

STUDENT NAME:

CLASS:

DATE:

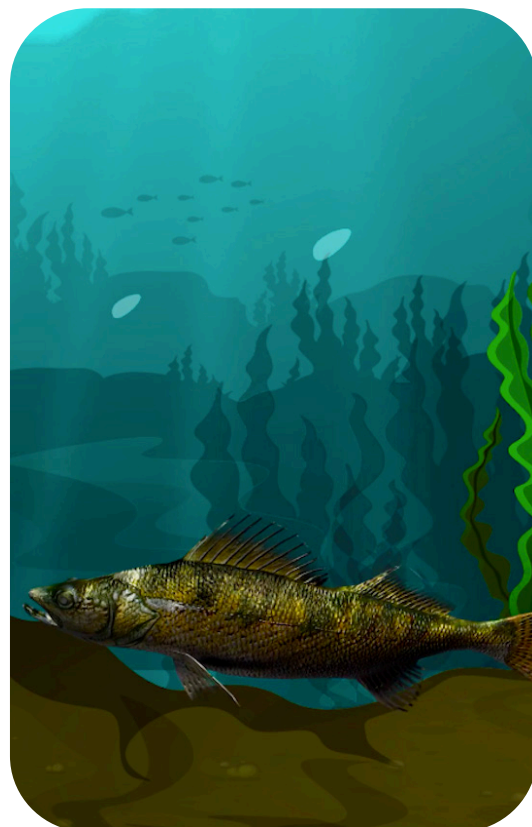
Hello, Walleye Anglers!

The Maple River is a special place for you .... Your family has fished these waters for generations, and it was the first place you caught a fish: the walleye. These adventures caused you to become a professional and passionate walleye angler. But your family tradition is fading ... You have been having hard luck catching any walleye in this river system lately. You worry that something is happening to the river, or that anglers are overfishing the walleye. After contacting your state wildlife agency, you discovered that they plan to alter the river habitat to improve recreation opportunities. This may be your chance to shed some light on the walleye population and save your river fishing tradition!

The Natural Resources Board will be hearing the public's opinions before making a final decision on a management plan for the river. This is a prime time for you to voice your opinions and share your vision of how the river should be managed. You and other walleye anglers will create and present a poster that illustrates your beliefs on how the river should be managed and regulated. But plan with care ... for your presentation could save the future of your livelihoods!

**Consider the following topics that you have identified as real concerns:**

- You believe the state wildlife agency should create habitat that supports the walleye and their prey.
- To improve walleye fishing, you think there should be more ways to access the river and more places that make great fishing spots.
- After noticing trash in the water, you worry that pollution and water quality may be affecting the walleye population. You believe the agency should look into the sources of pollution and find ways to manage the pollution.
- Because the river travels by the city and parks, you have noticed a lack of debris and fallen trees along shorelines. You believe there should be debris piles in the water for fish to find cover and food.
- In order to help the walleye population recover, you think the river should be stocked with more walleye.
- You are worried anglers may not be following regulations or catch and release procedures, which is causing the walleye population to decrease.
- You often use the walkway on the dam to access both sides of the river for shoreline fishing, but you've heard talk about removing the dam. You realize removing the dam will cause some shorelines to be overcrowded with shoreline anglers, but you know that removing the dam will also increase more opportunities to fish from kayaks and boats.



Analyze the map of the river handed out by your teacher.

How would you alter the map to address your concerns? With signs? Changes in rules? Or include additional buildings or resources? **Research and brainstorm with your teammates. Then illustrate your own map of the river on a poster board.** You will present your poster to the class with supporting research and reasoning for changes on the map. But make sure it is an eye-catcher. Let your creativity shine and use paints, markers, construction paper, or glue on natural resources like pebbles, grass, moss, sticks to recreate the river habitat and human developments. Now go make a great poster that will wow your audience.

