Greg Matzke Fisheries Biologist WDNR Roberts Lake Yellow Perch and Walleye Rehabilitation Project 2019 – Fall Update

Rehabilitation Proposal



| Species | Current Abundance | Target Abundance | Minimum # adults removed year 1 | Maximum # adults removed year 1 |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Northern Pike | 3,052 adults (7.35/ac) | 1,245 adults (3/acre) | 830 adults + catchable juveniles | 2,100 adults + unlimited juveniles |
| Largemouth Bass | 3,780 adults (9.11/ac) | 623 adults (1.5/acre) | 2,075 adults + catchable juveniles | 3,320 adults + unlimited juveniles |

- Remove overabundant northern pike to a target abundance of 3 adults/acre
- Remove overabundant largemouth bass to a target abundance of 1.5 adults/acre
- Remove age-0 bluegill to allow yellow perch to have an advantage



Rehabilitation Goals

- Increase yellow perch abundance to the point where perch are the dominant panfish
- Increase adult walleye abundance
- Flip the system from one that favors centrarchids and northern pike to one that favors yellow perch and walleye



Fyke Net







2019 Fyke Net and Night Shocking Results

Northern Pike Caught and Removed to Date

913: August 2019 (848) May 2019

2019 Maximum Removal Goal – 2,100 adults, unlimited juveniles

Largemouth Bass Caught and Removed to Date

3,298: August 2019 (2,731 adults) May 2019

2019 Maximum Removal Goal – 3,320 adults, unlimited juveniles



Roberts Lake will get stocked with approximately 6,500 large fingerling walleye in late fall. These fish are being raised at the Mole Lake fish ponds. We plan on stocking these fish during the first week of October. These walleye will be 6-8 inches in size. In 2020, we will basically repeat everything we did in 2019, but hopefully with less effort, as there will be less non-desirable fish species in the lake.







ZEBRA MUSSEL