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### Katherine Lake Muskellunge Size Increase

The state of Wisconsin manages certain lakes as trophy Muskellunge lakes. Pelican Lake and Clear Lake are currently the only two lakes in Oneida County that employ a 50" size limit as a management tool. Oneida County is within the historical natural range of muskellunge and at one time was the premier destination for anglers seeking a trophy fishing experience. A number of factors in the modern era including increased angler fishing pressure, modern techniques, sport angler and tribal harvest, and habitat degradation have seriously impacted the ability to maintain a fishery with trophy potential.

Katherine Lake has the size, population density and forage base consistent with development of fish to trophy size of fifty inches and more. Management of Katherine Lake to provide a trophy opportunity would give anglers an opportunity to pursue musky with a potential of reaching the maximum size possible. Implied in this proposal is the further benefit to local economies due to increased tourism visits that are currently being diverted to neighboring states and Canadian provinces.

Be it resolved that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Oneida County on April 11, 2016 recommends a rule change to the DNR to raise the size limit for muskellunge on Katherine Lake to fifty inches.



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2016 vote

40 yes

23 no