

MUSKIE INTRODUCTION (STOCKING) IN GULL LAKE

City of East Gull Lake Resolution No. 05:02-16

WHEREAS: Many residents of East Gull Lake along with the Gull Chain of Lakes Association and the Association of Cass County Lakes (ACCL) have expressed concern over the proposal of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources ("DNR") to stock muskellunge in the Gull Chain (the "Proposal"); and

WHEREAS: The DNR is proposing to stock four additional lakes with muskellunge throughout Minnesota in 2016; and

WHEREAS: The DNR's Proposal includes the stocking of muskellunge in Gull Lake, which is part of a chain of lakes which currently possesses a diverse fish community with primary management of the fishery historically directed at walleye, bass, northern pike and pan fish; and

WHEREAS: The DNR's stated long-range objective for providing muskellunge angling opportunities near major population areas is currently achieved for the Brainerd Lakes area without stocking muskellunge in Gull Lake; and

WHEREAS: There is concern that addition of a new species of fish into the already fragile ecosystem of Gull Lake, which is battling numerous aquatic invasive species, might have an adverse effect on the natural fish community of said lake.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The City of East Gull Lake City Council, by this resolution, requests that the DNR not initiate muskellunge stocking in Gull Lake for a minimum period of four (4) years, so that sufficient scientific evidence may be developed to examine whether muskellunge stocking adversely affects fragile lake ecosystems struggling to contain aquatic invasive species.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The City of East Gull Lake City Council encourages the DNR to assemble a diverse and qualified panel of statewide stakeholders to consider and review appropriate scientific evidence regarding the Proposal, and, if needed, to identify needed additional research. If these results show other fish species are negatively impacted, then muskies should not be stocked in Gull Lake.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was introduced by Council Member Hoffmann, duly Seconded by Council Member Lang and, after discussion thereof and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor:

Council Members Lang, Hoffman, Demgen, Ruttger, Mayor Kavanaugh

And the following voted against the same: None

Adopted at East Gull Lake, MN this 3rd day of May, 2016

Dated: 5/3/16
Attest: Robert Mason
Robert Mason, City Administrator

EAST GULL LAKE CITY COUNCIL
By: Dave Kavanaugh
Dave Kavanaugh, Mayor