

2024 Pike Lake Comprehensive Survey

Drew Wallace

6/2/25

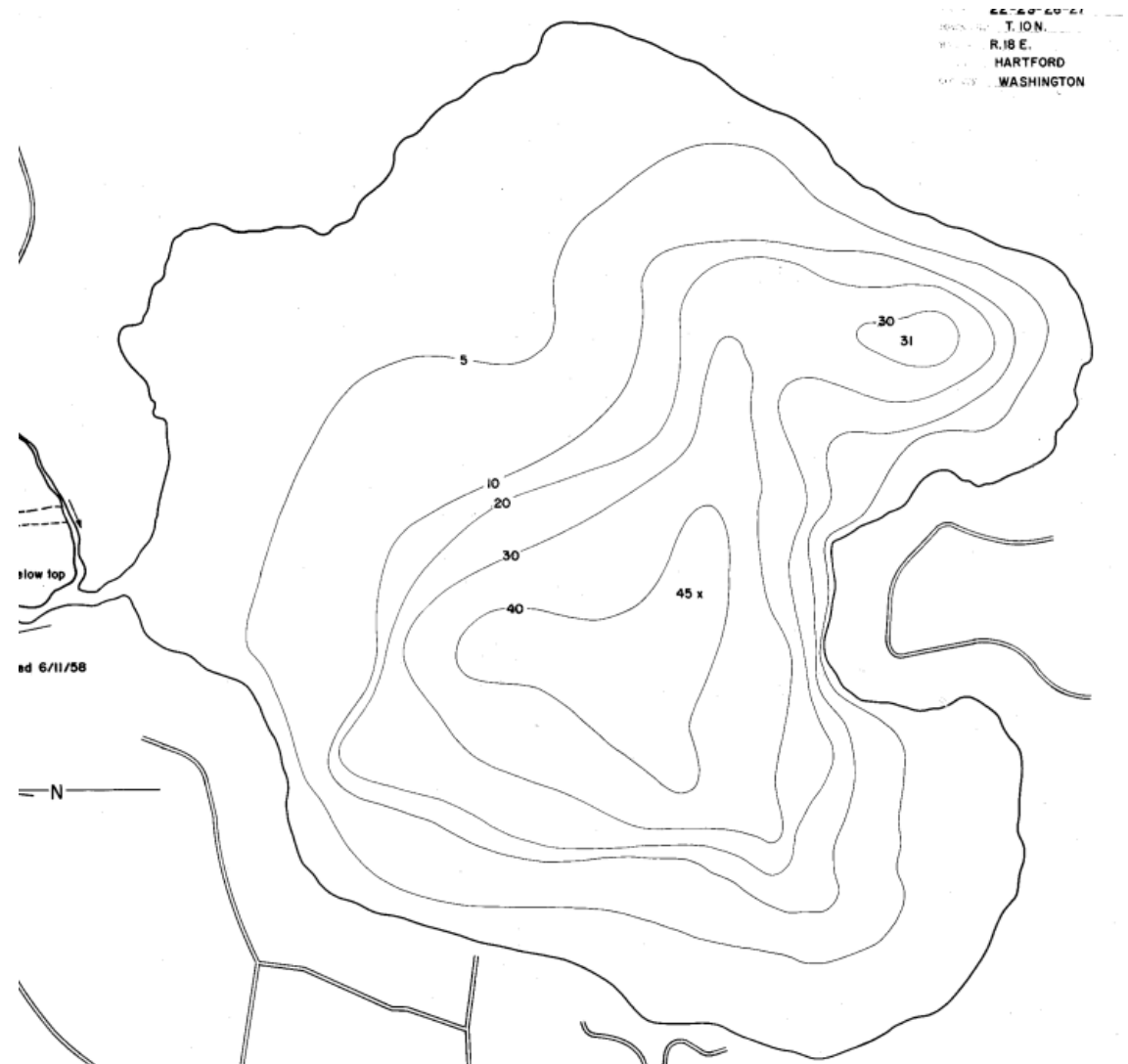
About Me

- Hometown: Berlin, WI
- Bachelors: UW-Stevens Point (2017)
- Employment
 - Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks-Fisheries Technician (2017)
 - Colorado Parks and Wildlife-Fisheries Technician (2018-2019)
 - Oklahoma Department of Wildlife-Technician/Biologist (2019-2024)

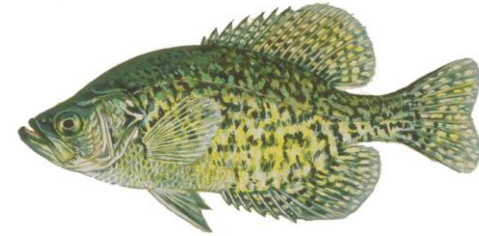
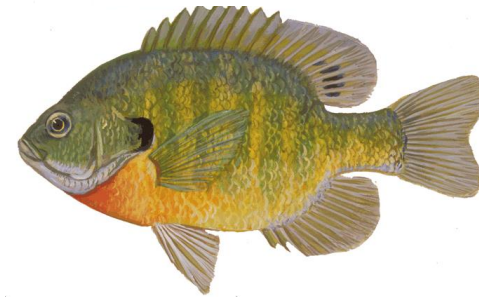
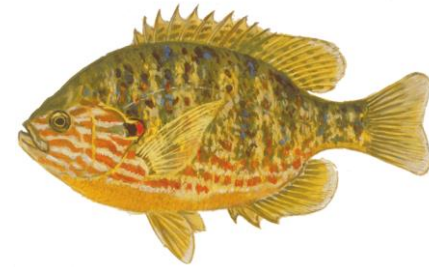
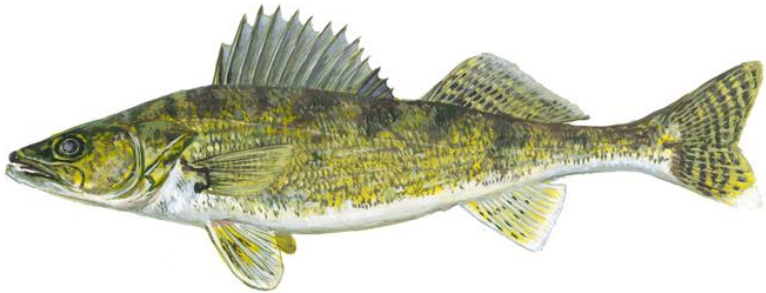


Pike Lake

- 461 Acres
- Drainage Lake
 - Rubicon River
- One of very few naturally recruiting walleye fisheries in the county.
 - Last stocked in 2011
- Last comp completed in 2014

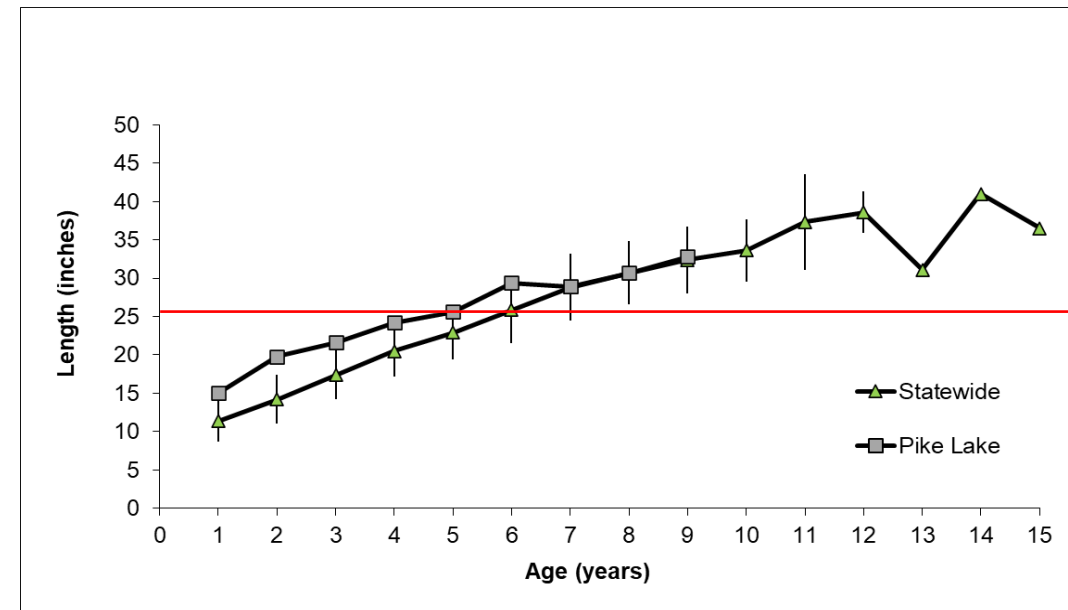
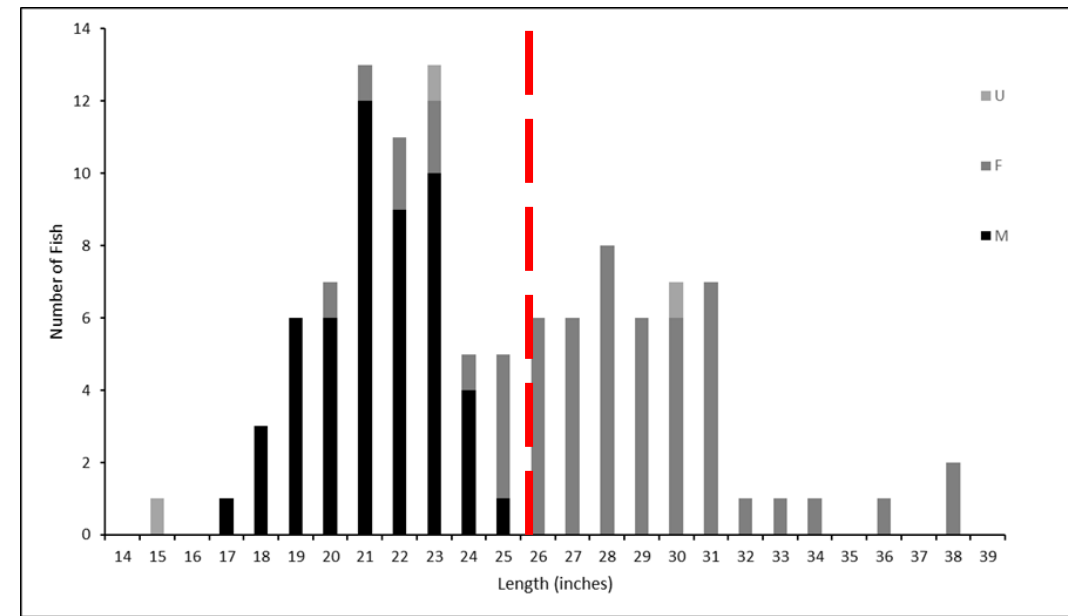


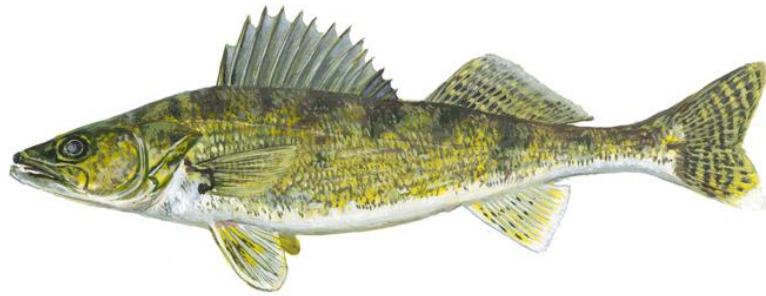
Pike Lake Fish Species



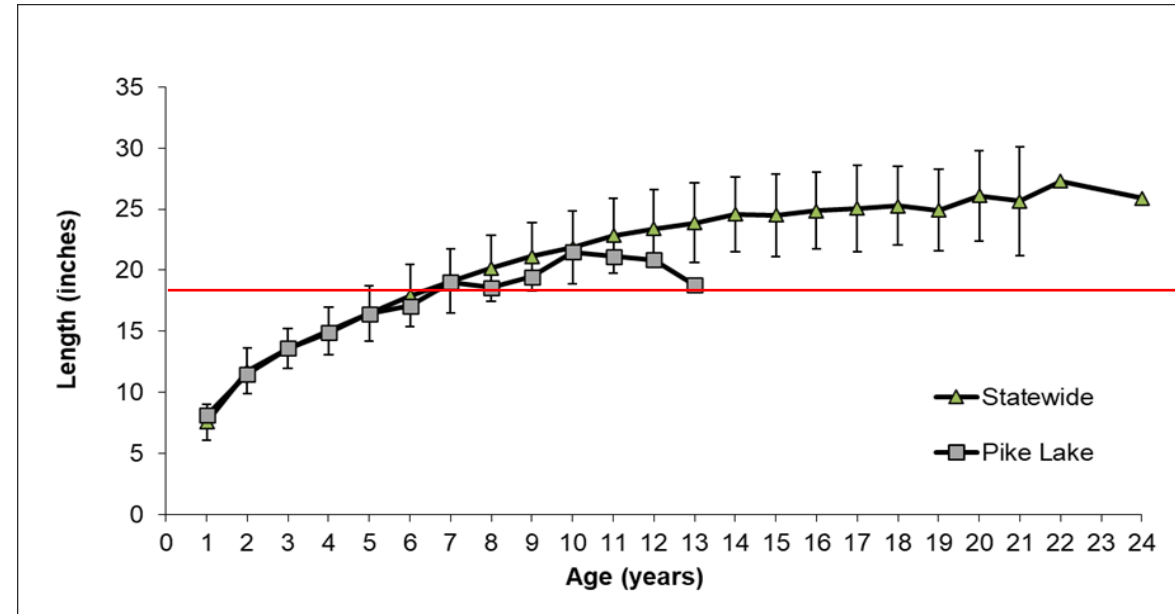
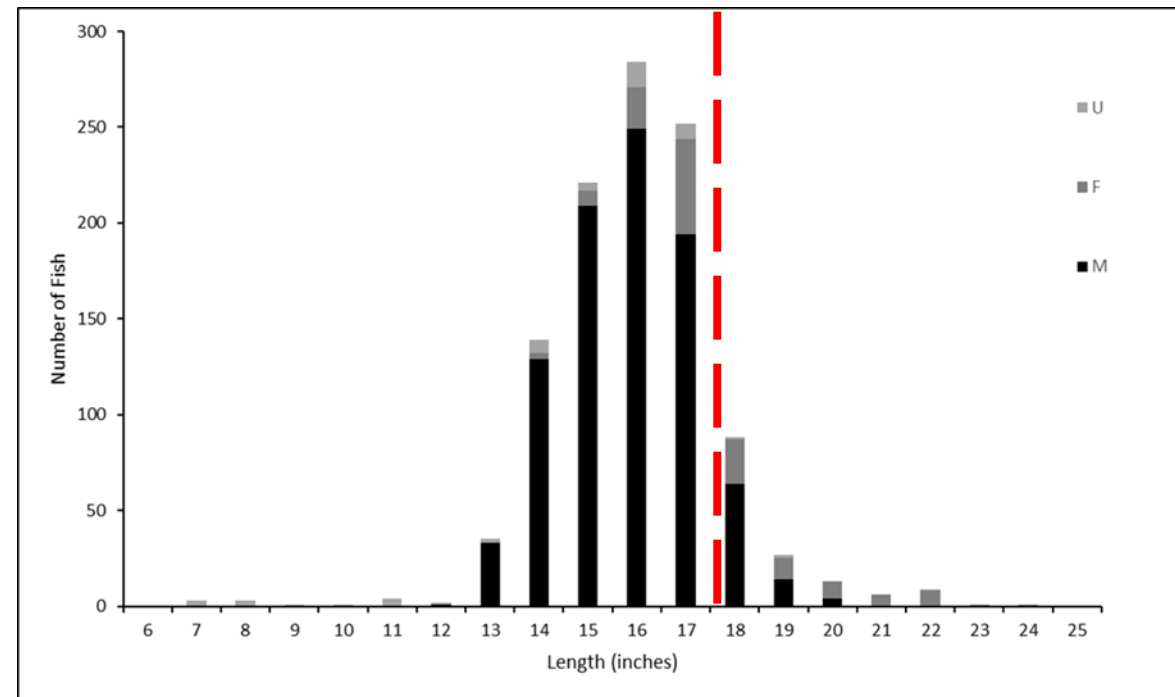


- Low population
 - 125 sampled
 - PE:0.8/acre
- Below Average catch rates
 - 0.5/NN (ave./1.23)
- Average Fish:25.2"
- Max:38.4"
- Good Size Structure
 - PSD:85, PSD-P:31, and PSD-M:4
- Above average growth
- Good body Condition

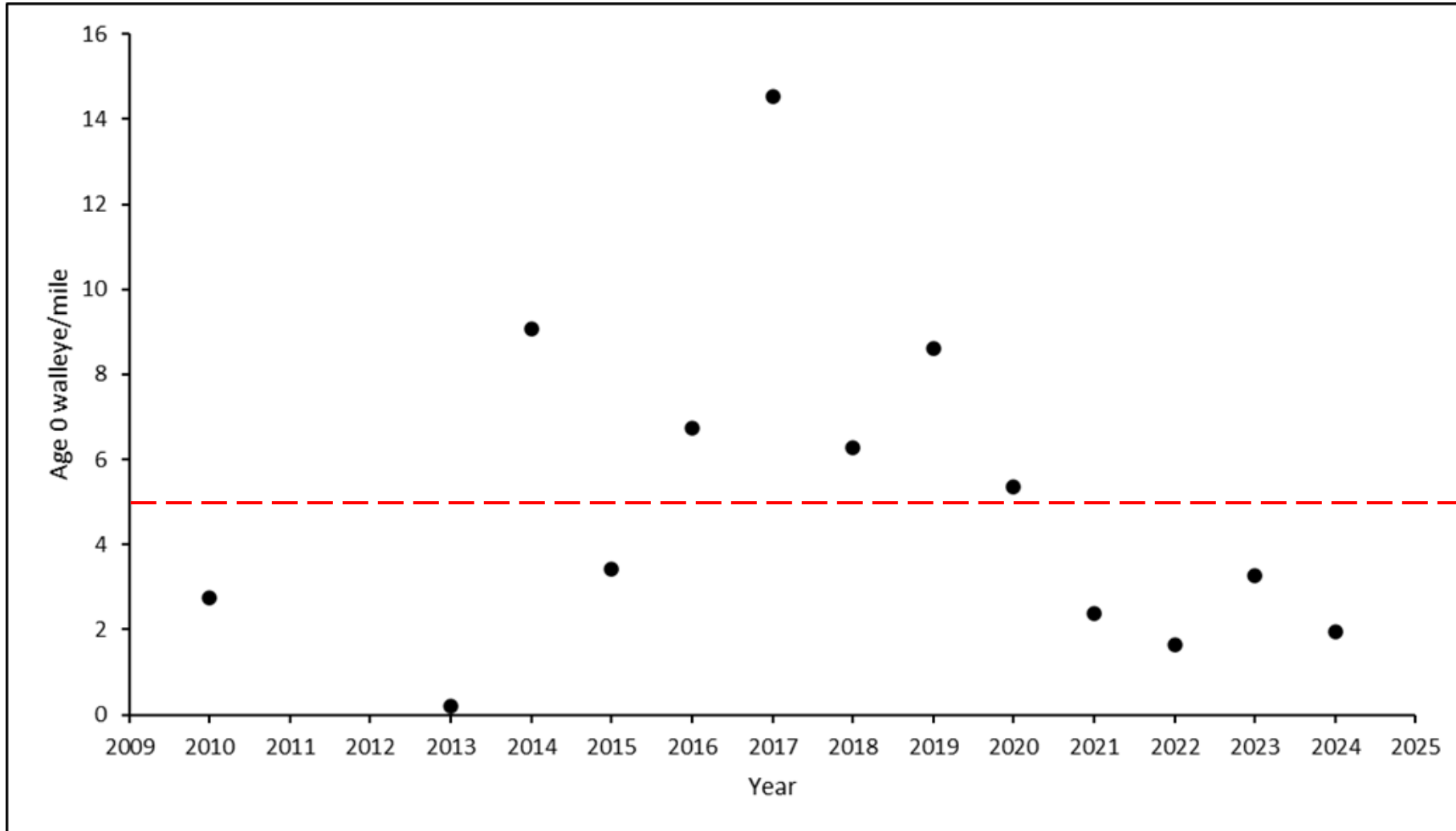


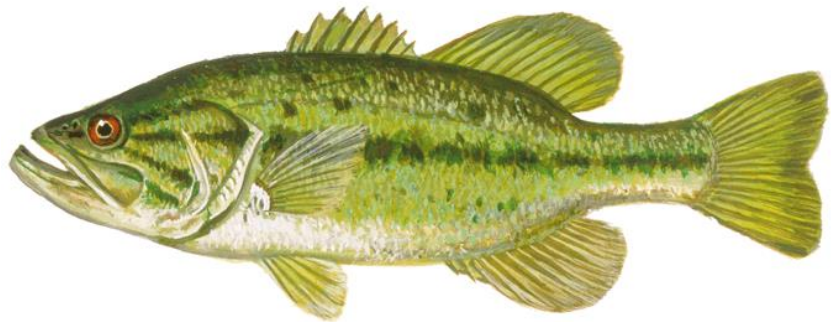


- Abundant population
 - 1,350 sampled
 - PE: 6.8/acre or 3,093 adult walleye
- Slightly above average catch rates
 - 4.3/NN
- Average fish:16.4”
- Max:24.2”
- Good size structure
 - PSD:84, PSD-P:3
- Average growth
- Good body condition
- Potentially high harvest

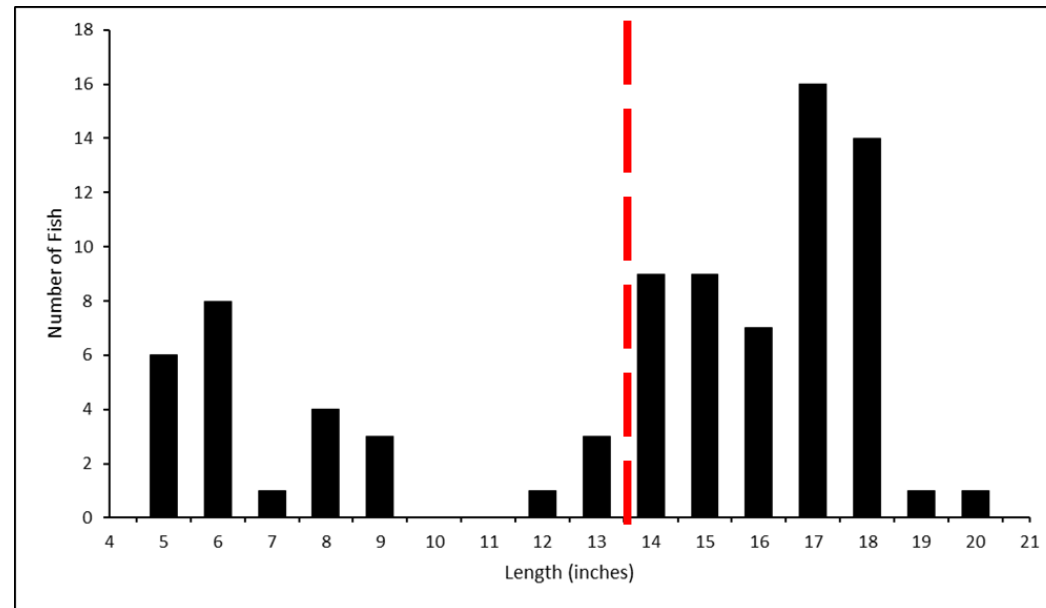


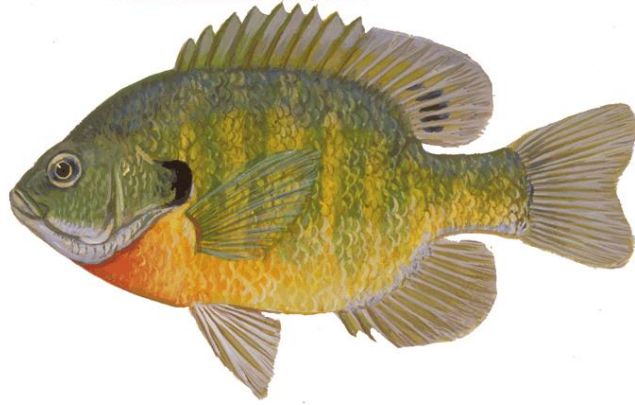
Walleye Recruitment



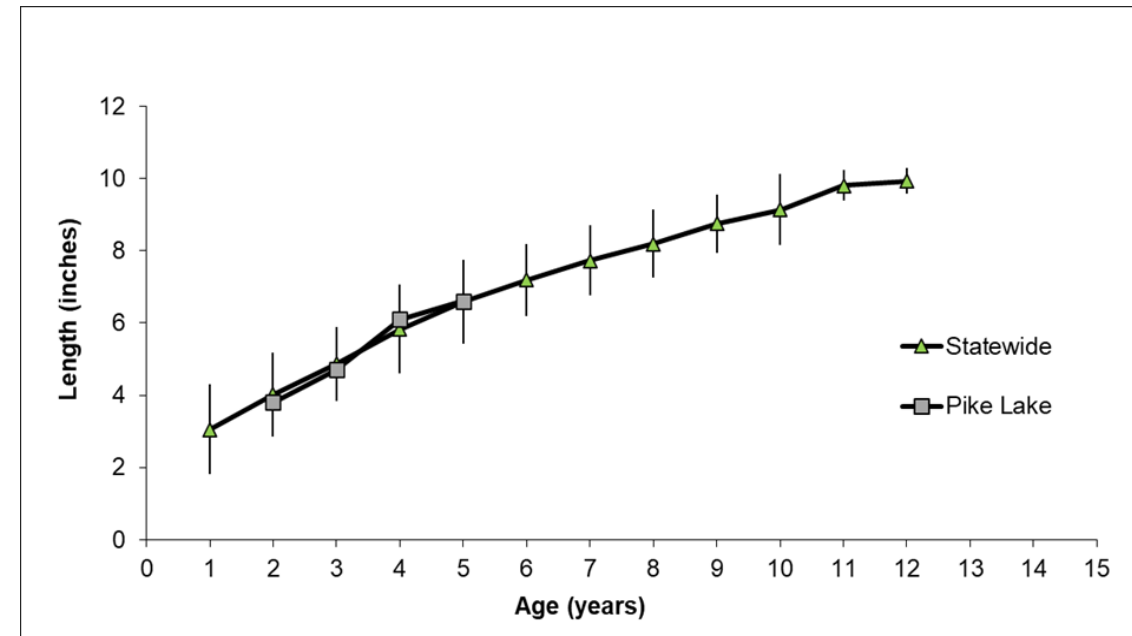
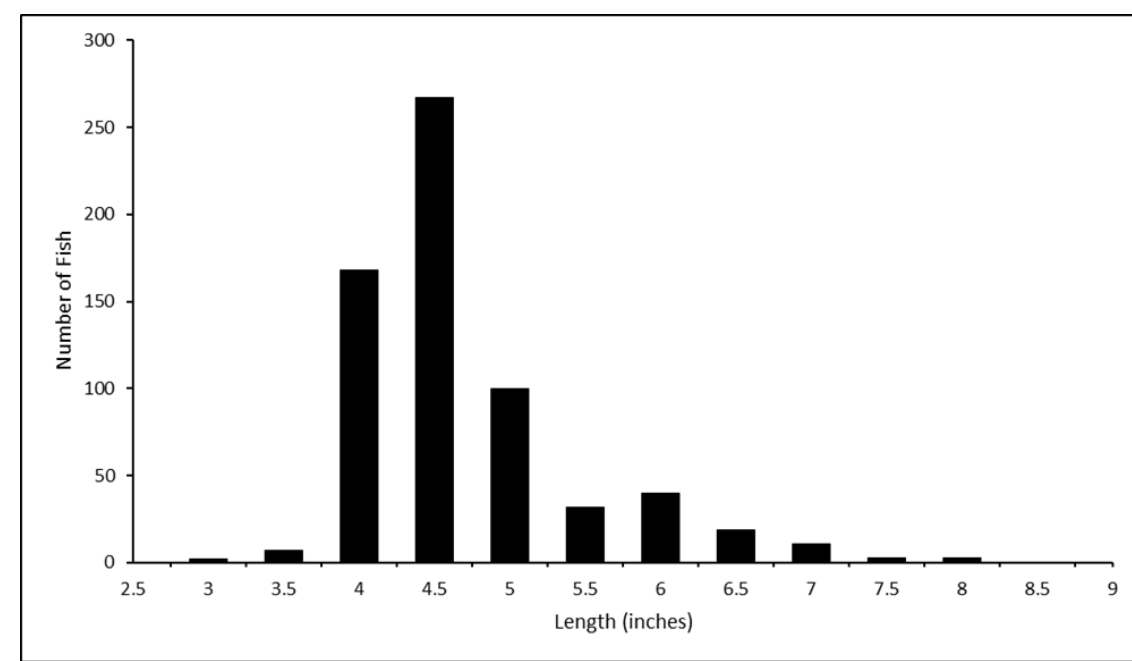


- Slightly below average catch rates
 - 84 LMB sampled
 - 11.3/mile compared to 28.4 in 2014
- Average fish:14”
- Max: 20”
- High Size Structure
 - PSD:90, PSD-P:70
- Healthy Body Conditions
- Future surveys should look at ages
 - To determine if year classes are missing



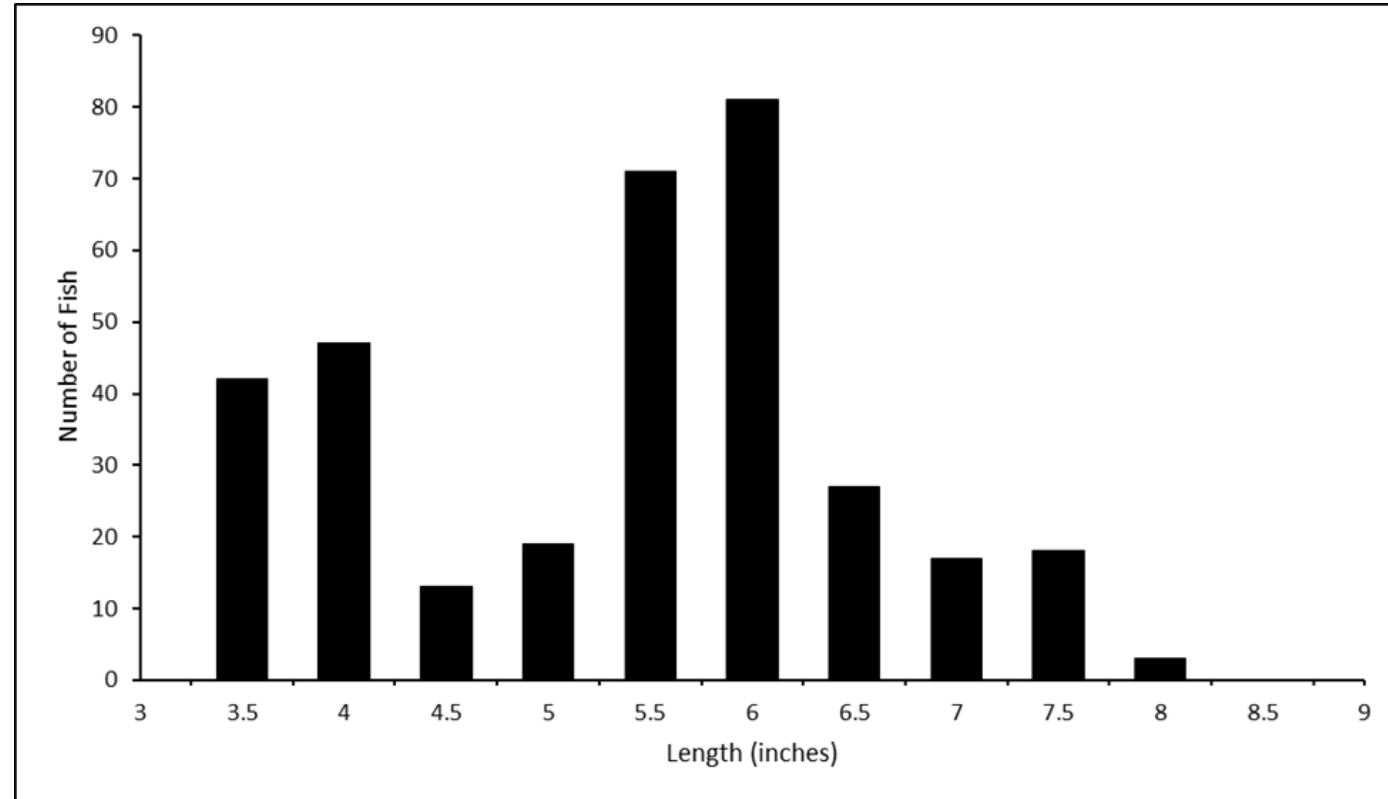


- Most abundant panfish
 - 1,315 surveyed
- Average fish:4.9”
- Max:8.2”
- Low Size Structure
 - PSD:12
 - Healthy bluegill population:40-60
- Average growth
 - Oldest fish:5 years



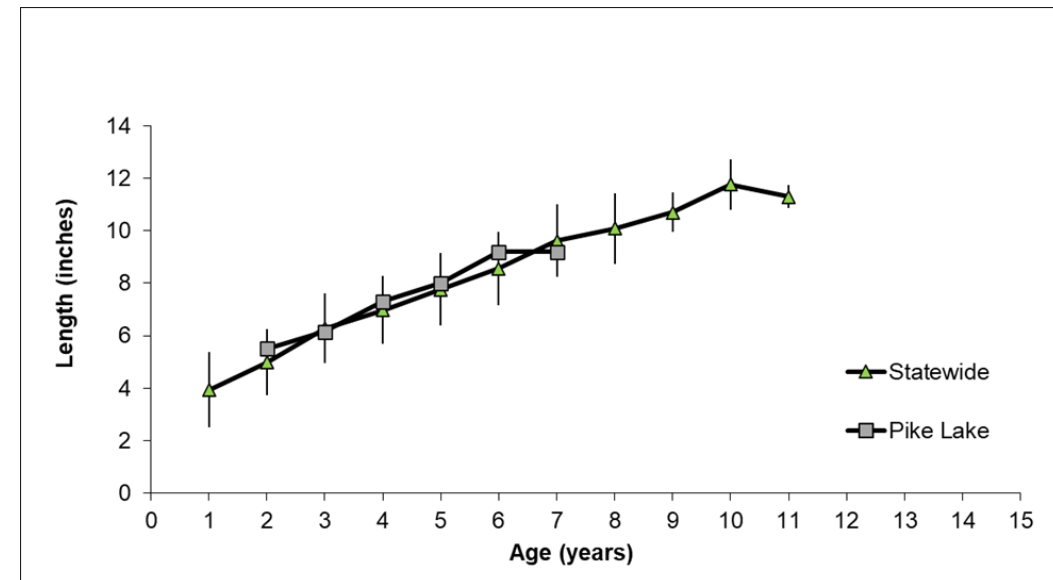
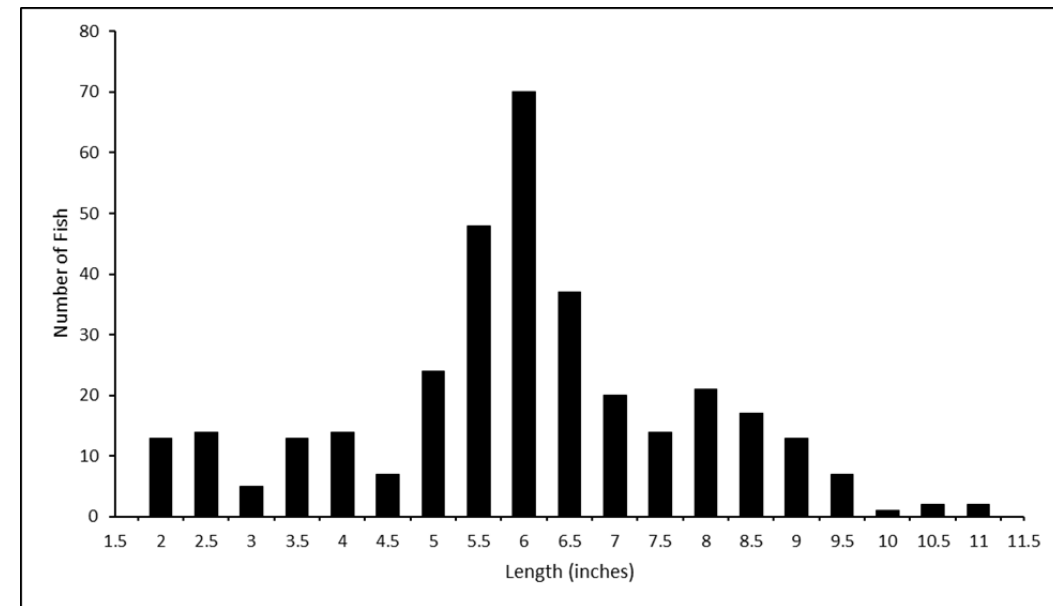


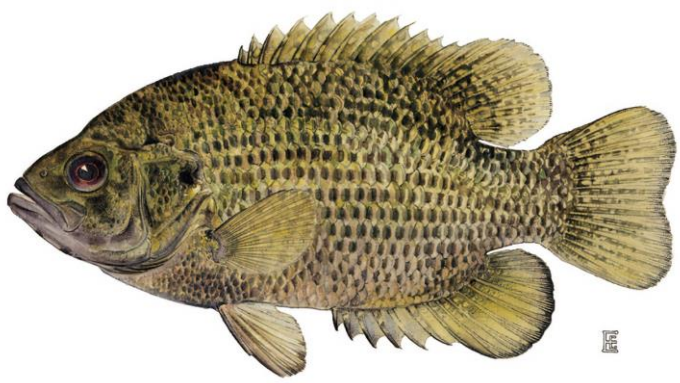
- 3rd most abundant panfish
 - 376 sampled
- Average fish: 5.6"
- Max: 8.2"
- Moderate size structure
 - PSD: 43
- Suggests that there may be less pressure



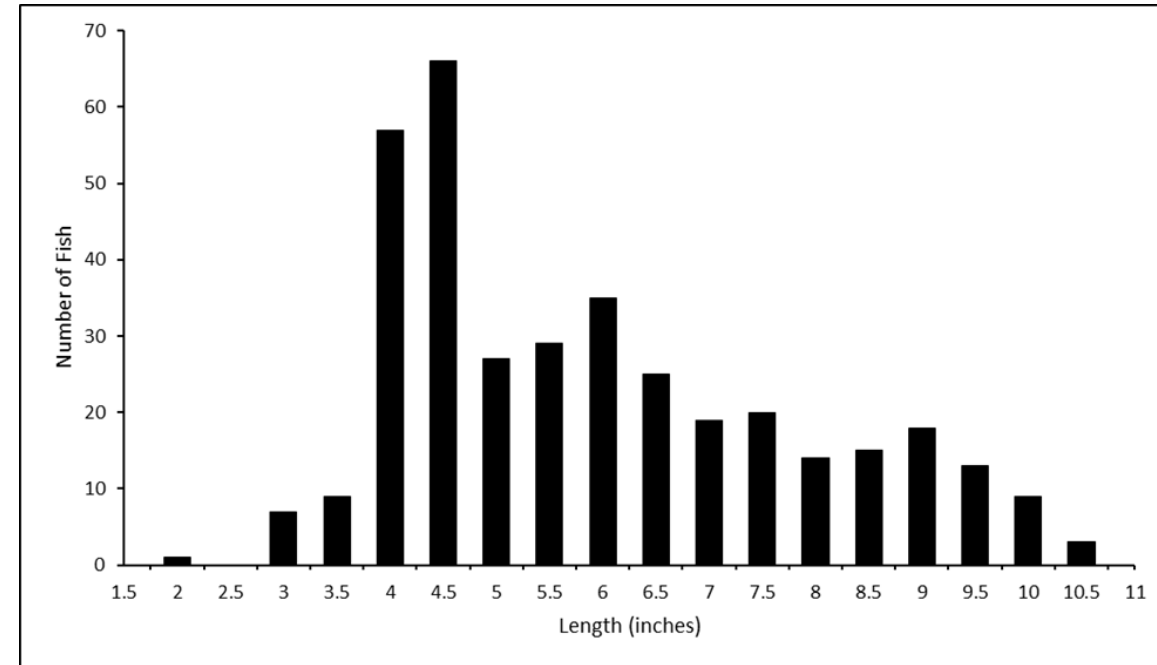


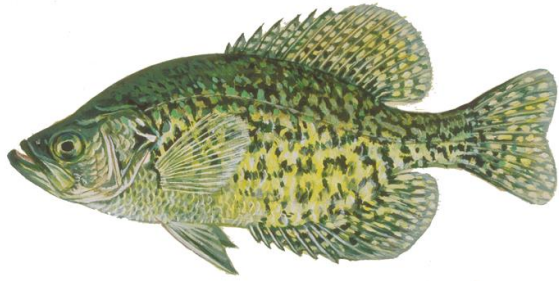
- Moderately abundant population
 - 369 sampled
 - 84/mile
- Average fish:6.2”
- Max:11.3”
- Low size structure
 - PSD:24, PSD-P:2
- Average growth rates





- Generally, not targeted
- 2nd most abundant panfish species
 - 442 sampled
 - 81/mile
- Average fish:6.1”
- Moderate size structure
 - PSD:30
- Provide an alternative species to harvest as part of the panfish bag limit





- Not enough sampled to evaluate
 - 11 sampled
- DNR is evaluating other sampling methods to effectively sample Black Crappie



Future Management

- Continue to monitor walleye natural recruitment
- Examine age and growth of largemouth bass to determine if age classes are missing
- Examine ways to increase panfish size structure
- If new protocols are developed, assess black crappie population
- Evaluate angler use



What can be done: Fisheries Habitat



- Sinking trees
 - Cutting whole trees and sinking them in deeper water
 - Lay multiple trees on top of each other
 - Creates a complex
 - Small interstitial space for young fish
 - Good habitat for yellow perch to lay eggs
 - Utilized by all species
 - Would need a Permit

What can be done: Fisheries Habitat

- Fish Sticks
 - Trees attached to the shoreline in nearshore habitat
 - Great nursery habitat after the spawn
 - Need a permit to do any work



CONNECT WITH US

Drew Wallace

drew.wallace@wisconsin.gov

(608) 228-9892



@WIDNR



@WI_DNR



/WIDNRTV



"WILD WISCONSIN:
OFF THE RECORD"