

## Muskie Management in Action

A partnership between Save The River, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry Thousand Islands Biological Station, and dedicated anglers, guides and citizens is focused on a goal to protect the muskellunge population through advocating “catch and release.”

The St. Lawrence River holds a unique genetic strain of muskellunge and consistently produces some of the largest muskies caught each year. We advocate the release of muskellunge over the legal size limit of 48” to protect this naturally sustained population in the St. Lawrence River.

Female muskellunge grow faster and live longer than males, and the number of eggs produced by a female increases with fish size. Trophy muskellunge, therefore, are old, large females and may contribute significantly to reproduction of young.

Female muskies begin spawning at four or five years of age, when they are approximately 34-38” in length. Some females reach the 48” size limit when they are about seven or eight years of age, but they are capable of living 30 years or more!

If we wish to catch trophy muskellunge in the future, we must learn to **carefully** release sub-legal **and** legal-size muskies. The future of the muskellunge in the River is in our hands, so please inform other anglers about the importance of properly releasing muskies.

Thank you!



First Class  
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Required

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# Save The River

## St. Lawrence River Muskellunge Release Award



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