

# 1959 Winnebago System Spearing Season Summary Report

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## **Lake Winnebago**

Season Dates: Wednesday, February 11 – Sunday, March 1, 1959

Season Length: 19 days

Bag Limit: 1 fish/season

Min Length: 40"

Shanty Count: 1,481

License Sales: 4,284

Harvest: 221 fish

Average Water Clarity: 10'

Mean Length of Harvested Fish: 55"

Mean Weight of Harvested Fish: 47 pounds

Fish > 100 pounds: 3

Largest Fish: 66", 109 pounds

- Heavy snowfalls and drifting winds kept many spearers off the ice. Ice varied from 22" to 35" thick.
- No special license was needed other than a regular fishing license and a \$1.00 sturgeon tag which was had to be attached to the tail immediately after fish was speared.

## **Upriver Lakes**

Season Dates: Saturday, February 14 – Monday, February 16, 1959

Season Length: 3 days

Bag Limit: 1 fish/season

Min Length: 40"

Shanty Count: 947 total (668 on Poygan, 118 on Winneconne, 161 on Butte des Morts)

Harvest: 297 fish (270 from Poygan, 7 from Winneconne, 20 from Butte des Morts)

Mean Length: 48" (47" on Poygan, 53" on Winneconne, 53" on Butte des Morts)

Mean Weight: 25 pounds (24 pounds on Poygan, 33 on Winneconne, 39 on Butte des Morts)

Fish > 100 pounds: 0

Largest Fish: 69", 79 pounds

- Slow start to season due to heavy snow.
- Many spearers reported seeing small wounded sturgeon.