

Big Lake Bass Team

Practice .. are we talking about practice?

Head Coaches

Jason Parks, Kris Knodle, Lawrence Luoma and Noel Krebs



BIG LAKE
BASS TEAM

Agenda

- Introductions
 - Jason Parks
 - Kris Knodle
 - Lawrence Luoma
 - Noel Krebs
- Expectations
- Credo
- Fishing Regulations
- Invasive Species
- Boater Safety
- Species Identification
- Selective Harvest



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Expectations



- Listen to coaches during practices
- Engage with questions
- Practice casting and fishing outside of practice
- Respect the coaches and your parents
- Help coaches clean, drain and dispose after fishing
- Homework and studying must always be a priority
- Leave no Trace
 - Strive to leave any area cleaner than when you visited
- Hornet Way
 - Respect, Honesty, Kindness, Responsibility and Fairness
- Bullying will not be tolerated
- Regularly post to Social Media, tagging both Big Lake Bass Team and our Sponsors
 - Facebook / Instagram / Twitter
- Take pictures of the fish you catch and more importantly ... HAVE FUN!

Expectations

Good Fishing Sportsmanship

- Although fishing regulations are written rules that apply to sport fishing activities, good sportsmanship can be described as the unwritten code of conduct that governs fishing behaviors. Good sportsmanship is based on common courtesy and a sense of stewardship of natural resources. It derives from, and results in, response for oneself, for others, and for the environment.
- Good sportsmanship **excludes** behavior that interferes with the fishing enjoyment of others, such as throwing rocks near where someone is fishing, fishing too close to another angler, playing loud music or driving a boat or jet ski near another angler's fishing location.
- Good sportsmanship **includes** harvesting only enough fish for your immediate needs, practicing proper catch-and-release methods, leaving your fishing site cleaner than you found it and treating the environment and living organisms with respect.

BASS TEAM

Expectations

Please be sure to bring the following to every practice!

2 Rod/Reel Combos - 1 Baitcast / 1 Spinning - Bass Fishing setup

- Spooled full and correctly
- No large treble hook lures attached
- Snaps and Single Hooks are Ok

Back Pack with:

- Tackle Kit / Small Boxes
- Water/Water Bottle (No colored gatorades)
- Pliers/Hook Out
- Light Snack (No sunflower seeds)
- Sunscreen
- Ball Cap
- Sunglasses - Safety (Preferably Polarized)
- Life Jacket - correct size for the angler
- Rain Jacket

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Credo

I AM BIG LAKE BASS TEAM

I AM A STUDENT FIRST

I AM READY TO CATCH, RECORD AND RELEASE

I PRACTICE SELECTIVE HARVEST

I WILL CELEBRATE MY TEAMMATES CATCHES

LEAVE NO TRACE IS MY RESPONSIBILITY

I LIVE RESPECT AND TRUTH TELLING

I WILL CLEAN, DRAIN AND DISPOSE

I WILL ALWAYS PLACE THE TEAM FIRST

I AM BIG LAKE BASS TEAM

**BIG LAKE
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Fishing Regulations



2021 Fishing Regulations Handout

- Season Opener Dates
 - Walleye / Pike / Bass – May 15, 2021
 - Bass is catch and release until May 28, 2021
 - Muskie – June 5, 2021
- Fishing Licenses
 - Under 16, no license required
 - 16-17 – Youth Individual Angling - \$5
 - 18+ - Individual Angling - \$25
- FREE FISHING WEEKENDS
 - Take a Mom fishing – May 8 and 9, 2021
 - Take a Kid fishing – June 11 – 13, 2021
 - Take a Kid ice fishing – January 15-17, 2022
- Know the body of water you are fishing – it is YOUR responsibility
 - Review Invasive Species, special seasons and limits (size slots and bag limits)
- Northern Pike Zone Map for Possession Limits

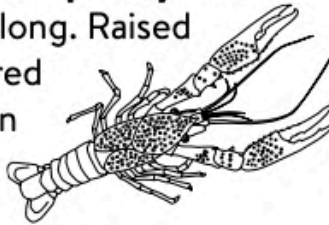
Invasive Species

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are nonnative animals and plants that do not naturally occur in our waters and cause ecological or economical harm.



Red swamp crayfish

2 to 5" long. Raised bright red spots on claws.



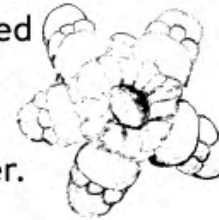
Zebra and quagga mussel

The only freshwater mollusks that attach to objects with byssal threads (up to 1½"); larvae float in water and are too small to see.



Starry stonewort

Grass-like algae with a small, star-shaped structure called a "bulbil" less than ¼-inch in diameter.



Faucet snail

Up to ½" long, light brown to black, 4-5 whorls.



New Zealand mudsnail

Up to ½" long, light to dark brown, cone-shaped shell, 5-6 whorls.



Spiny waterflea

Long tail, white with black spots, looks like gelatinous globs on fishing line, small (up to ⅜").



Eurasian watermilfoil

12 to 21 leaflet pairs per leaf.



Invasive Species - Prevention

Required Actions – It's the Law!

- **Clean** – all visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited invasive species from watercraft, trailers and other water-related equipment before leaving any water access or shoreland.
 - It is illegal to transport prohibited invasive species – including zebra mussels – whether dead or alive
- **Drain** – water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait container, motor) and drain bilge, livewell and baitwell by removing drain plugs before leaving any water access or shoreland property.
 - Keep drain plugs out and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft.
- **Dispose** – of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches and worms, in the trash.
 - It is illegal to release bait into a waterbody or release aquatic animals from one waterbody to another
 - It is illegal to release worms in the state; worms are not native to Minnesota
 - If you want to keep your live bait, you must drain all lake or river water and refill the bait container with bottled or tap water.

Recommended Actions – Protect Your Waters!

To further decontaminate your watercraft and equipment, it's important to spray, rinse or dry everything before going to another waterbody

- Dry for at least five days.
- Spray with high-pressure water.
- Rinse with very hot water. To reduce the risk of spreading zebra mussels, use water that is 120F at the point of contact and spray each area for at least two minutes, or use 140F water for at least 10 seconds on each area



Boater Safety

- Wear your life jacket
 - Life jacket must be worn when motor is running.
- Tell a friend—Tell someone where you're going and when you will be back. If you're not back, they should call 911. Bring a phone or VHF radio.
- Be weather aware—Don't let a storm sneak up on you—delay your trip or head to shore. Go slow in rough water to avoid capsizing.
- Boat smart—Take a boating safety course. Know your boat; stay alert while scanning for dangers; stay seated and low in the boat to prevent falls overboard.



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Species Identification

Game Fish in Minnesota (common)

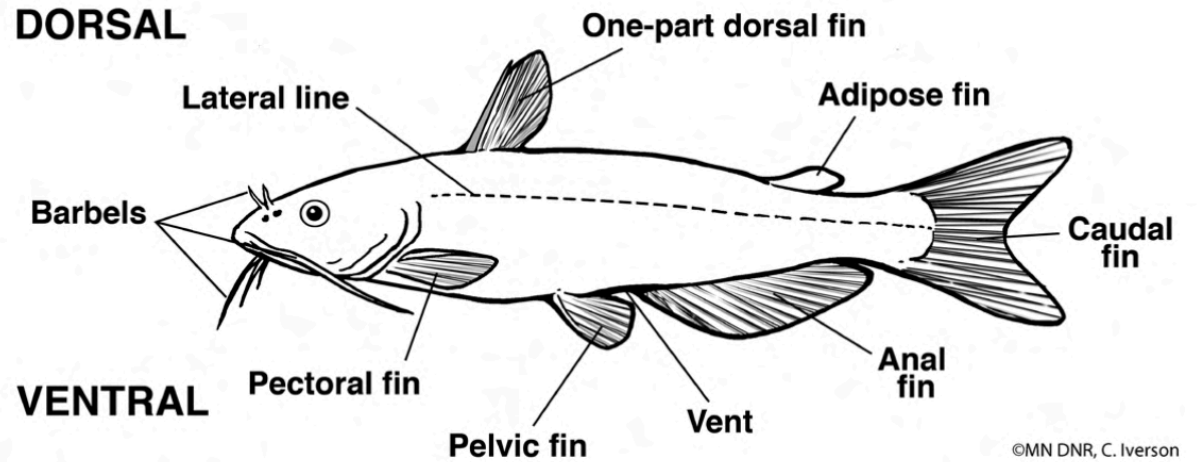
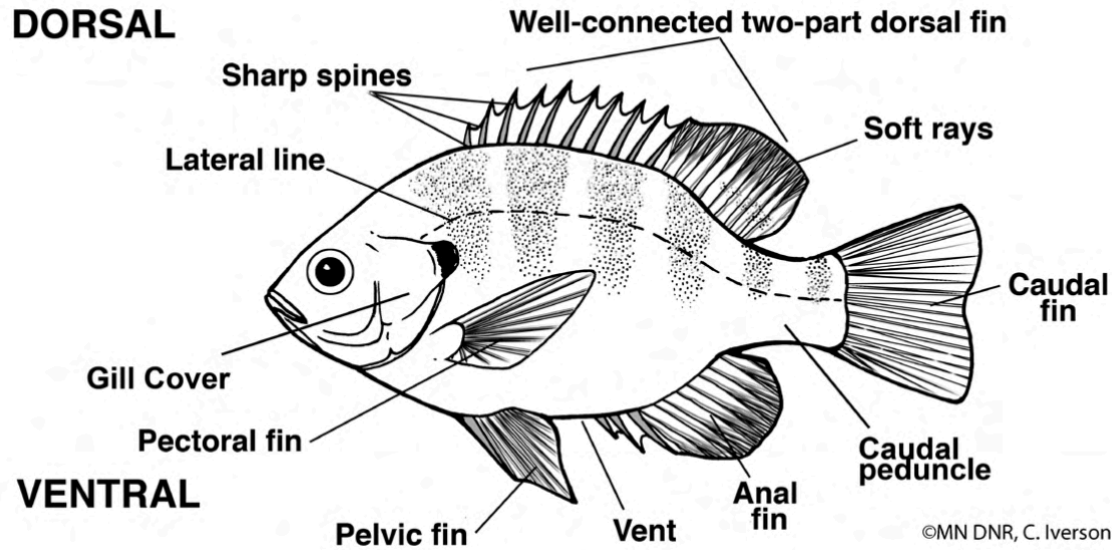
- Bass
 - Largemouth / Rock / Smallmouth / White / Yellow
- Bluegill
- Bullhead
 - Black / Brown / Yellow
- Catfish
 - Channel / Flathead /
- Crappie
 - Black / White
- Muskellunge (AKA, Muskie)
- Northern Pike
- Perch
 - White / Yellow
- Pumpkinseed
- Sauger
- Sturgeon
 - Lake / Shovelnose
- Sunfish
- Walleye



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Species Identification

The Parts of a Fish



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Species Identification

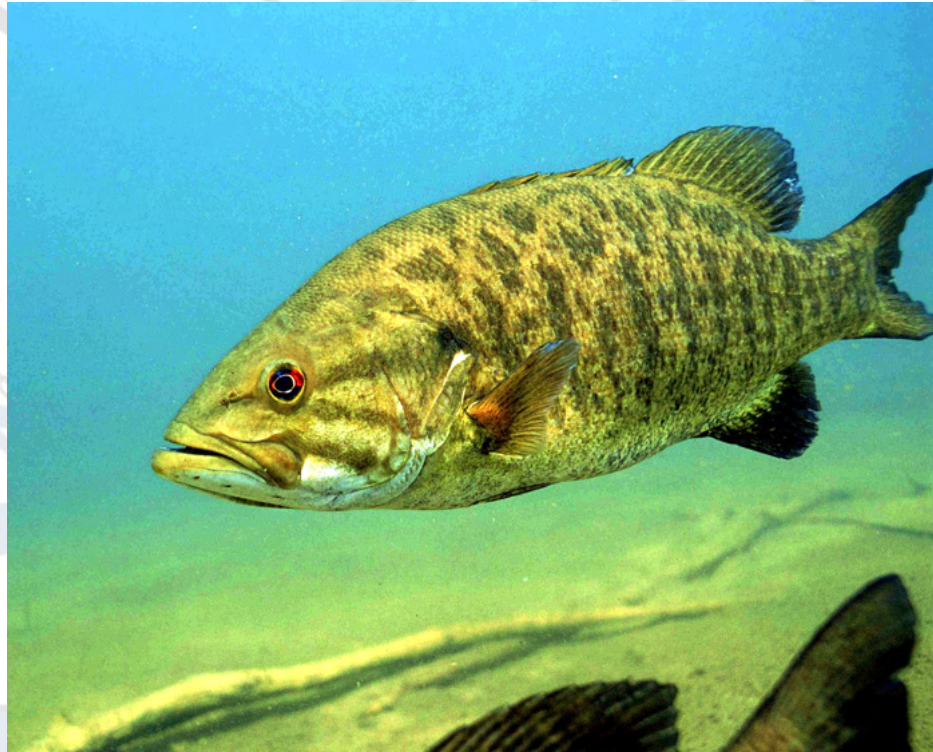
- **Name this fish**
- Largemouth Bass
- Olive green to greenish grey
- Darker green horizontal stripe



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Species Identification

- **Name this fish**
- Smallmouth Bass
- Brown, black or green in color
- Darker green vertical bands
- Red or brown eyes



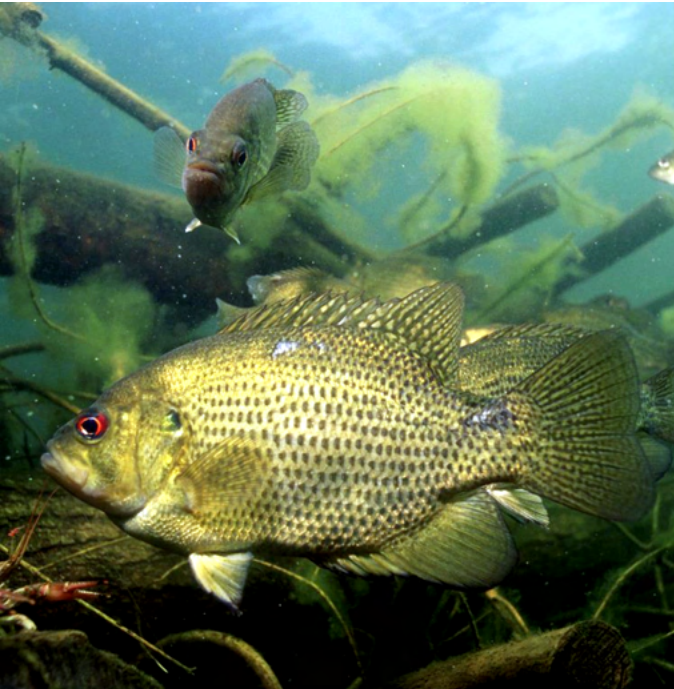
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Species Identification

Name these fish

Rock Bass

- Similar to Smallmouth
- Smaller
- Red Eyes



White Bass

- Silver white to pale green
- Dark back
- Thin black horizontal lines



Yellow Bass

- 5-7 dark stripes

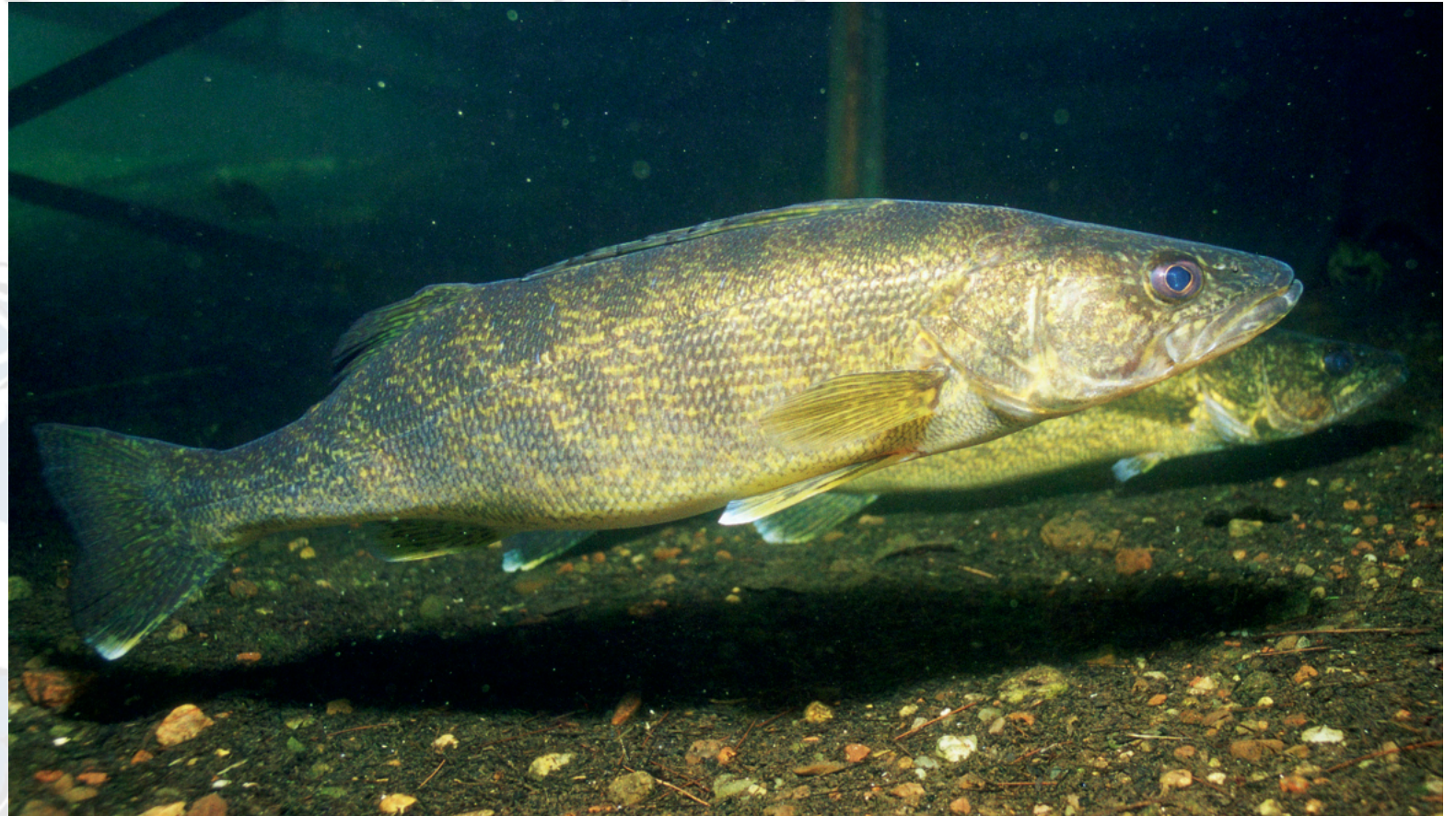


Species Identification

Name this fish

Walleye

- Olive or gold in color
- Caudal fin with white splotches



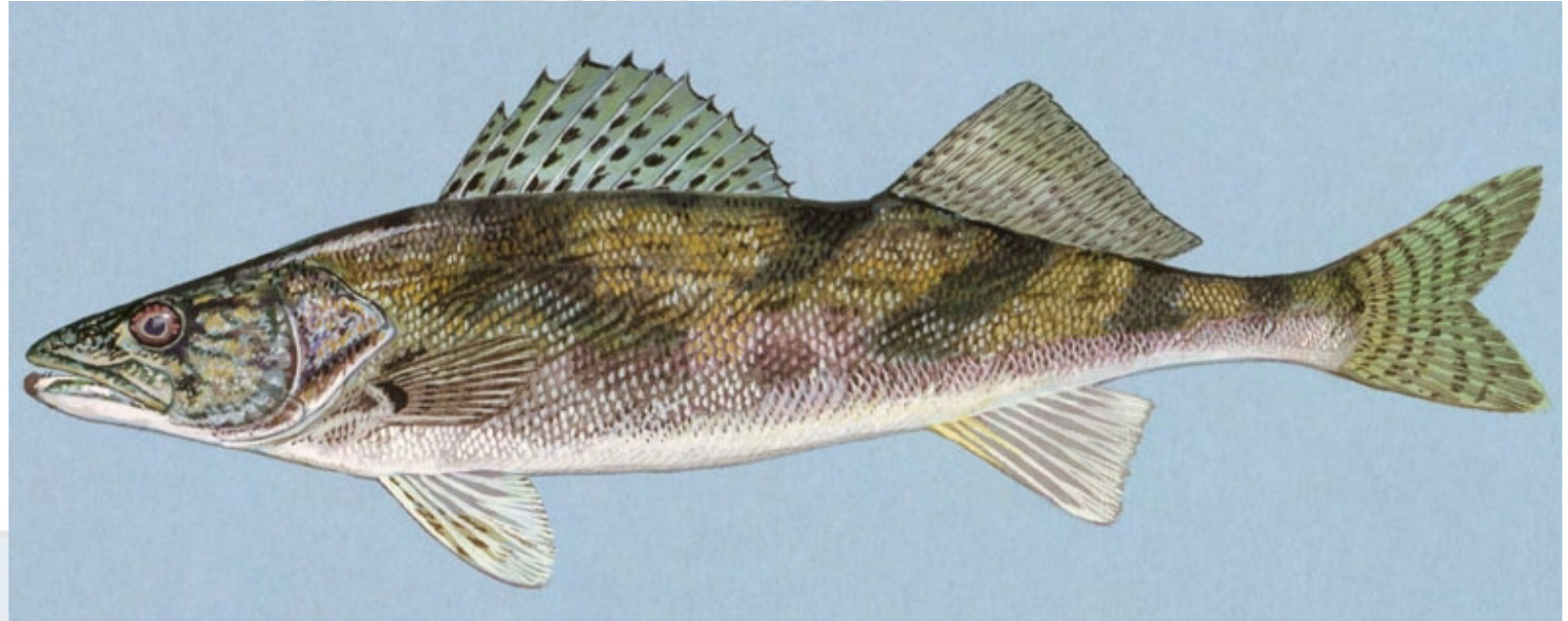
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Species Identification

Name this fish

Sauger

- Similar to Walleye
- Spotted dorsal fin
- Caudal fin missing white splotches
- Rough skin over gills



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Species Identification

Name this fish

Northern Pike

- Olive green
 - Fading from yellow to white on the belly
- 6 pores on underside of each jaw
- Mature Pike appear to have large spots



Species Identification

Name this fish

Muskellunge (Musky)

- Light silver, brown or green
- Dark vertical stripes
- 7 or more pores on underside of each jaw



Species Identification

Name these fish

Black Crappie

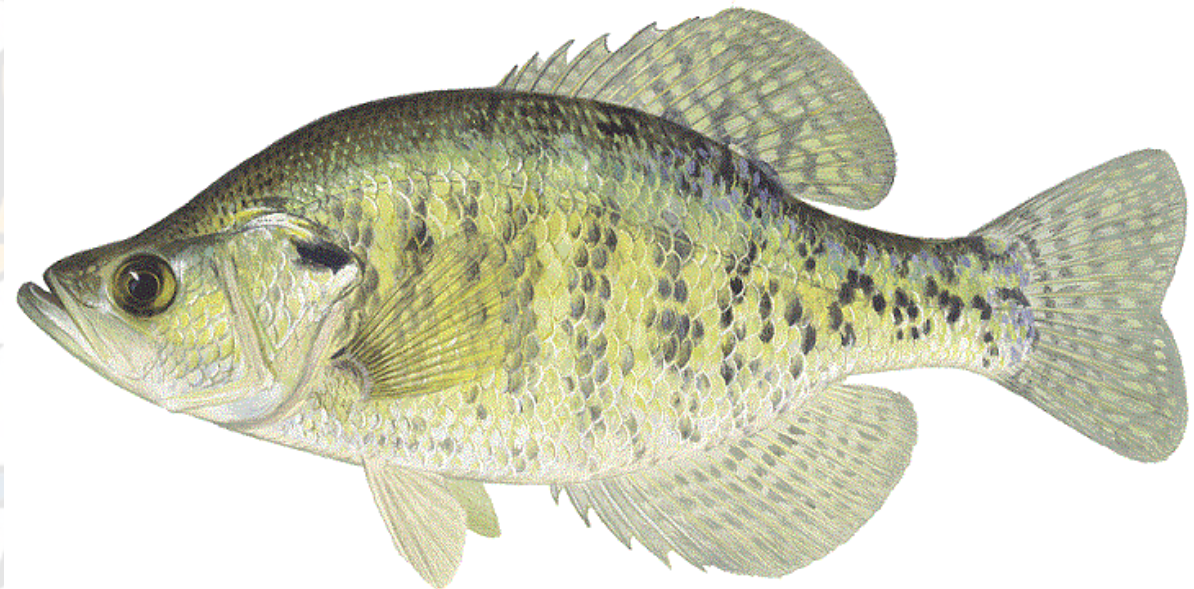
- Silvery grey to green
- 7 or 8 spines on dorsal fin
- Black splotches over body



© Duane Raver

White Crappie

- Silver color
 - Green or brown shades
- 6 spines on dorsal fin
- 5-7 vertical lines



Species Identification

Name this fish

Yellow Perch

- Green, olive, golden brown or golden yellow
- 6-8 Dark vertical stripes
- 2 dorsal fins



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Species Identification

Name this fish

Bluegill

- Black spot on each side on edge of gills
- Side of head is commonly dark blue
- Yellow lower part of body
- 4-12 inches in length



Species Identification

Name this fish

Pumpkinseed

- Orange, green, yellow or blue
- Speckles over their sides, yellow/orange belly
- 4-11 inches in length



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Species Identification

Name this fish

Hybrid Sunfish

Common in ponds



**BIG
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Species Identification

Name this fish

Bullhead

- Black
 - 8-14 inches
- Brown
 - 8-20 inches
- Yellow
 - 6-14 inches



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Species Identification

Name these fish

Flathead Catfish

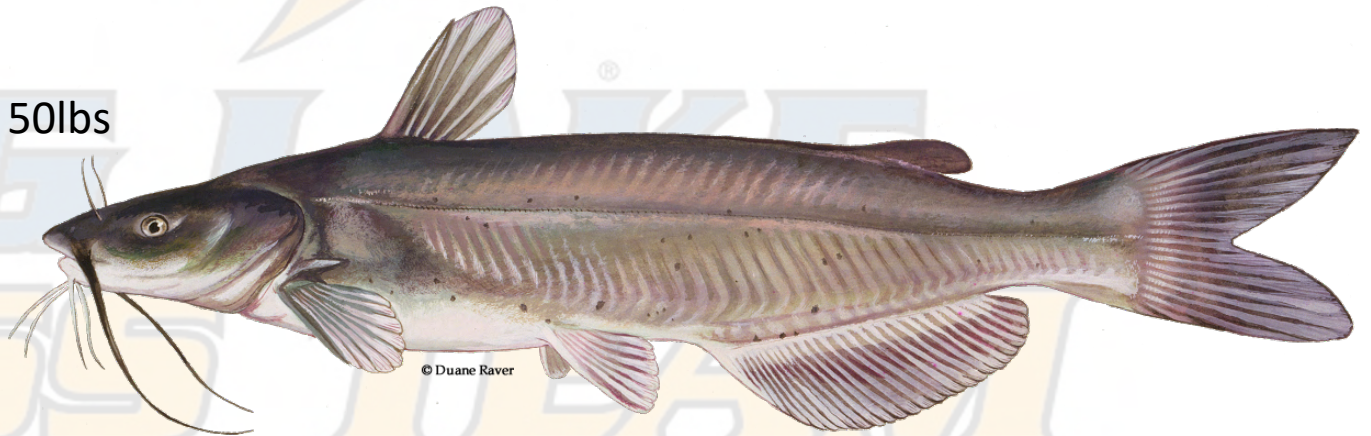
- 25 – 46 inches



Photo courtesy USFWS/Duane Raver

Channel Catfish

- 2 – 4lbs, up to 50lbs



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Species Identification

Name this fish

Lake Sturgeon

- Up to 7 feet and 240lbs



Selective Harvest

Why it is critical to Fishing's Future!

In simplest terms, selective harvest means keeping those fish that are numerous yet big enough to fillet. Selective harvest means being selective. Harvest enough for a meal or two but do so wisely.

Panfish, namely bluegills and crappies, are susceptible to over-harvest during winter and then again during spring spawning time, so carry a tape measure or ruler and check them before throwing them in a live well or bucket. Crappies of 12 inches or more should be released after a quick photo. The same goes for bluegills of 9 inches or more; keep bluegills measuring 7-8.5 inches and you'll have thick fillets, and the fishery won't suffer.

Finally, just because the legal limit is 10 (or 20, or whatever), keep only what you'll eat immediately. Don't stock your freezer because frozen fish are never as good as fresh ones. Catch (selective harvest), cook, repeat. Getting in this pattern ensures you always stay well under your possession limit for any species, and it puts you out on the water more often. **Plus, they don't taste as good!!!**

Guidelines by species

Panfish – release 9" and above

Crappies – release 11" and above

Walleye – release 21" and above



Credo

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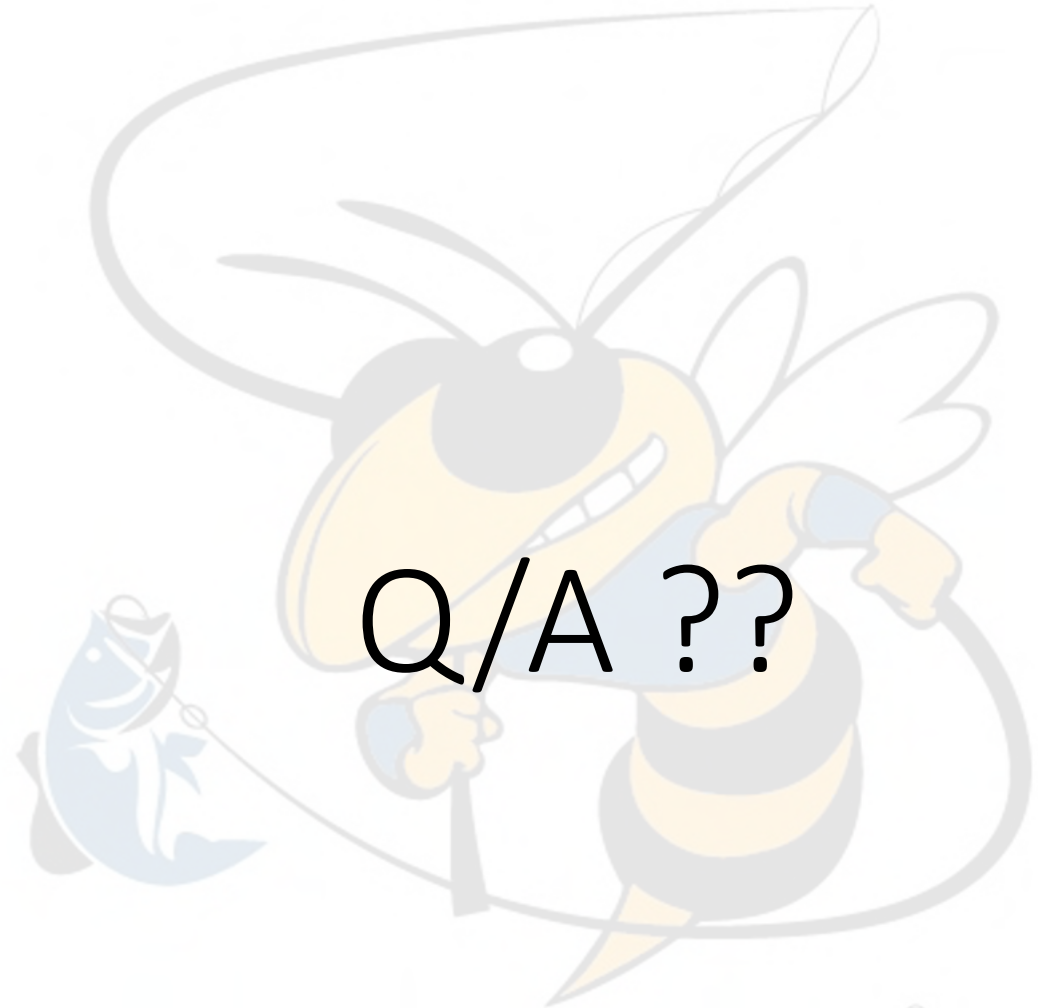
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Q/A ??

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