

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
SECTION OF FISHERIES

COMPLETION REPORT

LAKE SUPERIOR SUMMER CREEL SURVEY

2025

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Abstract

Anglers fished for 239,417 hours in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior during the 2025 summer access-based creel survey and charter census. This was the highest amount of effort observed and well above the 10-year average of 190,586 hours. Nearly all effort, 99%, was from a boat in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior. Just over 76% of the total effort occurred in the Lower Shore area from Duluth to Two Harbors.

Minnesota-based anglers on Lake Superior primarily target salmonines including Lake Trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) of both the lean and siscowet strains, Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), and Steelhead Rainbow Trout (*O. mykiss*). Anglers caught 60,423 total salmonines, of which 48,804 were harvested. The combined salmonid catch rate was 0.2524 fish per hour (f/hr). Anglers harvested 81% of all salmonids caught.

Anglers caught 45,293 lean Lake Trout, 2,542 siscowet Lake Trout, harvested 35,501 leans, and 2,207 siscowets. Lean Lake Trout were caught at a rate 0.1892 f/hr and accounted for 75% of all salmonines caught. The catch rate for lean Lake Trout was the third highest observed. The lean Lake Trout caught were over 94% wild fish, the highest observed. Stocked fish were the most prevalent near Duluth where they comprised just 9% of the catch. The average length of harvested lean Lake Trout was 22.2 inches.

Anglers also caught Coho Salmon, Chinook Salmon, Pink Salmon (*O. gorbuscha*), Steelhead Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*), and Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*). Anglers caught 9,405 Coho Salmon at a rate of 0.0393 f/h which was the third highest catch recorded. Anglers caught 1,807 Chinook Salmon at a rate of 0.0075 f/h. Anglers caught 590 Pink Salmon this year at a rate of 0.0025 f/h. A combined total of 11,802 salmon were caught with 10,798 from the Lower Shore and 1,004 from the Upper Shore. Anglers also kept 26 Brook Trout, 22 Brown Trout, 4 clipped Steelhead, and 1 Splake. They released 235 Brook Trout, 9 clipped Steelhead. A total of 489 unclipped Steelhead Rainbow Trout were caught by anglers and 42 of those were harvested despite it being against current regulations. They also caught 609 Walleye (*Sander vitreus*), 148 Cisco (*Coregonus artedii*), 52 Lake Whitefish (*Coregonus clupeaformis*), and 1 Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*).

A new question was added to the creel survey in 2024 asking boat anglers what the highest level of fishing electronics they used was. The options in order from least to most sophisticated were none, depth finder, sonar, sonar with GPS, side scan sonar, and live imaging. Among private sport boat interviews 75% used sonar with GPS and 12% used live imaging. The lean Lake Trout catch rate for anglers using sonar with GPS was 0.1650 f/h, much lower than those who used live imaging 0.3267 f/h.

Fifty-five charter captains were licensed to fish in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior in 2025. Six captains reported no trips, and 2 captains fished only in St. Louis River Estuary. Combined they ran 2,216 trips on Lake Superior and 109 on the St. Louis River Estuary. Since 2018, charter results are reported as a separate angler type in the annual Lake Superior summer creel survey report. Chartered anglers caught fish at a higher rates than private anglers.

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Introduction

Lake Superior and its tributaries contain habitats that support unique pelagic, benthic, and anadromous fisheries, contributing greatly to the diversity of angling opportunities in Minnesota. Several salmonines including Lake Trout, Steelhead Rainbow Trout, Brook Trout, Coho Salmon, Chinook Salmon, and Pink Salmon provide quality recreational fisheries along the North Shore of Lake Superior throughout the year.

During the first half of the 20th century, Lake Trout were the mainstay of the Lake Superior sport fishery and, along with Cisco supported an important commercial fishery. By the late 1940s the Lake Trout harvest began to decline due to overfishing (Hansen et al. 1995). During the 1950s the Sea Lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*) became established in Lake Superior and preyed heavily on Lake Trout. Populations of Lake Trout declined precipitously, due to mortality from Sea Lamprey, and both the sport and commercial fisheries collapsed. By the early 1960s, effective control of Sea Lamprey had been achieved. Minnesota and other states and provinces began stocking to both rehabilitate the depleted Lake Trout stocks and to introduce new strains of salmon species to diversify the fishery. Efforts to follow the recovery plan (Hansen 1996) were successful, Minnesota suspended stocking of Lake Trout in 2016, and Lake Trout were declared officially recovered in 2024 (Lake Superior Committee 2024). The state of Minnesota has monitored the recreational fishery in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior annually since 1969.

This report presents results from Minnesota's 2025 access-based Lake Superior summer creel survey and charter fishing census. Charter captains reported their entire year's effort and catch as required by law (State Statute 97C.311). Only Minnesota-based private sport fishing and charter fishing in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior were included in this report. Some data was collected from anglers that fished the St. Louis River Estuary, but it is not presented in this report.

Lake Superior Management Plans (Schreiner et al. 1996; Schreiner et al. 2006; Goldsworthy et al. 2016) have suggested periodic diet sampling for salmonines to evaluate changes in the fish community and the impact of limited forage on the salmonine populations. Lake Trout, a primary predator species in Lake Superior, historically persisted on a forage base of Cisco and other coregonines. Establishment of Rainbow Smelt (*Osmerus mordax*) and overfishing of Cisco stocks led to the replacement of coregonines by Smelt as the primary forage of Lake Trout (Dryer et al. 1965). Conner et al. (1993) found that Smelt were the most important forage for various salmonines in Minnesota waters of Lake Superior. Smelt abundance declined in the early 1980s (Gorman 2007) and remains low. However, Lake Trout diets are still comprised primarily of Smelt in May (Blankenheim 2026, most likely due to their high concentrations in the warmer waters and nearshore spawning movement. Diet samples were collected in 2025 and were processed independently from this survey as a part of a different study.

Methods

This report of summer Lake Superior fishing is comprised of two primary components and a subcomponent of the charter fishery. The primary components include 1) a survey of private anglers, which is access-based and follows a stratified random statistical design and in 2025 was conducted from May 24 through October 5, and 2) a census of chartered anglers throughout the year. The subcomponent includes a survey of chartered trips to determine specific catch characteristics that are not reported in the charter census. The basic statistical method and formulas for the private sport angler survey are described by Bindman and Mach (1997), and more detail of the design of the Lake Superior summer creel survey is described by Halpern (1995a, b). The survey includes private fishing boaters, charter captain's personal trips, and shore anglers. The charter census includes data that are supplied by charter captains in monthly fishing reports. These data are required of charter captains and include location and time of fishing, number of anglers and lines, number of each species that were kept or released, and the number of fish with fin clips that indicate stocking. Being a census, no observable measurement error exists with these data. However, reporting error does exist, is not readily calculated, is presumed to be unbiased, and is ignored in this report. In previous years, charter trips were included in the creel survey and may have increased variance estimates. Beginning in 2018, as a subcomponent to the charter census, charter trips are also surveyed to determine angler demographics and fish attributes such as length, weight, number of Lamprey wounds, and occurrence of fin clips. The survey and census components include only fishing in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior (Figure 1) and excluded angling in the St Louis River Estuary and Wisconsin.

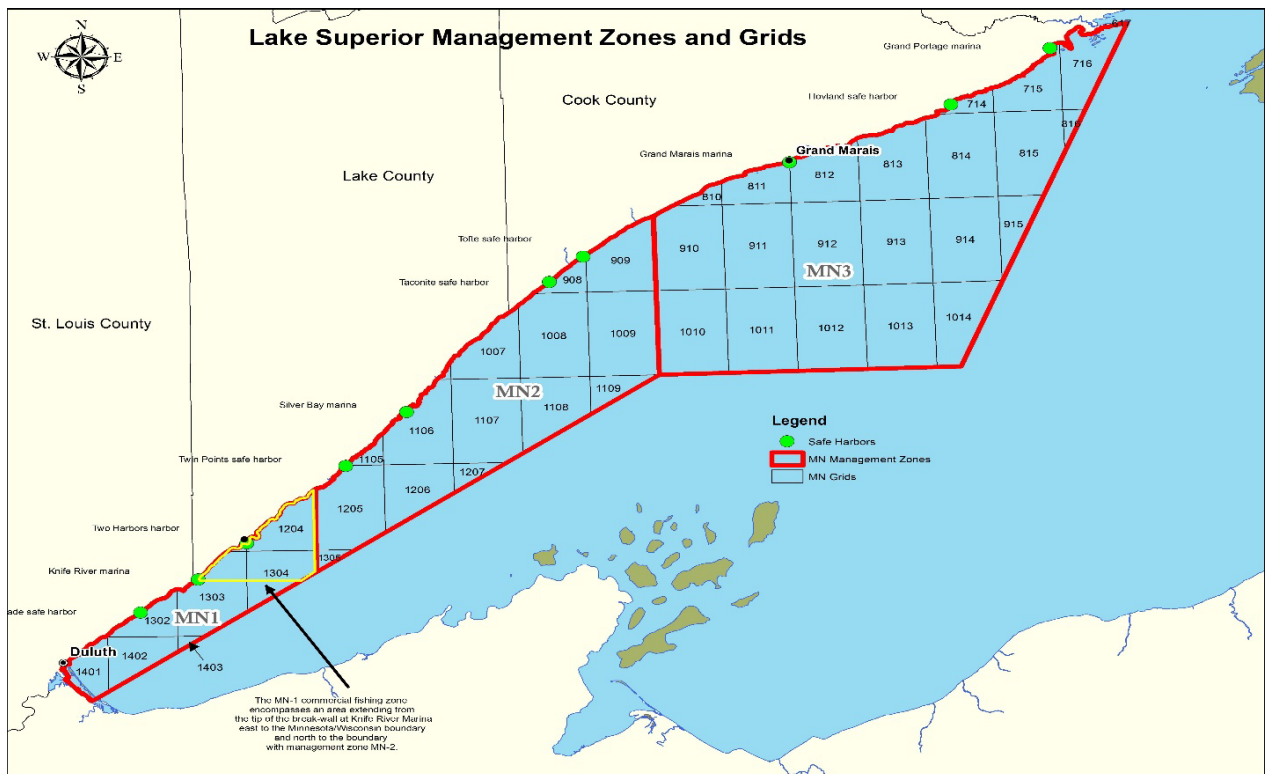


Figure 1. Map of statistical zones and safe harbors in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior.

The 2025 survey began on May 24 and ended on October 5, when the Lake Trout season closed. The data collected during the few days in May and October were included in the June and September periods respectively. The creel clerks visited the stations and groups of stations (Clusters) that are described in Table 1. Clusters 1 and 2 are located closer to Duluth to the southwest and comprise the Lower Shore, whereas Clusters 3 and 4 are to the northeast and comprise the Upper Shore. Two clerks work on the creel survey, one in each Shore area. Halpern (2003) described the general mechanics of this creel survey in more detail. The sampling design was revised in 2017 when sampling effort was dropped from two locations. One very small public access was dropped at Tofte in the Taconite Harbor area due to low use and high travel times to the access. Also, Harbor Cove was dropped from the Harbor Cove/Lakehead Marina station due to the owner revoking permission to sample on the property. The counts from Taconite Harbor and Lakehead Marina, were adjusted based on previous estimates of effort at the dropped accesses. Taconite Harbor received 88% of the effort at Station 9 in 2014-2015 and Harbor Cove Marina received 50% of the effort at Station 2 from 2014 through 27 July 2017. Also in 2020, sampling effort was reduced but not eliminated at the Twin Points public access due to decreased fishing effort in recent years.

References to creel survey numbers for 2024 are from Beckman’s 2025 report. Results from the creel survey and charter census are reported both separately and combined within tables in this report to assess total catch and effort trends. Figures generally include combined data, except for angler effort and for the number of captains and their number of trips.

Table 1. Creel survey clusters and stations for the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey.

Shore	Cluster	Station	Description
Lower	1-Duluth	1	Charter Dock
		2	Lakehead Boat Basin
		3	Rice’s Point Landing
Lower	2-McQuade to Two Harbors	4	McQuade Public Access
		5	Knife River-Knife River Marina
		6	Two Harbors-Agate Bay Access
Upper	3-Twin Points to Tofte	7	Twin Points Access
		8	Silver Bay Access and Marina
		9	Taconite Harbor, Tofte
Upper	4-Grand Marais to Hovland	10	Grand Marais Access and Marina
		11	Devil Track and Brule Rivers, Hovland Access

Results and Discussion

Angling Effort

Private angling effort in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior was estimated from 573 Lower Shore and 475 Upper Shore activity counts in 2025 (Table 2). Each clerk conducted counts on 96 days of the 134-day survey season. Private anglers fished for 181,799 angler hours (Figure 2), during an estimated 21,503 trips, which lasted 3.8 hours and contained 2.2 anglers on average. Chartered anglers fished for 57,618 angler hours (Figure 2), during 2,216 trips, which lasted 5 hours and contained 5.1 anglers on average.

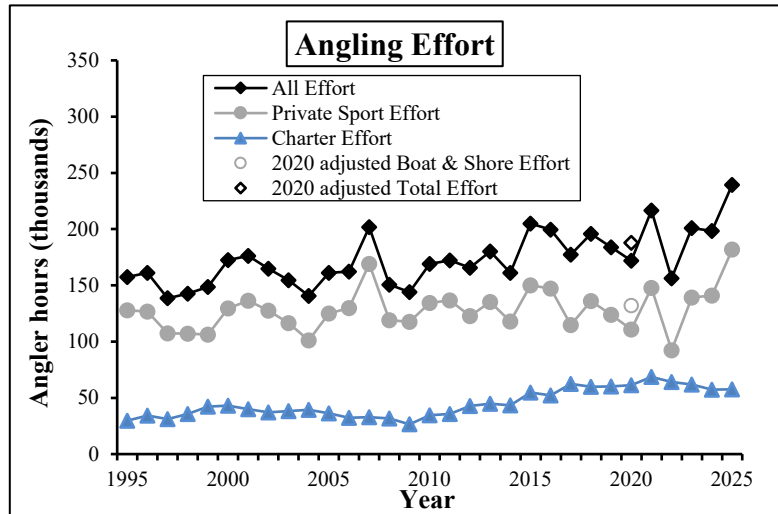


Figure 2. Angling effort during Lake Superior summer creel surveys from 1995-2025.

The total angling effort was the highest observed since 1995 and effort has varied from a low of 138,522 in 1997, to this year's high of 239,417 (Figure 2). The Lower Shore accounted for 74% of the private effort from boats, 35% of the effort from shore (Table 3), and 86% of the charter effort in 2025 (Table 4). Overall, 77% of total effort came from the Lower Shore.

Shore angling continues to comprise a small fraction of the summer effort on Lake Superior. Shore anglers fished for just 2,528 hours, accounting for 1% of the total fishing effort this season.

Fifty-five charter captains were licensed to fish in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior in 2025. Individual charter captains ran anywhere from 0 to 147 trips on Lake Superior (Figure 3). Six captains reported no trips, and 2 others only ran trips in the St. Louis River Estuary. Six captains conducted more than 100 trips on Lake Superior and accounted for over one third of all charter fishing effort. Twenty-four captains conducted at least 1 Walleye trip in the St. Louis River Estuary, but that data is not presented in this report.

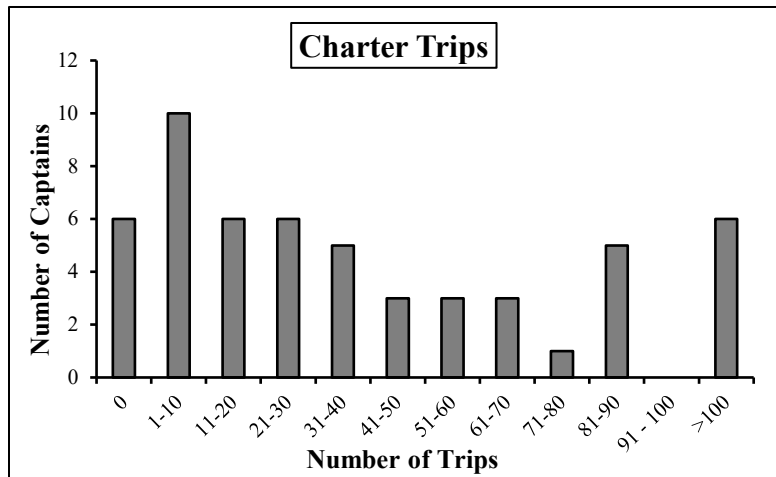


Figure 3. Number of trips run on Lake Superior by individual charter captains during the 2025 season.

Catch and Catch Rates

All Salmonines

Salmonines include trout and salmon species. Private anglers caught 39,253 salmonines (Table 5) and chartered anglers caught 21,170 salmonines (Table 6), for a total catch of 60,423 fish (Table 7). The total catch was the highest observed in the last 30 years (Figure 4). Anglers released 19% of the total salmonine catch.

Angler catch and harvest rates were calculated in fish per hour (f/hr). Private anglers caught 0.2519 and harvested 0.1628 f/hr (Table 8). Chartered anglers caught 0.3674 and harvested 0.3332 f/hr, the highest recorded (Table 9). Combined, anglers caught 0.2524 and harvested 0.2038 f/hr (Table 10) and those rates were very similar to 2024 (Figure 3). Chartered anglers have historically had higher success than private anglers in this survey.

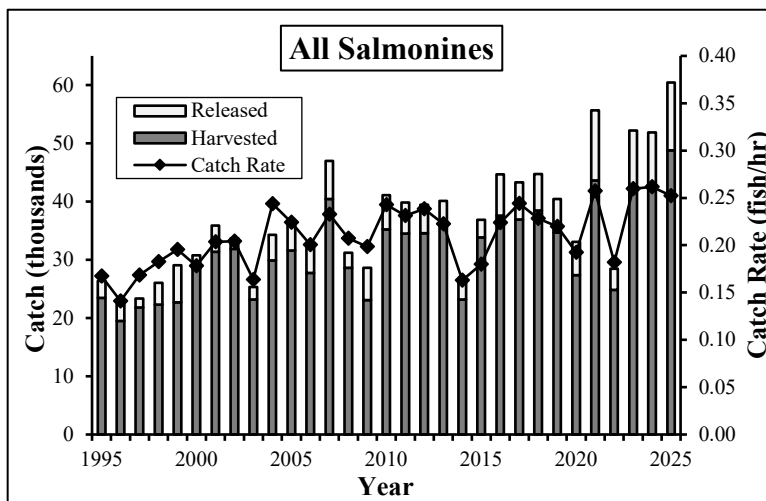


Figure 4. All Salmonines combined catch and catch rate in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior during summer creel surveys from 1995-2025.

Lean Lake Trout

Private sport anglers caught 29,794 and kept 21,725 lean Lake Trout (Table 5), whereas charter anglers caught 15,499 and kept 13,776 in 2025 (Table 6). Combined, anglers caught 45,293, the second highest catch in the last 30 years (Figure 5). Anglers released 22% of the leans they caught, 9,792 fish, and harvested 35,501 fish, the second highest observed. Lean Lake Trout accounted for 75% of all salmonines caught and 73% of all harvested. Seventy-three percent of all harvested leans were from the Lower Shore (Table 7). Overall, anglers caught 0.1892 f/hr and kept 0.1483 f/hr (Table 10).

Among private parties fishing from a boat, 54% caught one or more, 37% caught two or more, and 25% caught at least three on a trip (Table 11). Success rates were much higher for chartered anglers, 95% of parties caught at least one, 88% caught at least two, and 79% caught at least three lean Lake Trout on a trip (Table 12).

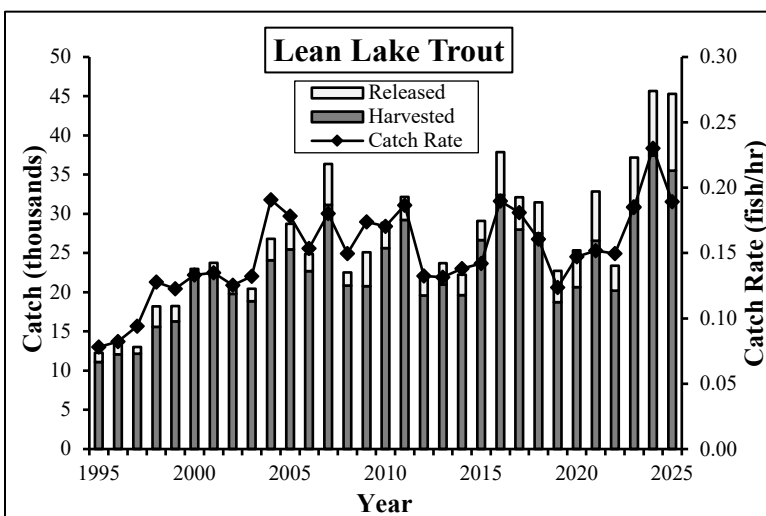


Figure 5. Lean Lake Trout catch and catch rate in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior during summer creel surveys from 1995-2025.

Lean Lake Trout lengths were similar between private and chartered anglers. The average harvested fish lengths were 22.2 and 22.1 inches respectively (Table 13 and 14). Over 93% of the fish harvested were 17.5-29.4 inches and the mean length and length distributions were comparable with fish harvested fish in 2024. Released fish were 20.7 inches for private anglers (Table 15) and 21.1 inches for chartered anglers (Table 16). Private anglers kept fish that were 3.74 pounds on average (Table 17) and charter anglers kept fish that were 3.51 pounds on average, slightly heavier than 2024 (Table 18). The yield for lean Lake Trout was 81,204 pounds by private anglers (Table 19) and 48,426 pounds by chartered anglers (Table 20). The total combined yield was 129,630 pounds; the second highest yield observed during the Lake Superior summer creel survey (Table 21). The increased weight of lean Lake Trout and the high catch were both contributing factors.

Creel clerks checked 890 Lake Trout in 2025 and observed no fin clips on 95% of harvested fish, which indicates that they were wild and not stocked. Including the fish measured by anglers, wild fish comprised 91% of those caught from the Lower Shore and over 99% from the Upper Shore (Figure 6). Minnesota stocked Lake Trout through 2015 in the Lower Shore area and through 2003 in the Upper Shore area. Wisconsin has stocked Lake Trout through 2025. All but 3 of the clipped fish had only adipose clips and were relatively small indicating they were most likely stocked by the Wisconsin DNR in the last 10 years.

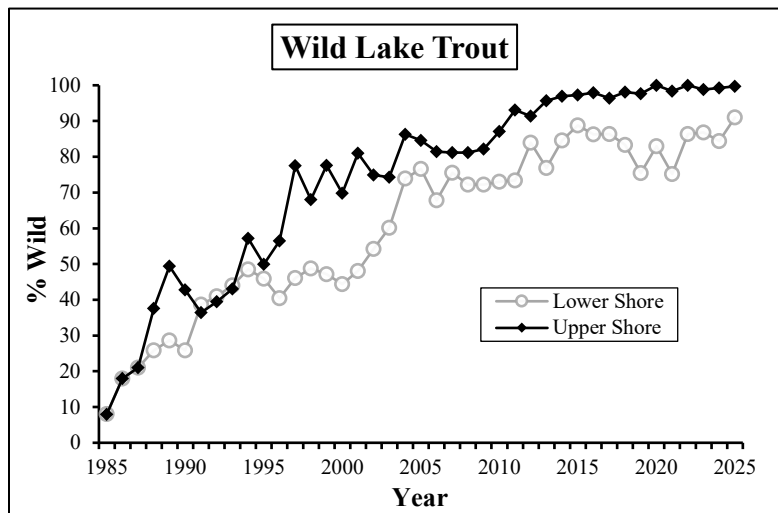


Figure 6. Percent of wild Lake Trout observed by creel clerks during Lake Superior summer creel surveys from 1985-2025.

Siscowet

Siscowet, a deep-water form of Lake Trout, historically contributed little to the sport fishery (Figure 7). However, charter captains did not start separating lean and siscowet Lake Trout in their monthly reports until 2017 which is part of the reason for the increase. Anglers caught a total of 2,542 siscowet in 2025, the highest observed (Table 7). Siscowet and lean Lake Trout can be difficult to tell apart. A new creel clerk who was inexperienced at telling them apart conducted the Lower Shore survey this year and that may be a contributing factor in the elevated siscowet observations.

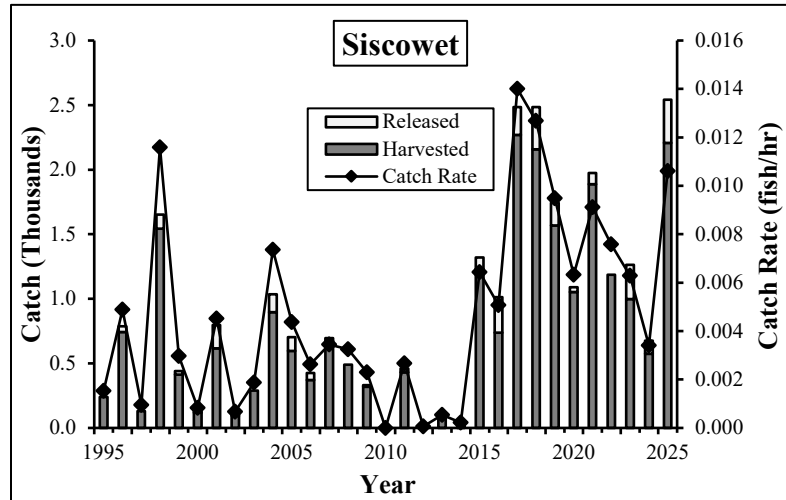


Figure 7. Siscowet Lake Trout catch and catch rate in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior during summer creel surveys from 1995-2025.

Coho Salmon

Private anglers caught 6,219 and kept 5,833 Coho Salmon (Table 5), whereas chartered anglers caught 3,186 and kept 3,170 fish in 2025 (Table 6). Combined, anglers caught 9,405 Coho Salmon and only released 402 fish (Figure 8). This is the third highest catch observed. The Lake Superior Management Plan's target was an average annual catch of 3,000 Coho from 2016-2025. The average was 5,809 fish annually during that period.

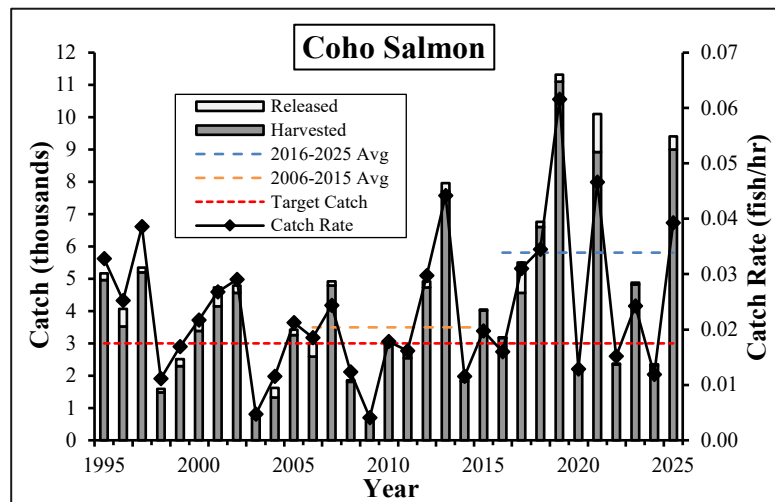


Figure 8. Coho Salmon catch and catch rate in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior during summer creel surveys from 1995-2025. The Lake Superior Management Plan target catch (dotted red line) is displayed for reference.

Coho Salmon accounted for 16% of all salmonines caught and 18% of all salmonines harvested in 2025. Ninety-four percent of the fish were caught in the Lower Shore area (Table 7). The catch rate of private anglers was 0.0342 f/h (Table 8) and chartered anglers caught 0.0553 f/h (Table 9). Among private sport parties, 14% caught one or more, 4% caught two or more, and 3% caught three or more fish on a trip (Table 11). Success rates were better for chartered angling parties; 36% of parties caught one or more, 25% caught two or more fish, and 14% caught at least three fish (Table 12). Anglers kept Coho Salmon that were 18.9 inches long on average (Tables 13 and 14).

The average weight of harvested fish was 2.27 pounds, down from 2024 (Tables 20 and 21). However, they were still over the 10-year average of 1.99 pounds. The elevated weight of Coho Salmon observed for the previous 2 seasons was likely a response to the large 2022 year-class of Cisco available as forage. Since peaking in 2023 average weight has come back down close to the pre-Cisco boom average. Combined, anglers harvested 20,144 pounds of Coho Salmon (Table 21). The Coho catch seems to follow a boom-and-bust cycle and this year was a boom year (Figure 8). Coho Salmon were last stocked in 2006 by Michigan DNR, 1974 by Minnesota DNR, and 1970 by Ontario MNR. All Coho Salmon caught in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior were the result of natural reproduction.

Chinook Salmon

Private anglers caught 1,191 and released 0 Chinook Salmon, whereas chartered anglers caught 555 and released 61 (Table 5 and 6). Combined, anglers caught 1,807 fish and released only 61, well below the 2016 Lake Superior Management Plan target of 2,500 fish per year for 2016-2025 (Figure 9). Chinook Salmon accounted for only 3% of all salmonines caught and 4% of all salmonines harvested. Eighty-eight percent of fish were caught in Lower Shore waters (Table 7). Private anglers caught 0.0066 f/hr and chartered anglers caught 0.0107 f/hr (Table 8 and 9), and combined they caught 0.0075 f/h (Table 10). Among private parties, 4% caught one or more and <1% caught two (Table 11). Success rates were higher for chartered angling parties; 20% of parties caught one or more, 6% caught 2 or more, and 3% caught 3 or more (Table 12). Anglers kept fish that were 18.8 inches long on average, well below the 10-year average of 23.6 inches (Table 13 and 14). The average weight of Chinooks this year was 2.7 pounds, the lowest observed. The previous 2 years fish were well above average size, likely a response to the large amount of 2022 year-class Cisco available to feed on. However, that trend did not continue this year likely because those Cisco have now grown large enough that only very large Chinooks can eat them. There was also more small Chinooks reported this season which could be an indicator that there was a strong reproductive year recently that is just becoming catchable. Combined, anglers harvested 4,381 pounds of Chinook Salmon (Table 21). Michigan last stocked Chinook in 2016, Wisconsin in 2007, Minnesota in 2006, and Ontario still stocks a limited number of fish. Creel clerks examined 44 fish for stocking clips and observed no clipped fish, indicating that Chinook Salmon stocking in other jurisdictions did not contribute directly to the fish caught in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior.

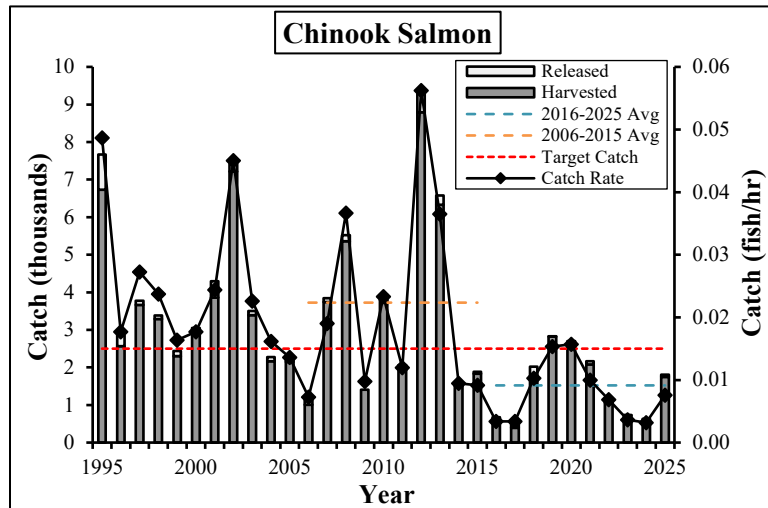


Figure 9. Chinook Salmon catch and catch rate in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior during summer creel surveys from 1995-2025. The Lake Superior Management Plan target catch (dotted red line) is displayed for reference.

Steelhead Rainbow Trout

Anglers caught 489 unclipped steelhead Rainbow Trout this year (Figure 10) and only 13 clipped steelhead. Sixty-four percent were caught in the Lower Shore (Table 7). The cluster with the highest catch changes annually, indicating that steelhead movement patterns vary from year to year. Anglers kept 42 unclipped steelhead despite harvest being illegal in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior unless the fish is missing its adipose fin. There is also some incidental harvest that goes undetected as anglers sometimes misidentify smaller steelhead as young salmon. The total summer catch has ranged from 140 to 1,650 over the last 30 years (Figure 10). The total wild catch at the Knife River Adult Trap has ranged from 86 to 1,029 since 1996. This highlights the variability in catch due to environmental conditions and the importance of restricting harvest to avoid over exploitation of the fishery. No Knife River Trap data was available for 2013 and 2020 due to trap repairs and the Covid-19 pandemic respectively.

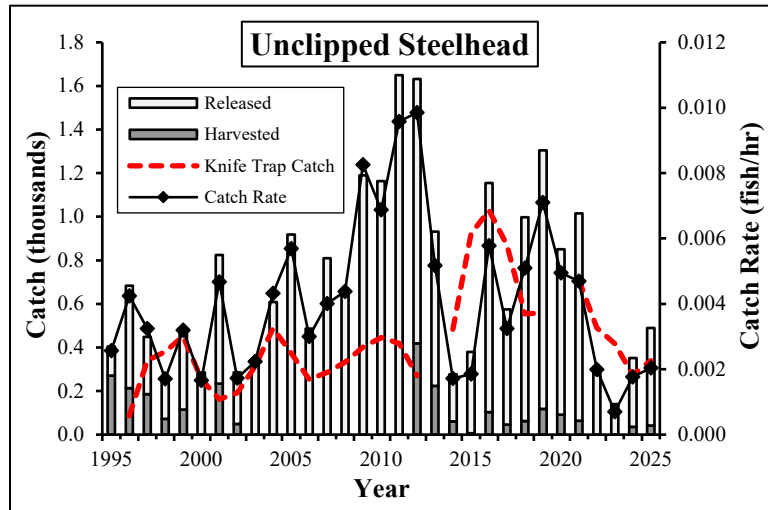


Figure 10. Unclipped steelhead Rainbow Trout catch and catch rate in Minnesota waters of Lake Superior during summer creel surveys from 1995-2025. The wild Steelhead catch at the Knife River Adult Trap from 1996-2025 (dotted red line).

Pink Salmon

Minnesota-based anglers caught 590 Pink Salmon in 2025 (Table 7). Catches were similar between the Lower and Upper Shores. The overall catch rate was 0.0025 f/h (Figure 11). Pink Salmon catches fluctuate drastically from year to year and have been trending towards larger booms recently. Pink Salmon reproduce naturally in Lake Superior and the fluctuation in catch likely reflects the variability in reproductive success of Pink Salmon along the North Shore and in other jurisdictions (Schreiner et al. 2006).

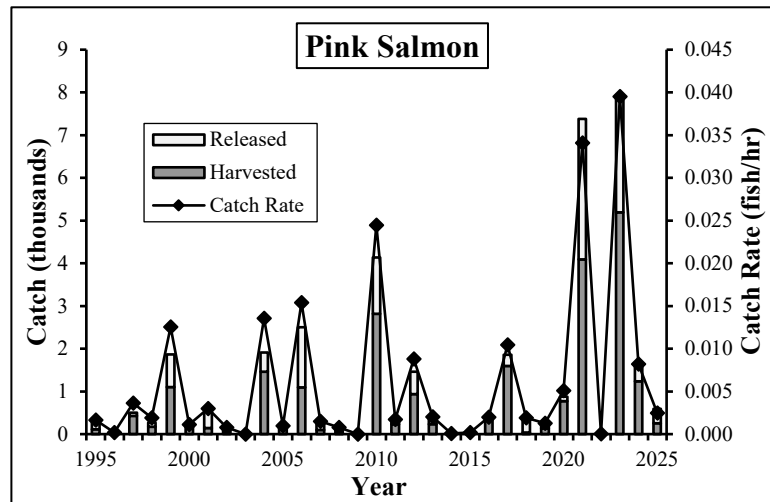


Figure 11. Pink Salmon catch and catch rate in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior during summer creel surveys from 1995-2025.

Other Species

Anglers catch low numbers of several other fish species during the summer. Catch data for the infrequently caught salmonines were combined and reported as 297 “other salmonines” (Table 7). This included 26 harvested Brook Trout, 22 harvested Brown Trout, 4 harvested clipped steelhead, 1 harvested Splake, 235 released Brook Trout, and released 9 clipped steelhead. Anglers caught these other salmonines at a rate of 0.0012 f/h (Table 10). Walleye were the most often caught non-salmonine, and of the 609 that were caught, 534 were harvested (Table 7). The total Walleye yield was 1,393 pounds (Table 21). Anglers also caught 148 Cisco, 52 Lake Whitefish, and 1 Northern Pike in Lake Superior.

Angler Demographics

Residence

Creel clerks asked anglers for the zip code of their primary residence, age range, and gender during each interview conducted to assess the demographics of North Shore summer anglers. Zip code data has been collected every year since 2012. Minnesota and Wisconsin accounted for 87% of all interviewed anglers in 2025 which is very similar to previous years (Figure 12). The anglers interviewed during the summer creel surveys primarily resided in the zip code districts near Lake Superior and the Twin Cities. However, anglers from all around Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the country continue to fish the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior each year illustrating the immense recreational and economic value of this unique fishery.

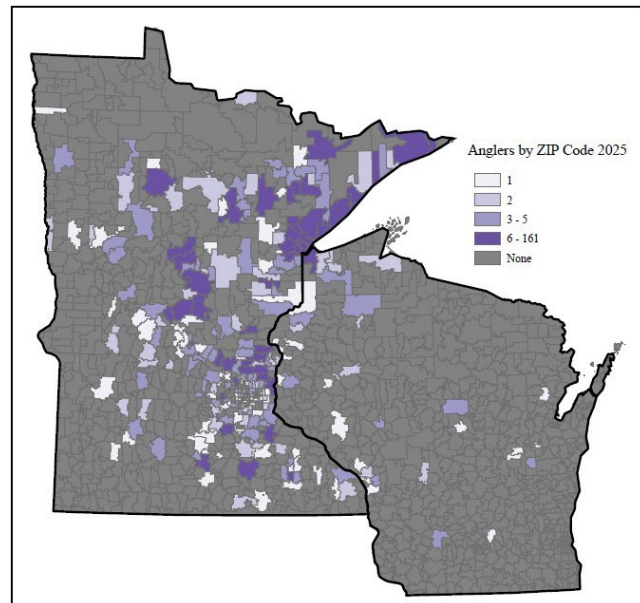


Figure 12. Zip codes of interviewed anglers residing in Minnesota and Wisconsin in 2025. N=1,639.

Age and Gender

Since 2012, anglers were asked to provide their age and gender. The distribution of ages in 2025 was very similar to the overall trend seen through the years (Figure 13). Individuals identified as male continue to make up the majority of anglers interviewed. Of the 2,003 anglers that answered in 2025, 83% of them identified as male and 17% as female (Figure 14). The percentage of male and female anglers has been very similar since 2012.

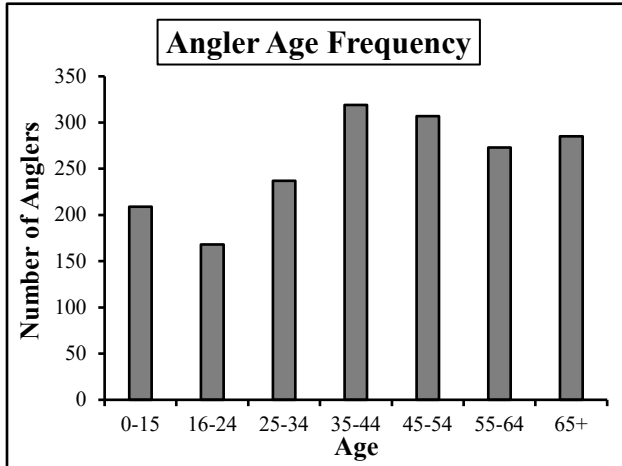


Figure 13. Age of anglers interviewed during the 2025 Lake Superior creel survey. N=1,798.

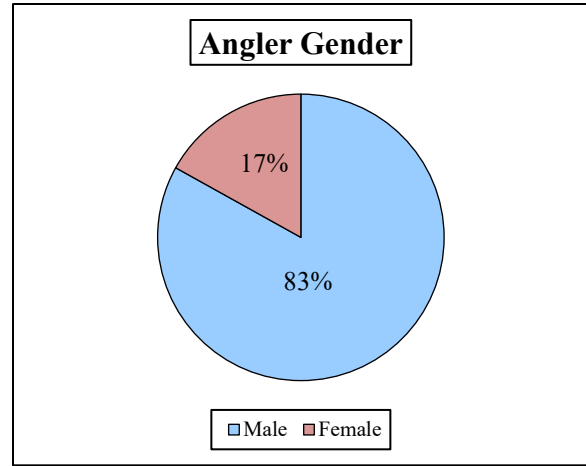


Figure 14. Gender of anglers interviewed during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. N=1,891.

Technology

There are various types of technology available to boat anglers. Each type of electronic offers different advantages and features. In the fall of 2023, the Minnesota DNR Creel Technical Committee asked that lake creel surveys add a question asking which electronics anglers utilized while fishing. This is part of an effort to monitor the impacts of new technology on angler success particularly the increasing popularity of live imaging sonar units that display real time visuals of individual fish.

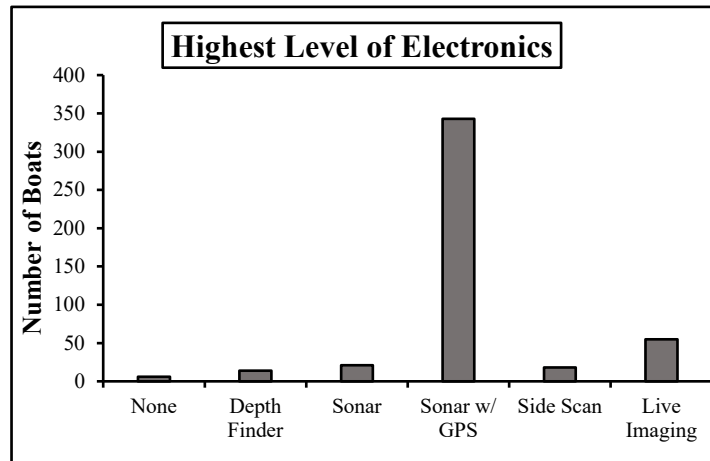


Figure 15. Technology used by private sport boat anglers in 2025. Equipment increases in sophistication from left to right. N=457.

In 2025, 75% of private boat anglers used sonar with GPS and 12% used live imaging units, an increase from only 5% in 2024 (Figure 15). The lean Lake Trout catch rate for private anglers using live imaging was 0.3267 f/h, almost double the sonar with GPS rate of 0.1650 f/h (Table 22). Just over 50% of the lean Lake Trout caught by private anglers using imaging were released. Although that was substantially higher than the release rate of 22% for sonar with GPS anglers, studies suggest that Lake Trout hooking mortality can be high, especially during the summer months when water temperatures are higher, potentially offsetting the higher

release rates observed by live imaging sonar anglers (Sitar et al. 2017).

Among private anglers, live imaging sonar improved lean Lake Trout catch rate more depending on their method of angling. Those that were jigging caught 0.5322 f/hr, compared to 0.2759 f/hr for those that were trolling (Table 23). One possible explanation is jigging anglers were typically stopping and targeting individual fish and could adapt their presentations and tactics based on directly observed fish behavior and responses. Conversely, trolling anglers were typically using spoons, peanut flies, or flasher/fly rigs, attached to downriggers, that required the boat to stay in motion to keep them fishing effectively. Although the driver of the boat could see fish coming in their path, they were not able to quickly change lure type, color, shape, or action in response to how that fish was behaving to their baits. No significant difference was observed between private anglers who were jigging or trolling when using the more popular sonar with GPS.

Although this is not the first big change in angling technology, live imaging sonar technology triggers discussions about what constitutes fair chase and when is regulation required to prevent exploitation and protect the resource. Differences and changes in angler success with different technologies will be monitored closely in future surveys to assess how technology impacts the Lake Trout fishery on Lake Superior.

Summary

The Lake Superior creel survey continues to provide essential information on the fishery in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior. This is vital to the future management of Lake Superior fish stocks and for coordinated management among Lake Superior fisheries management agencies especially with the recent advances in fishing technology. The summer of 2025 was another excellent year for Lake Trout angling on Lake Superior. Most of the Lake Trout caught in the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior were wild fish, a testament to the success of recovery efforts and reinforcing the status of this fishery as officially recovered.

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MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
SECTION OF FISHERIES

COMPLETION REPORT
LAKE SUPERIOR SUMMER CREEL SURVEY
2025

by
Nathan T. Beckman
Lake Superior Fisheries Office

Approved:
Area Supervisor Date

Approved:
Regional Fisheries Approval Date

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Table 2. Frequency of clerk visits, number of activity counts, and interviews by cluster, day type, and angler type during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey.

District ¹	Cluster ²	Day Type	Days Visited	Activity Counts	Days			Interviews		
					Boat	Shore	Charter	Boat	Shore	Charter
MN-1	1	Weekday	21	144	13	5	19	14	0	42
		Weekend	19	96	9	3	11	9	0	20
		Total	40	240	22	8	30	23	0	62
MN-1	2	Weekday	31	189	26	8	8	120	9	8
		Weekend	25	144	21	5	7	129	9	9
		Total	56	333	47	13	15	249	18	17
MN-2	3	Weekday	25	140	17	4	8	47	5	9
		Weekend	22	90	12	5	6	36	7	6
		Total	47	230	29	9	14	83	12	15
MN-3	4	Weekday	27	135	20	20	10	80	39	11
		Weekend	22	110	21	14	6	98	26	6
		Total	49	245	41	34	16	178	65	17
Lower	1 & 2	Weekday	52	333	39	13	27	134	9	50
		Weekend	44	240	30	8	18	138	9	29
		Total	96	573	69	21	45	272	18	79
Upper	3 & 4	Weekday	52	275	37	24	18	127	44	20
		Weekend	44	200	33	19	12	134	33	12
		Total	96	475	70	43	30	261	77	32
Total	All	Weekday	104	608	76	37	45	261	53	70
		Weekend	88	440	63	27	30	272	42	41
		Total	192	1048	139	64	75	533	95	111

¹ Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

² Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

Table 3. Monthly distribution of angling effort for private boat and shore anglers by cluster, station, and month as a percentage of angling effort during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey.

District ¹	Cluster ²	Station	Boat					Shore ³				
			June	July	Aug	Sept	Summer	June	July	Aug	Sept	Summer
MN-1	1	1, 2, 3	32.3	17.6	23.9	38.3	27.0	0	0	0	0	0
		1	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	0	0	0	0	0
		2	21.0	16.5	19.6	35.8	22.8	0	0	0	0	0
		3	10.3	0.7	4.1	2.2	3.8	0	0	0	0	0
MN-1	2	4,5,6	51.6	52.4	46.5	38.2	47.0	53.3	50.5	41.3	5.5	35.9
		4	22.9	22.3	19.3	11.3	18.8	0	33	0	5.5	13.4
		5	22.9	19.4	14.3	16.7	17.7	0	0	0	0	0
		6	5.9	10.7	13.0	10.3	10.5	53.3	18.0	41.3	0	22.5
MN-2	3	7,8,9	6.0	16.9	14.8	15.2	14.0	4.2	15.2	4.3	14.2	11.2
		7	1.2	2.3	2.3	1.4	1.9	0	0	0	0	0
		8	4.1	12.8	9.5	10.7	9.8	0	0	4.3	0	0.7
		9	0.7	1.9	3.1	3.1	2.3	4.2	15.2	0	14	10.5
MN-3	4	10,11	10.0	13.1	14.8	8.2	12.0	42.4	34.4	54.3	80.2	52.8
		10	9.2	10.7	11.5	7.1	9.9	42.4	34.4	54.3	12.3	32.4
		11	0.8	2.4	3.3	1.2	2.1	0	0	0	67.9	20.5
Lower	1 & 2	1-6	83.9	70.0	70.4	76.5	74.0	53.3	50.5	41.3	5.5	35.9
Upper	3 & 4	7-11	16.0	30.0	29.6	23.4	26.0	46.6	49.6	58.6	94.4	64.1

¹ Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

² Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

³ All shore fishing in Cluster 1 occurs in the St. Louis Estuary, not in Lake Superior, and is not included.

Table 4. Monthly distribution of angling effort for chartered and all anglers combined by cluster, station and month as a percentage of angling effort during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey.

District ¹	Cluster ²	Station	Charter					All				
			June	July	Aug	Sept	Summer	June	July	Aug	Sept	Summer
MN-1	1	1,2,3	90.1	74.5	77.8	68.5	80.3	55.5	29.5	35.5	42.0	39.6
		1	60.9	52.1	51.4	45.0	54.2	25.4	11.5	11.3	6.6	13.4
		2	29.1	22.4	26.4	23.5	26.1	24.1	17.5	20.9	33.5	23.4
		3	0.1	0.0	0	0	0.0	6.0	0.5	3.2	1.9	2.8
MN-1	2	4,5,6	2.9	8.2	6.2	11.2	6.1	31.8	42.9	37.7	34.0	37.0
		4	0.6	0.5	1	0.7	0.6	13.6	17.8	15.1	9.7	14.3
		5	1.2	7.5	4.6	8.4	4.5	13.9	16.5	12.1	15.3	14.3
		6	1.0	0.2	1.1	2.0	1.0	4.3	8.6	10.5	8.9	8.3
MN-2	3	7,8,9	4.8	12.8	10.1	11.5	9.0	5.5	16.0	13.7	14.7	12.8
		7	0.3	0	0	0.0	0.1	0.8	1.8	1.7	1.2	1.4
		8	2.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	4.7	3.3	11.2	8.7	9.9	8.4
		9	2.5	6.6	3.9	5.4	4.2	1.4	3.1	3.2	3.6	2.9
MN-3	4	10,11	2.2	4.5	5.9	8.8	4.6	7.1	11.5	13.1	9.4	10.6
		10	2.2	4.5	5.9	8.8	4.6	6.7	9.7	10.6	7.4	8.8
		11	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.5	1.9	2.5	2.0	1.8
Lower	1 & 2	1-6	93.0	82.7	84.0	79.7	86.4	87.3	72.4	73.2	76.0	76.6
Upper	3 & 4	7-11	7.0	17.3	16.0	20.3	13.6	12.6	27.5	26.8	24.1	23.4

¹ Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

² Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

Table 5. Catch by species, cluster, and shore area for all private anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is in parenthesis.

District ¹	Cluster ²	Fate	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Other ³ Salmonines	Total Salmonines	Walleye
MN-1	1	Kept	4,207 (1,757)	1,290 (667)	536 (485)	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	6,033 (1,941)	0 0
		Released	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
		Total	4,207 (1,757)	1,290 (667)	536 (485)	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	6,033 (1,941)
MN-1	2	Kept	10,418 (4,409)	4,167 (2,251)	465 (251)	0 0	605 (365)	89 (110)	0 0	15,744 (4,971)	170 (158)
		Released	3,145 (1,691)	288 (191)	0 0	203 (271)	0 0	182 (198)	0 0	3,818 (1,735)	49 (73)
		Total	13,563 (4,722)	4,455 (2,259)	465 (251)	203 (271)	605 (365)	271 (227)	0 0	19,562 (5,265)	219 (174)
MN-2	3	Kept	4,141 (2,086)	226 (163)	133 (138)	28 (36)	0 0	28 (36)	0 0	4,556 (2,098)	0 0
		Released	3,533 (2,577)	98 (133)	0 0	58 (84)	335 (335)	15 (16)	97 (136)	4,136 (2,607)	0 0
		Total	7,674 (3,315)	324 (210)	133 (138)	86 (91)	335 (335)	43 (39)	97 (136)	8,692 (3,346)	0 0
MN-3	4	Kept	2,959 (1,245)	150 (91)	57 (50)	14 (21)	11 (17)	53 (42)	26 (31)	3,270 (1,251)	0 0
		Released	1,391 (854)	0 0	0 0	59 (50)	0 0	109 (79)	137 (99)	1,696 (865)	0 0
		Total	4,350 (1,510)	150 (91)	57 (50)	73 (54)	11 (17)	162 (89)	163 (104)	4,966 (1,521)	0 0
Lower	1 & 2	Kept	14,625 (4,746)	5,457 (2,348)	1,001 (546)	0 0	605 (365)	89 (110)	0 0	21,777 (5,337)	170 (158)
		Released	3,145 (1,691)	288 (191)	0 0	203 (271)	0 0	182 (198)	0 0	3,818 (1,735)	49 (73)
		Total	17,770 (5,038)	5,745 (2,355)	1,001 (546)	203 (271)	605 (365)	271 (227)	0 0	25,595 (5,611)	219 (174)
Upper	3 & 4	Kept	7,100 (2,429)	376 (187)	190 (147)	42 (42)	11 (17)	81 (55)	26 (31)	7,826 (2,443)	0 0
		Released	4,924 (2,715)	98 (133)	0 0	117 (98)	335 (335)	124 (81)	234 (168)	5,832 (2,747)	0 0
		Total	12,024 (3,643)	474 (229)	190 (147)	159 (106)	346 (335)	205 (98)	260 (171)	13,658 (3,676)	0 0
Total	All	Kept	21,725 (5,332)	5,833 (2,355)	1,191 (565)	42 (42)	616 (365)	170 (123)	26 (31)	29,603 (5,869)	170 (158)
		Released	8,069 (3,198)	386 (233)	0 0	320 (288)	335 (335)	306 (214)	234 (168)	9,650 (3,249)	49 (73)
		Total	29,794 (6,159)	6,219 (2,367)	1,191 (565)	362 (287)	951 (496)	476 (234)	260 (140)	39,253 (6,652)	219 (174)

¹ Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

² Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

³ 26 Brook Trout harvested and 234 Brook Trout released.

Table 6. Catch by species, cluster, and shore area for chartered anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is 0 for all values.

District ¹	Cluster ²	Fate	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Other ³ Salmonines	Total Salmonines	Walleye
MN-1	1	Kept	10,491	2,908	507	0	1,465	21	26	15,418	354
		Released	362	11	58	97	0	1	8	537	24
		Total	10,853	2,919	565	97	1,465	22	34	15,955	378
MN-1	2	Kept	869	201	24	0	106	24	0	1,224	10
		Released	688	4	1	11	0	21	1	726	2
		Total	1,557	205	25	11	106	45	1	1,950	12
MN-2	3	Kept	1,551	31	9	0	0	6	0	1,597	0
		Released	363	0	1	9	0	0	0	373	0
		Total	1,914	31	10	9	0	6	0	1,970	0
MN-3	4	Kept	865	30	15	0	20	31	1	962	0
		Released	310	1	1	10	0	10	1	333	0
		Total	1,175	31	16	10	20	41	2	1,295	0
Lower	1 & 2	Kept	11,360	3,109	531	0	1,571	45	26	16,642	364
		Released	1,050	15	59	108	0	22	9	1,263	26
		Total	12,410	3,124	590	108	1,571	67	35	17,905	390
Upper	3 & 4	Kept	2,416	61	24	0	20	37	1	2,559	0
		Released	673	1	2	19	0	10	1	706	0
		Total	3,089	62	26	19	20	47	2	3,265	0
Total	All	Kept	13,776	3,170	555	0	1,591	82	27	19,201	364
		Released	1,723	16	61	127	0	32	10	1,969	26
		Total	15,499	3,186	616	127	1,591	114	37	21,170	390

¹ Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

² Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

³ 22 Brown Trout harvested, 4 clipped Steelhead harvested, 1 Splake harvested, 9 clipped Steelhead released, and 1 Brook Trout released.

Table 7. Catch by species, cluster, and shore area for all anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is in parenthesis.

District ¹	Cluster ²	Fate	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink	Other ³ Salmonines	Total Salmonines	Walleye
MN-1	1	Kept	14,698	4,198	1,043	0	1,465	21	27	21,452	354
			(1,757)	(667)	(485)	0	0	0	(1,941)	0	
		Released	362	11	58	97	0	1	8	537	24
0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
MN-1	2	Kept	11,287	4,368	489	0	711	113	0	16,968	180
			(4,409)	(2,251)	(251)	0	(365)	(110)	0	(4,971)	(158)
		Released	3,833	292	1	214	0	203	1	4,544	51
(1,691)	(191)		0	(271)	0	(198)	0	(1,735)	(73)		
MN-2	3	Kept	5,692	257	142	28	0	34	0	6,153	0
			(2,086)	(163)	(138)	(36)	0	(36)	0	(2,098)	0
		Released	3,896	98	1	67	335	15	97	4,509	0
(2,577)	(133)		0	(84)	(335)	(16)	(136)	(2,607)	0		
MN-3	4	Kept	3,824	180	72	14	31	84	27	4,232	0
			(1,245)	(91)	(50)	(21)	(17)	(42)	(31)	(1,251)	0
		Released	1,701	1	1	69	0	119	138	2,029	0
(854)	0		0	(50)	0	(79)	(99)	(865)	0		
Lower	1 & 2	Kept	25,985	8,566	1,532	0	2,176	134	27	38,420	534
			(4,746)	(2,348)	(546)	0	(365)	(110)	0	(5,337)	(158)
		Released	4,195	303	59	311	0	204	9	5,081	75
(1,691)	(191)		0	(271)	0	(198)	0	(1,735)	(73)		
Upper	3 & 4	Kept	9,516	437	214	42	31	118	27	10,385	0
			(2,429)	(187)	(147)	(42)	(17)	(55)	(31)	(2,443)	0
		Released	5,597	99	2	136	335	134	235	6,538	0
(2,715)	(133)		0	(98)	(335)	(81)	(168)	(2,747)	0		
Total	All	Kept	35,501	9,003	1,746	42	2,207	252	54	48,805	534
			(5,332)	(2,355)	(565)	(42)	(365)	(123)	(31)	(5,869)	(158)
		Released	9,792	402	61	447	335	338	244	11,619	75
(3,198)	(233)		0	(288)	(335)	(214)	(168)	(3,249)	(73)		
Total	All	Kept	45,293	9,405	1,807	489	2,542	590	298	60,424	609
			(6,159)	(2,367)	(565)	(287)	(496)	(234)	(140)	(6,652)	(174)

¹ Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

² Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

³ 26 Brook Trout harvested, 22 Brown Trout harvested, 4 clipped Steelhead harvested, 1 Splake harvested, 235 Brook Trout released, and 9 clipped Steelhead released.

Table 8. Catch rate (fish/hr) by species, cluster, and shore area for private boat and shore anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is in parenthesis.

District ¹	Cluster ²	Fate	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Other ³ Salmonines	Total Salmonines	Walleye
MN-1	1	Kept	0.0871	0.0267	0.0111	0	0	0	0	0.1250	0
			(0.0385)	(0.0143)	(0.0102)	0	0	0	0	(0.0440)	0
		Released	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MN-1	2	Kept	0.1218	0.0487	0.0054	0	0.0071	0.0010	0	0.1840	0.0020
			(0.0528)	(0.0267)	(0.0030)	0	(0.0043)	(0.0013)	0	(0.0607)	(0.0019)
		Released	0.0368	0.0034	0	0.0024	0	0.0021	0	0.0446	0.0006
MN-2	3	Kept	0.1639	0.0089	0.0053	0.0011	0	0.0011	0	0.1804	0
			(0.0850)	(0.0066)	(0.0055)	(0.0014)	0	(0.0014)	0	(0.0859)	0
		Released	0.1399	0.0039	0	0.0023	0.0133	0.0006	0.0038	0.1637	0
MN-3	4	Kept	0.1302	0.0066	0.0025	0.0006	0.0005	0.0023	0.0011	0.1439	0
			(0.0564)	(0.0040)	(0.0022)	(0.0009)	(0.0008)	(0.0019)	(0.0014)	(0.0571)	0
		Released	0.0612	0	0	0.0026	0	0.0048	0.0060	0.0746	0
Lower	1 & 2	Kept	0.1093	0.0408	0.0075	0	0.0045	0.0007	0	0.1627	0.0013
			(0.0365)	(0.0178)	(0.0041)	0	(0.0028)	(0.0008)	0	(0.0424)	(0.0012)
		Released	0.0235	0.0022	0	0.0015	0	0.0014	0	0.0285	0.0004
Upper	3 & 4	Kept	0.1480	0.0078	0.0040	0.0009	0.0002	0.0017	0.0005	0.1631	0
			(0.0520)	(0.0039)	(0.0031)	(0.0009)	(0.0004)	(0.0012)	(0.0007)	(0.0529)	0
		Released	0.1026	0.0020	0	0.0024	0.0070	0.0026	0.0049	0.1216	0
Total	All	Kept	0.1195	0.0321	0.0066	0.0002	0.0034	0.0009	0.0001	0.1628	0.0009
			(0.0303)	(0.0131)	(0.0031)	(0.0002)	(0.0020)	(0.0007)	(0.0002)	(0.0339)	(0.0009)
		Released	0.0444	0.0021	0	0.0018	0.0018	0.0017	0.0013	0.0531	0.0003
Total	All	Kept	0.1328	0.0429	0.0075	0.0015	0.0045	0.0020	0	0.1913	0.0016
			(0.0387)	(0.0179)	(0.0041)	(0.0020)	(0.0028)	(0.0017)	0	(0.0447)	(0.0013)
		Released	0.0612	0	0	0.0026	0	0.0048	0.0060	0.0746	0
Total	All	Kept	0.1915	0.0066	0.0025	0.0032	0.0005	0.0071	0.0072	0.2186	0
			(0.0681)	(0.0040)	(0.0022)	(0.0024)	(0.0008)	(0.0040)	(0.0046)	(0.0690)	0
		Released	0.0612	0	0	0.0026	0	0.0048	0.0060	0.0746	0
Total	All	Kept	0.1302	0.0066	0.0025	0.0006	0.0005	0.0023	0.0011	0.1439	0
			(0.0564)	(0.0040)	(0.0022)	(0.0009)	(0.0008)	(0.0019)	(0.0014)	(0.0571)	0
		Released	0.0612	0	0	0.0026	0	0.0048	0.0060	0.0746	0
Total	All	Kept	0.1302	0.0066	0.0025	0.0006	0.0005	0.0023	0.0011	0.1439	0
			(0.0564)	(0.0040)	(0.0022)	(0.0009)	(0.0008)	(0.0019)	(0.0014)	(0.0571)	0
		Released	0.0612	0	0	0.0026	0	0.0048	0.0060	0.0746	0
Total	All	Kept	0.1915	0.0066	0.0025	0.0032	0.0005	0.0071	0.0072	0.2186	0
			(0.0681)	(0.0040)	(0.0022)	(0.0024)	(0.0008)	(0.0040)	(0.0046)	(0.0690)	0
		Released	0.0612	0	0	0.0026	0	0.0048	0.0060	0.0746	0
Total	All	Kept	0.1915	0.0066	0.0025	0.0032	0.0005	0.0071	0.0072	0.2186	0
			(0.0681)	(0.0040)	(0.0022)	(0.0024)	(0.0008)	(0.0040)	(0.0046)	(0.0690)	0
		Released	0.0612	0	0	0.0026	0	0.0048	0.0060	0.0746	0

¹ Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

² Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

³ 26 Brook Trout harvested and 234 Brook Trout released.

Table 9. Catch rate (fish/hr) by species, cluster, and shore area for charter anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is 0 for all values.

District ¹	Cluster ²	Fate	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Other ³ Salmonines	Total Salmonines	Walleye
MN-1	1	Kept	0.2266	0.0628	0.0110	0	0.0316	0.0005	0.0006	0.3331	0.0076
		Released	0.0078	0.0002	0.0013	0.0021	0	0	0.0002	0.0116	0.0005
		Total	0.2345	0.0631	0.0122	0.0021	0.0316	0.0005	0.0007	0.3447	0.0082
MN-1	2	Kept	0.2485	0.0575	0.0069	0	0.0303	0.0069	0	0.3500	0.0029
		Released	0.1967	0.0011	0.0003	0.0031	0	0.0060	0.0003	0.2076	0.0006
		Total	0.4452	0.0586	0.0071	0.0031	0.0303	0.0129	0.0003	0.5576	0.0034
MN-2	3	Kept	0.2991	0.0060	0.0017	0	0	0.0012	0	0.3080	0
		Released	0.0700	0	0.0002	0.0017	0	0	0	0.0719	0
		Total	0.3691	0.0060	0.0019	0.0017	0	0.0012	0	0.3799	0
MN-3	4	Kept	0.3269	0.0113	0.0057	0	0.0076	0.0117	0.0004	0.3636	0
		Released	0.1172	0.0004	0.0004	0.0038	0	0.0038	0.0004	0.1259	0
		Total	0.4441	0.0117	0.0060	0.0038	0.0076	0.0155	0.0008	0.4894	0
Lower	1 & 2	Kept	0.2282	0.0624	0.0107	0	0.0316	0.0009	0.0005	0.3343	0.0073
		Released	0.0211	0.0003	0.0012	0.0022	0	0.0004	0.0002	0.0254	0.0005
		Total	0.2493	0.0627	0.0119	0.0022	0.0316	0.0013	0.0007	0.3596	0.0078
Upper	3 & 4	Kept	0.3085	0.0078	0.0031	0	0.0026	0.0047	0.0001	0.3268	0
		Released	0.0859	0.0001	0.0003	0.0024	0	0.0013	0.0001	0.0902	0
		Total	0.3945	0.0079	0.0033	0.0024	0.0026	0.0060	0.0003	0.4169	0
Total	All	Kept	0.2391	0.0550	0.0096	0.0000	0.0276	0.0014	0.0005	0.3332	0.0063
		Released	0.0299	0.0003	0.0011	0.0022	0	0.0006	0.0002	0.0342	0.0005
		Total	0.2690	0.0553	0.0107	0.0022	0.0276	0.0020	0.0006	0.3674	0.0068

¹ Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

² Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

³ 22 Brown Trout harvested, 4 clipped Steelhead harvested, 1 Splake harvested, 9 clipped Steelhead released, and 1 Brook Trout released.

Table 10. Catch rate (fish/hr) by species, cluster, and shore area for all anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is in parenthesis.

District ¹	Cluster ²	Fate	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Other ³ Salmonines	Total Salmonines	Walleye
MN-1	1	Kept	0.1554 (0.0385)	0.0444 (0.0143)	0.0110 (0.0102)	0 0	0.0155 0	0.0002 0	0.0003 0	0.2268 (0.0440)	0.0037 0
		Released	0.0038 0	0.0001 0	0.0006 0	0.0010 0	0 0	0 0	0.0001 0	0.0057 0	0.0003 0
		Total	0.1593 (0.0385)	0.0445 (0.0143)	0.0116 (0.0102)	0.0010 0	0.0155 0	0.0002 0	0.0004 0	0.2325 (0.0440)	0.0040 0
MN-1	2	Kept	0.1268 (0.0528)	0.0491 (0.0267)	0.0055 (0.0030)	0 0	0.0080 (0.0043)	0.0013 (0.0013)	0 0	0.1906 (0.0607)	0.0020 (0.0019)
		Released	0.0430 (0.0201)	0.0033 (0.0023)	0 0	0.0024 (0.0032)	0 0	0.0023 (0.0023)	0 0	0.0510 (0.0207)	0.0006 (0.0009)
		Total	0.1698 (0.0565)	0.0523 (0.0268)	0.0055 (0.0030)	0.0024 (0.0032)	0.0080 (0.0043)	0.0035 (0.0026)	0 0	0.2416 (0.0641)	0.0026 (0.0021)
MN-2	3	Kept	0.1870 (0.0850)	0.0084 (0.0066)	0.0047 (0.0055)	0.0009 (0.0014)	0 0	0.0011 (0.0014)	0 0	0.2021 (0.0859)	0 0
		Released	0.1280 (0.1034)	0.0032 (0.0053)	0 0	0.0022 (0.0033)	0.0110 (0.0133)	0.0005 (0.0006)	0.0032 (0.0054)	0.1481 (0.1051)	0 0
		Total	0.3149 (0.1339)	0.0117 (0.0085)	0.0047 (0.0055)	0.0031 (0.0036)	0.0110 (0.0133)	0.0016 (0.0015)	0.0032 (0.0054)	0.3502 (0.1357)	0 0
MN-3	4	Kept	0.1683 (0.0564)	0.0079 (0.0040)	0.0032 (0.0022)	0.0006 (0.0009)	0.0014 (0.0008)	0.0037 (0.0019)	0.0012 (0.0014)	0.1863 (0.0571)	0 0
		Released	0.0749 (0.0381)	0 0	0 0	0.0030 (0.0022)	0 0	0.0052 (0.0035)	0.0061 (0.0044)	0.0893 (0.0388)	0 0
		Total	0.2432 (0.0681)	0.0080 (0.0040)	0.0032 (0.0022)	0.0037 (0.0024)	0.0014 (0.0008)	0.0089 (0.0040)	0.0073 (0.0046)	0.2756 (0.0690)	0 0
Lower	1 & 2	Kept	0.1415 (0.0365)	0.0467 (0.0178)	0.0083 (0.0041)	0 0	0.0119 (0.0028)	0.0007 (0.0008)	0.0001 0	0.2092 (0.0424)	0.0029 (0.0012)
		Released	0.0228 (0.0128)	0.0017 (0.0014)	0.0003 0	0.0017 (0.0020)	0 0	0.0011 (0.0015)	0 0	0.0277 (0.0141)	0.0004 (0.0006)
		Total	0.1644 (0.0387)	0.0483 (0.0179)	0.0087 (0.0041)	0.0017 (0.0020)	0.0119 (0.0028)	0.0018 (0.0017)	0.0002 0	0.2369 (0.0447)	0.0033 (0.0013)
Upper	3 & 4	Kept	0.1705 (0.0520)	0.0078 (0.0039)	0.0038 (0.0031)	0.0008 (0.0009)	0.0006 (0.0004)	0.0021 (0.0012)	0.0005 (0.0007)	0.1861 (0.0529)	0 0
		Released	0.1003 (0.0572)	0.0018 (0.0028)	0 0	0.0024 (0.0020)	0.0060 (0.0070)	0.0024 (0.0017)	0.0042 (0.0035)	0.1171 (0.0583)	0 0
		Total	0.2708 (0.0773)	0.0096 (0.0048)	0.0039 (0.0031)	0.0032 (0.0022)	0.0066 (0.0070)	0.0045 (0.0021)	0.0047 (0.0036)	0.3032 (0.0787)	0 0
Total	All	Kept	0.1483 (0.0303)	0.0376 (0.0131)	0.0073 (0.0031)	0.0002 (0.0002)	0.0092 (0.0020)	0.0011 (0.0007)	0.0002 (0.0002)	0.2038 (0.0339)	0.0022 (0.0009)
		Released	0.0409 (0.0178)	0.0017 (0.0013)	0.0003 0	0.0019 (0.0016)	0.0014 (0.0018)	0.0014 (0.0012)	0.0010 (0.0009)	0.0485 (0.0182)	0.0003 (0.0004)
		Total	0.1892 (0.0351)	0.0393 (0.0132)	0.0075 (0.0031)	0.0020 (0.0016)	0.0106 (0.0027)	0.0025 (0.0014)	0.0012 (0.0009)	0.2524 (0.0385)	0.0025 (0.0010)

¹ Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

² Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

³ 26 Brook Trout harvested, 22 Brown Trout harvested, 4 clipped Steelhead harvested, 1 Splake harvested, 235 Brook Trout released, and 9 clipped Steelhead released.

Table 11. Percent of private angling parties that caught specific numbers of fish during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Excludes personal trips by charter captains.

Number Caught	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Total Salmonines
0	45.8	85.6	95.6	98.1	97.2	97.1	37.0
1	17.2	10.0	4.0	1.5	1.7	2.5	18.5
2	12.3	1.7	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.4	14.7
3	7.2	0.9	0	0	0	0	7.6
4	5.1	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	7.2
5	3.2	0.8	0	0	0	0	2.5
6	3.0	0.2	0	0	0	0	3.8
7	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	2.1
8	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	1.3
9	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.8
10	1.1	0.2	0	0	0	0	1.3
11	0.4	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.8
12+	1.6	0.2	0	0	0	0	2.4

Table 12. Percent of chartered angling parties that caught specific numbers of fish during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey.

Number Caught	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Combined Salmonines
0	5.5	64.0	80.2	94.6	69.4	98.2	1.0
1	6.3	10.8	13.5	3.6	8.1	0.9	0.9
2	9.0	11.7	3.6	1.8	7.2	0	3.6
3	3.6	0.9	0.9	0	5.4	0.9	4.5
4	8.1	0.9	0	0	0.9	0	7.2
5	11.7	2.7	0.9	0	3.6	0	6.3
6	3.6	5.4	0.9	0	0	0	7.2
7	14.4	1.8	0	0	2.7	0	8.1
8	5.4	0	0	0	0.9	0	9.0
9	12.6	1.8	0	0	0.9	0	7.2
10	4.5	0	0	0	0	0	5.4
11	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	9.0
12+	11.7	0	0	0	0.9	0	30.6

Table 13. Length-frequency distribution (in) and sample size of harvested salmonines by private boat and shore anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey.

Length (in)	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon
<14.5	0	5	0	0	0	1
14.5 to 15.4	0	1	0	0	0	0
15.5 to 16.4	1	2	3	1	0	1
16.5 to 17.4	8	3	4	0	0	2
17.5 to 18.4	18	4	3	0	0	0
18.5 to 19.4	24	13	2	0	0	0
19.5 to 20.4	30	24	3	0	1	0
20.5 to 21.4	48	19	1	0	5	0
21.5 to 22.4	54	33	2	0	6	0
22.5 to 23.4	43	14	2	0	5	0
23.5 to 24.4	42	1	2	0	2	0
24.5 to 25.4	41	0	1	0	1	0
25.5 to 26.4	27	0	1	0	0	0
26.5 to 27.4	23	1	0	0	0	0
27.5 to 28.4	19	0	0	0	1	0
28.5 to 29.4	13	0	0	0	0	0
29.5 to 30.4	3	1	0	0	0	0
30.5 to 31.4	6	0	0	0	0	0
31.5 to 32.4	4	0	0	0	0	0
32.5 to 33.4	1	0	0	0	0	0
>33.4	1	0	1	0	0	0
Average	22.2	19.5	19.4	15.1	21.5	14.9
Sample Size	406	121	25	1	21	4

Table 14. Length-frequency distribution (in) and sample size of harvested salmonines by chartered anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey.

Length (in)	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon
<14.5	0	1	0	0	0	0
14.5 to 15.4	0	0	1	0	0	0
15.5 to 16.4	3	1	2	0	0	0
16.5 to 17.4	8	1	5	0	0	0
17.5 to 18.4	13	12	1	0	1	0
18.5 to 19.4	26	20	0	0	7	0
19.5 to 20.4	52	11	4	0	10	0
20.5 to 21.4	54	5	0	0	13	0
21.5 to 22.4	58	8	1	0	9	0
22.5 to 23.4	66	6	0	0	8	0
23.5 to 24.4	44	1	0	0	5	0
24.5 to 25.4	37	1	1	0	5	0
25.5 to 26.4	29	0	0	0	1	0
26.5 to 27.4	34	0	0	0	1	0
27.5 to 28.4	22	0	1	0	1	0
28.5 to 29.4	12	0	0	0	0	0
29.5 to 30.4	11	0	0	0	0	0
30.5 to 31.4	3	0	0	0	0	0
31.5 to 32.4	2	0	0	0	0	0
32.5 to 33.4	2	0	0	0	0	0
>33.4	1	0	0	0	0	0
Average	22.1	18.7	17.9	0	20.7	0
Sample Size	477	67	8	0	61	0

Table 15. Length-frequency distribution (in) and sample size of released salmonines by private boat and shore anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey.

Length (in)	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Brook Trout
<9.5	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
9.5 to 10.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
10.5 to 11.4	2	2	0	0	0	1	2
11.5 to 12.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
12.5 to 13.4	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
13.5 to 14.4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
14.5 to 15.4	13	2	0	0	0	2	2
15.5 to 16.4	2	1	0	0	0	1	2
16.5 to 17.4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.5 to 18.4	11	0	0	1	2	0	1
18.5 to 19.4	21	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.5 to 20.4	10	2	0	0	0	0	0
20.5 to 21.4	45	0	0	1	0	0	0
21.5 to 22.4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.5 to 23.4	32	1	0	0	2	0	0
23.5 to 24.4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.5 to 25.4	28	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.5 to 26.4	3	0	0	2	2	0	0
26.5 to 27.4	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.5 to 28.4	3	0	0	2	0	0	0
28.5 to 29.4	6	0	0	1	0	0	0
29.5 to 30.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.5 to 31.4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.5 to 32.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
>32.4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Average	20.7	14.6	0	22.6	21.3	13.0	12.2
Sample Size	198	9	0	8	6	6	12

Table 16. Length-frequency distribution (in) and sample size of released salmonines by chartered anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey.

Length (in)	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Brook Trout
<9.5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
9.5 to 10.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.5 to 11.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.5 to 12.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.5 to 13.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13.5 to 14.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14.5 to 15.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15.5 to 16.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16.5 to 17.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.5 to 18.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.5 to 19.4	1	0	0	0	5	0	0
19.5 to 20.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.5 to 21.4	6	0	0	0	5	0	0
21.5 to 22.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.5 to 23.4	4	0	0	1	5	0	0
23.5 to 24.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.5 to 25.4	2	0	0	0	7	0	0
25.5 to 26.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.5 to 27.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.5 to 28.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.5 to 29.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.5 to 30.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.5 to 31.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.5 to 32.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
>32.4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Average	21.1	8.0	0	27.0	21.3	0	0
Sample Size	13	1	0	2	22	0	0

Table 17. Average weight¹ (lbs) of harvested fish by species, cluster, and shore area for private boat and shore anglers in the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is in parentheses.

District ³	Cluster ⁴	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Unclipped Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Walleye
MN-1	1	3.45 (2.07)	2.10 (1.66)	2.43 (3.13)	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
MN-1	2	3.98 (2.39)	2.40 (1.93)	2.43 (1.86)	0 0	3.12 (2.71)	1.09 (1.48)	2.36 (2.39)
MN-2	3	4.01 (3.06)	2.69 (2.76)	3.68 (5.58)	4.03 (5.68)	0 0	1.09 (1.55)	0 0
MN-3	4	2.92 (1.80)	2.69 (2.31)	3.68 (4.73)	4.03 (6.35)	2.88 (4.86)	1.09 (0.96)	0 0
MN-1	Lower	3.83 (1.79)	2.32 (1.51)	2.43 (1.89)	0 0	3.12 (2.71)	1.09 (1.48)	2.36 (2.39)
MN-2 & 3	Upper	3.55 (1.89)	2.69 (1.90)	3.68 (4.16)	4.03 (4.34)	2.88 (4.86)	1.09 (0.82)	0 0
Total	All	3.74 (1.35)	2.35 (1.42)	2.63 (1.75)	4.03 (4.34)	3.11 (2.66)	1.09 (0.87)	2.36 (2.39)
Sample Size		406	121	25	1	21	4	5

¹ Due to low sample size, weights were calculated from a length-weight regression.

² Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

³ Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

Table 18. Average weight¹ (lbs) of harvested fish by species, cluster, and shore area for chartered anglers² during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is in parentheses.

District ³	Cluster ⁴	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Unclipped Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Walleye
MN-1	1	3.49 (0.37)	2.04 (0.36)	2.14 (0.13)	0 0	2.46 (0.28)	1.09 (0.47)	2.73 (0.21)
MN-1	2	4.12 (0.78)	1.94 (0.36)	2.14 (0.24)	0 0	2.72 (0.35)	0 0	2.71 (0.41)
MN-2	3	3.41 (0.38)	1.96 (0.71)	4.67 (1.33)	0 0	2.88 (2.01)	1.09 (0.43)	0 0
MN-3	4	3.36 (0.35)	0.00 0.00	4.67 (2.01)	0 0	2.88 (1.39)	1.09 (0.42)	0 0
MN-1	Lower	3.54 (0.35)	2.04 (0.36)	2.14 (0.13)	0 0	2.48 (0.27)	1.09 (0.47)	2.73 (0.21)
MN-2 & 3	Upper	3.39 (0.28)	1.96 (0.71)	4.67 (1.20)	0 0	2.88 (1.15)	1.09 (0.34)	0 0
Total	All	3.52 (0.28)	2.03 (0.35)	2.25 (0.18)	0 0	2.48 (0.27)	1.09 (0.33)	2.73 (0.21)
Sample Size		477	67	8	0	61	0	11

¹ Due to low sample size, weights were calculated from a length-weight regression.

² Excludes personal trips by licensed charter captains.

³ Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

⁴ Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

Table 19. Yield¹ (lbs) by species, cluster, and shore area for private boat and shore anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is in parentheses.

District ²	Cluster ³	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Unclipped Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Other ⁴ Salmonines	Total Salmonines	Walleye
MN-1	1	14,502	2,703	1,302	0	0	0	0	18,507	0
		(6,249)	(1,621)	(1,194)	0	0	0	0	(6,566)	0
MN-1	2	41,464	9,980	1,130	0	1,886	97	0	54,556	401
		(17,686)	(5,946)	(616)	0	(1,177)	(55)	0	(18,706)	(160)
MN-2	3	16,593	608	489	113	0	31	0	17,834	0
		(9,504)	(442)	(541)	(64)	0	(18)	0	(9,530)	0
MN-3	4	8,646	404	210	56	32	58	38	9,444	0
		(3,897)	(246)	(198)	(32)	(19)	(21)	(53)	(3,910)	0
MN-1	1 & 2	55,965	12,683	2,432	0	1,886	97	0	73,063	401
		(18,758)	(6,163)	(1,344)	0	(1,177)	(55)	0	(19,825)	(160)
MN-2 & 3	3 & 4	25,239	1,012	699	169	32	88	38	27,278	0
		(10,272)	(506)	(576)	(72)	(19)	(28)	(53)	(10,301)	0
Total	All	81,204	13,695	3,131	169	1,917	185	38	100,340	401
		(21,386)	(6,184)	(1,462)	(72)	(1,177)	(62)	(53)	(22,341)	(160)

¹ Estimates are rounded to the nearest pound.

² Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

³ Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

⁴ Brook Trout (38 lbs). Anglers also harvested Cisco (185 lbs).

Table 20. Yield¹ (lbs) by species, cluster, and shore area for charter anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is in parentheses.

District ²	Cluster ³	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Unclipped Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Other ⁴ Salmonines	Total Salmonines	Walleye
MN-1	1	36,656	5,938	1,087	0	3,604	23	124	47,431	965
		(13,599)	(3,568)	(387)	0	(1,917)	0	(15)	(14,195)	(163)
MN-1	2	3,577	389	51	0	288	26	0	4,331	27
		(3,151)	(235)	(25)	0	(170)	(14)	0	(3,164)	(6)
MN-2	3	5,284	61	42	0	0	7	0	5,394	0
		(3,257)	(51)	(48)	0	0	(4)	0	(3,258)	0
MN-3	4	2,909	61	70	0	58	34	4	3,135	0
		(1,723)	0	(99)	0	(24)	(20)	(4)	(1,727)	0
MN-1	1 & 2	40,232	6,327	1,138	0	3,892	49	124	51,762	992
		(13,959)	(3,576)	(388)	0	(1,925)	(14)	(15)	(14,543)	(163)
MN-2 & 3	3 & 4	8,193	122	112	0	58	40	4	8,529	0
		(3,685)	(51)	(110)	0	(24)	(20)	(4)	(3,687)	0
Total	All	48,426	6,449	1,250	0	3,949	89	128	60,291	992
		(14,438)	(3,576)	(403)	0	(1,925)	(25)	(15)	(15,003)	(163)

¹ Estimates are rounded to the nearest pound.

² Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

³ Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

⁴ Brown Trout (108 lbs) and clipped Steelhead (16 lbs), and Splake (4 lbs). Anglers also harvested Lake Whitefish (60 lbs) and Cisco (57 lbs).

Table 21. Yield¹ (lbs) by species, cluster, and shore area for all anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. Standard error is in parentheses.

District ²	Cluster ³	Lake Trout	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Unclipped Steelhead	Siscowet	Pink Salmon	Other ⁴ Salmonines	Total Salmonines	Walleye
MN-1	1	51,157 (14,966)	8,641 (3,919)	2,389 (1,255)	0 0	3,604 (1,917)	23 0	124 (15)	65,938 (15,640)	965 (163)
MN-1	2	45,040 (17,964)	10,369 (5,950)	1,181 (617)	0 0	2,174 (1,189)	123 (57)	0 0	58,888 (18,972)	428 (160)
MN-2	3	21,877 (10,047)	669 (445)	531 (543)	113 (64)	0 0	37 (18)	0 0	23,228 (10,072)	0 0
MN-3	4	11,555 (4,261)	465 (246)	280 (221)	56 (32)	89 (30)	92 (29)	42 (53)	12,579 (4,274)	0 0
MN-1	1 & 2	96,198 (23,382)	19,010 (7,125)	3,570 (1,399)	0 0	5,777 (2,256)	146 (57)	124 (15)	124,825 (24,588)	1,393 (228)
MN-2 & 3	3 & 4	33,432 (10,913)	1,134 (509)	811 (586)	169 (72)	89 (30)	129 (35)	42 (53)	35,807 (10,941)	0 0
Total	All	129,630 (25,803)	20,144 (7,143)	4,381 (1,517)	169 (72)	5,867 (2,256)	275 (66)	166 (55)	160,632 (26,912)	1,393 (228)

¹ Estimates are rounded to the nearest pound.

² Great Lakes Fishery Commission Statistical Districts.

³ Cluster 1=Duluth, Cluster 2=McQuade-Two Harbors, Cluster 3=Twin Points-Taconite Harbor, Cluster 4=Grand Marais-Hovland.

⁴ Brown Trout (108 lbs), Brook Trout (38 lbs), clipped Steelhead (16 lbs), and Splake (4 lbs). Anglers also harvested Cisco (243 lbs) and Lake Whitefish (60 lbs).

Table 22. Catch, harvest, and release rates (f/hr) for lean Lake Trout by type of electronics used by private boat anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey. N= 457 interviews.

Electronics	Angler Hours	Total Catch	Harvest	Release	Catch Rate	Harvest Rate	Release Rate
None	53.1	4	4	0	0.0754	0.0754	0
Depth Finder	84.5	11	3	8	0.1302	0.0355	0.0947
Sonar	133.2	29	23	6	0.2177	0.1726	0.0450
Sonar/GPS	3467.2	572	448	124	0.1650	0.1292	0.0358
Side Scan	236.1	43	31	12	0.1821	0.1313	0.0508
Live Imaging	615.3	201	101	100	0.3267	0.1641	0.1625
All	4589.4	860	610	250	0.1874	0.1329	0.0545

Table 23. Catch rates (f/hr) by angling method for lean Lake Trout by private boat anglers during the 2025 Lake Superior summer creel survey.

Electronics	All Methods	Jigging	Trolling
None	0.0754	0.0000	0.0869
Depth Finder	0.1302	0.1429	0.1277
Sonar	0.2177	0.4348	0.1971
Sonar/GPS	0.1650	0.1688	0.1671
Side Scan	0.1821	0.2525	0.1771
Live Imaging	0.3267	0.5322	0.2759
Combined	0.1874	0.3158	0.1785