LAKE LU FISHING NEWSLETTER

October 2013 Newsletter
Robby Limerick - Lake Manager
### October 2013 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>131</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>173.75</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>200.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous</td>
<td>1,748</td>
<td>1,312</td>
<td>863.50</td>
<td>8,781</td>
<td>3,433.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar YTD</td>
<td>1,879</td>
<td>1,566</td>
<td>1,037.25</td>
<td>9,287</td>
<td>3,634.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Three year Rainfall Comparison

- **2013 Monthly Rainfall**
- **2012 Monthly Rainfall**
- **2011 Monthly Rainfall**

Inches of Rainfall:
- January: 2
- February: 4
- March: 6
- April: 8
- May: 10
- June: 12
- July: 6
- August: 4
- September: 2
- October: 0
- November: 2
- December: 4

Number of Anglers:
- January: 131
- February: 254
- March: 173.75
- April: 506

Number of Bass:
- January: 1,748
- February: 1,312
- March: 863.50
- April: 8,781

Number of Bream:
- January: 1,879
- February: 1,566
- March: 1,037.25
- April: 9,287

Pounds of Bass:
- January: 200.75
- February: 3,433.75
- March: 3,634.50
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Ib/Bass Average</th>
<th>Ib/Acre Average</th>
<th>Ib/Bream Average</th>
<th>Ib/Acre Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>20.74</td>
<td></td>
<td>72.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Three year Monthly Angler Attendance Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2013 Angler Attendance</th>
<th>2012 Angler Attendance</th>
<th>2011 Angler Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td></td>
<td></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
### 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>
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<tr>
<td>October 2013</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>173.75</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>200.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2012</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2011</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1,879</td>
<td>1,566</td>
<td>1,037.25</td>
<td>9,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1,739</td>
<td>2,866</td>
<td>2,235</td>
<td>5,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1,979</td>
<td>2,457</td>
<td>1,705.50</td>
<td>8,828</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>October 2013</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>20.74</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>72.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2012</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>44.70</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>52.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2011</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>34.11</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>80.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lake Conditions

Lake rainfall for the month of October 2013 was 1.9 inches of rainfall. This brings our annual precipitation total to 46.7 inches. Visibility is at 25 inches. Water temperature is 68°F.
Bass Fishing

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

Everything is on the up-swing! Bass harvest numbers are up, angler attendance is up, water clarity is increased. When water temps reached the 70 degree mark the phytoplankton levels dropped off sharply causing the water to clear. You will notice that the Secchi values have cleared to 25 inches of visibility and this has resulted in greatly increased bass harvest numbers. The best bass fishing is occurring in timber placed into the lake as fish attractors. I would not fish open water unless I was throwing a crank bait. My preferred lure is a green worm with 1/16th ounce bullet weight. Mark Grant loves X Raps. Frankie Whitlock swears that a Junebug worm is the best. Brandon Rivers thinks that a watermelon red fluke holds all the magic. If you are fishing timber you MUST fish a weedless worm.
The lake is FILLED with bass in the sub 14 inch length. We are going to remain UNLIMITED in the harvest of these bass that are under 14 inches in total length.
Mark Grant with a self-photograph of a nice bass he caught in the clearer water.
Bream Fishing
Bluegill harvest is on the increase. Large red eared shellcrackers are caught during the cooler months.
Jerry Jones posing with a nice shellcracker.
A nice 1.5 pound red ear.
One bass, one bream, one shiner.
TURTLE TRAP REPORT

We have caught and peaceably relocated 318 turtles so far.

Additional Lake Information
Lake LU will be closed from Monday, November 25th, 2013 through Sunday, December 1st, 2013 for the UWA Thanksgiving Holidays. Lake LU will reopen on Wednesday, December 4th, 2013 at 6:00 am.

Jay Haffner Electro-Shock of Lake LU, 10-31-13

Mr. Jay Haffner, District 3 Fisheries Supervisor and Mr. Chris McKee, the new District 3 Fisheries Biologist, came to Lake LU on Halloween to conduct an electro-shock survey of the lake to determine the status of the fishery. The results of the shock survey indicate that the shiners are being significantly predated by the largemouth bass. Bass populations are extremely robust and in high density. Jay asked me if I had ever seen the lake doing as well as it is and I said that I had not seen the lake this good in my 16 years. Jay said that he hadn’t seen Lake LU in this good of shape in all his years as a Fisheries Biologist. If that’s not testimonial enough, please let these photos speak for themselves.
It's a good sign when a first time fishery biologist smiles that after a good shock survey.
Brandon Rivers posing with a nice bass.
We shocked up a common carp from the lake. Jay said that it probably came in with some of the shiners. Let’s hope we can keep these monsters out! They are NOT the hybrid grass carp that we purchase and put in the lake as bio control for troublesome aquatic vegetation. A male and a female of these type fish can breed like shiners!
We had quite a few spectators on the bank to watch this shock survey.
Here Mrs. Joan Rundles poses with the big fish of the day. Mrs. Rundles is a UWA Biology Faculty member where she is a biology lab instructor. This bass weighed 8.6 pounds and was 22.5 inches in total length. Here’s the magic folks. Years ago, long before the Golden Shiner...
Infestation of ’09, a bass of this length would have only weighed about 6 pounds! Originally we thought that the golden shiner population would have had negative impacts on our fishery. We are beginning to think otherwise! Golden shiner numbers appear to be only about 25% of last year’s population.

One day I wanted to conduct some fishery research myself. Tim, Brandon and I went out and fished for 30 minutes of effort. Tim threw a white spinnerbait, Brandon fished a crankbait and green fluke and I fished a watermelon red curly tailed worm.
Lures used in research.
Tim caught nothing. Brandon caught 2 bass and I caught 4 bass. Now when people call and want to know if the fish are biting, we will have for them some answers!

I am going to use this data to compile an online survey. Look for a link to this website so that we can get your input on the decision.
The bass were feeding on bream in the 2 inch size range. Here is the puke analysis of a bass’ stomach contents. That is a dime used for scale.
Nature Trails
And the sign says...BUSTED. Greg and John Lewis. Fishing is NOT allowed on Friday!
Lake LU in the full beauty of Fall.
Jay Haffner missed his calling as a university biology professor. On his visit to the lake he lectured to several UWA biology students on fishery science. Jay is an extremely patient and understanding guy. He can take a complicated topic like fishery science and make it very easy to understand.

After 16 years we finally discovered an easier way to put out cedar trees as fish attractors. We lashed our lightest Jon boat to the front of the manager’s boat and used it like a massive 28 foot deck boat. It made tree loading and unloading safe and easy.
The front deck boat allowed us to keep our outboard motor in deep water to better facilitate loading and offloading of cedar trees. The 28 foot homemade deck boat worked much better than the lone 14 foot boat we used to work with. Work smarter, not harder I always say!
The Yellow Sea. Burr Marigold in full bloom.
Blue Danube.

For some 70’s bass humor click the link below.
http://www.hulu.com/watch/19046

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 – alejandrosportfolio.freeiz.com
Great Blue Heron -- flickriver.com
All other photos by R.Limerick unless otherwise noted.