

Clear/Round Lakes Survey Summary (2012)

Northern pike were sampled at Clear/Round lakes (Steuben County) from March 5-15, 2012. Surface water temperatures ranged from 40.3-40.7 °F in Clear Lake and from 37.4-44.4 °F in Round Lake during the sampling period. Research biologists captured and released 66 pike from Clear/Round lakes that averaged 25.2 inches (range: 11.3 to 40.4 inches) and 4.5 pounds (range: 1.0 to 13.8 pounds). The number of female, male, and juvenile pike collected were 23 (35%), 36 (54%), and 7 (11%), respectively. Pectoral fin rays were collected from pike for subsequent age and growth analyses. Five “memorable” pike (between 34 to 44 inches) were collected; three in Clear Lake and two in Round Lake. These data provided evidence that Clear/Round lakes have the necessary coolwater habitat available to produce pike of large size-classes. A late-summer (August 22) temperature and oxygen profile showed that summer stratification constricted the availability of coolwater habitat for pike to a layer between 24 to 28 feet deep in Clear Lake.

