

10/21/2025

DNR Electrofishing Survey October 2025

Based on Rick Bruesewitz's (Aitkin Area Fisheries Supervisor) report, below, the FILIA board members voted to spend \$8,000 plus permit and delivery fee to stock 400 lbs of walleye fingerlings this fall.

Report Emailed October 10, 2025

Our electrofishing survey showed pretty poor results for Farm Island for both young-of-the-year and yearling Walleye. We saw none of either age class.

Production fingerlings are pretty scarce this season (poor production across the state in our ponds) but I ...will stock 389 lbs ... in Farm Island. This is just a tad less than what we stocked in 2019 (425 lbs) when we appeared to have two bad years in a row.

Farm Island is showing similar symptoms to other zebra mussel lakes, where Walleye production tanks for 5-10 years before it picks up again.

If the lake association wanted to buy more fingerlings (100-400 lbs) from private growers (must be Mississippi strain) I would be supportive. It is likely that I will be putting FI on an "every other year" fingerling plan at modest density along with annual fry.

Let me know if you decide to pursue additional fish.

Later, Rick

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