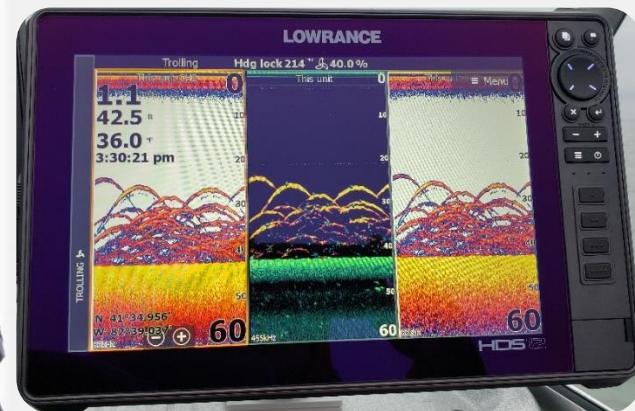


Lake Erie Perch and Walleye Update



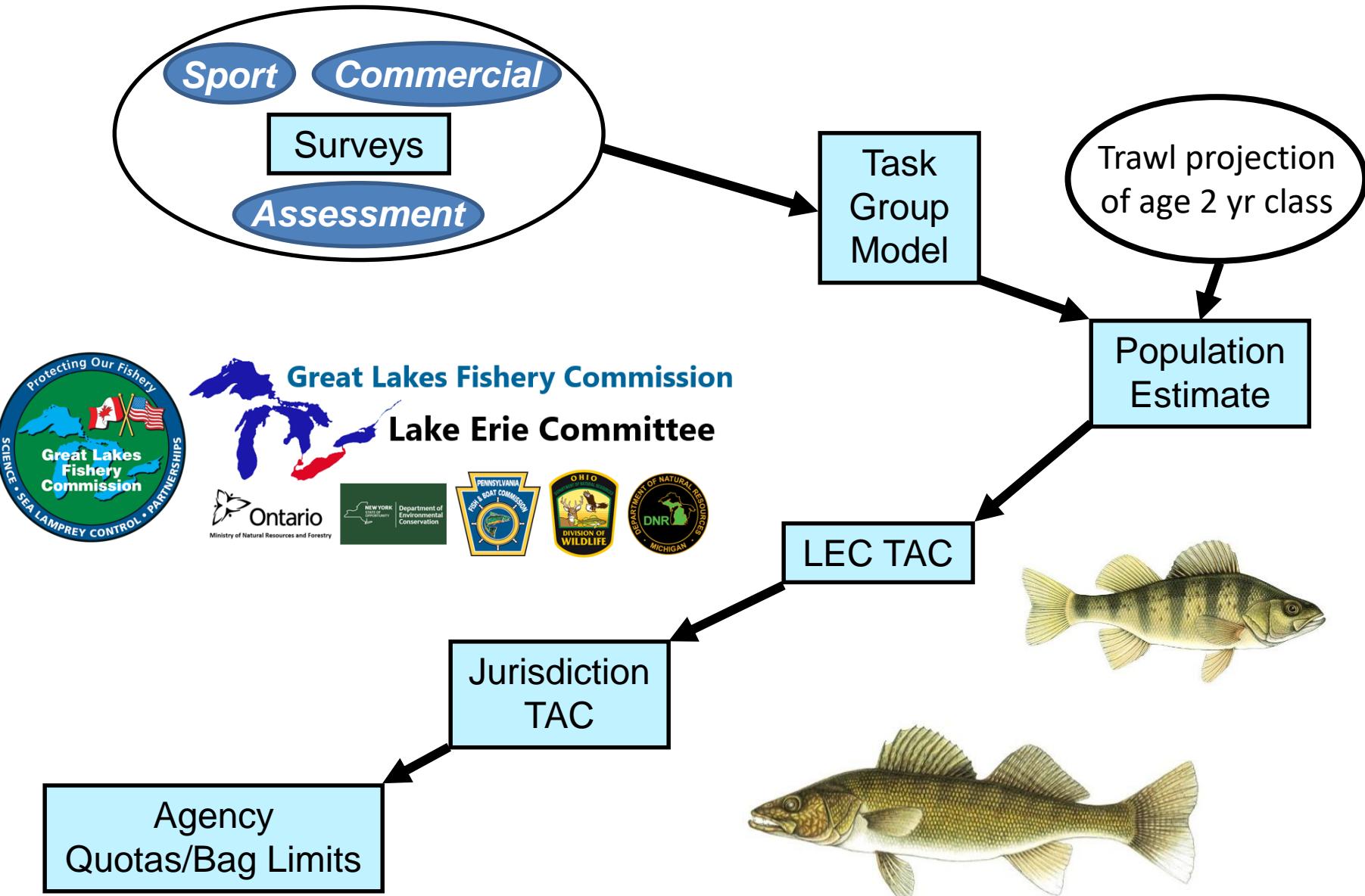
February 2020

Travis Hartman

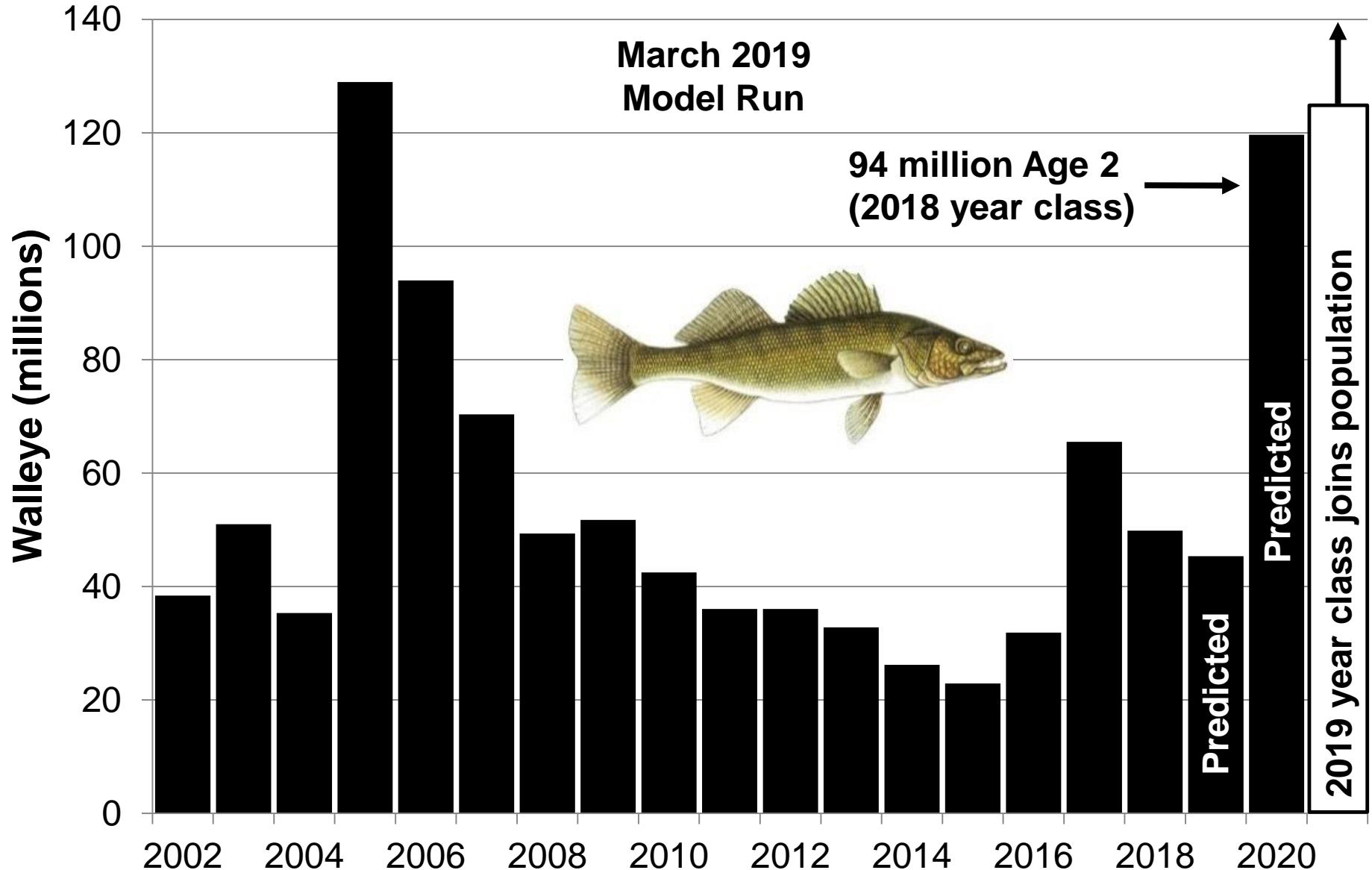
Lake Erie Program Administrator



Percid Management Process



Walleye Population Estimate



March 2019
Model Run

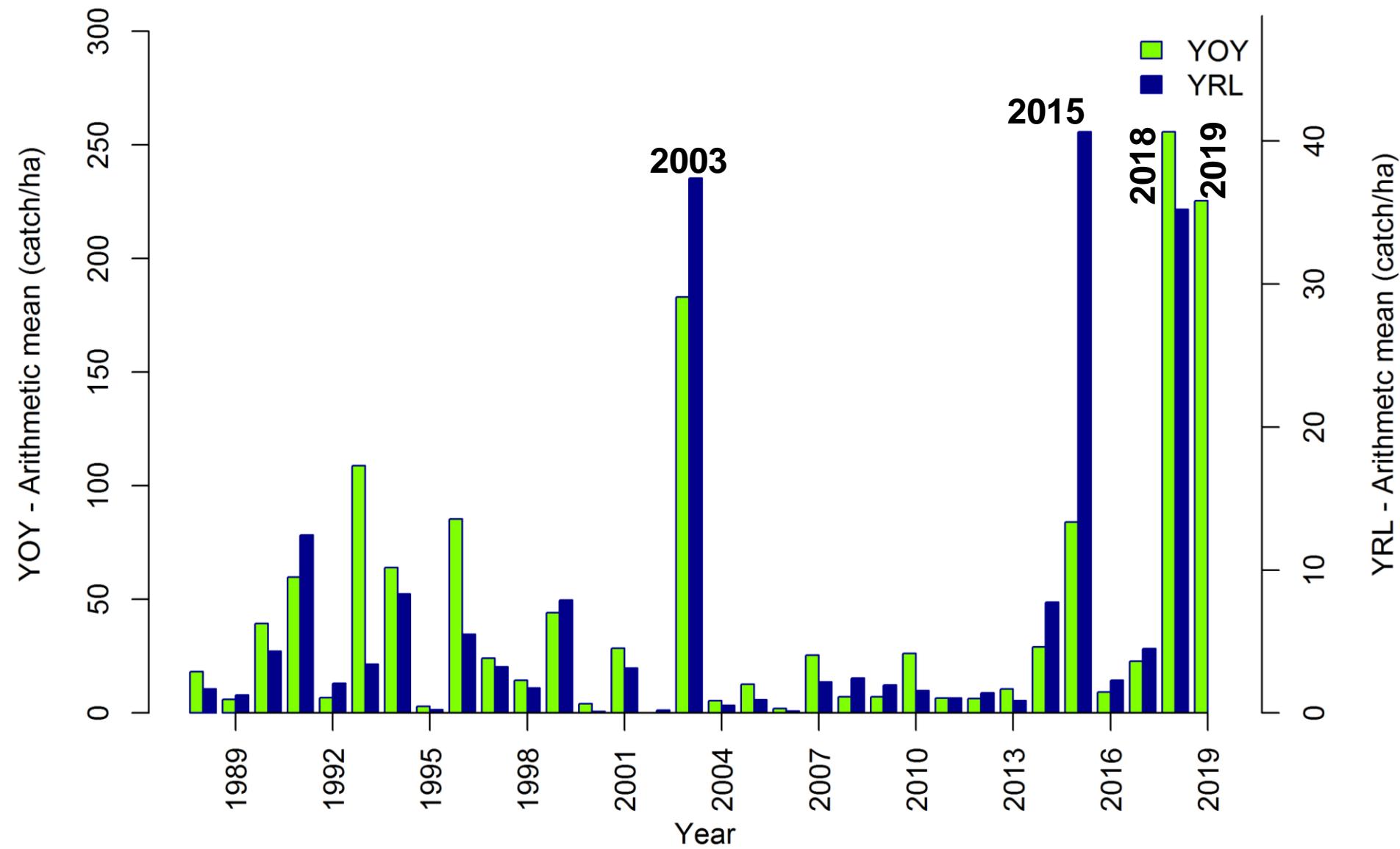
94 million Age 2
(2018 year class)



Predicted

2019 year class joins population

OH-ON August Trawl Index-Walleye



Walleye Daily Limit Considerations



Walleye Daily Limit Considerations

- 6 fish daily limit all year when TAC above 3 M fish

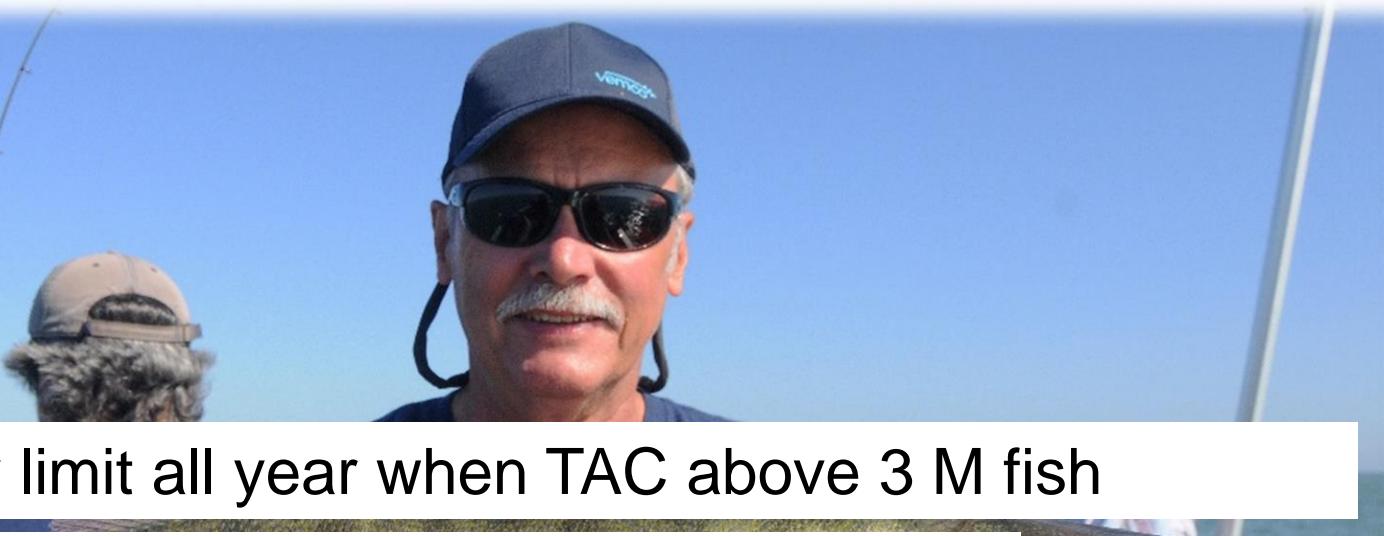


Walleye Daily Limit Considerations

- 6 fish daily limit all year when TAC above 3 M fish

Daily limit for walleye, sauger or saugeye		
Ohio walleye quota (number of fish)	May 1- last day of February	March 1 – April 30
3,000,000 and above	6	6*
950,000 – 2,999,999	6	4
850,000 – 949,999	5	4
750,000 – 849,999	4	4
650,000 – 749,999	3	3
550,000 – 649,999	2	2
Less than 550,000	1	1

*Excludes Sandusky Bay and River which will be capped at 4 fish per day during this period until the walleye stock is sufficiently recovered in the Sandusky River.



Walleye Daily Limit Considerations

- TAC compliance is critical (annual maximum, not a “goal”)



Walleye Daily Limit Considerations

- Walleye are long lived (15+ years), strong year classes support many years of angling opportunity



Walleye Daily Limit Considerations

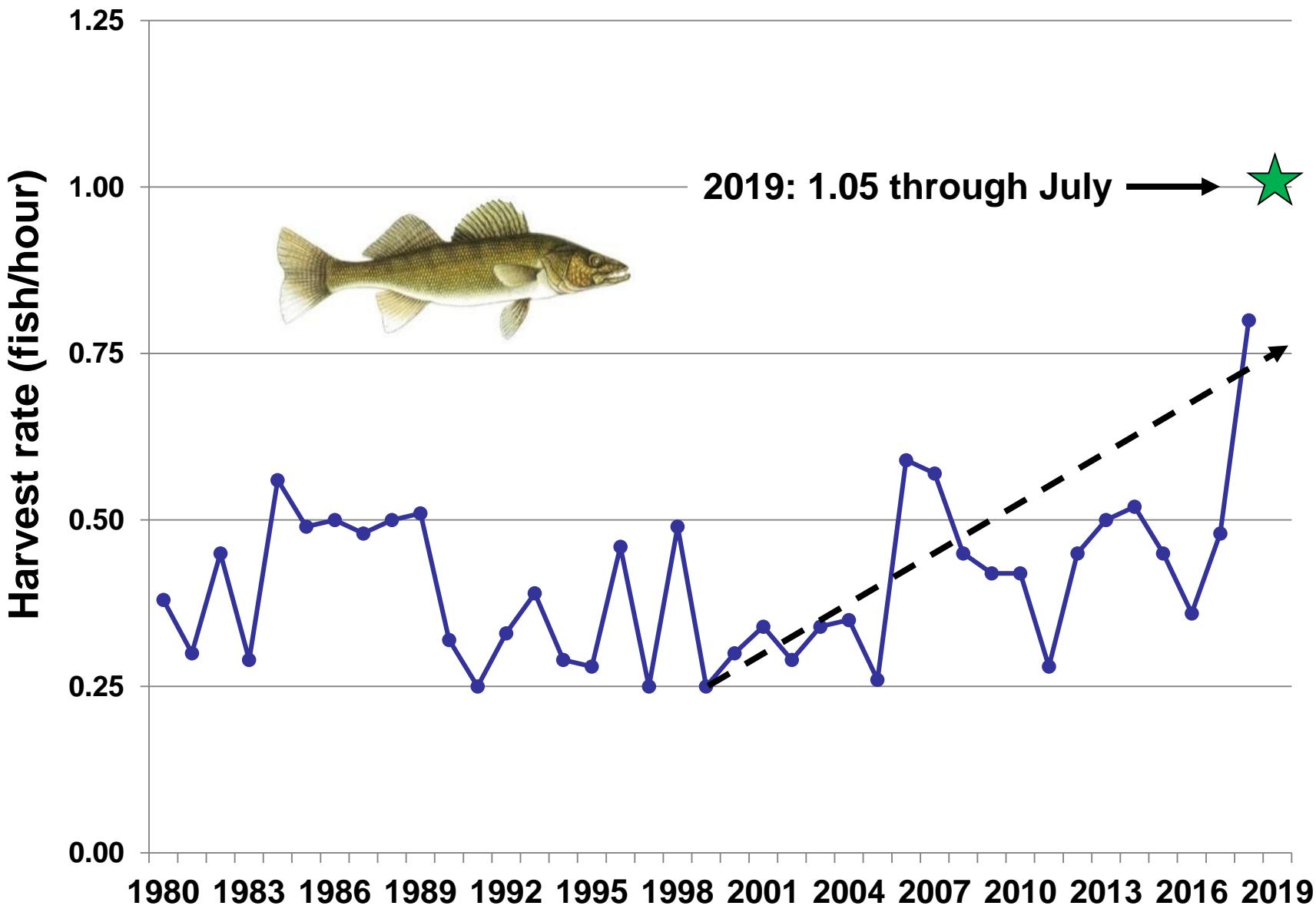
- 
- A photograph showing a man on a boat, wearing a dark cap and sunglasses, smiling while holding a large walleye fish. Another person's head is visible in the background. The water and sky are visible behind them.
- Conservative harvest supports diverse age structure and the best fishing opportunities for all sizes of fish

Walleye Daily Limit Considerations

- Harvest rates are quickly increasing



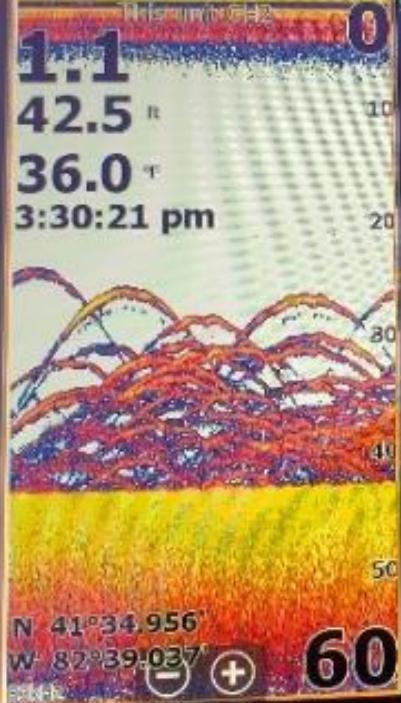
Harvest Rates



LOWRANCE

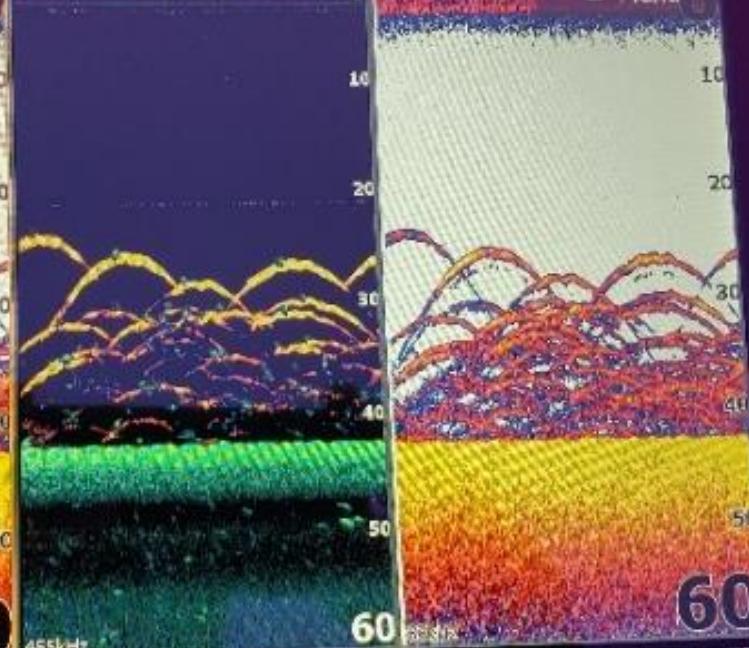
Trolling

Hdg lock 214 ° 40.0 %



This unit

Menu



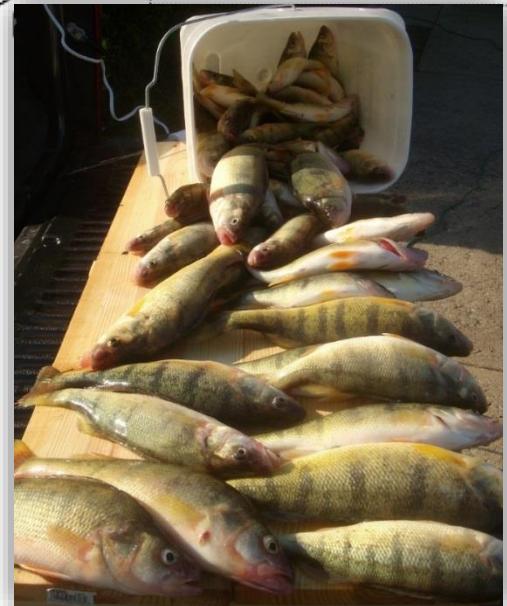
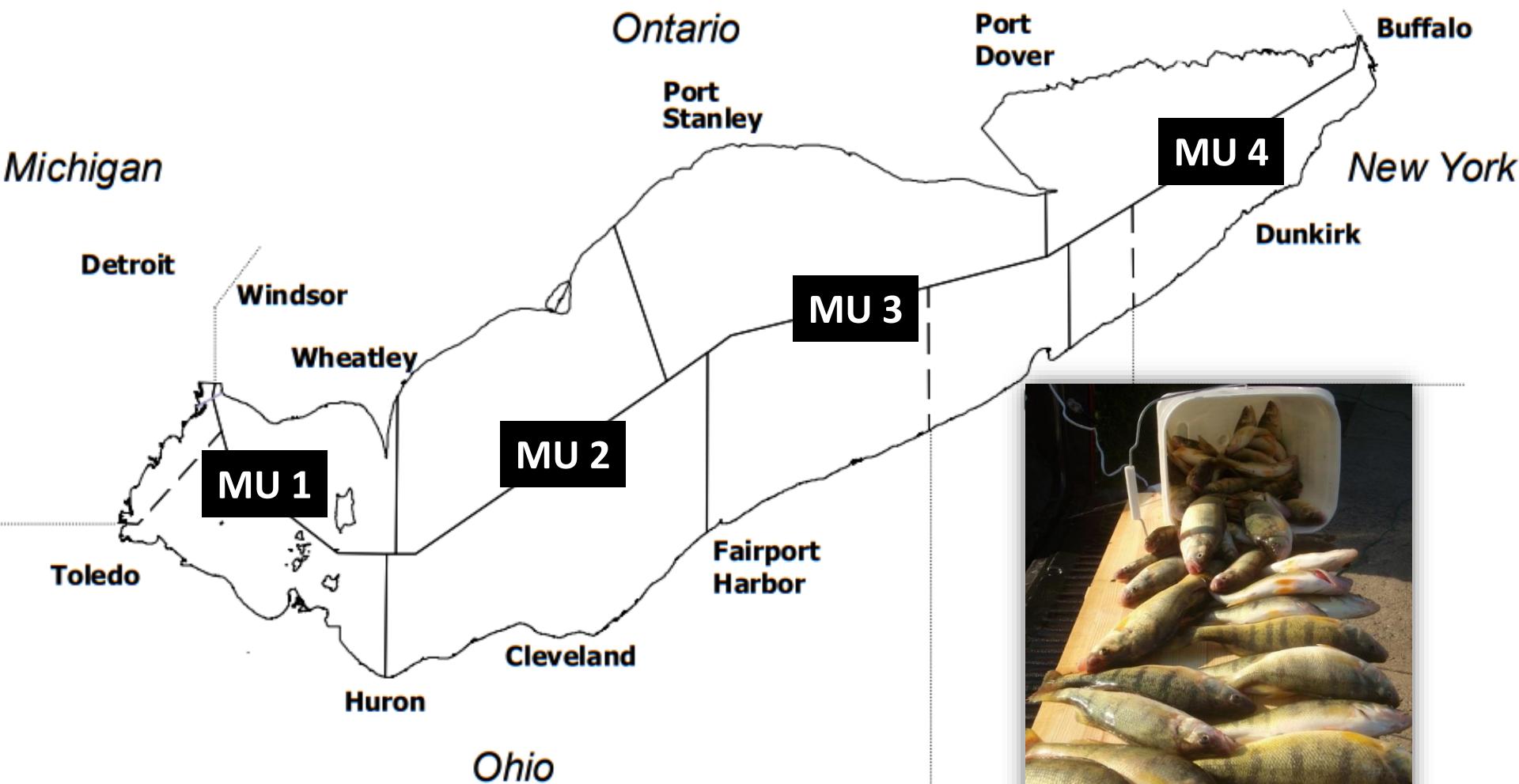
60

HDS 7

TROLLING



Lake Erie Management Units (MU)

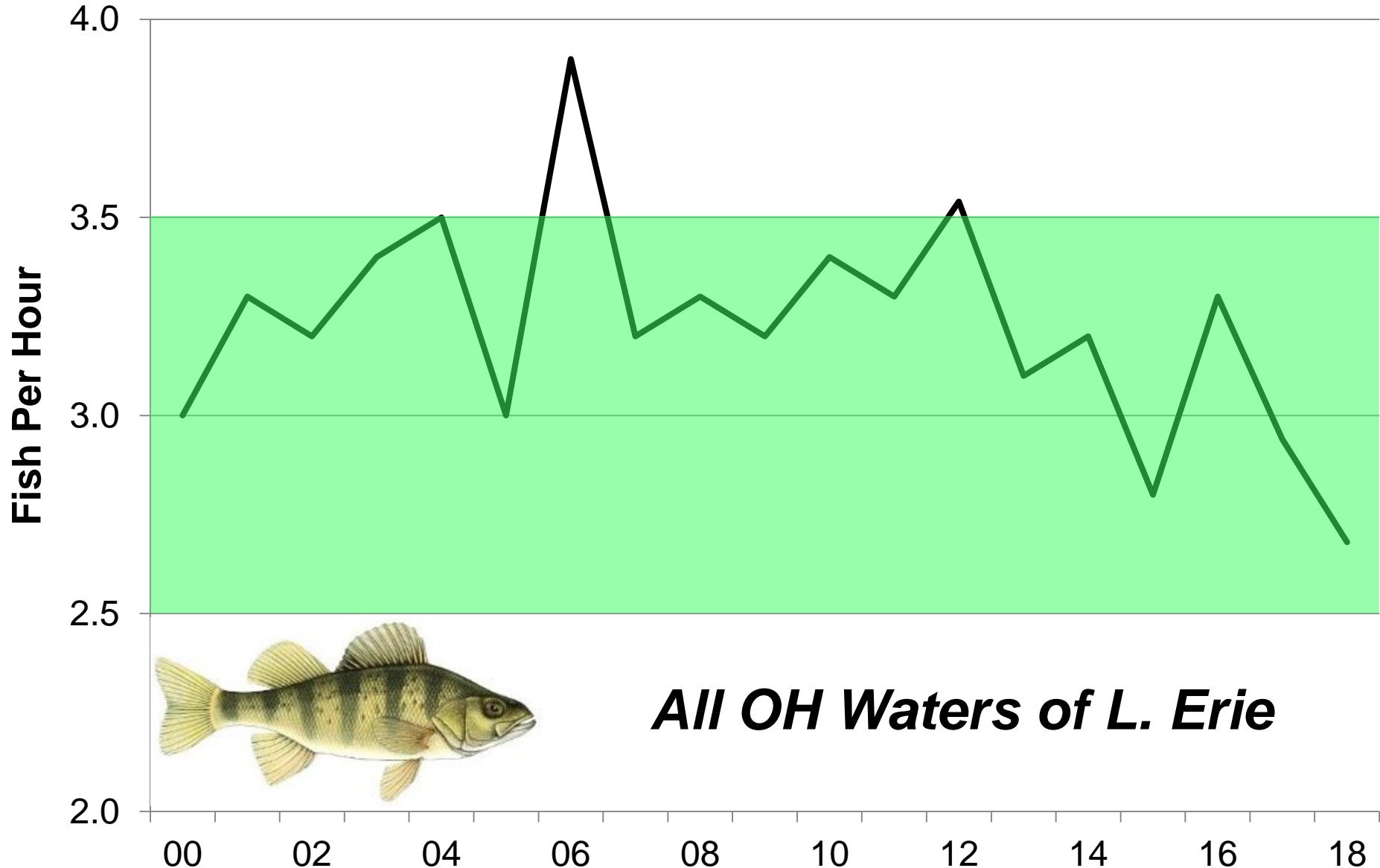


Yellow Perch Update

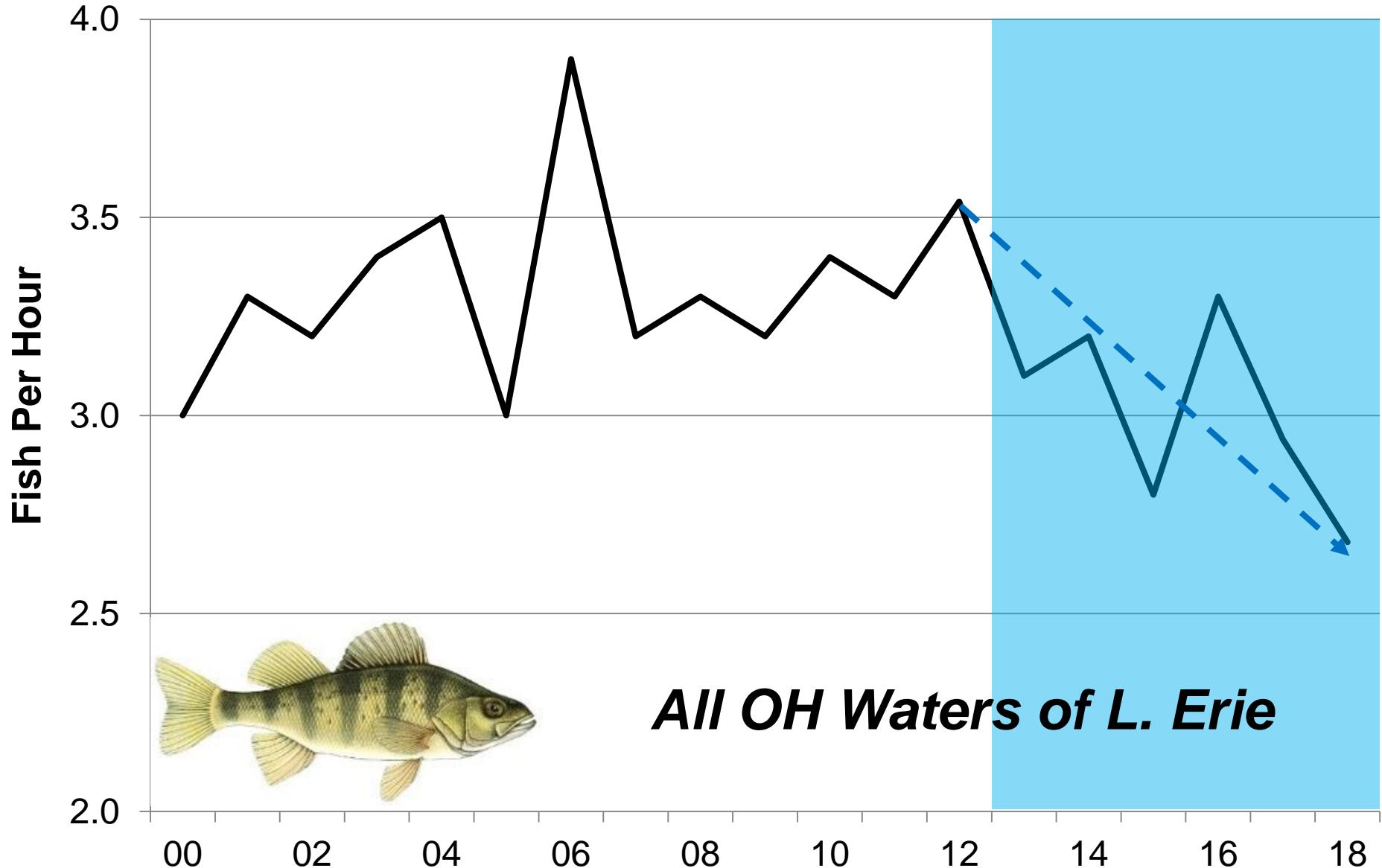
Current Status

- 1) Angler catch rates have declined lake-wide

Angler Y. Perch Harvest Rate



Angler Y. Perch Harvest Rate

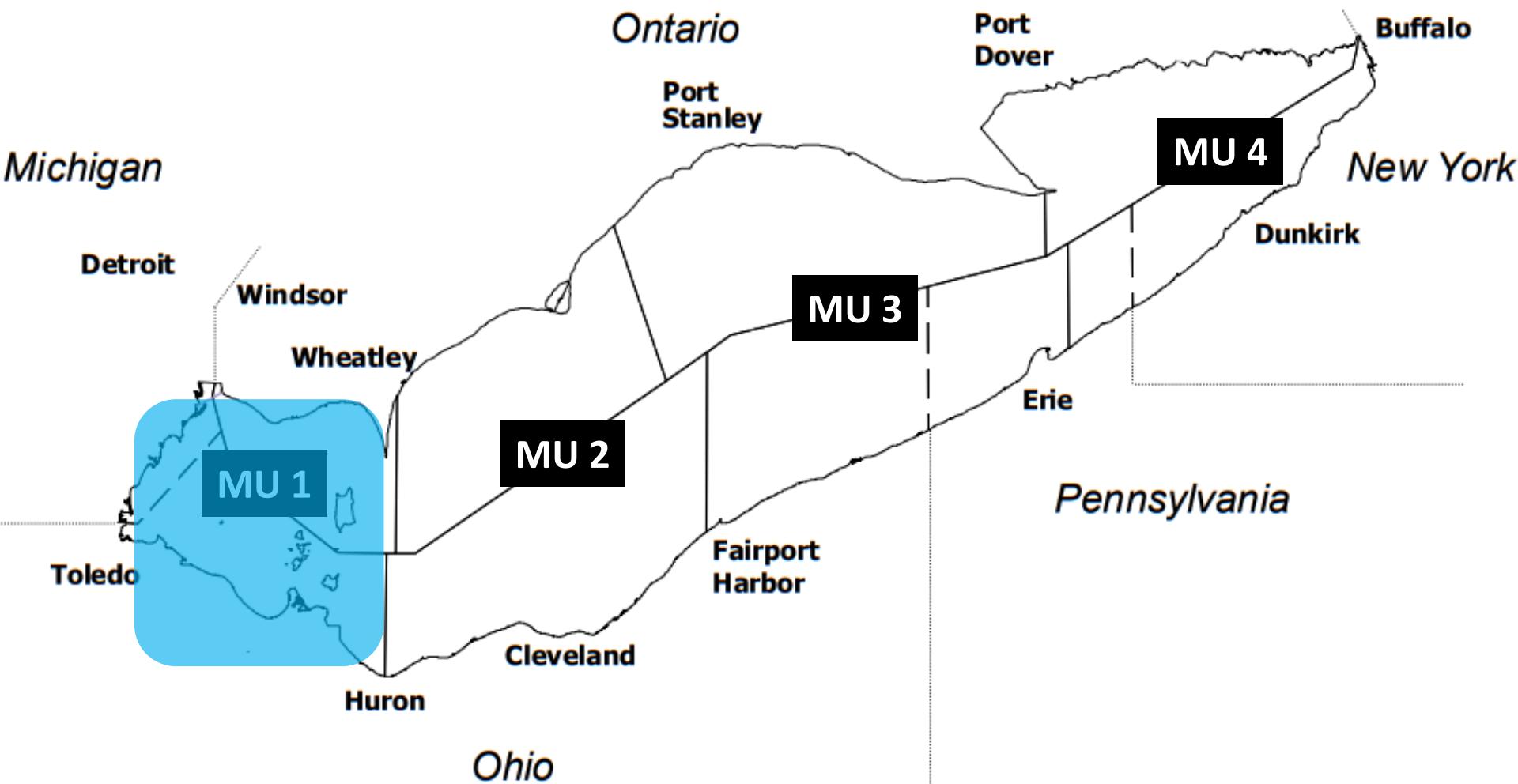


Yellow Perch Update

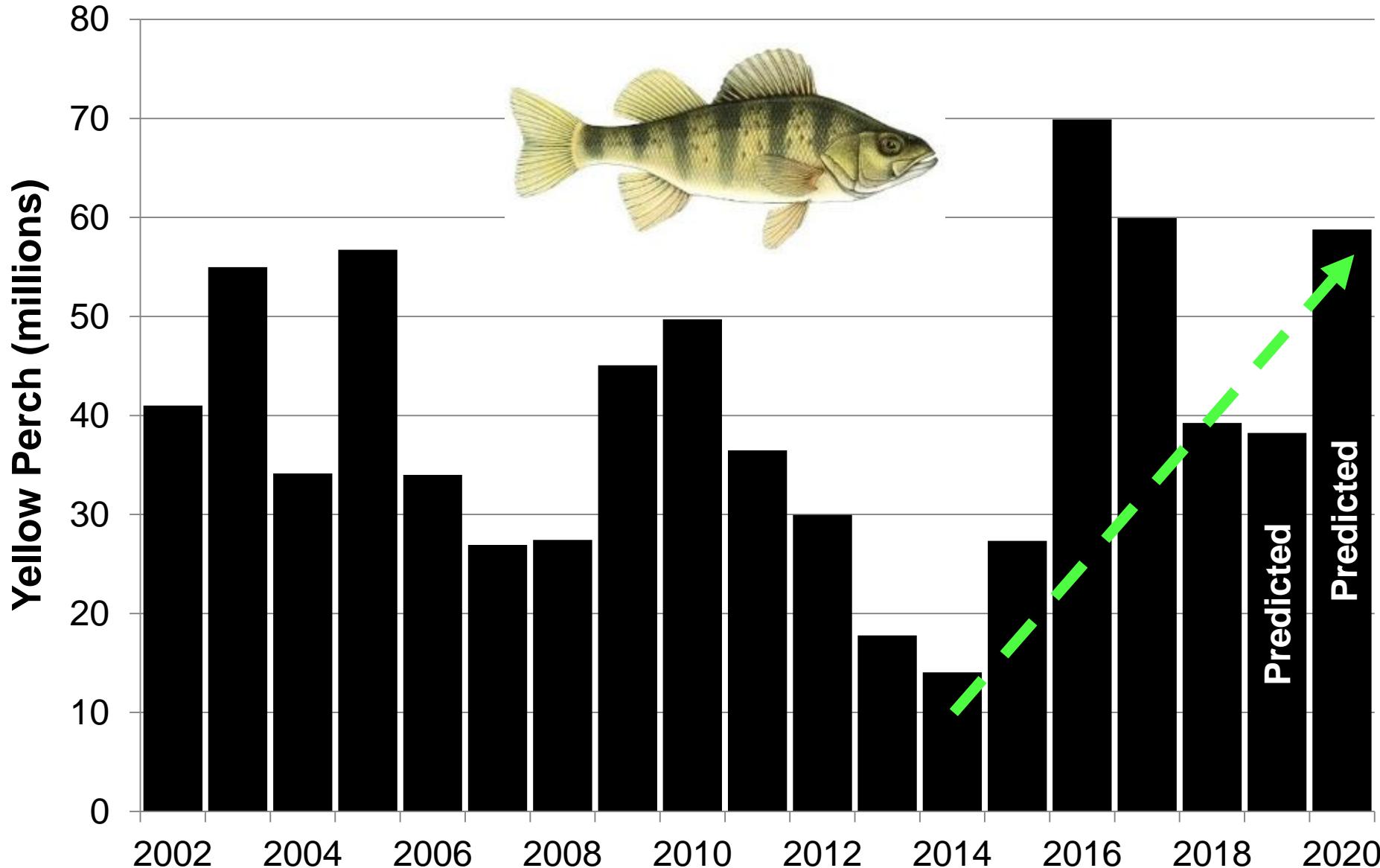
Current Status

- 1) Angler catch rates have declined lake-wide
- 2) Population trajectories vary by basin

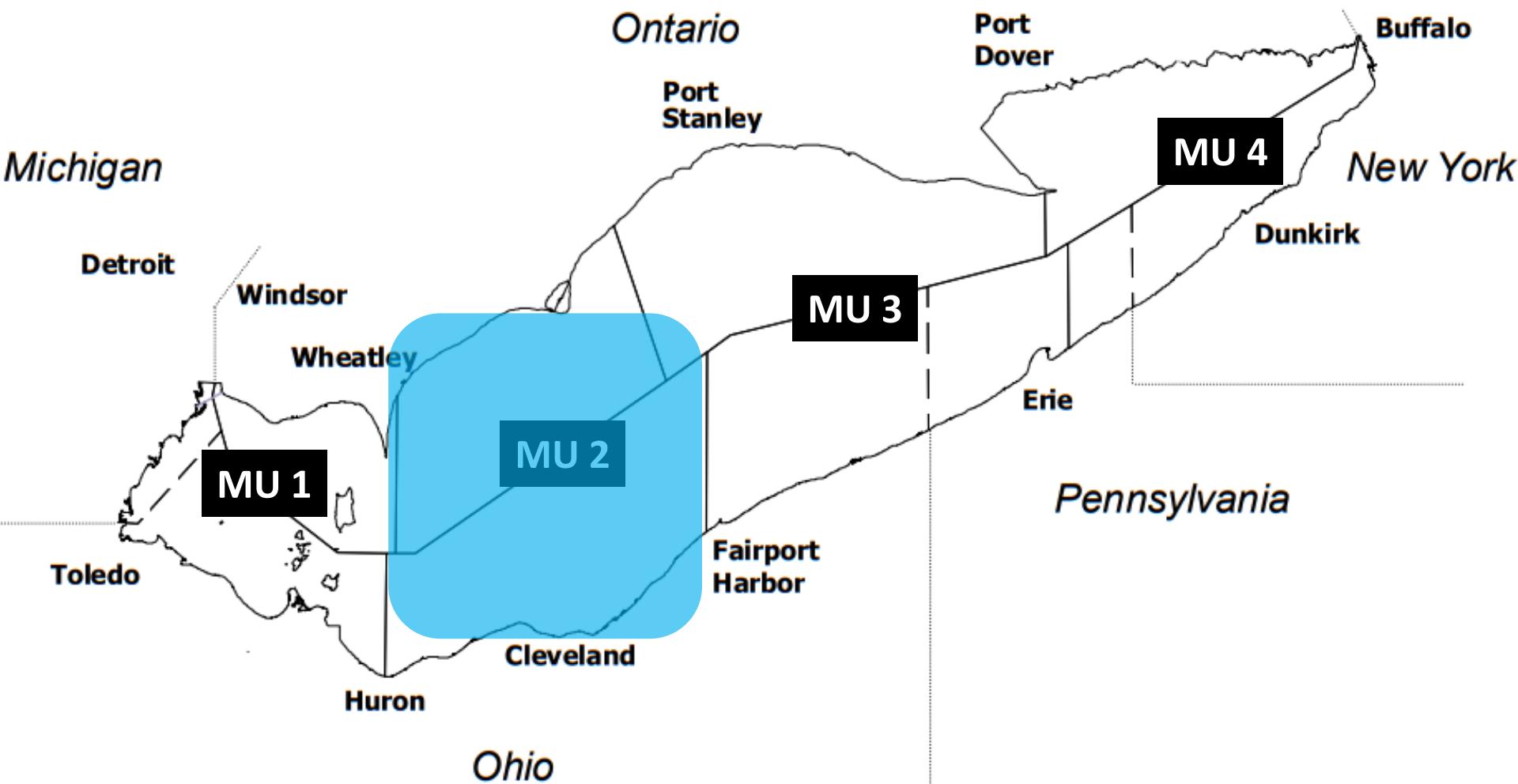
Lake Erie Management Units (MU)



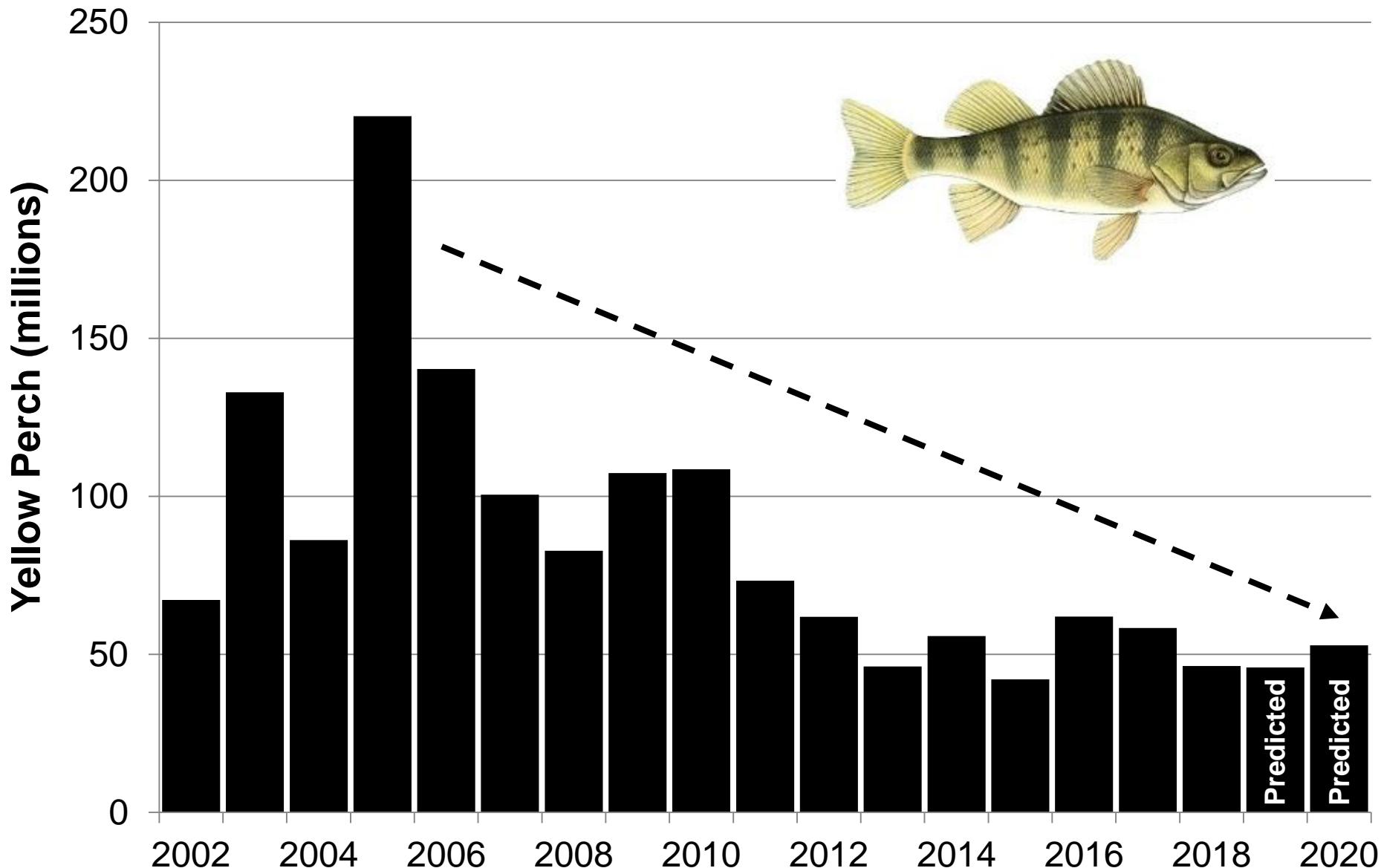
MU 1 Population Estimate



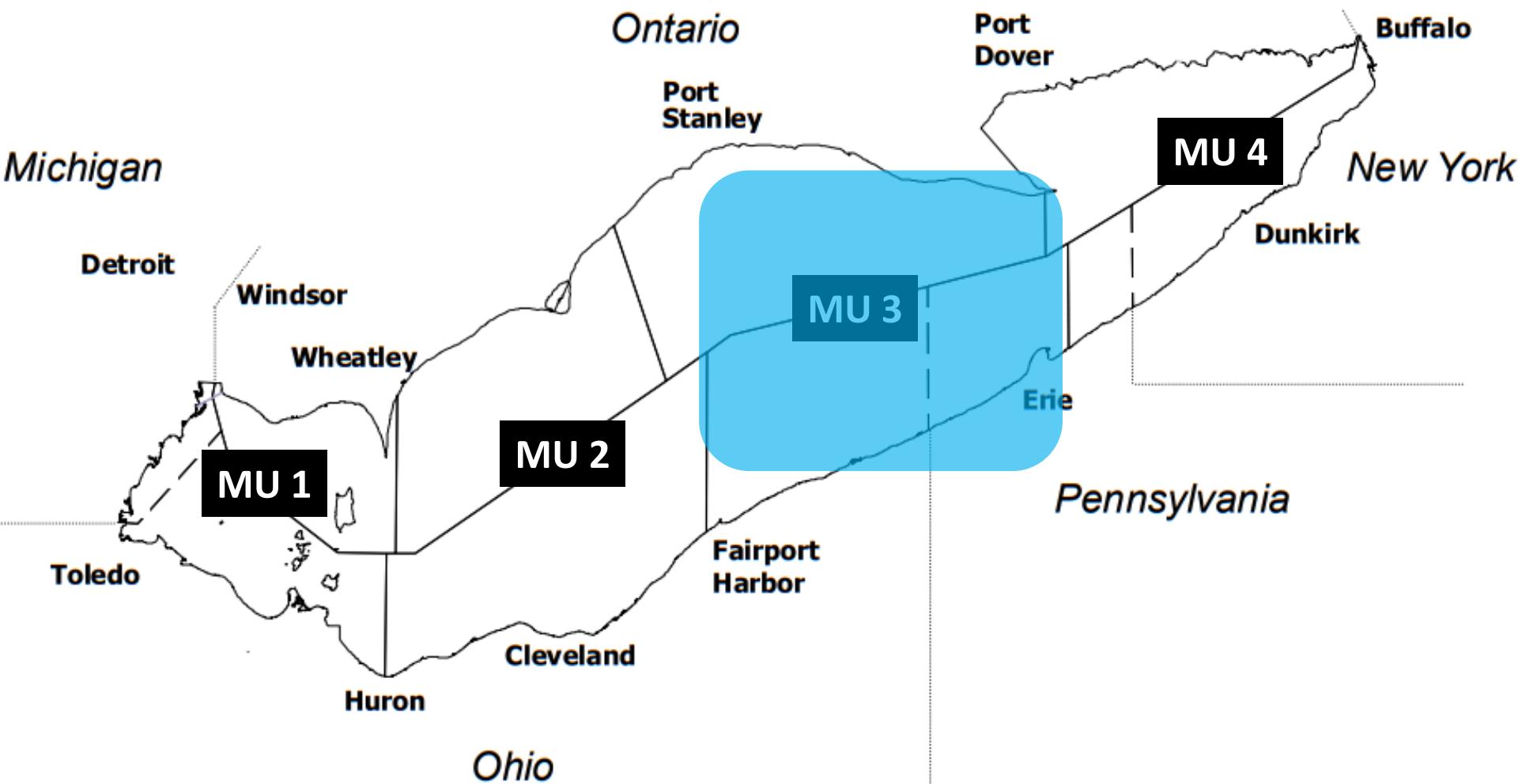
Lake Erie Management Units (MU)



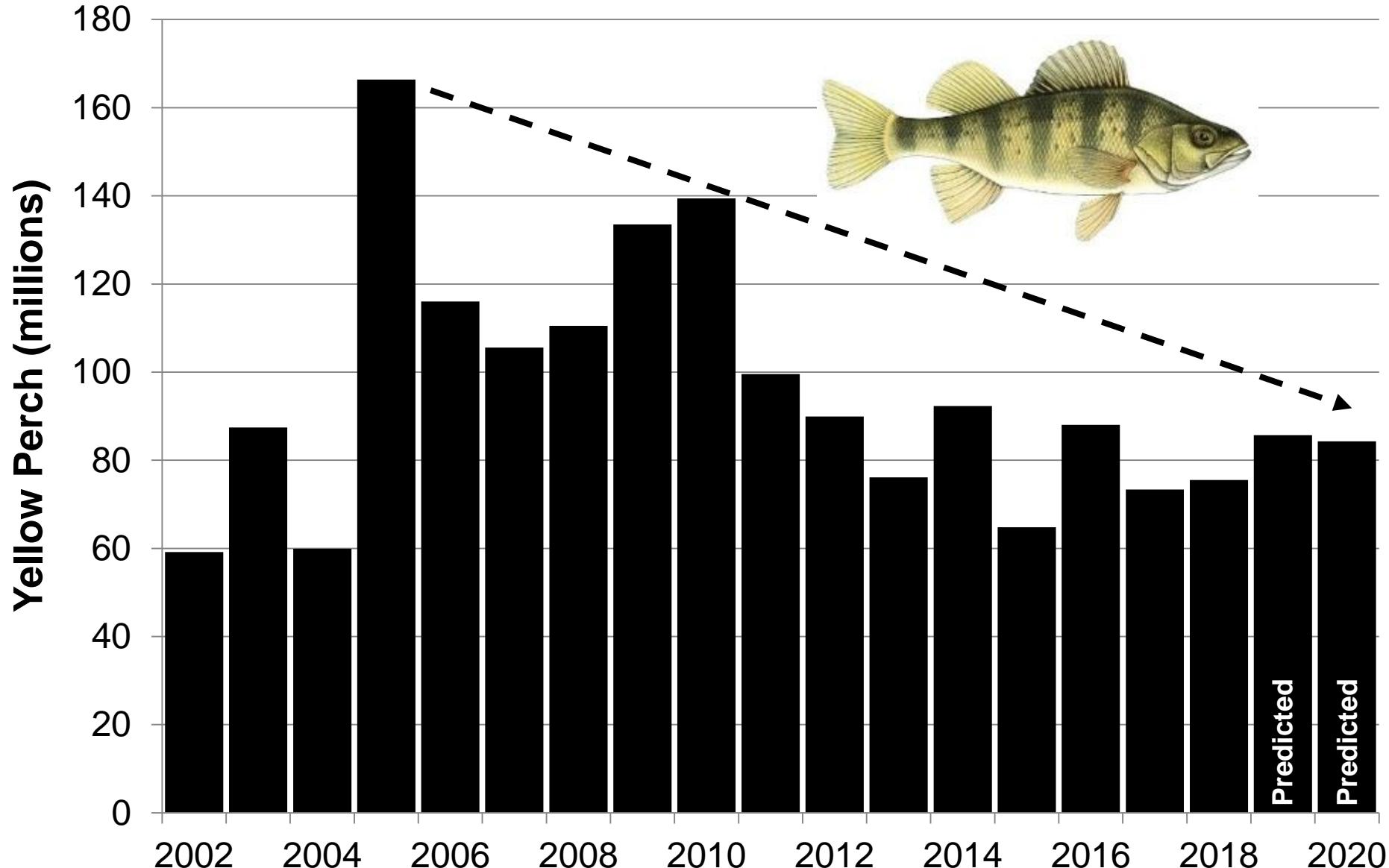
MU 2 Population Estimate



Lake Erie Management Units (MU)



MU 3 Population Estimate

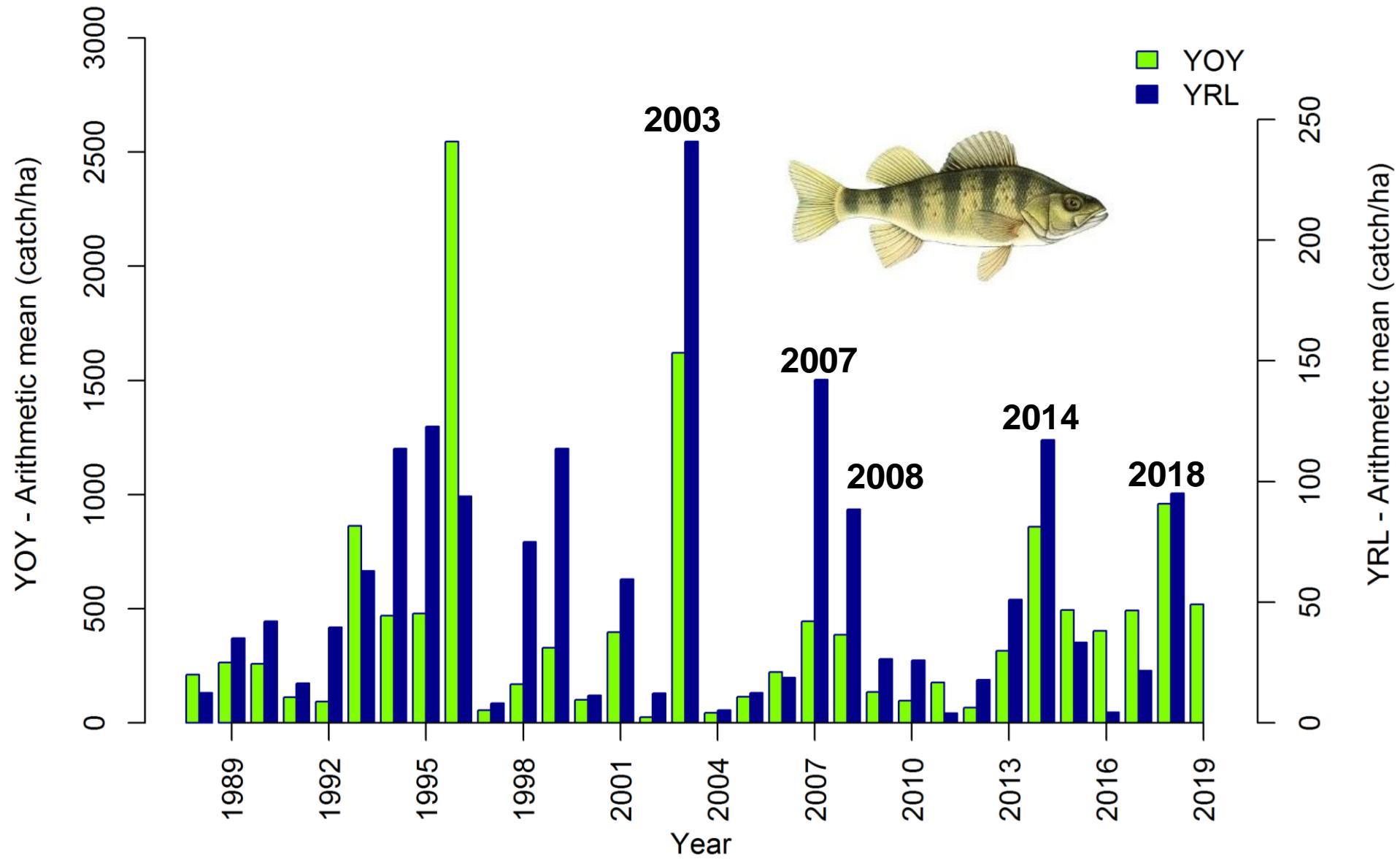


Yellow Perch Update

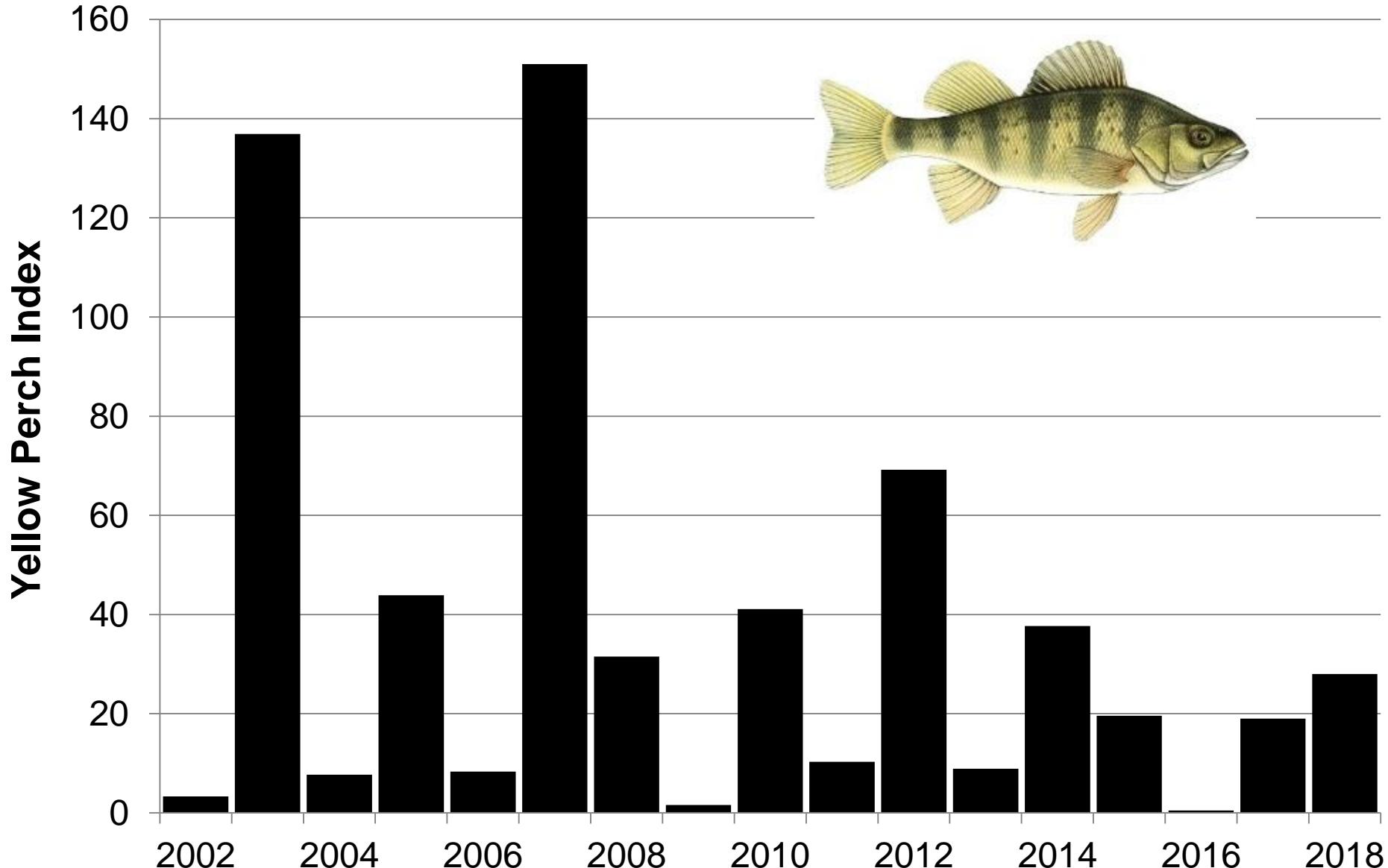
Current Status

- 1) Angler catch rates have declined lake-wide
- 2) Population trajectories vary by basin
- 3) Hatch success is dictating population size

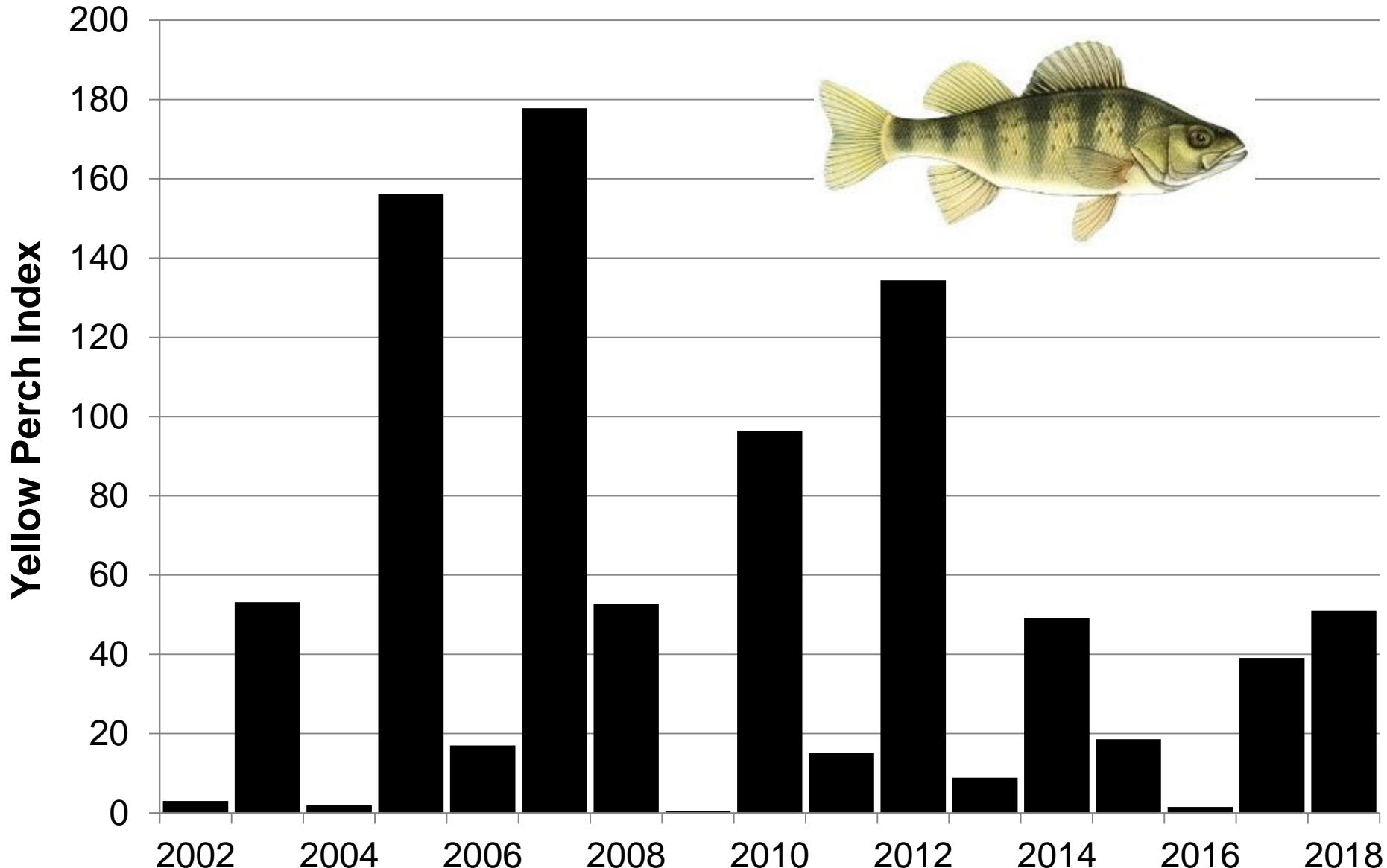
MU 1 Hatch Index (OH and ON)



MU 2 Hatch Index



MU 3 Hatch Index

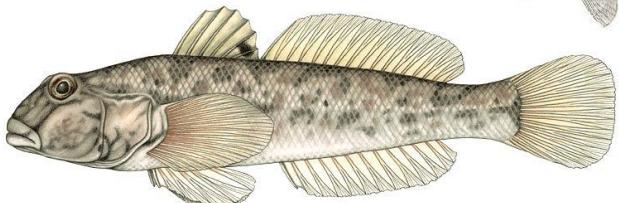
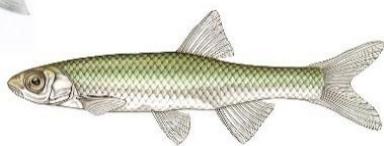
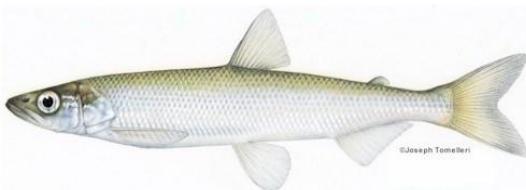
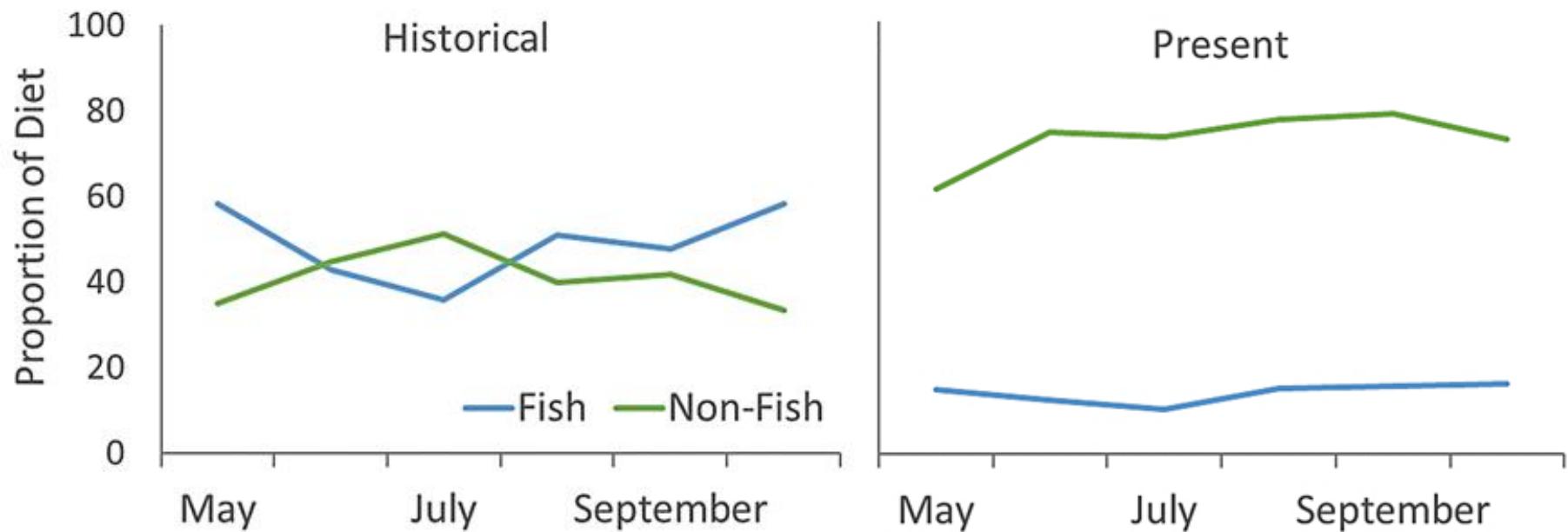


Yellow Perch Update

Current Status

- 1) Angler catch rates have declined lake-wide
- 2) Population trajectories vary by basin
- 3) Hatch success is dictating population size
- 4) Diet data suggest behavior changes

Yellow Perch Diets



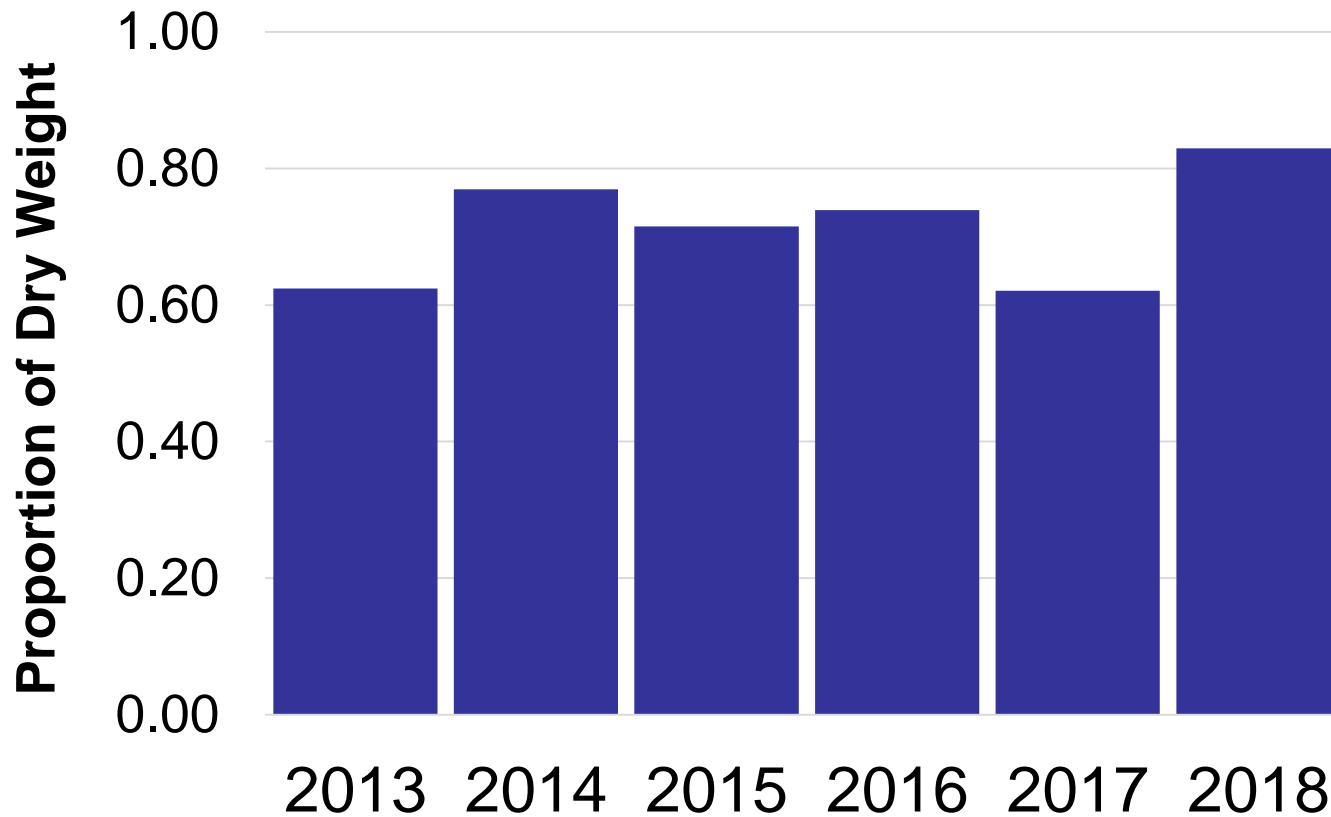
Yellow Perch Diets



Yellow Perch Diets

Invertebrates in Y. Perch Stomach Contents

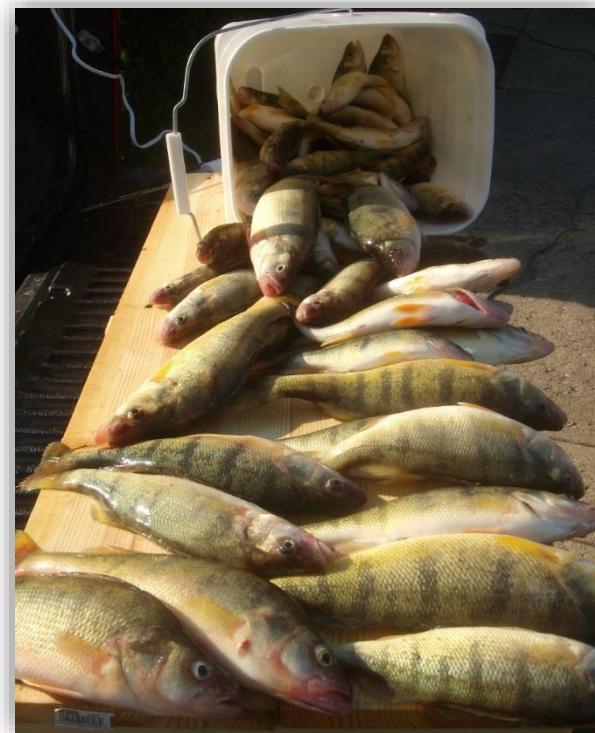
Central Basin, August through October



Yellow Perch Update

Topic Outline

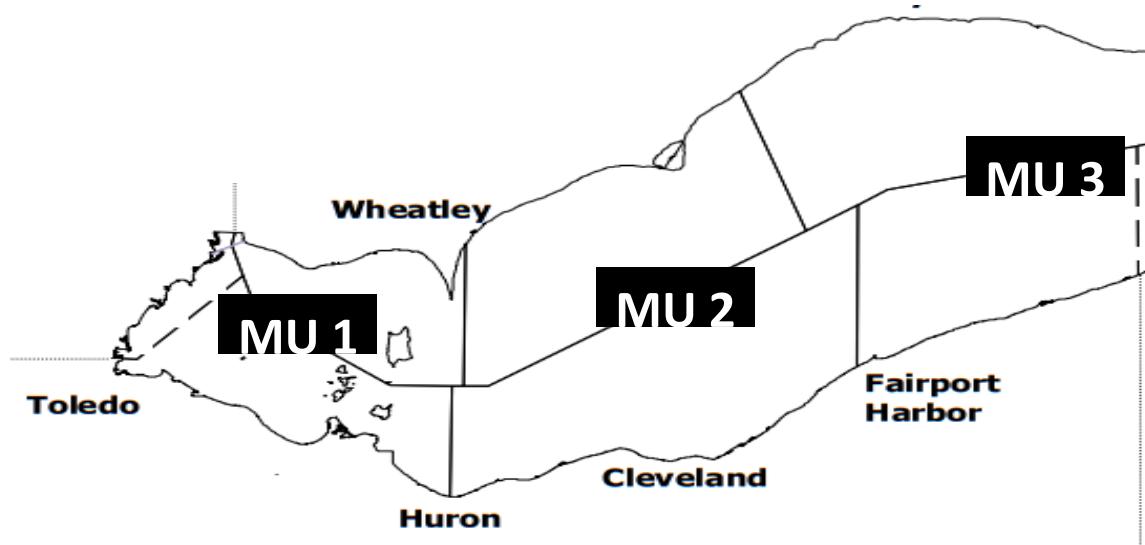
- 1) Inter-agency Management Process
- 2) Current Status
- 3) Summary



Yellow Perch Update

Summary

	MU 1	MU 2	MU 3
Angler Harvest Rate	↓	↓	↓
Population	↑	↓	→
Hatches	↑	↓	→



Contacts

- Sandusky or Fairport Harbor Fisheries Research Stations
(419) 625-8062 or (440) 352-4199
- 1-800-WILDLIFE
- 1-888-HOOKFISH (Fishing Report)
- www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife
- Fish Ohio forms online ONLY:
apps.ohiodnr.gov/wildlife/FishOhio



Travis Hartman

Lake Erie Program Administrator

