



WISCONSIN DNR FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET

County: SHEBOYGAN
Lake Name: ELKHART LAKE
WBIC: 59300
Survey Year: 2018

WDNR Fish Biologist Contact Information
Addie Dutton - Inland waters - (920)-838-5281
Cheryl Masterson - Lake Michigan - (414) 382-7923
Laura Schmidt - Lake Michigan - (414) 382-7928

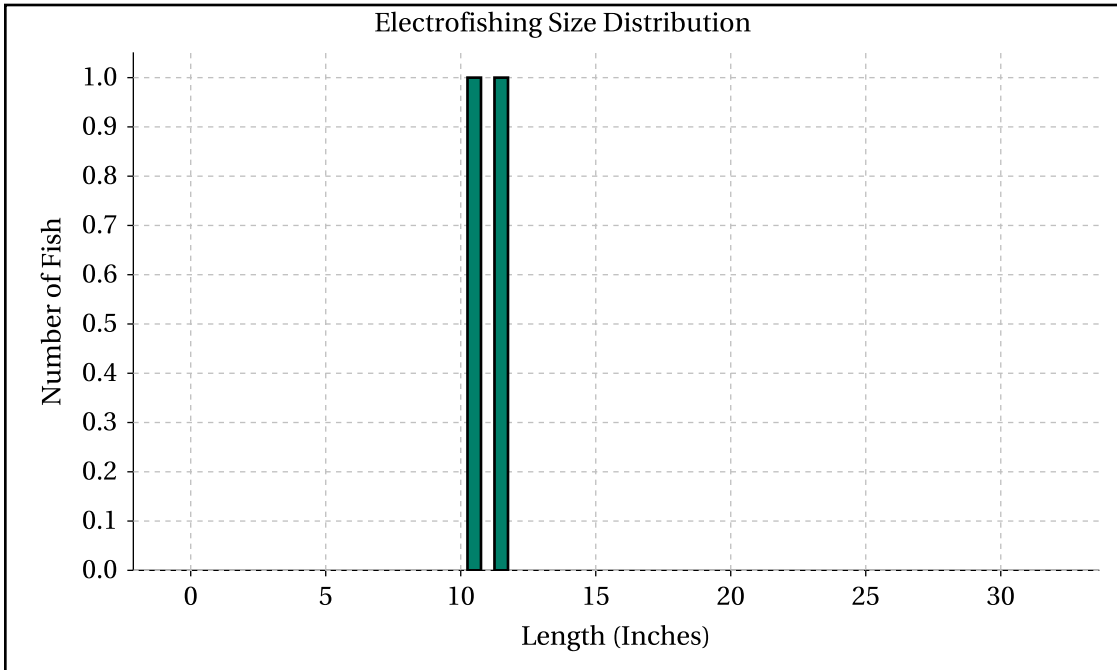
Lake Characteristics		Lake Type: DEEP HEADWATER DRAINAGE
Acres: 286	Shoreline miles: 0.4	Maximum Depth (feet): 119

Survey Information		Survey Dates: Sep 18, 2018 to Sep 18, 2018	WDNR Survey ID: 515088332
Gear Types: BOOM SHOCKER	Survey Type: FISHERIES ASSESSMENTS LAKES FALL JUVENILE		

WALLEYE

Electrofishing Relative Abundance	
Total Catch:	2
Miles of Electrofishing:	4.23
Catch per mile:	0.47

Proportional Size Distribution (PSD)	
(For All Days of Electrofishing)	
Stock Size (in): 10	Quality Size (in): 15
Measured Fish Count:	2
Count of Fish >= Stock Size:	2
Count of Fish >= Quality Size:	0
PSD 15 :	Too few fish



Minimum Length:	10.5
Maximum Length:	11.5
Average Length:	11.25
Number Measured:	2

Big Elkhart Lake Update June 1st, 2018

- 4 fyke nets set on April 19th and pulled May 4th (15 night sets)
- Water temperatures ranged from 38F to 49F
- 3 Broodstock Musky captured
 - 17.5 inches, 0.7 pounds PIT tag 985121015331128 (April 20th, water temp 38F)
 - 18.9 inches, 1.1 pounds PIT tag 985121015076235 (April 20th, water temp 38F)
 - 18.4 inches, 1.0 pounds PIT tag 989001003983550 (April 24th, water temp 48F)
- 14 non-broodstock Musky netted

Date	Water Temp	Species	Length (in)	Weight (lb)	Sex
20-Apr	38F	MUE	44.5	27	F
24-Apr	48F	MUE	39.0	15.7	M
25-Apr	42F	MUE	40.0	14.8	M
25-Apr	42F	MUE	35.0	11.6	M
25-Apr	42F	MUE	42.8	19.5	F
26-Apr	49F	MUE	43.1	17.3	M
26-Apr	49F	MUE	45.8	27.1	F
27-Apr	43F	MUE	38.3	14.3	M
29-Apr	43.5F	MUE	46.0	25.0	F
1-May	48F	MUE	40.6	18.1	F
1-May	48F	MUE	35.3	16.2	F
1-May	48F	MUE	39.7	17.2	F
1-May	48F	MUE	39.8	16.4	M
4-May	47F	MUE	-	-	Recap M

Big Elkhart was scheduled for first year Musky survey in 2019 and full comprehensive in 2020. Given the poor recruitment of broodstock Musky to the nets, I suggest that the first year Musky survey be pushed back until 2020 or 2021 with the following year being the full comprehensive survey. I do plan to shock Big Elkhart Lake this fall for Walleye survival from the Walleye Initiative. I can report back at that time if more broodstock fish are sampled.

One last note, I had complaints from the local Muskies Inc chapter that last year the fish were stocked at the boat launch and many fish did not survive. Apparently, people were catching the fish and handling them over long periods of time. In 2016 following the stocking, the Plymouth crew had to go to Big Elkhart Lake to pick up dead Musky that had washed up along the shore. A couple kids had collected some of the dead Musky and dug the PIT tags out (little biologists in the making). The club has offered to help distribute any Musky throughout the lake in the future with personal boats to move fish. In addition, the club also donated \$1,000 to support Musky efforts in Big Elkhart Lake and Random Lake this year.