

Kingston Lake Fish Habitat Project Completion Summary

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Unit: Eastern Lake Superior Management Unit

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Project Summary

The Newberry field crew of the Eastern Lake Superior Management Unit (ELSMU) along with volunteers of Michigan Unit Conservation Clubs (MUCC) cooperatively completed a fish habitat improvement project at Kingston Lake in Alger County. The purpose of this project was to increase the amount of woody structure in the lake to serve as fish habitat in order to improve the quality of the fishery. A total of 12 MUCC volunteers assisted the Fisheries Division crew in conducting the project. As part of the project, MUCC provided funding for concrete blocks used for anchoring the tree bundles and the cable and cable locks for securing those concrete blocks. The crew constructed a total of 21 tree bundles and placed them in various locations throughout the lake (see map). Project details included cutting submerchantable trees along the shoreline, then dragging them to the waters edge to be banded with steel cable and attaching to concrete blocks. The tree bundles were then dragged out into the lake using boats, with some moved by hand. Tree bundles ranged in size from 1 single tree at 15 feet in length to 2-3 trees at 10-15 feet in length. The number and placement of the bundles were dependent on size and arrangement. Bundles were placed in water depths of 4-8 feet with a minimum of 2 feet of navigable water above them. Crews are scheduled to return for a follow-up visit to trim branches exposed above waterline and resecure any tree bundles which may have settled in an awkward arrangement. Fisheries Division plans to evaluate the success of the structures by monitoring the fish populations in the lake. A special thanks goes to the volunteers of the MUCC for their hard work and efforts. The project was made a success with their assistance.

See image below for common tree bundle visual.

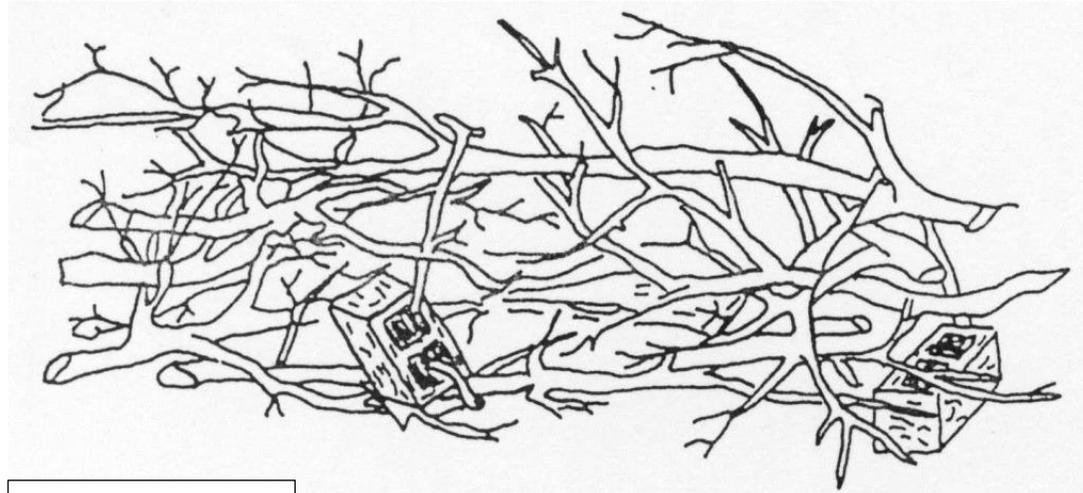


Photo Credit: SDAFS-Res. Comm.



Fisheries Division employees and MUCC volunteers preparing a tree bundle for Kingston Lake, Alger County. Photo credit MUCC.



Work crew preparing a tree bundle to be dragged out into Kingston Lake, Alger County. Photo credit MUCC.



Work crew cabling anchors onto tree bundle. Photo credit MDNR.



Work crew dragging a tree bundle into Kingston Lake, Alger County. Photo credit MDNR.

Map of tree bundle locations in Kingston Lake, Alger County.

