

Schoodic Lake Association Newsletter
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Last fall, as we do every most every October, we set trapnets at Schoodic to keep track of how things are progressing with the fish population. What was different in 2010, however, was we also set nets to take a small number of eggs for our hatchery system. We have been in need of a new lake trout strain for sometime, and in 2009 we took eggs from eight females to see how they'd do in the hatchery. They did very well, so well in fact that the hatchery managers wanted more. So, we set four nets on the 11th of October last fall, and captured 158 lake trout before the run ended on the 21st of October. Of the lake trout examined, 26 were females, of which 19 were ripe.

A total of about 20,000 eggs were taken Governor Hill Hatchery to be incubated. Of those, 18,700 survived (93.5% survival). That is a very high rate of survival, and speaks to the quality of the Schoodic Lake broodstock. 10,000 lake trout will be raised to a little over a year old and will be stocked in 2012, and the rest will be kept in the Hatchery for future brood source.

Because we were specifically interested in capturing lake trout, we did not handle as many landlocked salmon as we normally do when directing our effort towards them. We set our nets in different areas of the lake when looking for lake trout, but we were able to handle 11 salmon, that averaged 22.9" and 4.9 pounds. The largest salmon handled was 25.7" long and weighed 6 ½ lbs.

This past summer has brought a number of stories of big salmon taken in Schoodic, including one that weighed a little over 8 pounds. Troy Lambert writes: "Caught June 16th 5:30 am on a Grey Ghost Streamer fly using a Light/medium spin cast rod with 6 pound test line, trolling north of "Deadmans Rock". The fish weighs 8 pounds and is 25" long."