

DRAFT

**LAKE MICHIGAN COMMERCIAL FISHING BOARD
MEETING**

July 10, 2023
Zoom Meeting

1. Organizational Matters:

Call to Order:

Chairman Charlie Henriksen called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m., due to technical difficulties

Members Present: Charlie Henriksen, Mark Maricque, Mike LeClair, Rick Johnson, ,
Todd Stuth, Dan Pawlitzke.

Member Absent: Brett Schwarz

DNR Staff Present: Nick Leger, Brad Eggold, Meredith Penthorn, Ryan Propke, Jean Rombach, Kari Fenske, Justine Hasz, Bob Stroess, Jordan Resap, Diane Brusoc, Tami Ryan,

Others present: UWSP Professor Dan Dombrowski, Bob Wincek, Brandon, Jerry Fetterer, P. Smith, Arnie Angelo Trentadul, Will Henriksen, Sharon Moen, Virlee. Will Henriksen, Paul & Terry, Carin Stuth, Jack Tong

2. A. Minutes: Mike LeClair made a motion to approve the previous LMCFB meeting minutes, seconded by Todd Stuth, all present voted to approve these minutes.

3. Discussion Items:

A. The 2024 Lake Whitefish Total Allowable Catch (T.A.C.) was reviewed and explained by Brad Eggold

B. The Lake Trout Stakeholder group had submitted 193 comments pertaining to the submission of a Lake Trout Scope Statement allowing Commercial Fishers to have an incidental Lake Trout harvest; There were 39 responses FOR the commercial use of Lake Trout with 154 AGAINST the Lake Trout Scope Statement. Summary Comments ranged from locally caught fish; to the Lake Trout are not yet self-sustaining; concern about monitoring costs; safety pertaining to the entanglement issues. There should be a recommendation by the DNR Sectary by end of July.

C. The Cares Act \$1.2 million Promotion and Marking expenditure needs to be completed by August 31, 2023. The Marketing ads will have the theme; "Off the Hook" marketing campaign.

D. Commercial Fishing Web Page was presented by Brad Eggold, who mentioned that the format is the same for other DNR web page informational pieces. There are 4 tabs: About; Members; Meetings; Resources.

- E. The EFHRS Study was explained by Mr. Eggold and Ms. Hasz, focusing around the concerns with the systems input section to make the EFHRS “user friendly”. The DNR had received 22 comments pertaining to the system reporting categories of: Official Application; Fishing Nights; Dashboard; Quota & Crew and Training on EFHRS.
- F. Latent Mortality Study Updates; Tracking in 2023, both active and passive of Lake Whitefish was placed on hold while additional funding is sought. Current applications were submitted to Great Lakes Fish Commission by UWSP were not funded. The passive receivers will be download and processed by UWSP about Mid-October 2023. UWSP Professor Dan Dombrowski mentioned that of the 30 tagged Whitefish, typical length of 17”, of which 3 were not moving; Dan mentioned there was about a 12% mortality rate. The receiver battery life is bout 45 days. Further, UWSP also surgically implants tracking devise into the Lake Whitefish, which yields 80% survival rate, due to the complexity of the surgery. UWSP will also implant receivers into sport caught Lake Whitefish, weather permitting.
- G. WDNR posted a Fisher Biologist Advanced position to replace the recently retired Al Blizel. The DNR is currently in the interview process.

4. Additional Action Items: Skip

5. Old Business: None

6. Board Member Matters:

Arrange a LMCFB meeting to discuss the timeline for Lake Trout Scope Statement after the NRB acts on the Scope Statement matter on August 9, 2023. Thus, the next LMCFB meeting will be August 14, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

7. Adjournment:

Motion - Moved by Rick Johnson seconded by Todd Stuth.

Motion passed unanimously at 6:53 P.M.