

Chinook Salmon

Common Names: Chinook Salmon, King Salmon, Black mouth, Tschawytscha, King

Scientific Name: Oncorhynchus Tschawytscha

Length: 20 - 35 inches

Weight: 5- 35 pounds

State Record: (11/9/76) 41 lbs. 8 oz. From Lake Michigan

Identification: Adults are iridescent green to blue-green on the back and top of head. The sides are silvery, turning white on the belly. They have black spots (at least a few) on the upper half of their body and on all fins. Chinook differ from Coho salmon and other Great Lakes salmonids by having gray or black mouth coloration with teeth set on black gums, a squared tail with spots on both halves, and 15 -19 rays in the anal fin.

Distribution: Native to the Pacific Coast from southern California to northern Alaska and on the Asian shore south to Japan. Although introduced into the Great Lakes intermittently since 1877, they were not firmly established until massive plantings began in 1976. They are now found in all the Great Lakes. In the Wisconsin water of Lake Michigan, they are abundant from Kenosha, to Washington Island, and into Green Bay.

Lake Michigan Sport Catch in Wisconsin: 200,000 - 3000,000 Per Year

Preferred Temperature Range: 50 - 57°F; 10 - 14°C

Predators: Adults: Sea Lamprey, Humans

Juveniles: Large Carnivorous Fish, Birds and Mammals



Coho Salmon

Common Names: Coho Salmon, Coho, Silver Salmon, Bluback, Sea Trout

Scientific Name: Oncorhynchus Kisutch

Length: 11 - 26 inches

Weight: 5 - 12 pounds

State Record: (8/17/75) 24 lbs. 6 oz. From Lake Michigan

Identification: Adults are steel blue to slightly green on the back, brilliant silver on the sides, and white on the belly. There are small black spots on the back, sides above the lateral line, base of the dorsal fin, and upper half of the caudal fin. Coho differ from the Chinook salmon and other salmonids of the Great Lakes by having the inside of their mouth gray or black with their teeth set in white gums, their tail slightly forked with spots on the top half, and having 12 - 15 rays in their anal fin.

Distribution: Native to the Pacific Coast from southern California to northern Alaska and on the Asian shore south to Japan. Although introduced into the Great Lakes intermittently since 1873, they were not firmly established until massive plantings began in 1966. They are now found in all the Great Lakes. In the Wisconsin water of Lake Michigan, they are abundant from Kenosha north to Sturgeon Bay.

Lake Michigan Sport Catch in Wisconsin: 75,000 - 200,000 Per Year

Preferred Temperature Range: 54 - 57°F; 12 - 14°C

Predators: Adults: Sea Lamprey, Humans

Juveniles: Large Carnivorous Fish, Birds and Mammals



Rainbow Trout

Common Names: Rainbow Trout, Rainbow, Bow, Steelhead Trout, Kamloops Trout, Sliver Trout

Scientific Name: Salmo Gairderii

Length: 16 - 30 inches

Weight: 2 - 16 pounds

State Record: (7/29/92) 25lbs. 8 oz. From Lake Michigan

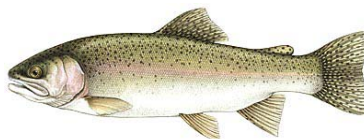
Identification: Rainbow Trout from Lake Michigan have an elongated and slightly compressed body, a squared tail covered with spots, 12 or less rays in their anal fin, and the inside of their mouth is white. There are generally small spots on the top of their head and back above the lateral line, including the dorsal and adipose fin. Body color is variable, with the back being darker, ranging from steel-blue to green to almost brown, the cheek and sides are silvery, occasionally with a pink to red lateral stripe and the bottom or belly is silver white.

Distribution: Native to the Pacific Coast from North America from northern Mexico north to the Bering Sea and inland to the Rocky Mountains. Since the late 1800's they have been introduced across North America. Other locations where populations have been established include New Zealand, Australia, South America, Africa, southern Asia, Japan and Europe. In the Wisconsin waters of Lake Michigan, Rainbow Trout are common along the entire shore from Marinette to Kenosha.

Lake Michigan Sport Catch in Wisconsin: 20,000 - 40,000 Per Year

Preferred Temperature Range: 53 - 57°F; 12 - 14°C

Predators: Adults: Sea Lamprey, Humans
Juveniles: Large Carnivorous Fish, Mergansers



Lake Trout

Common Names: Lake Trout, Laker, Grey Trout, Mackinaw, Great Lakes Trout

Scientific Name: Salvelinus Namaycush

Length: 17-36 inches

Weight: 3 - 30 pounds

State Record: (9/9/ 46) 47 lbs. From Lake Superior

World Record: (1952) 63 lbs. 2 oz. From Lake Superior

Identification: Lake Trout are distinguished by having a deeply forked tail, the inside of their mouth is white, and 10 - 11 rays in their anal fin. The color of the Lake Trout varies from light green or gray to dark green or almost black with light spots and worm-like markings on their back sides.

Distribution: Lake Trout are native to New England, the Great Lakes area, and Canada. In Lake Michigan waters of Wisconsin, they can be found in the outer half of Green Bay and along the entire Lake Michigan shoreline.

Lake Michigan Sport Catch in Wisconsin: 100,000 Per Year

Preferred Temperature Range: 48 - 52°F; 9 - 11°C

Predators: Adults: Sea Lamprey, Humans
Juveniles: Large Carnivorous Fish
Eggs: Whitefish, Burbot, and sculpin



Brown Trout

Common Names: Brown Trout, German Brown Trout, German Trout, European Brown Trout, Brownie, Brown

Scientific Name: Salmo Trutta

Length: 16 -30 inches

Weight: 2 - 16 pounds

Sate Record: (8/23/78) 32 lbs. 8 oz. From Lake Michigan

Identification: Brown Trout caught in Lake Michigan have an overall silvery color with “X” shaped makings on the back and upper half of their body, a square tail, small and numerous spots on their head, the inside of their mouth is white, and 12 or less rays in their anal fin. Spawning Brown Trout in September and October will have an overall tan to reddish brown color with distinctive black and red spots.

Distribution: Native to Europe and western Asia from Iceland to Afghanistan. Introduced into North America as early as 1883. Now found throughout Canada and the Untied States from the Great Lakes eastward and from the Rocky Mountains west to the Pacific Ocean. Successfully stocked in the Wisconsin waters of Lake Michigan since 1966 and now common along the shores from Marinette south to Kenosha.

Lake Michigan Sport Catch in Wisconsin: 40,000 - 60,000 Per Year

Preferred Temperature Range: 65 - 75°F; 18 - 24°C

Predators: Adults: Sea Lamprey, Humans
Juveniles: Large Carnivorous Fish

