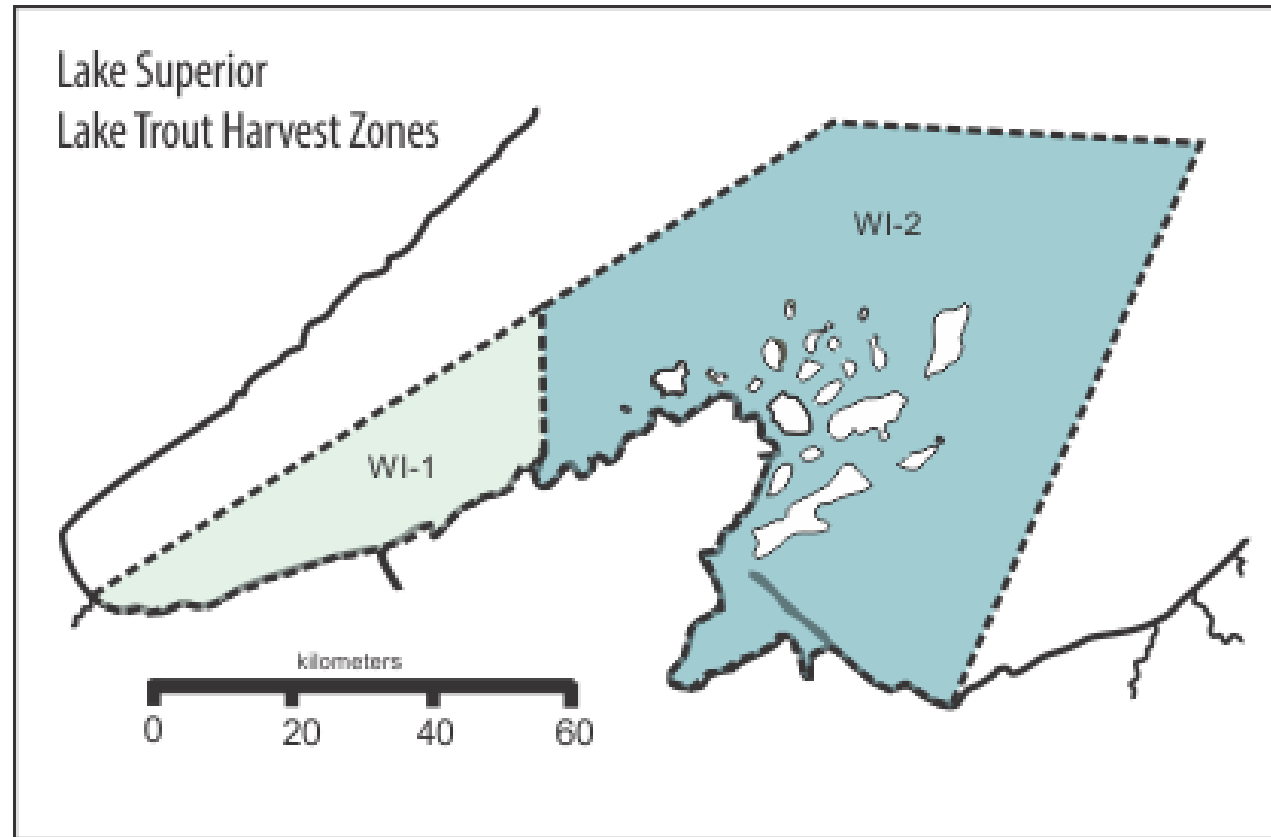


# Lake Superior Lake Trout Management

- Lake trout in Lake Superior are managed within two harvest zones (WI-1 and WI-2).



# Lake Superior – Lake trout commercial fishery

- Regulated as a bycatch fishery.
- Lake trout quotas are established with a statistical catch-at-age model. The resulting total allowable catch (TAC) estimate is divided between the State and the Tribes based on the Lake Superior Fishing Agreement.
- Based on commercial monitoring, a catch-per-unit-effort for lake trout commercial harvest is determined annually, which determines gear footage restrictions.

# Lake Superior – Lake trout commercial fishery

- The TAC is specified from the stock assessment model in numbers of fish, and jaw tags are given to commercial fishers in accordance with the NR 25 requirement to tag all commercially harvested lake trout.
- Once individual fisher allotments of tags or footage allowances are met, all commercial fishing in waters <330 feet with trap nets or gill nets (> 4 7/16 inch mesh) must end.

# Lake Superior – Lake trout commercial fishery

- The lake whitefish and lake trout commercial season is closed between Oct 1 and Nov 27 to protect vulnerable lake trout and lake whitefish spawning aggregations.
- Trap nets have a maximum retention size of 25 inches for lake trout to allow for release of large lake trout (in other words, large spawners).
- All lake trout caught in gill nets between June 1 and Sep 30 must be retained due to higher mortality experienced in these months.

# Lake Superior – Recreational harvest

- Lake trout season is open from Dec. 1 to Sep. 30 of the following year.
- Bag limits:
  - East of Bark Point – 2 in total, until harvest trigger is reached.\*
  - West of Bark Point – 3 in total.
- Size limits:
  - 15” minimum length
  - Only one may be larger than 25”.

# Lake Superior – Recreational harvest

- Lake trout are managed by a safe total allow harvest, and if this number is reached, the season may close early.
- For 2022-2023, the sport harvest quota is 12,670 fish. If the 9,500 fish trigger is reached, lake trout fishing in WI-2 may be immediately closed.