



Inland Seas Angler

# GREAT LAKES BASIN REPORT<sup>©</sup>

## Special Report – Lake Michigan Part 1

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## Highlights of the Annual Lake Committee Meetings

### Great Lakes Fishery Commission proceedings, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

This third of a series of annual special reports is a two-part summary of Lake Michigan. This lake committee report is from the annual Lake Committee meetings hosted by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission in March/April 2018. We encourage reproduction with the appropriate credit to the GLSFC and the agencies involved. Our thanks to IL DNR; Brian Breidert, IN DNR; USFWS, and the many other DNR biologists who make this all happen, and also thanks to the staffs of the GLFC and USGS for their contributions to these science documents. Thanks also to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, its staff, Bob Lamb & Marc Gaden, for their efforts in again convening and hosting the Upper Lake Committee meetings in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

## Lake Michigan – Part 1

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#### Highlights

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#### Abbreviation

#### Expansion

CPH	Catch per hectare
CWT	Coded Wire Tag
KT	1,000 metric tons
MDNR	MI Dept. of Natural Resources
SLCP	Sea Lamprey Control Program
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WTG	Walleye Task Group
YAO	Age 1 and older
YOY	Young of the year (age 0)

## Highlights

- 1.37 million **Chinook salmon** were stocked, the lowest amount since the last lake wide stocking reduction in 2013.
- 1.01 million **Brown trout** were stocked lakewide in 2017, a 38% decrease from 2016.
- 2.77 million yearling **lake trout** were stocked in 2017, a decrease of 9.2% from 2016.
- 1.94 million **Rainbow trout** were stocked lakewide in 2017, a 5% increase from the recent 5 year mean in Wisconsin waters and a 28% increase from the recent 5 year mean in Michigan waters.
- 2.66 million **Coho salmon** were stocked lakewide, a 7% increase from the total stocked in 2016.
- Data assembled shows continuing low levels of adult **yellow perch** abundance for the past four to five years.
- Abundance of 2015 Age-0 **yellow perch** in Illinois waters was substantially greater than in recent history.
- The '05 year-class of yellow perch was largest ever recorded and the '09 and '10 year-classes also were higher than average.
- No age-0 **yellow perch** were caught in 2017, indicating a weak year-class.
- Lake-wide biomass of **alewives** was estimated at 0.09 kilotonnes, a record low, and 75% lower than in 2016.
- No **alewives** older than age 5 were caught in the acoustics survey in 2017.
- **Round goby** biomass declined by more than half from 1.1 kt in 2016 to 0.5 kt in 2017.
- **Rainbow smelt** biomass increased twofold up to 0.6 kt in 2017, but was still under 1 kt for the eighth straight year.
- **Slimy sculpin** biomass decreased from 0.8 kt in 2016 to 0.2 kt in 2017.
- Overall, lake-wide prey fish biomass estimate (sum of alewife, bloater, smelt, deepwater sculpin, slimy sculpin, round goby, and ninespine stickleback) in 2017 was 13.3 kt, roughly a 20% increase over the 2016.
- In 2017, **bloater and deepwater sculpin**, two native fishes, constituted nearly 90% of this total.
- Total prey fish biomass was estimated to be 13.3 kt, a 17% increase over 2016.
- **Alewife** comprised 55% of total prey fish biomass.
- No new aquatic invasive fish species were detected in Lake Michigan in 2017.
- **Wild lake Trout** accounted for 58% of lake trout in Illinois waters, 10 – 24% in Wisconsin and Michigan waters.
- Lake Michigan has 511 tributaries, Lampricide applications were conducted in 42 streams.

## Summary of 2017 Salmonine Stocking in Lake Michigan, (USFWS)

A total of 9.72 million salmonines were stocked into Lake Michigan in 2017, the lowest number stocked since 1972. The USFWS stocked most of the lake trout while state agencies stock all Pacific salmon, brown trout, and a small percentage of lake trout.

### Lakewide salmonine stocking trends

#### Chinook salmon

In 2017, 1.37 million were stocked, the lowest amount since the last lake wide stocking reduction in 2013. Since 2013, the annual average number of Chinook salmon stocked has been 1.70 million fish.

#### Brown trout

1.01 million were stocked lakewide in 2017, a 38% decrease from 2016, a 52% decrease from the recent 5- year mean in Wisconsin waters and an 8% increase from the recent 5-year mean in Michigan waters.

#### Lake trout

2.77 million yearlings were stocked in 2017, a decrease of 9.2% from 2016. While lake trout stocking exceeded the Implementation Strategy interim 2.74 million target by 1.1%, it was within the allowable +/- 10% of the stocking target.

Number of trout and salmon stocked in Lake Michigan, 1995-2017

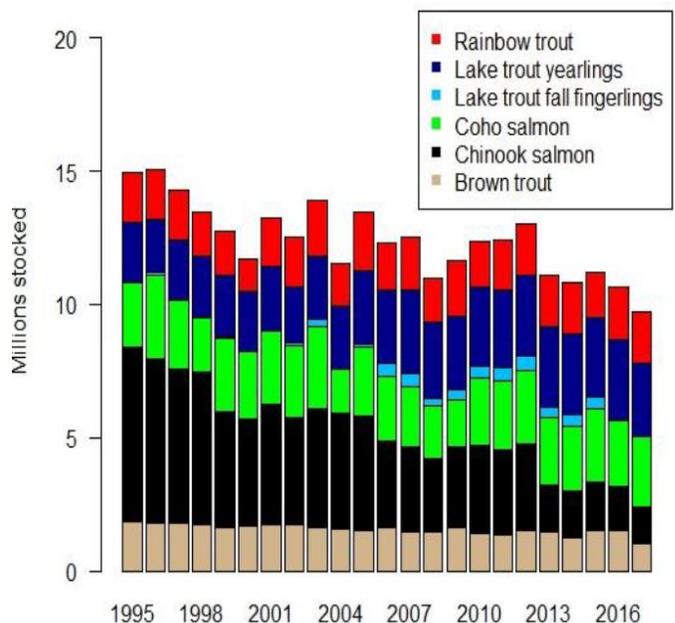


Fig 1: Numbers of trout and salmon stocked in Lake Michigan, 1995-2017.

**Rainbow trout**

1.94 million were stocked lakewide in 2017, a 5% increase from the recent 5 year mean in Wisconsin waters and a 28% increase from the recent 5 year mean in Michigan waters.

**Coho salmon**

2.66 million were stocked lakewide in 2017, a 7% increase from the total stocked in 2016.

**Chinook salmon equivalents**

Salmonine stocking directly influences predator-prey ratios in Lake Michigan and this is important to tract in light of long-term declines in the forage base. Salmonids differ in species-specific prey consumption and total prey consumption over their life span. Therefore, we also report salmonid stocking in terms of “chinook salmon equivalents”, a standardized metric that expresses total salmonid stocking in terms of their demand on the forage base.

Species-specific conversion values (number of fish required to equal the prey consumption of 1 Chinook salmon) for each species stocked are as follows:

- 3.2 Coho salmon
- 2.4 rainbow trout
- 2.3 yearling lake trout
- 5.8 fall fingerling lake trout
- 2.2 brown trout.

For example, the consumption potential of one Chinook salmon is equal to 2.4 rainbow trout. Chinook equivalents of all trout and salmon stocked in a given year are equal to the total number of each species stocked divided by its conversion factor.

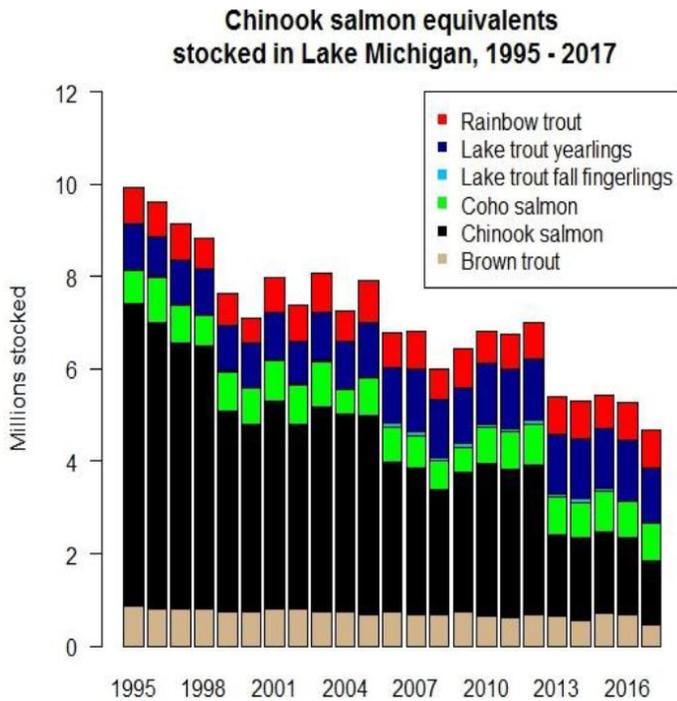
In 2017, 9.72 million salmonids were stocked, but this number is roughly halved when expressed as Chinook equivalents. In 2017, stocking of 4.67 million chinook equivalents was the lowest number since 1972 and should result in decreased consumption of the forage base. Conversion values are currently being reassessed with more contemporary diet, stable isotope data and bio-energetic model simulations.

**Lake trout stocking locations**

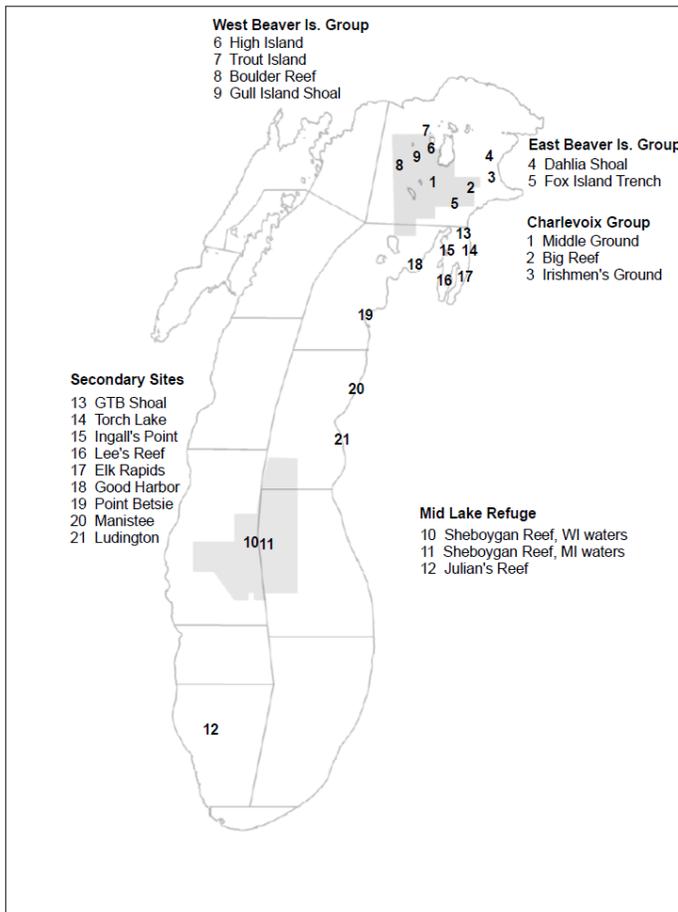
Per the *Implementation Strategy*, roughly 2/3 of the lake trout are stocked offshore in 1st Priority areas for rehabilitation efforts. These areas include reefs within the Northern Refuge (West Beaver, East Beaver, and Charlevoix Reef Complex groupings) and the Mid Lake Refuge. The remaining 1/3 are stocked in 2nd Priority nearshore areas to support both recreational fisheries and rehabilitation efforts (**Map 1**).

In 2017, 1.44 million yearling lake trout were stocked in the Northern 1st Priority sites and 0.72 million yearlings in the mid-lake refuge 1st Priority sites. Nearshore areas (2nd Priority) received an additional 0.58 million yearlings. In 2017, the FWS stocked 2.73 million lake trout yearlings in first and second priority sites, with an additional 39,300 by the Michigan DNR in non-priority tributaries connected to Lake Michigan not included in **Map 1**.

Since 2010, all stocked lake trout have been marked with an adipose clip and a coded wire tag (CWT) was implanted in the fish’s snout. For all lake trout a unique CWT code was used for each strain and stocking location. All 1st Priority sites have distinct CWT’s as do all 2nd priority sites within each statistical district. The current tagging plan was designed to measure the movement, growth, and relative survival of among genetic strains, year classes, and stocking locations from subsequent recoveries in assessment surveys, and commercial and recreational fisheries.



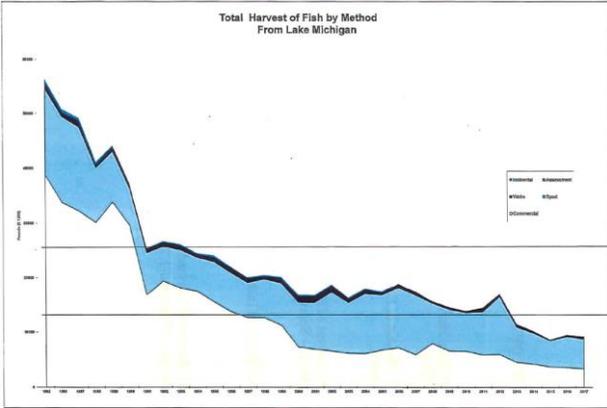
**Fig 2- Numbers of Chinook salmon equivalents for the primary species of trout and salmon stocked in Lake Michigan, 1995-2017.**



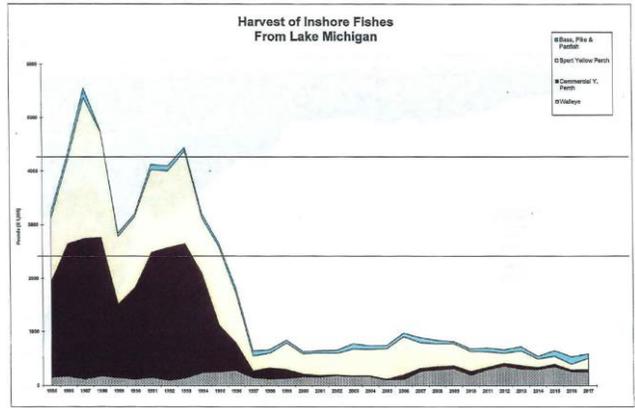
**Map 1. First and 2nd priority areas as described in A Fisheries Management Implementation Strategy for the Rehabilitation of Lake Trout in Lake Michigan. Northern and Mid Lake Refuges are indicated with shading and the gray lines subdivide the lake into statistical districts. In 2017, stocking efforts ended at Hog Island Reef and Ile aux Galets in the East River Island Group (NOT ON MAP) and began at Fox Island Trench to avoid excessive by-catch from commercial fishing. ✧**

# Harvest of Fishes from Lake Michigan during 2017

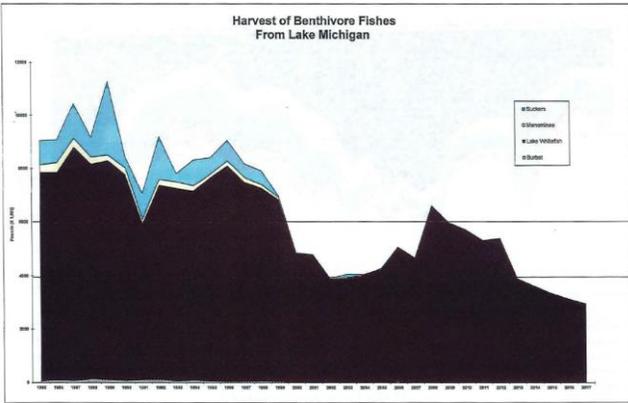
**Fig 1-Total Harvest of Fish by Method From Lake Michigan, 1985- 2017.**



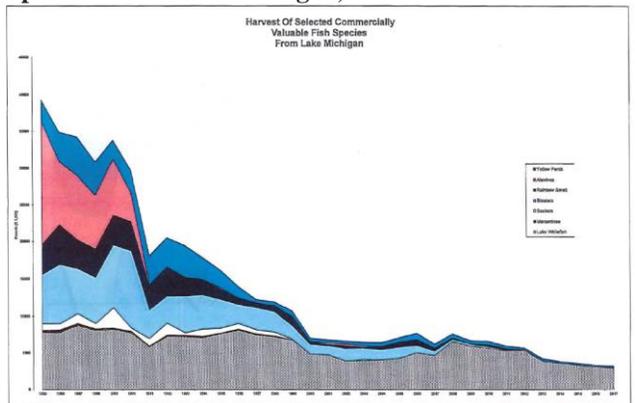
**Fig 4-Harvest of Inshore Fishes From Lake Michigan, 1985-2017.**



**Fig 2-Harvest of Benthivore Fishes From Lake Michigan, 1985-2017.**



**Fig 5-Harvest of Selected Commercially Valuable Fish Species From Lake Michigan, 1985-2017.**



**Fig 3-Harvest of Salmonine Fishes From Lake Michigan, 1985-2017, Sport, Commercial, Assessment, and Weir.**

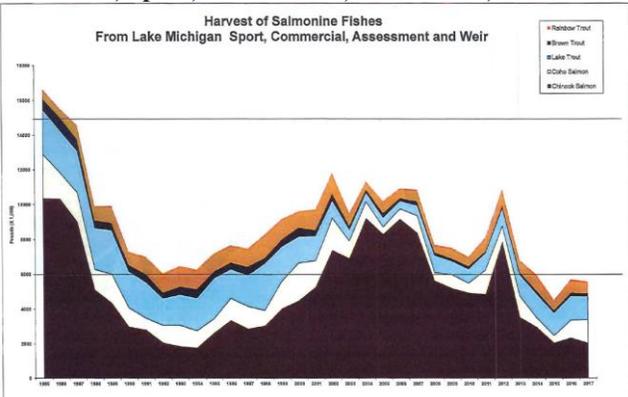


FIGURE 1.	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Commercial	38793.8	33812.1	32272.3	30117.4	33877.2	29641.2	16857.6	19373	18156.1	17508	15561.43	13779.79	12679.9
Sport	15787.48	15584.65	15216.65	9923.226	9154.657	6704.035	7680.261	6393.237	6946.551	6211.409	7387.109	7126.884	6376.512
Weirs	1140.5	724	1130.7	534.8	717.7	641.6	696.5	683.9	753.3	522.352	698.52	885.5	740.5
Assessment	58.8	59.4	59.1	70.5	84.8	56.7	73.7	65.8	60.9	53.074	55.136	90.534	54.643
Incidental	498.6	645.3	540.6	456.2	231.7	205	98.2	199.707	261.6	199.7	414.2	110.5	130.5
Total	56279.18	50825.45	49219.35	41102.13	44066.06	37248.54	25406.26	26715.64	26178.45	24494.54	24116.4	21993.21	19982.05
FIGURE 2.	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Burbot	49.4	96.5	69.3	141.6	109.7	71.7	103.4	120.2	52.25	84.22	54.4	31.52	38.8
Lake Whitefish	7802.4	7756.7	8732.1	8023.8	8189.5	7695.2	5822.3	7248.1	7199.1	7062.752	7609.864	8063.126	7447.29
Menominee	284	366	329.4	260.5	200.8	254.8	147.4	223.6	253.9	196.1	118.4	184.4	183.303
Suckers	905.8	859.1	1313.4	744.5	2773.1	416.8	983.3	1599.5	292.3	973.532	621.25	774.91	505.93
Total	9041.6	9078.3	10444.2	9170.4	11273.1	8438.5	7056.4	9191.4	7797.55	8316.604	8403.914	9053.956	8175.323
FIGURE 3.	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Chinook Salmon	10335.76	10312.38	8994.268	5116.938	4351.454	2977.711	2822.937	2059.618	1842.279	1762.109	2627.977	3353.066	2859.061
Coho Salmon	2564.587	1515.623	1696.118	1167.456	1664.531	1101.644	676.445	1018.48	1229.13	1003.687	826.997	1269.251	1295.416
Lake Trout	2570.738	2461.434	2427.063	2382.343	2512.094	2084.818	2057.36	1542.95	1775.482	1875.4	2302.307	1667.49	1785.474
Brown Trout	629.498	740.519	664.47	430.281	413.378	366.829	452.44	321.987	444.134	510.368	381.538	372.338	473.206
Rainbow Trout	548.295	512.3	788.187	801.528	971.126	757.881	991.562	1112.673	1168.025	1115.302	1037.888	996.283	1044.925
Total	16648.88	15542.25	14570.11	9898.546	9912.583	7288.883	7000.744	6055.708	6459.05	6266.866	7176.707	7658.428	7458.082
% Lake Trout	0.154409	0.15837	0.166578	0.240676	0.253425	0.286027	0.293877	0.254793	0.274883	0.299256	0.320803	0.217733	0.239401
FIGURE 4.	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Walleye	147.496	163.105	114.945	170.239	137.712	112.679	143.926	89.544	138.563	234.704	246.427	274.482	139.144
Commercial Y. Perch	1795.2	2483.4	2634.9	2596.8	1379.6	1719.3	2348.8	2490.1	2513	1865.5	877.03	517.04	136.196
Sport Yellow Perch	1151.504	1538.677	2624.872	1967.633	1266.549	1315.172	1533.716	1426.183	1728.177	1033.422	1476.855	938.086	277.95
Bass, Pike & Panfish	119.1	112.7	181.9	20.343	61.422	49.864	102.788	93.145	64.891	74.827	61.747	87.069	90.805
Total	3213.3	4297.882	5556.617	4755.015	2845.283	3197.015	4129.23	4098.972	4444.631	3208.453	2662.059	1816.677	644.095
FIGURE 5.	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Lake Whitefish	7802.4	7756.7	8732.1	8023.8	8189.5	7695.2	5822.3	7248.1	7199.1	7062.752	7609.864	8063.126	7447.29
Menominee	284	366	329.4	260.5	200.8	254.8	147.4	223.6	253.9	196.1	118.4	184.4	183.303
Suckers	905.8	859.1	1313.4	744.5	2773.1	416.8	983.3	1599.5	292.3	973.532	621.25	774.91	505.93
Bloaters	6524.6	7919.4	5987.1	6138.7	8360.7	10342.3	3885.7	3630.2	4971.2	4631.98	3890.64	2567.71	3030.94
Rainbow Smelt	4028.4	5421.1	3876.1	3847.6	4070.3	4017.6	3246.6	3845	2491.7	2049.661	1422.35	889.31	663.44
Alewives	16802.4	8539.4	8743.9	7268.5	7579.9	3934.9	76.6	40.9	3.5	9.38	101.757	1.16	5.5
Yellow Perch	2952.504	4028.077	5265.372	4568.133	2650.449	3038.772	3886.516	3920.583	4244.877	2899.722	2354.485	1458.99	416.586
Total	39300.1	34869.78	34247.37	30851.73	33825.05	29700.37	18048.42	20507.88	19456.58	17823.13	18118.75	13939.61	12252.99

FIGURE 1.	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Commercial	12641.45	11256.38	7333.937	6893.822	6583.917	6164.763	6111.18	6735.312	7180.809	5943.786	7955.726	6603.572	6572.605
Sport	7095.2	7746.965	8143.368	8515.9	10739.96	9204.677	10941.46	10061.5	10990.32	10832.7	7348.65	7560.966	7002.706
Weirs	515.268	840.701	1124	1100.048	1210.463	688.937	746.908	442.572	603.323	518.467	314.06	386.1	225.63
Assessment	29.4546	39.884	34.856	38.8249	34.981	33.612	35.6	34.701	41.358	32.963	30.017	30.704	38.535
Incidental	178.94	229.7	231.445	192.42	129	133.6	130	175.4	0	104.2	32.37	0	0
Total	20460.32	20113.63	16867.61	16741.01	18698.32	16225.59	17965.14	17449.49	18815.81	17432.12	15680.82	14581.34	13843.17
FIGURE 2.	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Burbot	47.893	33.601	15.046	18.674	13.645	20.875	11.728	14.682	31.283	11.533	11.887	12.811	12.541
Lake Whitefish	7205.642	6793.035	4816.243	4745.976	3882.623	3909.841	4022.944	4215.897	5037.782	4660.22	6575.914	5945.74	5686.741
Menominee	135.347	85.75	27.154	12.515	8.651	6.715	21.093	12.702	1.36	2.21	7.654	9.286	6.881
Suckers	514.9876	47.899	8.962	17.711	7.111	125.931	3.481	29.414	6.769	4.574	4.209	2.681	6.239
Total	7903.87	6960.285	4867.405	4794.876	3912.03	4063.362	4059.246	4272.695	5077.194	4678.537	6599.664	5970.518	5712.402
FIGURE 3.	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Chinook Salmon	3038.005	4008.256	4473.565	5252.121	7359.653	6886.199	9186.923	8273.101	9142.229	8367.931	5622.706	5192.508	4921.566
Coho Salmon	895.077	1582.163	2155.828	1509.109	1835.275	1012.308	952.387	423.76	595.326	985.842	466.296	784.87	570.662
Lake Trout	2666.321	1987.835	1518.253	1436.249	1010.683	633.752	523.389	533.263	447.684	581.214	990.346	771.485	800.803
Brown Trout	317.836	407.701	513.562	330.12	392.858	222.207	183.797	260.806	158.108	231.861	176.22	146.06	155.39
Rainbow Trout	1353.609	1161.788	928.576	1167.748	1173.176	711.085	456.905	679.921	561.825	656.847	420.75	596.31	515.75
Total	8270.848	9147.743	9589.784	9695.347	11771.65	9465.551	11303.4	10170.85	10905.17	10823.7	7676.318	7491.233	6964.171
% Lake Trout	0.322376	0.217303	0.15832	0.148138	0.085857	0.066954	0.046304	0.052431	0.041052	0.053698	0.129013	0.102985	0.114989
FIGURE 4.	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Walleye	121.649	125.465	158.091	152.546	181.167	162.272	164.94	101.064	111.14	257.115	286.646	311.946	188.319
Commercial Y. Perch	211.052	176.65	57.98	38.99	19.99	19.349	17.981	23.575	90.695	65.296	69.109	62.276	75.994
Sport Yellow Perch	270.54	492.937	375.741	415.375	399.814	503.87	492.97	563.92	708.86	478.981	424.29	408.51	376.47
Bass, Pike & Panfish	65.145	48.045	41.208	44.768	56.235	92.779	65.668	56.05	67.582	92.67	61.24	35.92	42.49
Total	668.386	843.097	633.02	651.679	657.206	778.27	741.559	744.609	978.277	894.062	841.285	818.652	683.273
FIGURE 5.	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Lake Whitefish	7205.642	6793.035	4816.243	4745.976	3882.623	3909.841	4022.944	4215.897	5037.782	4660.22	6575.914	5945.74	5686.741
Menominee	135.347	85.75	27.154	12.515	8.651	6.715	21.093	12.702	1.36	2.21	7.654	9.286	6.881
Suckers	514.9876	47.899	8.962	17.711	7.111	125.931	3.481	29.414	6.769	4.574	4.209	2.681	6.239
Bloaters	2817.428	1792.945	1335.534	1226.781	1701.834	1626.466	1385.654	1531.916	986.635	583.809	304.347	246.756	137.779
Rainbow Smelt	701.48	1336.999	387.918	251.244	452.632	184.766	408.929	676.416	836.38	428.76	179.28	44.745	325.034
Alewives	92.903	16.857	48.904	109.097	200.129	97.6	63.81	44.262	28.774	20.321	62.4		

FIGURE 1.	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Commercial	5907.782	5970.909	4507.774	4202.217	3682.144	3563.444	3334.374
Sport	7788.191	10530.17	6391.274	5609.4	4791.533	5623.861	5406.011
Weirs	711.898	437.589	514.826	314.13	68.608	208.332	376.32
Assessment	38.5699	34.633	38.034	33.2601	44.5023	54.464	47.372
Incidental	0	0	0	0	15.6	12.405	10.44
Total	14446.44	16973.3	11451.91	10159.01	8602.387	9462.506	9174.517
FIGURE 2.	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Burbot	19.054	13.131	10.59	9.075	10.209	10.32	11.62
Lake Whitefish	5282.207	5367.268	3890.744	3594.493	3315.897	3099.86	2927.267
Menominee	11.088	4.809	2.704	4.161	5.53	4.317	5.315
Suckers	3.321	3.738	8.6294	15.1144	18.405	22.719	17.82
Total	5315.67	5388.946	3912.667	3622.843	3350.041	3137.216	2962.022
FIGURE 3.	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Chinook Salmon	4835.711	7818.958	3525.012	2954.228	2037.314	2339.382	2035.075
Coho Salmon	1405.332	925.7438	1220.322	530.56	441.2033	1025.979	1341.957
Lake Trout	972.607	1006.715	1231.361	1372.295	1296.934	1397.374	1360.915
Brown Trout	77.0645	143.001	147.055	194.745	146.296	174.295	157.532
Rainbow Trout	814.08	921.736	645.482	901.17	574.917	757.621	665.007
Total	8104.795	10816.15	6769.232	5952.998	4496.664	5694.651	5560.486
% Lake Trout	0.120004	0.093075	0.181906	0.230522	0.288421	0.245384	0.244747
FIGURE 4.	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Walleye	291.279	359.151	302.12	293.0571	345.478	254.376	243.479
Commercial Y. Perch	50.789	59.672	77.484	46.884	55.151	36.961	52.01
Sport Yellow Perch	291.486	184.629	270.35	157.84	148.126	107.57	211.076
Bass, Pike & Panfish	69.33	64.348	75.742	45.6	104.156	138.063	79.909
Total	702.884	667.8	725.696	543.3811	652.911	536.97	586.474
FIGURE 5.	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Lake Whitefish	5282.207	5367.268	3890.744	3594.493	3315.897	3099.86	2927.267
Menominee	11.088	4.809	2.704	4.161	5.53	4.317	5.315
Suckers	3.321	3.738	8.6294	15.1144	18.405	22.719	17.82
Bloaters	48.358	24.291	19.535	33.317	71.917	54.618	14.867
Rainbow Smelt	270.524	32.004	1.947	0.013	0.515	0.11	0.096
Alewives	0.996	42.566	5.948	0.37	7.572	3.741	0.23
Yellow Perch	343.019	245.149	348.728	205.376	203.802	145.276	263.455
Total	5959.513	5719.824	4278.235	3852.844	3623.638	3330.641	3229.05

### Summary Of Lakewide Harvest For All Agencies In 1000's Of Pounds; This Includes Commercial, Sport, Weir, Assessment And Incidental Catch, (X 1,000 Pounds) -- 1 of 3

SPECIES	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
chinook salmon	10335.76	10312.38	8994.268	5116.938	4351.454	2977.711	2822.937	2059.618	1842.279	1762.109	2627.977	3353.066	2859.061
coho salmon	2564.587	1515.623	1696.118	1167.456	1664.531	1101.644	676.445	1018.48	1229.13	1003.687	826.997	1269.251	1295.416
pink salmon	2.4	0.1	6.5	0	2	0	0.1	0	0.2	0	0	0	0
lake trout	2570.738	2461.434	2427.063	2382.343	2512.094	2084.818	2057.36	1542.95	1775.482	1875.4	2302.307	1667.49	1785.474
brook trout	8.9	9.681	2.944	7.029	4.061	9.551	5.601	16.08	5.306	9.62	2.385	0.732	0.669
brown trout	629.498	740.519	664.47	430.281	413.378	366.829	452.44	321.987	444.134	510.368	381.538	372.338	473.206
rainbow trout	548.295	512.3	788.187	801.528	971.126	757.881	991.562	1112.673	1168.025	1115.302	1037.888	996.283	1044.925
walleye	147.496	163.105	114.945	170.239	137.712	112.679	143.926	89.544	138.563	234.704	246.427	274.482	139.144
yellow perch	2952.504	4028.077	5265.372	4568.133	2650.749	3038.772	3886.516	3920.583	4244.877	2899.722	2354.485	1458.99	416.586
smb, musky, northern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
pike, and panfish	119.1	112.7	181.9	20.343	61.422	49.864	102.788	93.145	64.891	74.827	61.747	87.069	90.805
burbot	49.4	96.5	69.3	141.6	109.7	71.7	103.4	120.2	52.25	84.22	54.4	31.52	38.8
lake whitefish	7802.4	7756.7	8732.1	8023.8	8189.5	7695.2	5822.3	7248.1	7199.1	7062.752	7609.864	8063.126	7447.29
menominee	284	366	329.4	260.5	200.8	254.8	147.4	223.6	253.9	196.1	118.4	184.4	183.303
sturgeon	0	0.437	0.882	0.836	0.73	0.686	1.186	1.784	1.414	1.071	1.883	1.371	1.552
suckers	905.8	859.1	1313.4	744.5	2773.1	416.8	983.3	1599.5	292.3	973.532	621.25	774.91	505.93
alewives	16802.4	8539.4	8743.9	7268.5	7579.9	3934.9	76.6	40.9	3.5	9.38	101.757	1.16	5.5
bloaters	6524.6	7919.4	5987.1	6138.7	8360.7	10342.3	3885.7	3630.2	4971.2	4631.98	3890.64	2567.71	3030.94
lake herring	2.9	10.9	25.4	11.8	12.8	14.8	0.1	1.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	0	0.01
rainbow smelt	4028.4	5421.1	3876.1	3847.6	4070.3	4017.6	3246.6	3845	2491.7	2049.661	1422.35	889.31	663.44
TOTAL	56545.1	50825.45	49219.35	41102.13	44066.06	37248.54	25406.26	26885.94	26178.45	24494.54	23662.4	21993.21	19982.05

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SPECIES	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
chinook salmon	3038.005	4008.256	4473.565	5252.121	7359.653	6886.199	9186.923	8273.101	9142.229	8367.931	5622.706	5192.508	4921.566
coho salmon	895.077	1582.163	2155.828	1509.109	1835.275	1012.308	952.387	423.76	595.326	985.842	466.296	784.87	570.662
pink salmon	0	0	0	0.05	0.041	0	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0
lake trout	2666.321	1987.835	1518.253	1436.249	1010.683	633.752	523.389	533.263	447.684	581.214	990.346	771.485	800.803
brook trout	0.667	0.648	0.633	1.163	0.411	0.5	0	0	0.051	0.1	0	0	0
brown trout	317.866	407.701	513.562	330.12	392.858	222.207	183.797	280.806	158.108	231.861	176.22	146.06	155.39
rainbow trout	1353.609	1161.788	928.576	1167.748	1173.176	711.085	456.905	679.921	561.825	656.847	420.75	596.31	515.75
walleye	121.649	125.465	158.091	152.546	181.167	162.272	164.94	101.064	111.14	257.115	286.646	311.946	188.319
yellow perch	484.249	680.803	437.909	460.711	421.802	526.103	513.301	591.831	802.854	546.654	495.391	472.712	454.202
smb, musky, northern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
pike, and panfish	65.145	48.045	41.208	44.768	56.235	92.779	65.668	56.05	67.582	92.67	61.24	35.92	42.49
burbot	47.893	33.601	15.046	18.674	13.645	20.875	11.728	14.682	31.283	11.533	11.887	12.811	12.541
lake whitefish	7205.642	6793.035	4816.243	4745.976	3882.623	3909.841	4022.944	4215.897	5037.782	4660.22	6575.914	5945.74	5686.741
menominee	135.347	85.75	27.154	12.515	8.651	6.715	21.093	12.702	1.36	2.21	7.654	9.286	6.881
sturgeon	2.031	3.523	0	4.322	0	6.038	0.151	4.3	0.03	0.01	0.03	0	0.02
suckers	514.9876	47.899	8.962	17.711	7.111	125.931	3.481	29.414	6.769	4.574	4.209	2.681	6.239
alewives	92.903	16.857	48.904	109.097	200.129	97.6	63.81	44.262	28.774	20.321	62.489	6.487	17.356
bloaters	2817.428	1792.945	1335.534	1226.781	1701.834	1626.466	1385.654	1531.916	986.635	583.809	304.347	246.756	137.779
lake herring	0.05	0.92	0.22	0.11	0.394	0.152	0.033	0.1	0	0.445	15.418	1.025	1.397
rainbow smelt	701.48	1336.399	387.918	251.244	452.632	184.766	406.929	676.416	836.38	428.76	179.28	44.745	325.034
TOTAL	20460.32	20113.63	16867.61	16741.01	18698.32	16225.59	17965.14	17449.49	18815.81	17432.12	15680.82	14581.34	13843.17

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SPECIES	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
chinook salmon	4835.711	7818.958	3525.012	2954.228	2037.314	2339.382	2035.075
coho salmon	1405.332	925.7438	1220.322	530.56	441.2033	1025.979	1341.957
pink salmon	0	0	0	0	0.032	0	0.108
lake trout	972.607	1006.715	1231.361	1372.295	1296.934	1397.374	1360.915
brook trout	0	0	1.2	0	0	0	0
brown trout	77.0645	143.001	147.055	194.745	146.296	174.295	157.532
rainbow trout	814.08	921.736	645.482	901.17	574.917	757.621	665.007
walleye	291.279	359.151	302.12	293.0571	345.478	254.376	243.479
yellow perch	343.019	245.149	348.728	205.376	203.802	145.276	263.455
smb, musky, northern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
pike, and panfish	69.33	64.348	75.742	45.6	104.156	138.063	79.909
burbot	19.054	13.131	10.59	9.075	10.209	10.32	11.62
lake whitefish	5282.207	5367.268	3890.744	3594.493	3315.897	3099.86	2927.267
menominee	11.088	4.809	2.704	4.161	5.53	4.317	5.315
sturgeon	0.02	0.004	0	0	0	0	0
suckers	3.321	3.738	8.6294	15.1144	18.405	22.719	17.82
alewives	0.996	42.566	5.948	0.37	7.572	3.741	0.23
bloaters	48.358	24.291	19.535	33.317	71.917	54.618	14.867
lake herring	2.45	0.689	14.789	5.433	22.21	34.455	49.865
rainbow smelt	270.524	32.004	1.947	0.013	0.515	0.11	0.096
TOTAL	14446.44	16973.3	11451.91	10159.01	8602.387	9462.506	9174.517

**Commercial Harvest for all Agencies In 1000's Of Pounds; This Includes Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Tribal Fisheries, And Wisconsin, (X 1,000 Pounds)-- 1 of 3**

SPECIES	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
chinook salmon	11.6	18.7	142.1	512.7	535.5	442.1	20.6	9	4.8	39.9	82.4	46.6	17.7
coho salmon	0.7	4	3	29.3	31.1	23.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
pink salmon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
lake trout	894	664.2	576.3	627	680.9	751.8	303.9	382.5	411.8	616.8	626.8	748.3	694.7
brook trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
brown trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rainbow trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
walleye	11.5	12.5	6.6	7.7	19.7	6.1	1.8	1.7	3.8	3.7	1.1	3	8.5
yellow perch	1795.2	2483.4	2634.9	2596.8	1379.6	1719.3	2348.8	2490.1	2513	1865.5	877.03	517.04	136.196
smb, musky, northern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
pike, and panfish	11	6	6.8	5.7	1.2	0.3	1	0.7	0	0	0	0	0
burbot	48.9	94	65.1	137.2	105	68.9	98.2	117.7	50.7	83.1	53.6	27.5	36.4
lake whitefish	7520.7	7587.2	8682	7996.1	8158.6	7671.4	5795.4	7235.2	7189.6	7045.1	7596.8	8033.7	7414.28
menominee	258.2	322.5	298.9	254.7	191.3	249.3	144.4	222.3	245.6	195.4	118.1	184.3	182.2
sturgeon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
suckers	903.4	858.4	1312.7	743.7	2772.2	415.7	968.9	1598.2	287.3	972.9	621.1	774.6	505
alewives	16801.5	8536.2	8739.1	7265.2	7577.3	3933	68.6	38.3	2.1	8.7	0	0.15	3.8
bloaters	6507.5	7906.6	5979.6	6129	8342.9	10328.4	3861	3602.1	4966.6	4627.3	3708.1	2555.4	3017.9
lake herring	2.9	10.9	25.4	11.8	12.8	14.8	0.1	1.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
rainbow smelt	4026.7	5307.5	3799.8	3800.5	4069.1	4017	3244.9	3843.9	2490.7	2049.5	1422.3	889.2	663.22
TOTAL	38793.8	33812.1	32272.3	30117.4	33877.2	29641.2	16857.6	19373	18156.1	17508	15561.43	13779.79	12679.9

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SPECIES	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
chinook salmon	27.432	8.25	34.78	29.11	15.747	2.949	1.307	4.036	5.623	3.893	137.963	3.073	2.382
coho salmon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.005	0	0.007	0	2.32	0	0
pink salmon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
lake trout	902.723	979.39	622.29	490.52	290.329	182.378	169.916	198.288	236.563	270.301	651.175	391.213	425.699
brook trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
brown trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.008	0	0	0
rainbow trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
walleye	1.55	1.33	12.72	12.86	15.235	9.141	21.968	17.851	2.536	20.223	62.157	11.117	9.447
yellow perch	211.052	176.65	57.98	38.99	19.99	19.349	17.981	23.575	90.695	65.296	69.109	62.276	75.994
smb, musky, northern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
pike, and panfish	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
burbot	47.529	32.39	12.8	17	11.95	19.7	10.84	13.634	13.316	10.8	11.075	12.2	12
lake whitefish	7196.453	6782.548	4789.295	4703.814	3869.955	3893.483	4010.202	4192.007	4979.796	4642.753	6483.964	5815.437	5558.974
menominee	134.807	85.57	26.51	10.526	8.065	6.116	20.616	11.753	0.989	1.919	7.259	8.933	6.687
sturgeon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
suckers	514.559	47.252	7.845	8.558	2.23	125.1	2.401	24.503	0.687	0.208	2.912	1.918	4.999
alewives	89.9	15	47.4	106	197.4	96	62.5	42.9	28.1	0	30.825	5.4	16.1
bloaters	2814.035	1790.858	1334.278	1225.163	1700.122	1625.785	1384.801	1530.865	986.227	499.25	302.639	246.49	137.276
lake herring	0.048	0.92	0.22	0.11	0.394	0.152	0.032	0	0	0.435	15.108	0.815	0.047
rainbow smelt	701.359	1336.225	387.819	251.181	452.5	184.6	408.611	675.9	836.27	428.7	179.22	44.7	323
TOTAL	12641.45	11256.38	7333.937	6893.822	6583.917	6164.763	6111.18	6735.312	7180.809	5943.786	7955.726	6603.572	6572.605

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SPECIES	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
chinook salmon	6.662	3.427	3.177	0.598	0.286	3.06	7.37
coho salmon	0.398	0	0.093	0	0.004	0.004	0.06
pink salmon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
lake trout	487.775	506.513	657.808	668.876	443.102	551.3	549.06
brook trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
brown trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rainbow trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
walleye	9.274	9.148	10.418	7.307	5.41	7.14	3.46
yellow perch	50.789	59.672	77.484	46.884	55.151	36.961	52.01
smb, musky, northern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
pike, and panfish	0	0	0.05	0	0.035	0	0.04
burbot	18.27	12.032	9.448	8.418	0.258	0.14	0.14
lake whitefish	5007.474	5274.197	3714.599	3418.841	3078.979	2880.884	2681.413
menominee	9.664	4.327	2.336	3.769	5.04	3.959	5.11
sturgeon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
suckers	2.242	2.793	3.5414	13.3594	15.375	21.3	16.63
alewives	0.5	42	5.3	0	0	0	0
bloaters	48.194	24.272	19.352	33.294	71.11	53.976	14.111
lake herring	0.04	0.528	2.227	0.863	6.894	4.72	4.97
rainbow smelt	266.5	32	1.941	0.008	0.5	0	0
TOTAL	5907.782	5970.909	4507.774	4202.217	3682.144	3563.444	3334.374

**Sport Harvest for all State Agencies In 1000's Of Pounds; This Includes Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin, (X 1,000 Pounds)-- 1 of 3**

SPECIES	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
chinook salmon	9539.863	9731.578	8003.968	4098.538	3378.054	2068.011	2314.737	1587.318	1414.179	1412.814	2148.767	2769.766	2404.061
coho salmon	2029.587	1200.923	1294.818	949.156	1284.431	850.744	445.745	759.773	844.33	771.257	501.043	913.751	959.226
pink salmon	2.4	0.1	6.5	0	2	0	0.1	0	0.2	0	0	0	0
lake trout	1362.438	1318.034	1432.163	1431.243	1640.494	1177.718	1673.36	999.45	1161.082	1061.26	1537.489	772.53	983.374
brook trout	7.9	8.881	2.744	6.929	3.861	9.051	5.401	15.78	3.006	8.214	2.385	0.732	0.669
brown trout	615.398	711.919	646.67	420.281	403.478	344.529	436.74	307.487	424.134	507.558	377.275	365.738	466.706
rainbow trout	537.695	499.1	772.687	795.228	965.326	754.081	984.262	1103.273	1152.325	1099.182	1024.154	981.283	1029.745
walleye	128.296	146.605	104.245	161.639	111.112	106.079	142.026	87.844	134.763	231.004	245.327	271.382	130.524
yellow perch	1151.504	1538.677	2624.872	1967.633	1266.549	1315.172	1533.716	1426.183	1728.177	1033.422	1476.855	938.086	277.95
smb, musky, northern pike, and panfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
burbot	107.8	106.4	174.8	14.543	60.122	49.464	101.788	92.445	64.891	74.827	61.747	87.069	90.795
lake whitefish	0	0	0	0	0.3	0.2	0.7	0	0.05	0	0	0	0
menominee	278.6	167	48	25.9	29	23	25.8	11.9	7.4	10.8	10.184	25.176	31.61
sturgeon	25	42.7	29.6	5.1	9	5	2	0	7.1	0	0	0	0
suckers	0	0.437	0.882	0.836	0.73	0.686	1.186	1.784	1.414	1.071	1.883	1.371	1.552
alewives	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.3	12.7	0	3.4	0	0	0	0.3
bloaters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
lake herring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0
rainbow smelt	1	112.3	74.7	46.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15787.48</b>	<b>15584.65</b>	<b>15216.65</b>	<b>9923.226</b>	<b>9154.657</b>	<b>6704.035</b>	<b>7680.261</b>	<b>6393.237</b>	<b>6946.551</b>	<b>6211.409</b>	<b>7387.109</b>	<b>7126.884</b>	<b>6376.512</b>

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SPECIES	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
chinook salmon	2738.134	3520.723	4055.161	4618.725	6591.548	6306.87	8503.02	7820.87	8567.94	8015.651	5227.47	4909.8	4751.05
coho salmon	615.953	1191.972	1397.491	1003.436	1353.335	875.344	858.2	350.15	559.21	818.272	409.61	680.2	512.71
pink salmon	0	0	0	0.05	0.041	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
lake trout	1614.825	796.891	667.415	752.582	600.404	328.28	239.71	233.82	195.29	295.847	322.59	362.77	354.41
brook trout	0.667	0.648	0.633	1.163	0.411	0.5	0	0	0.051	0.1	0	0	0
brown trout	313.331	407.158	511.898	329.143	391.308	221.78	183.35	253.87	157.42	231.486	176.1	145.86	155.05
rainbow trout	1347.189	1152.596	922.039	1157.826	1166.406	702.55	450.2	674.42	556.49	649.547	414.89	589.81	512.56
walleye	120.096	124.055	145.355	139.6	165.697	152.87	142.845	83.1	108.36	236.599	224.42	300.4	178.5
yellow perch	270.54	492.937	375.741	415.375	399.814	503.87	492.97	563.92	708.86	478.981	424.29	408.51	376.47
smb, musky, northern pike, and panfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
burbot	65.145	48.045	41.128	44.768	56.215	92.71	65.56	55.95	67.58	92.58	61.08	35.7	42.05
lake whitefish	0	0	1.362	0.5	0.3	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0
menominee	7.289	8.417	25.145	39.91	10.08	14	5.6	18.2	47.7	10	88.2	127.916	120.5
sturgeon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
suckers	2.031	3.523	0	4.322	0	5.903	0	4.1	0	0	0	0	0
alewives	0	0	0	8.5	4.3	0	0	3.1	4.421	3.637	0	0	0
bloaters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
lake herring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.1
rainbow smelt	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7095.2</b>	<b>7746.965</b>	<b>8143.368</b>	<b>8515.9</b>	<b>10739.96</b>	<b>9204.677</b>	<b>10941.46</b>	<b>10061.5</b>	<b>10990.32</b>	<b>10832.7</b>	<b>7348.65</b>	<b>7560.966</b>	<b>7006.4</b>

**3 of 3**

SPECIES	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
chinook salmon	4299	7510.306	3190.229	2689.32	1997.106	2239.533	1870.182
coho salmon	1222.319	796.5398	1038.121	485.37	416.387	916.55	1126.527
pink salmon	0	0	0	0	0.032	0	0.108
lake trout	466.736	477.4982	556.306	683.24	824.79	811.536	778.924
brook trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
brown trout	76.75	142.423	146.65	194.43	145.793	173.265	156.542
rainbow trout	807.815	916.502	636.54	894.9	570.467	751.561	658.036
walleye	281.4	349.622	291.03	285.55	339.587	246.214	239.42
yellow perch	291.486	184.629	270.35	157.84	148.126	107.57	211.076
smb, musky, northern pike, and panfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
burbot	69.085	64.143	75.61	45.29	103.799	137.586	79.511
lake whitefish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
menominee	267.6	88.507	170.321	169.11	230.268	210.411	240.94
sturgeon	0	0	0	0	0.101	0.05	0
suckers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
alewives	0	0	3.89	0	0	0	0
bloaters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
lake herring	2	0	12.227	4.35	15.077	29.585	44.745
rainbow smelt	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7788.191</b>	<b>10530.17</b>	<b>6391.274</b>	<b>5609.4</b>	<b>4791.533</b>	<b>5623.861</b>	<b>5406.011</b>



# Status of Yellow Perch in Lake Michigan 2016-2017

Yellow perch assessment activity is occurring throughout the lake, with numerous agency and university personnel sampling perch utilizing various gear types in different seasons.

## Abundance of adult yellow perch

The data assembled were collected with either gill nets or bottom trawls (Fig 1 to 6). Generally, this information shows continuing low levels of adult yellow perch abundance in Lake Michigan for the past four to five years. For example, gill net catches are well below 100 fish per net night in all reported assessments. Data from common gear types (graded-mesh gill net) fished in all jurisdictions are presented in Fig 6; these index data show that current abundance remains well below the historically observed abundance of the late 1980s and early 1990s

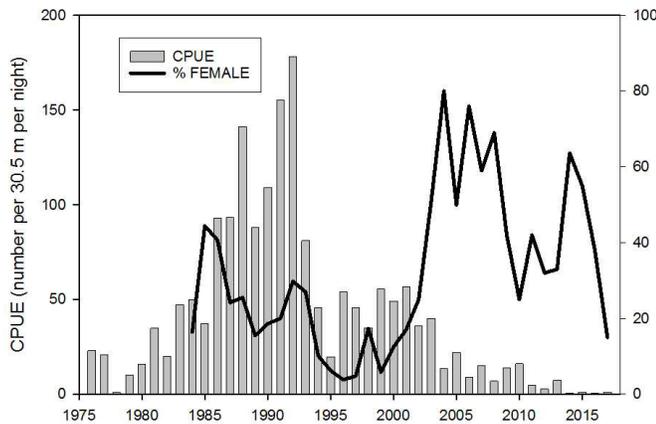


Fig 1-Adult yellow perch abundance and percent female from Illinois waters of Lake Michigan, 1976–2017.

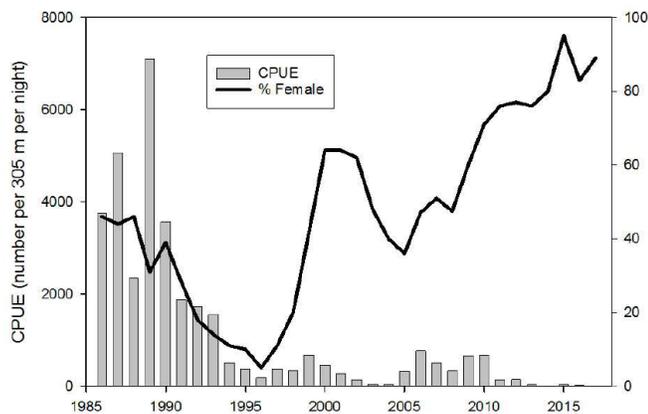


Fig 2- Adult yellow perch gill net CPUE and percent female from Wisconsin waters of Lake Michigan, 1986 to 2017

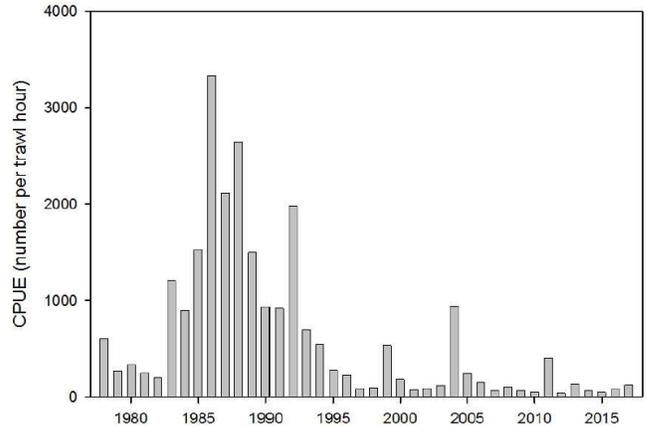


Fig.3-Adult yellow perch trawl CPUE from Wisconsin waters of Green Bay, Lake Michigan, 1978 to 2017

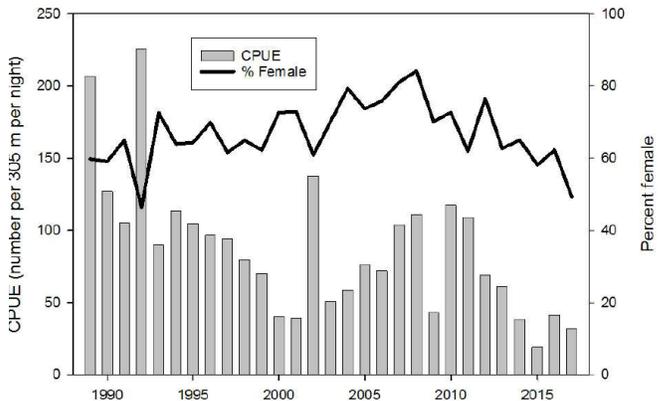


Fig. 4-Adult yellow perch gill net CPUE and percent female from Michigan waters of Bays de Noc, 1989 to 2017

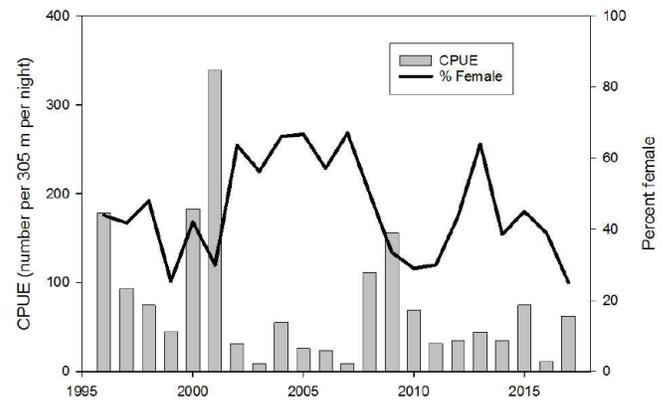
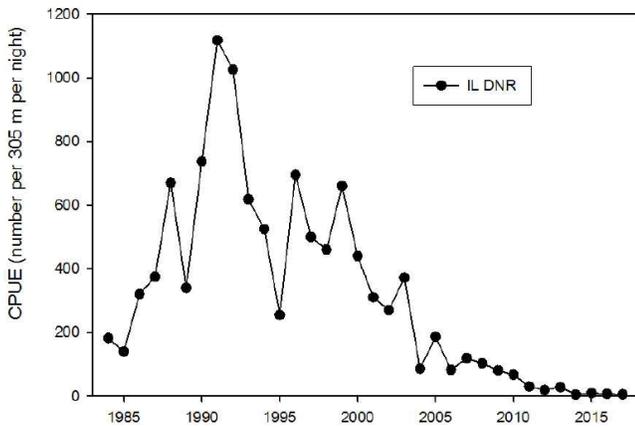
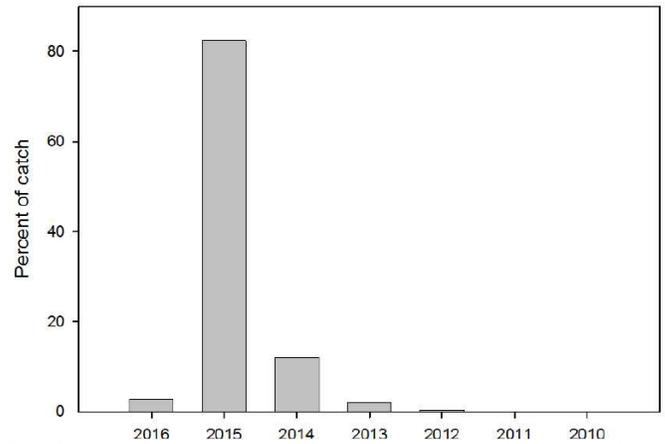


Fig. 5-Adult yellow perch gill net CPUE and percent females from Michigan waters of Lake Michigan, 1996 to 2017



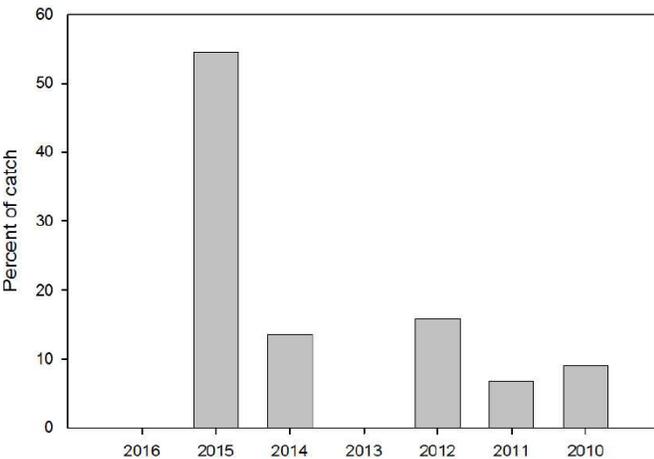
**Fig. 6-Standard mesh (51, 64, 76-mm stretched mesh) gill net CPUE of adult yellow perch from Illinois waters, 1984 to 2017**



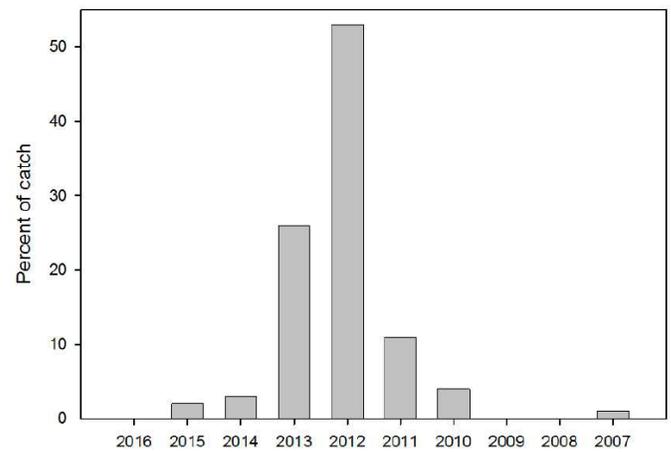
**Fig. 8-Yellow perch age structure from commercial harvest in Wisconsin waters of Green Bay, Lake Michigan, 2017**

**Population Age Structure**

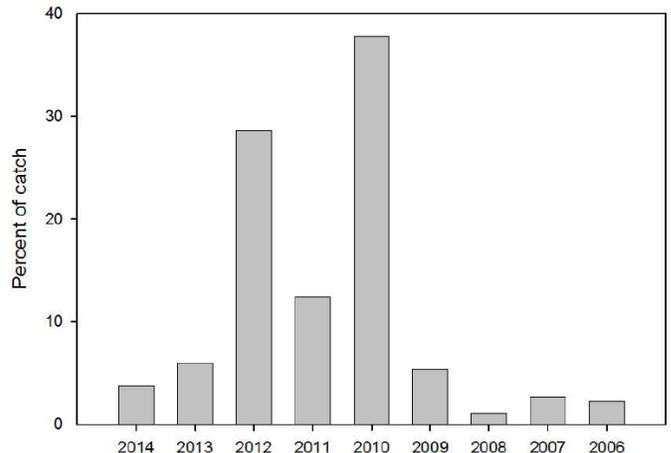
The yellow perch adult population age structure was determined by evaluating otoliths or spines. The 2015 year class comprised a significant part (50-80%; **Figs 7 and 8**) of catches in Illinois, and in Wisconsin waters of Green Bay. Older fish were predominant in catches from Michigan waters, with greater than 50% of fish captured in 2016 from the 2010 and 2012 year classes, (**Figs 9-10**). In western Lake Michigan (WDNR, Milwaukee), samples sizes from 2016 and 2017 collections were too low to adequately assess year class strength.



**Fig. 7-Yellow perch age structure from gill net assessment in Illinois waters of Lake Michigan, 2017**



**Fig. 9-Yellow perch age structure from gill net assessment in Michigan waters of Bays de Noc, Lake Michigan, 2016**

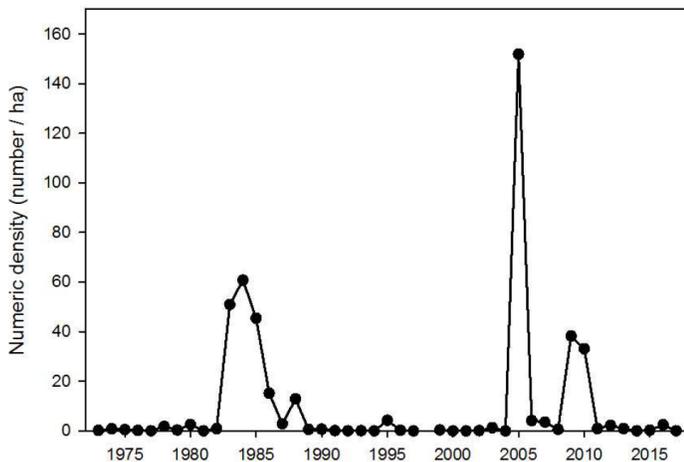


**Fig. 10-Yellow perch age structure from gill net assessment in Michigan waters of Lake Michigan, 2016**

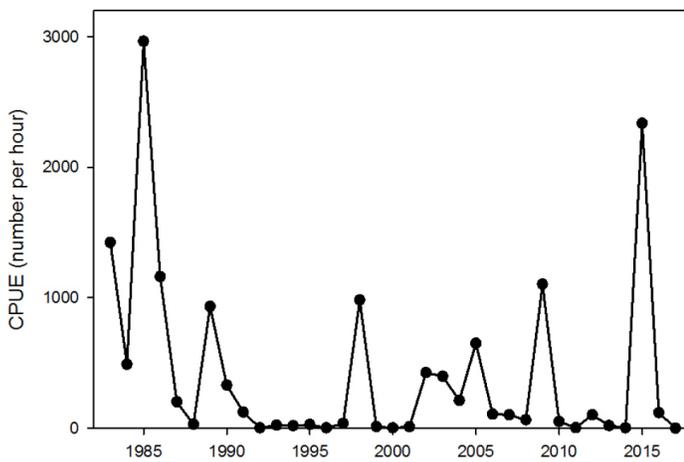
**Estimates of juvenile recruitment**

Having a reliable indicator of future inputs to an adult population is vital to understanding the dynamics of the fish population and helping predict changes in abundance. An early indicator of recruitment is most beneficial to managers. In Lake Michigan, indicators of yellow perch recruitment have traditionally been collected using bottom trawls or beach seines. Data collected using these traditional gears indicated minimal production of young-of-year yellow perch occurred in all areas of Lake Michigan in 2016 and 2017. Recent observations of lack of production of YOY yellow perch have been consistent around the lake; indices of YOY yellow perch production have been at low levels in nearly all jurisdictions since 2011 (with a couple of exceptions – Indiana and Illinois in 2015 – noted in the 2016 report).

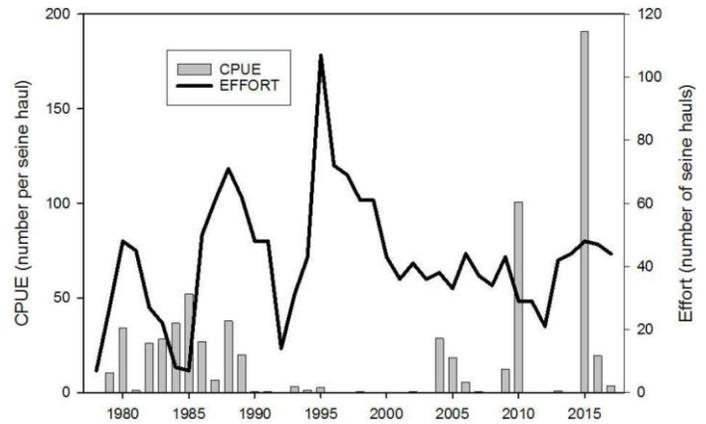
The YPTG agreed to implement a lakewide summer “micromesh” gill net assessment (beginning in summer 2007) to standardize assessment of young-of-year yellow perch production, especially in areas where standard trawl and seine surveys cannot be implemented. Preliminary evaluation of five years of data from this assessment were included in the 2012 report; this survey is continuing, and additional data analyses are ongoing.



**Fig. 11-Density of age-0 yellow perch, lakewide, 1973 to 2017 (USGS, data from fall bottom trawl assessments)**

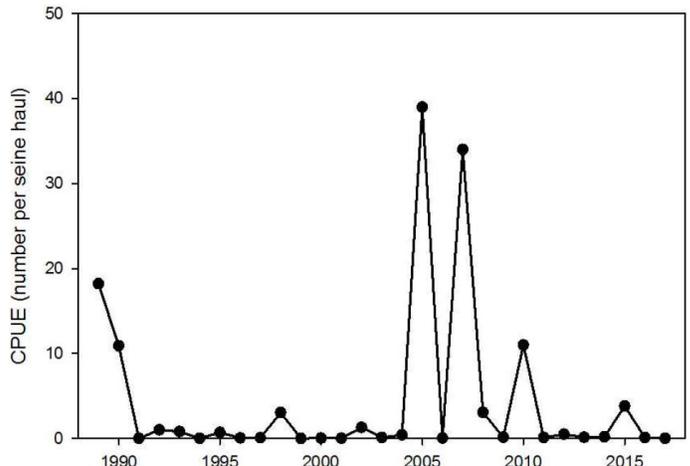


**Fig. 12-Age-0 yellow perch trawl CPUE from Indiana waters of Lake Michigan, from summer trawl assessments, 1983 to 2017**

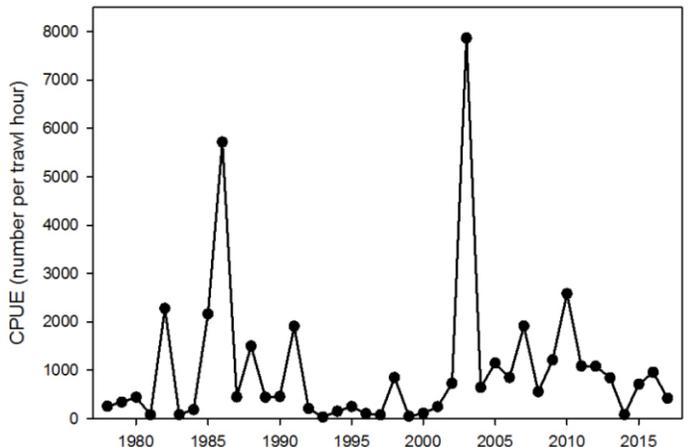


**Fig. 13-Age-0 yellow perch seine CPUE from Illinois waters of Lake Michigan, from summer beach seining, 1978 to 2017**

Abundance of 2015 Age-0 yellow perch in Illinois waters was substantially greater than in recent history.



**Fig. 14-Age-0 yellow perch seine CPUE from Wisconsin waters of Lake Michigan, summer beach seine assessments, 1989 to 2017**



**Fig. 15-Age-0 yellow perch trawl CPUE from Wisconsin waters of Green Bay, from summer trawl assessments, 1978 to 2017**

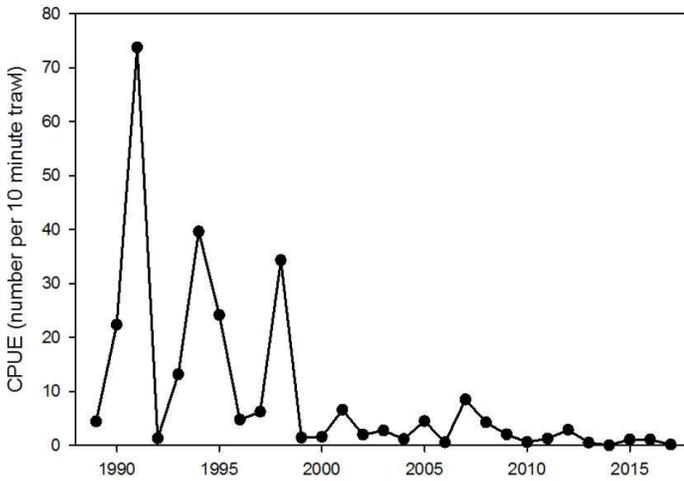


Fig. 16-Age-0 yellow perch trawl CPUE from Michigan waters of Bays de Noc, summer bottom trawl data, 1989 to 2017

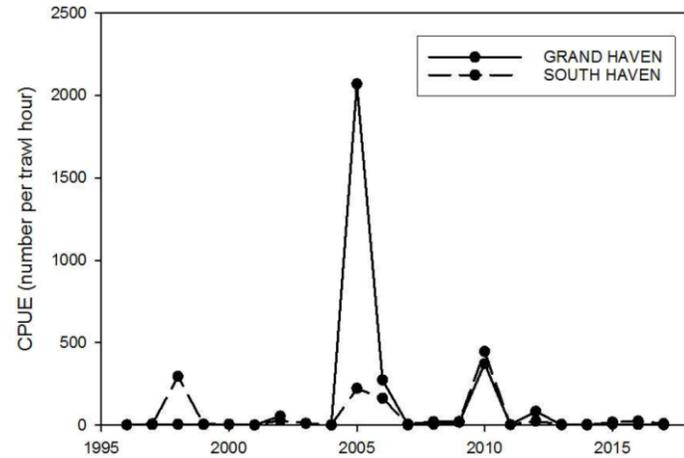


Fig. 17-Age-0 yellow perch trawl CPUE from Michigan waters of Lake Michigan, bottom trawl data, 1996 to 2017

### 2018 Yellow Perch Regulations and Harvest Trends

Sportfishing regulations:

#### Illinois

- May 1 through June 15; closed to sportfishing for yellow perch
- Daily bag limit 15 fish

#### Indiana

- No closed season for yellow perch
- Daily bag limit 15 fish

#### Michigan

- No closed season for yellow perch
- Daily bag limit; 35 fish (south of the 45th parallel) / 50 fish (north of 45th parallel and Grand Traverse Bays)

#### Wisconsin (Lake Michigan)

- May 1 through June 15; closed to sportfishing for yellow perch
- Daily bag limit 5 fish

#### Wisconsin (Green Bay)

- March 16 through May 19; closed to sportfishing for yellow perch
- Daily bag limit 15 fish

#### Commercial regulations:

- Illinois perch fishery remained closed
- Indiana perch fishery remained closed
- Michigan does not allow a commercial harvest (outside of 1836 Treaty waters)
- Wisconsin perch fishery remained closed (outside of Green Bay, where quota for 2018 is 100,000 lbs)

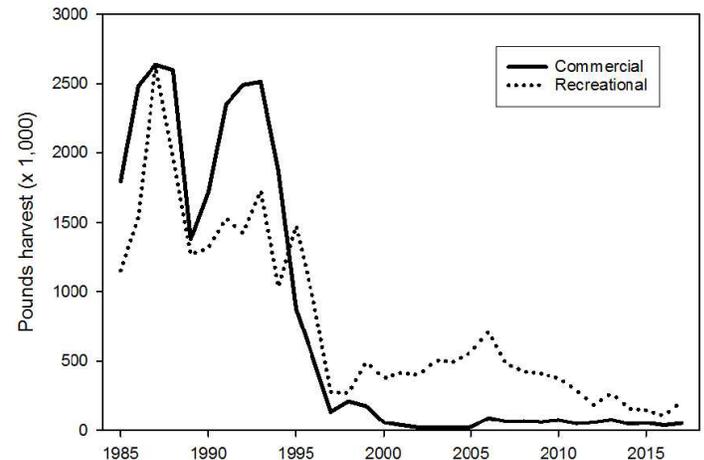


Fig. 18-Lake Michigan harvest (lakewide) of yellow perch by commercial and recreational fisheries, 1985-2017. (All jurisdictions) ✧