

Title: Removal of trophy musky designation for Pelican Lake and return to a 34 inch size limit

Initial support for the classification of Pelican Lake as a trophy water for muskies (50 inch) by Pelican Lake, Lake Association Board was a mistake. When they held their annual meeting there was an extensive negative response to such a move. It was decided at that meeting that a letter was to be sent out resending their support for such a move. However with the push of some area guides and an eager fisheries biologist the question was put on a spring hearing ballet (some how bypassing the normal resolution process). It passed. With the Lake Association up in arms and numerous fishermen both townships sharing the lake were approached for support to stop it. Both town boards (Schoepke and Enterprise) fired off letters stating that they too supported the Lake Association in its wishes to remove the 50 inch size limit and to return it to the previous 34 inch size limit. We were meet with no assistance in reversing the decision to go with the 50 inch size limit. Instead we were directed to fallow the spring hearing resolution process.

Pelican Lake is considered an action fishery for musky and we wish to keep it that way. A trophy fish is in the eyes of the beholder. This designation as a trophy fishery is discrimination to all who buy a fishing license and have no interest in the catching of a fish that has to be 50 inches long in order to keep it. It is especially difficult to tell a young angular that the monster fish he has just caught is not big enough.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the conservation congress at its annual meeting held in Oneida County on April 13, 2009 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct the situation by removing the Trophy Designated (50 inches) and return Pelican Lake to a 34inch size limit on muskies.

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