

Northern Pike Management Plan

Matt Diana
Jan-Michael Hessenauer
July 13, 2023

Pike in Michigan

- ▶ Big/long lived
- ▶ Northern fishery
- ▶ Accessible
- ▶ Ice fishery
- ▶ River or lake
- ▶ Important predators





History of Pike Regulation

- ▶ 1865-1915: statewide no minimum size limit (MSL), no daily possession limit (DPL).
- ▶ 1916-1929: statewide 10-inch, 10 fish
- ▶ 1930-1958: statewide 14-inch, 5 fish
- ▶ 1958-1992: statewide 20-inch, 5 fish
 - ▶ 14-inch MSL exceptions 1958 to 1970
 - ▶ no-MSL regulation exception ~1970 to present.
- ▶ 1993: statewide 24-inch, 5 fish
- ▶ 2002: statewide 24-inch, 2 fish
- ▶ 2013: statewide 24-inch, 2 fish
 - ▶ no-MSL, 5 fish changed to only 1 fish > 24 inches
 - ▶ 24-34-inch protected slot limit (PSL) added as a regulation option for northern pike





Statewide Trend

- ▶ Habitat imperiled
- ▶ pike spawning marshes/stocking no longer operated
- ▶ Lakes with many small fish are common
 - ▶ No minimum size limit common
- ▶ Vulnerable to exploitation
- ▶ Increasing need for data driven decision making when adding exception





Esocid Committee

- ▶ 2004- Officially Formed
 - ▶ Esocid Work Group
- ▶ 2010- Committee charged with regulation review for managed Esocids





STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

FR15

November 2016

Management Plan for Northern Pike in Michigan

Kregg M. Smith, Cory K. Kovacs,
Michael V. Thomas, and James S. Diana



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**FISHERIES DIVISION
FISHERIES REPORT 15**

2016 Pike Management Plan

- ▶ 5 goals
- ▶ Identified issues
- ▶ Objectives and strategies
- ▶ Set regulation toolbox
- ▶ Evaluation criteria

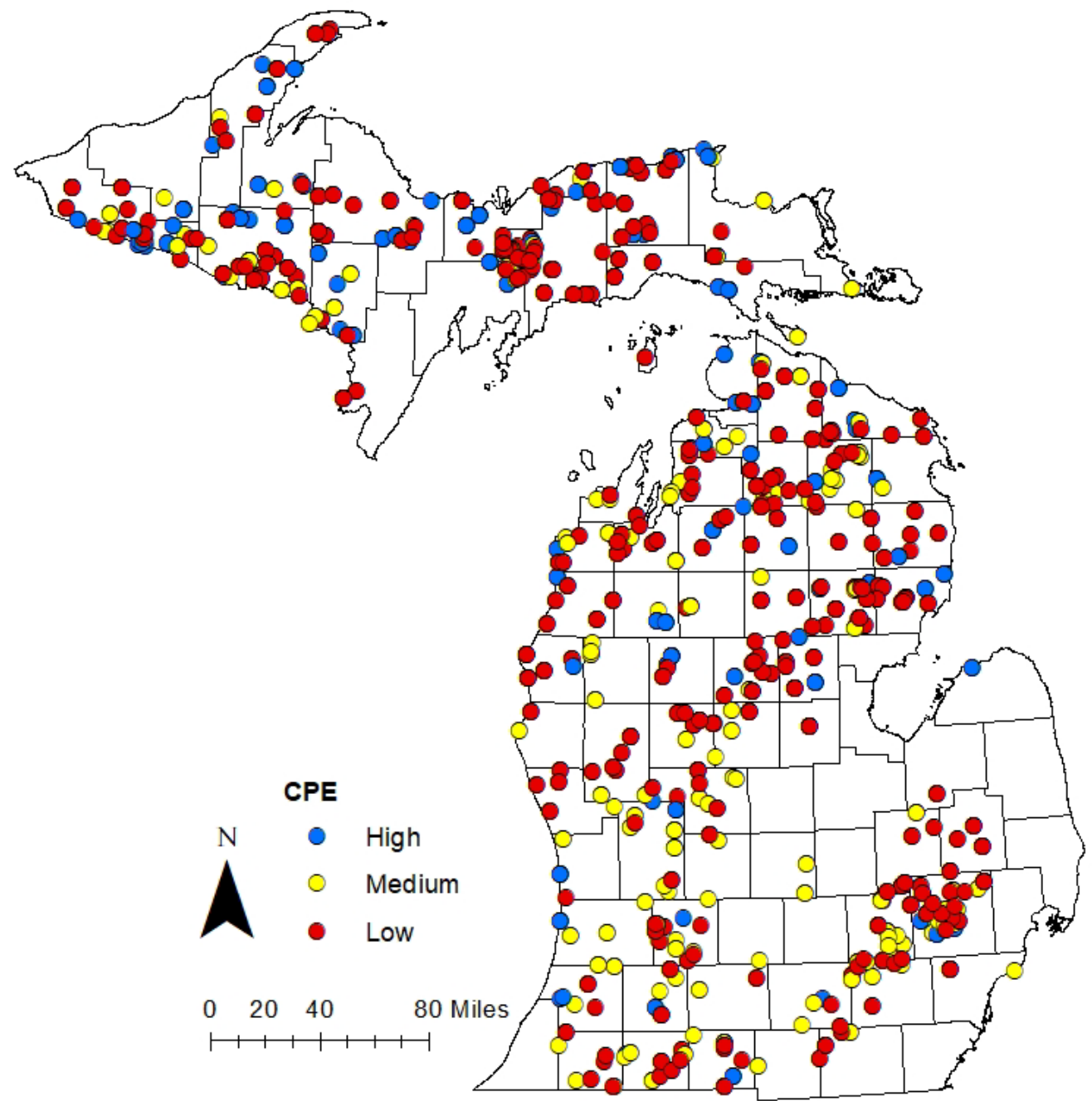
Goal I

- ▶ Protect, restore, and enhance habitat on Michigan waters
 - ▶ Habitat monitoring and evaluation
 - ▶ Wetland protection/permit reviews



Goal II

- Ensure that adequate technical information is available about Michigan's Northern Pike fisheries





Evaluations

► Growth

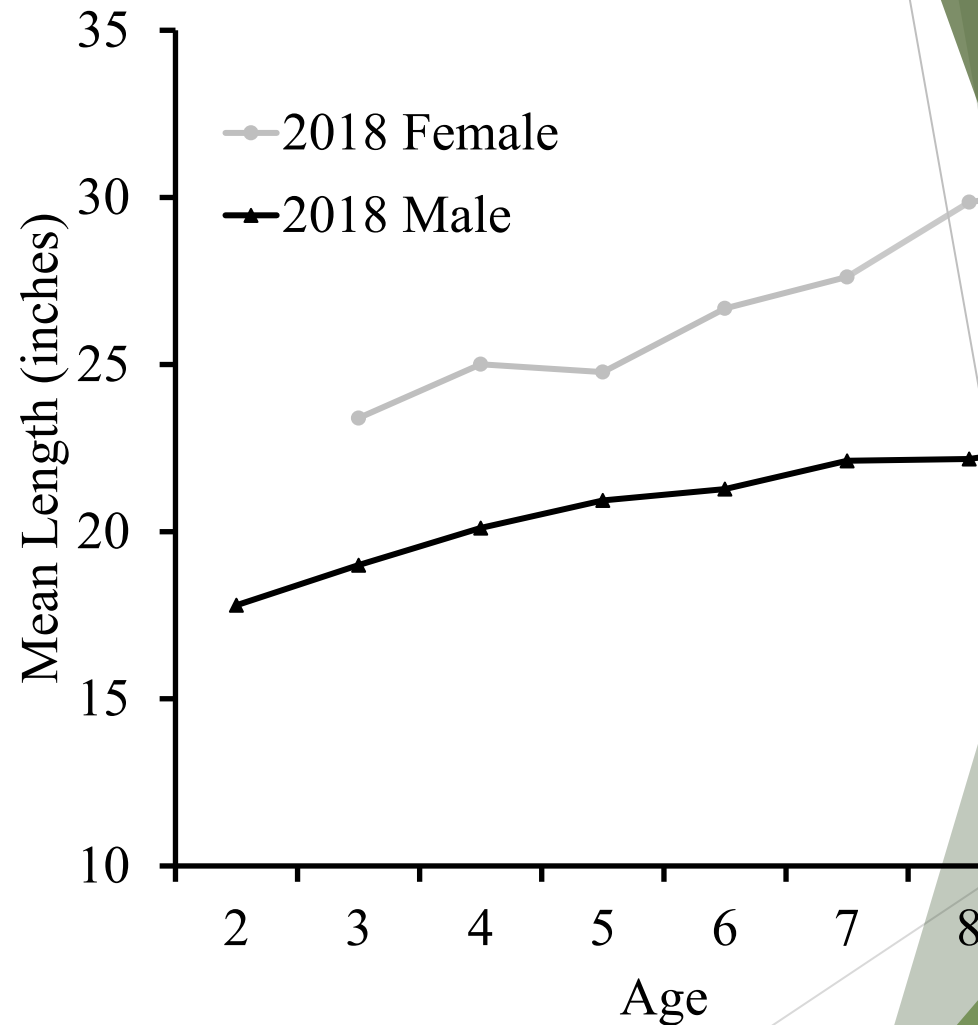
- Mean length of 3-5 age fish
- Males v Females
- management differs by sex (e.g., females selectively targeted)

► Density

- Population estimates
- Catch rates

► Surveys

- Status and Trend
- Targeted





Pike Survey Protocol

- ▶ Approved in 2022
- ▶ Standardizes methods
- ▶ Targets pike in spring during spawning
- ▶ Sex identification
- ▶ Population estimate methods



Goal III

- ▶ Protect and maintain Michigan's self-sustained recreational Northern Pike fisheries and associated fish assemblages and aquatic communities
 - ▶ Regulations
 - ▶ Fish population surveys





Age	Statewide growth metric	Population characteristics	Suggested regulation options	Management goal
3-5	Mean length exceeds 75 th percentile	Above average growth, low density	24 in MSL, possession limit 2 or PSL 24–34 in, possession limit 2	Maintain population size structure, encourage above average growth of younger fish, maximize reproductive potential, and allow for harvest of memorable- or trophy-size fish
3-5	Mean length between 75 th and 25 th percentile	Average growth, moderate density	24 in MSL, possession limit 2 or PSL 24–34 in, possession limit 2	Maintain average abundance and size structure or Improve size structure
3-5	Mean length less than 25 th percentile	Below average growth, high density	No MSL, possession limit 5 ^a	Reduce over abundance, improve growth rate, maximize sustainable harvest

^a Five-fish limit includes no more than one Northern Pike greater than or equal to 24 inches in total length.



Goal IV

- Communicate with anglers and promote the recreational value of Michigan's Northern Pike fisheries



► Angler paper diary surveys

- Informs the size of fish caught

► Angler aging structure collection

► Inland Creel

► Biologists

Date fished: ____/____/____ Time spent fishing: ____ hours ____ minutes

What is your ZIP Code? _____

What type of bait did you use? (circle only one) *Live Bait* *Artificial* *Both*

What did you fish for today? (mark only one) Northern Pike Yellow Perch Any

Have you previously filled out a Blind Sucker Flooding angler survey card?

 Yes *No* (*If yes, skip to * question*)

How many days per year do you fish at Blind Sucker Flooding? *(mark only one)*

____ 1-10 ____ 11-20 ____ >20

Prioritize these factors in order of importance to you. (using 1-6, 1 = most important factor)

size of fish

_____ fish for consumption

numbers of fish

campground near fishery

potential for trophy fish

remoteness of fishery

Rate northern pike fishing in this lake on a scale of 1-5. (1=highest) _____

***How many northern pike (*per size category*) did you:**

Length	<24"	24"-34"	≥34"
<i>Catch</i>			
<i>Keep</i>			

Comments:

Goal V

- Provide a variety of Northern Pike fishing opportunities within a science-based management system

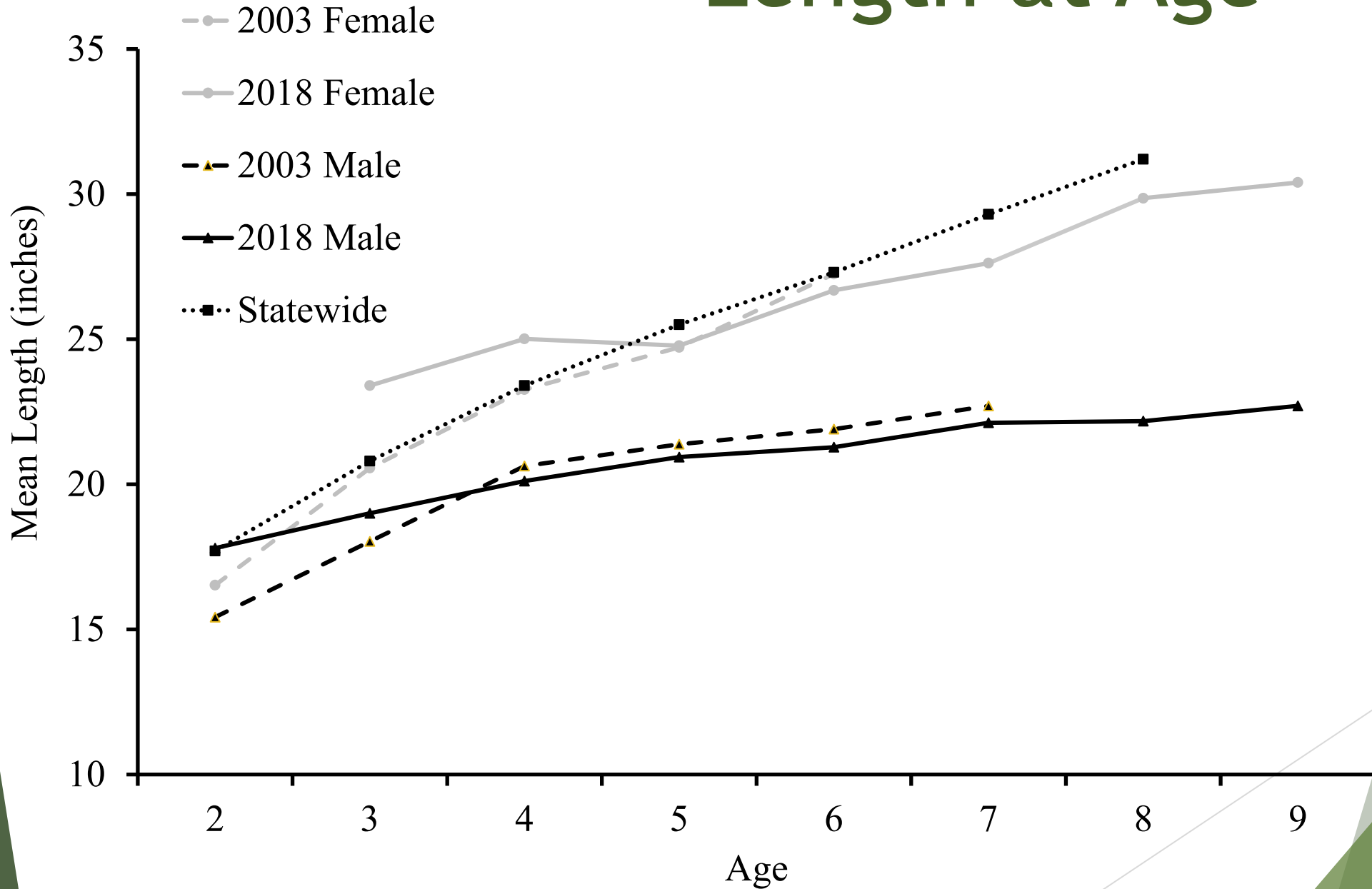


Long Lake, Kalamazoo County

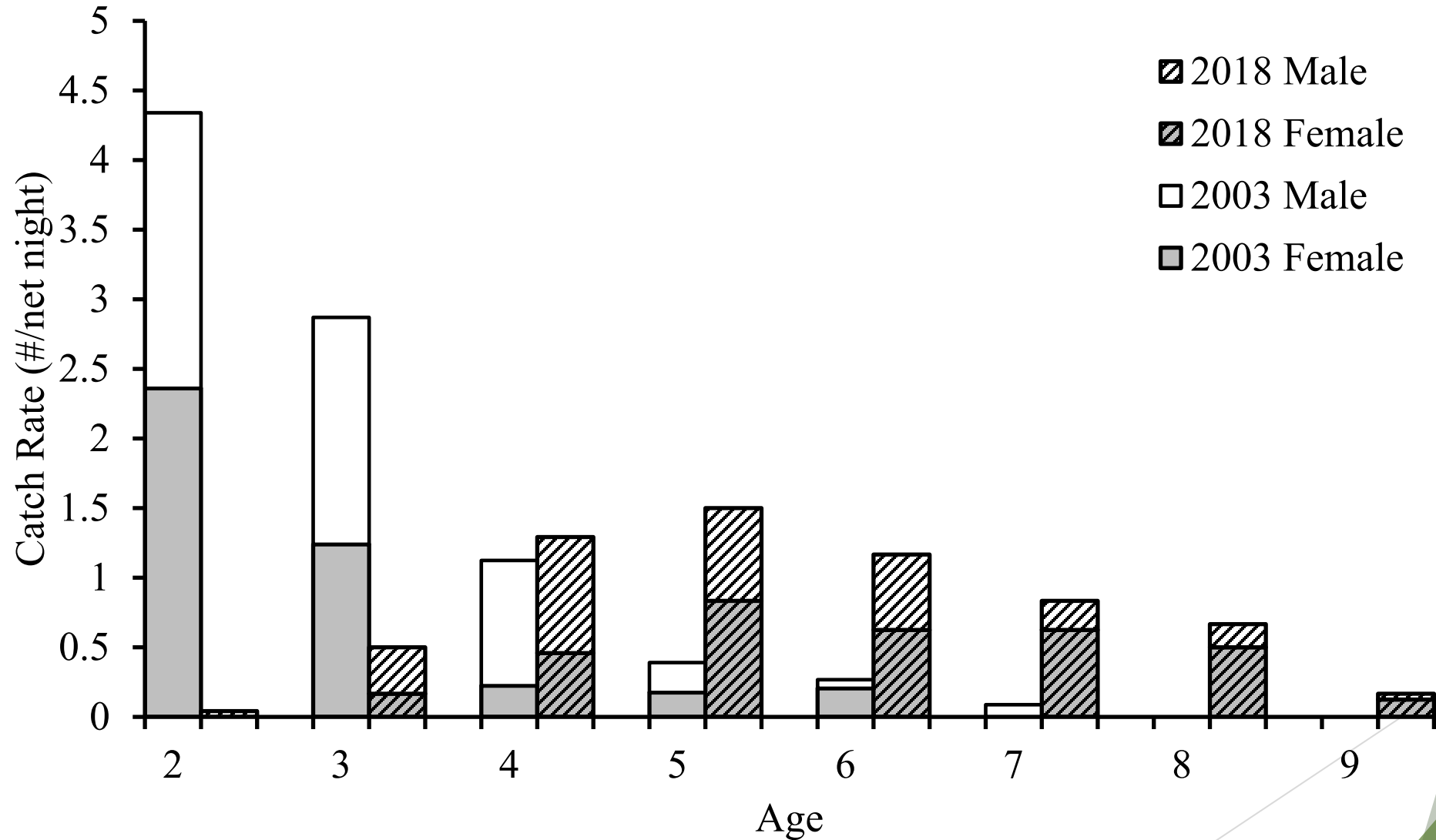
- ▶ 575-acre lake in Kalamazoo County
- ▶ Pike reported as stunted from anglers beginning in 2002
- ▶ Survey in 2013 found high abundance of small pike (<24")
- ▶ 24 to 34-inch PSL implemented in 2013
- ▶ Survey conducted 5 years after to evaluate (2018)



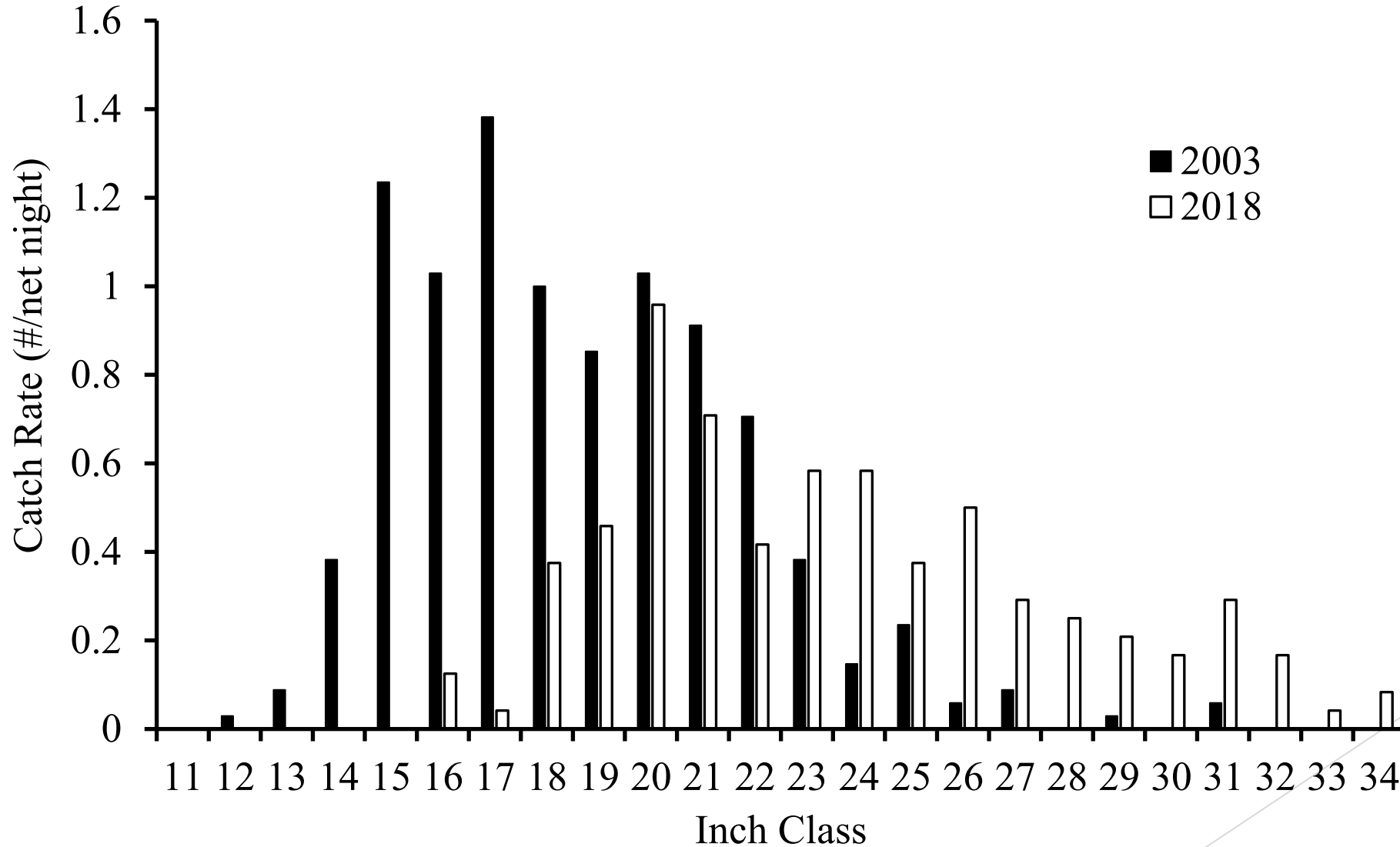
Length at Age



Age Structure



Size Structure



What's Needed?

- ▶ Data driven regulation changes
- ▶ More evaluation
 - ▶ Alternative regulations need to be monitored and evaluated
- ▶ Realistic goals and messaging





Illustrations by Joseph R. Tomelleri ©

Muskellunge Management

- ▶ Biology
- ▶ Goals of Management Plan
- ▶ Progress towards goals
 - ▶ Sampling Protocol
 - ▶ Brood Stock Plan



Muskellunge Biology

- ▶ Large predator

- ▶ Diet: Various but primarily soft-rayed fishes like suckers and minnows



- ▶ Historically distribution

- ▶ Great Lakes
 - ▶ some inland waters in the upper peninsula
 - ▶ very limited in lower peninsula

- ▶ Currently distribution

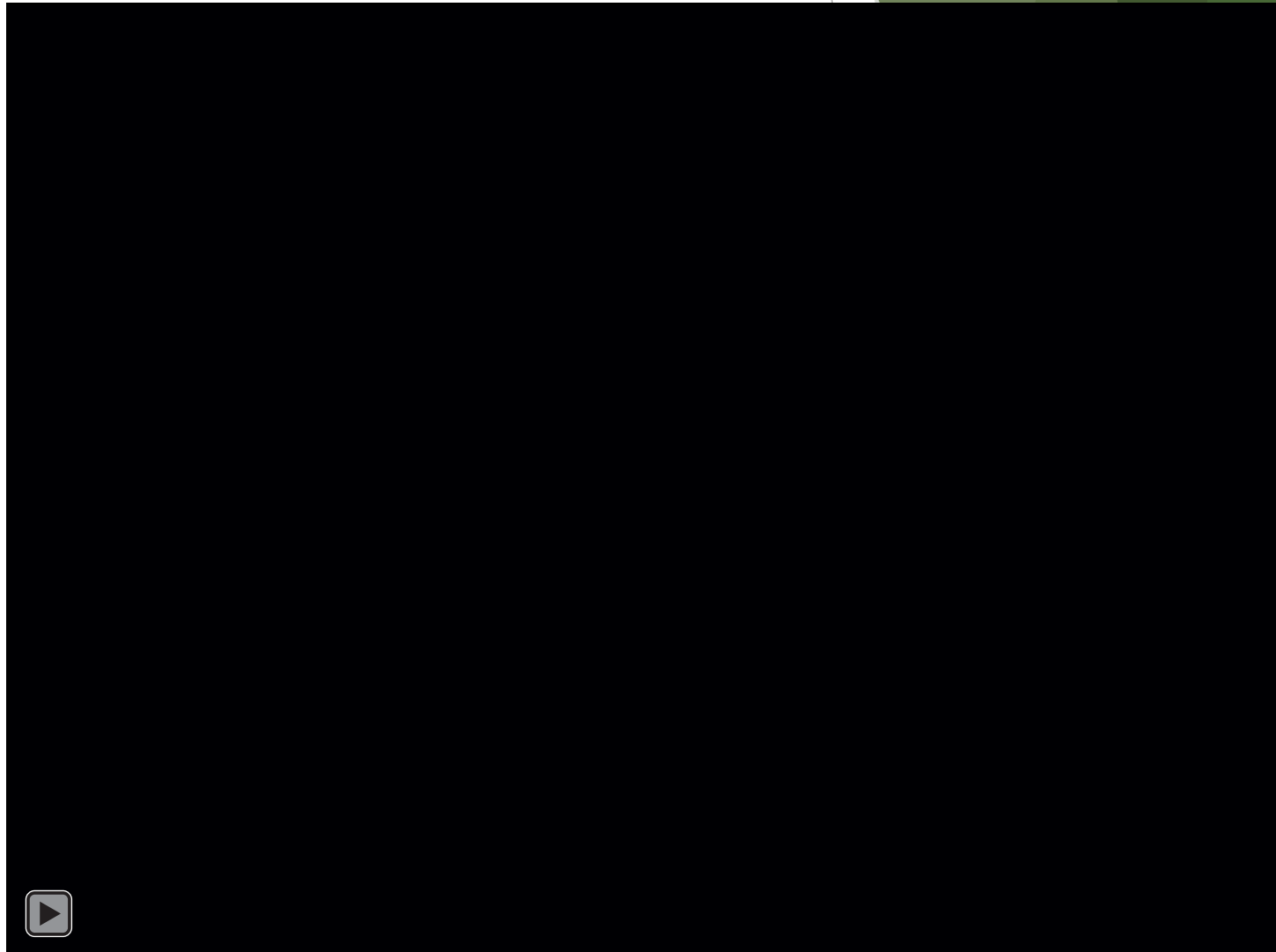
- ▶ limited in Great Lakes
 - ▶ ~116 inland pops





Muskellunge Biology

- ▶ Capable of long-distance movement
- ▶ Escapement
- ▶ Genetically distinct strains
- ▶ Competition with pike



Legendary Sportfish

- Fish of 10,000 casts



Muskellunge Management Plan

- ▶ 5 goals
- ▶ Identified issues
- ▶ Objectives and strategies
- ▶ Outlines a plan to achieve maximum size potential through low exploitation
- ▶ Call for standardized evaluations



FR12

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

March 2016

Management Plan for Muskellunge in Michigan

Kregg M. Smith,
Michael V. Thomas,
and
Patrick A. Hanchin



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FISHERIES DIVISION
FISHERIES REPORT 12





Goal I

- ▶ Protect, restore and enhance Muskellunge habitat in Michigan waters
 - ▶ Status and Trends program to document habitat conditions in lakes and streams statewide
 - ▶ Habitat protection
 - ▶ Research on Muskellunge movement and habitat use in Great Lakes



Goal II

- ▶ Ensure that adequate technical information is available for Michigan Muskellunge fisheries
 - ▶ Esocid committee
 - ▶ Muskellunge sampling protocol
 - ▶ Statewide angler survey program

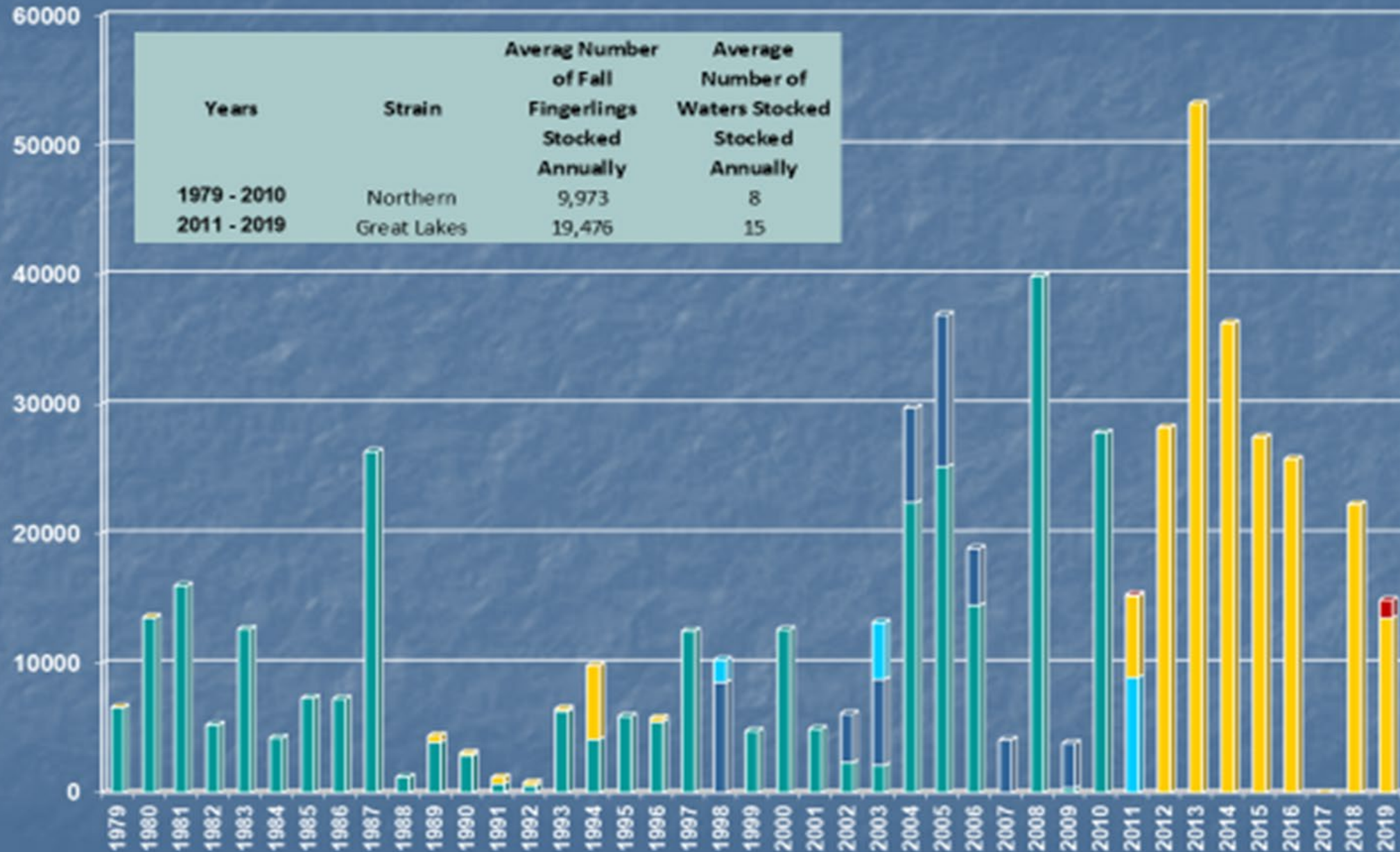


Goal III

- ▶ Protect, maintain and enhance recreational Muskellunge fisheries and associated fish assemblages and aquatic communities
 - ▶ Implemented restrictive 1-per year harvest regulations
 - ▶ Harvest reporting
 - ▶ Great Lakes Strain
 - ▶ Native genetics
 - ▶ Broodstock Plan



■ Northern-MI
 ■ Northern-IA
 ■ Northern-IN
 ■ Great Lakes
 ■ Great Lakes YR



Goal IV

- Communicate with anglers and promote the recreational value of Michigan's Muskellunge fisheries

- Establishment of Esocid committee: point of contact for anglers
- Angler harvest reporting, angler survey, angler diaries, press releases
- Research collaborations
- PIT tag program

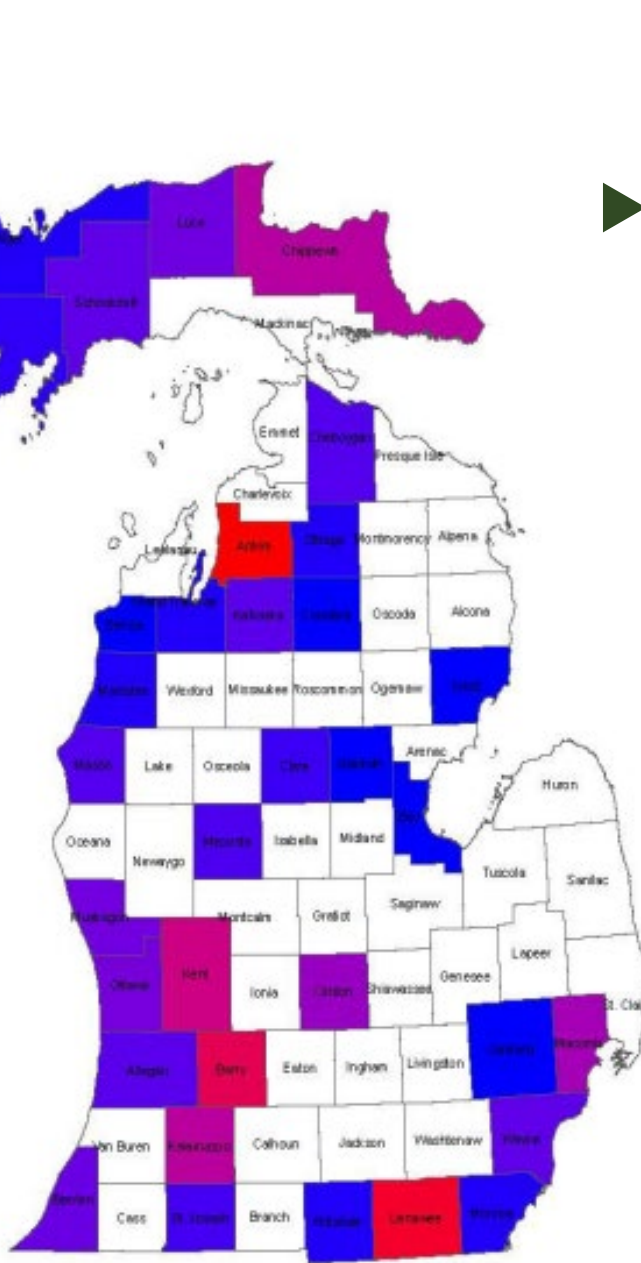
Number of 2022
Musky Trips



25 50 75



100 km



Goal V

- ▶ Provide a variety of fishing opportunities for Muskellunge in Michigan
 - ▶ Stocking program
 - ▶ A variety of regulations promote fishing opportunities based on growth capacity of a system
 - ▶ 42" standard, but also 50", 46" and 38"
 - ▶ Year-round catch and release
 - ▶ Select spearing waters



Summary

- ▶ Progress on the objectives of the Muskellunge management plan are ongoing
- ▶ Development of a standardized sampling plan is a major achievement
- ▶ Re-write of Broodstock management objectives is current biggest priority





Thanks



Saginaw Bay Fisheries Management Framework and Status

Presentation to the Natural Resource Commission July 13, 2023

Jeff Jolley - Southern Lake Huron Unit Manager, Fisheries Division



Fisheries Trends in Saginaw Bay



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
August 2004

Strategy and Options for Completing the Recovery of Walleye in Saginaw Bay, Lake Huron

David G. Fielder
and
James P. Baker



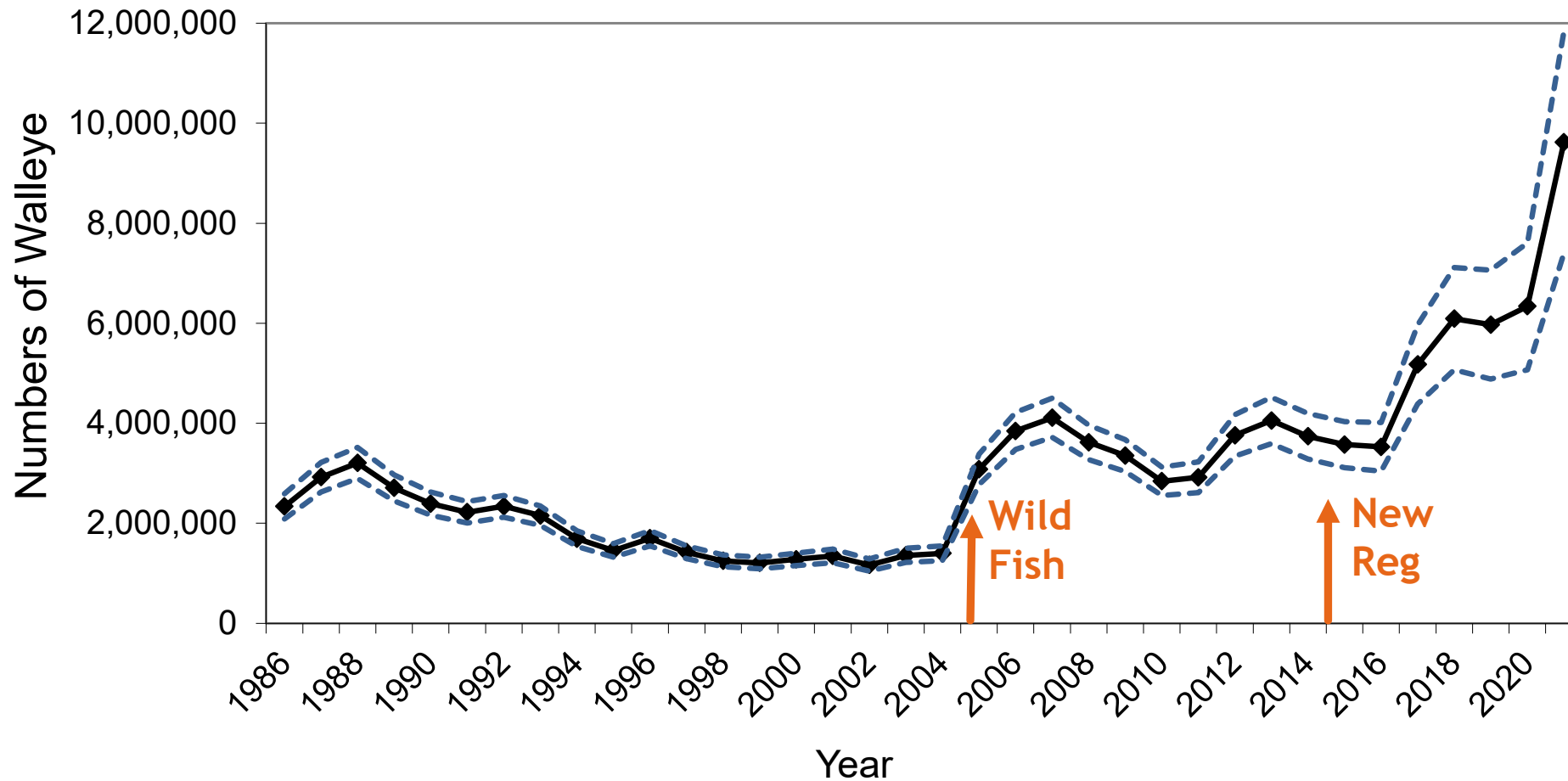
NASA Photo

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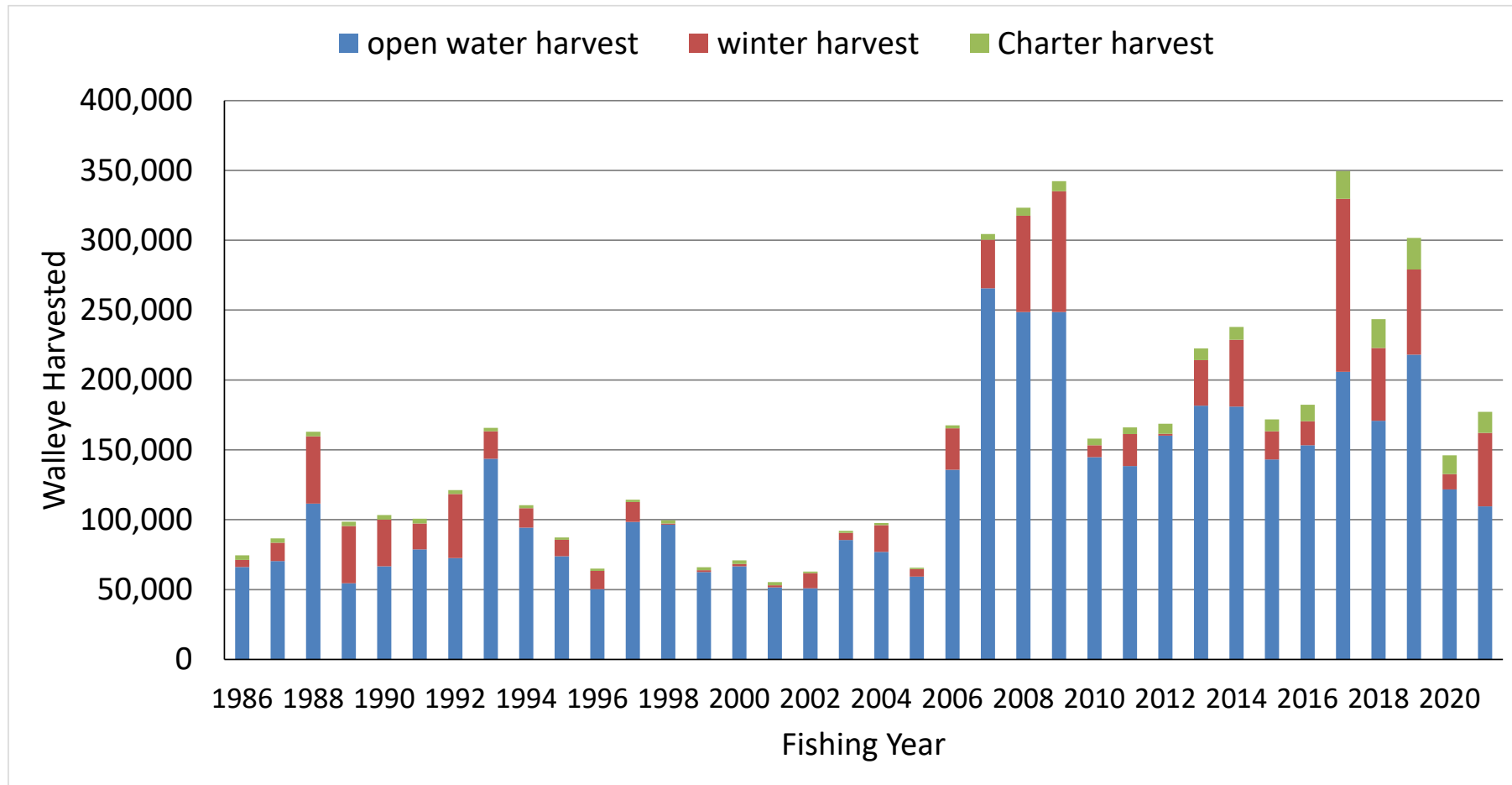
FISHERIES DIVISION
SPECIAL REPORT



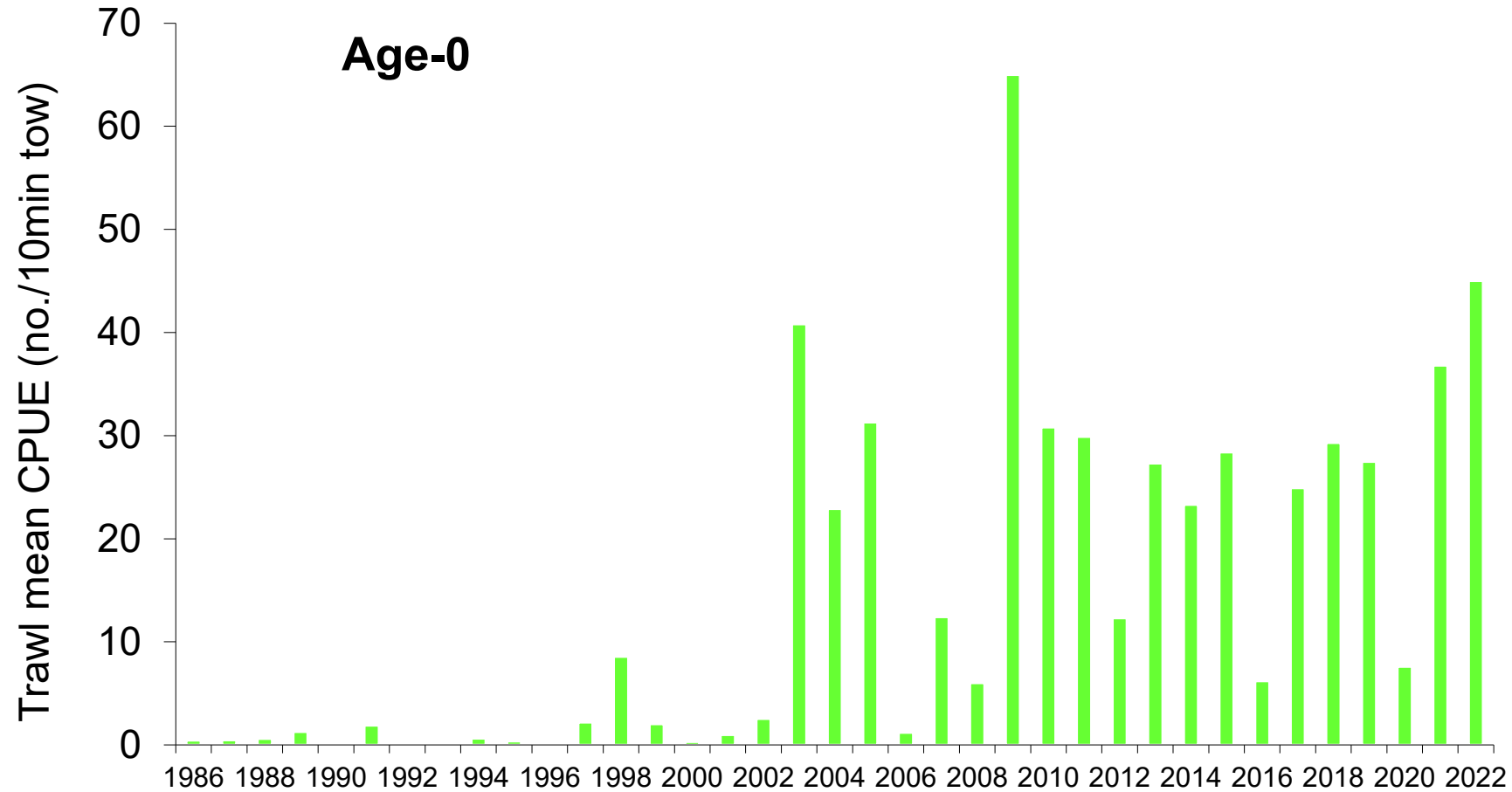
Walleye Abundance (1986-2021)



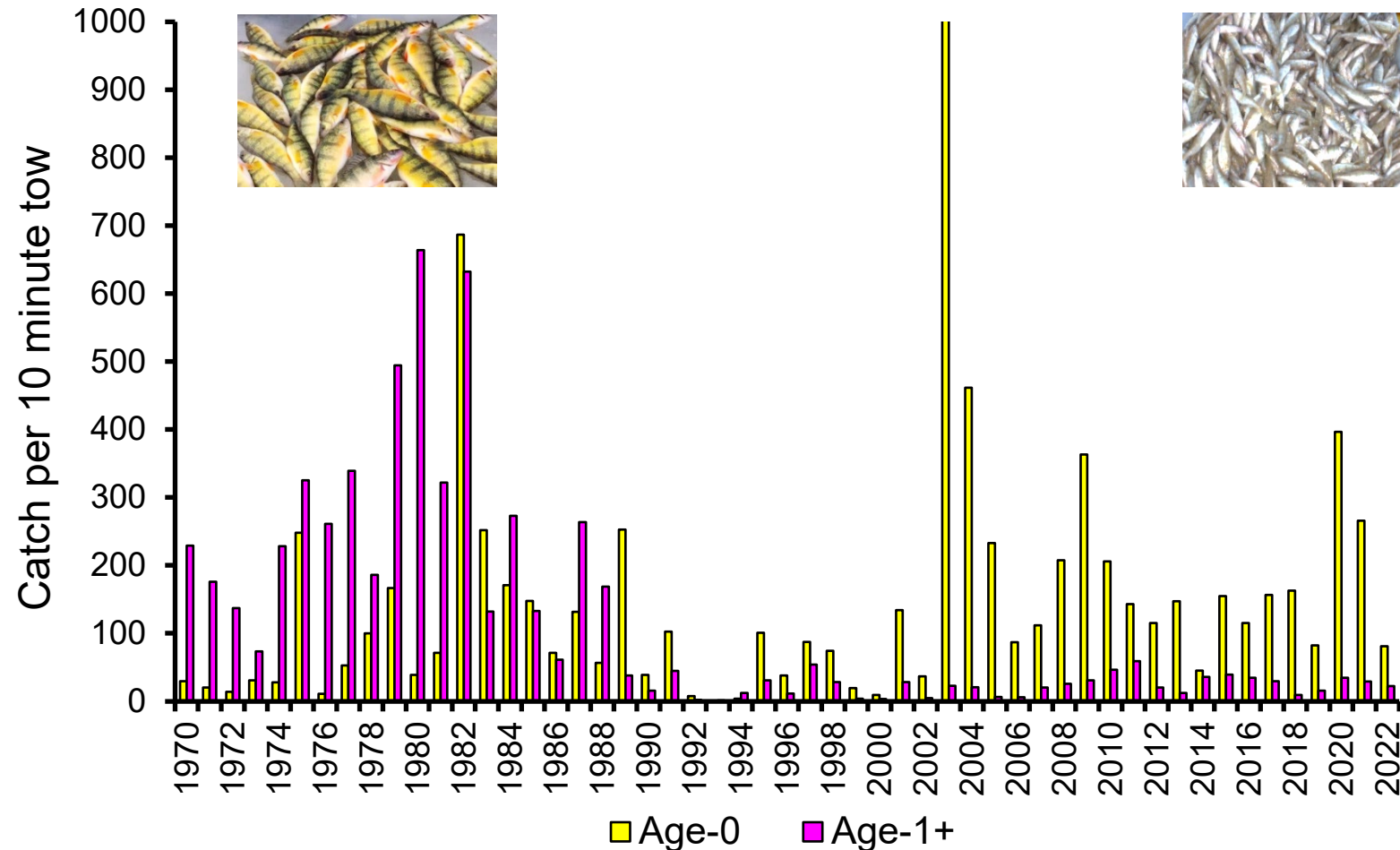
Trends in Walleye Angler Harvest 1986-2021



Walleye recruitment trends



Yellow Perch recruitment trends



New Walleye Season on the Saginaw River

March 16-April 28, 2023



Management Action

Saginaw River Open to Year-Round Walleye Harvest

6 weeks of additional fishing when
Walleye abundant

Shore and watercraft options of all sizes

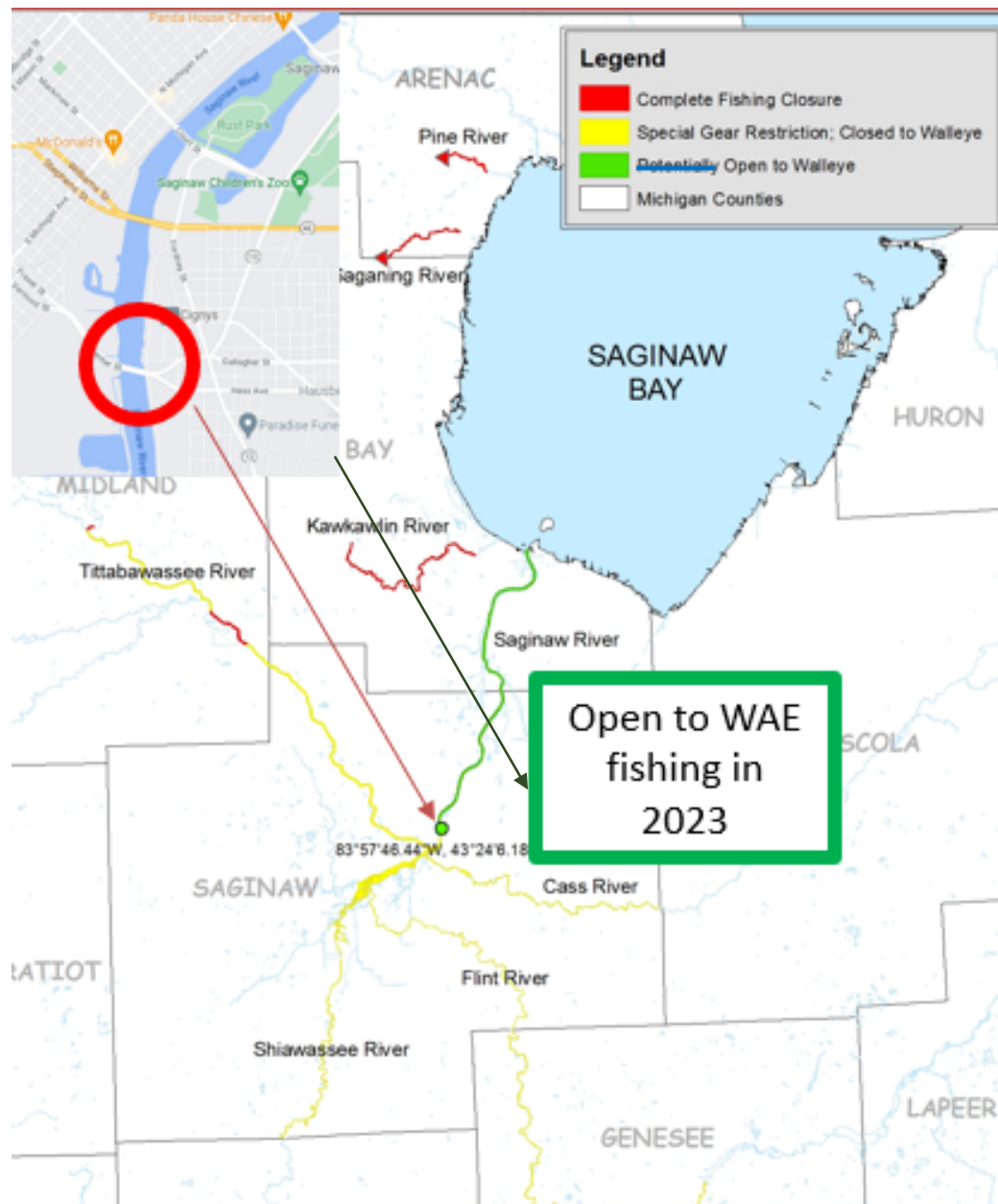
Consistent regulations for bay and river

8 fish DPL and 13" MSL

Bay and river single stock management



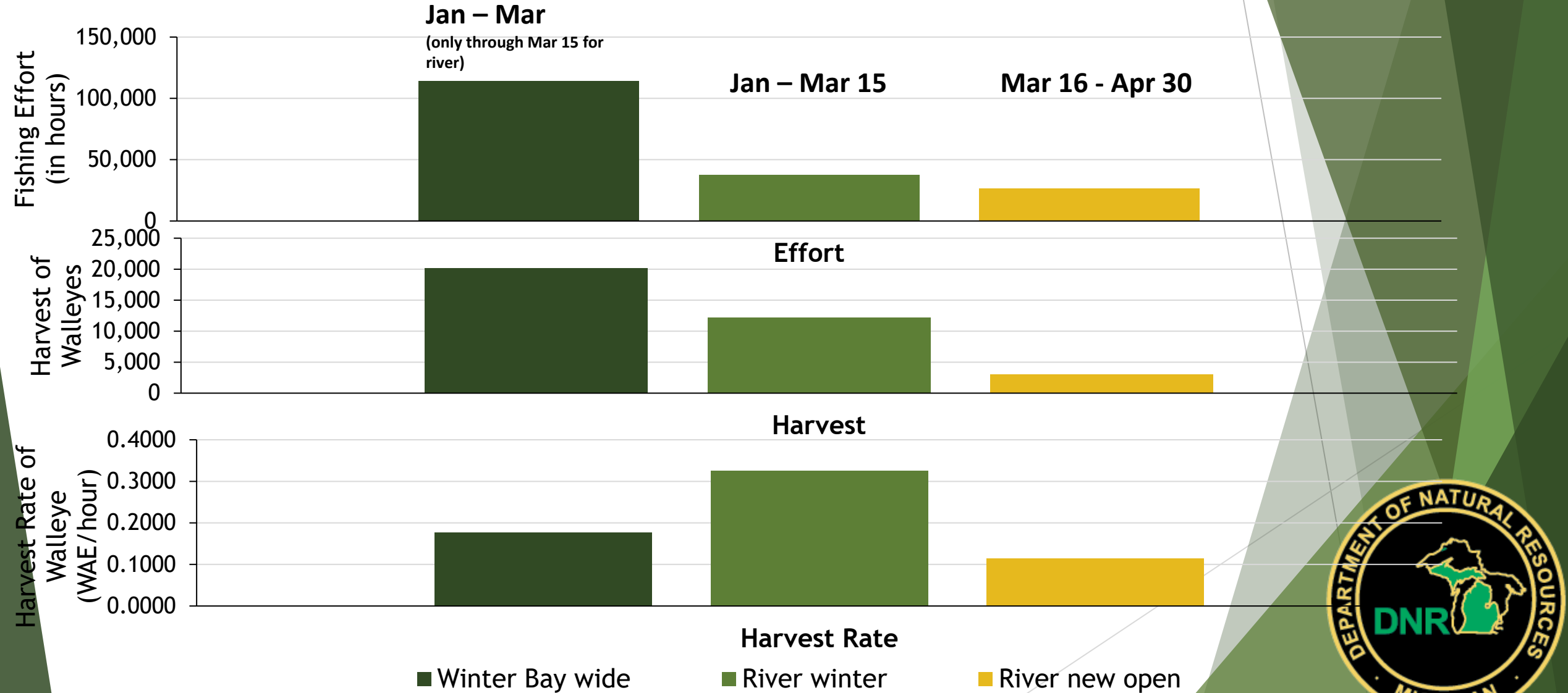
Saginaw River new Walleye Season



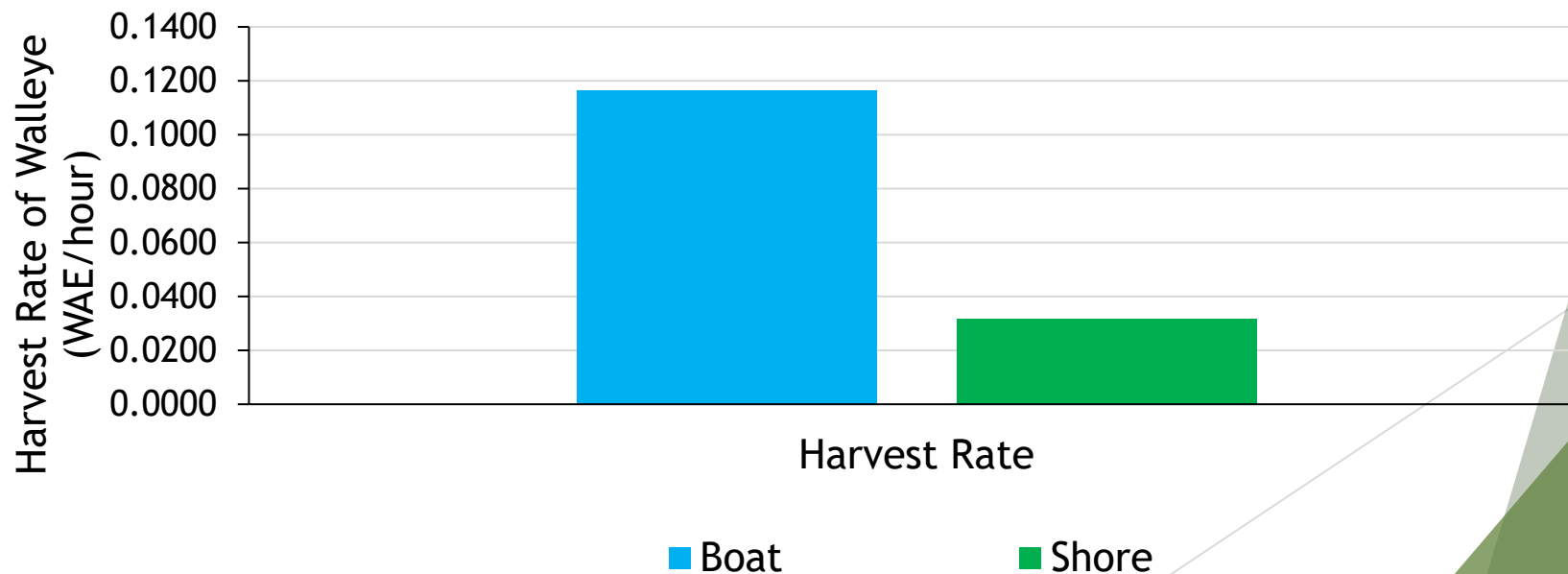
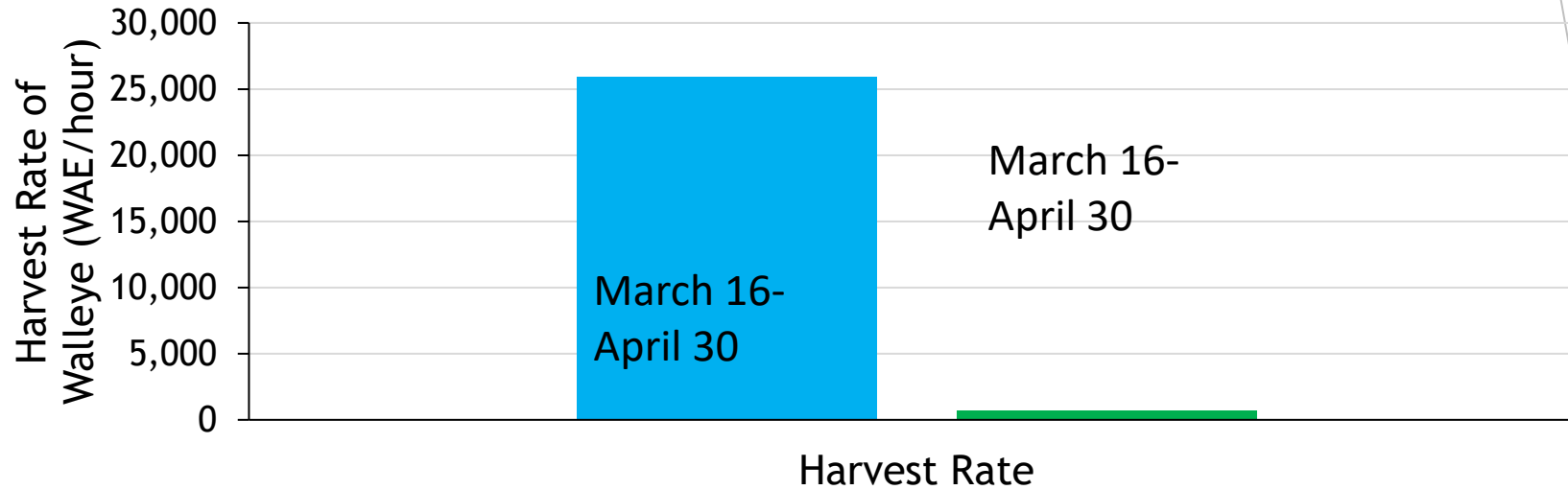
*This map only denotes mainstream rivers and should not be referenced for regulations of tributaries shown on the previous slide.



Comparison of Walleye Effort and Harvest



Mode of effort in new Saginaw River season

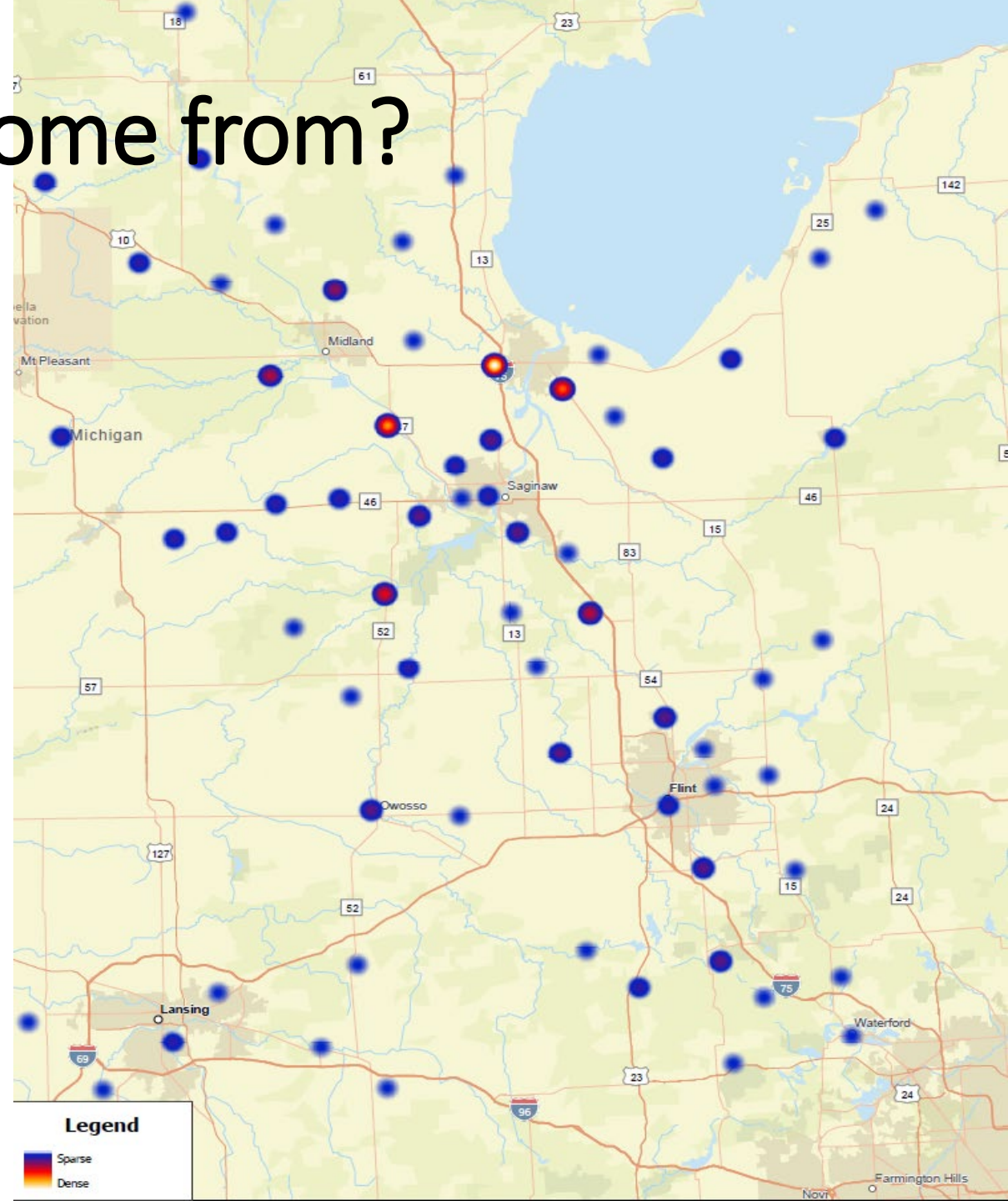
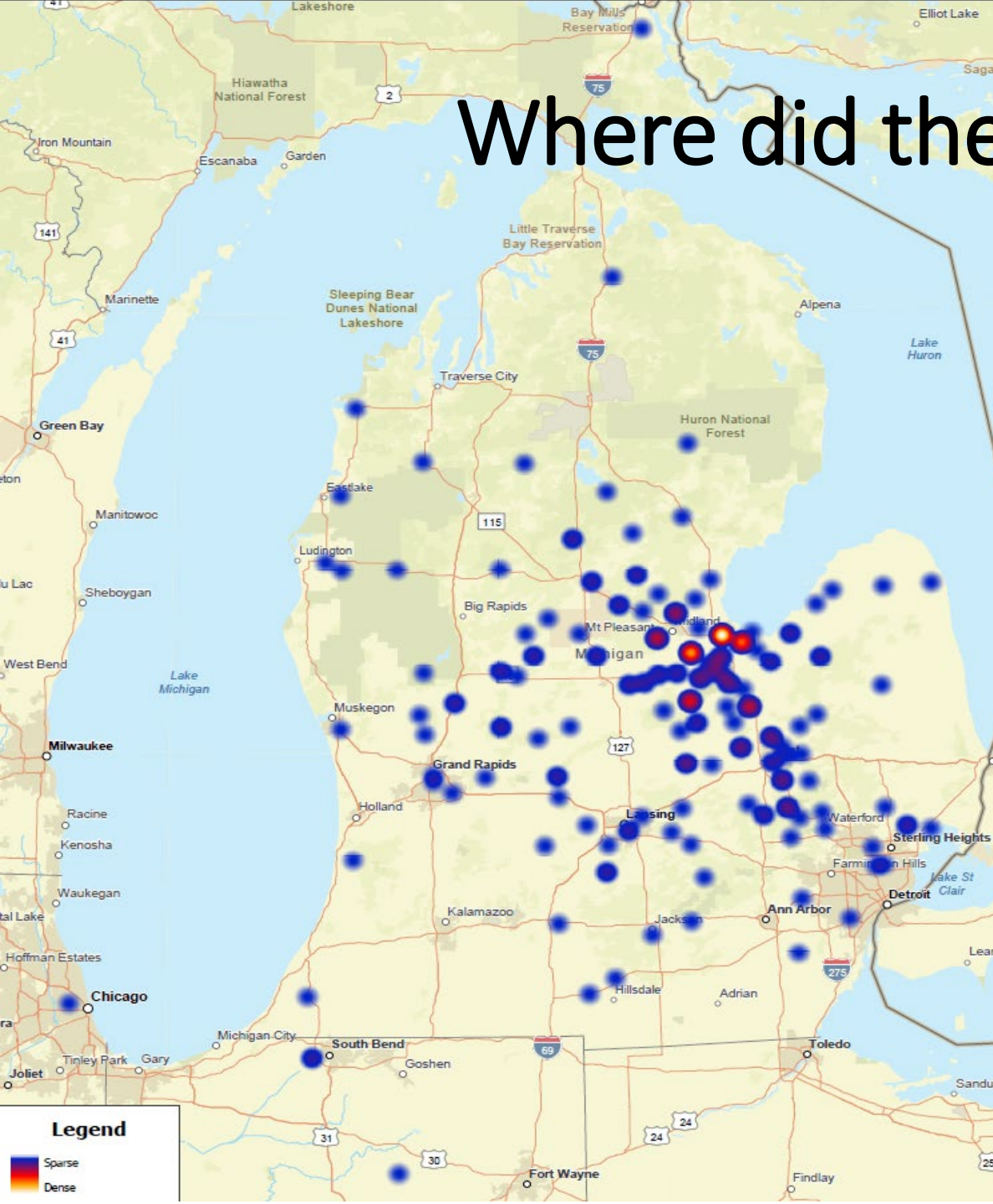


Walleye biological composition of new Saginaw River season

Segment	Mean length	Mean age	Sex ratio	N	Sig age diff?
Saginaw River before new season	17.3 in	4.32	Unable to determine	41	Yes P=0.0010 Nonparametric Mann-Whitney U test
Saginaw River during new season	20.1 in	5.55	1:1	31	



Where did they come from?



Summary of new season

New fishery was modest

- 23% as much as the preceding winter fishery on Saginaw Bay/rivers combined.
- 6% as much as the previous year's open water fishery.
- Angler harvest rate was low*
- * High flows, muddy conditions. Other years will be different.

New interest in the fishery

- Most effort boat-based.
- Lower effort and harvest from shore.
- Walleye harvested during the new season were older (& larger)

Minimum biological impact

- More monitoring of this new fishery over several years will be necessary to document the full extent.



Recent Management Approaches

2015:

- Liberalizing walleye (8 DPL, 13” MSL)
 - More fully utilize recovered walleye stock
 - Reduce yellow perch mortality (age-0 to age-1)
 - Increase forage fish abundance
- Reducing yellow perch bag limit (25 from 50 DPL)
- Reintroduction of cisco
- Shifting commercial fishing licenses
- Coreyon Reef Restoration

2023: Saginaw River open all year for

Principles

- Balance walleye recovery with prey fish and yellow perch population.
- Increase harvest opportunities
- Ability to scale back easily if needed



Draft Management Plan



A **Walleye** population that 1) promotes high-quality and diverse angling and harvest opportunities, 2) conserves reproducing fish and is self-sustaining, and 3) is appropriate for the prey base.

Support a **Yellow Perch** population that provides harvest opportunities for anglers in addition to a prey base for Walleye.



Walleye Management Goals

- Goal 1.** Maintain a healthy Walleye population that balances recreational angling and harvest opportunity.
- Goal 2.** Protect, restore, and provide connectivity to essential habitats.
- Goal 3.** Provide a diverse menu of equitably distributed fishing opportunities in time and space to maximize fishery participation.
- Goal 4.** Pursue and advocate for research that fills in information gaps which will inform management and policy.



Walleye Management Targets

- Integrated Index containing important metrics of **sustainability, recruitment, and fishery quality**.
- **Growth rate:** Growth of adult fish indicating carrying capacity of bay.
- **Reproductive potential:** Conserve appropriate number of spawning fish
- **Angler targeted catch rate:** open water catch rate of walleye is greater than 0.4/hr.
- **Recruitment:** Mean CPUE of age-0 walleye is above 20/10 min trawl in 3 of 5 years.



Yellow Perch Management Goals

Goal 1. Maintain a resilient Yellow Perch population that has recreational angling and harvest opportunity.

Goal 2. Protect and restore essential habitats used by young Yellow Perch.

Goal 3. Pursue and advocate for research that fills in information gaps which will inform management and policy.



Yellow Perch Management Targets

- Integrated Index containing important metrics of **sustainability, recruitment, and fishery quality.**
- **Growth rate:** Growth of adult fish indicating carrying capacity of bay.
- **Angler targeted catch rate:** Mean year-round catch rate of perch is greater than 1/hr.
- **Recruitment:** Mean CPUE of age-0 yellow perch is above 200/10 min trawl in 3 of 5 years.



Regulation Toolbox

Most Conservative

Reduce bag limit; Close Saginaw River

Middle Ground

Return to statewide default Walleye bag and size limits

Most Liberal

8 fish daily bag limit and 13 in minimum size; Open Saginaw River



Conclusions

- *High quality walleye population - >8 million adults*
- *Adults are abundant – strong 2019 year-class*
- *Yellow perch population remains depressed*
- *Yellow perch reproduction high but survival past age 1 is low*
- *Management plan draft internal review*
 - *Late summer/fall shareout with stakeholders*
 - *Fall finalization*
- *New rivery fishery was modest yet successful*





Understanding Steelhead Angler Dynamics, Perceptions, and Preferences

Seth Herbst, Ph.D.

NRC Fisheries Subcommittee Meeting

July 13, 2023

2023

Michigan Fishing Guide

Rules apply from April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024



Get the digital guide at Michigan.gov/DNRDigests

Steelhead Management Goal

Provide angling opportunities to a range of user groups who have different ability levels and use different fishing methods to target Steelhead year-round in Michigan's Great Lakes and connected rivers.



Illustration provided by Joseph R. Tomelleri ©

Steelhead Management & Research

- Stocking
- Public Engagement and Regulations
- Weir and Creel
- Habitat Enhancements
- Stocking and Strain Evaluations
- Origin of Hatchery and Naturalized
- Lake Michigan Populations Models
- On-going Research



Angler Engagement

- Acquire representative information on angler use and perceptions to inform management strategies
 - Angler Surveys
 - Attend organizational meetings
 - Fishery workshops
 - Advisory Committees
 - Conversations and Coffee meetings

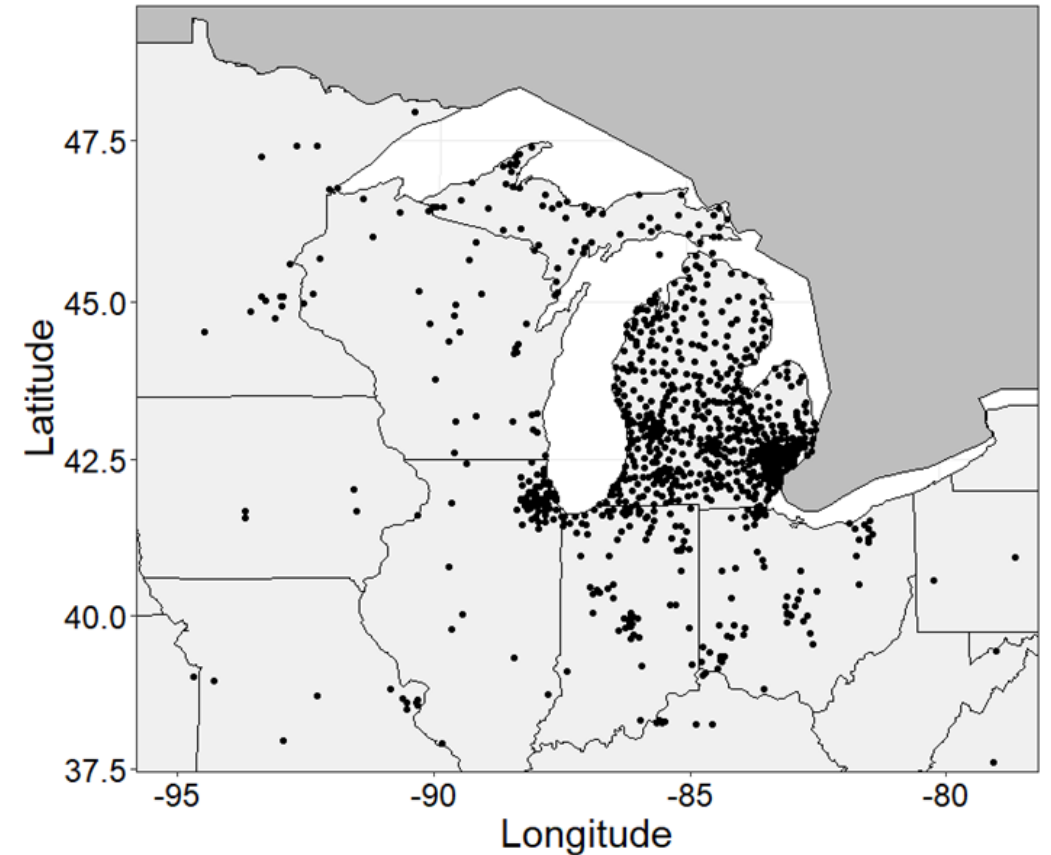


2022 Steelhead Angler Survey

- **Purpose:** Increase understanding on angler behaviors, perceptions, and preferences to inform Steelhead management strategies and regulatory discussions
 - Satisfaction of Steelhead angling opportunities?
 - Preferences for differing management strategies?
 - Steelhead harvest preferences?
 - Differences among diverse users?
- Acquire representative information from anglers to inform management strategies
 - Low attendance during meetings
 - Concern for biased feedback
 - Complement other targeted angler survey efforts – Sea Grant

Steelhead Angler Survey Design

- Survey was emailed to 206,223 randomly selected licensed anglers
 - Open from Aug. 8 through Nov. 7, 2022
 - Two email reminders to boost response
- Received 4,556 unique responses
- Responses from anglers in 42 U.S. states
 - MI residents (84.2%)



Survey Results

- Responses provided primarily by males (92%) and individuals at least 50 years old (58.6%)
- Majority (86%) were experienced anglers (≥ 10 years) in MI
- Approx. 77% had 20 or more years of fishing experience
- Approx. 73% (n = 3,334) fished for Steelhead in MI within the previous 12 months
 - ~65% fished for Steelhead for at least 10 years in MI
 - 46% indicated Steelhead was most important species



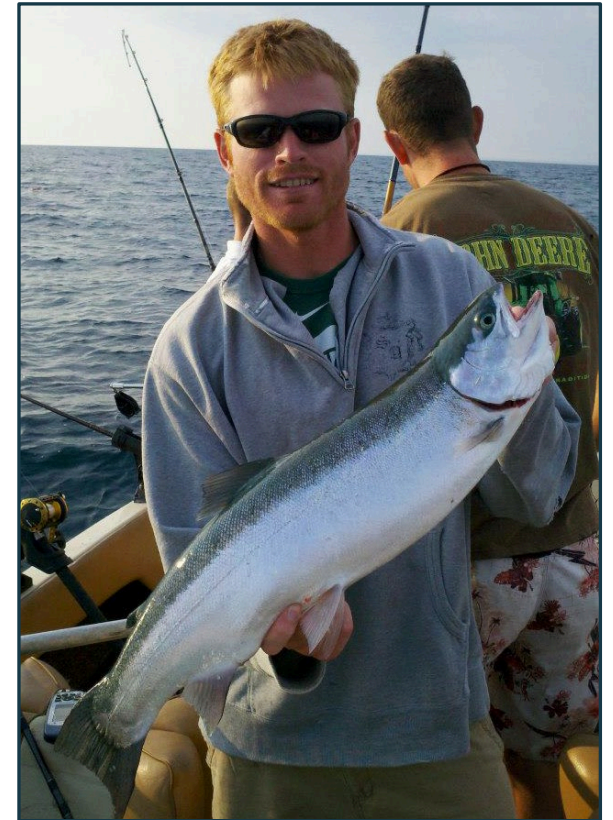
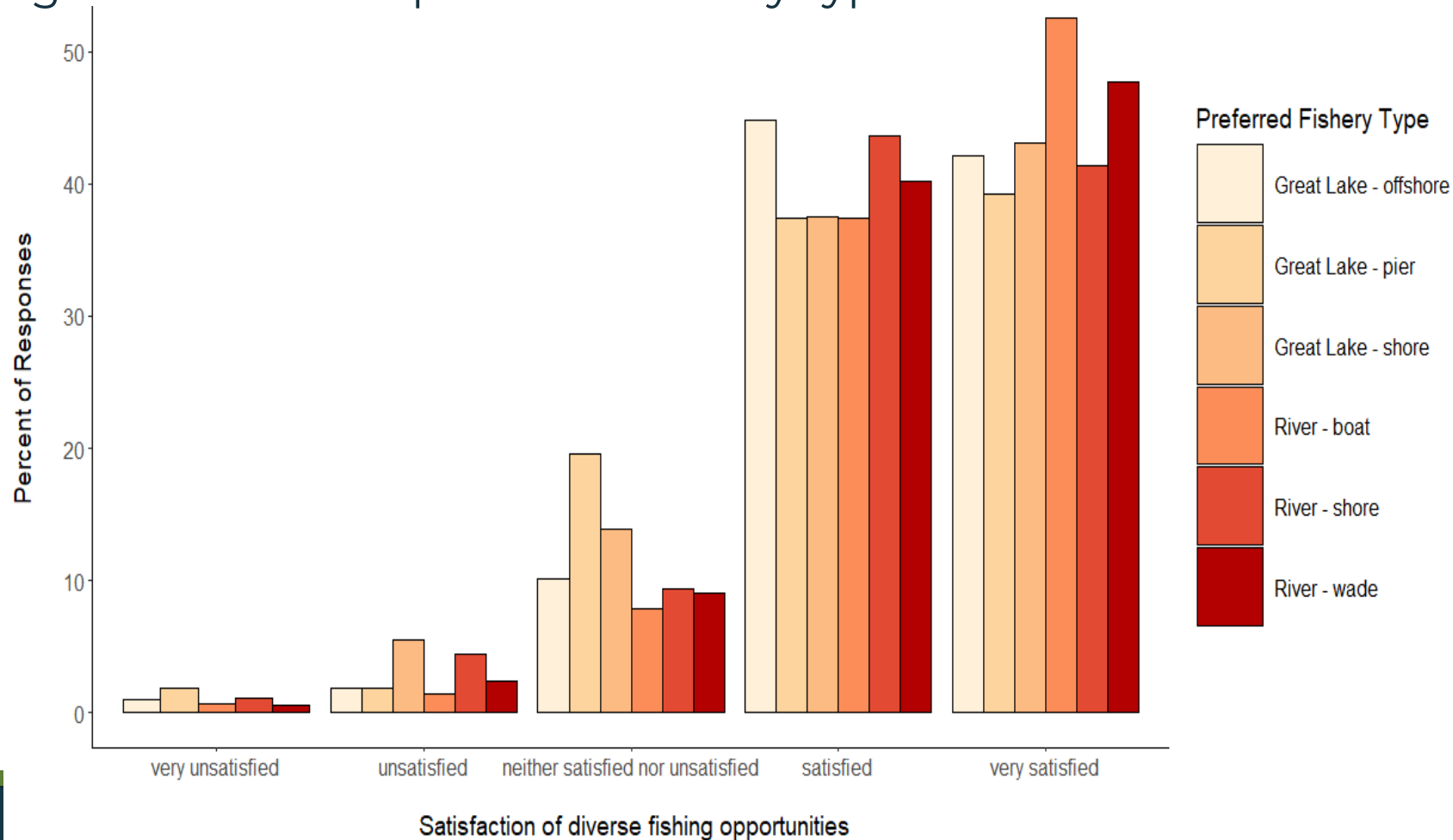
Survey Results

- Steelhead fishing is relatively specialized fishery
- Results provide a basic understanding of:
 - Angler satisfaction
 - Differences among angler types
 - Preferred fishing opportunities
 - Harvest preferences
- Results are mostly representative of current perceptions of Steelhead fishing opportunities and management goals by primary users of the resource
 - Several angler types responded, despite gender and age bias



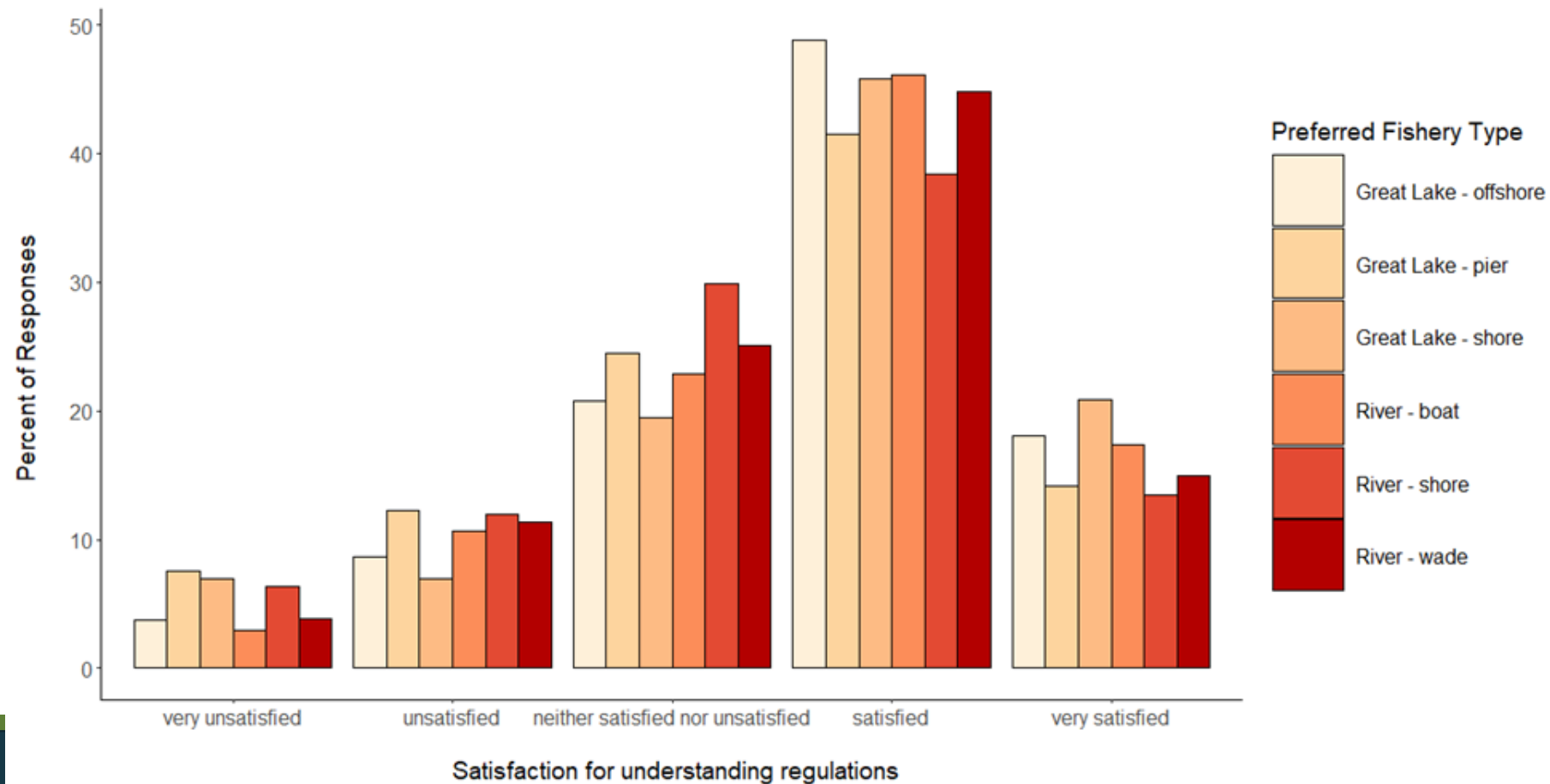
2022 Steelhead Angler Survey

- Anglers are satisfied with MI's diverse Steelhead fisheries, regardless of their preferred fishery type



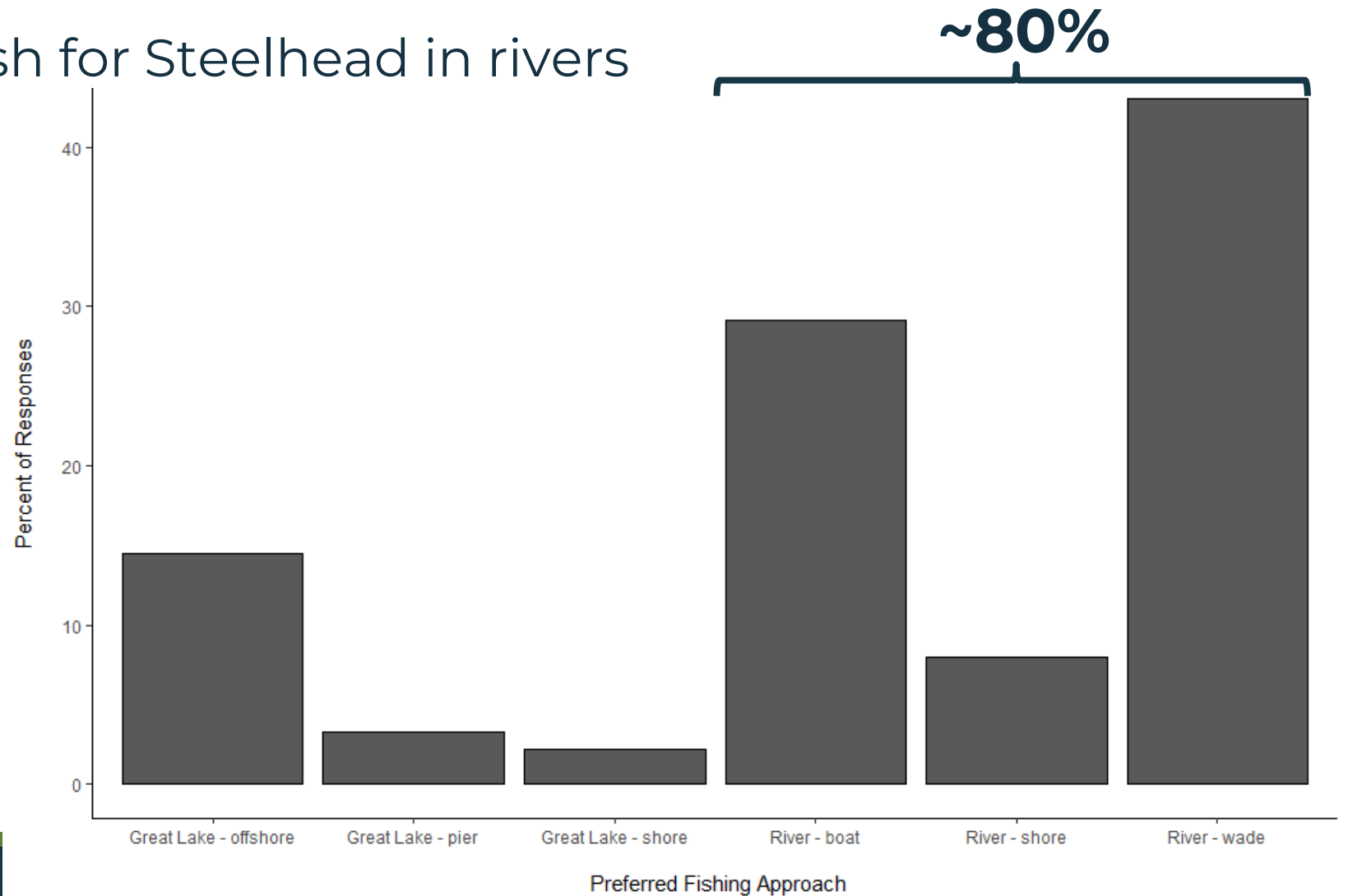
Survey Results

- Anglers are satisfied with regulatory complexity and understand Steelhead regulations



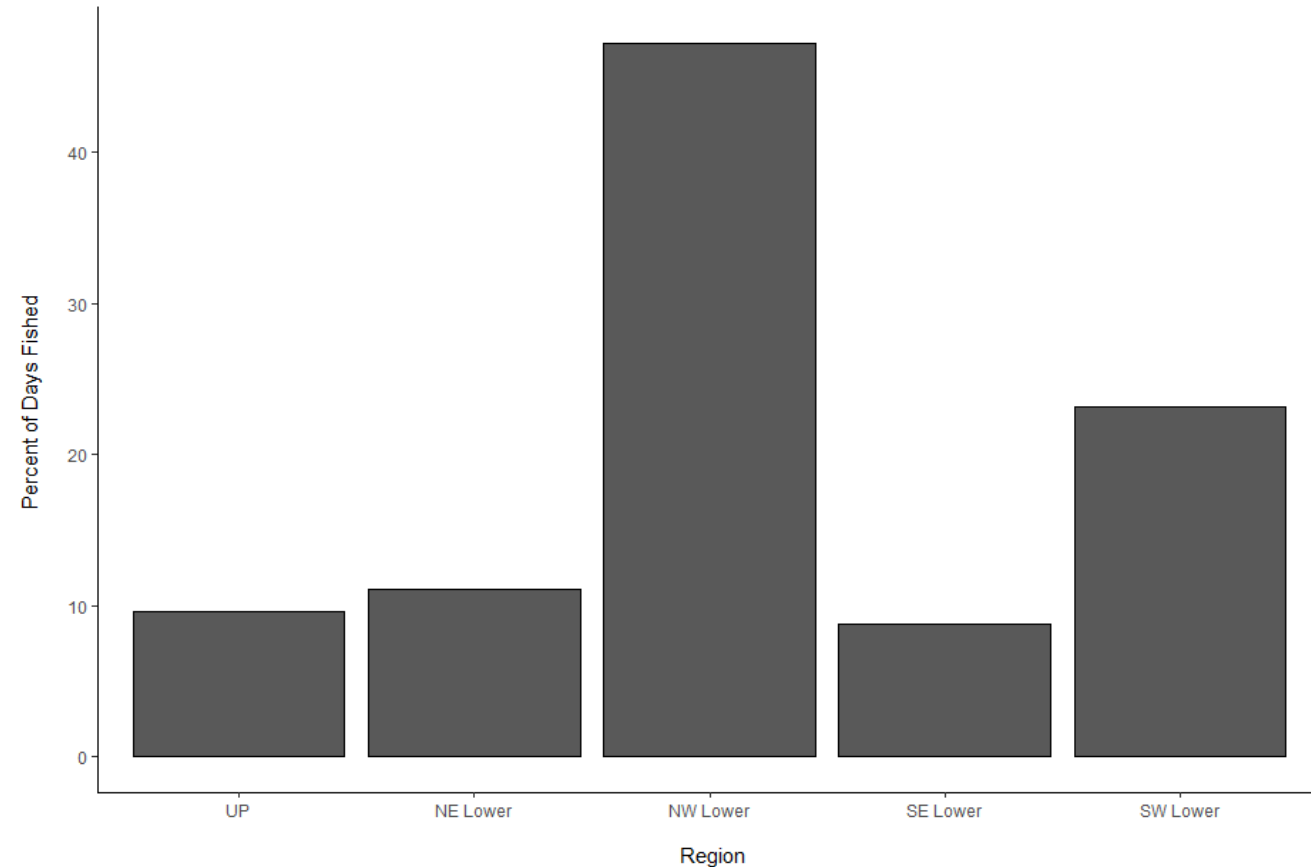
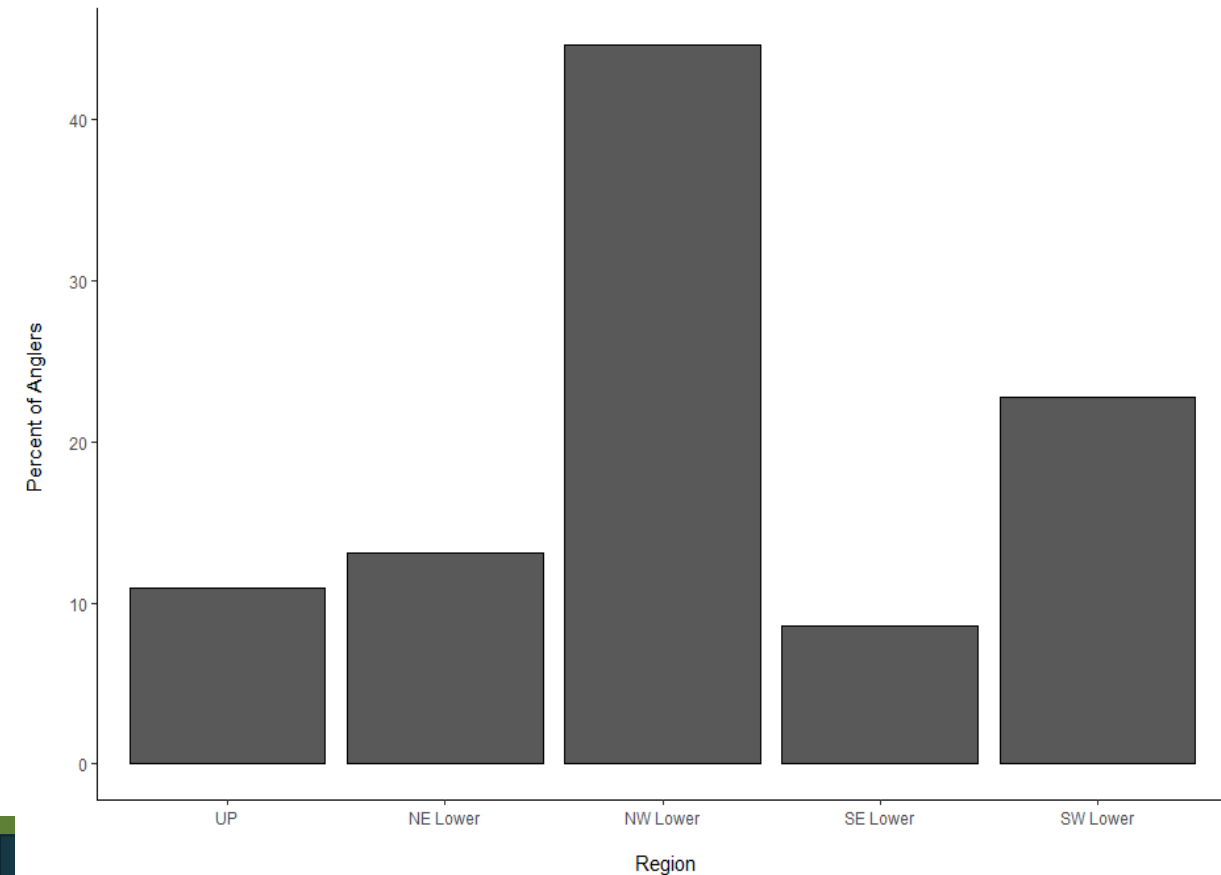
Regional Differences in Fishing Effort

- Anglers prefer to fish for Steelhead in rivers



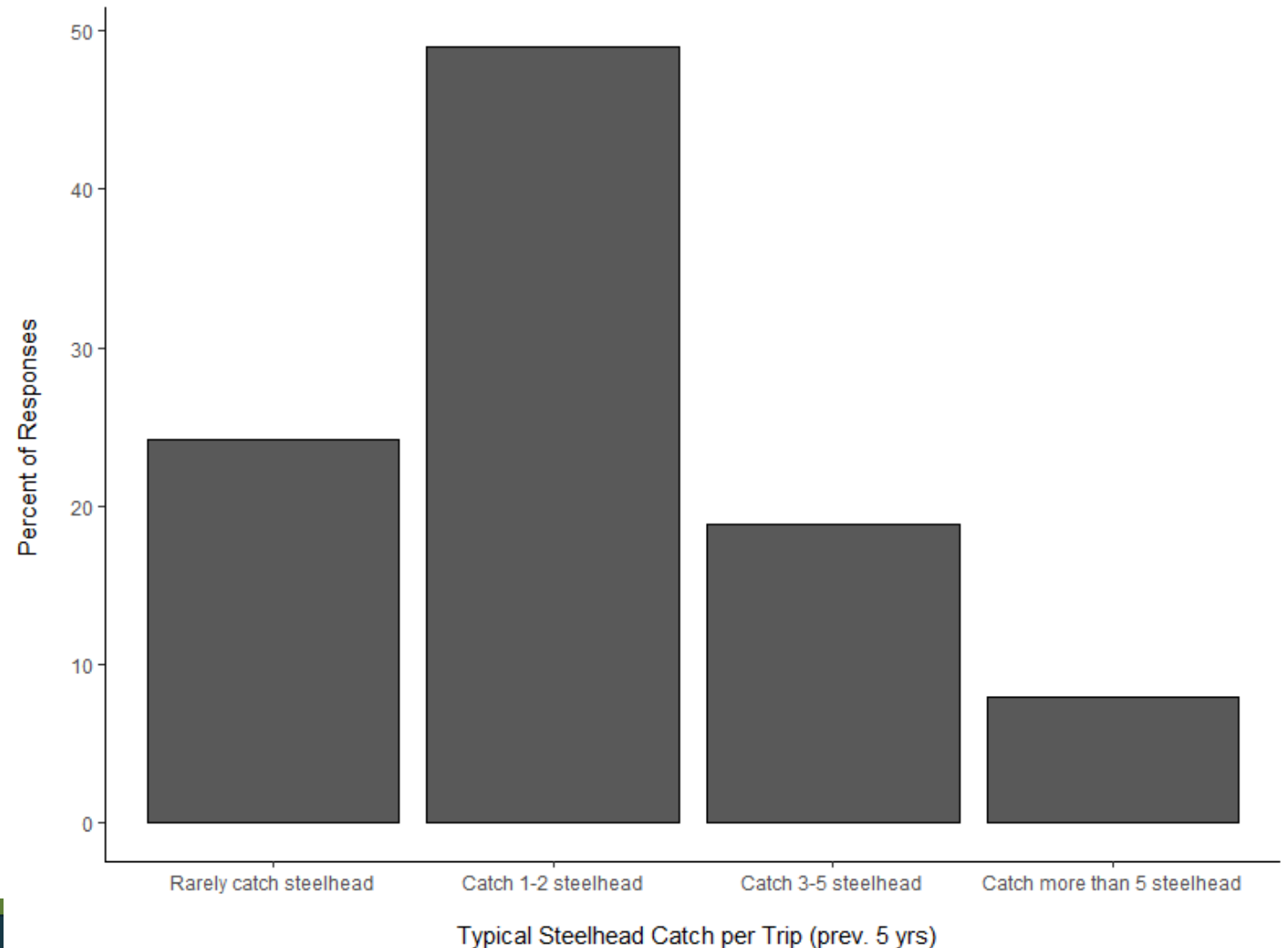
Regional Differences in Fishing Effort

- More anglers and more fishing effort occurs in rivers in NW Lower Peninsula



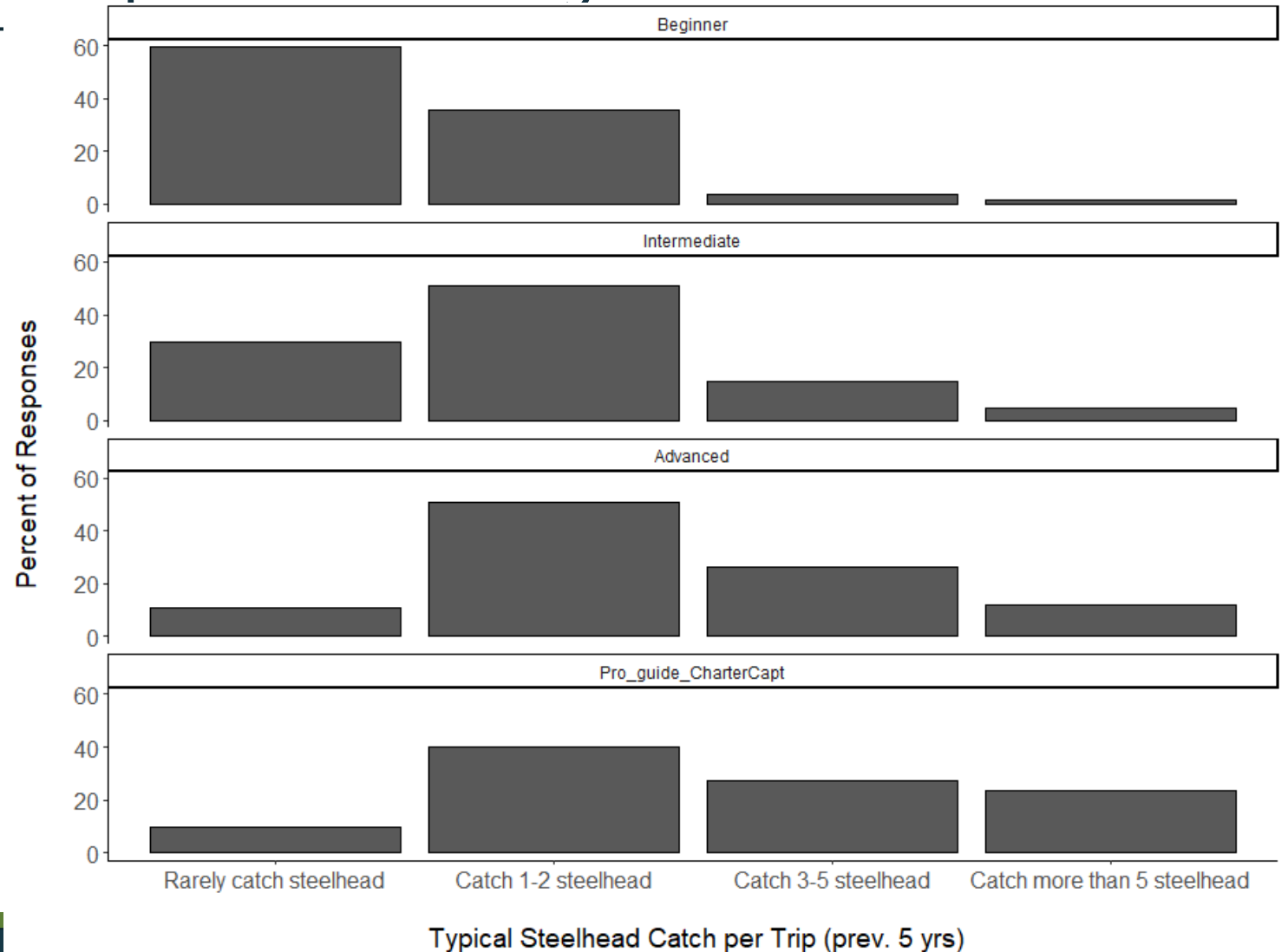
Typical Catch Rate - previous 5 years

- No regional differences



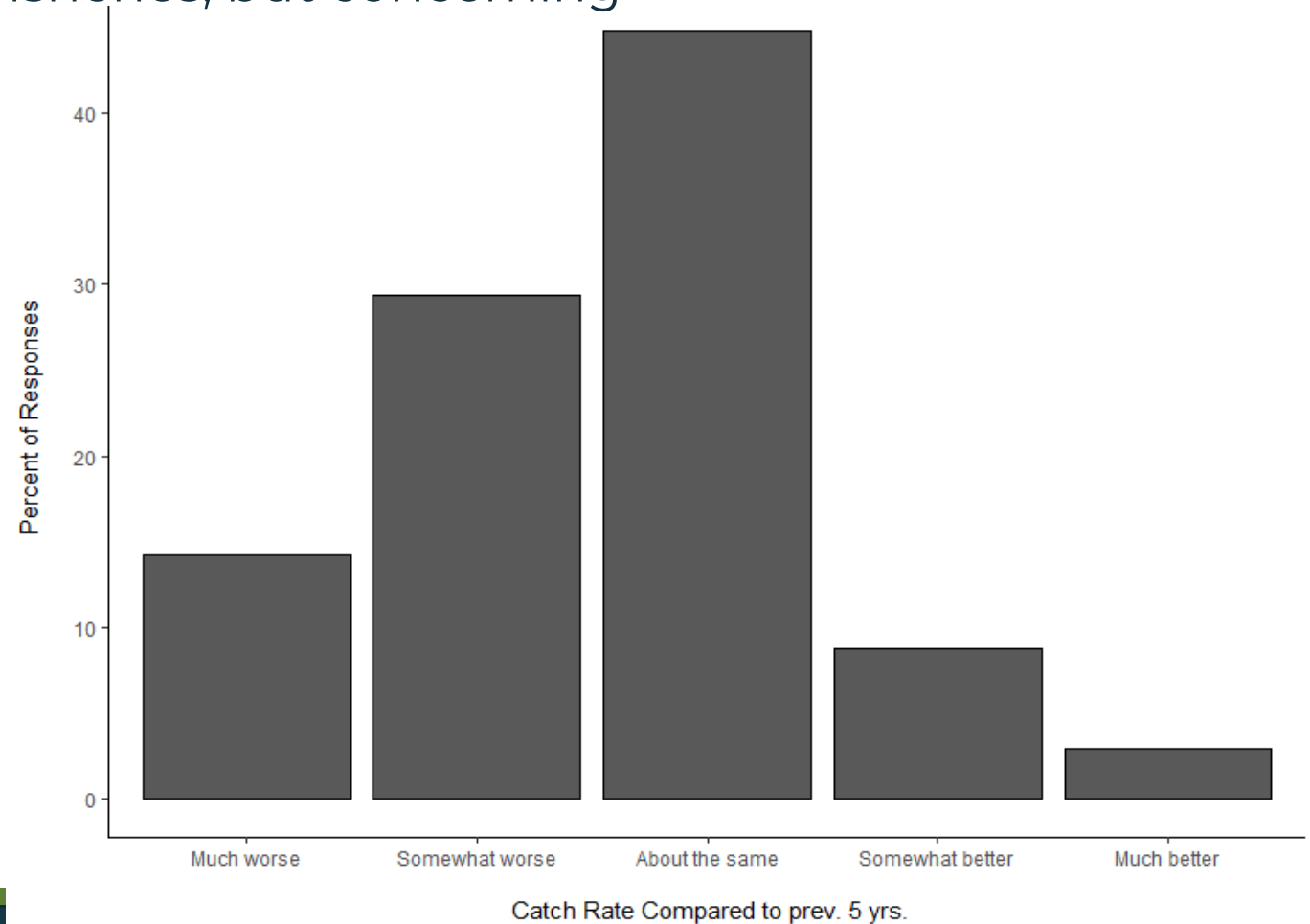
Typical Catch Rate - previous 5 years

- No regional differences
- Skill level influences typical catch rate



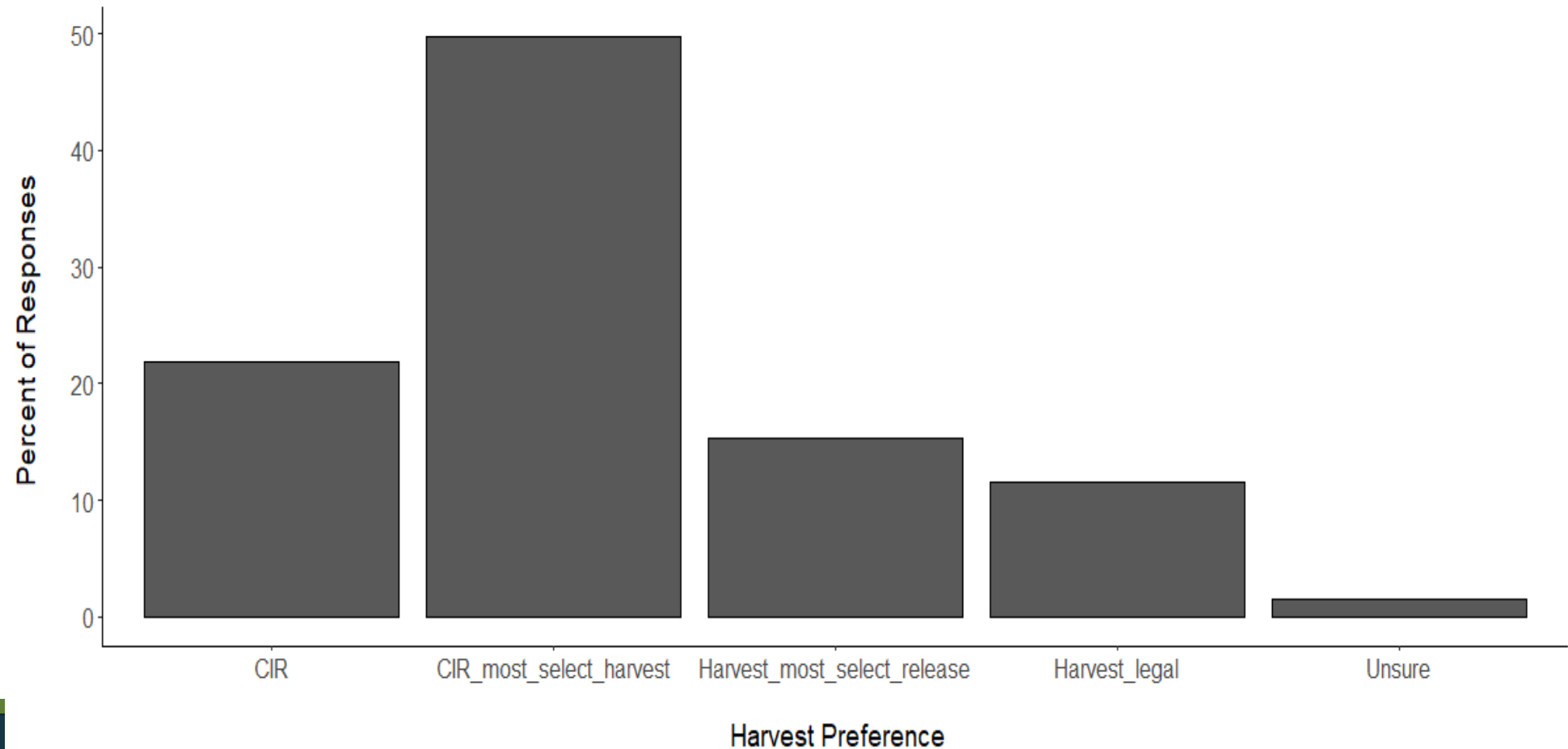
Catch Rate Trends (prev. 5 yrs)

- High satisfaction with Steelhead fisheries, but concerning feedback on catch rate trends
 - No regional differences



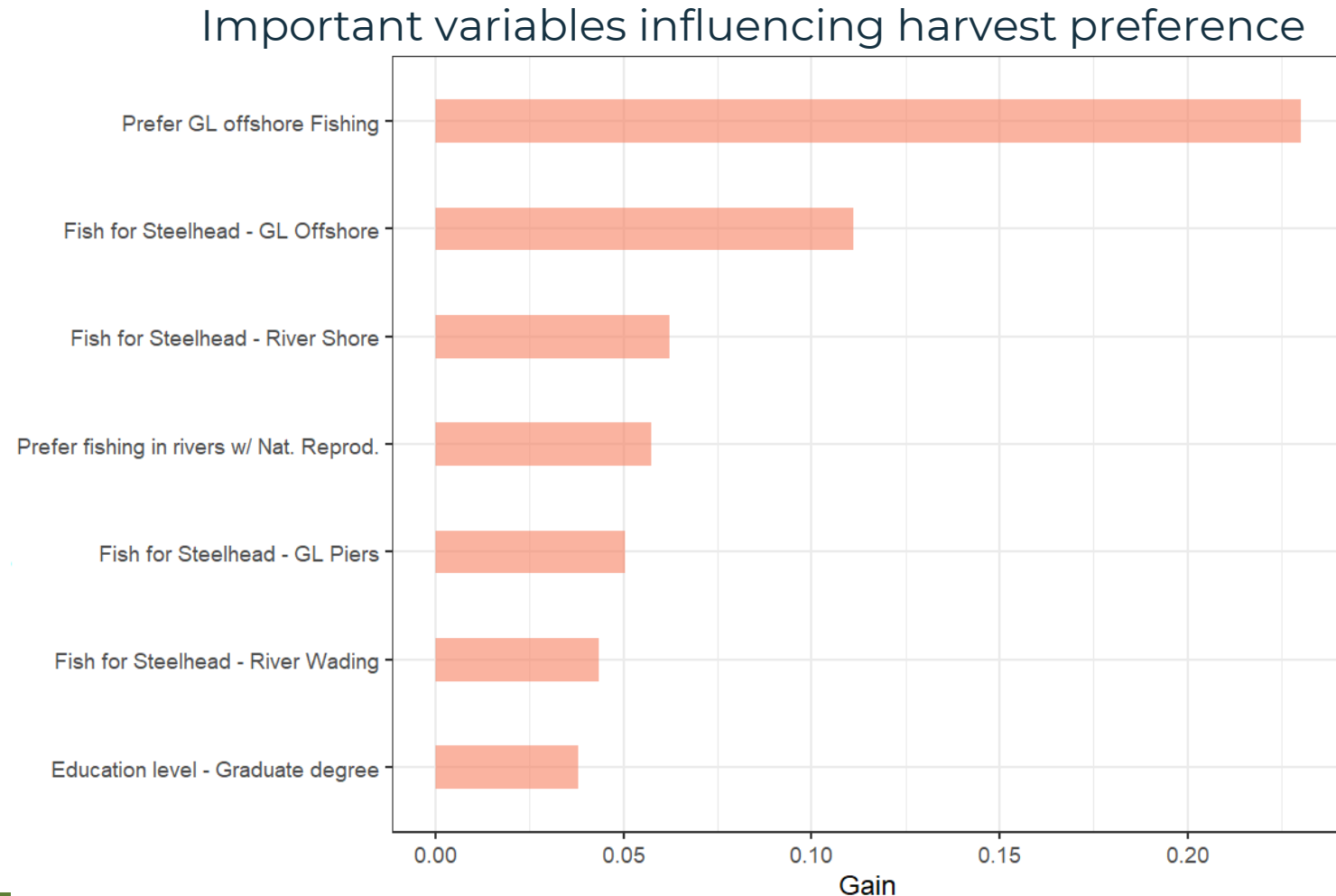
2022 Steelhead Angler Survey

- Most anglers practice CIR with some level of harvest



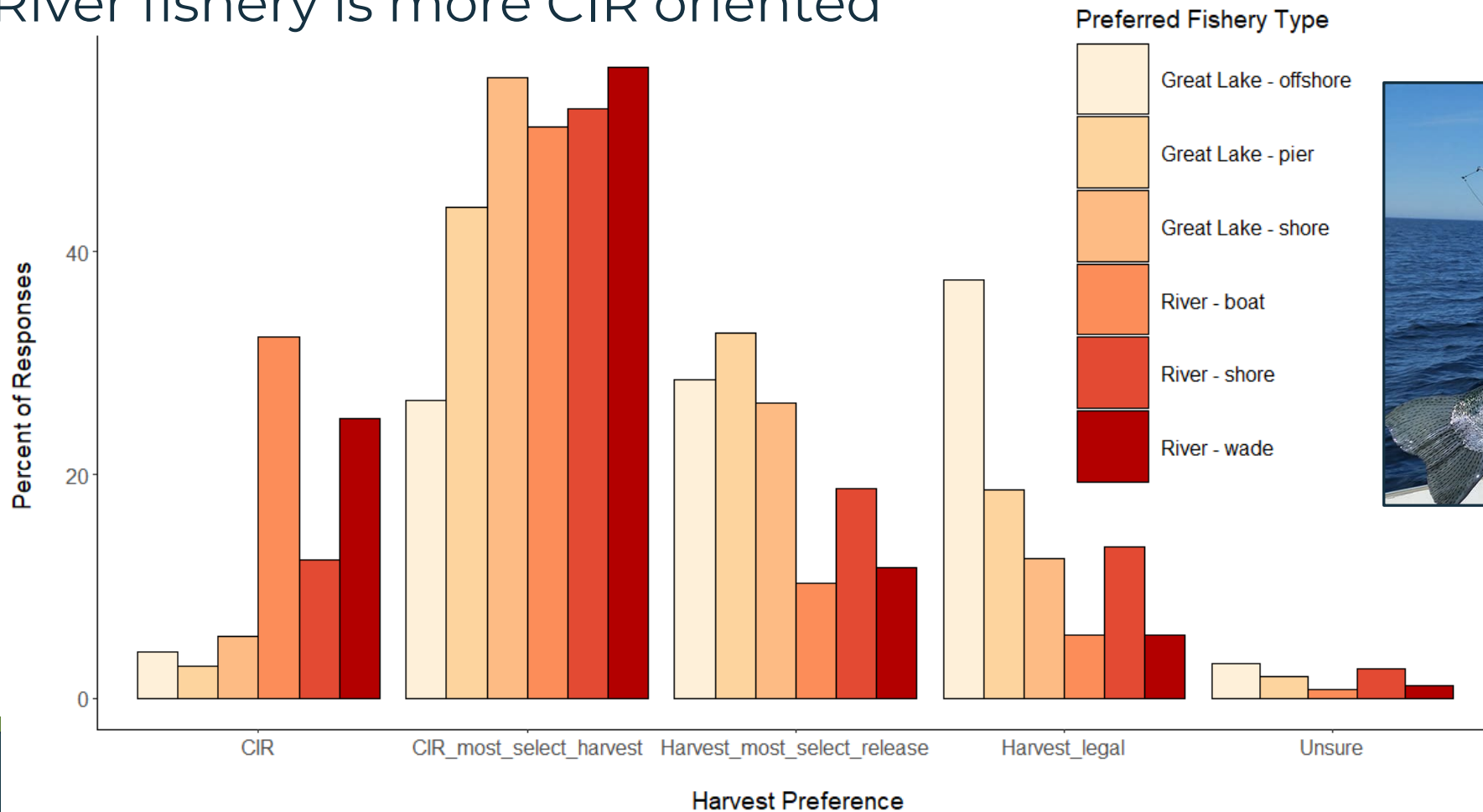
Factors Influencing Harvest Preferences

- Harvest preference is primarily influenced by a few angler features
- Most influenced if preference is to fish for Steelhead in Great Lakes offshore waters
- Additional influential factors are associated with where anglers fish and their mode of fishing



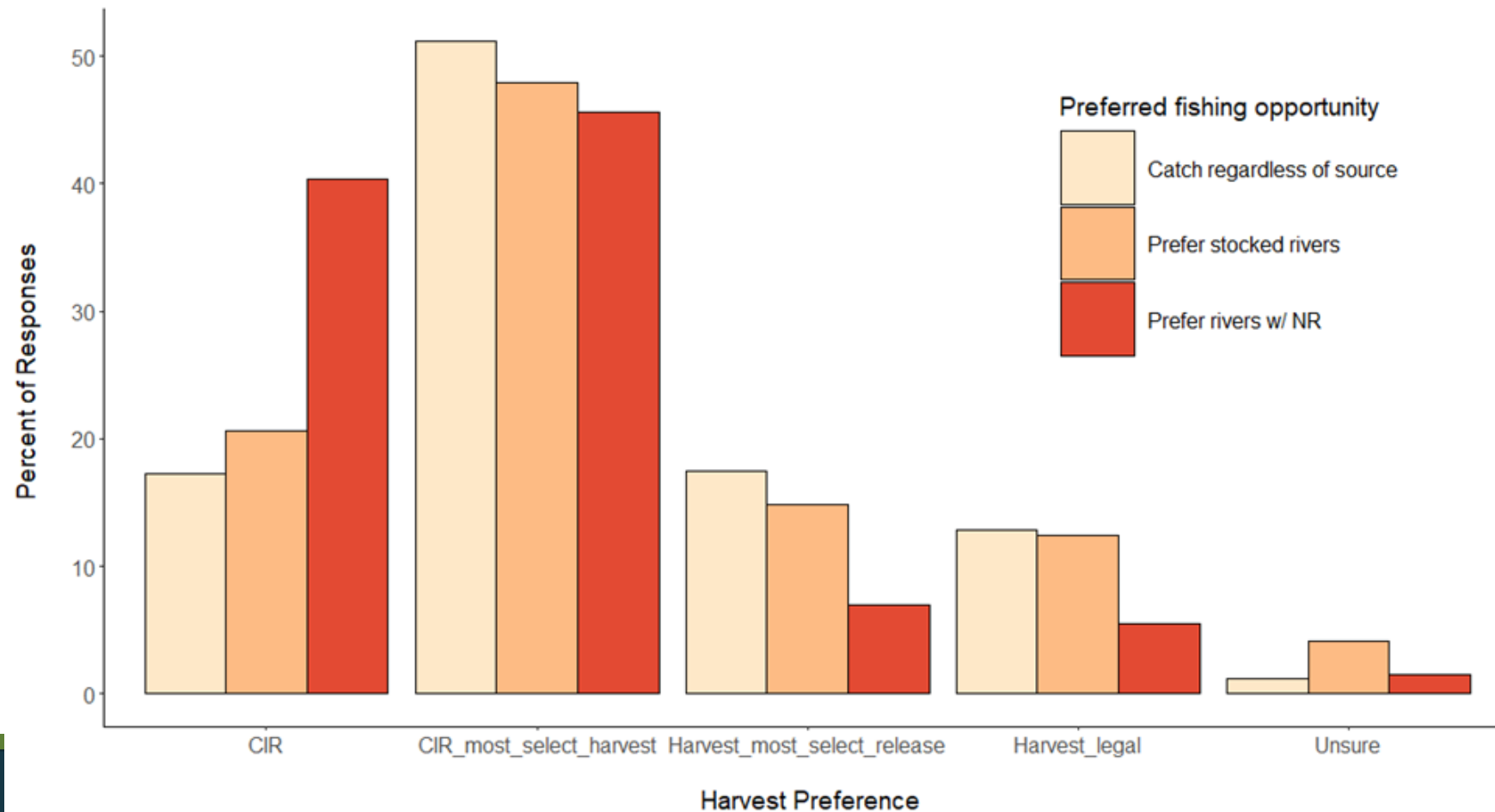
Harvest Preferences by Fishery Type

- Great Lakes offshore fishery is more harvest oriented
- River fishery is more CIR oriented



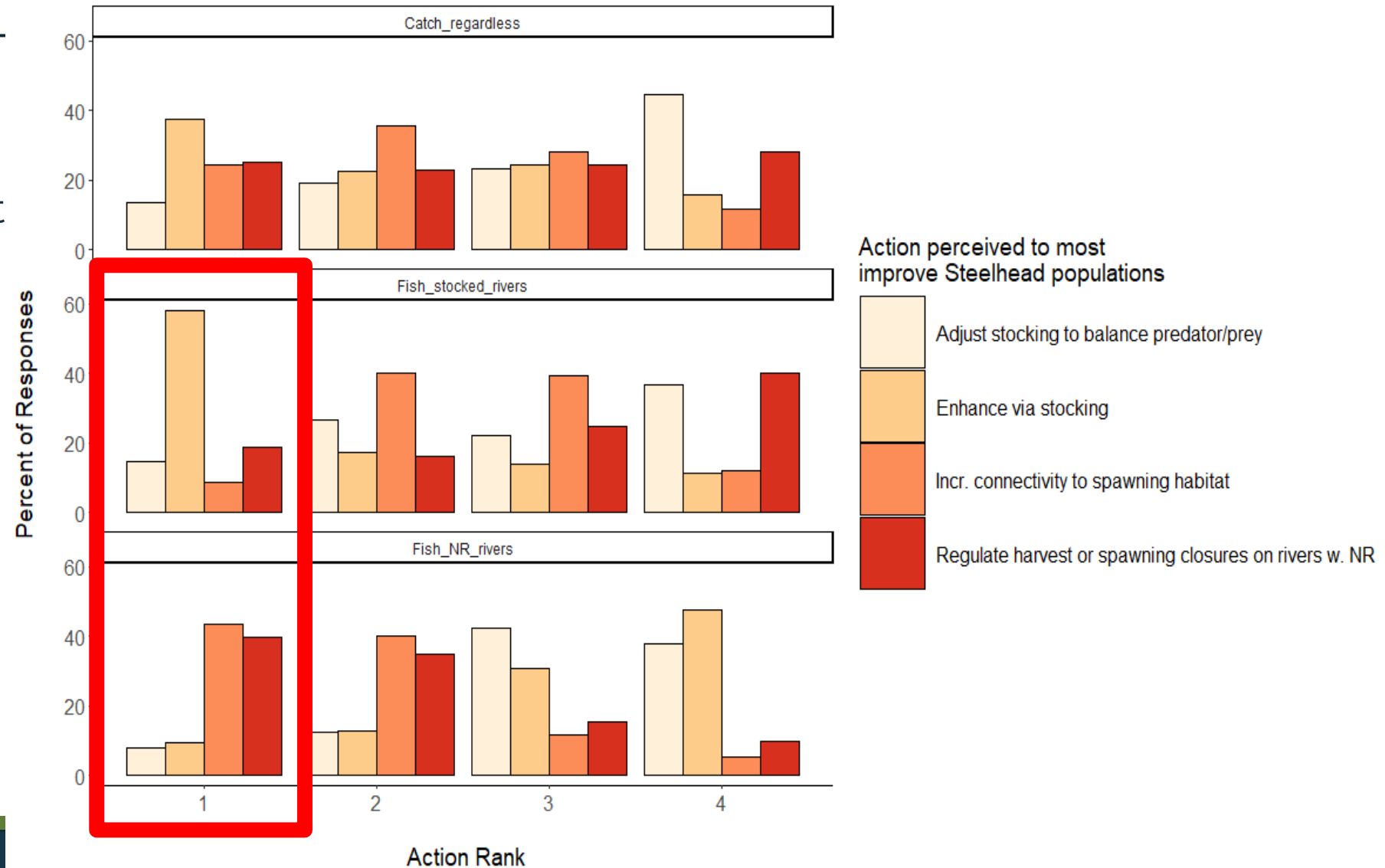
Harvest Preferences by Fishery Type

- CIR preference is elevated when angler is interested in fishing rivers with naturalized Steelhead



Diverse Perceptions on Actions to Improve Steelhead Populations

- Fish stocked rivers - increase stocking and avoid restrictive harvest policies
- Fish NR rivers – increase connectivity and support restrictive harvest policies



Survey Results - Implications for Managing Steelhead Populations

- Anglers are highly satisfied with MI's diverse Steelhead fisheries and regulatory complexity
 - Deviating from status quo could influence satisfaction levels
 - Continued monitoring angler response to management changes
- Develop adaptive management strategies to maintain and enhance Steelhead populations under changing ecological conditions
- Adopt river specific management strategies to account for different habitat features, Steelhead reproductive status, and angler preferences
 - Increase connectivity in rivers that support natural reproduction
 - Maintain or increase stocking in waters without natural reproduction to provide desired fisheries
 - Tailor regulations to achieve population goals, conditional on river specific characteristics and angler preferences
 - Assess factors influencing Steelhead demographic rates (e.g., survival, growth, etc.)

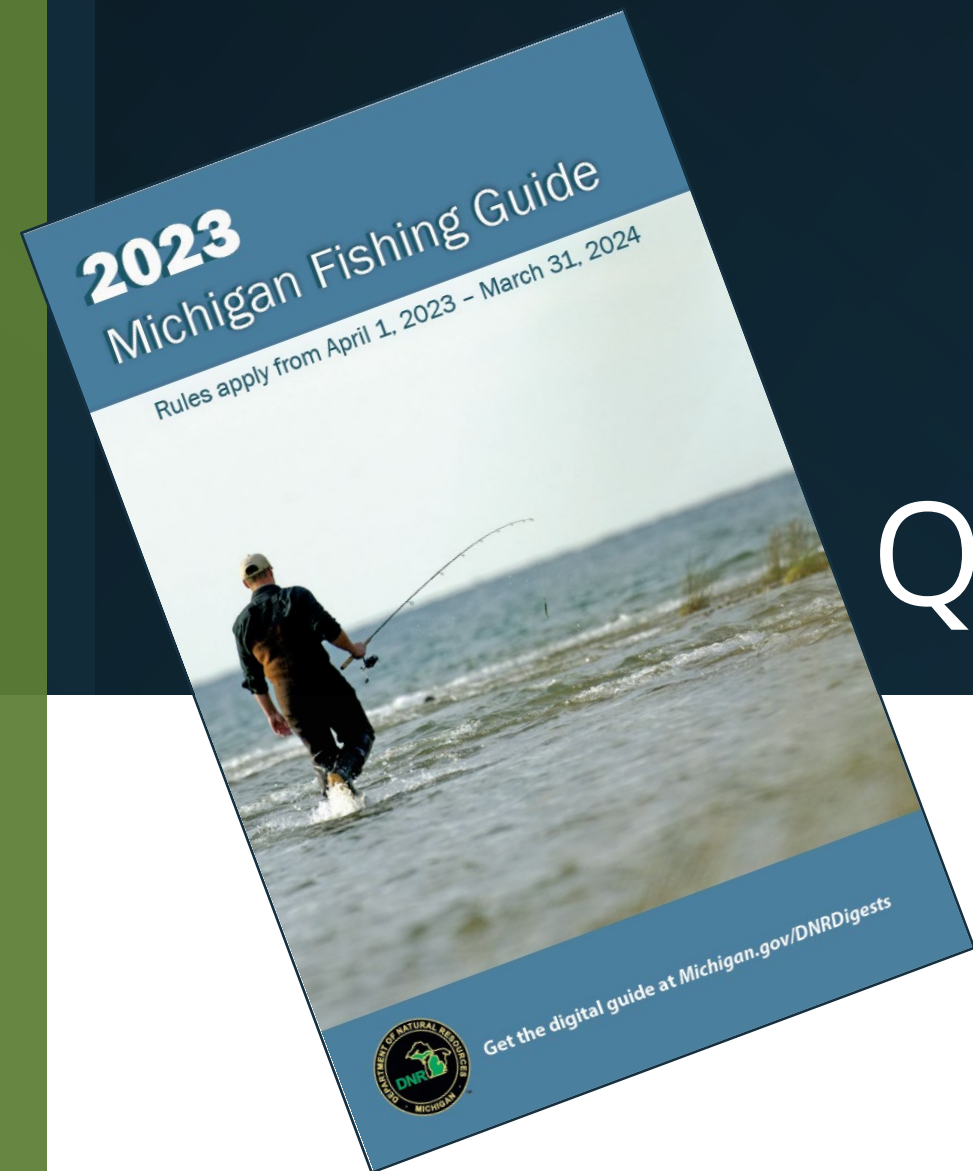


Questions

Seth Herbst, Ph.D.

Fisheries Division

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Public Education Campaign

July 13, 2023

MICHIGAN
WILDLIFE
COUNCIL



Background

- Public Acts 108 and 246 of 2013
 - Established the Michigan Wildlife Council, a nine-member, governor-appointed body, to oversee public education efforts
 - Funded through \$1 from the sale of every base hunting license and all-species fishing license
 - Allocated revenue for marketing, education, outreach

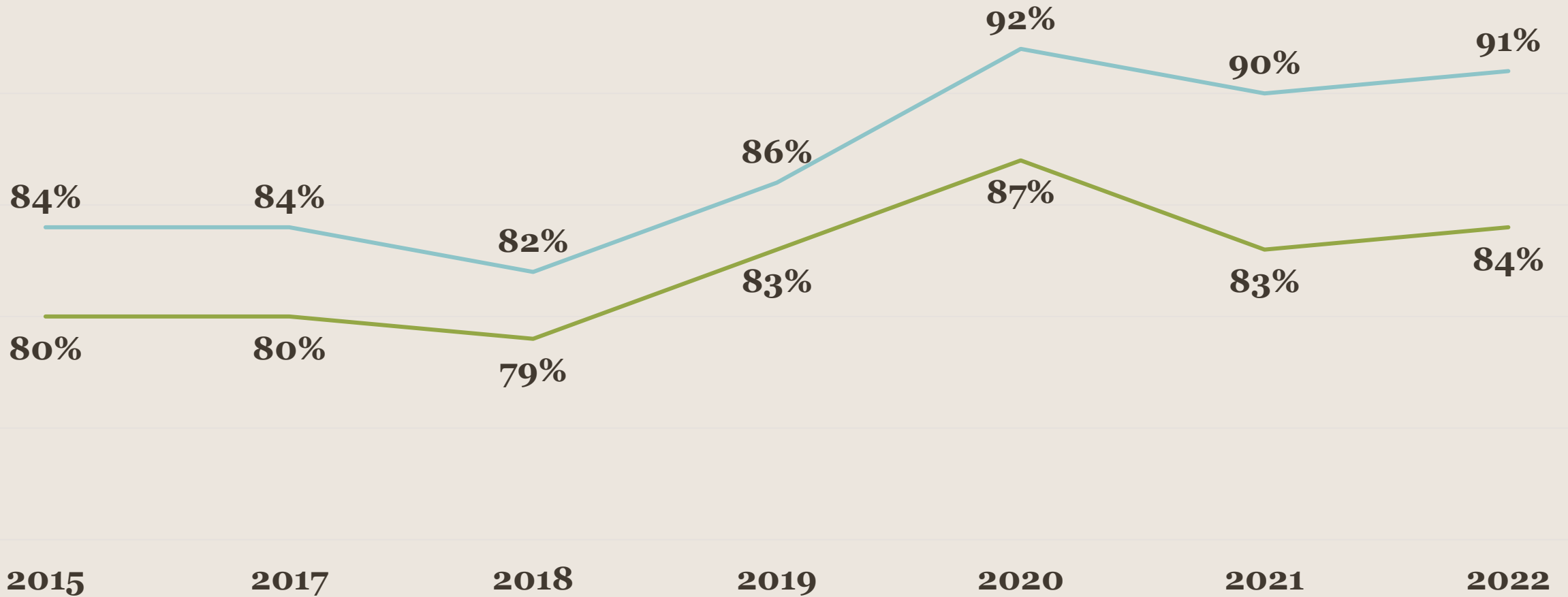
Background

Goals:

- Increase Michiganders' understanding that hunting and fishing...
 - Are wildlife **management tools**
 - **Fund** habitat, wildlife and conservation work
 - Contribute significantly to the **economy**
 - Are part of our state's **cultural heritage**
 - **Are integral** to Michigan's outdoors

Hunting & Fishing Approval

Fishing
Hunting



Research Highlights – Approval

▲ **16%**

Strong approval of fishing (64% strongly approve)


▲ **14%**

Favorable opinions of hunters (67% favorable)


▲ **13%**

Strong approval of hunting (52% strongly approve)


Research Highlights – Attitudes

 **14%**

Agreement that hunting is an important part of Michigan's culture and heritage (89% strongly agree)

 **26%**

Belief that hunting and fishing license fees provide a major benefit to Michigan (44% major benefit)

 **44%**

Agreement that hunting and fishing are important even to people who don't hunt or fish

Research Highlights – Knowledge

▲ 9%

Knowledge that hunting is a wildlife management tool (87% agree)


▲ 51%

Agreement that human wildlife management is needed for wildlife to thrive (78% agree)

▲ 13%

Agreement that the protection of wildlife and their habitat is largely funded by the purchase of hunting and fishing licenses (68% agree)

Research Highlights – Knowledge



9%

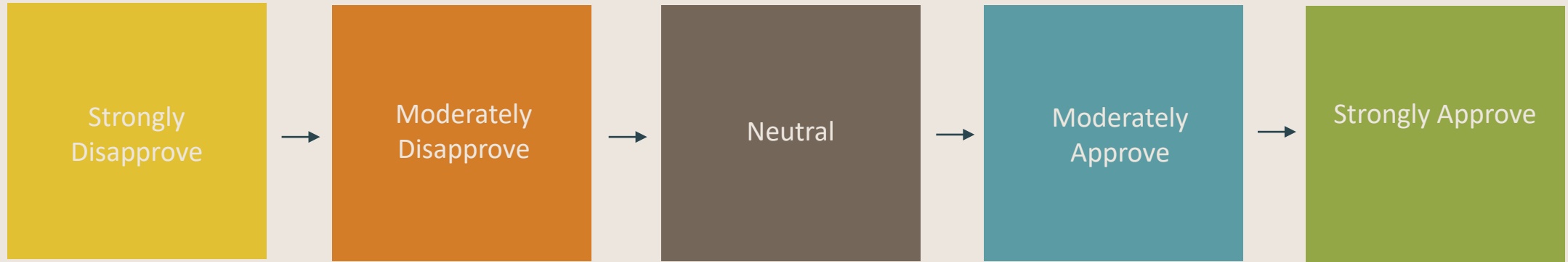
Agreement that the hunting and fishing industry
contributes significantly to Michigan's economy
(79% agree)



11%

Agreement that the hunting and fishing industry
creates a significant number of jobs in Michigan
(69% agree)

Audience Definition



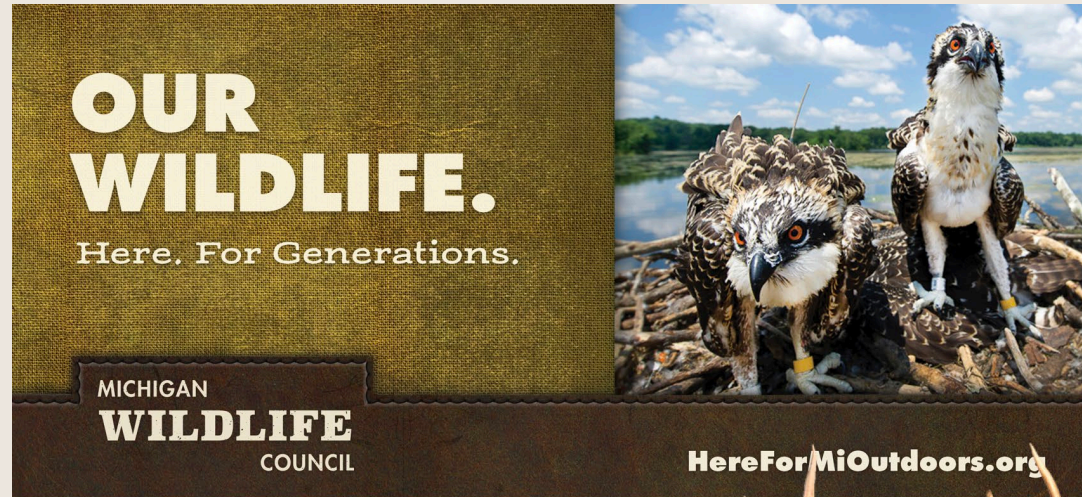
Highest approval from:

- Men
- Caucasians
- Ages 55+
- Northern MI/U.P.

Lowest approval from:

- Women
- Blacks
- Ages 18-34
- SE & West MI

Campaign Background



Campaign Background

**\$61 MILLION
FOR WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION**

**FUNDED BY
FISHING AND
HUNTING LICENSES,
NOT TAXES**

HereForMiOutdoors.org

MICHIGAN
WILDLIFE
COUNCIL

**171,000
MICHIGAN JOBS
THANKS TO HUNTING AND
FISHING**

DETROIT RIVER
Detroit, MI

HereForMiOutdoors.org

MICHIGAN
WILDLIFE
COUNCIL

MICHIGAN
WILDLIFE
COUNCIL

**342,000+
HOT MEALS TO FOOD
BANKS, SHELTERS**

2022 Campaign





2022 Campaign

FISHING AND HUNTING ARE CRUCIAL TO MICHIGAN

Fishing and hunting provide many benefits to our state. Every year, more than a million anglers and hunters add over **\$11 billion** for Michigan's economy, as well as more than **\$65 million** for wildlife conservation through their license purchases.

The Michigan Wildlife Council promotes the importance of fishing and hunting to the great state of Michigan. Created in 2013 by the Michigan Legislature, the council seeks to build understanding among the state's nonhunting and nonfishing residents through a statewide public education effort - so that our outdoor heritage will continue to be here for generations.

The habitat improvements, disease prevention and species restoration efforts done by dedicated professionals and volunteers alike are funded primarily by fishing and hunting license revenue - not from taxes.



Traveling exhibit, photo contest highlight 'Michigan Wildlife Conservation Month'

Belle Isle, Stony Creek to host exhibit

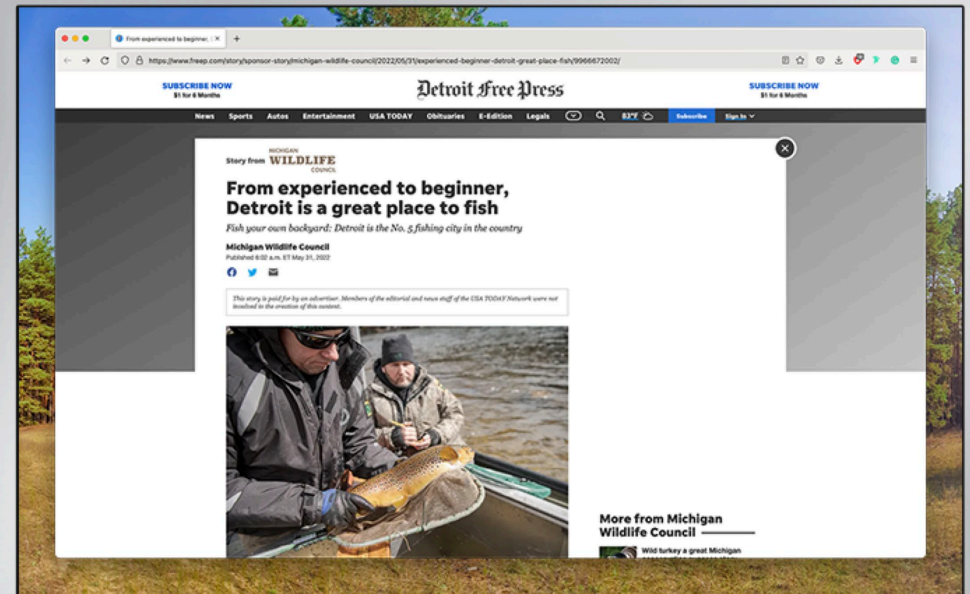
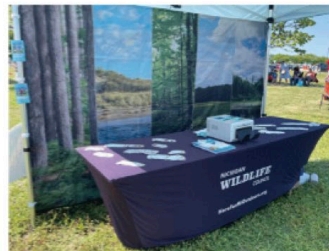
By: Mary Beth Almond | Metro | Published July 13, 2022

METRO DETROIT — July is Wildlife Conservation Month in Michigan, and the Michigan Wildlife Council is celebrating by hosting a few special activities for the public to enjoy.

The council's new "Conservation Takes Flight" exhibit — which details four Michigan ecosystems, showcasing a different species of bird that makes each its habitat — made its debut at the Detroit Kite Festival on Belle Isle July 10. It will be on display at two remaining festivals this summer — including the Stony Creek Metropark Art Fair July 23-24 and the Belle Isle Art Fair Aug. 6-7.

Exhibit-goers, organizers say, will learn about the conservation activities that help keep the featured birds thriving in the state — including the Kirtland's warbler of the coniferous forest, the American woodcock of the deciduous forest, the pheasant of the grasslands and the osprey of the wetlands.

Mark Loeb, of Integrity Shows, which is organizing the Stony Creek Metropark Art Fair, said much of the focus of the art fair — including the Conservation Takes Flight Exhibit — is the intersection between art and nature.



2022 Campaign

Michigan Chronicle MICHIGAN WILDLIFE COUNCIL PRESENTS

CONSERVATION

Kitchen: Wild Turkey

Chef Trimell Hawkins

Hosted by AJ Williams

REAL TIMES MEDIA BRIDGE STREET MARKET

the Nature of Michigan Fall 2022 Michigan Wildlife Council HereforMiOutdoors.org

Wild Turkey Now at Home in the Suburbs

Detroit's Backyard Beauty One of the last great places on Earth. page 3

DETROIT RIVER

Conserving one of the last great places on Earth is right in the heart of Detroit, according to The Nature Conservancy. Stretching from the Maumee River in Ohio to the Lake Huron, the Detroit River is home to some of the most diverse wildlife in the Great Lakes. It's a place where you can see bald eagles, osprey, and even the elusive American bream. The river is also a vital part of the local economy, providing a source of food and recreation for the people who live along its shores. The Nature Conservancy is working to protect this unique ecosystem and ensure that it remains a place where everyone can enjoy the beauty of nature.

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Did you know July is Wildlife Conservation Month? Whether it's camping, hiking, bike riding, swimming or anything like that, spending our time outdoors as a family is always a day well spent! We even have really enjoyed fishing! As our boys have gotten older, we've introduced them to the activity as well. We love having kids that are hands-on, fascinated with nature and love to be adventurous! With that being said, you need a license to fish and hunt in Michigan. But, did you know it's the hunting and fishing license fees, not taxes, that fund the vital work of wildlife management in the state of Michigan?

680 likes JULY 6

Add a comment... Post

Michigan Wildlife Council Published by GUD Marketing 13m

Thanksgiving without turkey? 🦃 During the 20th century in Michigan, this was almost a reality. But thanks to wildlife conservation programs funded by hunting and fishing revenue, our state currently ranks fourth in the nation for turkey harvest.

Did you know ...

that by the early 20th century, turkeys were almost extinct in Michigan?

HEREFORMIOUTDOORS.ORG

Wild Turkeys: Michigan's Conservation Comeback

Learn More

Like Comment Share

Comment as Michigan Wildlife Council

2023 Campaign Direction

Goals:

- Increase Michiganders' understanding that...
 - Wildlife management **is necessary**
 - Wildlife management helps **maintain balanced populations**
 - Hunting and fishing are **management tools**
 - Management/activities/experiences funded by hunting and fishing **benefit future generations**

“Thank Who?”

30-second audio spot



MICHIGAN
WILDLIFE
COUNCIL