

# 2011 Lake Huron Fisheries Workshop Review

## *“Hooking” up with the Les Cheneaux Islands*

Agencies Present:

Michigan Sea Grant ++ USGA Great Lakes Science Center ++ US Fish and Wildlife Service  
USDA Wildlife Sea Grant ++ Michigan DNR Fisheries  
Mixed News for the Les Cheneaux Fisherman

Lake Huron is going through even more changes.

The DNR has studied and gathered more information in the Les Cheneaux Islands (particularly Hessel) than anywhere else in Lake Huron.

There are about 1/3 the number of people fishing then there were in the 1990's.

2003 was the crash of the Alewife thus the decline in the Salmon numbers.

Zebra Mussels are down and the Lake Trout and Walleye are eating the Goby.

With the use of new technology, clickers were used by those present to vote on numerous facts and issues. One vote was clear; the majority of Les Cheneaux fisherman would rather see more work on Perch and Walleye than on the return of the Salmon.

Thanks to a host of volunteers and the cooperation of several Government Agencies the cormorant management headed by the USDA Wildlife Services, is working. Perch fishing has improved to “Very Good” to almost “Excellent”

There is a new Lake Trout regulation that is not in the current regulations book. It is as follows:

*The maximum size limit of a Lake Trout is 24 inches, except*

*the daily limit shall include not more than one Lake Trout 32 inches or greater.*

*The season remains the same, May 1 through September 30, with a limit of three fish.*

On a side note, the St Mary's River is Very Stable. Walleye and Rock Bass are up, Pike are down and Small Mouth are about the same. The Sea Lamprey control seems to be working which helps the larger fish such as Salmon and even the Northern Pike thanks to the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Everyone in attendance appreciated the excellent presentations!