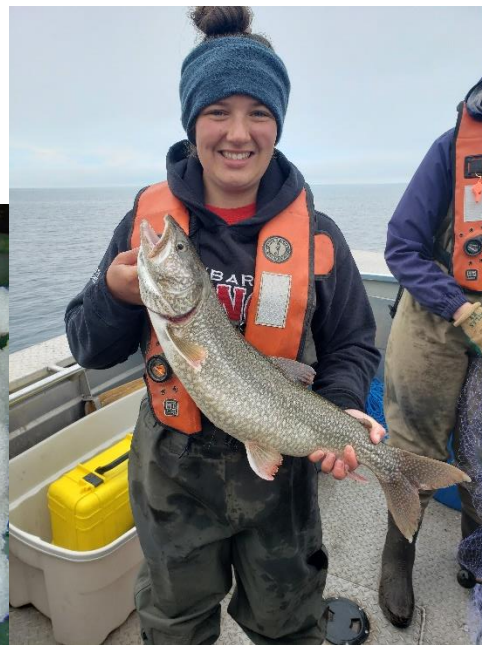


Recreational & Commercial Harvest from Lake Superior, 1995-2021



Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Lake Superior Committee

2023 Upper Lakes Meeting

March 2023

Contributing agencies:

Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Natural Resources Department

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Natural Resources Department

Great Lake Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission

Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Natural Resources Department

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Bay Mills Indian Community Biological Services Department

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Natural Resources Services

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

The Lake Superior Technical Committee consolidated recreational fishery harvest (in round pounds) estimated from creel surveys conducted by management agencies at various access points around Lake Superior. In years where recreational harvest was provided in numbers of fish, species-specific mean weights were used to convert numbers of fish to harvest in round pounds. Recreational fishery harvest is not estimated in Ontario waters of Lake Superior.

Reported commercial harvest was provided by state, tribal and provincial agencies in either round or dressed pounds. Where available, subsistence harvest was combined with commercial harvest. Harvest reported in dressed pounds was converted to round pounds using a conversion factor of 1.15 for Round Whitefish, 1.2 for Deepwater Ciscos, 1.15 for Smelt and 1.25 for all other species.

2020 recreational harvest estimates may be incomplete due to gaps in creel survey programs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic

All data are provisional and not for citation.

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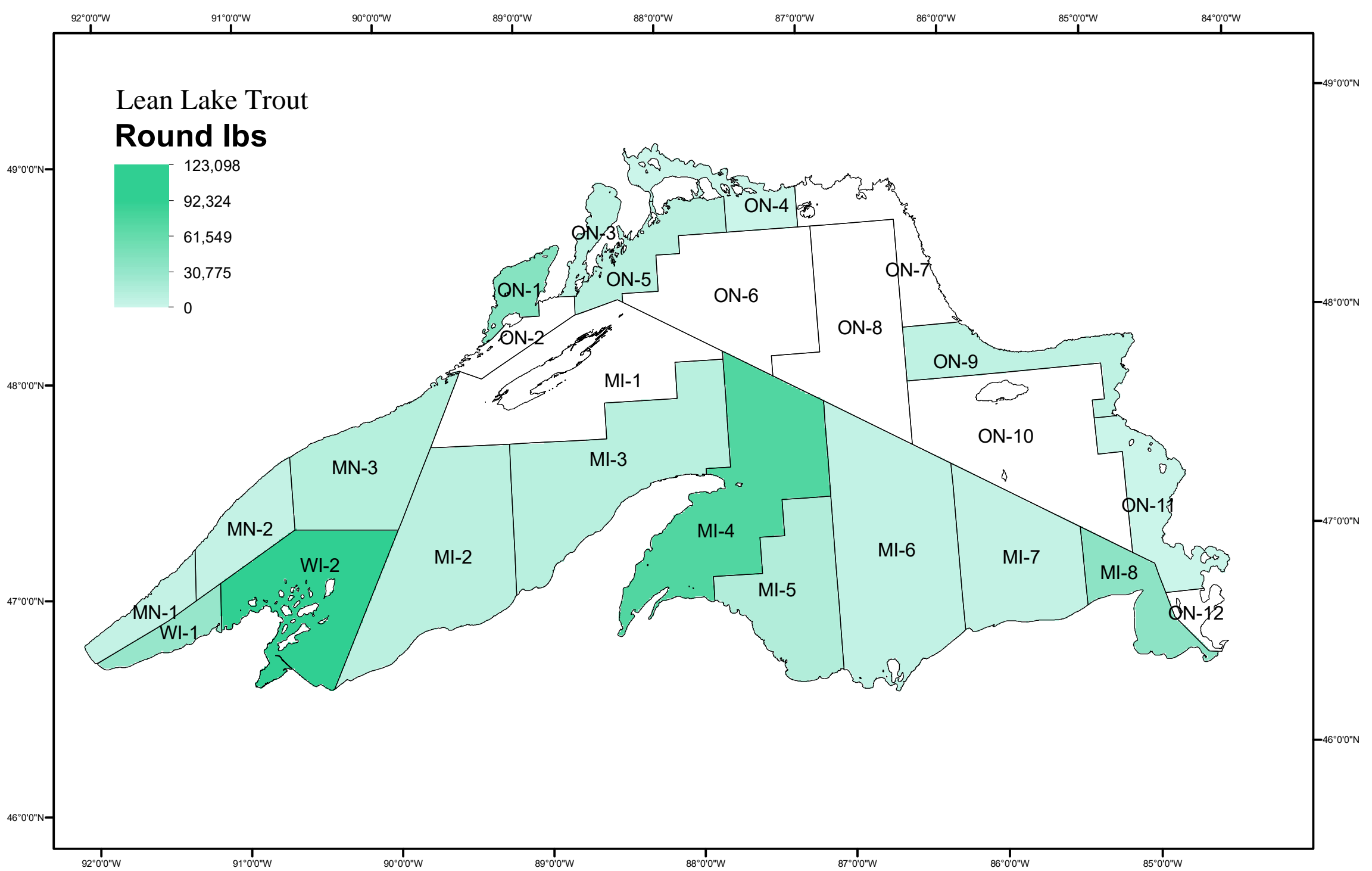


Figure 1. Reported commercial harvest of Lean Lake Trout by management unit in 2021. Commercial harvest was reported by state, tribal and provincial agencies.

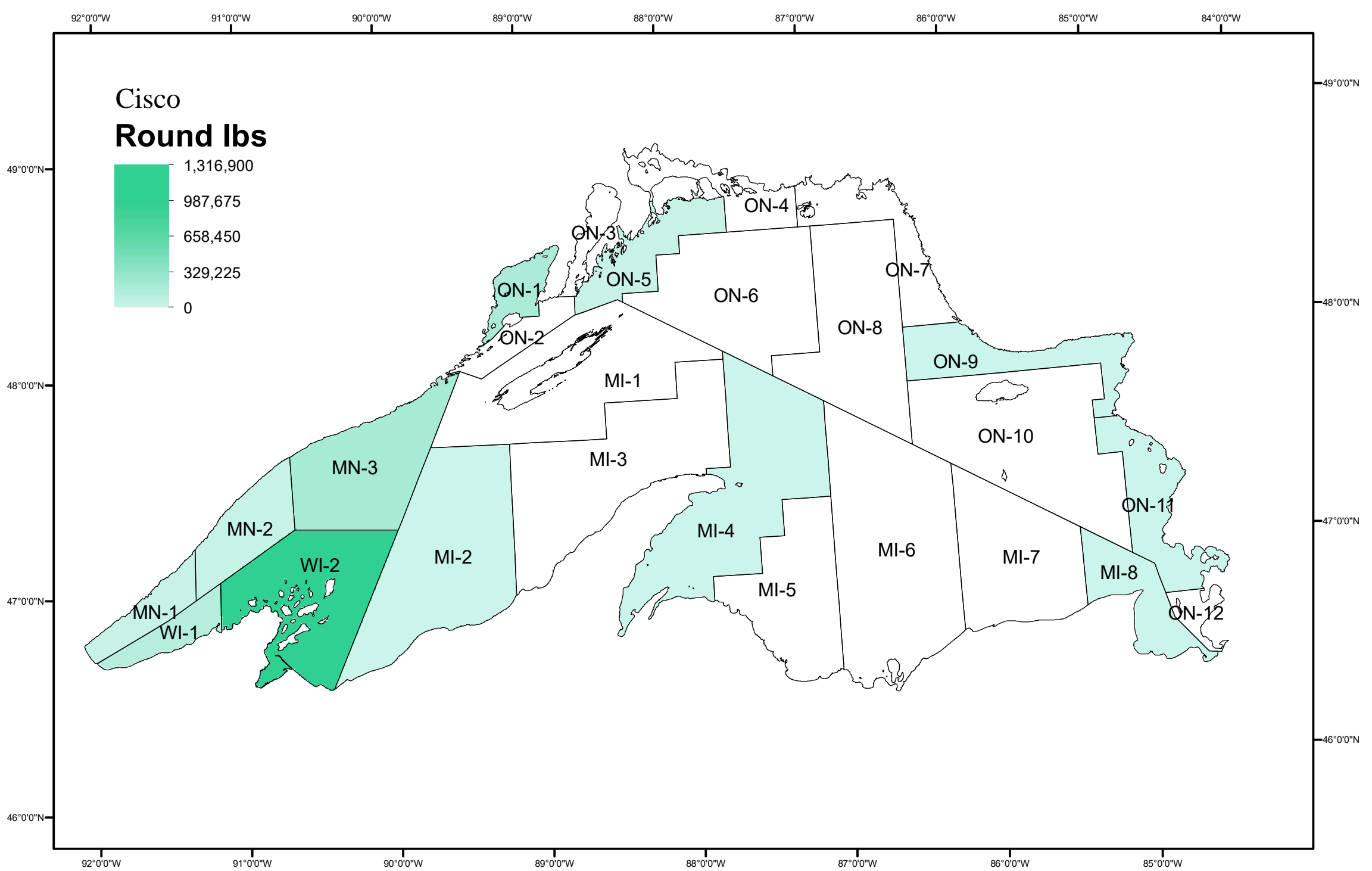


Figure 1. Reported commercial harvest of Cisco by management unit in 2021. Commercial harvest was reported by state, tribal and provincial agencies.

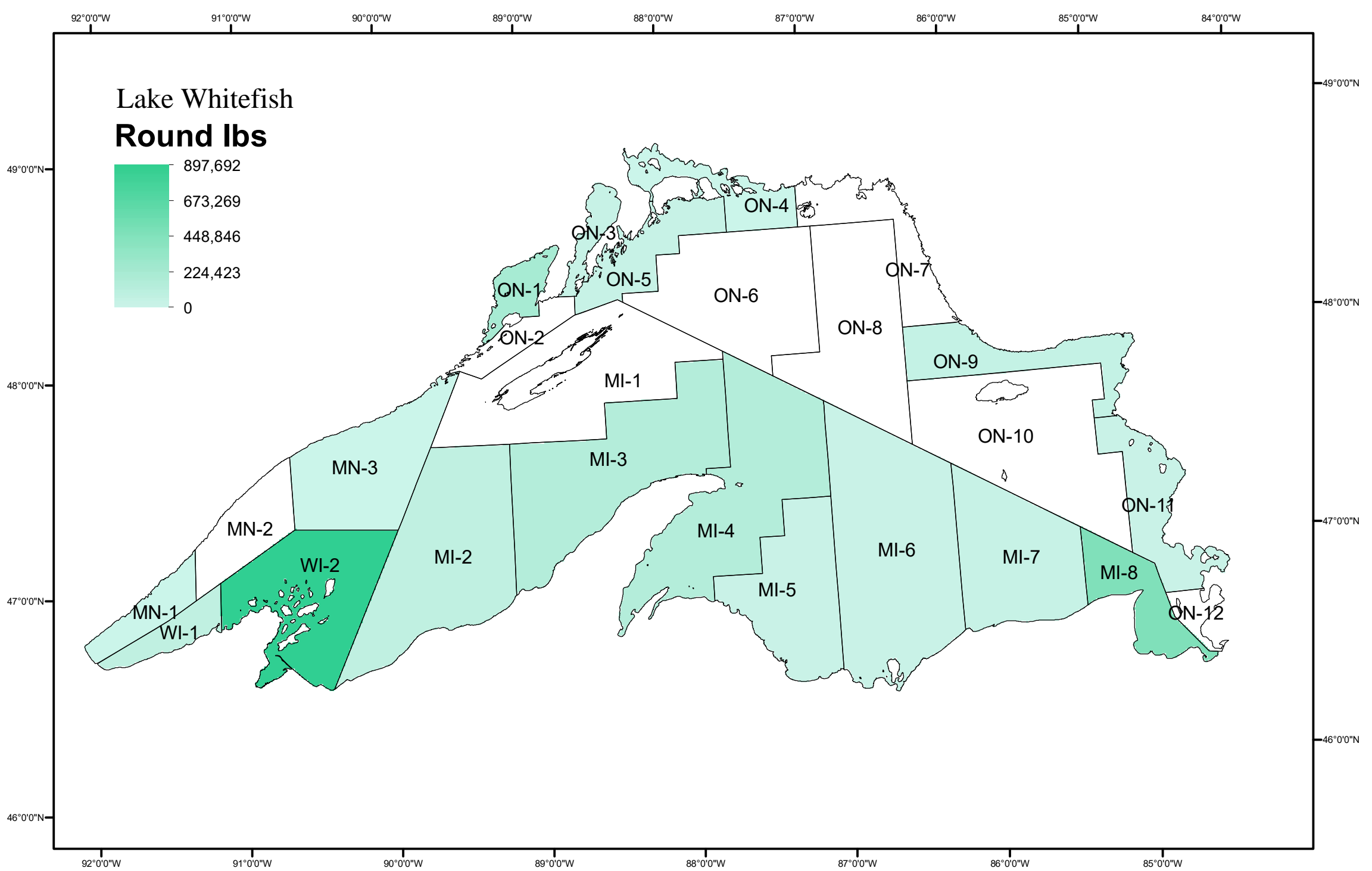
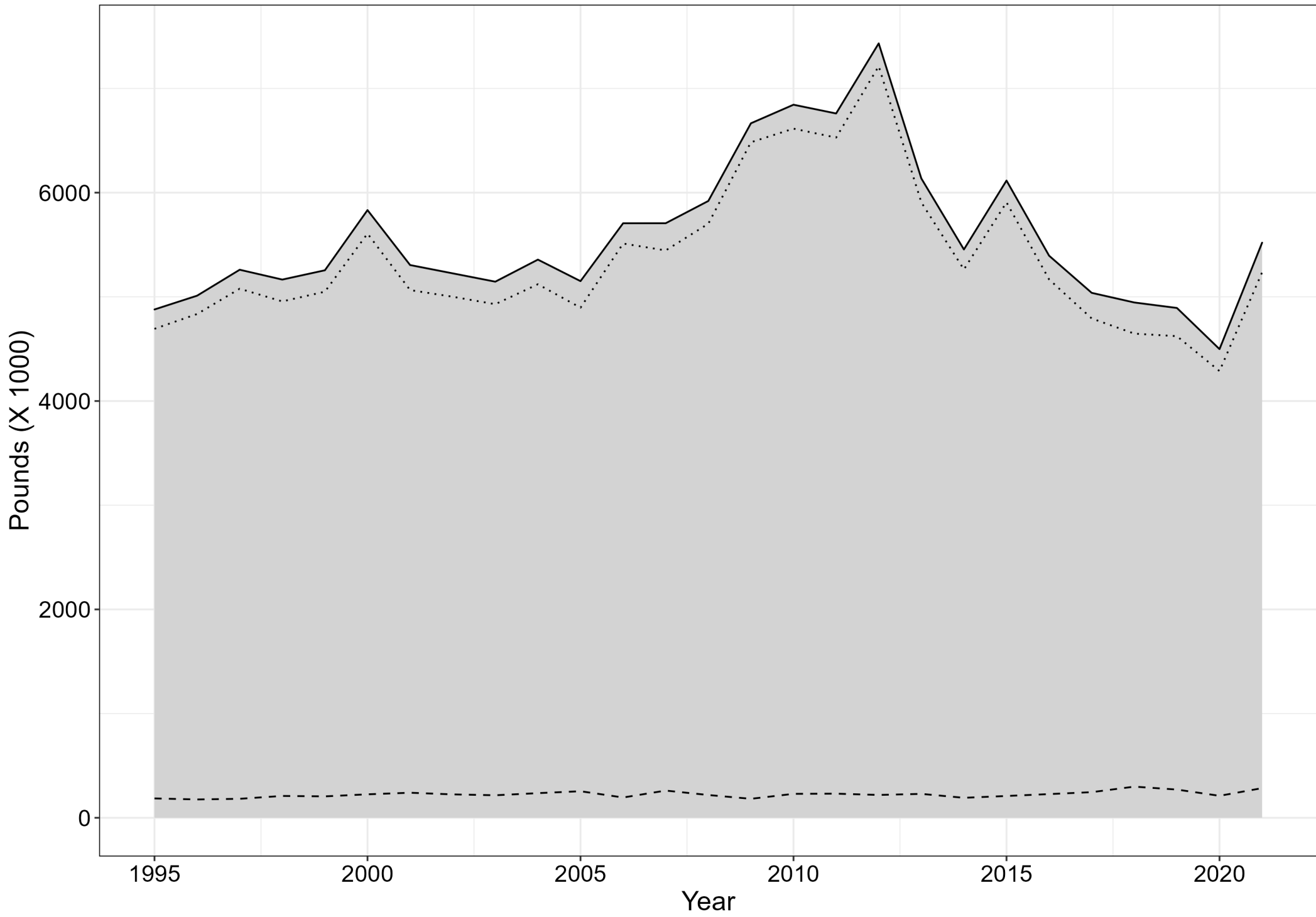
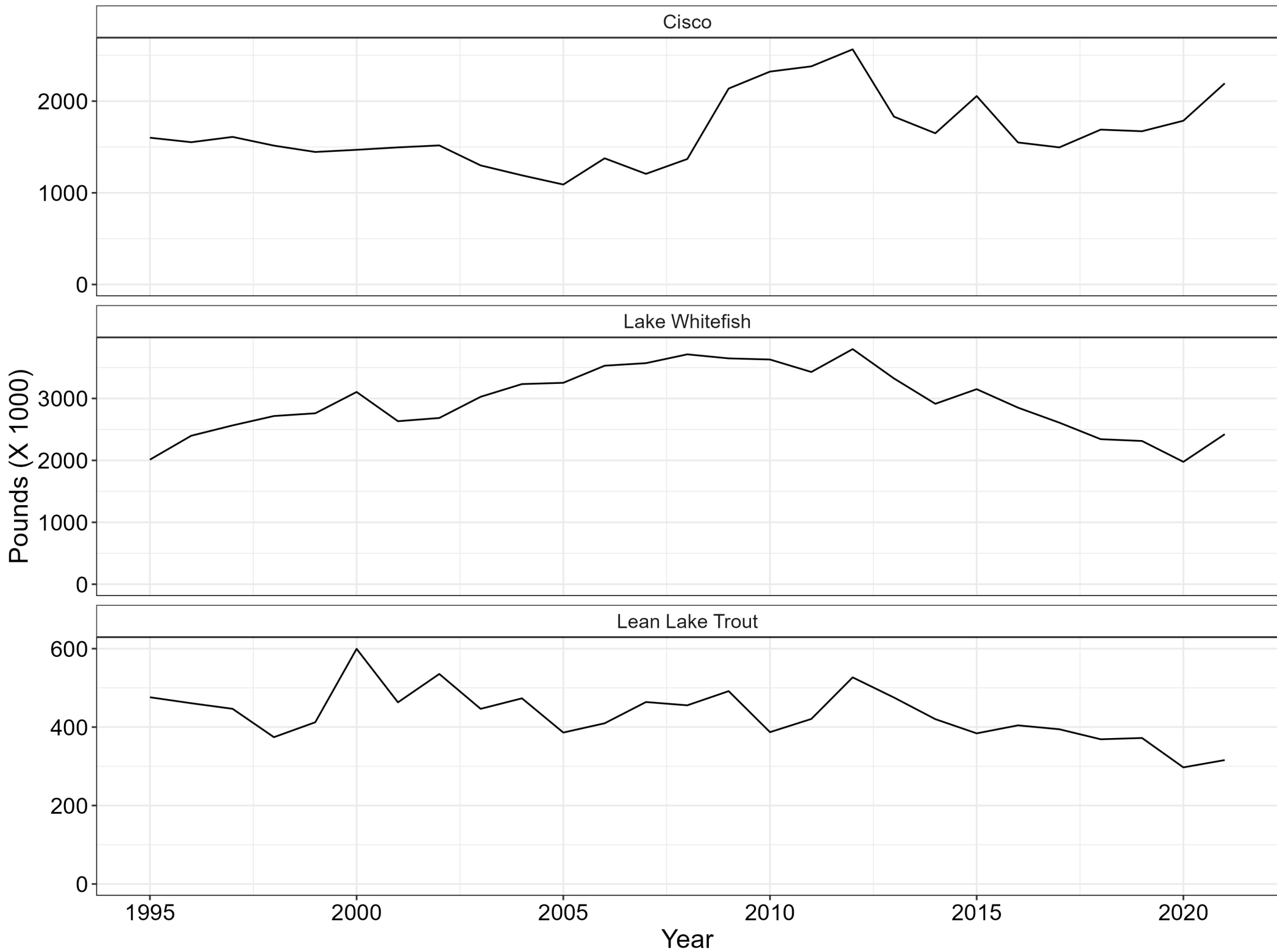
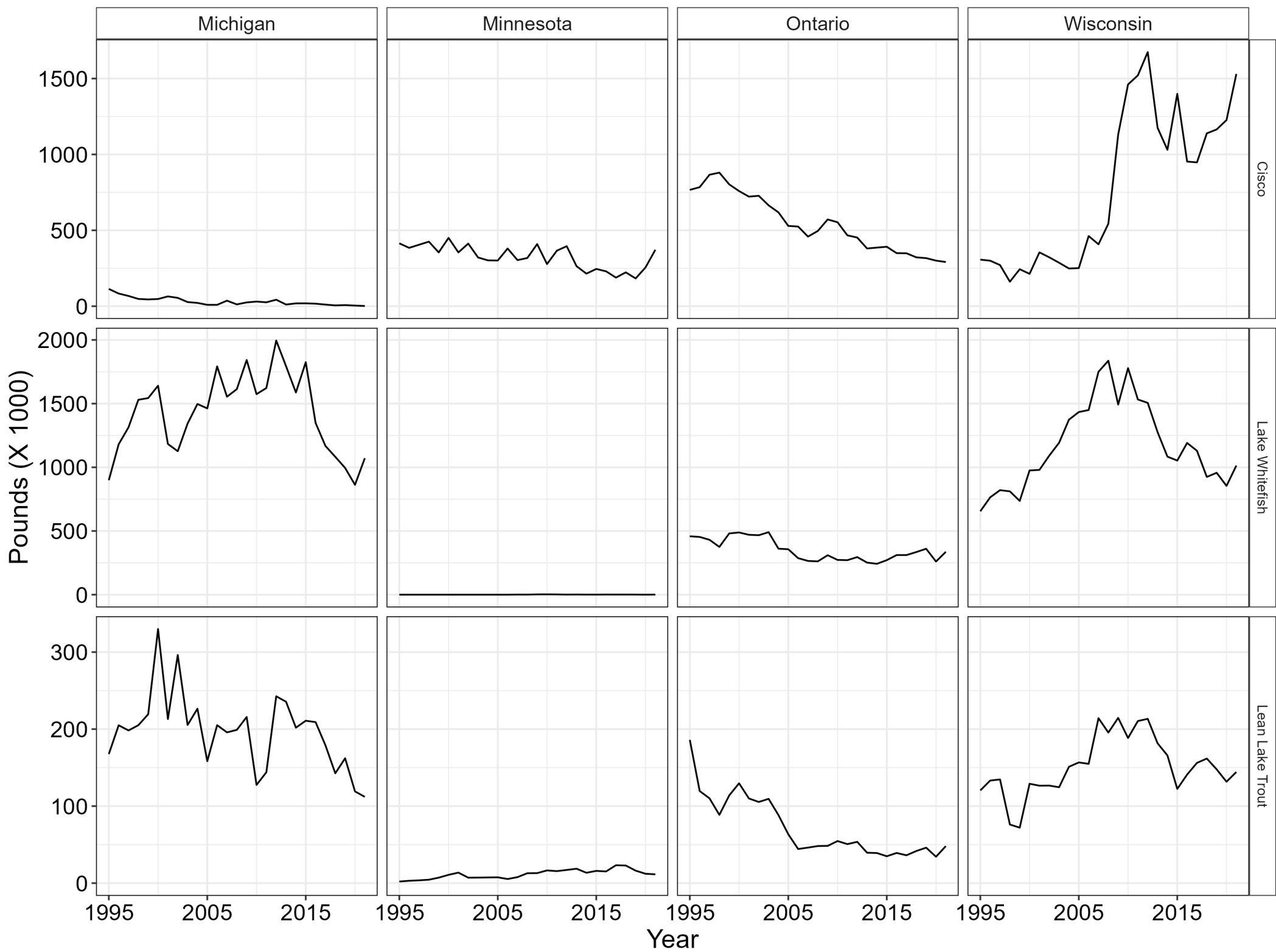


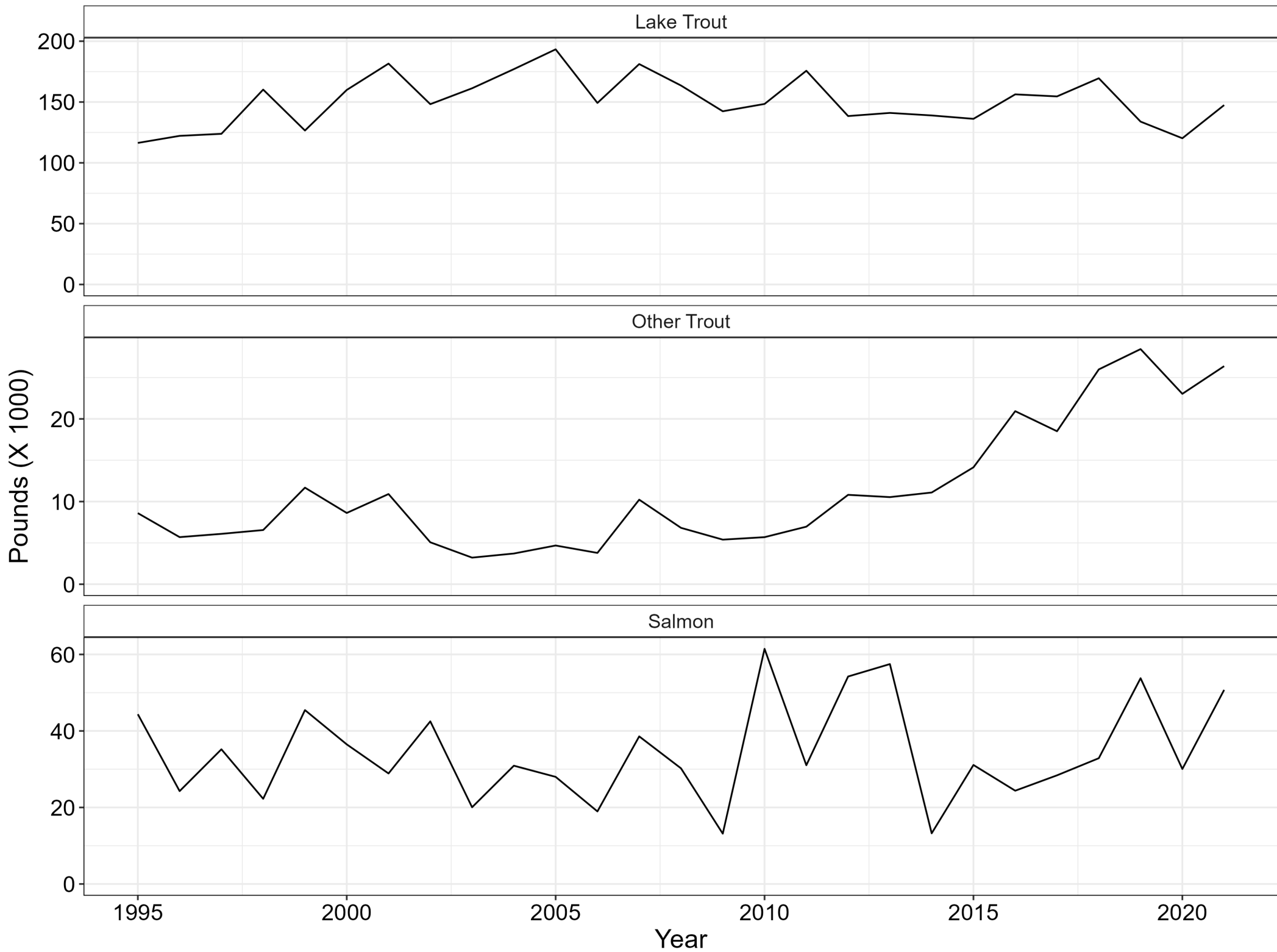
Figure 1. Reported commercial harvest of Lake Whitefish by management unit in 2021. Commercial harvest was reported by state, tribal and provincial agencies.

-- Estimated Recreational Harvest ···· Reported Commercial Harvest Total









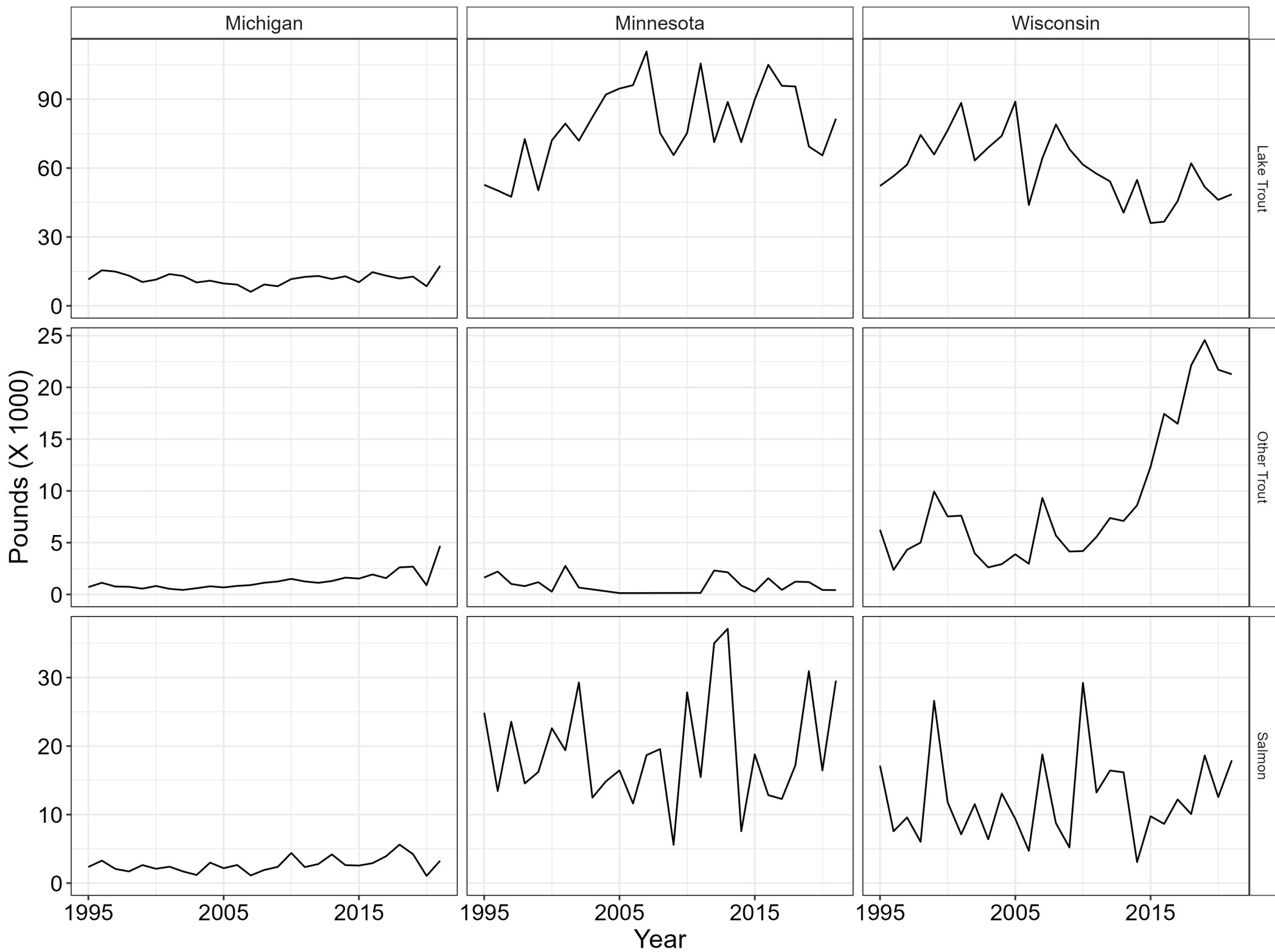


Table 1. Total harvest (recreational and commercial in pounds) by species from Lake Superior, 1995-2021.

Year	Lean Lake Trout	Siscowet	Lake Whitefish	Cisco	Deepwater Cisco	Round Whitefish	Burbot	Smelt	Rainbow Trout	Brown Trout	Brook Trout	Splake	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Salmon	Walleye	Perch	Suckers	Other
1995	592,403	193,169	2,012,440	1,605,511	101,022	4,821	2,812	201,418	2,381	3,377	39	2,979	28,107	18,388	5,870	9,775	40,900	48,590	4,779
1996	583,013	177,101	2,398,586	1,552,657	77,547	10,671	2,948	84,054	3,144	1,848	95	744	13,749	17,937	7,506	10,867	17,538	45,311	5,749
1997	570,432	228,953	2,565,529	1,612,357	77,048	1,907	2,325	44,187	2,094	2,072	100	2,288	23,141	20,506	5,035	5,768	29,477	57,259	9,665
1998	534,483	119,358	2,717,495	1,515,854	54,259	3,716	2,309	21,889	1,664	2,740	28	2,508	11,086	17,256	6,094	5,195	56,684	84,496	8,537
1999	538,892	155,392	2,766,028	1,447,699	110,225	2,700	3,150	40,525	3,361	4,934	13	4,315	33,482	21,030	11,148	5,338	47,289	51,037	8,404
2000	759,425	127,560	3,112,529	1,470,471	110,209	3,431	1,737	84,783	2,315	4,698	59	2,585	19,103	33,265	7,101	5,511	45,896	31,440	10,398
2001	644,691	161,655	2,637,167	1,497,356	112,388	3,275	2,102	113,852	4,246	4,262	44	3,059	16,715	20,127	4,519	10,437	32,089	30,407	6,733
2002	683,653	100,465	2,689,213	1,518,131	66,542	3,215	878	57,897	1,532	2,426	42	1,171	17,414	27,438	1,549	20,364	23,188	5,123	5,176
2003	607,813	65,737	3,030,173	1,299,575	40,498	5,700	719	10,818	819	1,559	63	1,031	6,951	16,133	6,969	22,985	11,869	7,404	8,719
2004	650,342	74,100	3,234,704	1,191,208	44,676	4,690	558	11,909	1,536	1,675	44	621	12,698	18,741	7,984	14,006	2,373	75,549	9,874
2005	579,387	85,400	3,259,980	1,091,113	40,797	1,591	1,008	13,923	1,328	2,094	18	1,634	14,759	15,447	4,212	14,343	3,821	16,000	3,896
2006	558,917	93,487	3,533,877	1,376,802	53,710	2,506	1,431	22,041	553	1,944	5	1,333	14,822	7,324	5,180	14,715	3,483	11,588	2,578
2007	645,075	105,084	3,578,142	1,207,986	55,448	1,335	2,489	18,973	660	6,759	72	2,738	28,479	14,346	4,828	22,769	4,531	3,638	3,214
2008	619,086	101,875	3,717,799	1,369,415	16,778	1,069	1,861	21,829	949	4,545	0	1,374	12,914	20,760	2,229	17,022	2,684	5,366	2,577
2009	634,072	123,969	3,651,532	2,138,013	60,393	1,402	1,423	12,206	1,019	3,668	42	739	7,852	7,724	2,500	13,313	1,126	1,560	3,100
2010	535,536	154,723	3,634,451	2,322,782	78,768	1,347	3,143	30,081	1,611	3,107	42	1,175	35,850	24,556	4,113	6,152	544	4,159	1,862
2011	596,442	173,166	3,431,835	2,380,204	63,370	660	1,704	52,545	1,122	3,704	181	1,961	19,515	12,956	1,140	11,488	2,609	1,416	3,912
2012	665,196	144,556	3,801,295	2,565,725	76,152	397	2,457	82,456	3,546	6,108	22	1,187	32,414	26,588	2,566	10,253	4,557	2,626	4,802
2013	616,356	142,080	3,331,024	1,830,942	77,765	632	6,281	33,225	3,023	6,626	23	896	31,775	29,268	1,739	18,656	369	4,329	1,735
2014	559,182	184,499	2,921,789	1,650,159	66,303	748	8,449	8,175	1,516	8,137	0	1,442	8,462	6,976	942	16,202	484	6,319	5,002
2015	520,192	160,312	3,160,251	2,055,857	87,637	3,908	9,796	34,931	991	11,396	69	1,712	22,956	13,169	1,003	10,735	416	16,483	4,241
2016	560,696	176,793	2,858,663	1,549,532	98,978	3,934	6,416	33,009	2,493	14,008	14	4,437	21,809	6,230	2,883	17,634	910	29,054	7,147
2017	549,062	135,679	2,624,838	1,495,938	92,752	2,484	7,515	30,940	1,372	13,975	6	3,159	31,251	3,379	3,131	14,257	4,741	18,577	5,207
2018	538,439	133,567	2,369,952	1,690,931	49,208	3,409	9,746	27,142	1,800	18,706	222	5,332	27,517	9,856	973	16,129	4,858	22,747	15,231
2019	506,079	142,044	2,333,595	1,673,186	56,162	5,013	9,760	21,664	2,785	19,873	50	6,118	40,563	14,722	437	25,062	4,193	28,113	3,859
2020	417,483	125,984	1,995,092	1,787,672	59,266	4,149	4,442	25,744	962	16,973	68	5,229	20,204	11,564	1,226	11,160	2,854	5,780	2,381
2021	463,318	160,783	2,443,230	2,195,314	77,201	6,199	5,140	22,980	4,623	13,695	152	8,221	35,756	12,234	17,093	22,758	4,052	21,621	5,612

Table 2. Total reported commercial harvest (pounds) by species from Lake Superior, 1995-2021.

Year	Lean Lake Trout	Siscowet	Lake Whitefish	Cisco	Deepwater Cisco	Round Whitefish	Burbot	Smelt	Rainbow Trout	Brown Trout	Brook Trout	Splake	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Salmon	Walleye	Perch	Suckers	Other
1995	476,034	187,020	2,011,821	1,601,103	101,022	4,505	2,344	200,558	168	8	0	0	2,021	262	5,711	7,172	40,037	48,590	4,638
1996	460,830	161,992	2,398,200	1,552,195	77,547	10,223	2,703	84,053	105	26	2	0	2,332	5,382	7,206	4,774	17,188	45,301	5,028
1997	446,579	220,833	2,564,828	1,609,990	77,048	1,893	1,285	43,818	403	0	56	0	5,243	3,710	4,526	2,090	29,348	57,259	9,015
1998	374,272	106,890	2,716,281	1,514,839	54,259	3,716	1,437	21,250	315	69	0	0	3,651	2,841	5,677	1,734	56,584	84,496	7,691
1999	412,321	150,594	2,760,432	1,445,634	110,225	2,605	966	38,905	940	0	0	0	9,170	1,299	9,742	1,795	46,828	51,037	6,958
2000	599,496	124,607	3,104,501	1,469,232	110,209	3,331	931	84,301	989	48	0	0	5,103	10,943	6,931	3,047	45,492	31,440	6,615
2001	463,114	154,329	2,632,757	1,495,672	112,388	3,192	976	113,840	621	81	0	0	4,380	3,776	4,318	7,862	31,680	30,407	5,360
2002	535,421	96,188	2,684,687	1,517,034	66,542	3,101	566	57,741	53	6	40	0	2,015	327	1,549	3,475	22,972	5,121	4,056
2003	446,519	54,971	3,026,952	1,299,039	40,498	5,609	446	10,795	191	6	59	0	2,034	995	6,969	7,224	11,801	7,400	7,968
2004	473,304	63,532	3,232,319	1,190,690	44,676	4,621	312	11,909	144	14	3	0	1,156	1,106	6,245	3,986	2,289	75,544	8,976
2005	386,085	78,954	3,252,803	1,090,217	40,797	1,530	348	13,853	330	56	6	0	1,608	786	4,027	3,558	3,677	15,999	1,309
2006	409,667	87,551	3,528,874	1,376,494	53,710	2,454	874	21,997	0	46	0	0	3,684	909	3,769	6,251	3,220	11,578	519
2007	463,881	99,705	3,570,211	1,206,826	55,448	1,256	1,929	18,302	0	0	0	0	2,894	1,465	4,716	12,300	1,666	3,634	1,239
2008	455,521	97,768	3,712,374	1,368,844	16,778	1,026	1,668	21,811	0	45	0	0	2,326	1,204	2,144	10,504	2,601	5,365	1,582
2009	491,672	114,956	3,647,232	2,137,475	60,393	1,356	1,392	12,197	45	21	7	0	1,529	897	2,500	7,003	1,018	1,546	2,326
2010	387,121	152,050	3,628,751	2,322,430	78,768	1,311	2,823	30,022	180	20	42	0	1,859	13	1,185	2,430	376	4,155	709
2011	420,745	168,588	3,427,580	2,379,710	63,370	563	1,627	52,534	4	0	2	0	1,715	44	813	7,400	1,604	1,416	764
2012	526,736	142,867	3,797,121	2,565,064	76,152	365	1,959	82,096	8	41	0	0	5,761	0	1,577	8,356	1,066	2,623	2,021
2013	475,310	139,073	3,322,885	1,830,492	77,765	589	6,033	33,111	14	6	10	0	3,628	163	1,511	11,931	119	4,325	307
2014	420,224	180,538	2,913,807	1,649,753	66,303	638	8,193	8,065	0	0	0	0	2,087	109	942	4,578	54	6,215	1,518
2015	384,022	153,285	3,149,833	2,055,389	87,637	3,858	8,954	34,882	14	11	3	0	4,674	402	949	4,944	73	16,479	1,444
2016	404,399	172,448	2,851,384	1,549,163	98,978	3,872	6,064	32,849	2	0	14	0	4,054	203	2,284	8,169	637	29,054	3,701
2017	394,449	127,121	2,609,096	1,495,514	92,752	2,464	5,676	30,398	0	0	4	0	7,654	75	1,634	5,289	568	18,577	1,106
2018	368,918	120,959	2,342,273	1,689,322	49,208	3,313	8,780	26,472	17	0	56	0	4,536	0	936	6,430	492	22,747	2,407
2019	372,189	132,553	2,313,100	1,671,720	56,162	4,973	8,880	21,422	0	333	34	14	1,226	443	269	9,088	153	28,111	1,812
2020	297,268	120,157	1,976,512	1,786,252	59,266	4,109	3,073	25,364	0	169	0	31	2,729	6	205	5,766	158	5,780	534
2021	315,855	143,882	2,422,211	2,194,122	77,201	6,104	4,144	21,690	0	152	147	11	298	1,313	12,743	11,540	1,043	21,613	1,448

Table 3. Total estimated recreational harvest (pounds) by species from Lake Superior, 1995-2021.

Year	Lean Lake Trout	Siscowet	Lake Whitefish	Cisco	Round Whitefish	Burbot	Smelt	Rainbow Trout	Brown Trout	Brook Trout	Splake	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Salmon	Walleye	Perch	Suckers	Other
1995	116,369	6,149	619	4,408	316	468	861	2,213	3,370	39	2,979	26,086	18,127	159	2,602	863	0	141
1996	122,183	15,109	386	462	448	245	1	3,039	1,822	93	744	11,417	12,555	300	6,093	350	10	721
1997	123,853	8,119	701	2,366	14	1,039	369	1,691	2,072	43	2,288	17,898	16,796	509	3,678	129	0	650
1998	160,211	12,468	1,214	1,015	0	872	639	1,350	2,670	28	2,508	7,435	14,415	417	3,460	100	0	847
1999	126,571	4,798	5,596	2,065	95	2,184	1,620	2,420	4,934	13	4,315	24,313	19,731	1,406	3,543	462	0	1,446
2000	159,929	2,953	8,029	1,239	100	807	482	1,327	4,651	59	2,585	14,000	22,322	170	2,464	403	0	3,783
2001	181,577	7,326	4,410	1,683	83	1,126	13	3,625	4,181	44	3,059	12,336	16,351	201	2,575	409	0	1,373
2002	148,233	4,277	4,526	1,096	113	312	156	1,479	2,420	2	1,171	15,399	27,111	0	16,889	216	2	1,120
2003	161,294	10,766	3,221	535	91	273	23	629	1,553	4	1,031	4,917	15,138	0	15,760	68	4	752
2004	177,038	10,568	2,384	519	69	246	0	1,392	1,662	41	621	11,542	17,635	1,739	10,020	84	6	898
2005	193,302	6,446	7,176	896	61	659	70	998	2,038	12	1,634	13,151	14,661	185	10,785	144	1	2,587
2006	149,250	5,936	5,003	308	52	558	44	553	1,898	5	1,333	11,137	6,416	1,411	8,464	264	10	2,058
2007	181,194	5,379	7,931	1,161	79	560	670	660	6,759	72	2,738	25,584	12,881	112	10,469	2,865	4	1,975
2008	163,565	4,107	5,425	571	43	193	18	949	4,500	0	1,374	10,588	19,556	85	6,518	83	1	995
2009	142,399	9,013	4,301	539	46	32	9	975	3,647	35	739	6,323	6,828	0	6,310	108	13	774
2010	148,415	2,673	5,701	351	36	320	59	1,431	3,087	0	1,175	33,991	24,543	2,928	3,722	168	4	1,153
2011	175,697	4,578	4,255	495	97	77	11	1,118	3,704	179	1,961	17,799	12,912	327	4,088	1,005	0	3,147
2012	138,460	1,689	4,173	660	31	497	359	3,538	6,067	22	1,187	26,653	26,588	989	1,897	3,490	2	2,782
2013	141,046	3,007	8,138	450	43	248	114	3,009	6,620	13	896	28,147	29,104	228	6,725	250	4	1,428
2014	138,958	3,960	7,981	406	110	256	110	1,516	8,137	0	1,442	6,374	6,868	0	11,624	430	104	3,484
2015	136,169	7,027	10,418	469	50	842	48	978	11,385	66	1,712	18,282	12,767	54	5,790	342	4	2,797
2016	156,297	4,345	7,280	370	62	353	160	2,491	14,008	1	4,437	17,754	6,027	599	9,465	274	0	3,446
2017	154,613	8,558	15,741	423	21	1,839	541	1,372	13,975	2	3,159	23,597	3,304	1,497	8,968	4,173	0	4,100
2018	169,520	12,608	27,679	1,609	96	965	670	1,782	18,706	166	5,332	22,981	9,856	37	9,699	4,366	0	12,825
2019	133,889	9,491	20,496	1,466	40	881	241	2,785	19,540	16	6,104	39,337	14,279	168	15,974	4,040	3	2,048
2020	120,216	5,827	18,580	1,419	40	1,369	380	962	16,804	68	5,198	17,476	11,558	1,021	5,394	2,696	0	1,846
2021	147,463	16,901	21,019	1,192	95	996	1,289	4,623	13,543	5	8,210	35,458	10,922	4,350	11,219	3,009	8	4,163

Table 4. Estimated recreational and reported commercial harvest (pounds) by species in each lake trout management unit in 2021.

Management Unit	Fishery	Lean Lake Trout	Siscowet	Lake Whitefish	Cisco	Deepwater Cisco	Round Whitefish	Burbot	Smelt	Rainbow Trout	Brown Trout	Brook Trout	Splake	Coho Salmon	Chinook Salmon	Salmon	Walleye	Perch	Suckers	Other
MN-1	Commercial	2,026	16	72	17,582	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MN-1	Recreational	55,810	5,438	0	0	0	0	0	0	158	98	0	0	6,228	3,998	988	1,322	0	0	0
MN-2	Commercial	1,531	167	0	40,357	0	116	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MN-2	Recreational	17,121	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	0	0	0	8,542	1,314	2,023	0	0	0	0
MN-3	Commercial	7,860	498	535	313,609	16	5,686	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	6	0
MN-3	Recreational	8,572	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	96	0	0	0	2,396	2,726	1,339	0	0	0	0
WI-1	Commercial	21,229	99,361	61,268	175,726	65,209	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,838	0	0	0
WI-1	Recreational	10,207	617	2	0	0	0	0	0	211	452	0	13	1,335	1,953	0	4,862	3	0	403
WI-2	Commercial	123,098	39,956	952,268	1,354,260	3,273	0	3,892	6,680	0	152	0	11	1	0	0	4,792	0	302	16
WI-2	Recreational	38,365	1,678	19,204	996	0	0	996	1,289	358	12,608	4	7,623	14,294	333	0	4,656	2,992	0	3,748
MI-1	Recreational	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MI-2	Commercial	6,340	0	72,635	74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MI-2	Recreational	6,055	83	60	2	0	0	0	0	115	164	0	0	413	168	0	45	0	0	0
MI-3	Commercial	8,604	1,321	207,364	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	195	0	89	0
MI-3	Recreational	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	11	6	4	0	0	0	0	0
MI-4	Commercial	53,530	2,564	157,159	598	6	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,401	140	0	79	1,278
MI-4	Recreational	2,890	1,299	982	180	0	2	0	0	245	79	0	99	536	253	0	333	7	0	11
MI-5	Commercial	9,828	0	105,555	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MI-5	Recreational	4,589	527	0	0	0	0	0	0	118	60	0	32	215	110	0	0	0	0	0
MI-6	Commercial	4,469	0	41,554	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MI-6	Recreational	2,768	431	19	11	0	4	0	0	176	82	0	432	913	55	0	0	7	0	2
MI-7	Commercial	3,266	0	29,346	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	0	0	0	188	0
MI-7	Recreational	1,006	6,828	752	2	0	89	0	0	3,077	0	0	0	580	7	0	0	0	8	0
MI-8	Commercial	25,984	0	458,048	763	8,696	263	7	15,010	0	0	0	0	297	1,253	297	3,730	102	19,387	0
SO-1	Commercial	29,771	0	222,913	271,356	0	15	101	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	332	6	1,135	7
SO-3	Commercial	4,960	0	30,180	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	233	0	406	76
SO-4	Commercial	555	0	662	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	147	0	0	0	0	74	0	0	71
SO-5	Commercial	6,244	0	26,035	19,734	0	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	115	0	0	0
SO-9	Commercial	5,665	0	40,846	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	91	0	0	0
SO-11	Commercial	895	0	15,770	57	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	935	22	0