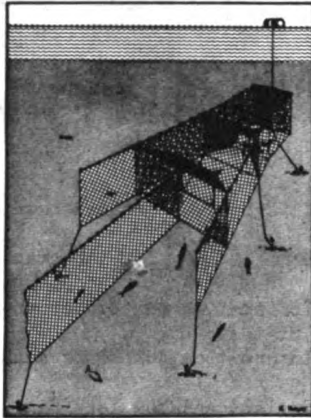


WHITEFISH  
FISHERY  
of  
LAKES HURON and MICHIGAN

The Fish and Wildlife Service has just announced the publication of Fishery Bulletin No. 40, The Whitefish Fishery of Lakes Huron and Michigan with Special Reference to the Deep-Trap-Net Fishery, by Drs. Van Oosten, Hile, and Jobs of the Division of Fishery Biology. An abstract follows:

"This study of the whitefish fishery of Lakes Huron and Michigan includes:

- (1) a review of the available statistics of production, 1879-1942; (2) a detailed analysis of the annual fluctuations in the production and abundance of whitefish and in the intensity of the whitefish fishery in the State of Michigan waters of the lakes, 1929-1942, with special reference to the effects of fishing with deep-trap-nets; (3) an account of the bathymetric distribution and vertical movements of whitefish and certain other species; and (4) a report of field observations made in 1931 and 1932, as related particularly to the destruction of undersized whitefish by pound nets and deep-trap-nets. The main body of the manuscript and appendices A, B, and C, completed in March 1942, contain statistics through the year 1939. Since that time, records for the years 1940-1942 have become available. Because these additional data did not alter any of the conclusions of the manuscript but actually strengthened them, it was not deemed justifiable to expend the considerable amount of time and money that would be required to revise the study. The 1940-1942



records are therefore presented in appendix D.

"From a relatively high production in the earlier years of the period, 1879 to 1942, the yield of whitefish declined to a lower level about which the catch fluctuated until the late 1920's and early 1930's when a general increase in production occurred. This recent increase was higher and the subsequent decline more severe in the Michigan waters of Lake Huron than in other areas."

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