

2022 Great Lakes Angler Diary Steelhead Survey

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September 15, 2022

On May 31, 2022 this electronic survey was sent to 477 e-mail addresses from anglers who had registered for the Great Lakes Angler Diary online reporting system. Three reminders were also sent with the last one being delivered on June 11. Personal identifying information was redacted from results to ensure confidentiality.

Consent Letter:

Thank you for using the Great Lakes Angler Diary to record information about your fishing trips. Michigan State University and Michigan Sea Grant would like to access the information you recorded. This will allow us to analyze trends in catches from around the Great Lakes and share the information you collected with state and federal agencies.

If you do wish to share data from your fishing trips, I will download and save your trip and catch information from the Great Lakes Angler Diary. Note that your name and e-mail address will NOT be saved in the same file as your catch data. In this way, we strive to maintain the confidentiality of your data.

If you wish to proceed, please review your Great Lakes Angler Diary data entries to make certain they are complete and accurate before taking the electronic survey. The survey should take approximately 20 minutes.

Your survey answers and downloaded data will be stored in files that are stored separately on a password-protected Michigan State University computer to ensure confidentiality. Catch data files will include your Volunteer Number and no other identifying information.

Your results will be analyzed along with results from other volunteers. These aggregated results will be shared with management agencies including Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The aggregated results will not be linked to your personal identifying information.

The primary purpose of this program is to allow anglers to record and share their catch data with other anglers, biologists and managers in a way that is useful for answering questions related to the Great Lakes and stream fisheries. The benefits of this include better understanding of how stocked and wild-spawned fish contribute to fisheries over the course of the season, which may influence management decisions and contribute to the well-being of fisheries. However, there is no guarantee that your data will influence stocking decisions as biologists and managers rely on a variety of data sets when assessing fisheries.

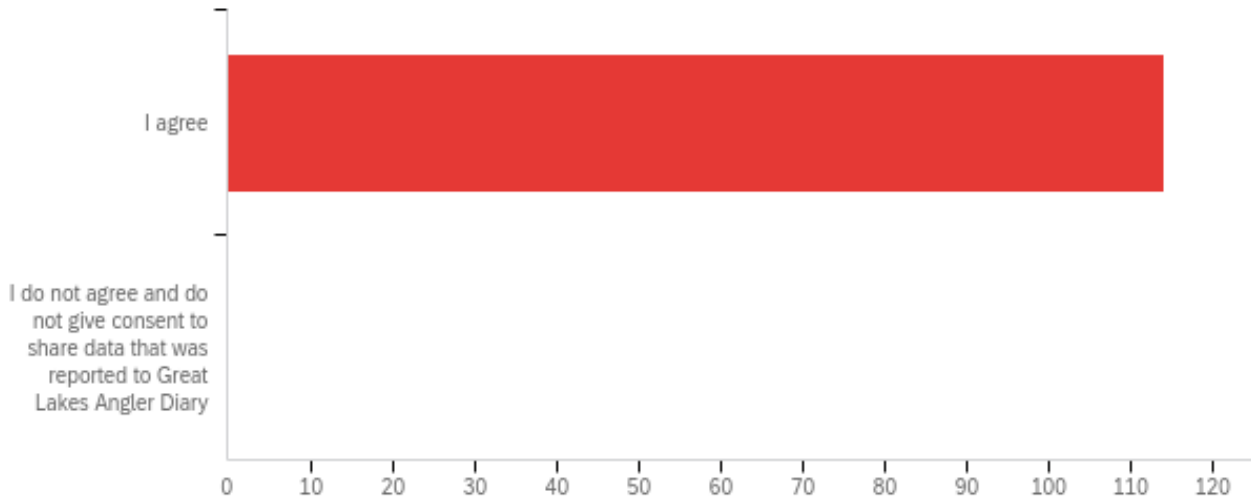
Possible risks to you as a participant include any that might result from sharing your catch data. Reasonable precautions are being taken to prevent linking your catch data with your identity, but if your catch data includes evidence of any illegal activity or if you feel they could damage your reputation in any way you should consider these risks before proceeding.

If you have any questions regarding survey items, why this survey is being conducted, or how to complete the survey and submit data sheets do not hesitate to call me at (616) 994-4580. Questions regarding your rights as a participant in this survey can be directed to the Human Research Protection Program at (517) 355-2180.

Your participation in this survey is strictly voluntary, and you must be at least 18 years old to participate. You can refuse to complete any or all of the questions in this survey; you have the right to withdraw at any time. You must provide your Volunteer Number and click on the button to demonstrate your informed consent if you wish to participate in this survey and share the information you recorded during the past fishing season.

Dan O'Keefe
Michigan Sea Grant

Q1 - Do you agree to the terms above?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you agree to the terms above?	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	114

#	Answer	%	Count
1	I agree	100.00%	114
2	I do not agree and do not give consent to share data that was reported to Great Lakes Angler Diary	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	114

Q2-3 – Enter your six-digit Volunteer Number (or name if you prefer):

Answers not shown to protect confidentiality.

Q4 - What is the name of the river (or port) you fished most often in 2021-2022? This is your "home water" that will be referenced in later questions.

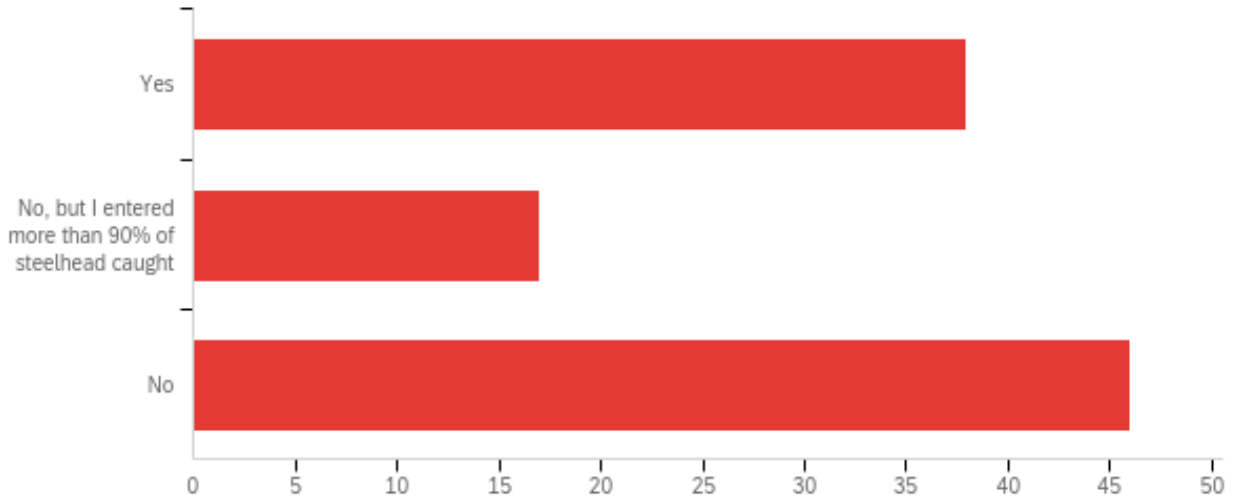
In addition to those who replied to Q4, home waters are listed for 16 participants who replied by e-mail after the survey was completed to verify the completeness of data sets and acknowledge consent:

Lake Michigan (Big Lake)	5	Lake Huron (Big Lake)	1
Betsie River	5	AuSable River	4
Boardman River	1	Rifle River	2
Boyne River	4	Thunder Bay River	2
Dowagiac River	2		
Galien River	1	LAKE HURON BASIN	9
Grand River	7		
Kalamazoo River	7	Lake Superior (Big Lake)	1
Manistee River	23	Carp River, MQT	1
Muskegon River	10	Sucker River	1
Pentwater	1	Two Hearted River	1
Pere Marquette River	13		
Prairie Creek	2	LAKE SUPERIOR BASIN	4
Rogue River	2		
St. Joseph River	2	Clinton River	7
White River	5	Huron River, LP	6
LAKE MICHIGAN BASIN	90	LAKE ERIE/ST CLAIR BASIN	13

Home waters were assigned to Michigan counties. The number of people who replied to the survey and/or submitted a complete data set is shown below for each Michigan county represented. One Wisconsin angler also replied:

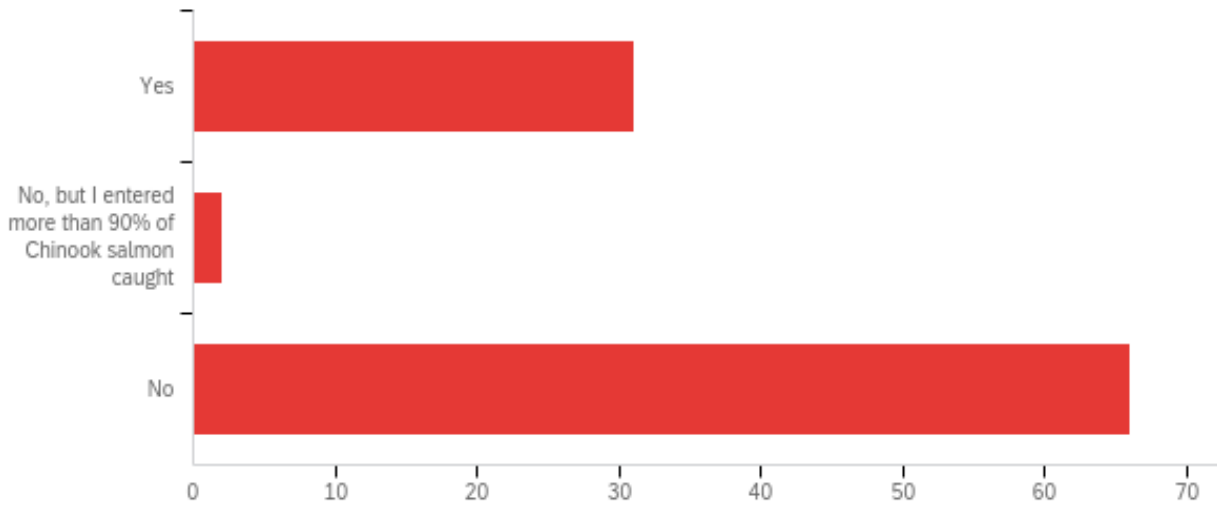
Alger	1	Lake	9
Allegan	7	Luce	1
Alpena	2	Macomb	7
Arenac	2	Manistee	22
Benzie	5	Marquette	2
Berrien	3	Mason	6
Cass	2	Monroe	7
Charlevoix	4	Newaygo	10
Grand Traverse	1	Oceana	6
Ionia	2	Oscoda	5
Kent	6	Ottawa	5

Q5 - Did you enter each and every Steelhead caught from June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022 (or since the time you registered if you signed up after June 1)? NOTE: This applies only to steelhead that spent at least one summer in the big lake. You are not required to enter data on each and every steelhead smolt.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	37.62%	38
3	No, but I entered more than 90% of steelhead caught	16.83%	17
4	No	45.54%	46
	Total	100%	101

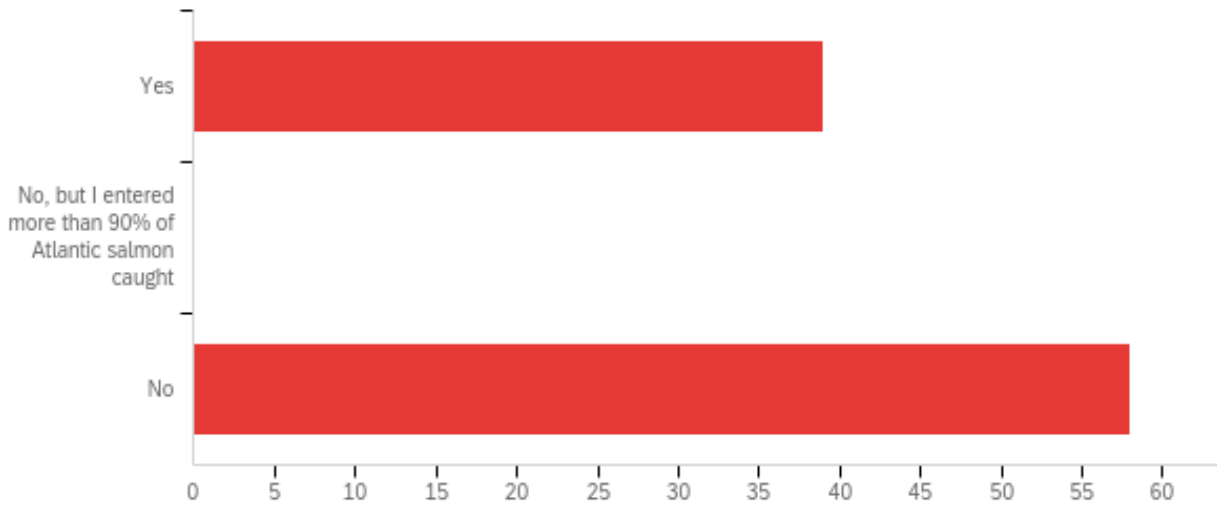
Q6 - Did you enter each and every Chinook Salmon caught from June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022 (or since the time you registered if you signed up after June 1)?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Did you enter each and every Chinook Salmon caught from June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022 (or since the time you registered if you signed up after June 1)?	1.00	4.00	3.04	1.38	1.92	99

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	31.31%	31
3	No, but I entered more than 90% of Chinook salmon caught	2.02%	2
4	No	66.67%	66
	Total	100%	99

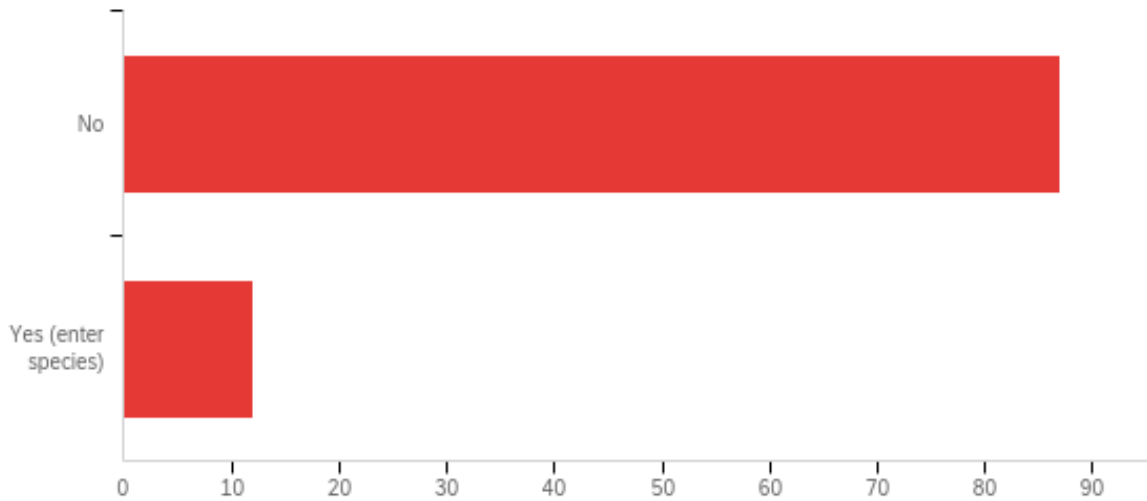
Q7 - Did you enter each and every Atlantic Salmon caught from June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022 (or since the time you registered if you signed up after June 1)?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Did you enter each and every Atlantic Salmon caught from June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022 (or since the time you registered if you signed up after June 1)?	1.00	4.00	2.79	1.47	2.16	97

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	40.21%	39
3	No, but I entered more than 90% of Atlantic salmon caught	0.00%	0
4	No	59.79%	58
	Total	100%	97

Q8 - Did you enter complete data on any other species during the 2021-2022 steelhead season (or since the time you registered if you signed up after June 1)?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	No	87.88%	87
4	Yes (enter species)	12.12%	12
	Total	100%	99

NOTE: Many survey respondents answered “Yes” to questions regarding complete data sets despite catching zero fish of the species in question. The following table shows the number of complete (or >90% complete) data sets containing at least one fish. Also note that sixteen participants included below did not respond to the survey questions above but did indicate complete steelhead data sets and consent to share data via email.

YEAR 2 COMPLETE DATA SETS	
Steelhead	65
Chinook Salmon	5
Coho Salmon	2
Atlantic Salmon	2
Brown Trout	3
Lake Trout	2

Q9 - How many trips did you take during the June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022 steelhead season? NOTE: Only count trips that targeted trout and salmon species with a reasonable expectation of catching a steelhead. In other words, DO count Great Lakes trolling trips and river fishing trips that targeted a mix of anadromous salmon and trout, but DO NOT count inland bass or stream trout fishing trips that offered no chance of catching steelhead.

NOTE: Some respondents answered with a range of values (e.g., 20-30), in which case we assumed that the actual number of trips was an average of the high and low value. Others replied with a low end estimate (e.g., 100+) and we used that low end estimate as the point value. One respondent made an obvious typo and listed 502 trips taken during the season; this data point was omitted. Many respondents who answered this question did not provide complete catch and trip results using Great Lakes Angler Diary.

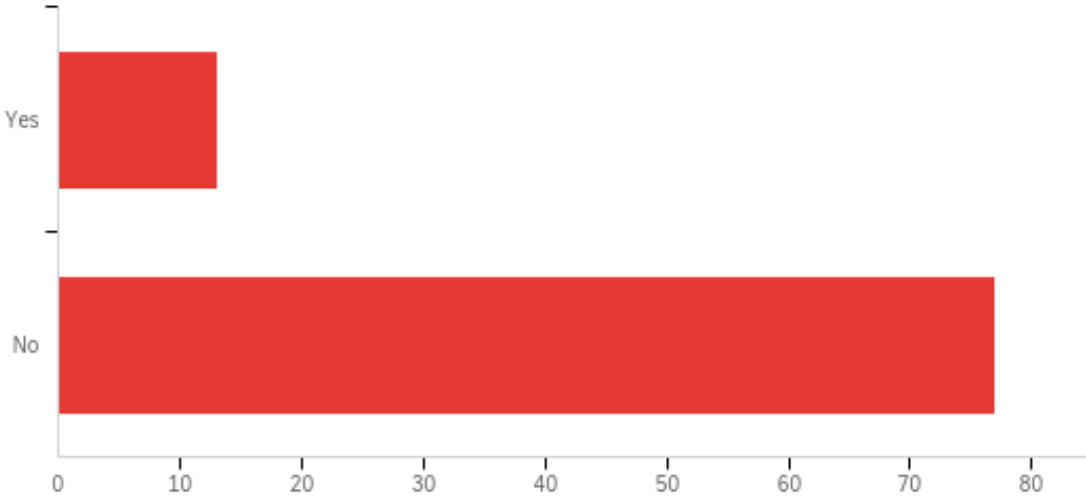
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Count
1	Trips	1.0	250.0	39.1	44.4	79

Q10 - How many of these trips resulted in catching at least one steelhead? NOTE: These two questions will allow us to determine the number of skunk trips in case you did not enter data for trips with zero catch. It is important to make sure that you enter trip details for skunk trips in Great Lakes Angler Diary, and these questions will help us verify that information is complete for all trips including skunks.

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Count
1	Non-Skunk Trips	0.0	100.0	19.7	25.42	73

For the 73 respondents who answered both Q9 and Q10, the number of non-skunk trips was subtracted from the total number of trips to calculate the average number of skunk trips. These 73 respondents averaged 17.0 skunk trips, 19.7 non-skunk trips, and 36.7 total trips for a 46% skunk rate.

Q11 - Head collection was entirely optional and not a required part of data entry for Great Lakes Angler Diary. Did you collect heads (or snouts) of adipose-fin clipped steelhead during the 2021-2022 season?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	14.44%	13
2	No	85.56%	77
	Total	100%	90

Q12 - How many steelhead heads (or snouts) did you collect during the 2021-2022 season?

0

Do not remember

4

3

I think 3, still in my freezer

Approx 5

1

152

2

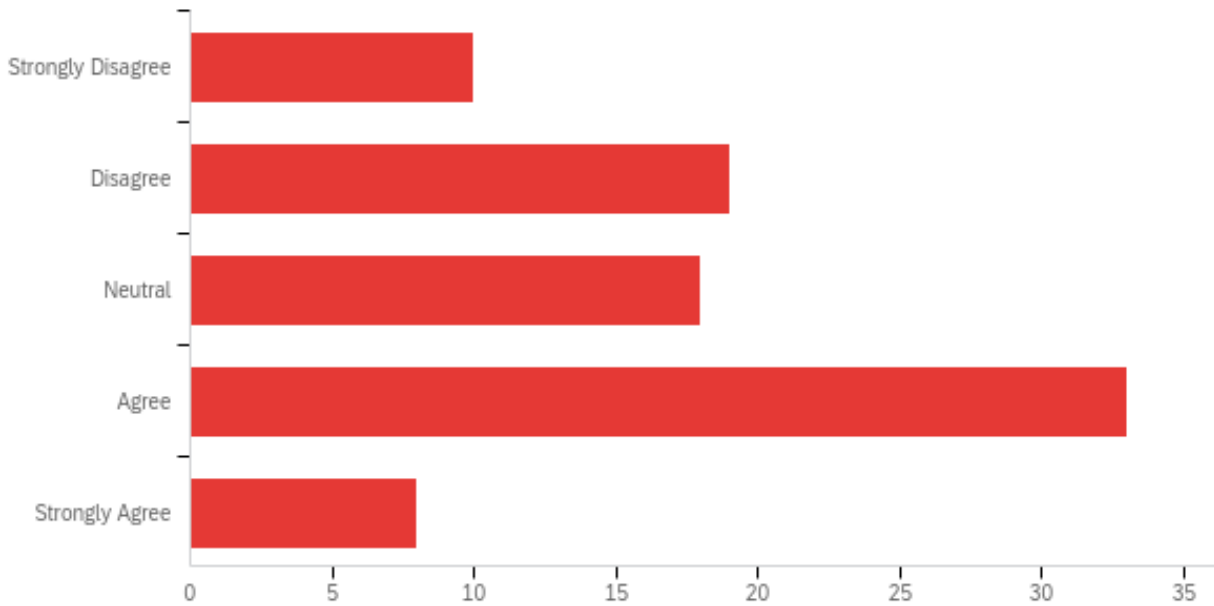
3

1 or 2

2

4

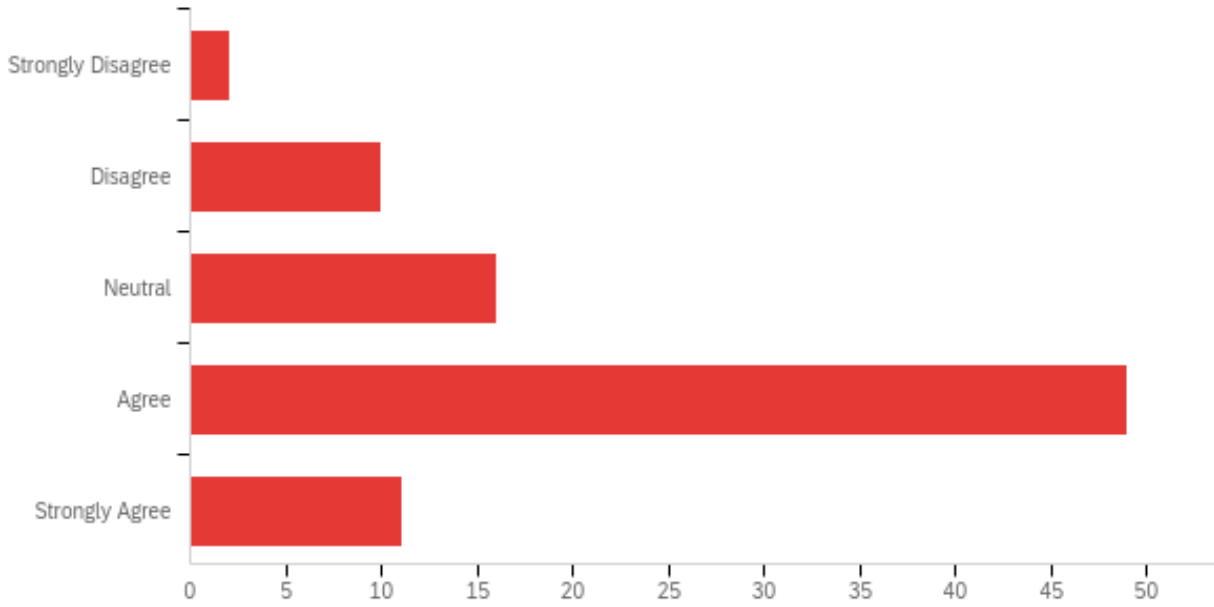
Q13 - I was satisfied with my steelhead catch rate on my home water during the past season.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	11.36%	10
2	Disagree	21.59%	19
3	Neutral	20.45%	18
4	Agree	37.50%	33
5	Strongly Agree	9.09%	8
	Total	100%	88

Average: 3.11

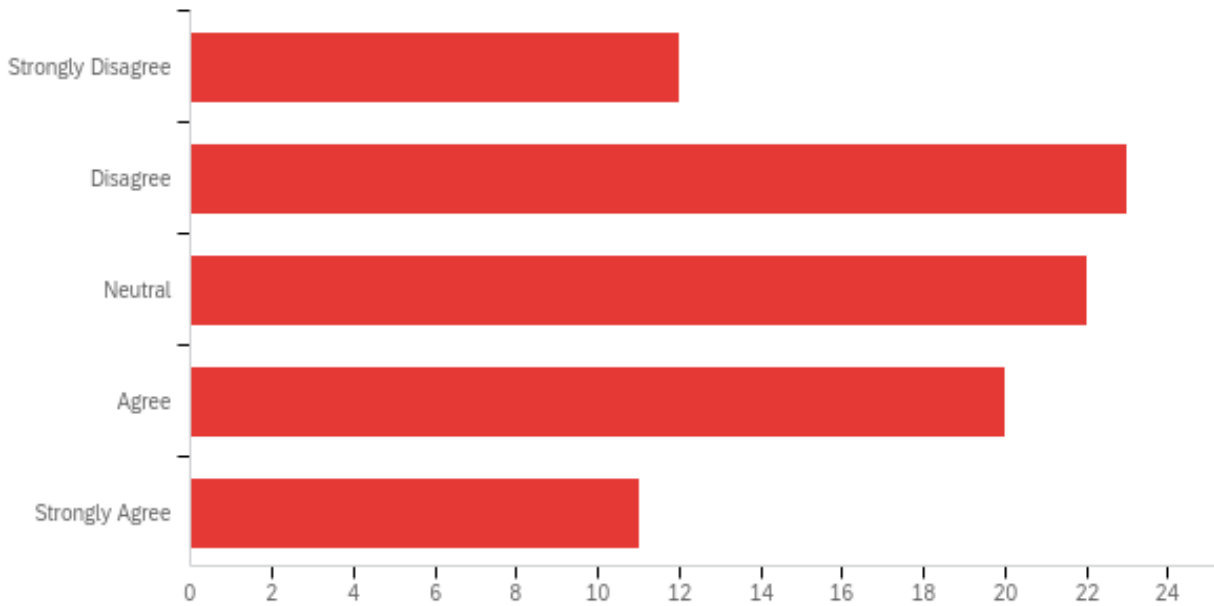
Q14 - I was satisfied with my fishing experiences overall.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	2.27%	2
2	Disagree	11.36%	10
3	Neutral	18.18%	16
4	Agree	55.68%	49
5	Strongly Agree	12.50%	11
	Total	100%	88

Average: 3.65

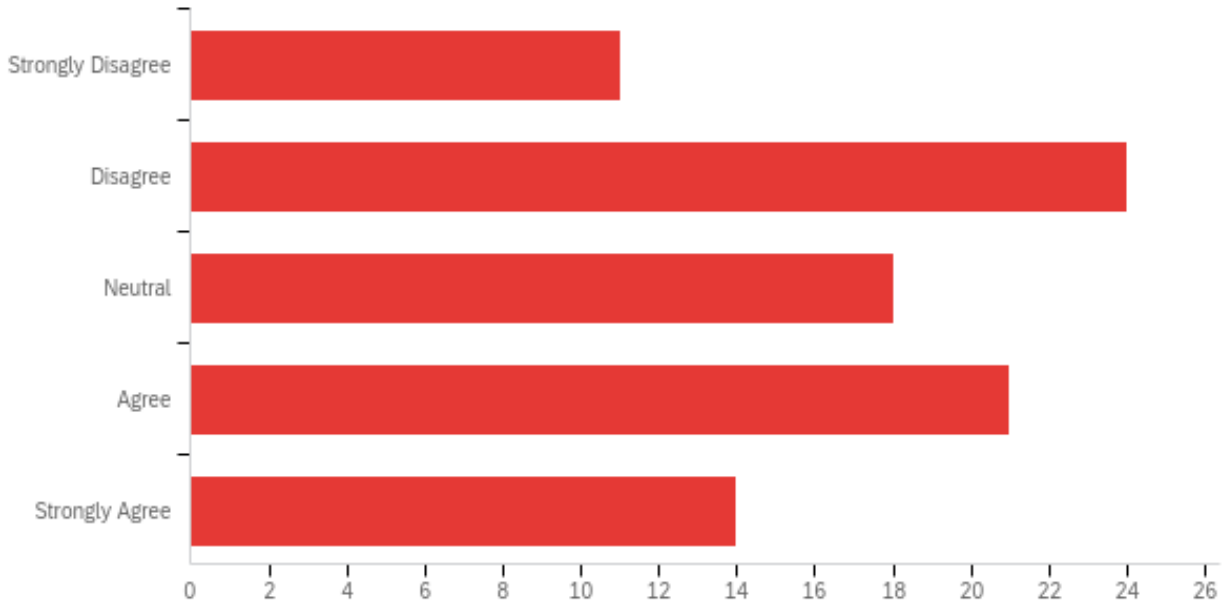
Q15 - Steelhead fishing was good this year relative to the past five years on my home water.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	13.64%	12
2	Disagree	26.14%	23
3	Neutral	25.00%	22
4	Agree	22.73%	20
5	Strongly Agree	12.50%	11
	Total	100%	88

Average: 2.94

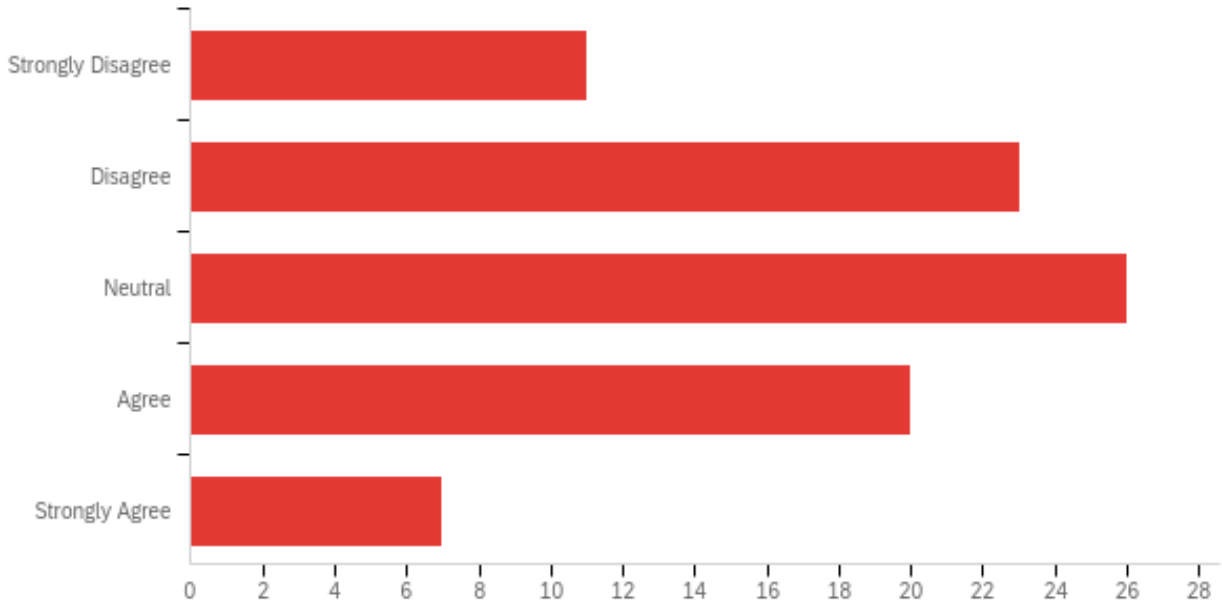
Q16 - Steelhead fishing was good this year relative to last year on my home water.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	12.50%	11
2	Disagree	27.27%	24
3	Neutral	20.45%	18
4	Agree	23.86%	21
5	Strongly Agree	15.91%	14
	Total	100%	88

Average: 3.03

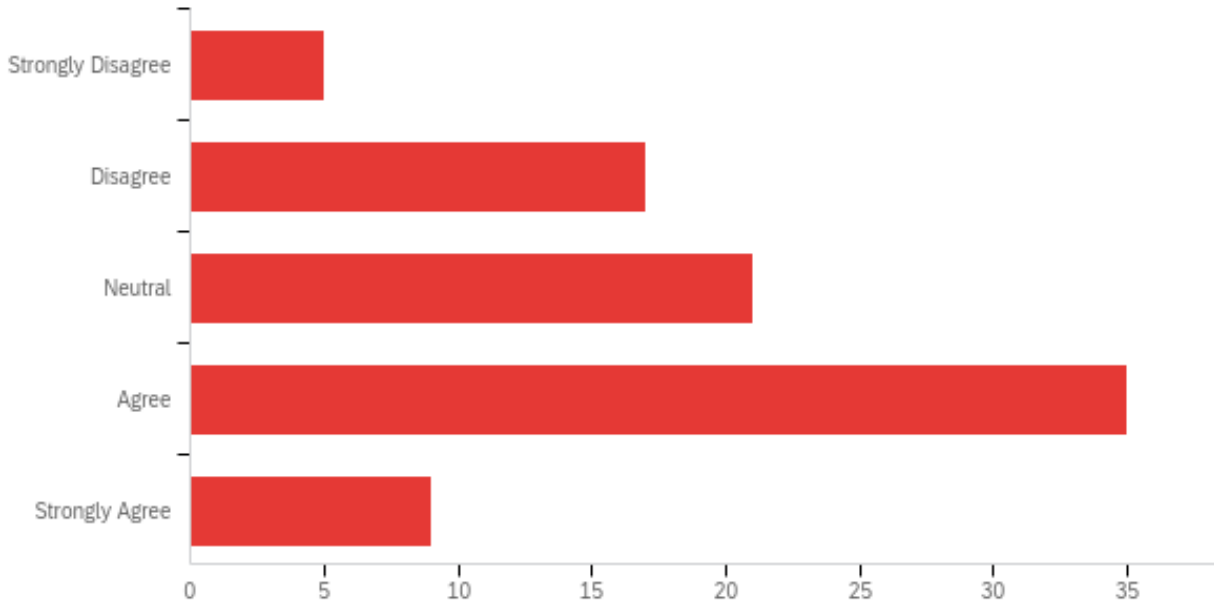
Q17 - Fishing for steelhead at my home water was good October-December.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	12.64%	11
2	Disagree	26.44%	23
3	Neutral	29.89%	26
4	Agree	22.99%	20
5	Strongly Agree	8.05%	7
	Total	100%	87

Average: 2.87

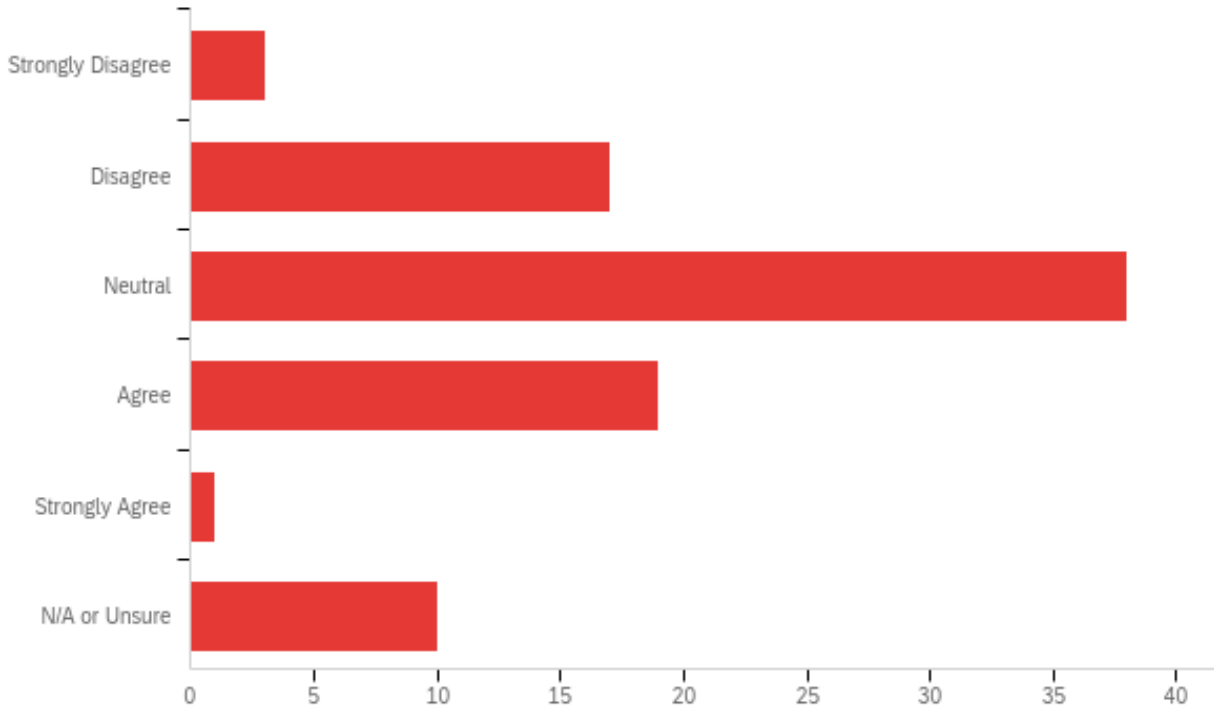
Q18 - Fishing for steelhead at my home water was good January-May.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	5.75%	5
2	Disagree	19.54%	17
3	Neutral	24.14%	21
4	Agree	40.23%	35
5	Strongly Agree	10.34%	9
	Total	100%	87

Average: 3.30

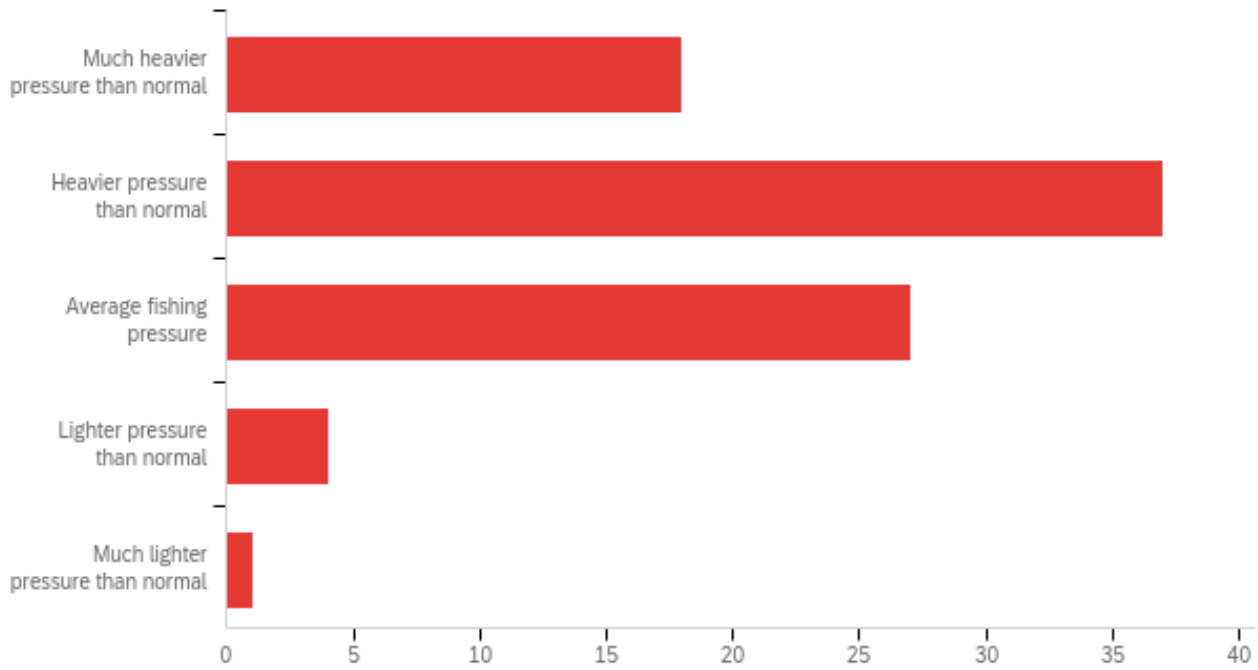
Q19 - I expect that steelhead fishing will be better next year at my home water.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	3.41%	3
2	Disagree	19.32%	17
3	Neutral	43.18%	38
4	Agree	21.59%	19
5	Strongly Agree	1.14%	1
6	N/A or Unsure	11.36%	10
	Total	100%	88

Average: 3.32

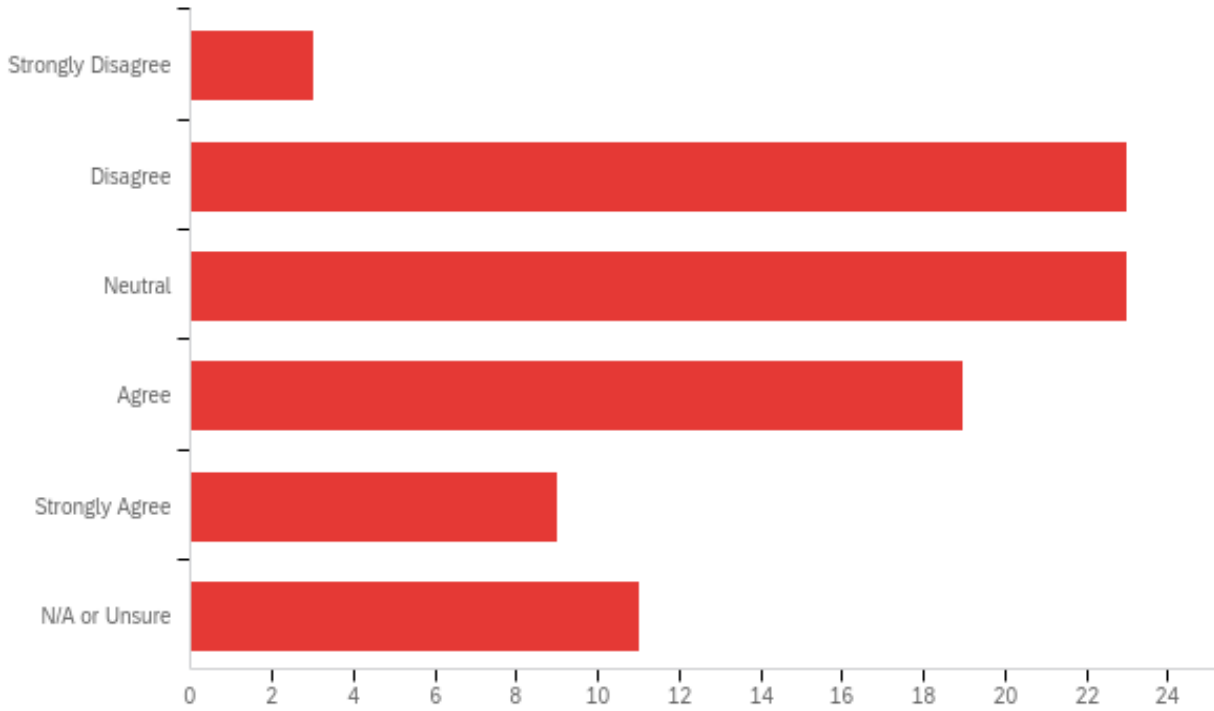
Q20 - How would you describe steelhead fishing pressure on your home water over the past season (Oct. 2021 - May 2022)?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Much heavier pressure than normal	20.69%	18
2	Heavier pressure than normal	42.53%	37
3	Average fishing pressure	31.03%	27
4	Lighter pressure than normal	4.60%	4
5	Much lighter pressure than normal	1.15%	1
	Total	100%	87

Average: 2.23

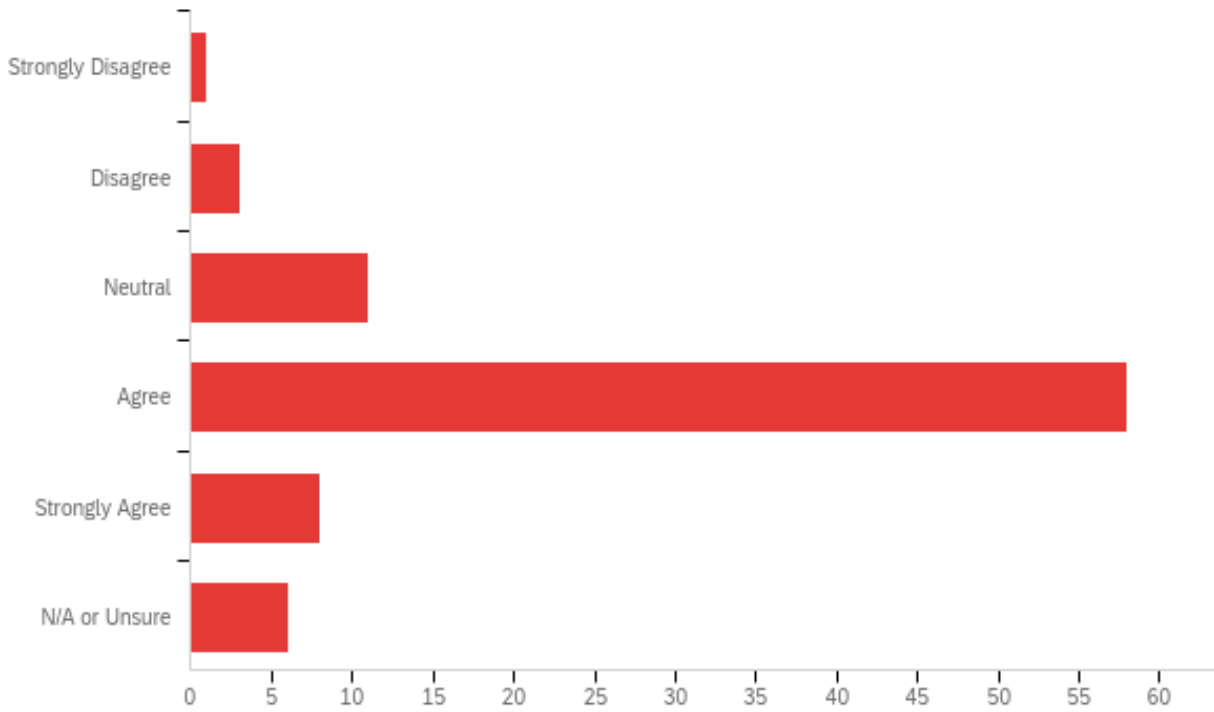
Q21 - I was surprised that the percentage of unclipped steelhead in my catch was so high.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	3.41%	3
2	Disagree	26.14%	23
3	Neutral	26.14%	23
4	Agree	21.59%	19
5	Strongly Agree	10.23%	9
6	N/A or Unsure	12.50%	11
	Total	100%	88

Average without sixes (N/A or Unsure): 3.10

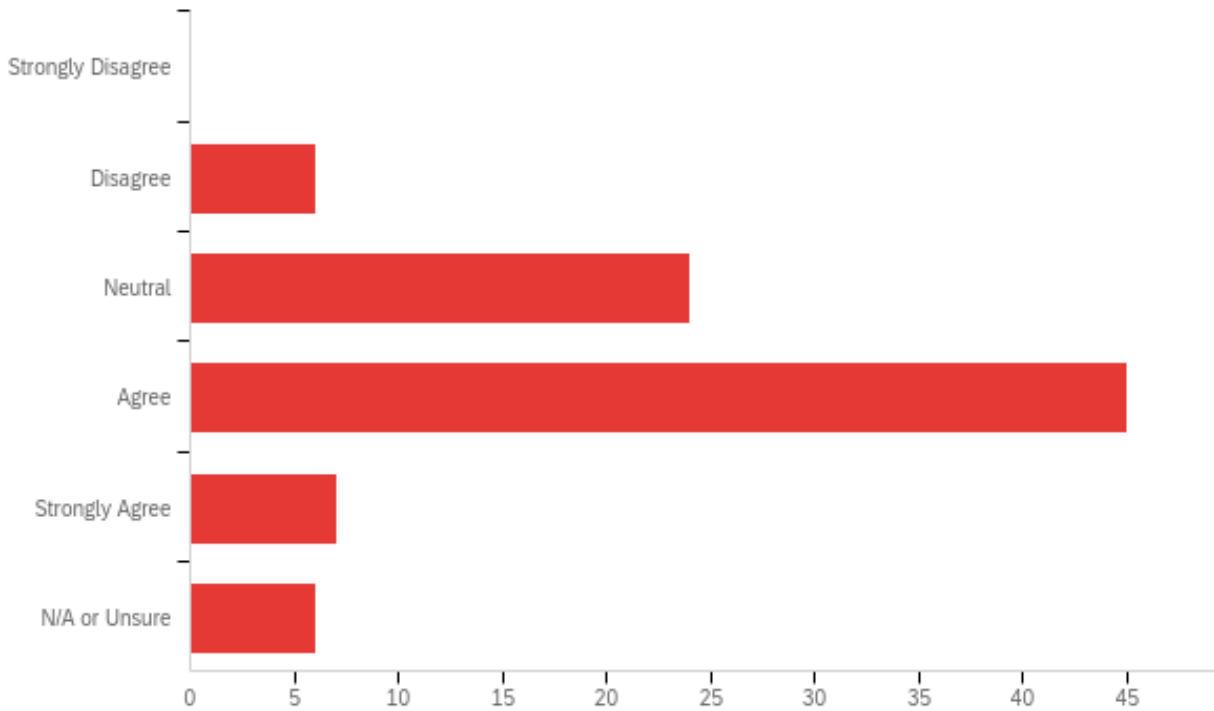
Q22 - I have a better understanding of how stocked and wild steelhead contribute to fisheries as a result of participation.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	1.15%	1
2	Disagree	3.45%	3
3	Neutral	12.64%	11
4	Agree	66.67%	58
5	Strongly Agree	9.20%	8
6	N/A or Unsure	6.90%	6
	Total	100%	87

Average without sixes (N/A or Unsure): 3.85

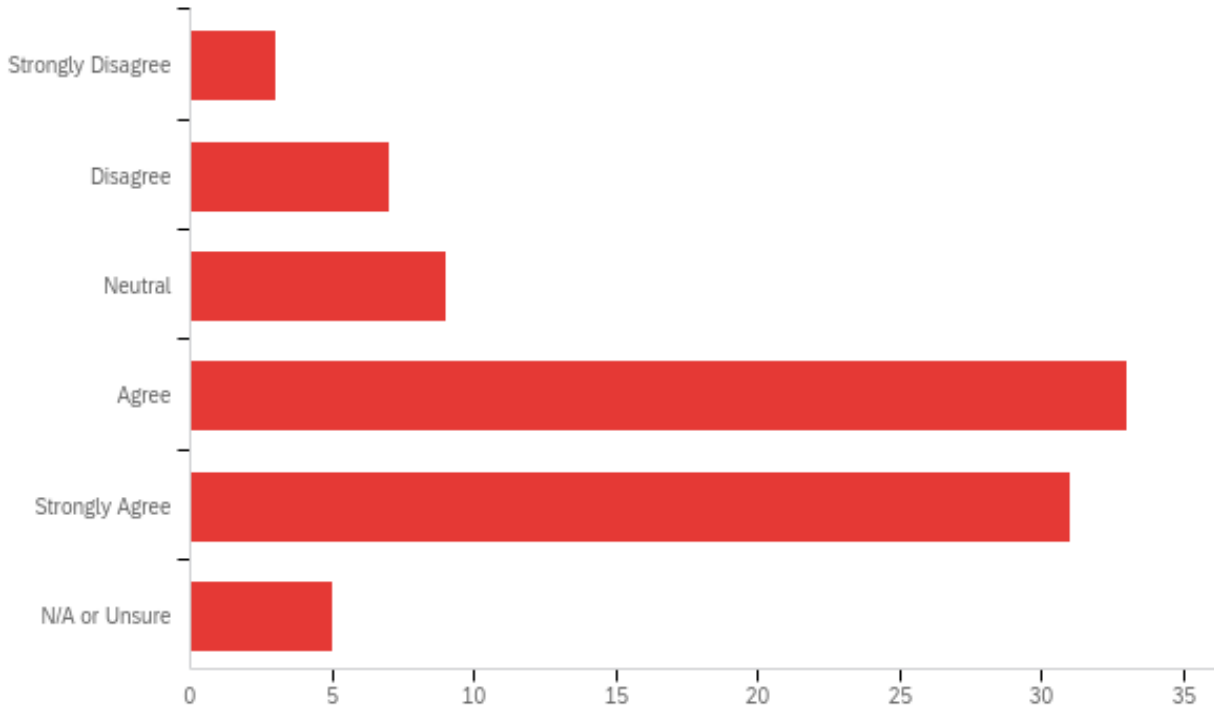
Q23 - Through participating in this program, I gained a better understanding of fisheries management policies (for example, harvest limits, habitat restoration, or stocking programs).



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
2	Disagree	6.82%	6
3	Neutral	27.27%	24
4	Agree	51.14%	45
5	Strongly Agree	7.95%	7
6	N/A or Unsure	6.82%	6
	Total	100%	88

Average without sixes (N/A or Unsure): 3.65

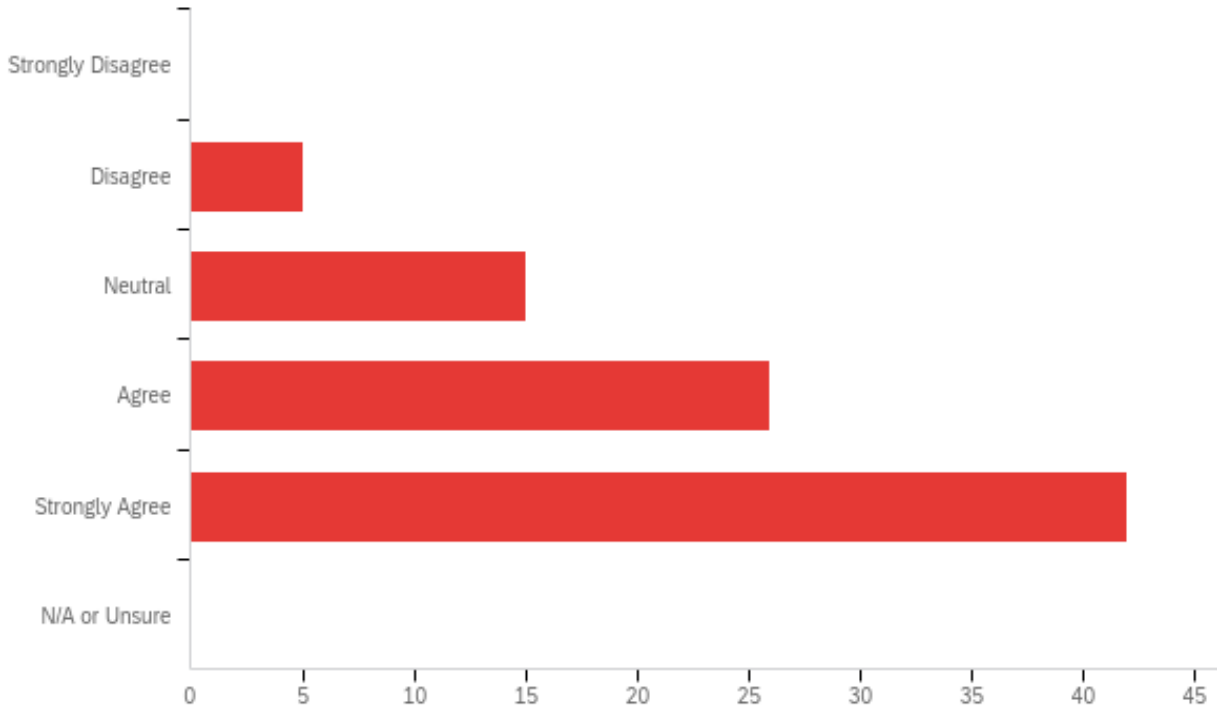
Q24 - My home water would benefit from additional stocking of steelhead.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	3.41%	3
2	Disagree	7.95%	7
3	Neutral	10.23%	9
4	Agree	37.50%	33
5	Strongly Agree	35.23%	31
6	N/A or Unsure	5.68%	5
	Total	100%	88

Average without sixes (N/A or Unsure): 3.99

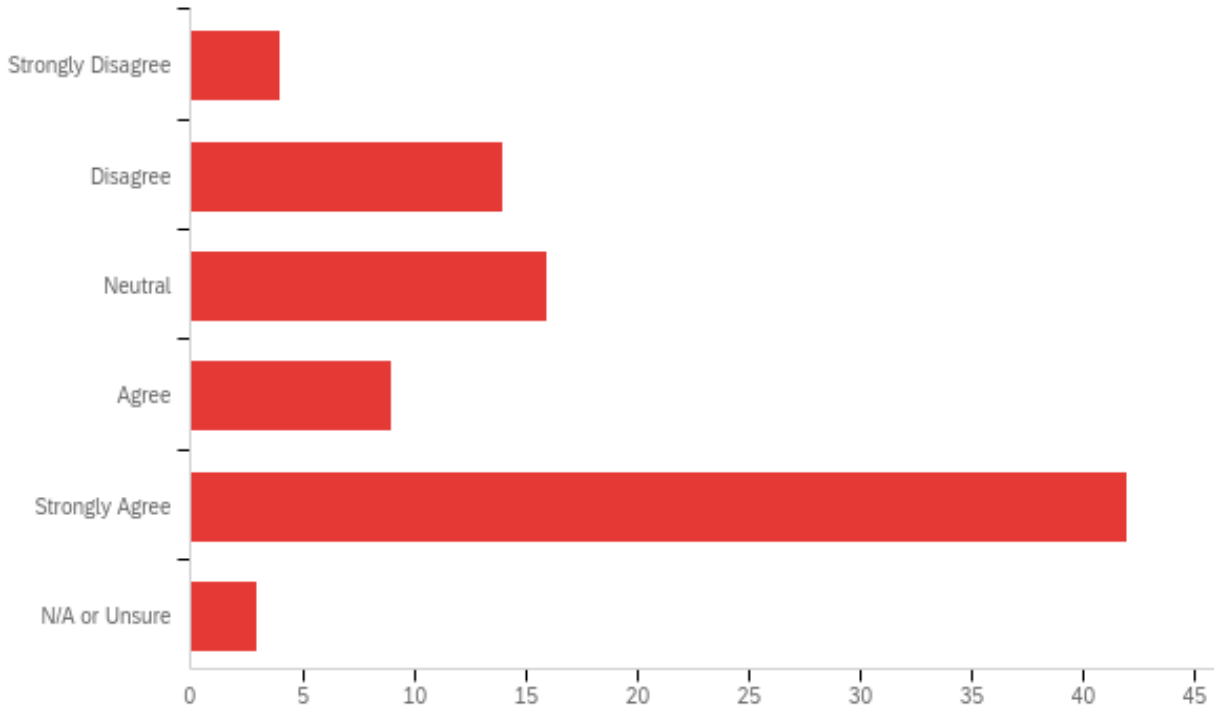
Q25 - My home water would benefit from habitat restoration.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
2	Disagree	5.68%	5
3	Neutral	17.05%	15
4	Agree	29.55%	26
5	Strongly Agree	47.73%	42
6	N/A or Unsure	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	88

Average without sixes (N/A or Unsure): 4.19

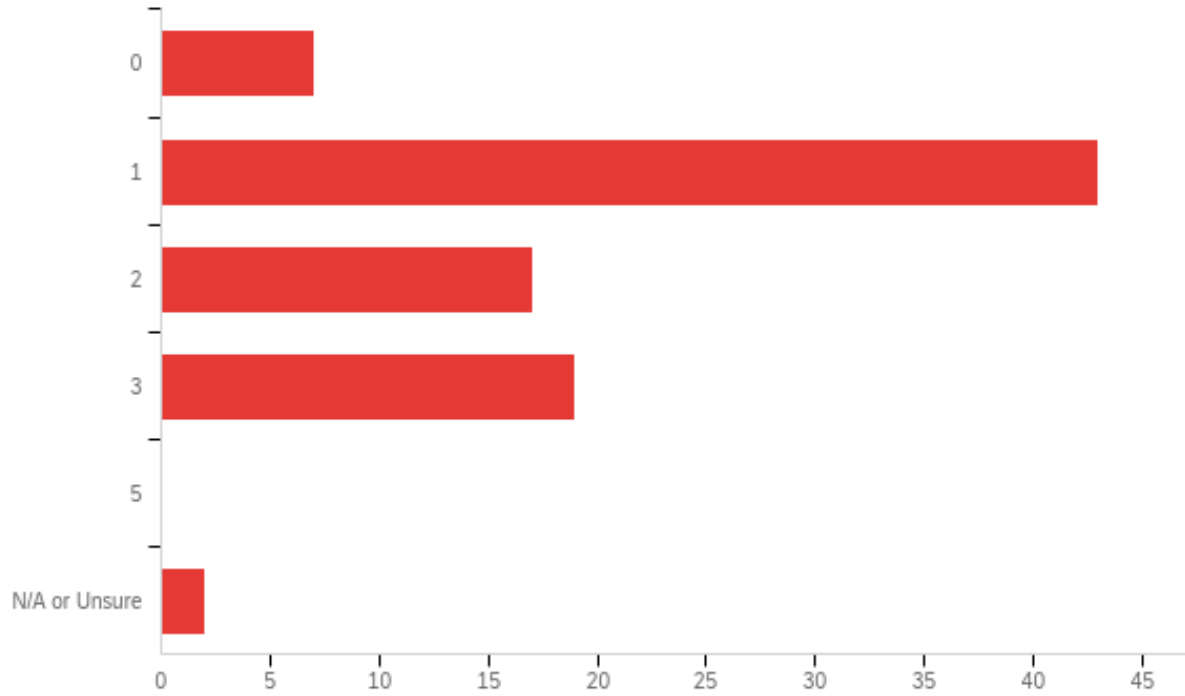
Q26 - My home water would benefit from reducing the steelhead bag limit.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	4.55%	4
2	Disagree	15.91%	14
3	Neutral	18.18%	16
4	Agree	10.23%	9
5	Strongly Agree	47.73%	42
6	N/A or Unsure	3.41%	3
	Total	100%	88

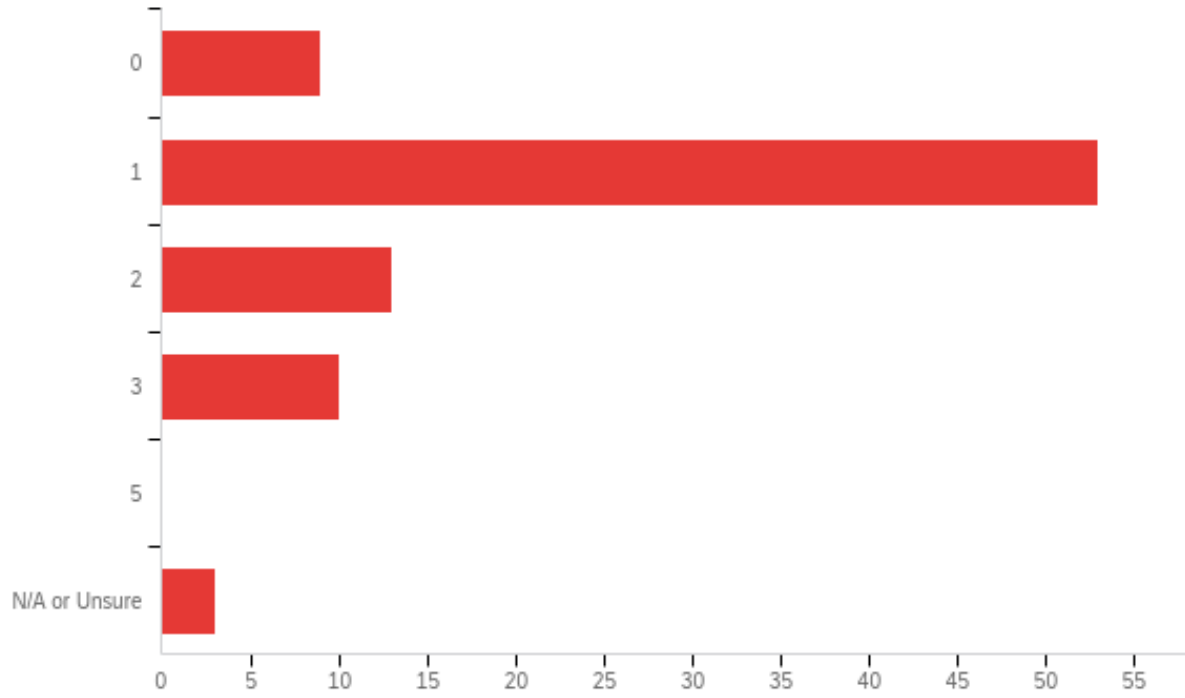
Average without sixes (N/A or Unsure): 3.84

Q27 - My preferred steelhead harvest limit for Great Lakes waters in Michigan is:



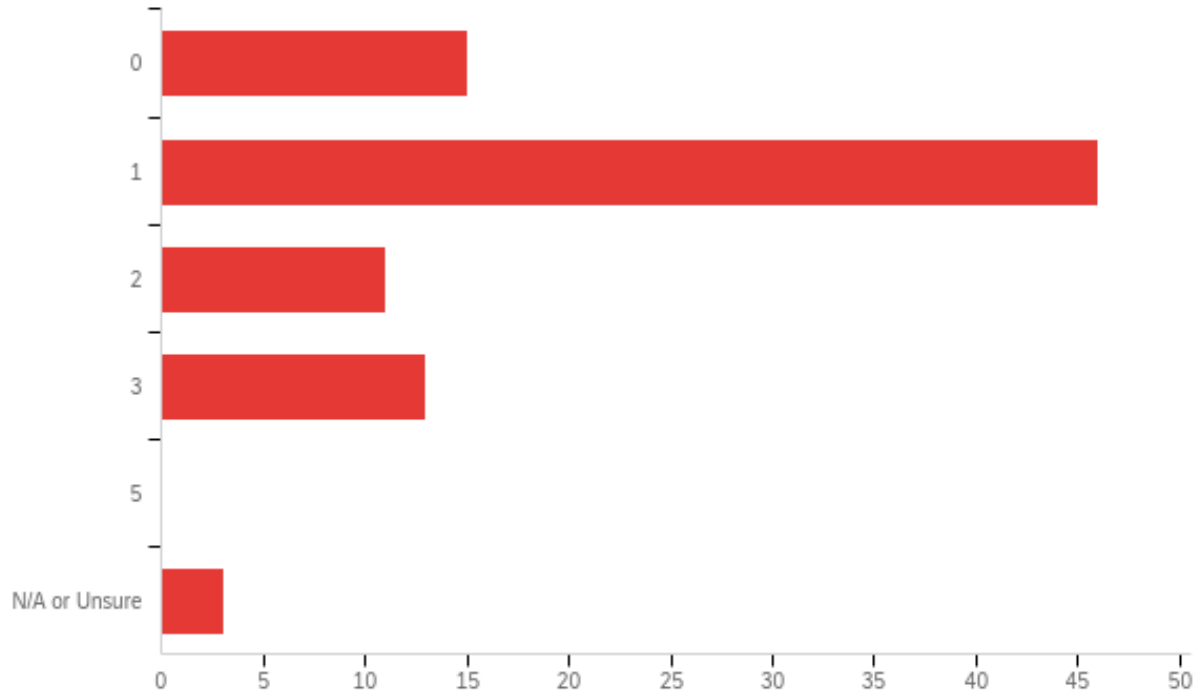
#	Answer	%	Count
1	0	7.95%	7
2	1	48.86%	43
3	2	19.32%	17
4	3	21.59%	19
5	5	0.00%	0
6	N/A or Unsure	2.27%	2
	Total	100%	88

Q28 - My preferred steelhead harvest limit for most streams in Michigan is:



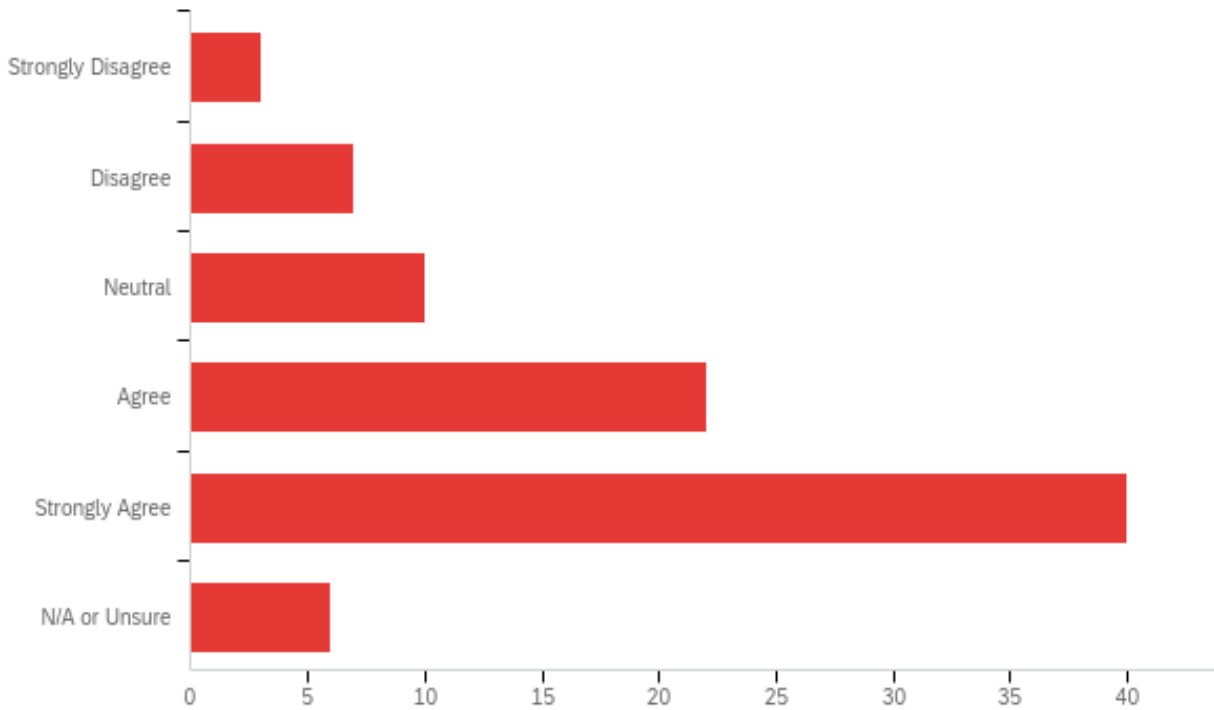
#	Answer	%	Count
1	0	10.23%	9
2	1	60.23%	53
3	2	14.77%	13
4	3	11.36%	10
5	5	0.00%	0
6	N/A or Unsure	3.41%	3
	Total	100%	88

Q29 - My preferred steelhead harvest limit for my home water is:



#	Answer	%	Count
1	0	17.05%	15
2	1	52.27%	46
3	2	12.50%	11
4	3	14.77%	13
5	5	0.00%	0
6	N/A or Unsure	3.41%	3
	Total	100%	88

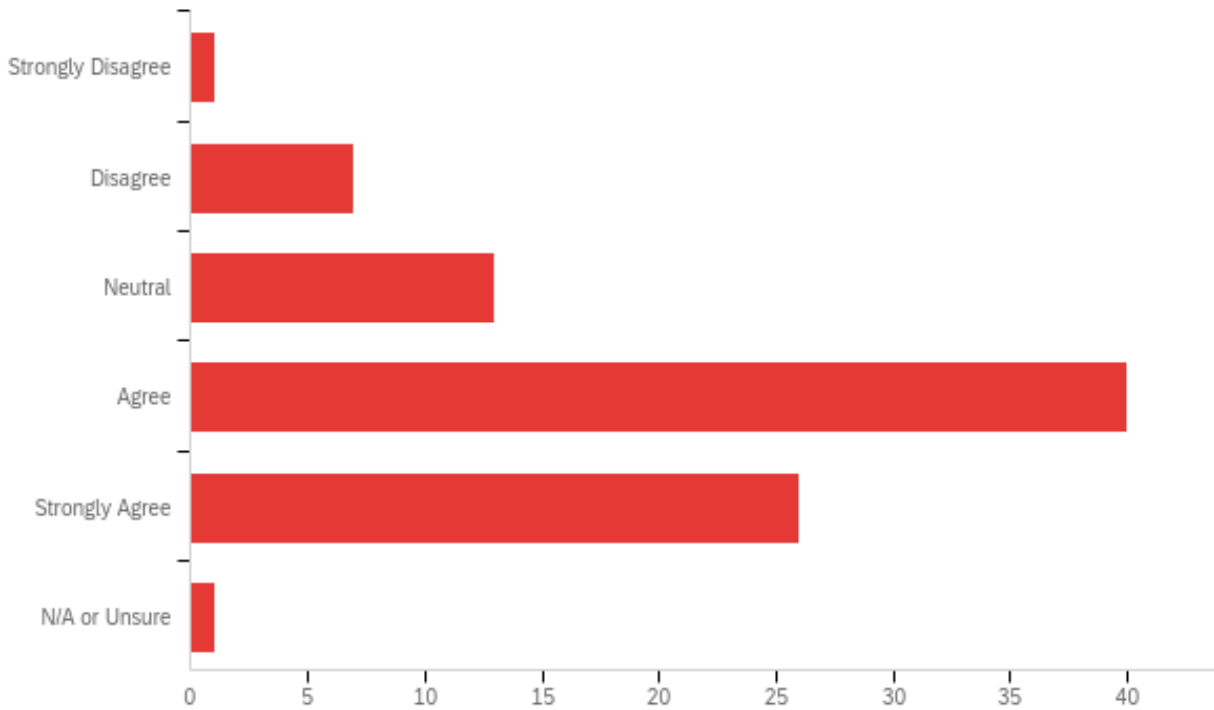
Q30 - A harvest limit reduction would help to ensure the long-term viability of steelhead populations in Michigan.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	3.41%	3
2	Disagree	7.95%	7
3	Neutral	11.36%	10
4	Agree	25.00%	22
5	Strongly Agree	45.45%	40
6	N/A or Unsure	6.82%	6
	Total	100%	88

Average without sixes (N/A or Unsure): 4.07

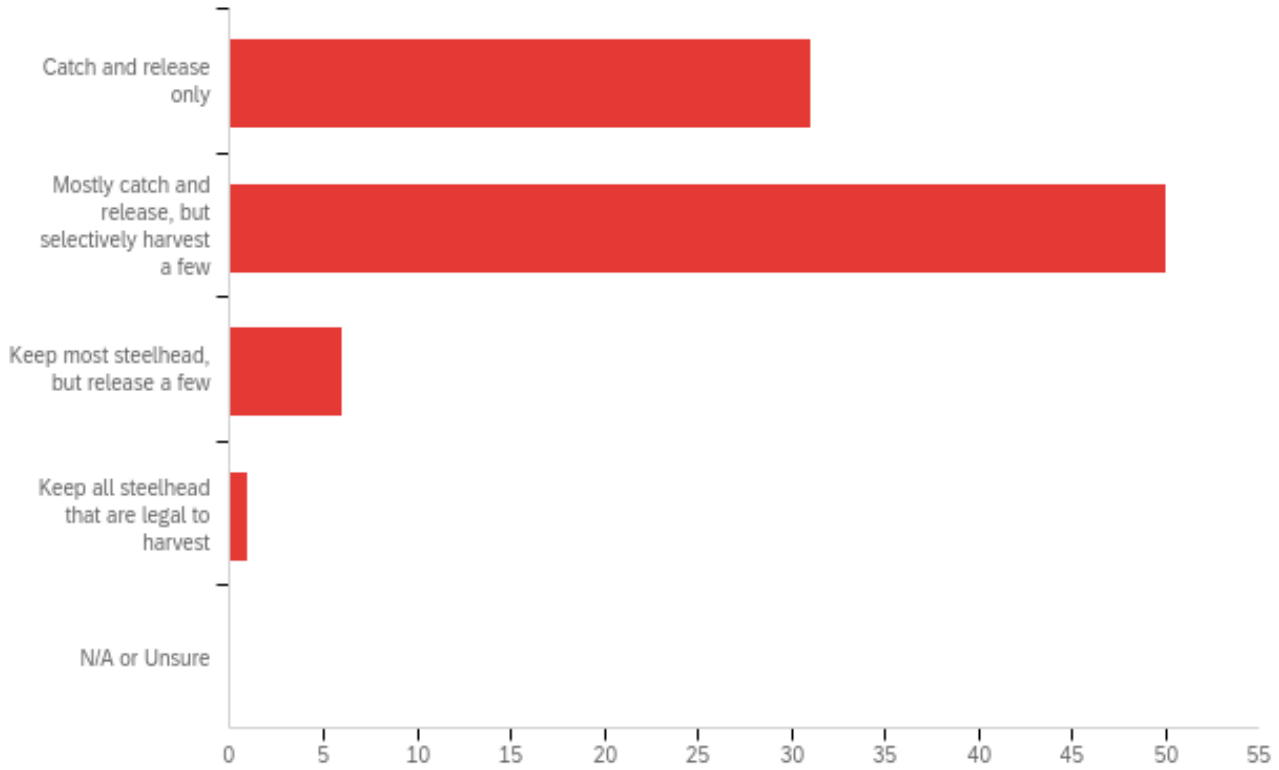
Q31 - A harvest limit reduction would help to boost catch rates in rivers because released fish can be caught multiple times.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Disagree	1.14%	1
2	Disagree	7.95%	7
3	Neutral	14.77%	13
4	Agree	45.45%	40
5	Strongly Agree	29.55%	26
6	N/A or Unsure	1.14%	1
	Total	100%	88

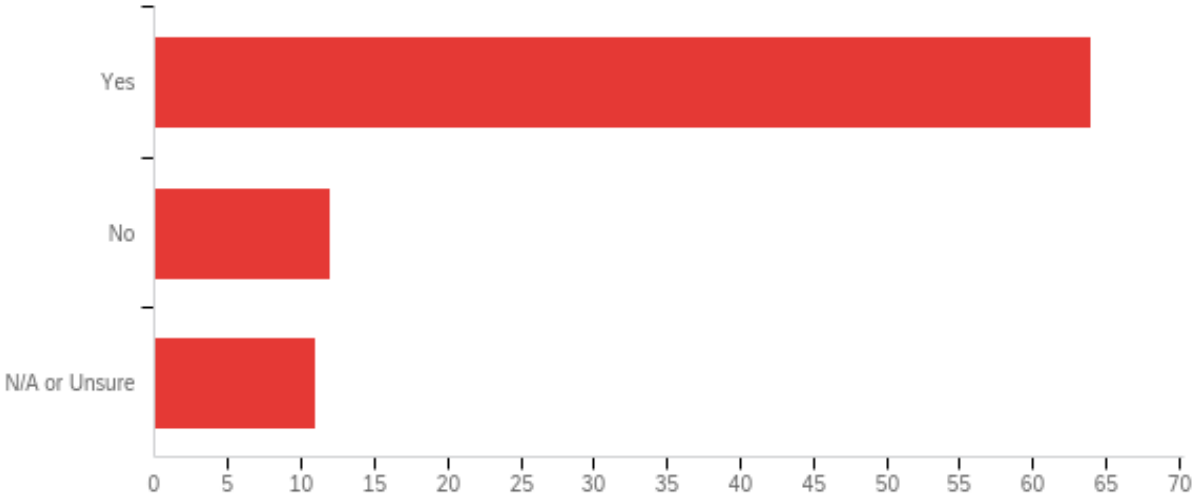
Average without sixes (N/A or Unsure): 3.95

Q32 - Which best describes your personal approach to steelhead harvest?



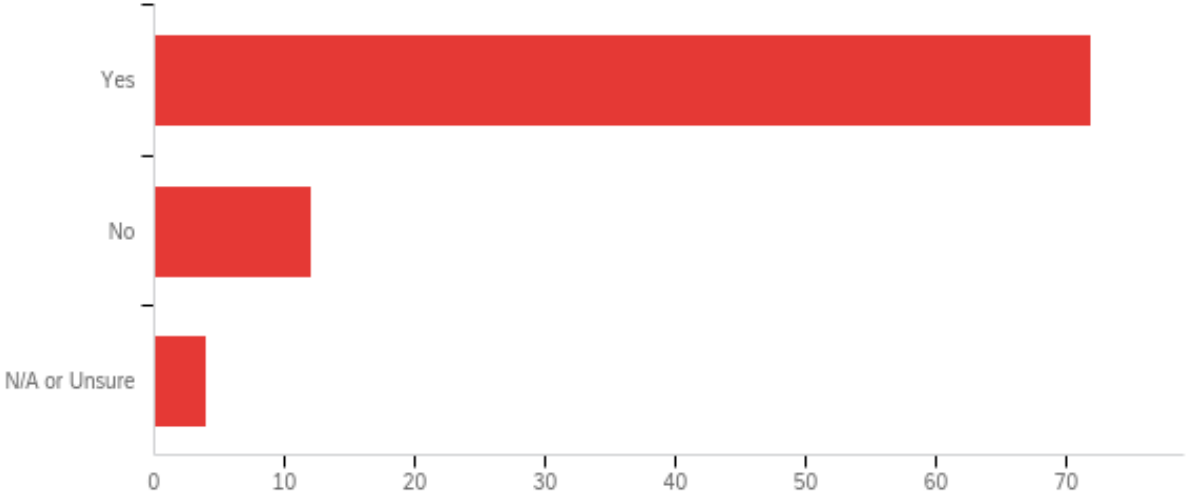
#	Answer	%	Count
1	Catch and release only	35.23%	31
2	Mostly catch and release, but selectively harvest a few	56.82%	50
3	Keep most steelhead, but release a few	6.82%	6
4	Keep all steelhead that are legal to harvest	1.14%	1
6	N/A or Unsure	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	88

Q33 - Do you believe that releasing wild (unclipped) steelhead as opposed to stocked (generally clipped) steelhead will lead to increased fitness and improved steelhead populations?



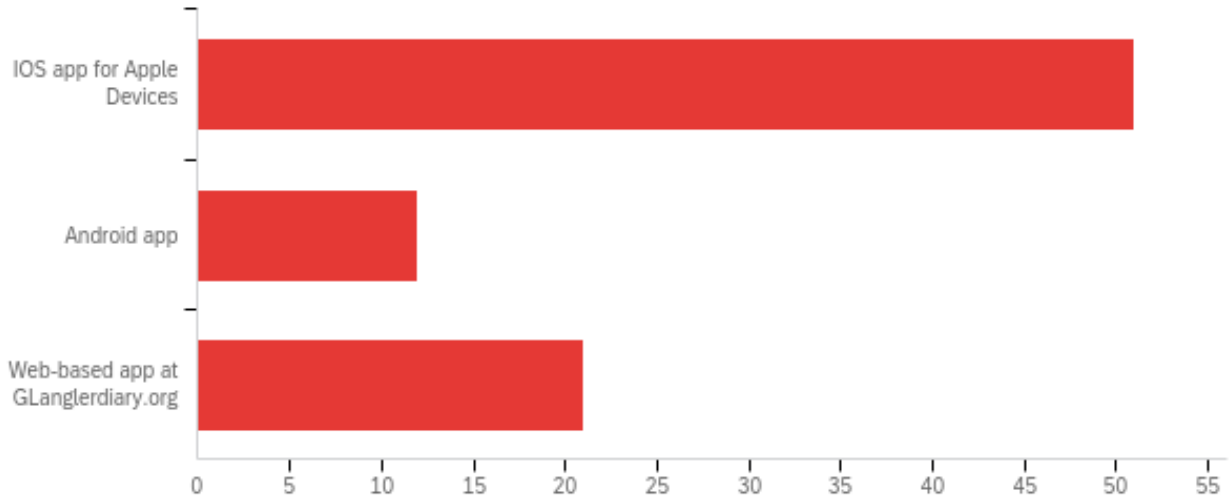
#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	73.56%	64
2	No	13.79%	12
6	N/A or Unsure	12.64%	11
	Total	100%	87

Q34 - Would you support a lower harvest limit for wild (unclipped) steelhead than for stocked (generally clipped) steelhead?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	81.82%	72
2	No	13.64%	12
3	N/A or Unsure	4.55%	4
	Total	100%	88

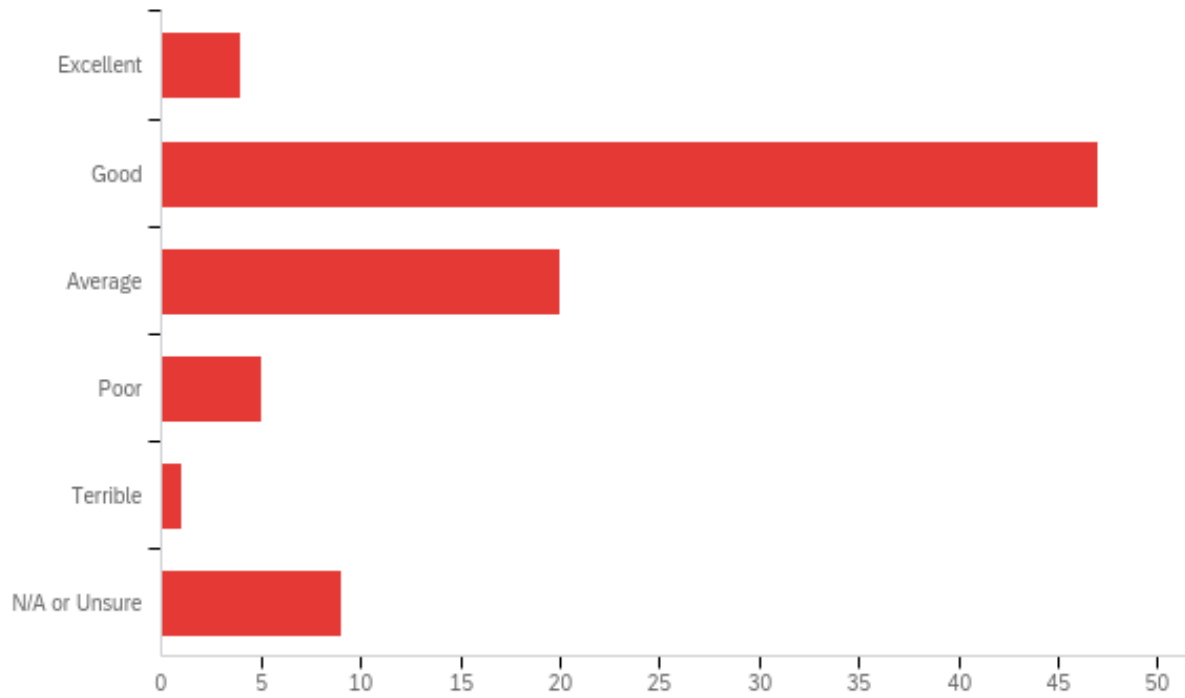
Q35 - Which Great Lakes Angler Diary app do you use most often?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Which Great Lakes Angler Diary app do you use most often?	1.00	3.00	1.64	0.85	0.73	84

#	Answer	%	Count
1	IOS app for Apple Devices	60.71%	51
2	Android app	14.29%	12
3	Web-based app at GLanglerdiary.org	25.00%	21
	Total	100%	84

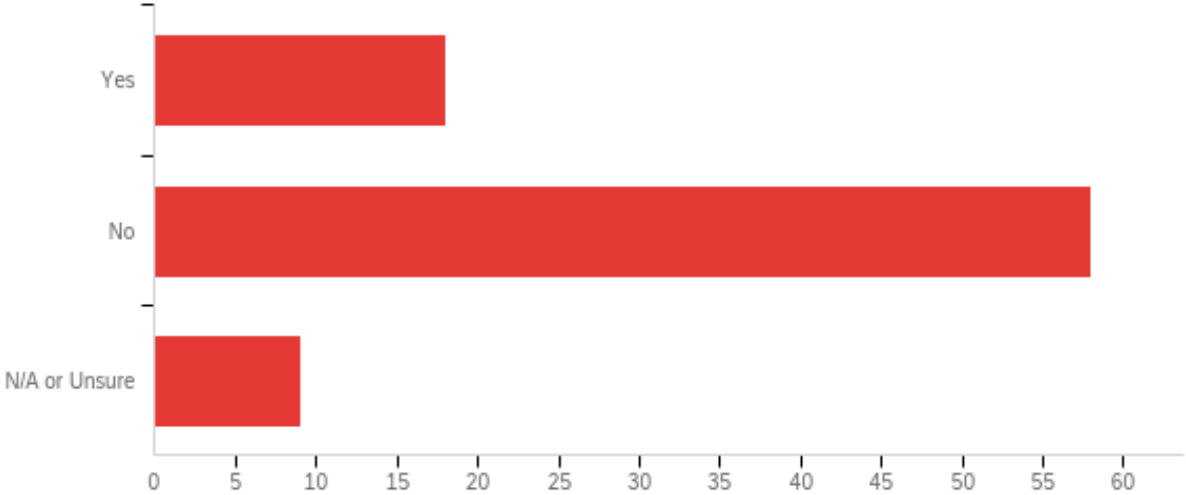
Q36 - Overall, how would you rate the current version of the Great Lakes Angler Diary app that you use most often?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Excellent	4.65%	4
2	Good	54.65%	47
3	Average	23.26%	20
4	Poor	5.81%	5
5	Terrible	1.16%	1
6	N/A or Unsure	10.47%	9
	Total	100%	86

Average without sixes (NA/Unsure) = 2.36

Q37 - Are there any problems with the app that prevented you from entering accurate or complete data?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	21.18%	18
2	No	68.24%	58
3	N/A or Unsure	10.59%	9
	Total	100%	85

Q38 - Please provide any additional comments or suggestions below and include the make and model of your phone or other device if you have experienced problems. Also make sure that you are using the most recent app version if you are having trouble (IOS version 9.3, Android update April 25, 2022 version 25).

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Android app does not work on my Samsung Galaxy Note 8

The app is a little clunky and that was a deterrent to using it this year. I support your efforts and would appreciate any efforts to get more anglers from the other states involved.

There are a lot of improvements that can be done to the app. As someone that comes from the Information Technology field the app seems clunky and the menus seem to be alright at best. I would actually prefer there to be an option to send a picture of the fish next to a device to measure. And then a couple of options on whether it was harvested or returned. This would help minimize the stress put on the fish. Would love to help and give further input.

Will you publish the findings of your survey?

I need to be better about entering more information daily

Statewide steelhead limit of 2, all year, all waters is sufficient for all. This means you can keep one and continue fishing legally for the day. Releasing wild fish works fine for Minnesota, so why not do it here in Michigan. Plant fish to "take" and leave the wild strain to continue on the enjoyment of the "catch & release", for all. Oh & plant a few more Browns for the White please. Thanks to all of you

It could have been my mistake and I missed something but when I first started using the app I was unaware that I was to be logging trips even when I was skunked. Clarifying ALL TRIPS, fish or no fish, would be help.

I haven't used it much recently. But I remember I couldn't submit a zero trip. Probably fixed by now I'm sure. Nice app!

Catch limit of 0 during prime spawning time mid-March thru end of April. Water releases from Muskegon River dams need to be managed better to benefit fish and fishermen.

I would like to be able to enter the number of fish I caught of a species in a field and have it auto populate with that number of fish then go back and answer the other fields. Entering individual fish, one at a time, is very tedious.

One thing a few buddies and I talk about was classifications of fish. For example. Fresh/chrome, A/B run, colored up.

As I entered data from 2021, the page would not scroll down after 10 entries. I'm not certain all of my entries are recorded. I can't find an icon to click on to see the entire list.

I have been keeping a fishing log for steelhead and resident trout >10" for more than 50 years and enter fish in the angler diary from my log.

Fields often cut off and hard to click on with a Samsung S10+ running Android.

This is a wonderful program. Easy to use and understand. Thank you so much for putting the app together and compiling the data.

The data collection seems developed for lake catch and it benefits from more focused/ clearer process for stream catches

The feeder creek above the dam needs to be cut off again for fishing to improve, and in my opinion they should stock the steelhead smolt above the dam so they are better protected from predators. Simple fixes the DNR could do

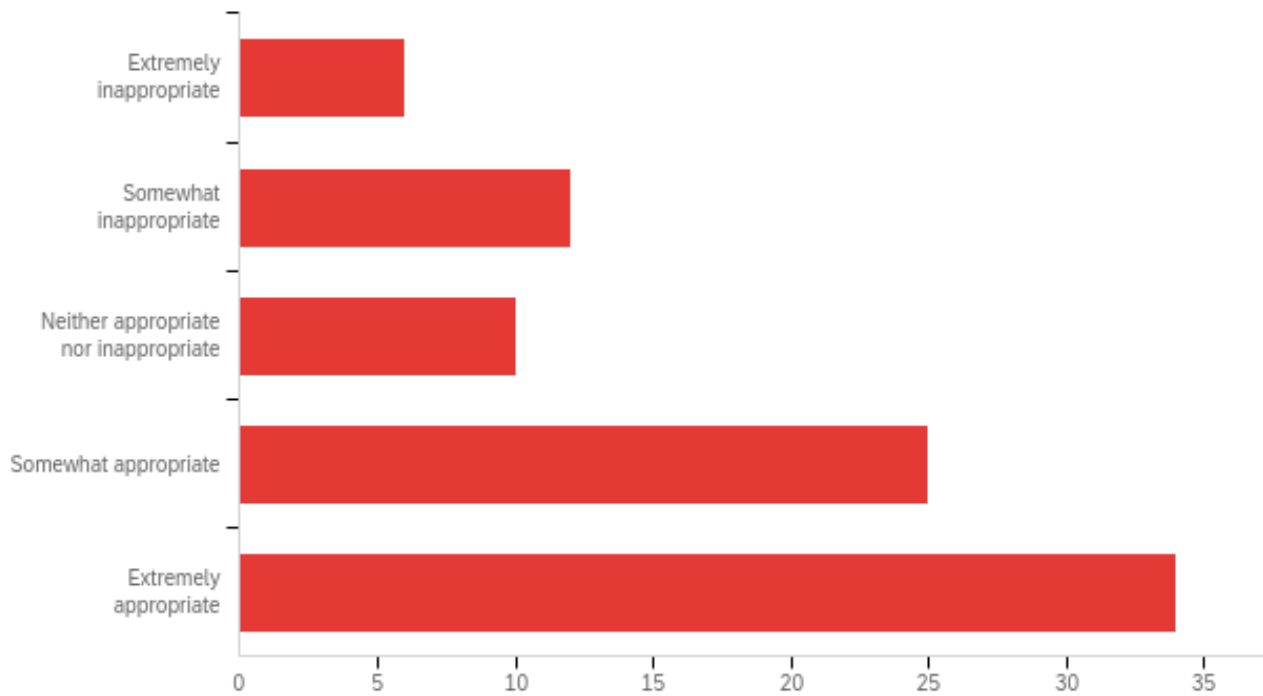
Best Guides on the Muskegon River is [REDACTED] service. We caught far more Steelhead than most other boats. Our boat (over 3 days of fly fishing - 2 Anglers, each over 80 years old) landed over 30 Steelhead and lost far more than that. Landed one 15 lb. Steelhead & lost several much larger. We had some of the best steelhead fly fishing in decades. We fished the last week of April. We released all fish. Caught one Brown Trout. I think our guides entered our catches in your app.

I phone 12. App did have some crashing issues at times.

Pictures of the fish would help you and unknowing anglers identify fish correctly

At first the app works great on my phone. After a few months it kept crashing on the startup screen. I uninstalled it and now use my Apple device at home. Information that I inputted should be pretty accurate from October last year to present. It was average for me on my home River. Fall-run is almost non-existent for me. Spring is much better. Now that I am aware you want Chinook data, I will record that next year for you.

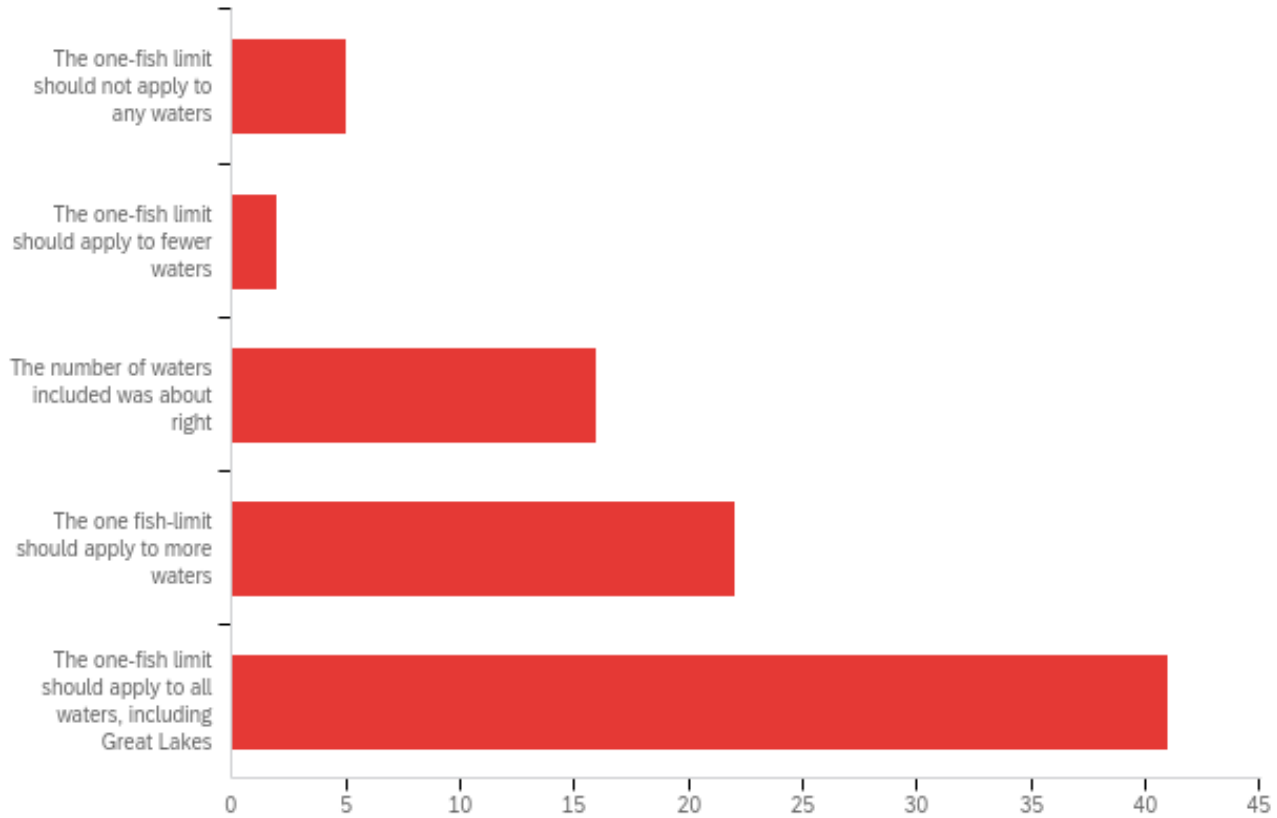
Q39 - The next four questions reference a recent reduction in steelhead harvest limit from three to one fish per day on select waters (click [here](#) for full details). Are the new steelhead harvest limit regulations appropriate?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Extremely inappropriate	6.90%	6
2	Somewhat inappropriate	13.79%	12
3	Neither appropriate nor inappropriate	11.49%	10
4	Somewhat appropriate	28.74%	25
5	Extremely appropriate	39.08%	34
	Total	100%	87

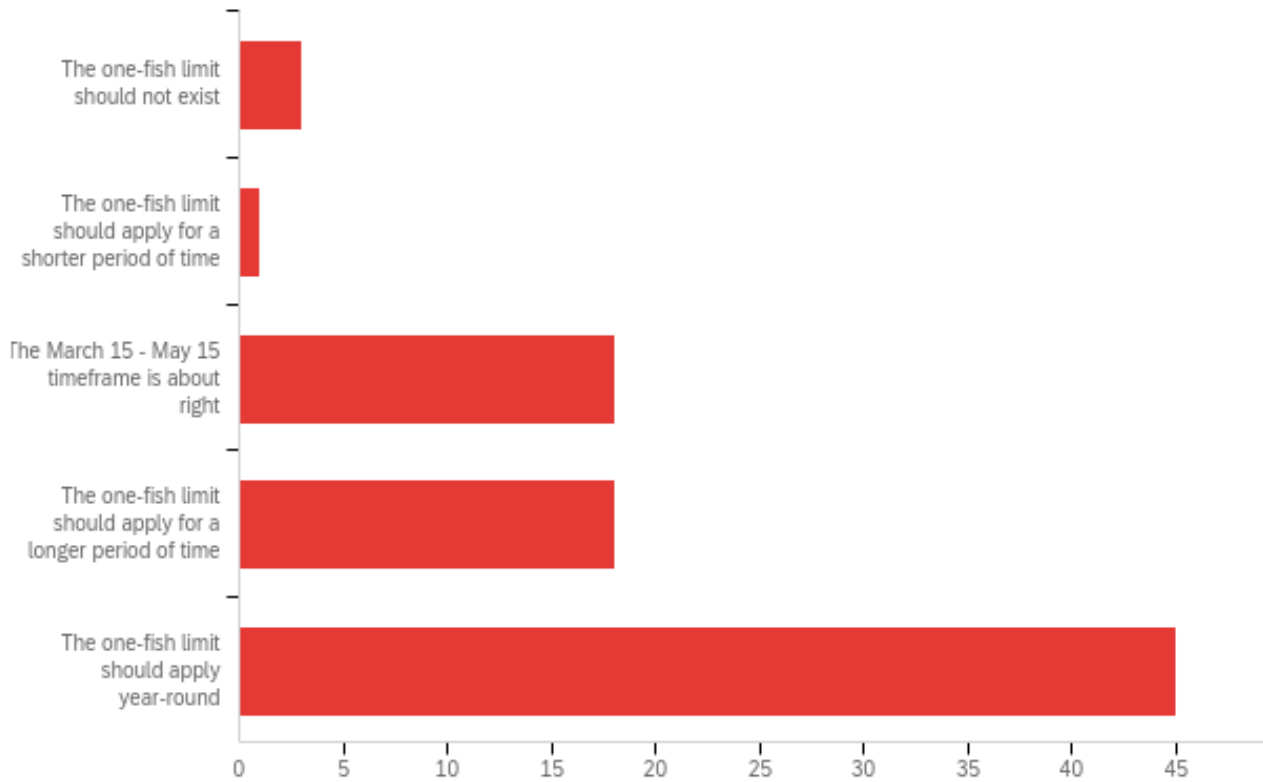
Average: 3.79

Q40 - Should the new one-fish steelhead harvest limit apply to more or fewer waters?



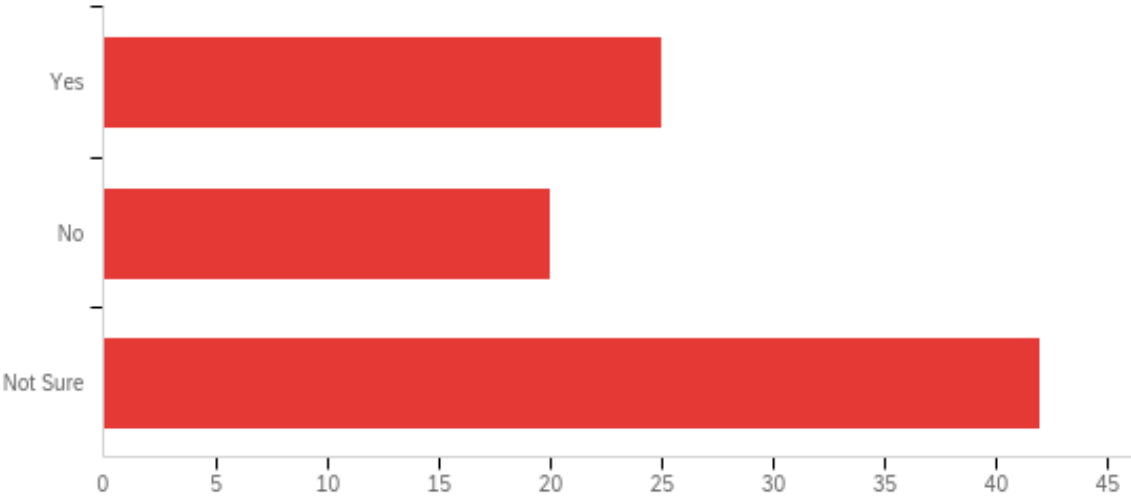
#	Answer	%	Count
1	The one-fish limit should not apply to any waters	5.81%	5
2	The one-fish limit should apply to fewer waters	2.33%	2
3	The number of waters included was about right	18.60%	16
4	The one fish-limit should apply to more waters	25.58%	22
5	The one-fish limit should apply to all waters, including Great Lakes	47.67%	41
	Total	100%	86

Q41 - Should the new one-fish steelhead harvest limit apply to a longer or shorter timeframe than March 15 - May 15?



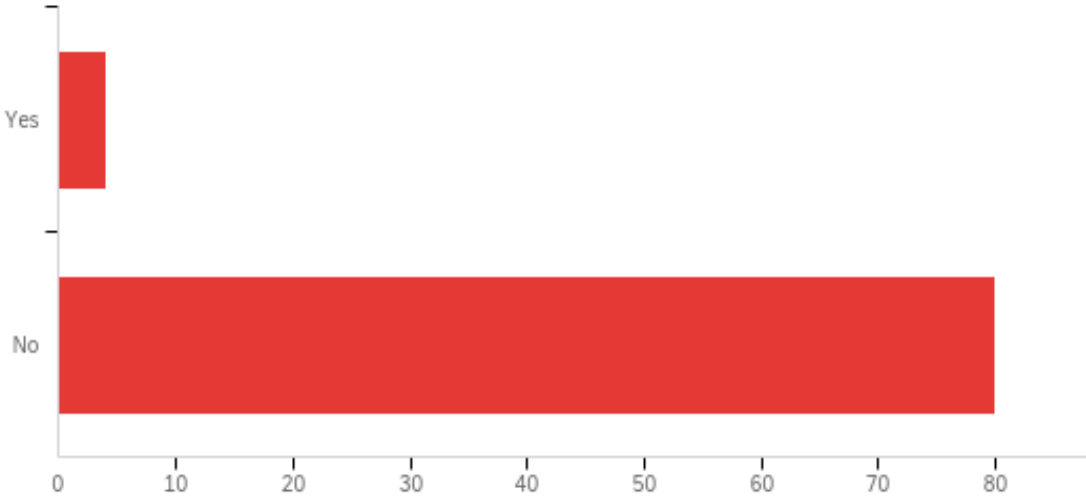
#	Answer	%	Count
1	The one-fish limit should not exist	3.53%	3
2	The one-fish limit should apply for a shorter period of time	1.18%	1
3	The March 15 - May 15 timeframe is about right	21.18%	18
4	The one-fish limit should apply for a longer period of time	21.18%	18
5	The one-fish limit should apply year-round	52.94%	45
	Total	100%	85

Q42 - Do you believe that the new one-fish steelhead harvest limit led to higher catch rates where and when it applied during the past season?



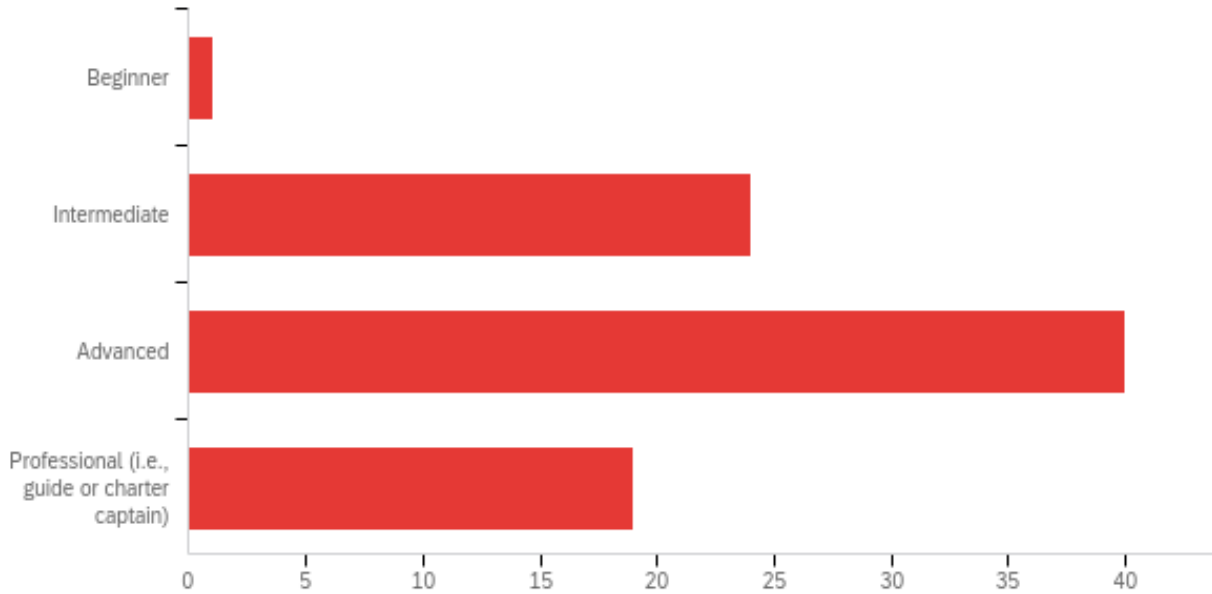
#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	28.74%	25
2	No	22.99%	20
3	Not Sure	48.28%	42
	Total	100%	87

Q43 - Do you work for a natural resource agency (e.g., DNR, Sea Grant, etc.)?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	4.76%	4
2	No	95.24%	80
	Total	100%	84

Q44 - How would you classify yourself in terms of steelhead fishing skill level?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Beginner	1.19%	1
2	Intermediate	28.57%	24
3	Advanced	47.62%	40
4	Professional (i.e., guide or charter captain)	22.62%	19
	Total	100%	84

NOTE: Sixteen participants who did not respond to the survey did verify data completeness and consent to participate via email. Of those sixteen participants who did not complete the survey, six were of known expertise (five professional and one intermediate). Those six participants are not included in survey results above, but their expertise designations were used when stratifying catch rate by expertise level.

Q45 - What year were you born?

The average birth year for respondents (N = 80) was 1977. Birth year was used to determine the demographic breakdown of participants by generation:

3	Silent Generation
17	Baby Boomer
20	Gen X
29	Millennial
11	Gen Z

Q46 - Let us know if you have any additional thoughts on steelhead or salmon fisheries using the space below:

The King salmon fishing in my home port of Ludington seems to be down in numbers but up in terms of the size of fish. Is there a study of these waters?

I think by lowering the limit to 1 needs to be across the board on all waters. By only lowering the bag on select rivers it seemed to put much more pressure on rivers that had a 3 bag limit from anglers whom we're trying to fill 3 fish limits.

I would like to see more steelhead stocking as a relative proportion to the Chinook stocking. I think that if science guides us to stock fewer fish overall, this should not lead to stocking one in preference to another. In Wisconsin the tendency to simply stock more fish (Chinook) to keep offshore anglers happy (including charter boats with commercial interests) is nonsensical if the objective was to reduce the overall predator ratio to the available forage base. Steelhead provide more opportunities for both offshore anglers and onshore fishermen. They also seem to carry fewer consumption advisories for those who choose to keep their catch. Finally, I would like to see more investment in riparian habitat in Wisconsin. Although our streams are less conducive to natural reproduction relative to other states, there is a lot of low-hanging fruit that could improve conditions for fish, anglers and overall water quality alike... Thanks for your efforts. [REDACTED]

I believe that a one fish limit for steelhead would greatly enhance the chance of a fish being caught more than once. It will also lead to a greater chance of the fish successfully spawning and reproducing. Over the past few years I have seen an increase in fishermen below the Allegan Dam. Sadly I am seeing more and more fish snagged and limits of fish taken to their cars. I have even seen and reported people taking limits to their cars and then returning to fishing to only keep more fish. The Allegan dam needs to have some sort of rule, I think that decreasing the limit would give the fishermen below the Allegan dam a chance to fill their freezer as well as keep this fishery sustainable.

I would like to see more cohos, kings, browns, and atlantics in Lake Superior but who wouldn't!

We stock too many steelhead and salmon and this stocking hinders native brook trout populations, which reduces the amount of chances for coaster brook trout. Habitat restoration will help all fish species more than fish stocking, which artificially stimulates river/ stream populations with naive stocked trout that outcompete wild/ native trout.

These rules need to apply for the big lake as well. That seems to be the biggest complaint. We would love kings to go back to 3 per as well. Bait is back let's quit being greedy and drop the limits!

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