LAKE LU
Fishing
Newsletter

April 2014 Newsletter
Robby Limerick - - Lake Manager
Three year Rainfall Comparison

April 2014 Fish Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of Anglers</th>
<th>Number of Bass</th>
<th>Pounds of Bass</th>
<th>Number of Bream</th>
<th>Pounds of Bream</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>358.25</td>
<td>1,894</td>
<td>908.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>664</td>
<td>477.50</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>218.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calendar YTD</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>1,160</td>
<td>835.75</td>
<td>2,317</td>
<td>1,126.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib/Bass Average</td>
<td>Ib/Acre Average</td>
<td>Ib/Bream Average</td>
<td>Ib/Acre Average</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>16.71</td>
<td>0.49</td>
<td>22.53</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Three year Monthly Angler Attendance Comparison

Formula:
- Pounds of fish (lbs) divided by number of fish = lb/fish average
- lbs fish divided by 50 (acres) = lb/acre average
# Monthly Harvest Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Number of Anglers</th>
<th>Number of Bass</th>
<th>Pounds of Bass</th>
<th>Number of Bream</th>
<th>Pounds of Bream</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 2014</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>358.25</td>
<td>1,894</td>
<td>908.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2013</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,083</td>
<td>460</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2012</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>347.25</td>
<td>1,355</td>
<td>631.50</td>
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</table>

# Calendar Year-to-Date

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Anglers</th>
<th>Number of Bass</th>
<th>Pounds of Bass</th>
<th>Number of Bream</th>
<th>Pounds of Bream</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>1,160</td>
<td>835.75</td>
<td>2,317</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>560</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1,882</td>
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<tr>
<td>Month/Year</td>
<td>Ib/Bass Average</td>
<td>Ib/Acre Average</td>
<td>Ib/Bream Average</td>
<td>Ib/Acre Average</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
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<td>------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2014</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>16.71</td>
<td>0.49</td>
<td>22.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2013</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>16.26</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2012</td>
<td>0.83</td>
<td>36.81</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td>27.63</td>
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Fish Averages (Year-to-Date)
Lake Conditions

Lake rainfall for the month of April 2014 was 10.4 inches of rainfall! Visibility is at 28 inches. Water temperature is 73°F. We have had 5 times the amount of rainfall that we did for April 2013! In the past two months we have had 17.4 inches of rainfall. Pensacola, Florida got 22 inches of rain in 24 hours just last week! Global warming may be a hotly debated subject but you cannot deny that there is a climate change going on. I
did fertilize the lake on April 24th and we only got 1.7 inches of rain following the application. I'm hoping for drier days ahead. Angler attendance has been greatly increased despite the rain.

Bass Fishing

Bass fishing has been constantly improving. Clear “bluebird” days are not very good days for catching fish at Lake LU. Cloudy, overcast days are the best days for bass fishing.

April 2014 Bass Angler of the Month goes to the District 3 Fisheries Biologists, Mr. Jay Haffner and Mr. Chris McKee.
The shock team showed up last Friday and we performed three shock samples and I’m estimating that they shocked up over 25 bass over 4 pounds. It was a great time! They have some video and pictures that they took that day and I will try to add them to later newsletters. Our big fish of the day was about 7.5 pounds. In this photo we are gathering data on lengths and weights so we can see how well the fish are growing in the lake. We even tagged some bass with numbered orange tags as part of a year-long growth study.
These signs were installed at various locations around the lake to inform anglers to release all tagged bass.
Mark “The Bass Man” Grant caught one of our tagged bass. He sent me this photo to include in the newsletter. One interesting tidbit of information is that we were on the south side of the lake when we were tagging and releasing bass on the day of the shock. On the second sample we sampled an orange tagged bass AGAIN! That guy had swam all the way across the lake, a distance of about 200 yards and he did it in about 30 minutes! He was trying his best to get away from us!
Pictured above is Mr. Kyle Miller, my new assistant lake manager. Kyle was off duty and caught this nice 5 ½ pound bass that was 20.5 inches long. He was a bit disappointed when I had to throw it back. Kyle has worked for many summers at Tannehill State Park and brings many new skills to the assistant manager’s position. I look forward to working with Kyle for many years.
The four photos above were taken by bass angler, Michael Banks. Michael told me that the four fish weighed 4, 5, 6 and 7 pounds respectively.

Shirley Sellers caught this nice 5 pound bass and released it back to the lake.
Stephen Upchurch caught and released this nice 8 pound bass.
Tommy Hedricks caught this nice cooler of 40 bass for 26 pounds.

I would like to remind bass anglers that all bass are measured for total body length with mouth closed and tail pinched.

The current bass harvest regulation is UNLIMITED bass harvest on bass less than 14 inches in total length, with only one bass over 24 inches. I encourage all anglers to use an accurate measuring device.
Bream Fishing

Bream fishing has been going off the chart for April despite the excessive rainfall. Anglers are continuing to catch vast numbers of panfish. Red ear shellcrackers continue to dominate angler creels.
James Walker has been making some nice catches for April. Here he is with 5 shellcrackers for 6 pounds.
Lots of red ears are being caught.
Essie Thomas is posing with 2 huge shellcrackers that weighed 3 pounds.

Saturdays are very busy days for bank anglers.

Bream are definitely on the bed. There were about 500 bream beds in the shallows at the boat area.
Nature Trails
The Blue Flag iris are in full bloom at the Civic Center.
On Earth Day we had canoe races at the lake. Mark “The Bass Man” Grant walked up to the shore and was talking to me about the fishing.
A nice bass swam up on shore while we were talking and Mark “The Bass Magnet” Grant hopped into the water and caught it WITH HIS BARE HANDS!!! I’m telling you this guy needs to become a professional angler.
The Jon boat races went off without a hitch.
If anyone wants any advice on fishing Lake LU, please call me at 1-205-652-9266 or e-mail me at irr@uwa.edu. Feel free to visit Lake LU’s website at www.lakelu.uwa.edu

Thank you,
Robby Limerick
Lake Manager
Lake LU
lrr@uwa.edu
1-205-652-9266

Alabama Flag – hypeandfail.blogspot.com
American Flag – independentrealist.blogspot.com
American Bald Eagle – alejandroprofolio.freeiz.com
Great Blue Heron – flickriver.com
All other photos by R.Limerick unless otherwise noted.