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> New Walleye Regulations for Mullett Lake and Associated Rivers

> Approved

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> New regulations to address a low population of adult walleye in Mullett

> Lake in Cheboygan County were approved at Thursday's Michigan Natural

> Resources Commission meeting in Lansing.

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> The regulations, approved by Department of Natural Resources Director

> Rebecca Humphries, are the result of a collaborative resolution reached

> by the DNR and the five Tribes in the 1836 Treaty-ceded territory of

> Michigan. The new regulations will allow for harvest of walleyes to

> continue on the lake in 2010 by state-licensed recreational anglers.

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> The new regulations take effect for the 2010 fishing season on April 1.

> The regulations were developed in collaboration with many of the

> recreational fishing groups in the area, as well as the Indian River

> Chamber of Commerce. Changes to the regulations include a change in bag

> limit and season length for walleye for state-licensed recreational

> anglers. The regulations cover Mullett Lake proper, the Cheboygan River

> from Mullett Lake downstream to the Cheboygan Dam, and the Black River

> from Alverno Dam downstream to its confluence with the Cheboygan River.

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> In those areas, the bag limit for the harvest of walleye by

> state-licensed recreational anglers will be three walleye per day. The

> walleye season for state-licensed recreational anglers on Mullett Lake

> will be May 15 to March 15.

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> The State and Tribes have agreed to work together to develop a

> multi-faceted approach to monitoring and enhancing the walleye

> population over next five years, through the 2014 fishing season.

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> The plan includes a collaborative assessment and monitoring program by

> both the state and the Tribes that encompasses continued creel surveys

> for the 2010 fishing season, a joint assessment of the entire chain of
> lakes, and longer term the potential to develop a joint fish stocking
> effort.

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> “These changes will protect the adult walleye population in the lake,
> while offering state-licensed recreational anglers the opportunity to
> continue harvesting walleye,” said DNR Fisheries Chief Kelley Smith.

> “Both the State and the Tribes are concerned with the walleye
> population in the lake, and our plan is to address it together.”

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> The DNR is committed to the conservation, protection, management,
> accessible use and enjoyment of the State’s natural resources for
> current and future generations.