Lake Trout Meeting
January 2017
Lake Trout season and bag limits
Lake Trout season and bag limits

- Lake trout scoping statement
  - Increase open season to year round
  - Increase bag limit
    - Pros and cons of 3 vs. 5
    - Open Mid-Lake Reef to fishing
- Approved by Governor and Natural Resources Board in December
- Get a 150 day Emergency rule in place by April 1, 2017
- Extend it once during the season
- Make a permanent rule for 2018
# Wisconsin’s Salmon and Trout Stocking numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>2016 Actual numbers stocked</th>
<th>2017 Projected stocking numbers</th>
<th>2018 Projected stocking numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinook salmon</td>
<td>812,270</td>
<td>812,270</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coho salmon</td>
<td>452,867</td>
<td>452,867</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake trout</td>
<td>712,377</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steelhead</td>
<td>269,512</td>
<td>340,000</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown trout</td>
<td>727,014</td>
<td>362,000</td>
<td>362,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,974,040</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,267,137</strong></td>
<td><strong>TBD</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lake Trout Priority Stocking Sites

- **Michigan Northern Refuge**: 600,000 yearling LT
- **Michigan**: 1,440,000 yearling LT
- **Wisconsin**: 120,000 yearling LT
- **Illinois**: 300,000 yearling LT

Consent Decree Waters
Lake Trout Secondary Stocking Sites

Consent Decree Waters

- 680,000 yearling LT
- 80,000 yearling LT
- 40,000 yearling LT

States:
- Wisconsin
- Michigan
- Illinois
- Indiana

Stocking Sites:
- WM-1
- WM-2
- WM-3
- WM-4
- WM-5
- WM-6
- WM-7
- MM-1
- MM-2
- MM-3
- MM-4
- MM-5
- MM-6
- MM-7
- MM-8

- 150,000 yearling LT
- 80,000 yearling LT
- 40,000 yearling LT

- Northern Refuge

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT
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Lake Michigan Salmon and Trout harvest and stocking from 1969 to 2015
Lake Michigan Lake trout harvest from 1969 to 2015

Average harvest = 51,700

? to 1982
5 per day
No closed season

1984 to 1985
3 per day
No closed season

1986 to 1994
2 per day
May 7 to Sept 5
Mid Lake Reef
Clay Banks Reef

1995 to present
2 per day
March 1 to October 31
Clay Banks Reef removed 1996
Current Regulations

5 fish daily bag limit for salmon and trout but only 2 can be lake trout

Lake trout season – March 1 to October 31

No possession of lake trout in Mid Lake Reef
Lake Trout season and bag limits

Option 1 for Lake trout regulation changes
• Bag limit - Increase bag limit from 2 to 3
• Season - Allow fishing year round

Other Options ??

Other regulations
• Refuge closed to lake trout fishing - Mid Lake Reef - continue
• Season - No possession of lake trout in Mid Lake Reef - continue
## Proposed Timeline for 2017 Lake trout regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Step 1 | • March - December, 2016  
• Gathered initial stakeholder comments |
| Step 2 | • December 2016 – Scoping statement  
• Approved by Governor and Natural Resources Board in December |
| Step 3 | • Comment period until February 8, 2017 – phone, mail or email  
• [DNRLAKEMICHIGANPLAN@wiscosin.gov](mailto:DNRLAKEMICHIGANPLAN@wiscosin.gov) |
| Step 4 | • March 2017 – Emergency lake trout rule  
• Natural Resources Board - approval |
| Step 5 | • Get an emergency lake trout rule in place by April 1, 2017  
• Convene hearing on the emergency rule |
| Step 6 | • Work with stakeholders and others to create a permanent rule |
QUESTIONS / COMMENTS