

Lake Name: Clearwater  
DOW Number: 86-0252-00

Survey Type: Targeted Survey  
Survey ID Date: 10/07/2019

**TARGETED SURVEY**  
**Electrofishing targeting Walleye Young Of The Year**

**Lake Identification**

Alternate Lake Name: N/A  
Primary Lake Class ID: 22

DNR Sounding Map Number: N/A  
Alternate Lake Class ID: N/A

**Lake Location**

Primary County: Wright

Nearest Town: Annandale

**All Counties:** Stearns, Wright.

**Legal Descriptions**

Lake Center: Township - 121N Range - 27W Section - 17  
PLS Section Lake Center: 12102717

**All Legal Descriptions:**

Stearns County:	Township - 121N	Range - 28W	Sections - 1, 11
	Township - 122N	Range - 27W	Section - 31
	Township - 122N	Range - 28W	Section - 36
Wright County:	Township - 121N	Range - 27W	Sections - 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 21
	Township - 121N	Range - 28W	Section - 12
	Township - 122N	Range - 27W	Section - 32

**Area Office**

Area Name: Sauk Rapids  
Region Name: Central

ORG Code: F315  
Region Number: 3

**Lake Access**

(Information based on Targeted Survey dated 10/20/2016)

Station ID	Ownership	Public Use	Type	Location / Comments
AC - 1	DNR	Open to Public use	Concrete	West side of lake north of Clearwater River inlet off of Bayview Road.
AC - 2	DNR	Open to Public use	Concrete	The black pool access is located on the northwest side of the west basin off of Bayberry Road.
AC - 3	Private Property	Fee/Permit needed	Concrete	Private pay access on east side of the on MN State Hwy 24.

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**Lake Characteristics**

Lake Area (planimetered acres):	3,158.00	GIS Shoreline Length (miles):	34.83
GIS Lake Area (acres):	3,186.89	Maximum Fetch (miles):	4.28
DOW Lake Area (acres):	3,704.00	Fetch Orientation (degrees):	315
Littoral Area (acres):	1,595.60	USGS Quad Map Number:	Q13d
Area in MN (acres):	3,158.27	USGS Quad 24K GIS Index:	3326
Maximum Depth (feet):	73.0		
Mean Depth (feet):	19.2		

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**Watershed Characteristics**

**Major Watershed**

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Name: Miss R-St. Cloud  
Watershed Number: 17  
Watershed size (acres): 717,374

**Minor Watershed**

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Name: Clearwater L  
Watershed Number: 6  
Watershed size (acres): 9,116

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**Surveys and Investigations**

**Initial Survey:** 09/10/1962.

**Re-Survey:** 07/18/2005, 07/14/1997, 07/29/1985, 07/29/1974.

**Population Assessment:** 07/21/2014, 07/30/1991, 08/01/1980.

**Special Assessment:** 04/20/2015, 10/21/2014, 05/05/2014, 10/02/2012, 10/09/2008, 10/05/2006, 10/05/2005, 09/01/1971, 06/05/1946.

**Research Survey:** 09/09/2019.

**External Management Survey:** 07/15/2008.

**Standard Survey:** 07/22/2019.

**Targeted Survey:** 10/07/2019, 07/29/2019, 06/19/2019, 10/22/2018, 10/12/2017, 10/20/2016, 10/21/2015, 05/02/2015.

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**Natural Reproduction Catch Summary for EW**

**Fall electrofishing for walleye**

**Total run-time for all stations:** 01:40:00  
**Total on-time for all stations:** 01:26:09  
**First Sampling Date:** 10/07/2019  
**Last Sampling Date:** 10/07/2019  
**Daylight Sampling:** No  
**Target Species:** Young of the year walleye

Abbr	Species	Age	Total Number	Number Measured	Mean Length (inches)	Length Range (inches)		Catch Rates (number per hour)	
						Min	Max	Run-Time	On-Time
WAE	Walleye	YOY	27	27	6.66	5.39	7.95	16.20	18.80
WAE	Walleye	≥ 1	12	12	13.36	10.67	20.28	7.20	8.36

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**Length Frequency Distribution for EW (for fish < 16.00 inches)**

**Fall electrofishing for walleye**

(Field work conducted on 10/07/2019)

	<u>WAE</u>	<u>YWAE</u>
< 0.50	-	-
0.50 - 0.99	-	-
1.00 - 1.49	-	-
1.50 - 1.99	-	-
2.00 - 2.49	-	-
2.50 - 2.99	-	-
3.00 - 3.49	-	-
3.50 - 3.99	-	-
4.00 - 4.49	-	-
4.50 - 4.99	-	-
5.00 - 5.49	-	1
5.50 - 5.99	-	5
6.00 - 6.49	-	5
6.50 - 6.99	-	7
7.00 - 7.49	-	4
7.50 - 7.99	-	5
8.00 - 8.49	-	-
8.50 - 8.99	-	-
9.00 - 9.49	-	-
9.50 - 9.99	-	-
10.00 - 10.49	-	-
10.50 - 10.99	1	-
11.00 - 11.49	2	-
11.50 - 11.99	2	-
12.00 - 12.49	4	-
12.50 - 12.99	-	-
13.00 - 13.49	-	-
13.50 - 13.99	-	-
14.00 - 14.49	-	-
14.50 - 14.99	-	-
15.00 - 15.49	1	-
15.50 - 15.99	-	-
= > 16.00	2	-

	<u>WAE</u>	<u>YWAE</u>
Total	12	27
Min. Length	10.67	5.39
Max. Length	20.28	7.95
Mean Length	13.36	6.66
# Measured	12	27
No Lengths for	0	0

**Note:** Unless all fish were measured in the catch, totals shown for some length-frequency distributions may differ from the total number of fish in the catch, due to rounding of fractions used in the estimation of length frequency from a subsample of measured fish

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**Length Frequency Distribution for EW (for fish  $\geq$  16.00 inches)**

**Fall electrofishing for walleye**

(Field work conducted on 10/07/2019)

	<u>WAE</u>	<u>YWAE</u>
< 16.00	10	27
16.00 - 16.49	-	-
16.50 - 16.99	-	-
17.00 - 17.49	-	-
17.50 - 17.99	-	-
18.00 - 18.49	-	-
18.50 - 18.99	-	-
19.00 - 19.49	-	-
19.50 - 19.99	1	-
20.00 - 20.49	1	-
20.50 - 20.99	-	-
21.00 - 21.49	-	-
21.50 - 21.99	-	-
22.00 - 22.49	-	-
22.50 - 22.99	-	-
23.00 - 23.49	-	-
23.50 - 23.99	-	-
24.00 - 24.49	-	-
24.50 - 24.99	-	-
25.00 - 25.49	-	-
25.50 - 25.99	-	-
26.00 - 26.49	-	-
26.50 - 26.99	-	-
27.00 - 27.49	-	-
27.50 - 27.99	-	-
28.00 - 28.49	-	-
28.50 - 28.99	-	-
29.00 - 29.49	-	-
29.50 - 29.99	-	-
30.00 - 30.49	-	-
30.50 - 30.99	-	-
31.00 - 31.49	-	-
31.50 - 31.99	-	-
32.00 - 32.49	-	-
32.50 - 32.99	-	-
33.00 - 33.49	-	-
33.50 - 33.99	-	-
34.00 - 34.49	-	-
34.50 - 34.99	-	-
35.00 - 35.49	-	-
35.50 - 35.99	-	-
= > 36.00	-	-

	<u>WAE</u>	<u>YWAE</u>
Total	12	27
Min. Length	10.67	5.39
Max. Length	20.28	7.95
Mean Length	13.36	6.66
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**Survey Crew Notes**

Fall young-of-year Walleye electrofishing.

Area Signed by user 'jostewig' on 03/20/2020

Region Signed by user 'Nevander' on 03/23/2020

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**Discussion**

Walleye are the primary management species in Clearwater Lake, but the management goal of > 4/gill net has not been met in the last two standard surveys in 2014 and 2019. The population has been sustained through biennial fry stocking since 1998, but fall electrofishing results have exceeded the target catch rate of 25 young-of-year (YOY)/hour only three times since then. Fry have been stocked annually since 2014 with mostly poor results. However, electrofishing stations were standardized and expanded in 2014 and results since then may have been lower than if only the original stations were used.

The YOY catch rate in 2019 was 18.8/hour (on-time), higher than 2018 (5.2/hour) and 2017 (3.6/hour), but below the target catch rate of 25/hour. YOY lengths ranged from 5.4 to 7.9 inches with a mean length of 6.7 inches. The catch rate of age one and older Walleye was 8.4/hour and lengths ranged from 10.7 to 20.3 inches. The 2019 standard survey had a Walleye catch rate of 1.7/gill net, below the goal of > 4/gill net.

Fingerlings were stocked in Clearwater Lake in the fall of 2019 following electrofishing. Fingerling stocking is expensive, time consuming, and subject to availability, so biennial fry stocking will continue with supplemental fry and fingerling stocking as needed. Zebra mussels were found in the lake in 2016 and increased water clarity has been observed. Lower Walleye catch rates preceded the zebra mussel infestation, so zebra mussels are probably not to blame for lower Walleye abundance. However, their future effect on fry survival may be negative.

Year	Fry stocked	YOY/hr
2004	1,500,000	8.8
2006	1,500,000	74.2
2008	1,500,000	119.6
2010	1,500,000	---
2012	1,500,000	23.4
2014	1,500,000	24.1
2015	1,500,000	19.3
2016	2,600,000	16.3
2017	1,500,000	3.6
2018	2,050,000	5.2
2019	1,650,000	18.8

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**Status Of The Fishery**

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2017	1,500,000	3.6
2018	2,050,000	5.2
2019	1,650,000	18.8

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Survey Attachments

Attachment #1: Map

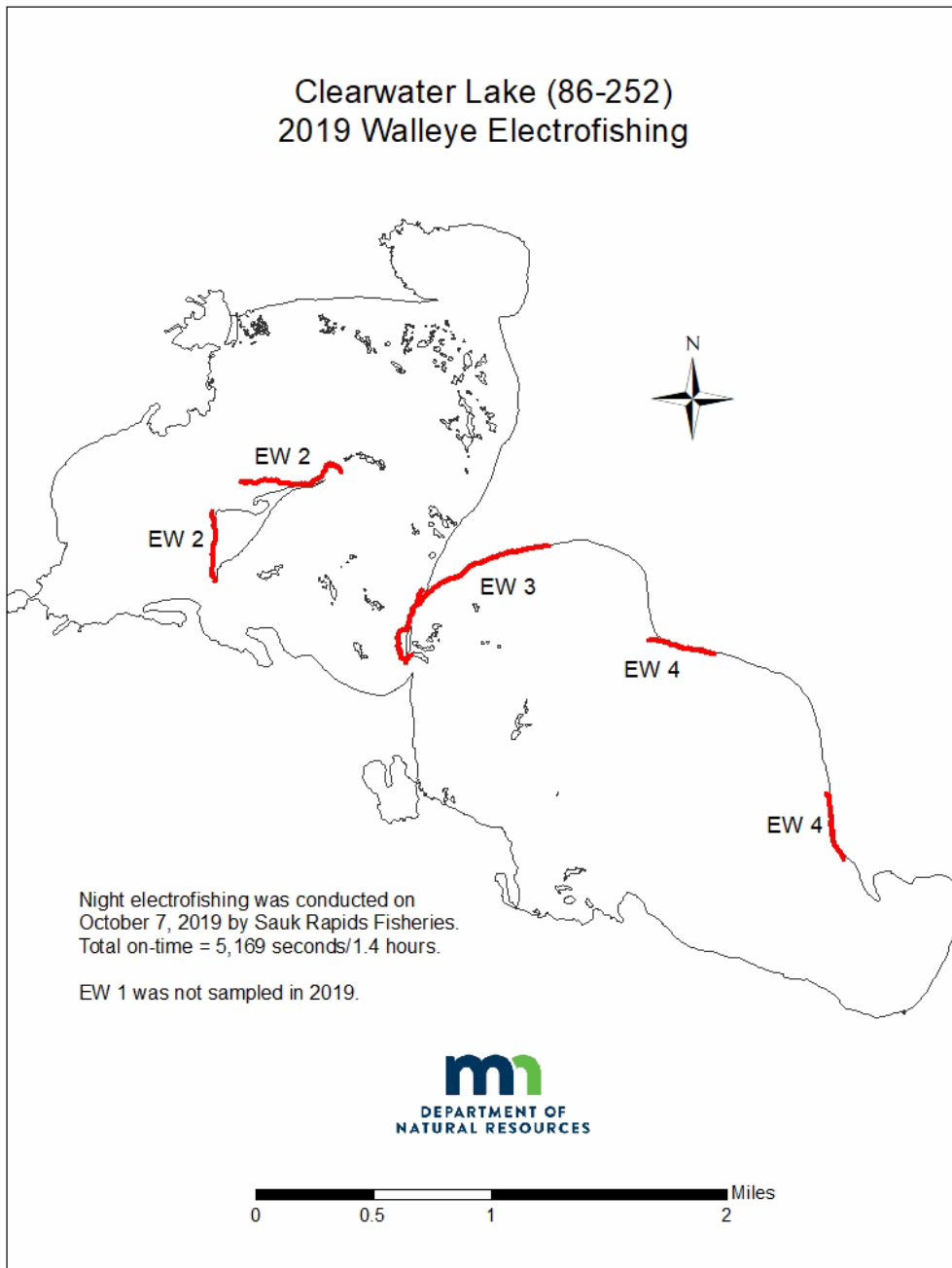
Title: Fall Walleye Electrofishing

File Name: Clearwater  
WAE EF 2019.jpg

UTM Easting: -  
UTM Northing: -

Date: 02/26/2020  
Time: 11:28 am

Notes: -





**Approval Dates And Notices**

Date Approved By Sauk Rapids Area Fisheries Supervisor: 03/20/2020

Date Approved By Central Region Fisheries Manager: 03/23/2020



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Lake Survey Report revision: 20190410-RJE. Data Date: 05/18/2020 at 9:46 am .