

Leech Lake Advisory Committee

October 20, 2009

Walker Area Community Center

Welcome and Updates (Joe Mix)

4:00 PM

- *Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Representation (Bruce Johnson)*

- *Meeting Dates and Focus*
 - *October 20 – walleye population objectives and stocking options*
 - *November 19 – stocking options & cormorant population options*
 - *December 17 – habitat management options*

- *Summarizing LLAC Recommendations*

Introductions

Walleye Population Objectives

4:15 PM

Step 1. Identify potential categories (e.g., spawner biomass, gillnet catch rate, age distribution, perch abundance, etc) and/or harvest objectives (e.g., total fishing pressure, walleye catch rates)

Step 2. Small group brainstorming

Step 3. Small group reporting to full committee

Dinner

6:00 PM

Step 4. Consider, sort, and rank objective options

6:20 PM

Management Actions

- *Potential framework for brainstorming stocking options*

Final Thoughts for the Evening

Adjourn

8:00 PM

Walleye Population Objectives

Step 1. Identify potential categories: Full committee brainstorms potential categories for population objectives (e.g., spawner biomass, gillnet catch rate, age distribution, perch abundance, etc) and/or harvest objectives (e.g., total fishing pressure, walleye catch rates).

Step 2. Small group brainstorming: Assign small group number (1 – 4) to each committee member by counting clockwise. Break into groups of 4 – 5 by number. Doug will float between groups to clarify content questions; Kathy will float between groups to clarify process questions. Each group self selects a flip chart recorder and a reporter (this can be either 1 or 2 people). Individually record your ideas for objectives, assumptions, and uncertainties on the worksheet (flip side). As a small group, offer your ideas for objectives that are specific, measurable, achievable, and applicable over a five year timeframe. See “brainstorming - rules of thumb” handout. Also consider/discuss the following questions as they pertain to each potential objective:

- a. Is there balance between ecological, recreation, and economic interests? If not, where is the focus and what are the tradeoffs?
- b. What are the underlying assumptions about the walleye population?
- c. What uncertainties about the walleye population are revealed through this idea? How much importance does this uncertainty have for achieving the proposed objective?

Step 3. Reporting to full committee: Small groups report back to the full group (approximately 10 minutes for each small group):

- a. Brainstormed list of ideas for objectives
- b. Thinking behind suggestions

Step 4. Consider, sort, and rank objective options: Full committee considers and selects ideas for each category. These can be modified during the process as options for management actions are discussed and selected – this is open to iteration.

- a. What is your reaction to the ideas? Which ideas surprised you and why? Do the broad categories still make sense? Where is the most variability?
- b. What criteria can be used to sort the ideas in each category?
- c. How can we narrow the variability?
- d. What are the best working options for continuing the planning process?

Step 2. Objectives Worksheet

Problem/Purpose: Managing for a sustainable walleye fishery in Leech Lake (2011 – 2015)

Walleye Population Objectives and Tradeoffs (consider ecological, economic, and recreational impacts):

Assumptions about the Walleye Population:

Key Uncertainties about the Walleye Population:

Brainstorming - Rules of Thumb

1. Brainstorming is a process that solicits ideas – both conventional and “out-of-the-box” thinking.
2. No idea is bad – there are no “wrong” answers during brainstorming. This is not the time to react to, reject or critique ideas - there will be time to do this later during the discussion in Step 4.
3. This is the time for trying to understand why someone suggested the idea. Understanding the “why” could lead to other ideas.
4. Try hitchhiking – build on ideas generated by others in the group.
5. .
6. .

A Continuum for Dialogue and Questions



Express ideas
Seek
clarification.

Question
What else is
possible?

Interrogate
Are you sure?
What is wrong about
this idea?

Judgment
Yours is a bad idea.
Mine is a good idea.

Accusation
You are wrong.
I am right.