

Muskie

Catch and Release



Please help with this strategy by healthily **RELEASING** these future trophies to be caught again and again. It takes 10 to 20 years to grow a trophy musky. Some of the biggest are as old as 30 years. These fish will get bigger if allowed to age.

Tips on releasing muskies

1. Play the fish only as long as necessary. The longer you play it, the weaker it will get.
2. If possible, leave the hooked fish in the water while you unhook it.
3. Carry long-nosed pliers, hook remover, jaw spreader and a strong wire cutters. If it appears that hook removal could cause injury to the fish or fisherman (e.g., too time consuming or hooked near the gills, throat, or stomach) cut the hook and remove the pieces from the fish.
4. If a musky must be brought into the boat, lay it on a wet, soft surface and keep the fish moist. The longer a fish is out of water, the less likely it is to survive; make photo sessions brief.
5. Never hold a musky by the eye sockets or gills. Always hold a fish horizontally to support its weight.
6. Once the hooks are removed, hold the fish upright in the water and allow it to fully revive, let it swim away under it's own power.

The future is in your hands!

Sponsored by the local fishermen who released the fish your holding.