Proposed Resolution #A Requires 2/3 Majority

Submitted by: Straits Area Sportsmen's Club, Gary Gorniak & Steve Dey

MUCC region: 2

Proposed: December 5, 2020 Conservation Policy Board meeting

Title: Removing the Size Limit on Northern Pike on Inland Lakes in the Upper

Peninsula

- 1 WHEREAS, the present maximum size limit (MSL) for Northern Pike on inland lakes of the Upper Peninsula of
- 2 Michigan is 24 inches in length; and,
- 3 WHEREAS, generally Northern Pike 24 inches or larger are mature 'trophy status' females; and,
- 4 WHEREAS, some male Northern Pike would not ever become legal-size before they died of natural causes; and,
- 5 **WHEREAS**, by having a maximum size length of 24" it has put undue pressure on the only fast-growing female
- 6 Northern Pike; and,
- WHEREAS, fish data on pike lakes shows overall before the regulation change in 1993 to the present regulation,
- 8 only about 11% of the pike had attained 24 inches or greater; and,
- 9 **WHEREAS**, efforts indicate the 24 inch MSL has failed to produce any improvement in Upper Peninsula of
- 10 Michigan's pike size structure; and,
- WHEREAS, surveys indicate for our bass and walleye waters typically have about 25% of the fish legal-sized or
- better. Post-1993 Northern Pike MSL survey evaluations revealed only 10% of the Northern Pike had attained 24
- inches or greater; and,
- 14 **WHEREAS**, survey data found no improvement in the pike size structure; and,
- 15 **WHEREAS**, by changing the size limit and keeping the possession limit at 2 with only one fish allowed over 24"
- 16 fishermen will keep smaller Northern Pike for the table leaving the larger mature female Northern Pike to
- 17 reproduce; NOW,
- 18 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) work with the
- 19 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Natural Resources Commission (NRC) to remove the size limit on
- inland lakes of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and keep the possession limit at 2 with only one pike over 24".