



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Fisheries Information Sheet

LAKE: Katherine

COUNTY: Oneida

YEAR: 2023

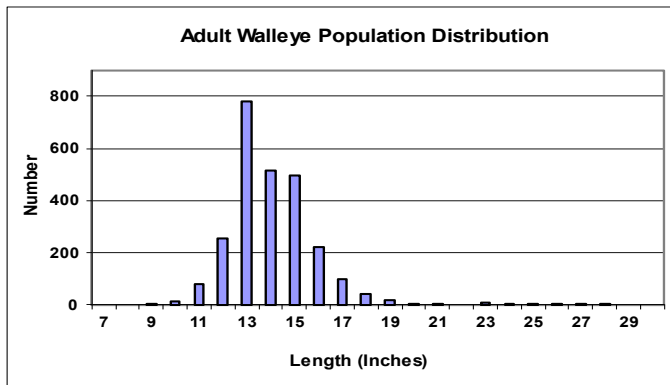
Introduction

The Department of Natural Resources surveyed Katherine Lake in Oneida County during May and June to assess the fish community. Surveys specifically targeted walleye, musky, bass and panfish. Katherine Lake is a 590-acre, clear water, seepage lake with predominantly sand and gravel substrates, 10.7 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 30 feet. Katherine Lake's walleye population is currently being sustained through stocking, but a partnered rehabilitation effort aims to increase natural reproduction levels. The muskellunge population is sustained by low levels of natural reproduction.



WALLEYE

During four days of walleye-targeted fyke netting, 1,086 adult walleyes (sexually mature or ≥ 15 inches) were captured and marked with a fin clip. Two crews then sampled with electrofishing boats and caught 211 adult walleyes. During electrofishing, 42% (89 of 211) of walleyes bore the fin clip applied during fyke netting. Based on those results, Katherine Lake was estimated to contain 2,558 adult walleyes (4.3/acre).



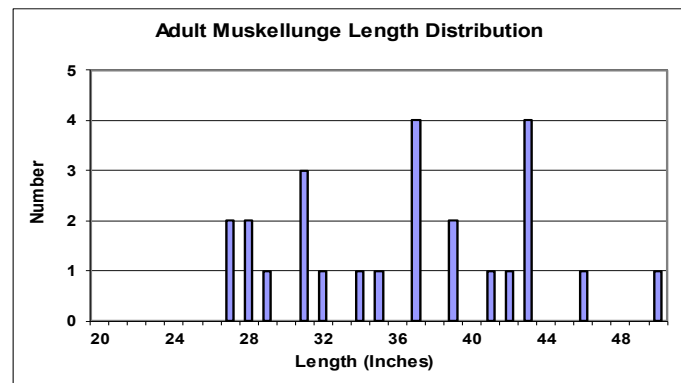
An estimated 35% of adult walleyes were 15 inches or longer. The largest walleye caught was a 28.7-inch female.



MUSKELLUNGE

During fyke netting and electrofishing, 25 adult muskellunge (sexually mature or ≥ 30 inches) were caught. Of the adult muskellunge, 32% (8 of 25) were 40 inches or longer, with the largest being a 50.8-inch female.

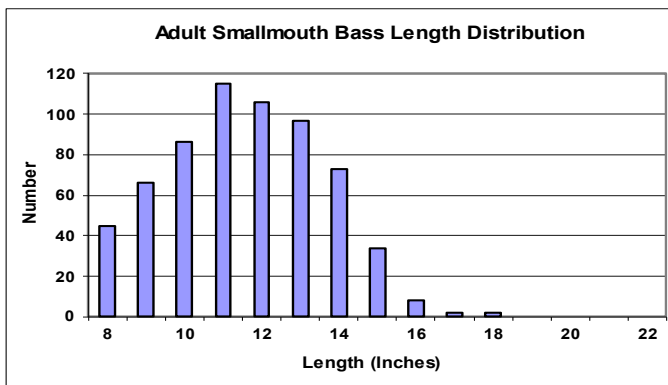
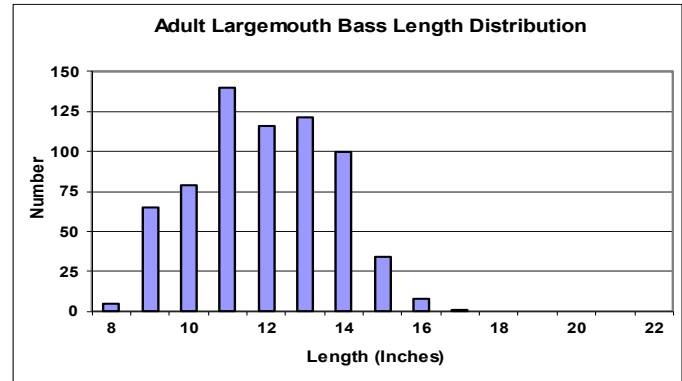
No northern pike were caught during survey efforts on Katherine Lake.



LARGEMOUTH BASS



The adult largemouth bass population in Katherine Lake (≥ 8 inches) was estimated to be 2,309 fish (3.9/acre). A total of 678 individual largemouth bass were captured, with 668 considered adults at eight inches or larger. Approximately 21% of adults were also 14 inches or longer, and the largest measured 17.3 inches. During the May 23 and June 1 electrofishing surveys, adult largemouth bass were caught at high rates of 23.3 and 22.7 per mile of shoreline, respectively.



SMALLMOUTH BASS



Survey sampling conducted through June 1 estimated the adult smallmouth bass population in Katherine Lake (≥ 8 inches) at 2,723 fish (4.6/acre). A total of 650 individual smallmouth bass were captured, with 634 considered adults at eight inches or larger. Approximately 19% of adults were also 14 inches or longer, and the largest measured 18.8 inches. During the May 23 and June 1 electrofishing surveys, adult smallmouth bass were caught at high rates of 23.2 and 20.5 per mile of shoreline, respectively.

OTHER SPECIES

In addition to the game fish mentioned above, fyke netting and electrofishing sampling efforts in Katherine Lake resulted in the catch of eleven species of fish; black crappie, bluegill and rock bass were common in survey catches. Other species caught included bluntnose minnow, burbot, johnny darter, mimic shiner, rock bass, white sucker, yellow bullhead and yellow perch.

Table 1. Special fishing regulations for Katherine Lake in Oneida County, Wisconsin. Regulations for species not listed below follow the “General Inland Waters” rules found within the state fishing regulations pamphlet.

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT
walleye	May 6 - March 3	1	1 over 18 inches, walleye 22-28 inches may not be kept
largemouth bass (LMB)	May 6 - March 3	5 in total with SMB	No minimum
smallmouth bass (SMB)	June 17 - March 3	5 in total with LMB; harvest season only	No minimum
Catch and release fishing is allowed year-round for largemouth and smallmouth bass.			

Acknowledgements & Questions

This report was compiled by DNR fisheries technician Mark Love. For answers to questions about findings within this report, contact the treaty fisheries biologist. For questions regarding fisheries management activities on Katherine Lake, contact the Oneida County biologist.

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