

Original: Fish Division
cc: Education-Game
Mr. Funk

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH
DIVISION OF FISHERIES
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
COOPERATING WITH THE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ALBERT S. HAZZARD, PH.D.
DIRECTOR

April 8, 1942

ADDRESS
UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS ANNEX
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

REPORT NO. 765

COMMENTS ON WALLEYE PLANTING PROPOSED FOR 1942

by

John Funk and A. S. Hazzard

During the Fisheries Conference at Higgins Lake, District Supervisors were instructed to send in lists of waters which they planned to stock with walleye fry this year. The Institute was to receive a copy and was requested to comment on these plans.

Reports from District Supervisors of Fisheries Operations in Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 showing the lakes in which they intend to plant walleyes in 1942 have been received. An analysis of these reports by districts follows.

District No. 1

No survey information is available on most of the lakes in which plantings are to be made. Management policies have been suggested for the following:

Thousand Island Lake, Gogebic County

Two million walleyes are proposed for this lake in 1942. Report number 630 recommends that walleye plantings be reduced and made only on alternate years. Plantings should be omitted this year in order to make possible a check on spawning in 1942.

Lac la Belle, Keweenaw County

Proposed planting in 1942, 1,000,000 walleye fry.

Report No. 717 recommends that walleyes be planted only on alternate years until it can be determined whether natural reproduction is adequate to maintain the population. It is suggested that no planting be made in 1942.

In addition, Mr. Johnston lists the following lakes in which no plantings of walleyes are to be made in accordance with the Institute's recommendations: Haggerman, Harding, Paint, Winslow, Robinson, Smoky and Pickerel Lakes, Iron County, in which all stocking is to be discontinued; Lake Gogebic, Gogebic County, in which stocking is to be discontinued for 3 to 5 years to determine the effect of natural propagation; Sucker Lake, in which all stocking is to be discontinued except for 25 adult northern pike; and Bailey and Gratiot Lakes in which all stocking is to be discontinued.

He also lists a number of lakes in which no further plantings are to be made pending inventory.

District No. 2

Of the lakes in which it is proposed to stock walleyes, information is available on only one. Independence Lake, Marquette County, is scheduled to receive 500,000 fry. According to Report No. 561, this lake should be stocked only at intervals if it becomes evident that the walleyes are unable to maintain themselves. In 1940, 340,000 fry were planted; 1941 records are not available. It would be desirable to omit plantings in the lake this year.

Mr. Shust lists the following lakes in which the Institute has requested that no walleyes be planted in 1942: Chicago, Crane and

Round Lakes, Delta County, in which all stocking is to be discontinued; North Manistique, Big Manistique, and South Manistique in Mackinac and Luce Counties, in which walleye stocking is to be discontinued in 1942-43 in order to determine whether natural reproduction takes place; Muskallunge Lake, Luce County, discontinue walleye plantings; Shakey Lakes, in Menominee County, in which all stocking is to be discontinued; Gulliver Lake, Schoolcraft County, discontinue stocking walleyes until 1944, and Indian Lake, Schoolcraft County, in which no walleyes are to be stocked in 1942 and 1944 in order to check on natural propagation.

District No. 3

Survey information is available on only one of the lakes in which it is proposed to stock walleyes. Report No. 573 recommends that no species except walleyes be stocked in Black Lake, Cheboygan County. It is recommended that no walleye fry be stocked in Long Lake in 1942 in order that a check may be made as to the extent of natural reproduction in this lake.

Mr. Wilkinson requested comments from the Institute relative to the suitability of a number of lakes in his district for walleyes. The following information is available:

Clam Lake, Antrim County

Report No. 118 (1932) does not recommend planting with walleyes. The recommendations made in this report should be checked by the District Biologist in 1942.

Thayer Lake, Antrim County

Report No. 123 (1932) recommended 2000 walleye fry annually. It is doubtful if such a small planting of fry would have any value, and since Thayer Lake is reputed to be "producing quite a few walleyes,"

it is agreed that no planting may be required. Recommendations in this report should be checked by the District Biologist in 1942.

Torch Lake, Antrim County

Report No. 112 (1932) does not recommend the stocking of walleyes. Recommendations of this report should be checked by the District Biologist in 1942.

No survey information is available from Walloon Lake, Charlevoix County; Carp Lake, Emmett County; Big Carpo, No. 6 and No. 7 Spectacle Lakes, Otsego County; or Nettie, Ocqueoc, and Orchard Lakes, Presque Isle County.

District No. 4

No survey information is available on most of the lakes in which it is proposed to stock walleyes. The following lake management programs have been suggested:

Report No. 174 (1932) recommends the planting of 20,000 fingerling or 200,000 fry walleyes annually in Bear Lake, Manistee County. Three hundred thousand fry are proposed for 1942.

It is proposed that 200,000 walleye fry be planted in Big Platte Lake, Benzie County, in 1942. According to Report No. 631, walleyes have never become established, although the lake is apparently suitable and generous plantings of fry and eyed eggs have been made. Predation is suggested as accounting for the loss of the very small fish, and experimental plantings of fish of larger size are recommended.

A report of the survey of Cadillac and Mitchell Lakes has just been completed (Report No. 767). It suggests that no plantings of walleyes be made in 1942 and 1943 in order that the possible natural reproduction of the species in the lakes may be checked.

Manistee, Pickerel and Selkirk Lakes, Kalkaska County, were surveyed in 1930 but the information on hand has been considered inadequate to warrant the writing of a report.

District No. 5

No survey information is available on any of the lakes in this district which are scheduled to receive plantings of walleyes.

District No. 6

Of the lakes in this district in which it is proposed to stock walleyes, information is available on two. Report No. 519 recommends that all stocking be discontinued in Van Etten Lake in Iosco County. Report No. 579 recommends that walleyes be planted periodically in Long Lake in Alpena County after 1941 and that natural reproduction be checked. No stocking in 1942 should be done in order to check the natural reproduction there.

No information is available on the lakes in which Mr. Potts recommends stocking be discontinued.

District No. 7

Information is available on only two of the lakes in which walleyes are to be planted. Report No. 160 recommends that walleyes and other species be stocked in Hamlin Lake, Mason County, although in the light of present information the value of such stocking may be questionable. In Report No. 628 (1938) it was recommended that forage fish be encouraged in Rose Lake, Osceola County. If the forage fish become abundant, walleyes or crappies might be planted.

District No. 8

Survey information is not available for any of the lakes in this district in which it is proposed to plant walleyes in 1942.

District No. 9

No survey information is available on any of the lakes for which plantings of walleyes are proposed.

District No. 10

Of the lakes in this district in which it is proposed to plant walleyes, survey information is available on only one. Report No. 529 states that if walleye fishing is to be maintained in Duck Lake, Calhoun County, annual plantings of fry may be necessary.

District No. 11

Mr. Stewart does not propose to stock walleyes in any inland waters in 1942.

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

By John Funk
and
A. S. Hazzard

Report approved by: A. S. Hazzard

Report typed by: R. Bauch