

STUDY FINAL REPORT

State: Michigan

Project No.: F-53-R-13

Study No.: 483

Title: Status of the fish community and fisheries of the St. Marys River with potential effects of ship passage.

Period Covered: April 1, 1994 to March 31, 1998

Study Objective: To map the distribution of spawning lake herring, determine the location of important spawning grounds, describe spawning habitat, document and quantify fish strandings on the ice shelf during ice-out caused by vessel traffic, and up-date the status of the fish populations and the sport fishery.

Findings: The creel survey (Job 4) was originally scheduled for 1996 and was intended to provide updated information on the sport fishery as well as additional insight into the status of the fish populations. The survey, however, was canceled due to ceilings on the number of Fisheries Division personnel.

All other findings of this study are reported in given in the following reports;

Fielder, D. G. 1998. Lake herring spawning grounds of the St. Marys River with potential effects of early spring navigation. Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Research Report 2049, Ann Arbor.

Fielder, D. G., and J. R. Waybrant. 1998. Fish population surveys of St. Marys River, 1975-95, and recommendations for management. Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Research Report 2048, Ann Arbor.

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Dated: March 31, 1998