Three Year Rainfall Comparison

January
January

March
March

May
May

July
July

September
September

November
November

Inches of Rainfall

2016 Monthly Rainfall
2015 Monthly Rainfall
2014 Monthly Rainfall

February 2016 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>180</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>272.25</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>43.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>33.25</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar YTD</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>305.50</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>48.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Three Year Bass Harvest Comparison

Number of Bass Caught

- 2016 Number of Bass Harvested
- 2015 Number of Bass Harvested
- 2014 Number of Bass Harvested

January February March April May June July August September October November December
Three Year Bream Harvest Comparison

Number of Bream caught

- 2016 Number of Bream Harvested
- 2015 Number of Bream Harvested
- 2014 Number of Bream Harvested
## 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>February 2016</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>272.25</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>43.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2015</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>97.25</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2014</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>36.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>305.50</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>128.50</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Fish Averages (Year-to-Date)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month/Year</th>
<th>lb/Bass Average</th>
<th>lb/Acre Average</th>
<th>lb/Bream Average</th>
<th>lb/Acre Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 2016</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>6.11</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lake Conditions

We got 4.85 inches of rainfall for February 2016. The water temperature is 60°F at the surface. Secchi is at 36 inches. I noticed the other day that the lake had a little green color in it. I will begin fertilizing the water as soon as we get an extended sunny period.
Bass anglers have been catching a lot of slot bass, and someone is catching an 8 or 9 pounder every day we are open. If you want to catch a big bass, you need to fish with lures that look like baitfish. If you want to just catch some fish, I recommend the plastic worm. The best color I have used has been a dark green, watermelon red. Tommy Hedrick says that the Ned Rig has been working for him. Hannah McCurty says that the in-line Mepps type spinner is very successful, but it can be a real headache in the wind. Mark Grant has been catching many small bass on the weightless Sinko worm rigged whacky style. Jerome Brown has had good luck with the watermelon seed worm. Make sure that you watch your retrieve all the way back to the boat.
or the bank. I was fishing the other day and was talking to my wife on the cellphone, when a bass struck at my rattletrap when it was about 6 feet away from the boat. The strike happened so fast I reacted and just snatched the lure from the water before Mr. Bigmouth could get
the hook. I estimated the weight of that bass to be at or beyond 10 pounds.
Brian Allen 8 pound bass released. Photo by Robbin Burroker.

Brian Allen 9 pounder.
Robbin Burror with a nice 5 pounder RELEASED. Photo by Brian Allen.
She was all smiles when I got there on my ATV. Mark Grant called me and said that Hannah McCurty had a medical emergency and was at the Beaver Lodge Trail. Mark said that a Mepps in-line spinner had really given her a headache. I went into rescue mode thinking she was really hurt!
Hannah was casting the lure and got the lure too close to her head during the cast, and had buried two of the treble hooks deep into her scalp. She was not thrilled when I told her that she was going to have to go to the emergency room to get the hooks cut out. Mark wanted to use some super strong braid and just snatch the hooks out of her head. I advised Mark that might work but it would not keep Hannah on his good side. Thanks for taking my advice and going to the emergency room! Hannah was fishing at Lake LU with the same lure, THE VERY NEXT DAY, but it only had one hook on it! She’s tough like that and loves fishing!
2016 BASS HARVEST REGULATION

Anglers have an unlimited bass harvest at Lake LU, as long as the bass is less than 14 inches in total length. In addition, anglers may also harvest 1 fish greater than 22 inches in total length, per person, per day at Lake LU.

Please continue to encourage anglers to harvest small bass. ~ Jay Haffner

I encourage all anglers to use an accurate measuring device.
Larry Jones posing with a nice shell cracker that he caught last week. This is the time of the year that gigantic shell crackers can be caught.
They’re getting bigger Larry!!

Nature Trails
Daniel Ratcliff, my work study student, is shown here setting a fire line. Daniel has just about as much experience with controlled burns as I have. This year we had to burn the entire prairie restoration. It had been about 3 years since we had burned the litter layer off. Fire is absolutely crucial to maintaining prairie ecosystems.

The two firebugs standing in the black zone of the Stratford Manor Fire.
Backing fire at the Stratford Manor Fire.

The blackzone of the ALFA Center Fire on the western lower bottom.
The Old Cedar Glade on the main restoration.

Proposal Hill before burning the southern side.
Dr. Stanton brought his class out to view the effects of prescribed fire on prairie ecosystems.

Lake LU the evening after the controlled burns.
I built a panel display for a stained glass panel that represents the prairie in west Alabama. The panel will be in place in the first week of March.
Sam Ledbetter informed us that UWA had again won the award of Tree Campus USA. He got a flag from the committee and we are flying that flag at Lake LU.
Sunset boating at Lake LU.

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

All other photos by R. Limerick unless otherwise noted.