



Reference Report

**MICHIGAN COMMERCIAL
FISHING REGULATIONS:
A Summary of Public Acts and
Conservation Commission Orders,
1865 through 1975.**

By
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Niles R. Kevern

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INTRODUCTION

Commercial fishing in Michigan has gone from the very loosely regulated fishery of the early 1800's to the closely regulated fishery of today. Inefficient gear and boats of early days plus a seemingly limitless supply of fish allowed an unregulated fishery. But as time went on and innovations and improvements made fishing more productive, it became apparent that the fishery must be controlled. Regulations usually fell behind in the race with new fishing techniques and innovations. The result was commercial extinction of several native fish species. This paper deals with the changes in regulations concerning commercial fishing in Michigan. Each law or conservation commission order that established new regulations or altered existing ones has been summarized and included in the text. Year by year changes in regulations are discussed.

AN OVERVIEW

Present day Michigan commercial fishing regulations are the result of 110 years of legislative acts plus directives of the Department of Natural Resources. From 1865 through 1955, regulations were the direct result of legislative acts. In 1955, however, Act 218 gave the Michigan Conservation Commission the power to suspend, abridge, extend, modify, increase, or decrease the open seasons and size limits on fish as established by the commercial fishing law of 1929. In 1959, Act 218 was extended to all aspects of every law and regulation concerning commercial fishing, not just open seasons and size limits. Finally in 1968, Act 336 gave the Director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources the authority to directly regulate the commercial fishery. Consequently, since the late 1950's the state legislature has had little direct effect on commercial fishing regulations. The present fishery is directly regulated by the Department of Natural Resources.

EARLY REGULATIONS

Michigan commercial fishing regulations began in 1865 with the passage of Act 350 by the state legislature. This act prohibited dumping fish offal, blood, filth, and processing brines in the waters of the state; set mesh sizes for pound and trap nets; required fishermen to return whitefish spawn to the water; and called for the licensing of pound and trap nets used by non-resident fishermen. It allowed each county board of supervisors to make and enforce regulations for fishing in waters adjacent to the county with trap and pound nets, gill nets, and seines. The license fee was \$50.00 for each pound or trap net used by a non-resident. For other types of gear no license was required. License fees and fines were turned over to the county treasurer to be used as a pauper fund.

Early regulations were rarely designed for the protection and proper use of fish species, but rather were applied to insure that revenue from the fishery remained in the state. Joint Resolution number 13 is an example. The Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan tried to use this resolution to stop

"persons not citizens of the state, nor of the United States, . . . from temporarily immigrating to the fisheries of the state . . . for the purpose of catching and carrying away large quantities of fish . . . and thereby evading the payment of all taxes for the support of the state."

The first regulatory body was the Board of Fish Commissioners in 1873. The board consisted of two state residents appointed by the governor and the governor himself. The board was responsible for supervising fishing interests and insuring enforcement of State laws related to the fisheries. The board could appoint a superintendent of fisheries to supervise fish culture.

THE COMMERCIAL FISHING LAW OF 1929

The bulk of Michigan commercial fishing regulations center around Act 84 passed by the state legislature in 1929. This legislative act is better known as the "commercial fishing law of 1929". The act, as passed, contains fifty sections describing various regulations. Section 1 declares the fish in the Michigan waters of the Great Lakes to be the property of the state, a fundamental concept. Sections 2 and 3 define general geographical areas where commercial fishing is not allowed. Sections 4 and 5 describe methods and mesh sizes for gear and restrictions on use. Section 6 gives the dates for closed seasons on numerous species. Sections 7 through 10 concern taking of fish and spawn for fish culture. Sections 11 through 13 are concerned with fish shipments. Sections 14 through 16 define minimum size limits and protected species of fish. Sections 17 through 21 describe net marking, fish inspection, and catch reports. Sections 22 through 27 describe licensing and fees. Sections 28 through 50 contain special provisions including specific areas closed to commercial fishing and the repeal of 22 previous acts concerning commercial fishing.

Many of the provisions of this act, although amended, are still in effect today, over 45 years later. Act 84 of 1929 was certainly not a spontaneous production. It is actually a combination of several earlier laws. The commercial fishing law of 1929 had its beginning in Act 153 of 1907 and Act 213 of 1909. Act 153 deals

with fishing licenses and fees. Act 213 concerns mesh sizes, size limits, closed seasons, and other general fishing regulations. Acts 153 and 213 were amended through the years, then in 1929, Acts 153 and 159 were repealed by the commercial fishing law of 1929. The majority of their contents along with twenty years of amendments were incorporated into the new act.

Since 1929, Act 84 had been amended numerous times. Major amendments occurred in 1933, 37, 39, 47, 49, 51, 55, 57, 59, and 66. The amendments of 1955, 59, and 66 allow the conservation commission and the Director of the D.N.R. to dictate fishing regulations directly without passage of legislative acts. Thus, since 1960, twenty conservation commission directives have been made law. All of these directives alter or add to the amended Act 84 of 1929.

MAJOR PROVISIONS

Provisions in Michigan commercial fishing regulations are primarily for mesh sizes, fishing licenses, size limits, closed seasons, and areas in which commercial fishing is prohibited or strongly regulated.

Like the majority of fishing regulations, Michigan laws were seldom enacted until sound fishing principles were grossly disregarded. An example is the first restriction on the commercial fishery in Michigan. In the early 1800's the majority of fishing was done with seines in shallow inshore areas. Around the 1840's gill nets came into use. Early gill nets of linen and cotton webbing were quite fragile, but could be fished much farther offshore than seines. In the 1850's pound nets came into use. Pound nets quite effectively caught fish and were generally sturdier than the gill nets of that year. Very small mesh was used in the pots or cribs of pound nets. An excessive number of immature fish were killed because of the small mesh. This single abuse prompted the first Michigan commercial fishing law, Act 350 of 1865.

This early law set mesh regulations for pound nets used for whitefish and other species. Pound nets used for whitefish were to have meshes of not less than 5 inches in the lead, heart, or funnel,

and not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the pot, crib, or pocket. Pound nets used for other species were to have meshes not less than 4 and 2 inches in the respective parts. As time went on, lake trout and whitefish could both be taken with larger mesh pound nets. Mesh size in the pot, crib, or pocket for the whitefish and lake trout pound nets increased to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in 1885 and to $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in 1933 where it has remained since. Mesh size in the lead has remained at 5 inches since 1865. Mesh size for pound nets for other species has decreased in the lead from the 4 inch mesh to the present $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch, but increased in the pot from the 2 inch mesh to the present $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Mesh sizes for trap nets are included with and are quite similar to pound net regulations. Trap nets were banned between 1905 and 1929.

Mesh sizes for gill nets and seines were first mentioned in Act 139 of 1889. Seine mesh sizes were to be not less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. In 1897 this was increased to 4 inches, and in 1909 a provision was added that allowed a pocket not to exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ the length of the seine with meshes not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. This has remained essentially unchanged since that date.

Gill nets began in two distinct categories. Those used for whitefish and lake trout were to be of meshes not less than $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches, while those used for other species were to be of meshes not less than $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Large mesh gill nets were increased to $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in 1909 where they have remained until banned in 1968 by conservation commission order # 16.

Small mesh gill net regulations have changed many times since 1909. Some of these regulations include a $3\frac{1}{8}$ inch mesh for long-jaws, blackfins, and fat trout; a $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch mesh for blue-back herring (1913); a $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 2 inch mesh for baitfish (1913); a $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch mesh for smelt and alewife (1959); and many others.

LICENSE FEES

The first commercial fishing act, Act 350 of 1865, also establishes the basis for commercial fishing licenses. Pound nets used by non-residents were licensed at \$50.00 each. This remained virtually unchanged until 1907 when Act 153 set license fees on boats

used by both residents and non-residents. License fees were figured on vessel tonnage in 1913 and on vessel length in 1933. Present day license fees are based on a combination of vessel length and tonnage. Specific changes in license fees are listed in Table 1 in chronological order.

Table 1. Changes in commercial license fees.

Year	Act	Description of Fees
1865	350	Non-resident fees only of \$50.00 per pound net per year.
1907	153	Licenses boats used in fishing operation. Residents pay the following rates: steam tugs without steam lifters \$10.00 per boat per year steam tugs with steam lifters \$25.00 per boat per year other boats except rowboats \$10.00 per boat per year sailboats \$1.00 per boat per year Non-residents pay the following rates: steam tugs without steam lifters \$100.00 per boat per year steam tugs with steam lifters \$200.00 per boat per year other boats except rowboats \$50.00 per boat per year sailboats \$2.00 per boat per year
1913	365	License fees based on weight of vessel. Residents pay the following rates: sailboats \$5.00 per boat per year powerboats weighing less than 5 ton \$10.00 per boat per year power boats weighing more than 5 ton \$2.00 per ton per year not to exceed \$50.00 per boat annually fishing under the ice or without the use of a boat, except rowboats \$1.00 per year

Table 1, Cont'd.

Year	Act	Description of Fees
1913	365	<p>Non-residents pay the following rates:</p> <p>sailboats \$25.00 per boat per year</p> <p>powerboats weighing less than 10 ton \$50.00 per boat per year</p> <p>powerboats weighing more than 10 ton \$5.00 per ton per year not to exceed \$200.00 per boat annually</p> <p>fishing under the ice or without the use of a boat, except rowboats \$100.00 per year</p>
1923	75	<p>Non-resident fees increased.</p> <p>sailboats \$50.00 per boat per year</p> <p>powerboats weighing less than 10 ton \$100.00 per boat per year</p> <p>power boats weighing more than 10 ton \$15.00 per ton per year not to exceed \$400.00 per boat annually</p> <p>fishing under the ice or without the use of a boat, except rowboats \$200.00 per year</p>
1929	84	<p>Resident fees increased.</p> <p>sailboats or powerboats \$2.25 per ton per year, not to be less than \$14.00 nor more than \$75.00 per boat annually</p> <p>fishing under the ice or without the use of a boat, except rowboats \$10.00 per year</p>
1933	255	<p>Resident fees based on vessel length.</p> <p>all boats exceeding 16 feet in length \$0.65 per foot per year plus \$1.00 per ton per year for boats weighing more than 10 ton. Fee not to exceed \$75.00 per boat per year.</p> <p>fishing under the ice or without the use of a boat (rowboats less than 16 feet in length exempt) \$10.00 per year</p>
1935	235	<p>Resident fees increased.</p> <p>all boats exceeding 16 feet in length \$0.80 per foot per year plus \$1.00 per ton per year etc. (other provisions same as 1933).</p>

Table 1, Cont'd.

Year	Act	Description of Fees
1937	348	Licenses resident sport trollers for hire at \$10.00 per year
1939	339	Resident fees increased. all boats exceeding 16 feet in length \$1.00 per foot per year plus \$1.00 per ton per year etc. (other provisions same as 1933)
1947	324	Resident fees increased fishing under the ice or without the use of a boat (rowboats less than 16 feet in length exempt) or sport trolling for hire \$15.00 per year
1951	269	Resident and non-resident fees increased. Resident fees had only one change fishing under the ice etc. \$16.00 per year Non-residents had the following rates: boats longer than 16 feet in length weighing less than 10 ton \$350.00 per boat per year boats weighing more than 10 ton \$35.00 per ton per year not to exceed \$750.00 per boat annually fishing under the ice etc. \$200.00 per year (same as 1923)
1957	277	Non-resident fees changed Non-resident fees to be 5 times that of resident fee for similar vessel, gear, etc.
1966	9	All license fees increased Residents pay the following rates: boats longer than 16 feet in length \$3.00 per foot plus \$1.00 per ton for vessels weighing more than 10 ton fishing under the ice etc. \$16.00 per year (same as 1951) Non-resident fees to be 5 times that of resident fee for similar vessel, gear, etc. Ban of non-resident license sales on Lakes Huron and Erie.

SIZE LIMITS AND PROTECTED SPECIES

Minimum legal size limits for fish species were first established in the Saginaw River in 1893. State-wide size limits followed shortly after in 1897. The first protected species list was included in a 1909 law. Table 2 lists changes in size limits and protected species since 1893.

Table 2. Changes in minimum size limits and protected species.

Year	Act	Species	Minimum Size Limits
1893	31	perch sucker	4 oz. (Saginaw Bay) 12 oz. (Saginaw Bay)
1895	200	northern pike walleye catfish black bass	1 lb. (Saginaw Bay) 1 lb. (Saginaw Bay) 1 lb. (Saginaw Bay) protected (Saginaw Bay)
1897	151	sturgeon whitefish	15 lb. 2 lb.
1899	88	lake trout walleye perch	1½ lb. 1 lb. 4 oz.
1909	213	whitefish lake trout perch suckers sturgeon black bass white bass green bass strawberry bass brook trout brown trout rainbow trout	2 lb. round 1 lb. 10 oz. dressed 1½ lb. round 1¾ lb. dressed 5 oz. 13 in. 20 lbs. protected " " " " " "
1913	97	sucker northern pike catfish bullhead	1 lb. 1 lb. 2 lb. 8 oz.
1917	162	perch	9 in.

Table 2, Cont'd.

Year	Act	Species	Minimum Size Limits
1919	159	ciscowet	2 lb.
		rock bass	5 oz.
		sunfish	4 oz.
		bluegill	4 oz.
		sturgeon	20 lb. round 14 lb. dressed
1921	225	warmouth bass	protected
		rock bass	"
		sunfish	"
		bluegill	"
1923	120	northern pike	2 lb.
		walleye	1½ lb.
1927	158	muskellunge	protected
		sturgeon	"
1929	84	blue pike	11 in.
1933	255	whitefish	2 lb. round 1 lb. 12 oz. dressed
		ciscowet	1½ lb.
		walleye	16½ in.
		white bass	9 in.
1935	235	perch	9 in. 2½ oz. fillet
1937	348	perch	8½ in. 2½ oz. fillet
		northern pike	20 in.
1939	339	perch	8½ in. round 5½ in. less head, tail 1 and ¾ oz. fillet
		walleye	15½ in.
		northern pike	protected
1943	39	sucker	12 in.
		catfish	15 in.
		bullhead	9 in.
		walleye	15½ in. 13 in. (Lake Erie)
1947	324	sucker	14 in.
		catfish	17 in. 15 in. (Lake Erie)
		walleye	15 in. 9 oz. fillet 13 in. (Lake Erie)
		northern pike	20 in.

Table 2, Cont'd.

Year	Act	Species	Minimum Size Limits
1951	194	sturgeon	42 in.
1953	195	whitefish	17 in.
1957	277	black crappie	7 in.
1960	0. #4	catfish	15 in. 14 in. (Lake Erie)
1963	0. #8	suckers	size limit removed
1966	0. #10	perch	size limit removed
1966	0. #11	coho salmon	protected
1966	0. #12	northern pike	"
1967	0. #11	chinook salmon	"
1967	0. #15	lake trout	"
		splake	"
1970	0. #17	sturgeon	"
		walleye	"
		blue pike	"
		sauger	"
1974	0. #17	atlantic salmon	"

CLOSED SEASONS

The history of closed seasons for fish species begins in 1875 with a closed season on whitefish in the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers. Several closed seasons in the Saginaw River set the stage for state-wide closed seasons. The first state-wide closed season was established in 1897. Subsequent laws changing closed seasons are given in Table 3.

Table 3. Changes in closed seasons.

Year	Act	Species	Season	Area
1875	188	whitefish	Nov. 20-Mar. 1	Detroit and St. Clair Rivers
1893	31	all	Apr. 1-Nov. 1	Saginaw River
1895	200	all	Apr. 1-Nov. 15	" "
1897	151	all	Oct. 13-Dec. 15	all
1897	281	all	Apr. 15-Nov. 1	Saginaw River

Table 3, Cont'd.

Year	Act	Species	Season	Area
1899	196	all	Oct. 30-Dec. 15	all
1901	185	all	Apr. 15-Nov. 15	Saginaw River
1903	78	all	Oct. 30-Dec. 15	all
1903	79	all	Apr. 15-Nov. 1	Saginaw River
1909	213	whitefish & lake trout	Nov. 20-Dec. 15	all
1913	97	lake trout	Oct. 10-Nov. 1	all
		whitefish	Oct. 20-Dec. 15	all
1919	159	lake trout	Oct. 10-Nov. 8	all
1923	120	lake trout	Oct. 10-Nov. 4	all
1927	158	walleye	Jan. 1-Apr. 1	all
		sucker	Apr. 15-May 15	all
		perch	Apr. 15-June 15	all
		N. pike	Apr. 1-June 1	all
1929	84	lake trout	Oct. 10-Nov. 4	all except Lake Michigan
		lake trout	Oct. 20-Nov. 22	Lake Michigan
		whitefish	Nov. 5-Dec. 15	all except Lake Superior
		whitefish	Nov. 1-Dec. 26	Lake Superior
		walleye	Jan. 1-Apr. 10	all
1933	255	walleye	Mar. 10-May 1	all except Lake Huron
		walleye	Mar. 1-Apr. 10	Lake Huron
		perch	Apr. 15-May 15	all
		N. pike	Apr. 1-May 1	all
		chubs	Oct. 15-Nov. 13	all
		white bass	Dec. 11-Feb. 28	all except Lake Michigan
		white bass	protected	Lake Michigan
1937	348	lake trout	Oct. 1-Oct. 31	all except Lake Michigan
		lake trout	Oct. 10-Nov. 10	Lake Michigan
		whitefish	Nov. 1-Nov. 26	Lake Superior
		whitefish	Nov. 1-Dec. 1	Lake Huron
		whitefish	Nov. 5-Dec. 10	Lakes Michigan and Erie
		walleye	Mar. 5-Apr. 10	Lakes Erie and Huron
		walleye	Apr. 1-May 20	Lakes Superior and Michigan

Table 3, Cont'd.

Year	Act	Species	Season	Area
1937	348	perch	Apr. 15-June 1	all
		chubs	Oct. 15-Nov. 20	all
		sucker	Apr. 15-May 15	all
1939	339	lake trout	Oct. 1-Oct. 31	Lake Huron
		lake trout	Oct. 10-Nov. 4	Lake Superior
		lake trout	Oct. 10-Nov. 10	Lake Michigan
		herring	July 15-Sept. 15	Lake Superior
1941	76	all	Dec. 1-Mar. 10	Lake Erie
1947	324	walleye	Apr. 1-May 20	all except Lake Huron
		walleye	Mar. 5-Apr. 10	Lake Huron
		N. pike	Apr. 1-May 20	all
		perch	Apr. 15-May 20	all
1951	269	lake trout	Oct. 10-Nov. 15	Lake Michigan
		chubs	Nov. 1-Nov. 30	all
		suckers	Apr. 15-May 20	all
1953	195	lake trout	Oct. 5-Nov. 4	Lake Superior
1955	16	chubs	closed season removed	all
1957	277	lake trout & whitefish	Oct. 1-Dec. 10	Lakes Huron and Michigan
		perch	no closed season	Saginaw Bay
		B. crappie	June 1-Aug. 25	Lake Huron
		B. crappie	protected	all except Lake Huron
1958	124	sucker	no closed season	Saginaw Bay
1959	253	perch	Apr. 25-June 1	Lake Michigan
1960	0.#3	whitefish	Oct. 15-Dec. 10	Lakes Huron and Michigan
		whitefish	Nov. 1-Nov. 26	Lake Superior
		perch	Apr. 15-May 20	Lake Superior, Green Bay, and Lake Huron except Saginaw Bay
		B. crappie	no closed season	Lake Huron
1962	0.#7	lake trout	protected	Lake Superior
1963	0.#8	sucker	closed season removed	all
1965	0.#9	lake trout	protected	Lake Michigan
		whitefish	Nov. 1-Nov. 30	Lakes Superior, Huron, Michigan
		perch	closed season removed	Lake Erie

Table 3, Cont'd.

Year	Act	Species	Season	Area
1966	0.#10	perch	closed season removed	all
1970	0.#17	herring	protected	Lakes Huron and Michigan
		chubs	protected	Lake Huron
		perch, b. crappie & rock bass	no closed season	Zone 22 of Saginaw Bay
		perch, b. crappie & rock bass	protected	all but zone 22
1973	0.#17	whitefish	protected	Lake Erie
1975	Emergency rule			
	July 18	chubs	protected	Lake Michigan

RESTRICTED AREAS

Act 53 of 1885 prohibited the use of nets in the connecting waters of Lakes Huron and Erie. Since 1885, many other areas have been closed to commercial fishing. Table 4 lists them.

Table 4. Geographical areas closed to commercial fishing.

Year	Act	Area Closed
1885	53	connecting waters of Lakes Huron & Erie
1889	70	Les Cheneaux Channels, Lake Huron
1897	277	Wildfowl Bay, Lake Huron
1901	182	connecting waters of Lakes Michigan and Superior
1903	13	Munising Bay - Grand Island Area
	118	False Presque Isle Bay, Lake Huron
1905	314	Little Traverse Harbor, Lake Michigan
	324	Thunder Bay, Lake Huron
	102	Little Bay de Noquette, Lake Michigan
	114	portions of Saginaw and Tawas Bays
1921	279	Duncan Bay, Lake Huron

Table 4, Cont'd.

Year	Act	Area Closed
1923	182	portions of Grand Traverse Bay
1925	275	portions of the Straits of Mackinac
	276	Suttons Bay, Lake Michigan
	277	Northport Harbor, Lake Michigan
	278	Keweenaw Bay, Lake Superior
	279	Huron Bay, Lake Superior
1929	84	Whitney Bay, Lake Huron
	84	Little Traverse Bay, Lake Michigan
1931	92	Whaiska Bay, part of Straits of St. Mary
1933	255	Portage Lake Ship Channel, Lake Superior
1935	203	Marquette Bay, Lake Superior
1939	140	Potagannissing Bay, Lake Huron
	321	Pike Bay and Island Harbor, Lake Huron
1945	81	Harbor Beach, Lake Huron
1949	235	Charlevoix Bay, Lake Michigan
	235	Garden Bay, Lake Michigan
1957	109	Presque Isle Harbor, Lake Huron
1962	61	Grand Marais Bay, Lake Superior
1970	0.#17	waters near Isle Royale, Lake Superior
	62	Hammond Bay, Lake Huron

SIGNIFICANT REGULATIONS

The building of important concepts concerning major regulations and changes in these regulations was usually a slow process. Significant events in the establishment of fishing regulations are outlined in Table 5.

Table 5. Significant years in establishing fishing laws.

Year	Act	Description of Act
1865	350	First commercial fishing law Mesh size regulations for pound nets County Board of Supervisors to make regulations
1867	J.R.#13	An effort to control non-resident fishing

Table 5, Cont'd.

Year	Act	Description of Act
1873	124	Establishes Board of Fish Commissioners
1875	188	Regulations concerning Detroit & St. Clair River First closed season
1883	5	Prohibits setting nets obstructing free passage of fish in streams
1889	139	Mesh size regulations for gill & seine nets
1893	31	First size limits on fish
1897	151	First state-wide size limits on fish First state-wide closed season on fish
1903	108	Prohibits the use of trap nets after 1/1/1905
1907	153	Licenses boats used for commercial fishing
1909	213	Fish in Great Lakes are property of state Prohibits setting nets in connecting waters Fifty rod rule Marking fish shipments Catch records Net marking
1913	97	One hundred and sixty rod rule Forty rod rule
	365	License fees based on weight of vessel
1921	17	Establishes Michigan Dept. of Conservation
	164	Abolishes Board of Fish Commissioners
1929	84	Commercial Fishing Law of 1929 Trap nets legal again
1933	255	License fees based on vessel length
1934	25	Licenses to residents only Eighty foot restriction on trap and pound nets
1937	274	Prohibits issuing non-resident licenses to residents of states having fishing laws not conforming to those of Michigan
	348	Licenses sport trollers for hire
1939	312	Fifty mile radius rule
1955	218	Allows conservation commission to change open seasons and size limits on fish
1957	277	non-resident fee five times resident fee
1959	154	Allows conservation commission to change any law concerning commercial fishing
1960	0.#1	Allows use of trawls
1966	9	License fees increased substantially

Table 5, Cont'd.

Year	Act	Description of Act
1966	336	Gives director of natural resources unlimited power in the control of the fishery
1968	0.#16	Prohibits use of large mesh gill nets
1969	0.#17	Limited entry for licensees
1970	0.#17	Commercial fishing zones and quotas
1970	0.#19	Rules for commercial fishing license hearings
1974	0.#17	Replacement of large mesh gill nets with impoundment gear
1975	Emergency rule	Bans chub fishing in Lake Michigan

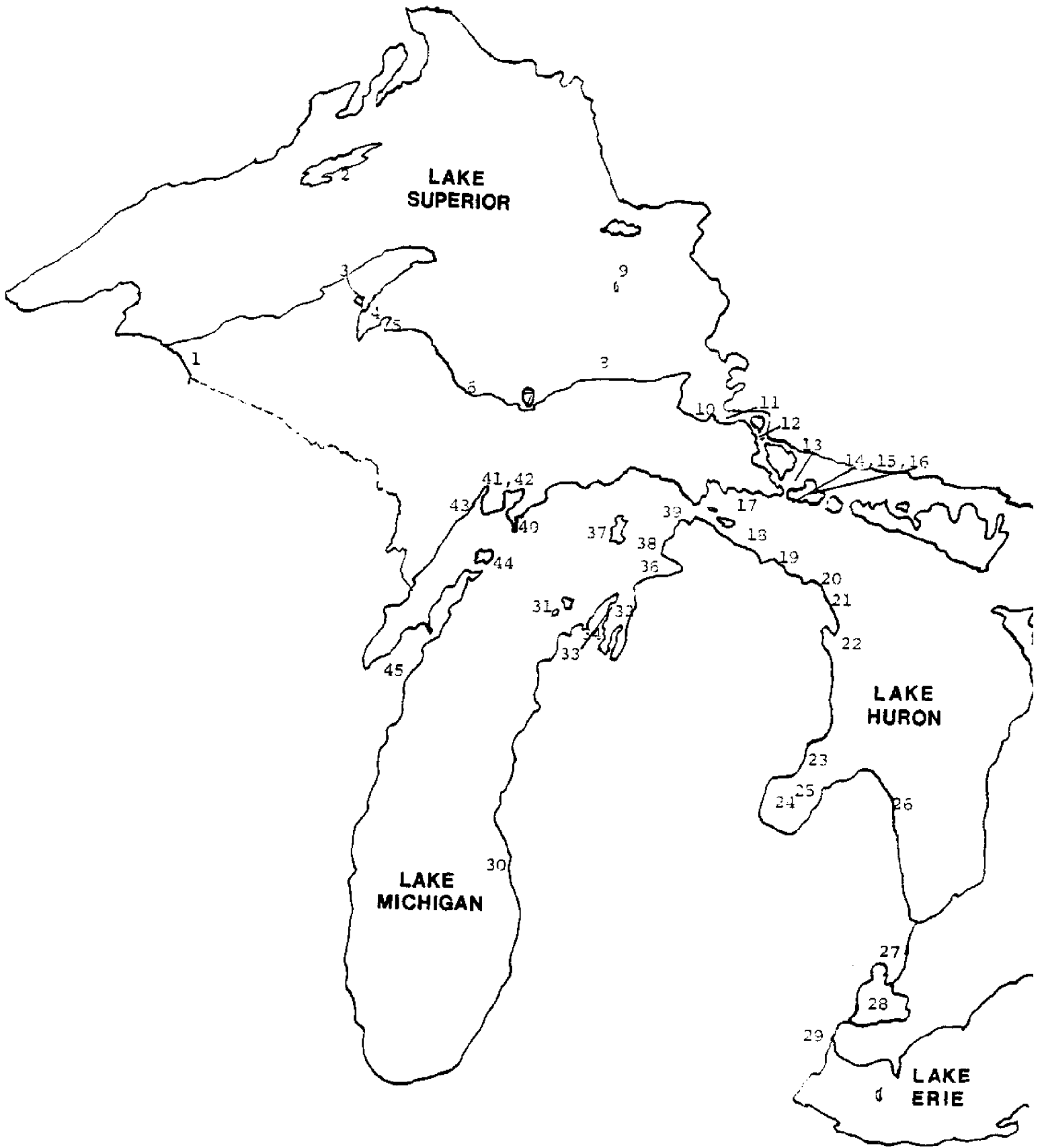


Figure 1. General Map of the Great Lakes

Names correspond to numbered locations on map.

1. Montreal River
2. Isle Royale
3. Portage Lake Ship Channel
4. Keweenaw Bay
5. Huron Bay
6. Marquette Bay
7. Munising Bay, Grand Island
8. Grand Marais Bay
9. Caribou Island
10. Whitefish Bay
11. Whaiska Bay
12. St. Mary's River
13. Potagannissing Bay
14. Whitney Bay
15. Pike Bay, Island Harbor
16. Drummond Island
17. Les Cheneaux Channels
18. Duncan Bay
19. Hammond Bay
20. False Presque Isle Bay
21. Presque Isle Harbor
22. Thunder Bay
23. Tawas Bay
24. Saginaw Bay
25. Wildfowl Bay
26. Harbor Beach
27. St. Clair River
28. Lake St. Clair
29. Detroit River
30. Grand Haven Harbor
31. Manitou Islands
32. Grand Traverse Bay
33. Northport Harbor
34. Suttons Bay
35. Charlevoix Bay
36. Little Traverse Bay
37. Beaver Island
38. Sturgeon Bay
39. Straits of Mackinaw
40. Point Detour
41. Big Bay de Noquette
42. Garden Bay
43. Little Bay de Noquette
44. Washington Island
45. Door Peninsula
46. Green Bay

COMMON NAMES

Fish species are often known by more than one name. Common names given in fishing laws change through the years. An example is the northern pike which was called the grass pike in older laws. Another example is the walleye which has been called a yellow pickerel until recently. Table 6 gives the accepted common names, scientific names, and other common names given in early laws. Nearly all species names in the summaries have been changed to the accepted common name. This list has been included to help identify the species names as used in the original material.

Table 6. Common and scientific names of species mentioned.

Common Name	Other Names	Scientific Name
Lake sturgeon		<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>
Lake trout		<i>Salvelinus namaycush</i>
Ciscowet	Fat trout	<i>Salvelinus ciscowet</i>
Brook trout	Speckled trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>
Brown trout	Loch Leven trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>
Rainbow trout	Steelhead trout	<i>Salmo gairdneri</i>
Splake	(Hybrid cross between lake and brook trout)	
Coho Salmon	Silver salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>
Chinook salmon	King salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>
Atlantic salmon		<i>Salmo salar</i>
Lake whitefish		<i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i>
Round whitefish	Menominee, Pilot fish	<i>Prosopium cylindraceum</i>
Lake herring	Cisco, Blue-back herring	<i>Coregonus artedii</i>
Blackfins	Chub, deepwater cisco	<i>Coregonus nigripinnis</i>
Longjaws	" " "	<i>Coregonus alpenae</i>
Bloaters	" " "	<i>Coregonus hoyi</i>
Northern pike	Grass pike	<i>Esox lucius</i>
Muskellunge		<i>Esox masquinongy</i>
Walleye	Yellow pickerel	<i>Stizostedion v. vitreum</i>
Blue pike		<i>Stizostedion v. glaucum</i>
Sauger		<i>Stizostedion canadense</i>
Yellow perch		<i>perca flavescens</i>

Table 6, Cont'd.

Common Name	Other Names	Scientific Name
Smallmouth bass	Black or green bass	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>
Largemouth bass	Black or green bass	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>
White bass		<i>Roccus chrysops</i>
Rock bass		<i>Ambloplites rupestris</i>
Warmouth	Warmough bass	<i>Chaenobryttus gulosus</i>
Sunfish	Pumpkinseed	<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i>
Bluegill		<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>
Black crappie	Strawberry bass	<i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i>
Channel catfish	Catfish	<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>
Bullheads		<i>Ictalurus</i> spp.
Sucker	Mullet	<i>Catostomus</i> and <i>Moxostoma</i> spp.
Carp		<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>
Rainbow smelt		<i>Osmerus mordax</i>
Alewife		<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>

IMPORTANT SPECIES

Certain fish species have always been commercially more valuable than others. For this reason, commercial fishing for these more valuable species has been more thoroughly regulated than other fishing. Table 7 lists the regulations on the six most important commercial fish species.

Table 7. Regulations concerning major commercial fish species.

Whitefish	Lake Trout	Herring	Yellow Perch	Walleye	Chubs
1865(350)					
1885 (91)		1885(61)	-----	-----	-----
		1889(139)	-----	-----	-----
			1893 (31)	-----	-----
			1895 (213)	-----	-----
1897(151)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1899(88)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1901(100)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
				1901(182)	
			1903 (79)	-----	

Table 7, Cont'd.

Whitefish	Lake Trout	Herring	Yellow Perch	Walleye	Chubs
		1903(110)	-----		
		1903(188)			
		1905 (9)	1905(178)	-----	
		1905(275)	-----		
		1905(315)			
		1907 (83)			
		1907(194)			
1909(213)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1913(97)	-----	1911(188)	-----	-----	-----
		-----	-----		
			1917(162)	-----	
1919(159)	-----		-----	-----	
		1921(225)			
	1923(120)		1923(182)	1923(44)	
			1925(276)		
			1927 (85)		
1927(158)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1929 (84)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1931(159)	-----	-----			
1933(255)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
			1934 (25)		
1935(221)	-----		1935(205)		
			1935(235)		
					1937(111)
1937(348)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	1939(339)	-----	-----	-----	-----
				1941(27)	
				1943(39)	
		1947(324)	-----	-----	-----
	1951(269)				
1953(195)	-----				1955(16)
			1956(20)		
1957(277)	-----		-----		
		1958(124)	-----		-----
			1959(253)		
		1960[0.1]			-----
1960[0.3]		1960[0.2]			-----
	1962[0.7]				
			1963(163)		
1965[0.9]	-----		-----		
			1966[0.10]		
	1967[0.15]				
	1970[0.17]	-----	-----	1969[0.18]	-----
				1970[0.19]	
1973[0.17]		-----			
	1974[0.17]	-----			
					1975 Emergency Rule

() refers to a legislative act

[] refers to a conservation commission order

LIST OF REFERENCES

A formal bibliography has been omitted. Since legislative acts and conservation commission orders are listed both numerically and chronologically, the original material may be readily found through the following sources:

1. Michigan Public Acts, 1865 through 1973.
2. Michigan Administrative Code, 1954, plus Annual Administrative Code Supplements since 1954 through 1975.
3. Michigan Natural Resource Laws, 1972, compiled by the Department of Natural Resources.
4. Michigan Statutes Annotated, Vol. 9, Title 13.
5. Michigan Compiled Laws, 1871, 1897, 1915, 1929, 1948, and 1970 editions.

All these sources are published by the State of Michigan. These references are available in the documents section of the Michigan State University Library, East Lansing, and the State of Michigan Library, Lansing.

SUMMARIZED REGULATIONS

The remainder of this paper contains a summary of every public act and conservation commission order concerning commercial fishing from 1865 through 1975. Summaries of original public acts and conservation commission orders contain all points of the original in simplified form. Summaries of amendments to public acts and revisions of conservation commission orders contain only the changes brought about by the amendment or revision.

- 1865 Act 350 Prohibits dumping of fish offal, blood, filth, processing brines, and the like in the waters of the state.
Sets legal mesh sizes for trap and pound nets. Whitefish nets to be not less than 5 in. in the lead and 2½ in. in the pot. Nets for other species to be not less than 4 in. in the lead and 2 in. in the pot.
Spawn of all whitefish caught is to be returned to the same waters from which the fish were taken.
The board of supervisors of each county to make rules and regulations for fishing with pound nets, trap nets, gill nets, etc. on waters passing through or adjacent to any county of the state.
The board of supervisors of each county shall grant written permission (license for one year) to non-residents for each pound net used on payment of \$50.00.
- 1867 Joint Resolution # 13
Requests the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to dispatch a revenue cutter to the Straits of Michilimackinac to stop persons not citizens of the state or of the country from temporarily emigrating to the fisheries of the upper peninsula for the sole purpose of catching and carrying away fish during the fishing season.
- 1873 Act 124 Establishes a board of fish commissioners. Governor to appoint two members and sit on the board himself. Term of office to coincide with that of state legislature. Board to appoint a superintendent of fisheries to supervise fish culture.
Board to insure enforcement of State fisheries laws and supervise the fishing interests.
Members of the board must be residents of the state.
- 1875 Act 71 Amends Act 124 of 1873 establishing a board of fish commissioners.
Three residents of the state to be appointed to the board of fish commissioners by the governor. The persons appointed to hold office as follows: one for two years, one for four years, and one for six years. Successors to hold office for six years.

- 1875 Act 188 Defines regulations on the use of nets in the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, Detroit River, and Lake Erie.
Prohibits the use of pound, trap, stake, set nets, or device of any kind in the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers or within a two mile radius of their inlets or outlets in Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and Lake St. Clair.
Sweep nets limited to 60 fathoms in length for use in Detroit and St. Clair Rivers.
Closed season on whitefish in above mentioned waters from November 20 through March 1.
- 1883 Act 5 Prohibits setting nets that obstruct the free passage of fish up and down streams and rivers of the state.
Nets must not obstruct more than one third the width of the river.
- 1885 Act 53 Amends Act 188 of 1875 concerning the use of nets in the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, and the Detroit River.
Prohibits the use of pound, trap, stake, gill, set nets, etc. (plus seines and sweep nets used beneath the ice) in any of the waters connecting Lakes Huron and Erie. The two mile radius at the outlet of Lake Huron and at the outlet of the Detroit River in Lake Erie is included.
Pound nets may be used in portions of Lake St. Clair.
- Act 61 Amends section 3 of Act 350 of 1865 concerning mesh sizes of trap and pound nets.
Trap and pound nets used for taking perch, herring, and pickerel are to have meshes not less than 5 in. in the lead and 2½ in. in the pot. Trap and pound nets used for other species are to have meshes not less than 5 in. in the lead and 3½ in. in the pot.
- Act 63 Establishes State Board of Fish Commissioners as a corporate body capable of contracting, suing, being sued, etc. in the process of carrying out the purpose of their organization and appointment.
Repeals earlier acts concerning the board.
- 1895 Act 213 Prescribes more regulations for the Saginaw River. Black bass not to be sold.
Perch must weigh 4 oz., pike, pickerel, and catfish must weigh 1 lb.
- 1897 Act 151 Establishes new minimum mesh sizes for all nets, minimum size limits on sturgeon and whitefish, a general closed season, and bans the use of aprons on pound nets.

- 1897 Act 151 Pound and trap nets are to have not less than 4 in. mesh in the pot, pound, or crib. Gill nets are to have meshes not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. Seines are to have meshes not less than 4 in. If the catch is less than 10% whitefish and trout, pound and trap nets with meshes not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. in the pot may be used for catching perch, herring, pickerel, or any other fish except black bass. Gill nets with meshes not less than 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ in. may be used for perch, herring, black fins, long jaws, or any other fish except black bass. Sturgeon must weigh a minimum of 15 lbs. Whitefish must weigh a minimum of 2 lbs. Closed season for all lakes from October 13 through December 15. Exceptions to closed season: Closed season in Lake Erie, Monroe County, is from November 15 through December 1. Trap and pound nets with meshes of $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in the pot may be used for catching herring and other rough fish from April 1 through July 15 and from September 1 through November 20 where such fishing operations do not interfere with or take whitefish or trout.
- Act 277 Prohibits fishing with nets in Wildfowl Bay, Lake Huron.
- Act 281 Amends Act 200 of 1895 concerning fishing in Saginaw Bay. Closed season in Saginaw River from April 15 through November 1.
- 1885 Act 91 Repeals two sections of Act 350 of 1865. The first section repealed concerns the return of whitefish spawn to the waters from which the fish were taken and the second involves the making of rules and regulations by the county boards of supervisors.
- 1889 Act 139 Sets mesh sizes for gill nets and seines as well as trap and pound nets. Trap and pound nets used for perch, herring, and pickerel are to have mesh sizes not less than 5 in. in the lead, funnel, and heart and $2\frac{1}{2}$ in in the pot, crib, or pocket. Trap and pound nets used for other species are to have the same size mesh in the lead, etc. but not less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. in the pot, etc. Gill nets are to have meshes not less than $4\frac{1}{4}$ in. for general use and not less than 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ in. for taking perch, herring, black fins, and long jaws. Seines are to have meshes not less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. Seines may be drawn upon shore or to a dock, but must not be towed by a boat.

- 1889 Act 70 Prohibits fishing in Les Cheneaux Channels of northern Lake Huron with seines, gill nets, pound nets, and trap nets.
- 1893 Act 31 Establishes a closed season in which pound, trap, stake, gill, seine, and set nets are prohibited in the Saginaw River and its tributaries from April 1 through November 1 of each year. Sets the minimum size limits on perch at 4 oz. and suckers at 12 oz. taken from the Saginaw River.
- 1895 Act 200 Repeals Act 31 of 1893 and prescribes new regulations for the Saginaw River. Open channel one third the width of the river taking in the deepest area of the river to be kept free of nets at all times. Commercial fishing prohibited in tributaries of Saginaw River. Closed season from April 1 through November 15. Trammel nets illegal in Saginaw River.
- 1899 Act 88 Amends and adds sections to Act 151 of 1897 concerning mesh sizes, minimum sizes of fish, etc. Pound and trap nets for general use are to have meshes not less than 5 in. in the lead, funnel, and heart and $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. in the pot, crib, or pocket. Where less than 10% of the catch during the year is whitefish and trout; perch, herring, pickerel, and other fish, except black bass may be caught using not less than 4 in. mesh in the lead, etc. and $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. in the pot, etc. Gill nets for general use are to have not less than $4\frac{1}{4}$ in. mesh. Mesh not less than 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ in. may be used for perch, herring, black fins, long jaws, or any other fish except whitefish, trout, and black bass. Lake trout, pickerel, and perch were added to the minimum size list at $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., 1 lb., and 4 oz. respectively. Allows the U.S. Fish Commission to catch fish for fish cultural purposes at any time.
- Act 196 Amends Act 151 of 1897 concerning a general closed season. General closed season for all lakes from October 30 through December 15. The fall open season for $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. trap and pound nets was extended twenty days from September 1 through December 15.
- 1901 Act 100 Allows the use of pound and trap nets with meshes not less than 2 in. in the pot, crib, or pocket for perch, herring, and other fish in Green Bay waters from September 1 through July 1.

- 1901 Act 100 Gill nets with meshes not less than 3 and 1/8 in. legal for menominees during same season and waters.
Above mentioned gear not to take more than 10% whitefish or trout as shown in Act 88 of 1899.
- 1901 Act 182 Prohibits the use of nets, except dip nets, in the waters connecting Lakes Huron and Superior. From April 1 through May 15 walleye and pickerel may be taken with dip nets in a specified area between Lime Island and the Munuscong River.
- Act 185 Revises Act 200 of 1895 concerning the Saginaw River.
Closed season changed to April 15 through November 15.
Fish to be sorted at nets, holding small or protected species prohibited.
Other provisions same as Act 200.
- 1903 Act 13 Use of seines, gill nets, pound, trap, sweep, or set nets illegal in Munising Bay Area, Lake Superior.
- Act 78 Amends Act 151 of 1897 concerning mesh sizes and closed seasons.
Closed season for all lakes changed to October 30 through December 15.
The fall season for 2½ in. mesh trap and pound nets has been changed to September 1 through December 15.
- Act 79 Amends Act 185 of 1901 concerning the Saginaw River.
Closed season changed to April 15 through November 1.
Perch and pickerel protected during first 15 days of November.
- Act 108 Prohibits the use of submarine trap nets in Michigan waters on/after January 1, 1905.
- Act 110 Allows fishing for perch, herring, and other rough fish in the waters of Lake Huron and the St. Clair River north of the Black River from September 1 through January 1. Seines or trap and pound nets with not less than 2½ in. mesh in the pot may be used.
Gill nets with meshes not less than 3½ in. may be used in the same waters during the same season for menominee where it does not interfere with whitefish or trout.
- 1903 Act 118 Prohibits setting nets of any kind in certain waters of False Presque Isle Bay, Lake Huron, to allow free passage of spawning fish.

- 1903 Act 124 Amends Act 277 of 1897 concerning Wildfowl Bay, Lake Huron. Defines the limits of the bay and the entrance to the bay. Fishing with nets prohibited within defined limits.
- Act 188 Allows fishing herring and other rough fish in the waters of Lake Huron and Thunder Bay bordering the counties of Presque Isle, Alpena, and Alcona. Open seasons from April 1 through July 15 and from September 1 through December 15. Fishing must not interfere with whitefish or trout. Nets with mesh sizes as required by general law must be used.
- 1905 Act 9 Allows the use of gill nets with meshes not less than 2½ in. for catching herring at the mouth of the St. Mary's River in Lake Superior until July 15, 1905.
- Act 178 Repeals Act 185 of 1901 and incorporates all amendments into a new act.
Channel 1/3 the width of the river at the low water to be kept free of nets. No nets are to extend more than 1/3 way across the river. Clear channel to be in deepest area of river. Closed season from April 15 through November 1. No nets may be used in any tributaries of the Saginaw River except hand dip nets and pound nets with meshes not less than 3 in. in the pot. Only bullheads, suckers, carp, perch, and reddsides may be taken. Trammel nets are prohibited. Perch must be 8 in. long, pike, pickerel, and catfish must be 1 lb. Black bass are not to be sold. Fish are to be sorted at nest, not held.
- 1905 Act 275 Allows fishing perch, herring, and other rough fish in Keweenaw Bay, Lake Superior, from September 1 through July 1. Pound net meshes must be not less than 2 in. in the pot and gill net meshes must be not less than 2 and 3/8 in. Fishing must not interfere with whitefish or trout.
- Act 314 Prohibits fishing with nets of any kind in that part of Little Traverse Bay, Lake Michigan, known as Little Traverse Harbor.
- Act 315 Permits taking of herring in Lake Michigan waters bordering the counties of Mason, Oceana, Muskegon, Ottawa, Allegan, Benzie, Leelanau, Manistee, Berrien, and Van Buren. Herring may be taken at any time of the year up to 30 miles from shore in nets with meshes not less than 2 and 3/4 in.

- 1905 Act 324 Prohibits fishing with nets in parts of
Thunder Bay, Lake Huron.
- 1907 Act 5 Repeals Act 275 of 1905 concerning fishing in
Keweenaw Bay, Lake Superior.
New act has same provisions as previous one.
Area included now takes in not only Keweenaw
Bay but also waters adjacent to Marquette
County.
- Act 83 Amends Act 315 of 1905 concerning herring fishing.
Waters of the Straits of Mackinac and Lake Huron
bordering the counties of Charlevoix, Cheboygan,
and Emmet are added to the 30 mile limit, year
around season for herring fishing.
- Act 102 Prohibits fishing with nets, set lines, or
spears in Little Bay de Noquette, Lake Michigan.
- 1907 Act 114 Provides for open channels between nets in
Saginaw and Tawas Bays. Numerous descriptions
of areas where and where not nets may be set.
- Act 128 Allows for fishing for carp, suckers, mullets,
and dog fish in Lake St. Clair.
Nets of a mesh not less than 4 in. must be used.
- Act 153 Regulates and licenses tugs, launches, and boats
used in fishing. Rowboats are exempt from
all license fees.
Residents have the following rates:
For steam tugs with steam net lifters
\$25.00 per year
For steam tugs without steam net lifters
\$10.00 per year
For other boats (except rowboats)
\$10.00 per year
For sailboats \$1.00 per year
Non-residents have the following rates:
For steam tugs with steam net lifters
\$200.00 per year
For steam tugs without steam net lifters
\$100.00 per year
For other boats (except rowboats)
\$50.00 per year
For sailboats \$2.00 per year
For corporate interests, if less than 51% of the
fishing operation was owned by residents the
entire operation was considered non-resident.
- Act 194 Permits catching herring and other rough fish
in Lake Michigan waters bordering counties
of Delta, Schoolcraft, and Mackinac from
November 20 through December 15 up to 3 miles
from shore.

1907 Act 212 Amends one section of Act 13 of 1903 concerning
Munising Bay, Lake Superior.
Redefines no fishing area in more exact terms.

1909 Act 213 Section 1 - Fish in the Great Lakes declared to
be property of the State of Michigan. They
are to be taken, transported, sold, and
possessed only in accordance with state law.
Section 2 - It is unlawful to set nets in any
of the connecting waters of Lake Superior and
Lake Huron or Lake Huron and Lake Erie. It
is also unlawful to set any net within 50
rods of the mouth of any river or lake outlet
entering any of the Great Lakes.

Section 3 - Mesh size regulations

Gill nets

For whitefish and trout:

not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.

For longjaws, chubs, blackfins, siscowets
in 60 fathoms or more water:

not less than 3 and $\frac{1}{8}$ in.

For perch, herring, chubs, and other rough
fish:

not less than 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Gill nets of smaller mesh than $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.

are not to take or interfere with whitefish
or trout.

Pound nets

For whitefish and trout:

not less than 4 in. in the pot, crib,
or pocket.

not less than 5 in. in the lead, funnel,
or heart.

For pickerel, perch, walleye, chubs, herring,
and other rough fish:

not less than 2 and $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in the pot,
crib, or pocket.

not less than 4 in. in the lead, funnel,
or heart.

Seines

For whitefish and trout:

not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.

For pickerel, perch, walleye, chubs, herring,
and other rough fish:

not less than 4 in. in the wings not less
than $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in the bag or pocket.

Pound nets and seines with a smaller mesh than
is legal for whitefish and trout are not to
catch more than 10% whitefish and trout on
an annual basis.

Hoopfyke and gobbler nets are considered the
same as pound and trap nets. Part of any
set net must be at surface or it is considered
a submarine trap net.

Submarine trap nets are illegal.

- 1909 Act 213 (Cont.)
- Section 4 - All nets legal under present fishing laws are legal until January 1, 1912.
- Section 5 - Closed season on whitefish and trout in all lakes from November 20 through December 15.
- Section 6 - Spawn from whitefish, trout, and walleye is to be saved, impregnated, and delivered to the state game, fish, and forest warden during spawning seasons.
- Section 7 - Fish shipments are to be marked with name of consignor and consignee.
- Section 8 - Minimum legal size requirements for fish species:
- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| whitefish | 2 lbs. round |
| | 1 lb. 10 oz. dressed |
| lake trout | 1½ lb. round |
| | 1¼ lb. dressed |
| walleye | 1 lb. |
| perch | 5 oz. |
| sucker (mullet) | 13 in. |
- Section 9 - Protected species:
Black bass, white, green, strawberry bass, brook, brown, rainbow trout.
- Section 10 - Sturgeon must weigh 20 lbs. in the round.
- Section 11 - Nets must be marked with name and address of the owner.
- Section 12 - Fisherman must keep records of the number of lbs. of each kind of fish taken annually and report it to the state game, fish, and forest warden on or before February 1 each year.
- Section 13 - Fines
- Section 14 - Repeals all previous acts inconsistent with this act.
- 1911 Act 34 Amends section 2 of Act 213 of 1909. Makes a minor change in the boundaries of the connecting waters of Lake Huron and Lake Erie.
- Act 188 Permits the use of pound nets with meshes not less than 2 in. for taking perch, herring, and other rough fish and gill nets with meshes not less than 3 and 1/8 in. for menominees in the Green Bay waters of Delta and Menominee Counties from September 1 through July 1. This gear is not to interfere with or take whitefish, trout, or walleyes.
- 1913 Act 97 Amends sections 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, and 12 of Act 213 of 1909. Amended sections contain the following provisions:

1913 Act 97
(Cont.)

Section 2 - For rivers large enough to be navigated by vessels drawing 10 feet or more it is unlawful to set any nets within 160 rods on either side of the mouth extending two miles from shore. For all other rivers it is unlawful to set any nets 40 rods on either side of the mouth extending two miles from shore. Outlets from inland lakes are considered as rivers.

Section 3 - Mesh size regulations

Gill nets

For whitefish and trout:

not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.

For longjaws, chubs, blackfins, and siscowets in 60 fathoms or more water:

not less than 3 and $\frac{1}{8}$ nor more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ in.

For perch, herring, chubs, and other rough fish whenever they do not take more than 15% or more immature trout and whitefish:

not less than 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ in.

For baitfish:

not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ nor more than 2 in.

For blue-back herring from November 1 through December 15 where it does not interfere with whitefish or trout:

not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Pound nets

For whitefish and trout:

not less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. in the pot, crib, or pocket except for the back which can be not less than 2 in.

not less than 4 in. in the heart.

not less than 5 in. in the lead.

For pickerel, perch, herring, and other rough fish where the season catch does not include more than 10% mature trout and whitefish:

not less than $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in the pot, crib, or pocket except for the back which can be not less than 2 in. not less than 4 in. in the lead and heart.

For herring from October 1 through June 15 where it does not interfere with or catch immature whitefish and trout:

not less than 2 in. in the pot, etc.

not less than 4 in. in the lead and heart.

Seines

For pickerel, perch, walleye, chubs, herring, and other rough fish where the catch does not exceed 10% trout and whitefish annually:

not less than 4 in. in the wings.

not less than $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in the pocket or bag.

Pocket or bag not to extend more than $\frac{1}{4}$ the length of the seine.

- 1913 Act 97 (Cont.) Section 5 - Closed seasons
 For trout - from October 10 through November 1
 For whitefish - from November 20 through December 15.
- Section 8 - Minimum legal size requirements for fish species:
- | | |
|------------|------------------------------|
| whitefish | 2 lbs. round |
| | 1 lb. 10 oz. dressed |
| | 1 lb. 4 oz. dressed w/o head |
| lake trout | 1½ lb. round |
| | 1¼ lb. dressed |
| walleye | 1 lb. |
| perch | 5 oz. |
| sucker | 1 lb. |
| grass pike | 1 lb. |
| catfish | 2 lb. |
| bullhead | 8 oz. |
- Section 9 - Protected species:
 black bass, rainbow, brown, and brook trout.
- Section 12 - Fisherman to report number of quarts of spawn as well as pounds of each kind of fish taken annually. Fish must be brought to a port or place in Michigan before they be shipped out of state to market.
- Act 121 Repeals Act 13 of 1903 as amended by Act 212 of 1907 concerning no fishing in the Munising Bay area.
- 1913 Act 365 Amends sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 of Act 153 of 1907 concerning commercial fishing tug license fees.
- Residents have the following rates:
- | | |
|---|---|
| For sailboats | \$5.00 per year |
| For boats powered by steam, gas, naphtha, or electricity weighing less than 5 ton | \$10.00 per year |
| For similar boats weighing over 5 ton | \$2.00 per ton per year |
| | not to exceed \$50.00 per boat per year |
| For fishing under ice or using rowboat only | \$1.00 per year |
- Non-residents have the following rates:
- | | |
|--|--|
| For sailboats | \$25.00 per year |
| For boats powered by steam, gas, naphtha, or electricity weighing less than 10 ton | \$50.00 per year |
| For similar boats weighing over 10 ton | \$5.00 per ton per year |
| | not to exceed \$200.00 per boat per year |
| For fishing under ice or using rowboat only | \$100.00 per year |

- 1913 Act 365 (Cont.) For corporate interests, if less than 75% of the fishing operation is owned by residents the entire operation is considered non-resident.
- 1915 Act 262 Provides for the removal of obnoxious fish in the Great Lakes under permit issued by the State Game, Fish, and Forest Warden.
- 1917 Act 162 Amends section 8 of Act 213 of 1909 concerning minimum legal size requirements. Size requirement for perch changed from 5 oz. weight to 9 in. length.
- Act 342 Amends Act 114 of 1907 concerning setting nets in Saginaw and Tawas Bays. Allows for setting of gill nets only during month of April.
- 1917 Act 365 Amends section 2 of Act 213 of 1909 concerning connecting waters of the Great Lakes and no fishing zones near river mouths. Redefines connecting waters between Lake Superior and Lake Huron and Lake Huron and Lake Erie. For rivers large enough to be navigated by vessels drawing 10 feet or more it is unlawful to place any nets which will extend more than 1 mile from shore within 1 mile on either side of the mouth of the river. This is in addition to the 160 rod and 40 rod rules set in the original legislation, Act 213 of 1909.
- 1919 Act 141 Allows fishing with set hooks and spears in Great Lakes and connecting waters.
- Act 159 Repeals Act 188 of 1875 and Act 342 of 1917. Updates Act 213 of 1909 by combining amendments and adding several more sections. Section 1 - Fish in the Great Lakes declared to be property of the State of Michigan. They are to be taken, transported, sold, and possessed only in accordance with state law. Section 2 - It is unlawful to place nets in the connecting waters of Lake Superior and Lake Huron or Lake Huron and Lake Erie. Section 3 - It is unlawful to set any nets within 160 rods of the mouth of any river navigable by vessels drawing 10 feet or more. It is unlawful to set any nets within 40 rods of any river or inland lake outlet entering the Great Lakes. Net free zone to extend 2 miles into the lake at right angles from the shore resulting in a no fishing zone 1 mile by 2 miles for the larger rivers and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile by 2 miles for the smaller rivers.

- 1919 Act 159 (Cont.)
- Section 4 - Prohibits setting nets or set hooks extending more than 1 mile from shore 1 mile on either side of a river navigable for vessels drawing 10 feet or more. Shore is deemed to start where the water is 4 feet deep.
- Section 5 - Allows the use of set hooks in the Great Lakes. Allows the use of 1½ to 2 in. mesh gill nets for securing bait provided they do not take immature fish.
- Section 6 - Mesh size regulations
Mesh size regulations are identical to those found in section 3 of Act 97 of 1913. Submarine trap nets are illegal.
- Section 7 - Closed seasons
For lake trout - from October 10 through November 8
For whitefish - from November 20 through December 15
- Section 8 - The state may take lake trout or whitefish at any time for fish cultural purposes when it is determined that 40% of the fish are ripe and ready to spawn.
- Section 9 - Fishermen catching whitefish, lake trout, or walleye during the spawning season strip all fish, impregnate the eggs, and deliver them to the State Game, Fish, and Forest Warden.
- Section 10 - State to supply U.S. Bureau of Fisheries with spawn for fish plantings in Michigan waters of Great Lakes.
- Section 11 - State may sell fish taken in fish cultural operations to help defray expenses.
- Section 12 - Fish shipments are to be marked with the name of the consignor and consignee, kinds of fish, and the number of pounds of each kind, if 10% or more of shipment is improperly marked the entire shipment is illegal.
- Section 13 and 14 - Concerns fish shipment carriers and shipment inspection.
- Section 15 - Minimum legal size requirements for fish species:
- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| whitefish | 2 lbs. round | |
| | 1 lb. 10 oz. dressed | |
| | 1 lb. 6 oz. dressed w/o head | |
| lake trout | 1½ lbs. round | |
| | 1¼ lbs. dressed | |
| fat trout | 2 lbs. round | |
| perch | 9 in. | |
| mullet, grass pike, & walleye | 1 lb. | |
| catfish | 2 lb. | |
| bullhead | 8 oz. | |
| rockbass | 5 oz. | |
| sunfish and bluegill | 4 oz. | |

- 1919 Act 159 (Cont.)
- Section 16 - Immature fish to be released with as little injury as possible. Immature fish are those smaller than the minimum legal size.
- Section 17 - Protected species:
Black bass, brook, brown, and rainbow trout
- Section 18 - Minimum legal size requirement for sturgeon is 20 lbs. round and 14 lbs. dressed.
- Section 19 - All fishing devices to be marked with name, license number, etc.
- Section 20 - Fish must be brought to a port or place in Michigan for possible inspection before they can be shipped to out of state markets.
- Section 21 - Fish to be available for sale at port or place of business for not more than 2 cents over wholesale price.
- Section 22 - State may buy fish from fishermen for cultural purposes at current market prices.
- Section 23 - Fishermen must keep accurate accounts of catch to include the number of pounds of each kind of fish, spawn, and caviar taken per calendar year. Report due before February 1 each year to State Game, Fish, and Forest Commissioner.
- Section 24 - Fines
- 1921 Act 225
- Amends sections 4, 6, 7, 15, and 17 of Act 159 of 1919. Amended sections contain the following changes in provisions:
- Section 4 - The shore starts at the mean or low water mark rather than at a 4 foot depth.
- Section 6 - Gill nets with meshes from 3 and 1/8 to 3 1/2 in. used for longjaws, chubs, herring, and fat trout are no longer legal for use.
- Section 7 - No significant changes.
- Sections 15 and 17 - Rock bass, sunfish, and bluegills taken off the minimum legal size list and added to the protected species list along with crappies.
- Act 245
- Amends Act 365 of 1913 concerning fishing tug licenses.
- Allows transferring the license of a disabled tug, launch, or boat to a similar tug, etc. Permission must be obtained from the Director of Conservation.
- 1921 Act 279
- Prohibits fishing with nets, set hooks, etc. in Duncan Bay, Lake Huron.
- Act 17
- Establishes Michigan Department of Conservation. Effective March 30, 1921.
- Act 164
- Abolishes the State Board of Fish Commissioners; powers and duties transferred to the Department of Conservation May 17, 1921.

- 1923 Act 44 Amends sections 4 and 15 of Act 159 of 1919.
Amended sections contain the following changes in provisions:
Section 4 - Mean or low water mark changed to average low water mark in shore definition.
Section 15 - Minimum legal size requirements:
Grass pike changed from 1 to 2 lbs.
Walleye changed from 1 to 1½ lbs.
- Act 62 Amends Act 279 of 1921 concerning no fishing in Duncan Bay, Lake Huron.
No fishing area redefined.
- Act 75 Amends Act 153 of 1907 concerning licensing of fishing boats.
Non-resident fees increased to the following rates:
For sailboats \$50.00 per year
For boats powered by steam, gas, naptha, or electricity weighing less than 10 ton \$100.00 per year
For similar boats weighing over 10 ton \$15.00 per ton per year not to exceed \$400.00 per boat per year
For fishing under ice or using rowboat only \$200.00 per year
- Act 120 Amends section 7 of Act 159 of 1919. The amended section concerns closed seasons.
The closed season on lake trout is changed to October 10 through November 4.
- Act 182 Prohibits catching perch with nets and the use of nets with meshes smaller than 4 in. in portions of Grand Traverse Bay, Lake Michigan.
- 1925 Act 95 Prohibits fishing with nets of any kind in certain portions of Tawas Bay, Lake Huron.
- Act 275 Prohibits fishing with any device other than hook and line in parts of the Straits of Mackinac near St. Ignace, Michigan.
- Act 276 Prohibits taking of perch with nets and setting of nets within 200 feet of any dock or pier in parts of Suttons Bay, Lake Michigan.
- Act 277 Prohibits fishing with nets other than 4½ in. gill nets in Northport Harbor, Grand Traverse Bay, Lake Michigan.
- Act 278 Prohibits fishing in any other manner other than hook and line in certain portions of Keweenaw Bay, Lake Superior.

- 1925 Act 279 Prohibits fishing in any other manner other than hook and line in Huron Bay, Lake Superior.
- 1927 Act 85 Prohibits setting nets of any kind for perch within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of any public dock in Great Lakes waters.
- Act 158 Amends sections 6, 7, 9, 17, and 23 of Act 159 of 1919. Amended sections contain the following changes in provisions:
 Section 6 - Mesh size regulations
Gill nets
 For whitefish, lake trout, and walleye:
 not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.
 For herring, chubs, perch, and menominee where and when nets do not take more than 10% of other species:
 not less than 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ in.
 For blue-back herring from November 1 through December 15 when nets are set 2 fathoms below surface in waters not less than 10 fathoms deep:
 not less than $2\frac{1}{4}$ in.
 Gill nets are not to be of a greater width or depth than 11 feet.
Pound nets and seines
 No significant changes occurred in these types of gear.
 Section 7 - Closed seasons
 For walleye - from January 1 through April 1
 For suckers - from April 15 through May 15
 For perch - from April 15 through June 15
 For Grass Pike - April 1 through June 1
 Section 9 - Perch now included in the spawn gathering and impregnating program.
 Section 17 - Muskellunge and sturgeon added to the protected species list.
 Section 23 - Fishermans license may be denied or suspended if he fails to submit a proper catch report when due.
- Act 346 Allows fishing for suckers from December 15 through April 15 in Little Bay de Noquette with pound nets with not less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. mesh in the pot or pocket. Nets are to be lifted only under supervision of a representative of the Dept. of Conservation.
- 1929 Act 84 Repeals 22 previous acts including Act 153 of 1907 concerning licenses and fees and Act 159 of 1919 concerning general fishing laws. Combines all aspects of commercial fishing laws into one act.

1929

Act 84
(Cont.)

Section 1 - All fish found in the Michigan waters of the Great Lakes are declared to be property of the state and are to be taken, sold, transported, and possessed only in accordance with state law.

Section 2 - Prohibits setting any nets in any of the connecting waters of Lake Superior and Lake Huron or Lake Huron and Lake Erie. Describes the boundaries of these connecting waters.

Section 3 - Prohibits fishing with nets, set hooks, etc. in areas near the mouths of rivers entering the Great Lakes. For smaller rivers the no fishing area is to extend 40 rods on either side of the mouth of the river and 2 miles into the lake. For larger rivers, capable of being navigated by vessels drawing 10 feet or more, the no fishing area is to extend 160 rods ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile) on either side of the mouth of the river extending one mile into the lake and 1 mile on either side of the mouth of the river for a second mile extending into the lake.

Section 4 - Allows the use of set hooks and spears for the purpose of taking fish and allows the use of gill nets with meshes from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 in. to secure bait. Fish taken in such bait nets are not to be sold.

Section 5 - Mesh size regulations

Gill nets

For lake trout, whitefish, and walleye:
not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.

For herring, chubs, perch, and menominee where and when nets do not take more than 10% of other fish:

not less than 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ nor more than 2 and $\frac{7}{8}$ in.

For blue-back herring from November 1 through December 15 when nets are set more than 2 fathoms from the surface in waters not less than 10 fathoms deep. Nets not to interfere with or take whitefish or trout:
not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ in.

For blue-back herring from January 1 through April 1 under the ice:
not less than $2\frac{1}{4}$ in.

For securing bait for set hooks where and when nets will not take undersize or immature fish:

not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ nor more than 2 in.

Sound dead undersized fish taken in gill nets are to be delivered to a representative of the director of conservation. Up to 3 cents per pound will be paid for handling fish.

1929

Act 84
(Cont.)Pound nets

For lake trout, whitefish, and walleye:
 not less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. in the front,
 sides, and bottom of the pot.
 not more than 2 in. in the back of
 the pot.
 not less than 5 in. in the lead.
 not less than 4 in. in the heart.

For perch, herring, walleye, and other
 rough fish:

not less than $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in the front,
 sides, and bottom of the pot
 not more than 2 in. in the back of
 the pot.
 not less than 4 in. in the lead, heart.

For herring only from October 1 through June 15

Not to interfere with lake trout and whitefish

not less than 2 in. in the pot.

not less than 4 in. in the lead, heart.

Whitefish and lake trout taken in nets with
 meshes smaller than $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. are to be returned
 to the water uninjured.

Trap nets, hoop fyke nets, finnish nets, gobbler
 nets, etc. are considered pound nets.

Trap nets legal for use.

Seines

For grass pike, walleye, perch, herring,
 chubs, and other rough fish where nets do
 not take whitefish or lake trout:
 not less than 4 in. in the wings
 not less than $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in the bag or
 pocket. Bag or pocket not to extend
 for more than $\frac{1}{4}$ in length of the seine.

Seines not to be used in the connecting waters
 of the Great Lakes.

Section 6 - Closed seasons

For lake trout in all of Great Lakes except
 Lake Michigan - October 10 through November 4.

For lake trout in Lake Michigan - October
 20 through November 22.

For whitefish in all of Great Lakes except
 Lake Superior - November 5 through
 December 15.

For whitefish in Lake Superior -
 November 1 through December 26.

For walleye - January 1 through April 10.

For perch - April 15 through June 15.

For grass pike - April 1 through June 1.

Section 7 - The director of conservation may
 authorize the taking of whitefish, walleye,
 or lake trout for the purpose of fish culture
 any time when test nets show 20% females,
 40% which are ripe.

1929

Act 84
(Cont.)

Section 8 - During the spawning season, fishermen are to strip all ripe whitefish, lake trout, walleye, and perch caught, impregnate the eggs, and deliver them to a representative of the director of conservation.

Section 9 - State to supply U.S. Bureau of Fisheries with spawn for fish plantings in the Michigan waters of the Great Lakes.

Section 10 - Allows director of conservation to take fish in any manner for fish culture or scientific investigation.

Section 11 - Fish shipments and/or packages to be marked with name of consignor and consignee and kind and number of pounds of each kind in the shipment or package. If more than 10% is improperly marked the entire shipment is considered illegal.

Section 12 - Unmarked shipments considered property of common carrier.

Section 13 - Inspection not to delay shipment.

Section 14 - Minimum legal size requirements for fish species:

whitefish	2 lbs. round
	1 lb. 10 oz. dressed
	1 lb. 6 oz. dressed w/o head
lake trout	1½ lb. round
	1¼ lb. dressed
ciscowet	2 lbs. round
perch	9 in. long
sucker	1 lb. round
grass pike	2 lb. round
catfish	2 lb. round
bullhead	8 oz. round
walleye	1½ lb. round
blue pike	11 in. long

Section 15 - Undersized fish caught in pound nets and seines are to be returned to the water unharmed.

Section 16 - Protected species:

largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, warmouth bass, white bass, calico bass, crappies, bluegills, sunfish, green sunfish, brook, rainbow, and brown trout, muskellunge, and sturgeon.

Section 17 - Nets, set hook lines, etc. are to be marked with flags and buoys showing the boat, net, or line license number in plain figures.

Section 18 - Fish are to be brought to a port or place in Michigan for possible inspection before marketing out of state.

1929

Act 84
(Cont.)

Section 19 - Director of conservation may buy fish from any fisherman for fish cultural purposes. Price paid will be the current market price.

Section 20 - Fishermen are to keep accurate records on each days catch to be reported on blanks furnished by the director of conservation. Included are:

- 1) number of pounds of each kind taken
- 2) locality fished
- 3) kind and amount of gear employed
- 4) length of time gear was set
- 5) kind and amount of spawn taken
- 6) kind and amount of caviar taken

Section 21 - Fines

Commercial Fishing Licenses

Section 22 - License necessary to fish commercially

Section 23 - License application to include:

- 1) name and residence of applicant
- 2) manner in which applicant proposes to fish
- 3) name of tug, launch, or boat
- 4) gross tonnage of vessel
- 5) kinds of gear to be used

Section 24 - License fees

Residents have the following rates:

For fishing under the ice or without the use of a sailboat or powerboat:

\$10.00 per year

For sailboats or powerboats:

\$2.25 per ton per year
not less than \$14.00 nor
more than \$75.00 per
boat per year

Non-residents have the following rates:

For fishing under the ice or without the use of a sailboat or powerboat:

\$200.00 per year

For sailboats:

\$50.00 per year

For powerboats less than 10 ton:

\$100.00

For powerboats over 10 ton:

\$15.00 per ton per year
not to exceed \$400.00 per
per boat per year

For corporate interests if less than 75% of the fishing operation is owned by residents the entire operation is considered non-resident.

Section 25 - License to contain name, date of expiration, type of boat, and number of nets.

Section 26 - License to expire April 1 following issue.

Section 27 - Fines

1929 Act 84 Special Provisions
 (Cont.) Sections 28 through 45 - Commercial fishing
 is prohibited in the following areas:
 Northport Harbor
 Suttons Bay
 portions of Grand Traverse Bay within
 ½ mile of a public dock (perch only)
 Wildfowl Bay
 portions of Saginaw and Tawas Bays
 False Presque Isle Bay
 Thunder Bay
 Whitney Bay
 portions of the Straits of Mackinac
 near St. Ignace
 Les Cheneaux Channels
 Little Traverse Bay
 Little Bay de Noquette
 Keweenaw Bay
 Huron Bay
 Tawas Bay
 Duncan Bay
 Munising Bay
 Murray Bay
 Section 46 - Allows for taking of baitfish.
 Section 47 and 48 - Fines
 Section 49 - List of acts repealed:

<u>ACT</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
70	1889
277	1897
13	1903
118	1903
314	1905
324	1905
102	1907
114	1907
153	1907
121	1913
262	1915
141	1919
159	1919
279	1921
182	1923
95	1925
275-279	1925
85	1927

Section 50 - Act 350 of 1865 is not repealed.
 Sections 51 and 52 - Saving clauses

1931 Act 159 Amends section 38 of Act 84 of 1929 concerning
 fishing in the Les Cheneaux Channels
 Allows fishing for whitefish and trout using
 gill nets in parts of protected waters.
 Allows taking of herring and menominees for
 use as bait using gill nets with 2 to 2½ in.
 mesh in same waters during January,
 February, and March.

- 1931 Act 180 Repeals section 28 of Act 84 of 1929 concerning fishing in Northport Harbor.
Prohibits catching perch with nets in harbor. No nets of any kind may be set within 200 feet of any dock in the harbor.
- Act 92 Prohibits fishing with nets in Whaiska Bay. Includes bay in connecting waters of Lake Superior and Lake Huron.
- 1933 Act 255 Amends sections 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 14, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 35, 44, and 48 of Act 84 of 1929.
Amended sections contain the following changes in provisions:
Section 1 - Essentially the same.
Section 2 - Allows the use of set hooks in Lake St. Clair. Not more than 100 hooks per person for catfish, bullheads, suckers, and other noxious fish only.
Section 2a - Allows any person to fish by hook and line without a license in the Great Lakes or connecting waters.
Section 3 - Allows spearing through the ice in connecting waters of the Great Lakes.
Section 5 - Mesh size regulations
Gill nets
For whitefish, trout, and walleye in Lake Erie only:
not less than 4 and 3/4 in.
For herring, chubs, perch, and menominees:
not less than 2 and 5/8 in. nor more than 2 and 3/4 in.
For herring, chubs, perch, and menominees when Wisconsin requires it in Lake Michigan:
not less than 2 and 3/4 in. nor more than 2 and 7/8 in.
For herring, chubs, perch, and menominees in Lake Huron until Ontario requires not less than 2 and 3/4 in. nets. Must be set in 50 fathoms or more water. Not to take more than 10% other species:
not less than 2 1/2 in.
Season of November 1 through December 15 for use of not less than 2 1/2 in. for blue-back herring is dropped. Nets may be used at any time but not to interfere with whitefish or lake trout.
- Pound and trap nets
For whitefish, trout, and walleye:
not less than 4 1/2 in. in the pot, crib, pocket, heart, or tunnel.

1933

Act 255
(Cont.)

Section 5 - Mesh size regulations (cont.)

Pound and trap nets

For whitefish, trout, and walleye:
 not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. in the pot,
 crib, pocket, heart, or tunnel.
 not less than 5 in. in the lead.
 schoaling twine of not more than
 $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. may be used in the bottom and
 one side or back of pot, not to
 exceed 5 feet in depth and width.

For fish other than whitefish and trout:
 not less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. in the pot,
 crib, or pocket.

not less than 4 in. in the heart and
 lead.

this type net not to be set in over
 15 feet of water.

If less than 12% whitefish and trout are
 taken annually in a fishing area
 it is designated as a rough fish area
 and $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. nets may be used.
 Saginaw Bay described as a rough
 fish area.

Seines

No changes.

Section 6 - Changes in closed seasons

For walleye in all waters except Lake
 Huron - March 10 through May 1.

For walleye in Lake Huron - March 1
 through April 10.

For perch - April 15 through May 15.

For grass pike - April 1 through May 1.

For chubs when Wisconsin enacts similar
 season - October 15 through November 13.

For white bass in all waters except
 Lake Michigan - December 11 through
 February 28.

For white bass in Lake Michigan - Closed
 year around.

Section 8 - No significant change.

Section 14 - Changes in minimum legal size
 requirements for fish species:

whitefish	2 lbs. round
	1 lb. 12 oz. dressed
ciscowet	$1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. round
walleye	$16\frac{1}{2}$ in.
white bass	9 in.

Section 15 - No significant changes.

Section 16 - White bass is no longer on the
 protected species list.Section 17 - Flags no longer necessary for
 marking nets.

- 1933 Act 255 Section 18 - Fish may be inspected in a port
(Cont.) or place outside Michigan provided that
state has similar laws.
Section 22 - No significant changes.
Section 23 - License fees to be based on over-
all length of boat for residents only.
Section 24 - License fee changes
Residents have the following rates:
For fishing under the ice or with a
rowboat less than 16 feet in length:
\$10.00 per year
For fishing with a boat 16 feet or longer:
\$ 0.65 per foot per year
plus \$ 1.00 per ton per year
for boats over 10 ton, not to
exceed \$75.00 per boat per year
Non-resident fees remain the same.
Section 25 - For a \$1.00 fee a license may be
transferred to another boat or owner if:
a) licensed boat is disabled and undergoing
repairs
b) licensed boat is sold
c) licensed boat is destroyed by fire,
collision, etc.
If license is transferred to a larger boat
or from a resident to a non-resident difference
in fees must also be paid. No refunds to be
made for such changes.
Section 26 - Licenses expire on June 13.
Section 35 - No significant changes.
Section 41a. - Prohibits the use of nets in
Portage Lake ship channel.
Section 44 - Allows the use of spears and
hook and line in Duncan Bay.
Section 48 - Fishing license revoked if convicted
of three violations in one year.
- 1934 Act 25 An emergency act to conserve the fisheries of
the state and provide jobs for residents.
Licenses granted to residents of 1 year or more
only. Perch to be a minimum of 9 in.
Trap and pound nets prohibited in waters
greater than 80 feet in depth.
- 1935 Act 179 Prohibits commercial fishing in Lake Huron within
3 miles of Ft. Gratiot light.
- Act 235 Amends sections 5, 14, and 24 of Act 84 of
1929. Changes are as follows:
Section 5 - No significant change.
Section 14 - Minimum legal size requirements for
perch now 9 in. or 2½ oz. fillets.

- 1935 Act 235 Section 24 - License fees for residents in-
(Cont.) creased.
For residents operating with boats 16 feet or longer the fee is increased to \$0.80 a foot per year plus \$1.00 a ton per year if the boat is over 10 ton, not to exceed \$75.00 per boat per year.
For corporate interests if any fishing equipment is owned by a non-resident the entire operation is considered non-resident.
- Act 221 Allows taking fish other than whitefish and trout in Lake Michigan and Lake Superior in waters less than 50 feet deep with trap and pound nets having meshes not exceeding 3½ in. in the pot and 4 in. in the heart and lead.
Prohibits covered cribs or pots on trap and pound nets used in Lakes Michigan and Superior.
- Act 74 Amends section 38 of Act 84 of 1929 concerning Les Cheneaux Channels.
Redefines no fishing area.
- Act 203 Adds section 33a. to Act 84 of 1929. Prohibits fishing in Marquette Bay between Presque Isle breakwater and Chocalay River.
- Act 248 Amends Act 180 of 1931 concerning fishing in Northport Harbor. Redefines no fishing area.
- Act 205 Repeals parts of Act 25 of 1934 allowing only residents to obtain commercial fishing license and describing minimum size requirements for perch.
- 1937 Act 111 Amends section 41 of Act 84 of 1929 concerning Keweenaw Bay. Allows fishing with gill nets for chubs to use as bait. Redefines Keweenaw Bay.
- Act 274 Amends section 24 of Act 84 of 1929 concerning fishing licenses.
Director of conservation not to issue licenses to residents of other states having laws which do not conform to those of Michigan concerning nets, gear, size and weight of fish, etc.
- Act 338 Amends section 33 of Act 84 of 1929. Redefines Saginaw and Tawas Bays; where and where not fishing is allowed.
- Act 348 Amends sections 5, 6, 14, 17, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, and 48 of Act 84 of 1929.
Changes are as follows:
Section 5 - Subsection added describing how mesh size is to be measured.

- 1937 Act 348 (Cont.) Section 6 - Closed seasons
 For lake trout in all waters except Lake Michigan - October 1 through October 31.
 For lake trout in Lake Michigan - October 10 through November 10.
 For whitefish in all waters except Lake Superior and Huron - November 5 through December 10.
 For whitefish in Lake Superior - November 1 through November 26.
 For whitefish in Lake Huron - November 1 through December 1.
 For walleye in all waters except Lakes Erie and Huron - April 1 through May 20.
 For walleye in Lakes Erie and Huron - March 5 through April 10.
 For perch - April 15 through June 1.
 For chubs - October 15 through November 20.
 For suckers - April 15 through May 15.
 Section 14 - Minimum legal size requirements for perch changed to 8½ in. or 2½ oz. fillets and for northern pike (grass pike) changed to 20 inches.
 Section 17 - No significant change.
 Section 20 - Fishing license may be suspended by director of conservation if fisherman fails to report catch for 2 or more months. License to be restored when reports are submitted.
 Section 21 - Fines revised
 Section 22 - Persons operating inboard and outboard boats for hire in trolling for lake trout are required to obtain a license.
 Section 24 - Includes sport trollers for hire at \$10.00 per year. Residency requirements now 1 year.
 Section 25 - No refund to be made if license is transferred to a smaller boat.
 Section 26 - \$5.00 license required for operating a wholesale fish house or market.
 Section 27 - Fines revised.
 Section 48 - Fines revised.
- 1939 Act 140 Adds section 38a. to Act 84 of 1929. Prohibits commercial fishing in Potagannissing Bay, Lake Huron.
- Act 312 Amends sections 23 and 38 of Act 84 of 1929. Changes are as follows:
 Section 23 - License application to include:
 1) name and residence of applicant
 2) manner in which applicant will fish
 3) name or number of tug, boat, etc.
 4) overall length and tonnage of boat

- 1939 Act 312 Section 23 - License application (Cont.)
 (Cont.) 5) value of boat
 6) name of port
 7) number and kinds of nets, lines, etc.
 8) value of buildings and property used
 in the fishing operation
 Section 23a. - Fishermen may fish only within
 a 50 mile radius of their home port named in
 license.
 Section 38 - Redefines Les Cheneaux Channels
 as a no fishing zone.
- Act 321 Adds section 36a. to Act 84 of 1929. Prohibits
 commercial fishing in Pike Bay and Island
 Harbor near Drummond Island, Lake Huron.
- 1939 Act 339 Amends sections 2, 3, 5, 6, 11, 14, 16, and 24
 of Act 84 of 1929. Changes are as follows:
 Section 2 - Allows fishing with set hooks (one
 gang of not more than 100 hooks per person)
 in Lake St. Clair for catfish, bullheads,
 suckers, and noxious fish.
 Defines boundary between Lake Huron and Lake
 Michigan as a line drawn north from the old
 Mackinac Point Lighthouse.
 Allows for spearing of several species of fish
 in connecting waters of the Great Lakes.
 Section 5 - Mesh size regulations
Gill nets
 For chubs in Lakes Huron and Michigan
 until Ontario or other states require
 not less than 2 and 5/8 in. mesh:
 not less than 2½ in.
 For blue-back herring in Lake Superior:
 not less than 2 and 3/8 in.
 For bait fish:
 not less than 1¼ in. nor more than
 1 and 3/4 in.
Pound and trap nets
 For fish other than whitefish and trout:
 not less than 3½ in. in the lead,
 pot, crib, or pocket.
Seines
 No changes
 Section 6 - Closed seasons
 For lake trout in Lake Huron - October 1
 through October 31.
 For lake trout in Lake Superior -
 October 10 through November 4.
 For lake trout in Lake Michigan -
 October 10 through November 10.
 For herring in Lake Superior -
 July 15 through September 15.

- 1939 Act 339 Section 11 - No significant changes.
(Cont.) Section 14 - Minimum legal size requirements for perch changed to 8½ in. length, 1 and ¾ oz. fillets, and 5½ in. length minus head and tail; for walleye changed to 15½ in. length.
Section 16 - Protected species
Northern pike (grass pike) added to list.
Section 24 - License fees
Resident fees on 16 foot boat or larger changed to \$1.00 per foot per year plus \$1.00 per ton per year over 10 ton.
\$10.00 minimum to \$60.00 maximum per boat per year.
Section 40a. - No fishing in Garden Bay, Lake Michigan.
- 1941 Act 27 Amends section 6 of Act 84 of 1929. Allows spearing of walleye in Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and connecting waters during closed season for personal use.
Act 76 Amends section 6 of Act 84 of 1929. Closes all fishing in Lake Erie and lower Detroit River from December 1 through March 10.
- 1943 Act 39 Amends section 14 of Act 84 of 1929. Minimum legal size requirements for suckers changed to 12 in., for catfish 15 in., for bullheads 9 in., and for walleyes in Lake Erie 13 in.
- 1945 Act 81 Prohibits commercial fishing in refuge at Harbor Beach, Lake Huron.
Act 248 Amends section 39 of Act 84 of 1929 allowing dipping minnows with hand nets.
- 1947 Act 324 Amends sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 14, 16, 22, 24, and 31 of Act 84 of 1929. Changes are as follows:
Section 3 and 4 - No significant changes.
Section 5 - Mesh size regulations
Gill nets
For herring, chubs, perch, and menominees where and when they do not take more than 10% of other fish:
not less than 2½ in. nor more than 2 and ¾ in.
For blue-back herring in Lake Superior and Green bay of Lake Michigan:
not less than 2¼ nor more than 2 and ¾ in.
For smelt under permit from director:
not less than 1½ in. nor more than 1 and ¾ in.
Pound, trap, and seine nets
No changes

- 1947 Act 324 Section 5 - Mesh size regulations, cont.
(Cont.) Trap nets in Lake Huron and Erie are not to be set deeper than 80 feet. Same nets in Lakes Superior and Michigan not to be set deeper than 50 feet.
- Section 6 - Closed seasons
For walleye and northern pike in all waters except Lake Huron - April 1 through May 20.
For perch - April 15 through May 20.
For herring in Lake Superior - no closed season.
- Section 14 - Minimum legal size requirements for suckers changed to 14 in., catfish 17 in., catfish in Lake Erie 15 in., walleye 15½ in. or 9 oz. fillets, walleye in Lake Erie 13 in., northern pike 20 in., bullheads may be taken at any size.
- Section 16 - Protected species. Northern pike no longer on list.
- Section 24 - License fees
Rate for residents fishing without boat or rowboat less than 16 feet long raised to \$15.00 per year. Minimum fee now \$15.00, maximum fee \$75.00.
- Section 31 - Prohibits setting nets for any fish species within ½ mile of a public dock.
- Section 2a. of Act 255 of 1933 allowing sport fishing in Great Lakes without a license repealed.
- 1949 Act 58 Repeals Act 25 of 1934, the emergency act to conserve the fisheries of the state and to provide jobs for residents.
- Act 60 Repeals Act 221 of 1935 prohibiting covered pots and cribs on trap and pound nets in Lakes Superior and Michigan.
- Act 235 Amends and adds sections 20a., 30a., 32, 33a., 35, 36a., 37, 38, 38a., 39, 40, 40a., 41, 41a., 42, and 45 of Act 84 of 1929.
Changes are as follows:
Section 20a. - Fishermen are to file report to director in 24 hour period following open season of the kinds and number of fish in his possession. Subsequent shipments of such fish to be reported also.
Section 30a. Prohibits nets in Charlevoix Bay, Lake Michigan.
Sections 32 and remainder of above sections prohibit commercial fishing in:
parts of Saginaw Bay
parts of Marquette Bay
Thunder Bay

- 1949 Act 235 Sections 32 and remainder of above sections (Cont.)
(Cont.) prohibit commercial fishing in:
Pike Bay and Island Harbor
parts of the Straits of Mackinac
Les Cheneaux Channels
Potagannissing Bay
Little Traverse Bay
Little Bay de Noquette
Garden Bay
Keweenaw Bay and Portage Lake ship channel
Huron Bay, Munising Bay, Murray Bay
- 1951 Act 24 Amends section 38 of Act 84 of 1929 concerning no
commercial fishing in the Les Chaneaux
Channels. No significant changes.
- Act 194 Amends sections 3, 14, 16, 36a., 40, 41, and 42
of Act 84 of 1929. Changes are as follows:
Section 3 - No significant changes.
Section 14 - Minimum legal size requirement
for sturgeon added at 42 inches.
Section 16 - Sturgeon taken off protected species
list.
Section 36a., 40, 41a., and 42 - Spearing through
ice during January and February allowed in
Pike Bay, Island Harbor, Little Bay de Noquette,
Portage Lake ship channel, and Huron Bay.
- Act 269 Amends sections 5, 6, 17, 22, and 24 of Act 84
of 1929. Changes are as follows:
Section 5 - Change in the number of stakes
required for pound nets from 10 in 1947
(Act 324) to 7.
Section 6 - Closed seasons
For lake trout in Lake Michigan - October 10
through November 15
For chubs - November 1 through November 30
For suckers - April 15 through May 20
Section 17 and 22 - No significant changes.
Section 24 - License fees
For residents fishing without a boat or
with a rowboat less than 16 feet long fee
raised from \$15.00 to \$16.00. Minimum
\$16.00 fee, maximum \$75.00 per year.
Single crew not to exceed 4 men.
For non-residents fishing with boats weighing
less than 10 ton fee raised to \$350.00 per
year. If boat weighs over 10 ton fee is
\$35.00 per ton per year up to \$750.00 per
boat per year.
Section 25 - No significant change.
- Act 273 Amends section 38a. of Act 84 of 1929 prohibiting
fishing Potagannissing Bay, upper Lake Huron.

- 1952 Act 91 Amends section 23a. of Act 84 of 1929 prohibiting commercial fishing and sport trolling for hire outside 50 mile radius of home port designated on license.
- 1953 Act 195 Amends sections 5, 6, and 14 of Act 84 of 1929. Changes are as follows:
 Section 5 - Change in the number of stakes required for pound nets from 7 in 1951 (Act 269) to 5.
 Section 6 - Closed season for lake trout in Lake Superior changed to October 5 through November 4.
 Section 14 - Minimum legal size requirement for whitefish changed to 17 inch length.
- 1955 Act 16 Amends section 6 of Act 84 of 1929 removing the closed season on chubs.
- Act 218 Gives the conservation commission the power to suspend, abridge, extend, modify, increase, or decrease the open seasons and size limits on fish as established by Act 84 of 1929 concerning commercial fishing laws.
- 1956 Act 20 Amends section 6 of Act 84 of 1929. Establishes a closed season for perch in Saginaw Bay from April 15 through May 10.
- 1957 Act 23 Allows fishing with hook, line, and spear only in Harbor Beach Refuge.
- Act 31 Amends section 38 of Act 84 of 1929 concerning commercial fishing in the Les Cheneaux Channels.
- Act 109 Adds section 34a. to Act 84 of 1929. Prohibits commercial fishing in Presque Isle Harbor on Lake Huron.
- Act 277 Amends sections 2, 3, 5, 6, 14, 16, 24, and 32 of Act 84 of 1929. Changes are as follows:
 Section 2 - Redefines connecting waters of Great Lakes.
 Section 3 and 5 - No significant changes.
 Section 6 - Closed seasons, changes
 For lake trout and whitefish in Lakes Huron and Michigan - October 1 through December 10.
 For perch in Saginaw Bay - No closed season.
 For black crappie in Lake Huron - June 1 through August 25. Closed year around in all other lakes.
 Section 14 - Minimum legal size requirements for black crappie 7 inch length.
 Section 16 - Black crappie taken off protected species list.

- 1957 Act 277 Section 24 - License fees
(Cont.) Schedule of fees for residents same as 1951, Act 269.
Non-resident fees 5 times that of resident.
Section 32 - Describes no fishing areas in Saginaw Bay.
- 1958 Act 124 Amends sections 5, 6, and 23a. of Act 84 of 1929. Changes are as follows:
Section 5 - Mesh size regulations
Gill nets
For chubs, herring, perch, and menominees at any depth:
not less than 2½ in. nor more than 2 and ¾ in.
For same in waters not exceeding 100 feet in depth:
not less than 2½ in. nor more than 3 in.
For carp in Wildfowl Bay, Lake Huron:
not less than 8 in.
Mesh size regulations for other nets remains the same.
Section 6 - Closed season on suckers removed for Saginaw Bay waters.
Section 23a. - 50 mile radius rule amended to apply only to Lakes Erie, Superior, and parts of Michigan (Little Bay and Big Bay de Noquette and Green Bay).
- 1959 Act 40 Amends section 32 of Act 84 of 1929 concerning channels for free passage of fish in Saginaw Bay and portions of Tawas Bay.
- Act 154 Amends Act 218 of 1955.
Allows the conservation commission to suspend, abridge, extend, or modify the provisions of any statute or law concerning commercial fishing when such action is necessary for the protection, preservation, maintenance, or harvesting of fish in the Great Lakes.
- Act 253 Amends sections 5, 6, and 41 of Act 84 of 1929. Changes are as follows:
Section 5 - Mesh size regulations
Alewife included with smelt to be taken in 1½ to 1 and ¾ in. gill nets.
Section 6 - Closed season on perch in Lake Michigan from April 25 through June 1.
Section 41 - Prohibits fishing in Keweenaw Bay.
Repeals section 23a. (50 mile radius rule)
- 1962 Act 54 Amends section 42 of Act 84 of 1929. Allows spearing through the ice in January, February, and March in Huron Bay.

- 1966 Act 336 (Cont.) Amends section 1, (Cont.)
For financial remuneration to the state for fish taken for commercial purposes up to 5% of the market price for fish may be collected and credited to the fish and game protection fund.
Establishes a Great Lakes fishery advisory committee to advise the director of conservation. Committee of up to 9 members to be appointed by governor.
- 1967 Act 86 Amends sections 39 and 46 of Act 84 of 1929.
Allows the use of seines for minnows with the exception that seines may not be used within 100 feet of a public dock in Little Traverse Bay.
- 1970 Act 53 Amends sections 14 and 48 of Act 84 of 1929.
Changes are as follows:
Section 14 - Adds subsection on the importation and sale of commercial and game fish.
Fish to be processed outside the state, properly labeled, and sold in the same container as imported.
Section 48 - No significant changes.
- 1972 Act 109 Amends parts of section 1 of Act 84 of 1929 as added by Act 336 of 1966.
Allows director of conservation to proclaim any rules necessary for carrying out the provisions included in Act 336 of 1966.

ORDERS OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

- 1960 Order # 1. (Concerns section 5 of Act 84 of 1929)
Allows the use of trawls for taking chubs, herring, alewife, and smelt under special permit from the director of conservation.
- Order # 2. (Concerns section 5 of Act 84 of 1929)
Allows the use of gill nets with meshes less than 2½ in. for taking chubs, herring, alewife, and smelt under special permit from the director of conservation.
- Order # 3. (Concerns section 6 of Act 84 of 1929)
Closed seasons for:
whitefish in Lakes Huron and Michigan -
October 15 through December 10
whitefish in Lake Superior
November 1 through November 26
perch in Lakes Superior and Huron (except Saginaw Bay) and Green Bay -
April 15 through May 20
perch in Lake Michigan -
April 25 through June 1

- 1960 Orders of the Conservation Commission
- Order # 3, cont'd.
 Closed seasons for:
 perch in Saginaw Bay -
 no closed season
 black crappie in all waters but Lake Huron -
 closed year around
 black crappie in Lake Huron -
 no closed season
- Order # 4. (Concerns section 14 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Minimum size limit on catfish 15 in. length in all waters but Lake Erie. Minimum size limit on catfish in Lake Erie 14 in. length.
- 1961 Order # 5. (Concerns section 41 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Allows the use of nets in L'Anse Bay of Keweenaw Bay, Lake Superior, for smelt and alewife under special permit from the director of conservation.
- Order # 6. (Concerns section 45 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Same provisions as order # 5 for Munising Bay, Lake Superior.
- 1962 Order # 7. (Concerns section 6 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Lake trout are not to be taken commercially at any time in Lake Superior after June 1, 1962. Splake added to this ban in 1967.
- 1963 Order # 8. (Concerns sections 6 and 14 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Closed season and minimum size limit removed on suckers.
- 1965 Order # 9. (Concerns sections 5, 6, and 14 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Lake trout are not to be taken commercially at any time in Lake Michigan after October 1, 1965. Splake added to this ban in 1967.
 Closed season on whitefish in Lakes Huron, Superior, and Michigan from November 1 through November 30.
 Trap and pound nets for lake trout and whitefish may be fished at any depth in Lakes Huron, Superior, and Michigan (80 ft. restriction rescinded).
 Closed season and minimum size limit on perch removed in waters of Lake Erie.
- 1966 Order # 10. (Concerns sections 6 and 14 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Closed seasons and minimum size limits on perch removed statewide as of June 1, 1966.
 Orders 3 and 9 as they apply to perch rescinded.
 Commercial fishing prohibited between June 10 and September 10 in waters less than 18 feet deep on Saginaw Bay - Lake Huron shore between Harrisville and Au Gres Point.
- Order # 11. (Concerns section 16 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Coho and Chinook salmon not to be taken commercially at any time in Great Lakes waters. (Chinook salmon added to ban in 1967)

- 1966 Order # 12. (Concerns sections 6, 14, and 16 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Northern pike are not to be taken commercially at any time in Great Lakes waters.
- 1967 Order # 13. (Concerns sections 5 and 25 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Suspends subsections of section 5 involving the depth of the lifting pot or crib of trap nets and the depth of gill nets.
 Suspends subsection of section 25 prohibiting holders of transferred licenses from fishing outside a 50 mile radius of the port named in the original license.
 Allows for the removal or relocation of large mesh gill nets (not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.) if they are taking 15% or more undersize or illegal fish.
 Allows the use of up to 10 feet (not to exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ the length of the pot) of shoaling twine of not more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. in the pots of large mesh (not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.) trap nets.
 The device and methods for mesh measurement are described.
- Order # 14.
 Closed season for commercial fishing in Tahquamenon Bay, Lake Superior, from June 1 through November 30.
- Order # 15. (Concerns sections 6 and 16 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Closed season on lake trout and splake in Lake Huron after September 15, 1967. Lake trout and splake protected in all Great Lakes waters.
- 1968 Order # 16. (Concerns section 5 of Act 84 of 1929)
 For Lakes Superior and Michigan (Lake Huron added in 1969):
 Prohibits the use of $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. or larger mesh gill nets except under special permit.
 Prohibits the use of $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 and $3/4$ in. mesh and $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 in. mesh gill nets in waters less than 35 fathoms except by special permit.
- 1969 Order # 17. (Concerns section 1 of Act 84 of 1929)
 Imposes several restrictions on the eligibility of applicants for commercial fishing licenses:
 a) only those fishermen who held 1969 licenses are eligible for 1970 licenses.
 b) in two out of the three years of 1967, 68, and 69, the fisherman must have fished a minimum of 10 to 50 days depending on his types of gear.
 c) fisherman must have submitted all required reports to D.N.R. during 1969.
 d) fisherman's facilities must be adequate to carry out operation as described in license.
- License application to contain:
 a) proof of eligibility requirements
 b) list of gear applicant owns or has for use in fishing operation
 c) operational plans for fishing season

1969

Order # 17, (Cont.)

Provisions in fishing licenses:

- a) license to state the conditions under which fishing operation is to be conducted
- b) license provisions to include permissible amounts of fish for a limited number of species and areas, additions to be made in subsequent years.

Order # 17. (1970 revision)

Eligibility for license has only two requirements:

- a) fisherman must have license in previous year
- b) fisherman must have submitted all required reports to D.N.R. in previous year

License application same as 1969 except that name and address of all owners and partners as well as the number of employees to be hired is to be included also.

Commercial fishing zones established, 23 zones in Lakes Huron, Superior, and Michigan. Accompanying map shows the location of these zones. Regulations for zones are as follows:

Lake Superior zones

Zone 1 - (All of Lake Superior except as described in zones 2 through 9)

Small mesh floating gill nets allowed in waters less than 50 fathoms year around except November. Small mesh gill nets allowed year around in waters less than 50 fathoms. Impoundment gear allowed May through September and December.

Zone 2 and 7 - Fishing by permit only.

Zone 3, 4, and 8 - No commercial fishing allowed.

Zone 5 - Same as zone 1 plus large mesh gill nets are allowed in waters less than 15 fathoms January through May and December.

Zone 6 - Impoundment gear allowed May through September and December.

Zone 9 - Large mesh gill nets allowed January through May and December. Impoundment gear allowed January through September and December.

Lake Michigan zones.

Zone 10 - Smelt nets allowed January through April under the ice. Impoundment gear allowed year around.

Zone 11 - Impoundment gear permitted January through May for taking smelt.

Zone 12 - Impoundment gear allowed year around.

Zone 13 - Gill nets and impoundment gear permitted year around.

Zone 14 - (All of Lake Michigan except as described in zones 10 through 16)

Impoundment gear allowed year around. Small mesh gill nets allowed in waters less than 40 fathoms deep north of Grand Haven Harbor and in waters less than 30 fathoms south of the harbor.

Zone 15 - No commercial fishing allowed.

Zone 16 - Gill nets and impoundment gear permitted.

1969

Order # 17. (1970 revision) Cont.Lake Huron zones

Zone 17 - Impoundment gear only.

Zone 18, 20, and 21 - No commercial fishing allowed.

Zone 19 - (All of Lake Huron except as described in zones 17 through 23)

Impoundment gear allowed north of Rogers City.

7 in. or larger gill nets allowed in waters less than 5 fathoms south of Black River.

Zone 22 - Gill nets, impoundment gear, seines, and set hook allowed.

Zone 23 - Only 8 in. larger gill nets may be used for carp.

Lake sturgeon, walleye, blue pike, and sauger are not to be taken at any time in any Great Lakes waters. Lake herring may not be taken from Lakes Huron and Michigan at any time. Chubs may not be taken from Lake Huron at any time. Perch, black crappie, and rock bass may be taken only from zone 22 in Lake Huron.

Protected species taken incidental to fishing for other species (except for lake trout larger than 17 inches) are to be dressed, iced, and turned over to a D.N.R. representative. Reimbursement for such incidental catches to be 15 cents per pound dressed weight. Dead lake trout larger than 17 inches to be tagged with a metal seal. Fishermen to pay 35 cents per pound to D.N.R. for lake trout.

Fisherman is limited to kind and amount of gear authorized in license.

Fisherman may replace gill nets with impoundment gear.

Floating gill nets to be fished 2 fathoms below surface. Large mesh gill nets to be fished at depths not greater than 15 fathoms in Lake Superior and 20 fathoms in Lake Michigan. Small mesh gill nets to be not less than 2½ in. nor more than 3 in. mesh. Impoundment gear shall not be fished at depths greater than 15 fathoms.

Fisherman may fish only within a 50 mile radius of home port designated on license.

Fisherman to keep daily catch reports and mail such reports before the 15th of each month.

A representative of the director of the D.N.R. may inspect a fishing operation on board or ashore at any time.

The director of the D.N.R. may fix quotas for the kind and amount of fish to be taken by zone for each of the Great Lakes. Fishermen to be advised of quotas 30 days in advance of the effective date.

Order # 17. (1973 revision)

Six definitions are added to explain terms used in earlier editions of this order. Defined are the terms:

Gear - net, seine, hook, etc.

Impoundment gear - trap and pound nets.

Permit - written research permit issued by the director for fish culture or scientific investigation.

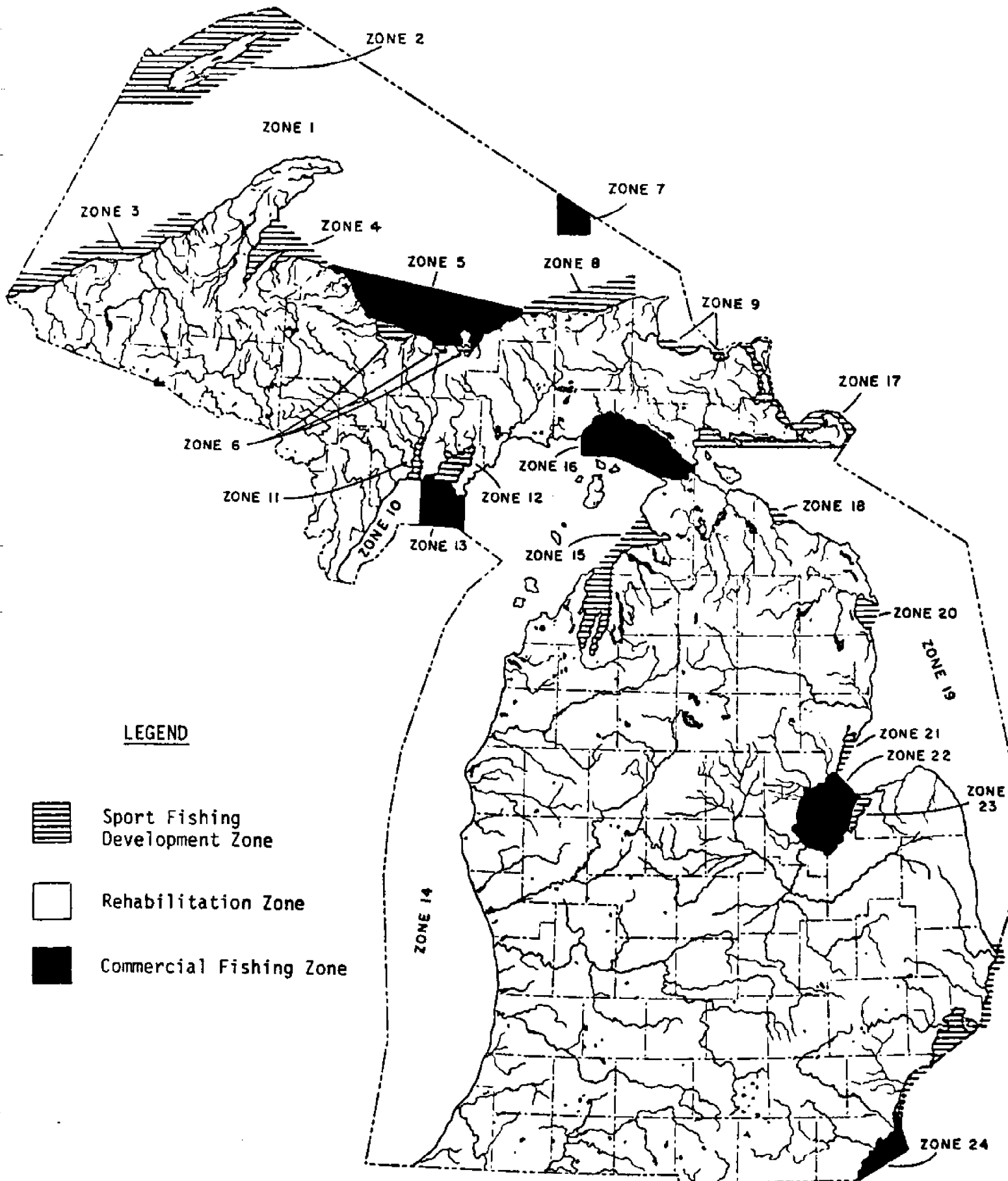


Figure 2. Michigan Fishing Zones.

1969

Order # 17, (1973 revision) Cont'd.

Large mesh gill net - not less than 4½ in. mesh

Small mesh gill net - 2½ to 3 in. mesh

Smelt net - 1¼ to 1 and ¾ in. mesh gill net

Fishing zones remained primarily the same except that only 8 in. or larger gill nets were allowed in Lake Huron.

Lake Erie was added as zone 24. Seines and impoundment gear are allowed in zone 24.

Whitefish were put on the protected species list for Lake Erie only.

Fishermen were allowed to change gear from gill nets to impoundment gear after obtaining written authorization from the director of the D.N.R.

The section of 1970 revision concerning quotas was rescinded.

Order # 17. (1974 revision)

Fishing zones remained primarily the same although they are no longer designated as zones 1 through 24.

Atlantic salmon and lake herring were added to the protected species list. Lake trout and lake herring may be sold commercially as incidental catches.

Section on quotas which was rescinded is added again to Order # 17.

The major change of this revision concerns the replacement of gill nets with impoundment gear. The purpose is to ban the use of gill nets on the Michigan waters of the Great Lakes by December 31, 1974. After this date gill nets will be allowed only by special permit. This revision of Order # 17 explains who is eligible, how and when to file an application, and a timetable for the replacement of gill nets with impoundment gear.

1969

Order # 18.

The minimum size limit law for walleye in Lake Erie is suspended as of October 1, 1969.

1970

Order # 19.

Prohibits fishing for walleye at any time after February 15, 1970. Gill nets may not be used in Lake Erie during April or October.

Order # 20.

Sets up rules for commercial fishing license hearings. Sections on requests, notices, appearances, depositions, adjournments, and decisions included.

1975

Emergency rule (effective July 18, 1975)

Prohibits fishing for chubs at any time in Lake Michigan. Rule is in effect for 6 months unless extended or rescinded earlier.

