

## Fishermen fined

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Two West Nipissing men have been fined a total of \$2,000 for possessing more than the legal limit of walleye from Lake Nipissing.

Denis and Serge Leduc pleaded guilty and were each fined \$1,000. The court also prohibited both men from obtaining or possessing a fishing licence and engaging in any fishing activities for two years.

All fish seized were forfeited and donated to the local food bank.

Court was told that on March 15, 2014, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry conservation officers inspected the men on Lake Nipissing. It was determined they had caught and retained 11 walleye over their legal limit.

Justice of the Peace Michel Moreau heard this case in the Ontario Court of Justice, Sturgeon Falls, Jan. 19.

Charles Vallieres of Sturgeon Falls pleaded guilty and was fined \$1,000 Jan. 19 for possessing more than the legal limit of walleye from Lake Nipissing and \$500 for making a false statement to a conservation officer March 14, 2014.

In addition, Vallieres is barred from obtaining or possessing a fishing licence, or engaging in any fishing activities for one year. All fish seized were forfeited and donated to the local food bank.

Court heard that officers inspected two anglers on Lake Nipissing. Upon investigation, it was found Vallieres had caught and retained five walleye over his legal limit. He further provided a false statement to the officers, stating the extra walleye belonged to his fishing partner.

Lake Nipissing has a legal possession quota of two walleye with a sport fishing licence. To report a natural resources violation, call the ministry TIPS line at 1-877-847-7667 toll-free any time or contact the local ministry office during regular business hours. Calls can also be made anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).