NEW FISHING REGULATIONS FOR BROOK TROUT IN LAKE SUPERIOR, LAKE NIPIGON AND TRIBUTARIES

The Ministry of Natural Resources has made changes to fishing regulations for brook trout that will take effect January 1, 2005. The new regulations are designed to address declining brook trout populations in Lake Superior and Lake Nipigon.

Highlights of the changes are:

- Brook trout minimum size limit of 56 cm (22") and a catch and possession limit of one fish under a sport fishing licence and zero under a conservation licence will apply to:
 - Lake Superior (Division 23) and portions of all tributary streams to Lake Superior in Divisions 21,33, 19, and 18 – check fishing summary for details
 - Lake Nipigon (Division 34) and all tributary streams to Lake Nipigon up to the first barrier to migration.
- The open season for brook trout will be changed to the last Saturday in April to Labour Day for:
 - Lake Superior (Division 23) and portions of all tributaries to Lake
 Superior in Divisions 33, 19, and 18 check fishing summary for details
 - The open season for brook trout in Division 21 will not change as it is already from the last Saturday in April to Labour Day
 - The open season for Division 34 will not be changed (i.e., the season will remain open from the last Saturday in April to September 15th).

These regulation changes are needed to protect over-exploited brook trout populations and to rehabilitate degraded fisheries in the short term. In the long term, the goal is to develop a plan for conserving and rehabilitating naturally reproducing native brook trout populations in areas where they were originally found and to provide guidelines for maintaining a sustainable, quality recreational brook trout fishery.

With the implementation of these regulations the MNR's expectation is for a significant recovery of brook trout in Lake Superior and Lake Nipigon.

The 2005 Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary, complete with a comprehensive list of all regulation changes in the province, will be available in MNR district offices and licence issuing locations starting December XX, 2004.

Ontario residents are reminded that they must have a valid Outdoors Card and 2005 fishing licence. Non-residents must have a valid 2005 fishing licence before they may fish in Ontario waters.

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Contact:

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Appendix B			
Column 1 Waters	Column 2 Division	Column 4 Sport Fishing Licence Quota	Column 5 Conservation Fishing Licence Quota
Lake Superior, including that part of the waters of Nipigon Bay of Lake Superior lying north of a line drawn north-east from the southernmost tip of Magnet Point on Black Bay Peninsula to the West Shore of the Pic River.	23	One (1), which must be greater than 56 cm.	Zero (0)
The waters of that part of the tributaries to Lake Superior in Division 21 described as follows:	21	One (1), which must be greater than 56 cm.	Zero (0)
1. Current River downstream from the Boulevard Lake Dam (48°27'N., 89°11'W.);			
 Coldwater Creek downstream from Quimet Canyon Road (48°45'N., 88°36'W.); 			
3. Spring Creek downstream from Dorion Fish Culture Station (48°50'N., 88°36'W.);			
4. Wolf River downstream from the lower falls (48°50.58'N., 88°34.87'W.);			
5. Black Sturgeon River downstream from the Dam (48°55'N., 88°23'W.).			
 From the Pigeon River to the Nipigon River, including Sibley and Black Bay Peninsula and all islands, all tributaries lying downstream of Highway 61 and Highway 11/17, excluding those listed in items 1 to 5 above. 			
The waters of that part of the tributary streams to Lake Nipigon in Division 21 downstream of the first falls, rapids, dam or lake as identified on a Provincial Series Map or the entire stream if there are no falls, rapids, dams or lakes identified on a Provincial Series Map or if the tributary does not appear on a Provincial Series Map.	21	One (1), which must be greater than 56 cm.	Zero (0)
Nipigon River including Jessie Lake (49°12'N., 88°21'W.) and Helen Lake (49°05'N., 88°15'W.)	21	One (1) Note: length limit set	Zero (0)

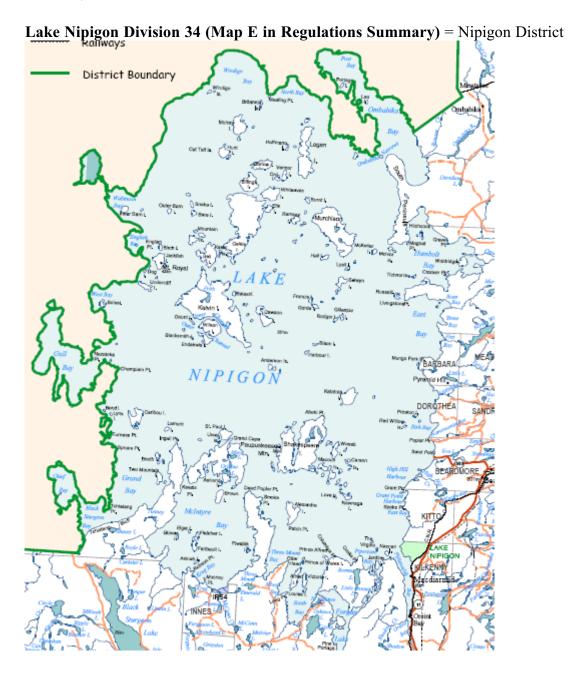
^{*} Provincial Series Maps are available from the MNR Store.

Appendix B			
Column 1 Waters	Column 2 Division	Column 4 Sport Fishing Licence Quota	Column 5 Conservation Fishing Licence Quota
		out in Appendix A.	
The waters of that part of the tributary streams to Lake Superior in Division 33 described as follows:	33	One (1), which must be greater than 56 cm.	Zero (0)
 Jackfish River downstream of the falls(49°03'N., 88°06'W.); Jackpine River downstream of Wilson's Falls (49°07'N., 87°53'W.); Cypress River downstream of falls (48°57'N., 87°50'W.); Cypress River West Tributary downstream of the falls (48°57'N., 87°51'W.); Gravel River downstream of the falls (48°55'N., 87°21'W.); Little Gravel River downstream of the falls (confirmation of lat and long needed); Steel River downstream of the Golden Staircase (outflow of Santoy Lake); McKellar River downstream of the falls 150 m north of Highway 17; Prairie River downstream of the first hydro line north of Lake Superior; From the east shore of the Nipigon River to Camp 81 Road, all tributaries lying downstream of Highway 17, excluding those listed in items 1 to 9 above; From Camp 81 Road east to the Whitesand River (48°50'N., 87°24'W.), all tributaries lying downstream of the first hydro line north of Lake Superior, excluding those listed in items 1 to 9 above; From the Whitesand River to Marathon, all tributaries lying downstream from Highway 17, excluding those listed in items 1 to 9 above. 			
The waters of that part of the tributary streams to Lake Nipigon in Division 33, downstream from the first falls, rapids, dam or lake as identified on the Provincial Series Map or the entire stream if there are no falls, rapids, dams or lakes identified on a Provincial Series Map or if the tributary does not appear on a Provincial Series Map.	33	One (1), which must be greater than 56 cm.	Zero (0)

Appendix B			
Column 1 Waters	Column 2 Division	Column 4 Sport Fishing Licence Quota	Column 5 Conservation Fishing Licence Quota
The waters of that part of the tributaries to Lake Superior in Division 19, including the Pic River, downstream from the first falls, rapids, dam or lake as identified on the Provincial Series Map or the entire stream if there are no falls, rapids, dams or lakes identified on a Provincial Series Map or if the tributary does not appear on a Provincial Series Map.	19	One (1), which must be greater than 56 cm.	Zero (0)
 The waters of the tributaries of Lake Superior in Division 18 described as follows: Montreal River downstream of the falls (47°14'16.73"N., 84°38'41.52"W.); Batchewana River downstream of the falls (46°59'13.15"N., 84°31'26.86"W.); Chippewa River downstream of the falls (46°55'47.57"N., 84°25'31.42"W.); Carp River downstream of the road crossing (46°57'43.09"N., 84°35'2.16"W.) where the Carp River Weir Road (east bank of the river) fords the river and joins the Carp Road (west bank of the river); Harmony River downstream of the hydro line crossing the river (46°51'2.82"N., 84°20'54.01"W.); From the boundary between Division 19 and Division 18 to the north shore of the Montreal River and excluding the Montreal River, all tributaries downstream of the first falls, rapids, dams or lakes identified on a Provincial Series Map or the entire stream if there are no falls, rapids, dams or lakes identified on a Provincial Series Map or if the tributary does not appear on a Provincial Series Map 	18	One (1), which must be greater than 56 cm.	Zero (0)
Lake Nipigon	34	One (1) Note: length limit set out in Appendix A	Zero (0)

Appendix II

Lake Superior Division 23 (Map E in Regulations Summary) = Lake Superior (Northwest Region – Nipigon and Thunder Bay Districts; Northeast Region – Wawa and Sault Ste. Marie Districts)



Tributaries of Lake Nipigon in Division 21(Thunder Bay District) and 33 (Nipigon District) (Map E in Regulations Summary): all streams and tributaries to Lake Nipigon

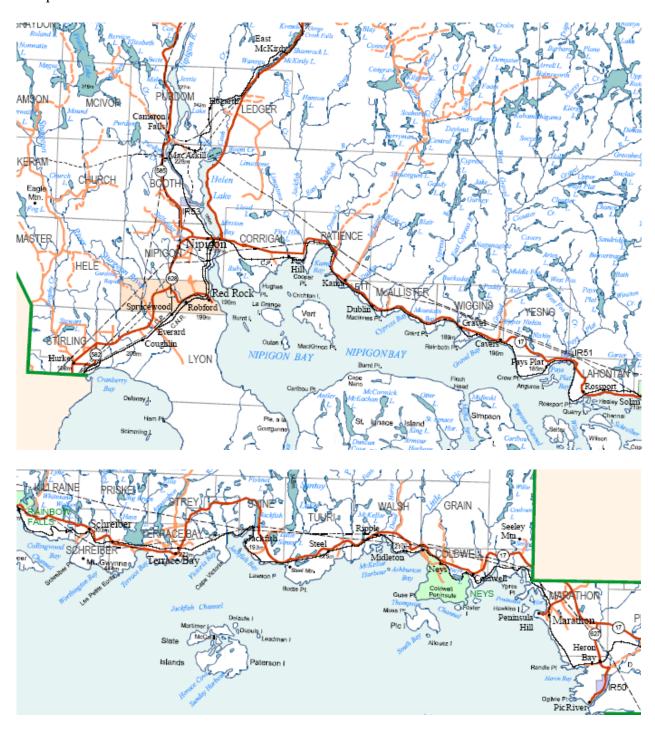
upstream to the first falls, rapids, dam or lake as identified on the Provincial Series Map. Where none of the above exists, the regulation shall apply to the entire stream.

Lake Superior Tributaries as follows:

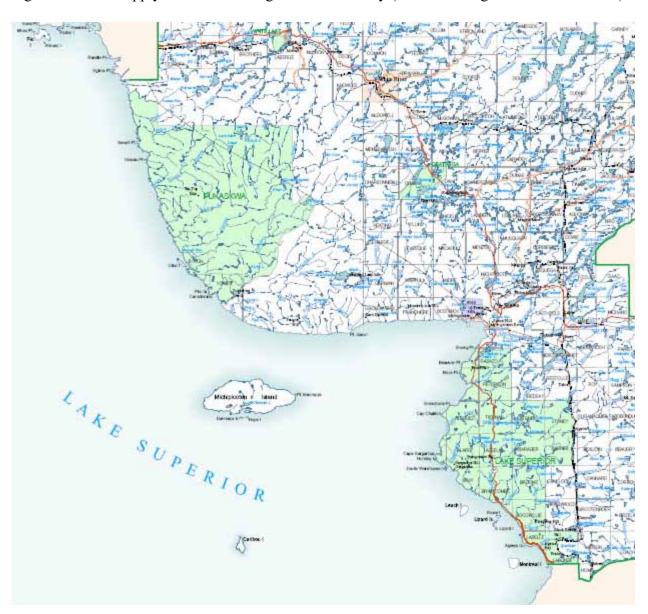
Division 21 (Map E in Regulations Summary) = Islands in Nipigon Bay of Lake Superior, the Nipigon River, Jessie Lake (49°12'N, 88°21'W) and Helen Lake (49°05'N, 88°15'W) in the Nipigon District; and all streams and tributaries to Lake Superior (Northwest Region – Nipigon and Thunder Bay Districts) lying downstream of highway 61 and highway 11/17 from the Pigeon River to the Nipigon River, including Sibley and Black Bay Peninsula and all islands. See Appendix I for exceptions.



Division 33 (Map E in Regulations Summary) = all streams and tributaries to Lake Superior (Northwest Region – Nipigon and Thunder Bay Districts) lying downstream of highway 11/17 from the east shore of the Nipigon River to Camp 81 Road; downstream of the first hydro line north of Lake Superior from Camp 81 Road east to Whitesand River (48°50'N, 87°24'W); and downstream of highway 11/17 from Whitesand River to Marathon. See Appendix I for exceptions.



Division 19 (Map D in Regulations Summary) = all streams and tributaries to Lake Superior between the Pic and Montreal Rivers, including the Pic River, upstream from Lake Superior to the first falls, rapids, dam or lake as identified on the Provincial Series Map. Where no falls, rapids, dam or lake appears on the Provincial Series Map the regulation would apply to the entire length of the tributary. Where a tributary stream exists, but is not identified on the Map, the regulation would apply to the entire length of the tributary (Northeast Region – Wawa District).



Division 18 (Map D in Regulations Summary) = catch and possession limit applies to the following tributary streams to Lake Superior upstream to the identified boundaries (Northeast Region – Wawa and Sault Ste. Marie Districts): falls on the Montreal River (47°14'N, 84°38'W), falls on the Batchewana River (46°59'N, 84°31'W), falls on the Chippewa River (46°55'N, 84°25'W), road crossing on the Carp River (46°57'N, 84°35'W), and hydro line crossing the Harmony River (46°51'N, 84°20'W).

