The Department of Natural Resources surveyed Lynx Lake, Vilas County, from April 19th through April 23rd, in order to assess the status of the walleye population. Lynx Lake is a drainage lake with predominantly sand substrates along with some rubble and muck. It has a surface area of 339 acres, 6.8 miles of shoreline, and a maximum depth of 48 feet. Lynx Lake’s walleye population is sustained through natural reproduction, although private stocking has occurred.

During four days of fyke netting, 236 adult walleye were captured and marked with a fin clip. A crew then sampled with an electrofishing boat and captured 28 adult walleye. During electrofishing 46% (13 of 28) of captured walleye bore the fin clip given during fyke netting. The largest walleye captured was a 27.2-inch female.

Based on those results, Lynx Lake was estimated to contain 468 adult walleye (1.4/acre). An estimated 27% of adult walleye were 15 inches long or larger.

Smallmouth Bass were not a primary target during our survey of Lynx Lake. Sampling occurred prior to peak smallmouth spawning. As a result, just nine smallmouth bass eight inches or larger were captured. Of those smallmouth captured, four (44%) were 14 inches long or larger, with the largest measuring 15.7 inches. No largemouth bass were sampled during our surveys.

39 adult northern pike were captured during our surveys on Lynx Lake. Of those pike captured, 95% were less than 26 inches long. The largest northern pike captured was a 30.2-inch female.
During our fyke netting and electrofishing sampling of Lynx Lake, nine adult muskellunge were captured. Of those muskellunge captured, none were 40 inches long or larger, with the largest being a 36.7-inch male. Additionally, five juvenile muskellunge (16.2“ - 27.1” length) were also captured.

Other Species

In addition to the game fish mentioned above, six species of fish were captured during fyke netting and electrofishing sampling of Lynx Lake. Bluegill, pumpkinseeds, rock bass, yellow perch, white sucker, and golden shiner were captured in low numbers during our surveys.

A creel survey will be conducted on Lynx Lake throughout the 2016-17 fishing season. Creel clerk Garrett Wilner will count and interview anglers and examine their catch. The information gathered will be used to estimate fishing effort in addition to angler catch and harvest.

Table 1. General Fishing Regulations for Lynx Lake, Vilas County, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FISH SPECIES</th>
<th>OPEN SEASON</th>
<th>DAILY LIMIT</th>
<th>MINIMUM LENGTH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>May 7 - March 5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15” min. length, 20-24” no harvest slot, 1 fish over 24” allowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>May 7 - March 5</td>
<td>5 in total with SMB</td>
<td>14 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smallmouth Bass</td>
<td>May 7 - June 17 (C&amp;R) June 18 - March 5 (Harvest)</td>
<td>5 in total with LMB; harvest season only</td>
<td>14 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskellunge</td>
<td>May 28 - Nov. 30</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>40 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Pike</td>
<td>May 7 - March 5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief summary of selected fishing regulations for Lynx Lake is included above (Table 1). 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/topic/fishing/regulations/

* Note: Adult muskellunge are defined as all sexable muskellunge and those of unknown sex ≤ 30 inches in length.

This report is interim only; Watch for finalized summaries at: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/north/trtysprngsrvys.html. Creel survey results should be available by June 2017 at: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/north/trtycrlsrvys.html. For questions, contact:

Lawrence Eslinger, Treaty Fisheries Biologist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
8770 Highway J
Woodruff, WI 54568
(715) 356-5211 Ext. 209

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

Steve Gilbert, Fisheries Biologist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
8770 Highway J
Woodruff, WI 54568
(715) 356-5211 Ext. 229
Email: stephen.gilbert@wisconsin.gov