



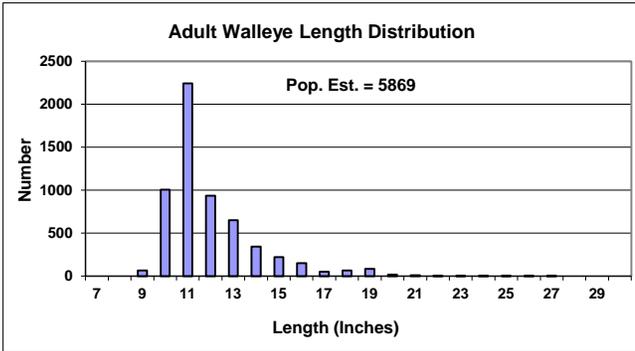
**WISCONSIN DNR  
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET**

**LAKE:** CRANBERRY (EAGLE CHAIN)

**COUNTY:** VILAS

**YEAR:** 2013

The Department of Natural Resources surveyed Cranberry Lake, Vilas/Oneida County, from May 9 through May 17, 2013, to determine the health of its fishery. The survey was designed to assess the lake's walleye and musky fishery. Cranberry Lake is a drainage lake with sand/gravel/rock substrate and a naturally reproducing walleye population. It has a surface area of 924 acres, 9.4 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 23 feet.



\* Note: Adult walleye are defined as all sexable walleye and walleye of unknown sex  $\geq$  15 inches long.

**Walleye**



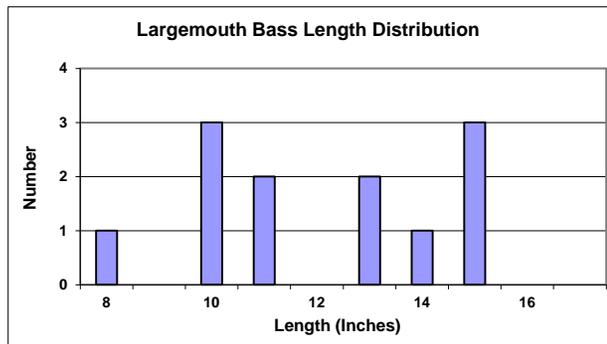
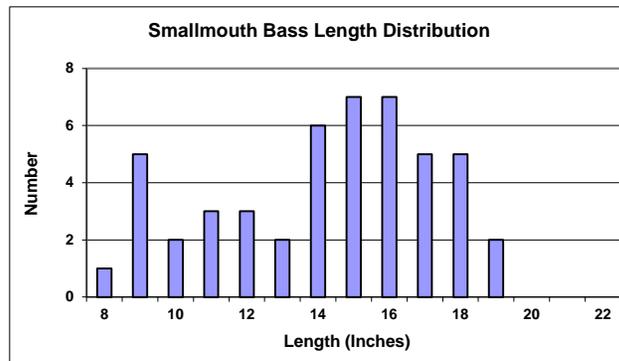
A mark-recapture survey of Cranberry Lake's adult walleye population was conducted from 5/9-5/15, 2013. During seven days of fyke netting, 593 adult walleye were captured and marked with a fin clip. Two crews sampled Cranberry Lake with electro-fishing boats on May 15 and captured 321 adult walleye. During electrofishing 9% (30 of 321) of captured walleye bore the fin clip given during fyke netting. The largest walleye captured was a 27.2 inch female.

Based on those results, Cranberry Lake was estimated to contain 5869 adult walleye (6.4 /acre). An estimated 10.6% (622 of 5869) of adult walleye were 15 inches long or larger.

**Smallmouth Bass**



During sampling conducted through May 17, 48 smallmouth bass 8 inches or larger were captured. Of those smallmouth captured, 67 % (32 of 48) were 14 inches long or larger. The largest smallmouth captured was 19.7 inches long.



**Largemouth Bass**



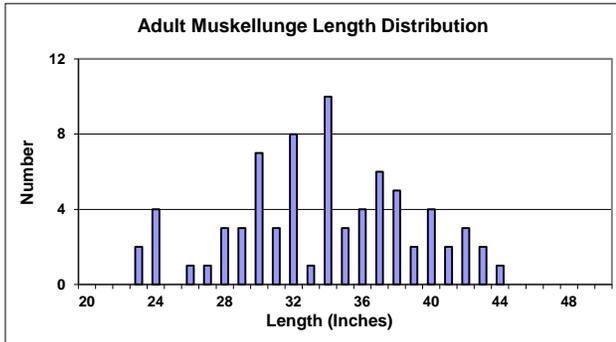
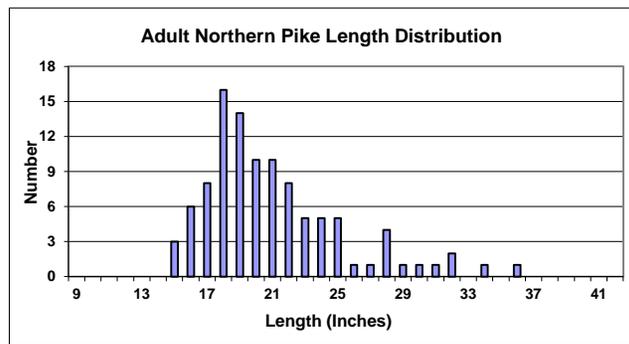
During sampling, 12 largemouth bass 8 inches or larger were captured. Of those largemouth captured, 33 % (4 of 12) were 14 inches long or larger. The largest largemouth captured was 15.7 inches long.

## Northern Pike



During sampling, 103 adult northern pike were captured by fyke nets or electrofishing in Cranberry Lake. Of the adult northern pike captured 87% (90 of 103) were less than 26 inches long. The largest northern pike captured was a 36.2-inch female.

\* Note: Adult northern pike are defined as all sexable northern pike and northern pike of unknown sex  $\geq 12$  inches long.



## Muskellunge



During our fyke netting and electro-fishing sampling of Cranberry Lake, 75 adult muskellunge were captured. Of the muskellunge captured, 16% (12 of 75) were 40 inches long or larger. The largest muskellunge captured was a 44.2-inch female.

\* Note: Adult muskellunge are defined using PSD stock size as all sexable muskellunge and muskellunge of unknown sex  $\geq 20$  inches long.

## Other Species

In addition to the game fish mentioned above, 10 species of fish were captured during fyke netting and electro-fishing sampling of Cranberry Lake. Yellow perch, black crappie, and rockbass were common in our fyke net catches. Also caught were moderate numbers of bluegills, white suckers, and pumpkinseeds. Other species sampled included yellow bullhead, burbot, and shorthead redhorse.

A creel survey will be conducted on Cranberry Lake throughout the 2013-14 fishing season to get estimates of fishing effort and angler harvest. Creel clerk Dean Johnson will count and interview anglers and examine their catch. The information gathered will be used to estimate fishing effort and angler harvest.

**Table 1. General Fishing Regulations for Cranberry Lake, Vilas/Oneida County, 2013-14**

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 4 - March 2	2	No minimum length, no harvest 14-18" and only 1 over 18"
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass	May 4 - June 14 (C&R) June 15 - March 2 (Harvest)	None 5 in total	14 inches
Muskellunge	May 25 - Nov. 30	1	40 inches
Northern Pike	May 4 - March 2	5	None

A brief summary of selected fishing regulations for Cranberry 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 our web site at:

[http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/regulations\\_index.html](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/regulations_index.html)

This report is interim only; data and findings should not be considered final. Results of creel surveys should be available by June 2014. Watch for survey summaries at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/nor/northern.html> or contact:

Jonathan Pyatskowitz, Treaty Fisheries Biologist  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
8770 Highway J  
Woodruff, WI 54568  
(715) 356-5211 Ext. 209  
Email: [Jonathan.Pyatskowitz@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Pyatskowitz@Wisconsin.gov)

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

Stephen Gilbert, Fisheries Biologist  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
8770 County Hwy J  
Woodruff, WI 54568  
(715) 356-5211  
Email: [Stephen.Gilbert@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Stephen.Gilbert@Wisconsin.gov)