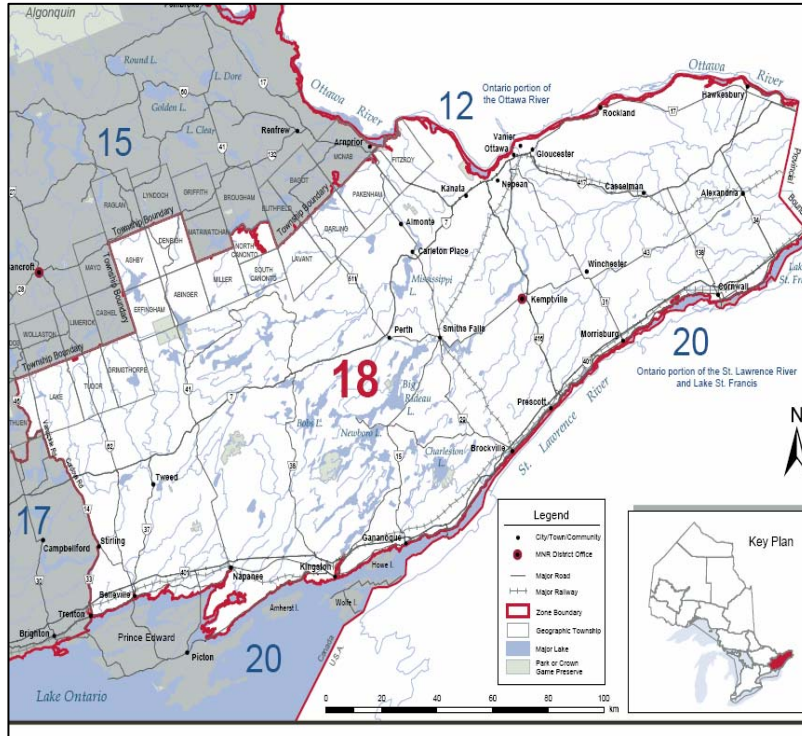


The Ministry of Natural Resources and the Fisheries Management Zone 18 (FMZ 18) Advisory Council have developed management options for walleye and bass fishing in FMZ 18. Anglers and other interested individuals are invited to share their views on the different management options. The results of the survey will assist the ministry in their review of the Fisheries Management Plan fishing regulations for 2013.



Map of Fisheries Management Zone 18 (FMZ 18)

FMZ 18 is the most easterly fisheries management zone (FMZ) in the province. The zone lies mainly within the watersheds of the Crowe, Mississippi, Napanee, Cataraqui, Rideau, Salmon, South Nation and Raisin Rivers. The variety of angling opportunities, its proximity to the United States, and the population base within and nearby, make this zone one of Ontario’s most popular angling destinations.

Some major cities within FMZ 18 include Ottawa, Kingston, Cornwall, Belleville, Perth, Smiths Falls, Brockville and Carleton Place. Other communities near FMZ 18 include Bancroft, Pembroke and Arnprior.

NOTE: DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS APRIL 13, 2012.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Have you received information on proposed fishing regulation changes from any of the below sources? (Please check the boxes that apply.)

Yes No

Public information session

MNR website

MNR staff person

Other (please specify) _____

2. Did you fish in FMZ 18 last year?

Yes

No

3. How many days did you fish in FMZ 18 last year?

4. Which of the following species did you fish for in FMZ 18 last year? (Please check the box that applies)

Yes No

Black crappie

Sunfish (bluegill and pumpkinseed)

Other panfish (yellow perch, rock bass, etc.)

Largemouth or smallmouth bass

Muskellunge

Northern pike

Walleye (pickerel)

Lake Trout

Other trout (brook, brown, rainbow)

Other (please specify) _____

5. Please list the three fish species that you most prefer to catch in FMZ 18, in order of preference.

	<i>Fish Species</i>
1 st	_____
2 nd	_____
3 rd	_____

6. Please list the three fish species that you most prefer to keep in FMZ 18, in order of preference.

	<i>Fish Species</i>
1 st	_____
2 nd	_____
3 rd	_____

SECTION 2: WALLEYE MANAGEMENT

[INFO] With the current regulation of a four fish limit, with one walleye over 46 cm (18.1 inches), the ministry expects the walleye populations in FMZ 18 will remain at low numbers which will not meet our objective of increasing walleye populations. Habitat improvements and other non-regulatory programs alone are unlikely to increase walleye populations. Therefore, **two new size limit options** (see below) were developed to achieve the FMZ 18 fisheries management goal of increasing walleye populations and improving future walleye angling and harvesting opportunities. The new size limit regulation would be applied across the zone, replacing the size limit exceptions for individual waterbodies in the Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary.

7. How satisfied are you with walleye fishing in FMZ 18?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- No opinion
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

Proposed Walleye Size-based Regulations

Harvest Slot Option 1 **Harvest walleye between 35-45 cm (~14-18 in)**
Only walleye within this harvest size may be kept
 two fish limit (Conservation Fishing License)
 four fish limit (Sport Fishing Licence)

Harvest Slot Option 2 **Harvest walleye between 40-50 cm (~16-20 in)**
Only walleye within this harvest size may be kept
 two fish limit (Conservation Fishing License)
 four fish limit (Sport Fishing Licence)

[INFO] From models, both of the above harvest slot options are expected to result in an increased walleye population to help protect large females that are important to ensure an increasing walleye population. The large females produce the most eggs and have higher survival rates than eggs produced by smaller walleye. Therefore, many scientists believe that walleye regulations should protect these large females.

8. Which of the two proposed walleye regulations would you prefer for FMZ 18?
 (Please check the preferred option)

Options

Harvest Slot Option 1 **Harvest walleye between 35-45 cm (~14-18 in)**

Harvest Slot Option 2 **Harvest walleye between 40-50 cm (~16-20 in)**

9. Please explain your answer to Question 8.

SECTION 4: BASS ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES IN FMZ 18

10. How satisfied are you with bass fishing in FMZ 18?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- No opinion
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

[INFO] Bass (largemouth and smallmouth) in FMZ 18 are abundant and providing quality angling opportunities. **Currently, the fishing season for bass is the 4th Saturday in June to November 30.** Climate change studies suggest that earlier spring warming trends have resulted in earlier bass spawning dates (approximately 10 days). Due to this new science, the FMZ 18 Council and MNR recommend that the bass season be changed to the third Saturday in June to December 15.

11. How strongly do you support/oppose starting the bass season one week earlier (third Saturday in June)?

- Strongly support
- Support
- No opinion
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose

12. Please explain your answer to Question 11.

13. How strongly do you support/oppose extending the bass season to December 15 in FMZ 18?

- Strongly support
- Support
- No opinion
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose

14. Please explain your answer to Question 13.

If you would like to be kept informed on fisheries management in FMZ 18, please provide your contact information below. Please note, this information will not be included in our analysis of the survey.

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Please send completed Fisheries Management Options Questionnaires to:

Fisheries Management Zone 18
Ministry of Natural Resources
Kemptonville District
Postal Bag 2002
10 Campus Dr.
Kemptonville, ON
K0G 1J0