

Hello everyone,

Hope all is well and everyone is healthy. Just a quick update on the Roberts project. We were able to get out this spring and get most work done. This includes fyke net and boat electrofishing of northern pike and largemouth bass. We got right away with the lake still partially covered in ice, and we put a lot of effort to get northern pike with fyke nets. We followed with good effort on largemouth bass using nighttime electrofishing. I've included results below along with 2019 results for comparison purposes. As you can see, numbers were way down, obviously good news for meeting the goals of the project. We will continue with the project in August. We are planning to perform a standardized crayfish survey the first week of August. With this survey there will be 10 sites around the lake with 3 traps at each site. This survey will run for 3 days. Beginning the second week of August, we will begin setting fyke nets to remove small largemouth bass and small bluegill. We will start with a pre-removal survey using 8 nets and after survey completion we will quickly ramp up to 20-25 nets around the perimeter of the lake. Nets will run through early September, with the goal of removing nets prior to labor day weekend. We will reset the 8 nets from pre-removal survey for a post-removal survey. This survey will last 3 days. Please send out messages to remind lake users of the project and to respect nets. Hopefully we don't have any issues with vandalism like we did last year. We will finish the year with a fall nighttime electrofishing survey in mid to late September and the stocking of large fingerling walleye in early October. We haven't been on the lake for a while, but we did make some positive observations this spring. Most notably, there are lots of perch in Roberts. Most are on the small size which is great to support smaller-sized walleye, but there was a nice mix of perch up to 11 inches. Finally, young walleye were abundantly seen in fyke nets and during nighttime electrofishing. This includes the 2018 and 2019 year classes. Please continue to spread the word that fish removed thru angling will help a bunch with the project. Angling regulations are very liberal for both largemouth bass and northern pike. Thanks and I appreciate any feedback you may have.

Mike

Michael Preul,  
Director Mole Lake Fisheries  
Sokaogon Chippewa Community  
3051 Sand Lake Rd  
Crandon, WI 54520  
715-478-7621  
Mike.preul@scc-nsn.gov

Roberts Lake Project - Summary of Northern Pike and Largemouth Bass Removed - 2019-2020

Length (in)	Northern Pike			Largemouth Bass			Length (in)
	2019	2020	Total	2019	2020	Total	
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2	0	0	0	6	0	6	2
3	0	0	0	1	0	1	3
4	0	0	0	15	0	15	4
5	0	0	0	20	3	23	5
6	0	0	0	18	16	34	6
7	0	0	0	36	19	55	7
8	0	0	0	30	16	46	8
9	1	1	2	119	13	132	9
10	5	0	5	109	32	141	10
11	12	4	16	330	34	364	11
12	9	2	11	369	88	457	12
13	15	3	18	466	101	567	13
14	20	10	30	794	70	864	14
15	49	20	69	581	53	634	15
16	114	27	141	266	39	305	16
17	155	45	200	130	15	145	17
18	215	51	266	51	6	57	18
19	161	35	196	16	2	18	19
20	125	27	152	3	1	4	20
21	68	27	95	0	0	0	21
22	57	13	70	0	0	0	22
23	36	12	48	0	0	0	23
24	19	7	26	0	0	0	24
25	12	6	18	0	0	0	25
26	10	3	13	0	0	0	26
27	7	1	8	0	0	0	27
28	6	2	8	0	0	0	28
29	1	0	1	0	0	0	29
>30	7	0	7	0	0	0	>30
Total	1104	296	1400	3360	508	3868	Total
<12"	18	5	23	96	38	134	<8"
>12"	1086	291	1377	3234	454	3688	>8"
2019 Adult Npike (>12"), no/acre removed:			2.6	2019 Adult LMBass (>8"), no/acre removed:			7.8
2020 Adult Npike (>12"), no/acre removed:			0.7	2020 Adult LMBass (>8"), no/acre removed:			1.1
Total Adult Npike (>12"), no/acre removed:			3.3	Total Adult LMBass (>8"), no/acre removed:			8.9