

**THE FIRST RECORD
OF THE WHITE PERCH
(MORONE AMERICANA)
IN ILLINOIS WATERS OF
LAKE MICHIGAN**

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ABSTRACT

This is the first report of a white perch (*Morone americana*) captured in Illinois waters of Lake Michigan. The fish was captured by electro-shocking in Belmont Harbor in Chicago, Illinois on September 14, 1988. The total length of the fish was 16 cm and weighed 59 g. This fish species occurs in Green Bay, Wisconsin (Richard Hess, personal communication, Illinois Department of Conservation), but this is the first report of this fish occurring in Illinois waters of Lake Michigan. Smith (1979) did not report the fish in Illinois.

The white perch is predominantly brackish-water species but also occurs in some freshwater lakes and ponds along the east coast of the United States (Mansueti, 1961). It appeared in substantial numbers in Lake Ontario in the early 1960's, and Scott and Christie (1963) suggested that white perch invaded Lake Ontario by western movement through the Hudson River and the Erie Barge Canal. This report confirms that the fish is continuing to increase its range and is present in Illinois waters of Lake Michigan.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Illinois. The collection of this specimen was part of a project funded by the Illinois Department of Conservation, F-93-R.

LITERATURE CITED

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