



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET

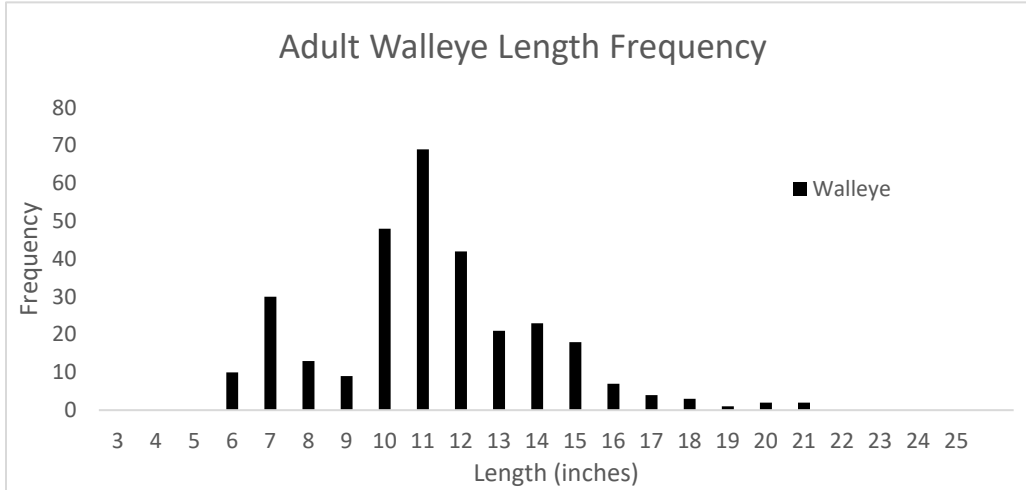
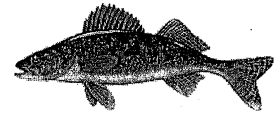
WATERBODY: MISSISSIPPI RIVER POOL 9 AND 10 WALLEYE AND SAUGER TAILWATER SURVEY

COUNTY: CRAWFORD/VERNON

YEAR: 2024

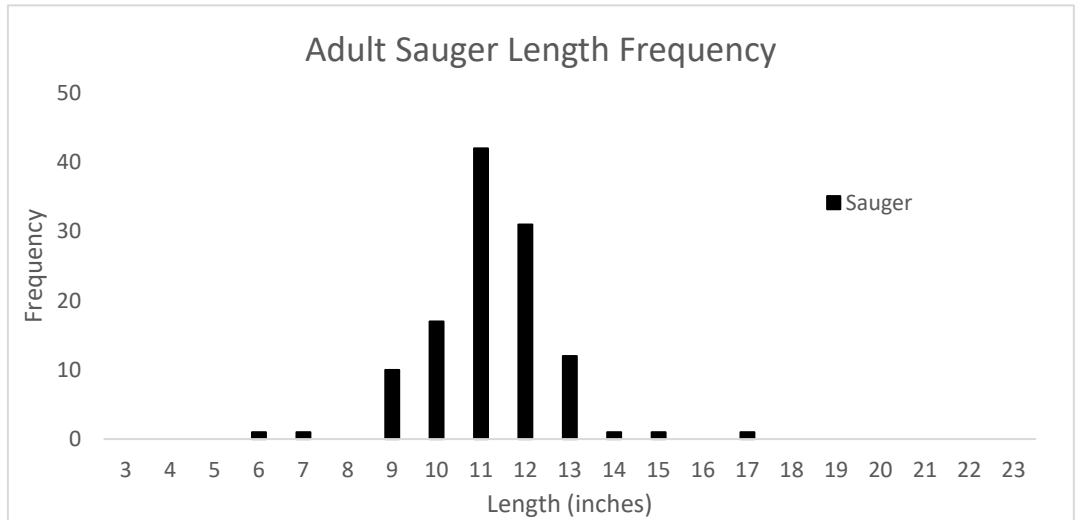
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources surveyed Pool 9 of the Mississippi River in Vernon County to determine the health of the walleye and sauger fishery. Over a seven-day period during mid-October a DNR electrofishing crew

collected a total of 302 walleye at night in tailwater areas and around wing dams. In this survey, walleye ranged in size from 6 to 21-inches with the largest



measuring 21.5-inches. Catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) was approximately 47 walleye per hour. Adult sauger ranged in size from 6 to 17-inches with the largest sauger measuring 17.6-inches. CPUE was approximately 60 sauger per hour. The large number of walleye and sauger in the 12 to 18-inch size range is the result of a strong year-classes that was produced over the past few years.

Our fall young-of-year (YOY) survey results in Mississippi River Pool 10, near Lynxville, WI showed below average reproduction during the spring of 2024 for walleye with a CPUE of 48 YOY walleye per hour. Sauger was also below the long-term average at 35 YOY sauger per hour.



In April 2020, a new walleye regulation was promulgated for walleye with a minimum size limit of 15 inches for walleye, 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. These new walleye regulations will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the fishery which is beginning to show greater production and recruitment. YOY walleye production has been above

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average since 2020 and YOY sauger has been above average 4 of the past 5 years. Mississippi River Pools 9 & 10 should continue to provide excellent angling opportunities for both walleye and sauger in the future.