Aliceville Lake 2026
REEL FACTS

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General Information: The second largest of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway lakes, Aliceville Lake is approximately 8,300 acres and 28 miles in length and extends from the Columbus Lock and Dam (Stennis Lock and Dam) tailrace to Aliceville Lock and Dam (Tom Bevill Lock and Dam).

Location: From just south of Columbus, MS extending to Pickensville, AL.

Fishery Management: Largemouth Bass, crappie, and catfish.

Purchase a Fishing License: https://www.ms.gov/mdwfp/hunting_fishing/

Amenities

- 3 public boat ramps
- 1 campground
- Swimming area
- Picnic area
- Restroom

Regulations

- Black bass (largemouth and spotted): 10 bass (combined) per day per angler.
- Crappie: 9-inch minimum length limit and 30 crappie per day per angler.
- Bream: 100 bream (combined) per day per angler.
- Catfish: no limit. Only one catfish over 34 inches per day per angler.
- All paddlefish caught must be released
- Other creel limits can be found at www.mdwfp.com

Regulations

Yo-Yo's, Jugs, and Trotlines

- No more than 25 jugs and no more than 25 yo-yos may be fished per person. No more than 2 hooks are allowed on each device. Trotlines may have no more than 100 single hooks.

Spillway

- Anglers can only use one pole or rod per person.
- Artificial lures with no more than 3 treble hooks no larger than #2 may be used anytime.
- The use of baited or bare treble hooks is illegal.
- From Dec 1 until the last day in Feb – Anglers can only fish with 2 single hooks no larger than #2. Hooks must be at least 1 inch apart.
- From March 1 until the last day in Nov – Anglers may fish with 2 single hooks of any size. Hooks must be at least 1 inch apart.
- Baitfish captured at Columbus spillway must be immediately placed on ice or in a dry container.

Sportfishing Notes

Black Bass

- Target deeper backwater areas with woody debris and aquatic vegetation with Texas-rigged plastics, square-billed crankbaits, spinnerbaits, and jigs.
- In the spring, target backwater flats with spinnerbaits, Texas-rigs, vibrating jigs, and weedless swimbaits.

Crappie

- Target the deep old river bendways with jigs and minnows around any woody cover.
- Fish standing timber and the edges of vegetation nearby in the Camp Pratt and Coal Fire Creek areas.

Catfish

- Fish for catfish along main channel drop-offs, mouths of bendways, and deep old river channels with cutbait or whole shad.

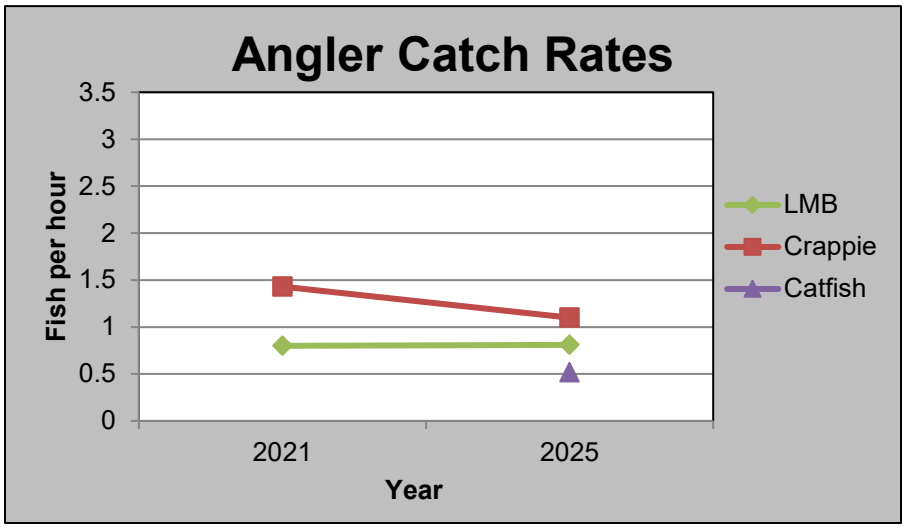
Below: Results from the 2024 fall electrofishing survey on Aliceville Lake. Boat electrofishing was completed along eight miles of shoreline at randomly selected sites during December.

Species	# of Fish Sampled	% of Sample	Average Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate Adult fish (fish/mile)
Gizzard Shad	628	40	3.7	8.3	-	1
Threadfin Shad	288	18	2.7	4.3	-	-
Bowfin	13	1	23.1	27.3	-	-
Channel Catfish	7	<1	15.2	17.3	1.0	1
White Bass	36	2	13.4	16.9	1.2	4
Bluegill	175	11	4.4	7.4	0.2	18
Redear Sunfish	19	1	5.4	7.5	0.2	2
Warmouth	6	<1	6.0	6.8	0.2	1
Largemouth Bass	186	12	11.3	20.0	1.0	20
White Crappie	55	4	12.0	15.8	1.0	6
Black Crappie	14	<1	11.1	13.4	0.8	2
Smallmouth Buffalo	106	7	16.0	22.8	-	14

Right: Aliceville Lake has a very healthy crappie population. Crappie averaged 11.9 inches with a maximun length of 15.8 inches, which is in the trophy category for crappie.



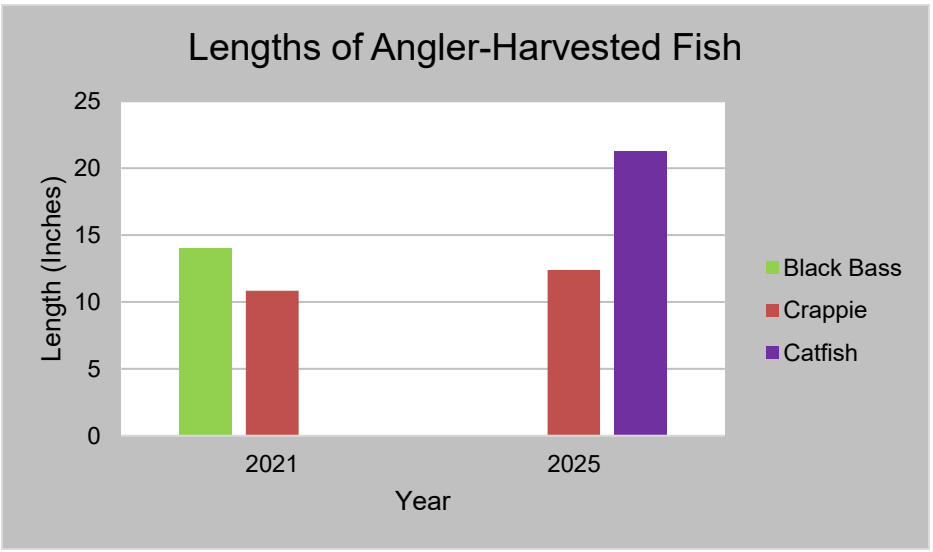
Creel surveys were conducted at Aliceville Lake in 2025. Only nine percent of anglers surveyed were targeting bass, while the majority (49%) targeted crappie. Forty-two percent of anglers were targeting catfish.

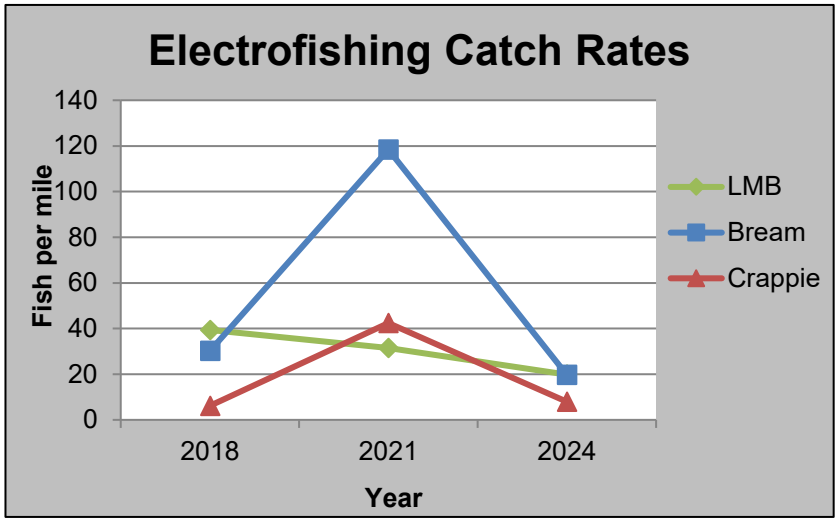


Left: Average angler catch rates for black bass and crappie at Aliceville Lake have been fairly consistent. No catfish anglers were creeled in 2021, hence the single data point.

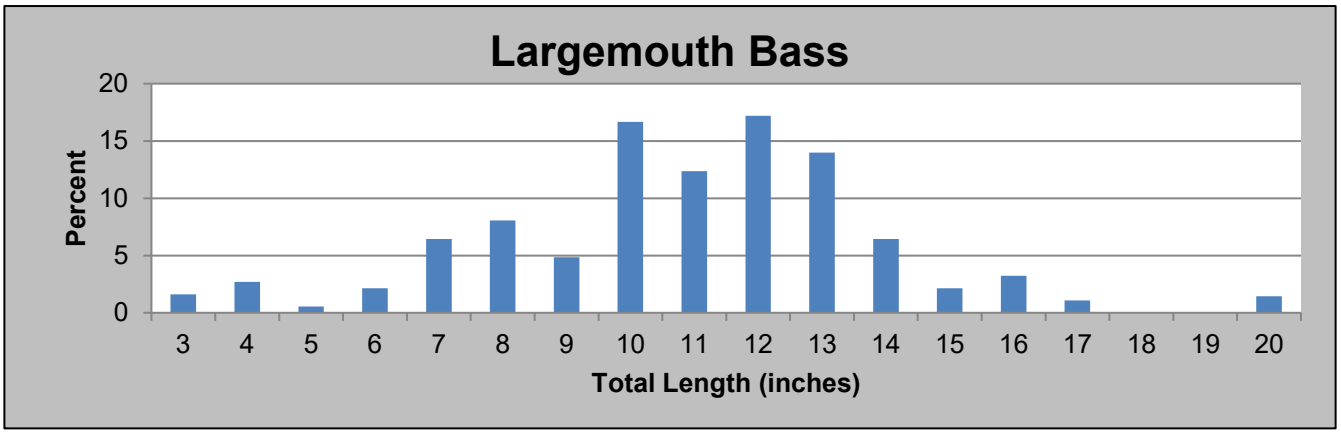


Right: Lengths of fish harvested by anglers at Aliceville Lake during spring creels. The average length of crappie harvested went up from 10.8" to 12.4". No bass anglers interviewed in 2025 kept any fish; the same with catfish anglers in 2021.





Left: Electrofishing catch rates (fish/mile) for Largemouth Bass (LMB), bream (Bluegill and Redear Sunfish), and crappie (White Crappie and Black Crappie). These statistics are for bass eight inches and longer, bream three inches and longer, and crappie five inches and longer.



Above: Length distribution for Largemouth Bass collected during fall 2024 electrofishing. Aliceville has a healthy bass population.

Right: Within the last few years, an invasive aquatic plant was found in various water bodies along the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. Giant Salvinia is a floating plant just like its cousin Common Salvinia. But unlike its cousin, Giant Salvinia has a propensity to spread and grow at a much faster rate and has the potential to choke off backwater areas. It is **essential** for anglers visiting the lake to clean their boats and boat trailers to reduce the possibility of transferring this plant to other water bodies.

