

Summary of Fishing Tournaments in Wisconsin for 2011

Hadley Boehm & Jon Hansen
DNR – Bureau of Fisheries Management

Applications

- 603 applications for fishing tournaments were received
 - 0 permits were denied
 - 14 events were cancelled by organizers
 - 25 applications were withdrawn
 - 5 applications were left incomplete
 - 559 applications were approved
 - 259 traditional tournaments (46%)
 - 387 catch-and-release tournaments (69%)
 - 159 catch and keep tournaments (28%)
 - 127 ice fishing tournaments (23%)
 - 57 immediate release tournaments (10%)
 - 58 Great Lakes tournaments (10%)

Distribution

- Tournaments took place in 64 counties throughout Wisconsin (Figure 1)
 - Top counties included Winnebago (50), Oneida (28), Waukesha (25), Polk (25), and Vilas (22)

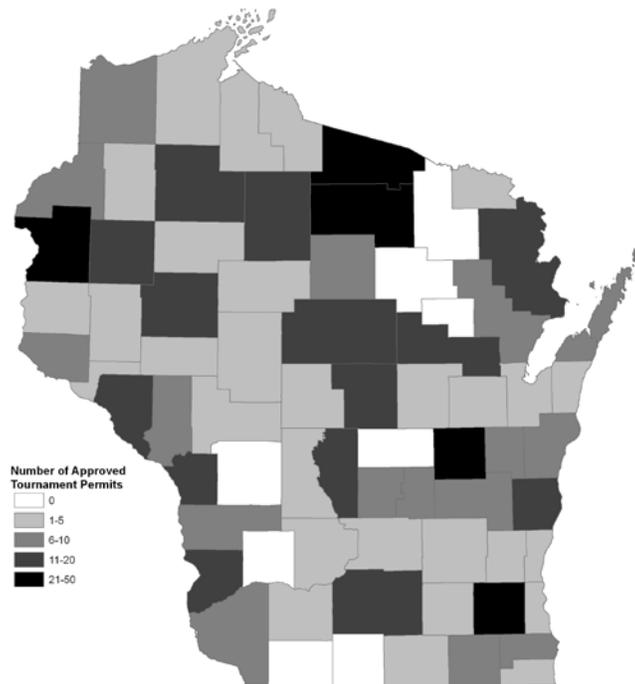


Figure 1. Distribution of approved tournaments in 2011. Courtesy of Joanna Griffin.

Results (received as of 1/20/12)

- Fewer tournaments were held in 2011 than in 2010 or 2009.

- Although fewer tournaments were held, anglers spent more hours fishing than in 2010, and more fish were caught than 2009 or 2010.

Number of tournaments, projected effort, and prize value awarded 2009-2011.

Effort/Prizes	2009	2010	2011
Tournaments	639	595	559
Anglers	88,206	79,502	75,306
Boats	24,621	22,040	19,265
Hours Fished	1,668,377	1,413,480	1,579,340
Prizes Awarded	\$3,848,782	\$3,867,794	\$3,181,636

Projected number of fish registered and release rates for events registering popular species 2009-2011.

Species	Number Fish Registered			Percent of Fish Released		
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
Bass (Largemouth And Smallmouth)	37,507	31,663	31,246	98%	98%	98%
Walleye*	25,105	18,914	15,751	63%	63%	66%
Great Lakes						
Salmon/Trout	8,423	10,343	8,212	0%	0%	0%
Panfish**	6,026	7,571	9,138	16%	24%	20%
Musky	1,216	1,401	1,059	99%	99%	99%
All Species	95,106	81,213	98,205	60%	60%	48%

*Walleye includes walleye and sauger

**Panfish includes crappies, bluegill, sunfish, and yellow perch

Review

- Applications submitted after the open period were reviewed within an average of 28 days



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
 Fisheries Management Bureau
 101 S. Webster St.
 Madison, WI 53707