



Tippah County Lake 2017

REEL FACTS

Trevor Knight – Fisheries Biologist

trevork@mdwfp.state.ms.us (662) 840-5176

General Information: Tippah County Lake, opened in 1974, has a surface area of 145 acres. Known for its large Redear Sunfish and Bluegill, the lake also supports good populations of Largemouth Bass, catfish and crappie. The lake currently boasts the state record Redear Sunfish at 3.33 pounds, and at one time produced the state record Largemouth Bass of 14.75 pounds. Overlooking Tippah Lake is Wicker Mountain, the 2nd highest peak in Mississippi.

Location: Approximately 2.5 miles North of Ripley off Hwy 15.

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

Lake Depth Map: <http://www.mdwfp.com/media/5446/tippah-lake-depth-and-fish-atractors.pdf>

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

Amenities

- 2 public concrete boat ramps with courtesy piers.
- 3 handicap accessible fishing piers.
- Campground: 22 sites with water and electrical hookups. Primitive camping is also available.
- Picnic areas with grills.
- Rental pavilion.
- Restrooms and showers.

Creel Regulations

- Largemouth Bass: 30 per day per angler.
- Crappie: 30 per day per angler.
- Bream: 100 per day per angler combined.
- Catfish: 10 per day per angler.

Regulations

- Fishing is not allowed from the courtesy pier adjacent to the boat ramp.
- Rod and reel 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 and can be purchased at the lake office.
- Licenses and permits are not required on designated free fishing days during National Fishing and Boating Week.
- Skiing is allowed on Saturday, Sunday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day from noon to sunset.
- Lake is designated as No Wake all other times.

Fishing Tips

Largemouth Bass

- Target lake points with Carolina or Texas-rigged plastics or small crankbaits.
- In the spring, fish the back of coves with spinner baits.

Crappie

- Target lake points and sunken brush with small jigs or live bait under a cork.

Bream

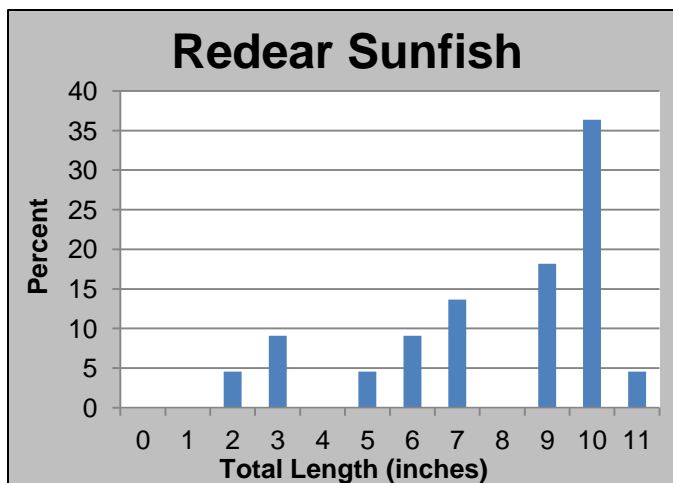
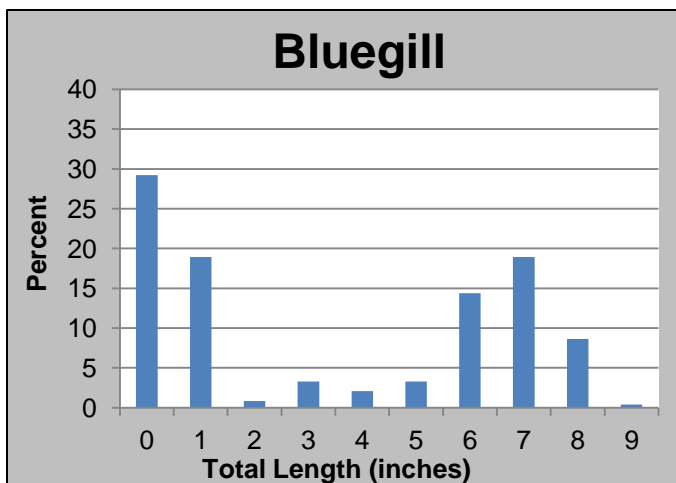
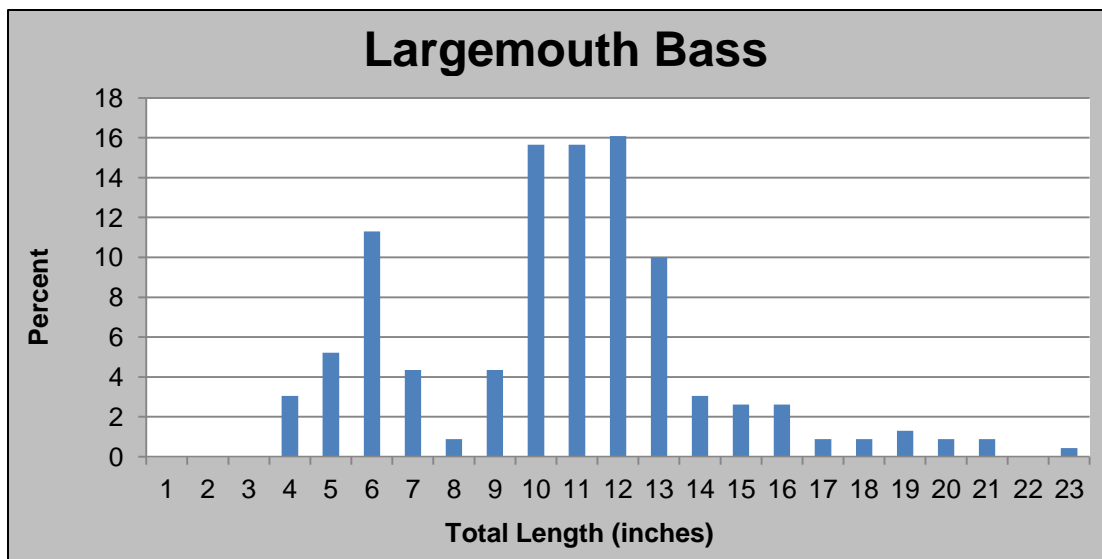
- Fish similar areas as crappie tightlining redworms and crickets. Fish gravel beds near the boat ramp and campground during spawning season.

Catfish

- Target cats at night on the shallow flats near the campground or old swimming beach with cutbait or liver.
- During the summer, fish creek channels and near the dam.

Below: Tippah 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. Tippah County's Redear Sunfish record is also the state record.

Fish Species	Weight (pounds)	Angler	Date Caught
Largemouth Bass	14.75	Perry Reed	May 3, 1987
Crappie	Open	-	-
Redear Sunfish	3.33	Kenny Martin	November 5, 1991
Bluegill	Open	-	-
Catfish	42.0	Keith Bullock	September 20, 2014

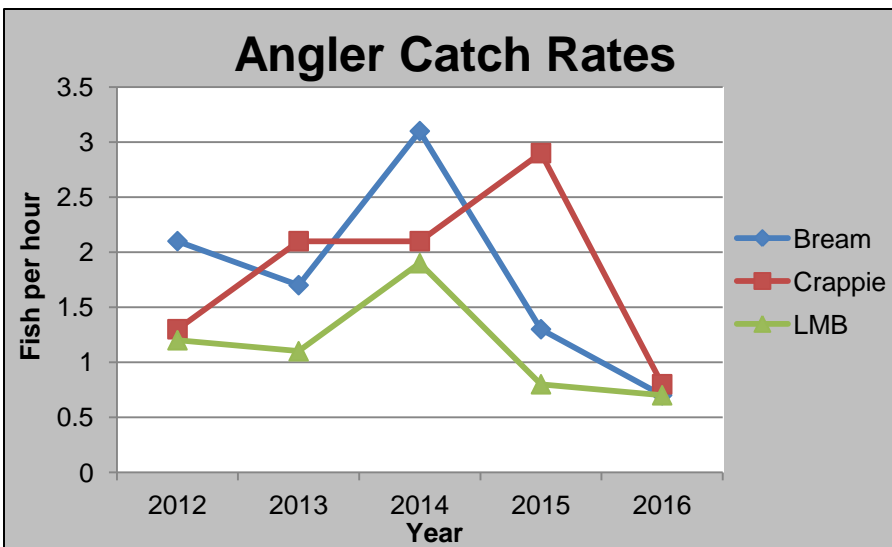
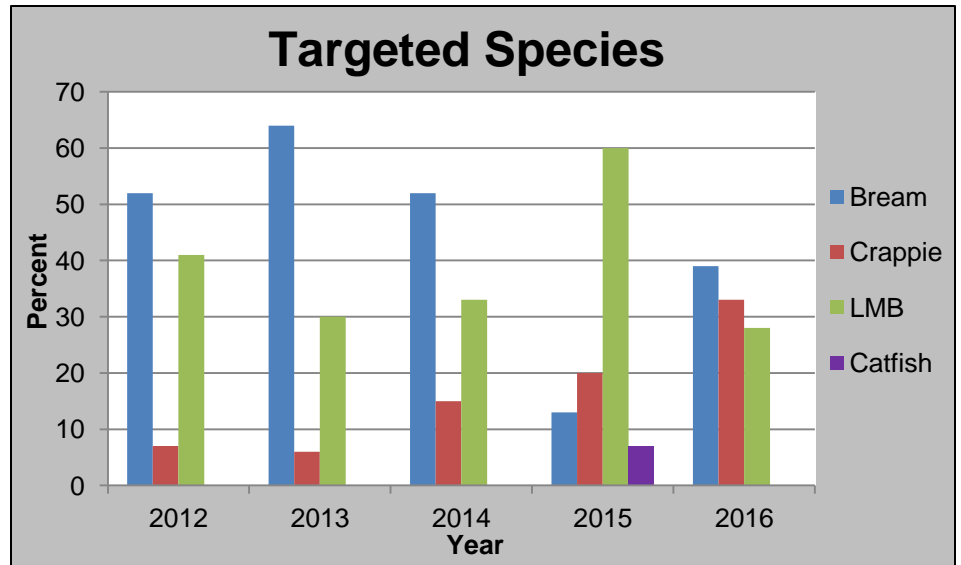


Above: Length distributions for Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, and Redear Sunfish collected during fall 2016 electrofishing.

Below: Results from the 2016 fall electrofishing survey on Tippah County Lake. Boat electrofishing was completed during October with five random samples taken throughout the lake totaling 2.2 miles.

Species	# of Fish Sampled	% of Sample	Average Length	Maximum Length	Average Weight	Catch Rate
			inches	inches	pounds	Adult fish (fish/mile)
Bluegill	243	48.2	4.0	9.2	0.3	62.3
Largemouth Bass	230	45.6	11.1	23.3	0.9	85.8
Redear Sunfish	22	4.4	8.3	11.0	0.6	6.4
Black Crappie	4	0.2	12.3	14.2	1.2	2.6
Warmouth	3	0.1	3.0	3.5	-	0.3
Flathead Catfish	2	0.1	27.6	28.4	8.4	1.3

Right: Percentage of anglers targeting bream, crappie, largemouth bass (LMB), and catfish at Tippah County Lake. There has been a steady increase in the percentage of anglers targeting crappie in the past 3 years.



Left: Angler catch rates for bream, crappie, and largemouth bass (LMB) at Tippah County Lake based on spring creel surveys. Fishing success was lower in 2016 as catch rates declined for all species.

Have you been interviewed on Tippah Lake in 2015?	%
Yes	14
No	86
Do you read and/or plan your fishing trips around the weekly MDWFP fishing reports?	%
Yes	33
No	67
Considering all factors, how satisfied are you with the fishing here?	%
Very Satisfied	69
Satisfied	31
Neutral	0
Dissatisfied	0
Very Dissatisfied	0
Home County	%
Tippah	52
Union	13
Prentiss	6
Alcorn	6
Other Counties and States	23



Above: Creel surveys provide a good opportunity to collect information and opinions from anglers. Fourteen percent of anglers interviewed had been previously interviewed which shows that we have many new customers. Tippah County Lake hosted anglers from 9 different counties in Mississippi and 2 other states with the majority of the anglers being from Tippah County (52%). One third of the anglers used MDWFP fishing reports to plan their trip. If anglers answered no to this question, they were told where to find them, and that they are updated weekly.

