



MICHIGAN UNITED *Since 1937* CONSERVATION CLUBS

Uniting Citizens to Conserve, Protect and Enhance Michigan's Natural Resources and Outdoor Heritage

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COMMERCIAL FISHING STATUTE UPDATE

Background

Sport fishing contributes \$2.3 billion to Michigan's economy annually, according to a recent study done by Michigan United Conservation Clubs. The number of anglers in the state is 1.1 million, and they directly support 35,422 jobs in the state. Licensed commercial fisheries in Michigan contribute a dockside commercial value of just over \$5 million, versus the \$2.3 billion contribution of sport and recreation fisheries.

The statute regarding the licensing and regulation of commercial fisheries in Michigan is far outdated. This bill would set parameters surrounding commercial fishing such as licensing fees, gear used and allowable species for harvest bringing the statute into the 21st century. Game fish species are currently managed and funded by fishing license sales, with some of the federal stocking programs being funded through tax-payer dollars. Commercial fishers should be restricted from profiting off species that are listed as game species, and this statute update addresses this.

Key Components

- Increase of penalties for unlawful tampering of commercial fishing nets
- Prohibits abandoned gear and setting guidelines for the amount of time a net can be left unattended
- Explicitly creates a whitelist for the allowable fish available for commercial harvest
- Increases penalties for exceeding the bycatch allotment and the taking of any fish not labelled as commercial
- Record keeping of the type and amount of fish caught as well as the gear used
- Addresses enforceability and administrative issues within the antiquated statute



SPORTSMEN'S IMPACT *on Michigan's Economy*

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

\$11.2B

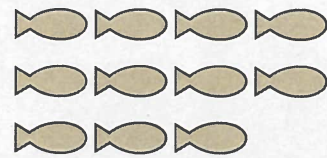


The amount generated by **MICHIGAN'S HUNTING AND FISHING** industry for the state economy each year

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

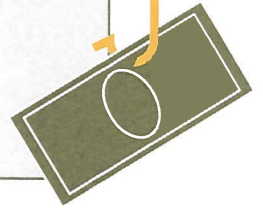
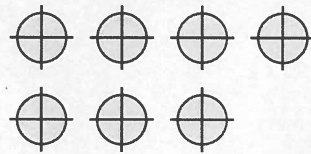
Anglers

1.1 MILLION



Hunters

700,000



JOB CREATION

The hunting and fishing industry supports more than **171,000** jobs in Michigan

HUNTING **135,579 JOBS**

FISHING
35,422 JOBS

SALARIES & GDP



The hunting and fishing industry contributes **\$3.3 BILLION** in salaries and wages to Michigan households



The hunting and fishing industry also has a **\$7.2 BILLION** value-add to Michigan's GDP

INDUSTRY

Michigan is No. 1 among Great Lakes states for jobs created from hunting and fishing purchases. In every region of Michigan, the number of jobs created and supported by hunting and fishing puts the industry in the **TOP 10 PERCENT OF JOB-CREATION** industries





TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

of hunting and fishing spending by region

