

STATEWIDE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS

Job Performance Report

State: Vermont

Project No.: F-12-R-25

Study No.: I

Project No.: Lake, Pond and Stream
Investigations

Job No.: I-3

Job Title: Management Evaluation

Period Covered: July 1, 1991 - June 30, 1992

BACKGROUND:

For years the Fisheries Division has recognized the necessity to re-examine its management programs and to develop formal management plans. Unfortunately due to budgetary constraints and on-going program commitments, these initiatives were never developed under a statewide planning process. Consequently, management changes and shifts in program direction were usually done on a piecemeal basis, often as a result from pressure of special interest groups. This has resulted in fragmented fisheries regulations which are inconsistent throughout the state and which often provide little biological management value. A trend that appears to be gaining momentum among the angling community is the desire for a greater diversity of quality angling opportunities. In order to more effectively manage the fisheries resources of the state to meet these desires, it is necessary to include anglers in the process of defining management goals.

In an effort "to more closely align fisheries management with public desires and the ecology of Vermont's waters," a large-scale mail survey was developed to determine the use, needs and attitudes of Vermont anglers. The results of the Vermont Angler Survey will be integrated with the results of scientific studies of fisheries biology and management, both within and outside Vermont, to form the basis of formal fisheries management plans for Vermont's important sportfish species.

PROCEDURES:

Content - A team of four fisheries biologists were assigned the task of developing and implementing an attitude survey of both resident and non-resident anglers to include all types of fisheries available in Vermont. A general outline of desired information from Vermont anglers was developed:

I. Angler Profile

- A. Age
- B. Sex
- C. Residency / geographic location
- D. License type
- E. Affiliation (organized club)

II. Angler Behavior

- A. Species fished for
- B. Type of fishing (ice, trout stream, Lake Champlain, etc.)
- C. Avidity (days fished)
- D. Gear use

III. Angler Attitudes / Desires

- A. Species preferences
- B. Fishery management options
 - 1. Creel limits
 - 2. Minimum and quality sizes
 - 3. Special regulations
 - 4. Season length
 - 5. Gear limitations
 - 6. Use of cultured fish
- C. Current issues

Questionnaire Design - Several recent angler attitude surveys were obtained for reference from federal and state fisheries agencies (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wyoming, Washington, Colorado, North Carolina, Florida, Arkansas). Techniques described by Dillman (1978) for designing mail surveys were followed as closely as possible.

Following multiple in-house revisions, including reviews by the entire fisheries biological staff, a draft questionnaire booklet was developed for pretesting and external review. Pretesting the questionnaire was conducted with potential respondents (i.e. anglers) to identify problems with questions, directions, content and overall survey format. Approximately 60 anglers throughout the state, comprising members of diverse organized clubs (B.A.S.S., Trout Unlimited, local Fish and Game Clubs) and individual (unaffiliated) anglers, completed the draft questionnaire and provided immediate feedback on its content and design. Several problems were identified during this process. In addition, external review by Drs. Robert Manning and Alphonse Gilbert, School of Natural Resources, University of Vermont, lead to further revision of the survey.

The final draft questionnaire was again subject to review by the fisheries biological staff. This resulted in the final questionnaire, a 16-page, 5 1/2 X 8 1/2 inch booklet, consisting of five sections and 185 individual questions (Appendix I).

As recommended by Dillman (1978), a multiple mailing was conducted. This consisted of an initial mailing of the questionnaire with an individually signed cover letter (1/14/91), a follow up postcard reminder mailed one week later (1/21/91), and a second mailing of a questionnaire and cover letter to non-respondents three weeks after the original mailing (2/2/91). A mid January mailing was chosen for two reasons:

- 1) This was considered a time of year when people would be at home and likely to respond, and
- 2) The respondents would be able to accurately recall details of the 1990 fishing season which had just ended.

Sampling Design - A random stratified sample of 1990 fishing and combination (hunting/fishing) licenses was conducted to select anglers for the survey. To avoid potential under-representation of a particular region, the state was stratified into five zones, generally following county lines (Fig 1) while also attempting to broadly categorize distinctive fishing regions.

Based upon this stratification, six "subpopulations" of interest were identified: resident anglers in each of the five zones, and nonresident anglers (statewide). Based upon response rates reported from similar surveys, we assumed a 50% response rate for resident anglers and a 40% response rate for nonresidents. To obtain 95% confidence that a response to a yes/no question that is within $\pm 5\%$ of the true mean, a minimum of 400 responses was required for each subpopulation. Using our estimated response rates, this would require a sample of 800 resident anglers per zone and 1000 nonresidents, statewide.

Although each subpopulation should be adequately represented by this method, large differences in license sales among the five zones required an additional weighting of the sampling procedure to obtain results which could also be considered representative on a statewide basis. Therefore, a weighting factor, based upon average license sales from 1988 and 1989, was calculated for each zone and used to weight the sample of resident anglers:

RESIDENT ANGLER SAMPLE			
<u>Zone</u>	<u>Avg. Sales(1988-89)</u>	<u>Weighting Factor</u>	<u>Weighted Sample</u>
1	12988	1.000	800
2	21490	1.658	1326
3	17437	1.345	1076
4	18919	1.460	1168
5	30574	2.350	1880

			Total 6250

As conducted with resident anglers, a weighting factor was calculated for nonresidents in each zone based upon average license sales from 1988 and 1989. Due to administrative procedures for procuring license receipts from the state park system, an additional "state park zone" was created after the five zones were sampled. The total weighted sample from the state parks was, therefore, proportionately subtracted from the weighted sample of each of the five zones to maintain a sample size of 1,000.

NONRESIDENT ANGLER SAMPLE

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Avg. Sales(1988-89)</u>	<u>Weighting Factor</u>	<u>Weighted Sample</u>
1	8250	0.163	157
2	7391	0.147	141
3	12461	0.250	240
4	10443	0.210	202
5	11404	0.230	221
State Parks	1948*	0.039	39

			Total 1000

* Included in sales from zone 1-5.

The stratified, weighted sampling procedure resulted in a total sample of 6,250 of the 103,636 resident fishing and combination licenses (6.3%), and 1000 of the 51,607 nonresident fishing and combination licenses (1.9%) sold in 1990.

License Collection and Sampling - In May, 1990 all license agents were contacted and requested to begin mailing in the "Department Copy" of the license receipt on a monthly basis. Department Game Wardens were requested to obtain 1990 license receipts collected prior to May, 1990 from agents within their districts. License receipts were logged by month and license agent, and filed by county. Individual agents were contacted in September 1990 for delinquent receipts.

License receipts through September, 1990 were used to obtain the sample of anglers to be surveyed. Based upon the timing of 1989 license sales, this resulted in the collection of approximately 97% of all resident, and 93% of all nonresident fishing and combination licenses sold in 1990.

In December, 1990 license receipts were separated into the five predefined zones. License receipts were thoroughly mixed and a random sample of the predetermined number of resident and nonresident fishing and combination licenses were selected for each zone. Information on name, address, phone number, age, sex, license type and sampling zone were used to develop a computerized mailing list. In addition, an ID number was assigned to each license sample to be used in tracking nonrespondents for the second mailing, and to facilitate the merger of demographic information from the mailing list with the questionnaire responses for analysis. Names were not linked with questionnaire results, providing complete confidentiality for the respondents.

Data Entry and Analysis - All surveys were screened for responses which were illegible or did not conform to the data entry format. Codes were assigned to these entries prior to keypunching. Data was keypunched and verified by the State Information Services during April, May and June of 1991. The survey data file was then transferred to an in-house personal computer (IBM PS2 Model 50) where it was merged with demographic data from the license data file. Analysis of questionnaire responses was conducted with SYSTAT (5.0) statistical software.

Non-response Bias - Non-response bias in surveys may occur if a substantial segment(s) of the survey population does not respond and therefore are under-represented by the survey results. To address this potential bias, demographic information (age, sex, license type, geographic area) from the total sample will be compared with the sample of nonrespondents.

In addition, a weighted sample (by zone) of 100 resident anglers who did not respond to the survey were contacted by phone and asked several questions (Appendix II). Information collected in this non-response survey will be used to compare various attributes (avidity, species preference, ice vs openwater participation, gear use) of non-respondents and respondents as an insight into potential non-response bias.

RESULTS:

Questionnaire Returns - A total of 4,740 questionnaires were returned for an overall return rate of 65.4%. In addition, 262 surveys were returned as "undeliverable" by the postal service (224 from first mailing, 38 from second mailing). Completed questionnaires from both the first and second mailings were received by 29 respondents. In these cases, only the first questionnaire was included for analysis. Subtracting these double returns, as well as those questionnaires returned damaged or blank, resulted in a total of 4,661 "useable" surveys for an overall "useable" response rate of **64.3%**.

Nonresident anglers responded at a slightly higher rate (66.6%) than resident anglers (63.9%). Return rates by sample zones were similar for both resident and nonresident anglers, while the minimum sample size goal of 400 responses was exceeded for all subpopulations:

<u>ZONE</u>	<u>RESIDENT RETURNS</u>	<u>NONRESIDENT RETURNS</u>
1	515/800 = 64.4%	107/157 = 68.2%
2	881/1326 = 66.4%	94/141 = 66.7%
3	692/1076 = 64.3%	161/240 = 67.1%
4	725/1168 = 62.1%	131/202 = 64.9%
5	1176/1880 = 62.6%	149/221 = 67.4%
State Parks		24/39 = 61.5%
TOTAL	3995/6250 = 63.9%	666/1000 = 66.6%

Angler Demographics - Table 1 presents the sex ratio and age distribution of the Vermont resident and nonresident licensed anglers, as represented by the random stratified sampling of Vermont 1990 fishing and combination license receipts. These statistics for the Vermont population at large, provided by the 1990 Census (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census) are also included for comparison. Age strata follow those used in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) "1985 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-associated Recreation." However, anglers age 65 and older sampled in this survey were comprised solely of those purchasing a license in 1990, and do not include permanent license holders as did the USFWS survey. Therefore, this age strata should be considered under-represented by this survey.

Men, who accounted for only 48% of the Vermont population at large 15 years of age and older, comprised 78% of the resident and 85% of the nonresident licensed anglers in 1991. Although the age distribution differed slightly among zones, the majority of resident anglers were comprised of anglers 25-44 years of age. The 1990 Census indicate that this age group is more heavily represented by anglers than observed in the Vermont population at large. A similar age distribution was observed for nonresident anglers, although they tended to be somewhat more heavily represented in the older age strata than resident anglers.

Vermont Angler Survey Results - The analysis of resident and nonresident responses to questions Q-1 through Q-41 of the Vermont Angler Survey are presented in Appendix III. In addition, written comments supplied by survey respondents were indexed into 14 broad subject headings and presented in Appendix IV.

Non-response Bias - Comparison of sex ratio, age distribution and license type of respondents with the original angler survey sample, did not reveal any significant non-response bias associated with the survey returns (Table 2). Sex ratios of respondents were identical to the original survey sample, while only slight deviations in the age distribution of the respondents were evident. In general, these deviations tended to show anglers of older age strata responding at a greater rate than anglers of younger age strata. Resident combination (hunting and fishing) license holders did respond at a slightly greater rate than resident anglers holding a fishing license only, while nonresident season license holders replied at a slightly greater rate than their term license counterparts.

Anglers contacted during the telephone survey of non-respondents fished less often than anglers who returned the mail survey. Forty-eight percent of the non-respondents fished five days or less in 1990 in contrast to 15% of the respondents (Table 3). Non-respondents were also less likely to ice fish than were survey respondents, 33% versus 54%, respectively.

Species preferences were similar for respondents and non-respondents (Table 4). Trout (brook, brown and rainbow) were the most preferred fish species targeted during the open water fishing season by both groups, followed by black bass (largemouth and smallmouth) and yellow perch. The most preferred species indicated for the ice fishing season by both groups was yellow perch.

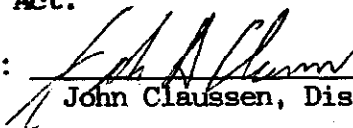
The tackle most often used to fish for trout and black bass was also similar for respondents and non-respondents. Both groups indicated that bait was most often used when trout fishing, while lures were primarily used when bass fishing.


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Date: November 23, 1992

Table 1. Age and sex distribution (presented as percentages) of resident (total and by zone) and nonresident Vermont anglers as determined by a random stratified sample of 1990 fishing and combination license receipts.

ANGLER AGE DISTRIBUTION:

MALE ANGLERS

Age	1990 Vermont Census	Total Resident	Residents by Zone					Total NonRes
			<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	
15	2	1	1	1	<1	1	1	<1
16-17	4	3	4	3	5	3	3	2
18-24	15	14	16	12	14	12	15	8
25-34	22	30	28	29	28	32	33	27
35-44	22	26	25	27	27	27	23	29
45-54	13	15	16	15	14	15	15	15
55-64	10	10	10	11	11	9	10	11
65+	12	1	1	2	1	1	1	8
N	213331	4859	625	1000	861	904	1469	844

FEMALE ANGLERS

Age	1990 Vermont Census	Total Resident	Residents by Zone					Total NonRes
			<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	
15	2	1	1	<1	<1	0	1	1
16-17	3	3	5	3	4	2	1	1
18-24	14	16	19	13	13	17	20	7
25-34	21	31	24	32	33	32	32	35
35-44	20	25	28	31	24	25	20	23
45-54	13	14	13	12	14	14	17	18
55-64	10	8	10	9	10	9	8	8
65+	17	2	1	1	1	1	1	5
N	228387	1385	174	324	215	263	409	154

ANGLER SEX RATIO:

VERMONT ANGLERS

Age 15+	1990 Vermont Census	Total Resident	Residents by Zone					Total NonRes
			<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	
% Male	48	78	78	76	80	77	78	85
% Female	52	22	22	24	20	23	22	15
N	441718	6246	799	1325	1076	1167	1879	998

1 Does not include permanent license holders and percentages, therefore, under-represent this age strata.

Table 2. Comparison of age distribution, sex ratio, and license type (presented as percentages) for the original angler sample vs. respondents of 1991 Vermont Angler Survey.

AGE DISTRIBUTION:

MALE ANGLERS

<u>Age</u>	<u>RESIDENTS</u>		<u>NONRESIDENTS</u>	
	<u>Total Sample</u>	<u>Respondents</u>	<u>Total Sample</u>	<u>Respondents</u>
15	1	1	<1	<1
16-17	3	3	2	1
18-24	14	11	8	6
25-34	30	28	27	28
35-44	26	27	29	28
45-54	15	17	15	15
55-64	10	12	11	12
65+	1	1	8	9
N	4859	3107	844	564

FEMALE ANGLERS

<u>Age</u>	<u>RESIDENTS</u>		<u>NONRESIDENTS</u>	
	<u>Total Sample</u>	<u>Respondents</u>	<u>Total Sample</u>	<u>Respondents</u>
15	1	1	1	1
16-17	3	2	1	0
18-24	16	12	7	7
25-34	31	31	35	34
35-44	25	25	23	27
45-54	14	15	18	16
55-64	8	12	8	11
65+	2	1	5	5
N	1385	877	154	101

SEX RATIO:

	<u>RESIDENTS</u>		<u>NONRESIDENTS</u>	
	<u>Total Sample</u>	<u>Respondents</u>	<u>Total Sample</u>	<u>Respondents</u>
% Male	78	78	85	85
% Female	22	22	15	15
N	6246	3985	998	665

Table 2. Continued.

LICENSE TYPE:

RESIDENT ANGLERS

	License Type		<u>N</u>
	<u>Season Fishing</u>	<u>Combination</u>	
Total Sample	59	41	6248
Respondents	54	46	3987

NONRESIDENT ANGLERS

	License Type					<u>N</u>
	<u>Season Fishing</u>	<u>Comb.</u>	<u>3-day</u>	<u>7-day</u>	<u>14-day</u>	
Total Sample	35	4	39	16	5	1000
Respondents	39	5	34	16	5	666

Table 3. Number of days fished (open-water and ice fishing) by respondents and non-respondents in Vermont during the 1990 fishing season. Residents only.

Days	<u>Respondents</u>		<u>Non-respondents</u>	
	#	%	#	%
0	120	3	10	10
1-5	452	12	37	38
6-10	508	13	15	15
11-20	828	21	16	16
21-30	651	17	9	9
31-40	428	11	2	2
41-50	254	7	3	3
50+	698	18	6	6
TOTAL	3939		98	

Table 4. Types of fish preferred by respondents and non-respondent during open and ice fishing seasons and the percentage of anglers that chose each type.

<u>OPEN-WATER</u>			
<u>Respondents</u>		<u>Non-respondents</u>	
Trout	47%	Trout	41%
Black Bass	18%	Black Bass	16%
Yellow Perch	8%	Yellow Perch	16%
Number of Respondents	3375	Number of Respondents	93

<u>ICE-FISHING</u>			
<u>Respondents</u>		<u>Non-respondents</u>	
Yellow perch	30%	Yellow Perch	48%
Northern Pike	14%	Smelt	13%
Smelt	14%	Walleye	13%
Lake Trout	11%	Anything	13%
Walleye	10%	Northern Pike	10%
Number of Respondents	1870	Number of Respondents	28

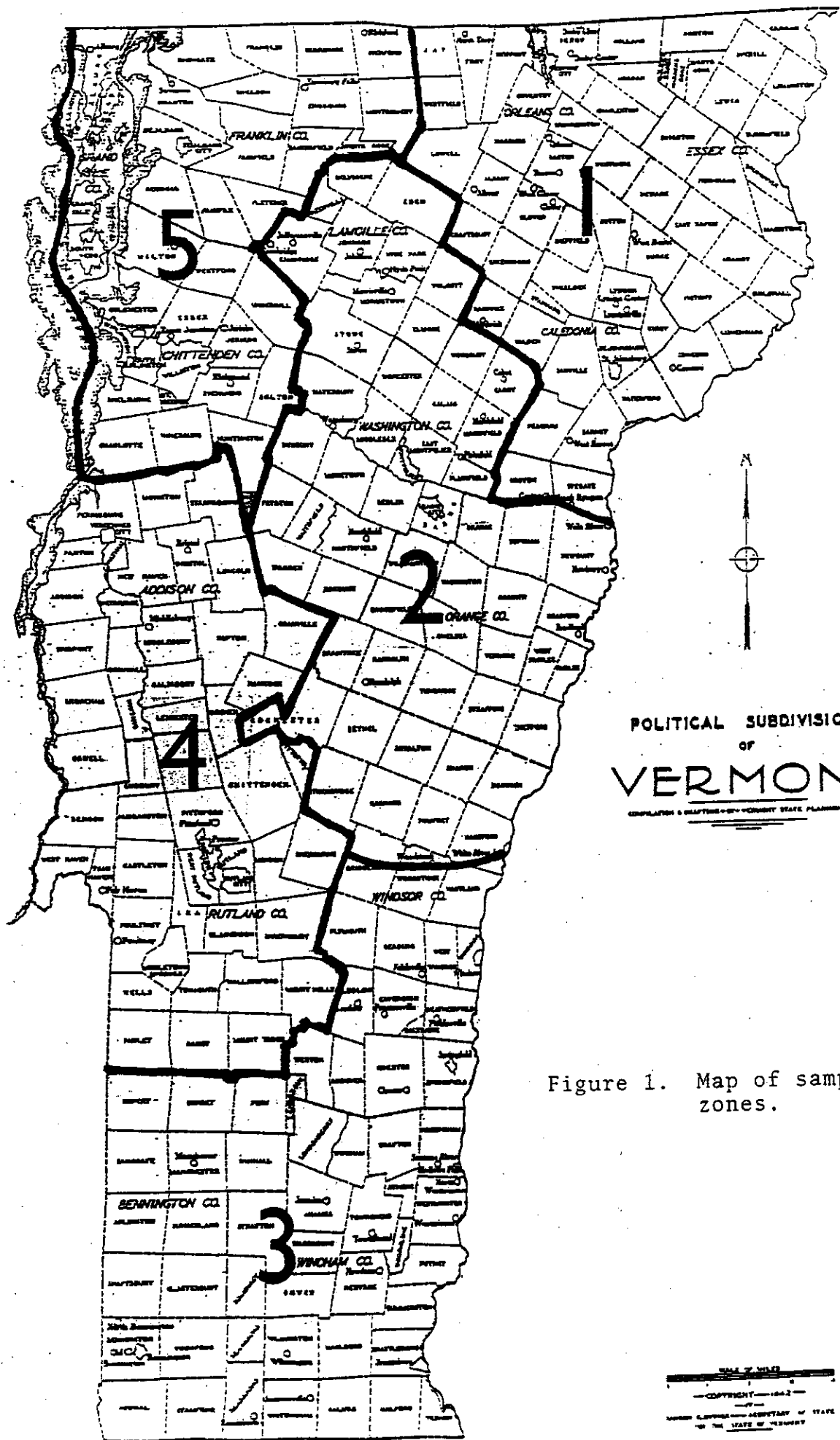
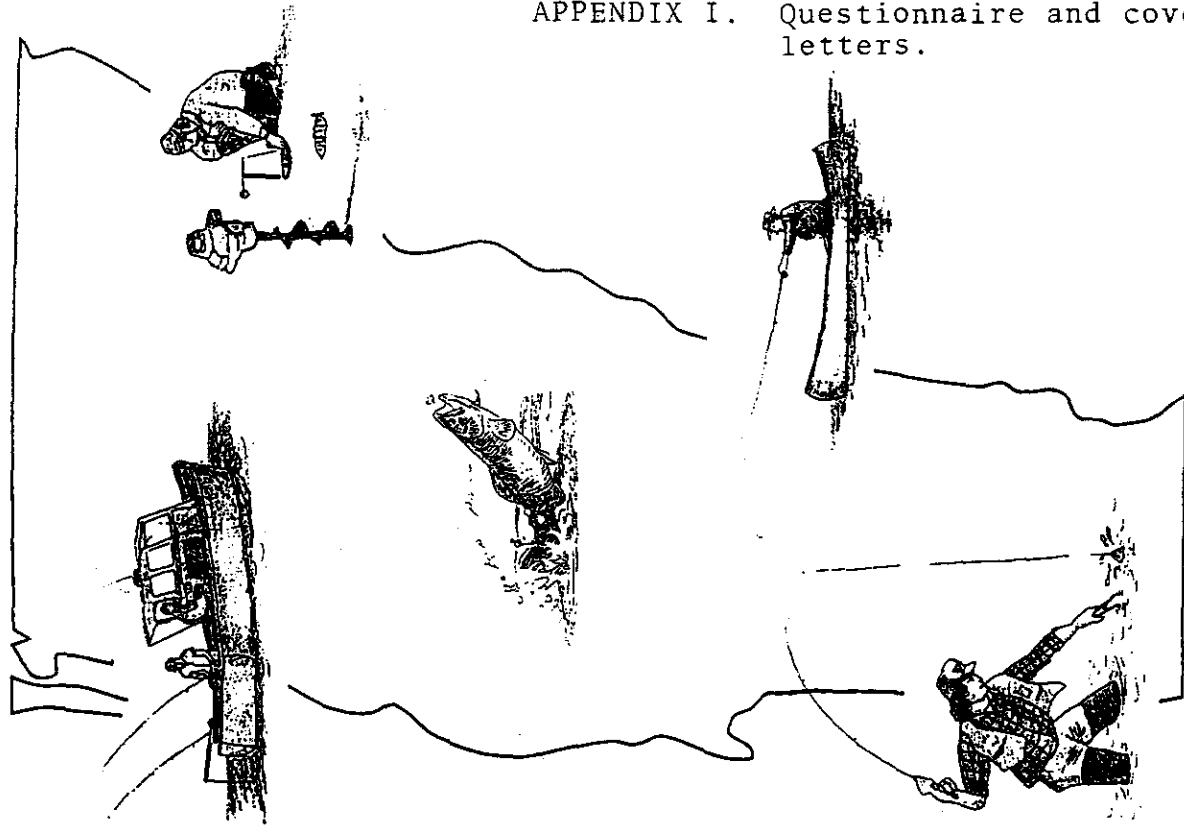


Figure 1. Map of sampling zones.

Vermont Angler Survey

APPENDIX I. Questionnaire and cover letters.



Vermont Department
of Fish & Wildlife



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE UNITED
STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 1000 VERMONT

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

SAMPLE
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Life Lab
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QUESTIONNAIRE INSTRUCTIONS

Please Read Carefully

This questionnaire refers to all types of fishing found in Vermont; from lake trout to largemouth bass to yellow perch; from open-water fishing to ice-fishing. Regardless of how often you fish, please take the time to fill out the questionnaire. Your opinions are important.

The questions are divided into five sections. Depending upon your answers, the directions may tell you to skip a question or a whole section. Please follow the arrows carefully.

If you would like a summary of the results of this questionnaire, please remember to check the box on the last page.

When you have completed the questionnaire, simply staple or tape it closed and drop it in the mail, no postage is needed. Your answers will be kept strictly confidential. Thank you.

FISHING IN VERMONT

Q-1 Which of the following fish do you fish for in Vermont? (Circle the number(s) of ALL the kinds of fish that you fish for.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. BROOK TROUT | 16. BULLHEAD (HORNPOUT) |
| 2. BROWN TROUT | 17. YELLOW PERCH |
| 3. RAINBOW TROUT | 18. CRAPPIE |
| 4. LAKE TROUT | 19. SUNFISH
(PUMPKINSEED, BLUEGILL) |
| 5. LANDLOCKED SALMON | 20. ROCK BASS |
| 6. SMELT | 21. WHITE PERCH |
| 7. WALLEYE | 22. DRUM (SHEEPSHEAD) |
| 8. SAUGER | 23. CARP |
| 9. LARGEMOUTH BASS | 24. GAR |
| 10. SMALLMOUTH BASS | 25. WHITEFISH |
| 11. PICKEREL | 26. SUCKER |
| 12. NORTHERN PIKE | 27. ANYTHING |
| 13. MUSKELLUNGE | 28. OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) |
| 14. AMERICAN SHAD
(CONNECTICUT RIVER) | _____ |
| 15. CHANNEL CATFISH | _____ |

Q-2 Do you fish during the OPEN-WATER season in Vermont (spring, summer, fall)? (Circle one number.)

1. NO → Go to Q-4
2. YES
- Go to Q-3

Q-3 What kinds of fish (listed in Q-1) do you prefer to fish for during the OPEN-WATER season in Vermont? (Please rank your top three choices by writing the species number in the appropriate box.)

- MOST PREFERRED
- SECOND MOST PREFERRED ...
- THIRD MOST PREFERRED
- OR
- I HAVE NO PREFERENCE
(Check this box.)

Q-4 Do you ICE-FISH in Vermont? (Circle one number.)

1. NO → Go to Q-6
2. YES

Q-5 What kinds of fish (listed in Q-1) do you prefer to fish for during the ICE-FISHING season in Vermont? (Please rank your top three choices by writing the species number in the appropriate box.)

- MOST PREFERRED
- SECOND MOST PREFERRED ...
- THIRD MOST PREFERRED
- OR
- I HAVE NO PREFERENCE
(Check this box.)

Q-6 About how many days did you fish in Vermont in 1990? (Write the number of days in the appropriate box.)

Number of days fished in 1990

- ICE
- OPEN

(If you entered 0 in both boxes, go to Q-8)

Q-7 About how many days did you spend fishing in each of the following categories during the 1990 open-water and ice-fishing seasons? (Please write in the number of days fished in the appropriate box. Total days fished does not have to equal total in Q-6.)

	OPEN	ICE
A. BROOK, BROWN, OR RAINBOW TROUT IN <u>SMALL BROOKS</u> OR <u>BEAVER PONDS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B. BROOK, BROWN, OR RAINBOW TROUT IN <u>LARGE STREAMS</u> OR <u>RIVERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
C. BROOK, BROWN, OR RAINBOW TROUT IN <u>PONDS</u> OR <u>LAKES</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. LAKE TROUT.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. LANDLOCKED SALMON.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. WALLEYE.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G. SMALLMOUTH OR LARGEMOUTH BASS.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
H. NORTHERN PIKE, PICKEREL, OR MUSKELLUNGE.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I. AMERICAN SHAD IN THE CONNECTICUT RIVER.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
J. YELLOW PERCH.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K. SMELT.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
L. PANFISH (SUNFISH, CRAPPIE, ETC.).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
M. BULLHEAD.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
N. OTHER:.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q-8 About how many days did you fish in the following types of water outside Vermont in 1990? (Please write in the number of days fished in the appropriate box.)

	Number of days fished in 1990
GREAT LAKES (ONTARIO, ETC.).....	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRESHWATER OTHER THAN GREAT LAKES.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
SALTWATER.....	<input type="checkbox"/>

BROOK, BROWN, OR RAINBOW TROUT STREAMS or RIVERS

Q-9 Do you fish for brook, brown, or rainbow trout in STREAMS or RIVERS in Vermont? (Circle one number.)

1. NO → Go to Q-16
 2. YES

Q-10 What tackle do you most often use to fish for brook, brown, or rainbow trout in STREAMS or RIVERS? (Circle one number.)

1. LURES
2. FLIES
3. BAIT
4. LURES WITH BAIT

Q-11 If there were no minimum length limits, what is the smallest length of each species that you would keep when fishing in STREAMS or RIVERS? (Circle only one number for each species. If you do not keep a particular species, circle DO NOT KEEP. If you do not fish for a species, circle NA.)

	INCHES						
A. Brook Trout.....	6	8	10	12	14	DO NOT	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>	KEEP	
B. Brown Trout.....	6	8	10	12	14	DO NOT	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>	KEEP	
C. Rainbow Trout.....	6	8	10	12	14	DO NOT	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>	KEEP	

Q-12 When fishing in STREAMS or RIVERS, what is the smallest length of each species that you would consider a good or quality size fish? (Circle only one number for each species, or NA if you do not fish for a species.)

	INCHES						
A. Brook Trout.....	6	8	10	12	14	NO	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>	OPINION	
B. Brown Trout.....	8	10	12	14	16	NO	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>	OPINION	
C. Rainbow Trout.....	8	10	12	14	16	NO	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>	OPINION	

Q-13 The general daily creel limit for trout in STREAMS or RIVERS is 12 fish of any one species or combination of species. Do you agree with the present daily creel limits? (Circle one response for each species. If you disagree, please write in your recommended daily limit.)

	Present Daily Limit		Write In Your Recommended Daily Limit		
A. Brook Trout	.....12	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>		NO OPINION
B. Brown Trout	.....12	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>		NO OPINION
C. Rainbow Trout	.....12	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>		NO OPINION
D. Combined Limit	...12	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>		NO OPINION

Q-14 The present fishing season for trout in STREAMS and RIVERS runs from mid-April through October. What is your opinion of the length of this season? (Circle all numbers that apply for each species)

- A. Brook Trout:
- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT | 5. CLOSE LATER |
| 2. OPEN EARLIER | 6. NO CLOSED SEASON |
| 3. OPEN LATER | 7. NO OPINION |
| 4. CLOSE EARLIER | |
- B. Brown Trout:
- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT | 5. CLOSE LATER |
| 2. OPEN EARLIER | 6. NO CLOSED SEASON |
| 3. OPEN LATER | 7. NO OPINION |
| 4. CLOSE EARLIER | |
- C. Rainbow Trout:
- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT | 5. CLOSE LATER |
| 2. OPEN EARLIER | 6. NO CLOSED SEASON |
| 3. OPEN LATER | 7. NO OPINION |
| 4. CLOSE EARLIER | |

Q-15 Special regulations can be used in certain waters to increase the number and/or size of fish available to be caught. (Please circle the number(s) of ALL the special regulations that you might support for trout fishing in some STREAMS or RIVERS.)

1. CATCH AND RELEASE - ALL FISH MUST BE RELEASED
2. ARTIFICIAL LURES AND FLIES ONLY
3. SPECIAL LENGTH LIMITS
4. LOWER CREEL LIMITS
5. DO NOT SUPPORT ANY SPECIAL REGULATIONS
6. NO OPINION

TROUT OR SALMON PONDS and LAKES

Q-16 Do you fish for trout or salmon in PONDS or LAKES in Vermont? (Circle one number.)

1. NO → Go to Q-26
 2. YES

Q-17 What tackle do you most often use to fish for trout or salmon during the OPEN-WATER season in PONDS or LAKES in Vermont? (Circle only one response for each species, or NA if you do not fish for a species.)

	TACKLE					
A. Brook Trout	.....LURES	FLIES	BAIT	LURES WITH BAIT		NA
B. Brown Trout	.....LURES	FLIES	BAIT	LURES WITH BAIT		NA
C. Rainbow Trout	.....LURES	FLIES	BAIT	LURES WITH BAIT		NA
D. Lake Trout	.....LURES	FLIES	BAIT	LURES WITH BAIT		NA
E. Landlocked Salmon	..LURES	FLIES	BAIT	LURES WITH BAIT		NA

Q-18 If there were no minimum length limits, what is the smallest length of each species that you would keep when fishing in PONDS or LAKES? (Circle only one number for each species. If you do not keep a particular species, circle DO NOT KEEP. If you do not fish for a species, circle NA.)

	INCHES						
A. Brook Trout	.....6	8	10	12	14	DO NOT KEEP	NA
	or less				or more		
B. Brown Trout	.....6	8	10	12	14	DO NOT KEEP	NA
	or less				or more		
C. Rainbow Trout	.....6	8	10	12	14	DO NOT KEEP	NA
	or less				or more		
D. Lake Trout	.....12	15	18	21	24	DO NOT KEEP	NA
	or less				or more		
E. Landlocked Salmon	.....9	12	15	18	21	DO NOT KEEP	NA
	or less				or more		

Q-19 When fishing in PONDS or LAKES, what is the **smallest** length of each species that you would consider a **good or quality** size fish? (Circle only one number for each species, or NA if you do not fish for a species.)

	INCHES						
A. Brook Trout	8	10	12	14	16	NO OPINION	NA
	or less				or more		
B. Brown Trout	10	12	14	16	18	NO OPINION	NA
	or less				or more		
C. Rainbow Trout	10	12	14	16	18	NO OPINION	NA
	or less				or more		
D. Lake Trout	15	18	21	24	27	NO OPINION	NA
	or less				or more		
E. Landlocked Salmon	12	15	18	21	24	NO OPINION	NA
	or less				or more		

Q-20 The general daily creel limit for brook, brown and rainbow trout in PONDS and LAKES is 12 fish of any one species or combination of species. Do you agree with the present daily creel limits? (Circle one response for each species. If you disagree, please write in your recommended daily limit.)

	Present Daily Limit		Write In Your Recommended Daily Limit	
A. Brook Trout	12	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>	NO OPINION
B. Brown Trout	12	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>	NO OPINION
C. Rainbow Trout	12	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>	NO OPINION
D. Combined Limit	12	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>	NO OPINION

Q-21 The general daily creel limit for landlocked salmon and lake trout is 2 salmon or 2 lake trout or 1 of each. Do you agree with the present daily creel limits? (Circle one response for each species. If you disagree, please write in your recommended daily limit.)

	Present Daily Limit		Write In Your Recommended Daily Limit	
A. Lake Trout	2	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>	NO OPINION
B. Landlocked Salmon	2	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>	NO OPINION
C. Combined Limit	2	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/>	NO OPINION

Q-22 The present OPEN-WATER fishing season for trout and salmon in PONDS and LAKES is from mid-April through October. What is your opinion of the length of this season? (Circle all numbers that apply for each group.)

A. Brook, Brown & Rainbow Trout:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT | 5. CLOSE LATER |
| 2. OPEN EARLIER | 6. NO CLOSED SEASON |
| 3. OPEN LATER | 7. NO OPINION |
| 4. CLOSE EARLIER | |

B. Lake Trout:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT | 5. CLOSE LATER |
| 2. OPEN EARLIER | 6. NO CLOSED SEASON |
| 3. OPEN LATER | 7. NO OPINION |
| 4. CLOSE EARLIER | |

C. Landlocked Salmon:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT | 5. CLOSE LATER |
| 2. OPEN EARLIER | 6. NO CLOSED SEASON |
| 3. OPEN LATER | 7. NO OPINION |
| 4. CLOSE EARLIER | |

Q-23 The ICE-FISHING season for trout and salmon in some PONDS and LAKES is from the 3rd Saturday in January through the 2nd Sunday in March. What is your opinion of the length of this season? (Circle all numbers that apply for each group.)

A. Brook, Brown & Rainbow Trout:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT | 5. CLOSE LATER |
| 2. OPEN EARLIER | 6. NO CLOSED SEASON |
| 3. OPEN LATER | 7. NO OPINION |
| 4. CLOSE EARLIER | |

B. Lake Trout:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT | 5. CLOSE LATER |
| 2. OPEN EARLIER | 6. NO CLOSED SEASON |
| 3. OPEN LATER | 7. NO OPINION |
| 4. CLOSE EARLIER | |

C. Landlocked Salmon:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT | 5. CLOSE LATER |
| 2. OPEN EARLIER | 6. NO CLOSED SEASON |
| 3. OPEN LATER | 7. NO OPINION |
| 4. CLOSE EARLIER | |

Q-24 About how many days did you spend fishing on Lake Champlain for each of the following species during the 1990 open-water and ice-fishing seasons? (Please write in the number of days fished in the appropriate box.)

	OPEN	ICE
A. BROWN TROUT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. STEELHEAD/RAINBOW TROUT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. LAKE TROUT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. LANDLOCKED SALMON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q-25 Special regulations can be used in certain waters to increase the number and/or size of fish available to be caught. (Please circle the number(s) of ALL the special regulations that you might support in some PONDS and LAKES for the types of fishing listed below.)

A. Brook, Brown, & Rainbow Trout:

1. CATCH AND RELEASE - ALL FISH MUST BE RELEASED
2. ARTIFICIAL LURES AND FLIES ONLY
3. SPECIAL LENGTH LIMITS
4. LOWER CREEL LIMITS
5. DO NOT SUPPORT ANY SPECIAL REGULATIONS
6. NO OPINION

B. Lake Trout:

1. CATCH AND RELEASE - ALL FISH MUST BE RELEASED
2. ARTIFICIAL LURES AND FLIES ONLY
3. SPECIAL LENGTH LIMITS
4. LOWER CREEL LIMITS
5. DO NOT SUPPORT ANY SPECIAL REGULATIONS
6. NO OPINION

C. Landlocked Salmon:

1. CATCH AND RELEASE - ALL FISH MUST BE RELEASED
2. ARTIFICIAL LURES AND FLIES ONLY
3. SPECIAL LENGTH LIMITS
4. LOWER CREEL LIMITS
5. DO NOT SUPPORT ANY SPECIAL REGULATIONS
6. NO OPINION

WARMWATER GAME FISH AND PANFISH

Q-26 Do you fish for walleye, bass, pike, yellow perch, sunfish, black crappie, bullhead or smelt in Vermont? (Circle one number.)

1. NO
2. YES

Go to Q-37

Q-27 If there were no minimum length limits, what is the **smallest** length of each species that you would keep? (Circle only one number for each species. If you do not keep a particular species, circle DO NOT KEEP. If you do not fish for a species, circle NA.)

	INCHES						
A. Walleye	9	12	15	18	21	DO NOT KEEP	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>		
B. Largemouth Bass	6	8	10	12	14	DO NOT KEEP	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>		
C. Smallmouth Bass	6	8	10	12	14	DO NOT KEEP	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>		
D. Northern Pike	16	18	20	22	24	DO NOT KEEP	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>		
E. Yellow Perch	6	7	8	9	10	DO NOT KEEP	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>		

Q-28 What is the **smallest** length of each species that you would consider a good or quality size fish? (Circle only one number for each species, or NA if you do not fish for a species.)

	INCHES						
A. Walleye	12	15	18	21	24	NO OPINION	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>		
B. Largemouth Bass	10	12	14	16	18	NO OPINION	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>		
C. Smallmouth Bass	10	12	14	16	18	NO OPINION	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>		
D. Northern Pike	18	22	26	30	34	NO OPINION	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>		
E. Yellow Perch	8	9	10	11	12	NO OPINION	NA
	<small>or less</small>				<small>or more</small>		

Q-29 What tackle do you most often use to fish for largemouth and smallmouth bass? (Circle only one response for each species. If you do not fish for a particular species, circle NA.)

		TACKLE				
		LURES	FLIES	BAIT	LURES WITH BAIT	NA
A.	Largemouth Bass					
B.	Smallmouth Bass					

Q-30 The present OPEN-WATER fishing season for keeping largemouth and smallmouth bass is from the 2nd Saturday in June through November 30th. What is your opinion of the length of this season? (Circle all numbers that apply.)

1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT
2. OPEN EARLIER
3. OPEN LATER
4. CLOSE EARLIER
5. CLOSE LATER
6. NO CLOSED SEASON
7. NO OPINION

Q-31 The present ICE-FISHING season for largemouth and smallmouth bass in some PONDS and LAKES is from the 3rd Saturday in January through the 2nd Sunday in March. What is your opinion of the length of this season? (Circle all numbers that apply.)

1. JUST ABOUT RIGHT
2. OPEN EARLIER
3. OPEN LATER
4. CLOSE EARLIER
5. CLOSE LATER
6. NO CLOSED SEASON
7. NO OPINION

Q-32 The general daily creel limit for largemouth and smallmouth bass is 5 fish of any one species or combination of species. Do you agree with the present daily creel limits? (Circle one response for each species. If you disagree, please write in your recommended daily limit.)

		Present Daily Limit	Write In Your Recommended Daily Limit	
A.	Largemouth Bass	5	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/> NO OPINION
B.	Smallmouth Bass	5	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/> NO OPINION
C.	Combined Limit	5	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/> NO OPINION

Q-33 The general daily creel limit for walleye and northern pike is 5 fish each. Do you agree with the present daily creel limits? (Circle one response for each species. If you disagree, please write in your recommended daily limit.)

		Present Daily Limit	Write In Your Recommended Daily Limit	
A.	Walleye	5	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/> NO OPINION
B.	Northern Pike	5	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/> NO OPINION

Q-34 There is no daily creel limit for the following species. Do you agree with the present regulation? (Circle one response for each species. If you disagree, please write in your recommended daily limit.)

		Present Daily Limit	Write In Your Recommended Daily Limit	
A.	Yellow Perch		AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/> NO OPINION
B.	Black Crappie		AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/> NO OPINION
C.	Sunfish		AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/> NO OPINION
D.	Smelt		AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/> NO OPINION
E.	Bullhead		AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="checkbox"/> NO OPINION

Q-35 About how many days did you spend fishing on Lake Champlain for each of the following species during the 1990 open-water and ice-fishing seasons? (Please write in the number of days fished in the appropriate box.)

	OPEN	ICE
A. WALLEYE	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
B. LARGEMOUTH OR SMALLMOUTH BASS	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
C. NORTHERN PIKE	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
D. YELLOW PERCH	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E. BLACK CRAPPIE	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
F. SUNFISH	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G. SMELT	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
H. BULLHEAD	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Q-36 Special regulations can be used in certain waters to increase the number and size of fish available to be caught. (Please circle the number(s) of ALL the special regulations that you might support on some waters for the types of fishing listed below.)

A. Walleye:

1. CATCH AND RELEASE - ALL FISH MUST BE RELEASED
2. ARTIFICIAL LURES AND FLIES ONLY
3. SPECIAL LENGTH LIMITS
4. LOWER CREEL LIMITS
5. DO NOT SUPPORT ANY SPECIAL REGULATIONS
6. NO OPINION

B. Largemouth or Smallmouth Bass:

1. CATCH AND RELEASE - ALL FISH MUST BE RELEASED
2. ARTIFICIAL LURES AND FLIES ONLY
3. SPECIAL LENGTH LIMITS
4. LOWER CREEL LIMITS
5. DO NOT SUPPORT ANY SPECIAL REGULATIONS
6. NO OPINION

C. Northern Pike:

1. CATCH AND RELEASE - ALL FISH MUST BE RELEASED
2. ARTIFICIAL LURES AND FLIES ONLY
3. SPECIAL LENGTH LIMITS
4. LOWER CREEL LIMITS
5. DO NOT SUPPORT ANY SPECIAL REGULATIONS
6. NO OPINION

FISHING IN GENERAL

Q-37 Overall, how would you rate the present quality of fishing in Vermont?

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. EXCELLENT | 4. POOR |
| 2. GOOD | 5. NO OPINION |
| 3. FAIR | |

Q-38 General regulations allow the use of 2 lines when fishing during the OPEN-WATER season and 8 lines during the ICE-FISHING season. Do you agree with the number of lines allowed in each season? (Circle the appropriate response. If you disagree, please write in your recommended number of lines.)

	Number of Lines		Write In Your Recommended Number of Lines	
A. OPEN-WATER	2	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="text"/>	NO OPINION
B. ICE-FISHING	8	AGREE	DISAGREE → <input type="text"/>	NO OPINION

Q-39 We would now like to find out your opinion on the use of HATCHERY TROUT in managing Vermont's fisheries. (Circle one response for each program.)

- | | | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------------|---------------|------------|
| A. Stocking Brook, Brown, and Rainbow Trout to be caught within the same season (put-and-take) in STREAMS and RIVERS: | VERY IMPORTANT | SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT | NO OPINION |
| B. Manage strictly for wild trout (no stocking) in some STREAMS and RIVERS: | VERY IMPORTANT | SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT | NO OPINION |
| C. Stocking Brook, Brown, and Rainbow Trout to be caught within the same season (put-and-take) in LAKES and PONDS: | VERY IMPORTANT | SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT | NO OPINION |
| D. Manage strictly for wild trout (no stocking) in some LAKES and PONDS: | VERY IMPORTANT | SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT | NO OPINION |

Q-40 What is your opinion of the following issues in Vermont?
(Circle one response for each issue.)

A. Conflict between open-water and ice-fishing for trout and salmon:

SERIOUS PROBLEM MINOR PROBLEM NO PROBLEM NO OPINION

B. Conflict between open-water and ice-fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass:

SERIOUS PROBLEM MINOR PROBLEM NO PROBLEM NO OPINION

C. Conflict between fishing and other recreational users (skiing, boating, etc.):

SERIOUS PROBLEM MINOR PROBLEM NO PROBLEM NO OPINION

D. Shooting of northern pike in Lake Champlain:

SERIOUS PROBLEM MINOR PROBLEM NO PROBLEM NO OPINION

E. Commercial sale of panfish taken by hook and line:

SERIOUS PROBLEM MINOR PROBLEM NO PROBLEM NO OPINION

F. Fishing with bait on treble hooks:

SERIOUS PROBLEM MINOR PROBLEM NO PROBLEM NO OPINION

G. Fishing with bait on hooks that do not corrode (e.g. stainless steel):

SERIOUS PROBLEM MINOR PROBLEM NO PROBLEM NO OPINION

H. Fishing derbies (other than "kids" derbies):

SERIOUS PROBLEM MINOR PROBLEM NO PROBLEM NO OPINION

Q-41 Are you a member of a fishing organization or fish and game club?
(Circle one number.)

1. NO
2. YES (Please specify): _____

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about fishing in Vermont?
Any comments you wish to make that you think may help us in future efforts to improve fishing in Vermont will be appreciated. (Please use the space below for your comments.)

Your contribution to this effort is greatly appreciated. If you would like a summary of results, please check the box and print your name and mailing address. We will see that you get a copy.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

**Please tape or staple closed.
Drop it in the mail - no postage needed. Thank you.**



State of Vermont

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation
Department of Environmental Conservation
State Geologist
Natural Resources Conservation Council

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
103 South Main Street, 10 South
Waterbury, Vermont 05676
802-244-7331
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

January 14, 1991

Dear Vermont Angler:

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is in the process of re-evaluating its fish management program. We are beginning this process by conducting a random survey of Vermont anglers because we believe your opinions must be included in our efforts to improve sportfishing. Enclosed is a questionnaire which provides us an opportunity to hear your views on such issues as creel limits, season length, use of hatchery reared trout and special regulations.

As this survey has been sent to only a small percentage of Vermont anglers, it is important that each questionnaire be returned. Regardless of how often you fished in 1990, we want to hear your opinions. Casual as well as serious anglers are an important part of Vermont's sportfishing community.

Please take the time to complete the questionnaire and drop it in a mailbox. No stamp or envelope is required. Your answers will be kept completely confidential. If you would like a summary of the results of this survey, please check the box on the last page.

Thank you for your time and help.

Sincerely yours,

J. Timothy Van Zandt
Commissioner
VT Fish & Wildlife Department

Equal Opportunity Employer

Regional Offices - Barre/Essex Jct./Pittsford/N. Springfield/St. Johnsbury

Dear Vermont Angler:

Last week a questionnaire seeking your opinion on sportfishing in Vermont was mailed to you. If you have already completed and returned it to us, please accept our sincere thanks. If not, please do so today. Because it has been sent to only a small percentage of anglers, your answers are extremely important if the results are to accurately represent the opinions of Vermont anglers.

If you did not receive the questionnaire, or it was misplaced, please call me at (802) 485-7566 and I will get another one in the mail to you today.

Sincerely,
Rich Kim
VT Department of Fish and Wildlife



State of Vermont

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation
Department of Environmental Conservation
State Geologist
Natural Resources Conservation Council

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
103 South Main Street, 10 South
Waterbury, Vermont 05676
802-244-7331
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

February 2, 1991

Dear Vermont Angler:

About three weeks ago I wrote to you seeking your opinion on sportfishing in Vermont. As of today we have not received your completed questionnaire.

The Fish and Wildlife Department is conducting this survey of Vermont anglers because we believe the opinions of anglers should be taken into account as we work to improve sportfishing in Vermont.

I am writing to you again because of the importance of your questionnaire to the results of this survey. You are one of the small percentage of licensed anglers selected to express opinions on fishing in Vermont. In order that the results of this survey truly represent the opinions of all Vermont anglers it is essential that each person return their questionnaire. Even if you did not fish in 1990, we want to hear from you.

In the event that your questionnaire has been misplaced, a replacement is enclosed.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,


J. TIMOTHY VAN ZANDT
Commissioner

Enclosure

Equal Opportunity Employer

Regional Offices - Barre/Essex Jct./Pittsford/N. Springfield/St. Johnsbury

Appendix II. Telephone survey of nonrespondents.

- 1) About how many days did you fish in Vermont in 1990? _____
- 2) Do you fish during the open-water season in Vermont (spring, summer, fall)?
 1. No
 2. Yes

If YES to Q2

- 3) What kinds of fish do you prefer to fish for during the open-water season in Vermont?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

If they listed any salmonid spp. in Q-3, ask:

- 4) What tackle do you most often use to fish for (salmonid spp in Q3)?
 1. Lures
 2. Flies
 3. Bait
 4. Lures with bait

If they listed bass (LMB or SMB) in Q-3, ask:

- 5) What tackle do you most often use to fish for bass?
 1. Lures
 2. Flies
 3. Bait
 4. Lures with bait
- 6) Do you ice-fish in Vermont?
 1. No
 2. Yes

If YES to Q3

- 7) What kinds of fish do you prefer to fish for during the ice-fishing season in Vermont?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

Thank you for your time!

Comments: _____

APPENDIX III - Results of the Vermont Angler Survey

APPENDIX IV - Additional comments received during the 1991 Vermont Angler Survey
(enclosed seperately)

Table 1. What fish species do you fish for in Vermont? Species ranking is based on the percentage of respondents selecting the species.

Residents

Species	Total Rank ‡	Zone 1 Rank ‡	Zone 2 Rank ‡	Zone 3 Rank ‡	Zone 4 Rank ‡	Zone 5 Rank ‡	Nonresidents total Rank ‡
Brook trout	1 (79)	1 (88)	1 (86)	1 (87)	1 (77)	3 (65)	4 (54)
Rainbow trout	2 (73)	2 (80)	2 (82)	2 (82)	3 (71)	7 (60)	1 (57)
Yellow perch	3 (73)	3 (73)	4 (69)	6 (63)	2 (73)	1 (81)	6 (45)
Brown trout	4 (68)	4 (69)	3 (74)	3 (80)	4 (67)	8 (55)	5 (52)
Smallmouth bass	5 (64)	6 (59)	5 (61)	4 (66)	6 (59)	2 (72)	2 (56)
Largemouth bass	6 (60)	7 (50)	6 (55)	5 (63)	5 (63)	4 (65)	3 (56)
Lake trout	7 (48)	5 (62)	7 (48)	8 (43)	9 (46)	9 (47)	8 (36)
Northern pike	8 (48)	10 (31)	8 (41)	7 (45)	7 (51)	6 (61)	7 (41)
Walleye	9 (44)	13 (28)	9 (34)	11 (38)	10 (44)	5 (62)	9 (31)
Bullhead	10 (38)	9 (37)	11 (34)	9 (41)	8 (48)	11 (35)	14 (14)
Pickereel	11 (32)	8 (40)	10 (34)	10 (39)	14 (22)	13 (29)	10 (30)
Landlocked salmon	12 (27)	11 (29)	12 (22)	13 (22)	13 (22)	10 (36)	11 (22)
Smelt	13 (27)	12 (29)	13 (17)	16 (15)	11 (42)	12 (30)	17 (8)
Sunfish	14 (18)	15 (12)	15 (14)	12 (22)	12 (24)	15 (16)	12 (20)
Rockbass	15 (18)	14 (19)	14 (15)	14 (19)	16 (20)	14 (16)	13 (18)
White perch	16 (16)	16 (11)	16 (10)	15 (16)	15 (21)	17 (12)	16 (11)
Crappie	17 (10)	19 (3)	18 (5)	18 (8)	18 (18)	16 (12)	15 (13)
Channel catfish	18 (9)	18 (4)	17 (6)	17 (9)	17 (19)	19 (7)	19 (4)
Muskellunge	19 (6)	20 (3)	19 (4)	20 (6)	21 (5)	18 (8)	18 (7)
Sauger	20 (4)	25 (<1)	23 (1)	23 (2)	19 (10)	21 (3)	20 (2)
Sucker	21 (3)	17 (5)	20 (4)	22 (3)	22 (4)	23 (2)	26 (<1)
Drum	22 (3)	26 (<1)	21 (2)	24 (2)	20 (6)	20 (4)	21 (2)
Carp	23 (2)	23 (1)	25 (1)	21 (3)	23 (2)	22 (3)	23 (1)
American shad	24 (2)	22 (1)	22 (1)	19 (6)	26 (<1)	26 (<1)	22 (1)
Whitefish	25 (1)	21 (2)	24 (1)	26 (<1)	24 (2)	24 (2)	25 (1)
Gar	26 (1)	24 (1)	26 (<1)	25 (1)	25 (2)	25 (1)	24 (1)
Total Responses	3995	515	881	692	725	1176	666

PREFERRED SPECIES - OPEN WATER

Table 2. What kinds of fish do you prefer to fish for during the OPEN-WATER season in Vermont? Anglers were asked to list their three preferred fish species. Results are presented for the single most preferred species ("Most") and the total of the top three preferred species ("Total") selected by respondents. Responses of resident anglers are further partitioned by sampling zone. [Species abbreviations: BKT = Brook Trout; RBT = Rainbow Trout, BNT = Brown Trout, LKT = Lake Trout, LMB = Largemouth Bass, SMB = Smallmouth Bass, WAE = Walleye, YP = Yellow Perch]

		RESIDENTS							
		Zone 1				Zone 2			
		Most		Total		Most		Total	
1.	BKT	43%	BKT	23%	BKT	36%	RBT	21%	
2.	RBT	19	RBT	19	RBT	23	BKT	21	
3.	LKT	9	YP	11	LMB	8	BNT	14	
4.	YP	7	BNT	11	BNT	6	LMB	8	
5.	LMB	6	LKT	10	SMB	6	YP	8	
Number of Responses		434				738			
		Zone 3				Zone 4			
		Most		Total		Most		Total	
1.	BKT	41%	BKT	24%	BKT	30%	BKT	18%	
2.	RBT	17	RBT	19	RBT	13	RBT	14	
3.	BNT	12	BNT	17	LMB	13	BNT	12	
4.	LMB	9	LMB	10	WAE	8	LMB	11	
5.	SMB	6	SMB	8	BNT	8	YP	10	
Number of Responses		589				613			
		Zone 5				Total Residents			
		Most		Total		Most		Total	
1.	BKT	22%	BKT	13%	BKT	33%	BKT	19%	
2.	WAE	15	WAE	12	RBT	15	RBT	16	
3.	LMB	14	SMB	12	LMB	11	BNT	12	
4.	SMB	11	LMB	11	WAE	8	LMB	9	
5.	BNT	7	YP	10	SMB	7	SMB	9	
	YP	7			BNT	7			
Number of Responses		998				3375			

		NONRESIDENTS			
		Most		Total	
1.	BKT	23%	RBT	15%	
2.	LMB	16	BKT	15	
3.	RBT	15	LMB	13	
4.	SMB	10	BNT	11	
5.	WAE	8	SMB	11	
Number of Responses		542			

PREFERRED SPECIES - ICE FISHING

Table 3. What kinds of fish do you prefer to fish for during the ICE-FISHING season in Vermont? Anglers were asked to list their three preferred fish species. Results are presented for the single most preferred species ("Most") and the total of the top three preferred species ("Total") selected by respondents. Responses of resident anglers are further partitioned by sampling zone. [Species abbreviations: RBT = Rainbow Trout, BNT = Brown Trout, LKT = Lake Trout, NP = Northern Pike, WAE = Walleye, YP = Yellow Perch]

RESIDENTS

<u>Zone 1</u>				<u>Zone 2</u>				
	<u>Most</u>		<u>Total</u>			<u>Total</u>		
1.	YP	43%	YP	25%	YP	57%	YP	32%
2.	LKT	37	LKT	23	LKT	10	LKT	12
3.	SMELT	4	SMELT	13	NP	9	NP	12
4.	RBT	4	RBT	12	RBT	5	SMELT	10
5.	BNT	2	BNT	7	SMELT	5	WAE	7
	NP	2			WAE	5		
Number of Responses		247				369		

<u>Zone 3</u>				<u>Zone 4</u>				
	<u>Most</u>		<u>Total</u>			<u>Total</u>		
1.	YP	25%	YP	22%	YP	37%	YP	28%
2.	NP	20	NP	20	SMELT	23	SMELT	21
3.	LKT	10	WAE	9	WAE	16	WAE	13
4.	SMELT	10	SMELT	9	NP	9	NP	13
5.	WAE	10	LKT	8	LKT	6	LKT	4
Number of Responses		204				361		

<u>Zone 5</u>				<u>Total Residents</u>				
	<u>Most</u>		<u>Total</u>			<u>Total</u>		
1.	YP	65%	YP	36%	YP	51%	YP	30%
2.	SMELT	8	NP	18	LKT	11	NP	14
3.	NP	8	SMELT	14	SMELT	10	SMELT	14
4.	WAE	7	WAE	12	NP	9	LKT	11
5.	LKT	5	LKT	7	WAE	8	WAE	10
Number of Responses		687				1870		

NONRESIDENTS

	<u>Most</u>		<u>Total</u>	
1.	YP	32%	YP	21%
2.	NP	17	NP	15
3.	WAE	12	WAE	11
4.	LKT	11	LKT	10
5.	SMELT	8	SMELT	8
Number of Responses		133		

DAYS FISHED IN 1990

Table 4. About how many days did you fish in Vermont in 1990? Anglers were asked to list both open-water fishing and ice-fishing days.

Days	RESIDENT				NONRESIDENT			
	OPEN		ICE		OPEN		ICE	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0	132	3	293	14	10	2	24	15
1-5	519	13	601	29	237	38	59	38
6-10	642	17	486	23	152	25	42	27
11-20	940	24	420	20	122	20	23	15
21-30	716	19	165	8	62	10	7	5
31-40	271	7	44	2	11	2	0	0
41-50	171	4	25	1	8	1	0	0
50+	473	12	47	2	18	3	2	1
Number of Responses	3864		2082		620		157	
Total Days	104179		23986		7807		1192	
Mean	27.0		11.5		12.6		7.6	
Median	20.0		7.0		7.0		5.0	

Table 5. About how many days did you fish in the following types of water outside Vermont in 1990? Results are presented as the percentage of the total days fished outside Vermont for each category and the percentage of all respondents who fished in each category.

	RESIDENT		NONRESIDENT	
	% Days	% Anglers	% Days	% Anglers
Great Lakes	15	11	4	16
Other Freshwater	70	20	75	73
Saltwater	15	18	21	34
Percentage of respondents who fished outside Vermont in 1990	37		83	

FISHING DAYS BY CATEGORY

Table 6. About how many days did you spend fishing in each of the following categories during the 1990 open-water and ice-fishing seasons? Results are presented as the percentage of the total days fished in each category by each type of fishing.

	RESIDENTS		NONRESIDENTS	
	OPEN(%)	ICE(%)	OPEN(%)	ICE(%)
Brook, Brown or Rainbow Trout in Small Brooks/Beaver Ponds	15	--	8	--
Brook, Brown or Rainbow Trout in Large Streams or Rivers	13	--	9	--
Brook, Brown or Rainbow Trout in Ponds or Lakes	11	7	10	9
Lake Trout	6	9	6	8
Landlocked Salmon	4	4	4	4
Walleye	7	8	9	8
Smallmouth or Largemouth Bass	16	4	19	7
Northern Pike, Pickerel or Muskellunge	8	15	12	12
American Shad in the Connecticut River	<1	--	<1	--
Yellow Perch	12	36	13	30
Smelt	1	15	1	15
Panfish	3	1	5	7
Bullhead	5	<1	3	<1
Other	1	<1	1	<1
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Figure 1. What tackle do you most often use to fish for brook, brown, or rainbow trout in streams or rivers?

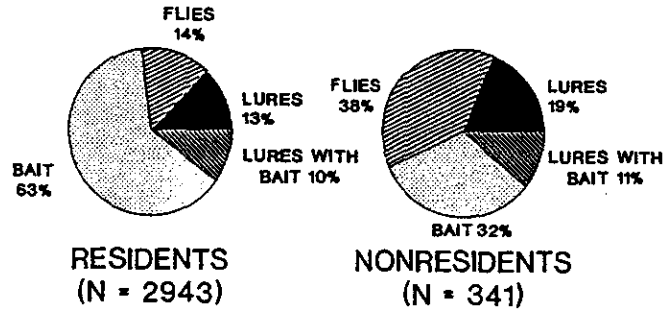
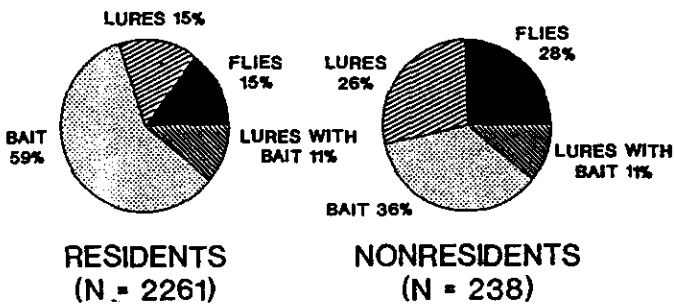
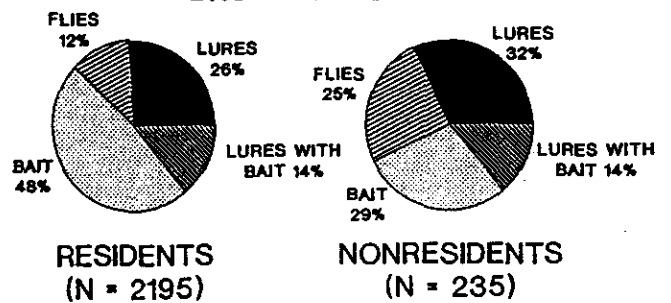


Figure 2. What tackle do you most often use to fish for brook, brown, or rainbow trout during the open water season in ponds and lakes?

BROOK TROUT



BROWN TROUT



RAINBOW TROUT

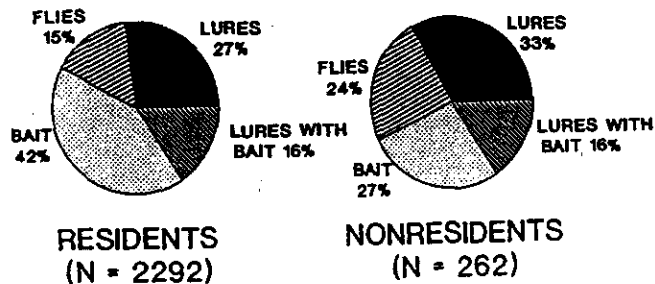


Figure 3. What tackle do you most often use to fish for lake trout or landlocked salmon during the open water season in ponds and lakes?



Figure 4. What tackle do you most often use to fish for largemouth and smallmouth bass?

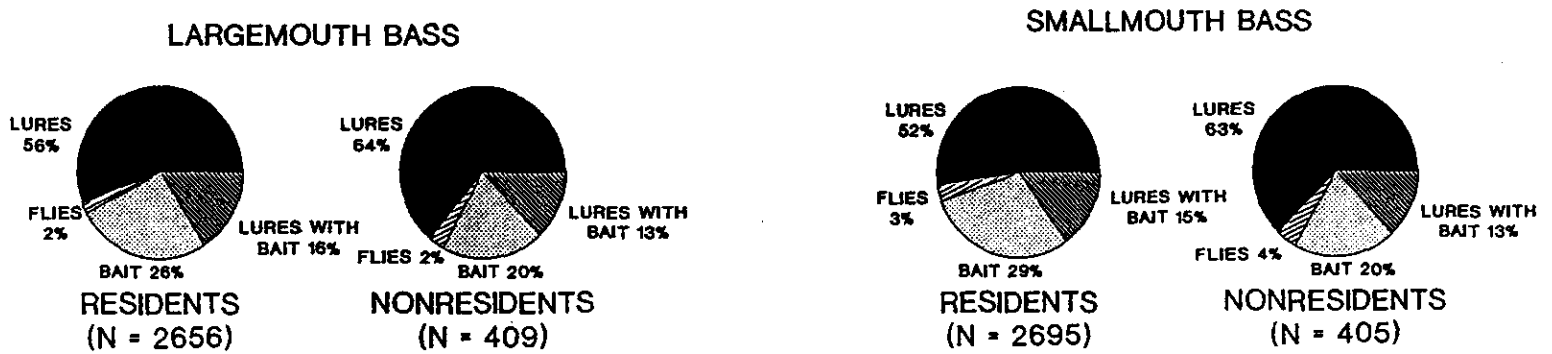
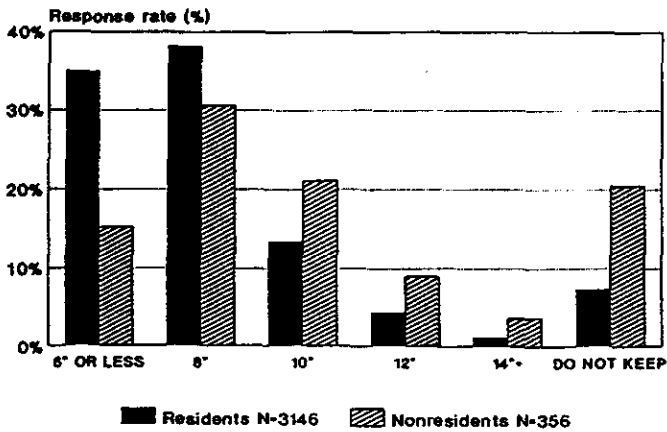
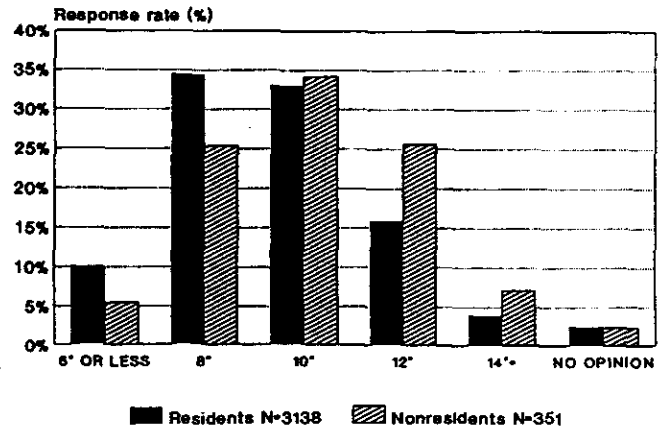


Figure 5. Percentage of anglers selecting (1) the smallest fish length they would keep, and (2) the smallest length they consider to be a quality size fish for the following species.

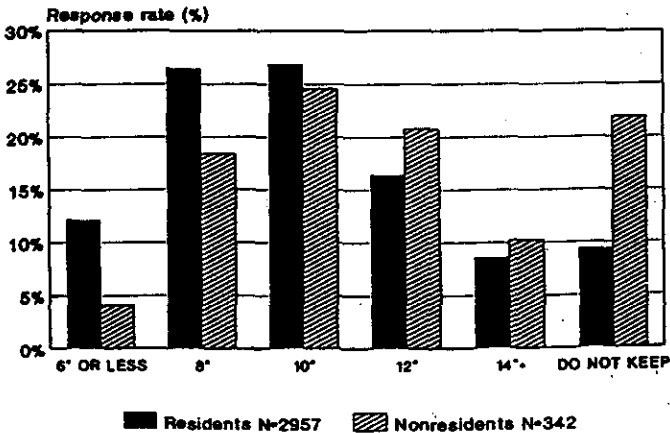
**BROOK TROUT - STREAMS and RIVERS
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



**BROOK TROUT - STREAMS and RIVERS
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**



**BROWN TROUT - STREAMS and RIVERS
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



**BROWN TROUT - STREAMS and RIVERS
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**

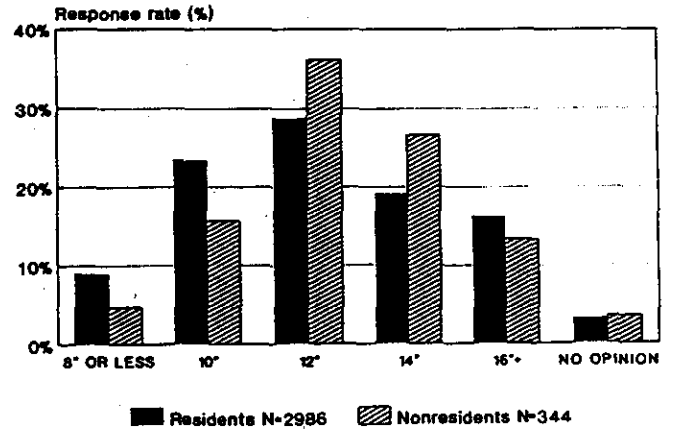
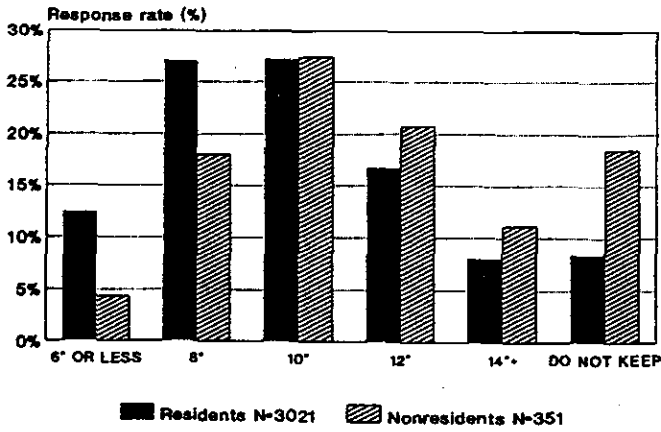
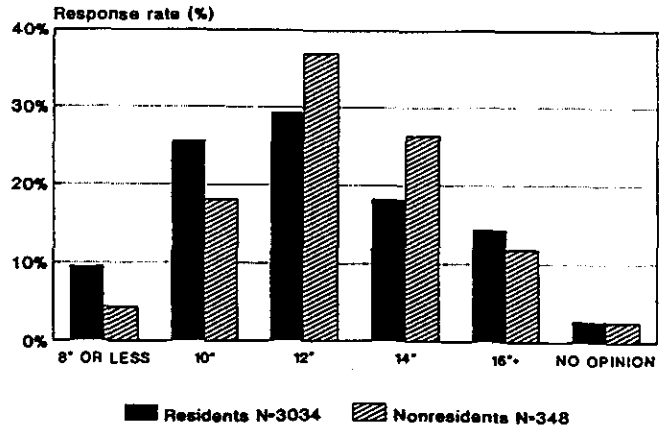


Figure 5. Continued.

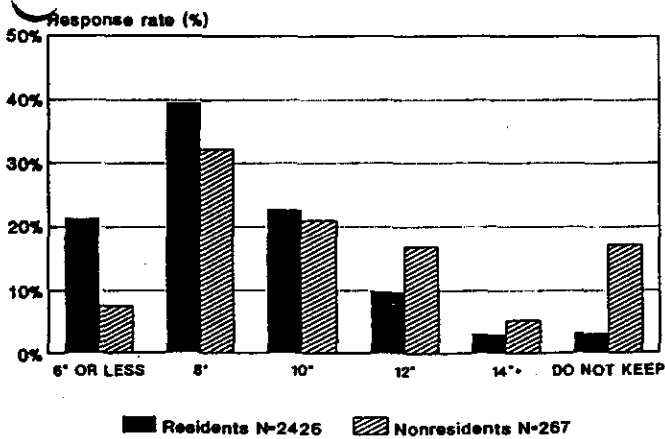
**RAINBOW TROUT - STREAMS and RIVERS
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



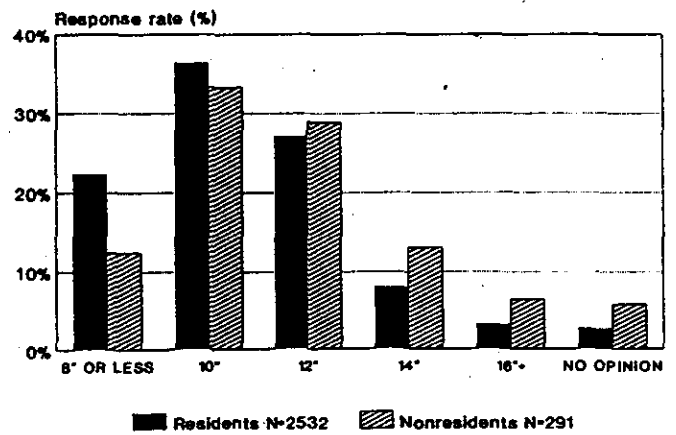
**RAINBOW TROUT - STREAMS and RIVERS
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**



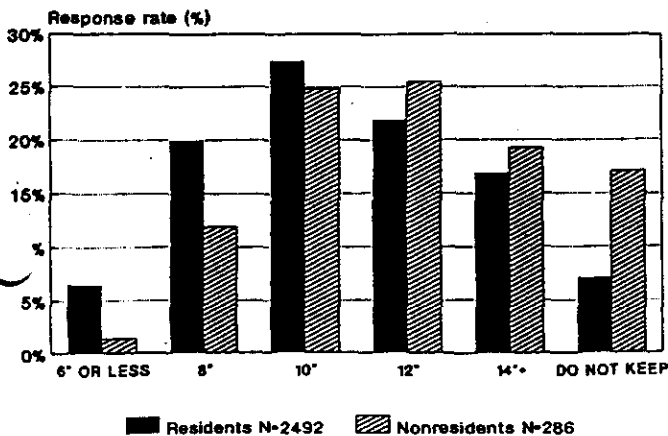
**BROOK TROUT - PONDS and LAKES
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



**BROOK TROUT - PONDS and LAKES
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**



**BROWN TROUT - PONDS and LAKES
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



**BROWN TROUT - PONDS and LAKES
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**

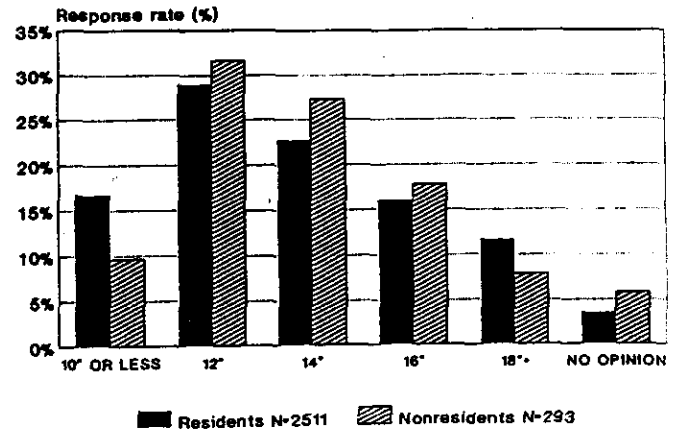
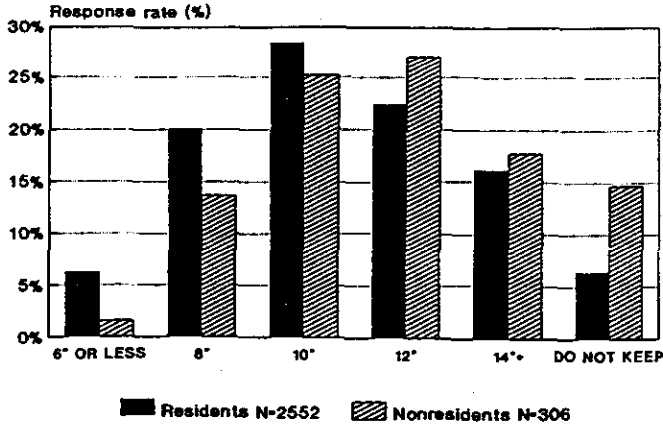
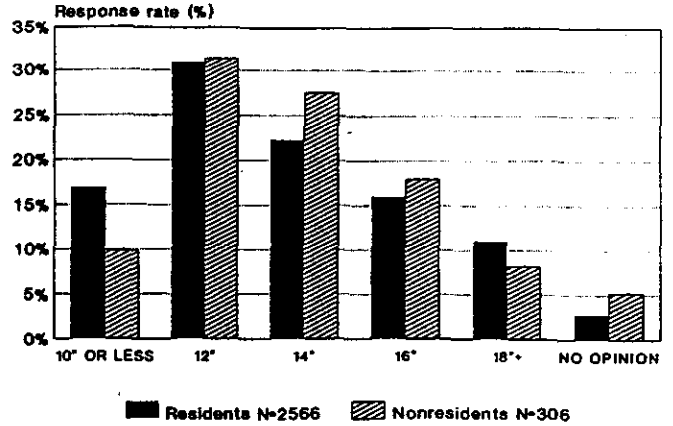


Figure 5. Continued.

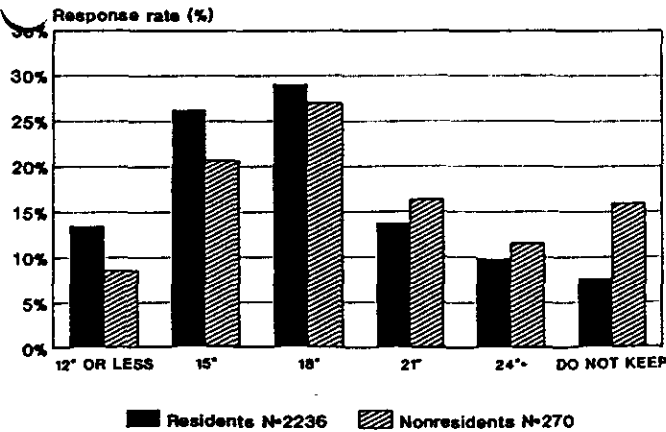
**RAINBOW TROUT - PONDS and LAKES
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



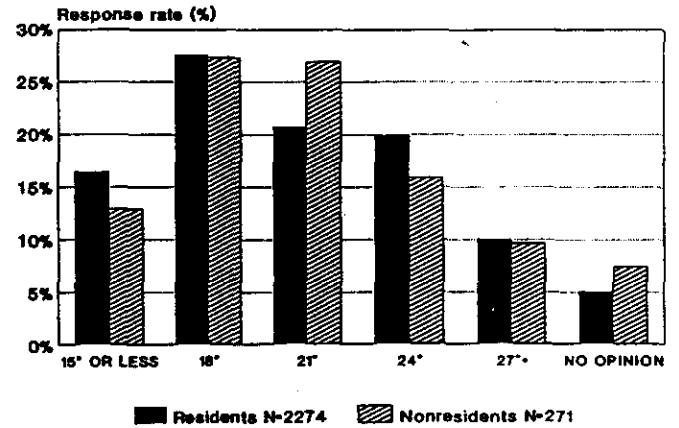
**RAINBOW TROUT - PONDS and LAKES
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**



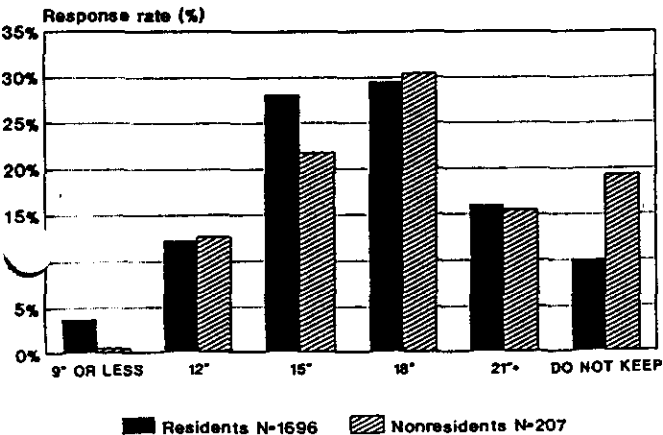
**LAKE TROUT
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



**LAKE TROUT
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**



**LANDLOCKED SALMON
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



**LANDLOCKED SALMON
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**

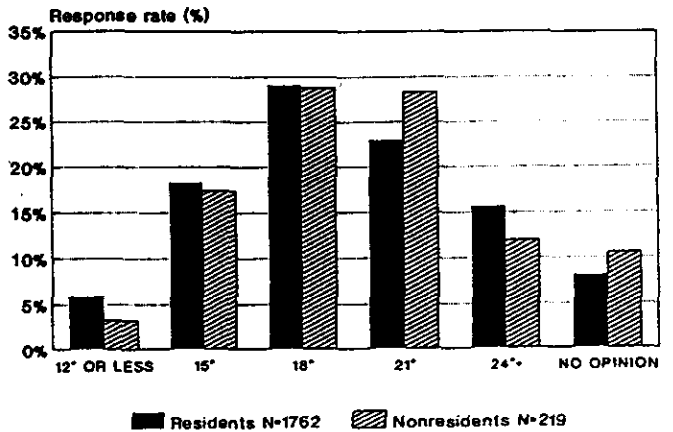
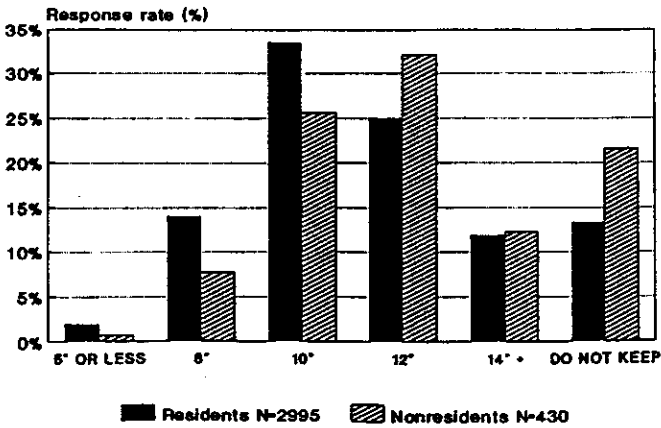
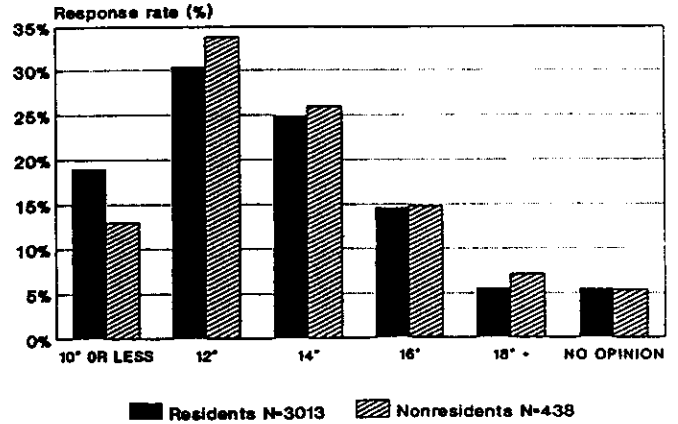


Figure 5. Continued.

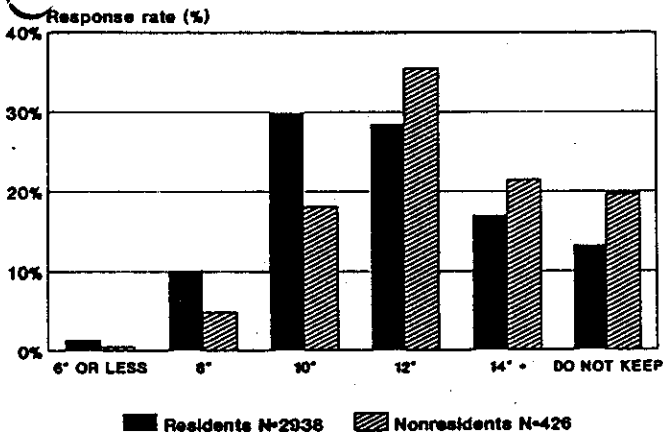
**SMALLMOUTH BASS
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



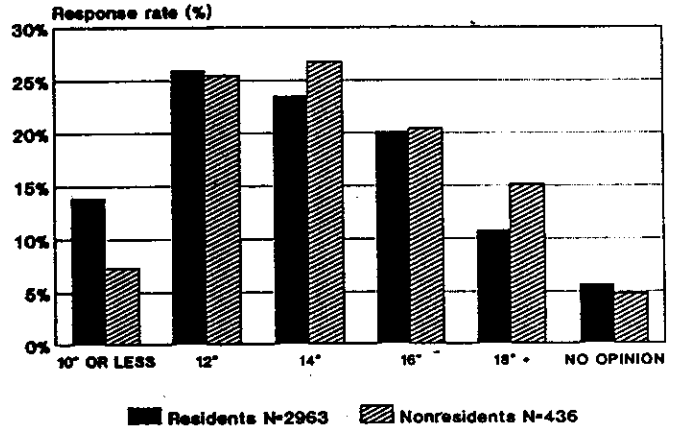
**SMALLMOUTH BASS
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**



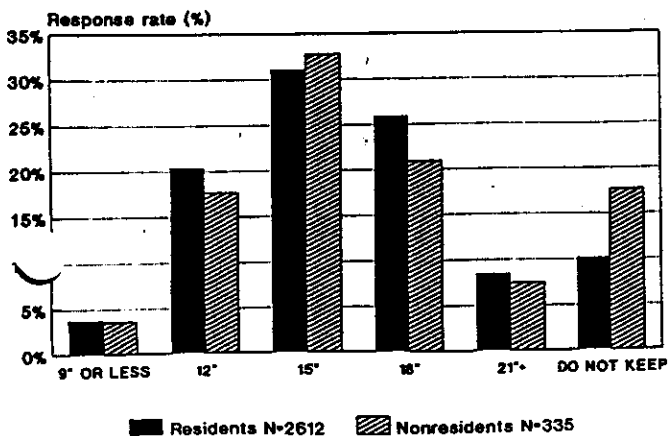
**LARGEMOUTH BASS
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



**LARGEMOUTH BASS
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**



**WALLEYE
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



**WALLEYE
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**

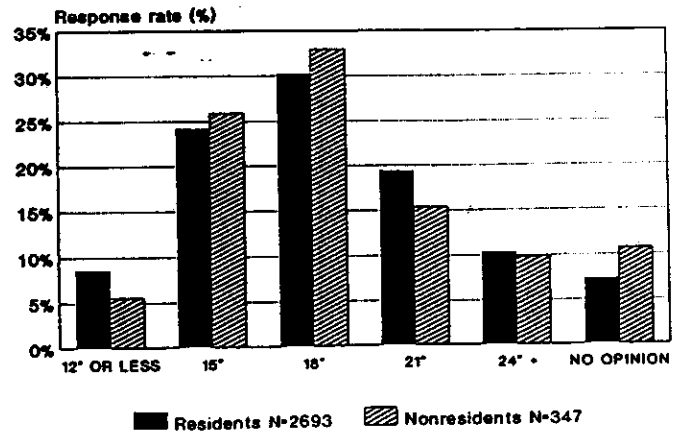
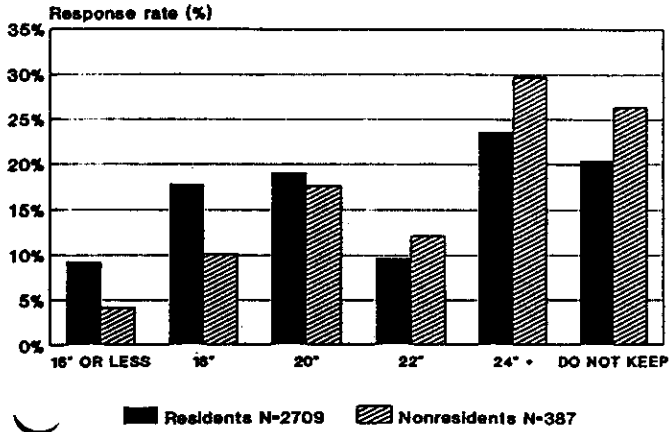
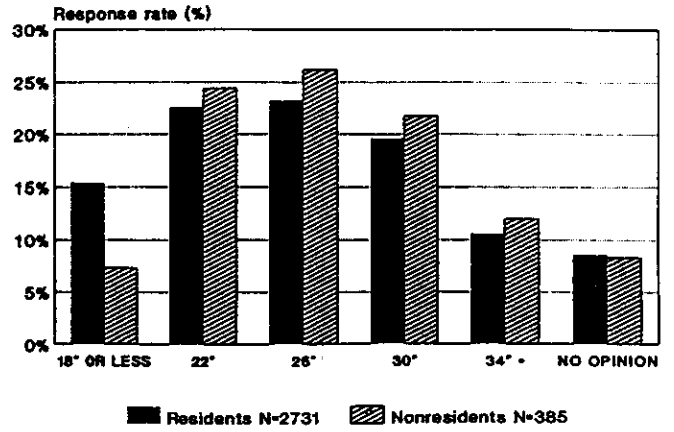


Figure 5. Continued.

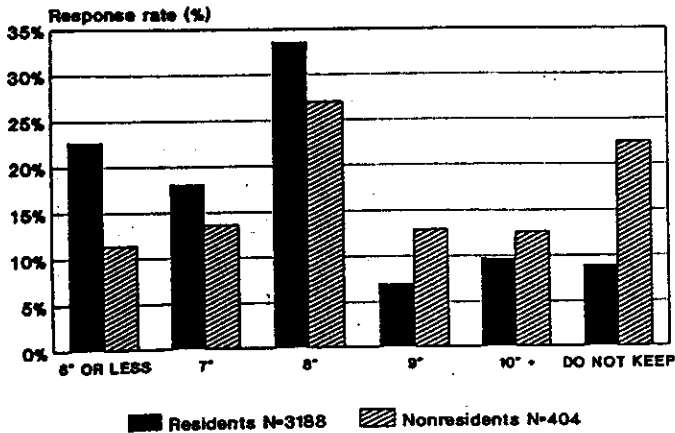
**NORTHERN PIKE
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



**NORTHERN PIKE
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**



**YELLOW PERCH
SMALLEST SIZE THAT WOULD BE KEPT**



**YELLOW PERCH
SMALLEST QUALITY SIZE**

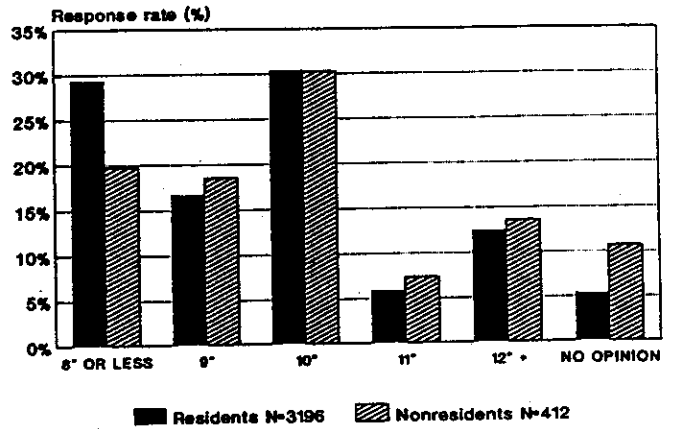
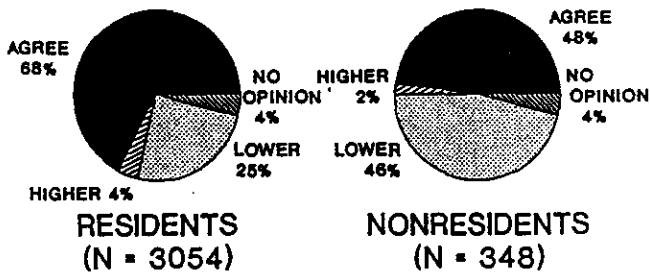
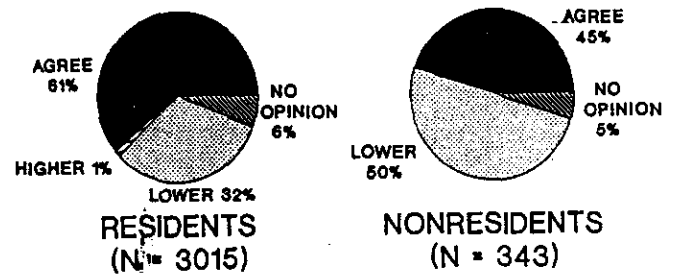


Figure 6. The general daily creel limit for trout in streams or rivers is 12 fish of any one species or combination of species. Do you agree with the present daily creel limits?

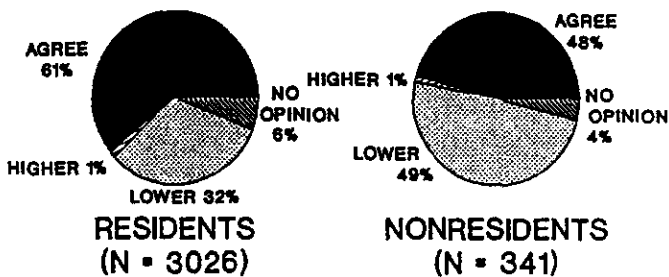
BROOK TROUT



BROWN TROUT



RAINBOW TROUT



COMBINED LIMIT

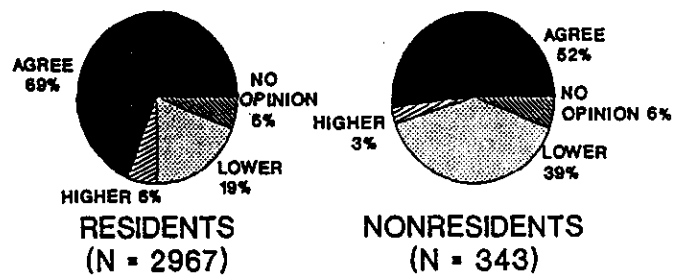
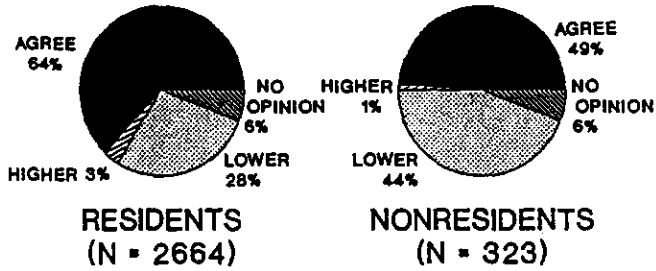
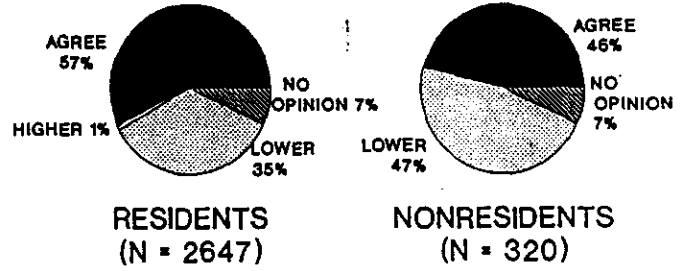


Figure 7. The general daily creel limit for brook, brown, and rainbow trout in ponds and lakes is 12 fish of any one species or combination of species. Do you agree with the present daily creel limits?

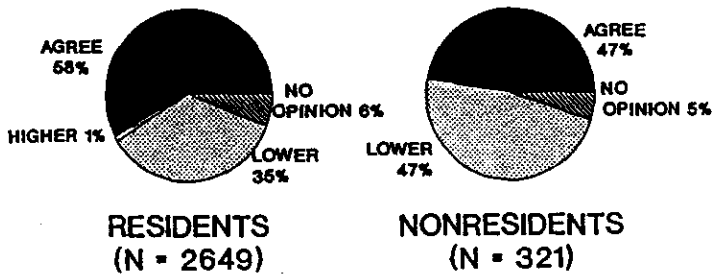
BROOK TROUT



BROWN TROUT



RAINBOW TROUT



COMBINED LIMIT

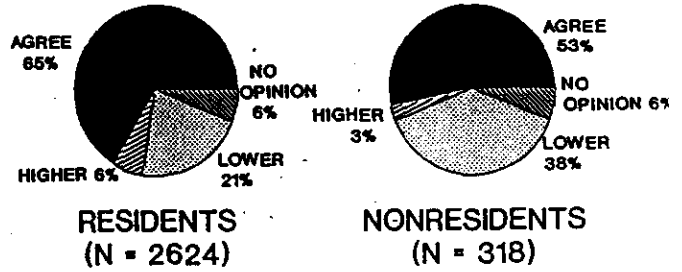
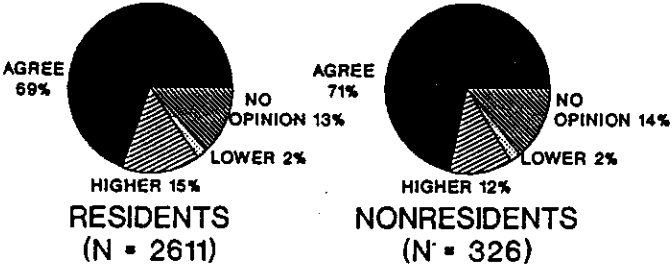
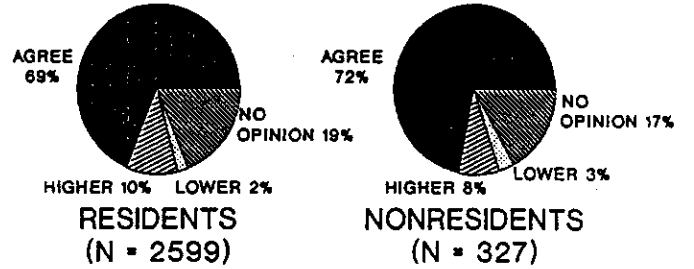


Figure 8. The general daily creel limit for landlocked salmon or lake trout is 2 salmon or 2 lake trout or 1 of each. Do you agree with the present daily creel limits?

LAKE TROUT



LANDLOCKED SALMON



COMBINED LIMIT

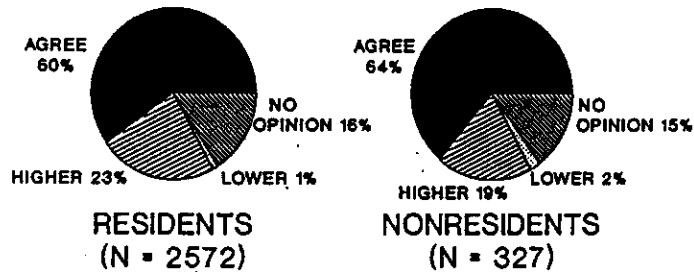


Figure 9. The general daily creel limit for largemouth and smallmouth bass is 5 fish of any one species or combination of species. Do you agree with the present daily creel limits?

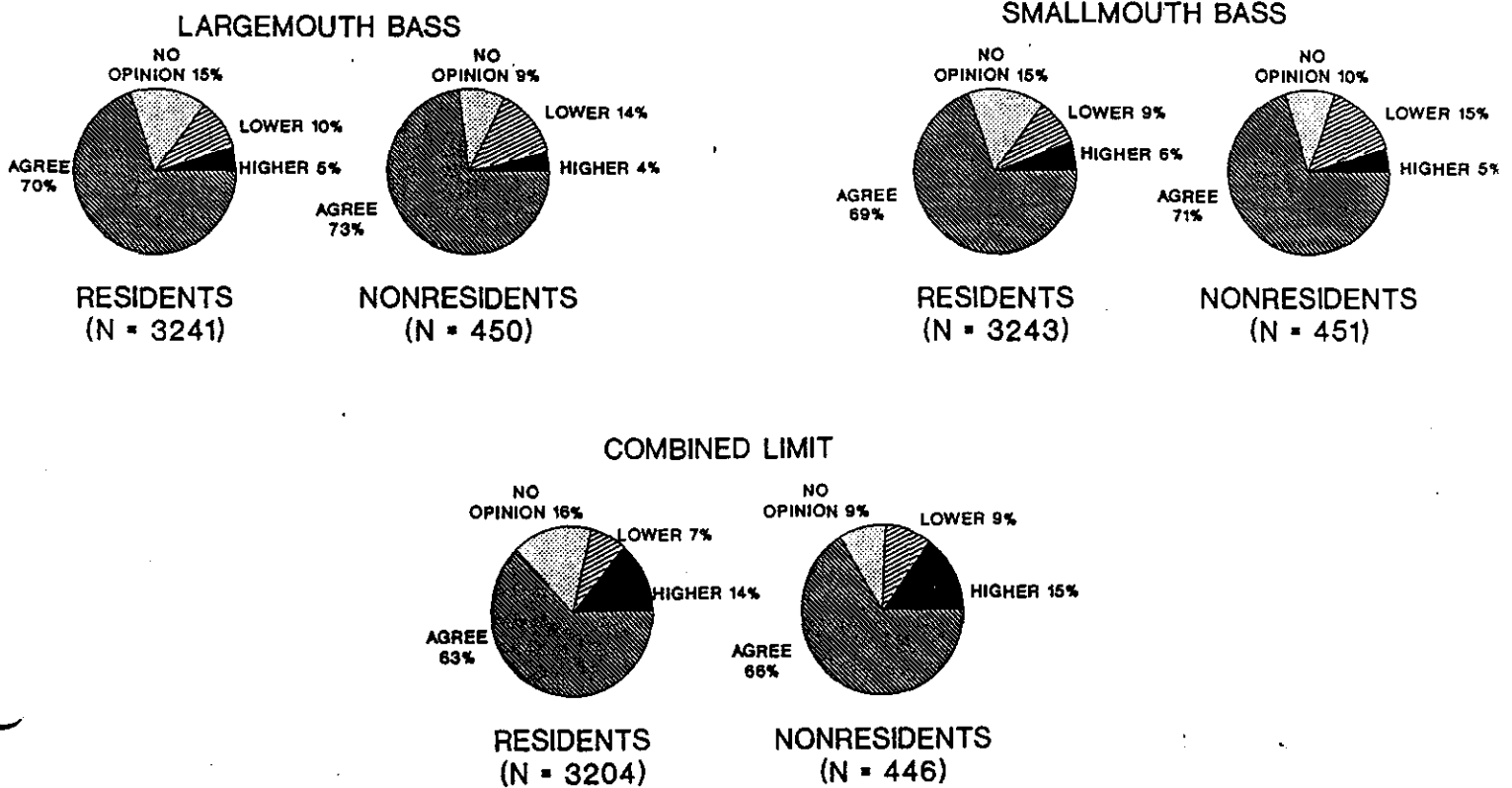


Figure 10. The general daily creel limits for walleye and northern pike is five fish. Do you agree with the present daily creel limits?

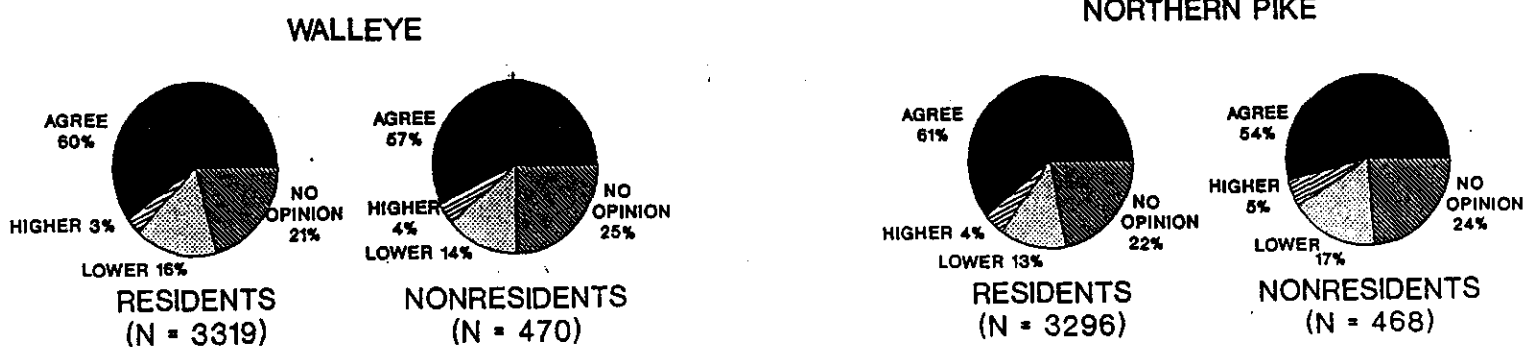
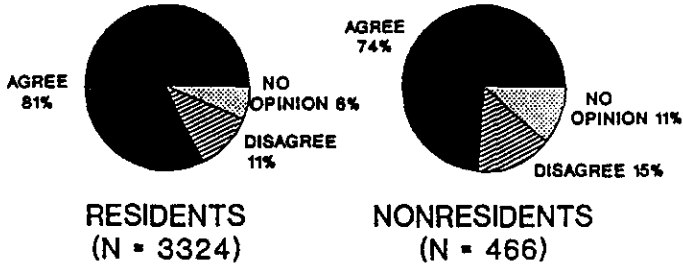
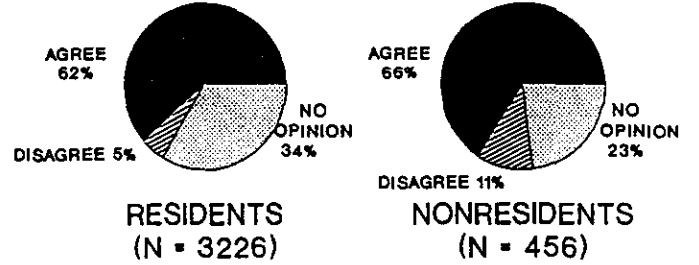


Figure 11. There is no daily creel limit for the following species.
Do you agree with the present regulation?

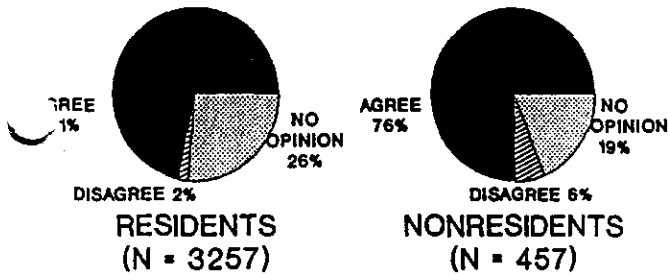
YELLOW PERCH



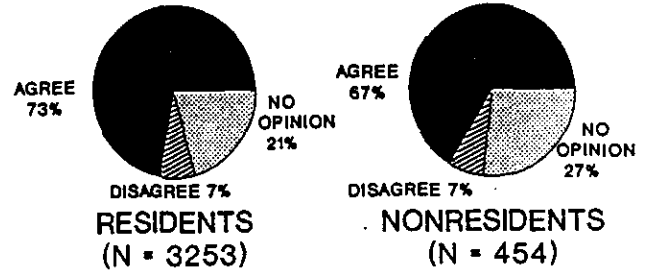
BLACK CRAPPIE



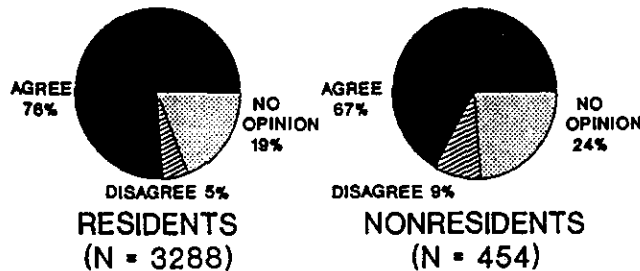
SUNFISH



SMELT



BULLHEAD



FISHING SEASON LENGTH - TROUT IN STREAMS/RIVERS

Table 7. The percentage of respondents selecting various options for the length of the trout season in streams and rivers. Responses are presented for those anglers who fish for trout in streams or rivers in Vermont.

	RESIDENTS (%)			NONRESIDENTS (%)		
	Brook Trout	Brown Trout	Rainbow Trout	Brook Trout	Brown Trout	Rainbow Trout
Just About Right.....	67	64	65	66	64	65
Open Earlier.....	3	3	4	2	3	3
Open Later.....	5	5	6	1	1	2
Close Earlier.....	4	3	3	3	3	2
Close Later.....	5	5	4	8	7	8
Open Earlier/ Close Earlier.....	<1	<1	<1	1	1	1
Open Earlier/ Close Later.....	2	2	2	1	1	1
Open Later/ Close Earlier.....	2	2	2	<1	<1	<1
Open Later/ Close Later.....	2	1	1	1	<1	1
No Closed Season.....	5	5	6	8	8	8
No Opinion.....	5	9	8	9	11	9
Number of Responses	3140	3132	3134	360	359	361

FISHING SEASON LENGTH - TROUT AND SALMON IN PONDS/LAKES

Table 8. The percentage of respondents selecting various options for the length of the open-water and ice fishing seasons for trout in ponds and lakes. Responses are presented for those anglers who fish for trout or salmon in ponds or lakes and who fish during the season in question.

<u>Open-water Season</u>	<u>RESIDENTS (%)</u>			<u>NONRESIDENTS (%)</u>		
	Brook, Brown, Rainbow Trout	Lake Trout	Landlocked Salmon	Brook, Brown, Rainbow Trout	Lake Trout	Landlocked Salmon
Just About Right.....	68	63	54	69	65	59
Open Earlier.....	4	4	3	3	4	3
Open Later.....	4	3	3	2	1	2
Close Earlier.....	3	2	2	2	1	2
Close Later.....	5	4	4	6	5	5
Open Earlier/ Close Earlier.....	<1	<1	<1	0	0	0
Open Earlier/ Close Later.....	2	2	1	1	1	2
Open Later/ Close Earlier.....	2	1	1	1	1	1
Open Later/ Close Later.....	1	1	1	1	<1	1
No Closed Season.....	5	5	4	5	5	5
No Opinion.....	6	14	27	11	16	21
Number of Responses	2701	2700	2668	323	321	321

<u>Ice-fishing Season</u>	<u>RESIDENTS (%)</u>			<u>NONRESIDENTS (%)</u>		
	Brook, Brown, Rainbow Trout	Lake Trout	Landlocked Salmon	Brook, Brown, Rainbow Trout	Lake Trout	Landlocked Salmon
Just About Right.....	55	55	49	51	53	49
Open Earlier.....	14	14	10	18	16	14
Open Later.....	1	1	1	0	0	0
Close Earlier.....	3	3	3	1	0	1
Close Later.....	1	2	1	0	0	0
Open Earlier/ Close Earlier.....	1	<1	<1	0	0	0
Open Earlier/ Close Later.....	3	2	2	5	5	2
Open Later/ Close Earlier.....	2	2	2	0	1	0
Open Later/ Close Later.....	<1	<1	<1	0	0	0
No Closed Season.....	6	6	5	10	11	13
No Opinion.....	14	15	27	15	14	21
Number of Responses	1509	1504	1501	87	88	87

FISHING SEASON LENGTH - LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH BASS

Table 9. The percentage of respondents selecting various options for the length of the open-water and ice fishing seasons for bass. Responses are presented for those anglers who fish for warmwater gamefish or panfish during the season in question

<u>Open-water Season</u>	<u>RESIDENTS (%)</u>	<u>NONRESIDENTS (%)</u>
Just About Right.....	46	50
Open Earlier.....	23	21
Open Later.....	1	2
Close Earlier.....	4	4
Close Later.....	1	1
Open Earlier/ Close Earlier.....	5	4
Open Earlier/ Close Later.....	2	1
Open Later/ Close Earlier.....	1	<1
Open Later/ Close Later.....	<1	<1
No Closed Season.....	3	4
No Opinion.....	14	13
Number of Responses	3310	437

<u>Ice-fishing Season</u>	<u>RESIDENTS (%)</u>	<u>NONRESIDENTS (%)</u>
Just About Right.....	49	44
Open Earlier.....	10	13
Open Later.....	1	0
Close Earlier.....	2	1
Close Later.....	1	3
Open Earlier/ Close Earlier.....	0	1
Open Earlier/ Close Later.....	2	2
Open Later/ Close Earlier.....	2	2
Open Later/ Close Later.....	0	0
No Closed Season.....	5	11
No Opinion.....	29	23
Number of Responses	1957	128

SPECIAL REGULATIONS - BROOK, BROWN AND RAINBOW TROUT IN STREAMS/RIVERS

Table 10A. The percentage of respondents who indicated that they might support the use of various special regulation options for trout fishing on some streams or rivers. Anglers were asked to circle all of the special regulation options they might support.

	<u>RESIDENT (%)</u>	<u>NONRESIDENT (%)</u>
Support for each option:		
Catch & Release	29	45
Artificials Only	25	45
Length Limits	49	45
Lower Creel Limits	32	34

Support one or more special regulation option	76	88
Do not support any special regulations	11	4
No opinion	13	8
Total	100%	100%
Number of responses	3144	363

Table 10B. Responses of resident anglers are presented by the tackle most often used to fish for trout in streams or rivers.

	<u>TACKLE MOST OFTEN USED</u>			
	<u>LURES</u>	<u>FLIES</u>	<u>BAIT</u>	<u>BAIT W/ LURES</u>
Support for each option:				
Catch & Release	37	54	20	26
Artificials Only	38	65	15	17
Length Limits	50	33	52	53
Lower Creel Limits	35	25	34	32

Support one or more special regulation option	84	90	72	77
Do not support any special regulations	7	5	13	10
No opinion	9	5	15	12
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of responses	388	399	1807	283

SPECIAL REGULATIONS - BROOK, BROWN AND RAINBOW TROUT IN PONDS/LAKES

Table 11A. The percentage of respondents who indicated that they might support the use of various special regulation options for trout fishing on some ponds or lakes. Anglers were asked to circle all of the special regulation options they might support.

	<u>RESIDENT (%)</u>	<u>NONRESIDENT (%)</u>
Support for each option:		
Catch & Release	22	28
Artificials Only	23	31
Length Limits	52	48
Lower Creel Limits	32	36

Support one or more special regulation option	76	84
Do not support any special regulations	11	4
No opinion	12	12
Total	100%	100%
Number of responses	2719	328

Table 11B. Responses of resident anglers are presented by the tackle most often used to fish for trout in ponds or lakes.

	<u>TACKLE MOST OFTEN USED</u>			
	<u>LURES</u>	<u>FLIES</u>	<u>BAIT</u>	<u>BAIT W/ LURES</u>
Support for each option:				
Catch & Release	28	51	15	15
Artificials Only	28	68	11	14
Length Limits	51	33	56	55
Lower Creel Limits	36	24	32	31

Support one or more special regulation option	81	90	73	74
Do not support any special regulations	9	7	14	12
No opinion	10	3	13	15
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of responses	248	182	734	170

SPECIAL REGULATIONS - LAKE TROUT

Table 12A. The percentage of respondents who indicated that they might support the use of various special regulation options for lake trout fishing on some waters. Anglers were asked to circle all of the special regulation options they might support.

	<u>RESIDENT (%)</u>	<u>NONRESIDENT (%)</u>
Support for each option:		
Catch & Release	18	23
Artificials Only	19	27
Length Limits	52	54
Lower Creel Limits	20	23

Support one or more special regulation option	70	77
Do not support any special regulations	11	7
No opinion	20	16
Total	100%	100%
Number of responses	2708	324

Table 12B. Responses of resident anglers are presented by the tackle most often used to fish for lake trout.

	<u>TACKLE MOST OFTEN USED</u>			
	<u>LURES</u>	<u>FLIES</u>	<u>BAIT</u>	<u>BAIT W/ LURES</u>
Support for each option:				
Catch & Release	22	40	15	11
Artificials Only	26	52	11	13
Length Limits	60	34	55	60
Lower Creel Limits	23	15	19	21

Support one or more special regulation option	80	87	68	73
Do not support any special regulations	9	9	16	11
No opinion	11	4	16	16
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of responses	905	67	549	367

SPECIAL REGULATIONS - LANDLOCKED SALMON

Table 13A. The percentage of respondents who indicated that they might support the use of various special regulation options for landlocked salmon fishing on some waters. Anglers were asked to circle all of the special regulation options they might support.

	<u>RESIDENT (%)</u>	<u>NONRESIDENT (%)</u>
Support for each option:		
Catch & Release	18	25
Artificials Only	18	27
Length Limits	44	46
Lower Creel Limits	17	18
<hr/>		
Support one or more special regulation option	61	72
Do not support any special regulations	9	5
No opinion	30	24
Total	100%	100%
Number of responses	2694	323

Table 13B. Responses of resident anglers are presented by the tackle most often used to fish for landlocked salmon.

	<u>TACKLE MOST OFTEN USED</u>			
	<u>LURES</u>	<u>FLIES</u>	<u>BAIT</u>	<u>BAIT W/ LURES</u>
Support for each option:				
Catch & Release	25	37	16	18
Artificials Only	29	59	13	18
Length Limits	58	49	53	62
Lower Creel Limits	21	20	17	26
<hr/>				
Support one or more special regulation option	81	89	68	79
Do not support any special regulations	8	7	14	8
No opinion	11	5	18	13
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of responses	639	123	293	205

SPECIAL REGULATIONS - LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH BASS

Table 14A. The percentage of respondents who indicated that they might support the use of various special regulation options for bass fishing on some waters. Anglers were asked to circle all of the special regulation options they might support.

	<u>RESIDENT (%)</u>	<u>NONRESIDENT (%)</u>
Support for each option:		
Catch & Release	18	22
Artificials Only	16	23
Length Limits	49	58
Lower Creel Limits	20	24

Support one or more special regulation option	67	80
Do not support any special regulations	13	9
No opinion	20	11
Total	100%	100%
Number of responses	3337	458

Table 14B. Responses of resident anglers are presented by the tackle most often used to fish for bass.

	<u>TACKLE MOST OFTEN USED</u>			
	<u>LURES</u>	<u>FLIES</u>	<u>BAIT</u>	<u>BAIT W/ LURES</u>
Support for each option:				
Catch & Release	24	34	12	14
Artificials Only	24	39	8	11
Length Limits	55	41	52	53
Lower Creel Limits	23	16	18	23

Support one or more special regulation option	78	79	66	69
Do not support any special regulations	11	14	16	19
No opinion	11	7	18	12
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of reponses	1301	56	628	350

SPECIAL REGULATIONS - WALLEYE

Table 15. The percentage of respondents who indicated that they might support the use of various special regulation options for walleye fishing on some waters. Anglers were asked to circle all of the special regulation options they might support.

	<u>RESIDENT (%)</u>	<u>NONRESIDENT (%)</u>
Support for each option:		
Catch & Release	15	16
Artificials Only	12	19
Length Limits	49	49
Lower Creel Limits	24	23
<hr/>		
Support one or more special regulation option	64	66
Do not support any special regulations	9	8
No opinion	27	26
Total	100%	100%
Number of responses	3335	453

SPECIAL REGULATIONS - NORTHERN PIKE

Table 16. The percentage of respondents who indicated that they might support the use of various special regulation options for northern pike fishing on some waters. Anglers were asked to circle all of the special regulation options they might support.

	<u>RESIDENT (%)</u>	<u>NONRESIDENT (%)</u>
Support for each option:		
Catch & Release	14	18
Artificials Only	11	17
Length Limits	43	53
Lower Creel Limits	18	19
<hr/>		
Support one or more special regulation option	56	70
Do not support any special regulations	13	9
No opinion	30	21
Total	100%	100%
Number of responses	3329	454

Figure 12. Overall, how would you rate the present quality of fishing in Vermont?

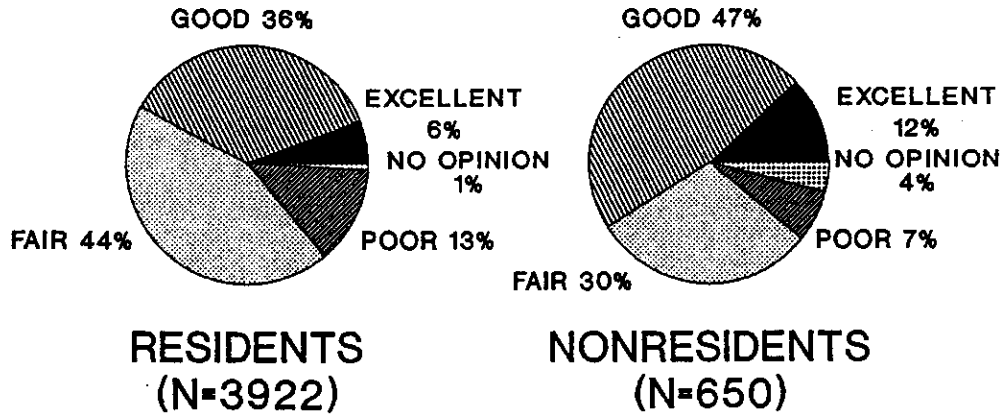
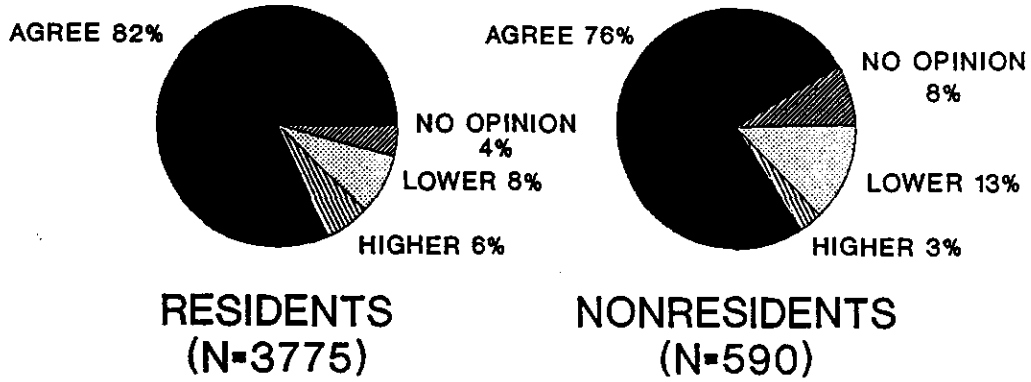


Figure 13. Do you agree with the number of lines allowed under general regulations that can be used during the open-water and ice-fishing seasons?

OPEN-WATER SEASON



ICE-FISHING SEASON

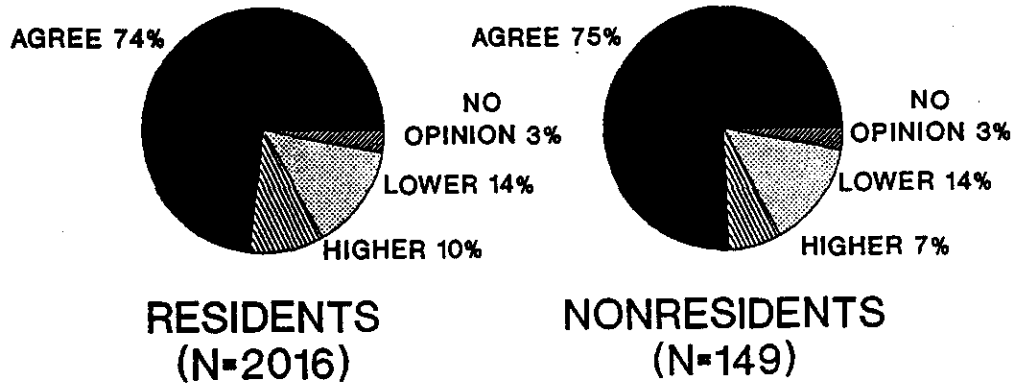
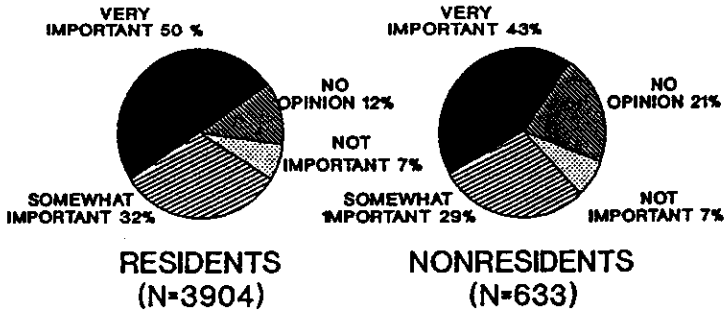
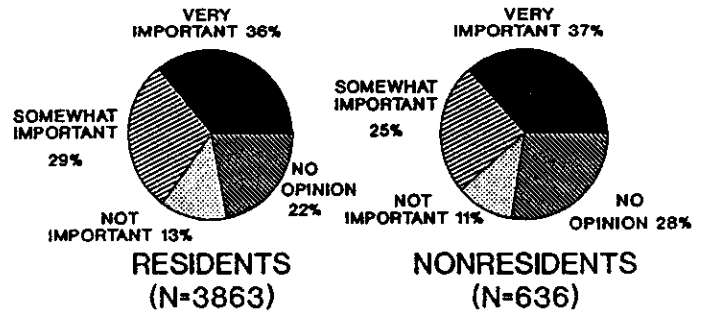


Figure 14. Anglers' opinions on the use of hatchery trout in managing Vermont's fisheries.

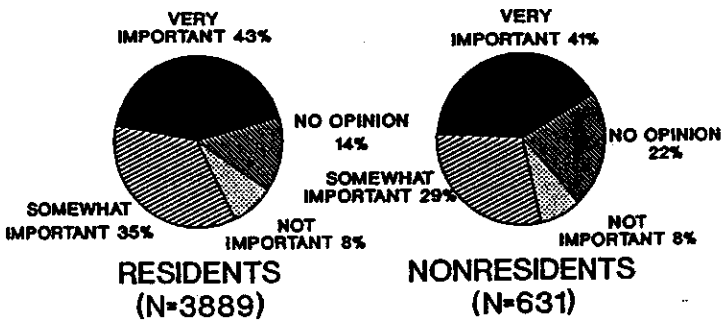
Stocking brook, brown and rainbow trout to be caught within the same season (put-and-take) in streams and rivers.



Managing strictly for wild trout (no stocking) in some streams and rivers.



Stocking brook, brown and rainbow trout to be caught within the same season (put-and-take) in lakes and ponds.



Managing strictly for wild trout (no stocking) in some lakes and ponds.

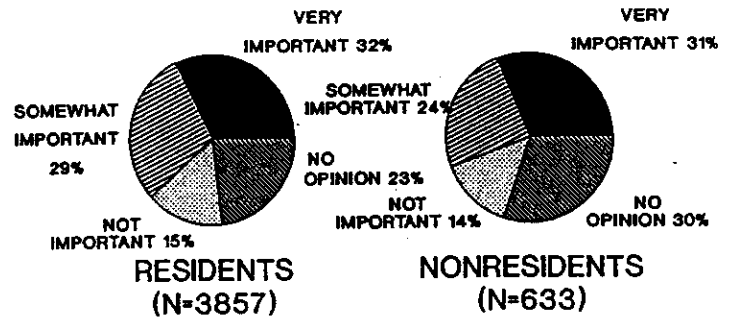


Table 17. What is your opinion if the following issues in Vermont? Anglers were asked to select one response. Responses of resident anglers are further partitioned by sampling zone.

	RESIDENTS (%)					Total	NON-RESIDENTS (%)
	ZONE						
	1	2	3	4	5		
Conflict between open-water and ice-fishing for trout and salmon:							
Serious Problem	15	9	7	7	6	8	6
Minor Problem	25	21	20	20	18	20	15
No Problem	36	35	40	41	40	39	27
No Opinion	23	34	33	32	36	33	52
Number of Responses	509	870	681	715	1149	3930	652
Conflict between open-water and ice-fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass:							
Serious Problem	5	4	4	6	4	5	5
Minor Problem	17	19	15	17	16	17	16
No Problem	44	36	44	44	42	42	32
No Opinion	35	41	36	34	38	37	48
Number of Responses	506	868	677	714	1149	3920	647
Conflict between fishing and other recreational users (skiing, boating, etc):							
Serious Problem	28	32	30	30	31	31	25
Minor Problem	42	43	43	42	45	43	42
No Problem	23	17	21	19	18	19	21
No Opinion	7	8	6	9	7	7	12
Number of Responses	513	869	681	716	1155	3940	653
Shooting of northern pike in Lake Champlain:							
Serious Problem	27	26	33	30	34	30	45
Minor Problem	15	18	13	17	19	17	12
No Problem	15	25	16	27	29	23	8
No Opinion	44	32	38	27	19	30	35
Number of Responses	503	865	678	716	1153	3921	647

Table 17. Continued.

	RESIDENTS (%)					Total	NON-RESIDENTS (%)
	ZONE						
	1	2	3	4	5		
Commercial sale of panfish taken by hook and line:							
Serious Problem	12	9	11	16	20	14	18
Minor Problem	19	18	17	17	20	18	19
No Problem	38	40	35	43	40	40	32
No Opinion	31	33	38	23	20	28	31
Number of Responses	508	864	678	715	1156	3926	652
Fishing with bait on treble hooks:							
Serious Problem	17	11	11	11	13	12	20
Minor Problem	25	22	24	23	26	24	31
No Problem	34	38	36	42	39	38	26
No Opinion	24	29	29	25	23	26	23
Number of Responses	508	867	676	713	1156	3925	650
Fishing with bait on hooks that do not corrode (e.g. stainless steel):							
Serious Problem	26	22	27	25	20	24	34
Minor Problem	24	27	24	20	26	24	28
No Problem	31	31	30	36	34	33	20
No Opinion	19	20	19	19	20	20	17
Number of Responses	508	865	677	715	1150	3921	653
Fishing derbies (other than "kids" derbies):							
Serious Problem	18	13	11	17	22	17	14
Minor Problem	28	24	21	23	27	25	25
No Problem	41	45	52	48	40	45	43
No Opinion	14	18	16	12	11	14	18
Number of Responses	511	865	676	711	1154	3923	649

Figure 15. Are you a member of a fishing organization or fish and game club?

