



Lake Monroe 2019

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/

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

- Golden Shiners
- 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

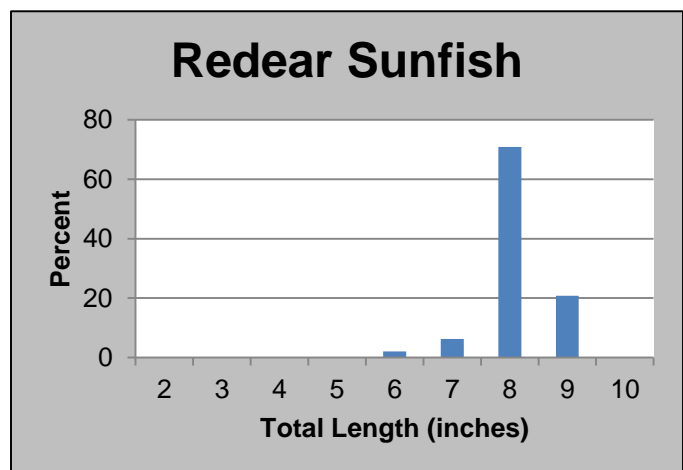
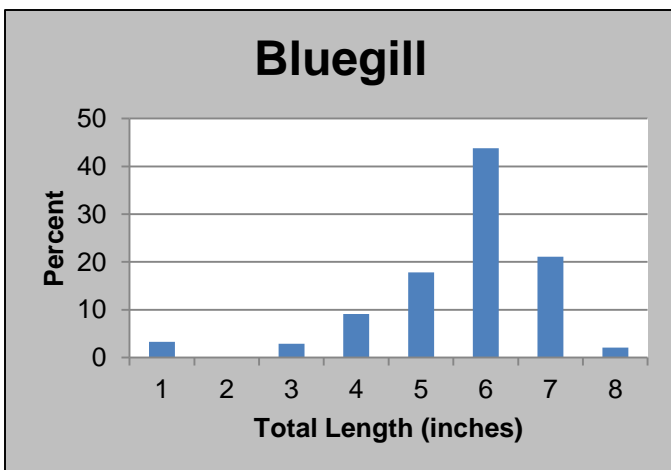
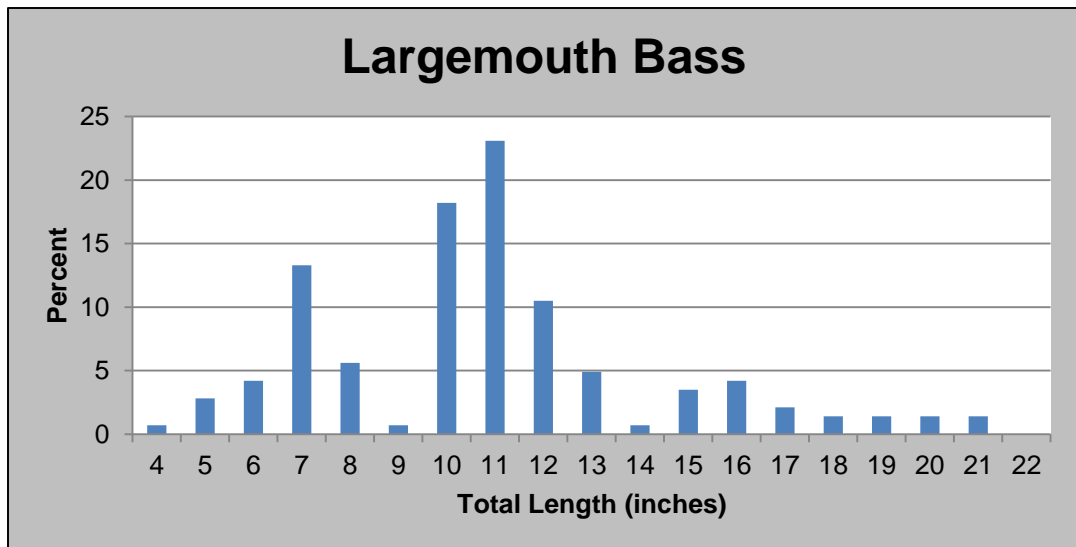
- Target brush piles along the creek channel with live minnows.

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	Open	-	-
Bluegill	Open	-	-
Catfish	4.25	Matthew Waddell	June 20, 2018



Above: Length distributions for Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, and Redear Sunfish collected during 2018 fall electrofishing. In order to prevent the lake from becoming bass crowded, anglers are encouraged to harvest small bass less than 14 inches in length.

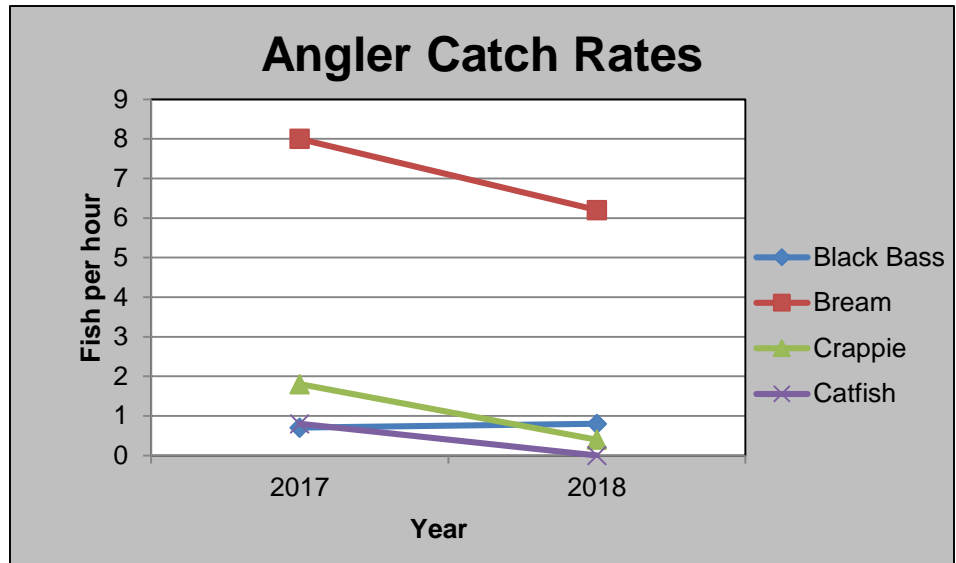
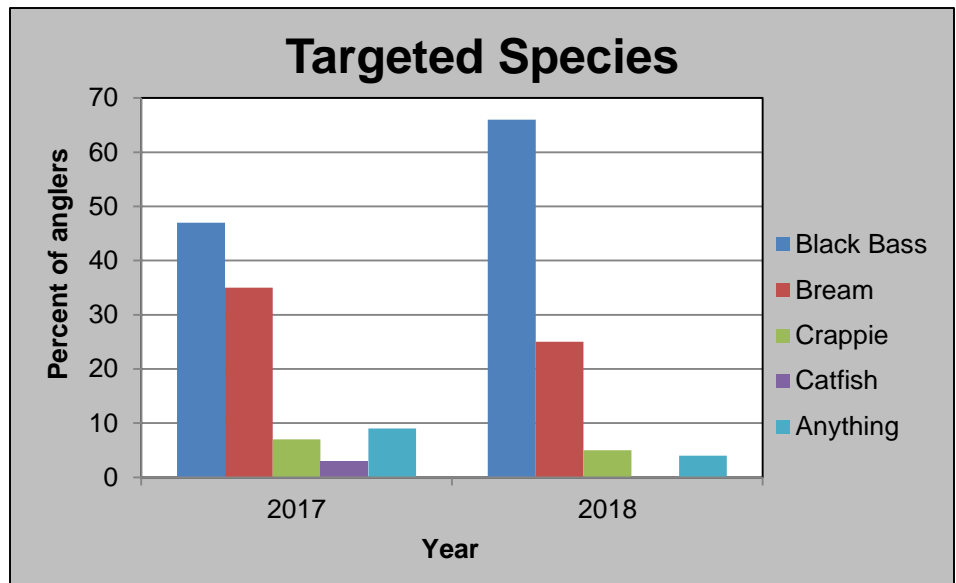
Below: Results from the 2018 fall electrofishing survey conducted at Lake Monroe. Five random samples were completed over 3.1 miles of the lake. Growth rates for Largemouth Bass and Walleye were impressive, with bass up to 22 inches and Walleye over 19 inches in only 3.5 years since being stocked.

Species	# of fish collected	% of sample	Average Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate – Adult fish (fish/mile)
Largemouth Bass	143	32	11.4	21.9	1	46
Bluegill	242	54	6.1	8.4	0.2	75
Redear Sunfish	48	11	8.6	9.3	0.4	15
Warmouth	3	1	7	8	0.2	1
Gulf-Coast Strain Walleye	6	1	19.2	19.6	1.9	2
Green Sunfish	6	1	5.2	6.1	0.1	2

Right: Due to the productive soil and high stocking rate of forage, Lake Monroe bass exhibit fast growth rates and are very healthy. Within the next few years, Lake Monroe will start producing trophy bass rivaling any lake in Mississippi.



Right: Creel data from 2017 and 2018 showing trends in targeted species and angler catch rates. The decline in catch rates for most species is simply due to fishing pressure, although there was a slight uptick in bass catch rates.



Left: Bass anglers that have dedicated time to fishing offshore ledges and brush have found success at Lake Monroe. Intense fishing pressure during the first month pushed many of the quality fish out deep. Utilizing electronics can help anglers find the ledges, channels, and brush where the quality fish are staging.