

Dear Mr. Wolters, MN DNR and other interested parties,
I am unable to attend the Oct. 29th meeting in Fergus since I am not in Minnesota at this time. My mother, who is a full time resident of Pelican Lake would like to be there but does not drive at night. We believe that muskellunge do not belong in Pelican; that the DNR should cease stocking them and should never introduce muskies into other Ottetail lakes where they are not native.

More and more people are being exposed to these very large, aggressive fish. I personally watched one die at the end of the dock, and I was involved in disposing of the four foot long carcass. The fact that muskellunge are showing up in family swimming areas is reason enough to quit stocking them in Pelican. I have been swimming in this lake for more than fifty years and although I won't let even a very large fish stop me, I am not as adventurous due to the very real possibility of encountering a huge muskie.

Even more important is the impact of muskellunge on the ecology of the lake. As their size and number increases these top predators are taking a toll on the native species of fish and other wildlife in Pelican Lake. The larger the muskies are, the larger their prey, which includes water fowl and frogs as well as fish.

Let the ecosystem of Pelican Lake return to its true balance and allow families to enjoy activities in the water by removing and ceasing to stock muskellunge. This failed experiment should not be repeated on other Ottetail lakes, or any lakes where muskies are not native.

Respectfully,

Charlotte Campbell and Family, 22097 Broadwater Drive, Pelican Rapids

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