

# Ecological Factors that Influence Walleye Recruitment in Ceded Territory Lakes

The goal of this project is to identify characteristics of lakes associated with successful natural reproduction of juvenile walleye from egg to the fall recruited stage. We hope to gain a better understanding of the causes behind declining walleye population trends in northern Wisconsin and to help develop management actions that can reverse those trends.

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## TIMELINE

Launch: July, 2018  
Completion: June, 2023

## DNR PARTNER BUREAU

Fisheries Management

## FUNDING

Federal Aid in Sportfish  
Restoration

## EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

Great Lakes Indian Fish &  
Wildlife Commission

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This is a collaborative project between OAS Fisheries Research and the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission.

We will be sampling lakes in the Ceded Territory of Wisconsin that have had historically stable walleye production and in recent decades have either remained stable or experienced declines.

We will be characterizing habitat availability (aquatic vegetation, depth, woody debris and shoreline development), lake productivity (phytoplankton and chlorophyll), primary forage availability (zooplankton) and relative abundance of fish species in the lake (forage, predators, competitors).



## Key Points

- » The goal of this project is to identify characteristics of lakes associated with successful natural reproduction of juvenile walleye to the recruited stage.
- » This is a collaborative project between OAS Fisheries Research and the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission.
- » We will be sampling lakes in the Ceded Territory of Wisconsin that have had historically stable walleye production and in recent decades have either remained stable or experienced declines.
- » We hope to gain a better understanding of the causes behind declining walleye population trends in northern Wisconsin and to help develop management actions to reverse those trends.

## SPOKESPERSONS

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