

BROADALBIN-PERTH
SCIENCE RESEARCH

CREEL SURVEY

Progress report



Great Sacandaga Lake

2023

Contents:

Introduction	1
General Lake Information	1
Map of the Great Sacandaga Lake	1
NYS Fishing Regulations	1
Seasons Surveyed	2
Census Days	2
Creel Survey Methods	2
General Angler Information	2
Great Sacandaga Lake Fish Species Surveyed.....	2
Gamefish	
Smallmouth Bass (<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>)	2
Walleye (<i>Sander vitreus</i>)	2
Northern Pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>)	2
Rock Bass (<i>Ambloplites rupestris</i>)	3
Yellow Perch (<i>Perca flavescens</i>)	3
Brown Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	3
Baitfish	
Mimic Shiner (<i>Notropis volucellus</i>)	3
Eastern Silvery Minnow (<i>Hybognathus regius</i>)	3
Spottail Shiner (<i>Notropis hudsonius</i>)	3
Tessellated Darter (<i>Etheostoma olmstedii</i>)	4
Bluntnose Minnow (<i>Pimephales notatus</i>)	4
Acknowledgements	4
Survey Photos	4
Summary Tables and Figures:	
<u>Table 1.</u> 2023 Creel Survey Overall Data Summary	5
<u>Table 2.</u> Fishing Trips by Month & Hours Fished by Month	6
<u>Table 3.</u> Percent (%) Method of Fishing Technique Used	6
<u>Table 4.</u> Percent (%) And Total Fish Caught by Species	7
<u>Figure 1.</u> Fish Length Distribution For All Species	8
<u>Figure 2.</u> Fish Length Distribution per Species - Spring 2023	9
Trip Data For Spring 2023	10-15
<u>Figure 3.</u> Fish Length Distribution per Species - Fall 2023	16
Trip Data For Fall 2023	17-27
Glossary and Abbreviations.....	28
Summary of Intent and Contact Information.....	28

Copyright © 2023
Broadalbin-Perth Jr/Sr High School
100 Bridge Street, Broadalbin, NY 12025

Cover Design: Liliana Closson

Fish Graphics: Ellen Edmondson, Hugh H. Chrisp, Duane Raver, Virgil Beck

This document has been modeled after previous creel surveys prepared by the NYSDEC and WDNR

Introduction:

Fish populations can fluctuate due to a variety of factors including natural variables like climate, reproductive success, predators and competition. Human activities such as fish harvest, stocking, habitat change and invasive species introduction can also have significant impacts. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) regularly conducts fishery surveys on lakes and reservoirs to gather the information needed to monitor changes, identify concerns, evaluate past management actions and to prescribe fishery management strategies. Surveys are also used to gather data on the status of fish populations and communities, measuring such parameters as species composition, population size, reproductive success, size and age distribution and growth rates, and angler harvest.

Creel surveys are performed to gain insight into recreational angling perceptions, efforts, and harvests in order to inform future decision-making. Creel surveys are a valuable tool for fisheries managers to use in understanding the systems they manage and how the public interacts with them. A creel survey is an assessment tool used to sample the fishing activities of anglers on a body of water to make estimates of harvest and other fishery parameters.

Data is collected on what species are fished for, catch, harvest, lengths of fish caught, marks (fin clips or tags) and hours of fishing effort. Collecting completed trip data provides the most accurate assessment of angling activities and it avoids the need to disturb anglers while they are fishing.

The data collected are estimates based on the best information available and not a complete accounting for effort, catch and harvest. Accurate estimates require a sufficient and representative portion of the angling activity on a lake. The accuracy of creel survey results depends on good cooperation and truthful responses by anglers when data is collected.

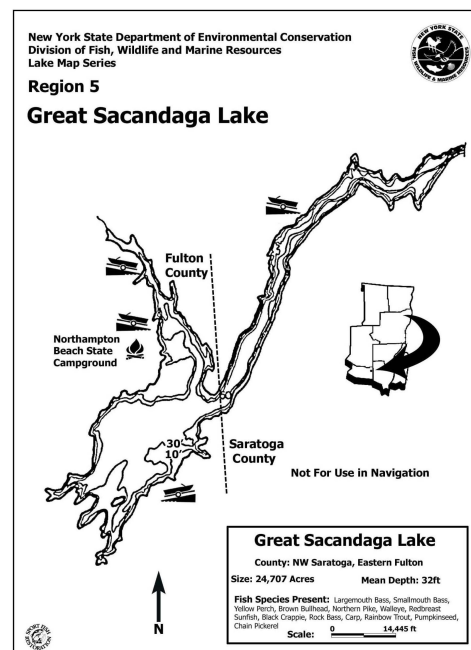
The data collected for this report was obtained and analyzed by members of the Broadalbin-Perth High School Science Research course. Fishing trips were conducted by both the research class and the Broadalbin-Perth Fishing Club in the southern basin of the Great Sacandaga Lake. *Since the data collected was limited to these two groups, this report is considered a modified version of a complete creel survey and merely a progress report of the Great Sacandaga Lake fishery.*

The Great Sacandaga Lake Information:

The Great Sacandaga Lake (GSL) is 29.2 miles long and encompasses parts of Fulton and Saratoga County, New York. It was created as a reservoir in 1930 following the completion of the Conklingville

Dam. The damming of the Sacandaga River has provided flood control and flow augmentation in the Hudson Valley and provides many recreational opportunities for the outdoor enthusiast. The lake is one of the largest in the Adirondack region, and because of its size, there are many different types of fish to meet any anglers desire. The lake is managed by the Hudson River-Black River Regulating District with shorelines of private and public access including residential homes, boat launches, restaurants, marinas, campgrounds, and beaches. It is classified as a meso-oligotrophic lake which means it is a water body that has relatively intermediate productivity due to the low/moderate nutrient content in the lake. The Great Sacandaga Lake is considered a two-story fishery, capable of supporting warm water species like bass and cold-water species such as trout.

Map of the Great Sacandaga Lake:



NYS Fishing Regulations:

The following fishing seasons, daily bag limits and length limits were in place on the Great Sacandaga Lake during the 2023 fishing season:

Species	Season	Bag Limit	Min. Size
Smallmouth Bass	June 15 - Nov. 30	5	12"
Walleye	May 1 - Mar. 15	5	15"
Northern Pike	May 1 - Mar. 15	5	18"
Panfish (rock bass)	All Year	None	None
Yellow Perch	All Year	50	None
Brown Trout	All Year	5 with only 2 over 12"	None

Seasons Surveyed:

The open-water creel survey period referred to in this report ran from May 10, 2023 through October 26, 2023. Two seasons were fished and subsequently surveyed; spring 2023 and fall 2023.

Census Days:

Survey effort was divided into two periods: late spring (afternoon and evening trips) and early to mid fall (afternoon and evening trips). Trips and the amount of time fished were adjusted throughout the creel survey to account for changing weather as well as sunset times.

Creel Survey Methods:

A creel survey was conducted on the Great Sacandaga Lake from May 10 to October 26, 2023. The survey was designed to estimate angling effort, catch and harvest of fish on the Great Sacandaga Lake during the spring and fall boating seasons. The survey consisted of boat angler counts via trips taken by the Broadalbin-Perth Fishing Club and the Broadalbin-Perth Science Research class. No shore angler data were collected while conducting the survey. The following data points were collected:

1. Total effort (days and hours)
2. Total catch, harvest, and release
3. Catch rates
4. Species targeted
5. Method of fishing
6. Fish lengths

General Angler Information:

Anglers spent 104.25 hours or 32 trips fishing the Great Sacandaga Lake during the 2023 season. An average trip was approximately 3.25 hours long. May was the most heavily fished month (53.5 hours), and fishing effort was lightest in September (11.5 hours).

Fish Species in the Great Sacandaga Lake:

The Great Sacandaga Lake is home to over 20 fish species including largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, yellow perch, white perch, brown bullhead, northern pike, white sucker, redbreast sunfish, pumpkinseed, rock bass, brown trout, rainbow trout, channel catfish, chain pickerel, common carp, black crappie, and walleye.

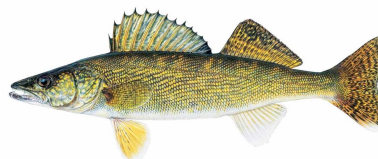
The following fish were caught and recorded during the 2023 modified creel survey:

Smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*)



Smallmouth bass are found in lakes and rivers throughout New York. Young smallmouth bass feed upon aquatic insect larvae such as mayflies and dragonflies. As bass grow larger they begin to feed increasingly upon other fishes and crayfish. Smallmouth bass are uniquely suited for feeding upon crayfish, which provide an energy source not generally available to other fish predators. Smallmouth bass are usually found along lake shorelines, even during summer when they can tolerate warm nearshore water temperatures. Larger smallmouth bass are generally found in association with underwater "structure" such as large boulders, submerged trees or underwater vegetation. These habitats provide smallmouth bass with a place they can ambush prey, as well as a place to hide from predators.

Walleye (*Sander vitreus*)



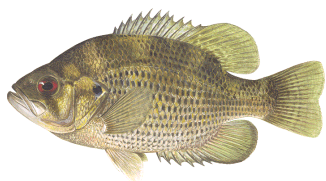
Walleye are widely distributed in New York State in suitable habitat. They are found in approximately 75 lakes and many large rivers. Walleye are the largest members of the perch family, sometimes reaching a length over 2 feet and a weight approaching 20 pounds. Their diet is primarily other fish. Walleyes prefer large lakes with considerable areas of deep water and large rivers, with cold to moderately warm water temperatures the most favorable. As the surface water approaches 72°F, they slowly retreat to deeper and cooler waters. The walleye is considered by some to be the state's top sport fish and most agree it is the best tasting food fish.

Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*)



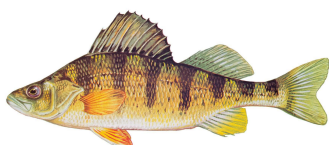
Northern pike inhabit most waters in New York. These fish prefer large rivers and medium to large lakes. They are loners, hunting in weedy or log-strewn shallows. Adult northern pike feed almost exclusively on fish, with just about any fish (including young pike) being potential prey. They are not selective in their feeding habits, supplementing their fish diet with aquatic insects, leeches, crayfish, frogs, snakes, small muskrats, and ducklings. The northern pike is one of the most rapidly growing fish, averaging 2 to 4 pounds and 2 feet long. These fish often reach the 20-pound class.

Rock Bass (*Ambloplites rupestris*)



Rock bass are present in most areas of New York except in the uniformly cold, high-altitude lakes of the Adirondacks. They prefer large lakes with rocky bottoms and streams with sluggish or moderate currents. They often are found in the same habitats as smallmouth bass. Rock bass are usually 6 to 8 inches in length. They sometimes reach lengths of 10 to 12 inches and weigh 1 pound or more. They are classified as panfish. Rock bass were the only panfish caught during the survey.

Yellow Perch (*Perca flavescens*)



The yellow perch is the most widely distributed member of the perch family and is common throughout New York. The favorite habitat of yellow perch is a weedy, warm water lake. Schools of young perch feed on zooplankton. Young perch are slow swimmers and the schools provide abundant forage most predacious fish. Larger yellow perch become important competitors with more highly valued sport fishes in some lakes. Although the yellow perch is not a fierce fighter when hooked, it is a popular panfish and good eating. Perch seldom reach large sizes, the average being 1/4 to 3/4-pound fish of 6 to 10 inches. Easily caught on natural bait, flies, and small spinners, they are often the mainstay of ice fishermen using jigs and small minnows.

Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*)



The brown trout is found in a wide variety of New York waters, from brooks and rivers to large lakes and reservoirs. Most common in coldwater streams where they seldom reach lengths greater than 20 inches. Throughout their lives, brown trout feed on the larval and adult forms of aquatic and terrestrial insects. Larger brown trout feed extensively on other fish.

Great Sacandaga Lake Baitfish Survey:

Minnow traps were also set in the mouth of Frenchman's Creek to survey the baitfish harboring the lake. Frenchman's Creek is a shallow tributary that empties into the east shore of the Great Sacandaga Lake. A total of five species were caught and identified: Tessellated darter; Bluntnose minnow; Mimic shiner; Eastern silvery minnow; and Spottail shiner. The Mimic shiner, the Spottail shiner, and the Eastern silvery minnow were not previously documented in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Great Sacandaga Lake fish database.

Mimic shiner (*Notropis volucellus*)



Mimic shiners are slender and compressed laterally. The snout is broad, rounded, and barely overhangs the small, slightly upturned mouth. They have a dark pigment around the vent and base of the anal fin. Mimic shiners live in lakes and the quieter parts of streams, often around vegetation. Small invertebrates and algae are the most frequent food items.

Eastern Silvery Minnow (*Hybognathus regius*)



The eastern silvery minnow can be difficult to identify due to its lack of distinguishing features. It has a small, subterminal mouth and a complete lateral line containing 38-40 scales. The Eastern silvery minnow is found in shallow areas of large, slow-moving waterways over substrates of sand and mud or sand and gravel. They are often found in habitats such as oxbows and quiet pools and eat algae and organic matter on the bottom of their habitat.

Spottail Shiner (*Notropis hudsonius*)



The Spottail shiner is relatively elongated, and compressed laterally. The snout is blunt, rounded and slightly overhangs the small mouth. Spottail shiners occur in a variety of habitats from large lakes and rivers to small streams. It seems to do best in clear waters. Spottail shiners feed on various aquatic invertebrates as well as aquatic plant material.

Tessellated Darter (*Etheostoma olmstedi*)



The tessellated darter has a slender, olive-colored body that is two to four inches long. Its sides are irregularly marked with eight or more X- or Y-shaped blotches. The tessellated darter occurs in both flowing and standing waters but it shows a preference for quieter areas and, except during the breeding season. The diet of the tessellated darter is dominated by small crustaceans and small insects while gradually shifting to larger insects as the fish get bigger.

Bluntnose minnow (*Pimephales notatus*)



Bluntnose Minnows have a slender body and are almost cylindrical with a broad flat area just before the dorsal fin. Like all members of this family, they have a shortened, closely attached first ray in the dorsal fin and smaller, crowded scales in front of the dorsal fin. The Bluntnose Minnow can live in all types of waters, but is most abundant in quiet pools and backwaters of moderate-size streams and lakes with clear, warm water, permanent flow, gravel bottoms, and some aquatic vegetation. Bluntnose minnows feed on algae, aquatic insect larvae, and various small crustaceans.

Acknowledgements:

Matthew Brownell, Liliana Closson, Brady Cotter, Hunter Pettit, Landon Russom, Mackenzie (Kai) Stroh, Lorenzo Tambasco, and Alexander Vogel are members of Broadalbin-Perth High School and participated in the school's science research course from 2023-2024 under the supervision of Brian Henry.

This creel survey progress report was part of an on-going multi-year investigation by the Broadalbin-Perth Science Research Course. The authors gratefully acknowledge the Broadalbin-Perth Central School District administrators and grant writers; Broadalbin-Perth Fishing Club Advisor Marshall Gottung; The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Fisheries Biologists Rob Fiorentino, Christopher Powers, and Kyle Jones; The Great Sacandaga Lake Advisory Council (GSLAC); and The Great Sacandaga Lake Fisheries Federation (GSLFF).

Survey Photos:



Students in the Broadalbin-Perth Science Research class catch, measure, and record fish for the 2023 Great Sacandaga Lake creel survey.

Table 1. Overall Data Summary for 2023 Creel Survey

CATEGORY	DATA
Fishing Season (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall)	Spring 2023
Total # of Angling Trips	11
Total # of Angling Hours	53.50
Average # of Angling Hours per Trip	4.86
Total # of Fish Caught	335
Average # of Fish Caught per Trip	30.45
Total # of Fish Harvested	0
Total # of Fish Released	335
Total # Bass Caught	308
Total # of Walleye Caught	17
Total # of Pike Caught	2
Total # of Perch Caught	0
Total # of Panfish Caught	7
Total # of Brown Trout Caught	1

CATEGORY	DATA
Fishing Season (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall)	Fall 2023
Total # of Angling Trips	21
Total # of Angling Hours	50.75
Average # of Angling Hours per Trip	2.46
Total # of Fish Caught	293
Average # of Fish Caught per Trip	13.95
Total # of Fish Harvested	1
Total # of Fish Released	292
Total # Bass Caught	42
Total # of Walleye Caught	221
Total # of Pike Caught	12
Total # of Perch Caught	18
Total # of Panfish Caught	0
Total # of Brown Trout Caught	0

CATEGORY	TOTALS
Fishing Season (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall)	2023
Total # of Angling Trips	32
Total # of Angling Hours	104.25
Average # of Angling Hours per Trip	3.66
Total # of Fish Caught	628
Average # of Fish Caught per Trip	22.20
Total # of Fish Harvested	1
Total # of Fish Released	627
Total # Bass Caught	350
Total # of Walleye Caught	238
Total # of Pike Caught	14
Total # of Perch Caught	18
Total # of Panfish Caught	7
Total # of Brown Trout Caught	1

Angling Hours per Month:

May - 53.50 hours

September - 11.50 hours

October - 39.25 hours

2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

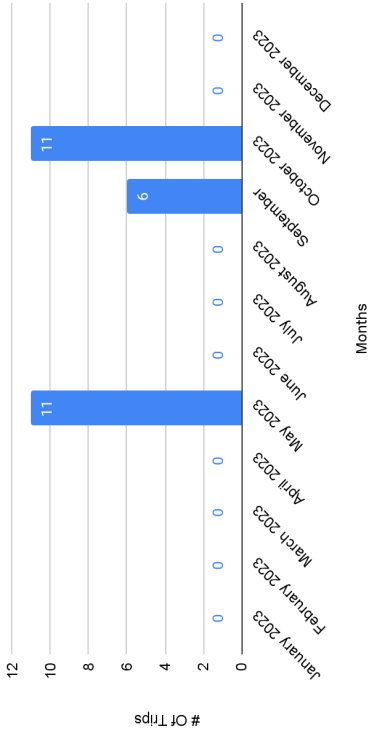
Table 2. Number (#) of Hours Fishing and Trips per Month

Month	# of Trips	# of Hours
January	0	0
February	0	0
March	0	0
April	0	0
May	11	53.5
June	0	0
July	0	0
August	0	0
September	6	11.5
October	11	39.25
November	0	0
December	0	0

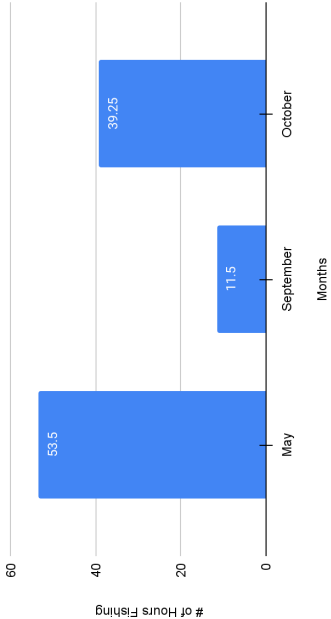
Table 3. Number (#) and Percent (%) of Fish Caught per Fishing Method Used

Method	# Fish Caught	% Fish Caught
Casting	314	50%
Trotling	314	50%
TOTAL	628	100%

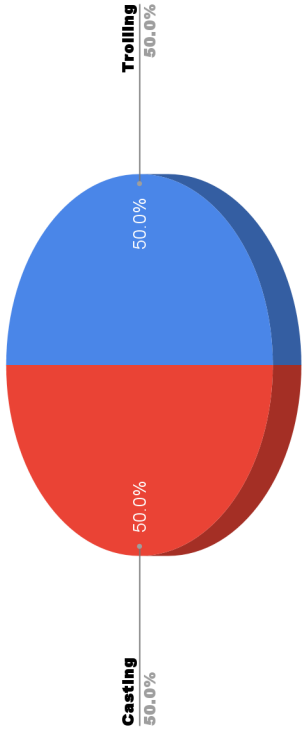
2023 Fishing Trips by Month



of Hours Fishing per Month



Percent (%) Method of Fishing

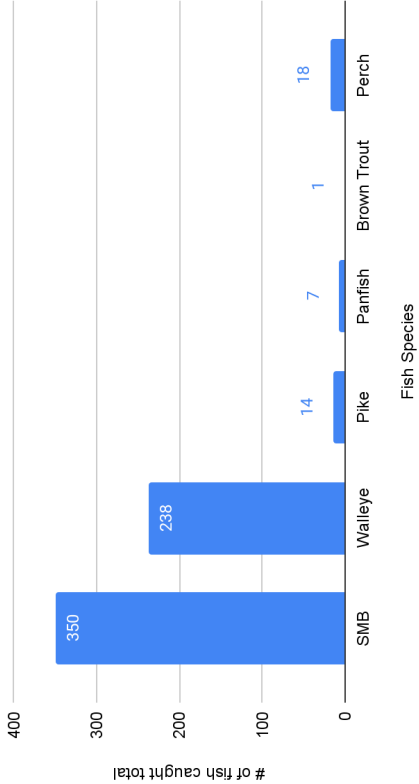


2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Table 4. Total Number (#) and Percent (%) Fish Caught During 2023 Creel Survey

Fish Species	Total # of Fish	% Fish
Smallmouth Bass	350	55.7%
Walleye	238	37.9%
Yellow Perch	18	2.9%
Northern Pike	14	2.2%
Panfish	7	1.1%
Brown Trout	1	0.2%
Total	628	100%

2023 Creel Survey: Total Fish Caught and Recorded



Percent (%) of Fish Species Caught

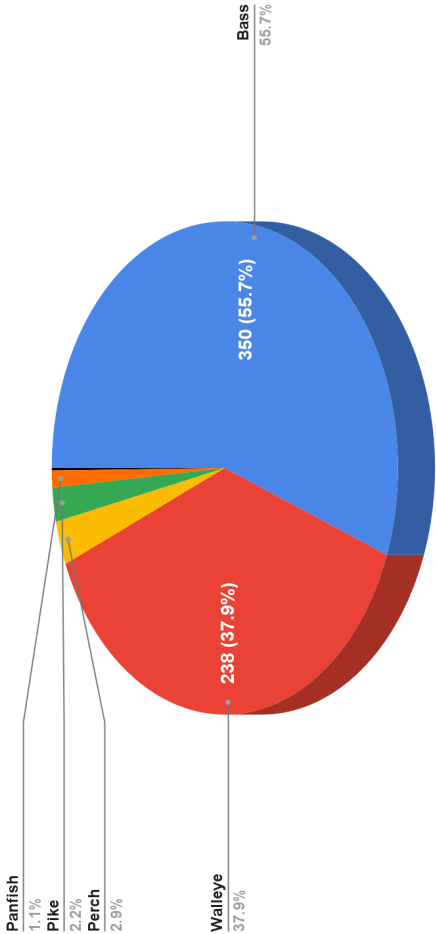


Figure 1. Length Distribution (inches) per Species - 2023 Totals

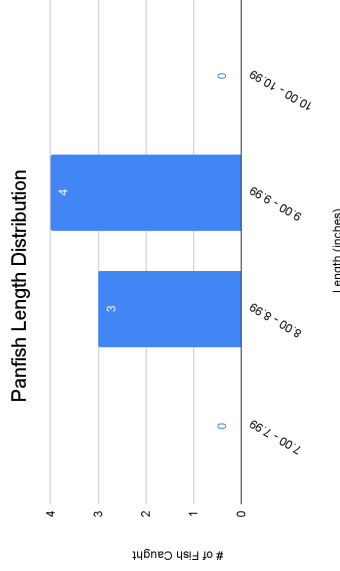
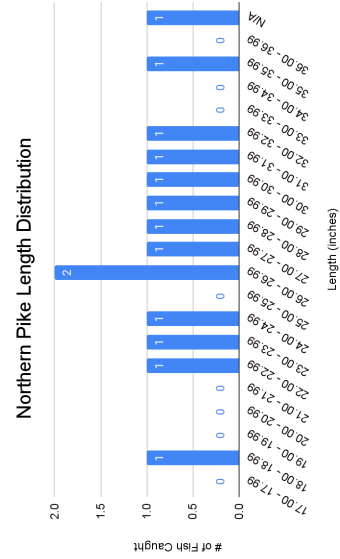
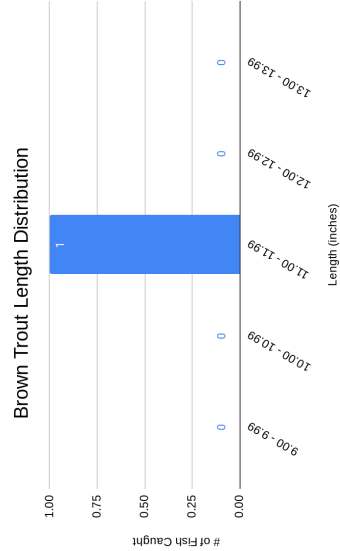
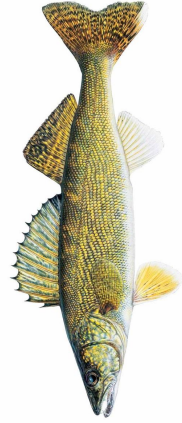
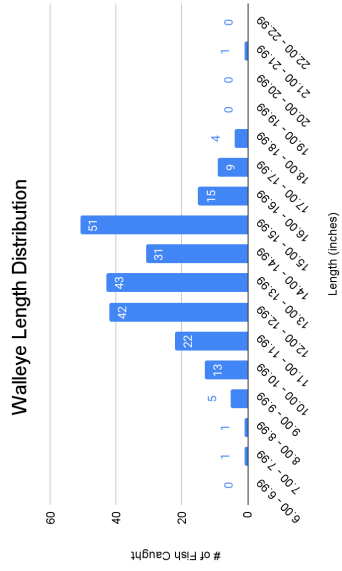
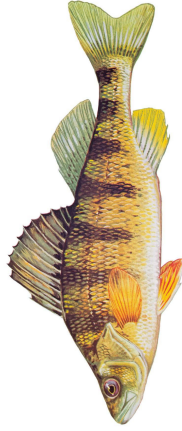
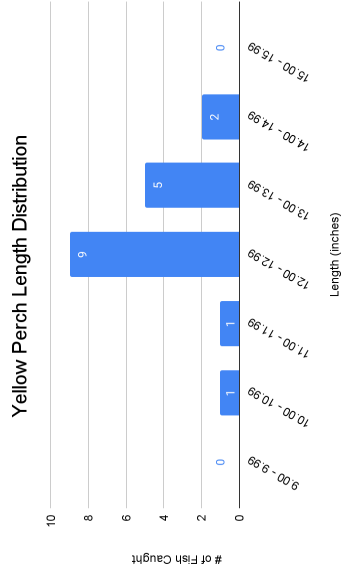
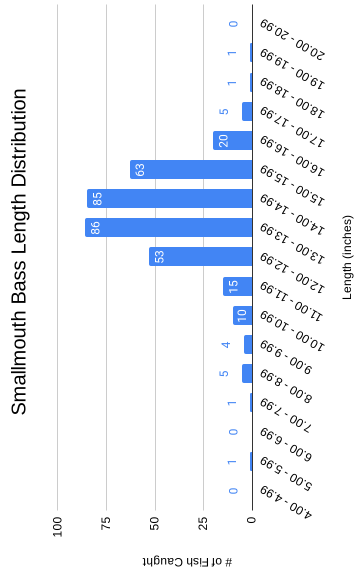
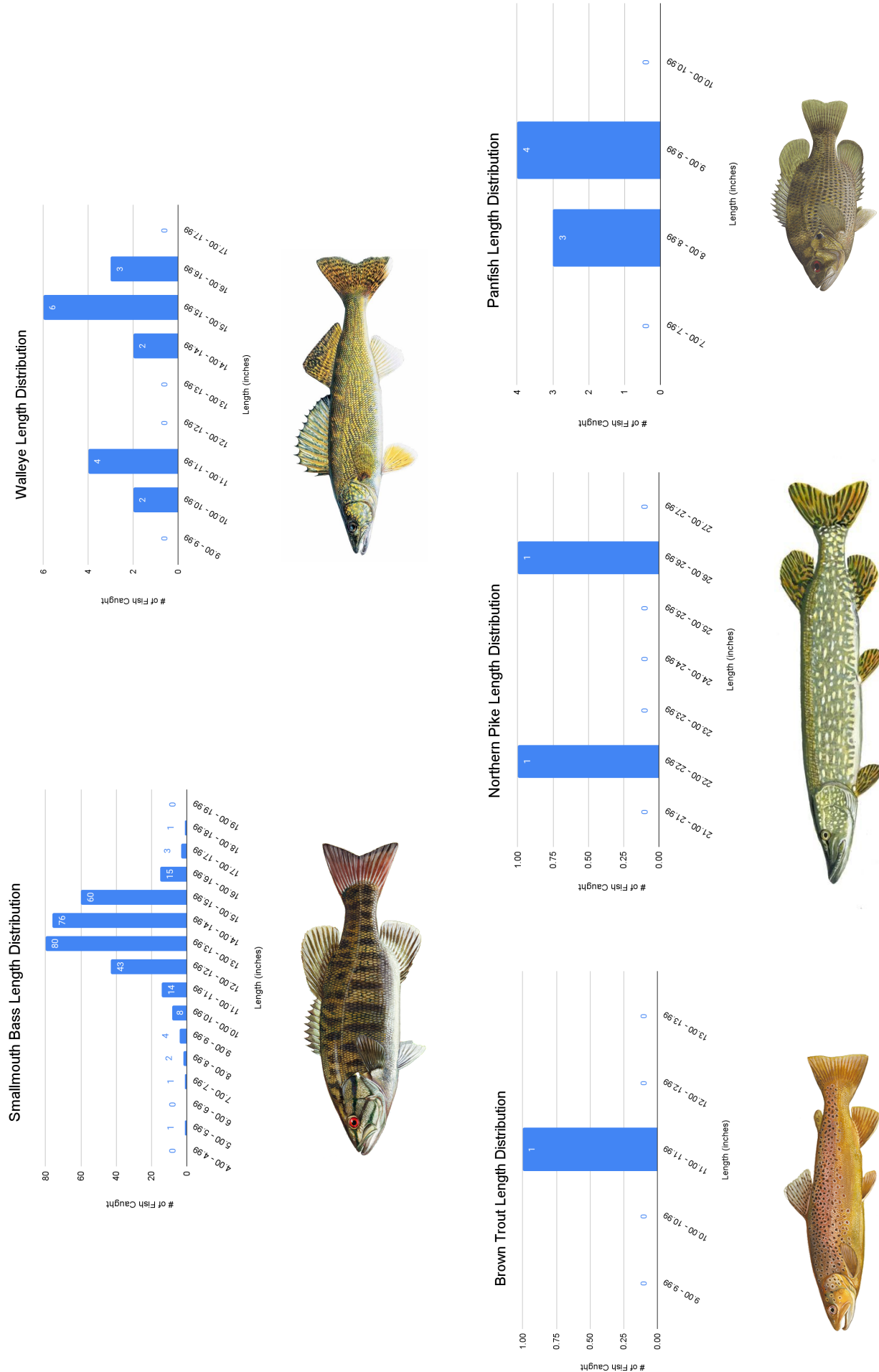


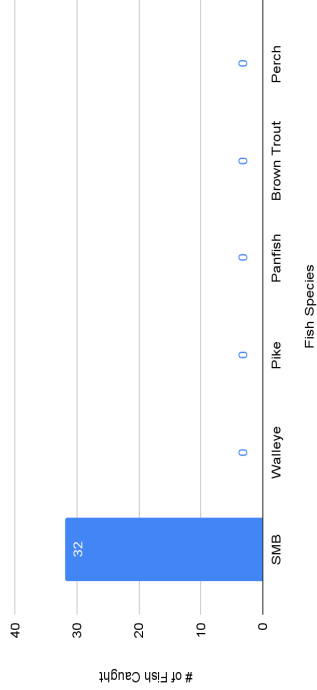
Figure 2. Length Distribution (inches) per Species - Spring 2023



2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	May 10, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	6
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	32
# of fish caught per hour (average)	5.30
# of total fish caught casting	32
# of total fish caught trolling	0
# of total fish released	32
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	32
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.90" (12.00-16.00")
#of walleye caught	0
Average size & range of walleye	N/A
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A

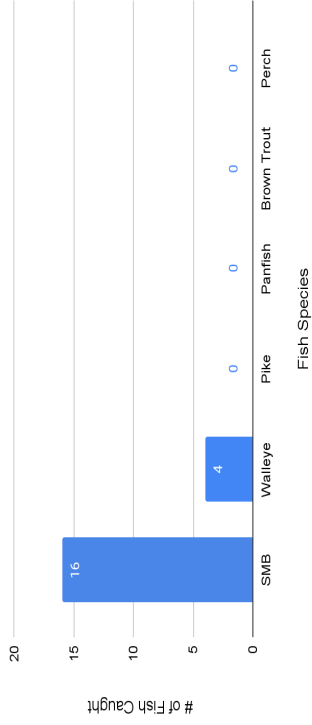
May 10, 2023



2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

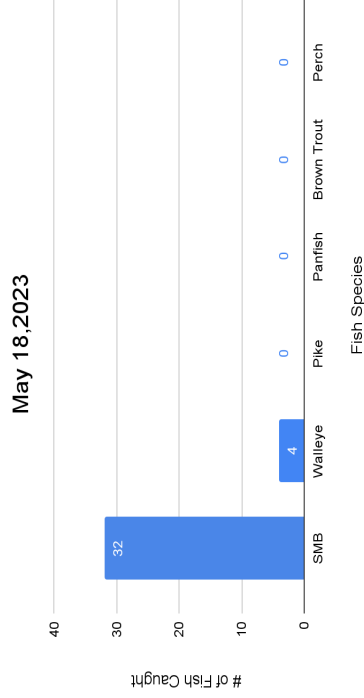
Date	May 10, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	8
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	20
# of fish caught per hour (average)	2.50
# of total fish caught casting	16
# of total fish caught trolling	4
# of total fish released	20
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	16
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	14.75" (12.00-18.75")
#of walleye caught	4
Average size & range of walleye	12.80" (11.00-15.00")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A

May 10, 2023



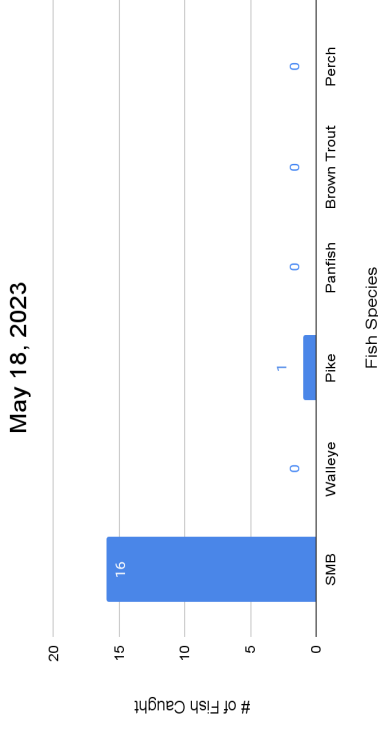
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	May 18, 2023
Day of the week	Thursday
# of total hours fishing	7
# of fishermen	5
# of total fish caught	36
# of fish caught per hour (average)	5.10
# of total fish caught casting	29
# of total fish caught trolling	7
# of total fish released	36
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	32
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.80" (5.00-16.25")
#of walleye caught	4
Average size & range of walleye	15.60" (14.00-16.50")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



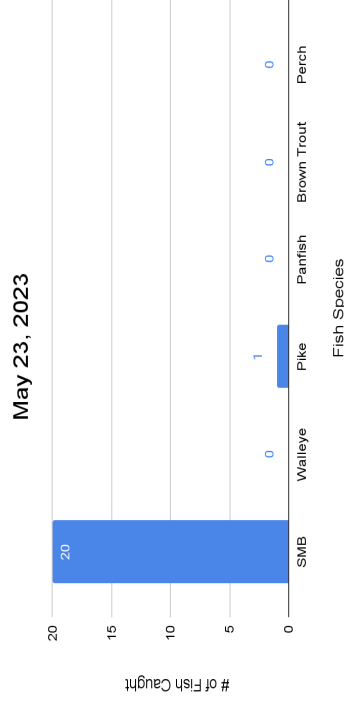
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	May 18, 2023
Day of the week	Thursday
# of total hours fishing	6
# of fishermen	3
# of total fish caught	17
# of fish caught per hour (average)	2.80
# of total fish caught casting	16
# of total fish caught trolling	1
# of total fish released	17
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	16
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.90" (7.75-16.00")
#of walleye caught	0
Average size & range of walleye	N/A
# of pike caught	1
Average size & range of northern pike	(26.75")
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



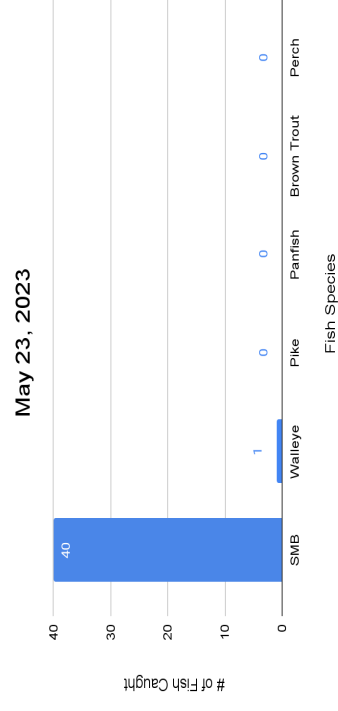
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	May 23, 2023
Day of the week	Tuesday
# of total hours fishing	4.50
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	21
# of fish caught per hour (average)	4.70
# of total fish caught casting	20
# of total fish caught trolling	1
# of total fish released	21
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	20
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.16" (9.00-15.50")
#of walleye caught	0
Average size & range of walleye	N/A
# of pike caught	1
Average size & range of northern pike	(22.00")
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



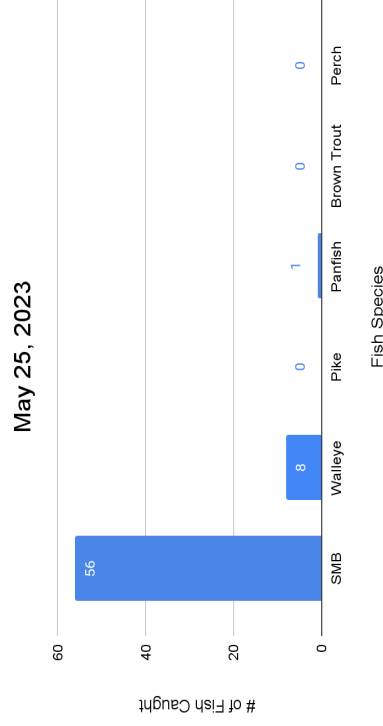
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	May 23, 2023
Day of the week	Tuesday
# of total hours fishing	5
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	41
# of fish caught per hour (average)	8.20
# of total fish caught casting	41
# of total fish caught trolling	0
# of total fish released	41
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	40
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.88" (10.00-16.25")
#of walleye caught	1
Average size & range of walleye	(15.50")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



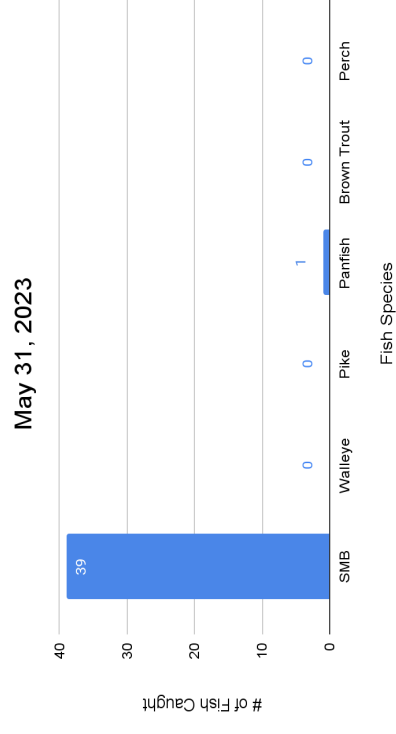
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	May 25, 2023
Day of the week	Thursday
# of total hours fishing	5
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	65
# of fish caught per hour (average)	13
# of total fish caught casting	52
# of total fish caught trolling	13
# of total fish released	65
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	56
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.60" (10.50-16.50")
#of walleye caught	8
Average size & range of walleye	13.10" (10.00-16.25")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	1
Average size & range of panfish	8.00"
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



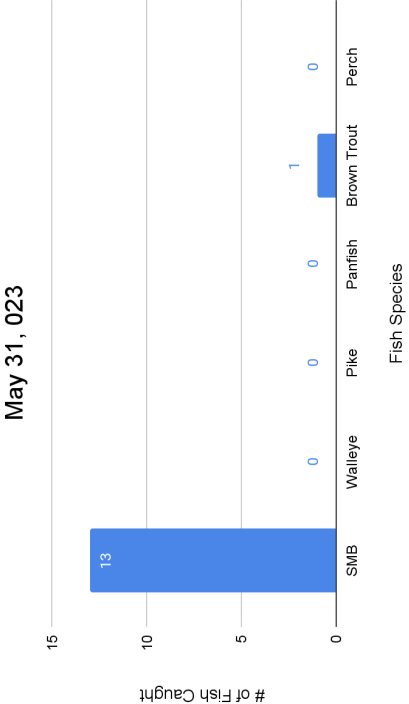
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	May 31, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	4
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	40
# of fish caught per hour (average)	10
# of total fish caught casting	40
# of total fish caught trolling	0
# of total fish released	40
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	39
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.28" (10.00-17.75")
#of walleye caught	0
Average size & range of walleye	N/A
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	1
Average size & range of panfish	9.50"
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



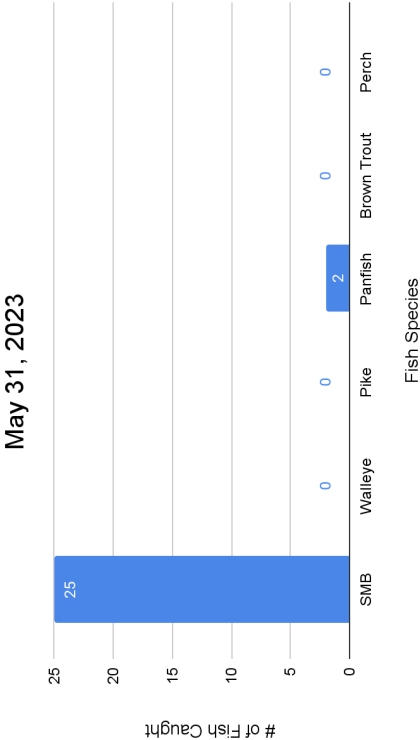
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	May 31, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	1.50
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	14
# of fish caught per hour (average)	9.30
# of total fish caught casting	14
# of total fish caught trolling	0
# of total fish released	14
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	13
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.60" (12.00-15.50")
#of walleye caught	0
Average size & range of walleye	N/A
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	1
Average size & range of brown trout	11.00"



2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	May 31, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	1.50
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	27
# of fish caught per hour (average)	18
# of total fish caught casting	27
# of total fish caught trolling	0
# of total fish released	27
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	25
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.50" (9.00-17.25")
#of walleye caught	0
Average size & range of walleye	N/A
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	2
Average size & range of panfish	8.88" (8.00-9.75")
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	May 31, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	4
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	22
# of fish caught per hour (average)	5.50
# of total fish caught casting	22
# of total fish caught trolling	0
# of total fish released	22
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	19
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.90" (10.75-17.00")
#of walleye caught	0
Average size & range of walleye	N/A
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	3
Average size & range of panfish	8.80" (8.00-9.75")
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A

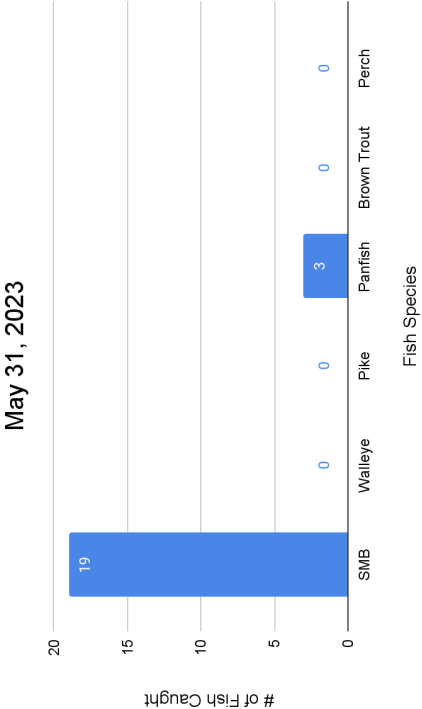
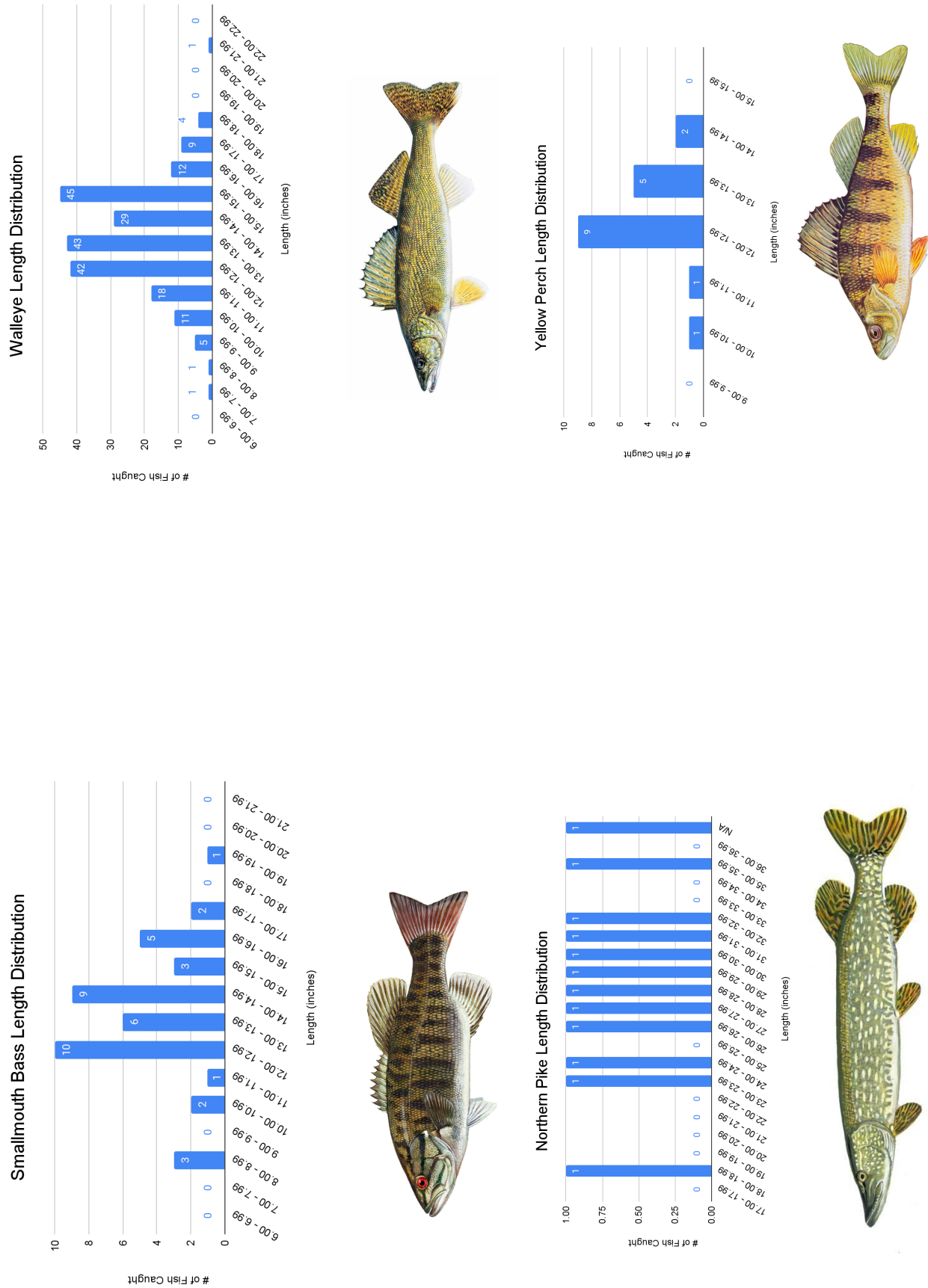


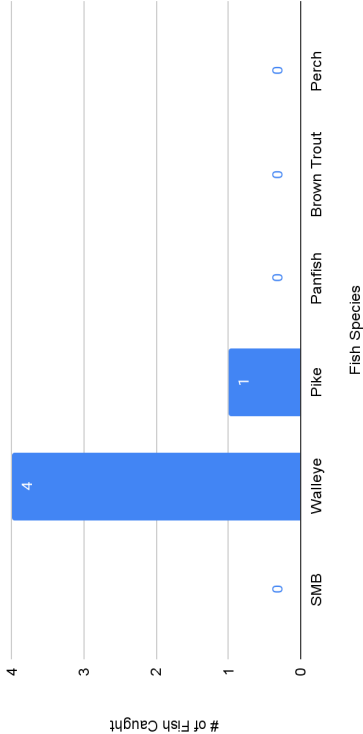
Figure 3. Length Distribution (inches) per Species - Fall 2023



2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	September 20, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	1.50
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	5
# of fish caught per hour (average)	3.30
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	5
# of total fish released	4
# of total fish kept	1 walleye
# of bass caught	0
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	0
#of walleye caught	4
Average size & range of walleye	14.60" (13.00-17.00")
# of pike caught	1
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A

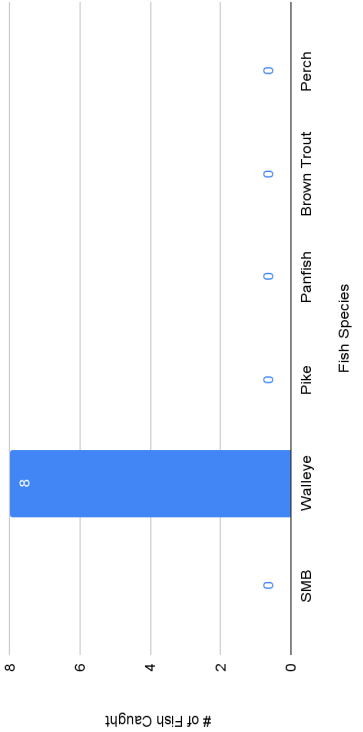
September 20, 2023



2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

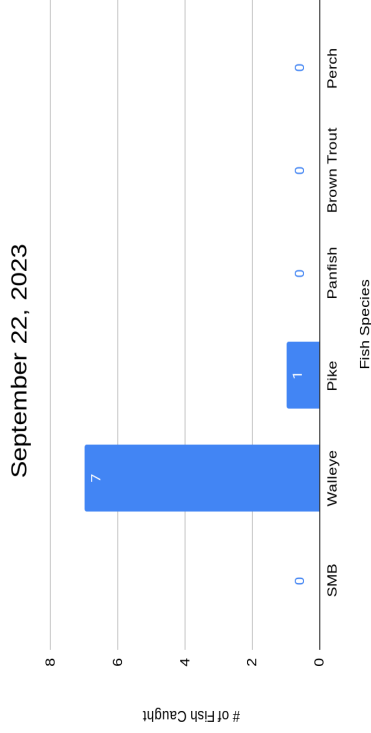
Date	September 22, 2023
Day of the week	Friday
# of total hours fishing	1.25
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	8
# of fish caught per hour (average)	6.40
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	8
# of total fish released	8
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	0
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	0
#of walleye caught	8
Average size & range of walleye	13.75" (12.00-15.25")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A

September 22, 2023



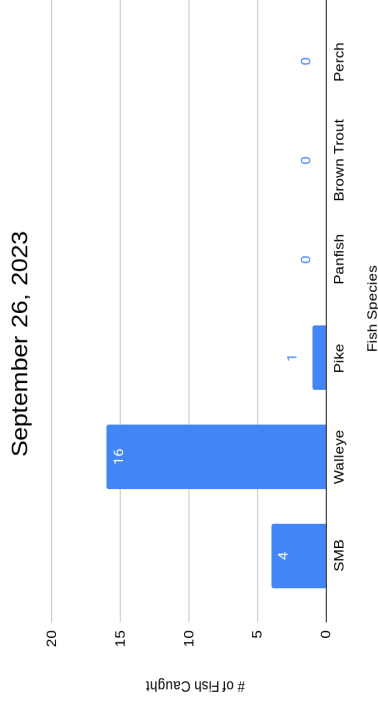
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	September 22, 2023
Day of the week	Friday
# of total hours fishing	1.75
# of fishermen	3
# of total fish caught	8
# of fish caught per hour (average)	5.52
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	8
# of total fish released	8
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	0
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	
#of walleye caught	7
Average size & range of walleye	13.96" (10.00-17.00")
# of pike caught	1
Average size & range of northern pike	18.50"
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

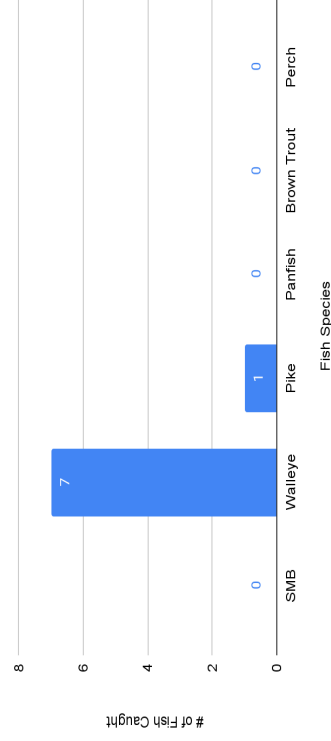
Date	September 26, 2023
Day of the week	Tuesday
# of total hours fishing	1.50
# of fishermen	3
# of total fish caught	21
# of fish caught per hour (average)	14
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	21
# of total fish released	21
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	4
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	12.90" (10.00-15.50")
#of walleye caught	16
Average size & range of walleye	14.00" (12.00-18.00")
# of pike caught	1
Average size & range of northern pike	24.00"
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	September 26, 2023
Day of the week	Tuesday
# of total hours fishing	1.25
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	8
# of fish caught per hour (average)	6.40
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	8
# of total fish released	8
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	0
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	0
#of walleye caught	7
Average size & range of walleye	13.30"(12.50-14.50")
# of pike caught	1
Average size & range of northern pike	29.00"
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A

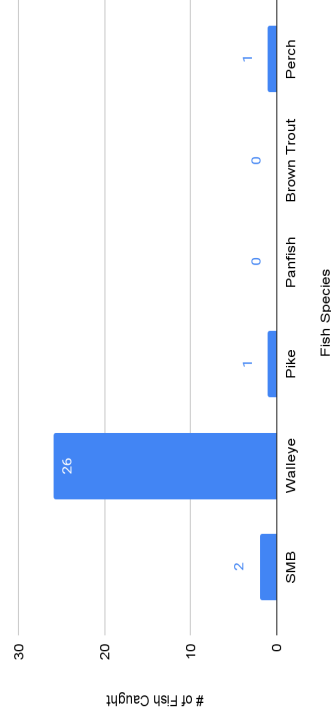
September 26, 2023



2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

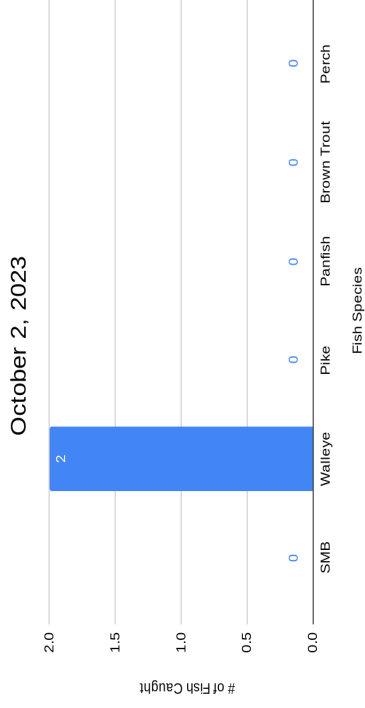
Date	September 27, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	4
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	30
# of fish caught per hour (average)	7.50
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	30
# of total fish released	30
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	2
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.00"(12.00-14.00")
#of walleye caught	26
Average size & range of walleye	13.90"(10.00-16.50")
# of pike caught	1
Average size & range of northern pike	23.25"
# of perch caught	1
Average size & range of yellow perch	13.00"
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A

September 27, 2023



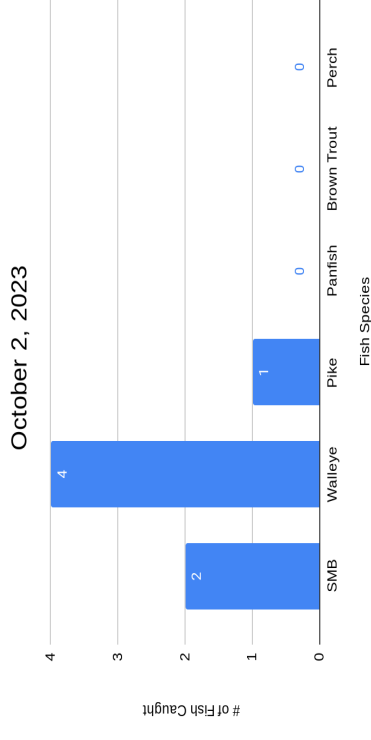
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 2, 2023
Day of the week	Monday
# of total hours fishing	1.50
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	2
# of fish caught per hour (average)	1.30
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	2
# of total fish released	2
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	0
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	0
#of walleye caught	2
Average size & range of walleye	15.75" (15.50-16.00")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



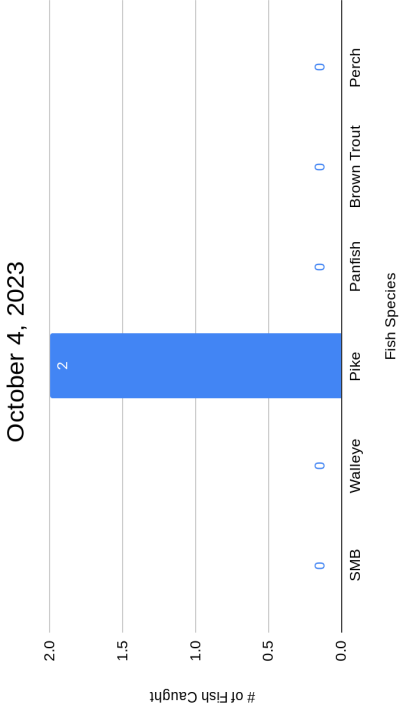
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 2, 2023
Day of the week	Monday
# of total hours fishing	2
# of fishermen	3
# of total fish caught	7
# of fish caught per hour (average)	3.50
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	7
# of total fish released	7
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	2
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	12.50" (12.00-13.00")
#of walleye caught	4
Average size & range of walleye	16.30" (13.50-18.00")
# of pike caught	1
Average size & range of northern pike	27.00"
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



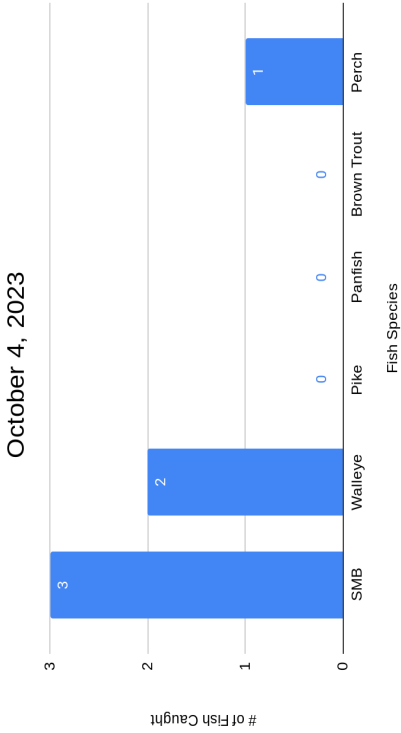
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 4, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	2
# of fishermen	3
# of total fish caught	2
# of fish caught per hour (average)	1
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	2
# of total fish released	2
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	0
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	0
#of walleye caught	0
Average size & range of walleye	N/A
# of pike caught	2
Average size & range of northern pike	28.25"(26.50-30.00")
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



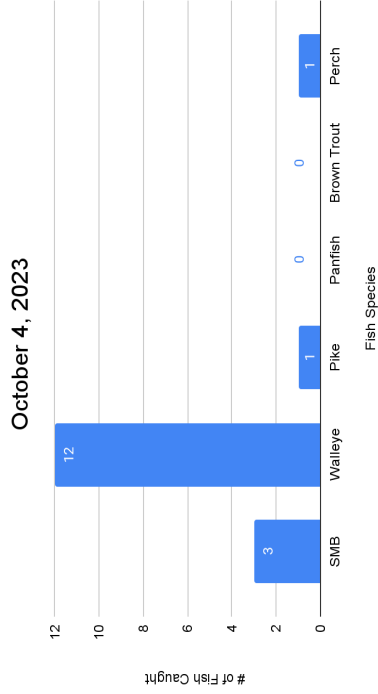
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 4, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	2
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	6
# of fish caught per hour (average)	3
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	6
# of total fish released	6
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	3
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.00" (12.00-14.00")
#of walleye caught	2
Average size & range of walleye	15.10"(14.00-16.50")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	1
Average size & range of yellow perch	12.00"
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



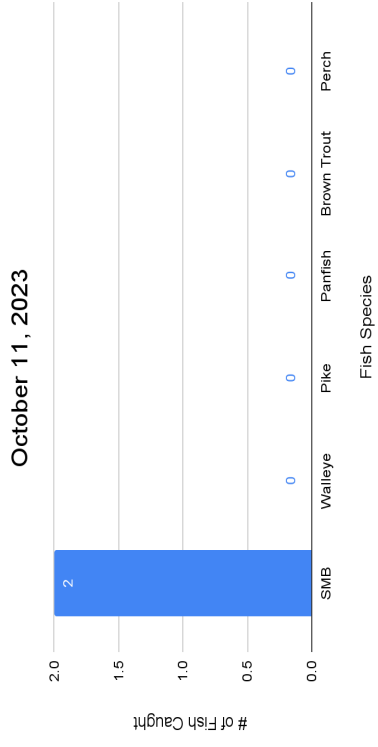
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 4, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	3.50
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	17
# of fish caught per hour (average)	4.90
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	17
# of total fish released	17
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	3
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	11.60" (8.00-19.00")
#of walleye caught	12
Average size & range of walleye	14.50" (12.00-17.50")
# of pike caught	1
Average size & range of northern pike	35.00"
# of perch caught	1
Average size & range of yellow perch	13.00"
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



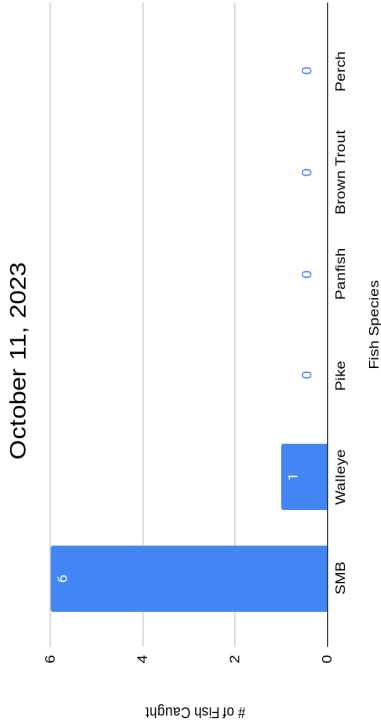
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 11, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	2
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	2
# of fish caught per hour (average)	1
# of total fish caught casting	2
# of total fish caught trolling	0
# of total fish released	2
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	2
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	14.00" (13.50-14.50")
#of walleye caught	0
Average size & range of walleye	N/A
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



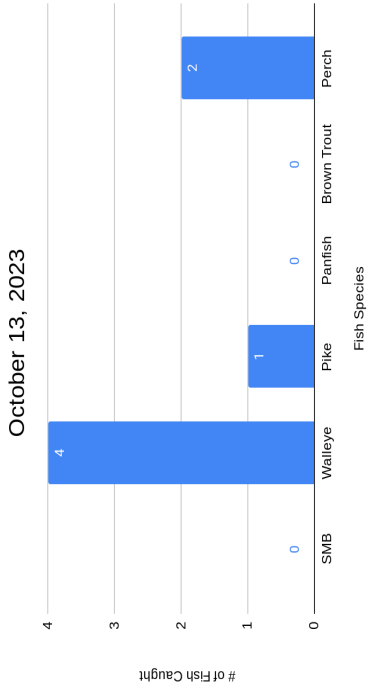
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 11, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	2
# of fishermen	4
# of total fish caught	7
# of fish caught per hour (average)	3.50
# of total fish caught casting	3
# of total fish caught trolling	4
# of total fish released	7
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	6
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	12.96" (8.00-17.00")
#of walleye caught	1
Average size & range of walleye	13.50"
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



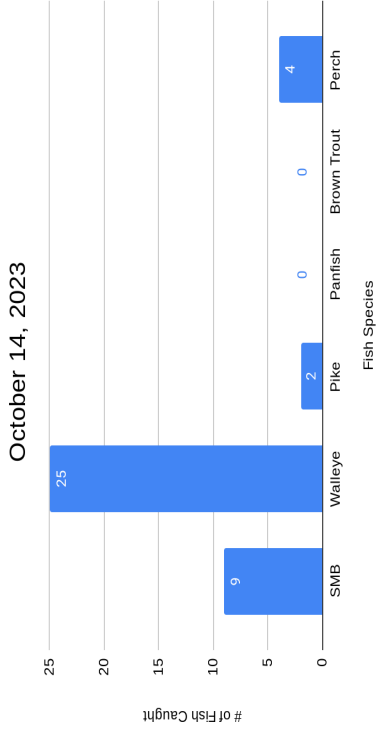
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 13, 2023
Day of the week	Friday
# of total hours fishing	2
# of fishermen	3
# of total fish caught	7
# of fish caught per hour (average)	3.50
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	7
# of total fish released	7
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	0
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	N/A
#of walleye caught	4
Average size & range of walleye	13.00" (12.00-15.00")
# of pike caught	1
Average size & range of northern pike	28.00"
# of perch caught	2
Average size & range of yellow perch	12.25" (12.00-12.50")
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



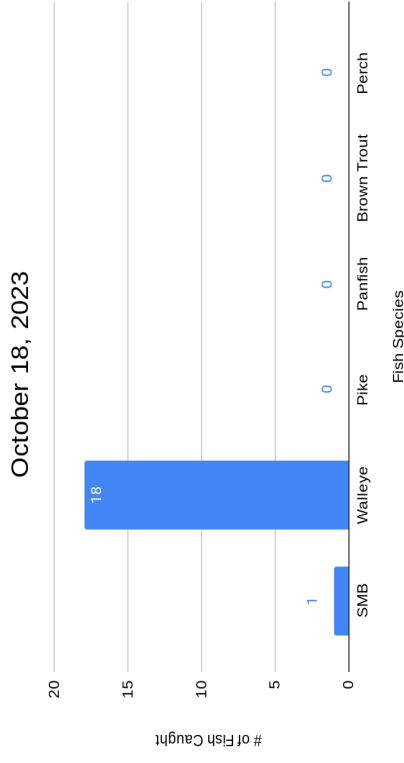
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 14, 2023
Day of the week	Saturday
# of total hours fishing	7.50
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	40
# of fish caught per hour (average)	5.30
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	40
# of total fish released	40
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	9
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	14.97"(11.00-18.00")
#of walleye caught	25
Average size & range of walleye	14.24"(10.50-17.75")
# of pike caught	2
Average size & range of northern pike	31.75"(31.00-32.50")
# of perch caught	4
Average size & range of yellow perch	12.80"(12.00-13.50")
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



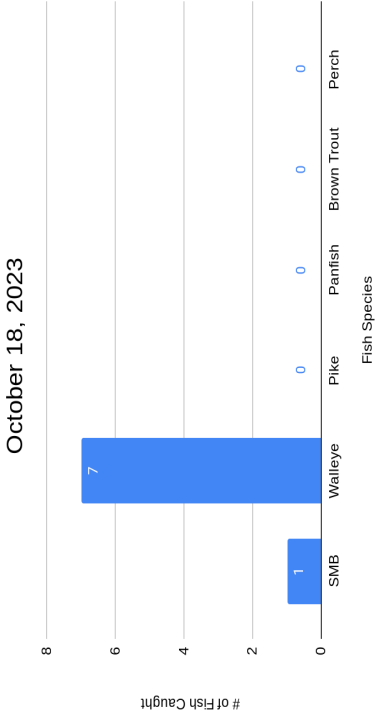
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 18, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	2
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	19
# of fish caught per hour (average)	9.50
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	19
# of total fish released	19
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	1
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.50"
#of walleye caught	18
Average size & range of walleye	13.75"(11.00-17.00")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



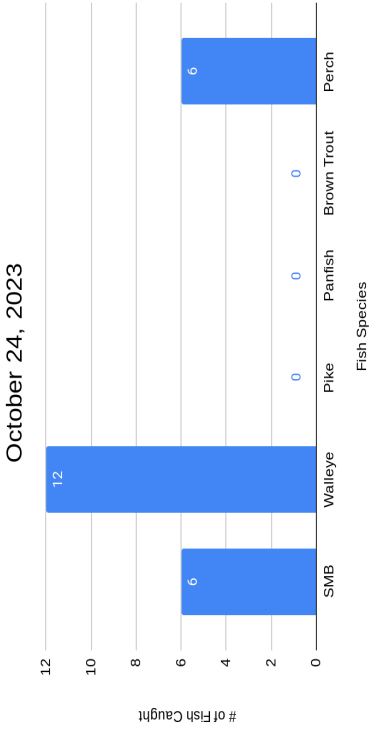
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 18, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	3
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	8
# of fish caught per hour (average)	2.60
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	8
# of total fish released	8
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	1
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	12.00"
#of walleye caught	7
Average size & range of walleye	14.00"(10.00-21.00")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



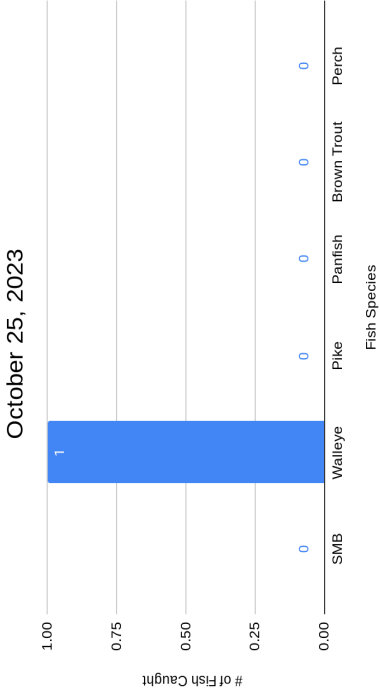
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 24, 2023
Day of the week	Tuesday
# of total hours fishing	4
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	24
# of fish caught per hour (average)	6
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	24
# of total fish released	24
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	6
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	14.00"(12.25-16.00")
#of walleye caught	12
Average size & range of walleye	11.69"(8.00-16.00")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	6
Average size & range of yellow perch	12.00"(10.00-13.25")
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



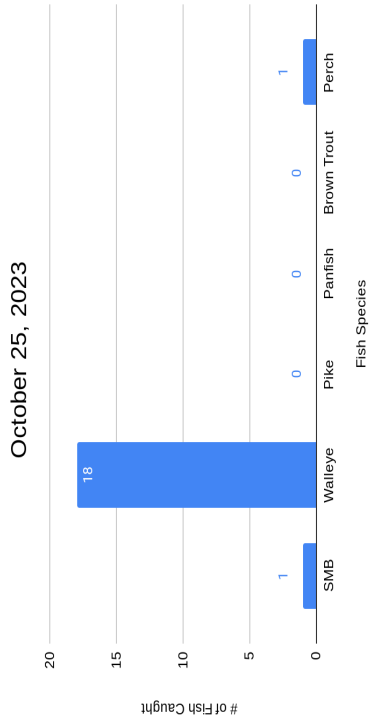
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 25, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	1
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	1
# of fish caught per hour (average)	1
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	1
# of total fish released	1
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	0
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	N/A
#of walleye caught	1
Average size & range of walleye	17.25"
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	0
Average size & range of yellow perch	N/A
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



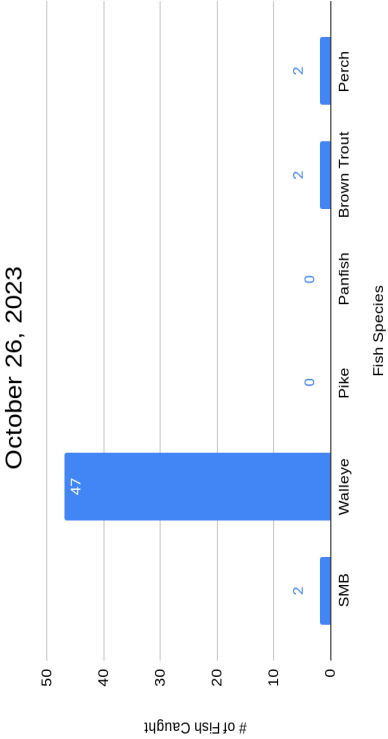
2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 25, 2023
Day of the week	Wednesday
# of total hours fishing	2
# of fishermen	3
# of total fish caught	20
# of fish caught per hour (average)	10
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	20
# of total fish released	20
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	1
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	16.00"
#of walleye caught	18
Average size & range of walleye	12.50"(9.00-16.00")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	1
Average size & range of yellow perch	14.00"
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



2023 Great Sacandaga Lake Creel Survey

Date	October 26, 2023
Day of the week	Thursday
# of total hours fishing	4
# of fishermen	2
# of total fish caught	51
# of fish caught per hour (average)	12.75
# of total fish caught casting	0
# of total fish caught trolling	51
# of total fish released	51
# of total fish kept	0
# of bass caught	2
Average size & range of smallmouth bass	13.38"(12.50-14.25")
#of walleye caught	47
Average size & range of walleye	13.22"(7.50-17.25")
# of pike caught	0
Average size & range of northern pike	N/A
# of perch caught	2
Average size & range of yellow perch	13.13"(12.25-14.00")
# of panfish caught (incl. rock bass)	0
Average size & range of panfish	N/A
# of trout caught	0
Average size & range of brown trout	N/A



Glossary and Abbreviations:

NYSDEC: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

WDNR: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

GSL: Great Sacandaga Lake

GSLFF: Great Sacandaga Lake Fisheries Federation

GSLAC: Great Sacandaga Lake Advisory Council

Angling: The sport or pastime of fishing with a rod and line

Angler: A person who fishes with a rod and line

Census: An official count or survey of a population

Invertebrate: An animal lacking a backbone

Zooplankton: Plankton consisting of small animals and intermediate stages of larger animals

Crustacean: A group of mostly water-dwelling arthropods (animals)

Summary of Intent:

The Broadalbin-Perth Science Research class has prepared this document in an effort to assist local agencies in collecting and analyzing fisheries data from the Great Sacandaga Lake. This survey can play an integral role in developing policies regarding recreational angling, as well as providing insight into the level of fishing activity or harvest patterns associated with the Great Sacandaga Lake. As noted previously, this document is a modified version of a complete creel survey, and such, should be treated as a progress report only.

Contact:

For additional information or copies of this survey, contact Brian Henry at:

Mailing Address:

Broadalbin-Perth Jr/Sr High School
100 Bridge Street
Broadalbin, New York 12025

Email:

henryb@bpcsd.org

Phone:

(518) 954-2600