Witter's and Curtis Lake Management Planning Meeting

Fisheries
Witter's Lake

51 acre clear water seepage lake
Max depth around 18’
Mean depth 4’
Heavily developed shoreline
Periodic winterkills back in late 50’s
Sampled in 2014
Fall Electrofishing
Curtis Lake

- 33 acre drainage lake
- Max depth 45’
- No recent fisheries information
- Last survey was 1987 fyke net
- No active management
- Need to add to survey rotation

Spring Electrofishing 2016?
Witters Largemouth Bass

- Good abundance
  - 116/hour >8” (275/hour in 04)
- Poor size structure
  - PSD12 = 9% (5% in 04)
  - RSD14 = 4% (no fish over 14 in 04)
- Improvements in abundance and slight improvement in size structure since removal of 14” size limit 2005.
Bluegill

• Good abundance
  – 236/hour (14/hour in 04)
  – Young of year common

• Size structure good
  – PSD6 – 76% (14% in 04)
  – RSD7 – 15% (none over 7” in 04)

• Improvements occurring

• We expect population improvements with new panfish regulation.
Witter’s Mgmt.

• LMB size limit removed in 2005 restore balance.

• Experimental Panfish regulation into effect April 1, 2016
  – 15/5
  – Bag of 15 panfish, only 5 of any one species
  – 10 year sunset 2026.

• Focus on improving habitat
Curtis Lake

• Surveys done in 70’s and 80’s
  – Large lake seining
  – Fyke netting
  – LMB, Panfish (mainly Bluegill), Northern Pike and Trout

• Stocking of Northern Pike and Trout
  – Both have been discontinued

• Currently no active management
Conclusion

• Habitat Survey
  – Curtis scores “high”
  – Witter’s scores “low”
  – Protection of existing habitat
  – Improve or restore any areas of concern
  – Use of large woody debris in littoral area
Thank You!

Questions??