

1999 Winnebago System Spearing Season Summary Report

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Lake Winnebago

Season Dates: Saturday, February 13 – Monday, February 15, 1999

Season Length: 3 days

Bag Limit: 1 fish/season

Min Length: 36"

Shanty Count: 3,749

License Sales: 7,150

Harvest: 1,484 fish

Water Clarity: 17

Mean Length: 54"

Mean Weight: 41 pounds

Fish > 100 pounds: 2

Largest Fish: 71", 119 pounds speared by Lawrence Ziegelbauer of Chilton, Wisconsin

- Fish was originally tagged on 8/4/1977 from a trawl net on Lake Winnebago at a length of 60.0"

- First season that harvest was managed under an emergency harvest cap rule (permanent harvest cap system went into effect in 2000). In 1999, the Department of Natural Resources Board allowed DNR officials to close the season 24 hours after 320 mature female sturgeon were registered. Total of 469 adult females were registered during the 3-day season in 1999.
- Ice conditions were good and water clarity was excellent.
- Spearing licenses cost were \$10.00 and spearers had to be 14 year of age. Spearers age 14 and 15 are not required to have a regular fishing license but all others are.