



**WISCONSIN DNR  
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET**

**LAKE:** Little Saint Germain

**COUNTY:** Vilas

**YEAR:** 2015

A comprehensive fishery survey was conducted of Little Saint Germain Lake, Vilas County, from April 15 through June 5, 2015 to determine the health of this fishery. Little Saint Germain is a moderately fertile drainage lake with predominantly sand, gravel and muck substrates. It has a surface area of 980 acres, 14.7 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 53 feet. The walleye and muskellunge fisheries are currently maintained by stocking.

**Walleye**

A mark-recapture survey of Little Saint Germain Lake was conducted to estimate the number of adult walleye present. 357 adult walleye were captured and marked (fin clipped) in 5 days of netting and 74 during one night of electrofishing.

Based on these results, Little Saint Germain Lake was estimated to contain 2,586 adult walleye (2.6/acre). Approximately 96% of the adult walleye were 15 inches long or larger. These numbers do not reflect the entire walleye population present in Little Saint Germain Lake. Smaller juvenile walleye are not part of this estimate. The largest walleye captured was a 29.2 inch long female.

\* Note: Adult walleye are defined as all sexable walleye (regardless of length) and those of unknown sex  $\geq$  15 inches in length.

**Muskellunge**

During the survey 91 adult muskellunge were captured and marked (fin clipped). Approximately 26% of the adult muskellunge were greater than 40 inches long or larger. The largest muskellunge captured was a 50.9 inch long female.

Netting will again take place in the spring of 2016 to recapture muskellunge marked this year in order to make a population estimate.

**Northern Pike**

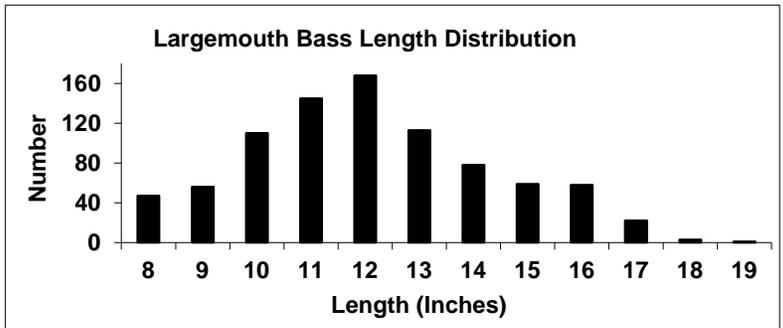
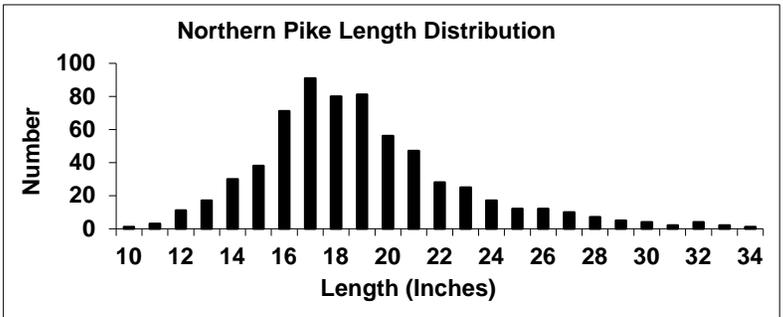
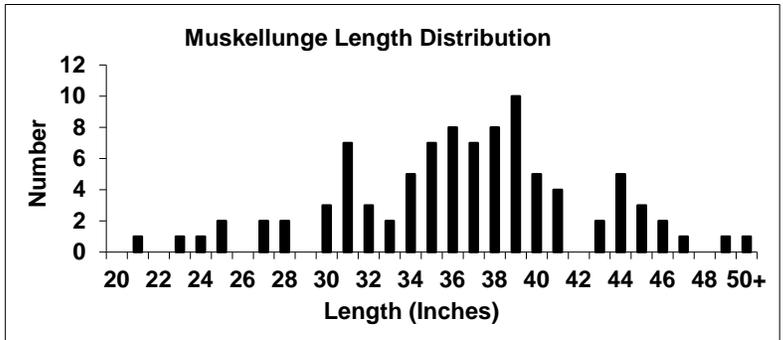
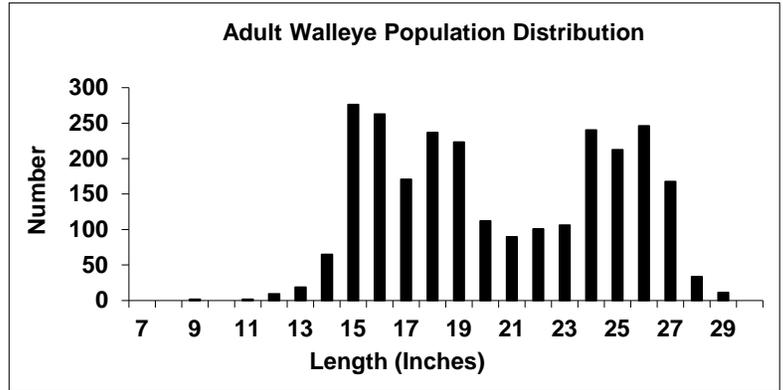
Northern pike are common in Little Saint Germain Lake. A total of 655 were captured during this survey. There was no attempt to make a population estimate of this species.

The average length of the northern pike captured was poor. Only 7% were greater than 26 inches in length. The largest pike captured was a 34.2 inch long female.

**Largemouth Bass**

Largemouth bass are abundant in Little Saint Germain Lake. Survey crews captured 860 fish eight inches or greater in length. Sufficient numbers of largemouth bass were captured to calculate a population estimate. The largemouth bass population in Little Saint Germain Lake (eight inches or larger) was estimated to be 7,812 fish (8.0/acre).

Only 26% of the largemouth bass in this estimate were 14 inches or greater in length. The largest largemouth bass captured was 19.7 inches long.



**Smallmouth Bass**

Smallmouth bass are present in Little Saint Germain Lake but in low numbers. There was no attempt to calculate a population estimate for this species.

Survey crews captured 24 smallmouth bass during sampling greater than eight inches in length. Forty six percent of the smallmouth bass were 14 inches or greater in length. The largest smallmouth bass captured was 19.7 inches long.

**PANFISH**

Panfish information presented here was collected from fyke nets set at various times during the spring survey. Overall, Little Saint Germain lake has an abundant panfish population that lacks numbers of quality sized fish.

**Bluegill**

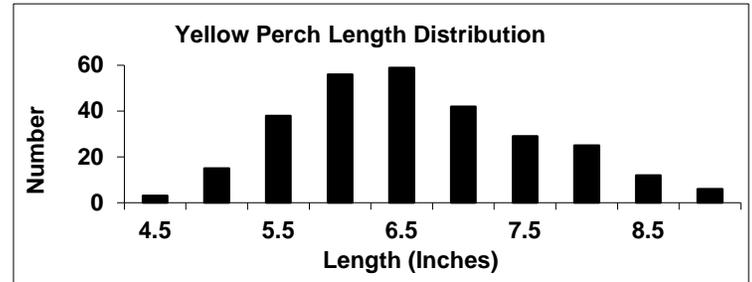
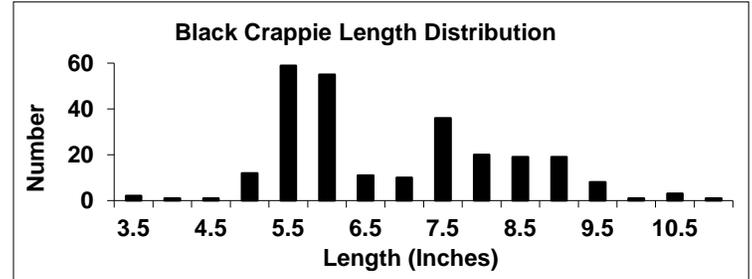
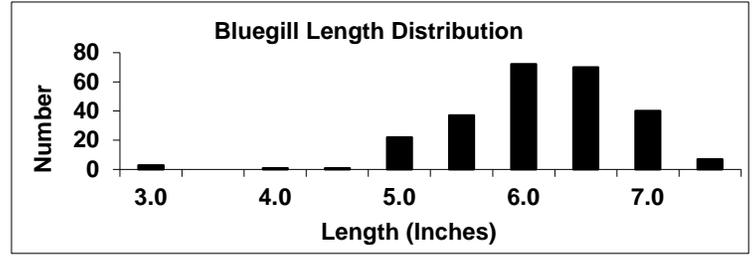
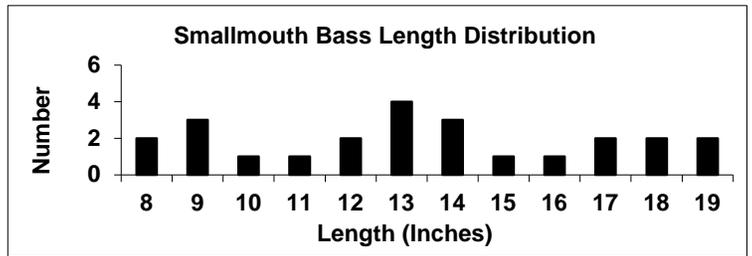
Bluegill are the most abundant panfish species present in Little Saint Germain Lake. Few quality sized bluegill were captured in this survey. None of the fish from a random sample of 253 measured was greater than eight inches in length. The largest bluegill captured during the survey measured 7.7 inches long.

**Black Crappie**

Black Crappies are also very abundant in Little Saint Germain Lake. From a random sample of 258 crappies measured, only 2% were 10.0 inches long or longer. The largest crappie captured during the survey was 11.0 inches long.

**Yellow Perch**

Yellow perch are moderately abundant in Little Saint Germain Lake. From a random sample of 285 fish measured, only 15% were 8.0 inches long or longer. The largest yellow perch captured during the survey was 9.4 inches long.



**Other Fish Species**

Other fish species captured during this survey but in lower numbers were: pumpkinseed, rock bass, white sucker, yellow bullhead, black bullhead, central mudminnow and golden shiner.

**General Fishing Regulations for Little Saint Germain Lake, Vilas County, 2015**

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 2 - March 6	3	15" min. length, 20-24" no harvest slot 1 fish over 24" allowed
Smallmouth Bass	May 3 - June 20 June 21 - March 6	0 5 in total w/ LMB	Catch and Release 14 inches
Largemouth Bass	May 3 - March 6	5 in total w/ SMB	14 inches
Muskellunge	May 24 - Nov. 30	1	45 inches
Northern Pike	May 3 - March 6	5	No minimum length

The regulatory information provided was current at the time the surveys were conducted. 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/>

This report is interim only; Watch for finalized summaries at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/north/trtysprngsrvys.html>. Creel survey results should be available by June 2016 at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/north/trtysrsvys.html>. For questions, contact:

Lawrence Eslinger, Treaty Fisheries Biologist  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
8770 Highway J  
Woodruff, WI 54568  
(715) 356-5211 Ext. 209

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

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