

Roberts, Eric

From: aceisroe@gmail.com <aceisroe@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2019 7:45 AM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

The FWP only manages the problem that they created. The perch collapsed in Canyon Ferry then in Hauser and they blamed it on the walleye. Canyon Ferry they were pulling out the 5-gallon buckets full of perch. Now Holter is collapsed. No possession limit and 50 per day. It should of been changed years ago
Some of us also remember the collapse of the Tongue River Reservoir. The crappie fishing was 60 per day and 120 in possession.
The FWP needs to look at a state wide regulation on pan fish to where this does not happen else where

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: airheaterswest@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2019 6:17 AM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

I am all in favor of reducing the limit of perch on Holter to 25 daily and frankly I would like to see it reduced further to 15 daily. I have asked the about the 50 daily with no possession limit and its destruction of the perch fishery on Holter. I was told that it would never happen, well with flushing and an individuals ability with the technology available today to harvest fish it most certainly has. I agree with the statement of it would be impossible to completely eliminate the reservoir of perch. That being said to not continue to promote and protect the perch fishery at Holter while maintaining some type a winter time fishery seems ridiculous.. Teach people to be gluttons and it will carry on to other bodies of water...

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Roberts, Eric

From: bkbahr@q.com
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2019 8:51 AM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

Yes I am for changing the proposed limits. This makes more sense and should help the walleyes and perch rebound in holter. Thank you for your efforts.

Bob Bahr
404 Van Buren Great Falls Mt
59404

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: Bobltfdeb@bresnan.net
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 4:27 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

Twice the daily limit! Why. Just doesn't make sense with low netting. (Walleye)
FWP need to act sooner. 21 century there are more people fishing which can causes faster changes need to respond fast to the pressure. 4 years ago perch fishing was poor.
Thanks

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: bowtech_hunter@hotmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 7:57 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

I am all for these regulation changes! 50 perch daily has decimated the population in my opinion. Walleye are becoming harder to find and catch as well. These regulation changes will help regenerate the populations in my opinion

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: Bob Thennis <bthennis@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 4:28 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Holster proposed refs

I agree and support the change on the limit numbers proposed.

Thanks
Bob Thennis

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Bob

Roberts, Eric

From: cacampbell_12@hotmail.com
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 8:14 AM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

This change should've happened sooner. Ice fishing was a blast 3 years ago, but it was very clear that many fisherman were abusing the limit of 50 perch. At that number it was quite obvious that not everyone was counting. There were many people at least measuring by the five gallon bucket, as it was pretty close to 50. I fished like crazy but only kept what I needed. I would frequently see many of the same guys day after day with piles of bodies on the ice. At that point it is damn near impossible for them to eat or even clean that amount. Especially when they were going way over the way to generous limit. It was no surprise to me that ice fishing sucked the last 2 years. Now the food supply for the walleyes is limited as well. I believe the limit should be 10 daily and in possession for perch.

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: claytonlundin@yahoo.com
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2019 4:18 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

I really like that there will be action taken as a result of this new information. I feel that the perch population has crashed to the point that the proposed 25 fish limit is still to high. 10, or even 15 would be a much better option. I would like to see the walleye regulations changed to a slot limit with 4 fish under 18 inches and 1 over 28 inches to help bolster the true trophy potential that Holter has.

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: davesalvi@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 6:42 AM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

I support reducing the bag limits on perch and walleye. I am sure FWP is studying possible causes of the decline in fish numbers. Once any conclusions are reached, I also presume any additional steps would be taken to manage the fishery beyond reducing bag limits, such as increasing or decreasing water releases from Hauser and/or Holter, timing of releases, mitigating agricultural runoff of fertilizer, animal waste, over grazing causing erosion, etc.

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: Dale Gilbert <mtwalleyellc@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 3:32 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Cc: Rhoten, Jason
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Additional Edit request to Draft UMRRMP on perch limits for Holter.

I am not sure the comment went through on line, if it did, my apologies for this as a duplicate. Just wanted to make sure it got submitted and considered.

I am happy to see the Department is finally bringing forth a proposal to try to help the Holter Fishery. Following the past management plan and actions we now see the Holter Fishery in the worst, condition it has been in my 39 years in Montana.

I believe what we are seeing at Holter right now supports an additional edit to the UMRRMP draft for perch.....when the perch numbers are within goals, a 25 fish limit seems reasonable, howere if perch goals are not being met, a more conservative limit should be considered.

See below for justification.

At Holter, Perch numbers have been worse in 8 of the past 34 years....interestingly, when it had the 25 daily and possession limits that are currently being proposed and per the current Draft UMRRMP recommendations.

So although I wholeheartedly support a reduction of the 50 daily and no possession limits for perch, I have to really wonder if the proposed reduction to 25 is the solution. Appears to me that the 25 perch limit as we have seen in the past has not done very well and that a further reduction in perch limits is fully justified. Perch are a schooling fish and given today's anglers knowledge, skill, advanced technologies (electronics with side imaging, downscan and GPS), and the information network, continuing with a 25 fish limit will simply continue to suppress the perch numbers below recommended relative abundance goals.

Perch numbers were worse in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2007, 2009, and 2010 and I believe that was when they had the 25 daily and possession limit. Doesn't that suggest that 25 fish limit is too high to sustain the perch fishery?

When the perch limits on Canyon Ferry were reduced to try to improve the perch fishery data shows a definite improvement. That suggests that the same thing needs to be considered at Holter.

Frankly, I was on the working group that was making recommendations for the upcoming new UMRRMP but I honestly don't think anyone expected we would ever see the perch numbers get as low as they have gotten at Holter. Maybe that plan should be modified, so that if the perch are within goals, the limit should be the 25 as proposed, but if below goals more conservative limits should be considered.

With numbers as low as they are, wouldn't it make sense to reduce the limit to 10-15 daily with twice the daily for possession? It would seem like this would give the fish that are left a much better chance to bounce back

So, bottom line I believe the actual reductions proposed need further review and consideration to the historical data we have and then revised to truly improve the fishery --- to give it the best chance we can to recover.

Sent from my iPad

Roberts, Eric

From: Mtwalleyellc@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 3:01 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

I am happy to see the Department is finally bringing forth a proposal to try to help the Holter Fishery. Following the past management plan and actions we now see the Holter Fishery in the worst, condition it has been in my 39 years in Montana.

Trout numbers are down to 1.8/net, perch are down to 1.8/net, and walleye are down to 1.5/net. There is not a single year in history where all of the numbers have been so low. In fact walleye have only been worse twice, in 1988 and 1995. Perch have been worse in 8 of the past 34 years....interestingly, when they had the 25 daily and possession limits that are currently proposed.

So although I wholeheartedly support a reduction of the 50 daily and no possession limits for perch, I have to really wonder if the proposed reduction to 25 is the solution. Appears to me that the 25 perch limit as we have seen in the past has not done very well and that a further reduction in perch limits is fully justified. Perch are a schooling fish and given today's anglers knowledge, skill, advanced technologies (electronics with side imaging, downscan and GPS), and the information network, continuing with a 25 fish limit will simply continue to suppress the perch numbers below recommended relative abundance goals.

Perch numbers were worse in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2007, 2009, and 2010 and I believe that was when they had the 25 daily and possession limit. Doesn't that suggest that limit is too high to sustain the fishery?

When the perch limits on Canyon Ferry were reduced to try to improve the perch fishery data shows a definite improvement. That suggests that the same thing needs to be considered at Holter.

Frankly, I was on the working group that was making recommendations for the upcoming new UMRRMP but I honestly don't think anyone expected we would ever see the perch numbers get as low as they have gotten at Holter. Maybe that plan should be modified, so that if the perch are within goals, the limit should be the 25 as proposed, but if below goals more conservative limits should be considered.

With numbers as low as they are, wouldn't it make sense to reduce the limit to 10-15 daily with twice the daily for possession? It would seem like this would give the fish that are left a much better chance to bounce back.

I wholeheartedly support a reduction to the walleye limit as well. However, I really have to wonder why the Department is not going back and implementing limits that historically had worked exceptionally well. The 6 fish limit with 5 under 20 and 1 over 28"? This limit was in effect for a whole lot of years and we used to have an outstanding trout and walleye fishery.

So, bottom line I believe the actual reductions proposed need further review and consideration to the historical data we have and then revised to truly improve the fishery --- give it the best chance we can to recover.

It is worth noting as well?.that the reason the trout numbers are so low is not because there are too many walleye?..it is because of the reduced stocking. (Cut to about 50% the last two years by FWP)

It is also worth noting that the reason the perch numbers are so low is NOT because there are too many walleye.

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Roberts, Eric

From: Fishon11@itstriangle.com
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2019 2:31 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

I would like to see the Perch limit at 15 with possession at 30. Take the Walleye limit back to where it was 6 per day, with 5 under 20 and 1 over 28. Increase the Trout stocking back to previous year numbers. Your management plan needs to reflect current situation with out waiting 3 years to collect data. Jim Carver Cascade

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: henmt1@comcast.net
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 4:40 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

I support implementing more conservative e regulations for both perch and walleye. But, I wonder what is happening with the trout populations and how it is related to the walleye and perch populations? It seems that the populations would be connected.

Harvey Nyberg, Lewistown, MT

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: hkteng@hotmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 3:29 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

I am for the Changes. Hopefully will sustain the current walleye and perch catch rates or even increase success.

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: maxh@bresnan.net
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 8:56 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

Glad to see your proposed changes. Support it fully. Need to do some surprise spot checks on the ice to slow some people down. Thanks

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: prestonr@bresnan.net
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2019 7:55 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

FWP should only be managing native fish .

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: RICKC@JMLUMBER.COM
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2019 10:43 AM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

Thank you for acting now! Holter Lake can be a fantastic fishery for both walleye and perch if managed correctly. These species will thrive with minimal assistance from FWP. It could be a destination fishery for both species with no stocking needed.

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: Roblowe.mt@gmail.com <Roblowe.mt@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 7:57 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

Yes please. Let's not turn a resource into a grocery aisle.

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: rodjudyc@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 7:14 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

Great idea going back to the old limits.

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: Sjwalter87@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 12:39 AM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

This is an excellent move. Fishing has declined on both perch and walleye. Too many people are taking fish over the size limits on walleye. The perch population will bounce back but ice fishing pressure causes a lot of it. I've heard way too many stories around this and the perch limit needs to be adjusted. Just looking on iceshanty.com you see people taking 200 perch and throwing them in the freezer. Most likely never eating them all. Since moving here I've noticed quite a few unethical sportsman. Hunting and fishing season both.

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Roberts, Eric

From: Stevenmlubinski@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 3:27 PM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

I agree that the 50 fish limit is high, and fully support lowering the limit to 25 perch. I would like to see the possession limit stay at 50 perch as I travel 3 hours to fish Holter and that would mean I can only fish for one day there. I support the 5 fish limit for walleye and 10 in possession. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

This e-mail was generated from the 'FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye' Public Notice Web Page.

Roberts, Eric

From: somwill99@hotmail.com
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2019 11:43 AM
To: FWP Fishing
Subject: Public Comment: FWP Proposing Regulation Changes for Holter Yellow Perch and Walleye

I agree with reducing the daily bag limits on both perch and walleye. I disagree the proposed numbers. Since perch are such an important forage fish within the compound of Holter the numbers for limits should be reduced significantly to ensure a fighting chance of bouncing back. I believe the netting data suggests a serious depletion of this resource. A schooling fish such as this could be further damaged by fishing, especially ice fishing. A limit of 10 would be a better fit in my book and you could even have a possession of double the limit. At least if someone wanted to fish for a weekend, they could, but they would have to limit both days to max out the perch.

I am not a big believer in slot limits, however I think they do have some limited uses. Holter walleye would be one of those few occurrences that I would like to see the slot limit used. The netting data is showing such drastically reduced numbers that something drastic must be done to preserve this once great multi species fishery. I think a limit of 5 is a good move, however I also feel it should be partnered with a slot limit. 19 to 28 inch walleye are going to be mega important for the next few years and should be protected. With the reactive measures in the new management plan a slot limit could be reviewed every year to two years and put in place or removed as seen fit for proper management. End result, my opinion is a 5 walleye limit, with 19 inch and under size limit, only one over 28 to protect the trophy fishery this has become in the past.

I would also float the idea of restricting fishing for walleye from March 15th to the first Saturday in May in an attempt to protect the big spawning females from getting stressed out and not producing as they could. I'm no biologist, but it seems that certain places are getting so popular for catching big pre-spawn walleyes that it's time to be pro active and prevent this activity. Upper Holter is one of those places that is becoming so popular that it could be having an adverse effect on the walleye fishery. Seems no one can explain why the walleye fishery is failing.....maybe this would be another temporary action such as a slot limit that could be looked at.

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