

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

The North Shore spring creel survey has been conducted annually since 1992 on 17 tributaries along the Minnesota shore of Lake Superior, and at McQuade Harbor since 2010. The spring creel survey collects information on fishing pressure, catch and catch rates that aid in the management of the Rainbow Trout fishery in Minnesota waters of Lake Superior. The spring creel survey begins when rivers are free of ice and creel clerks observe anglers fishing in tributaries. Three creel census clerks conduct angler interviews from March through late-May. Your input and cooperation is greatly appreciated if a creel clerk approaches you for an interview. Fishing reports are posted on Mondays and Fridays on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/management.html>. You can also call the MNDNR North Shore Weekly Fishing Report Hotline at 218-302-3293.

Weekly Fishing Report Update:

**The lower and middle shore creel surveys ended on May 15. The upper shore creel will end on May 19.*

May 15 - 18, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	--	--	52 (51-56)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	--	--	Stable - High
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	--	--	Average - High
*Water Clarity (clear / slightly turbid / turbid):	--	--	Slightly turbid - Clear
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	--	--	Low
Total Reported Catch:	--	--	1
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	--	--	1
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	--	--	0
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	--	--	0
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	--	--	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	--	--	0
Suckers:	--	--	0

(*) Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.

Lower Shore : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers

Middle Shore : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers

Upper Shore : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers

Smelt: The 2017 smelt season has ended. Online forums indicate that a great run of smelt were caught at Park Point and tributaries this spring. The “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website provides more information on smelt in Lake Superior. <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html>

Knife River Adult Trap (as of May 19, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 761

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 39

French River Seining Operations (Final Counts for 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 142

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,562

**French River adult trap was closed for season on 5/15/2017.*

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

Weekly Fishing Report Update:

*Creel surveys in the lower and middle shore ended on May 15, 2017.

May 12 - 14, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	50 (47-50)	50 (47-53)	53 (48-58)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Stable - Rising	Stable	Falling-Stable
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	Low	Low	Average
*Water Clarity (clear / slightly turbid / turbid):	Clear	Clear	Clear
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	Low	Low	Low -Moderate
Total Reported Catch:	3	22	8
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	2	15	7
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	1	0	1
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	0	3	0
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	0	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	0	0	0
Suckers:	0	4	0
(*) Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.			
<i>Lower Shore</i> : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers			
<i>Middle Shore</i> : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers			
<i>Upper Shore</i> : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers			

Smelt: Smelt are still being caught at Minnesota Point. Water temperatures are on the rise and smelt will likely move offshore soon. The “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website provides more information on smelt in Lake Superior. <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html>

Knife River Adult Trap (as of May 15, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 750
Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 39

French River Seining Operations (Final Counts for 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 142
Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,562

*French River adult trap was closed for season on 5/15/2017.

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

May 8 - 11, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	50 (42-62)	50 (42-57)	48 (46-55)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Stable	Stable	Falling-Stable
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	Low	Low	Average
*Water Clarity (clear / slightly turbid / turbid):	Clear	Clear	Clear
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	Low	Low	Low -Moderate
Total Reported Catch:	13	0	12
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	1	0	9
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	8	0	0
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	3	0	3
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	0	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	1	0	0
Suckers:	0	0	0

(*) Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.

Lower Shore : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers

Middle Shore : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers

Upper Shore : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers

Smelt: Smelt can still be caught at Minnesota Point and near river mouths. The “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website provides more information on smelt in Lake Superior. <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html>

Knife River Adult Trap (as of May 12, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 726
Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 39

French River Seining Operations (as of May 12, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 142
Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,562

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

Weekly Fishing Report Update:

May 5 - 7, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	52 (50-54)	47 (42-53)	47 (42-50)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Stable - Falling	Stable	Stable
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	Low	Low	Average
*Water Clarity (clear / slightly turbid / turbid):	Clear - Slightly turbid	Clear - Slightly turbid	Clear - Slightly turbid
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	Moderate	Moderate	Low -Moderate
Total Reported Catch:	24	47	11
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	14	42	7
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	5	1	1
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	2	3	3
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	1	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	0	0	0
Suckers:	2	1	0
(*) Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.			
<i>Lower Shore</i> : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers			
<i>Middle Shore</i> : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers			
<i>Upper Shore</i> : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers			

Smelt: Smelt are still being caught at Minnesota Point and at river mouths as far north as the Poplar River. The “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website provides more information on smelt in Lake Superior.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html>

Knife River Adult Trap (as of May 9, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 711
Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 37

French River Seining Operations (as of May 9, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 142
Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,562

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

May 1 - 4, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	40 (36-50)	46 (38-52)	42 (42-43)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Stable - Falling	Stable	Stable - Rising
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	Average - High	Average	Average - High
*Water Clarity (clear / slightly turbid / turbid):	Turbid	Clear	Slightly turbid
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	Moderate	Moderate	Low
Total Reported Catch:	10	22	1
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	4	14	0
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	4	1	0
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	1	2	1
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	0	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	0	0	0
Suckers:	1	5	0

(*) Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.

Lower Shore : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers

Middle Shore : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers

Upper Shore : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers

Smelt: Smelt are still being caught at Minnesota Point by the lift bridge and at river mouths. Refer to the “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html> for more information.

Knife River Adult Trap (as of May 1, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 681
Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 34

French River Seining Operations (as of May 1, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 138
Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,534

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

April 28 - 30, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	37 (33-42)	37 (34-43)	39 (35-43)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Stable	Stable - Rising	Stable - Rising
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	Average	Average	Average - High
*Water Clarity (clear / slightly turbid / turbid):	Slightly turbid	Slightly turbid	Slightly turbid
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	Moderate	High	Moderate
Total Reported Catch:	12	63	10
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	4	52	6
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	7	3	0
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	1	7	4
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	0	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	0	0	0
<i>Suckers:</i>	0	1	0

(* Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.

Lower Shore : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers

Middle Shore : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers

Upper Shore : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers

Smelt: Smelt are still being caught at Minnesota Point by the lift bridge and at river mouths. Refer to the “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html> for more information on smelting in Lake Superior.

Knife River Adult Trap (as of May 1, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 681

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 34

French River Seining Operations (as of May 1, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 138

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,534

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

April 24 - 27, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	37 (32-45)	38 (37-40)	39 (34-43)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Falling	Stable - Rising	Stable - Rising
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	Average	Average - High	Average - High
*Water Clarity (clear / slightly turbid / turbid):	Slightly turbid	Slightly turbid	Slightly turbid
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	Low	Low	Low
Total Reported Catch:	16	2	6
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	7	2	6
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	3	0	0
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	1	0	0
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	0	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	0	0	0
Suckers:	5	0	0

(*) Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.

Lower Shore : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers

Middle Shore : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers

Upper Shore : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers

Smelt: Smelt are being caught at Minnesota Point and at river mouths. Refer to the “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html> for more information on smelting in Lake Superior.

Knife River Adult Trap (as of April 28, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 679
Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 33

French River Seining Operations (as of April 28, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 134
Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,517

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

April 21- 23, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	43 (40-46)	45 (44-50)	45 (43-48)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Stable	Stable	Stable-Rising
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	High	High	Average-High
*Water Clarity (clear / slightly turbid / turbid):	Turbid	Slightly turbid	Slightly turbid-Turbid
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	Moderate - High	Moderate - High	Moderate - High
Total Reported Catch:	60	19	30
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	28	15	10
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	21	1	1
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	4	3	19
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	1	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	2	0	0
Suckers:	4	0	0

(*) Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.

Lower Shore : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers

Middle Shore : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers

Upper Shore : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers

Smelt: Smelt are being caught at Minnesota Point and at river mouths far north as Silver Creek by Two Harbors. Refer to the “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html> for more information on smelting in Lake Superior.

Knife River Adult Trap (as of April 25, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 676

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 31

French River Seining Operations (as of April 20, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 125

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,434

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

April 17 - 20, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	40 (36-44)	37 (34-40)	39 (39-40)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Rising	Rising	Stable-Rising
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	High	High	Average-High
*Water Clarity (clear / slightly turbid / turbid):	Turbid	Turbid	Slightly turbid-Turbid
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	Low	Low	Low
Total Reported Catch:	20	0	8
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	12	0	5
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	7	0	1
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	0	0	2
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	0	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	0	0	0
Suckers:	1	0	0

(*) Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.

Lower Shore : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers

Middle Shore : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers

Upper Shore : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers

Smelt: Smelt activity is picking up at Minnesota Point and online reports indicated mixed success over the last few days. Refer to the “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html> for more information on smelting in Lake Superior.

Knife River Adult Trap (as of April 20, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 606

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 22

French River Seining Operations (as of April 20, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 125

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,434

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

April 14 - 16, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	47 (44-50)	44 (42-46)	44 (41-47)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Stable	Stable	Stable-Rising
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	Low	Low - Average	Average-High
*Water Clarity (turbid / slightly turbid / clear):	Clear	Slightly turbid	Slightly turbid - Clear
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate-Low
Total Reported Catch:	57	72	6
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	11	60	2
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	37	4	0
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	7	8	4
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	0	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	0	0	0
Suckers:	2	0	0

(*) Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.

Lower Shore : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers

Middle Shore : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers

Upper Shore : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers

Smelt: There were a few reports of smelt activity at Minnesota Point over the weekend but strong winds made for relatively difficult seining conditions and low catch. However, there were reports of many smelt caught in Ashland, Wisconsin over the weekend. Refer to the “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html> for more information on smelting in Lake Superior.

Knife River Adult Trap (as of April 17, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 587

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 20

French River Seining Operations (as of April 17, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 105

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,310

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

April 10 - 13, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	46 (34-48)	38 (34-46)	40 (36-41)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Stable	Stable	Falling - Stable
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	Low - Average	Low - Average	Low - Average
*Water Clarity (turbid / slightly turbid / clear):	Slightly turbid - Clear	Slightly turbid - Clear	Slightly turbid - Clear
Angling Pressure (low / moderate / high)	Moderate	Moderate	Low
Total Reported Catch:	45	44	2
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	16	40	2
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	24	3	0
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	0	1	0
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	0	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	5	0	0
<i>Suckers:</i>	0	0	0

(* Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.

Lower Shore : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers

Middle Shore : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers

Upper Shore : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers

Smelt: There have been no reports of smelt activity at Minnesota Point. Refer to the “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html> for more information on smelting in Lake Superior.

Knife River Adult Trap (as of April 14, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 465

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 13

French River Seining Operations (as of April 14, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 85

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 1,201

2017 North Shore Weekly Fishing Report

April 5 - 9, 2017	Lower Shore	Middle Shore	Upper Shore
*Water Temperatures (°F)[avg. & range]:	40 (37-44)	39 (36-41)	36 (34-39)
*River Stage (falling / stable / rising):	Stable - rising	Stable - rising	Stable - rising
*Water Levels (low / average / high):	Average	Average	High
*Water Clarity (turbid / slightly turbid / clear):	Slightly turbid	Slightly turbid	Turbid/slightly turbid
Anglers Interviewed:	247	108	19
Total Reported Catch:	113	95	14
<i>Steelhead Rainbow Trout:</i>	56	73	13
<i>Kamloops Rainbow Trout:</i>	52	3	1
<i>Brook Trout:</i>	2	19	0
<i>Brown Trout:</i>	0	0	0
<i>Coho Salmon:</i>	2	0	0
Suckers:	1	0	0
(*) Average conditions among rivers within each shore zone. Individual rivers may vary.			
<i>Lower Shore</i> : Lester, McQuade Harbor/Talmadge River, French, Sucker, and Knife rivers			
<i>Middle Shore</i> : Stewart, Silver, Gooseberry, Split Rock, Beaver, and Baptism rivers			
<i>Upper Shore</i> : Cross, Temperance, Poplar, Cascade, Devil Track, Kadunce, and Brule rivers			

Smelt: There have been no reports of smelt activity at Minnesota Point. Refer to the “Smelt on the North Shore” fact sheet on the Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lakesuperior/smelt.html> for more information on smelting in Lake Superior.

Knife River Adult Trap (as of April 8, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 176

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 4

French River Seining Operations (as of March 27, 2017)

Steelhead Rainbow Trout: 30

Kamloops Rainbow Trout: 364