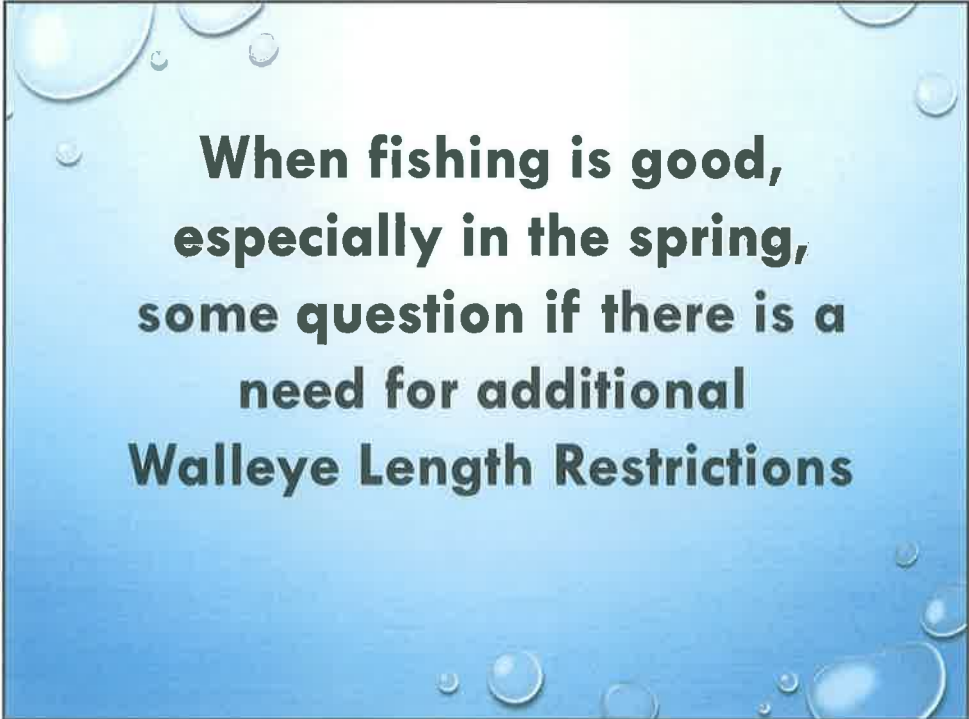




**DISCUSSION ON WALLEYE
LENGTH RESTRICTIONS FOR
NORTH DAKOTAS FISHERIES**



**When fishing is good,
especially in the spring,
some question if there is a
need for additional
Walleye Length Restrictions**

Other States Walleye Length Restrictions

Special Regulations

limit three. One over 10" allowed in possession. Sunfish, black and white crappie, yellow perch, largemouth and smallmouth bass, see Rochester-Diocese County Area Lakes on page 37.

FOX LAKE (Beltrami County) sunfish pike: All from 24-30" must be immediately released. One over 30" allowed in possession.

FRANKLIN LAKE (Dakota County) crappie: Minimum size limit 10". Possession limit five.

GAMERVEN (BOY SCOUT LAKE WILLOW RESERVOIR NO. 4) (Dismal County) See Rochester-Diocese County Area Lakes on page 27.

GARDEN LAKE (Dakota County) sunfish pike: All from 24-30" must be immediately released. One over 30" allowed in possession. Walleye: All from 17-30" must be immediately released. One over 30" is allowed in possession.

GEORGE LAKE (Hickory County) sunfish pike: All from 24-30" must be immediately released. One over 30" allowed in possession. Largemouth and smallmouth bass: All 14-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

GILBERT LAKE (Crow Wing County) crappie: Possession limit five, sunfish: Possession limit five.

GILL LAKE (Cass County) sunfish: One over 30" allowed in possession. Possession limit five.

GRANDON LAKE (Crow Wing County) sunfish: Possession limit five.

GOOSE LAKE (Chippewa County) sunfish: Possession limit five.

GRAND LAKE (Dakota County) sunfish: Possession limit five.

GREAT NORTHERN LAKE (Dakota County) sunfish: Possession limit five.

GREEN LAKE (Chippewa County) sunfish: Possession limit five.

GREEN PRAIRIE LAKE (Morris County) sunfish: Possession limit five.

CHRISTOPHER LAKE (Dakota County) sunfish: Possession limit five.

any outfit or stream that empties into or out of the lake.

GILL LAKE (Beltrami County) sunfish: Possession limit five.

GILL LAKE (Cook County) walleye: See Sargenta Lake (page 38).

HERITY LAKE (Douglas County) largemouth and smallmouth bass: All from 12"-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

HORSESHOE LAKE (Cass County) sunfish: Possession limit five.

HOWE LAKE (Cass County) largemouth bass: Catch-and-release only.

HORSING LAKE (Dakota County) See South River Chain of Lakes (page 38).

HERBERT LAKE (Crow Wing County) largemouth and smallmouth bass: All 13" and larger must be immediately released.

HUNTER JACK LAKE (Cook County) sunfish: Possession limit five. Walleye: All from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

INDIAN LAKE and connected RICE LAKE (Cass County) sunfish: Possession limit 10, crappie: Possession limit five.

ISLAND LAKE near Northern (Dakota County) sunfish pike: All from 24-30" must be immediately released. One over 30" allowed in possession.

WALLEYE: All from 17-28" must be immediately released. One over 28" allowed in possession.

ITASKA LAKE (Clearwater County) crappie: Possession limit five, sunfish: Possession limit 10.

JANE LAKE (Washington County) largemouth bass: Catch-and-release only.

JANESVILLE LAKE (Hickory County) walleye: All from 20-25" must be immediately released. One over 25" allowed in possession. Possession limit four.

JANESVILLE LAKE including SULLIVAN BAY and ASH RIVER to Ash River Falls (St. Louis County) walleye: All from 17-25" must be immediately released. One over 25" allowed in possession. sunfish/walleye: Possession limit six combined, only four may be walleye.

KALAM RESERVOIR (Dismal County) See Rochester-Diocese County Area Lakes on page 37.

KRAVS LAKE (Dakota County) See South River Chain of Lakes (page 38).

KRUE LAKE (Dakota County) walleye: All from 18-24" must be immediately released. One over 24" allowed in possession. Northern pike: All from 24-30" must be immediately released. One over 30" allowed in possession.

KRUE LAKE (Cook County) trout: Catch-and-release only. Artificial lures and flies with a single hook only. Use and possession of bait prohibited. Closed to winter fishing.

KRUE LAKE (Dakota County) See South River Chain of Lakes (page 38).

sunfish limit two, largemouth crappie: Possession limit five, sunfish limit 10, including the Watonsa Sag (Chippewa County) walleye: Possession limit three, walleye on the mouth upstream to the 30-40" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

LESTER LAKE (Hickory County) sunfish: All from 12-25" must be immediately released. One over 25" allowed in possession. Possession limit four. (See page 15 for whitefish.)

LESTER LAKE (Hickory County) All species: Catch-and-release only.

LINA LAKE SOUTH and NORTH including connecting Mud Lake (Dakota County) crappie: Minimum size limit 11". Walleye: All from 17-25" must be immediately released. One over 25" allowed in possession.

LIND LAKE (Cass County) sunfish: Possession limit five.

LITTLE BOY LAKE (Cass County) sunfish pike: All from 24-30" must be immediately released. One over 30" allowed in possession.

LITTLE CASCADIA LAKE (Cook County) sunfish pike: All from 24-36" must be immediately released. One over 30" allowed in possession.

LITTLE CORMORANT LAKE (Dakota County) sunfish: Possession limit five. Black crappie: Minimum size limit 12". Possession limit five. Walleye: Minimum size limit 17".

LITTLE FLOYD LAKE (Beltrami County) sunfish pike: All from 24-30" must be immediately released. One over 30" allowed in possession.

LITTLE MARYTAP LAKE (Beltrami County) largemouth bass: All from 12-20" must be immediately released. One over 20" allowed in possession.

LITTLE McDONALD LAKE including KERBS LAKE (Dakota County) walleye: All from 17-25" must be immediately released. One over 25" allowed in possession.

LITTLE SAUK LAKE (Held County) walleye: Possession limit two, largemouth bass: Possession limit one, sunfish: Possession limit five, crappie: Possession limit five, yellow perch: Possession limit 10.

North Dakota's Current Walleye Length Restrictions

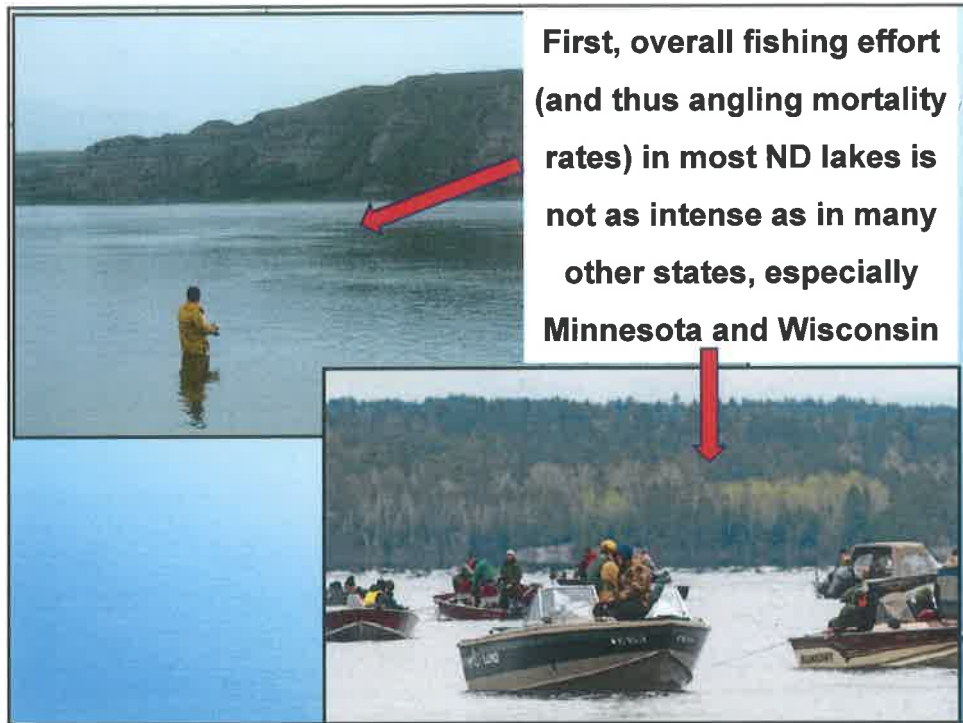
- keeping exceptions to a minimum (10) -

Water Areas	It is illegal to Take or Possess:	
Anywhere in the state		Muskellunge Less than 48 inches in total length
Lake Elele, Lueck Lake, and West Moran Lake	Richland Co.	
Altai Lake, Buffalo Lake (including connected waters north to Sargent Co. Rd. 1), and Tøsse Slough	Sargent Co.	Walleye/Sauger Less than 14 inches in total length
Jameslow and Pipestem reservoirs upstream to and including the first bridge crossing	Stutsman Co.	
North and South Golden lakes	Steele Co.	

Why then is North Dakota's approach so different than states to the east where many water bodies have their own unique suite of regulations?

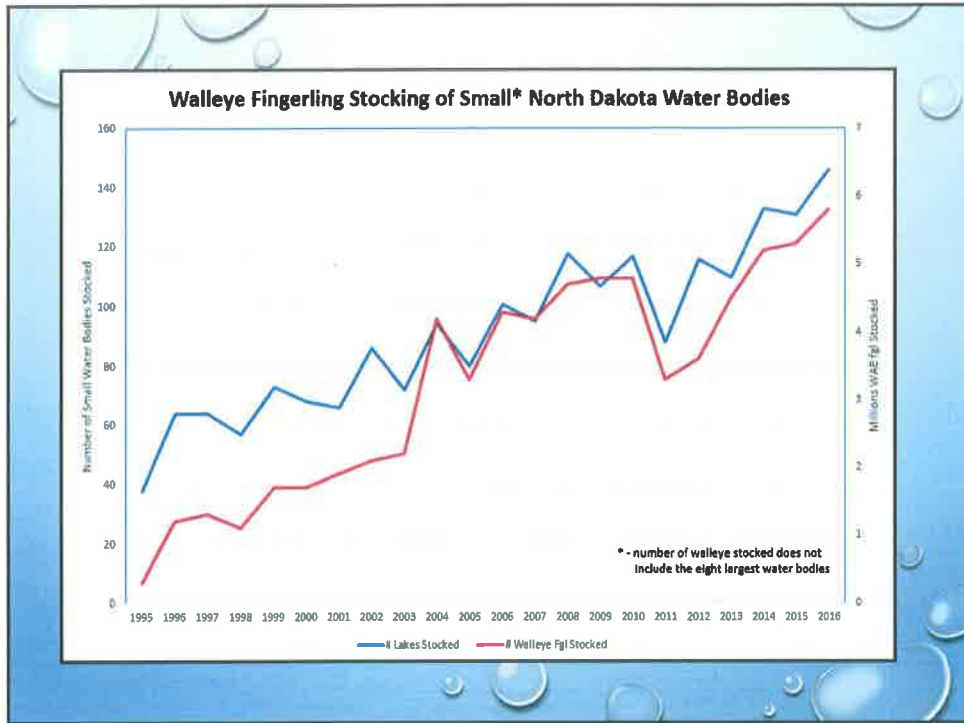
North Dakota Walleye Length Restriction Regulations – Why or Why Not?

**Biological versus Social
need for Length Restrictions**



Second, North Dakota generally does not have self-sustaining walleye populations but does have the ability to stock the needed walleye fingerling into our water bodies.

North Dakota routinely stocks the most fingerling in North America



Third, the majority of the new walleye lakes are highly productive wetlands

And fourth, because these walleye lakes are highly productive wetlands, they are also ideal for the potential fish kills (primarily winter) if shallow



North Dakota Walleye Length Restriction Regulations – Why or Why Not?

**Biological versus Social
need for Length Restrictions**

**North Dakota Walleye Length Restriction
Regulations – Why or Why Not?**

**Biological versus Social
need for Length Restrictions**

**Socially, implementing a
Length Restriction (often a
One-Over) is often based on
someone's desire to equitably
(their perspective) distribute
the harvest of large(r) walleye**



One of Many Examples Lake Oahe – Missouri River 2009

46,000 walleye 20 inches and larger were kept

If a “one-over” 20 inches regulation had been in place ...

- **8,350** walleye released (of the 46,000)
- **1,750** of these caught again in the future
- **6,600** would have died naturally, never again caught by another angler



Socially, to implement a length limit where it isn't needed, particularly where it wouldn't have an effect on the population, is simply imposing some anglers' personal beliefs on the entire angling community

North Dakota's Approach - Keep It Simple!

Do you feel the current ND fishing regulations (season length, limits, methods, baits restrictions, etc.) are easy to understand?

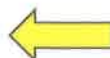
2015 Yes - 99%, No - 1% (of those with an opinion),
 2008 Yes - 98%, No - 2% (of those with an opinion),
 1998 Yes - 97%, No - 3% (of those with an opinion),
 1991 Yes - 93%, No - 7% (of those with an opinion)

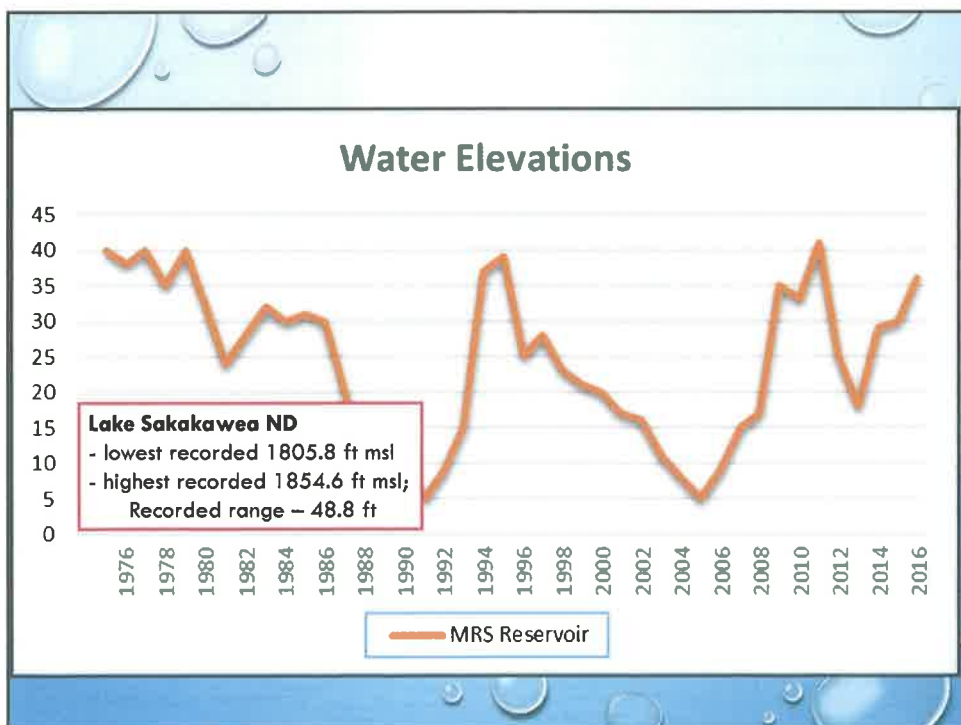
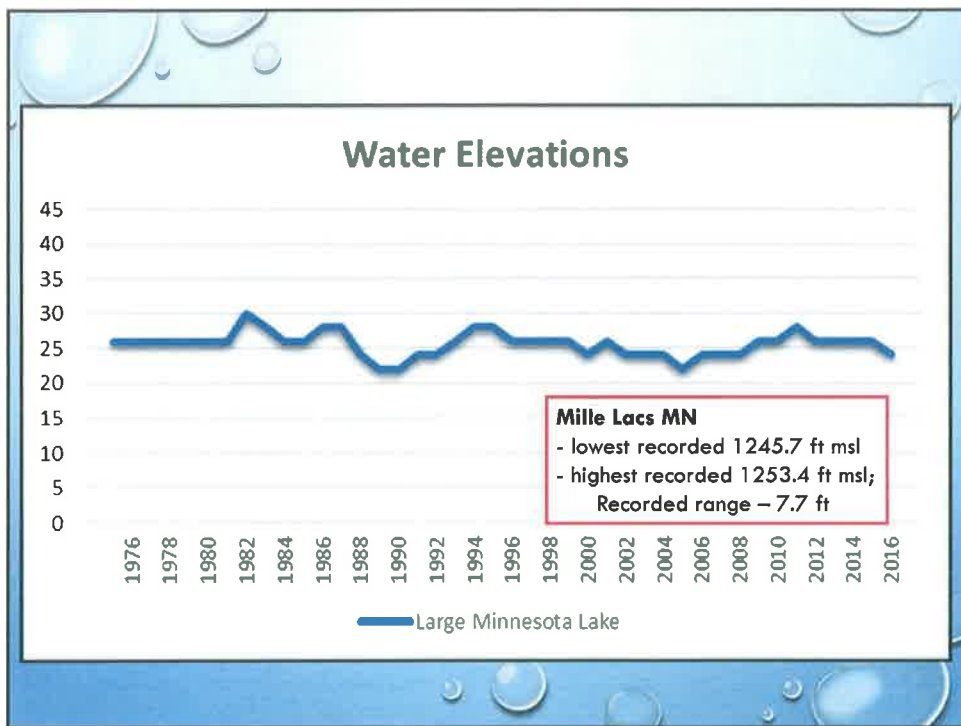
What is your opinion of North Dakota fishing regulations (season length, limits, methods, bait restrictions, etc.)?

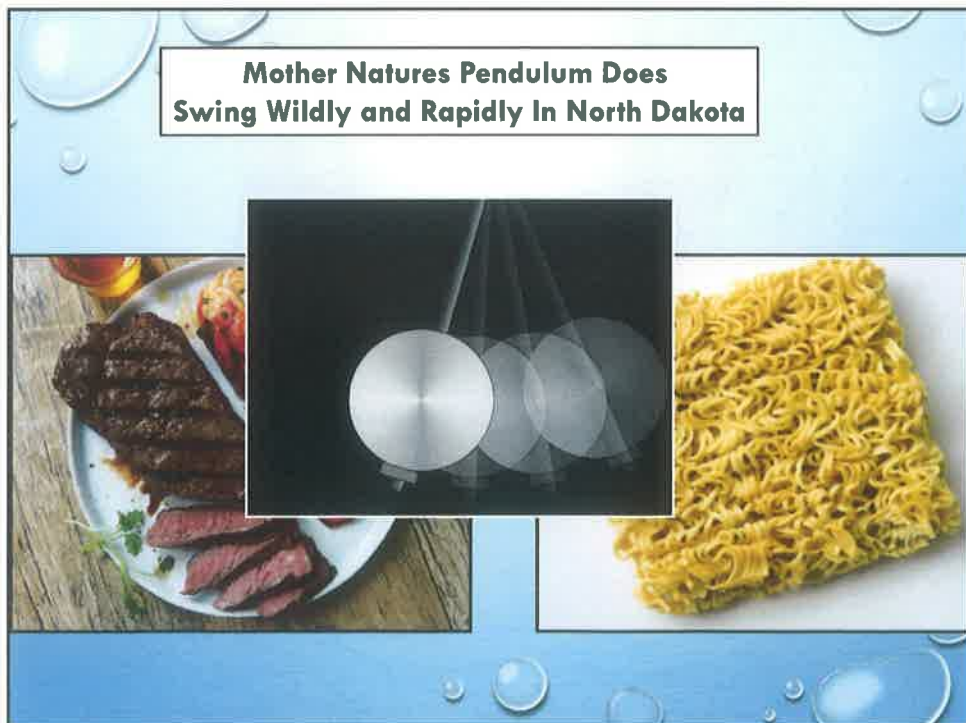
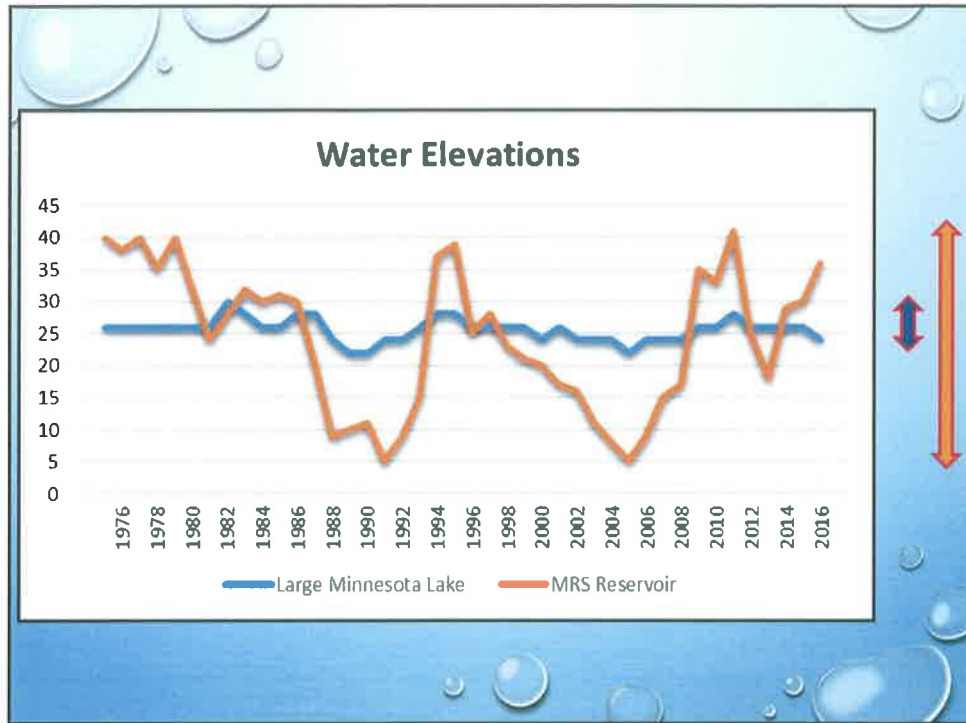
2013 - Excellent or Good - 90%
 Excellent - 34%, Good 56%, Fair 8%, Poor 1%

Do you prefer fishing regulations (e.g. season length, limits, methods, bait restrictions, etc.) that are more complex but lake specific or simple but statewide?

2013 - Complex but lake specific 24%, Simple but statewide 76%
 2008 - Complex but lake specific 23%, Simple but statewide 77%
 2002 - Complex but lake specific 27%, Simple but statewide 73%







**CURRENTLY THERE IS NO
NEED FOR ANY WALLEYE
LENGTH RESTRICTIONS FOR
THE VAST MAJORITY OF
NORTH DAKOTA'S FISHERIES**

DEVILS LAKE YOUNG WALLEYE

