

# Green Bay Ice Fishing Guide Informational Meeting

December 19, 2016

Brown County Library

Green Bay

# Agenda

- I. Green Bay species management
- II. Guide reporting forms and protocols
- III. Guide reporting discussion
- IV. Feedback

# Green Bay Walleye and Yellow Perch Management-2016



Steve Hogler and Tammie Paoli  
Fisheries Biologists



# Walleye



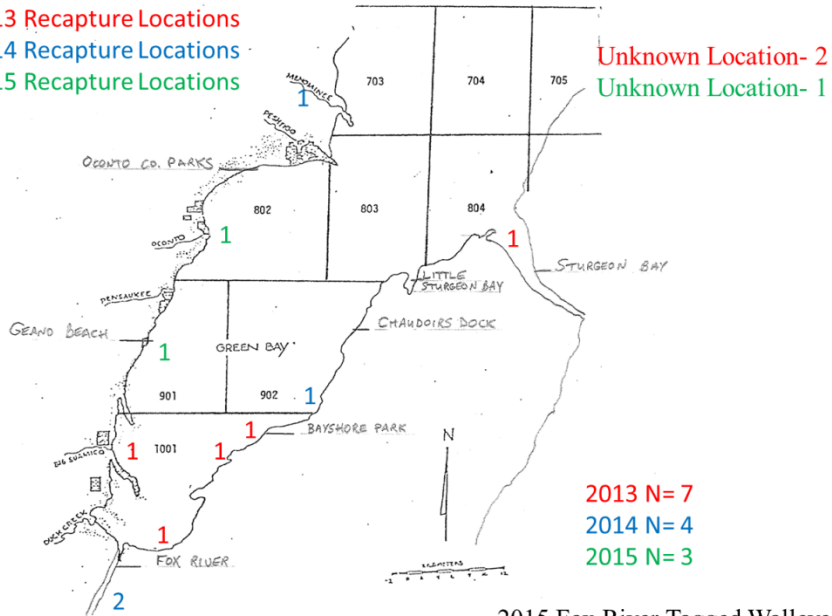
- Spring Electroshocking
- Fall Electroshocking
  - YOY Production
- Creel Survey



# Spring Walleye Tagging

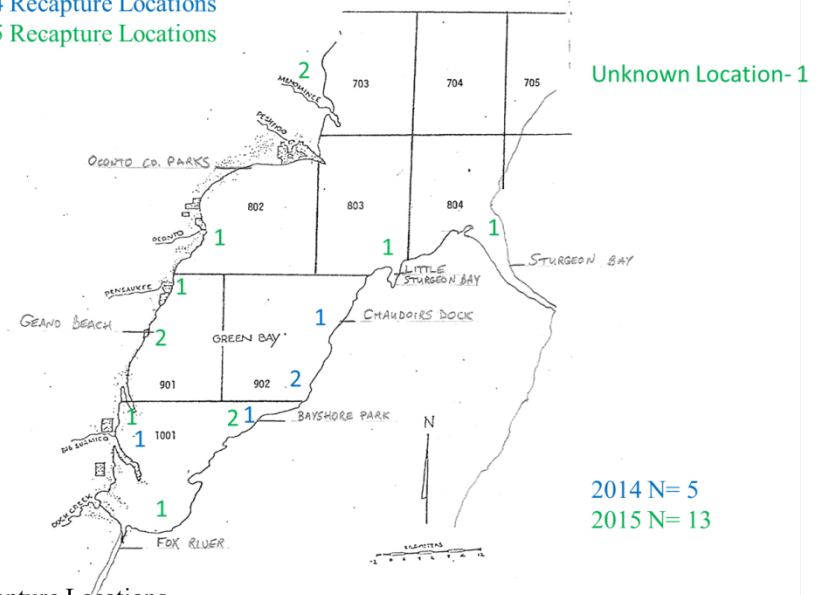
2013 Fox River Tagged Walleye Angler Recapture Locations

2013 Recapture Locations  
2014 Recapture Locations  
2015 Recapture Locations



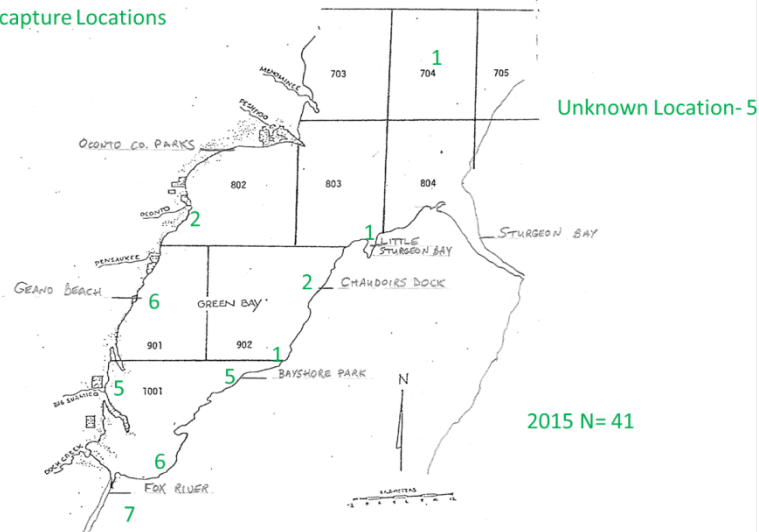
2014 Fox River Tagged Walleye Angler Recapture Locations

2014 Recapture Locations  
2015 Recapture Locations

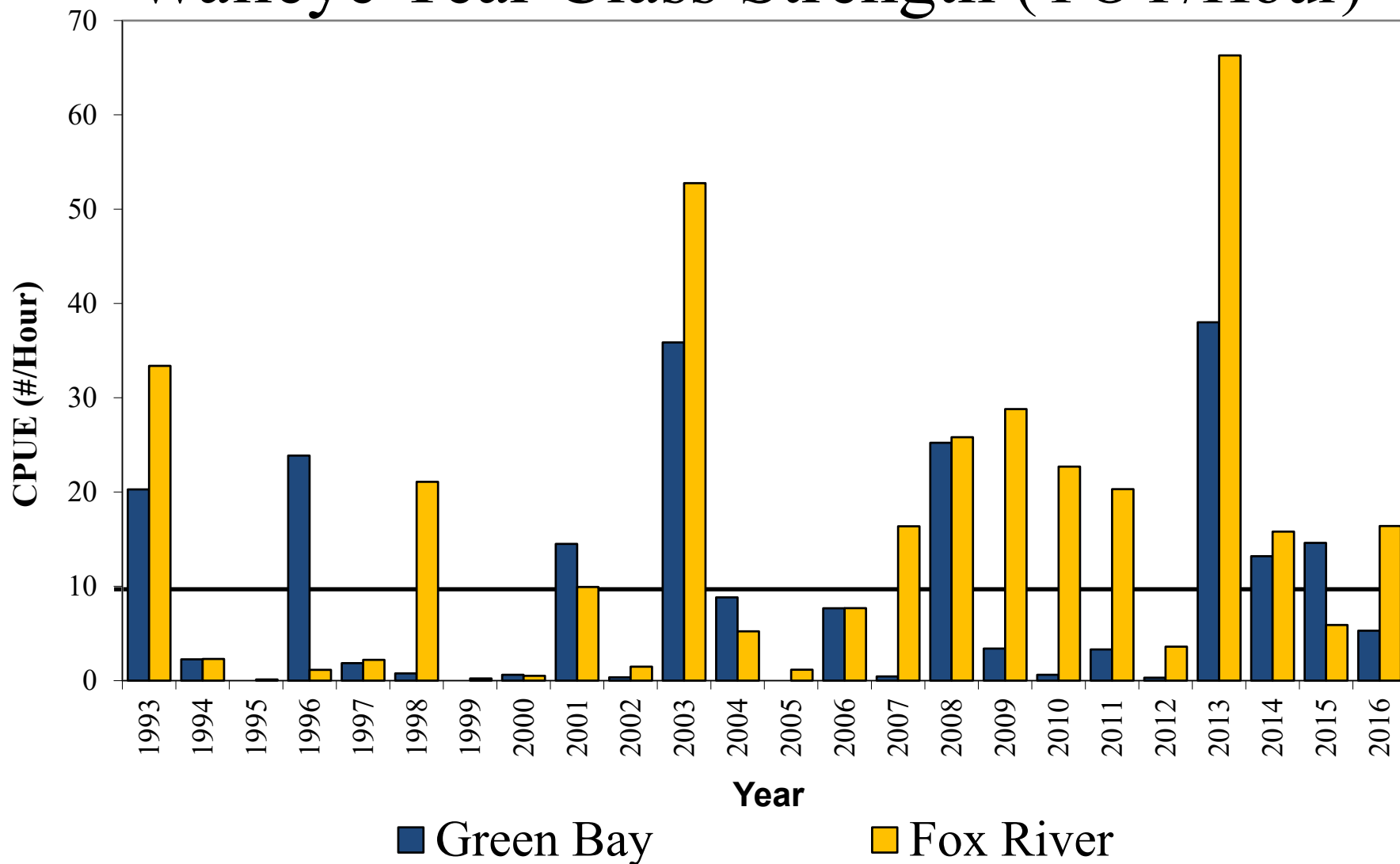


2015 Fox River Tagged Walleye Angler Recapture Locations

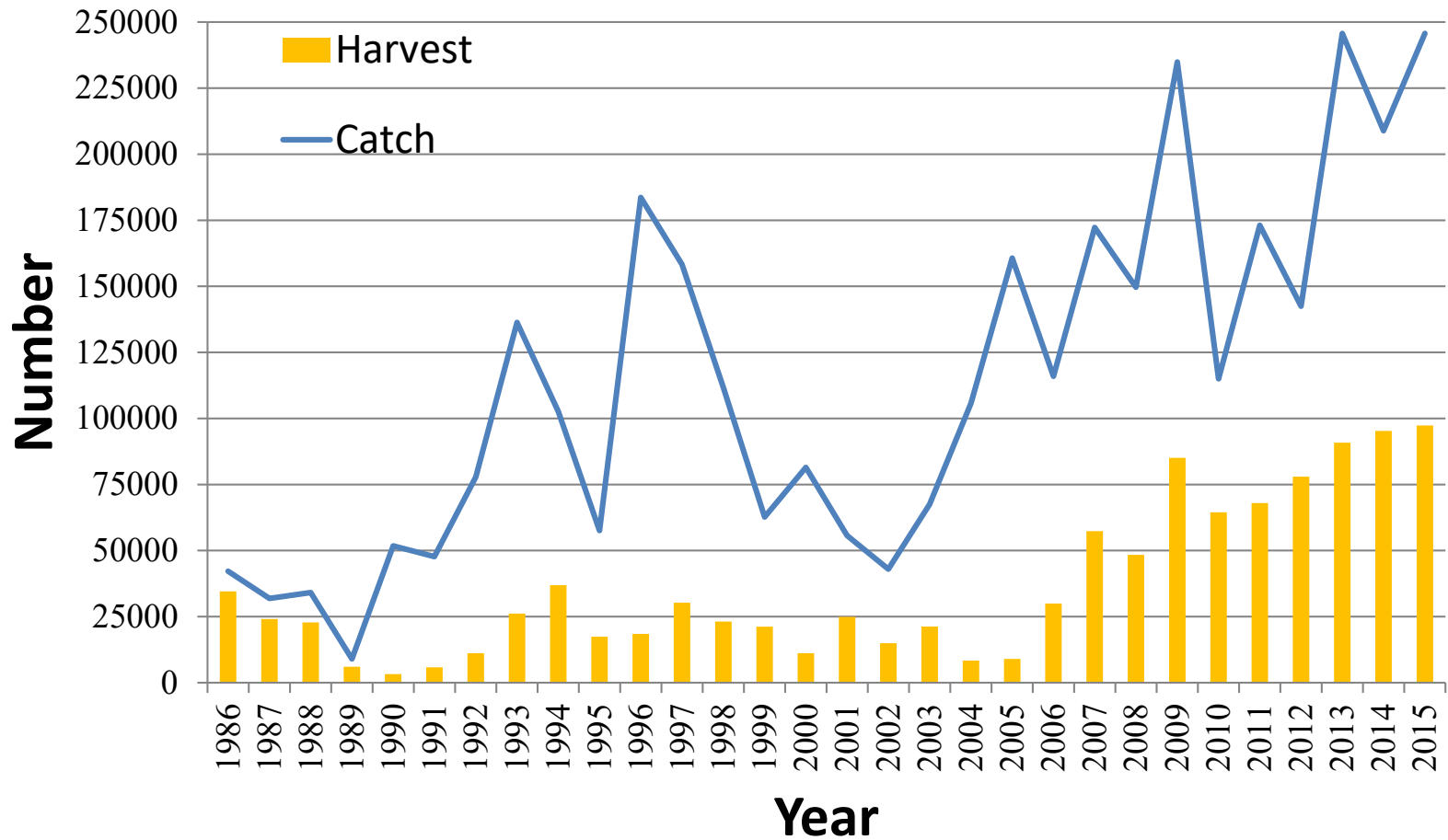
2015 Recapture Locations



# Walleye Year Class Strength (YOY/Hour)



# Green Bay Walleye Catch and Harvest, 1986-2015





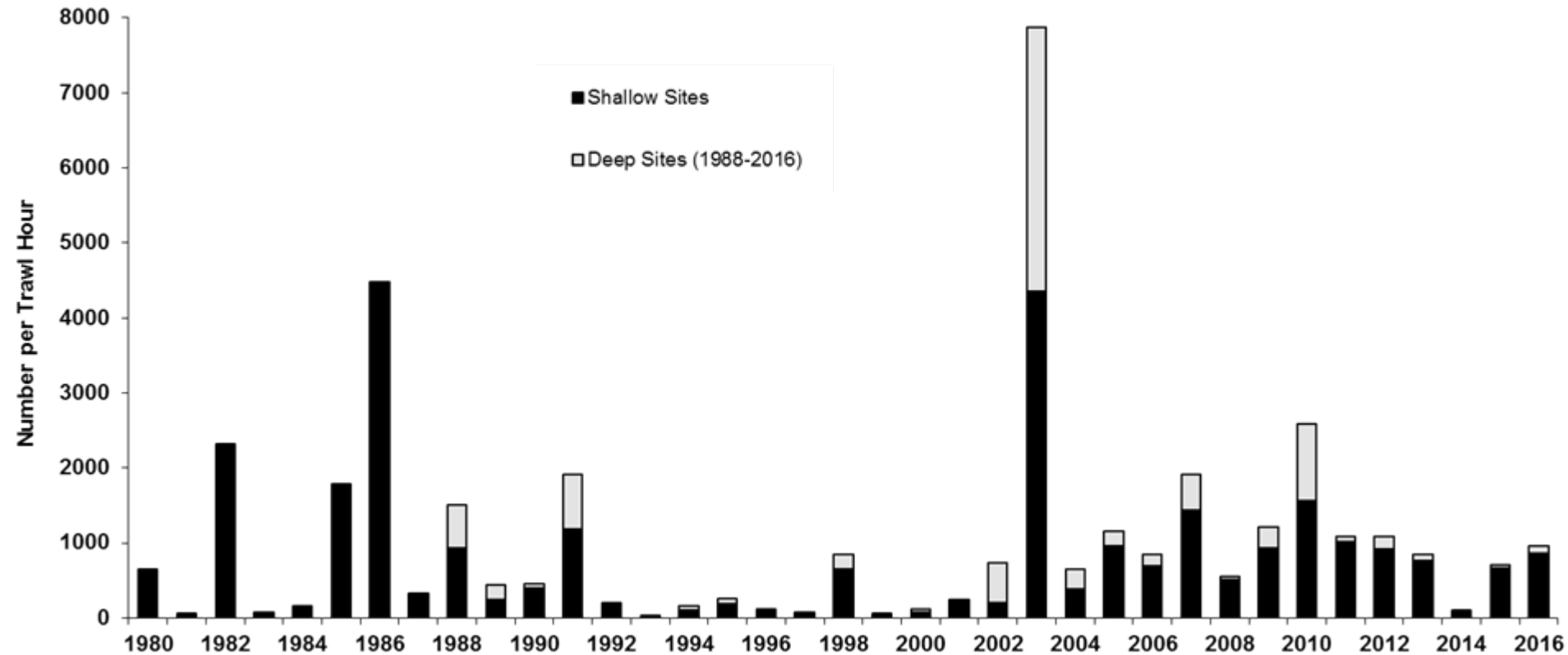
# Green Bay Surveys for Yellow Perch

- Creel (Open Water & Ice)
- Spring fyke netting (Little Tail)
- Shoreline seining (15 sites)
- Trawling YOY surveys (76 ¼ mile drags)
- Commercial monitoring (9 samples between May 20-Nov.)



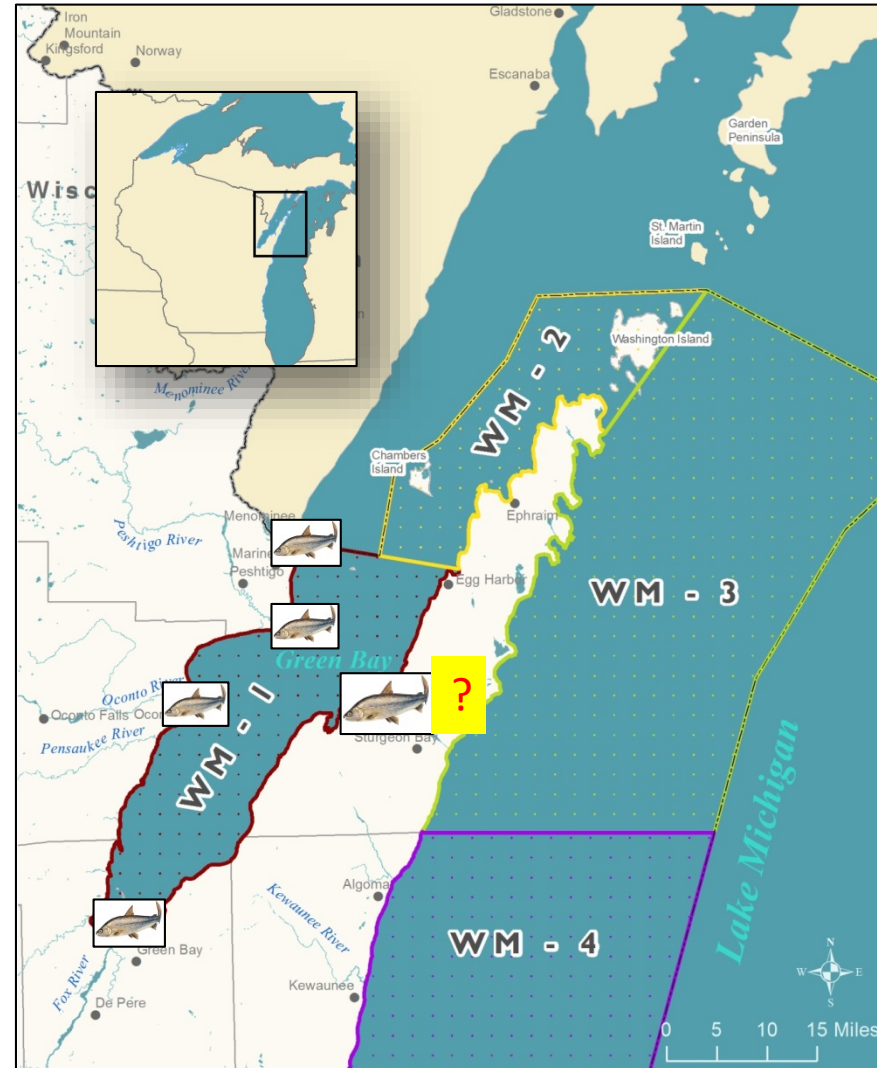


# YOY Yellow Perch from summer trawling surveys

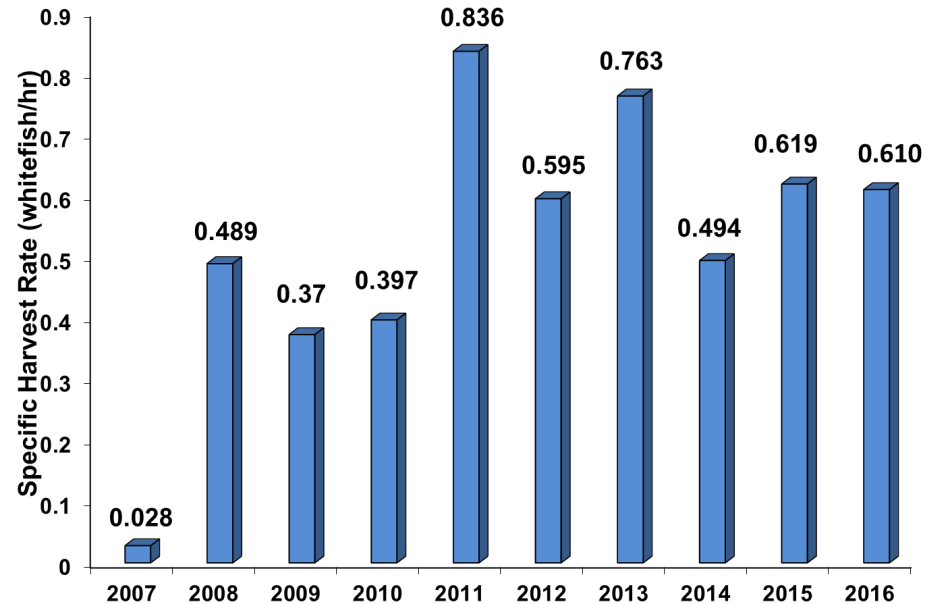
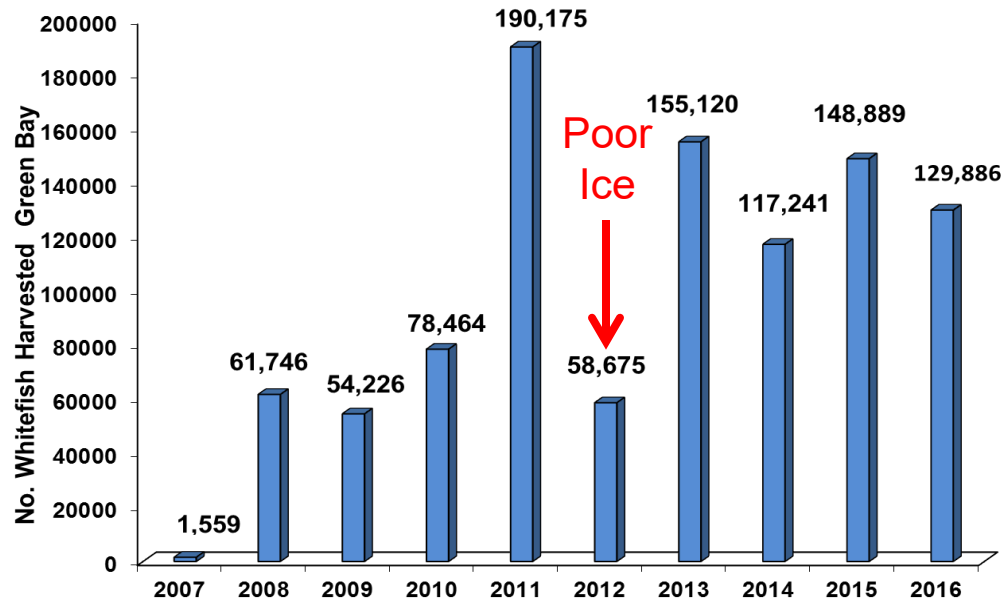


# Green Bay Whitefish Fishery

- Considerable changes in WF pop over the past 15-20 years
- Re-colonization of tributaries
  - And Green Bay proper?
- Strong recruitment events
  - 2015 strongest to date
- Changing fisheries
  - Increased commercial catches
  - Substantial recreational fishery
- Increased stock complexity



# Green Bay Whitefish Sport Harvest



# Tributary/Green Bay Spawning Whitefish

- Menominee sampled annually since 2009
  - Fox, Oconto, and Peshtigo since 2013
- Tagging
  - ~2800 tagged in Menominee, Fox, Peshtigo, Oconto in 2015/2016
  - Examine for straying between rivers, Green Bay, and Lake Michigan
  - Angler tag reports important
- Green Bay spawning
  - Information suggests spawning in Green Bay proper
  - Have found larval whitefish in Sturgeon Bay last two years
  - Found eggs (likely lake whitefish) in Sturgeon Bay November 2016

## ATTENTION ANGLERS

Please be on the Lookout for Tagged  
Whitefish in Green Bay

During November, 2015, approximately 1,300 lake whitefish were tagged and released in the Menominee, Fox, Peshtigo and Oconto Rivers. Information gathered from tag returns will help us to collect several pieces of important information for management of these populations of whitefish. Tagged fish will have either one or two tags placed at the base of the dorsal fin (see photo below):



If you catch a tagged whitefish please call the number on the tag (715-346-2178) or type <http://bit.ly/whitefishsurvey> to enter tagged fish information directly into the online survey database. Thank you for your assistance in managing this fish species.



Wisconsin Cooperative Fishery Research Unit  
College of Natural Resources  
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

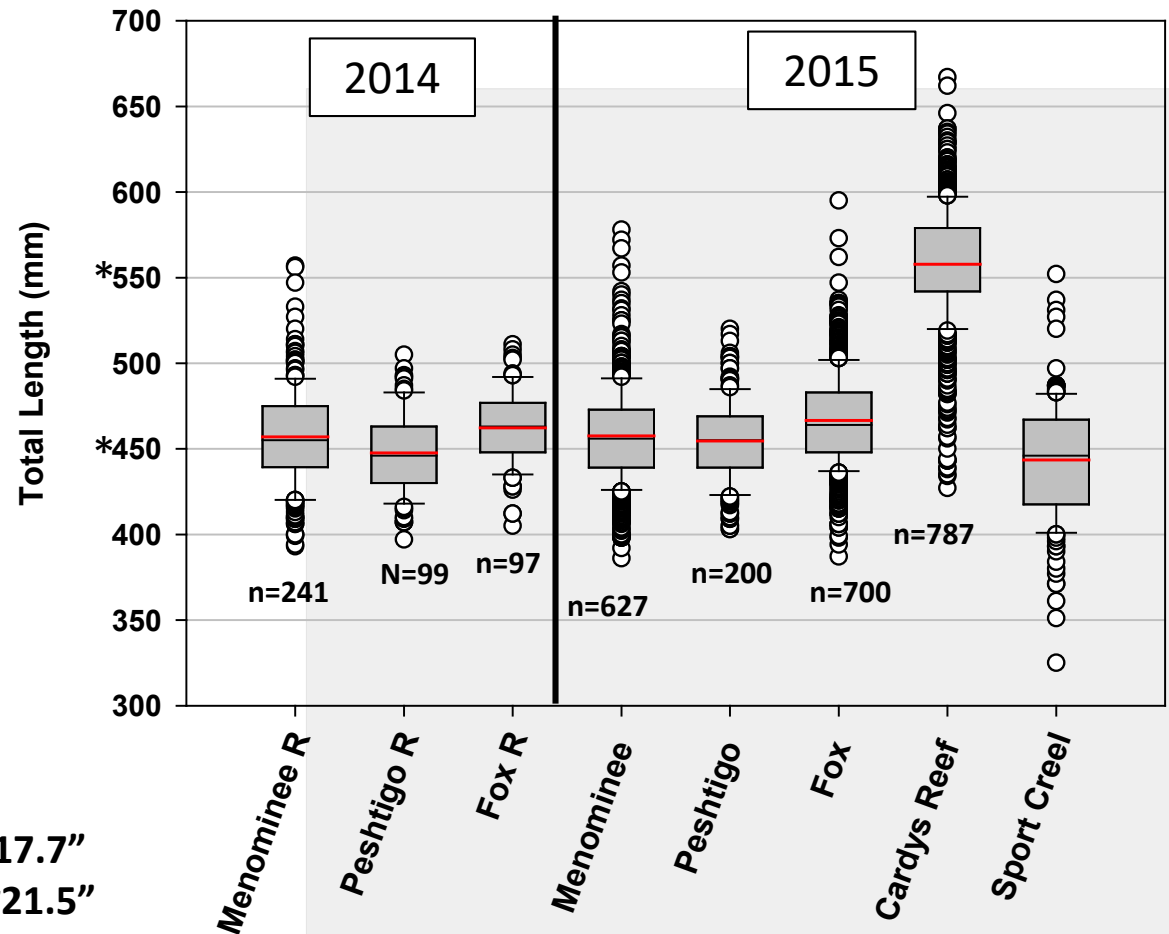


# Size Distribution Between Tributaries

- Fox River tend to be somewhat larger
- Cardy's Reef = North/Moonlight Bay stock (Lake MI)
  - Limited recruitment in recent years
- Sport harvest size similar to river spawning fish

\*450mm= ~17.7"

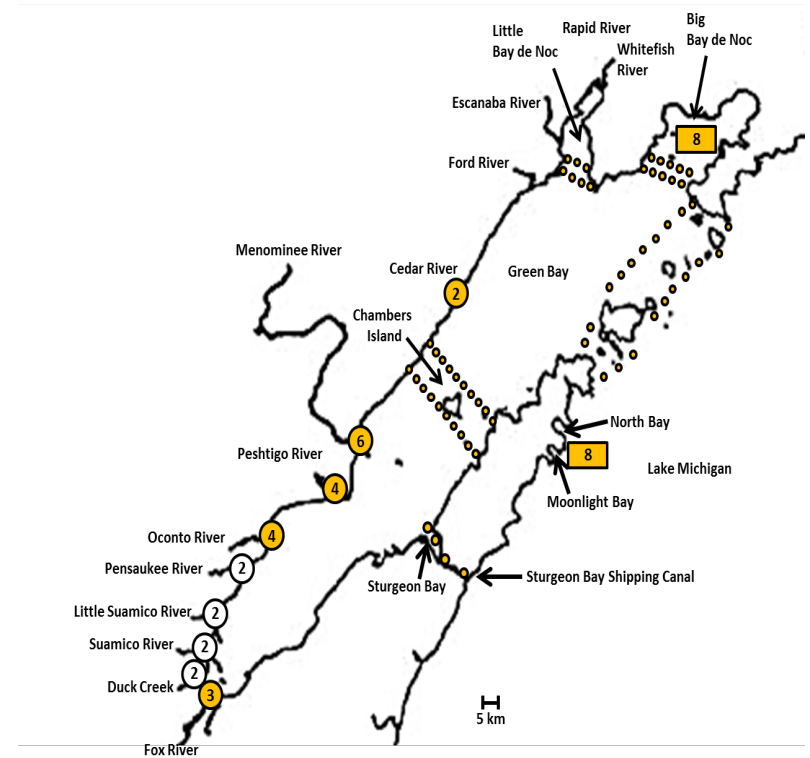
\*550 mm= ~21.5"





# Whitefish Research 2017

- Acoustic telemetry (UWSP)
  - Approx. 300 fish to be tagged
  - Receivers deployed strategic locations
  - Acoustic tags 3 year capacity
  - Fish will have loop tags for external id
- Otolith microchemistry (UWGB)
  - Identification of populations based on chemical signature of ear bone
  - Origin: Rivers, Green Bay, Lake Michigan





# Green Bay Ice Guide Reporting

- Goal: Increase accuracy of harvest estimates
- Supplement bio-data (e.g. tags)
- Guided trip data often difficult to capture
  - Greater success rate than average angler
- Strong overall support for reporting
- Pilot data in 2016 provided some insight on scale of whitefish harvest and effort
- Positive reflection of the Green Bay guiding community

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# Monthly Guide Report Instructions

Green Bay Ice Fishing Guide - Monthly Report  
Form 9400-610 (12/16) Page 2 of 2

The following instructions are designed to assist the licensee in preparing this monthly report of guided ice fishing activities on Green Bay:

**GUIDE LICENSEE'S NAME:** Print your name as it appears on your guide license.

**DNR CUSTOMER NUMBER:** Enter your DNR Customer # which can be found on your guide license.

**MONTH:** Enter the number of the month for which the report is being prepared.

**YEAR:** Enter the year in which the report is being prepared.

**DATE:** Enter the date number of the day on which the fishing occurred. Record each fishing party as a separate entry (i.e. you guide two separate parties on the same date, enter the date twice with a separate line for each fishing party).

**NUMBER OF ANGLERS:** Enter the total number of anglers in the fishing party guided on this day.

**HOURS FISHED:** Enter the number of hours that your party fished, rounded to the nearest ½ hour, in which the fishing party was engaged in fishing (i.e. if the trip was 8 hours long for a particular party, enter 8 hours fished). Enter each party on a separate line.

## **FISH DATA (WHITEFISH, WALLEYE, YELLOW PERCH, OTHER SPECIES – excluding rough fish)**

**KEPT:** Enter the total number caught and kept by anglers in the fishing party on the day.

**RELEASED:** Enter the total number caught and released by the anglers in the fishing party on the day.

**TAG NUMBERS/OTHER OBSERVATIONS:** Enter any fish tag numbers from any fish caught and any other information which you feel may be of value to the department in managing the fishery resource.

**SIGN, DATE and SUBMIT** your completed Fishing Guide Report on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> day of each month on the records for the preceding calendar month to the following address:

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
110 S. Neenah Avenue  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

For more report forms, contact: Scott Hansen; [Scott.Hansen@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Scott.Hansen@wisconsin.gov); 920-746-2864

# Example

SAMPLE

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Natural Resources  
110 S. Neenah Avenue  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235  
dnr.wi.gov

## Green Bay Ice Fishing Guide - Monthly Report

Form 9400-610 (12/16) Page 1 of 2

Notice: Pursuant to §§ 29.014, 29.512, and 227.11, Wis. Stats., and NR 20.65 Wis. Adm. Code, completion of this form is mandatory. Failure to complete and submit this form may result in a maximum forfeiture of \$100.00 plus assessments and costs pursuant to § 29.512(2), Wis. Stats. Personally identifiable information on this form will be used to administer the guiding program and for research purposes, and may be provided to requesters to the extent required by Wisconsin's Open Records Law (§§ 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.). See directions on back of form for additional information.

Guide Licensee's Name (Please print) JOE GUIDE										DNR Customer Number 1234567		(Number of digits) (May vary)		Month 2	Year 2017
Date	Number of Anglers	Hours Fished	Lake Whitefish		Walleye		Yellow Perch		Other species			Tag Numbers / Other Observations			
			Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Kept	Released	Species Name	Kept	Released				
4	2	6	20	Ø								Pink Tag # 6052 (Whitefish)			
4	7	6	52	17			2	Ø							
4	3	8	30	10								Caught 2 Sturgeon			
10	4	6					13	7							
10	2	4			1	3						Yellow Tag # 02055 (Walleye)			
14	2	3	12	Ø					Northern Pike	Ø	1	Tag # 5845 (Whitefish)			
17	4	10	40	15	Ø	2									
17	2	4	7	7											
18	6	5	39	5											
18	2	4			4	4			Brown Trout	1	1				
18	4	6	12	Ø											
18	3	7	30	Ø			4	Ø				Caught 2 Burbot			
21	4	6	22	8											

I hereby certify that the above information is true and accurate. I have read and understand the reporting requirements on the reverse side.

Signature of Licensee Joe Guide Date Signed March 3, 2017

# Daily Recording Notebook (optional)

Date:

Guide Name:

Shack #:[illegible]

# Summary

- Reporting begins Jan 1, 2017
  - Forms will be required during ice season defined as December thru March beginning above start date
  - If not fishing, forms still required for those months
    - E.g. “Did not fish”
  - Potential for expansion to reporting for open water months, but not at this time
- Reports due 10<sup>th</sup> day of month for preceding month
- Daily record-keeping notebooks are available upon request (**see sample notebook**)
- Monthly forms upon request to:  
[scott.hansen@wisconsin.gov](mailto:scott.hansen@wisconsin.gov); 920-746-2864



# Questions Submitted To Date

- Do guides have to report “fun trips” ?
- Do guides send in forms for months that they do not guide akin to sport trolling?
- How do guides manage the data that are coming in when multiple guides work together under one guide? If someone has several guides working for them should they report it all on one form or should each guide report the data they have for the clients they are overseeing?

# Q/A Session