

BRIEFING NOTE

(For Information Only)

Spring- and fall- spawning siscowets at Isle Royale, Lake Superior, are distinct spawning populations

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Research Question Where do siscowets at Isle Royale spawn and are spring- and fall- spawning groups distinct spawning populations?

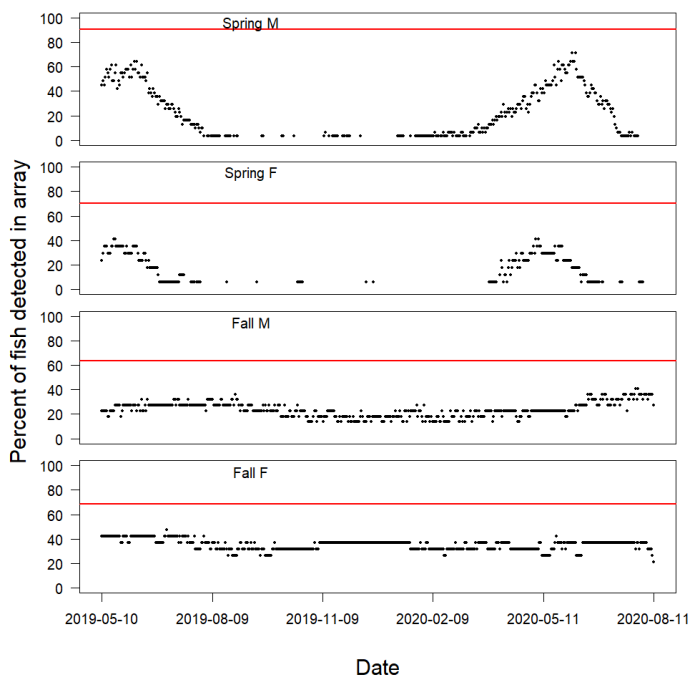
Management Relevance Understanding the spawning behavior and habitat preferences of deep-water lake trout morphotypes is critical to restoring these morphotypes in lakes outside of Lake Superior.



Andrew Muir

SUMMARY

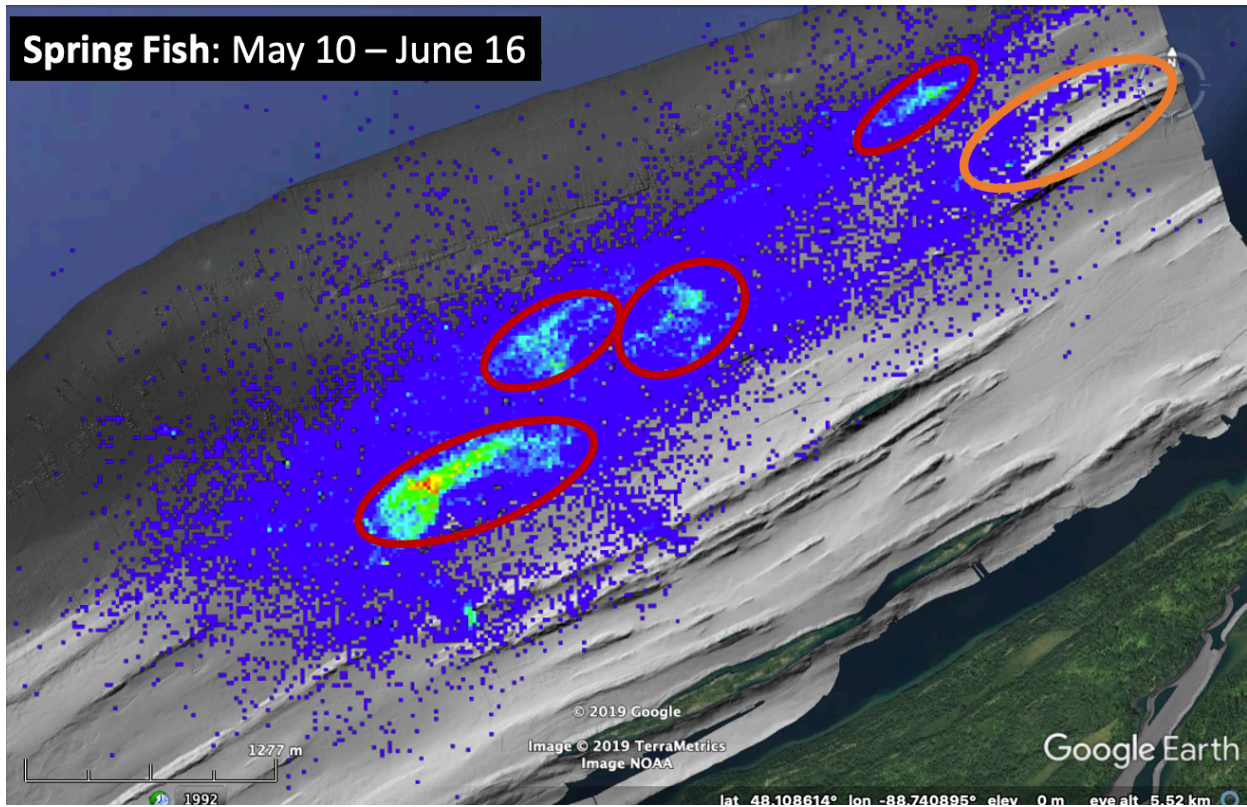
- Putative spawning locations for spring-spawning siscowets occurred in deeper water than those for fall-spawning siscowets
- Fall fish were present in the study area during spring, but there was almost no spatial overlap in habitat use between spring- and fall-spawning siscowets during that period
- Spring-spawning siscowets were not present in the study area during the fall spawning period



Percent of each group detected daily in the acoustic telemetry array. Red line is the percent of fish detected during this period.

Species:	Siscowet lake trout
Waterbody:	Lake Superior
Project date:	05/01/2018 - 05/01/2022
# fish tagged:	98
# receivers:	92
Analysis:	
Management Applications:	

Spring Fish: May 10 – June 16



Heat map showing the locations four putative spring-spawning siscowet spawning sites (circled in red). The location of the putative fall-spawning siscowet spawning site is circled in orange for comparison.

Limitations:

Next steps: Spawning at putative spawning sites identified with acoustic telemetry will be confirmed in spring 2021 through collection of reproductive end products (embryos) with a ROV equipment with a suction sampler. The acoustic telemetry array will remain in the water until spring 2022.

Other details:

Publications:

