

Lake Fish Forecast Fall 2019

Good Day to all!

Well I was lucky enough to be the guest at a beautiful wedding by the Figliomemi commercial fishing family this past weekend. It was good food, good people, and a great family. Besides this being a special event, I was able to visit with fisherman, cutters, suppliers, and company owners. Our biggest topic, and all agreed, is Yellow Lake Perch.

Pretty much in a nut shell, the walleye are eating the perch. It is not a quota thing. It is not a lack of effort thing.

Bottom line, they are not there. Cutters are seeing 3-5 perch in a walleye. And, there are a lot of walleye. They have decimated the smelt and moving on to the next food source. So, until the top predator is cut back, this is what we will see.

The wild card used to be Lake Winnipeg. This will not happen. New laws are raising the net mesh size, going from 3.0" to 3.75".

Lake Ontario used to produce during winter with the hook and line fishery. This produced well during high unemployment. With unemployment being below 3%, it will not produce much.

So, the facts are there will be very little, if any, Yellow Lake Perch.

Next, Euro Perch... this is becoming very short and will more than likely run out during lent.

Zander?...also known as Pike Perch 20/40 and 40/60 are also very short.

This cycle happens about every 7 years. I have been doing this for 32 years, and never have I seen it like this or this early.

Okay, maybe I will be wrong...!!! I have been doing my Lake Fish Forecast for 14 years, and have been wrong 3 times.

Captain Paul Becker

800-678-4511 x118 www.riversidefoods.com

© Copyright 2019