



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Fisheries Information Sheet

LAKE: Pelican Lake

COUNTY: Oneida

YEAR: 2022

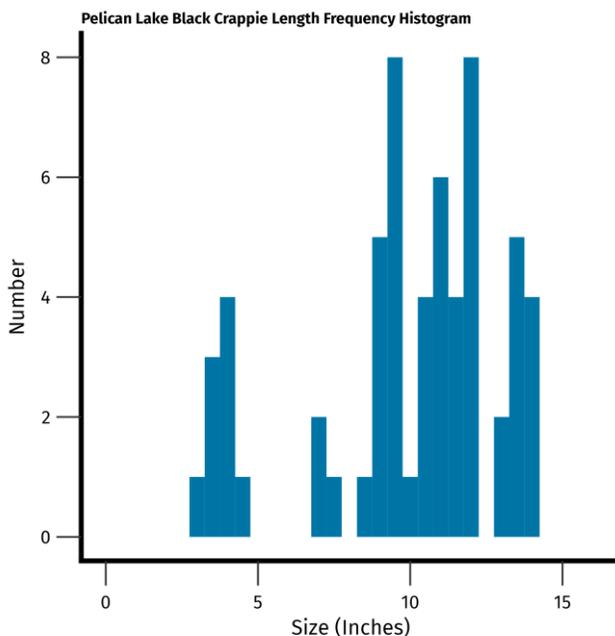
Introduction

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) assessed the bass and panfish fishery of Pelican Lake during the spring of 2022 with an electrofishing and fyke net survey. Pelican Lake is a drainage lake with 3,545 surface acres, 16.3 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 39 feet. Gamefish were collected over an 8.0-mile , while panfish and all other species were collected in four half-mile transects. Panfish were also collected with six fyke nets checked daily for three nights.

BLACK CRAPPIE



A total of 1,040 black crappies were captured while surveying Pelican Lake. Lengths of measured individuals ranged from 4.4 inches to 15.1 inches, with a mean length of 9.0 inches. An excellent size structure was found, with 57% of measured black crappies being 10 inches or greater.



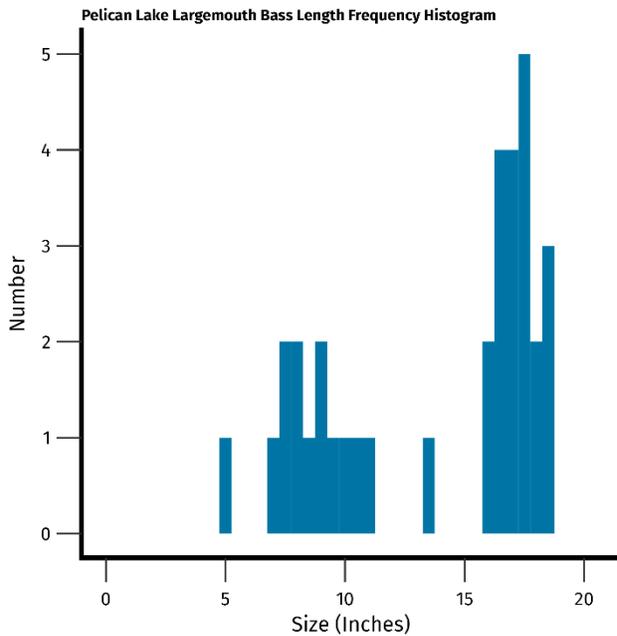
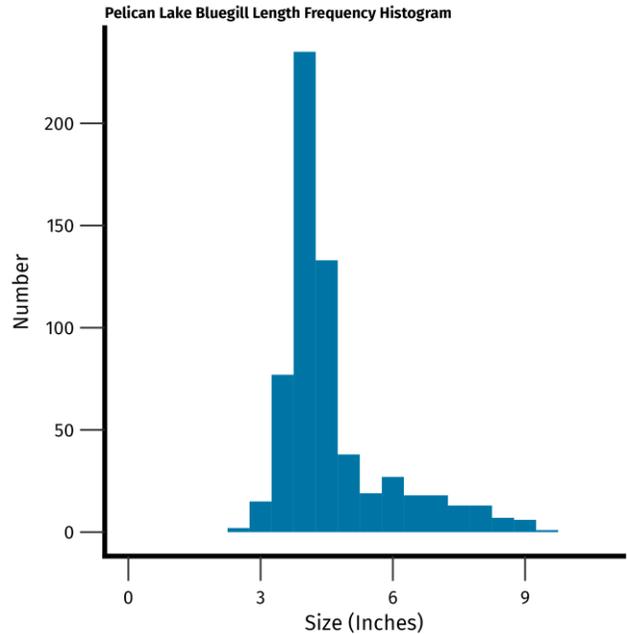
2.6 Captured Per Net Night \geq 5 inches	
Quality Size \geq 8 inches	2.5 Per Net Night
Preferred Size \geq 10 inches	1.7 Per Net Night

BLUEGILL



A total of 622 bluegills were captured while surveying Pelican Lake. Lengths of measured bluegills ranged from 1.4 inches to 9.1 inches, with a mean length of 5.1 inches. A smaller size structure was found, with 14.5 % of measured individuals being 6 inches or greater.

26.3 Captured Per Net Night \geq 3 inches	
Quality Size \geq 6 inches	3.8 Per Net Night
Preferred Size \geq 8 inches	1.1 Per Net Night



LARGEMOUTH BASS



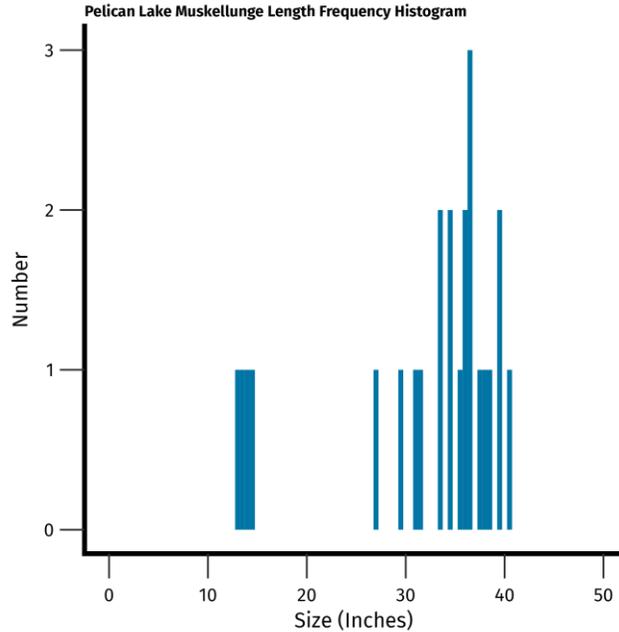
A total of 86 largemouth bass were captured while surveying Pelican Lake. Lengths varied between 2.9 inches to 20.2 inches, with a mean length of 12.4 inches. A great size structure of largemouth bass was found, with 59% of measured individuals being 15 inches or greater.

12.4 Capture Per Mile \geq 8 inches	
Quality Size \geq 12 inches	9.5 Per Mile
Preferred Size \geq 15 inches	9.0 Per Mile

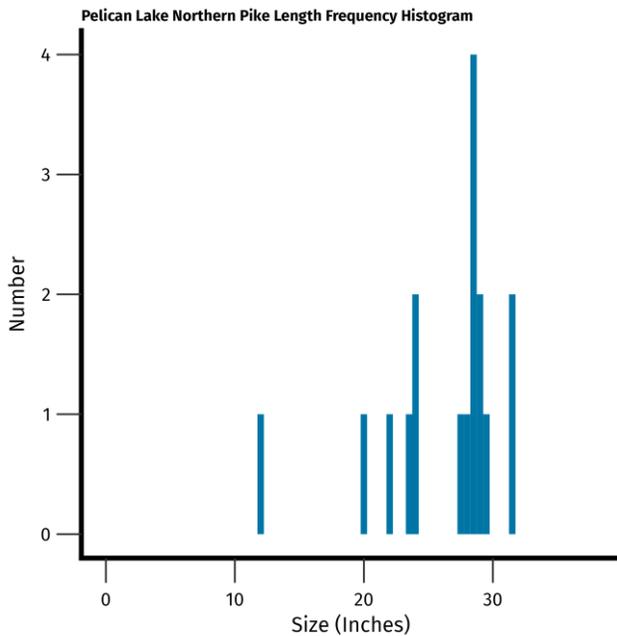
MUSKELLUNGE



A total of 30 muskellunge were captured while surveying Pelican Lake. Lengths varied between 13.1 inches to 48.5 inches, with a mean length of 31.1 inches. A great size structure was found, with 75% of individuals being 21 inches or greater and good growth within individuals being 1 inch larger at any age compared to the northern average.



1.1 Captured Per Net Night \geq 20 inches	
Quality Size \geq 30 inches	1.0 Per Net Night
Preferred Size \geq 38 inches	0.2 Per Net Night



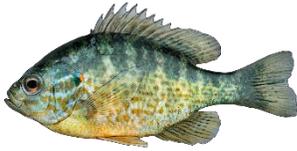
NORTHERN PIKE



A total of 36 northern pike were captured while surveying Pelican Lake. Lengths varied between 7.5 inches to 31.6 inches, with a mean length of 24.2 inches. A great size structure was found, with 88% of individuals being 21 inches or greater.

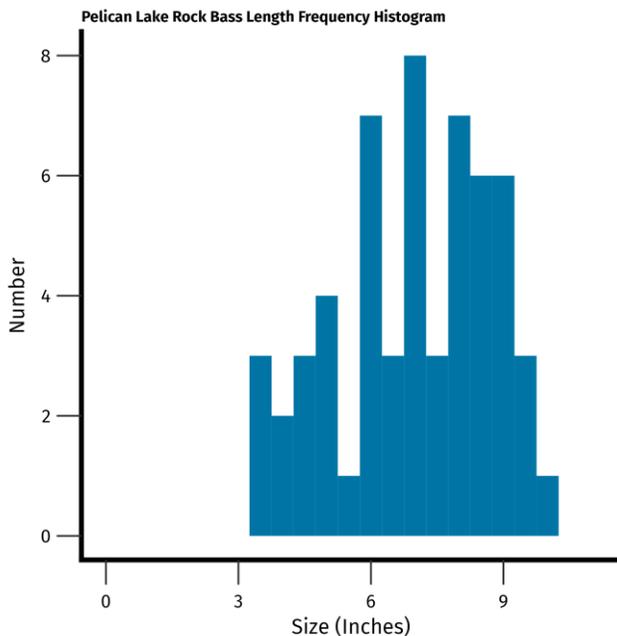
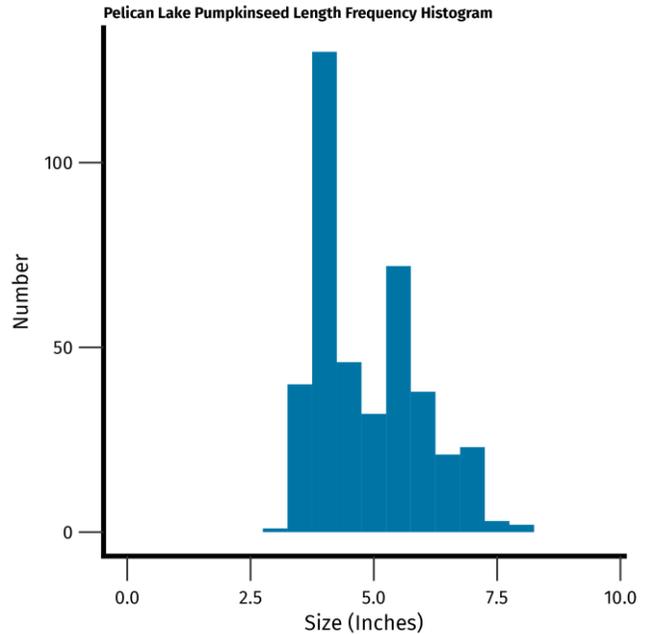
0.6 Captured Per Net Night \geq 14 inches	
Quality Size \geq 21 inches	0.5 Per Net Night
Preferred Size \geq 28 inches	0.3 Per Net Night

PUMPKINSEED

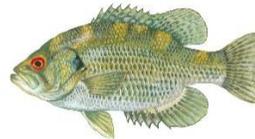


A total of 928 pumpkinseeds were captured while surveying Pelican Lake. Lengths varied between 2.9 inches to 7.8 inches, with a mean length of 4.9 inches. A smaller size structure was found, with 18% of measured pumpkinseeds being 6 inches or greater.

17.6 Captured Per Net Night \geq 3 inches	
Quality Size \geq 6 inches	3.5 Per Net Night
Preferred Size \geq 8 inches	0.0 Per Net Night



ROCK BASS



A total of 57 rock bass were captured while surveying Pelican Lake. Lengths varied between 3.4 inches to 9.8 inches, with a mean length of 6.9 inches. A good size structure of rock bass was found, with 49% of individuals measured 7 inches or greater.

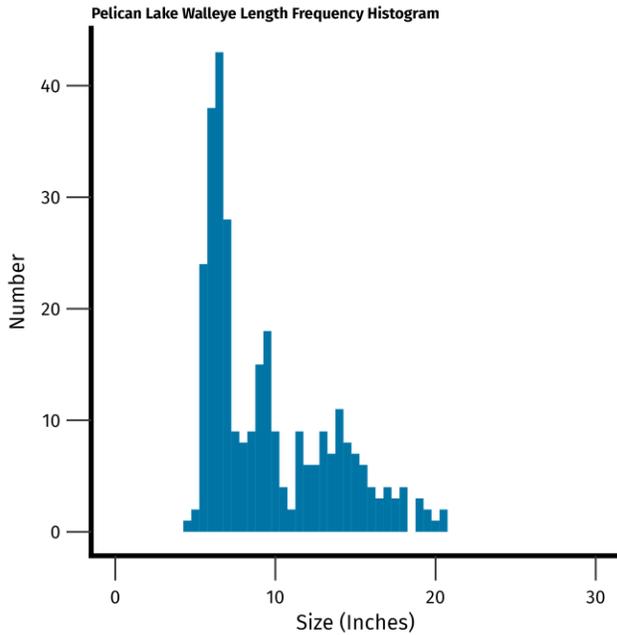
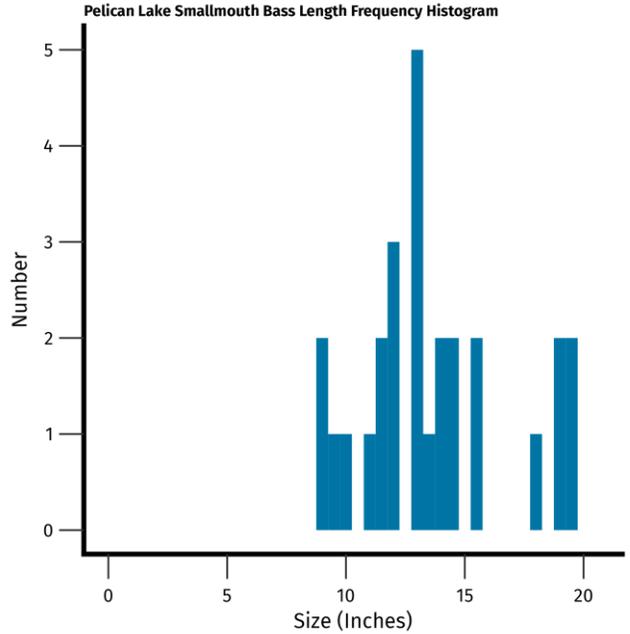
1.4 Captured Per Net Night \geq 4 inches	
Quality Size \geq 7 inches	0.9 Per Net Night
Preferred Size \geq 9 inches	0.3 Per Net Night

SMALLMOUTH BASS



A total of 87 smallmouth bass were captured while surveying Pelican Lake. Lengths varied between 2.5 inches to 21.7 inches, with a mean length of 14.5 inches. A good size structure of smallmouth bass was found, with 40% of measured individuals being 14 inches or greater.

10.9 Captured Per Mile \geq 7 inches	
Quality Size \geq 11 inches	9.0 Per Mile
Preferred Size \geq 14 inches	3.5 Per Mile



WALLEYE



A total of 967 walleye were captured while surveying Pelican Lake. Lengths varied between 4.2 inches to 23.5 inches, with a mean length of 9.6 inches. A smaller size structure was found, with 12% of measured walleye being 15 inches or greater.

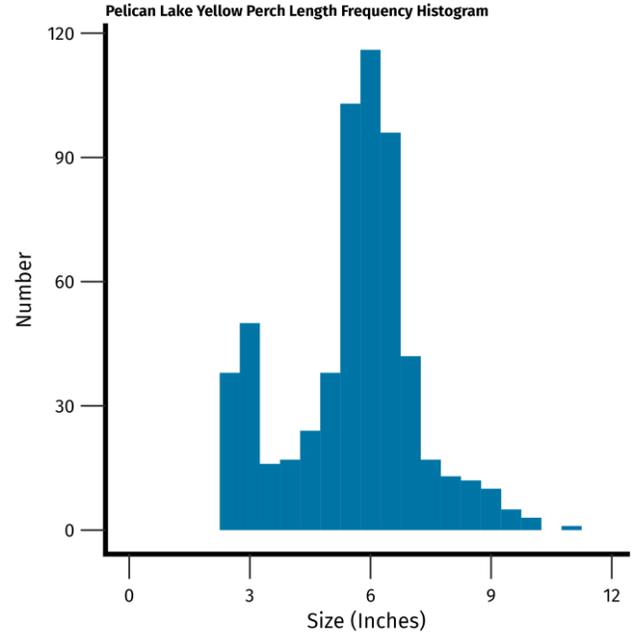
53.2 Captured Per Mile \geq 10 inches	
Quality Size \geq 15 inches	18.9 Per Mile
Preferred Size \geq 20 inches	1.5 Per Mile

YELLOW PERCH



A total of 1,775 yellow perch were captured while surveying Pelican Lake. Lengths of measured individuals varied between 2.3 inches to 10.8 inches, with a mean length of 5.6 inches. A small size structure was found, with 6% of measured yellow perch being 8 inches or greater.

18.8 Captured Per Net Night \geq 5 inches	
Quality Size \geq 8 inches	1.4 Per Net Night
Preferred Size \geq 10 inches	0.2 Per Net Night



OTHER SPECIES

Other species encountered included banded killifish (7), black bullhead (50), bluntnose minnow (2), burbot (1), common shiner (3), golden shiner (53), logperch (7), mottled sculpin (2), spottail shiner (23), white sucker (32), yellow bullhead (11).

Summary

Pelican Lake has a mixed fishery that can be accessed by one of the five boat ramps around the lake. Pelican Lake provides a well-rounded fishery that is in overall great shape. Panfish were generally of smaller sizes, muskellunge and northern ike of quality sizes and largemouth bass and smallmouth bass of trophy sizes. Muskellunge, panfish and walleye have been stocked into Pelican Lake most recently in 2021, 2004 and 1984, respectively. Pelican Lake is scheduled to be sampled again in 2024.

Table 1. General fishing regulations for Pelican Lake, in Oneida Wisconsin.

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT
Largemouth bass	May to mid-June	1	18" minimum length
Largemouth bass and smallmouth bass	Mid-June to March	1	18" minimum length
Northern pike	May to March	5	No minimum length
Muskellunge	End-May to end-December	1	50" minimum length
Panfish	Open All Year	25	No minimum length
Smallmouth bass	May to mid-June	Catch and release only	Catch and release only

Walleye	May to March	3, only 1 over 24"	15" minimum, 20-24" protected slot
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Acknowledgements

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities on Pelican Lake, contact:

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