

Name: _____ Class Period: _____ Date: _____

WINNEBAGO SYSTEM STURGEON HARVEST DATASHEET

Directions

Answer the following questions. For items where you are asked to make a calculation, show all your work.

1. Why do you think the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources subdivided the Winnebago System into smaller geographic areas when reporting sturgeon spearing harvest information?

According to the 2024 Winnebago System Sturgeon Spearing Final Harvest Report

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/Fishing/WinnSysSpearingSummary2024.pdf>

- The harvest caps for the 2024 spearing season were determined using the 2023 abundance estimates for the Lake Winnebago system lake sturgeon population (about 24,000 males and 16,099 adult females).
- The 2024 system-wide harvest caps were 350 juvenile females (<55"), 805 adult females (>55"), and 1,242 males.

2. Calculate the percent of the estimated 2023 male population that could be harvested in 2024.
3. Calculate the percent of the estimated 2023 female population that could be harvested as juvenile females in 2024.
4. Calculate the percent of the estimated 2023 female population that could be harvested as adult females in 2024.
5. Why do you think the harvest cap percentages may differ for the various sexes and age groups?

6. How do the harvest caps you set as part of the Predicting Populations activity compare to the 2024 harvest caps set by the Wisconsin DNR (i.e., was your percentage higher, lower, or the same)?

7. Using the information below, calculate the number of sturgeon that could have been harvested in 2024, but were not. Be sure to show your work.

2024 Winnebago System Sturgeon Spearing Harvest Data Summary

Juvenile Female

- Harvest Cap: 350 My Calculations:
- Actual Caught: 136

Additional Sturgeon that Could Have Been Harvested:

Adult Female

- Harvest Cap: 805 My Calculations:
- Actual Caught: 71

Additional Sturgeon that Could Have Been Harvested:

2024 Winnebago System Sturgeon Spearing Harvest Data Summary continued

Male

- Harvest Cap: 1,242 My Calculations:
- Actual Caught: 225

Additional Sturgeon that Could Have Been Harvested:

8. What factors may have led to the harvest cap not being reached in 2024?
9. Using the population estimates provided by your instructor, what do you think is an appropriate harvest limit for the current year? Be sure to defend your response.