June 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>234</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>79.50</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>1,609</td>
<td>1,142.50</td>
<td>3,791</td>
<td>1,786.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar YTD</td>
<td>1,534</td>
<td>1,728</td>
<td>1,222</td>
<td>4,449</td>
<td>2,060.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ib/Bass Average</td>
<td>Ib/Acre Average</td>
<td>Ib/Bream Average</td>
<td>Ib/Acre Average</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>24.44</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>41.21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Formula:**

- Pounds of fish (lbs) divided by number of fish = lb/fish average
- lbs fish divided by 50 (acres) = lb/acre average

**Three year Monthly Angler Attendance Comparison**

![Graph showing monthly angler attendance comparison for three years, with bars for January, March, May, July, September, and November.](image-url)
Three year Bass Harvest Comparison

Three year Bream Harvest Comparison

- 2013 Number of Bass Harvested
- 2012 Number of Bass Harvested
- 2014 Number of Bream Harvested
- 2013 Number of Bream Harvested
- 2012 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>June 2014</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>79.50</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2013</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>2,194</td>
<td>766.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2012</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>52.50</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>122.25</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>
<th>Pounds of Bream</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1,534</td>
<td>1,728</td>
<td>1,222</td>
<td>4,449</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1,183</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>6,593</td>
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</tr>
<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>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2014</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>24.44</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>41.21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2013</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>52.93</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2012</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>42.42</td>
<td>0.47</td>
<td>34.15</td>
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</table>
Lake Conditions

Lake rainfall for the month of June 2014 was 6.4 inches of rainfall! Visibility is at 19 inches. Water temperature is 83°F. We almost tied last year’s June rainfall amount. Last year the water temperature was 80°F. The lake is very green and will remain so until October. The lake is in the “June/July/August Nosedive” in regards to almost all chart data.
Bass Fishing

Even though it has been “hot as blue blazes” some bass anglers are still managing to catch nice slot bass. Almost all bass anglers are reporting catches ranging from 2 to 5 pounds regardless of the angler’s skill level. The “zero hours” of bass fishing are between 10 am and 6 pm. It’s so hot then that you’d have to use a net to catch fish!
Here is a photo of Jay Haffner and Chris McKee conducting their June seine survey. They found a mighty abundance of small bream and small bass but a lack of intermediate bream. The lake continues to be bass crowded.

They conducted a very thorough investigation.
I pulled a seine last week and sure enough even in the scalding heat of the middle of the day I too could gather vast numbers of bream.
Yes there was a very nice bass hatch as well. This one was a little too small to fillet so back it went.
Preliminary data gathered by District 3 Fisheries Biologists Jay Haffner and Chris McKee shows that Lake LU continues to be bass crowded. I want to strongly encourage bass anglers to remove all bass caught below 14 inches in total length.

In the heat of summer slot bass must be returned IMMEDIATELY to the water! If you keep the fish out of water for more than few seconds it runs a great risk of dying. Many times bass will die after
being caught simply due to exhaustion. Please be kind to the fish and respect the regulation and release all slot bass IMMEDIATELY! A quick photo opportunity is acceptable but a ten minute bragging session is UNACCEPTABLE!

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
Shontavius Fortner and Jakyle Tolliver with some nice shell crackers that they caught on 6-4-14
Cash and Harley Crews caught a nice shell cracker before it got too hot.

This is a photo of a possible new world record red ear sunfish. NO, it was not caught at Lake LU, but at Lake Havasu, Arizona. Here Hector Brito poses with his possible new world record weighing in at 5.78 pounds and is 17 inches in length. I strongly doubt that there is a shell cracker in Lake LU anywhere near that size. That thing is a BEAST!

Photo and accompanying article courtesy of http://www.fieldandstream.com/blogs/field-notes/2014/02/possible-world-record-sunfish-caught-arizona
Saw this in a fishing magazine and just had to post it here.
Nature Trails
I saw this one day when I was visiting Bonita Lakes at Meridian, Mississippi. It’s a Little Free Library. I wonder if I should attempt to put one of these up at the lake. I think it’s a good idea but I don’t know if it would work here.
We decided to tear off the gangway leading to the pier behind the baseball field in order to keep unauthorized persons from accessing the condemned pier. The gangway will be recycled as a short footbridge on a muddy section of the Beaver Lodge Trail. The main pier will hopefully be replaced in the future when funds become available.

The UWA carpentry department at the physical plant helped us repair the main fishing pier at the lake. Here carpenters Robert Pearson and Payne Stuart labor to replace some aging lumber. Thanks for the help men.
For years I have wanted to plant a living hedge of Osage orange to serve as a “living fence” exhibit to trail hikers. Here Logan helps me drop in the Osage seed. Thankfully we have received good rainfall for the past month. The seed should begin germination soon.
The June prairie flowers were very lush with all the monsoonal rainfall. Butterfly milkweed, a rare, orange flower in West Alabama prairies, is finally growing in abundance in our restoration.
Some purple coneflower also popped up this year for the first time.
The prairie at its peak.

If anyone wants any advice on fishing Lake LU, please call me at 1-205-652-9266 or e-mail me at lrr@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 -- alejandrosporfolio.freeiz.com
Great Blue Heron -- flickriver.com
All other photos by R.Limerick unless otherwise noted.