

Citizen Resolution #

560216

Protect Spawning Yellow Perch

Yellow perch are presently not protected from harvesting during their spawning season. The big females full of eggs caught and removed in the Spring are prevented from reproducing. Thus there are fewer yellow perch that spawn and produce perch available to be caught in the regular season. Further, fewer perch means less food available for larger predator fish, such as muskie, walleye, and bass. And there are fewer jumbo perch.

Yellow perch are rightfully grouped with walleye and sauger. All are in the family of perches (Percidae). Perch are not "pan" fish. Bluegills belong to the family of sunfishes (Centrarchidae). No one can mistake a yellow perch for a bluegill or crappie. It makes no sense to group yellow perch with pan fish.

Thus the fishing season for yellow perch should be the same as for walleye and sauger, i.e., May 2, 2016 to March 6, 2017.

Be it resolved that yellow perch have the same fishing season as walleye and sauger. Yellow perch will be protected during their spawning season.

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