

Original: Fish Division ✓
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INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH
DIVISION OF FISHERIES
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
COOPERATING WITH THE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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October 14, 1942

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UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS ANNEX
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

REPORT NO. 777A

ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT SUGGESTIONS FOR PRAIRIE RIVER LAKE,

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, WITH REFERENCE TO CISCO NETTING

by

C. J. D. Brown

During the spring and summer of 1941 Prairie River Lake in Burr Oak and Sherman Townships, St. Joseph County, was given a regular biological survey by the Institute for Fisheries Research. Rather intensive fishing operations were carried out in order to determine the abundance of the various species of fish. A circumstance not pointed out in the regular Fisheries Report No. 777, was that while this lake has been open to cisco netting for a number of years, it contained very few of this species. As a matter of fact in three days of gill netting, seining and angling the survey party was unable to take a single cisco. Furthermore chemical analyses made on this lake show it to be unfavorable for cold water species of fish although it might be tolerated by a limited population.

In view of these facts, it would seem in order to close this lake to cisco netting until such a time as this species becomes numerous enough to justify a netting season.

Reports of some local people bear out these findings, that cisco are very scarce and that netting might better be discontinued.

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10-16-42

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