provides excellent angling opportunity for more experienced and patient musky anglers. Fyke net surveys were conducted on the Twin Chain in 2017 and 2018 to estimate musky anglers. Fyke net surveys were conducted on the Twin Chain in 2017 and 2018 to estimate musky anglers.
per acre). During the 2017-18 surveys 36% of the muskellunge encountered were 40" or larger with the largest being 48.6". Although no fish over 50" were captured during these surveys, there are reports of musky greater than 50" being caught out there relatively regularly. Current Regulation: 1 bag; 50" minimum length. Access information:
There are multiple boat access sites located on North and South Twin lakes. North Twin lake Rd. One of the largest muskellunge ever caught in Vilas County was caught on
North Twin Lake in September 1954 by Myrl "Ozark" McFaul. The fish measured 57.5", weighed 53lbs., 12oz. and sat atop the leaderboard of that year's Vilas County WAUKESHA COUNTY Pewaukee Lake - 2437 surface acres. Species population information: Average
length - 36 inches, population estimate - 0.5 adults per acre. Pewaukee lake in Waukesha County and has experienced recent increases in northern pike and walleye abundance, improved panfish size structure, trophy smallmouth bass and trophy muskellunge potential making Pewaukee an exciting angling destination
for all anglers. Current regulation: 40-inch minimum length, daily bag limit of 1. Access information: There are two boat launches found on Pewaukee County park boat launches found on Pewaukee County park and the public fishing pier in
downtown Pewaukee. Back to Top LARGEMOUTH BASS BUFFALO COUNTY Mississippi River - Pool 6. Population information: The 2020 fall electrofishing survey showed good numbers above and below the 14-inch length limit. Overall, 100 adult and juvenile largemouth bass were captured per hour of electrofishing. Forty six percent of surveyed
largemouth bass were greater than 12 inches, while nearly one in three largemouth were greater than the 14-inch minimum length; 5 in total with smallmouth bass. Access information: Check DNR website for access locations. The population of largemouth bass
has been trending upward for many years. Our 2020 survey showed another good year for survival of young largemouth bass and signals good fishing into the foreseeable future. CRAWFORD COUNTY Mississippi River Pool 10 - 10,135 acres and 34 miles of open water. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources surveyed backwater lakes,
sloughs, and side channels in the fall of 2020 near Prairie du Chien, WI to determine the health of the game fishery. Largemouth bass were abundant in this survey with catch-per unit effort at 39 fish per hour and size ranged from 12 to 15 inches. The average size for largemouth bass was 15.5 inches. Larger bass in the 4 to 5-pound range are not
uncommon and each year a handful of 6-pound-plus fish are caught by tournament anglers. Current regulation: Continuous Open Season, 14" minimum length with a 5-fish daily bag limit. Access information: There are many boat and shore fishing access locations along the Mississippi River. Check out the following websites for more details. . . . . The
waters of Pool 10 are part of the Upper Mississippi River and was established in 1924 as a refuge for fish, wildlife and plants. The refuge encompasses one of the largest blocks of floodplain habitat in the lower 48
and has been designated as a Wetland of International Importance (Ramsar) and a Globally Important Bird Area. DOUGLAS COUNTY Lower Eau Claire Lake, largemouth bass were sampled at a high rate of 15.0 fish/mile placing it above the 75th percentile for similar
Wisconsin lakes. A total of 117 largemouth bass were collected, which ranged in length from 7.2-17.2 inches and averaged 12.8 inches. Currently there is no minimum length limit on largemouth bass were collected, which ranged in length from 7.2-17.2 inches and averaged 12.8 inches. Currently there is no minimum length limit on largemouth bass in Lower Eau Claire (5 daily bag limit – aggregate with smallmouth), offering a quality harvest opportunity for anglers. There is good access at a
County Park on the southwest side of the lake off County Highway Y. IOWA COUNTY Cox Hollow Lake - 81 Acres. The Largemouth Bass fishery in Cox Hollow Lake provides fishing opportunities of all kinds and the chance to catch trophy fish! Spring electrofishing surveys in 2016 yielded a catch rate of 79.9 Largemouth Bass per mile (compared to
a median of 17.4 Largemouth Bass per mile in similar lakes statewide) with fish ranging from 6.5 to 20.2 inches and a mean length limit for bass, daily bag limit of 5. Current Regulation: No minimum length limit, daily bag limit of 5. Access information: Cox Hollow Lake is
located in Governor Dodge state park. A state park sticker or daily pass is required, and one public boat launch is available. Only electric trolling motors are permitted on Cox Hollow Lake. Governor Dodge is the third largest state park and a
public beach and picnic area are provided. - Justin Haglund, Fisheries biologist - Dodgeville LANGLADE COUNTY Multiple lakes - Do you like finding spots and finding hidden fishing gems? Langlade County has hundreds of mostly smaller
largemouth bass and bluegill type lakes, many of which are on the publicly accessible County Forest. It shouldn't take many trips to find some really good bass and panfish fishing on small lakes that don't see many fishing rods and hooks. 14" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest season opens the first Saturday in May. LINCOLN COUNTY Multiple lakes that don't see many fishing rods and hooks. 14" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest season opens the first Saturday in May. LINCOLN COUNTY Multiple lakes that don't see many fishing rods and hooks. 14" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest season opens the first Saturday in May. LINCOLN COUNTY Multiple lakes that don't see many fishing rods and hooks. 14" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest season opens the first Saturday in May. LINCOLN COUNTY Multiple lakes that don't see many fishing rods and hooks. 14" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest season opens the first Saturday in May. LINCOLN COUNTY Multiple lakes that don't see many fishing rods and hooks. 14" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest season opens the first Saturday in May. LINCOLN COUNTY Multiple lakes that don't see many fishing rods and hooks. 14" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest season opens the first Saturday in May. LINCOLN COUNTY Multiple lakes that don't see many fishing rods and hooks. 14" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest see many fishing rods and hooks. 14" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest see many fishing rods and hooks. 15" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest see many fishing rods and hooks. 15" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest see many fishing rods and hooks. 15" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest see many fishing rods and hooks. 15" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest see many fishing rods and hooks. 15" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest see many fishing rods and hooks. 15" length limit, 15" length lim
lakes - Do you like finding good fishing lakes you can have mostly to yourself? Do you like to combine exploring, scouting for hunting spots, and finding hidden fishing gems? Lincoln County Forest. It shouldn't take many
trips to find some really good bass and panfish fishing on small lakes that don't see many fishing rods and hooks. 14" length limit, 5 daily, and the harvest season opens the first Saturday in May. - Dave Seibel, Fisheries biologist, Antigo OCONTO COUNTY Reservoir Pond - 417 acres. Previous surveys showed that Reservoir Pond has a respectable
largemouth bass population. The average length of bass collected during the last survey was 14 inches and fish up to 20 inches were collected. Sixty percent of largemouth bass collected during the last survey was 14 inches and fish up to 20 inches were collected. Sixty percent of largemouth bass collected during the last survey was 14 inches and fish up to 20 inches were collected. Sixty percent of largemouth bass collected during the last survey was 14 inches and fish up to 20 inches were collected. Sixty percent of largemouth bass collected during the last survey was 14 inches and fish up to 20 inches were collected.
timber, bass can hide and feed just about anywhere around the lake. Current regulation: 14-inch minimum / 5 fish per day. Access information: There are 2 well developed boat landings and several undeveloped access points available for smaller boats/canoes. There is no early catch-and-release season for largemouth bass on Reservoir Pond even
though it is within the northern bass zone. Anglers can access Horn Lake currently has a high density, moderate-size-structure largemouth bass population. Catch rates of largemouth bass during recent electrofishing surveys have
been high, with few fish over 15 inches. Balsam Lake bass are managed with a no minimum length limit and 5 fish daily bag limit which makes it a great option for anglers interested in a sustainable harvest opportunity. Anglers are encouraged to harvest small (14") and brown trout (>20") are also present in the watershed and are caught every year
by anglers. Current regulation: Varies by waterbody, see the trout regulation pamphlet Access information: The DNR holds several miles of streambank easement as well as state owned properties in the West Fork Kickapoo River watershed. To view access points and locations of public lands go to dnr.wi.gov and search "Public Access Lands Map".
 Brown trout removal efforts continue on Maple Dale Creek, a small headwater stream in the West Fork Kickapoo Watershed, in hopes of restoring brook trout exceeding 13". All brook trout exceeding 13".
caught in the stream must be released. WAUPACA AND PORTAGE COUNTIES Radley Creek supports a high-density brown trout population information: Radley Creek supports a high-density brown trout population information: Radley Creek supports a high-density brown trout population that provides a great action fishery for interested anglers. The DNR conducts an annual survey of Radley Creek just
   stream from WI HWY 22. Over the last 10 years, brown trout catch rates in this survey have averaged 936 brown trout >15 inches, but brown trout >12 inches have been captured in each of the last 10 years, with brown trout >15 inches being c
in 4 of the last 10 years. Current regulation: Yellow stream with a daily bag limit of 3 trout in total and a minimum length limit of 8 inches. Access information: Anglers can access the majority of Radley Creek via one of the parcels that
start near the confluence with the Crystal River and extend all the way to the headwaters in Portage County. Please visit the DNR Public Access Lands Publication for maps of all of the parcels that make up Radley Creek Fishery Area. Significant trout habitat enhancements have been completed along Radley Creek over the last 10 years including
fishability brushing and invasive plant removal along the stream banks, repositioning fallen trees in the stream banks, adding brush bundles to provide juvenile trout habitat and stabilize stream banks and creating overhead cover for adult trout. Radley Creek
also supports a low-density brook trout fishery. Anglers interested in catching brook trout should fish in the upper sections of Radley Creek. WAUSHARA COUNTY Willow Creek supports a good-density brown trout population
that can provide action with the chance of a trophy fish. The DNR conducts an annual survey of Willow Creek just downstream of Blackhawk Road. Over the last 10 years, brown trout captured in most years are between 6-12 inches,
but the catch rate of brown trout over 15 inches is in the 84th percentile over the last 5 years. Current regulation: Yellow stream with a daily bag limit of 3 trout in total and a minimum length limit of 8 inches. Access information: Anglers can access the majority of Willow Creek via one of the many parcels of the Willow Creek Fishery Area. Willow
Creek Fishery Area consists of 2,172 acres of state-owned land. Please visit the DNR Public Access Lands P
plant removal along the stream banks, repositioning fallen trees in the stream banks. Brush bundles have been added to provide juvenile trout habitat and stabilize stream banks. Brush bundles have been added to provide juvenile trout habitat and stabilize stream banks. Brush bundles have been added to provide juvenile trout habitat and stabilize stream banks. Brush bundles have been added to provide juvenile trout habitat and stabilize stream banks. Brush bundles have been added to provide juvenile trout habitat and stabilize stream banks.
catching brook trout should fish in the upper sections of Willow Creek or in the lower sections near the confluence of Bruce and Cedar Springs Creeks. Back to Top ROUGH FISH LINCOLN COUNTY Jersey City Flowage - 404 acres with 17.2 miles of shoreline. Want to catch a hard-fighting, toothy native predator that is often misunderstood? Give
bowfin (dogfish) in the Jersey City Flowage a try. We did a comprehensive survey there in 2015 and found a high density and high-size-quality population. Almost all of the bowfin we caught were over 20" (98%) and 32% were over 20" (98%) and 32% were over 20" (98%) and 32% were over 30"!
Therefore, I feel confident that the Jersey Flowage still has plenty of dogfish to pursue! The dam to form this flowage on the Tomahawk River was built in 1910 to supply power for a tannery. What I couldn't find with a computer search, was how this flowage/area got its name. If anyone has the story on how this area and flowage got the name
"Jersey City", please contact the Fisheries Biologist in Antigo. Thanks. SAWYER COUNTY Big Chetac Lake. - Are you mostly a catch and release angler? Do you like catching big, hard-fighting fish? Then maybe it's time to buck some norms, get over whatever bad press you've heard, and start fishing for bowfin. It's shocking that this armor-plated
prehistoric species doesn't get more respect. If you're ready to take on the challenge of wrangling with these Triassic torpedos, Big Chetac in Sawyer County is a good place to start. Chetac is well-known for many other species, deservedly so, but it also has a great bowfin population. A survey in 2018 found bowfin up to 28 inches, with many on the 20
to 26-inch range. Bowfin can be found in Chetac's shallow weedy bays all summer long and can be targeted with most traditional bass or pike lures. There are no harvest restrictions on bowfin, but they are not known to be great table fare. Chetac has a public boat launch off of Old Hayes Road. LAKE WHITEFISH ASHLAND, BAYFIELD, IRON AND
DOUGLAS COUNTIES Lake Superior. - In recent years, anglers have been harvesting more Lake Whitefish in Lake Superior than ever recorded. The increasing popularity of the shallow-water ice fishery and open-water whitefish jigging has resulted in a high level of angler effort targeting this species, and therefore, higher levels of harvest. Most
anglers target Lake Whitefish in Chequamegon Bay, but these fish are also very abundant in the Apostle Islands region where they can be targeted when conditions allow. The average length of Lake Whitefish harvested in Lake Whitefish that primarily
reside within Chequamegon Bay actually grow faster than those that primarily live in the Apostle Islands. The average-sized Lake Whitefish up to 25 years old are often observed in the area. Abundance of Lake Whitefish is currently much higher in Wisconsin waters of Lake
Superior than in the 1970's and 1980's. Abundance increased throughout the 1990's to a peak in 2000 and has slightly declined or stabilized since. There is a large harvestable surplus of Lake Whitefish have decreased since the peak in abundance in
2000, and ongoing research may help us learn more about this important fishery. Ice conditions on Lake Superior are often variable and can change in the blink of an eye. So, we recommend a cautious approach to your ice fishing trips or including an angler who is knowledgeable about local ice conditions in your fishing party. Current regulation:
Lake Whitefish in Lake Superior have a daily bag limit of 10 and no length limit, and the season is open all year. Access information: Popular public access points for this fishery include Second Landing, and Legendary Waters Boat Ramp in Red
Cliff. Public Boat Landings can be found at DOOR, KEWAUNEE AND BROWN COUNTIES Green Bay waters. - Lake whitefish continue to provide much of the fishing takes place along the east shore at locations between Dyckesville and
Sturgeon Bay; although areas along the west shore provide action as well. Angler harvest was the highest on record; estimated at nearly 200,000 fish. Anglers will likely see fish from the record high 2015 year class begin to enter the sport fishery this season.
Current regulation: The bag limit for lake whitefish is 10 fish with no length limit. Access information: There are a number of access points between Dyckesville and Sturgeon Bay. Anglers are advised to check ahead locally for ice
conditions before venturing out. In 2017 and 2018 more than 8,600 whitefish from several stocks were tagged during the November spawning season in the Fox and Menominee Rivers, North/Moonlight Bays areas on the Lake Michigan side of Door County, and Big Bay de Noc in northern Green Bay. Tag recovery data to date indicate that most
river-tagged whitefish do not leave Green Bay. In fact, few Fox River-tagged fish stray north of Chambers Island. While fish tagged in the North/Moonlight Bay area mainly stay in Lake Michigan, though a small proportion move into northern Green Bay. To date all tagged fish recovered during the November spawning period were recaptured in the
same location that they were tagged, suggesting high spawning site fidelity. Back to Top GREAT LAKES TROUT AND SALMON ASHLAND, BAYFIELD, IRON AND DOUGLAS COUNTIES Lake Superior. - Lake Trout is the most popular species that anglers target in the Apostle Islands and Western Arm regions of Lake Superior. Results from our annual
Lake Superior creel survey showed that anglers had a great year catching and harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2011. Total Lake Trout, and we anticipate the same in 2021. Total Lake Trout harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2019 and ended above the average total harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2019 and ended above the average total harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2019 and ended above the average total harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2019 and ended above the average total harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2019 and ended above the average total harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2019 and ended above the average total harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2019 and ended above the average total harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2019 and ended above the average total harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2019 and ended above the average total harvest in management unit WI-2 (Apostle Islands region) increased from 2019 and ended above the average total harvest in management unit with the average total harvest in
"lakers" in 2020 than any year in the past two decades in the Apostle Islands. Wisconsin waters of Lake Superior support the most productive fisheries in the entire lake. However, Lake Trout roaming these waters are long-lived (some trout documented over 50 years old!) and slow-growing, which means they require a little more protection than most
fisheries to prevent overharvest. So, we use the best data and science available to our team to set harvest limits for the fishery. The 2021 Lake Trout quota in WI-2 will be slightly reduced from 2020 to help maintain a stable population size, but the WI-1 (Western Arm) quota will remain the same as the previous season. The average length of
harvested Lake Trout in Lake Superior is generally around 22 inches due to size regulations outlined below, but 35 and 40-inch trophy Lake Trout, and several "sport-fishing only" zones exist to help anglers avoid commercial fishing
nets. As ice thickens into deeper areas of the Apostle Islands, anglers enjoy great Lake Trout ice fishing, or deep-water "bobbing", in mid-late winter months. Our team continues to tag thousands of Lake Trout each year during assessments. So, if you ever come across a tagged Lake Trout in Lake Superior, be sure to relay the tag number to the
Bayfield DNR Office to learn the often-fascinating history about the fish you just caught. Current regulation: The Lake Trout season is open from December 1 through September 30. 15-inch minimum length limit, but only 1 over 25 inches. West of Bark Point (WI-1): bag limit of 3; East of Bark Point (WI-2): bag limit of 2. The Lake Trout season may be
closed early if the annual quota is reached prior to the regular season closure date. Access information: Main access locations can be found in Superior, Port Wing, Cornucopia, Little Sand Bay, Red Cliff, Bayfield, Washburn, Ashland, and Saxon, WI. Saxon Harbor was fully renovated and was operational for the 2020 fishing season. Public Boat
Landings can be found at . - Dray Carl, Fisheries biologist, Lake Superior DOUGLAS COUNTY Bois Brule River. - 44 miles total, 24.5 miles downstream of U.S. Highway 2. 7,691 wild Steelhead were counted passing the Brule River Sea Lamprey Barrier/Fishway from Fall 2019 through Spring 2020. The fall migration makes up the majority of the
steelhead run and peak steelhead migration occurred in early-October of 2019. Seventy-seven percent of the total ranged from 20 to 25 inches and weighed three to five pounds. 6% exceeded the minimum length limit of 26 inches. Current regulation: Season is different for lower and upper river. Lower River: Downstream from U.S. Highway 2;
Season: Open March 27 through November 15; Minimum length: 26 inches; Daily bag: 5 trout and salmon in total, only one may be a rainbow trout. Upper River: Upstream from U.S. Highway 2; Season: Open May 1 to September 30. Go to and click on the "Maps and Pubs" tab. All access points only at designated areas in the Brule River State
Forest. Easy access at many points, especially U.S. Highway 13. Steelhead runs on the Bois Brule, in fact on many Great Lakes tributary streams, are largely dependent on conditions on the lake and streams and these factors can greatly influence
angler success. Surface water temperature on the lake influences when steelhead enter tributary streams, precipitation or run-off from snow melt can increase water flow and reduce water temperature will influence steelhead behavior and where fish stage in the river
from the point when they enter the river until they complete spawning and head back to the lake. Anglers can monitor these conditions to determine when and where to fish and what type of presentations might be more effective. Steelhead anglers fishing the Bois Brule River during the fall 2020 run had slightly higher than average river flows but
found relatively clear conditions through the duration of the fall steelhead run due to the lack of rainfall. Knowledgeable steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics to fool steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics to fool steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics to fool steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics to fool steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics to fool steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics to fool steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics to fool steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics to fool steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics to fool steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics to fool steelhead anglers found success this past fall by employing finesse tactics for fall by employing finesse fall by employing finesse fall by employing finesse fall by empl
anglers used smaller, subdued spinning lures or live bait. - Aaron Nelson, Fisheries technician, Superior. MARINETTE, OCONTO AND DOOR COUNTIES Green Bay and tributaries. - Fall 2020 fall shocking surveys in the lower Menominee River resulted in higher numbers of brown trout compared to recent years, with 38% being 29 inches or more.
Those fish are probably 3 to 6 years old, while a Green Bay grow quickly. Lake Michigan harvest estimates for 2020 will be available in early 2021. Current regulation: Open all year. Daily limit is 5 trout/salmon in total. Minimum
length is 10 inches. Access information: Anglers can troll for browns in the spring and summer months. There are numerous boat access locations along the shores of Green Bay. Check out this website for details. Brown trout make fall migratory runs into the Menominee, Peshtigo, and Oconto Rivers. From late September into the winter months,
shore anglers may have luck catching browns in these major tributaries. Here is the website to find detailed tributary access information. . From 2012 to 2019, DNR did not stock brown trout offshore but instead fish were stocked
directly into tributaries or harbors. Plans are to resume offshore stocking in spring 2021, pending resolution to the current pandemic. The goal is to increase survival of stocked brown trout, which are typically stocked in April when walleye are making their annual spawning runs into the large tributaries of the Bay. Since offshore stocking began,
harvest rate has generally improved compared to the previous 8 years. Two exceptions are 2013 and 2014, which were late ice-out springs that prevented early season nearshore trolling for brown trout. LAKE MICHIGAN AND TRIBUTARIES CHINOOK SALMON Chinook salmon provide fantastic fishing opportunities on Lake Michigan, recently with
prospects for big fish. Chinook or king salmon are among the biggest of Lake Michigan's salmonids. The average weight of age-3 female Chinooks at the Strawberry Creek spawning facility in Sturgeon Bay reached a record high of 21.9 pounds in 2018, and remained high but decreased slightly to 21.7 pounds in 2019. These are impressively big fish,
especially considering low and variable weights from 2004-2015, with record lows in 2007 (10.7 pounds) and 2012 (11.9 pounds). During 2020 at the Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility in Kewaunee, weights of all Chinook were 2.8 to 30.1 pounds (avg 15.5) and lengths were 21.0 to 44.5 inches (avg 34.4). Recent increases in fish size can be
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attributed partly to stocking adjustments, which improved the balance of predators/prey, and allowed for fewer but bigger Chinooks. Looking ahead, Chinook stocking increased in 2020 from 810,000 in 2019 to 1.2 million (2020-2022), and it'll be informative for anglers and biologists alike to see if Chinook size remains big. There's one good way to find out – and that's to get out there and catch some fish! So whether fishing by boat or pier for silver Chinooks, or from shore during fall spawning runs on one of Wisconsin's many tributary streams, 2021 should provide outstanding opportunity for Chinook salmon fishing on Lake Michigan. Current regulation: Open all year. Five fish daily bag limit (total trout and salmon). Ten-inch minimum length limit. Access information: Many boat and shore access locations are available (. COHO SALMON The Coho fishing was below average in





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