

Lake Michigan Committee Meeting  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
March 19-20, 2003

## Summary of Trout and Salmon Stocking in Lake Michigan 1976-2002

Prepared by

Jessica M. Richards and Charles R. Bronte  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Fishery Resources Office  
2661 Scott Tower Drive  
New Franken, WI 54229

This report summarizes trout and salmon stocking in Lake Michigan from 1976-2002. Stocking information was provided by the Department of Natural Resources of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin, who stock Pacific salmon, brown trout, and splake, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who provides all lake trout for restoration purposes. These data should be considered provisional because not all agencies have officially verified the stocking numbers. With the exception of lake trout, no attempt was made to express stocking totals in yearling equivalents. Consequently, numbers for all life stages stocked for a given species were added together. To accurately examine trends in adult trout and salmon abundance in Lake Michigan, detailed information on hatchery programs, genetic strains, size at stocking, and stocking practices would have to be considered.

Lakewide Trends: The number of trout and salmon stocked into Lake Michigan in 2002 totaled 12.0 million fish (Table 1), which was about 1.0 million fewer fish than last year. This level of stocking was 2.4 million less than the long term average of 14.5 million, and one of the lowest levels since 1977. Total stocking peaked at 17.3 million fish in 1984.

Chinook Salmon: Chinook salmon stocking in Lake Michigan decreased to 3.3 million fish in 2002, which was about 1.0 million fewer fish than last year (Table 1). Illinois stocked more chinook salmon in 2002 than in 2001 and Wisconsin, Michigan, and Indiana stocked fewer than in the previous year (Tables 2-5). Annual stocking has ranged from 2.8 million fish in 1977 to 6.4 million in 1995.

Coho Salmon: The number of coho salmon stocked decreased in 2002; 2.7 million were stocked compared to 2.8 million in 2001 (Table 1). Numbers of coho stocked in 2002 increased slightly in Wisconsin and Indiana, decreased in Michigan, and stayed the same in Illinois (Tables 2-5).

Rainbow Trout/Steelhead: Numbers of rainbow trout/steelhead stocked remained at 1.8 million in 2002 (Table 1). Numbers of rainbow trout/steelhead stocked in 2002 increased in Illinois and Michigan and decreased in Wisconsin and Indiana (Tables 2-5).

Brown Trout: Brown trout stocking increased from 1.7 million fish in 2001 to 1.8 million in 2002 (Table 1). Wisconsin continues to stock the majority (69%) of brown trout (Tables 2-5).

Brook Trout: All of the 76,000 brook trout stocked into Lake Michigan in 2002 were in Wisconsin waters (Tables 1-2), which was 14,000 fewer fish than in 2001.

Splake: Only Michigan and Wisconsin stocked splake in 2001. The number of splake totaled 126,000 fish, an increase from 104,000 stocked in 2000 (Tables 1, 2 and 5).

Lake Trout: There were 2.2 million lake trout stocked into Lake Michigan in 2002, which was slightly lower than the number of fish stocked in 2001 (Tables 1 and 6).

Marked Fish: Trout and salmon that were stocked with designated fin clips in 2001 are summarized in Table 7. Details on the studies or evaluations that include the fish marked are available from the state agency that stocked the fish.











Table 6. Lake Michigan lake trout stocking by rehabilitation zone in 2002.

<b>Fish age</b>	<b>Rehabilitation Zone</b>	<b>Grid</b>	<b>Number Stocked</b>	<b>Finclip/ Mark</b>	<b>Strain</b>	<b>Off/ Onshore</b>	
Yearlings	<b>Northern Refuge</b>						
	Boulder Reef	413	51,750	ADCWT	Lewis Lake	off	
			413	52,160	ADCWT	Apostle Islands	off
			413	50,400	ADCWT	Isle Royale	off
	Gull Island Shoal	414	51,084	ADCWT	Lewis Lake	off	
			414	48,564	ADCWT	Apostle Islands	off
			414	50,380	ADCWT	Isle Royale	off
	Richard's Reef	414	48,632	ADCWT	Lewis Lake	off	
			414	48,665	ADCWT	Apostle Islands	off
			414	50,450	ADCWT	Isle Royale	off
	subtotal			452,085			
	<b>Midlake Refuge</b>						
	Sheboygan Reef	1705	50,800	ADCWT	Green Lake	off	
			1705	50,260	ADCWT	Seneca Lake	off
	East Reef	1904	50,780	ADCWT	Seneca Lake	off	
			1904	50,370	ADCWT	Green Lake	off
	subtotal			202,210			
	<b>Primary Zone</b>						
	Clay Banks	905	68,700	RV	Green Lake	off	
			905	8,300	RV	Apostle Islands	off
		905	43,000	RV	Marquette	off	
Julian's Reef	2403	61,024	ADCWT	Green Lake	off		
Old Mission Point	716	40,375	RV	Lewis Lake	off		
		716	32,450	RV	Apostle Islands	off	
		716	11,400	RV	Seneca Lake	off	
Acme	916	33,660	RV	Seneca Lake	off		
Lee's Reef	815	16,583	RV	Seneca Lake	off		

<b>Fish age</b>	<b>Rehabilitation Zone</b>	<b>Grid</b>	<b>Number Stocked</b>	<b>Finclip/ Mark</b>	<b>Strain</b>	<b>Off/ Onshore</b>
		815	65,665	RV	Lewis Lake	off
	Greillickville	915	27,720	RV	Lewis Lake	off
		915	30,357	RV	Seneca Lake	off
	Good Harbor Bay	814	28,898	RV	Lewis Lake	off
		814	20,230	RV	Apostle Islands	off
		814	27,470	RV	Seneca Lake	off
	Point Betsie	911	58,330	RV	Lewis Lake	off
		911	33,480	RV	Apostle Islands	off
	Trout Island Shoal	314	60,000	RV	Apostle Islands	off
	9 Mile Point	517	74,920	ADCWT	Marquette	on
	Fisherman's Island	616	75,007	ADCWT	Marquette	on
Fall Fingerlings	Leland Harbor	714	42,884	RP	Green Lake	on
		714	17,504	RP	Apostle Islands	on
		714	27,131	RP	Isle Royale	on
	subtotal		905,088			
	<b>Secondary Zone</b>					
Yearlings	Stony Lake Reef	1609	12,000	RV	Lewis Lake	off
		1609	28,600	RV	Apostle Islands	off
		1609	22,280	RV	Seneca Lake	off
	Michiana Reef	2706	60,000	RV	Apostle Islands	off
	Portage Lake Reef	1111	50,000	RV	Lewis Lake	off
		1111	10,000	RV	Apostle Islands	off
	Beach Reef	2410	15,000	RV	Green Lake	off
		2410	45,000	RV	Apostle Islands	off
	S. Milwaukee Reef	2002	62,300	RV	Apostle Islands	off
	Wind Point	2102	65,000	RV	Green Lake	off

Shoal						
Saugatuck Reef	2211	14,274	RV	Apostle Islands	off	
	2211	45,900	RV	Seneca Lake	off	
Sheboygan	1502	50,700	ADCWT	Green Lake	off	
	1502	50,000	ADCWT	Seneca Lake	off	
	1502	69,900	RV	Apostle Islands	off	
subtotal		600,954				
<b>Secondary Zone</b>						
Dahlia Shoal	417	63,840	RV	Apostle Islands	off	
subtotal		63,840				
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2,224,177</b>				

Table 7. A summary of trout and salmon stocked into Lake Michigan in 2002 that were marked with fin clips.

Species/ strain	State	Location stocked	Number stocked	Fin clip
Coho Salmon	MI	Platte River	87,371	LV
	WI	Root River	10,648	ADCWT
Chinook Salmon	IN	Coast Guard	11,553	oxytetracycline
	IN	Whiting Park	30,026	oxytetracycline
	IN	Little Calumet	70,175	oxytetracycline
	IN	Inland Steel	79,098	oxytetracycline
	IN	Trail Creek	50,165	oxytetracycline
	WI	Ellison Bay	55,005	oxytetracycline
	WI	Milwaukee Harbor Outer	122,300	oxytetracycline
	WI	Oconto River	59,996	oxytetracycline
	WI	L Michigan	82,820	oxytetracycline
	WI	Pike River	90,994	oxytetracycline
	WI	Little River	54,184	oxytetracycline
	WI	Root River	104,280	oxytetracycline
	WI	Menominee River	54,149	oxytetracycline
	WI	Sheboygan River	123,012	oxytetracycline
	WI	Ahnapee River	62,797	oxytetracycline
	WI	Strawberry Creek	24,000	ADCWT
	WI	Sauk Creek	62,000	oxytetracycline
	MI	Portage Lake	50,600	oxytetracycline
	MI	Muskegon River	47,276	oxytetracycline
	IL	Waukegan South Harbor	101,974	RV
MI	Muskegon Lake Outlet	49,932	oxytetracycline	
MI	Escanaba River	9,174	oxytetracycline	
Species/		Location	Number	

strain	State	stocked	stocked	Fin clip
	MI	Manistique River	55,044	oxytetracycline
	MI	Little Manistee River	102,160	AD oxytetracycline
	MI	Medusa Creek	101,444	AD oxytetracycline
	MI	Ford River	38,086	oxytetracycline
	MI	Grand River	137,745	oxytetracycline
	MI	Kalamazoo River	54,475	oxytetracycline
	MI	Kids Creek	235,480	oxytetracycline
	MI	Little Bay De Noc	8,062	oxytetracycline
	MI	Little Manistee River	287,617	oxytetracycline
	MI	Macatawa River	54,475	oxytetracycline
	MI	Little Manistee River	101,748	ADCWT oxytetracycline
Steelhead				
Skamania	MI	Manistee River	36,748	RP
	WI	Kewaunee River	19,855	RM
	WI	Kewaunee River	21,999	LM
	IL	Waukegan South Harbor	32,640	LV
	IL	Chicago	27,821	LV
	WI	Root River	33,634	RM
Michigan	MI	Menominee River	10,000	RP
	MI	St. Joseph River	50,000	RP
	MI	Pentwater River	7,350	RP
	MI	Muskegon River	30,099	RP
	MI	Manistique River	8,000	RP
	MI	Paw Paw River	9,996	RP
	MI	Muskegon River	25,000	RP
	MI	Prairie Creek	5,250	RP

Species/

Location

Number

strain	State	stocked	stocked	Fin clip
	MI	Rabbit River	10,011	RP
	MI	Rogue River	34,000	RP
	MI	Pere Marquette River	10,500	RP
	MI	White River	23,100	RP
	MI	Sturgeon River	24,000	RP
	MI	Elk River	12,000	RP
	MI	Bear River	10,000	RP
	MI	Black River	9,998	RP
	MI	Boyne River	12,000	RP
	MI	Brevoort River	10,000	RP
	MI	Carp Lake River	6,000	RP
	MI	Cedar River	20,000	RP
	MI	Boardman River	18,000	RP
	MI	Whitefish River, east branch	15,000	RP
	MI	Manistee River	51,000	RP
	MI	Fish Creek	5,250	RP
	MI	Flat River	5,250	RP
	MI	Galien River	12,604	RP
	MI	Grand River	36,000	RP
	MI	Jordan River	12,000	RP
	MI	Kalamazoo River	17,012	RP
	MI	Crockery Creek	5,250	RP
Arlee	IL	Chicago	29,323	RV
	IL	Highland Park	8,282	RV
	WI	Milwaukee River	7,500	LP
	WI	Lake Michigan	7,499	LP
	IL	Evanston	8,398	RV
Chambers Ck	WI	Root River	27,064	LM

Species/

Location

Number

strain	State	stocked	stocked	Fin clip
	WI	Manitowoc River	6,111	LM
	WI	Milwaukee River	12,288	LM
	WI	Sheboygan River	7,500	LM
	WI	Menominee River	9,685	LM
	WI	Ahnapee River	6,090	LM
	WI	East Twin River	6,130	LM
	WI	Kewaunee River	35,354	LM
	WI	Oak Creek	2,805	LM
	WI	Oconto River	6,072	LM
	WI	Peshtigo River	8,851	LM
	WI	West Twin River	6,132	LM
Ganaraska	WI	East Twin River	16,307	ADRV
	WI	Ahnapee River	16,827	ADRV
	WI	Root River	27,125	ADRV
	WI	Kewaunee River	35,618	ADRV
	WI	Sheboygan River	17,700	ADRV
	WI	Pike Creek	6,807	ADRV
	WI	Oak Creek	4,784	ADRV
	WI	Stony Creek	6,502	ADRV
	WI	Milwaukee River	34,711	ADRV
	WI	Sauk Creek	6,665	ADRV
	WI	Kinnickinnic River	6,636	ADRV
	WI	Menomonee River	6,517	ADRV
Brown trout				
Seeforellen	WI	Kewaunee River	32,608	ADLM
	WI	Menominee River	33,813	ADLM
	WI	Root River	26,819	ADLM
	WI	Thompson Creek	11,000	LV
Species/ strain	State	Location stocked	Number stocked	Fin clip

Brook trout

St. Croix	WI	Sheboygan River	17,700	ADRV
	WI	Sheboygan River	7,500	LM

---