## Lake Monona Spring Fyke Netting - 2003/2004

Fish sampling on the Madison Chain follows a 5 year rotation. Every year, 1 lake receives a COMPREHENSIVE survey, and the other lakes receive spring and fall INDEX sampling. Comprehensive surveys combine intensive spring netting efforts and spring and fall electro-fishing runs to cover the entire lake shore. Comprehensive surveys target walleye, northern pike, and musky, provide insight on the adult component of those fisheries, and are used to determine population estimates. Estimates are derived from a mark period (fyke netting) and recapture period (spring electro-fishing). Fyke netting in subsequent years serves as the mark and recapture period for muskellunge. The last comprehensive survey conducted on Lake Monona occurred in 2003. Index sampling uses only electro-fishing directed at selected sites in spring and fall. Index sampling monitors bass, panfish, and young-of-year fish most effectively. Our purpose is to describe the size and condition of major fish populations of recreational interest, assess regulation, and suggest necessary management actions.
These brief summaries represent the most recent data and comparisons to the previous survey. Questions can be directed to: Kurt Welke, Fisheries Manager for Dane County, 3911 Fish Hatchery Rd, Fitchburg, WI 53711. Phone: 608-273-5946, E-mail: Kurt.welke@dnr.state.wi.us. This information is also posted at: http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/fhp/fish/pages/reports/final.html

|  | $\underline{2003}$ | $\underline{2004 *}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Musky: |  |  |
| Total Captured: | 215 | 119 |
| Avg. Length (in.): | 35.8 | 35.5 |
| Length Range (in.): | 21.0-46.2 | 17.3-46.4 |
| \% Legal (>45"): | 0.9 | 2.5 |
| Population Est.(>30"): |  | 0.46 / acre |
| Walleye |  |  |
| Total Captured: | 935 | 42 |
| Avg. Length (in.): | 18.3 | 17.8 |
| Length Range (in.): | 8.0-28.3 | 13.0-26.1 |
| \% Legal (>15"): | 89.3 | 83.3 |
| Population Est.(>15"): | 0.75 / acre |  |
| Largemouth Bass |  |  |
| Total Captured: | 347 |  |
| Avg. Length (in.): | 12.4 | 13.6 |
| Length Range (in.): | 5.7-22.3 | 6.6-20.3 |
| \% Legal (>14"): | 43.8 | 48 |
| Population Est.(>14"): | 1.9 / acre |  |
| Northern Pike |  |  |
| ) |  |  |
| Total Captured: | 279 | 87 |
| Avg. Length (in.): | 25.3 | 26.1 |
| Length Range (in.): | 12.6-36.5 | 19.4-38.8 |
| \% Legal (>26") | 39.8 | 43.7 |
| Population Est. (All): | 0.68 / acre |  |





## What this all means:

Because it has a large amount of its surface area as shallow, vegetated habitat, Monona enjoys strong largemouth bass and bluegill populations. Consistent reproduction and good growth rates produce lots of fish in good condition. Walleye and northerns represent an under-appreciated seasonal fishery. Monona hosts strong populations of both these species with many quality sized fish present. The muskellunge population is high quality with excellent numbers, superior condition (weight at length) and the potential for trophy fish.


## Lake Monona Fall Electro- fishing - 2007

MUSKY
Total Captured Ave. length (inches) Length Range

WALLEYE
Total Captured
Ave. length (inches)
Length Range
\% legal( > 15")
LARGEMOUTH BASS
Total Captured
Ave. length (inches)
Length Range
\% legal( > 14")
\% YOY (<5")
BLUEGILL
Total Captured
Ave. length (inches)
Length Range
Fish / Hr

## Stocking:

| Year | Species | Number Stocked | Ave Length |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2000 | Musky | 2,500 | 9.2 |
| 2000 | Northern Pike | 2,500 | 8 |
| 2000 | Tiger Musky | 250 | 8 |
| 2001 | Musky | 2,500 | 9 |
| 2001 | Northern Pike | 1,000 | 7.4 |
| 2001 | Tiger Musky | 2,350 | 8.2 |
| 2001 | Musky | 10,000 | 1.3 |
| 2003 | Musky | 1,000 | 11.4 |
| 2003 | Tiger Musky | 275 | 10 |
| 2004 | Northern Pike | 50,000 | Fry 0.1 |
| 2004 | Musky | 2,500 | 10.5 |
| 2005 | Musky(Leech Lake) | 700 | 10.5 |
| 2005 | Northern Pike | 4,770 | 8.9 |
| 2005 | Northern Pike | 766 | 9.1 |
| 2006 | Walleye | 681 | 7.7 |
| 2006 | Musky (Leech Lake) | 35 | 11.5 |
| 2006 | Musky | 997 | 12.4 |
|  |  |  |  |

2004 Musky Population estimate was 1610 fish or .46 adult musky ( $>30$ ") / acre. Monona is stocked with both Chippewa strain (WI) and Leech lake strain (MN) musky to compare growth over time.

