Calling Panther Lake 2017
REEL FACTS

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General Information: Calling Panther Lake is a 404 acre state fishing lake that was built in 2003 and opened in 2006. This lake offers a unique fishing experience with dense stands of submerged timber and deep creek channels.

Location: Approximately 5 miles west of Crystal Springs

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

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

Lake Depth Map: http://www.mdwfp.com/media/4582/calling_panther_lake.pdf

Amenities

- 1 public ramp, parking lot, public restroom with showers, and a nature trail
- 1 handicapped fishing pier
- 23 camping pads with water, electrical, and sewer

Creel and Size Limits

- Bream: 100 per day
- Catfish: 10 per day
- Crappie: 30 per day
- Largemouth Bass: 1 over 20 inches and 10 per day

Forage Species

- Threadfin Shad
- Crawfish

Regulations

- Rod and reel or pole fishing is allowed. No trotlines, FFFD's, jugs, yo-yo's, limblines, throwlines, or set hooks are allowed.
- Sport fishing licenses and fishing permits are required except on designated days during National Fishing and Boating Week.
- Skiing is allowed on Wednesday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day from noon to sunset within ski area.
- Lake is designated as No Wake all other times.

Fishing Tips

Bream

- Try crickets and worms in shallow areas during late spring and summer. Redear Sunfish are often caught by tightlining.

Catfish

- Try liver, worms, or blood scented bait along the dam and southwest bank. Night fishing is typically good.

Crappie

- Try minnows or jigs around vegetation in the spring. Fishing the creek channel is popular at other times of the year.

Largemouth Bass

- Target shallow flats during the spring with soft plastics. Drop offs, ledges, and creek channels are good areas during the summer. Watch for schooling activity as well.

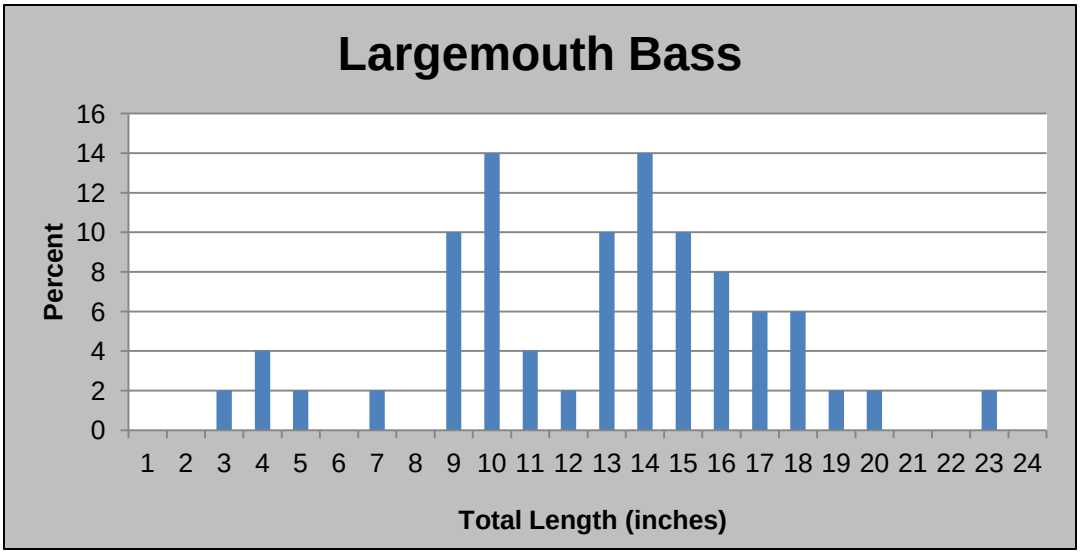
Below: Calling Panther Lake record fish. Record fish must be weighed and verified by the lake manager, lake supervisor, or fisheries biologist. Anglers who catch a lake record fish will receive a certificate acknowledging their catch. There is no minimum weight for any open lake record.

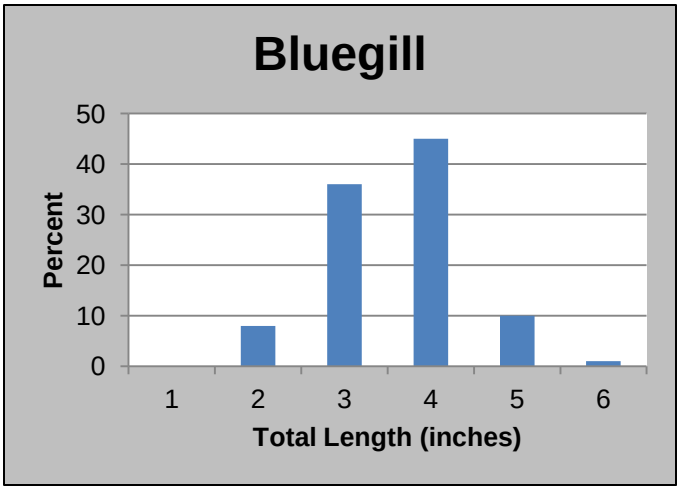
Fish Species	Weight (pounds)	Angler	Date Caught
Largemouth Bass	15.4	James Allen	February 26, 2011
Crappie	OPEN	-	-
Redear Sunfish	1.65	George Runnells	July 6, 2016
Bluegill	OPEN	-	-
Catfish	6.94	Nicto Buie	December 5, 2016

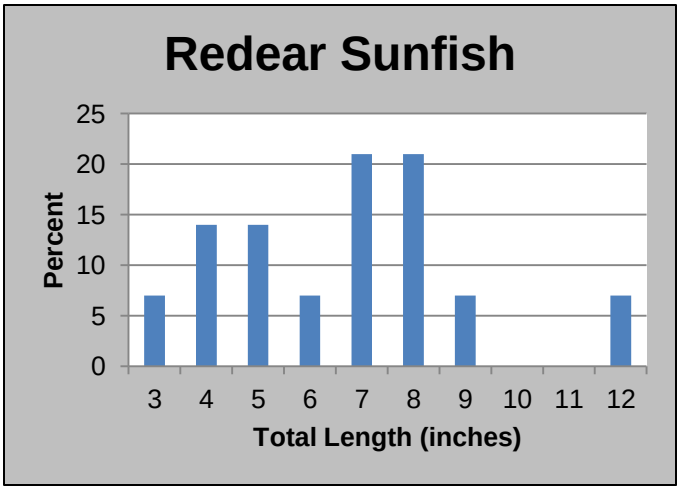
Below: Calling Panther Lake is a popular destination for anglers in southwest Mississippi. The opportunity to catch a trophy size Largemouth Bass, along with it's close proximity to Jackson, make it one of the most popular lakes in the state.

Below: Results from the 2016 fall electrofishing survey conducted at Calling Panther Lake.

Species	# of fish collected	% of sample	Average Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate – Adult fish (fish/mile)
Threadfin Shad	327	66	3.3	4.3	-	117.2
Bluegill	83	17	4.1	6.7	0.0	26.7
Largemouth Bass	50	10	13.3	23.7	1.7	16.1
Redear Sunfish	14	3	7.1	12.1	0.3	4.8
Longear Sunfish	9	2	4.0	4.8	0.0	3.2
Warmouth	8	2	4.3	5.7	0.1	2.5
Gizzard Shad	1	<1	11.8	11.8	-	0.4
Yellow Bullhead	1	<1	6.9	6.9	-	0.4
Channel Catfish	1	<1	23.9	23.9	5.8	0.4

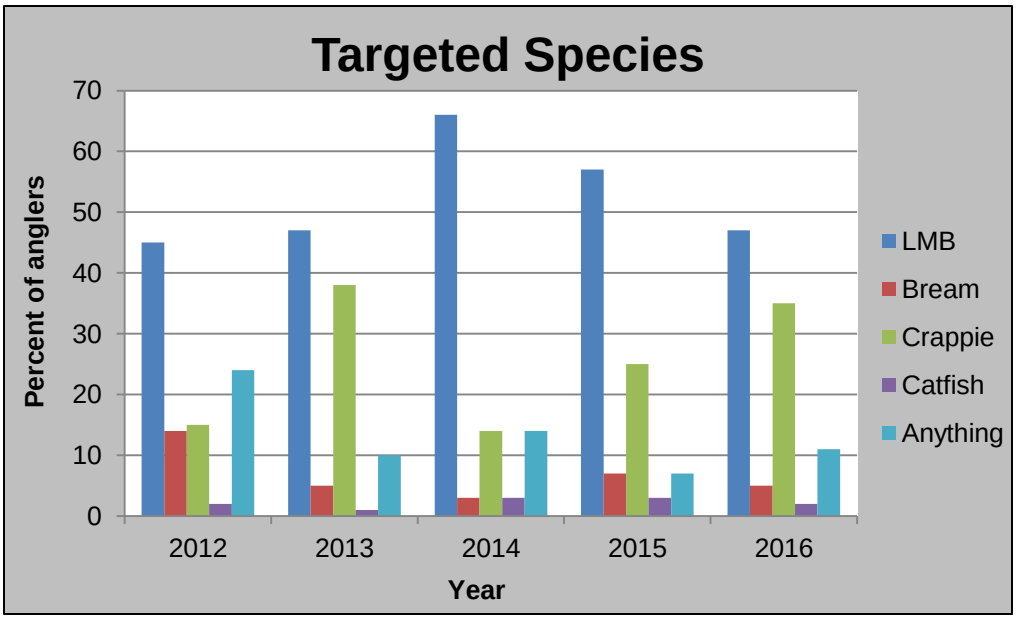


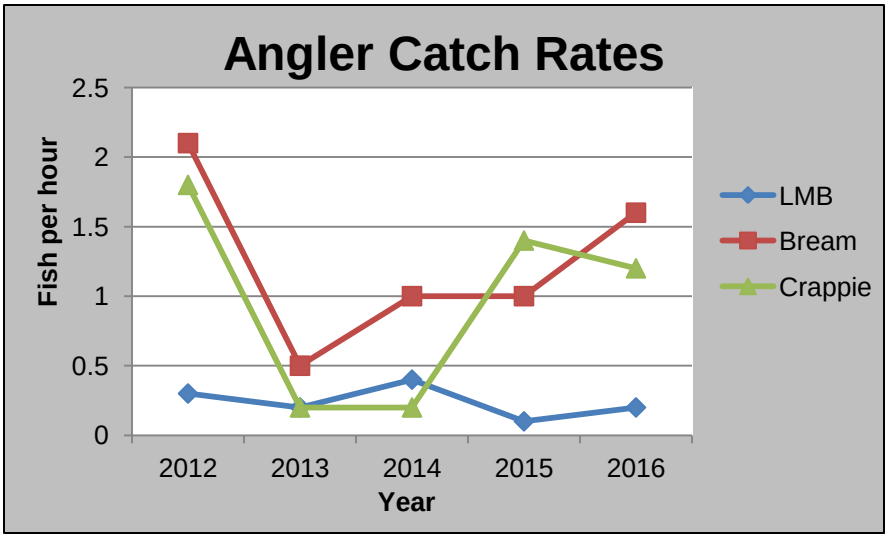




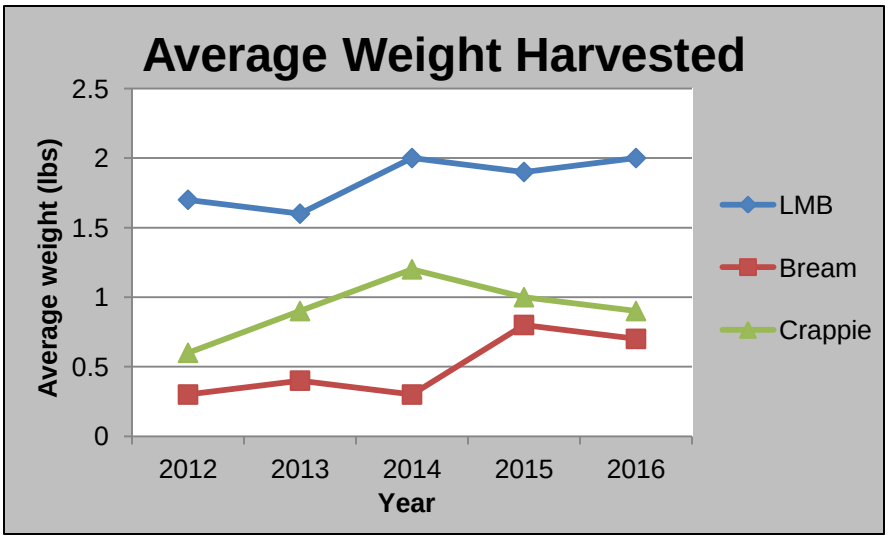
Above: Length distributions for Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, and Redear Sunfish collected during 2016 fall electrofishing.

Top right: Percentage of anglers targeting Largemouth Bass (LMB), bream, crappie, catfish, or fishing for anything at Calling Panther Lake. Bass and crappie are the most sought after species at this lake based on spring creel surveys.





Left top: Angler catch rates for Largemouth Bass (LMB), bream, and crappie at Calling Panther Lake based on spring creel surveys. Catch rates for bream improved during 2016 while crappie catch rates slightly decreased. Angler catch rates for bass remain lower than desired, and MDWFP stocked northern strain Largemouth Bass during 2016 to help improve catch rates.



Left bottom: Average weight of harvested fish at Calling Panther Lake. Large Redear Sunfish caused the average weight of bream to increase. The average weight of harvested bass remains steady and crappie decreased slightly during 2016.