Natural Resources Commission Meeting

Policy Committee on Wildlife and Fisheries

November 9, 2017
Proposed Orders

• For Information – NRC
  – Order to Re-designate Bay City State Recreation Area to Bay City State Park; Tobico Marsh Boundaries (WCO # 7 of 2017)

• For Action – NRC
  – Statewide Trout, Salmon, Whitefish, Lake Herring, and Smelt Regulations (FO 200.18)
  – Statewide Warmwater Regulations for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Northern Pike, Walleye, Muskellunge, Channel Catfish, Flathead Catfish, Yellow Perch, Sunfishes, and White Bass (FO 215.18)
  – Bow, Spear, and Crossbow Fishing Regulations (FO 219.18)
  – Regulations on Freshwater Mollusks (FO 228.18)
  – Netting Regulations (FO 229.18)
Proposed Orders

• For Information – Director
  – Order to Re-designate Bay City State Recreation Area to Bay City State Park (LUOD # 3 of 2017)
  – PA 288 of 2016; Forest Road Inventory in the Northern Lower Peninsula (LUOD # 5 of 2017)
NRC Policy Committee on Wildlife and Fisheries

- Fisheries Division Update
- Wildlife Division Update
DRAFT Lake Michigan Management Plan

• News release went out November 8
• Copy of plan & feedback information available at:
  – https://mdnrlmfmp.wordpress.com/
    • Site provided by Michigan Sea Grant
• Public Meetings
  – November 28, Manistique
  – November 29, Traverse City
  – November 30, Grand Haven
• Update to NRC in January
Lake Michigan Stocking Options

• Goal: reduce predators while providing more Chinook salmon, based on public feedback

• Options are to:
  – Reduce & move brown trout to better habitat areas
  – Move some coho salmon to southern ports
  – Reduce nearshore stocking of lake trout
  – Increase Chinook salmon stocking

• News release & public meetings same as Lake Michigan Management Plan
Fall Salmon Egg-Takes

- All salmon egg requirements met for hatcheries
  - Fish large, good condition & eggs of high quality
- Lake Michigan coho salmon spawning run excellent
  - Platte River Run: 31,000+ (1.3X increase)
  - Jack run smaller this year & closer to average
    - Likely more average spawning run in 2018
  - Boardman River run: 10,400+ (4.1X increase)
- Chinook salmon arrived late at Little Manistee River Weir
  - Little Manistee River Weir: 1,768 (1.3X increase)
  - Swan River Weir: 4,600 (1.9X increase)
  - Boardman Weir: 1,900+ (1.3X increase)
  - Medusa Weir: 2,100+ (2.6x increase)
Questions?
Wildlife Chief Update

Russ Mason
Wildlife Chief Update

• CWD Workgroup
• Woodcock Symposium
• How Hunters Can Submit Samples for Disease Testing
• Summary of Waterfowl Seasons to Date
Thank You