



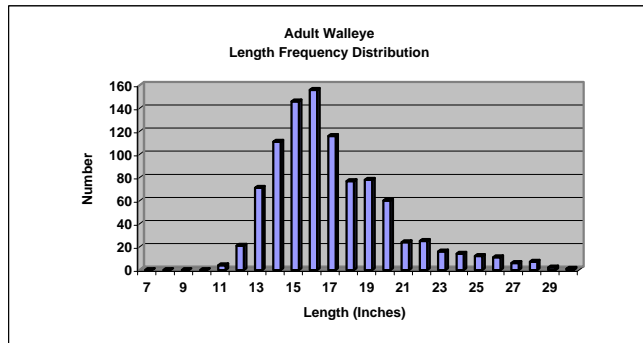
**WISCONSIN DNR
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET
BALSAM LAKE, POLK COUNTY, 2008**

The Department of Natural Resources conducted a fisheries assessment of Balsam Lake, Polk County, from April 26, 2008 to May 28, 2008.

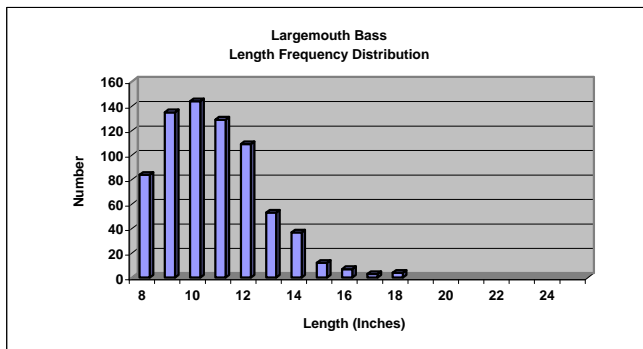
Balsam Lake is a drainage lake in the St. Croix River basin. The walleye fishery is supported primarily through stocking. The population estimate for adult walleye was comparable to lakes with similar characteristics.



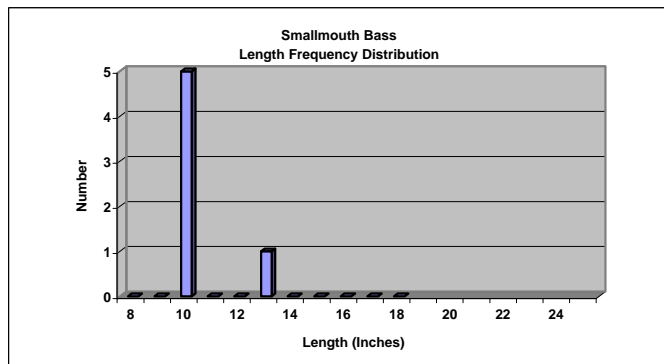
Walleye	
Total Captured	958
Avg. Length (in.)	17.0
Length Range (in.)	11-30
% >15"	78%



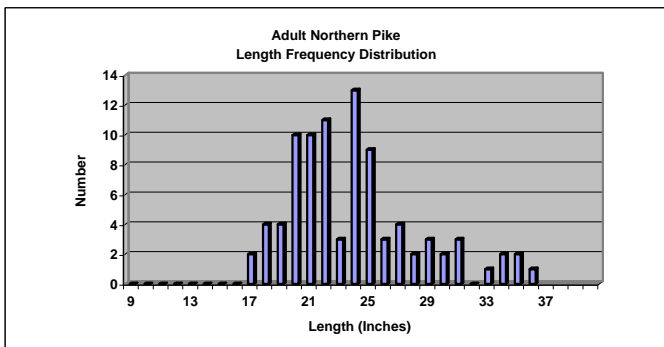
Largemouth Bass	
Total Captured	717
Avg. Length (in.)	10.7
Length Range (in.)	8-18
% >14"	9%



Smallmouth Bass	
Total Captured	6
Avg. Length (in.)	10.5
Length Range (in.)	10-13
% >14"	0%



Northern Pike	
Total Captured	89
Avg. Length (in.)	23.9
Length Range (in.)	17-36
% >26"	26%



Other Species

Some of the other species observed during this survey but not included in the report were bluegill, pumpkinseed, warmouth, green sunfish, rock bass, black crappie, yellow perch, and white sucker.

We are also conducting a creel (angler harvest) survey on Balsam Lake this year. Creel clerk Matt Kufahl will count and interview anglers and examine their catch throughout the fishing season.

Stocking History

Year	Species	Number Fish Stocked	Avg Fish Length (IN)
1992	WALLEYE	17,274	3
1992	WALLEYE	138,340	9
1993	WALLEYE	2,079	6
1994	WALLEYE	136,351	3
1994	WALLEYE	20,830	3
1996	WALLEYE	36,768	3
1996	WALLEYE	16,153	2
1996	WALLEYE	40,618	2
1997	WALLEYE	32,922	3
1998	WALLEYE	29,445	3
1998	WALLEYE	30,858	2
1998	WALLEYE	156,095	2
2000	WALLEYE	125,844	2
2000	WALLEYE	56,351	3
2000	WALLEYE	49,654	3
2002	WALLEYE	106	5
2002	WALLEYE	205,897	1
2002	WALLEYE	103,300	2
2004	WALLEYE	18,853	6
2004	WALLEYE	42,695	3
2006	WALLEYE	20,538	7

General Fishing Regulations for Balsam Lake, Polk County, 2008

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 03-March 01	2	15" MINIMUM
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass	May 03-March 01	5	NO MINIMUM, 1 <14"
Muskellunge	May 24-November 30	1	40" MINIMUM
Northern Pike	May 03-March 01	2	26" MINIMUM

A brief summary of selected fishing regulations is included above. While the regulatory information provided was current at the time the surveys were conducted, it is not comprehensive and should not be used as a substitute for the current fishing regulation pamphlet. You may obtain a copy of current fishing regulations when you purchase your fishing license, or download a copy from our web site at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/regulations/>

This report is interim only; data and findings should not be considered final. Results of creel surveys should be available by June of the year following the survey. If you are interested in a summary of the creel survey or want an update on this year's fyke netting and electrofishing survey results contact:

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities and plans for Balsam Lake, Polk County contact:

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