



# Lake Monroe 2023

## REEL FACTS

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**General Information:** Lake Monroe is a 99 acre State Fishing Lake constructed in 1959. The lake was renovated in 2014 and reopened in June of 2017. Lake Monroe has been a popular destination for bream, catfish, and Largemouth Bass in years past.

**Location:** Between Aberdeen and Amory off of Highway 45.

**Fishery Management:** Largemouth Bass, Walleye, bream, crappie, and catfish.

**Lake Depth Map:** <http://www.mdwfp.com/media/5444/lake-monroe.pdf>

**Purchase a Fishing License:** [https://www.ms.gov/mdwfp/hunting\\_fishing/](https://www.ms.gov/mdwfp/hunting_fishing/)

### Amenities

- 1 public ramp with courtesy pier, parking lot, and public restroom with showers
- 2 handicapped fishing piers
- 1 earthen fishing pier
- 14 camping pads with water/electric hookups

### Creel and Size Limits

- Bream: 100 per day
- Catfish: 10 per day
- Crappie: 20 per day
- Largemouth Bass: Slot limit, bass 16-24 inches in length must be released immediately, 10 bass per day creel limit, only one may be over 24 inches.
- Walleye: All Walleye must be released immediately.

### Regulations

- Fishing is not allowed from courtesy pier adjacent to boat ramp.
- Rod and reel or pole fishing is allowed. No trotlines, FFFD's, jugs, yo-yo's, limblines, throwlines, or set hooks are allowed.
- Sport fishing licenses and fishing permits are required except on designated days during National Fishing and Boating Week.
- Lake is designated as No Wake at all times.

### Forage Species

- Crawfish
- Threadfin shad
- Gizzard shad

### Fishing Tips

#### Bream

- Try crickets, red wigglers, and wax worms in shallow areas during late spring and summer. Bream beds around the fishing piers are good areas.

#### Catfish

- Try tightlining liver or scented hot dogs along deep drop offs. Night fishing is typically good.

#### Crappie

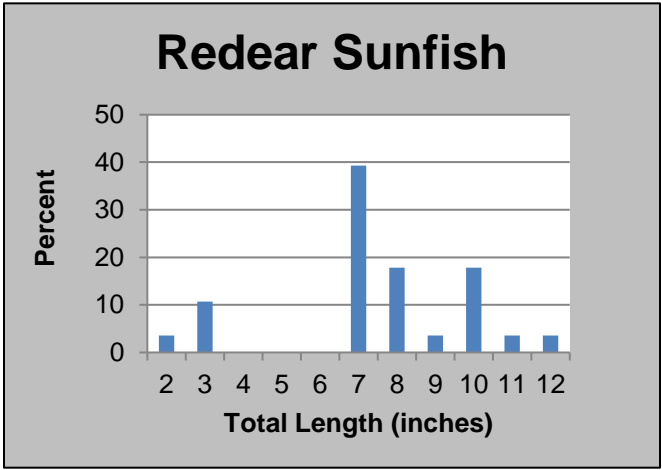
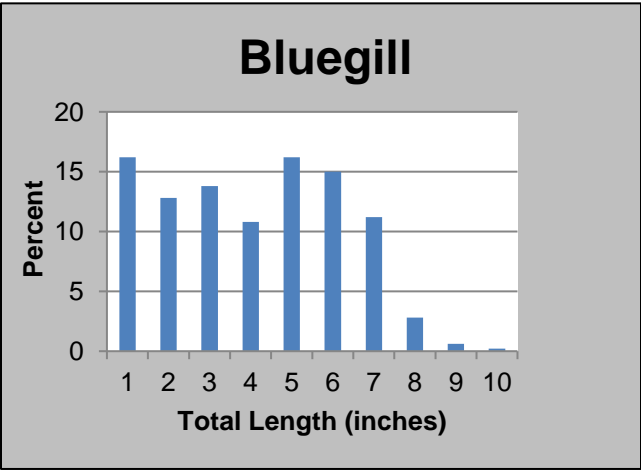
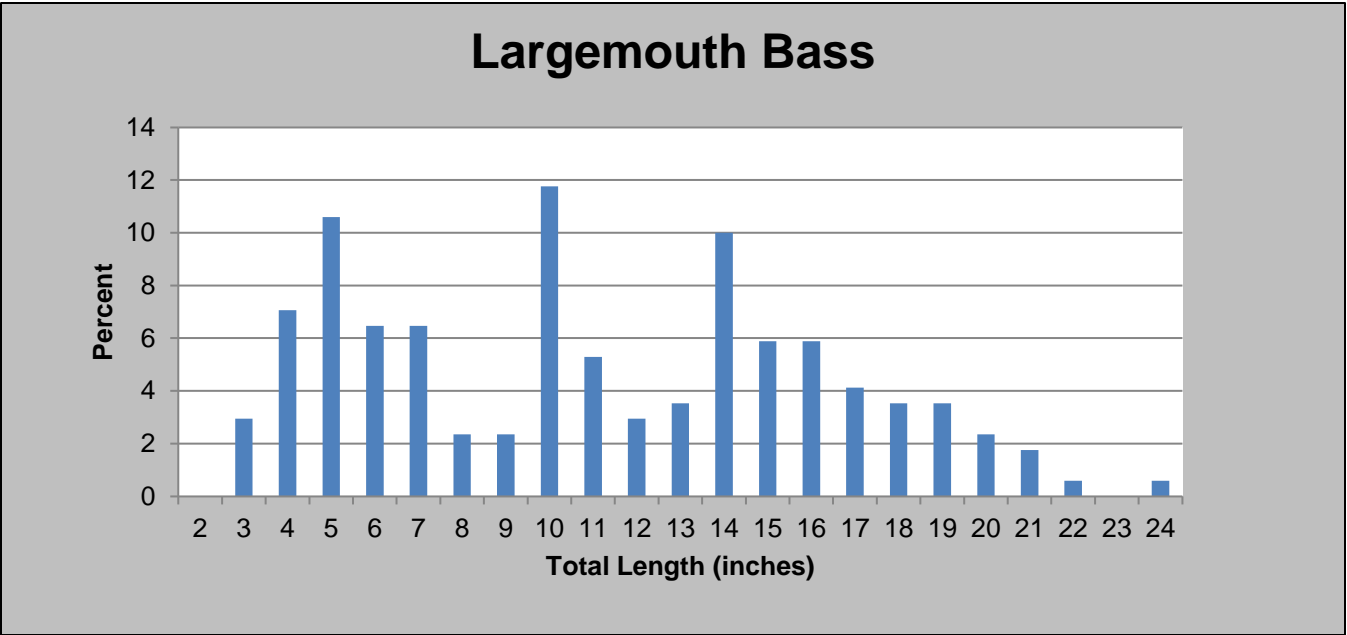
- Target brush piles along the creek channel with live minnows.

#### Largemouth Bass

- Target shallow weedlines in the morning with topwater baits. During the day, fish brush piles and ledges with soft plastics and crankbaits.

**Below:** Lake Monroe record fish. Record fish must be weighed and verified by the lake manager, lake supervisor, or fisheries biologist. Anglers who catch a lake record fish will receive a certificate acknowledging their catch. There is no minimum weight for any open lake record.

Fish Species	Weight (pounds)	Angler	Date Caught
Largemouth Bass	10.80	J.L. Duckworth	1997
Crappie	Open	-	-
Redear Sunfish	1.8 lbs.	Dustin Shields	May 14, 2022
Bluegill	1.4 lbs	Dustin Shields	May 12, 2022
Catfish	4.25	Matthew Waddell	June 20, 2018



**Above:** Length distributions for Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, and Redear Sunfish collected during 2021 electrofishing. In order to prevent the lake from becoming bass crowded, anglers are encouraged to harvest small bass less than 14 inches in length.

**Below:** Results from the 2022 fall electrofishing survey conducted at Lake Monroe. Five random samples were completed over 3.1 miles of the lake. Both Bluegill and Redear Sunfish looked great, with three-quarter pound Bluegill and Redear over a pound.

Species	# of fish collected	% of sample	Average Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate – Adult fish (fish/mile)
Gizzard Shad	10	1	11.6	15.4	-	3
Threadfin Shad	121	15	2.5	3.2	-	-
Warmouth	2	<1	5.5	7.5	0.4	0.7
Bluegill	500	60	4.6	10.5	0.2	114
Redear Sunfish	28	3	8.1	12.4	0.5	98
Largemouth Bass	170	20	11.6	24	1.6	37
Gulf-Coast Strain Walleye	2	<1	19.2	19.3	2.1	0.7

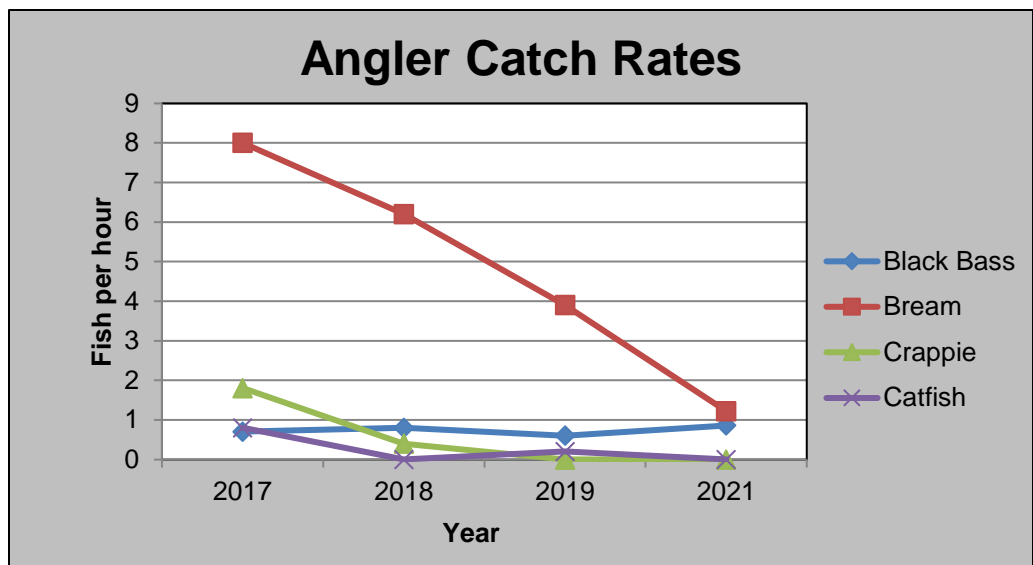
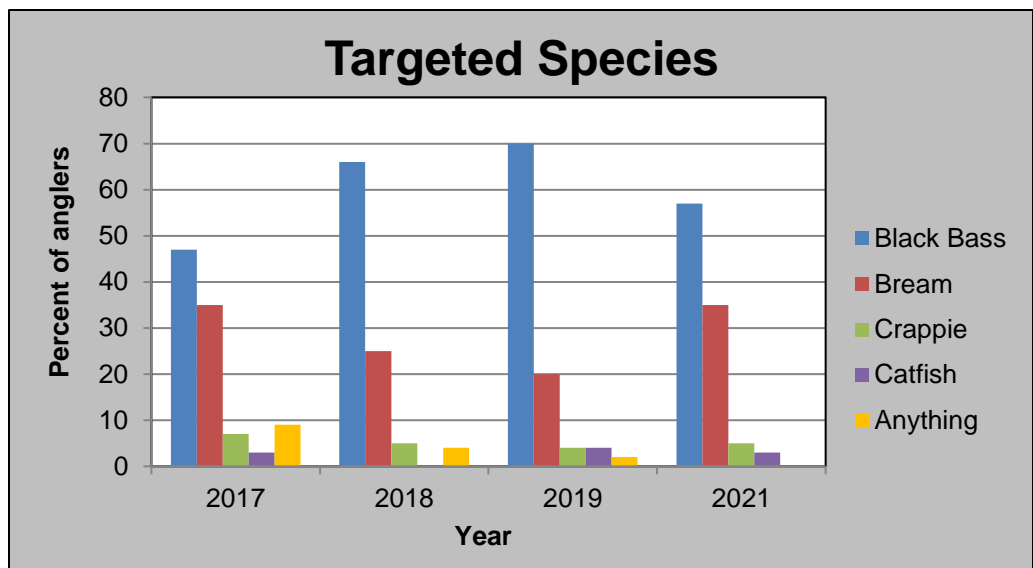
**Right:** Due to the productive soil and high stocking rates of forage, Lake Monroe bass exhibit fast growth rates and are very healthy.



**Left:** Both Bluegill and Redear Sunfish were impressive at Lake Monroe.



**Right:** 2021 spring angler creel data showing trends in targeted species and angler catch rates. The decline in catch rates for most species is simply due to fishing pressure. Anglers overwhelmingly target bass over any other species.



**Left:** Bass anglers that have dedicated time to fishing offshore ledges and brush have found success at Lake Monroe. Utilizing electronics can help anglers find the ledges, channels, and brush where the quality fish are staging.