

Mississippi Sport Fishing Index (MSFish)

Attention anglers! Ever wanted to know how your favorite fishing hole compares to other places around the state? Maybe you'd just like a good idea about where to go to catch some bass, bream or crappie? A new fishing index, MSFish, can help you answer these questions and anglers like you, supplied information for the index.

This unique index is an easy way to understand a lot of information about lakes around the state. MSFish uses the average size and abundance of fish sampled by biologists, the percentage of angling effort directed toward certain species, as well as the average size and number of fish caught by anglers. The beauty of MSFish is that it uses sizes and numbers of fish from both biologists and anglers. Of course, not all waters around the state can be sampled this intensively each year and many lakes cannot be indexed.

MSFish indicates potential fishing quality for bass, crappie, and bluegill on individual waterbodies around the state. Like a test score, it is based on a 100-point scale, with higher scores representing better fisheries. It's important to realize that MSFish is only a guide, and high scores do not mean fishing will always be better on that lake. As we all know, fishing success varies not only by location, but also from day to day, season, and year. However, some lakes do have more potential than others.

Fisheries biologists can also use MSFish to spot troubled fisheries or document improvements from management efforts. Protecting and improving Mississippi's fishery resources are important goals of the Mississippi Dept. of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks. Mississippi anglers desire clean and accessible places to fish, but they also want to catch something. This index can't replace good ole know-how and determination, but it can be a useful tool to compare potential fishing success.

MSFish Scores Ranked by Lake, 2015.

Black Bass		Crappie		Bream	
Lake	Score	Lake	Score	Lake	Score
Tom Bailey	78	Grenada	96	Prentiss Walker	84
Simpson County	76	Eagle	86	Little Eagle	74
Bill Waller	66	Neshoba County	86	Mike Conner	68
Prentiss Walker	66	Ross Barnett Res.	80	Tippah	58
Tippah	66	Enid	76	Jeff Davis	56
Lock C	62	Lake Washington	66	Simpson County	48
Jeff Davis	60	Calling Panther	63	Lake Washington	40
Mike Conner	60	Okatibbee Lake	54	Lamar Bruce	40
Lock D	60	Lake Beulah	52	Mary Crawford	38
Elvis Presley	60	Bay Springs	52	Tom Bailey	38
Kemper County	58	Lincoln	50	Columbia	36
Mary Crawford	56	Claude Bennett	50	Trace	36
Lamar Bruce	56	Lamar Bruce	48	Ross Barnett Res.	34
Eagle	54	Perry	44	Okatibbee Lake	34
Claude Bennett	54	Tom Bailey	44	Calling Panther	32
Natchez	52	Natchez	42	Enid	30
Lake Beulah	50	Tippah	42	Claude Bennett	30
Okatibbee Lake	50	Columbia	40	Natchez	28
Bay Springs	50	Jeff Davis	38	Kemper County	28
Trace	50	Mike Conner	38	Lake Beulah	26
Columbia	48	Little Eagle	36	Lincoln	26
Calling Panther	46	Lock C	34	Neshoba County	24
Perry	46	Kemper County	32	Elvis Presley	22
Ross Barnett Res.	44	Lock D	32	Bill Waller	20
Grenada	42	Prentiss Walker	30	Eagle	18
Lake Washington	38	Mary Crawford	25	Bay Springs	18
Neshoba County	38	Trace	20	Perry	15
Lincoln	32	Simpson County	12	Grenada	4
Little Eagle	30	Bill Waller	10		
Enid	26				