

A/OFRC PROJECT UPDATE

SAGAMOK ANISHNAWBEK

June 2017

LA CLOCHE LAKE WALLEYE SPAWNING ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTION

From April 24—May 2, 2017, the Anishinabek/Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre (A/OFRC), in partnership with Sagamok Anishnawbek set out to study the Walleye spawn in LaCloche Lake. A trap-netting protocol was used to allow for live release of fish.

METHODS

Over the course of nine days, 22 trap-nets were set at areas that showed promise as Walleye spawning habitat. All game fish (Walleye, Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass and Northern Pike) were sampled for ageing structures, weight, length and gender.



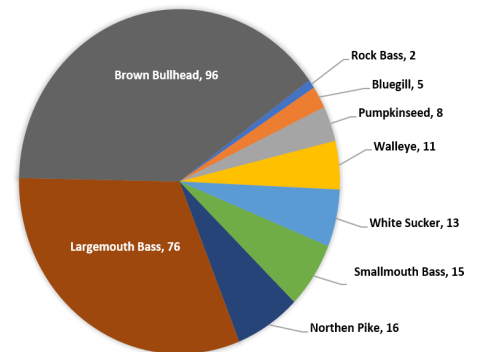
Aireal Starr, A/OFRC Fisheries Technician, tying a trap-net to shore prior to deployment.

RESULTS

The majority of the fish species caught were Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, White Sucker and Brown Bullhead. A total of nine different species were caught, including 11 Walleye. A crew from Sagamok Anishnawbek also captured 14 Walleye, which will be included in the analysis. In total 252 fish were caught and 118 were sampled.

CONCLUSION

Although some good Walleye spawning habitat was found, including gravel and cobble shoals, very few spawning state Walleye were captured. The lack of a single area where many spawning Walleye were captured may show that Walleye are not spawning in LaCloche Lake. A more detailed report will be release in Fall 2017.



A representation of the species and # of Individuals of each species caught during the survey on LaCloche Lake.



A suspected Walleye spawning shoal in LaCloche Lake



Kyle Crans, A/OFRC Fisheries Biologist, with a Largemouth Bass captured from a trap-net.



A Walleye captured from LaCloche Lake exhibiting a fin clip, common to stocked fish.



For more information on this or other fisheries projects please contact:

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