

Summary of the First Meeting of the Inland Lakes Citizens Fishery Advisory Committee Proposed New Recreational Walleye Regulations for Mullett Lake in 2010

After 2 recent public meetings with MDNR and Tribal representatives concerning the status of walleyes in Mullett Lake, an Inland Lakes Citizens Advisory Committee was established. The purpose of the new Committee was to create a forum where the MDNR, Tribes and Stakeholders could form partnerships and exchange input and ideas on the fisheries and health of the large northern lakes. The first meeting of the Advisory Committee was held on Monday November 23, 2009 in Indian River and the members met with Dr. Steve Hewitt, MDNR Lake Huron Basin Coordinator; Dr. Kelley Smith, MDNR Fisheries Chief and Tim Cwalinski, MDNR Fisheries Biologist to discuss options for proposed changes to the recreational walleye harvest regulations on Mullett Lake for 2010. Eleven organizations and interests were represented at the meeting. After a presentation and discussion, unanimous support was given to proposed changes to the recreational walleye fishing regulations on Mullett Lake proper, the Cheboygan River from Mullett Lake downstream to the Cheboygan Dam and Black River from Alverno Dam to the Cheboygan River. The rules would cover the period from May 15, 2010 through March 15, 2011. The regulations include the following changes:

Bag Limit: 3 fish

Season: May 15 to March 15

Size Limit: no change

These updated rules, if approved by the MDNR Director, would allow the recreational harvest of walleye in Mullett Lake to continue during 2010. The MDNR Natural Resources Commission will be reviewing the proposal at their December 3, 2009 meeting. It is important that interested individuals and organizations express their support by either appearing at the meeting or sending a letter. Emails can be directed to Teresa Gloden, executive assistant to the NRC, at glodent@michigan.gov. To register for an opportunity to provide a public comment at the meeting, or to obtain other information, Teresa may be reached at (517) 373-2352.

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