



# Neshoba County Lake 2017

## Reel Facts

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**General Information:** Neshoba County Lake is a 138 acre impoundment that was transferred to the State by the Neshoba County American Legion. After repairs, the lake was reopened in 1985 as a State Lake. It is an exceptional fishery for Largemouth Bass.

**Location:** Six miles southeast of Philadelphia off of Hwy 486 in Neshoba County.

**Fishery Management:** Largemouth Bass, bream, crappie and catfish.

**Purchase a Fishing License:** <http://www.mdwfp.com/license/fishing-license.aspx>

### Amenities

- Boat ramp
- Handicap accessible fishing piers
- Rental pavilion
- 22 camp sites with full hookups

### Creel Limits

- 30 crappie per day with no length restrictions
- Largemouth Bass: Slot limit, bass 16-20 inches in length must be released, 10 bass per day creel limit, only one may be over 20 inches in length.
- 100 bream per day
- 10 catfish per day

### Regulations

- Pole or rod and reel only
- No trot lines, throw lines, jugs, FFFD's, yo-yos, set hooks, or limb lines allowed.
- Largemouth Bass between 16-20 inches must be immediately released. One over 20 inches may be kept.

### Permits

- Sport fishing licenses and fishing permits are required except on designated days during National Fishing and Boating Week.
- Camping is on a first come-first served basis. Daily and monthly permits are available.

### Sportfishing Tips

#### Crappie

- In the spring, target shallow structure that is close to the creek with jigs or minnows. In the summer and winter, fish deeper water along creek ledges.

#### Largemouth Bass

- In early spring try shiners in open water for big fish. Target aquatic vegetation with top water lures as weather warms. Swim baits also work well along the levee.

#### Bream

- Use crickets or red worms, from early spring to fall, at depths of 2-4 ft.

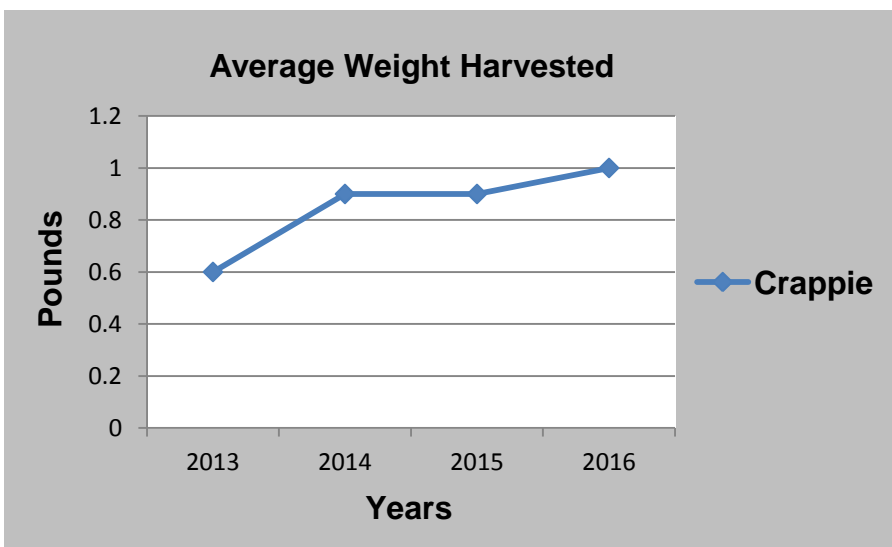
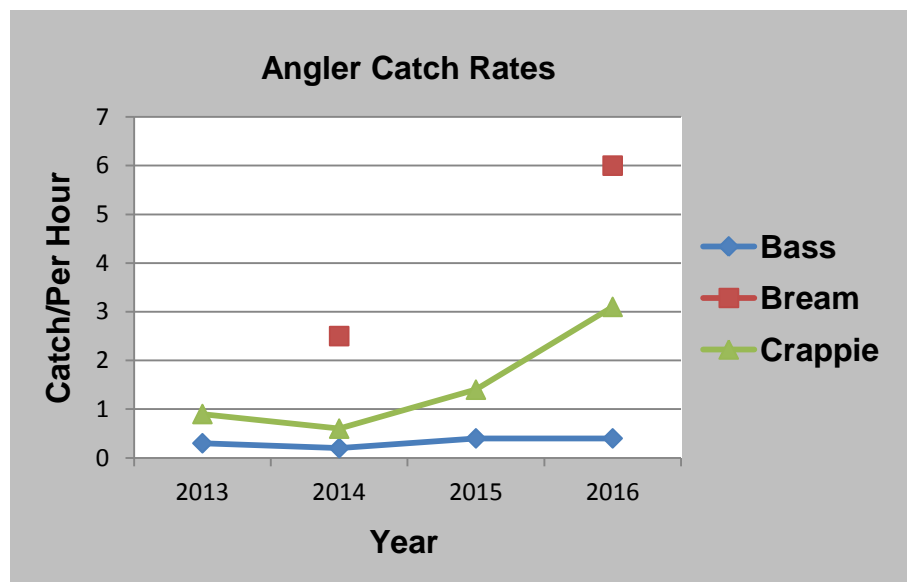
#### Catfish

- Tight lining on the bottom with liver or worms works well around the earthen piers.

**Below:** Neshoba County Lake record fish. Record fish must be weighed and verified by the lake manager, lake supervisor, or fisheries biologist. Anglers who catch a lake record fish will receive a certificate acknowledging their catch. There is no minimum weight for any open lake record.

Fish Species	Weight	Angler	Date Caught
Largemouth Bass	14.0	Ryan Porter	March 27, 2010
Crappie	3.2	Janet Blalock	April 3, 2014
Redear Sunfish	Open	-	-
Bluegill	1.1	Jimmy Ray Jones	2015
Catfish	Open	-	-

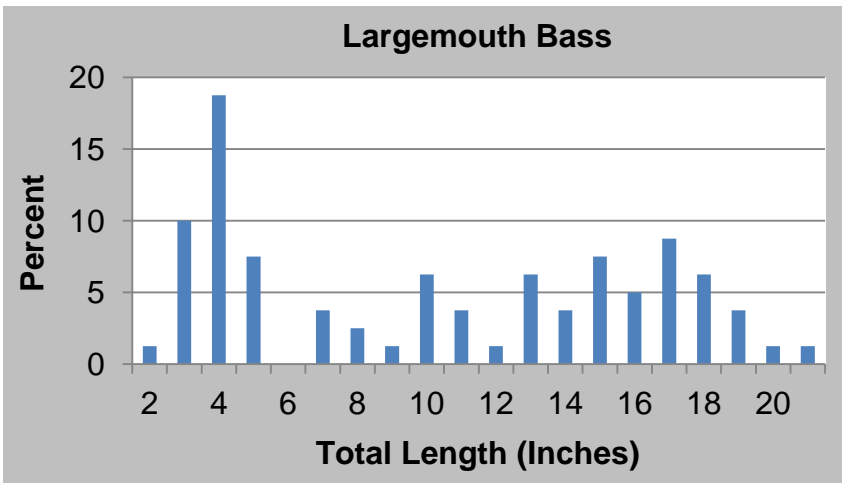
**Right:** Angler catch rates from spring creel surveys. Largemouth Bass have remained steady while crappie rebounded from a decline in 2014 to its highest point in four years.



**Left:** Average weight of angler harvested Crappie over the last four years. Crappie weights have almost doubled since 2013. There has been little harvest of Largemouth Bass and bream during spring creel surveys.

**Below:** Results from the 2015 electrofishing survey at Neshoba County Lake. This sampling is conducted every two years during the fall and provides biologists with sport fish population metrics which are monitored over time.

Species	# of fish collected	% of sample	Average Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate – Adult fish (fish/mile)
Bluegill	174	55.2	4.4	8.5	0.1	90.9
White Crappie	3	1.0	10.1	11.3	0.4	1.6
Black Crappie	48	15.2	8.4	13.1	0.5	23.1
Largemouth Bass	80	25.4	10.8	21.7	2.0	26.3
Redear Sunfish	7	2.2	7.6	10.8	0.4	3.8
Channel Catfish	3	1.0	21.3	22.8	3.0	1.6

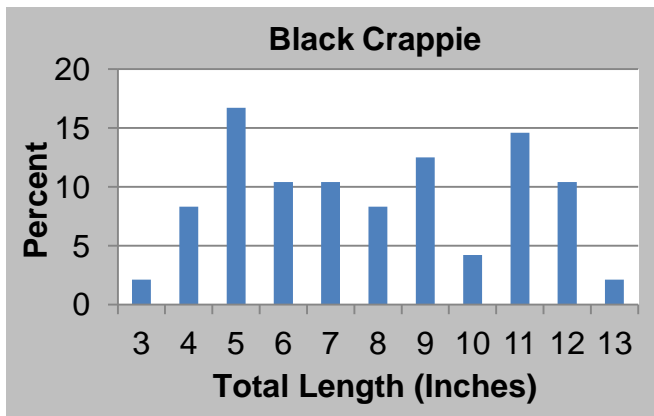
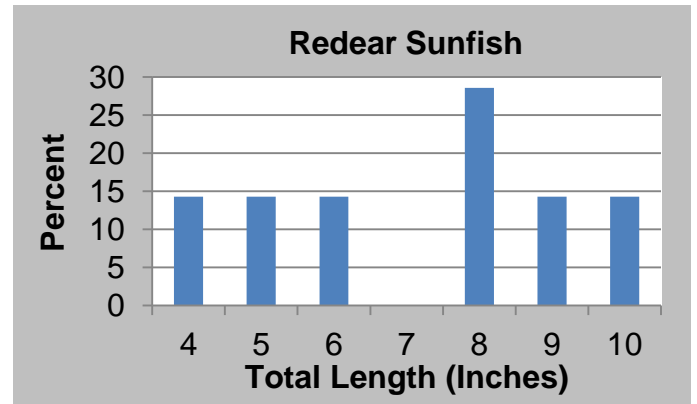
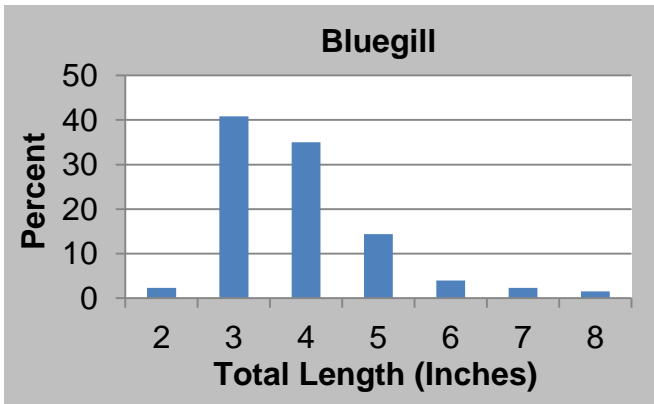


**Left:** Largemouth Bass (LMB) length frequency histogram. There are numerous fish in the 14-20 inch range that provide quality fishing for any Largemouth Bass enthusiast. A good spawn was also observed.

**Right:** Neshoba County Lake is a popular destination for anglers in pursuit of big Largemouth Bass. In 2014, Mississippi Game and Fish Magazine nominated it as one of the top trophy bass fisheries in the state. Numerous double-digit fish are caught during the Spring. The large watershed provides a rich, fertile environment for tremendous fish production. The lake record Largemouth Bass weighed a whopping 14.0 lbs.



**Below:** Length distributions for sport fish from the 2015 electrofishing survey at Neshoba County Lake. These figures indicate a wide size distribution of each species. Harvestable size Bluegill numbers are down but Redear Sunfish and Black Crappie show high numbers of larger fish. Successful reproduction is evident for all species.



**Above:** Springtime offers many opportunities to catch quality crappie at Neshoba Lake.

**Left:** Handicap accessible piers and earthen piers provide ample bank fishing access.



Below: Neshoba County Lake depth map.

