



# Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division Fiscal Year 2017 -- Annual Report

## ***Introduction***

Some of the best freshwater fishing in the world can be found in Michigan; home to 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, more than 11,000 inland lakes, and tens of thousands of miles of rivers and streams. These fisheries and their remarkable settings are enjoyed by more than 1 million anglers every year who head out to experience their wonder and create life-long memories.

In the following 2017 annual report you'll read about how the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Division works tirelessly to maintain and enhance our world-class fisheries for today and tomorrow. This report's content aligns with our 2013-2017 strategic plan (*Charting the Course: Fisheries Division's Framework for Managing Aquatic Resources*) that provides the direction for how we will manage and support Michigan's fish and aquatic communities, habitat, anglers and the division itself.

## **HEALTHY AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS AND SUSTAINABLE FISH POPULATIONS**

### ***Vital response efforts for prohibited aquatic invasive species***

Grass carp, an invasive carp imported to the U.S. several decades ago for aquatic weed control, were recently captured in the Michigan waters of Lake Erie prompting action from the DNR. Fisheries Division staff initiated projects to fill knowledge gaps related to the life history of grass carp in Lake Erie that will increase the effectiveness of control actions. For example, grass carp seasonal movements and habitat use were evaluated to inform where and when to implement control efforts including providing new data on grass carp distributions to commercial fisherman that lead to increased captures of this species. Additionally, red swamp crayfish were detected in two Michigan locations in 2017. We led response efforts in Kalamazoo and Novi to confirm and evaluate distributions of this highly invasive crayfish. Outreach efforts revealed several other infestations in southeast Michigan and staff have now confirmed the presence of this crayfish in 15 locations. The development and implementation of

control options for red swamp crayfish will be a collaborative effort between the DNR, land owners, Michigan State University and the Federal Government.

### ***Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHSv) rapid response***

VHSv is a virus responsible for numerous large fish kills in the Great Lakes region since the mid-2000's. In early 2017, VHSv again struck in the St. Clair-Detroit River System, causing wide-spread mortality of fish throughout the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River, and its many canals and connecting channels. Staff from the Lake St. Clair Fisheries Research Station collaborated with our Lake Erie Management Unit and Michigan State University's Aquatic Animal Health Lab to examine the extent of the VHSv outbreak and to educate the public on preventing its spread. Thanks to extensive and coordinated outreach efforts with private homeowners, marinas and the DNR's Law Enforcement Division, we were able to carefully track the spread of the virus and implement preventative measures to minimize the risk of spread to non-infected waters. This work was instrumental in furthering the knowledge of the 2017 VHSv outbreak and implementing efforts to help forecast the virus' potential activity in future years.

### ***Putting impaired systems back together***

Restoring river connectivity and providing full fish passage at or removing obsolete barriers is an on-going priority for fisheries management in Michigan. In the Southern Lake Huron Management Unit, 2017 was particularly fruitful for those efforts. With the help of our Habitat Management Unit, dam removal or other modifications have been completed on the Chippewa River (Millpond West Dam), Shiawassee River (Chesaning Dam), and the Cass River (Vassar and Frankenmuth dams). Plans were developed for future removals including: Hamilton and Fabri dams on the Flint River; Siatown and Corunna dams on the Shiawassee River; and Dow Dam on the Tittabawassee River. Additionally, we have been working with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to document fish passage at the Frankenmuth Rock Ramp Fishway on the Cass River and the results are exciting. To date, many fish species have been documented passing this rock ramp including multiple sucker species, smallmouth bass, walleye and flathead catfish.

In FY2017, Fisheries Division staff:

- Actively contributed to the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee to assess, control and manage the spread of silver and bighead carp in the Great Lakes basin.
- Participated with the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS) Advisory Committee as resource experts to assist with the multi-stakeholder group looking at control points within the CAWS.
- Worked with the Great Lakes Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) executive steering committee to implement the GLMRIS report.

- Actively participated on the State of Michigan Aquatic Invasive Species Core Team, a multi-agency committee working to prevent invasive species introductions and spread.
- Received external funding and provided oversight on research projects related to grass carp in Lake Erie, identifying the presence of aquatic invasive species (AIS) and pathogens in the bait trade.
- Led the implementation of Michigan's Invasive Species Grant Program and distributed \$3.6 million in grant funding to support strategic partnerships, response efforts, and research of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species issues across Michigan.

In FY2017, Fisheries Division staff:

- Provided hydrological and fluvial geomorphology (channel shape) expertise on stream habitat rehabilitation projects ranging from future dam removals to excessive erosion sites to channel re-establishment. This work will eventually protect and rehabilitate aquatic habitat leading to enhanced and sustainable fish communities. Also worked with fisheries management staff to assist conservation and angling groups with development of specific monitoring protocols for projects in unique watersheds.
- Worked with stakeholders and consultants and also served on multiple committees for the "Restore the Rapids in Grand Rapids" project at the current location of Sixth Street Dam.
- Worked with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to resolve violations and concerns associated with vegetation clearing and dredging within designated drains and to provide input on designs for drain improvements that would benefit aquatic resources.
- Represented Fisheries Division in a Manistique River spill response table-top exercise led by the U.S. Coast Guard.
- Reviewed and provided comments on approximately 50 DEQ/Michigan Department of Transportation permit applications to ensure consideration of aquatic habitat protection.
- Provided guidance and technical assistance to Genesee County Parks for dam removals and public access sites along the Flint River.

### **Natural Rivers**

- Reviewed 119 Natural River permit applications ensuring protection of riparian zones on 12 watersheds.
- Developed a guidance document for permitting bridges for non-motorized uses over designated Natural Rivers.
- Reviewed proposed roads to be opened as part of Public Act 288 and participated in both rounds of public comment reconciliation.

## FERC

- Provided input on hydropower projects administered by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, thereby helping to protect habitat, water quality and public access on 19 watersheds throughout the state.
- Worked on Menominee River fish passage efforts, including operation of a fish lift at the Menominee Dam (Menominee County) designed to pass lake sturgeon upstream.
- Participated in the development of a draft Settlement Agreement for the Ludington Pumped Storage Project, which will provide for continued funding to the Great Lakes Fishery Trust and all of the beneficial activities supported by the trust.

## Grant Programs

- The Aquatic Habitat Grant Program aims to improve fish and other aquatic organisms by protecting and rehabilitating aquatic habitat. Five projects were funded in 2017 totaling \$1,250,000.
- The Dam Management Grant Program aims to provide funding and technical assistance to local and state units of government, nonprofit groups, and individuals to manage dam removal, repair dams, or pursue dam-related major maintenance projects that will enhance aquatic resources and fishing opportunities. In 2017, four projects were funded totaling \$3,350,000.
- The Habitat Improvement Account (HIA) was established to mitigate resource impacts from hydropower projects. Fisheries Division manages the HIA and oversees the use of funds to implement habitat improvement and research projects on the Au Sable, Manistee and Muskegon river watersheds. In FY2017, three projects were funded totaling \$180,616 over two years.
- Fisheries Division, through its membership in the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership, awarded \$110,300 to two projects in Michigan that conserve inland lake fish habitat.

## DIVERSE FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

### ***Anglers strive to be part of Master Angler program***

Anglers who catch unusually large fish have the opportunity to receive a Master Angler Award from Fisheries Division. This program launched in 1973 and currently recognizes 46 fish species in the two categories: catch-and-keep and catch-and-release fishing. In the past few years, participation in the program has doubled, with 2,176 entries submitted and approved in FY2017. Those who meet the program's requirements, based on fish length, receive a collectible patch in recognition of their efforts. One state record was also broken in FY2017 for

bigmouth buffalo. The new record fish weighed 27 pounds and measured 35.25 inches and was caught in the River Raisin (Monroe County) by bowfishing.

### ***Fixing the Past – Flint River rehabilitation***

Improving and rehabilitating the Flint River is one of many projects included in the larger revitalization efforts planned for the City of Flint. With the past large changes in land use from urban and industrial development, the quality of the Flint River fish habitat worsened as a result of habitat degradation including the construction of dams. Many partners are now involved in the goal of improving the Flint River so it may provide improved habitat for fish and other aquatic life and an attractive location for the public to recreate. Hamilton Dam, the last remaining “high hazard, high risk” dam in Michigan, is in the process of being removed with funding from the DNR’s Dam Management Grant Program. Fisheries Division is also involved in the planning of future projects to naturalize and remove the large concrete seawalls along the river, with the goal of improving fishing and other water sport access to nearly half a mile of riverfront in the downtown area.

### ***Important information gathered on a key fishery***

It’s official! The hottest spot in the Upper Peninsula for muskellunge is Dollarville Flooding in the Tahquamenon River drainage. The flooding, located in southern Luce County, is a select area of State Forest Land managed cooperatively by the DNR’s Wildlife and Forest Resource divisions. Preliminary results of a 2017 inland creel survey have documented that this is a *tremendous* muskie fishery in the numbers of fish caught. Size is important to some anglers and so is trophy potential. But the number of fish, reflected by high catch rates, is far and away the most important factor for a majority of muskie anglers. It’s also what separates the Dollarville Flooding from most any other inland water in the state. A noteworthy fact is the Dollarville Flooding muskellunge population has been self-sustaining since our stocking of northern strain muskellunge more than 35 years ago.

In FY2017, Fisheries Division staff:

- Reviewed and issued 50 state-commercial fishing licenses applicable to four Great Lakes.
- Continued implementation of the 2000 Great Lakes and 2007 Inland Consent Decrees and improved communications with Tribal governments in 1836 and 1842 ceded territories.
- Continued internal preparations for negotiation of the 2020 Consent Decree with Tribal governments in the 1836 Treaty-ceded territory.
- Acted upon Fisheries Orders: 15 were modified and one was renewed, most resulting in expanded recreational fishing opportunities.
- Prepared and reviewed 203 fish management prescriptions recommending management actions designed to improve fisheries.

- Held 13 spring Conversations and Coffee public meetings across the state in 2017. The major topics covered were regulations, fishing tournament registrations and commercial fishing.
- Recognized 2,176 successful entries in the Master Angler program in the year of 2017 – which is double the total entries seen in 2014.
- Disseminated weekly fishing reports to tens of thousands of anglers using multiple communication tools to assist them in assessing local fishing opportunities.
- Reached more than 308,000 people through three different Facebook LIVE videos featuring condensed tours of some of Michigan’s state fish hatcheries to encourage additional visits and insider glimpses of the work done at these facilities.
- Operated five streamside lake sturgeon rearing facilities, including on the Black (Cheboygan County), Kalamazoo (Kalamazoo County), Cedar (Menominee County), Whitefish (Delta County) and Ontonagon (Ontonagon County) rivers to help rehabilitate lake sturgeon populations.
- Operated six fish blocking weirs on five Michigan streams to capture returning adult steelhead, coho salmon and Chinook salmon. Eggs and milt were collected from these fish to perpetuate statewide rearing and stocking programs. Here are some egg-take highlights from FY 2017:
  - More than 2 million Chinook salmon eggs were collected at the Little Manistee River and Swan River weirs during the fall migration. This was almost enough to fully meet Michigan’s needs. These were combined with additional eggs from Wisconsin DNR to fully meet our needs.
  - More than 5 million coho salmon eggs at the upper Platte River weir were collected during the fall migration, fully meeting in-state and out-of-state requests.
  - Just over 4.2 million steelhead eggs were collected at the Little Manistee River weir during the spring migration, fully meeting in-state and out-of-state needs.
- Approximately 26 million fish were stocked weighing more than 330 tons. DNR stocked fish at 1,072 sites representing 590 stocking trips, driving more than 126,000 miles to stock fish. Fish stocking contributes an estimated \$394 million in economic activity from fishing and fishing-related expenditures. Fish stocked in 2017 included:
  - nine species of trout and salmon;
  - four coolwater species, including walleye and muskellunge;
  - and continued development of future Great Lakes muskellunge brood stock lakes with fall stocking efforts.
- Experienced no significant fish losses in the entire fish production system from mechanical malfunctions or human error.

## **STRATEGIC RESOURCE PARTNERSHIPS**

### ***Keeping it on the menu...***

Whether you broil it, grill it, cover it in dill, butter or even batter, it's hard to beat a lake whitefish dinner. That delectable product is brought to you by one of the many commercial fishing operations in our state. These fisheries are intensively managed, and populations of Great Lakes lake whitefish are closely tracked by State, Federal and Tribal agencies. Lake whitefish numbers have declined in recent years, but not because of overfishing; in fact it appears to be related to the reduced survival of juvenile fish. Fisheries Division's Tribal Coordination Unit and Research Section partnered with 11 other agencies to conduct surveys throughout lakes Michigan and Huron to monitor young lake whitefish. The data collected from these efforts will help us better understand the patterns in reproduction of this important species, and understand why the recent declines have been observed. Our ultimate goal is to ensure a self-sustaining source of this great-eating fish well into the future.

### ***Fish are moving on the Menominee River***

Fisheries biologists from the DNR, Wisconsin DNR and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have successfully operated the Menominee River fish lift or elevator for two years. This project re-connects 21 miles of river above the Menominee and Park Mill Hydroelectric dams with the lower river. The construction of the lift was completed in 2015 as part of the federal hydropower license condition for these two dams through the cooperation of Eagle Creek Renewable Energy, Alliance of Wisconsin and the Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition. Currently, the project attracts fish into one of the bays at the dam using an attraction flow. Fish in the bay are lifted by an elevator and placed into a holding tank where they are sorted and examined before either being released back downstream or trucked above Park Mill Dam. The elevator has been particularly important for mature and ready-to-spawn lake sturgeon that are taken above the dam so they can successfully spawn in the Menominee River upstream of the lower two dams on this system. During 2017 more than 2,700 fish were collected representing 26 species, and 125 lake sturgeon were captured in the lift.

### ***Progress made to bring back Arctic Grayling***

The year of 2017 was fruitful in the on-going effort to return an extirpated species – Arctic Grayling – to Michigan. Spearheaded by Michigan's Arctic Grayling Initiative, which consists of a foundational partnership between the State of Michigan and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and more than 40 other partners, these efforts included receiving a grant from Consumers Energy Foundation to conduct habitat and fish community surveys and complete an Action Plan that will guide various activities over the next several years. The Action Plan focuses on four main areas; research, management, fish production and outreach and education. The efforts of Michigan's Arctic Grayling Initiative continue to focus on establishing self-sustaining populations of Arctic Grayling within its historical range.

In FY2017, Fisheries Division staff:

- Continued collaboration for electronic data reporting options and efficiencies with charter fishing captains, commercial fishers and fish wholesalers through a Lean Process Review.
- Supported the DNR's Hook, Line and Sinker program hosted at state parks, recreation areas and visitor centers that taught 8,799 new anglers during Fiscal Year 2017.
- Hosted more than 56,000 people at Oden and Wolf Lake State Fish Hatcheries' visitor centers, an increase of 8% over the previous year. These visitors participated in programs ranging from interpreter-guided tours of the hatcheries to structured catch-and-release fishing programs for kids.
- Additionally, saw more than 8,700 visitors to Harrietta, Platte River and Thompson state fish hatcheries who got up-close views of how we rear fish.
- Engaged more than 12,000 individuals who visited two of the state's egg-take facilities, the Boardman River Weir in Traverse City and the Little Manistee River Weir in Stronach.
- Gained valuable assistance from 71 individuals who volunteered more than 1,732 hours of service.
- Provided technical guidance to multiple internal and external agencies on resource issues and concerns.
- Cooperatively managed fisheries of four Great Lakes with multiple state, tribal, U.S. federal and Canadian agencies, much of which was facilitated through the Great Lakes Fishery Commission.
- Served as active members of a workgroup aimed at ensuring future growth in the commercial aquaculture industry happens in a controlled, thoughtful way with the health of impacted aquatic systems given premium consideration.
- Received input and recommendations on important fishery resource issues by continuing to work closely with Great Lakes and inland citizen fishery advisory committees and a broad range of other external committees.
- Assisted with the yearly implementation of the Salmon in the Classroom program that had 252 classrooms in 227 schools and around 26,000 students participating in rearing and stocking Chinook salmon.
- Continued collaboration with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and regional economic development initiatives.
- Collaborated with university, agency and public partners on several projects.
- Played a key role in leading the Drain Resource Workgroup to identify and improve working relationships among resource agencies, regulatory agencies, and Michigan Association of Drain Commissioners.

- Participated in the Aquatic Nuisance Control Work Group with DEQ to develop a permitting strategy to effectively protect the littoral habitat when permitting the chemical treatments of shoreline areas.
- Participated in the planning committee of the Michigan Aquatic Restoration Conference for the third consecutive year.
- Evaluated proposed DEQ policy changes for sediment testing during dredging or dam removals.
- Trained volunteers in the proper data collection and assessment of road/stream crossings and stream geomorphology in five unique watersheds.
- Assisted with compilation of fisheries data from 12 natural resource agencies (State, Tribal, Federal) to update 15 lake whitefish and 11 lake trout stock assessment models, leading to the calculation and adoption of harvest limits to be used for management of state and tribal fisheries.
- Worked with tribal partners to conduct walleye population estimates and continued the development of a Michigan regression model to predict walleye abundance in Michigan lakes.
- Improved relationships with tribal biological staff in the 1842 Treaty-ceded territory and created new assessment tools for Great Lakes fish populations.
- Collaborated with Natural Resources Departments to assess and monitor abundance and recruitment of walleye and lake sturgeon throughout the 1836 Treaty area.
- Partnered with tribal and federal biologists to collect and hold lake sturgeon (sensitive to treatment chemicals) during sea lamprey treatment in the Muskegon River.

## **STRATEGICALLY FOCUSED ASSESSMENT AND DECISION SUPPORT TOOLS**

### ***Population models key to Great Lakes fishery success***

Population models are an important part of the fisheries management process in the Great Lakes. These models have the ability to summarize the large amounts of information generated on these waters and can help inform fisheries management options to consider including harvest limits and harvest allocation among the various user groups. The accuracy of population models is only as good as the data that goes into them and fisheries managers and researchers are constantly working to refine and improve data inputs. A recently completed study by researchers at our Marquette Fisheries Research Station has led to improved estimates of catch-and-release (hooking) mortality for lake trout in the Great Lakes. Prior to the study the catch-and-release mortality rate used in lake trout models was 15%, based on an evaluation in the late 1980s. Marquette researchers worked with local commercial and recreational anglers in lakes Superior and Huron to capture, tag and release lake trout caught in commercial fishing gear and in the recreational hook-and-line fishery. Tag returns were then

monitored for several years and differences in return rates between commercially-caught versus hook-and-line caught fish were used to catch-and-release hooking mortality. The result of the new study showed hooking mortality for lake trout is about 40%. This improved estimate is being used across the upper Great Lakes and has dramatically improved the management of Great Lakes lake trout.

### ***How many walleye do we have?***

Hubbard Lake in Alcona County has been known to have a substantial walleye population but no official population estimate had ever occurred. That is until 2017 when the 8,850 acre lake was surveyed by the Northern Lake Huron Management Unit. Between the staff in this and several other fisheries management units, three survey crews were deployed to set trap nets in the lake to conduct the marking phase of the project. Fish were caught and marked and then a recapture effort was done, all in April. A total of 3,763 adult walleye were marked while the recapture run captured 959 adults, including 141 marked fish. This resulted in an estimate of more than 27,000 adult walleye; more than three walleye per acre. The local unit continues to receive angler reports of tagged walleye caught, and the effort was certainly appreciated by the Hubbard Lake anglers and the Hubbard Lake Association.

### ***A big effort on an important waterbody completed***

At more than 13,000 acres, Lake Gogebic is the largest lake in the U.P. and the 6<sup>th</sup> largest inland lake in the state. Doing a survey on such a big lake takes a ton of effort, generates a lot of data, and requires lots of coordination and follow up. But in 2017, it all came together. More than anything, anglers are interested in Lake Gogebic's walleye fishery. The 2017 estimated population size is 45,453 adult walleyes (3.5 fish per acre). This abundance is near the middle in the range of previous estimates dating back to 1976, but one thing we know for sure from creel survey data is that fishing and harvest were very good in 2017. With extensive input from passionate Lake Gogebic anglers and resort owners and special analyses by the Quantitative Fisheries Center at Michigan State University, we instituted several innovative regulations over the years to enhance fishing experiences on the lake.

In FY2017, Fisheries Division staff:

- Collected fish samples throughout the state for ongoing fish disease monitoring and contaminant analysis for the Michigan Department of Community Health.
- Took actions to formulate new or follow up on previous management activities or to evaluate and refine fish stocking strategies by completing 110 lake and 144 stream surveys. These management actions create or enhance fishing opportunities for species such as walleye, northern pike, Great Lakes muskellunge, trout and salmon and enhance aquatic habitat that support sustainable fisheries.

- Maintained and developed partnerships with diverse entities to achieve common goals by reviewing and issuing 301 scientific collectors permits, allowing permit holders to survey and possess aquatic species for research or education purposes.
- Gained an understanding of the dynamic fish populations in the Great Lakes by safely operating research vessels on four of the lakes to collect data.
- Conducted annual monitoring to maintain long-term trend information on fish communities and recreational angling use and success.
- Performed 98 fish health inspections for hatcheries, and 35 fish quality assessments on 21 lots of fish from hatcheries and 14 lots from imprint pens and co-operative rearing facilities.
- Analyzed 83 lots of wild fish that included wild broodstock for cold and coolwater production, wild fish from streams in the vicinity of hatcheries, and 53 cases related to a VHS outbreak in Lake St. Clair and connected waters.

## **EFFICIENT DIVISION OPERATIONS**

### ***From paper fish to e-fish***

Sound fisheries management requires a lot of data. From those who catch fish, to those who buy or sell fish, many venues are required to report their activity to Fisheries Division. That information is used to ensure Michigan's fish populations will be available for generations to come. Not long ago, fisheries information was recorded and tracked on paper which involved several staff and a substantial investment in time and funding. Technological advances in electronics have greatly increased efficiency and accuracy of data reporting. Fisheries Division has been preparing a new electronic reporting platform for Michigan's commercial fishers, charter boat captains, and wholesale fish dealers -- switching from paper-based to electronic reports of fish being caught. Staff from the division's Research Section, Aquatic Species and Regulatory Affairs Unit, and Tribal Coordination Unit have made significant progress working with a contracted company to make this vision a reality. The new, user-friendly system will improve the accuracy and timeliness of the information used to manage Michigan's resources, while also saving staff time previously spent handling, organizing and entering the paper forms. Testing of the new system will begin in 2018.

### ***How many fish are caught, and by whom?***

Since 1985, the DNR has been interviewing and counting anglers at many of the state's most popular fishing ports on the Great Lakes, as well as various inland lakes and rivers. This information, collected through our Statewide Angler Survey Program, is used to help the DNR account for fish harvest, measuring stocking success, and examining fisheries management actions including the effectiveness of fishing regulations. The work is done by over 40 creel clerks,

who are on the front line of public interaction; averaging about 50,000 interviews a year! This makes them the perfect messengers for both serving information to the public and relaying the public's comments back to DNR managers.

In FY2017, Fisheries Division staff:

- Managed an annual appropriation of more than \$31 million, with funding appropriated from the following sources: \$18,951,500 (Game and Fish), \$629,300 (Game and Fish Settlement and Invasive Species Fund), \$11,225,700 (Federal), \$136,200 (Private), and \$409,200 (General Fund/General Purpose).
- Appropriated the above funds to Fisheries Division's initiatives, including: \$629,300 (Aquatic Mitigation), \$10,194,000 (Fish Production), and \$20,528,600 (Field Management, Research & Assessment, Resource Support, Creel, Administration).
- Implemented year five of the five-year strategic plan (*Charting the Course: Fisheries Division's Framework for Managing Aquatic Resources*) and its associated supplemental tactical plan.
- Worked to develop the next five-year strategic plan (a continuation of *Charting the Course*), to provide direction for 2018-2022.
- Facilitated the division's human resource, information technology, education and outreach, purchasing, accounting and budgeting activities.
- A total of 73 employees benefitted from 37 different training sessions to learn new skills or hone old ones.

**Fisheries Division Mission:** To protect and enhance Michigan’s aquatic life and habitats for the benefit of current and future generations.

**Fisheries Division Vision:** To provide world-class freshwater fishing opportunities, supported by healthy aquatic environments, which enhance the quality of life in Michigan.

Learn more about Fisheries Division and fishing in Michigan by visiting [\*\*michigan.gov/fishing\*\*](http://michigan.gov/fishing).

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To provide comments on this report, please email them to [\*\*DNR-Fish-Accomplishments@michigan.gov\*\*](mailto:DNR-Fish-Accomplishments@michigan.gov).

*The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state’s natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.*