

Management Brief

March 2021



We sampled the fish population on March 24, 2021. Sampling conditions were excellent, and we obtained very good sample data from which to make assessments.

- Largemouth Bass spawning was successful in 2020 and a strong cohort of young bass entered the population last year.
- We examined 50 bass weighing up to 12 lb 15 oz. Condition of bass longer than 12 inches is excellent, with a Relative Weight of 1.18. The bass population is in its best shape since ca 2005.
- As usual, multiple largemouths had crappie and bluegill/redear tails protruding from their throats, indicating heavy predation upon all species.
- Bluegills and redears likewise look good, ranging up to 13 inches.
- A couple dozen crappie were collected, and ranged up to 2 lb 9 oz. Relatively fewer crappie are seen in the samples, but average size continues to increase. Management practices begun in 2011 are paying off with elimination of the stunted crappie situation. This, again, is consistent with objectives.
- Hybrid Striped Bass have clearly done their job and hybrids exceeding 12 lbs do remain in the lake.



Specific Recommendations for 2021

- 1) Continue to allow limited harvest of largemouth bass LESS THAN 14 inches.
 - a) Maintain the daily creel limit at 7 bass per angler.
 - b) Release all bass measuring 14 inches and longer.
 - c) Observe good "Catch-and-Release" handling practices to avoid stress on released bass.
- 2) Immediately Release ALL hybrid striped bass that are caught incidentally or intentionally. Removal of hybrid striped bass by owners or guests shall result in the owners' losing fishing privilege for a period of 12 months. (Board Approved policy)
- 3) Harvest bluegills and redears as desired, based upon quality of fish observed. Daily limit of 25.
- 4) Release smaller bream to augment forage for bass.



CONTINUE TO REMOVE ALL CRAPPIE THAT ARE CAUGHT - WITHOUT EXCEPTION - REGARDLESS OF SIZE

- 5) Remain cognizant of vegetation on trailers, in livewells, etc. Exotic plants like Hydrilla and Giant Salvinia are potentially disastrous intruders!

"I seldom tell people where I caught fish, but when I do it's always a lie." anonymous

Nutrient Management

- a) Minimize application of nitrogen fertilizer.
- b) Use time-release or liquid formulations.
- c) Maintain "buffer strip" of slightly higher grass (4-6 inches) on lakeshore to "filter" nutrient runoff.
- d) Minimize/eliminate grass clippings blown into lake.