

# ILLINOIS MUSKIE CREEL PROJECT 1987 - 2010



2010 IMA Release Winner Chad Cain with his 49 7/8" – 37.25 lb. Kinkaid Lake Muskie



**Illini  
Muskies  
Alliance**

**JUNE 2010**

# Muskie Creel Project 1987 - 2010 Summary Report

Joe Ferencak, Impoundment Program Manager  
Division of Fisheries



June 2010

## INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The statewide Muskie Creel Survey Project, jointly sponsored by the Illini Muskies Alliance (IMA) and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), was initiated in April of 1987. Funds for the project were primarily provided by the IMA. The project was modeled after the very successful voluntary creel survey which Mike Sule, former District Fisheries Manager, designed and implemented on Pierce and Shabbona Lakes in 1985 and 1986.

The IMA has been and continues to be instrumental in the development of the muskie program in Illinois. The IMA provided funding for the original printing of the green creel cards to report muskie catches, and has also provided funding for barrier nets at state hatcheries and lakes, paddle wheel aeration pumps at Jake Wolf Hatchery, and most recently with Tri-Esox Productions purchased replacement muskie creel signs for posting at muskie waters. While various Muskies, Inc. (MI) chapters affiliated with IMA have purchased fingerlings and minnow forage to facilitate stocking and rearing efforts. The latest undertaking is an ongoing evaluation of several genetic strains of muskie in Illinois. This research is supported by the IMA, IDNR Division of Fisheries/Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Central Illinois Chapter of Muskies, Inc., and the Illinois Conservation Foundation. We would also like to recognize the Illinois Muskie Tournament Trail (IMTT) for donating 10 digital cameras, a small boat and outboard motor, and digital scales for field work, funds for fish habitat enhancement projects at Lake Paradise and Lake Shelbyville, a spillway barrier net for Otter Lake, hatchery nets, and \$2,000 to support the muskie genetic research noted above. Finally, we would like to acknowledge the Chicagoland Muskie Hunters and Quad County Hawg Hunters Chapters of Muskies, Inc., who donated 11 digital scales thru the IMA the past two years.

## METHODS

Originally 27 lakes (25.0 - 24,580.0 acres) were selected for inclusion in the statewide Muskie Creel Project. Lakes which were stocked with muskies (both pure and/or hybrid muskies) for several years were selected. However, as the muskie program has expanded anglers are now reporting catching fish from **67** water areas throughout the state as well as some unidentified areas.

In order to alert anglers to the project, two kinds of signs were posted. "Point of Purchase" signs (8"x 11") with smaller mail in creel cards (4"x 5") attached were displayed at site offices, concessions, and local bait and tackle dealers. Larger (18"x 25") heavy plastic signs were placed at boat launches, concessions, and site offices. In addition, anglers can also report their muskie catch at the following web address: [www.ifishillinois.org/science/muskie\\_creel\\_survey.html](http://www.ifishillinois.org/science/muskie_creel_survey.html).

Table 1 and Figure 1 identify the number of muskie caught per year from various waters, 1987 thru 2010. **During this period a total of 13,117 muskies were reported caught.** The numbers of muskie caught have gradually increased over the years as the fishery has developed. However, it should be noted that due to the low creel card catch reports in 2004 (which was in part due to drought conditions experienced around the state) and in 2005 (reasons unknown) it was decided to incorporate the annual catch records from Muskies, Inc. (MI) and independent muskie clubs into the database beginning in 2005. The MI and independent club catch records are the annual compilation of all of the catch and release reports from participating MI Chapters and club members. The database is then sorted and filtered to remove any duplicate entries. The inclusion of the MI catch record in the database provides a more accurate picture of muskie catch parameters as the totals have exceeded 800 fish each of the past six years, **with a record 1,261 muskie catches reported in 2009. In 2010, 924 muskies were reported caught. The top eight (8) water areas in terms of percent catch from 1987 thru 2010 are Fox Chain O'Lakes (21%), Kinkaid Lake (21%), Lake Shelbyville (9%), Lake Carlton (7%), Shabbona Lake (7%), Spring Lake North (6%), Heidecke Lake (5%), and the Kaskaskia River (5%).**

Tables and Figures 2 thru 6 identify the number of muskies caught greater or equal to (≥) various lengths from 1987 thru 2010. **The number of muskies caught ≥36 inches continues to increase, as from 1987 thru 1998 33% of all muskies caught were ≥36 inches; whereas, from 1999 thru 2010 53% were ≥36 inches. While in 2010 51% of all muskies caught were ≥36 inches.** The number of muskie caught ≥36, 42, 45, and 48 inches comprises 44%, 12%, 5%, and 1% of the total muskie catch, respectively. While overall there is a considerable difference in the number of muskies caught ≥36 and ≥42 inches, the catch for these larger size groups is gradually increasing over time reflecting progressive development of the fishery. **Kinkaid Lake continues to yield the largest number of 42"+ muskies (N=527), followed by the Fox Chain O'Lakes (N=273), Lake Shelbyville (N=189), Kaskaskia River (N=133), Lake Carlton (N=74), Evergreen Lake (N=57), Shabbona Lake (N=54), and Otter Lake (N=32). Kinkaid Lake also surpassed the Fox Chain O'Lakes as the top producing water for 48"+ muskies with 30 and 28, respectively, followed by Evergreen Lake (N=15), Lake Shelbyville (N=10), Shabbona Lake (N=8), and McMaster Lake and Otter Lakes (N=6).**

In 2010 no 50+ inch muskie were reported caught as the largest caught was 49 7/8 inch fish from Kinkaid Lake (see cover page). Those waters in the 50+ inch club continues to be led by Lake Shelbyville (N=6), followed by the Fox Chain O'Lakes (N=5), Kinkaid and McMaster Lake (N=4), and Evergreen Lake (N=3). The largest

**muskie reported caught during this project is a 54 inch fish from McMaster Lake in 2006.**

The average length of muskies caught from most water areas has also increased. **From 1987 thru 2010 the average length of a muskie caught increased from 29.0 inches to 35.6 inches** (Table 7 and Figure 7). However, the average length of muskies caught from 2003 thru 2010 has remained relatively static at 36.5 inches. **The average length of muskie caught from 1987 thru 2010 for the top eight water areas (highest average to lowest average length for muskies reported caught from waters 10 or more years) are the Kaskaskia River 38.6 inches, McMaster Lake 37.8 inches, Crystal Lake 37.4 inches, Lake Shelbyville 37.0 inches, Kinkaid Lake 36.5 inches, Evergreen Lake 36.5 inches, Fox River 36.1 inches, and Fox Chain O'Lakes 35.5 inches.**

Continued improvement in the muskie fishery is also evident in the fact that the average number of hours fished between muskie catches is gradually decreasing, **as the overall average is now 13.7 hours** (Table 8 and Figure 8). This suggests that muskie anglers continue to learn their craft and are increasingly more proficient at catching fish.

Tables and Figures 9 and 10 shows the muskie catch by month, average length by month, and catch by water and month (top eight lakes). **Overall April, May, June, September, and October continue to be the most productive months to catch muskie as 68% are caught during these months.** This also indicates that anglers are expending more fishing effort during these months. The average length of muskies caught each month is relatively static, but there is a gradual increase from January thru March, then a gradual increase from June thru December. The top eight lakes (based on percent catch) generally reflect this pattern in varying degrees with some exceptions. **The monthly catch is higher during April thru June at lakes located in the northern part of the state (Fox Chain O'Lakes, Heidecke Lake, Lake Carlton, and Shabbona Lake); whereas the monthly catch is as high or higher in September and October at lakes located in the southern part of the state (Kinkaid Lake and Lake Shelbyville).** This is probably a function of anglers taking advantage of seasonal differences in climate that afford longer fishing opportunities in the fall for the southern lakes. Spring Lake North also appears to provide good late winter early spring fishing opportunities as 50% of the muskie caught were taken in January thru April.

Analysis of fishing methods and lure types and colors continues to indicate that **the majority of muskies are caught by casting (74%) black (20%) or white (13%) colored crankbaits (51%)** (Figures 11 thru 13). In terms of lure types, crankbaits were followed by bucktails (13%), jerk and spinnerbaits (11%), jigs (6%), livebaits (4%), surfacebaits (3%) and spoons (1%). Color preferences following black and white are silver/gray (9%), firetiger and shad (7%), and green, orange and yellow (6%). This pattern holds true for four of the top six lakes based on percent muskie caught  $\geq 36$  inches, with the exception that jigs are the preferred lure type for the Kaskaskia River, and white and shad are the preferred colors for Kinkaid Lake and the Kaskaskia River, respectively (Table 13).

## **CONCLUSION**

Over the past 24 years the Illinois muskie fishery has evolved into one of the better fisheries in the Midwest, which is evident in the fact that Illinois has hosted several professionally sanctioned tournaments. This could not have been accomplished without the dedication and resolve of IDNR Fisheries Biologists, Hatchery Managers, and Technicians, and without the ongoing support and assistance of the IMA, Illinois Muskies, Inc. Chapters, IMTT, and the muskie anglers who have participated in this project.

**Finally, it should be emphasized that the information derived from this creel project is very important relative to monitoring and gauging the status of established and developing muskie populations, and will enable the Division of Fisheries to continue to maintain and improve quality muskie angling opportunities. However, angler participation is essential to ensure the continued success of this project, so please make every effort to report your muskie catch.**

**Thanks !**

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF MUSKIE CAUGHT/YEAR, 1987 - 2010

WATER (TOP 8 WATERS)	YEAR																			TOTAL	% BY WATER						
	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05			06	07	08	09	10	
Argyle Lake	2	2	7	8					1	3	1							18	33	58	34	29	9	17	25	0.19	
Banner Marsh																										198	1.51
Barnett							1																			1	0.01
Big Bend Lake																1										1	0.01
Big Lake																2										2	0.02
Braidwood Lake									7																	7	0.05
Busse Lake																				1						1	0.01
Canton Lake				1																						1	0.01
Cedar Lake					4																					4	0.03
Clinton Lake	7	1	2	2									3													15	0.11
Chopper Lake																							3			3	0.02
Countryside Lake																							1	3		4	0.03
Crystal Lake			1										1		1		1	10	15	11	28	15	1		84	0.64	
Double T FWA																							2			2	0.02
Eagle Lake - PRK																					1					1	0.01
Evergreen Lake										1	4	26	15	28	66	10	7	31	89	41	23	17	18		376	2.87	
Forbes State Park									1																	1	0.01
Forest Lake																					1					1	0.01
Fox Chain O'Lakes (1)	31	19	38	23	32	98	80	87	63	51	133	61	61	213	18	14	34	8	132	170	257	315	527	354	2,819	21.49	
Fox River		2	3	5	2	2	1	2				4	22	1	8	1	6	1	14	8	6	1	4	6		99	0.75
Gladstone Lake								1																		1	0.01
Glen Shoals Lake	6		2																							8	0.06
Goldeneye Lake PSP																									1	1	0.01
Heidecke Lake (7)	19	5	7	6	4	11	6	14	9	19	68	112	145	90	13	50	1	6	6	25	26	11	20	26	699	5.33	
I&M Canal			1																							1	0.01
Illinois River											1															1	0.01
Independence Grove Lake																			6			1	1			8	0.06
Indian Creek																							3	1		4	0.03
Island Lake																							2	1		3	0.02
Kaskaskia River* (8)							1			1	2				1		5	17	71	168	201	27	68	35	597	4.55	
Kinkaid Lake (2)	6	4	6	23	9	10	22	114	91	155	82	32	45	81	156	197	206	95	224	200	280	243	264	254	2,799	21.34	
LaMoine River																						1				1	0.01
LaSalle Lake			1																							1	0.01
Lake Carlton (4)	59	105	147	91	48	38	52	31	14	52	46	22	32	32	28	16	6	1	7	5	17	1	20	16	886	6.75	
Lake Carroll																					2					2	0.02
Lake Galena															1				12	4	4	2	4			27	0.21
Lake George	10	24	30	20	37	14	13	14	1	3	4	3			3		1		1							178	1.36
Lake Linden																							3			3	0.02
Lake Mingo																			3	8	1	4	2			18	0.14
Lake Shelbyville (3)	12	8	3	5	1	7	9	8	2	4	28	20	70	37	124	62	270	74	164	164	79	26	27	27	1,231	9.38	
Lake Springfield	4	3	1		1	2																				11	0.08
Lake Storey	8	6	1		1	3		2		1	6		11	11	6	10	3	2	7	3	4	2	8	5	100	0.76	
Lake Sule											6	1	1													10	0.08
Lake Zurich							1																2			1	0.01
Lake of the Woods				1	1	1		1			3	5	4					1	5							22	0.17
Loon Lake							3	25		7	12	28	15	20	2	3		1	1	5	1	6	1			130	0.99
Lost Lake																						1	2			3	0.02
McMaster Lake SHFWA						2								21	2	7	2	3	1	2	7	5	21	16	1	90	0.69
Mill Creek Lake																				5	1					6	0.05
Nippersink Creek	1							2																		3	0.02
Otter Lake	4	7	17	4	3	11	19	57	49	17	30	5	63	32	13	2	2									350	2.67
Pana Lake	1	5	4	1	2	4	1	5		3		5	11									1	24	2		69	0.53
Paradise Lake					2	1		1			1															5	0.04
Paris Twin Lakes			6	4	4	5	7	1	2	3	1															33	0.25
Pierce Lake	27	7	10	13	2	2	7	2	2	4	2					1	1	2	25	16	21	45	61	21	271	2.07	
Prairie Lake JE/PCFWA																1	16	12	7	28	5	12	12	20		113	0.86
Rock River		2		1	1					1	1															6	0.05
Sauk Trail Lake																			1							1	0.01
Shabbona Lake (5)	72	71	67	39	39	28	36	38	47	20	12	7	8	7	159	19	29	15	24	13	8	26	60	25	869	6.62	
Shadow Lake											1															1	0.01
Skull Lake																						1				1	0.01
Spring Lake North (6)	61	53	7	47	11	2	1		2	4	1		3	1	22	6	9	59	89	179	32	18	71	80	758	5.78	
Sterling Lake						3	2		3	2	6	7	7	9	1	2	1			1	1	5	2			52	0.40
Waterford Lake																							10	5		15	0.11
Windsor Lake																			15	3		1				19	0.14
Wolf Lake			4	2	3		1			3	1			1	1											16	0.12
Wonder Lake																		1								1	0.01
Other		2				1	2			1	1		1	18	4		2			4	1	7		3		47	0.36
TOTAL	330	336	360	298	204	245	260	408	292	353	445	315	549	569	602	456	608	322	894	1,180	1,054	852	1,261	924	13,117		
% BY YEAR	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.3	1.6	1.9	2.0	3.1	2.2	2.7	3.4	2.4	4.2	4.3	4.6	3.5	4.6	2.5	6.8	9.0	8.0	6.5	9.6	7.0			

\*KASKASKIA RIVER INCLUDES MUSKIE REPORTED CAUGHT FROM LAKE SHELBYVILLE TAILWATERS

**FIGURE 1. NUMBER OF MUSKIE CAUGHT/YEAR, 1987 - 2010,  
WITH LINEAR TREND**

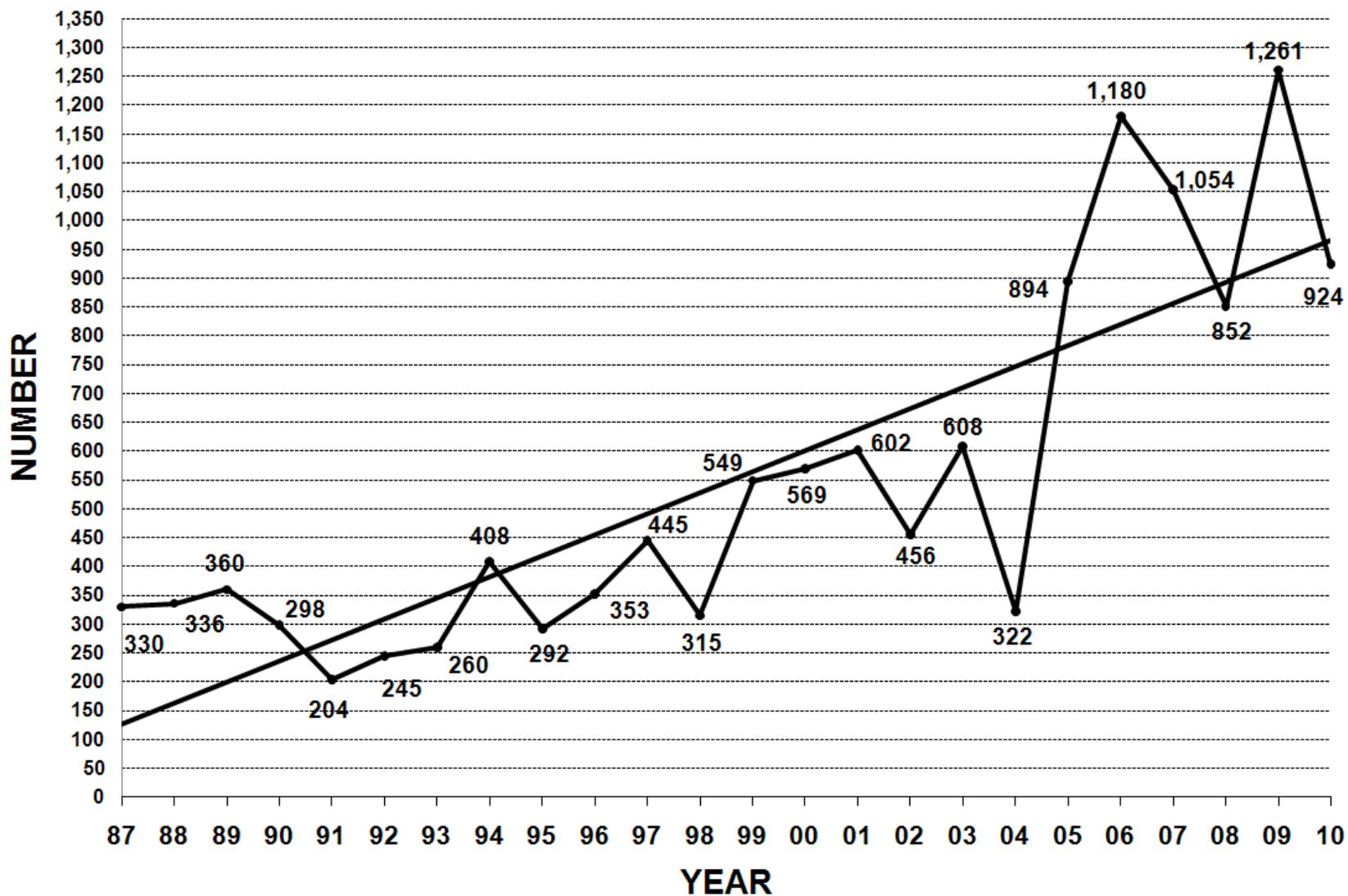


TABLE 2. NUMBER OF MUSKIE CAUGHT/YEAR GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO (≥) 36" INCHES, 1987 - 2010  
(36 INCHES IS THE CURRENT STATEWIDE MINIMUM LENGTH LIMIT)

WATER	YEAR																				TOTAL ≥36"	ALL SIZES	% ≥36"					
	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06				07	08	09	10	
Argyle Lake				1						1	1								1						4	25	16	
Banner Marsh																		8	12	19	15	12	6	4	76	198	38	
Barnett							1																		1	1	100	
Braidwood Lake										3															3	7	43	
Cedar Lake					2																				2	4	50	
Chopper Lake																							3		3	3	100	
Clinton Lake	2			1								1													4	15	27	
Countryside Lake																							1	2	3	4	75	
Crystal Lake			1												1	3	12	9	13	7					47	84	56	
Double T FWA																							2		2	2	100	
Evergreen Lake										1	3	12	6	10	30	6	3	21	46	27	18	11	7	201	376	53		
Forest Lake																					1				1	1	100	
Fox Chain O'Lakes	4	4	13	10	8	49	20	27	22	19	56	33	44	138	12	10	15	5	69	91	98	193	306	182	1,428	2,819	51	
Fox River		2	2	1	2							3	10	1	8	1	3	1	13	5	4		3	4	63	99	64	
Gladstone Lake							1																		1	1	100	
Glen Shoals Lake	1																								1	8	13	
Heidecke Lake	3	1	4	2			1	4	1	3	5	3	5	6		14	1		2	9	11	3	10	2	90	699	13	
Illinois River											1														1	1	100	
Independence Grove Lake																							1		1	8	13	
Indian Creek																								1	1	4	25	
Island Lake																								1	1	3	33	
Kaskaskia River*						1				1	2				1		4	2	45	131	170	20	55	23	455	597	76	
Kinkaid Lake				4	4	7	17	49	27	95	63	21	33	40	40	89	135	77	162	134	185	136	137	150	1,605	2,799	57	
LaMoine River																									1	1	100	
Lake Carlton	12	12	34	15	12	15	26	13	5	32	30	14	23	11	19	10	4	1	3	4	11		12	12	330	886	37	
Lake Carroll																									2	2	100	
Lake Galena															1				12	3	2	2	4		24	27	89	
Lake George		9	11	7	17	8	11	11	1	3	2				1			1							82	178	46	
Lake Linden																								2	2	3	67	
Lake Mingo																			1	1		2			4	18	22	
Lake Shelbyville	2	1	3	1	1		3	3		2	17	17	57	24	54	29	149	34	137	116	59	15	18	17	759	1,231	62	
Lake Storey	1	4	1		1		2		1	3		4	5	1	5	1	2	6	1	1	1	1	5	1	46	100	46	
Lake Sule																									1	1	10	
Lake Zurich							1																		1	1	100	
Lake of the Woods						1				2		2						1	5						11	22	50	
Loon Lake							6		3	4	13	10	19	2	2		1	1	2			3	1		67	130	52	
McMaster Lake SHFWA													16	1	6	1	2	1	1	6	4	15	13		66	90	73	
Mill Creek Lake																									3	6	50	
Otter Lake	1	2	8	1	3	8	9	11	14	5	16	1	19	18	10	2	2							5	141	350	40	
Pana Lake						1	1					1	1												4	69	6	
Paris Twin Lakes					1	1				1															3	33	9	
Pierce Lake	3	2	1	3		2	2			1															55	271	20	
Prairie Lake JE/PCFWA																	9	7	4	17	5	3	7	17	69	113	61	
Rock River		2				1																			3	6	50	
Sauk Trail Lake																		1							1	1	100	
Shabbona Lake	9	6	9	5	10	9	26	18	6	14	9	7	3	4	43	5	16	8	13	7	5	14	31	9	286	869	33	
Shadow Lake											1														1	1	100	
Skull Lake																									1	1	100	
Spring Lake North	7	4	1	15	4	2								3		1	1	13	26	68	10	6	21	24	206	758	27	
Sterling Lake										1	1	1	2	3			1	1		1	1	3	2		17	52	33	
Waterford Lake																								8	2	10	15	67
Windsor Lake																			12	1		1			14	19	74	
Wolf Lake															1										1	16	6	
Wonder Lake																									1	1	100	
Other						1						1	8	2		1	1				5		3		22	47	47	
TOTAL ≥36"	45	49	86	67	64	104	121	146	79	182	214	117	246	284	210	201	352	166	555	684	638	464	684	470	5,758			
ALL SIZES	330	336	360	298	204	245	260	408	292	353	445	315	549	569	602	456	608	322	894	1,180	1,054	852	1,261	924	13,117			
% ≥36"	14	15	24	22	31	42	47	36	27	52	48	37	45	50	35	44	58	52	62	58	61	54	54	51	44			

\*KASKASKIA RIVER INCLUDES MUSKIE REPORTED CAUGHT FROM LAKE SHELBYVILLE TAILWATERS

**FIGURE 2. NUMBER OF MUSKIE CAUGHT  $\geq$  36 INCHES,  
1987 - 2010, WITH LINEAR TREND**

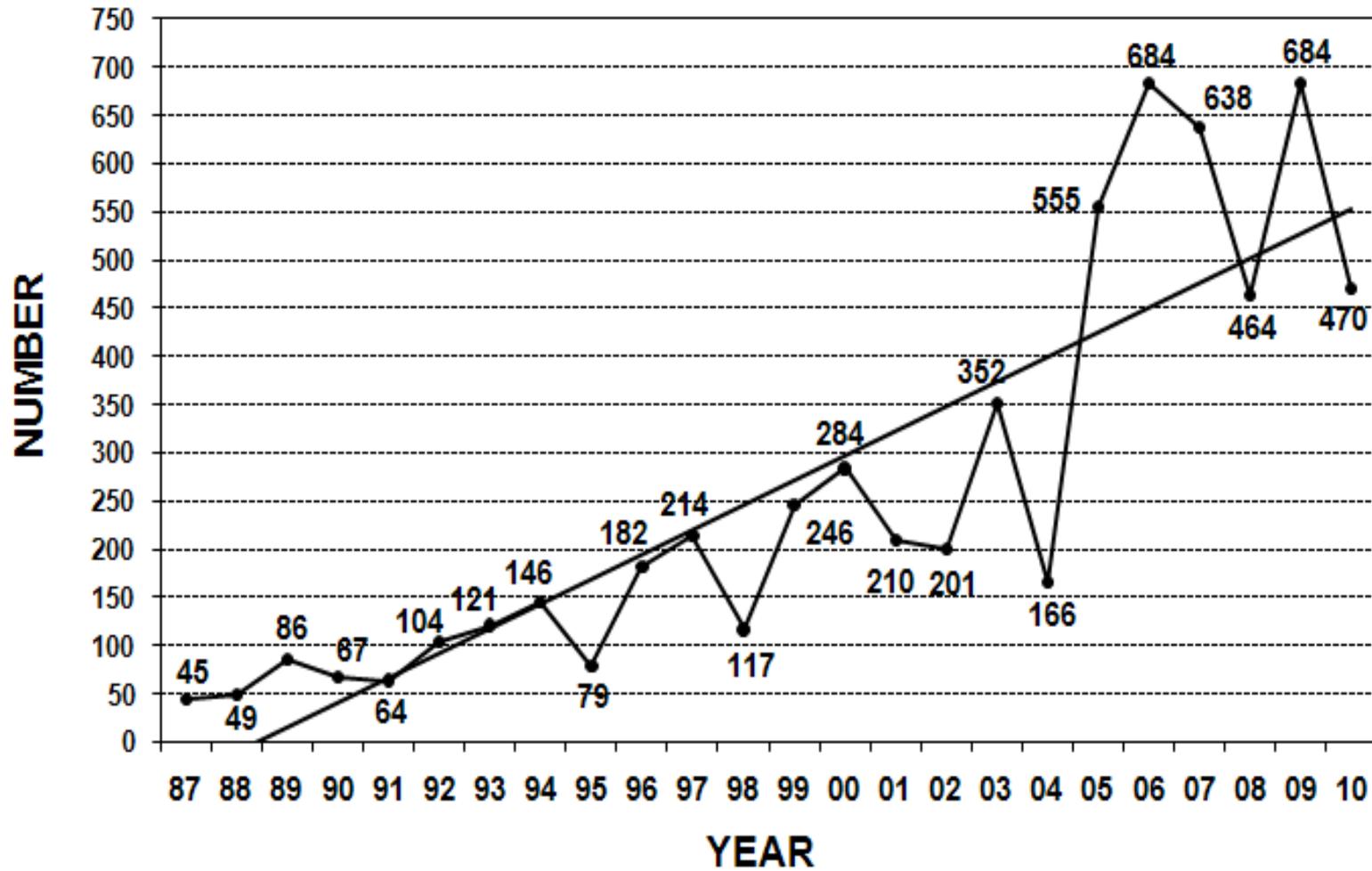


TABLE 3. NUMBER OF MUSKIE CAUGHT/YEAR GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO (≥) 42 INCHES, 1987 - 2010

WATER	YEAR										TOTAL ≥42"	ALL SIZES	% ≥42"																
	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96				97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10		
Banner Marsh*																		2	3			3	1	2	2	13	198	7	
Barnett							1																				1	1	100
Braidwood Lake									2																		2	7	29
Chopper Lake																								1			1	3	33
Countryside Lake																								1			1	4	25
Crystal Lake															1		1	1	5	3	4	3					18	84	21
Evergreen Lake											1	2	6	3	4	8	2	1	5	8	7	5	2	3		57	376	15	
Fox Chain O'Lakes			1			7	6	3	3	4	5	2	9	40	3	4	3	2	17	21	15	43	52	33		273	2,819	10	
Fox River		1			1							1	3	1	2			1	2		1		1	2		16	99	16	
Glen Shoals Lake	1																									1	8	13	
Heidecke Lake				1			1				2	1		1					1	3	1	1				12	699	2	
JE/PCSWA Prairie Lake																					2		3	8		13	113	12	
Kaskaskia River**											1				1			1	11	34	58	5	17	5		133	597	22	
Kinkaid Lake				1	1	1	4	28	7	40	22	5	14	16	10	20	14	18	49	50	70	55	52	50		527	2,799	19	
Lake Carlton	3	1		2	4		3	1		10	6	5	11	5	7	4	2		2	1	3		2	2		74	886	8	
Lake Galena																		6	2	1			2			11	27	41	
Lake George		1		1	8		4	4	1	1				1												21	178	12	
Lake Linden																							1			1	3	33	
Lake Shelbyville						2	2			4	6	17	7	14	7	26	13	41	25	14	5	5	1		189	1,231	15		
Lake Storey*				1			2		1				4	1		1	1	1	1	1			1		15	100	15		
Lake Zurich						1																				1	1	100	
Lake of the Woods																		1								1	22	5	
Loon Lake											1	3	1	1									1			7	130	5	
McMaster Lake SHFWA*													4	1	4		2	1		1	4	3	3		23	90	26		
Mill Creek Lake*																			1							1	6	17	
Otter Lake	1		1			3	2	2	1	1	1	1	7	6	4	1								1		32	350	9	
Pana Lake													1													1	69	1	
Paris Twin Lakes							1																			1	33	3	
Pierce Lake				1		1																	1	2		5	271	2	
Prairie Lake JE/PCSWA																					2		3	8		13	113	12	
Sauk Trail Lake																1										1	1	100	
Shabbona Lake	2		1		2	1	1			3	3	1	2	1	16	1	5	1	3		1	4	6		54	869	6		
Shadow Lake											1															1	1	100	
Skull Lake																										1	1	100	
Spring Lake North				2		1									1		2	1	6				5	1		19	758	3	
Sterling Lake									1	1		1	1						1	1	1	1				8	52	15	
Waterford Lake																								1		1	15	7	
Windsor Lake																		3								3	19	16	
Other							1						1	4	1		1					4		2		14	47	30	
<b>TOTAL ≥42"</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>1,566</b>				
<b>ALL SIZES</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>1,054</b>	<b>852</b>	<b>1,261</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>13,117</b>				
<b>% ≥42"</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>				

\*42" MINIMUM LENGTH LIMIT

\*\*KASKASKIA RIVER INCLUDES MUSKIE REPORTED CAUGHT FROM LAKE SHELBYVILLE TAILWATERS

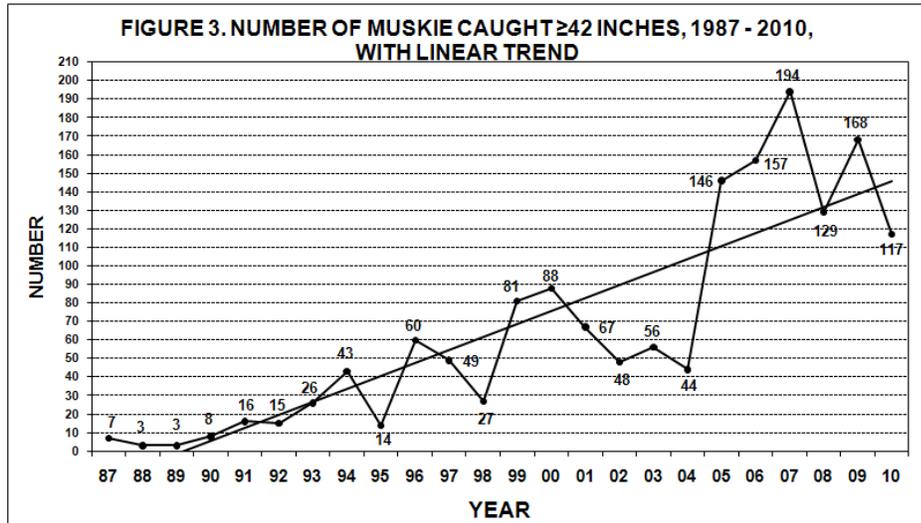


TABLE 4. NUMBER OF MUSKIE CAUGHT/YEAR GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO (≥) 45 INCHES, 1989 - 2010

WATER	YEAR																TOTAL ≥45"	ALL SIZES	% ≥45"								
	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04				05	06	07	08	09	10		
Banner Marsh																	1			1			2	4	198	2	
Crystal Lake														1			1	2	1	1	1			7	84	8	
Evergreen Lake											4	2	3	7	1		3	1	2	4	1	2	30	376	8		
Fox Chain O'Lakes				1	5	3	2	1	2	1	2	13	3	2	1	2	8	13	7	13	18	11	108	2,819	4		
Fox River																1	1					2	5	99	5		
Heidecke Lake									1									1	1	1	1		4	699	1		
Kaskaskia River*									1				1				1	5	18	1	4	1	32	597	5		
Kinkaid Lake					9	3	16	11	2	7	7	5	8	5	2	13	15	32	25	24	27		211	2,799	8		
Lake Carlton								1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1					2	1	14	886	2		
Lake Carroll																		2					2	2	100		
Lake Galena																			1				1	27	4		
Lake George			1		2	1							1										5	178	3		
Lake Shelbyville						1			2	4	5	5	8	3	11	4	12	5	5	2	1		68	1,231	6		
Lake Storey			1			2		1			2	1				1		1				1	10	100	10		
Lake Zurich				1																			1	1	100		
Loon Lake									1														1	130	1		
McMaster Lake SHFWA											2	1	2		2	1		1	2	3	1		15	90	17		
Otter Lake	1			1	2	1			1	1	2	5	2										16	350	5		
Pierce Lake																					1		1	271	0		
Prairie Lake JE/PCFWA																						3	7	10	113	9	
Sauk Trail Lake														1									1	1	100		
Shabbona Lake								1	2		1	1	8		3	1	2			1	1		21	869	2		
Shadow Lake									1														1	1	100		
Spring Lake North		1																	1				2	758	0		
Windsor Lake																	1						1	19	5		
Other											1	2								3	1		7	47	15		
TOTAL ≥45"	1	1	2	2	10	17	5	20	22	10	29	38	34	22	25	12	44	47	74	51	58	54	578				
ALL SIZES	360	298	204	245	260	408	292	353	445	315	549	569	602	456	608	322	894	1,180	1,054	852	1,261	924	12,451				
% ≥45"	0	0	1	1	4	4	2	6	5	3	5	7	6	5	4	4	5	4	7	6	5	6	5				

\*KASKASKIA RIVER INCLUDES MUSKIE REPORTED CAUGHT FROM LAKE SHELBYVILLE TAILWATERS

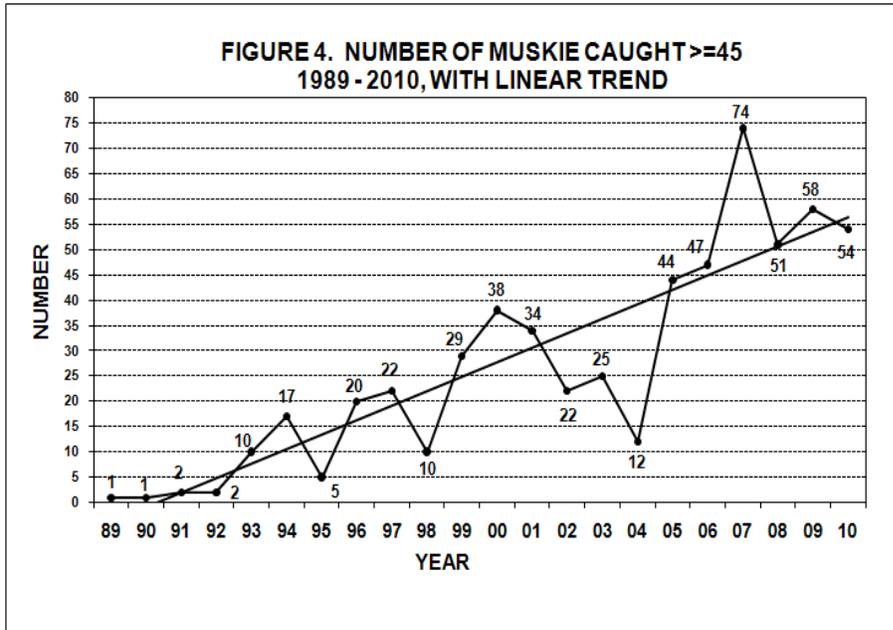
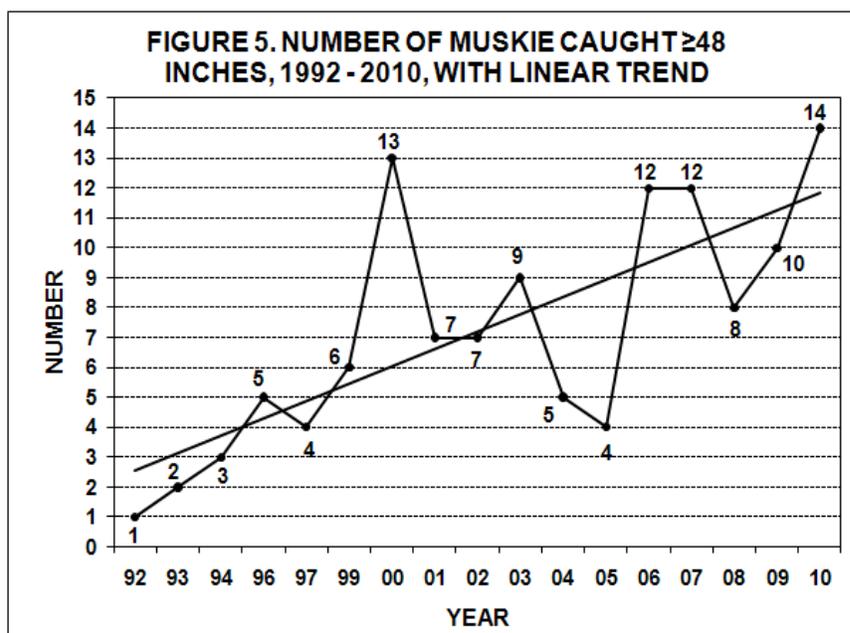


TABLE 5. NUMBER OF MUSKIE CAUGHT/YEAR GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO (≥) 48 INCHES, 1992 - 2010

WATER	YEAR																TOTAL ≥48"	ALL SIZES	% ≥48"	
	92	93	94	96	97	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09				10
Crystal Lake									1				1	1				3	84	4
Evergreen Lake*						2	1	2	4	1		1		1	2		1	15	376	4
Fox Chain O'Lakes*				1	1	1	4	1	1		2	1	5	3	1	5	2	28	2,819	1
Heidecke Lake*														1				1	699	0
Kaskaskia River**													2	1		1		4	597	1
Kinkaid Lake*			2	4		2	2				1		2	2	4	3	8	30	2,799	1
Lake Carlton					1				1								1	3	886	0
Lake Carroll													1					1	2	50
Lake Shelbyville*							2	1		4	1	2						10	1,231	1
Lake Storey			1															1	100	1
Lake Zurich		1																1	1	100
McMaster Lake SHFWA										1	1		1	2	1			6	90	7
Otter Lake*	1	1				1	3											6	350	2
Prairie Lake JE/PCFWA*																	2	2	113	2
Sauk Trail Lake										1								1	1	100
Shabbona Lake*					2			3		2						1		8	869	1
Other							1							1				2	47	4
TOTAL ≥48"	1	2	3	5	4	6	13	7	7	9	5	4	12	12	8	10	14	122		
ALL SIZES	245	260	408	353	445	549	569	602	456	608	322	894	1,180	1,054	852	1,261	924	10,982		
% ≥48"	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	1		

\*48" MINIMUM LENGTH LIMIT

\*\*KASKASKIA RIVER INCLUDES MUSKIE REPORTED CAUGHT FROM LAKE SHELBYVILLE TAILWATERS



**TABLE 6. ACTUAL LENGTH OF MUSKIE CAUGHT/YEAR GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO ( $\geq$ ) 50 INCHES, 1994 - 2010**

WATER	YEAR															TOTAL $\geq 50''$
	94	97	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10		
Evergreen Lake					51.0	50.0 51.0										3
Fox Chain O'Lakes						50.5		50.5		51.0			50.0 50.5			5
Heidecke Lake											53.8				1	
Kinkaid Lake	53.0							50.0		50.0			51.0		4	
Lake Carlton		50.5													1	
Lake Carroll										51.0					1	
Lake Shelbyville				51.0	51.0		51.0 53.0	52.0	50.2						6	
McMaster Lake SHFWA							51.0	50.5		54.0	50.0				4	
Otter Lake			51.5	50.0											2	
Shabbona Lake		50.0													1	
<b>TOTAL <math>\geq 50''</math></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	

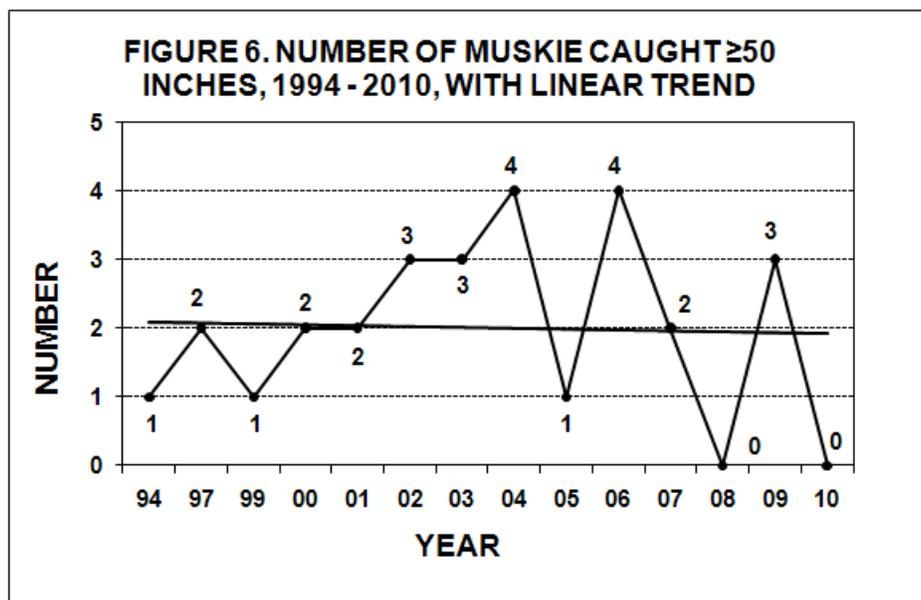


TABLE 7. AVERAGE LENGTH OF MUSKIES CAUGHT BY WATER AND YEAR, 1987 - 2010

WATER	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	AVERAGE LENGTH	
Argyle Lake	24.8	16.0	25.6	29.9					32.0	27.2	37.5								37.0						27.6	
Banner Marsh																		35.2	35.7	34.5	35.3	34.9	36.9	34.4	35.0	
Barnett							43.0																		43.0	
Big Bend Lake																13.0									13.0	
Big Lake																33.5									33.5	
Braidwood Lake									35.1																35.1	
Busse Lake																				15.0					15.0	
Canton Lake				33.0																					33.0	
Cedar Lake					24.3																				24.3	
Chopper Lake																							40.7		40.7	
Clinton Lake	31.1	31.0	31.3	36.0									33.0												32.1	
Countryside Lake																							42.5	36.8	38.2	
Crystal Lake				36.0										32.0		48.0		42.0	35.7	39.4	39.9	36.5	36.2	33.5	37.4	
Double T FWA																							39.0		39.0	
Eagle Lake - PRK																					25.0				25.0	
Evergreen Lake											42.0	38.9	34.8	36.9	36.0	35.8	36.5	35.5	37.9	36.3	37.4	38.7	36.5	36.0	36.5	
Forbes State Park								34.0																	34.0	
Forest Lake																					40.0				40.0	
Fox Chain O'Lakes	28.6	27.9	34.3	33.9	33.4	33.0	32.1	31.9	32.1	33.6	34.8	34.8	37.3	37.5	37.2	39.0	35.2	39.4	36.3	36.3	35.0	36.8	36.4	35.9	35.5	
Fox River		39.5	29.3	33.9	35.8	39.5	8.0	12.5				37.3	35.6	42.0	39.5	37.8	36.2	45.0	38.7	34.7	37.6	32.0	38.6	38.5	36.1	
Gladstone Lake								36.0																	36.0	
Glen Shoals Lake	29.8		28.0																						29.3	
Goldeneye Lake PSP																								35.5	35.5	
Heidecke Lake	26.5	30.6	34.5	33.1	20.0	24.6	27.8	27.5	54.7	29.9	21.8	24.5	27.6	23.8	31.0	32.5	38.0	30.7	31.9	31.7	33.0	33.0	33.8	21.1	27.0	
I&M Canal				17.5																					17.5	
Illinois River											37.0														37.0	
Independence Grove Lake																				31.3		34.8	37.0		32.5	
Indian Creek																							37.5	40.0	40.0	
Island Lake																							31.0	41.0	34.3	
Kaskaskia River*							41.5			37.5	44.0				45.5		37.4	37.0	37.2	38.4	39.3	38.1	38.8	37.4	38.6	
Kinkaid Lake	26.5	29.1	20.3	30.0	35.5	34.5	35.8	33.3	32.9	37.5	38.8	34.7	38.1	35.3	33.7	34.9	36.8	38.3	37.8	37.7	37.6	37.0	36.6	37.1	36.5	
LaMoine River																					40.0				40.0	
LaSalle Lake				24.0																					24.0	
Lake Carlton	31.7	31.5	32.3	32.7	33.9	33.8	35.3	35.4	33.0	37.0	37.7	36.9	39.0	65.1	37.0	37.5	35.8	39.2	37.4	38.2	37.4	33.0	37.3	37.7	34.3	
Lake Carroll																					48.5				48.5	
Lake Galena																				40.3	37.4	37.8	39.0	41.3	39.4	
Lake George	31.0	34.1	32.7	32.6	36.0	35.6	38.0	37.7	42.0	38.0	37.8	34.5			34.3		35.0		41.0					34.9		
Lake Linden																							38.4		38.4	
Lake Mingo																				27.7	32.8	16.0	34.3	25.0	30.4	
Lake Shelbyville	26.4	32.6	39.3	35.2	37.5	22.1	25.0	34.8	29.0	35.4	37.7	39.6	38.5	37.3	35.6	36.2	36.6	36.2	38.9	37.8	38.3	37.9	37.4	34.9	37.0	
Lake Springfield	26.9	26.7	34.5		30.0	22.5																			27.0	
Lake Storey	32.9	36.2	38.3		45.0	29.7		46.5		47.0	32.9		32.8	34.7	30.7	35.9	34.4	42.2	37.4	36.3	37.4	37.0	35.9	34.6	35.2	
Lake Sule											28.8	35.0	34.0									35.0			31.2	
Lake Zurich							48.0																		48.0	
Lake of the Woods				31.0	29.0	36.0		27.0			33.3	28.6	34.5					36.0	39.6					33.6		
Loon Lake							26.0	33.4		35.4	35.1	35.9	36.4	37.7	38.8	35.0		41.0	36.0	34.4	34.5	35.9	38.0	35.4		
Lost Lake																						25.0	31.9		29.6	
McMaster Lake SHFWA						15.5							35.4	38.0	39.6	35.0	40.5	50.5	34.8	40.3	44.2	38.4	38.4	30.0	37.8	
Mill Creek Lake																					37.5	38.0			37.6	
Nippersink Creek	30.5							23.5																	25.8	
Otter Lake	34.3	32.0	35.8	33.3	36.3	37.0	33.6	32.0	34.1	34.3	36.6	33.6	33.1	37.5	38.3	40.5	42.8			37.5	37.5	11.0	34.0	39.2	34.4	
Pana Lake	24.0	27.4	15.6	24.5	29.5	22.3	39.0	23.6		22.3		29.6	29.1									30.0	20.0	27.0	25.9	
Paradise Lake					15.3	16.0		12.0			32.0														18.1	
Paris Twin Lakes		26.3	30.8	26.6	33.6	30.8	42.0	19.0	31.7	38.0															29.8	
Pierce Lake	30.7	33.4	32.1	31.7	29.0	39.5	26.5	28.0	33.5	33.4	27.8					30.0	35.0	33.5	32.9	33.4	32.0	31.9	34.0	33.8	32.5	
Prairie Lake JE/PCFWA																	34.0	33.7	33.6	35.4	36.1	39.8	34.0	36.7	40.3	36.2
Rock River			39.3		33.3	41.0				34.0	34.5														36.9	
Sauk Trail Lake																			48.0						48.0	
Shabbona Lake	26.1	26.9	29.0	31.3	32.7	34.8	36.4	34.2	32.6	37.5	39.0	37.4	31.8	35.6	34.2	34.1	36.6	36.0	36.8	35.6	36.5	36.5	35.1	30.6	32.7	
Shadow Lake											46.5														46.5	
Skull Lake																						43.0			43.0	
Spring Lake North	29.8	27.7	33.2	33.3	32.4	39.5	30.0		32.5	27.9	35.0		40.7	33.0	29.1	32.8	32.3	34.0	34.2	34.6	33.6	35.0	30.2	33.7	32.8	
Sterling Lake							23.7	26.0			35.3	35.5	32.5	34.9	33.1	28.7	27.0	35.0	40.0		42.5	43.0	32.0	40.5	32.6	
Waterford Lake																								37.3	36.2	36.9
Windsor Lake																				39.0	34.7		41.0		38.5	
Wolf Lake			24.4	33.0	33.3		29.0			26.8	30.0			27.5		37.0									29.2	
Wonder Lake																		40.0							40.0	
Other		29.3				28.0	36.5			34.0	18.0		47.0	35.9	35.0		38.3		35.1	35.0	40.8		43.0		36.0	
AVERAGE LENGTH	29.0	29.8	31.6	32.3	33.3	32.6	33.5	32.7	32.8	35.8	34.2	31.6	33.9	34.5	34.6	35.1	36.5	36.4	37.1	36.6	37.0	36.4	36.1	35.6		

\*KASKASKIA RIVER INCLUDES MUSKIE REPORTED CAUGHT FROM LAKE SHELBYVILLE TAILWATERS

**FIGURE 7. AVERAGE LENGTH OF MUSKIES  
CAUGHT/YEAR, 1987 - 2010, WITH LINEAR TREND**

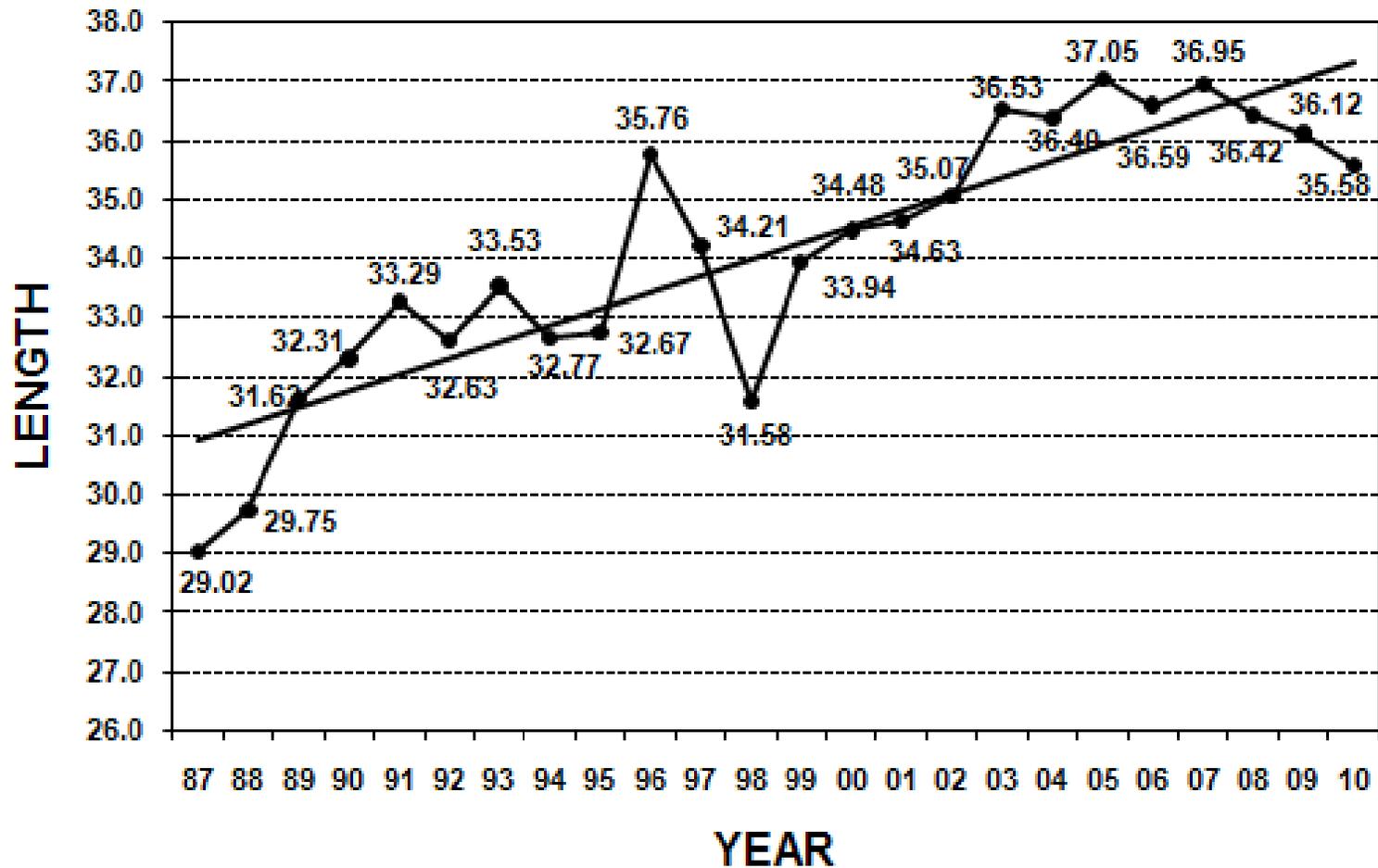


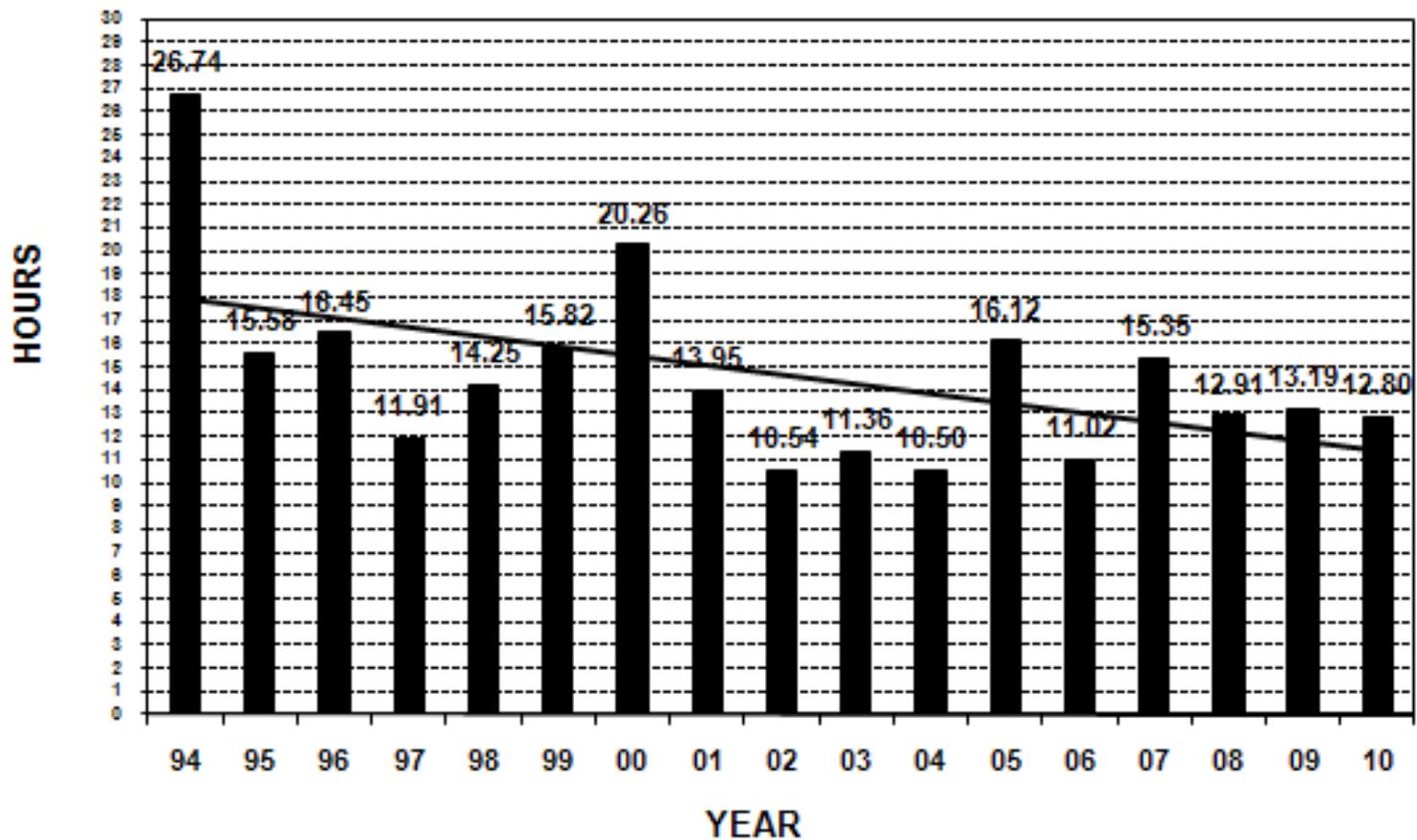
TABLE 8. AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS FISHED BETWEEN MUSKIE CATCHES,  
1994 - 2010

WATER	YEAR																	AVERAGE BY WATER
	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	
Argyle Lake		2.0																2.0
Banner Marsh											2.0		1.6				10.0	3.0
Big Bend Lake																		
Big Lake									9.5									9.5
Braidwood Lake		7.0																7.0
Busse Lake													25.0					25.0
Clinton Lake						1.8												1.8
Crystal Lake									15.0			8.5		50.0				20.5
Double T SFW																	12.0	12.0
Evergreen Lake					11.7	21.9	18.3	22.1	10.9	15.4	9.2	18.5	6.5	22.9	7.9			14.0
Forbes State Park		0.5																0.5
Forest Lake														0.5				0.5
Fox Chain O'Lakes	6.6	14.9	21.4	11.3	13.6	23.3	6.7	4.8	25.7	26.3	11.2	24.9	34.0	33.1	27.0	12.2	6.5	18.5
Fox River					2.5	5.3		4.4	20.0	20.7					1.8			6.7
Gladstone Lake																		
Heidecke Lake		2.0		7.2	5.2	12.3	10.3	14.2	8.6		50.5	61.3	26.8	17.9	48.0	3.4	18.7	14.7
Illinois River																		
Kaskaskia River**				8.0						1.5	3.8		6.1	3.6			4.0	4.2
Kinkaid Lake	28.8	19.6	12.9	9.3	24.4	26.6	22.2	24.1	9.5	10.6	14.4	13.6	13.4	12.4	12.9	14.2	14.0	14.1
Lake Carlton	20.7	17.2	29.9	22.4	20.9	28.8	15.6	21.2	16.8	9.2		49.0	22.0	16.3		12.1	9.1	21.2
Lake Carroll													20.0					20.0
Lake Galena															30.0			30.0
Lake George			62.0					6.0										34.0
Lake Mingo												14.5	8.5	40.0	1.0	10.0		11.4
Lake Shelbyville			2.5	7.3	6.7	7.4	47.9	10.1	8.0	11.3	10.2	9.2	8.8	18.0	7.4	25.5	18.7	12.4
Lake Storey				9.4		7.6	7.3	16.3	3.2	12.5	11.5	12.0	36.0	12.5		9.0	9.0	9.4
Lake Sule				8.0		45.0												17.3
Lake of the Woods					3.3						8.0	14.0						9.3
Loon Lake			15.2	9.0	7.1	14.4	3.0		15.0		15.0							10.4
Lost Lake														50.0	28.0			35.3
McMaster Lake SHFWA						9.7		17.0	24.0	20.0	13.0		20.0	4.0	6.1	9.5		9.8
Mill Creek Lake													22.8					22.8
Nippersink Creek																		
Otter Lake	34.4	5.8	9.5	16.1	75.0	12.3	12.0	12.3	25.0	65.0			12.0		2.0		10.0	18.5
Pana Lake	5.0					8.2										100.0		15.5
Paradise Lake				1.0														1.0
Paris Twin Lakes																		
Pierce Lake		2.0	4.5											7.3	18.3	1.5	8.0	9.2
Prairie Lake JE/PCFWA										9.2	11.6	9.0	12.9	25.5	11.0	24.2	7.6	12.6
Rock River																		
Sauk Trail Lake										4.0								4.0
Shabbona Lake		16.8	15.0	16.0	1.5	20.8	18.3	8.8	16.0	11.6	15.7	32.5		12.0		10.6	11.3	12.9
Shadow Lake				20.0											26.3			20.0
Spring Lake North		15.0	19.2	10.0		8.3	8.0	5.9	4.3	8.0	5.4	3.3	1.8	3.0	5.4	4.3	1.8	5.1
Sterling Lake			9.5		6.7	5.5	13.5	9.6	5.5	3.0	8.0			40.0	15.0	22.0		10.1
Windsor Lake															16.0			16.0
Wolf Lake							10.0											10.0
Wonder Lake																		
<b>AVERAGE BY YEAR</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>13.7*</b>

\*OVERALL AVERAGE HOURS (ALL WATERS AND YEARS)

\*\*KASKASKIA RIVER INCLUDES MUSKIE REPORTED CAUGHT FROM LAKE SHELBYVILLE TAILWATERS

**FIGURE 8. AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS FISHED BETWEEN MUSKIE CATCHES, 1994 - 2010, WITH LINEAR TREND**



**TABLE 9. MUSKIE CATCH AND AVERAGE LENGTH OF MUSKIE CAUGHT BY MONTH, 1987 - 2010**

YEAR	MONTH												TOTAL
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
87	3	2	9	33	88	60	41	41	32	14	5		328
88	3	2	9	88	69	34	24	31	38	26	12		336
89	5	2	4	49	65	63	43	26	47	46	9	1	360
90	3	3	32	59	62	20	37	27	34	14	4	1	296
91		3	9	31	31	42	17	16	18	18	19		204
92	1	4	6	13	31	51	59	48	23	9			245
93	1	1	3	10	63	51	36	8	43	38	6		260
94	2	2	7	32	72	35	39	62	74	55	18	10	408
95	7	9	27	38	64	102	40	3		2			292
96		2	53	32	41	54	32	25	43	45	23	3	353
97	1	3	3	59	75	81	39	67	53	38	21	4	444
98		9	7	43	83	65	31	21	22	18	16		315
99	2	1	11	87	130	93	45	46	59	56	14	5	549
00	4	2	10	70	97	99	84	69	57	58	18		568
01		1	7	68	91	109	28	23	177	56	33	9	602
02	2	7	18	55	87	96	21	17	52	77	24		456
03	2	5	40	122	122	91	27	50	51	64	32	1	607
04	3	3	11	56	30	63	30	16	38	38	30	4	322
05	7	36	42	159	151	83	59	47	84	117	89	20	894
06	133	18	62	130	132	151	95	68	139	150	67	34	1,179
07	21	5	97	114	160	119	156	58	113	138	56	15	1,052
08	1	1	37	49	109	131	76	116	125	157	42	8	852
09	9	12	58	85	131	218	209	138	166	133	68	34	1,261
10		10	55	139	159	190	54	39	106	126	45	1	924
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>1,621</b>	<b>2,143</b>	<b>2,101</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>1,493</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>13,107</b>
<b>PERCENT</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>1.1</b>	
<b>AVG LENGTH</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>35.6</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>34.8</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>37.8</b>	

**FIGURE 9. PERCENT MUSKIE CATCH AND AVERAGE LENGTH OF MUSKIE CAUGHT BY MONTH, 1987 - 2010**

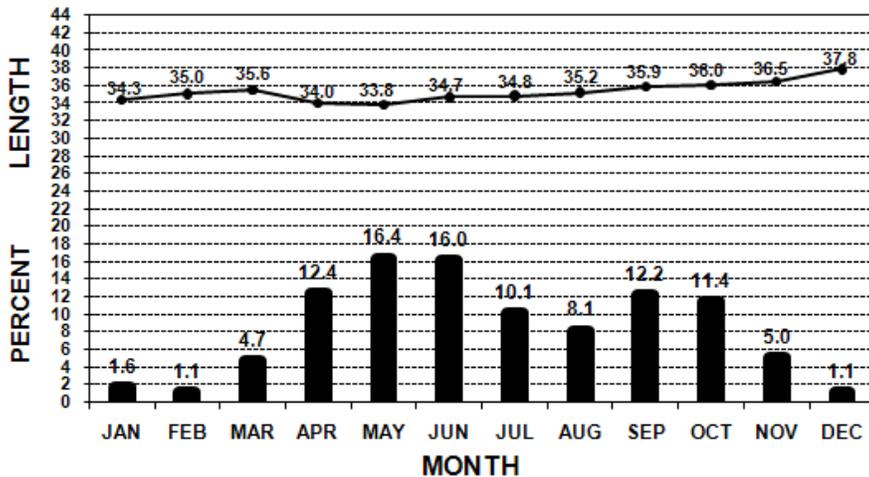


TABLE 10. PERCENT MUSKIE CATCH BY WATER AND MONTH, 1987 - 2010

WATER	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Argyle Lake	0	0	0	12	24	24	12	8	20	0	0	0	25
Banner Marsh	5	1	2	8	32	37	13	2	1	0	0	0	198
Barnett	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	1
Big Bend Lake	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Big Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	2
Braidwood Lake	0	0	29	0	43	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Busse Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	1
Canton Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cedar Lake	0	50	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Chopper Lake	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Clinton Lake	7	0	0	0	27	40	7	13	0	7	0	0	15
Countryside Lake	0	0	0	0	0	75	0	0	0	25	0	0	4
Crystal Lake	2	0	0	10	15	7	23	15	12	11	5	0	84
Double T FWA	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	2
Eagle Lake - PRK	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Evergreen Lake	0	0	3	6	9	9	19	22	17	15	1	0	376
Forbes State Park	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Forest Lake	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fox Chain O'Lakes	0	0	1	8	17	25	16	13	11	6	2	0	2,820
Fox River	7	2	8	5	17	15	28	5	0	4	7	1	99
Gladstone Lake	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Glen Shoals Lake	0	0	0	25	38	13	13	13	0	0	0	0	8
Goldeneye Lake PSP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	1
Heidecke Lake	0	0	0	31	27	20	10	5	5	2	0	0	699
I&M Canal	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Illinois River	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	1
Independence Grove Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	13	0	0	75	0	8
Indian Creek	0	0	0	0	75	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	4
Island Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	67	0	3
Kaskaskia River*	2	1	3	16	5	15	15	7	8	9	9	7	596
Kinkaid Lake	1	2	13	12	14	10	2	2	8	23	9	2	2,799
LaMoine River	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
LaSalle Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	1
Lake Carlton	0	0	1	15	25	16	11	9	11	9	3	0	886
Lake Carroll	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	50	0	2
Lake Galena	0	0	15	22	7	15	11	0	7	7	15	0	27
Lake George	0	0	0	5	9	10	11	8	24	16	16	1	178
Lake Linden	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	33	33	0	0	0	3
Lake Mingo	0	0	0	6	0	11	6	28	0	39	11	0	18
Lake Shelbyville	1	1	2	19	11	7	4	7	25	15	7	1	1,230
Lake Springfield	0	0	0	9	18	36	9	9	0	9	9	0	11
Lake Storey	1	0	4	16	42	15	3	5	6	4	3	1	100
Lake Sule	0	0	0	20	0	10	50	10	0	0	10	0	10
Lake Zurich	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Lake of the Woods	0	0	9	14	14	23	18	14	9	0	0	0	22
Loon Lake	0	0	0	2	7	22	11	13	12	12	18	2	130
Lost Lake	0	0	0	33	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
McMaster Lake SHFWA	0	0	4	8	32	21	10	6	14	4	0	0	90
Mill Creek Lake	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	33	33	17	6
Nippersink Creek	0	0	0	33	0	33	0	0	33	0	0	0	3
Otter Lake	0	0	1	6	10	14	13	15	20	16	3	1	349
Pana Lake	0	0	3	6	22	7	10	9	4	6	0	33	69
Paradise Lake	0	0	0	50	0	25	0	0	0	25	0	0	4
Paris Twin Lakes	0	0	3	18	18	15	12	6	18	9	0	0	33
Pierce Lake	1	0	4	13	12	15	19	14	12	9	1	0	269
Prairie Lake JE/PCFWA	3	2	2	10	21	17	4	2	25	9	6	0	113
Rock River	0	0	0	17	17	17	17	0	17	17	0	0	6
Sauk Trail Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	1
Shabbona Lake	0	0	0	8	25	23	11	10	16	6	1	0	868
Shadow Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	1
Skull Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	1
Spring Lake North	16	7	15	12	9	11	7	6	3	6	6	2	758
Sterling Lake	0	0	0	10	10	10	10	17	31	12	0	2	52
Waterford Lake	0	0	0	0	20	13	20	33	13	0	0	0	15
Windsor Lake	0	0	5	26	53	5	11	0	0	0	0	0	19
Wolf Lake	0	0	6	13	31	25	13	0	6	0	6	0	16
Wonder Lake	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other	0	4	0	6	21	36	4	6	9	4	9	0	47
PERCENT	2	1	5	12	16	16	10	8	12	11	5	1	13,111

\*KASKASKIA RIVER INCLUDES MUSKIE REPORTED CAUGHT FROM LAKE SHELBYVILLE TAILWATERS

**FIGURE 10. PERCENT MUSKIE CATCH BY MONTH TOP EIGHT LAKES, 1987 - 2010**

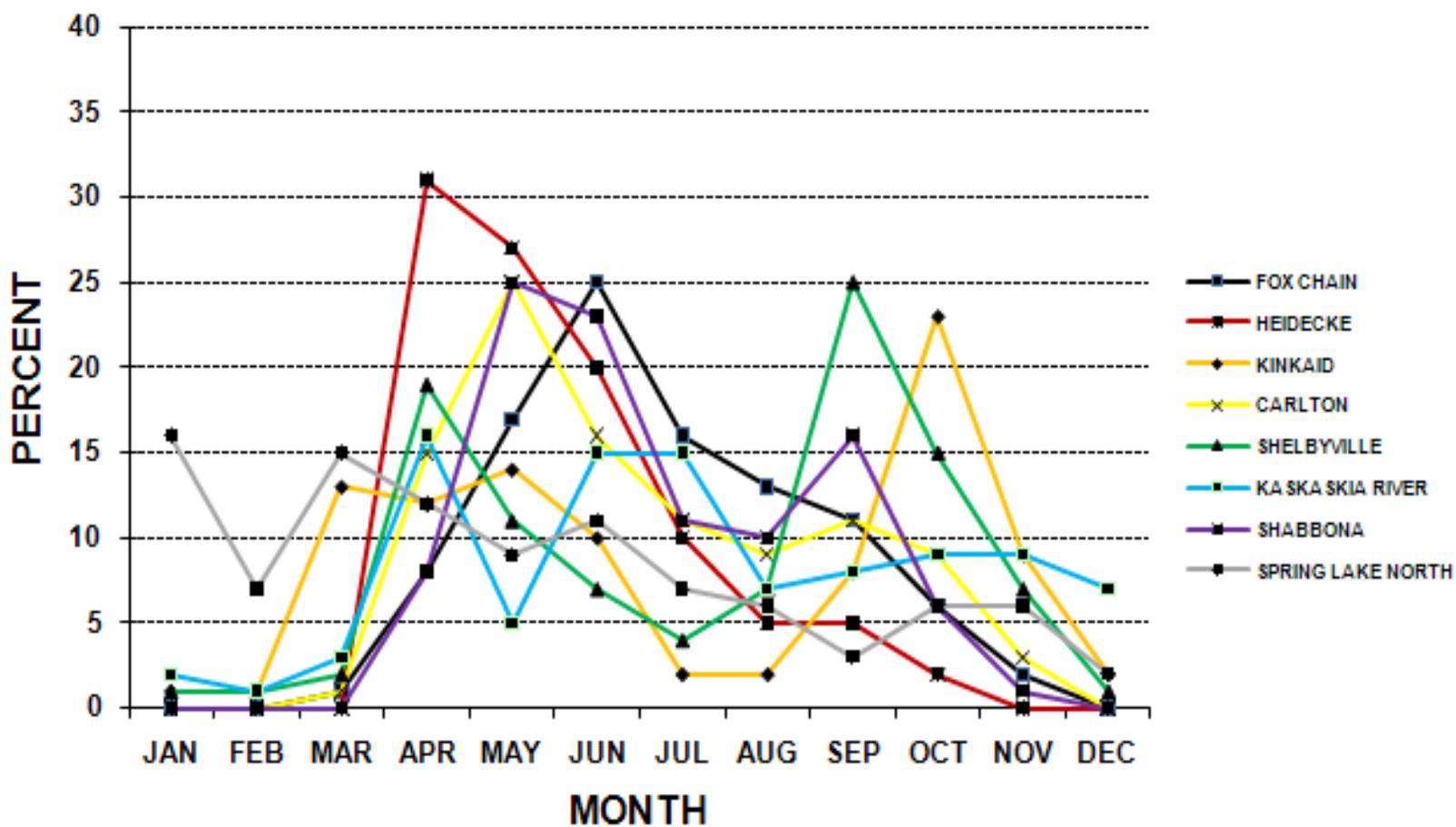


FIGURE 11. CASTING VS. TROLLING ALL WATERS, 1987 - 2010

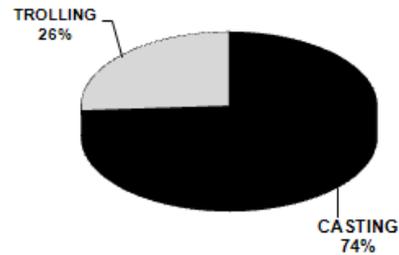


FIGURE 12. LURE TYPES ALL WATERS, 1987 - 2010

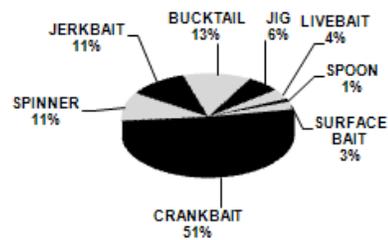


FIGURE 13. LURE COLORS ALL WATERS, 1987 - 2010

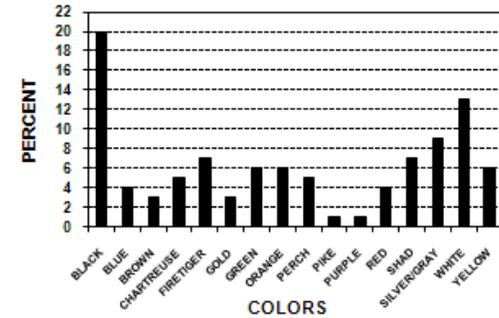


TABLE 11. ILLINOIS TOP SIX MUSKIE WATERS BASED ON PERCENT MUSKIES CAUGHT ≥36 INCHES, WITH PERCENT TIME OF YEAR, PRESENTATION, AND LURE TYPE AND COLOR, 1987 - 2010

LAKE	≥36"	TIME OF YEAR			PRESENTATION		LURE TYPE			LURE COLOR		
		OCT	MAY	MAR	CASTING	TROLLING	CRANKBAIT	SPINNER	JERKBAIT/BUCKTAIL	WHITE	BLACK	FIRETIGER
Kinkaid Lake	28	23	14	13	71	29	62	15	9	25	12	10
Fox Chain O'Lakes	25	JUN 25	MAY 17	JUL 16	67	33	46	24	12	19	10	ORANGE/CHARTREUSE 9
Lake Shelbyville	13	SEP 25	APR 19	OCT 15	71	29	59	13	11	20	15	SHAD 14
Kaskaskia River	8	APR 16	JUN 15	JUL 15	99	1	39	28	12	31	16	CHARTREUSE 9
Lake Carlton	6	MAY 25	JUN 16	APR 15	87	13	33	22	12	34	9	GREEN 8
Shabbona Lake	5	MAY 25	JUN 23	SEP 16	71	29	50	14	9	19	10	YELLOW 8

Note: These six waters comprise 85% of all muskie caught ≥36" from 1987 thru 2010.

Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other non-merit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding source's civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271; 217/785-0067; TTY 217/782-9175

This information may be provided in an alternative format if required. Contact the DNR Clearinghouse at 217/782-7498 for assistance.