

Lake Nipissing Walleye Regulation Changes

What's new for 2013?

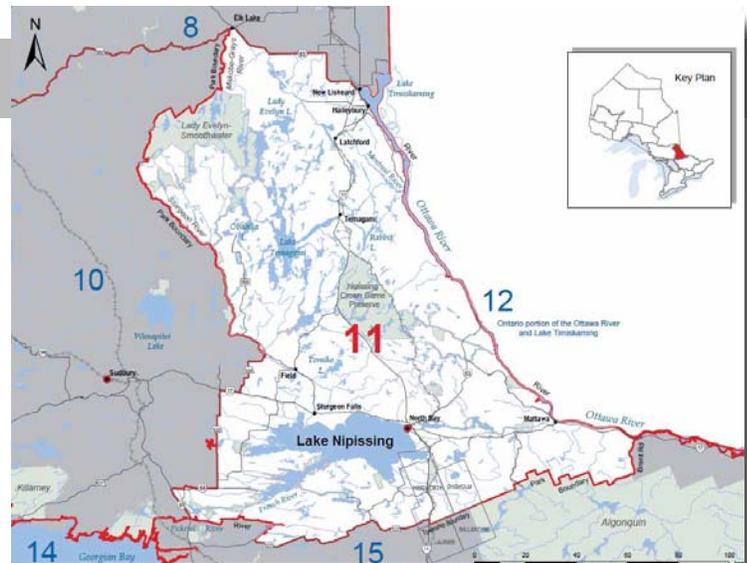
Walleye (*Sander vitreus*)

Be aware of changes to walleye regulations in 2013 for Lake Nipissing. Anglers are reminded to check the 2013 Fishing Regulations Summary (available January 1, 2013) to become familiar with the regulation changes before going fishing.

Changes to Walleye Regulations

In 2012, the Ministry of Natural Resources completed a scientific review of long-term fisheries data from Lake Nipissing. The review suggested that there is a marked drop in the walleye numbers, particularly of spawning walleye. The data also showed that fishing is the primary factor in the decline of the walleye population in Lake Nipissing. A summary of the data review is available at ontario.ca/zonecouncils, under "Specially Designated Waters," Lake Nipissing.

In response to the decline, the ministry established an advisory committee to provide advice on potential management actions to help rebuild Lake Nipissing's walleye population. The advisory committee is comprised of representatives of the tourism industry, First Nations, local municipalities, recreational anglers and local environmental organizations.



Lake Nipissing is located within the boundaries of Fisheries Management Zone 11 in northeastern Ontario.

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New Regulations for 2013

While considering a range of long-term management actions as well as the views of the advisory committee members, the ministry is moving to implement a regulation change to safeguard the walleye population.

The change reduces the daily harvest limit from four walleye to two, and the conservation licence limit from two walleye to one. In addition, the current protected slot size is being maintained, which requires that walleye between 40 and 60 centimetres must be released. This change takes effect on January 1, 2013.

Other actions being considered include additional angling opportunities for other species, such as yellow perch, continuing a dialogue with local First Nations regarding the commercial fishery, and community-based stocking.



Walleye on Lake Nipissing is open from January 1 to March 15 and from the third Saturday in May to October 15.

Contact Us

For more information, contact the Natural Resources Information Centre at 1-800-667-1940.

ontario.ca/zonecouncils