



# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## Fisheries Information Sheet

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**STREAM:** Long Lake Branch

**COUNTY:** Bayfield

**YEAR:** 2025

### Introduction

Stream electrofishing surveys were conducted on the Long Lake Branch (WBIC 2894900) in Bayfield County during summer of 2025. Survey sites included the annual trend site at Taylor Lane and others at Nymphia Lake Road, downstream of Johnson Springs, upstream of Johnson Springs and 611 meters downstream of the North Country Trail. All species were collected at each site. Species observed included brown trout, brook trout, largemouth bass, brook stickleback, central mudminnow, creek chub, golden shiner, johnny darter, mottled sculpin, northern brook lamprey, northern redbelly dace, western blacknose dace, white sucker and yellow bullhead.



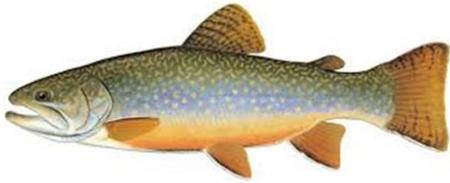
*Map of Long Lake Branch electrofishing sites.*

Among all sites, catch rates averaged 258 brown trout per mile and 998 brook trout per mile. There were 142 brown trout captured and ranged from 2.2 to 12.8 inches with an average of 6.2 inches. There were 549 brook trout captured and ranged from 1.8 to 12.1 inches with an average of 4.2 inches.

### Trend Site

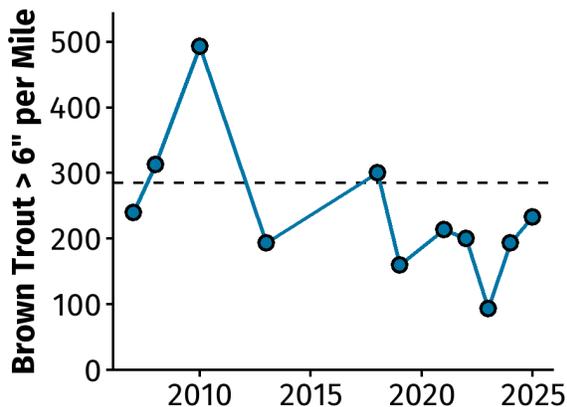
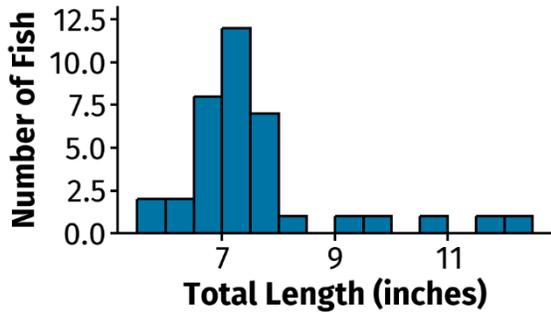
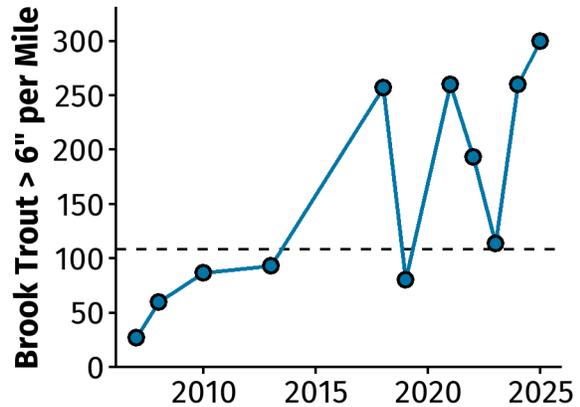
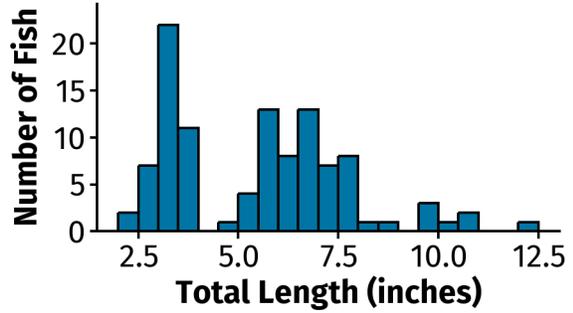
The Long Lake Branch at Taylor Lane has been sampled annually since 2007 with a DC towable barge stream shocker to assess trends in populations over time. Comparisons were made with previous surveys and the statewide 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for Class I trout streams, which is depicted as a dashed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

## BROOK TROUT



There were 105 brook trout captured, and length ranged from 2.2 to 12.1 inches. Catch rate of brook trout 6 inches and larger (blue dots) was the highest observed and around the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile for Class I trout streams statewide.

# Captured Per Mile (all sizes)	700
% of Brook Trout $\geq 6''$	42.9%
% of Brook Trout $\geq 8''$	8.6%



## BROWN TROUT



There were 37 brown trout captured, and length ranged from 5.7 to 12.3 inches. Catch rate of brown trout 6 inches and larger (blue dots) has increased in recent years and is around the 45<sup>th</sup> percentile for Class I trout streams statewide.

# Captured Per Mile (all sizes)	247
% of Brown Trout $\geq 6''$	94.6%
% of Brown Trout $\geq 12''$	2.7%

## OTHER SPECIES

Two largemouth bass, with lengths of 1.9 and 3.1 inches, were captured in the trend site. Other species captured included brook stickleback, central mudminnow, creek chub, johnny darter, mottled sculpin, northern brook lamprey, western blacknose dace and white sucker.

## Other Sites

In addition to the trend site, four other sites were sampled on Long Lake Branch 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)	700 (80 <sup>th</sup> )	280 (75 <sup>th</sup> )	300 (75 <sup>th</sup> )	60 (70 <sup>th</sup> )	247 (35 <sup>th</sup> )	0	233 (45 <sup>th</sup> )	7 (35 <sup>th</sup> )
Nymphia Lake Road	547 (75 <sup>th</sup> )	165 (65 <sup>th</sup> )	235 (70 <sup>th</sup> )	24 (50 <sup>th</sup> )	529 (55 <sup>th</sup> )	212 (70 <sup>th</sup> )	288 (50 <sup>th</sup> )	6 (35 <sup>th</sup> )
Johnson Springs Downstream	1,573 (95 <sup>th</sup> )	945 (90 <sup>th</sup> )	209 (65 <sup>th</sup> )	18 (45 <sup>th</sup> )	109 (20 <sup>th</sup> )	9 (30 <sup>th</sup> )	45 (20 <sup>th</sup> )	0
Johnson Springs Upstream	1,267 (90 <sup>th</sup> )	1,117 (90 <sup>th</sup> )	0	0	33 (10 <sup>th</sup> )	17 (40 <sup>th</sup> )	0	0
N. Country Trail	1,700 (95 <sup>th</sup> )	1,383 (95 <sup>th</sup> )	33 (25 <sup>th</sup> )	0	17 (5 <sup>th</sup> )	0	17 (10 <sup>th</sup> )	0

## Summary

The lower Long Lake Branch provides a fishery for catchable-size brook trout and brown trout. Around Johnson Springs, the Long Lake Branch is a high-quality brook trout nursery. The abundance of brook trout greater than 6 inches at the trend site in 2025 was the highest we have observed. Young of year brook trout abundance has increased since at least 2007, and 2025 was the highest abundance observed. The abundance of brown trout over 6 inches in Long Lake Branch has been decreasing since 2007, and near the recent average in 2025. The catch rate of young of year brown trout has been low for the last decade. More information on The Long Lake Branch 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 the Long Lake Branch in Bayfield County, Wisconsin.*

<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>SEASON DATES</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DAILY BAG LIMIT</b>	<b>SIZE LIMIT</b>
Trout (Brown & Brook)	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday in May to October 15 <sup>th</sup>	Upstream of Taylor Lane	5 in total	None
Trout (Brown & Brook)	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday in May to October 15 <sup>th</sup>	Downstream of Taylor Lane	1 in total	18-inch minimum

For fisheries management questions about the Long Lake Branch contact:

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