

CHARACTERIZATION OF THE CANADIAN  
COMMERCIAL WALLEYE FISHERY

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By

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## ABSTRACT

Lemm, Leslie Paul; M.S.; Program of Natural Resources Management; Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics; College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources; North Dakota State University; December 2002. Characterization of the Canadian Commercial Walleye Fishery. Major Professor: Dr. Jay A. Leitch.

The Canadian commercial walleye fishing industry was characterized, identifying sources of commercially caught walleye, and the biological and economic factors affecting supply. The potential for increased harvests was addressed. This information will help a potential U.S. walleye aquaculture industry better understand the role and ability of the Canadian commercial fishery in meeting the U.S. demand for walleye food products and competing with a newly developed aquaculture industry. Biological and environmental factors limit the supply of wild-caught walleye. The Canadian commercial wild-caught walleye fishery is currently operating at or near maximum capacity, and substantial increases in yield are likely not possible.