



WHITE PERCH

Morone americana

Description:

- ◆ olive to silvery green above, brassy sides and white belly
- ◆ deep body (deepest under first dorsal fin)
- ◆ no dark stripes on adults
- ◆ 2 dorsal fins, barely connected; first with 8-10 strong spines
- ◆ no teeth on tongue

Size:

- ◆ up to 22 inches, most commonly between 7-10 inches

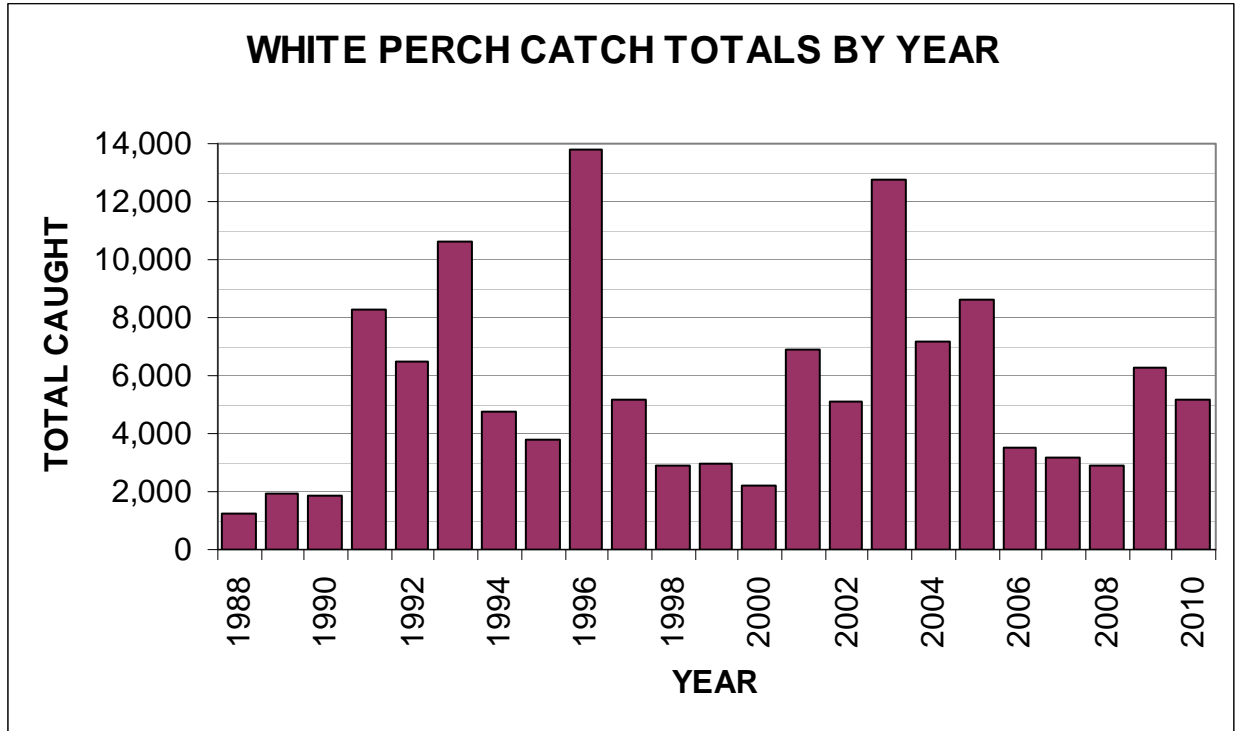
Range:

- ◆ Atlantic drainages from St. Lawrence River, Canada to Peedee River, South Carolina
- ◆ Lake Ontario

Facts:

- ◆ prefer brackish waters but also found in freshwater
- ◆ begin spawning run in spring as water temperatures rise, adults move upstream to freshwater
- ◆ eggs hatch in 1-6 days
- ◆ juveniles will stay near hatching grounds through summer and fall

- ◇ spend much of their lives in the same area where they hatched
- ◇ winter in deeper waters throughout the bays
- ◇ live an average of 10 years; but can live up to 17 years



*from 1980 to 1987, the largest catch was 755 fish in 1984

NJ Department of Environmental Protection
 Division of Fish and Wildlife
 Bureau of Marine Fisheries
www.NJFishandWildlife.com