**Calling Panther Lake 2022**

**REEL FACTS**

Ryan Jones – Fisheries Biologist  
**Ryan.Jones@wfp.ms.gov** (601) 859-3421

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**General Information:** Calling Panther Lake is a 404 acre state fishing lake that was built in 2003 and opened in 2006. This lake offers a unique fishing experience with dense stands of submerged timber and deep creek channels.

**Location:** Approximately 5 miles west of Crystal Springs

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

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

**Lake Depth Map:** [http://www.mdwfp.com/media/5443/calling-panther-lake.pdf](http://www.mdwfp.com/media/5443/calling-panther-lake.pdf)

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**Amenities**

- 1 public ramp, parking lot, public restroom with showers, and a nature trail
- 1 handicapped fishing pier
- 23 camping pads with water, electrical, and sewer

**Creel and Size Limits**

- Bream: 100 per day
- Catfish: 10 per day
- Crappie: 30 per day
- Largemouth Bass: 1 over 20 inches and 10 per day

**Forage Species**

- Threadfin Shad
- Crawfish

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**Regulations**

- 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.
- Skiing is allowed on Wednesday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day from noon to sunset within ski area.
- Lake is designated as No Wake all other times.

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**Fishing Tips**

**Bream**

- Try crickets and worms in shallow areas during late spring and summer. Redear Sunfish are often caught by tightlining.

**Catfish**

- Try liver, worms, or blood scented bait along the dam and southwest bank. Night fishing is typically good.

**Crappie**

- Try minnows or jigs around vegetation in the spring. Fishing the creek channel is popular at other times of the year.

**Largemouth Bass**

- Target shallow flats during the spring with soft plastics. Drop offs, ledges, and creek channels are good areas during the summer. Watch for schooling activity as well.
Below: Historic lake record fish for Calling Panther Lake. Anglers that catch a fish they believe to be a lake record must have the fish verified by a MDWFP lake manager, lake supervisor, or biologist.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fish Species</th>
<th>Weight (pounds)</th>
<th>Angler</th>
<th>Date Caught</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>James Allen</td>
<td>Feb. 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crappie</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>Peggy Blakeney</td>
<td>March 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redear Sunfish</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>George Runnells</td>
<td>July 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluegill</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Jimmy McNabb</td>
<td>May 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catfish</td>
<td>7.64</td>
<td>Earnest Slawson</td>
<td>March 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Below: Calling Panther Lake is a popular destination for anglers in central Mississippi. The opportunity to catch a trophy size Largemouth Bass, along with it’s close proximity to Jackson, make it one of the most popular lakes in the state.
Below: Results from the 2021 fall electrofishing survey conducted at Calling Panther Lake.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th># of fish collected</th>
<th>% of sample</th>
<th>Average Length (inches)</th>
<th>Maximum Length (inches)</th>
<th>Average Weight (pounds)</th>
<th>Catch Rate – Adult fish (fish/mile)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Largemouth bass</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redear sunfish</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green sunfish</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warmouth</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluegill</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gizzard shad</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>15.7</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longear sunfish</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel catfish</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Above: Length distributions for Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, and Redear Sunfish collected during 2021 fall electrofishing.
Left: Anglers catch good size crappie throughout the year due great habitat.

Right: Lake Calling Panther habitat is dominated by flooded timber. Anglers typically have more success when keying on depth contour changes such as creek channels and ledges.
Below: Depth contour map for Lake Calling Panther

Left: A nature trail offers scenic views of the lake and surrounding watershed. The trail can be found off Gaddy Lane on the way to the lake.