



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: October 12, 2009
REVISED: October 29, 2009
RESUBMITTED: November 9, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Special Fishing Regulations for Coolwater Species on Select Lakes
(FO-206)

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Director to provide for better protection and preservation of fish, game and birds.

Discussion and Background:

On October 8, 2009, Director Humphries signed a version of Fisheries Order 206 (FO-206) that added special fishing regulations for coolwater species on several lakes. FO-206 is being resubmitted, however, because a regulation to manage harvest of walleyes from Mullett Lake (Cheboygan County) by State-licensed recreational anglers is necessary. This new Order is identified as Fisheries Order 206.10A (FO-206.10A).

A regulation change to manage harvest of walleyes from Mullett Lake (Cheboygan County) by State-licensed recreational anglers is, given current circumstances, necessary because of the low abundance of adult walleyes in the lake. In 2009, the State conducted a survey of the population of walleyes inhabiting Mullett Lake, which resulted in an estimate of 2,648 adult walleyes in the lake. Although a low population estimate was expected, the estimate of adult walleyes in Mullett Lake calculated this year is well below our worst prediction.

To protect the population of adult walleyes in Mullett Lake through at least the 2010 fishing season (April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011), we are recommending changes to the bag limit, the size limit, or the season length, or some combination of those harvest regulations. Any regulation change that we recommend and that is subsequently approved by the Director will be reviewed with the public again during the fall of 2011. Appropriate regulations to protect adult walleyes in Mullett Lake will be necessary until additional information can be gained about the dynamics driving the population abundance of walleyes in Mullett Lake, and about what impairments may be suppressing successful reproduction of walleyes in the lake. We will help to facilitate the establishment of a citizens' advisory committee comprised of members from

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
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throughout the inland waterway and, with their help and that of the 1836 Tribes, begin a multi-year, chain-wide review and assessment. The effort to gather the necessary information with the help of the advisory committee and the Tribes will hopefully lead to the identification of corrective actions and ultimately the ability to relax regulations for harvest of walleyes, once those actions have been implemented and the population of adult walleyes has improved.

Given the need for additional public review and input, proposed recommendations for harvesting walleyes on Mullett Lake have not yet been explicitly identified in either this memo or FO-206.10A. Placeholders have been inserted in FO-206.10A for bag limit, season length, and size limit and, pending public review and input, we will replace one or more of those placeholders with actual recommendations no later than Wednesday, November 25, 2009. Once recommendations have been determined, we will substitute this current memo and FO-206.10A with a late memo and updated FO-206.10A. The late memo and updated FO-206.10A will be available to the public through the Department's website at www.michigan.gov/dnrnrc, under the "Agendas and Minutes" section, agenda for December 3, 2009 meeting of the Natural Resources Commission. Click on "Agendas and Minutes"; under 2009 Agendas click on "December 3, 2009"; under "Directors Action Items in December" hold Ctrl and click on "Special Fishing Regulations for Coolwater Species on Select Lakes (FO-206A)".

Recommendation:

The bag limit for harvest of walleye on Mullett Lake by State-licensed anglers will be "X"; the size limit for harvest of walleye on Mullett Lake by State-licensed anglers will be "Y"; the season for harvest of walleye on Mullett Lake by State-licensed anglers will be "Z" for the 2010 fishing season (April 1, 2010 through March 21, 2011) pending further review.

This order was submitted for information and consideration at the November 5, 2009 Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department's October 2009 calendar and may be eligible for approval on December 3, 2009.

Kelley D. Smith, Chief
Fisheries Division

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

David E. Freed, Chief
Land and Facilities

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division

Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division

Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Arminda S. Koch
Resource Management Deputy

I approve the staff recommendation.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

Date Approved

ORDER

SPECIAL FISHING REGULATIONS FOR COOLWATER SPECIES ON SELECT LAKES

By authority conferred on the Department of Natural Resources by sections 41101 through 41105 of 1994, PA 451, as amended, being MCL 324.41101 through 324.41105, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources on December 3, 2009, ordered that for a period **NOT TO EXCEED** of five years, the following special regulations are established for the listed lakes:

ALGER COUNTY

Echo and Duck Lakes on Grand Island

1. Smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Possession Limit: zero (0).

BARRY COUNTY

Thornapple Lake

1. Muskellunge:
 - (a) Minimum size: 50 inches.

Williams Lake

1. Possession limit: zero (0).
2. Season: Last Saturday in April – December 15.

CASS COUNTY

Corey Lake (T6S, R13W, S24)

1. Largemouth bass:
 - (a) Minimum size: 10 inches.

Stone Lake (T6S, R15W, S35)

1. Largemouth bass:
 - (a) Minimum size: 10 inches.

CHEBOYGAN COUNTY:

MULLETT LAKE

1. **POSSESSION LIMIT FOR WALLEYES: TO BE DETERMINED.**
2. **SIZE LIMIT FOR WALLEYES: TO BE DETERMINED.**
3. **SEASON FOR HARVEST OF WALLEYES: TO BE DETERMINED.**

CRAWFORD COUNTY

Wakeley Lake (T26N, R2W, S23)

1. Gear Restrictions: Artificial lures only. It shall be unlawful to use or possess live bait, dead bait, organic or processed food or scented material at any time on the shore or water.
2. Season: June 15 - August 31.
3. Possession limit: zero (0). Catch and release only.

DICKINSON COUNTY

Hamilton, Louise, and Mary Lakes (T39N, R28-29W)

1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Possession limit: zero (0) from Last Saturday in May - June 20.

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

Arbutus Lake

1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Minimum size: 10 inches.

Spider Lake (T26N, R10W, S9,10)

1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Minimum size: 10 inches

IONIA COUNTY

Woodward Lake (T8N, R6W, S8)

1. Walleye:
 - (a) Possession limit: zero (0).

IRON COUNTY

Fire Lake

1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Possession limit: one (1).
 - (b) Minimum size: 18 inches

Indian Lake

1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Possession limit: one (1).
 - (b) Minimum size: 18 inches.

Ottawa Lake

1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Possession limit: zero (0).

Winslow Lake (T46N, R36W, S36)

1. Walleye:
 - (a) Possession limit: zero (0).

KALKASKA COUNTY

Cub Lake (T27N, R5W, S19)

1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Minimum size: 10 inches.

LAKE COUNTY

Big Bass Lake (T20N, R14W, S34)

1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (A) Minimum size: 10 inches.

LEELANAU COUNTY

North Manitou Lake (T32N, R14W, S29, 32)

1. Gear Restrictions: Artificial lures only. It shall be unlawful to use or possess live bait, dead bait, organic or processed food or scented material at any time on the shore or water.
2. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Possession limit: one (1).
 - (b) Minimum size: 18 inches.

Florence Lake (T31N, R15W, S9)

1. Gear Restrictions: Artificial lures only. It shall be unlawful to use or possess live bait, dead bait, organic or processed food or scented material at any time on the shore or water.

LUCE COUNTY

Twin Lakes (T45N, R10W, S10,11)

1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Possession limit: one (1).
 - (b) Minimum size: 18 inches.

MARQUETTE COUNTY

Deer Lake Basin (T48N, R27W, S27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34), Carp River downstream from M-28 (T47N, R27W, S4) and all other tributaries to Deer Lake Basin

1. Gear Restrictions: Artificial lures only. It shall be unlawful to use or possess live bait, dead bait, organic or processed food or scented material at any time on the shore or water.
2. Possession limit: zero (0). Catch and release only.

Fish Lake (T47N, R29W, S5, 6, 8)

1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Possession limit: one (1).
 - (b) Minimum size: 18 inches.

MONTMORENCY COUNTY

North and South Blue and Robarge (Pike) Lakes

1. Gear Restrictions: Artificial lures only.
2. Season: Last Saturday in April - September 30.
3. Possession limit: zero (0). Catch and release only.

NEWAYGO COUNTY

Sand Lake (T11N, R13W, S19)

1. Channel catfish, flathead catfish, and bullhead:
 - (a) Possession limit: zero (0).

Brush Lake (T14N, R12W, S1)

1. Channel catfish, flathead catfish, and bullhead:
 - (a) Possession limit: zero (0).

Baptist Lake (T11N, R11W, S23, 24)

1. Channel catfish, flathead catfish, and bullhead:
 - (a) Possession limit: zero (0).

OGEMAW COUNTY

Jewett Lake (Rifle River Recreation Area)

1. In addition to a valid Michigan fishing license, anglers must possess a valid Jewett Lake fishing permit.
2. Gear Restrictions: Artificial lures only.
3. Season: May 15 – September 30.
4. Possession limit: zero (0).

ONTONAGON COUNTY

Lake of the Clouds (T15N, R43W, S21,22)

1. Gear Restrictions: Artificial lures only. It shall be unlawful to use or possess live bait, dead bait, organic or processed food or scented material at any time on the shore or water.
2. Smallmouth bass:
 - (a) Possession limit: zero (0).

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY

Corey Lake (T6S, R12W, S17, 18, 19, 20, 29)

1. Largemouth bass:
 - (a) Minimum size: 10 inches.

Sand Lake (T6S, R10W, S27, 34)

1. Flathead catfish:
 - (a) Possession limit: zero (0).

Big Pleasant Lake

1. Largemouth bass:
 - (a) Minimum size: 10 inches.

WASHTENAW COUNTY

Horseshoe Lake

1. Largemouth bass:
 - (a) Possession limit: one (1).
2. Northern pike:
 - (a) Possession limit: one (1).
3. Bluegill, pumpkinseed, redear, green sunfish, black and white crappies, warmouth bass, and rock bass:
 - (a) Possession limit: ten (10).

This order shall be assigned number FO-206.10A, and is entitled "Special Fishing Regulations for Coolwater Species on Select Lakes."

This order supersedes FO-206 entitled "Special Fishing Regulations for Coolwater Species on Select Lakes," which was signed October 8, 2009, and was scheduled to be effective April 1, 2010.

~~This order shall take effect April 1, 2010, and shall remain effective through March 31, 2015.~~ **THIS ORDER SHALL TAKE EFFECT ON APRIL 1, 2010. THIS ORDER SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL MARCH 31, 2015 OR UNTIL THIS ORDER IS AMENDED/RESCINDED, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. ALTHOUGH THIS ORDER MAY BE REVIEWED AND AMENDED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, A REVIEW OF THIS ORDER SHALL OCCUR NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2014.**

Issued on the _____ day of _____, 2009.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

The Natural Resources Commission has reviewed this order.

Keith J. Charters
Chairperson

Teresa Gloden
Executive Secretary