

Fond du Lac Resource Management is very excited to announce 2023 as the inaugural season for the Lake Superior Subsistence Fishery.

- This is a gill-net based subsistence harvest in the Minnesota Waters of Lake Superior.
- The target species for 2023 will be Lake Trout
- This is similar to Mille Lacs but with some key differences.
- This will be happening late summer/early fall 2023. Tentative harvest dates August 25, 26, 27, and more dates TBD in September.
- You cannot use your own net. Resource Management will have ten, 500ft nets, buoys, anchors and rope available for checkout.
- FDL Fisheries is in the process of procuring a community vessel for elder, youth, and other community harvest opportunities. **This vessel will not be available in 2023.**

Due to the size and unique weather patterns of Lake Superior there will be a **mandatory** educational program.

In order to be issued a permit to harvest in Lake Superior each Band member **MUST** participate in all three parts of this program.

Part 1)

A classroom component taught by the Lake Superior Captains Academy.

There are two options to attend this class:

First option is to attend two evenings,

Mon. July 10, 6 – 9:30pm and **Tues. July 11**, 6 – 9:30pm (We will try to wrap up early)

Second option is to attend one long Saturday class,

Sat. July 15, 9 – 4pm

Zoom will be available and there is no exam

Part 2)

A field component. How to set nets in 100 ft deep water taught by Fond du Lac Fisheries.

Again, there are two options to attend:

First option is a short evening with limited openings

Tues. August 1, 6 – 8:30pm (weather make-up day **Friday August 4**, 6 – 8:30pm)

Second option is a weekend

Saturday August 5, 8:30 – 4:30pm, Once an individual has gone out, set and pulled a net, they can leave for the day.

Part 3)

A vessel check component. In order to be used in the Lake Superior Program, every boat will need to pass an official vessel safety check done by The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

This will be available on **Saturday July 15th at 4:30pm** at the Resource Management Building. FDL Fisheries is working to schedule another option for this requirement.

This inspection will check: Navigation Lights, Life Jackets and throwable PFD, Distress Signals and Flare Kit, Boat Registration, a sound producing device horn or whistle, Battery stowage (covered), and general seaworthiness. If your boat is larger than 26 feet, has an inboard motor or an enclosed cabin contact me for more information.

Look for more informative postings and emails as more details are worked out. And PLEASE spread the word, tell your friends and family.

We want to get as many Band members as possible to go through the educational program and to get out and set a net!

Participation and all ages involvement is the goal!

I'm sure there will be more questions regarding this project. Feel free to contact me anytime, (email/text preferred)

- FDL Fisheries Biologist Eric Torvinen

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