



Mayes Lake 2018 REEL FACTS

Dustin Rodgers – Fisheries Biologist
dustinr@mdwfp.state.ms.us

General Information: Mayes Lake is a 30 acre State Park Lake, which formed as an oxbow off of the Pearl River. The lake is subject to frequent flooding due to its close proximity to the Pearl River, resulting in a diverse fish community.

Location: Within LeFleur's Bluff State Park just off Lakeland Drive in Jackson, MS

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

Lake Depth Map: http://www.mdwfp.com/media/4696/mayes_lake.pdf

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

Amenities

- 1 boat ramp on lake with parking lot and 1 boat ramp with access to the Pearl River
- 2 handicapped fishing piers
- 28 camp sites with water/electric hookups, and 10 primitive camp sites
- 9 hole golf course with driving range
- 2 playgrounds, 7 pavilions, 18 hole disc golf course, and 5 nature trails

Creel and Size Limits

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

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.
- Lake is designated as No Wake. Only electric trolling motors may be used.

Forage Species

- Gizzard Shad
- Threadfin Shad
- Golden Shiners
- Crawfish

Fishing Tips

Bream

- Try crickets, red wigglers, and wax worms in shallow areas during late spring and summer.

Catfish

- Try tightlining liver or blood scented bait along the outside edge of the old river bend.

Crappie

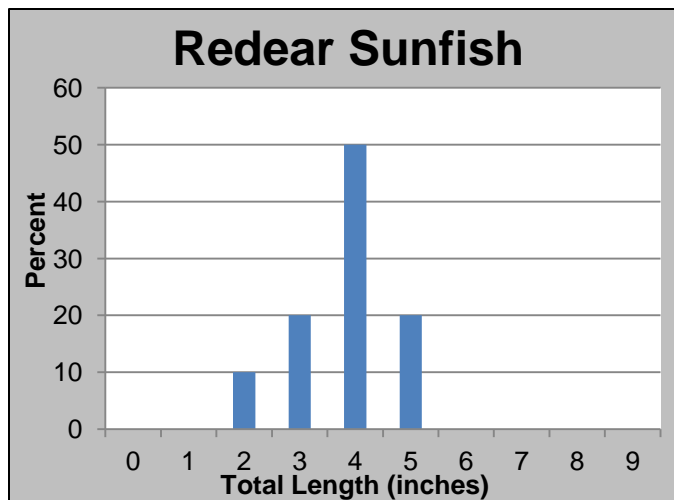
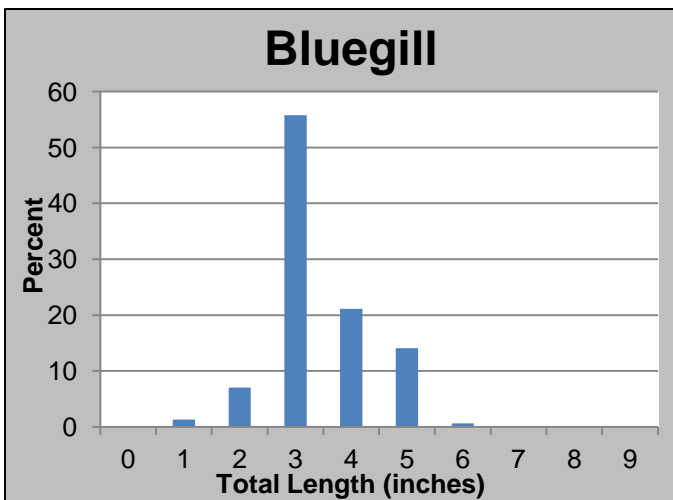
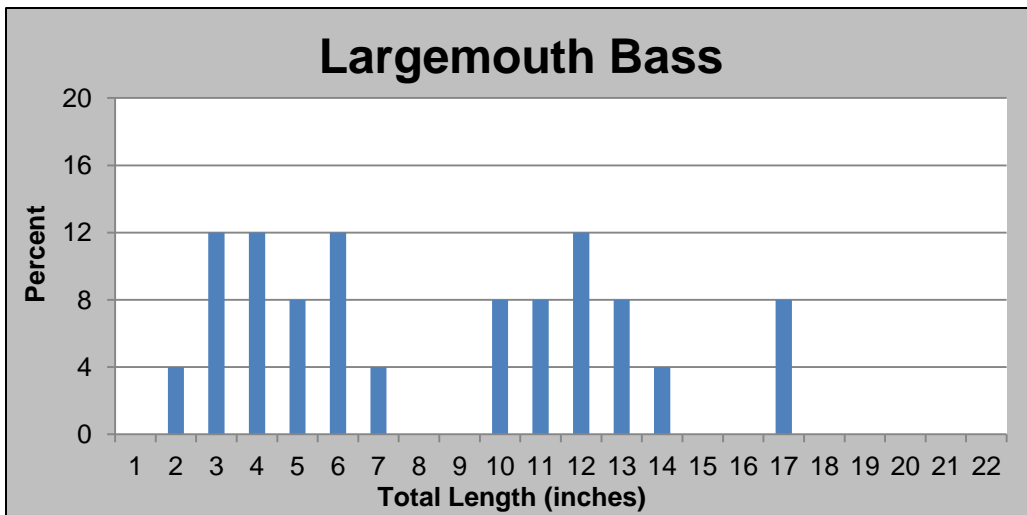
- Target brush and laydowns on the west side of the lake with jigs and minnows.

Largemouth Bass

- Target brush and trees with junebug, plum, or green pumpkin colored soft plastics. Chartreuse crankbaits and spinnerbaits are also good choices.

Below: Results from the 2016 fall electrofishing survey conducted at Mayes Lake. Unlike most State Park and State Lakes, the fish assemblage of Mayes Lake mirrors that of a Delta oxbow due to frequent flood events associated with the Pearl River.

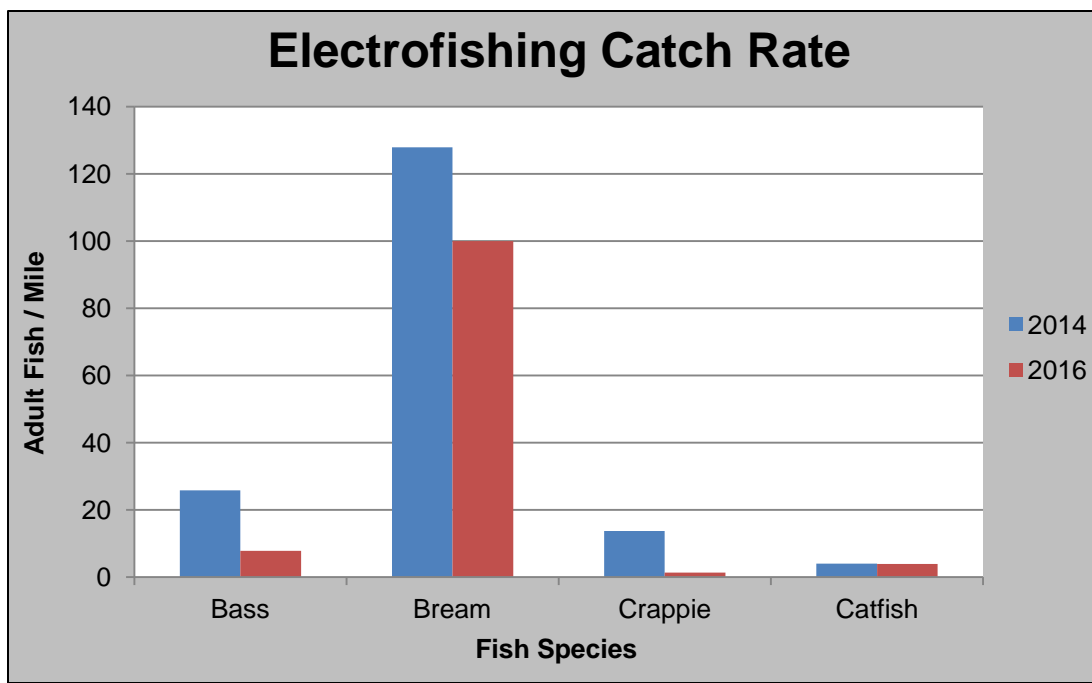
Species	# of fish collected	% of sample	Average Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate – Adult fish (fish/mile)
Bluegill	156	36.0	3.9	6.0	0.1	110.5
Threadfin Shad	133	30.7	2.6	3.9	-	107.3
Gizzard Shad	64	14.8	5.4	7.1	-	51.6
Largemouth Bass	25	5.8	8.9	17.9	1.0	9.7
Channel Catfish	15	3.5	11.6	22.0	0.6	4.8
Redear Sunfish	10	2.3	4.3	5.5	0.1	6.4
Orangespotted Sunfish	10	2.3	2.0	2.4	-	-
Longear Sunfish	8	1.8	4.1	4.9	0.1	4.8
Warmouth	4	0.9	4.4	6.0	0.1	2.4
White Crappie	4	0.9	7.0	11.6	0.3	1.6
Black Crappie	1	0.2	6.9	6.9	0.2	-
Redspotted Sunfish	1	0.2	3.4	3.4	-	-
Freshwater Drum	1	0.2	9.8	9.8	0.4	-
American Eel	1	0.2	25.4	25.4	1.3	-
Gulf Logperch	1	0.2	3.4	3.4	-	-



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



Above: Quality Largemouth Bass can be found within the Jackson city limits at Mayes Lake. Paddlefish are also a common occurrence due to flooding from the Pearl River.



Above: There was a decrease in the catch rate of adult fish per mile for bass, bream, and crappie, when comparing data from 2014 and 2016 sampling. This could be the result of natural year to year variability in oxbows or the development of a downward trend. Future sampling will be needed to determine if a trend exists.

Below: The Pearl River can also be accessed from LeFleur’s Bluff State Park and provides the opportunity to catch both Largemouth Bass and Spotted Bass. This stretch of the river also supports a healthy population of Blue, Channel, and Flathead Catfish.

