



Division of Wildlife Lake Erie Tactical Plan

The ODNR Division of Wildlife has management authority for the Ohio waters of Lake Erie which cover 2.25 million surface acres.

Interagency fisheries management is conducted under the auspices of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission's Joint Strategic Plan for the Management of Great Lakes Fisheries, to which Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York and Ontario are signatories.

Ohio Division of Wildlife personnel are active participants in the Lake Erie Committee and technical task groups who chart a course for healthy Lake Erie fish populations.

The Division of Wildlife has also formulated the Fisheries Tactical Plan 2011-2020 that addresses pertinent issues, outcomes, objectives, problems, strategies and supporting actions to meet our goals and mission.

Issue 1: Conservation of Native Fish Stocks

Conservation of native fish stocks for sustainable fisheries is challenging in a highly-altered Lake Erie ecosystem.

Outcome 1: All walleye and yellow perch spawning stocks have been identified, as well as their biological characteristics, critical habitat requirements, and the levels of fishery exploitation, to ensure sustainable contributions from each stock to Ohio fisheries.

Outcome 2: Diverse sport fisheries in Ohio waters are sustained through a healthy multi-species fish community with contributions from both native species and steelhead.

Outcome 3: The effects of manageable actions (e.g., dredging, energy generation, barriers to fish access, nutrient loading) and unmanageable environmental factors (e.g., weather, invasive species) on fisheries are understood and opportunities for mitigation have been identified.

Issue 2: Equitable Distribution of Fisheries Benefits

The equitable distribution of fisheries benefits and impacts among Ohio users is challenging, owing to a lack of common fishery objectives and knowledge of underlying mechanisms that affect fishers' behavior.

Outcome 1: Common objectives are established that guide distribution of fisheries resources among Ohio users, including commercial fishers and a variety of anglers (private boat, charter boat, tributary, shoreline, ice, etc.).

Outcome 2: Research is completed that identifies and prioritizes the motivating factors of various angler types in Ohio waters of Lake Erie and its tributaries.

Outcome 3: Anglers understand fishing opportunities in Lake Erie and tributaries.



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