



Lake Beulah 2024

REEL FACTS

Amber Bookout – Fisheries Biologist
amber.bookout@wfp.ms.gov (601) 432-2200

General Information: Lake Beulah is an oxbow lake of the Mississippi River in Bolivar County. The lake is periodically connected to the Mississippi River when the river is high enough. The lake is approximately 1,000 acres in size, though size will change with the fluctuating water levels of the Mississippi River. The lake is surrounded primarily by bottomland hardwood forests.

Location: Inside the mainline Mississippi River levee in Bolivar County about 5 miles south of Rosedale, MS.

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

Purchase a Fishing License: <https://www.ms.gov/mdwfp/licensing/login>

Amenities

- 1 Public Ramp

Regulations

- 30 crappie per day.
- 10 Largemouth Bass per day.
- 100 bream per day.

Fun Facts

- The lake was formed in 1863 when the Napoleon cutoff was constructed to keep confederate soldiers from firing on union ships coming down the Mississippi River. This cutoff changed the course of the river and the old riverbed slowly began to fill in and became known as Lake Beulah.
- The MS river starts to enter the lake when the water level reaches close to 24 feet on the Arkansas City gauge.
- The lake forms part of the state line between Mississippi and Arkansas even though the entire lake is east of the Mississippi River, as the state lines were drawn when the lake was still a meander of the river.

Sportfishing Tips

Crappie

- During winter months try trolling through the two deep holes on the western side. In the spring target structure and piers along the banks with minnows or jigs.

Black Bass

- Target piers and structures along the eastern shoreline. Crankbaits and spinner baits are always a good choice of bait.

Bream

- Use crickets or red worms around the fishing piers, especially from early summer through the fall.

Catfish

- Target shallow mudflats near the deep holes and around the chute to the river. Use nightcrawlers, chicken liver, and stinkbait for bait.

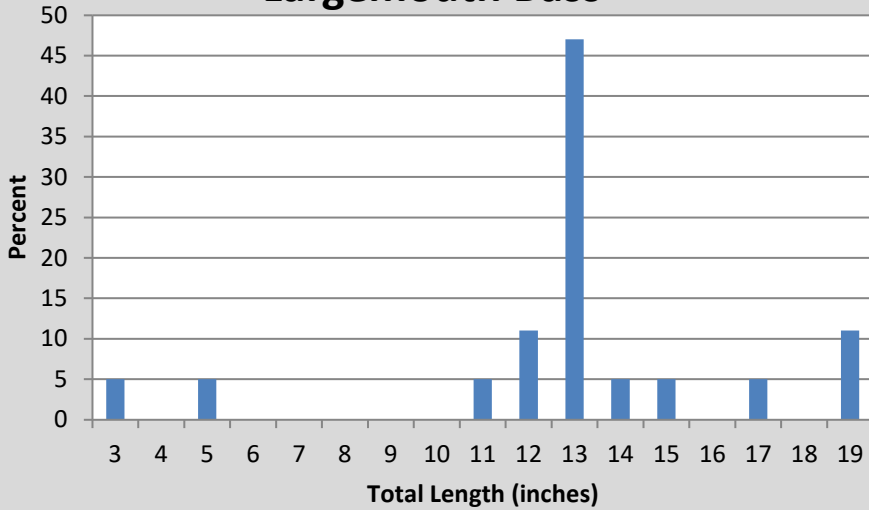
2017 Electrofishing Summary

Species	# of fish sampled	% of sample	Average Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)	Catch Rate-Adult Fish (fish/mile)
Freshwater Drum	61	22	8.0	17.3		2/
Bluegill	52	19	6.2	8.7	0.4	24
Bigmouth Buffalo	26	9	20.3	26.0		12
Largemouth Bass	19	7	12.9	18.8	1.5	9
Longear Sunfish	19	7	3.5	5.1		9
Channel Catfish	18	7	14.5	22.5	1.6	8
Spotted Gar	18	7	22.8	29.4		8
Smallmouth Buffalo	16	6	16.6	27.4		7
Black Crappie	12	4	9.3	10.8	0.6	6
White Bass	10	3	14.1	15.6	1.6	5
Common Carp	7	3	22.5	23.7		3
Yellow Bass	6	2	6.4	9.1		3
White Crappie	4	1	12.3	14.0	1.1	2
Warmouth	3	1	3.4	3.7		1
Orangespotted Sunfish	1	<1	2.3	2.3		<1
Black Buffalo	1	<1	26.1	26.1		<1
Grass carp	1	<1	23.8	23.8		<1
Shortnose Gar	1	<1	24.9	24.9		<1
Longnose Gar	1	<1	44.9	44.9		<1

Above: Complete results from the 2017 electrofishing survey from Lake Beulah. Lake Beulah is sampled in the fall every 1-2 years. Bluegill were the most common sport fish, making up 18.8% of the total catch, followed by Largemouth Bass at 6.9%. Catch rates for bass and bream decreased in 2017 while crappie catch rates had a slight increase. Crappie weights and bass weights were slightly higher than previous electrofishing surveys.



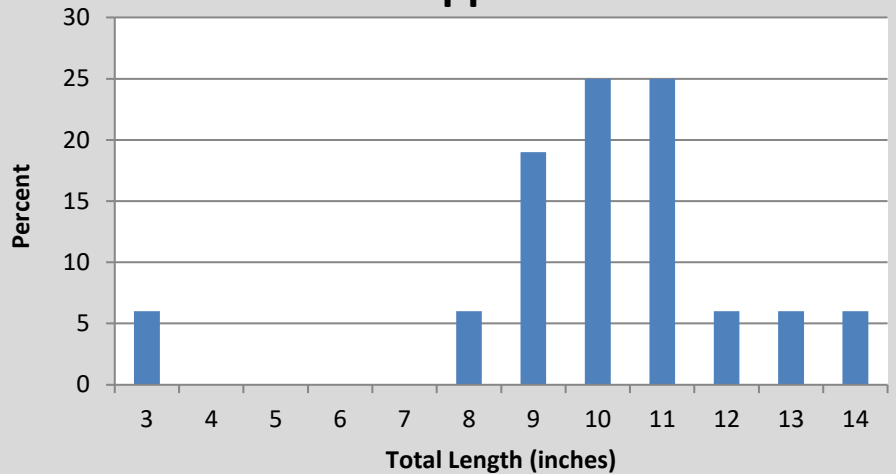
Largemouth Bass



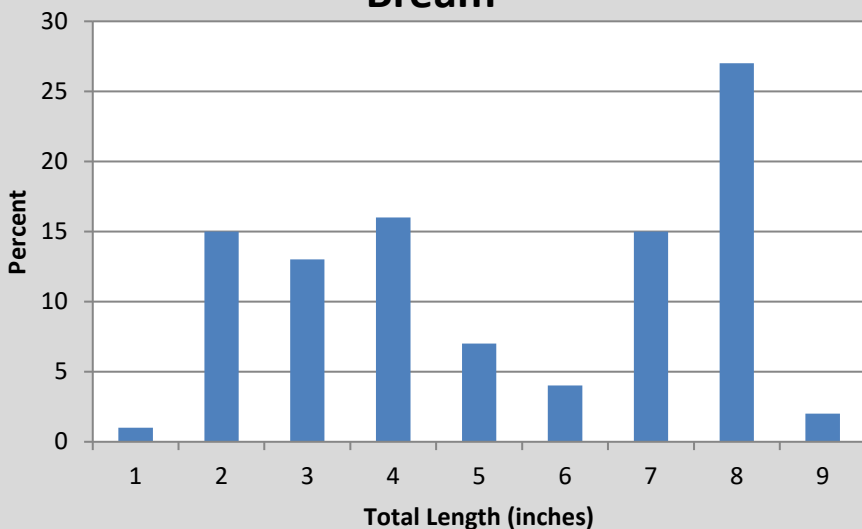
Left: Length distribution for Largemouth Bass from the 2017 electrofishing survey at Lake Beulah showing percentage of bass collected in each inch group. Adult fish, particularly fish 13 inches in length, increased compared to the 2015 survey.

Right: Length distribution for crappie from the 2017 electrofishing survey at Lake Beulah showing percentage of crappie collected in each inch group. Results from 2017 showed an increase in fish 9 to 10 inches as compared to the 2015 survey.

Crappie

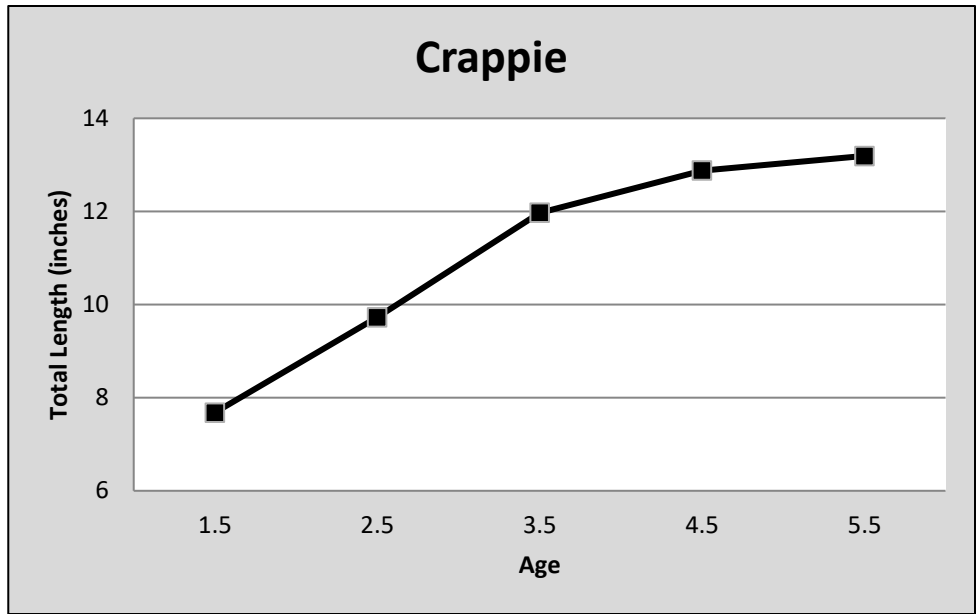


Bream



Left: Length distribution for bream from the 2017 electrofishing survey at Lake Beulah showing percentage of bream collected in each inch group. The 2017 results changed very little from 2015, but a higher percentage of adult size fish in the 7 to 8 inch range were collected.

Right: Crappie growth rates from Lake Beulah. Crappie growth is fast with fish growing to 12 inches in 3.5 years.



Below: Depth map for Lake Beulah

