



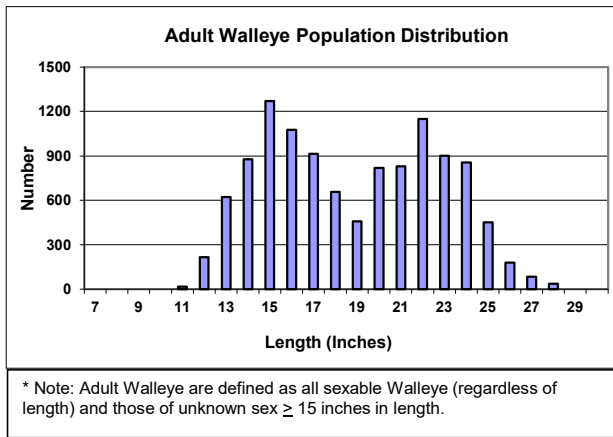
**WISCONSIN DNR
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET**

LAKE: TROUT

COUNTY: VILAS

YEAR: 2022

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) surveyed Trout Lake in Vilas County between May 10-20, 2022 to assess the status of the Walleye and Muskellunge populations. Trout Lake is a clear water drainage lake with predominately sand and rock substrates. The lake has a surface area of 3,816 acres, 17.9 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 117 feet. Trout Lake's Walleye and Muskellunge populations are sustained primarily through stocking.



Walleye



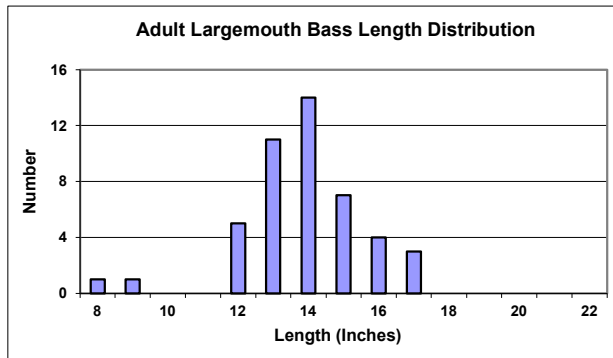
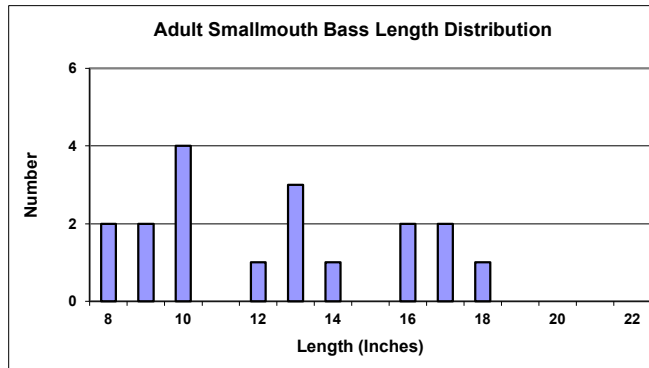
During four days of Walleye-targeted fyke netting, 1,276 adult Walleye were captured and marked with a fin clip. Crews then sampled with electrofishing boats and caught 544 adult Walleye. During electrofishing, 13% (68 of 544) of Walleye caught bore the fin clip applied during fyke netting. Based on those results, Trout Lake was estimated to contain 11,403 adult Walleye (3.0/acre).

An estimated 85% of adult Walleye were 15 inches or longer. The largest Walleye caught was a 28.7-inch female.

Smallmouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass were not a primary target during the survey of Trout Lake, as sampling occurred prior to peak Smallmouth spawning. Eighteen adult Smallmouth Bass eight inches or larger were caught, and 33% were 14 inches or longer, the largest measuring 18.3 inches.



Largemouth Bass



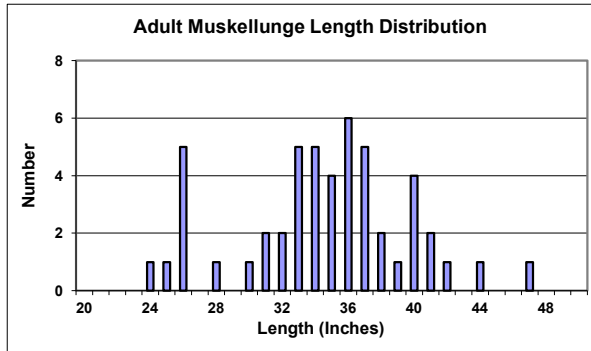
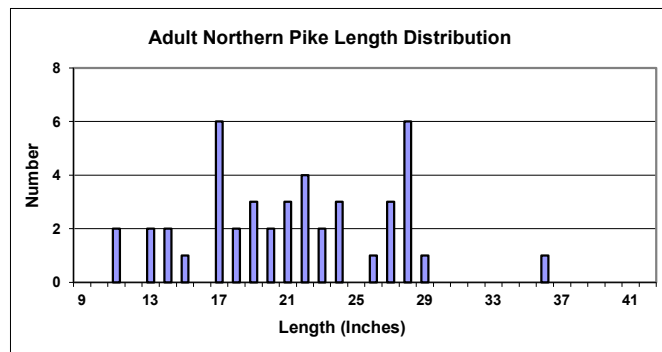
Largemouth Bass were also not a primary target during the survey. Forty-six adult Largemouth Bass eight inches or larger were caught, and 61% were 14 inches or longer, the largest measuring 17.5 inches.

Northern Pike



Sampling on Trout Lake resulted in the catch of 44 adult Northern Pike. 27% of those pike were greater than 26 inches long, the largest measuring 36.4 inches.

* Note: Adult Northern Pike are defined as all sexable Northern Pike and those of unknown sex \geq 12 inches in length.



Muskellunge



During fyke netting and electrofishing sampling, 50 adult Muskellunge were caught. Of the adult Muskellunge, 18% (9 of 50) were 40 inches or longer, with the largest being a 47.1-inch female. Additionally, 10 juvenile Muskellunge (12.7 - 15.4 inches) were also caught. Combining these data with Trout Lake Muskellunge survey data collected in 2021, resulted in a 2021 Muskellunge population estimate of 82 adults (0.02/acre).

* Note: Adult Muskellunge are defined as all sexable Muskellunge and those of unknown sex \geq 30 inches in length.

Other Species

In addition to the gamefish mentioned above, fyke netting and electrofishing sampling efforts in Trout Lake resulted in the catch of 17 pan- and non-gamefish species. Black Crappie (primarily 4-6 inches), Yellow Perch and White Sucker were common in survey catches. Other species caught included Lake Whitefish, Brook Trout, Cisco, Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Black Bullhead, Yellow Bullhead, Burbot, Greater Redhorse, Creek Chub, Horneyhead Chub, Common Shiner and Grass Pickerel.

A creel survey will be conducted on Trout Lake throughout the 2022-23 fishing season, in which a creel clerk will count and interview anglers and examine their catch. The information gathered will be used to estimate angler fishing effort, catch and harvest.

Table 1. General Fishing Regulations for Trout Lake, Vilas County, 2022-23

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 7 - March 5	3	15" min. length, 20-24" no harvest slot, 1 fish over 24" allowed
Largemouth Bass	May 7 - March 5	1 in total with SMB	18 inches
Smallmouth Bass	May 7 - June 17 (C&R) June 18 - March 5 (Harvest)	1 in total with LMB; harvest season only	18 inches
Muskellunge	May 28 - Dec. 31 (on open water)	1	50 inches
Northern Pike	May 7 - March 5	5	None
Lake Trout	May 7 - September 30	1	30 inches
Lake Whitefish & Cisco (Lake Herring)	Year-round	10 in combination	None

A summary of selected fishing regulations for Trout Lake is included above (Table 1). While the regulatory information provided was current at the time the surveys were conducted, it is not comprehensive and should not be used as a substitute for the current fishing regulation pamphlet. You may obtain a copy of current fishing regulations when you purchase your fishing license, or download a copy from the [DNR's Fishing Regulations page](#).

This, and other spring survey summaries, can be found on [DNR's Spring Fisheries Surveys in Northern Wisconsin page](#).

2022-23 creel survey results for Trout Lake will be posted on [DNR's Ceded Territory Creel Survey Reports page](#).

For questions about this survey, or the results within, contact:

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For answers to questions about fisheries management activities and plans for Trout Lake, Vilas County, contact:

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