



Lake Mary Crawford 2016

REEL FACTS

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General Information: Lake Mary Crawford is a 128 acre State Fishing Lake which first opened in 1957. The lake was the first Dingell-Johnson construction project in Mississippi. The lake has long been known as a popular bream fishery.

Location: Approximately 5 miles west of Monticello off Hwy 84.

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

Lake Depth Map: http://www.mdwfp.com/media/128140/mary_crawford_web_map_2015.pdf

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

Amenities

- 2 boat ramps with courtesy piers, parking lot, and public restroom with showers
- 2 handicapped fishing piers
- 20 camping pads with water/electric hookups and nature trail

Creel and Size Limits

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

Forage Species

- Golden Shiners
- Crawfish

Regulations

- Fishing is not allowed from the courtesy piers adjacent to boat ramp.
- 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 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, red wigglers, and wax worms in shallow areas during late spring and summer. Brush piles around fishing piers are popular.

Catfish

- Try tightlining liver or blood scented bait along deep drop offs of main lake points and around the water control structure.

Crappie

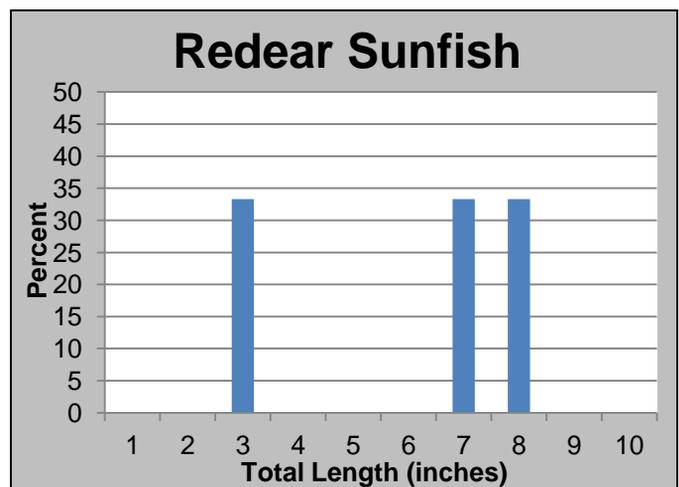
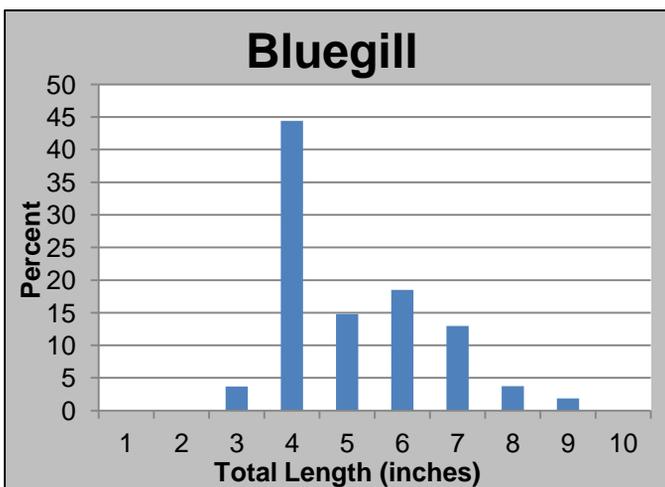
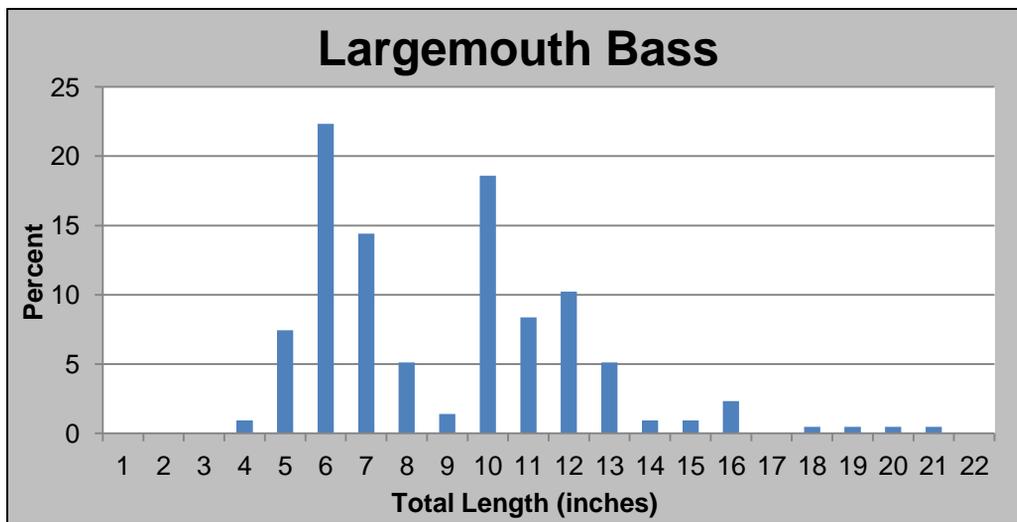
- Target the water control structure and brush piles around the main lake. Minnows are the most popular choice.

Largemouth Bass

- Target stumps and brush piles in deeper water with junebug colored soft plastics. Topwater baits can also be good in the morning around grass.

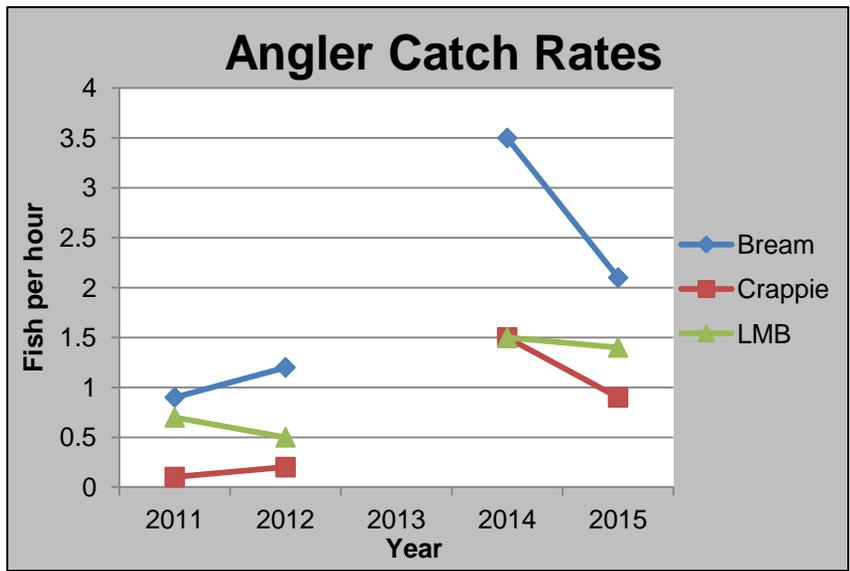
Below: Results from the 2015 fall electrofishing survey conducted at Lake Mary Crawford. Over the past decade, the lake has become over-populated with Largemouth Bass. Overall health of the bass population has declined as a result. We encourage anglers to harvest small bass to help improve the health of larger ones.

Species	# of fish collected	% of sample	Average Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate – Adult fish (fish/mile)
Largemouth Bass	214	71.1	9.4	21.2	0.6	53.8
Bluegill	54	18.0	5.6	9.1	0.1	24.8
Longear Sunfish	28	9.3	5.6	7.4	0.1	12.9
Redear Sunfish	3	1.0	6.3	8.2	0.4	0.9
White Crappie	1	0.3	12.2	12.2	0.9	0.5
Golden Shiner	1	0.3	10.6	10.6	-	0.5

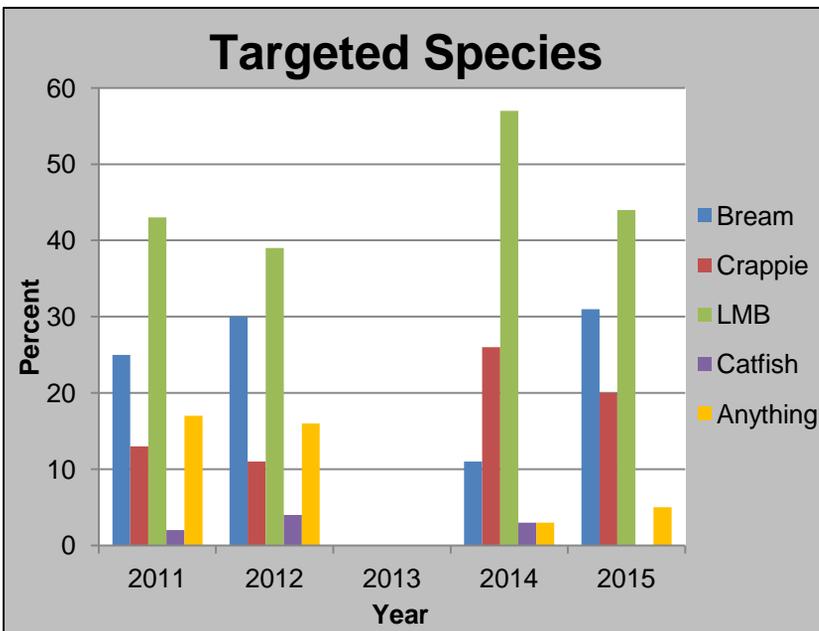
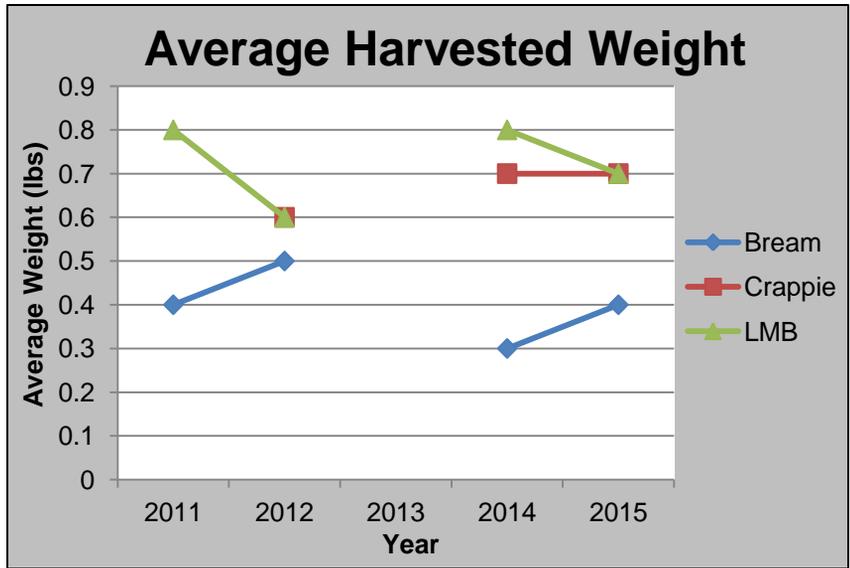


Above: Length distributions for Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, and Redear Sunfish collected during 2015 fall electrofishing.

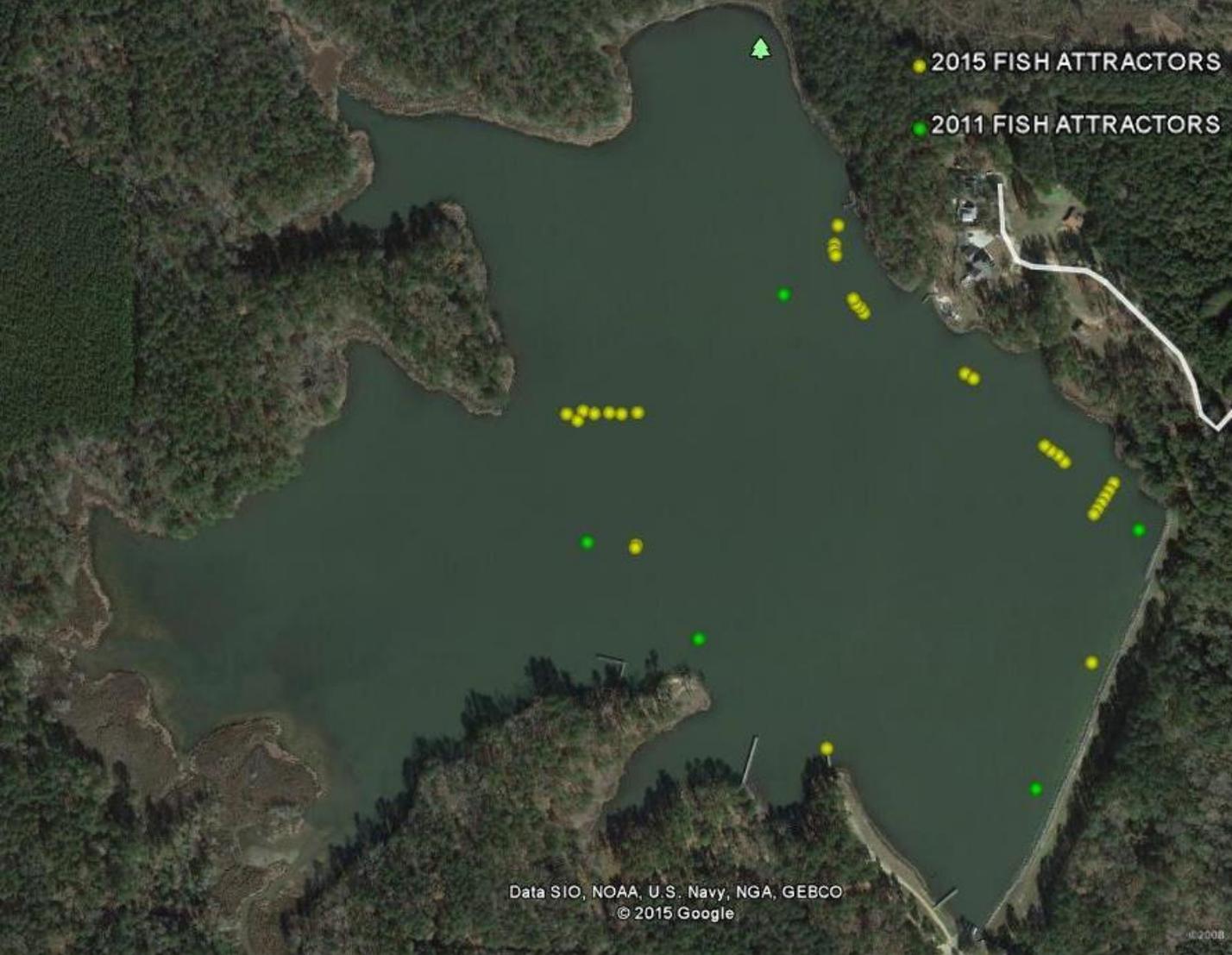
Right top: Angler catch rates for Largemouth Bass (LMB), bream, and crappie at Lake Mary Crawford based on spring creel surveys. Catch rates have increased for all species since 2011.



Right bottom: Average weight of harvested fish at Lake Mary Crawford. Average weight of harvested Largemouth Bass (LMB), bream, and crappie have remained relatively consistent over the past five years.



Left: Percentage of anglers targeting Largemouth Bass (LMB), bream, crappie, catfish, and anything at Lake Mary Crawford based on spring creel surveys. Bass and bream have been the most sought after fish species over the past five years. The percent of anglers targeting crappie has also increased since 2011.



Above: Locations of fish attractors placed in Lake Mary Crawford in 2011 and 2015. Fish attractors are comprised of tree tops placed in a variety of depths. These tree tops can be excellent locations to catch Largemouth Bass, bream, and crappie throughout the year.