



# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## Fisheries Information Sheet

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**STREAM:** Eighteenmile Creek

**COUNTY:** Bayfield

**YEAR:** 2025

### Introduction

Stream electrofishing surveys were conducted on Eighteenmile Creek (WBIC 2895900) in Bayfield County during summer of 2025. Survey sites included an annual trend site at Taylor Lane and others at S. Sweden Road, Deer Lick Road and the confluence with Porcupine Creek. All species were collected at each site. Species observed included brown trout, brook trout, blacknose shiner, brook stickleback, central mudminnow, creek chub, mottled sculpin, northern brook lamprey, western blacknose dace and white sucker.

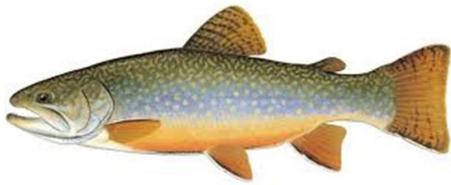
Among all sites, catch rates averaged 765 brown trout per mile and 1,098 brook trout per mile. There were 390 brown trout captured and ranged from 1.6 to 19.4 inches with an average of 4.6 inches. There were 560 brook trout captured and ranged from 1.9 to 12.0 inches with an average of 4.5 inches.



### Trend Site

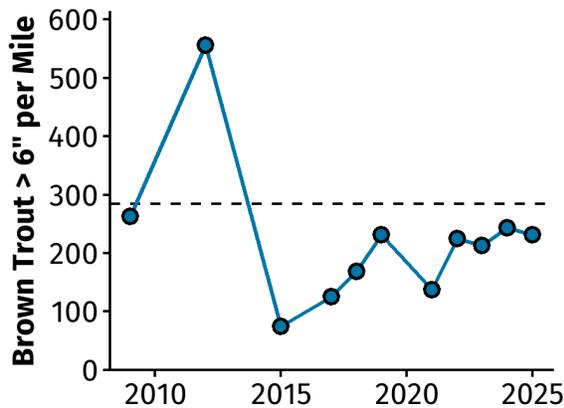
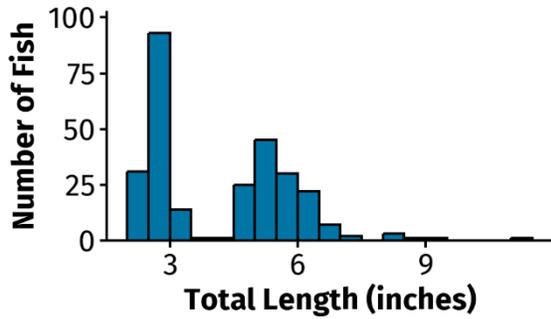
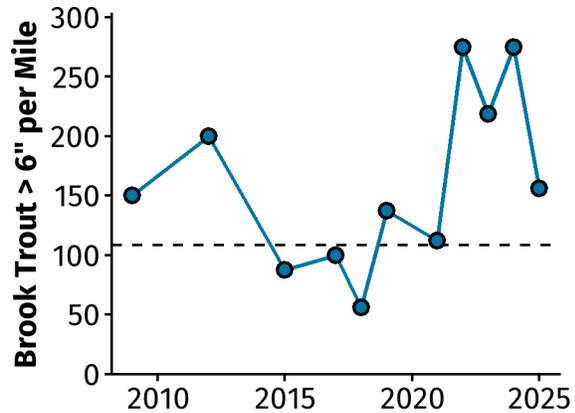
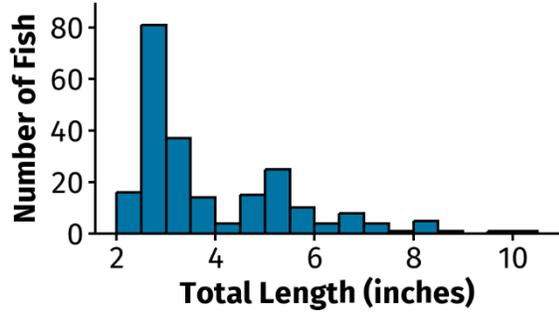
Eighteenmile Creek at Taylor Lane has been sampled annually since 2007 with a DC towable barge stream shocker to assess trends in populations over time. Comparisons were made with previous surveys and the statewide 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for Class I trout streams, which is depicted as a dashed line.

## BROOK TROUT



There were 227 brook trout captured, and length ranged from 2.0 to 10.5 inches. Catch rate of brook trout 6 inches and larger (blue dots) was lower than the past three years, but near the recent average and around the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile for Class I trout streams statewide.

# Captured Per Mile (all sizes)	1,419
% of Brook Trout $\geq 6$ "	11.0%
% of Brook Trout $\geq 8$ "	3.5%



## BROWN TROUT



There were 277 brown trout captured, and length ranged from 2.2 to 11.2 inches. Catch rate of brown trout 6 inches and larger (blue dots) was near the recent average and is around the 45<sup>th</sup> percentile for Class I trout streams statewide.

# Captured Per Mile (all sizes)	1,731
% of Brown Trout $\geq 6$ "	13.4%
% of Brown Trout $\geq 12$ "	0%

## OTHER SPECIES

Other species captured included brook stickleback, central mudminnow, mottled sculpin and northern brook lamprey.

## Other Sites

In addition to the trend site, three other sites were sampled on Eighteenmile Creek in 2025. These sites are typically sampled every six years. Catch rates of both brook and brown trout are shown below with the percentiles for Class I trout streams statewide, rounded to the nearest 5<sup>th</sup> percentile, in parentheses.

SITE	BROOK TROUT/MILE				BROWN TROUT/MILE			
	ALL	<4"	≥6"	≥8"	ALL	<4"	≥6"	≥12"
Taylor Lane (Trend)	1,419 (90 <sup>th</sup> )	925 (90 <sup>th</sup> )	156 (60 <sup>th</sup> )	50 (65 <sup>th</sup> )	1,731 (90 <sup>th</sup> )	869 (90 <sup>th</sup> )	231 (45 <sup>th</sup> )	0
S. Sweden Road	931 (85 <sup>th</sup> )	377 (80 <sup>th</sup> )	277 (75 <sup>th</sup> )	154 (85 <sup>th</sup> )	708 (65 <sup>th</sup> )	208 (70 <sup>th</sup> )	254 (45 <sup>th</sup> )	15 (45 <sup>th</sup> )
Deer Lick Road	1,636 (95 <sup>th</sup> )	673 (85 <sup>th</sup> )	418 (85 <sup>th</sup> )	155 (85 <sup>th</sup> )	136 (25 <sup>th</sup> )	18 (40 <sup>th</sup> )	64 (25 <sup>th</sup> )	9 (35 <sup>th</sup> )
Porcupine Creek	291 (55 <sup>th</sup> )	36 (40 <sup>th</sup> )	82 (40 <sup>th</sup> )	18 (45 <sup>th</sup> )	55 (15 <sup>th</sup> )	9 (30 <sup>th</sup> )	18 (10 <sup>th</sup> )	0

## Summary

Eighteenmile Creek is a productive trout fishery for catchable-size brook trout and brown trout, particularly at the downstream sites. The lower portion of the stream also serves as a productive nursery for both brook and brown trout. The species composition of trout captured in Eighteen Mile Creek was about 60% brook trout and 40% brown trout in 2025. The abundance of brook trout greater than 6 inches at the trend site was back near the recent average after a few exceptional years. Young of year abundance in 2025 was the highest observed in the trend site for both brook and brown trout. The abundance of brown trout over 6 inches in the trend site has remained stable in recent years. More information on Eighteenmile Creek and the rest of the White River watershed will be available in the upcoming comprehensive watershed survey report to be published in 2026.

*General fishing regulations for Eighteenmile Creek in Bayfield County, Wisconsin.*

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT
Trout (Brown & Brook)	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday in May to October 15 <sup>th</sup>	5 in total	None

For fisheries management questions about Eighteenmile Creek contact:

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