



TIGER MUSKIE

Esox masquinongy x *Esox lucius*

Description:

- ◆ light colored, branching bars on a dark blue-green background
- ◆ coloration varies
- ◆ partly scaled gill covers and fully scaled cheek like the Northern Pike
- ◆ larger than Northern Pike, smaller than Muskellunge
- ◆ deeper bodied than the Muskellunge or the Northern Pike
- ◆ tail fin more rounded than that of the Muskellunge
- ◆ 5-6 chin pores on each side

Size:

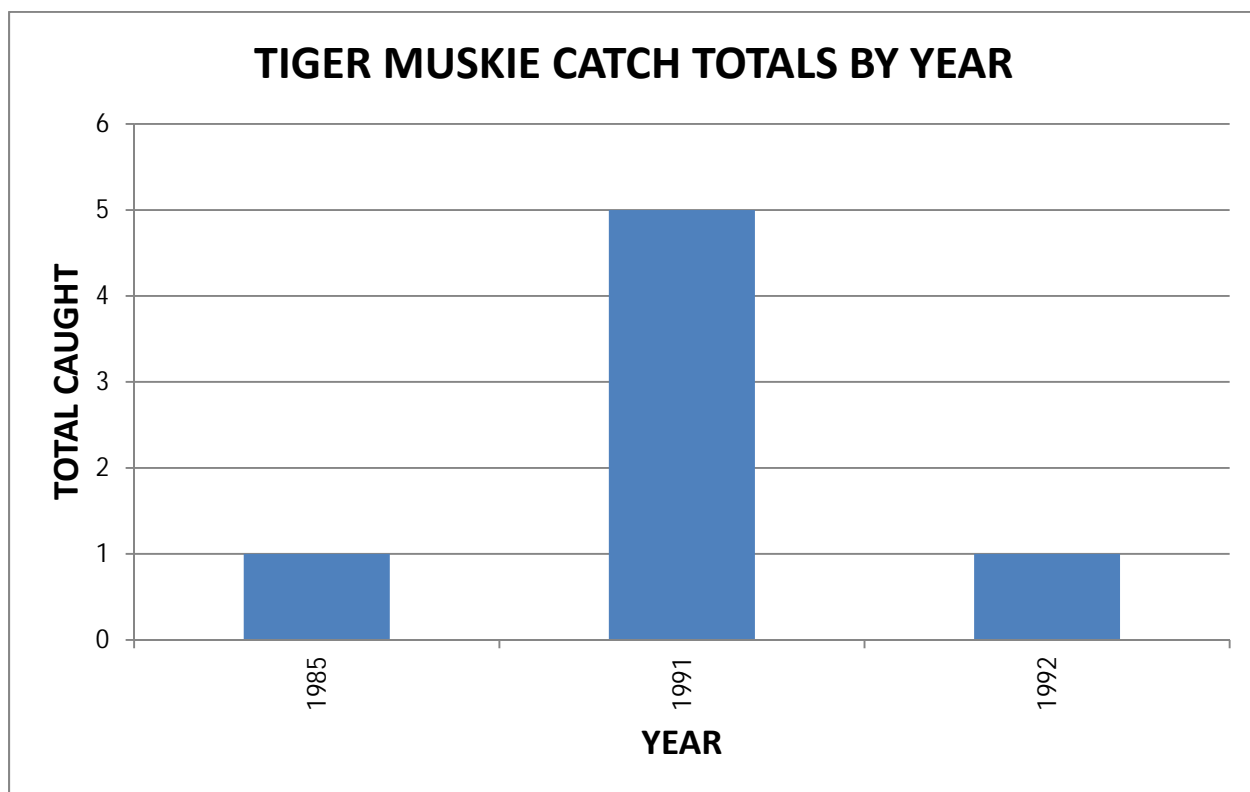
- ◆ average 24-38 inches

Range:

- ◆ Canada, the Great Lakes, the upper Mississippi River Valley and both the St. Lawrence and Ohio Rivers

Facts:

- ◆ hybrid cross between Northern Pike and Muskellunge
- ◆ sterile hybrids, do not reproduce
- ◆ extremely rapid growers
- ◆ stocked as a game fish because will not reproduce and endanger native species
- ◆ like lakes and quite rivers
- ◆ opportunistic ambush predators
- ◆ spawning takes place near aquatic vegetation, debris, and leaf litter over a period of a few days



*tiger muskies were only caught during the years shown

NJ Department of Environmental Protection
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Bureau of Marine Fisheries
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