Lake Trout in Wisconsin Waters of Lake Superior;
Implementing the Terms of the 2005-2015 Lake Superior Fishing Agreement

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Photo: Sam Cook
Wisconsin Waters of Lake Superior
Lake Superior Fishing Agreement 2005-2015

Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

April 19, 2007

Recommended Maximum Lake Trout Harvest
For the Apostle Islands Region of Lake Superior
For the 2013-2015 Fishing Years
(November 28, 2012 – September 30, 2015)

By

The Wisconsin State-Tribal Technical Committee
August 2012
Stock Assessment

Age
Stock Assessment Results

Abundance (1000's of Lake Trout) vs Year
Stock Assessment Results

Instantaneous Mortality

Year

1980 1990 2000 2010

natural lamprey commercial sport
Lake-Wide Perspective

50,000 = WI-2 Total Quota
Terms of Agreement

2005 State-Tribal Lake Superior Agreement

Appendix I.

The numbers derived in the allocation table for 2005 were derived as follows.

These lean lake trout allocations are derived as follows: The initial quotas of 14,500 for WI-1 and 136,000 for WI-2 were first reduced by the number needed for assessment. The remaining fish, 14,000 for WI-1 and 134,000 for WI-2 were divided equally between the state and the tribes (combined) yielding an initial allocation of 7,000 for each group in WI-1 and 67,000 for each group in WI-2. The Bad River and Red Cliff tribes further agreed to an equal allocation of the tribal share resulting in 3,500 for each tribe in WI-1 and 33,500 for each tribe in WI-2. At this time the tribes have less need of an allocation in WI-1 and more of a need for an allocation in WI-2. Conversely, at this time the state has more of a need for an allocation in WI-1 and less of a need for an allocation in WI-2. Hence the parties agree to a voluntary, non-precedential exchange of fish between WI-1 and WI-2. Bad River retains 500 fish in WI-1 and exchanges 3,000 fish with the state resulting in a total allocation of 36,500 in WI-2. Red Cliff retains 200 fish in WI-1 and exchanges 3,300 fish with the state resulting in a total allocation of 36,800 fish in WI-2. The state allocation in WI-1 increases by 6,300 to 13,300, and decreases in WI-2 by 6,300 to 60,700. The state further agrees to a transfer of 6,000 fish from its WI-2 allocation to the tribes in exchange for other considerations by the tribes resulting in a final allocation of 54,700 in WI-2. The tribes agree that 2,000 of these fish shall be allocated to the Bad River tribe resulting in a final WI-2 allocation of 38,500, and that 4,000 of these fish shall be allocated to the Red Cliff tribe resulting in a final WI-2 allocation of 40,800.

67,000 – 12,300 = 54,700 lake trout for the State in 2005

6,300 = Swap between WI-1 and WI-2

6,000 = Swap for “other considerations”
Other Considerations

Ice Nets Only; ≥ 4 7/16 mesh; ≥114 ft.; North of 46° 45’ 00”

Trap Nets Only; Jun. 1 – Aug. 15

Ice Nets Only; Float Nets; ≥ 2 3/8 and ≤ 3 mesh; For herring

Ice Nets Only; ≤ 1 3/4 mesh; For smelt
### Allocation Table

**Initial TAC Allocation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Bad River</th>
<th>Red Cliff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WI-1</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WI-2</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+6,300</td>
<td>-3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** WI-1 TAC: 14,000 **

** WI-2 TAC: 48,000 **

** WI-1/WI-2 Tag Swap**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>WI-1</th>
<th>WI-2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WI-1 Total: 14,500**

**WI-2 Total: 50,000**

**Assessment Tags**

- **Total WI-1 Assessment Tags: 500**
- **Total WI-2 Assessment Tags: 2,000**

**Combined Totals:**

- **64,500**

**67,000 = Initial allocation in 2005**
WI-2 Sport Fishery

26,050 = Sport Harvest Quota (2013-14)

14,799 = Avg. Sport Harvest (2000-13)

11,700 = Total State Allocation (2014-15)

7,800 = 2/3 of State Allocation (2014-15)
WI-2 Sport Fishery

Proportion of anglers that harvest \( \geq 1 \) lake trout = 0.46

Reducing bag limit to 1 lake trout will only reduce harvest \( \sim 12\% \)
Size Structure of Sport Caught Lake Trout

Ice Fishery

Open-Water Fishery

Proportion

Length (in)

Proportion

Length (in)
Alternative Regulation

Option #1

- Harvest Slot (15-20”)
- Trophy Limit (≥ 40”)

Option #2

- Harvest Slot (20-25”)
- Trophy Limit (≥ 40”)

WI-2 State-Licensed Commercial Fishery

Tags allocated to state-licensed commercial fishers (10 licenses)

3,900 = 1/3 of State Allocation (2014-15)
WI-1 Fishery

13,300 = Total State Quota (2005-15)

4,673 = Avg. Sport Harvest (2000-13)
Questions