

Canadice Lake Standard Lake Trout Netting Survey (Survey #: 822015) Pete Austerman, Region 8 Fisheries August 5, 2022

Canadice Lake is a 649 acre lake in Ontario County with a maximum depth of 95 feet. The lake contains a variety of both warm and cold water fish. Canadice Lake is located within Hemlock-Canadice State Forest and provides a unique fishing experience as one of only two undeveloped Finger Lakes. Natural reproduction has been sustaining the lake trout population for over 15 years and stocking was discontinued in 2019. Gill netting was conducted during the week of June 27th, 2022 to determine the current status of the lake trout population.

Sixty-seven lake trout ranging from 8.7 to 30.8 inches (average length was 22.5 inches) were sampled from nine gill nets (Figure 1). We used fin clip data to determine that 98.5 percent of lake trout caught during the 2022 netting were of wild origin. This percentage of wild fish is similar to what we found during the 2012 and 2019 netting.

Comparing results from past lake trout netting on Canadice Lake suggests that the density of lake trout declined since 2019 (Figure 2). We will need to monitor angler diary cooperator catch rates over the next few years to ensure that the wild lake trout population continues to provide good fishing opportunities.

Canadice Lake continues to provide an excellent opportunity to catch trophy lake trout in a unique setting.

