



# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## Fisheries Information Sheet

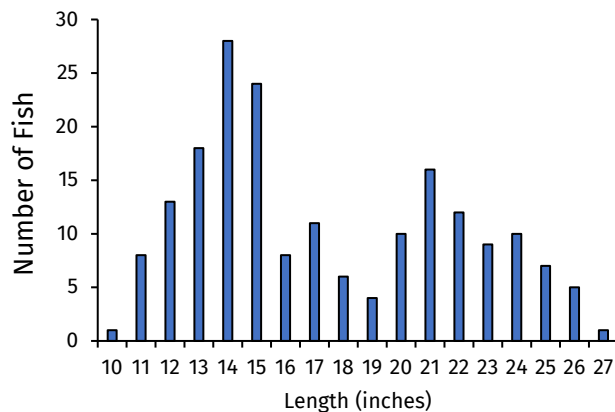
**WATERBODY: FOX RIVER**

**COUNTY: KENOSHA**

**YEAR: 2020**

### Introduction

The Fox River flows from north to south through western Kenosha County. A nine-day baited hoop net survey was conducted on a 3.5-mile stretch of the river spanning from the Highway F bridge near the Village of Salem Lakes, downstream to the Illinois state line. The survey began on August 10 and concluded on August 18. A total of 10 hoop nets with 1-inch black nylon mesh were set to sample channel catfish. Each net was baited with soy blocks and the nets were lifted, checked and emptied daily. The purpose of the survey was to assess the channel catfish population in this stretch of the Fox River.



### CHANNEL CATFISH



Average Length = 17.8 inches  
Maximum Length = 27.0 inches  
Total Number Captured = 191

### FLATHEAD CATFISH



Average Length = 24.7 inches  
Maximum Length = 43.0 inches  
Total Number Captured = 6

## Summary

Channel catfish sampled during this survey had an average length of 17.8 inches and a maximum length of 27.0 inches. Both numbers are lower than in a similar survey conducted in 2019, approximately 20 miles upstream in Racine County. The 2020 catch rate of 2.4/net night was also lower than in the 2019 Racine County survey. A summer storm caused the Fox River to be turbid and water level to be higher than normal during the 2020 survey. It is possible that the high-water conditions affected the results of the survey.

This survey is planned to be repeated during the summer of 2024 or 2025. Baited hoop net surveys are typically conducted on a 3-to-5-year rotation on the Fox River in Racine and Kenosha Counties.

A fish consumption advisory exists for the Fox river in Kenosha County due to elevated levels of PCBs found in some fish species. The advisory states that everyone should limit consumption of channel catfish and common carp from these waters to no more than one meal per month. Additional information on fish consumption advisories can be found at [WDNR Choose Wisely](#).

*Table 1. General fishing regulations for the Fox River in Kenosha County, Wisconsin.*

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT
catfish (channel and flathead)	Open all year	10 in total	None
walleye	Open all year	3	18 inches
northern pike	Open all year	2	26 inches
largemouth and smallmouth bass	Open all year	5 in total	14 inches
muskellunge	May 4 - December 31	1	40 inches

## Contact Information

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities on the Fox River, contact:

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