



Leech Lake Update, July 2011
Walker Area Fisheries Office
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Greetings!

This update is part of a series of reports the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is sending to Leech Lake area resorts, businesses and others interested in DNR activities on Leech Lake. The goal of these messages is to keep you up to date with our findings and current activities on the lake. Earlier updates are available by visiting <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/walker/index.html>. Feel free to contact our office if you have any questions or comments, would like copies of previous updates not posted on the website, or if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Recent Changes

- Harlan Fierstine, Area Fisheries Supervisor, retired in December, 2010. Since that time Scott Gustafson has been appointed the Acting Area Fisheries Supervisor. Scott can be reached at the address above or at scott.gustafson@state.mn.us.
- To ease the transition process until Harlan's position is permanently filled, Doug Schultz, Large Lake Specialist, is handling nearly all items related to Leech Lake and is the primary contact on such topics. Scott is the contact for all other requests not related to Leech Lake.
- The state shutdown has impacted local workloads. Seining on Leech Lake was cancelled for 2011, as three of the four weeks used for standardized sampling were enveloped by the shutdown. In addition, lake surveys originally scheduled for Little Boy, Pine Mountain, and Wabedo lakes were also cancelled for 2011.

Remaining 2011 Survey Work on Leech Lake

- With shoreline seining cancelled for 2011, additional trawling will take place during the week of August 8 to obtain young-of-year walleye for OTC examination. These are the fish used to determine what proportion is marked (stocked) and to estimate the natural hatch rate. Usually about half of the needed YOY sample size for OTC detection is obtained by seining.
- Standard trawling will be conducted during the weeks of August 15 and August 22.
- The annual gill net survey will be completed from September 5-16.
- As in other years, volunteers are welcome to assist. Contact Doug Schultz (doug.w.schultz@state.mn.us) if interested.



2011 Operational Plans

- With volunteer assistance, 22.0 million walleye fry were stocked from 19 May to 22 May, 2011 (right). Fry were distributed throughout all major bays; bay-specific amounts were determined based on proportion of total littoral acres (≤ 15 -ft. deep).
- Under the supervision of the Division of Resource Management, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, double-crested cormorant control continued again in 2011 to the management goal of 500 nesting pairs.

Area	Total Stocked
Main Lake	
Whipholt/Stoney Point	5,094,242
Boy/Hdqtr's Bay	4,038,797
Sucker/Trader's	5,549,703
Portage Bay	3,588,216
Western Bays	
Steamboat Bay	2,035,841
Walker Bay North	1,080,824
W. B. S and Agency Bay	518,489
Kabekona Bay	115,220
Grand Total	22,021,332



If you have questions, comments, or requests please contact:

Doug Schultz (doug.w.schultz@state.mn.us)

or

Scott Gustafson (scott.gustafson@state.mn.us)