

58-07-2011

Title: Walleye restoration on Lake Chetac, Sawyer County. 4-11-2011

The problem:

The walleye population on Chetac has declined significantly since 2007. According to the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) we had an estimated 8654 adult walleye in 2007 and only 2833 in 2010. This is a 66% decline in Three years. According to Frank Pratt Jr (Fisheries Biologist) "the abundance of Large Mouth Bass (LMB) has increased significantly on Chetac and we are headed to a zero walleye population". There is evidence in the scientific literature that moderate -to high-density populations of LMB does inhibit natural reproduction of walleye via predation on juvenile walleyes and competition with walleyes for food. Implementation of the 14" size limit for LMB since 1998 has facilitated expansion of LMB populations.

The LMB population on Chetac must be reduced significantly in order to minimize predation on and competition with walleyes.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Sawyer County on April 11<sup>th</sup> 2011 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to correct this problem by introducing rule change as follows:

Eliminate the minimum 14" size limit for Large Mouth Bass on Chetac?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

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