

# Cowanesque Lake

Tioga County

## 2021 Walleye Survey



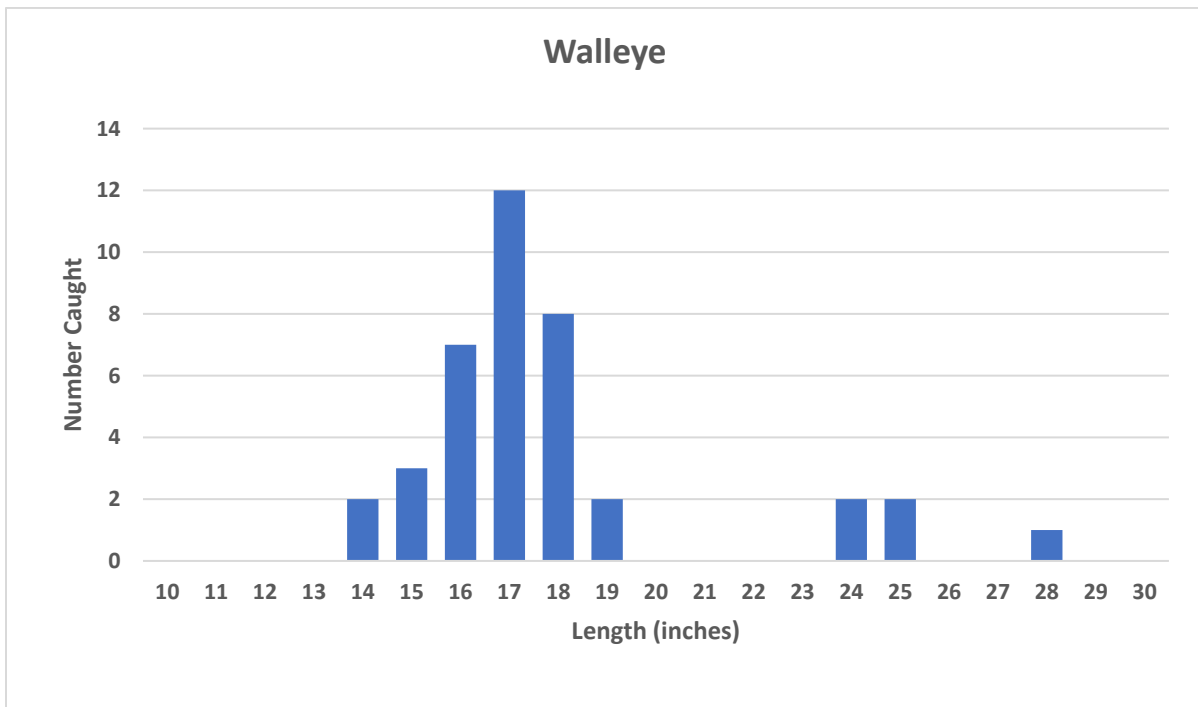
***Area 4 Fisheries Biologist Garret Kratina with a pair of Walleye caught March 31, -2021.***

The Area 4 Fisheries Management Office conducted a single night electrofishing survey on Cowanesque Lake on March 31, 2021. The objective of this survey was to evaluate the success of Walleye stockings. Walleye were originally stocked in Cowanesque Lake in the 1980's and 1990's, however these stocking failed to create a Walleye fishery. Stocking was again initiated in 2011 after Alewife were found in the lake. Walleye fingerlings have been stocked at varying rates in 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019, and 2020 (Table 1).

**Table 1.** Stocking history for Walleye fingerlings in Cowanesque Lake.

Year	Total number stocked	Stocking rate (#/acre)
2011	11,000	10.1
2013	82,000	75.3
2014	22,000	20.2
2015	22,000	20.2
2018	22,000	20.2
2019	37,290	40.2
2020	44,000	40.4

Night boat electrofishing occurred on March 31, 2021. A total of 39 Walleye were captured in 1.1 hours of electrofishing time. Walleye ranged in length from 14 – 28 inches and 1.1 – 11.8 pounds. The electrofishing catch rate of 35.4 Walleye per hour met Walleye Plan benchmarks for continued stocking. Most walleye collected were of legal length and anglers can anticipate good fishing when the season opens on May 1, 2021.



**Figure 1.** Length frequency distribution of Walleye caught on March 31, 2021 from Cowanesque Lake.



*A 28-inch 11.8-pound Walleye captured on March 31, 2021 from Cowanesque Lake.*

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