Lake Ferguson 2017
REEL FACTS

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General Information: Lake Ferguson is an oxbow located in Washington County. The Mississippi River stays connected to the lake year round and provides great fishing opportunities for many different species of fish. Size varies depending on water level, but normally the lake is around 1,400 acres.

Location: Lake Ferguson is located in Greenville, MS inside the MS River levee. Two public boat ramps can be found near the casinos.

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

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

Amenities

- 2 Public boat ramps
- Several hotels
- Numerous restaurants
- Casinos
- Large parking area

Creel Limits

- 30 crappie per day
- 10 Largemouth bass per day
- 100 bream per day.

Facts

- Lake Ferguson is 10 miles in total length.
- The MS River can be accessed from the south end of Lake Ferguson where you will also find several sand bars.
- Warfield Point Park is located just south of the lake and can be accessed near the chute of the MS River.
- Lake Ferguson was created in the 1930s when an S-shaped curve in the Mississippi River was straightened by the Corps of Engineers.
- Barge traffic is common from the River into the southern portion of the lake where industrial development is present.

Sportfishing Tips

Black Bass

- Fish brush piles and submerged structure, as well as the rip rap along the eastern shore. Spinner baits and crankbaits are good bait choices.

Crappie

- In the spring target submerged trees on the western bank. In the fall try trolling in deep pockets of the lake. Using minnows and jigs is a good choice of bait.

Bream

- Target similar areas as spring crappie. Use crickets and worms for bait.

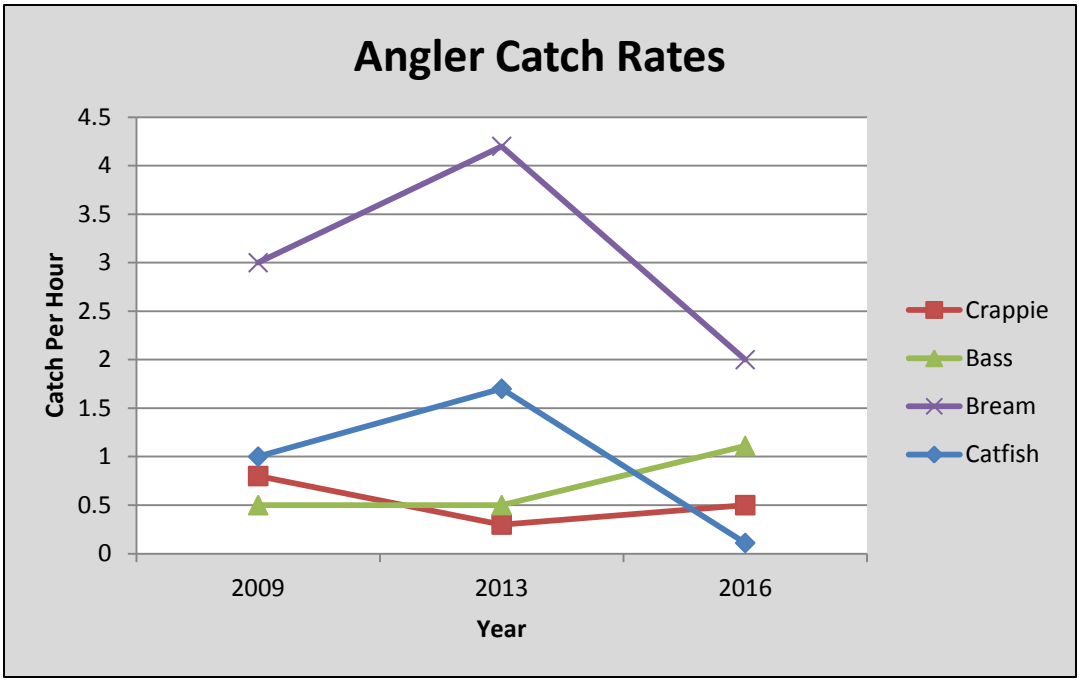
Catfish

- Fish shallow mudflats around the western bank near the grain elevators using night crawlers, stink bait or chicken liver.

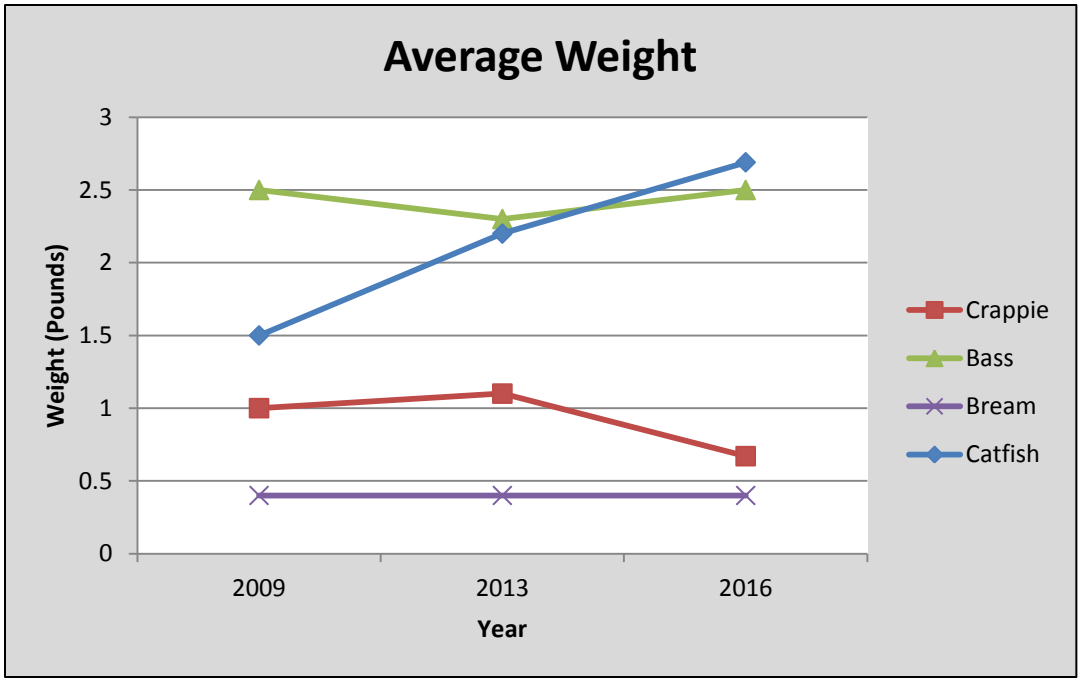
Species	# of fish collected	% of sample	Average Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate – Adult fish (fish/mile)
Largemouth Bass	260	46	9.8	21.5	1.6	106
Bluegill	135	24	4.2	7.5	0.2	57
Longear Sunfish	123	22	4.5	6.4	0.1	58
Spotted Gar	18	3	20.0	26.9		12.6
Common Carp	7	1	19.7	25.0		3.5
Smallmouth Buffalo	6	1	20.5	22.9		3.7
Warmouth	6	1	4.7	6.2	0.2	3.3
Black Buffalo	3	<1	23.8	31.2		
River Carpsucker	2	<1	16.3	16.3		1
Redear Sunfish	2	<1	6.8	7.0	0.2	1
Spotted Bass	2	<1	8.7	12.2	1	0.5
Silver Carp	1	<1	31.4	31.4		4.2
Green Sunfish	1	<1	3.7	3.7		0.5
Orangespotted Sunfish	1	<1	2.7	2.7		

Above: Complete results from the 2015 electrofishing survey on Lake Ferguson. Lake Ferguson is sampled in the fall every 2-3 years. Rough fish composed only 6% of the total catch by number in 2015. Catch rates for Largemouth Bass and bream increased in 2015. Average weights for Largemouth Bass and bream also increased slightly from previous electrofishing surveys. Largemouth Bass was the most numerous fish in the survey (46%).

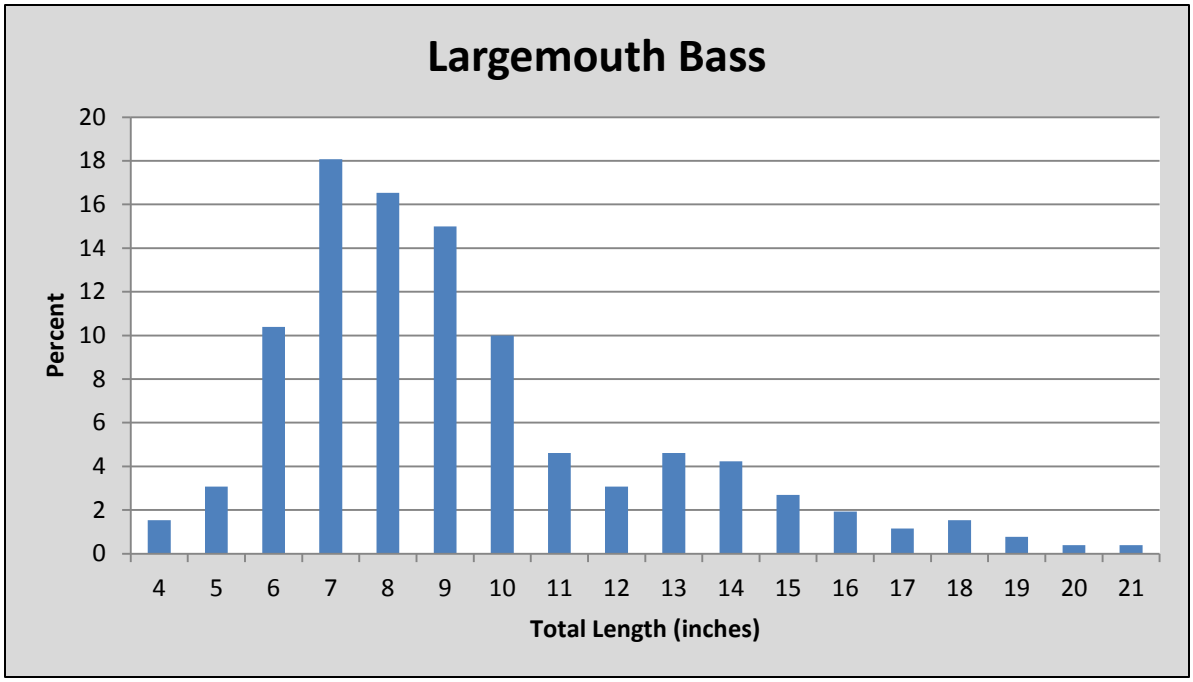
Right: A beautiful view from the levee front at Lake Ferguson

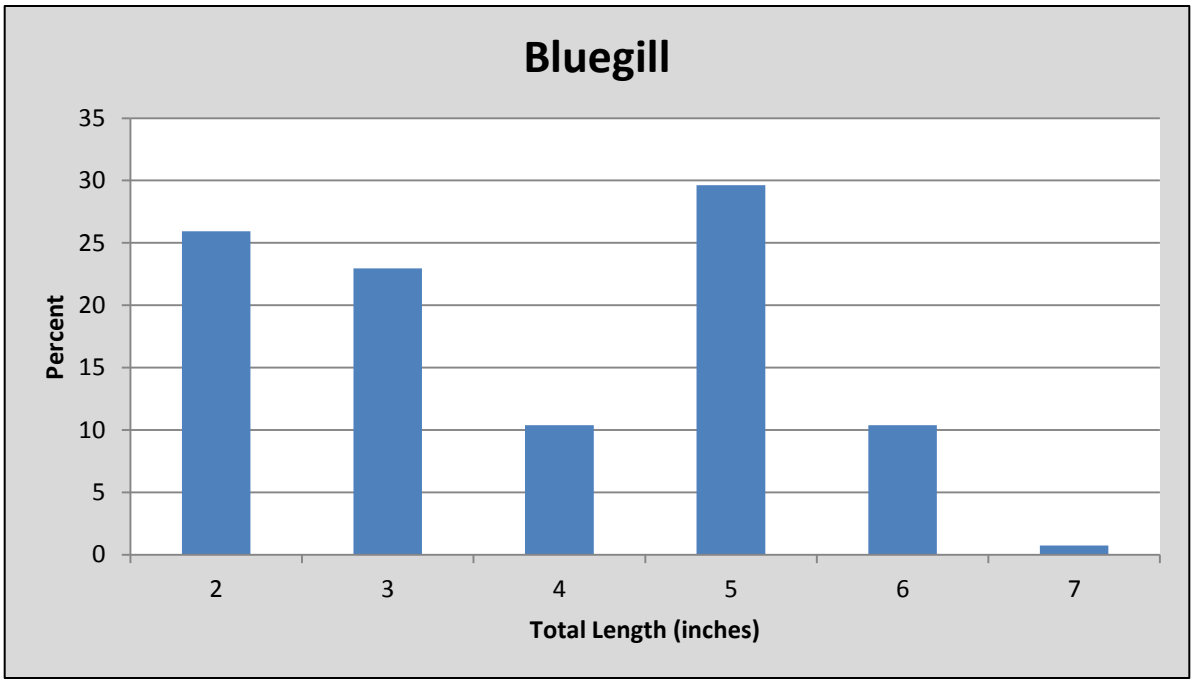


Above and Below: Results from angler creel surveys show a decrease in bream and catfish catch rates in 2016 and an increase in crappie and bass catch rates. 2016 creel surveys indicated an increase in average weight of bass and catfish while crappie average weight decreased slightly and bream stayed the same.



Below: Length distributions for sport fish from the 2015 electrofishing survey at Lake Ferguson. A large size range of was collected for each species.





Below: Depth map for Lake Ferguson