

**WISCONSIN DNR
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET**

LAKE: Razorback Lake

COUNTY: Vilas

YEAR: 2014

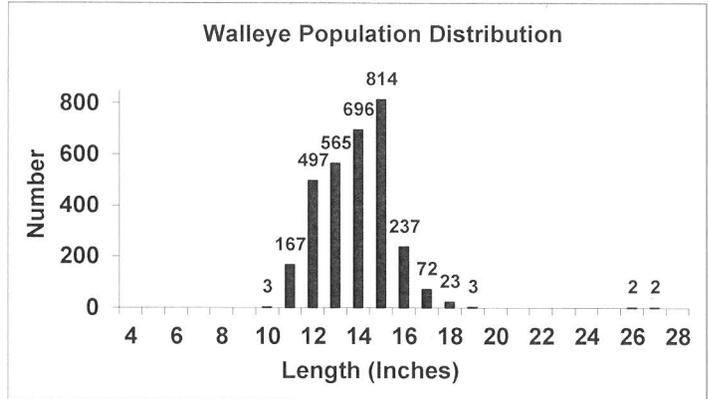
A comprehensive fishery survey was conducted of Razorback Lake, Vilas County, from May 9 through May 27 to determine the health of this fishery. The primary goal was to evaluate the status of walleye, bass and muskellunge populations. Razorback is a moderately fertile drainage lake with predominantly hard (sand, gravel and muck) substrate. It has a surface area of 362 acres, 7.3 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 35 feet.

Walleye

A mark-recapture survey of Razorback Lake was conducted to estimate the number of adult* walleye present. We captured and marked (fin clipped) 1,095 adult walleye in 3 days of netting and captured 217 adult walleyes during one night of electrofishing.

Based on these results, Razorback Lake was estimated to contain 3,082 adult walleye (8.5/acre). Approximately 37% of the adult walleye were legal-size, 15 inches long or larger. These numbers do not reflect the entire walleye population present in Razorback Lake. Smaller juvenile walleye, are not part of this estimate.

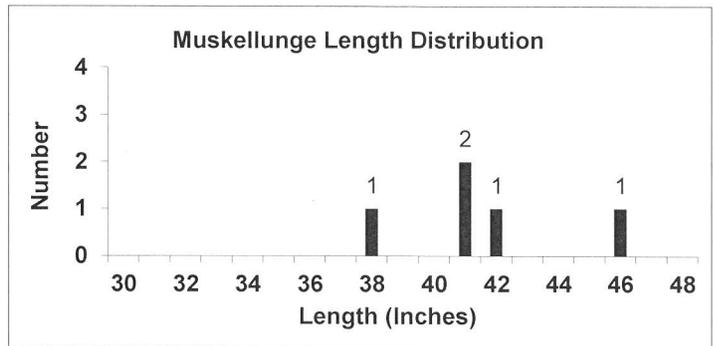
The average length of an adult walleye captured in Razorback Lake was 14.2 inches. The largest walleye handled was a 27.7 inch long female.



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

Muskellunge

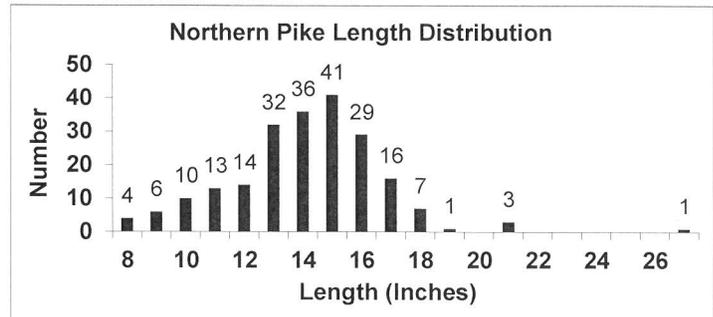
During the survey only 5 muskellunge were captured and marked (fin clipped). The largest fish captured was a 46.8 inch long female.



Northern Pike

Northern pike are common in Razorback Lake. A total of 213 were captured during this survey. There was no attempt to make a population estimate of this species.

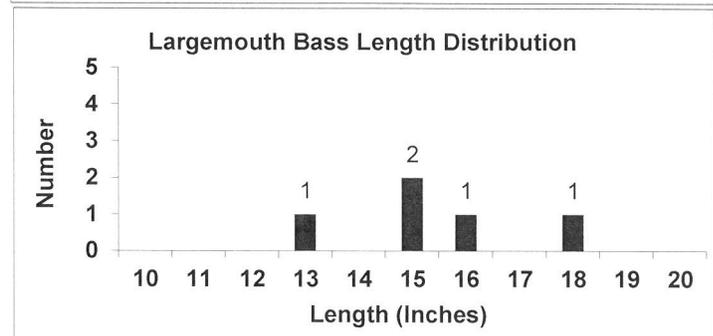
The average length of the northern pike captured was poor and only 2% were greater than 20 inches in length. The largest pike captured was 28.1 inches long.



Largemouth Bass

Largemouth bass are not common in Razorback Lake. There was no attempt to calculate a population estimate for this species.

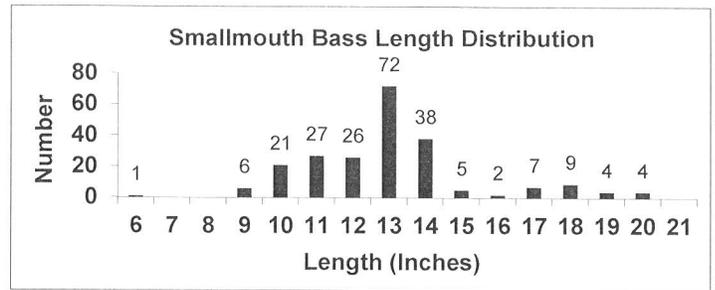
Survey crews captured only 6 largemouth bass during sampling of Razorback Lake.



Smallmouth Bass

Smallmouth bass are common in Razorback Lake. There was no attempt to calculate a population estimate for this species.

Survey crews captured 222 smallmouth bass during sampling of Razorback Lake. 31 percent of the smallmouth bass were 14 inches or greater in length. The largest smallmouth bass captured was 20.6 inches long.

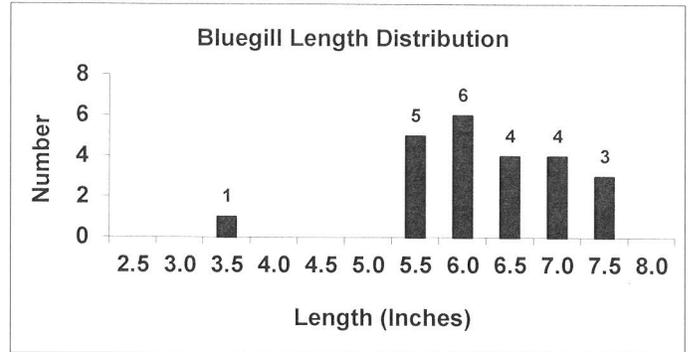


PANFISH

Panfish were collected from two randomly selected 0.5 mile electrofishing shoreline transects. Information provided below comes from this single night of effort on May 27th.

Bluegill

Only 24 bluegills were captured during the electrofishing run on Razorback Lake. Few quality bluegill were captured in this survey. Seven fish in our sample were equal to or greater than 7 inches in length. The largest bluegill captured during the survey measured 7.7 inches long.



Other Fish Species

Other fish species captured or observed during this survey but in lower numbers were: rock bass, yellow perch, white sucker and burbot.

Table 1. General Fishing Regulations for Razorback lake, Vilas County, 2014

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 3 - March 1	3	15 inches
Smallmouth Bass	May 3 - June 20	0	Catch and Release
	June 21 - March 1	5 in total w/ LMB	14 inches
Largemouth Bass	May 3 - March 1	5 in total w/ SMB	14 inches
Muskellunge	May 24 - Nov. 30	1	40 inches
Northern Pike	May 3 - March 1	5	No minimum length

A brief summary of selected fishing regulations for Razorback Lake is included above (Table 1). 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://www.dnr.state.wi.us/fish/regulations>

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

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