

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Fisheries Division

Jim Dexter, Fisheries Chief July 15, 2021

Fisheries Orders - 200.20A

- ► Michigan has abundant coldwater fisheries resources and several regulations to protect those valued resources
- ► Coldwater fish species regulations are described in FO-200.20A
 - ► Lengthy and complex (30 pages)
 - ▶ Burdensome to review and amend
- ► To simplify, reorganized FO-200 into four separate FOs
 - ► FO-200 Inland Rivers and Streams Trout and Salmon Regulations
 - ► FO-252 Statewide Lake and Round Whitefish, Cisco, Rainbow Smelt, and Artic Grayling Regulations
 - ► FO-253 Great Lakes and Connecting Waters Trout and Salmon Regulations
 - ► FO-254 Inland Lakes Trout and Salmon Regulations



Spring 2021 Fish Stocking

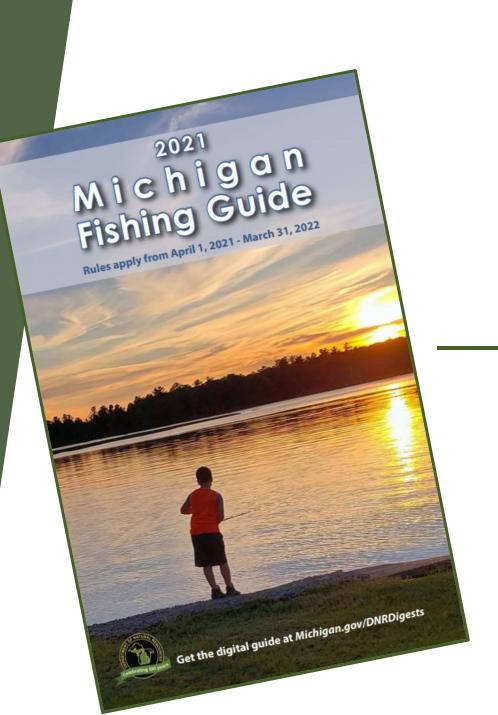
- ▶ 258 Stocking trips from six hatcheries
- ► Stocked at 573 sites
- ► 62,252 Miles driven
- ▶ Over 1,500 staff hours on stocking trips
- ▶ No steelhead yearlings due to COVID
- ► Most rearing assignments met or exceeded
 - ► Short on lake trout (otter predation)
 - ► Short on Atlantic salmon (mechanical issue early in cycle)
- ▶ Within 0.5% of overall (all species) rearing assignments



2021 Spring Walleye Production

- ▶ Directly stocked almost 9.5 million walleye fry
- ▶ 3.2 million spring fingerlings harvested from ponds
- ► Pond production was variable, but spring fingerling production was average
 - ► Good production in west UP ponds
 - ► Lower production than normal in southern LP
- Rapid warmup followed by very cold temps limited plankton availability
- ► Thompson facility had "experimental" walleye production year





Thank You!

Questions?