

Assessment Work

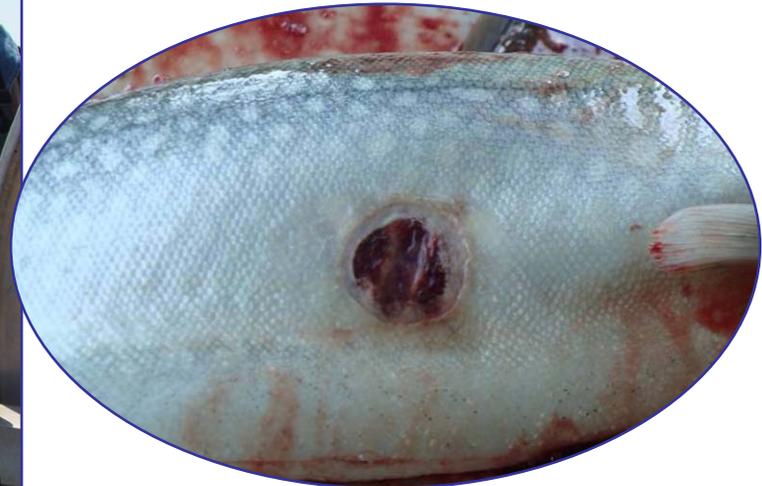
Over the years the crews of the *SV Steelhead* have completed surveys and assessments for many projects. They've given fisheries managers an unbiased description of fish populations and predator-prey relationships for Eastern Lake Michigan.

They've also participated in Inter-agency collaborative sampling efforts that will help better describe Lake Michigan as a whole.

Once the fish collection has been completed, its time to gather the biological information that can determine health, age, population size, possible disease outbreaks, movement, year class strength and more. This information can be used to help manage fish populations and fisheries.

Predator population assessments

Assess lake whitefish and lake trout with bottom gill nets.



Assess Chinook salmon, coho, steelhead and brown trout populations with suspended gill nets.

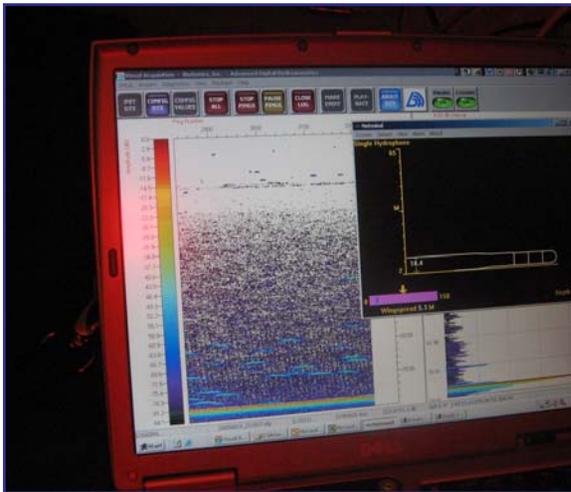


Assess yellow perch populations with bottom gill nets.



Estimate the abundance of forage fish

Use trawls and acoustic technology.

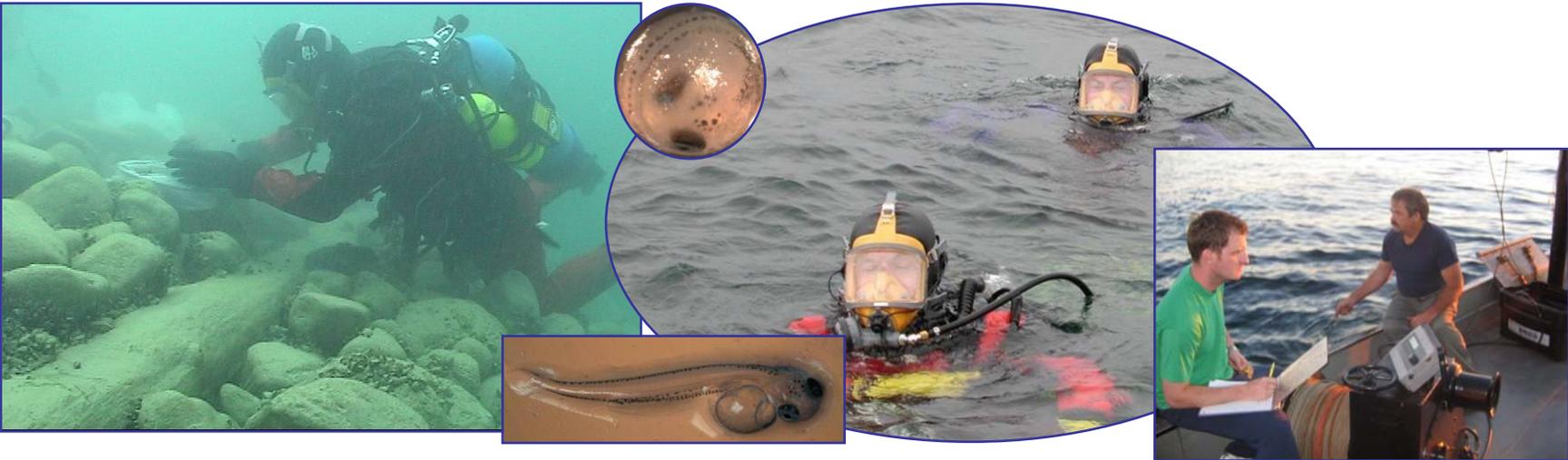


Special studies evaluating habitat, egg deposition, ect.

Lake trout eggs stocked in crates with astro-turf designed to protect eggs over winter.



Early life-history and habitat assessments for lake trout, lake whitefish and lake herring.



Cisco (lake Herring) population assessments conducted in Grand Traverse Bay and southern Lake Michigan.



During the mid-1970's the SV *Steelhead* stocked hatchery raised lake trout onto historically important spawning reefs to help rehabilitate populations.



Assist in training and aquatic safety drills



Rescue

