



Lake Ontario April prey fish survey results and Alewife assessment, 2024

The Lake Ontario April bottom trawl survey assesses pelagic prey fish populations, in particular Alewife, which are the primary prey supporting the lake’s sport fish populations. The 2024 survey included 234 trawls in the main lake and embayments and sampled depths from 3.9 to 245 m (13 – 809 ft.). The survey captured 441,942 fish from 28 species with a total weight of 10,519 kg (23,142 lbs.). Alewife were 89% of the total catch by number while Deepwater Sculpin, Round Goby, and Rainbow Smelt, comprised 4%, 3%, and 2% of the catch respectively.

The estimated Alewife biomass increases slightly from 2023 to 2024 (83.9 to 84.2 kg·ha-1) and was the largest biomass value since whole lake

sampling began in 2016. Adult Alewife abundance increased in 2024 as predicted in 2023, and most of the total Alewife biomass was comprised of adult fish (97%), predominantly from the 2020 and 2022 year classes. In contrast, Age-1 Alewife biomass (2.2 kg·ha-1) was the lowest estimated since whole lake sampling began in 2016 (previous range: 2.7 – 26.7 kg·ha-1), indicating reproductive success was poor in 2023. Adult Alewife biomass is predicted to remain relatively high but decline slightly in 2025 and 2026, due to the smaller year classes produced in 2021 and 2023. Alewife condition as measured by the weight of a standard length fish (165 mm; ~6.5 inches), was 32.8 g, which was within of the range of previously observed values (28.0 – 35.9 g, 1997 – 2023). Acoustic-based prey fish densities, in the water above were orders of magnitude lower than

the bottom trawl, were similar to observations from 2021 – 2023 and bottom trawl densities. These acoustic results support the seasonal timing of the April survey, when the majority of Alewife and other pelagic prey fishes are near the lake bottom and susceptible to capture with bottom trawls.

The trawl survey also provides information on the status of other pelagic prey fishes and native fish restorations. In 2024, biomass indices for Rainbow Smelt, Emerald Shiner, and Threespine Stickleback, were similar to 2023 values while the index for Cisco declined. The density index for naturally reproduced, juvenile Lake Trout declined relative to 2023.

Lake Ontario April survey and assessment

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Legislation introduced to better understand Great Lakes fish populations

Congressmen Tim Walberg and Bill Huizenga have joined Democratic Congresswoman Debbie Dingell to introduce new legislation intended to help better understand fish populations in the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes Mass Marking Program Act would establish a program within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to work with state and tribal governments to implement mass marking of fish at hatcheries in the Great Lakes. Walberg says large-scale fish marking will allow for the better tracking of migratory patterns and population changes in the lakes.

“Large-scale fish marking will provide us with the data we need to better

understand and improve fishing practices,” Walberg said. Dingell says the program will help the Fish and Wildlife Service implement a mass marking program for every hatchery fish in the Great Lakes region, which will allow for more effective hatchery management.

Huizenga says the legislation “would propel the economy and ecology of the Great Lakes even further, ensuring our incredible fisheries are better able to enhance the environmental, scientific, economic, and recreational benefits of healthy fish populations.” Walberg serves on the House Committee on Natural Resources’ Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries. ✧

Weather didn't slow sturgeon spearing in Wisconsin. '25's final numbers.

Under the perseverance of Lake Winnebago system sturgeon spearers, this year's catches totaled 943

Many sturgeon spearers persevered through water clarity, weather and access issues on the Lake Winnebago system in 2025.

[Opening weekend](#) set a pattern for snowy conditions throughout the season, though spearers who took to the lake on the final weekend were met with sunshine. The last two days saw a surge of 139 total sturgeon speared. Both the Lake Winnebago and Upriver Lakes seasons lasted the full 16 days, with 943 successful spearers. This year totaled: 142 juvenile females, 322 adult females and 479 males.

Lake Winnebago spearers contributed 617 sturgeon to that total, with spearers on the Upriver Lakes bringing in the other 326. Of Lake Winnebago's sturgeon, 95 were juvenile females, 273 were adult females and 249 were males. With 230 out of 250 male sturgeon harvested, the Upriver Lakes almost hit its harvest cap, peaking at 92%. The total harvest on the Upriver Lakes also included 47 juvenile females and 49 adult females.

This year's harvest across all lakes more than doubled last year's total of 432 sturgeon, even after three of the registration stations closed by the end of the season. Throughout the season, 63 spearers hauled in a sturgeon weighing more than 100 pounds, though [Hayley Herzig has kept her record for the year](#) since she speared a 180.5-pound catch opening day on February 8. It is the fourth-largest sturgeon ever speared in the Lake Winnebago system.

Two other big catches of this year were Joseph Miller's 161.9-pound sturgeon from February 9 and Jon Verhagen's 160.6-pound sturgeon from February 11. Miller's catch was still about a year away from spawning, so it wasn't even full of eggs, the DNR reported. This means she could have

Thousands of rainbow trout to be released this spring

The Ohio DNR has scheduled the release of 85,000 rainbow trout across the Buckeye State.

The fish were released at 90 locations beginning March 12. ODNR said the release locations were chosen to give anglers as many possible opportunities to catch the fish through March, April and May.

Several stocking locations will feature special events on the day of the release, including youth-only fishing. During special events, there may be limited trout fishing opportunities for the public. Fishing at state park youth ponds is only available for children 15-years-old or younger for the first seven days after the trout are released. Following that week, the waters are open for anglers of all ages through the end of April. On May 1, these ponds are youth-only fishing for the rest of the year.

Stocking events at certain locations may change because of weather. There are several new release locations, including Stoner Pond and Starr Lake in Lucas County and Wingfoot Wildlife Area in Portage County. For a full list of release dates and locations, [click here](#). The daily limit is five rainbow trout per angler. To check the state's 2025-26 fishing regulations, [click here](#). ✧

likely weighed 40 to 50 more pounds next year.

Meanwhile, Verhagen's fish was well past spawning age at an estimated 70 to 100 years old, where a sturgeon reaches sexual maturity at 20 to 25 years old.

Thank you, spearers, for helping to make this season a success. We hope you made memories this season that will last a lifetime. To recap the daily summaries and harvest reports from this season, go to dnr.wisconsin.gov.

[View the full harvest report](#). ✧



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Position Statement

Representing a major interest in the aquatic resources of the Great Lakes states and the province of Ontario, the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council is a confederation of organizations and individuals with a concern for the present and future of sport fishing, our natural resources and the ecosystem in which we live. We encourage the wise use of our resources and a search for the truth about the issues confronting us.

Inland Seas Angler

GREAT LAKES BASIN REPORT

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Lake Ontario Fishing Boat Survey Summary Report 2024

This report summarizes Lake Ontario fishing quality during 2024 and presents results in four lake management areas compared with averages from the previous ten years. Highlights include:

- Chinook fishing was outstanding in 2024 with mean catch rates ranking the 2nd highest on record in 39 years of conducting the survey. From April-July, Chinook catch rates were nearly double the 10-year average in all four lake management areas. Although Chinook fishing cooled off in August and September due to unstable temperature lake conditions, this fishing season will be recorded as one of the all-time best.
- Chinook Salmon size has been trending lower recently, likely due to the high numbers of salmon and trout in the lake, however, mean weight of age-3 Chinook in August was still 19.2 lbs. with some weighing over 30 lbs.

- Brown Trout catch rates were 32% above the 10-year average for the whole season. In spring when browns are targeted most, catch rates in 2024 ranked the 8th highest in the series, with rates at- or above average in three of the four lake management areas.
- Coho are especially present in the west management area during spring and in the east lake management area during August and September. Catch rates for this species ranked 33% above the 10-year average in 2024.
- Atlantic Salmon are caught less frequently than other species; however, this native species adds to the amazing diversity of trophy salmon and trout available in Lake Ontario and provides a unique catch of a lifetime for lucky anglers. Catch rates for Atlantic salmon have increased in recent years and were 16% above average in 2024.
- Rainbow and Lake Trout catch rates were down in 2024; however, catch

rates for these species can be affected by good Chinook fishing since they are targeted less when Kings are available. Steelhead catch rates were average in the west management area where they are especially targeted by anglers.

- Sea Lamprey are an invasive parasite that attach to fish and can kill them or affect their growth. The number of sea lamprey observed by anglers increased compared with 2023 but was well below the record levels in 2022.

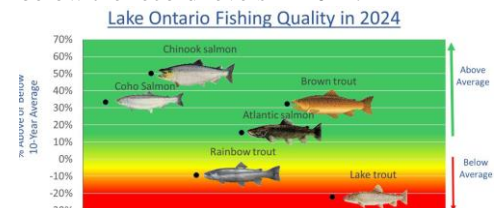


Fig 1. Summary of sportfishing quality for salmon and trout in New York waters of Lake Ontario in 2024.

To read the full report click this link: [Lake Ontario Fishing Boat Survey Summary Report 2024](#)



Green Bay Walleye Reward Tag Study continues in 2025

MADISON, Wis. – Together with Walleyes for Tomorrow, the Wisconsin DNR announces the continuation of the walleye reward tag study in the Bay of Green Bay.

The Bay of Green Bay and its tributaries support a world-class walleye fishery, allowing anglers to catch walleye of all sizes, including trophy-sized fish. The popularity of this fishery continues to be a major draw for anglers locally, statewide and throughout the Midwest.

The DNR began the reward tag study in spring 2024 and will continue implementing the study with walleye tagging efforts this spring, thanks to funding from Walleyes for Tomorrow. The study aims to better understand the walleye fishery and gain estimates of walleye exploitation rates (i.e., the percentage of the walleye population that anglers harvest each year).

DNR staff will tag up to 5,000 walleyes with yellow floy tags throughout five major spawning areas around Green Bay this spring—

Sturgeon Bay and the Fox, Oconto, Peshtigo and Menominee rivers. In addition to the yellow floy tags, 400 red reward tags will be distributed throughout these areas.

What Happens If I Catch A Tagged Walleye?

The fish can be harvested if it is legal to do so or released. Any tagged fish not meeting minimum length requirements should be immediately released after collecting the necessary tagging information described below. Keep the tag intact when releasing any walleyes and [follow responsible catch and release practices](#).

Report all walleyes that are caught with any color floy tag. We ask anglers to report the following information: tag #, color, species, length, location caught, date caught and whether the fish was harvested or released.

Reward tags will be red and say, “REWARD \$100.” All red reward tags will have a date printed on them, which is the date the reward is valid

until. While the tagged walleye does not need to be harvested to receive the \$100 reward, anglers must provide proper verification that they caught a walleye with a reward tag. Verification must be done in one of the following ways:

- If harvested, present the physical tag to the DNR.
- If released, take a picture of the tag that includes the three-digit tag number and a picture of the angler holding the walleye with tag visible.

To report your catch to the DNR, email DNRFHGBFISH@wisconsin.gov or call 920-662-5411. To mail in a floy tag from a harvested fish, send it to ATTN Fish Biologist, 2984 Shawano Ave. Green Bay, WI 54313

Anglers that report a floy tag will receive information about the fish, including date, location, size, sex and possibly age at the time of tagging. Anglers do not need to provide picture verification or mail in the physical tag when reporting walleyes with a yellow or green floy tag. ✧

Celebrate 'Marsh Madness' with the DNR's spring magazine

The spring issue of [Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine](#) is now available in print and online, full of compelling stories and important information to help you enjoy the season.

The latest issue celebrates “[marsh madness](#),” focusing on the marvels of marshlands in Wisconsin. Stories include a look at the [history and resiliency of Dodge County’s expansive Horicon Marsh](#), along with [other marsh areas to explore](#). There’s a tale of [marsh rejuvenation at the Little Yellow River in central Wisconsin](#) and, for plant lovers, a look at [several types of flora commonly found in wetland areas](#).

Also in the spring issue, you’ll find [fascinating tales of fun history in the Wisconsin State Park System](#), which is marking its 125th anniversary this year. [State wildlife areas are highlighted](#), too, as is the [Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest, which also has an anniversary in 2025](#). This beautiful area in the heart of Wisconsin’s Northwoods turns 100 this year.

[Pheasants](#), [Arbor Day](#), [gardening](#), [flood awareness](#) and [hunting](#) are all covered in the spring issue. You also can learn where to [find paved trails perfect for hiking without a muddy mess](#) and read about [upcoming Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin field trips](#), fun ways to explore the state! There’s a story on [how the DNR helps food pantries by donating salmon from spawning facilities](#). Plus, learn about [lookalike wildlife such as foxes, coyotes and wolves and how to tell them apart](#).

There is plenty more in the latest issue, too, including [tips to spot signs of spring](#). It will be here before you know it! Check out the digital magazine online at [wnrmag.com](#) or subscribe to the print edition, just \$8.97 a year for four quarterly issues. Call 1-800-678-9472 or check the website to [sign up, renew or give a gift](#) today. ✧

Regulation adjustment coming for yellow perch fishing on Mille Lacs Lake

Starting March 11, the daily and possession limit for yellow perch on Mille Lacs Lake was reduced from 20 to five. This regulation will be in place through November 30.

The Minn. DNR is implementing this adjustment to the daily and possession limit to help maintain a good perch population for the future. Yellow perch are a key species in the Mille Lacs Lake ecosystem and young yellow perch are a primary food source for predators (especially walleye). Maintaining an abundance of older perch will result in more young being produced this spring and preserve harvest opportunities for next year.

“We are pleased that the perch fishing on Mille Lacs this winter has been good for many anglers,” said Brad Parsons, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources fisheries section manager. “With annual perch harvest never more than 7,000 pounds since 2012, this year’s rebound is a positive sign for the health of the lake.”

State-licensed anglers share the perch harvest on Mille Lacs with Ojibwe Tribes that retain fishing rights by treaty. To conserve the fishery, an annual safe harvest level is cooperatively established by the state and the Tribes through a government-to-government, co-management process. Each party then sets fishing regulations to stay within their share of the harvest. As of February 23, the state has harvested more than 43,000 pounds of perch, exceeding its share of the harvest of 36,500 pounds.

“The state and our Tribal partners will intensify efforts to evaluate the Mille Lacs perch population and future sustainable harvest plans. The response we see in the perch population to this year’s higher harvest will be an important part of that,” Parsons said.

Complete Mille Lacs Lake fishing regulations and regularly updated data on state-licensed angler catches of walleye, northern pike and yellow

ODNR to release rainbow trout beginning in March

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Ohio DNR has scheduled the release of 85,000 rainbow trout at 90 locations beginning Wednesday, March 12. The locations were chosen to give as many anglers as possible a chance to reel in these feisty fish in March, April, and May. Trout releases are designed for high angler success and harvest.

New trout release locations include Stoner Pond and Starr Lake, both in Lucas County as well as Wingfoot Wildlife Area in Portage County. Find a complete list of release dates and locations at [ohiodnr.gov/troutstockings](#). Trout stocking events at certain locations may change due to weather, be sure to look for updated information online or by calling 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543).

Some trout stocking locations feature a special event on the day of the scheduled release, including youth-only fishing. Trout fishing opportunities for the public may be limited during special events. Fishing at state park youth ponds is only available for youth 15 years of age and younger for the first seven days after trout are released. After that week, these waters are open to anglers of all ages for trout fishing opportunities through the end of April. On May 1, these ponds return to providing youth-only fishing for the rest of the year.

By stocking these public lakes and ponds in addition to other water areas across the state, the Division of Wildlife provides anglers the opportunity to enjoy quality spring rainbow trout fishing in a family-friendly environment. Check [Ohio’s 2025-26 fishing regulations](#) before your outing and be aware that the daily limit is five rainbow trout per angler. ✧

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perch are available on the [Minnesota DNR website](#) ([mndnr.gov/millelacslake](#)). ✧

U.S. federal job cuts hit Great Lakes invasives program

The Trump administration has fired 14 federal workers involved in the sea lamprey control program

A decision by the United States government to fire more than a dozen federal workers who are classed as probationary has hit home at the bi-national agency that protects the Great Lakes fishery.

Twelve fired employees of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and two with the U.S. Geological Survey helped control the invasive sea lamprey for the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, a commission spokesperson says.

The director of policy and legislative affairs for the commission said it's too early to know the impact of the cuts on the 2025 program, which is set to roll out in April. But it's probably not positive, Greg McClinchey said.

"If the commission was to—and I'm not suggesting we're going to do this, just to be clear—but if the fishery commission were to cut its control program by one third ... that would mean there would be somewhere in the neighborhood of about 2.5 million lamprey that would remain alive," he said. "Two-point-five million sea lamprey would eat 12 million pounds of fish. ... And that economic loss potential is about \$264 million."

Lampreys nearly decimated the Great Lakes fishery

Sea lampreys are eel-like creatures with sucker-like mouths that latch onto fish and consume them. They first turned up in the Great Lakes approximately 100 years ago, McClinchey said. Each lamprey eats about 40 pounds of fish over its two-to-three-year lifespan, and each female has about 100,000 babies. At their peak they were consuming around 105 million pounds of fish per year and would have decimated the Great Lakes fishery within three to five years.

In the 1950s, the commission was tasked with controlling the species, after piece-meal efforts by Canada, the U.S. and individual states and provinces failed. The program of treating streams with lampricide—that

is non-toxic to the surrounding ecosystem—kills about eight or nine million lamprey a year, McClinchey said. A total of about 85 employees of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are involved in the lamprey control program, he said.

About a third of them are larval assessment staff, and another two thirds work with the lampricides, the compounds introduced into streams where the creatures breed and spend their larval years. He couldn't say how many of the fired staff were new employees and how many were on probation because they had recently received a promotion. But he estimated that the majority were in the latter category.

Sea lampreys are one of the most reviled invasive species in the Great Lakes. McClinchey is currently in Washington, lobbying congress to ensure the program has the resources it needs to do its job this year, he said.

'Nobody has sided with the lamprey'

Already, he said, the commission has received assurances that Fish and Wildlife will be able to hire the 25 seasonal workers that help with the work. "I think it's become clear that nobody woke up and said, 'Let's hurt the Great Lakes Fishery Commission program,'" he said. "Nobody has sided with lamprey that I've been able to detect."

The U.S. government has not cut the funding for the program itself, McClinchey added. The commission continues to receive approximately \$20 million U.S. annually from Washington and about \$8.5 million

Cdn. from Canada—a funding formula based on the share of the lakes in each country's territory.

It is technically open to the commission to use the money to contract with other service providers, such as universities, to obtain the same services that Fish and Wildlife and the USGS were providing, he said. "The challenge is, of course, that the folks who are doing this program for us are, like ... they're trained. They're expert. They're certified," he said. "It's not quite as easy as saying, 'Let's hire up a bunch of new people.' They obviously have to be people with the skills and abilities to do the job."

The Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans is also involved in the lamprey control program, McClinchey said, and there's no indication of cuts on the Canadian side. He remains optimistic that the U.S. government will ensure the 2025 program can go ahead as planned. "Failure is not an option," he said, "because the Great Lakes are just too important to us."

One Canadian organization that works to address other invasive species in the Great Lakes, including aquatic plants such as water soldier and hydrilla, said it is monitoring the situation in the United States. Colin Cassin of the Invasive Species Centre said it's too early to tell how its U.S. partners would be impacted by the federal cuts, but his organization is concerned. "The challenge, from our perspective, is that invasive species don't respect borders," said Cassin, the executive director of the organization, "The fish don't have a passport." Strong cross-border collaboration has been critical to dealing with invasive species, Cassin said, and he hopes it will be able to continue.

- [How an eel-like bloodsucking invasive species nearly wiped out fishing in the Great Lakes](#)
- [Why should we care about invasive species? ♦](#)



Bipartisan bill introduced to continue critical Great Lakes Fishery Research

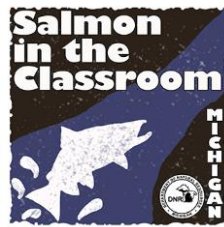
WASHINGTON DC (March 3, 2025) – U.S. Representatives Mike Quigley (IL-05) and Bill Huizenga (MI-04) introduced the Great Lakes Fishery Research Reauthorization Act. The bipartisan bill will reauthorize the Great Lakes Fishery Research program, set to expire at the end of September, for another five years through FY 2030. This program has provided the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Great Lakes Science Center with dedicated funding to conduct critical research supporting the approximately \$5 billion sport and commercial fishing industry in the Great Lakes. The bill maintains the current research program authorization level at \$15 million each year.

"The Great Lakes are the pride of the region and one of the finest natural wonders of the world, but their native species and ecosystems face complex challenges. To protect the Great Lakes from threats like invasive species and habitat degradation, Congress must reauthorize this program," said Rep. Quigley, co-chair of the House Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition and a member of the House Great Lakes Task Force. "It's on us to preserve our natural resources for future generations. I'm proud to continue my support of the Great Lakes Science Center and their integral work to do just that."

"Recreational fishing in Michigan accounts for over \$3.9 billion in economic output. As an angler myself, I'm proud to help introduce the bipartisan Great Lakes Fishery Research Reauthorization Act," said Rep. Huizenga, Co-Chair of the House Great Lakes Task Force. "This bill will strengthen our vital fisheries with the research and technology needed to continue benefiting the ecology of the Great Lakes and the small business economy of Southwest Michigan."

"History tells us that solid, scientific understanding of what is happening in the Great Lakes is essential to managing this multi-billion-dollar resource," said Ethan Baker, chairman of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. "Effective fishery management starts and ends with accurate data, which is why the Great Lakes Fishery Research Authorization Act is the foundation for the decisions taken by state and Tribal fishery managers. The bipartisan authors and sponsors of this bill are Great Lakes champions, and I commend them for the work they are doing on behalf of everyone working and living in the Great Lakes Basin." ✧

Salmon in the Classroom Fall 2025 applications are open until April 15!



Salmon in the Classroom teaches students about everything salmon—from the life history of fish to the importance of the Great Lakes and fishing to Michigan's traditions and way of life. Even better, SIC is a great place-based educational effort that ties right back to the kids' communities. Students get invested in and excited about their local rivers and streams, knowing that the smolts they released will return to the very same spot in two to three years to spawn.

To be accepted into the program, educators must commit to teaching their students about the Great Lakes ecosystem and fisheries management by raising salmon for almost the entire school year. To make this easier, new teachers are treated to a free day-long professional development opportunity with SCECHs and provided with a full program manual, as well as a classroom activity guide and materials kit. Applications are competitive—so be thorough! For more info, visit the Salmon in the Classroom web page at

Michigan.gov/sic. ✧

DNR Recreation and Fishing Regulations Guides available

Your latest guides to exploring Indiana's great outdoors are now available at your fingertips and will soon be available at a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) property near you. The 2025 DNR Indiana Recreation Guide is available now at on.IN.gov/recguide. In addition, your 2025-2026 guide to Indiana fishing, the DNR Indiana Fishing Regulations Guide, is available at on.IN.gov/fishingguide. ✧

IGFA's auction shatters records, raises \$925,000 for game fish conservation

The International Game Fish Association's 41st Annual International Auction made history on January 25, 2025, raising an unprecedented \$925,000 that will directly fuel IGFA's vital conservation and education initiatives worldwide. Over 270 guests gathered at the Ritz-Carlton Fort Lauderdale Beach, with additional supporters participating virtually by bidding on live auction lots and engaging in the online auction component, all united by their passion for protecting game fish and ensuring the future of recreational angling.

The live auction kicked off with the auction of a Tudor Ranger timepiece, and enthusiastic bidding continued throughout the evening for extraordinary travel experiences spanning the globe. Each winning bid represented not just an exceptional experience but an investment in IGFA's mission to preserve game fish and inspire the next generation of conservation-minded anglers.

Among the evening's highlights was a celebratory moment marking the successful completion of the initial \$1 million fundraising goal for the IGFA Billfish Research and Conservation Endowment, representing a transformative step forward for billfish conservation. ✧

Muskegon River walleye egg collection starting soon

Fishing the Muskegon River this spring? Be on the lookout for Michigan DNR personnel collecting walleye eggs below Croton Dam. Egg collections with electrofishing boats will start as early as March 24 and conclude by April 12. Four days of egg collections are planned this spring. The date those collections will begin depends on water temperatures and the presence of ripe fish (fish that are ready to spawn), and the schedule may change based on conditions.

The egg-take zone runs from Croton Dam downstream to the Pine Street Access Site, so anglers who wish to avoid the walleye collection activities should fish downstream from the Pine Street Access Site. Anyone fishing near the egg-collection zone should use caution when fishing near the electrofishing boats. For safety, anyone wading will be asked to exit the water when these boats approach.

Electrofishing usually begins at

Croton Dam each day at 8 a.m. and proceeds downstream to the Pine Street Access Site. If more eggs are needed, additional collections may occur downstream to the Thornapple Avenue (High Rollway) Access Site. The DNR plans to collect approximately 26 million walleye eggs from the Muskegon River this year. Some of the fry (fish that have just hatched) from these eggs will be directly placed in waters throughout the Lower Peninsula and some will be sent to rearing ponds. Walleye fry transferred to ponds will be raised to fingerling size (1.5 to 2.5 inches) and stocked in late spring in lakes and rivers throughout the state. A smaller number of fish will be reared through the summer months in select ponds and stocked as fingerlings (6 to 8 inches).

Lake Michigan and many inland lake walleye populations in the Lower Peninsula depend on the fingerlings produced from Muskegon River eggs.

The number of spawning walleye in the Muskegon River has been estimated at 40,000 to 50,000 fish. DNR crews will collect milt (sperm) and eggs from approximately 400 adult fish on-site this spring. These fish are immediately returned to the river—except for 60 fish, which will be collected for routine, annual health and disease surveillance testing at Michigan State University.

The Muskegon River has the largest run of walleye in the Lake Michigan watershed, south of Green Bay, and its adult walleye population is primarily stocked fish. These walleye contribute to populations in other areas, based on fish tags that are returned to the DNR by anglers. Walleye from the Muskegon River have been recaptured in Lake Macatawa, Spring Lake, Manistee Lake and Pigeon Lake, as well as the Grand, Kalamazoo, Pere Marquette and White rivers.

Learn more at [Michigan.gov/Walleye](https://www.michigan.gov/Walleye). ✧

2025 fisheries workshops

Spring fishery workshops offer current research and information related to the status of the Great Lakes fishery.

Michigan Sea Grant and Michigan State U, in partnership with the DNR, USGS, USFWS, and local fishery organizations annually offer evening regional workshops to provide valuable information for anglers, charter captains, and interested community members. Workshops include information and status updates on topics such as fish populations and angler catch data, forage or prey fish surveys, offshore fisheries and open water fisheries, as well as updates on management activities, citizen science opportunities for anglers, and a variety of other topics of interest based on specific regions.

Summary of fishery workshops

- Lake Huron Open Water April 8 via Zoom
- Lake Erie/Lake St. Clair April 9 in person and Zoom

- Lake Michigan April 14 – Ludington in person and Zoom
- Lake Michigan April 17 – South Haven in person only
- Lake Huron Saginaw Bay April 22 – in person only
- Lake Huron Cedarville April 29 – in person and Zoom
- Statewide – Opportunity to get updates and regulation proposals for inland waters of the state – May 1 Zoom only

Details include:

Keweenaw Bay Workshop

April 5, 1-4:30 pm
Ojibwe Casino, 16449 Michigan Ave, Baraga, MI *(In-person only)*
No registration required

Lake Huron: Open Water

April 8, *(via Zoom only)*
Alpena, NOAA TBNMS Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center
[Details and registration](#)

Lake Erie/Lake St. Clair

April 9, *(In-person and via Zoom)*
Detroit River Int'l Wildlife Refuge
Details and registration

Lake Michigan: Ludington

April 14, *(In-person and via Zoom)*
[Details and registration](#)

Lake Michigan: South Haven

April 17, *(In-person only, no registration required)*
American Legion, 129 Michigan Ave, South Haven, MI 49094
[Details](#)

Lake Huron: Saginaw Bay

April 22, *(In-person and via Zoom)*
Standish, Saganing Tribal Ctr
[Details and registration](#)

Lake Huron: Cedarville

April 29, *(In-person and via Zoom)*
Cedarville, Clark Twp Community Ctr
[Details and registration](#)

Statewide *(Zoom only)*

May 2025, Date TBA
[Details and registration](#) ✧

Lake Ontario April survey and assessment

Continued from page 1

Density estimates of Lake Whitefish continue to be orders of magnitude lower in U.S. waters relative to Canadian waters. A single purported Bloater (total length = 148 mm, sampling depth = 105 m) was captured near Rochester, NY during the 2024 survey. This is the eighth Bloater recaptured during this survey since restoration stocking began in 2012.

Results

The 2024 April bottom trawl survey included 234 trawls in main lake and embayment sites (Fig.1), at depths from 3.9 to 245.2 m (13 – 809 ft.). The survey captured 441,942 fish from 28 species with a total weight of 10,519 kg (23,142 lbs.) and 467 kg (1,028 lbs.) of dreissenid mussels (Table 1)31. Numerically, Alewife were 89% of the catch while Deepwater Sculpin, Round Goby and Rainbow Smelt, comprised 4, 3, and 2% of the catch, respectively

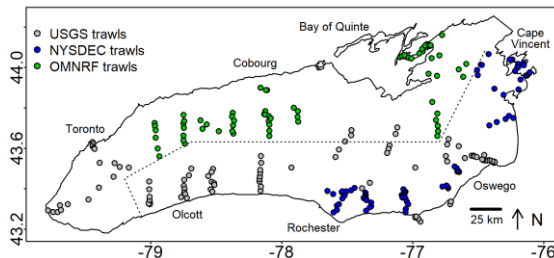


Fig 1.
Lake Ontario bottom trawl sites

Alewife biomass, density, condition, and spatial distribution

From 2023 to 2024, Lake Ontario Alewife biomass increased slightly from 83.9 to 84.2 kg per hectare, however the density declined from 6795 to 3727 fish per hectare. This density decline was due to a below average catch of Age-1 Alewife in 2024. The total Alewife biomass was primarily comprised of adult fish (97%), predominantly from the 2020 and 2022 year classes.

The total Alewife biomass estimate for 2024 is similar to previously observed high values in the modern time series (since 1997), however, it is important to recognize Lake Ontario Alewife biomass estimates were greater in the late 1970s through the early 1990s. In those years different studies reported Alewife biomass estimates as high as 182 kg·ha⁻¹ in 1989 or 280 kg·ha⁻¹ between 1987 and 1991. Estimating past Lake Ontario Alewife biomass values is complicated because the 1978 – 1996 surveys used a bottom trawl that underestimated biomass relative to the current trawl and in those years the survey only sampled U.S. waters. Biomass estimates vary based on analytical assumptions about trawl to trawl conversion factors and how estimates of Alewife biomass in U.S. waters represents Canadian waters. While Lake Ontario Alewife biomass has declined since the early 1990s, survey data from other Great Lakes indicates Lake Ontario supports

the greatest Alewife biomass. In Lake Michigan, fall bottom trawl and summer hydroacoustic surveys estimated Alewife biomass ranged from near zero to 14 kg per hectare, from 1997 – 2023. During that same period similar surveys on Lake Huron estimated Alewife biomass from zero to 12 kg per hectare.

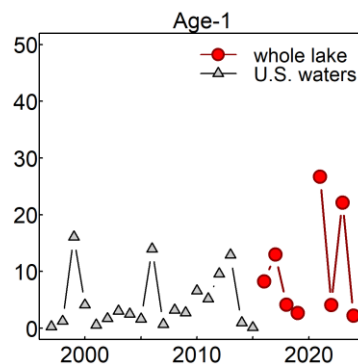


Fig 2.
Alewife biomass for Age-1, 1997 – 2024

The biomass of adult Alewife, (Age-2 and older) increased from 2023 to 2024 as predicted in last year's report. Interestingly, the 2024 estimate for Age-1 Alewife (2.2 kg·ha⁻¹) was the lowest value observed since whole lake sampling began in 2016 (Fig. 2). Lower than average reproductive success is common in the Alewife time series. A recent analysis of Alewife populations in Lakes Ontario, Michigan, and Huron found the size of a year class was synchronized through time across the three lake populations suggesting climate is an important driver of Alewife reproductive success in the Great Lakes. That analysis found the annual differences in spring and summer water temperatures best explained annual variability in reproductive success across the three lakes (warmer spring water temperatures ~ better reproductive success).

In 2024, mean Alewife biomass in Canadian and U.S. waters of Lake Ontario was similar: 86.5 and 81.7 kg·ha⁻¹, respectively. Since 2016, when sampling was expanded to the whole lake, results have shown that Alewife biomass can be considerably different in Canadian and U.S. portions of Lake Ontario. These annual changes in Alewife spatial distribution highlight the importance of surveying the whole lake for understanding Lake Ontario Alewife population dynamics.

Alewife age structure, survival, growth

A total of 1,209 Alewife ages were interpreted from whole sagittae otoliths collected from fish that had a total length range from 65 to 230 mm (2.5 – 9.0 inches). The oldest interpretation was Age-9 and was from the 2015 year class. In 2024 the Alewife population was primarily comprised of the 2020 and 2022 year classes.

Lake Ontario April survey and assessment

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Lake Ontario April survey and assessment

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Predicted adult Alewife biomass

Population models predict future adult Alewife biomass based on the current year observations for abundance and mean size, and distributions of survival and growth (weight change) estimates from previous years. The spread of predicted biomass has increased in recent years due to simulations that randomly select Age-1 abundance from the 2020 or 2022 year classes that were substantially more abundant than other year classes.

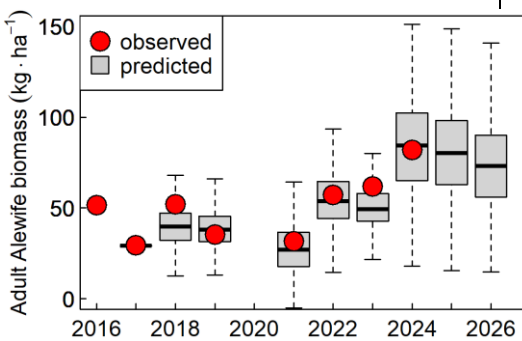


Fig. 3.

Adult Alewife biomass (boxplots) and observed values (red circle), 2016 – 2026. The gray boxplots the thick black bars represent the median, the boxes represent the 25th and 75th quartiles, and the whiskers represent the remaining range.

How many prey fish were above the bottom trawls?

Acoustic estimates of prey fish densities in open water were hundreds to thousands of times lower than bottom trawl estimates. The low acoustic densities, relative to trawl densities, indicate prey fishes in waters above the bottom trawl would have a minimal effect on whole lake biomass or density estimates. Incorporating acoustic sampling with bottom trawling helps characterize how prey fish habitat use varies and corroborates that most prey fishes are susceptible to the bottom trawl during the survey. ✧

Sixth Circuit upholds Great Lakes fishing agreement with Native American tribes

(CN) – A Sixth Circuit panel ruled March 13 that a 2023 decree negotiated by the U.S. government and a group of Native American tribes regarding fishing rights on the Great Lakes should be adopted, despite one tribe's protest that the agreement violates its tribal rights.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians was the only party that refused to stipulate to a [2023 Great Lakes Decree](#) that updated an 1836 treaty that reserved Indian tribes' rights to fish in certain areas of water in Great Lakes areas. The decree included major changes to reporting requirements and updates to which areas of the Great Lakes can be fished by tribal commercial fishers. In its [ruling handed down Thursday](#), the Cincinnati-based Sixth Circuit panel affirming a Michigan federal court's decision approving the decree.

"Given the dynamic nature of the resource and the competing interests among numerous user groups, we recognize that protecting the tribes' treaty-protected fishing rights is not 'susceptible of facile and simplistic resolution,'" U.S. Circuit Judge Julia Gibbons, a George W. Bush appointee, wrote for the panel. The appellate panel held that the federal court did not abuse its discretion in exercising its continuing jurisdiction and inherent equitable power to enter the 2023 decree over the Sault Tribe's objections.

"We conclude that the lack of unanimous consent does not preclude the district court from entering new fishing regulations," the court said. "Although consensus among the parties is preferable, the overriding priority is protecting the treaty right for all five tribes and preserving the fishery resource for all parties." The Sault Ste. Marie tribe had claimed it was removed from tribal negotiations and that the process in which the 2023 decree was approved is improper.

"The 2023 Decree implements a regulatory framework that protects the tribes' federal treaty rights from the 'racehorse' environment in 1973, when the United States first brought suit. The district court did not abuse its discretion because the 2023 Decree remains appropriately 'tailored' to address the original conditions that offended the tribes' federal treaty rights in 1973," Gibbons wrote.

The panel also disagreed with the tribe's argument that a trial over the issue should have been held and that the parties did not satisfy the legal standards for injunctive relief. The panel noted that the decree was a judicial decree, not a consent decree that would have required the court to follow those standards. U.S. Circuit Judges Jane Branstetter Stranch, a Barack Obama appointee, and David McKeague, a George W. Bush appointee, joined Gibbons on the panel.

The 2023 decree was the product of over three years of negotiations between the United States, Michigan, the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan [approved](#) the decree in August 2023. In its appeal, the tribe argued, among other things, that the federal court lacked jurisdiction to enter the 2023 decree without its consent and failed to evaluate the decree's tribal fishing regulations based on the standard set out in a 1976 Michigan Supreme Court ruling.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe did not respond to a request for comment from Courthouse News Service. ✧

Lake Erie walleye, perch management

Lake Erie walleye/perch populations (perchids) peaked in the late 1980s but then declined to low levels of abundance by the late 1990s. Then, the Lake Erie Committee decided to implement a Percid Management Strategy to achieve sustainable harvest levels for all stakeholders.

The binational Lake Erie Committee is composed of fishery managers from Michigan, New York, Ohio, Ontario and Pennsylvania. These five jurisdictions manage the Lake Erie fishery and set total allowable catches (TAC) for each year. In 2024, it was 12.858 million walleye and 6.554 million pounds of yellow perch.

Yellow perch are allocated in pounds, and walleye are allocated by a number of fish. The 2024 TACs represented a slight decrease in walleye from 13.526 million fish and a minimal reduction for yellow perch from 6.573 million pounds from 2023. The numbers for 2025 are usually set during their annual meeting in March, just ahead.

The TAC decisions are not made in isolation. They are the result of a collaborative effort involving the LEC, scientists, field biologists and stakeholders. These groups meet annually and on an ongoing basis to analyze fisheries and agency data, estimate population levels, and recommend the annual TAC. The decisions are reflective of the status of Lake Erie's fish populations and consider maintaining sustainable harvest yearly by implementing harvest policies included in species-specific management plans. The individual state and provincial governments then implement the TAC in their jurisdiction using their respective regulations and management objectives.

For walleye, the harvest is guided by the Walleye Management Plan and advice from the Lake Erie Percid Management Advisory Group (LEPMAG). Since the walleye fishery has not weakened in numbers—

anglers catch many more walleye, but they are much smaller in size compared to the late 1980s — we are likely to hear that the LEC will share the science behind the strong walleye population. The highly successful annual hatches will likely have enabled the walleye numbers again. Perhaps we will see an increase in the allowable walleye angler daily harvest limit. Time will tell.

In 2024, studies forecast that the average walleye size was expected to increase, resulting in a smaller decline in harvested biomass compared to the decline in the number of fish. The Province of Ontario and the states of Ohio and Michigan share the TAC based on the amount of walleye habitat within each jurisdiction in the western and central basins of the lake. Under the 2024 TAC of 12.858 million walleye in total. Ohio was entitled to 6.572 million fish, Ontario 5.536 million fish, and Michigan 0.750 million fish. Jurisdictions in eastern Lake Erie are outside the TAC area, but harvest limits are set with lake-wide objectives as a reference.

The LEC yellow perch TAC decisions are the result of implementing the management plan that includes advice from scientists and stakeholders each year through the LEPMAG. The yellow perch fishery is divided into four management units, which generally correspond to Lake Erie's eastern, east-central, west-central, and western basins. Poor recruitment of yellow perch in the central basin is a consistent challenge, although reports show the population is showing signs of stabilizing there. LEC strives to maintain sustainable harvest while responding to changing populations influenced by many dynamic factors and environmental conditions. LEC is participating in various research efforts to better understand the recruitment of yellow perch in Lake Erie's central basin. The five jurisdictions on the lake share Lake Erie's yellow perch management under a surface area-based formula. As

with walleye, each Lake Erie jurisdiction is responsible for allocating its portion of the TAC.

Since 2010, the LEPMAG has been instrumental in incorporating stakeholder needs and objectives into the decision-making process regarding walleye and yellow perch harvest. The LEPMAG, which comprises senior representatives from all provincial and state jurisdictions on the lake, recreational and commercial fishers, and other interested organizations, ensures that all voices are heard. Through the LEPMAG, fishery managers and stakeholders work together to identify the harvest policies for Lake Erie perchids to meet the needs of all stakeholders while maintaining stability in the perchid fishery. That's a seriously tough job, but the LEPMAG is up to the task. Michigan State University's Quantitative Fisheries Center facilitates the LEPMAG process. Walleye are managed under the Walleye Management Plan developed through the LEPMAG and formally adopted by the LEC in 2015. The LEPMAG is advising the LEC as it seeks to update both the walleye and yellow perch management plans in the coming years. The numbers for 2025 are coming soon and will be of interest to all of us.

Wis license fees would increase in Evers' budget proposal

The price of [Wisconsin fishing licenses could go up \\$10](#) if proposed increases in Gov. Tony Evers' [2025-27 state budget](#) are passed by the state Legislature. The budget proposal, [unveiled February 18](#), includes a proposed increase from \$20 to \$30 for a resident annual fishing license, according to the Wisconsin DNR. It would be the first increase in the resident license fee since 2005. [Many nonresident license fees increased](#) in 2023. Under the proposal, non-resident annual fishing licenses would increase from \$55 to \$65. ✧

Help protect sturgeon while ice fishing this season

Ice fishing has been good this season, but anglers on the ice targeting walleye or other fish may unexpectedly find themselves with a lake sturgeon on the line. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources reminds anglers that regulations on the targeting and harvest of lake sturgeon are in effect, and that on most waters of the state, fishing for lake sturgeon is prohibited and any lake sturgeon caught must be released immediately.

What is a lake sturgeon?

Lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*), the only sturgeon species found in the Great Lakes, are unique in appearance and characteristics. They have five rows of bony plates, called scutes, on their backs and sides, as well as whisker-like barbels near their mouths. Often referred to as “living fossils” or “dinosaur fish,” lake sturgeon first appeared in the fossil record in the Mesozoic Era, 100 million to 150 million years ago. These fish are long-lived, with some documented at more than 100 years old.

Lake sturgeon are freshwater fish native to Michigan and found in North America throughout the Great Lakes, Mississippi and Hudson River basins. The species is an important cultural resource in the region, in addition to its ecological significance. However, due to overfishing and habitat loss and degradation, lake sturgeon populations in Michigan began to decline in the 1800s.

Why are lake sturgeon protected?

As a result of declines in lake sturgeon populations, in 1994 the State of Michigan listed lake sturgeon as a threatened species. Since then, the DNR has partnered with state, federal and tribal agencies to rehabilitate lake sturgeon in the state. The goals of these efforts are to conserve lake sturgeon populations that are currently self-sustaining and to rehabilitate depressed or declining populations to self-sustaining levels so that lake

sturgeon can be removed from the threatened species list.

As part of this rehabilitation strategy, the DNR and partners stock lake sturgeon in several rivers and lakes in Michigan. Lake sturgeon are raised in streamside rearing facilities. At these facilities, naturally produced eggs or larval lake sturgeon are captured in their natal (birthplace) streams and brought into the rearing facilities, where they are protected from predators while still “imprinting” on the stream or river. This increases their survival and the chances that the sturgeon will return to the stream or river as mature adults to reproduce.

Where can anglers target sturgeon?

Anglers can target lake sturgeon in Michigan only in designated waters during designated seasons. In some of these waters, lake sturgeon may be targeted, but must be released immediately; in others, a possession season with size restrictions is in effect.

Waters with sturgeon possession seasons include:

- Lake St. Clair and St. Clair River.
- Otsego Lake.
- Menominee River.
- [Black Lake](#).

Waters with sturgeon fishing seasons (catch-and-release only) include:

- Detroit River.
- St. Marys River.
- Portage Lake and Torch Lake.
- Ontonagon River.

In all other waters in Michigan, it is unlawful to fish for lake sturgeon.

Sturgeon are frequently caught incidentally in Saginaw Bay, the Saginaw River, the Kalamazoo River, the Grand River, Muskegon Lake, the Muskegon River, Manistee Lake and the Manistee River, but cannot be targeted there—anglers should be aware of the possibility of incidental lake sturgeon catch and of these regs.

Any lake sturgeon caught incidentally while targeting other species must be

released immediately. When temperatures are below freezing, fish gills can freeze quickly, making it important to release sturgeon into the water as quickly as possible to increase their chances of survival.

“We know that encountering a fish as iconic as the lake sturgeon is a memorable moment for most anglers, but even the time you take to snap a photo can be extremely detrimental to the fish’s health and survival,” said Jeffrey Jolley, Lake Huron unit manager with the DNR. “A prompt release ensures a healthy sturgeon.”

See page 15, [2024 Michigan Fishing Regulations](#), which remain in effect through March 31, 2025, for detailed information on lake sturgeon fishing regulations, fishing and possession season dates and size requirements.

How do I report a sturgeon harvest?

Where harvest is allowed, lake sturgeon harvest is limited to one (1) lake sturgeon per angler, per license year (April 1-March 31). If you harvest a lake sturgeon, you are required to report the harvest within 24 hours. Lake sturgeon harvest can be reported online at [Michigan.gov/RegisterFish](#), by phone at 888-636-7778 or in person at any [DNR customer service center](#). To report a harvest in person, visit a customer service center during normal business hours and provide advance notice of your arrival by calling ahead.

Anglers can also report catch/release of lake sturgeon at [Michigan.gov/EyesInTheField](#). To report illegal harvest or targeting of lake sturgeon, call or text the Report All Poaching hotline at 800-292-7800 or complete the Report All Poaching form at [Michigan.gov/EyesInTheField](#).

For more info: [Michigan.gov/Sturgeon](#) or [Lake Sturgeon Management](#) for details on efforts in Michigan. [Click here to learn more about lake sturgeon.](#) ✨

Other Breaking News Items: **(Click on title or URL to read full article)**

[Great Lakes water levels dip to low point in last decade](#)

Great Lakes water levels have dropped down to their lowest point in the last decade. The levels are expected to rise during the spring thaw, but low water levels can cause shipping vessels to run aground, limit recreational access and increase erosion.

[Senators introduce bill to help Great Lakes](#)

U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Elissa Slotkin introduced the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2025 to reauthorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative through 2031 and increase the program's annual authorized funding levels from \$475 million to \$500 million

[Lake Erie had 95% ice cover this winter. What it means for the environment](#)

Scientists say ice on the Great Lakes helps to combat erosion, lake effect snow and algal blooms

[Lake trout recovery in Superior sign of lamprey removal success](#)

Scientists estimate the current lake trout population in Lake Superior is now at or above what it was before sea lamprey made their way through the Welland Canal.

[Biosolids use by Michigan farmers sparks PFAS fears](#)

The Environmental Protection Agency released a draft risk assessment in January to evaluate the risk for two of the most prevalent PFAS or "forever chemicals" in sewage sludge.

[Great Lakes water levels drop below long-term average for first time in a decade](#)

According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, current Lake Michigan-Huron levels are 7-9 inches below the long-term average and 10-13 inches below last year's levels.

[Reroute controversy: Line 5 litigation](#)

In 2024, the Wisconsin DNR issued permits to Canadian energy company Enbridge to reroute its Line 5 pipeline, prompting a lawsuit from the Bad River Band. The tribe is asking an Ashland County judge to stay the Wisconsin DNR's environmental impact statement for the reroute proposal and reverse state construction permits.

[Bad River tribe says Line 5 reroute will violate its water quality standards](#)

The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa has objected to permitting Enbridge's proposed Line 5 reroute under the Clean Water Act, saying the project will violate the tribe's water quality standards.

[Lake Erie, other Great Lakes could be hurt by federal cuts and hiring freezes](#)

Two of the biggest threats to the Great Lakes region's \$7 billion fishery — invasive carp and sea lampreys — will get worse if the Trump Administration's federal cuts and hiring freezes are not done more methodically, officials said

[Documentary explores devastating sea lampreys of Great Lakes](#)

The sea lamprey nearly destroyed fishing in the Great Lakes. The new 90-minute film "The Fish Thief: A Great Lakes Mystery," tells the story of the people who tackled the mystery of why lake trout, one of the most prized fish in the Great Lakes, nearly vanished.

[Panel hears arguments over Palisades restart plans](#)

The Palisades nuclear plant, which sits on the Lake Michigan shore near South Haven, Michigan, stopped operations in 2022. The unprecedented proposal to bring the shuttered nuclear plant back online reached a new level Wednesday as a panel of federal administrative judges heard arguments over the regulatory process for the proposal

['We are all part of this failure': How fisheries and wildlife management in Michigan is going broke](#)

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources gets a good chunk of its budget from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. But licenses aren't selling like they used to, and some are wondering: even if fees go up, how long will this system work?

[New York's proposed PFAS legislation and other Great Lakes states latest efforts to combat 'forever chemicals'](#)

New York state lawmakers announced a group of five bills aimed to reduce PFAS exposure. The five bills would: ban the use of PFAS in consumer and household products, cosmetic products, and menstrual products; regulate PFAS as an air pollutant; and require the disclosure of PFAS levels in all permitted facilities discharging waste.

[Evers proposes \\$145M plan to address PFAS in his next budget for Wisconsin](#)

In a sweeping proposal, Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers announced Tuesday that his budget will include more than \$145 million to address PFAS contamination. The bulk of the money would fund PFAS testing for municipal drinking water systems, but it would also help private well owners test for the chemicals.

[Aamjiwnaang has been fighting environmental racism for years. Now, the First Nation has an agreement to address it](#)

Aamjiwnaang First Nation and the Canadian federal government will work together on a pilot project to address environmental racism and contaminants in the air, water, and soil. The nation, located in Sarnia, Ontario, has spent decades fighting to stop pollution from a cluster of petrochemical plants known as Chemical Valley that surround it.

End