

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET

AREA: MISSISSIPPI RIVER POOL 10, MCGREGOR LAKE HABITAT REHABILITATION AND

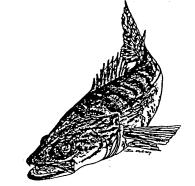
ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (HREP)

COUNTY: CRAWFORD

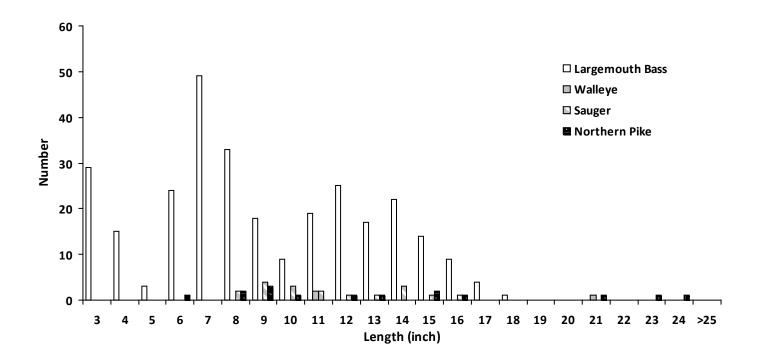
YEAR: 2024

In the fall of 2024, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources conducted a post-construction fisheries survey at the McGregor Lake Habitat Rehabilitation Project in Pool 10 near Prairie du Chien,

WI. The goal of this fisheries survey is to collect post-construction fisheries data prior to HREP completion in 2025. We will continue to conduct yearly surveys after project completion to determine the effect the HREP project had on the local fishery. During this survey, fisheries crews conducted a total of 30 electrofishing runs in backwaters around McGregor Lake HREP Project. During this survey we collected 293 largemouth bass, 17 northern pike, 3 walleye, 17 sauger, and a variety of native nongame fish species. The average size of largemouth bass was 9.6 inches, size ranged from 3.1 to 20.3 inches and catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) was 55 largemouth bass per hour of electrofishing. The average size of sauger was 11.6 inches, size ranged from 8.2 to 16.1 inches, and CPUE was 3.2 sauger per hour. The average size of walleye was 14.8



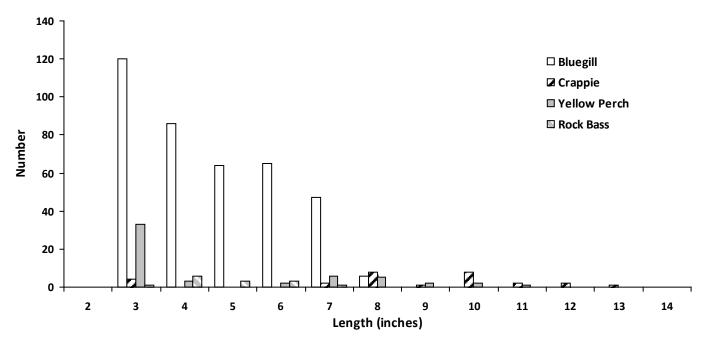
inches, size ranged from 11.1 to 21.7 inches, and CPUE was less than one walleye per hour. The average size of northern pike was 16.9 inches, size ranged from 6.9 to 34.1 inches, and CPUE was 3.2 northern pike per hour. This graph shows the size distribution of gamefish species collected in this survey.



Panfish were the most abundant game species sampled in this survey with a total of 388 bluegill, 28 crappie, 54 yellow perch, and 14 rock bass collected. The average size of bluegill was 4.9 inches, size ranged from 3.1 to 8.4 inches, and CPUE was 73 bluegill per hour of electrofishing. The average size of crappie was 9.3 inches, size ranged from 3 to 13 inches, and CPUE was 5.3 crappie per hour or electrofishing. The average



size of yellow perch was 5.2 inches, size ranged from 3 to 11.2 inches, and CPUE was 10 yellow perch per hour. This graph shows the size distribution of the panfish species collected in this survey.



The Mississippi River is open year-round for gamefish. New regulations were promulgated for walleye with minimum size limit of 15 inches, walleye between 20-27-inches must be released, and 1 walleye over 27-inches is allowed. The bag limit is 6 fish combined walleye and sauger and there is no minimum size limit on sauger. The size limit for largemouth and smallmouth bass is 14 inches with 5 bag limit total, a 5-bag limit for northern pike with no size limit, no size limits for panfish but bag limits are 25 of each for bluegill, yellow perch, rock bass, and crappie (black and white crappie combined bag).

Access information:

There are many boat and shore fishing access locations along the Mississippi River. Check out the following websites for more details.

https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/lands/boataccess
Upper Mississippi River Refuge Upper Pool 10.pdf | FWS.gov
Upper Mississippi River Refuge Lower Pool 10.pdf | FWS.gov