



# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## Fisheries Information Sheet

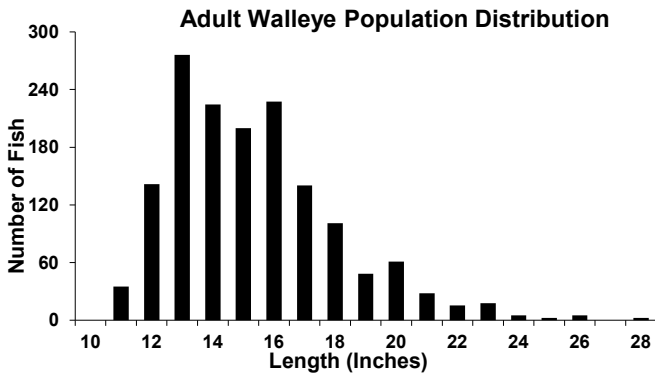
LAKE: PLUM

COUNTY: VILAS

YEAR: 2024

### Introduction

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) surveyed Plum Lake, Vilas County to assess the status of the walleye and muskellunge populations. Plum Lake is a drainage lake with sand, rock, and muck substrates. It has a surface area of 1,033 acres, 14.5 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 57 feet. Plum Lake's walleye population is sustained by natural reproduction, whereas the musky population is sustained by stocking.



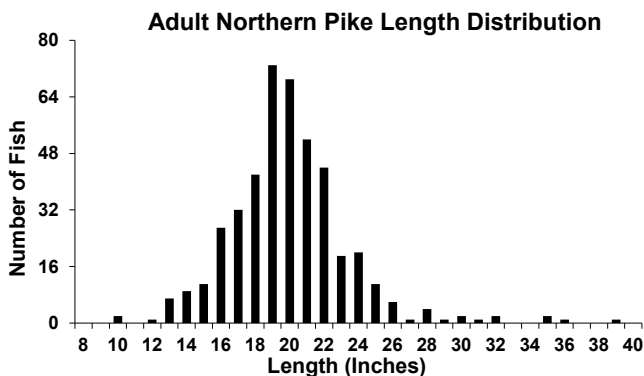
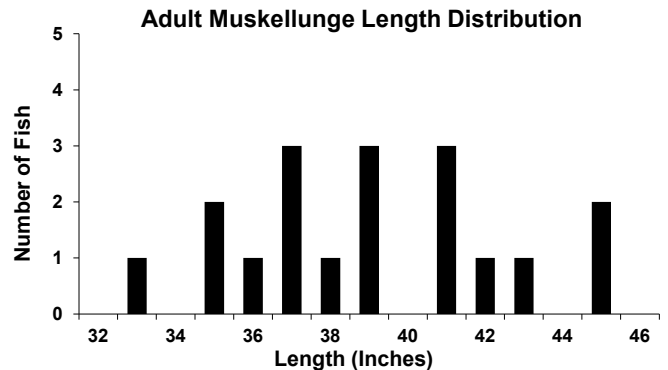
### WALLEYE

Fyke netting and electrofishing surveys through April 17 captured 756 adult walleye (sexually mature or  $\geq 15$  inches). Mark-recapture procedures estimated 1,531 (1.5/acre) adult walleye present in Plum Lake. An estimated 56% of adult walleye were  $\geq 15$  inches, and the largest captured was a 28.3-inch female.



### MUSKELLUNGE

Survey efforts resulted in the capture of 18 adult muskellunge (sexually mature or  $\geq 30$  inches), at a targeted rate of 0.1 per net night. Of the adult muskellunge, 39% (7) were  $\geq 40$  inches. The largest was a 45.2-inch female.



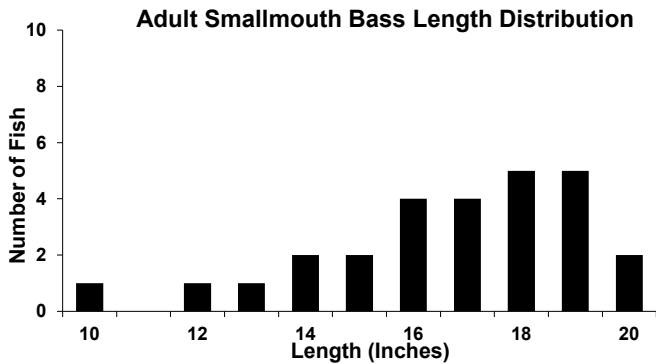
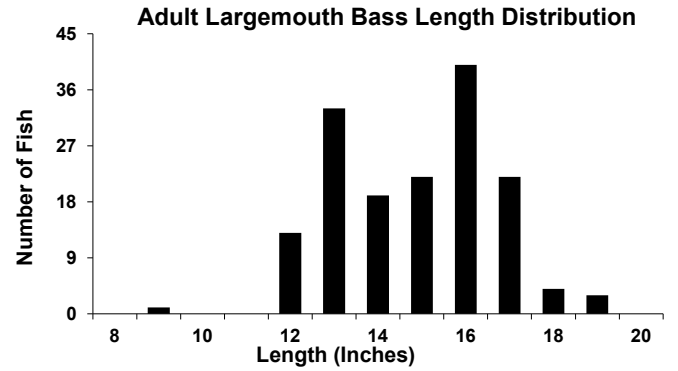
### NORTHERN PIKE

Surveys captured 440 adult pike (sexually mature or  $\geq 12$  inches). Of the adults caught, 38% were  $\geq 21$  inches. The largest northern pike was a 39.2-inch female.



## LARGEMOUTH BASS

Largemouth bass were not a primary target during the survey. However, 157 adult largemouth ( $\geq 8$  inches) were captured, 70% were  $\geq 14$  inches and 4% were  $\geq 18$  inches (the largest being 19.3 inches).



## SMALLMOUTH BASS



Smallmouth bass were not a primary target during the survey. However, 27 adult smallmouth ( $\geq 8$  inches) were captured, 89% were  $\geq 14$  inches and 44% were  $\geq 18$  inches (largest being 20.7 inches).

## OTHER SPECIES

In addition to gamefish, eleven other species were captured. Yellow perch were abundant (1,705 fish, mean length 6.3 inches), and bluegill (349 fish, mean length 7.4 inches) and black crappie (328 fish, mean length 9.9 inches) were caught in moderate numbers. Rock bass, white sucker, yellow bullhead, pumpkinseed, creek chub, common shiner, golden shiner, and burbot were also present.

Table 1. Special fishing regulations for Plum Lake, in Vilas County Wisconsin. 2024 Regulations for species not listed below follow the "General Inland Waters" rules found within the state fishing regulations pamphlet.

SPECIES	2024-25 SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT
Walleye	May 4 – March 2	3	14-18" may not be kept, 1>18" may be kept
Largemouth bass	May 4 – March 2	1 in combination with smallmouth bass	18"
Smallmouth bass	June 15 – March 2	1 in combination with largemouth bass	18"
Muskellunge	May 25 – December 31	1	50"

## Acknowledgements & Questions

This report was compiled by DNR Fisheries Technician Jason Halverson. For answers to questions about findings within this report contact the Treaty fisheries biologist. For questions regarding fisheries management activities on Plum Lake, contact the Vilas County fisheries biologist.

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