



Charlie Capps Lake 2024 REEL FACTS

Amber Bookout – Fisheries Biologist
amber.bookout@wfp.ms.gov (601) 432-2200

General Information: Charlie Capps WMA Lake is a 40 acre impoundment located on Charlie Capps Wildlife Management Area. The lake was drained in 2005 then re-stocked in 2010 and opened in 2013.

Location: Off Highway 8 in Bolivar County, 5 miles east of Rosedale and 15 miles west of Cleveland.

Fishery Management: Largemouth Bass, bream, Magnolia Crappie, and catfish.

Purchase a Fishing License: <https://www.ms.gov/mdwfp/licensing/login>

Amenities

- 2 fishing piers
- Small primitive boat launch

Regulations

- All anglers except those exempt from purchasing a fishing license must have a WMA user permit.
- Only bank fishing and non-motorized boats may be used (*trolling motors are legal*).
- Lake open daily from February 15 – October 31 each year.

Creel Limits

- 5 Largemouth Bass per day.
- 20 crappie per day.
- 100 bream per day.
- 10 catfish per day

Fish Stockings

2020

Largemouth Bass
4,000

2019

Grass Carp
200
Bluegill Sunfish
13,800

2018

Channel Catfish
1,200
Grass Carp
200

2017

Magnolia Crappie
2,500
Redear Sunfish
80,000
Largemouth Bass
20 (Adult fish)

2016

Channel Catfish
3,200

Sportfishing Tips

Largemouth Bass

- Target submerged structure along shoreline during the spring.
- During the summer and fall look for fish in deeper water along the dam or off from the earthen piers.

Bream

- Use crickets or red worms near the piers or in shallow water along the northern and eastern shorelines.
- Bream fishing usually best from early summer through the fall.

Crappie

- Jig around submerged structure in deeper areas of the lake, including by the drainage pipe.

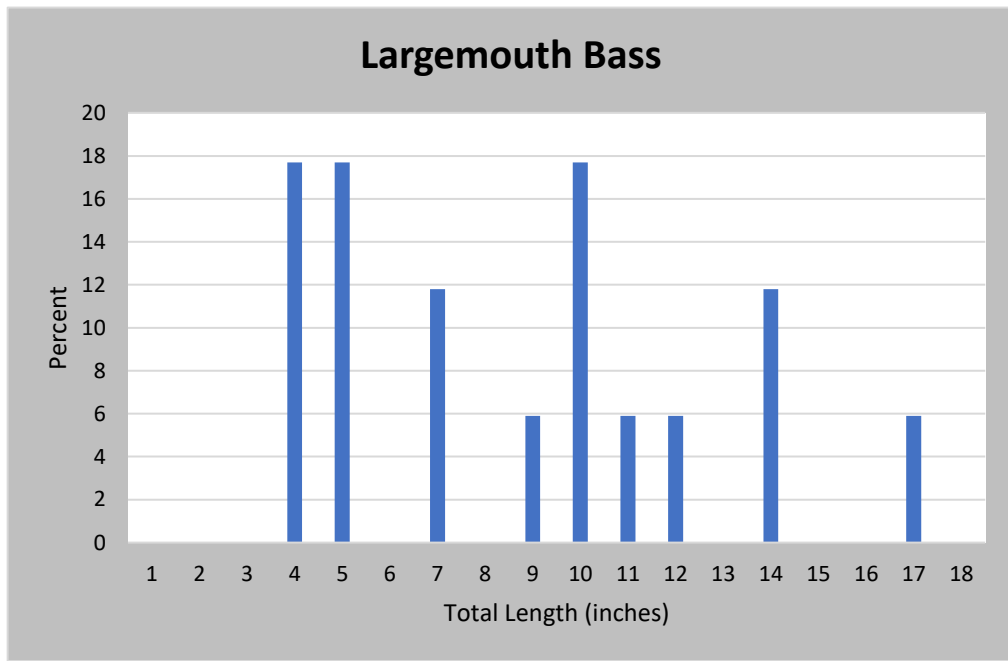
Below: Results from the 2023 electrofishing survey on Charlie Capps WMA Lake. This lake is sampled by electrofishing every 1 to 2 years during the fall. Largemouth bass catch rates decreased; however, bluegill catch rates increased tremendously as compared to the 2022 survey. No crappie were caught during the 2023 sampling.

Species	# of fish sampled	% of sample	Average Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate Adult Fish (fish/mile)
Bluegill	112	55.7	3.9	5.6	.1	76
Gizzard Shad	45	22.4	7.1	11.4	-	14.2
Green Sunfish	27	13.4	3.2	5	-	12.6
Largemouth Bass	17	8.5	8.3	16.3	.6	7.7

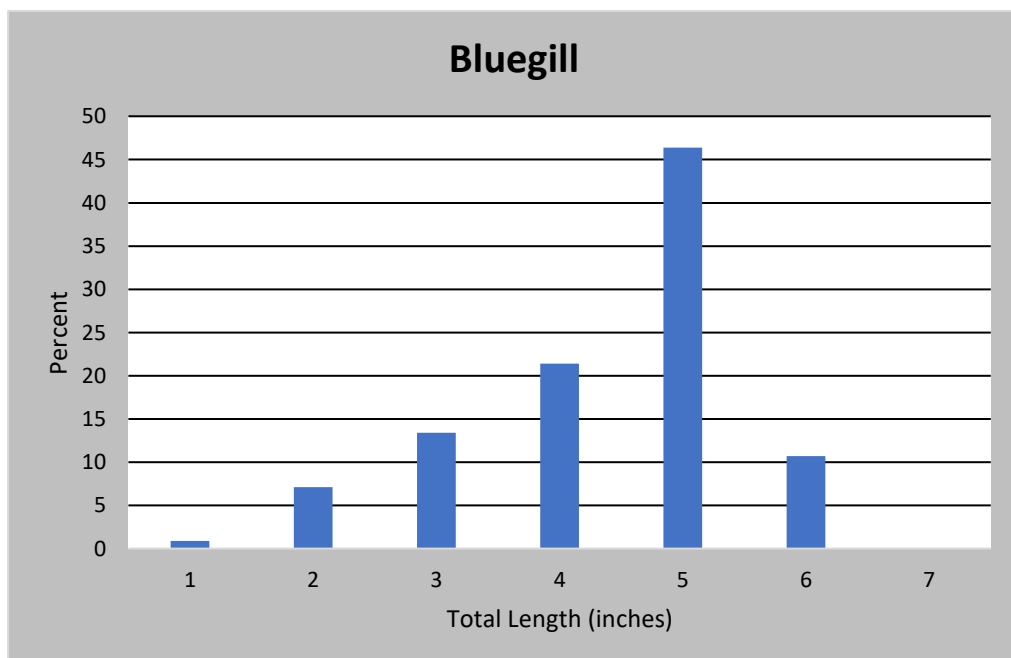
Photograph of Charlie Capps WMA Lake.



Below: Largemouth Bass length distribution for Charlie Capps WMA Lake from the 2023 electrofishing survey. Majority of fish collected ranged between 4 to 14 inches with a few larger fish over 17 inches.



Below: Bluegill length distribution for Charlie Capps WMA Lake from the 2023 electrofishing survey. Bluegill showed a slight variation in total length, with majority of fish at 5 inches.



Right: Largemouth Bass, Crappie, Redear Sunfish, and Channel Catfish have been stocked into Charlie Capps WMA Lake since the fish kill in 2017. Over 13,000 Bluegill were stocked in 2019. 4,000 largemouth bass were stocked in 2020.



Below: Depth map for Lake Charlie Capps.

