



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Fisheries Information Sheet

LAKE: Lower Kaubashine Lake

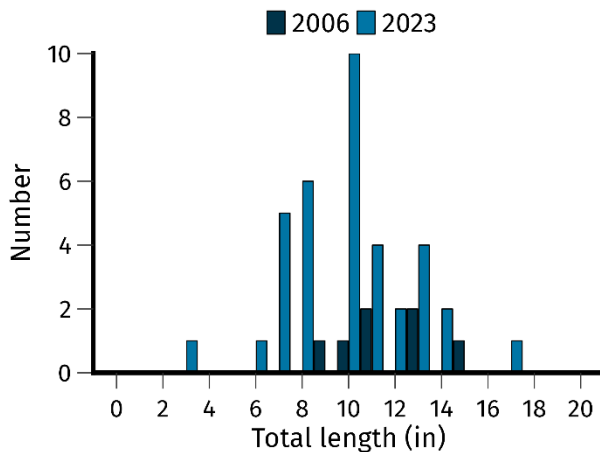
COUNTY: Oneida

YEAR: 2023

Introduction

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) assessed walleye stocking success and the gamefish population in Lower Kaubashine Lake during the fall of 2023. Lower Kaubashine Lake is a drainage lake with 198 surface acres, 4.5 miles of shoreline, a maximum depth of 36 feet, 72 dwellings and two resorts. All gamefish were collected during the 3.7-mile circuit of the entire shoreline.

LARGEMOUTH BASS



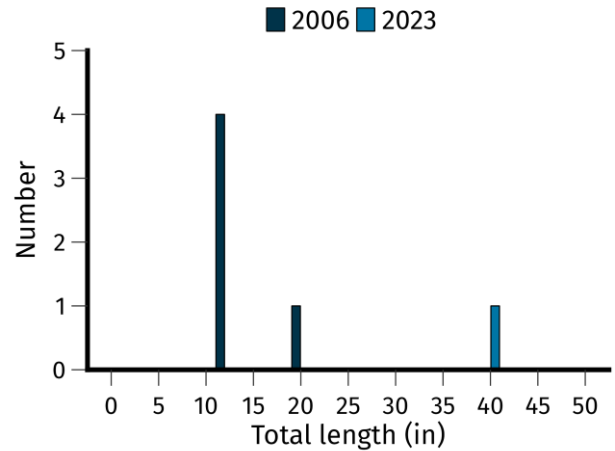
A total of 47 largemouth bass were captured while surveying Lower Kaubashine Lake. Lengths of largemouth bass captured in Lower Kaubashine varied between 2.9 inches and 16.8 inches, with a mean length of 9.8 inches. Sizes of largemouth bass in Lower Kaubashine Lake were like those found in 2006.

10.5 largemouth bass per mile \geq 8 inches	
Quality size \geq 12 inches	2.1 per mile
Preferred size \geq 15 inches	0.3 per mile

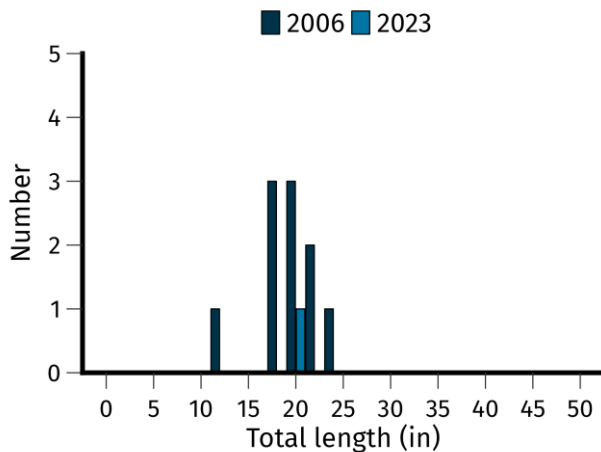
MUSKELLUNGE



One muskellunge was captured while surveying Lower Kaubashine Lake. The length of the muskie captured in Lower Kaubashine individual was 39.6 inches. Two other muskellunge were observed while surveying in the mid-30-inch size class. Muskellunge were last stocked into Lower Kaubashine in 2017 by a private entity. Caution should be applied when interpreting size structure as few individuals were captured.



0.3 muskellunge per mile \geq 20 inches	
Quality size \geq 30 inches	0.3 per mile
Preferred size \geq 38 inches	0.3 per mile



NORTHERN PIKE



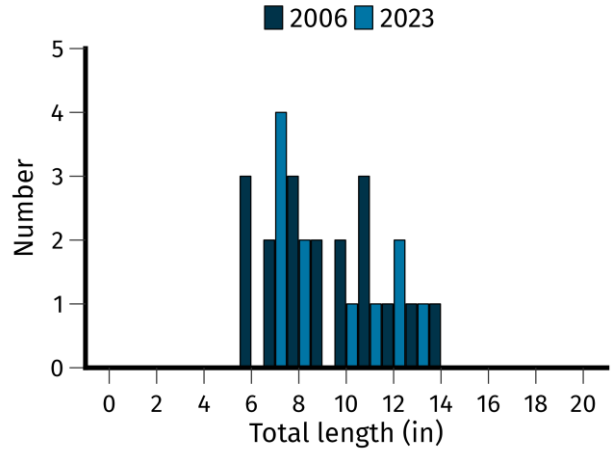
One northern pike was captured while surveying Lower Kaubashine Lake. The length of the northern pike captured in Lower Kaubashine Lake was 19.6 inches. Caution should be applied when interpreting size structure as few individuals were captured.

0.3 northern pike per mile \geq 14 inches	
Quality size \geq 21 inches	0.0 per mile
Preferred size \geq 28 inches	0.0 per mile

SMALLMOUTH BASS



A total of 11 smallmouth bass were captured while surveying Lower Kaubashine Lake. Lengths of smallmouth bass captured in Lower Kaubashine varied between 6.9 inches and 13.3 inches, with a mean length of 9.3 inches. Lengths of smallmouth bass captured in 2023 were similar to those found in 2006. Caution should be applied when interpreting size structure as few individuals were captured.

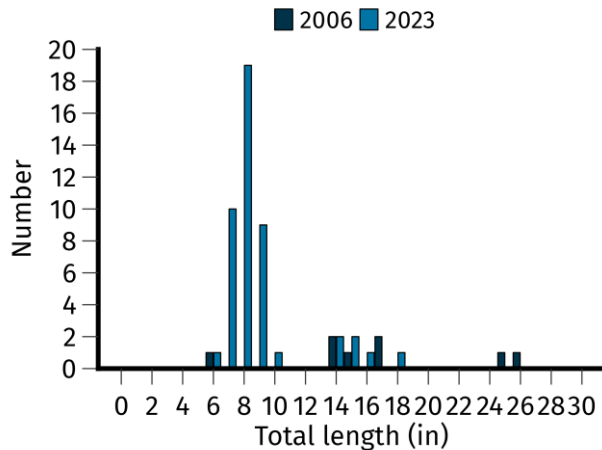


2.4 smallmouth bass per mile \geq 7 inches	
Quality size \geq 11 inches	1.1 per mile
Preferred size \geq 14 inches	0.0 per mile

WALLEYE



A total of 46 walleyes were captured while surveying Lower Kaubashine Lake. Lengths of walleyes captured in Lower Kaubashine varied between 6.5 inches and 18.4 inches, with a mean length of 9.0 inches. Scale ages indicated all small walleye (4-12 inches) were age-1. Catch rate of age-1 walleyes was 10.7 age-1 per mile and estimated at 566 individuals (2.9/acre). Survival of those 2022 stocked walleyes to age-1 was estimated at 19% in Lower Kaubashine, slightly lower than the Oneida County average of 33%.



1.9 walleye per mile \geq 10 inches	
Quality size \geq 15 inches	1.1 per mile
Preferred size \geq 20 inches	0.0 per mile

OTHER SPECIES

Bluegills, shorthead redhorse and white suckers were abundant within Lower Kaubashine in 2023. Black crappies, grass pickerel and yellow perch were seen but at lower abundances.

Summary

Lower Kaubashine Lake is a complex-cool-clear lake with a mixed fishery. A private launch operated by Hilltop Cottages provides access for kayaks and smaller watercrafts for a fee. Lower Kaubashine Lake is one of the 27 lakes within Oneida County that is a part of the Wisconsin Stocking Initiative. No walleye reproduction appears to have occurred within Lower Kaubashine Lake during 2023. Stocked walleye survival improved after switching to large fingerlings (6-8 inches) in 2015 compared to previously stocked small fingerlings (1-3 inches). Largemouth bass relative abundance has increased from low to moderate densities since the 2006 survey on Lower Kaubashine Lake. Muskellunge, northern pike and smallmouth bass in Lower Kaubashine Lake were found in similarly low abundance levels during 2023 as they were in 2006. The abundance of predator species might keep forage at low levels as limited numbers of minnows and prey fish were observed during the 2023 survey of Lower Kaubashine.

Table 1. General fishing regulations for Lower Kaubashine Lake, in Oneida Wisconsin.

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT
Largemouth bass	May to mid-June	5	14" minimum length
Largemouth bass and smallmouth bass	Mid-June to March	5	14" minimum length
Northern pike	May to March	5	No minimum length
Muskellunge	End May to Dec 31	1	40" minimum length
Panfish	Open all year	25	No minimum length
Smallmouth bass	May to mid-June	Catch and release only	Catch and release only
Walleye	May to March	3, only 1 over 24"	15" minimum, 20-24" protected slot

Acknowledgements

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities on Lower Kaubashine Lake, contact:

Nathan J. Lederman

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave
Rhineland, WI 54501
715-525-2898
nathaniel.lederman@wisconsin.gov