



Summary of Activities

December, 2016 - Singush Lake ESTN (2015, 2016)

Summary of Activities: Singush Lake is a small recreational sport fishery located within the southeast portion of the Duck Mountain Provincial Park, approximately 50km north of Grandview, Manitoba. Singush Lake sport fish species include walleye, northern pike, smallmouth bass, yellow perch, and provides significant angling opportunities for each of these species.

Through recommendation from Manitoba Sustainable Development - Fisheries Branch and Singush Lake Cottage Association, an ESTN program was initiated in May/June of 2015 and 2016. End of Spring Trap Netting (ESTN) is a standard live release program designed to estimate the relative abundance of a fish stock, and provide other biological measures to assess the status of walleye populations in Ontario. The project was completed in partnership with Sustainable Development & Intermountain Sport Fishing Enhancement, and Swan Valley Sport Fishing Enhancement using this non-lethal (live-release trap netting and complimentary electrofishing) method to collect a "snapshot" of the health/state of the walleye fishery.

Field activities commenced in late May, early June in both 2015 and 2016. Sixteen randomly located trap locations were fished each year with a target effort of 24 hour set per trap net. Also each September, a complimentary electrofishing effort (8 @ 100m transects) were completed to further assess the small bodied fish community. The two-year assessment project on Singush Lake provided an updated assessment on the species composition and to evaluate the success of the walleye stocking regime for the lake (Stevens, 2016). Information on length, weight, and age was collected from walleye (*Sander vitreus*), northern pike (*Esox lucius*) and smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*) caught in trap nets, all other species were counted. Data analysis conducted includes Catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE), relative abundance, length frequencies, population estimates and species biomass (Stevens, 2016).

Following full data collection in partnership with Sustainable Development, ISFE, and SVSFE, the data final data analysis portion was delegated to Sustainable Development Dauphin Fisheries Staff - Johnathan Stevens and Lloyd Rowe. For full analytical results - Please refer to Fisheries Report 2016 - Singush Lake Trap Netting.

