

## Lake Louise Survey Summary

Lake Louise is a 163-acre prairie impoundment located northwest of Miller, South Dakota. Louise is surrounded by land managed by SD Game, Fish and Parks either as a Game Production Area or as a State Recreation Area with full campground facilities. Fishing access is plentiful around the lake. A concrete boat ramp, a handicap accessible dock, two recently added fishing docks (2017), and many other areas along the shoreline exist to provide fishing access. Adjacent to the handicap dock and submerged are several commercially made plastic trees to help attract fish within casting distance of the dock.

Areas of emergent cattail and reed exist throughout the impoundment. Submergent vegetation is adequate throughout and at times very dense in the upper reaches and shallows of the impoundment. Vegetation growth extends out to about 6 to 7 feet of water depth most years. At the time of survey water levels were above full, this is not always the case on Lake Louise. Aquatic invasive flowering rush was found in areas around the lake. Dissolved oxygen, at time of survey, was more than adequate to fully support fish. No thermocline had developed, but typically does later in the summer.

Lake Louise primary fish species include Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Yellow Perch, Walleye, Northern Pike, and Black Bullhead. Depending on water levels, each species maybe flourishing or not. Reports of a winterkill during the winter of 2018-19 were received. Thus, a shorten electrofishing survey was conducted in 2019 to determine the extent of the fish kill. In which was determined to only a minor winterkill occurred during the winter of 2018-19. A full survey is schedule for the summer of 2020.

- **Largemouth Bass:** Largemouth Bass are increasing in abundance with 163.0 fish/hr electrofishing, the highest abundance in recent for stock length and greater fish (2018 survey). Many of these Largemouth Bass are young (3 years old and less) and is a good sign for the future, with many of these in the eight to twelve-inch class. The plumpness and growth rates for Largemouth Bass are at or above average as well. The 2019 survey illustrated similar results with 138 fish/hr electrofishing with vast majority of them 137 of the 138 collected were age-0 Largemouth Bass. Showing avoidance of larger fish from our gear (day vs night shocking) and a good year-class of young produced for future fishing.
- **Bluegill:** Bluegill abundance has increase in Lake Louise to 20.5 fish/net-night (2018) which is above the average of 5.3 fish/net-night. Condition or plumpness of the Bluegill is very good. The average size increased to 5.5 inches with a size range of 3 to 10 inches. Growth of Bluegill is good and near the state average for growth. The 2019 survey yielded a 58 fish/hr electrofished for Bluegill with a fair size distribution (PSD of 36).
- **Yellow Perch:** Yellow Perch abundance had a slight decrease in abundance, but average size had increased to 7.5 inches (2018). The condition had a slight decrease but is fair for a small impoundment. Growth of Yellow Perch was near the statewide average for Lake Louise. The 2019 boat electrofishing survey collected 20 fish/hr and a number of age-0 fish were seen.
- **Walleye:** Walleye in Lake Louise are a secondary species to provide anglers another species to catch, especially in the spring of the year. Recently walleye abundance has been low, but the average size has been large. Due to a stocking of large fingerlings in the Fall 2017, abundance has increased. Many of these Walleye are now nine inches (2018 survey) and should provide a future fishery. No Walleye were collected during boat electrofishing in the fall, 2019.
- **Black Bullhead:** Black Bullhead abundance in the 2018 survey has decreased and the average size had increased to around 11 inches. This size of Black Bullhead can be a trophy catch for a child. Low abundance continued in 2019 boat electrofishing survey with only 11 collected.
- **Northern Pike:** Northern Pike were first seen in the 2003 survey and continue to provide a fishery since. Abundance is currently low but fish of several sizes exist. Some Northern Pike weighing in the 'teens can be found. A few Northern Pike were collected during the 2019 survey including a few age-0.
- **Other Species:** Common Carp were recently discovered in the lake during the 2015 survey. During the 2019 survey, young common carp were abundant throughout the lake (67 age-0 and 1 adult). Later in the fall of 2019 reports of a fish kill were received and was determined to only include age-0 Common Carp.

For more detailed results see the computer-generated South Dakota Statewide Fisheries Survey for Lake Louise below. Please contact South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Ft. Pierre office – (605) 223-7700 for additional information.

# SOUTH DAKOTA STATEWIDE FISHERIES SURVEY

Louise, Hand County

TUR-Lake-155-000

2019

## Lake Information

**Name:** Louise **Maximum Depth:** 20 Feet  
**County:** Hand **Mean Depth:** 8 Feet  
**Legal Description:** T113-R69-S4  
**Surface Area:** 163 Acres

## Surveys and Investigations

Survey methods used by gear type, date, and effort.

Gear	Date	Effort
boat shocker (day)	Sep 06, 2019	3600 seconds

## Common Fish Species Present

Largemouth Bass

Bluegill

Yellow Perch

Walleye

Northern Pike

Black Bullhead

Common Carp

## Terminology

Catch per unit effort (**CPUE**) refers to the relative abundance of a species. It is defined as the number of fish captured per unit of effort (i.e., number of fish captured per net-night or number of fish captured per hour electrofishing). In this report CPUE is typically given for only stock-length fish (see length categories table for stock lengths).

A statewide effort to help make netting efforts comparable to all waters sampled across the state, occurred in 2017, with a switch to American Fisheries Society gill nets. Past gill netting efforts were completed with different style/types of nets and are not comparable side by side.

- **AFS std gill net** – 80 ft experimental gill net containing eight panels (10 ft each) of varying monofilament meshes of 0.75, 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.25 and 2.50 inches.
- **std experimental gill net for non-Missouri River waters** - 150 ft experimental gill net containing six panels (25 ft each) of varying monofilament meshes of 0.5, 0.75, 1.00, 1.25, 1.50 and 2.00 inches.
- **std experimental gill net for Missouri River reservoirs** – 300 ft experimental gill net containing six panels (50 ft each) of varying multifilament meshes of 0.5, 0.75, 1.00, 1.25, 1.50 and 2.00 inches.

$$CPUE = \frac{\text{number of fish}}{\text{effort}}$$

Population size structure is quantified using the indices proportional size distribution of quality-length fish (**PSD**) and proportional size distribution of preferred-length fish (**PSD-P**). These indices indicate the proportion of stock-length fish that are equal to or greater than a given length. Minimum lengths for stock, quality and preferred length fish are given in the length categories table.

$$PSD = \left( \frac{\text{number of fish} \geq \text{quality length}}{\text{number of fish} \geq \text{stock length}} \right) \times 100$$

$$PSD - P = \left( \frac{\text{number of fish} \geq \text{preferred length}}{\text{number of fish} \geq \text{stock length}} \right) \times 100$$

Relative weight (**Wr**) is used to quantify fish plumpness. Relative weight is the ratio of what a fish weighs (*W*) compared to a length-specific standard weight (*Ws*) multiplied by 100. Relative weight values of 95-105 are commonly cited as optimum values, but values in the 80s are common during summer sampling in South Dakota.

$$Wr = \left( \frac{W}{W_s} \right) \times 100$$

Confidence intervals (CI) are provided for many of the estimates calculated in this report. The confidence interval provides a range in which the true mean is expected to fall. For example, with an 80% CI we are 80% confident that the interval contains the true value.

Length categories include stock (S), quality (Q), preferred (P), memorable (M) and trophy (T). Length categories for most species have been defined based on a percentage of the world record length for that species. Some species mentioned in this report do not have defined length categories. Length categories for species used in this report are provided in the following table. Measurements are the minimum total length for each category and are reported in inches (in) and centimeters (cm).

Species Name	Stock		Quality		Preferred		Memorable		Trophy	
	(in)	(cm)	(in)	(cm)	(in)	(cm)	(in)	(cm)	(in)	(cm)
Black Bullhead	6	15	9	23	12	30	15	38	18	46
Black Crappie	5	13	8	20	10	25	12	30	15	38
Bluegill	3	8	6	15	8	20	10	25	12	30
Brown Trout	8	20	12	30	16	40	20	50	18	46
Channel Catfish	11	28	16	41	24	61	28	71	36	91
Freshwater Drum	8	20	12	30	15	38	20	51	25	63
Lake Trout	12	30	20	50	26	65	31	80	39	100
Largemouth Bass	8	20	12	30	15	38	20	51	25	63
Muskellunge	20	51	30	76	38	97	42	107	50	127
Northern Pike	14	35	21	53	28	71	34	86	44	112
Pumpkinseed	3	8	6	15	8	20	10	25	12	30
Rainbow Trout	10	25	16	40	20	50	26	65	31	80
Rudd	6	15	10	25	12	30	15	38	19	48
Sauger	8	20	12	30	15	38	20	51	25	63
Smallmouth Bass	7	18	11	28	14	35	17	43	20	51
Walleye	10	25	15	38	20	51	25	63	30	76
White Bass	6	15	9	23	12	30	15	38	18	46
White Crappie	5	13	8	20	10	25	12	30	15	38
Yellow Bullhead	4	10	7	18	9	23	11	28	14	36
Yellow Perch	5	13	8	20	10	25	12	30	15	38

## Catch Summary of Stock Length Fish

Catch per unit effort (CPUE), proportional size distribution (PSD), proportional size distribution of preferred length fish (PSD-P), and relative weight (Wr) for species sampled in survey with 80% confidence interval (CI-80).

\* **Methods/Species that ignore stock length**

Gear	Species	Sample Size (n)	Abundance		Stock Density Indices			Condition	
			CPUE	CI-80	PSD	CI-80	PSD-P	CI-80	Wr
boat shocker (day)	Black Bullhead	11	5.0	4.8	100		40	93	5
	Bluegill	69	58.0	37.2	36	9	0	108	2
	Common Carp	68	1.0	1.5	100		0	105	
	Largemouth Bass	138	1.0	1.5	100		0	112	
	Northern Pike	9	7.0	4.2	0		0	110	4
	Yellow Perch	46	20.0	11.6	15		0	91	3

## **10-Year Catch Per Unit Effort by Gear and Species**

Catch per unit effort (CPUE) and average (Avg) of species across 10 years using different gear types.

Gear	Species	CPUE										Avg
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
AFS std gill net	Black Bullhead									0.0		0.00
	Bluegill									2.8		2.80
	Northern Pike									0.8		0.80
	Walleye									1.0		1.00
	Yellow Perch									11.0		11.00
boat shocker (day)	Black Bullhead										5.0	5.00
	Bluegill										58.0	58.00
	Common Carp										1.0	1.00
	Largemouth Bass										1.0	1.00
	Northern Pike										7.0	7.00
	Yellow Perch										20.0	20.00
boat shocker (night)	Largemouth Bass	2.0	8.0	17.0	24.0		57.0	48.0		164.0		45.71
	Walleye	29.0	0.0	5.0	0.0		12.0	6.0		33.0		12.14
frame net (std 3/4 in)	Black Bullhead	10.3	3.7		9.9		7.0	42.2		23.3		16.07
	Bluegill	4.7	1.5		1.5		0.3	4.5		20.5		5.50
	Common Carp	0.0	0.0		0.0		0.3	0.2		0.0		0.08
	Largemouth Bass	0.0	0.0		0.0		0.0	0.0		0.1		0.02
	Northern Pike	0.6	0.6		0.8		0.0	0.0		0.1		0.35
	Walleye	0.0	0.0		0.1		0.0	0.0		0.2		0.05
	Yellow Perch	3.9	1.4		0.1		0.2	2.5		2.2		1.72
std exp gill net	Black Bullhead	32.0	0.0		52.5		30.5	54.0				33.80
	Bluegill	0.0	0.0		0.0		0.0	0.5				0.10
	Northern Pike	2.5	0.5		1.5		0.5	1.5				1.30
	Walleye	0.0	0.0		0.0		0.0	3.0				0.60
	Yellow Perch	4.5	15.0		7.0		14.5	97.0				27.60

## 10-Year Size Structure and Condition Statistics by Gear and Species

Species proportional size distribution (PSD), proportional size distribution of preferred length fish (PSD-P), and relative weight (Wr) collected by different gear types across 10 years.

Gear	Species	Index	Year											
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019		
AFS std gill net	Black Bullhead	PSD											0	
		PSD-P											0	
	Bluegill	PSD											9	
		PSD-P											0	
	Northern Pike	PSD											100	
		PSD-P											67	
		Wr											92	
	Walleye	PSD											100	
		PSD-P											50	
		Wr											90	
	Yellow Perch	PSD											45	
		PSD-P											0	
		Wr											76	
	boat shocker (day)	Black Bullhead	PSD											100
			PSD-P											40
Wr													93	
Bluegill		PSD											36	
		PSD-P											0	
		Wr											108	
Common Carp		PSD											100	
		PSD-P											0	
		Wr											105	
Largemouth Bass		PSD											100	
		PSD-P											0	
		Wr											112	
Northern Pike		PSD											0	
		PSD-P											0	
		Wr											110	
Yellow Perch	PSD											15		
	PSD-P											0		
	Wr											91		
boat shocker (night)	Largemouth Bass	PSD	100	13	47	100		7	31			13		
		PSD-P	100	0	6	46		7	4			2		

		Wr	125	124	118	114	117	112	110
	Walleye	PSD	14		80		18	67	33
		PSD-P	0		0		0	0	33
		Wr	92		103		92	93	90
frame net (std 3/4 in)	Black Bullhead	PSD	97	86		2	94	99	97
		PSD-P	1	8		1	0	29	73
		Wr	88	89		91	100	88	87
Bluegill	PSD	100	73		93	100	9	20	
	PSD-P	60	67		47	33	9	0	
	Wr	124	115		118	121	141	95	
Common Carp	PSD					0	100		
	PSD-P					0	0		
	Wr					122	108		
Largemouth Bass	PSD							100	
	PSD-P							0	
	Wr							51	
Northern Pike	PSD	0	50		38			100	
	PSD-P	0	0		0			0	
	Wr	85	91		80			88	
Walleye	PSD				100			100	
	PSD-P				100			50	
	Wr				90			89	
Yellow Perch	PSD	90	86		0	0	52	36	
	PSD-P	3	14		0	0	0	0	
	Wr	99	96			130	90	82	
std exp gill net	Black Bullhead	PSD	92	0		1	93	98	
		PSD-P	0	0		0	0	28	
		Wr	104			96	110		
Bluegill	PSD						0		
	PSD-P						0		
	Wr						156		
Northern Pike	PSD	0	0		100	100	100		
	PSD-P	0	0		33	100	67		
	Wr	93	104		95	92	101		
Walleye	PSD				0		83		
	PSD-P				0		0		
	Wr						96		
Yellow Perch	PSD	67	50		0	0	38		
	PSD-P	11	0		0	0	2		





## Length at Capture

Mean length at capture by age across years sampled, sample size (N).

Species: Bluegill

Mean Length (expanded sample number) at capture by age											
Year	N	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
2018	191			131 (111)	150 (72)	169 (6)	173 (1)		240 (1)		
2016	44		114 (20)	126 (20)			202 (1)	212 (2)		223 (1)	
2015	3		172 (2)	209 (1)							
2013	15		115 (1)	164 (4)	185 (3)	227 (1)	227 (1)	234 (2)	243 (1)	243 (2)	
2011	16	83 (5)		202 (2)		220 (4)	228 (2)	229 (3)			
2010	47		186 (9)		199 (14)	206 (22)				233 (1)	

Species: Largemouth Bass

Mean Length (expanded sample number) at capture by age											
Year	N	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
2018	183	180 (20)	226 (133)	300 (24)	345 (4)				487 (2)		
2016	106	184 (66)	212 (14)	295 (18)	322 (6)	411 (1)	446 (1)				
2015	61	232 (57)				441 (4)					
2013	24		335 (4)	380 (17)	393 (3)						
2012	29	191 (17)	314 (10)	346 (1)		440 (1)					
2011	8	277 (8)									
2010	2		405 (1)	384 (1)							

Species: Walleye

Mean Length (expanded sample number) at capture by age											
Year	N	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
2018	4				424 (1)	509 (2)	525 (1)				
2016	6		281 (1)		421 (5)						
2013	2		222 (2)								

Species: Yellow Perch

Mean Length (expanded sample number) at capture by age											
Year	N	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
2018	44		148 (9)	182 (16)	209 (11)	236 (8)					
2016	215	114 (21)	191 (120)	201 (57)	225 (10)	253 (7)					
2015	29	160 (25)	182 (4)								
2013	14		150 (8)	169 (2)	180 (3)		195 (1)				
2011	36	98 (4)	140 (12)	204 (14)	225 (4)	232 (2)					
2010	9		195 (5)	231 (3)	260 (1)						

## Fish Condition

Mean relative weight (Wr) by sample size (N), length category stock to quality (S-Q), quality to preferred (Q-P), preferred to memorable (P-M), and memorable (M) for species collected across survey years with standard error (SE).

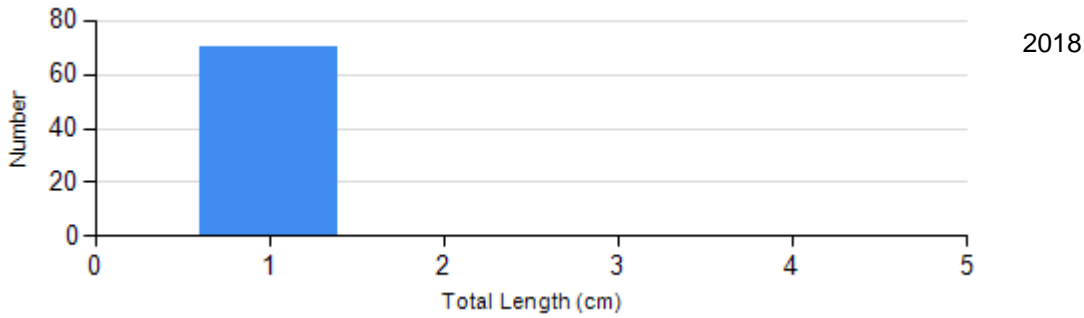
Species	Year	Length Groups							
		S-Q		Q-P		P-M		M	
		N	Wr (SE)	N	Wr (SE)	N	Wr (SE)	N	Wr (SE)
Black Bullhead Gill Net	2015	4	107 (5.7)	57	110 (1.4)	0		0	
Bluegill Frame Net	2015	0		2	125 (0.0)	1	115	0	
	2016	41	146 (14.8)	0		4	117 (3.4)	0	
	2018	165	94 (0.9)	39	99 (2.0)	1	110	0	
Largemouth Bass Electro Fishing	2015	53	117 (1.3)	0		4	118 (3.7)	0	
	2016	33	111 (1.4)	13	116 (1.9)	2	95 (3.2)	0	
	2018	143	109 (0.9)	18	114 (1.8)	3	126 (5.5)	0	
	2019	0		1	112	0		0	
Northern Pike Gill Net	2015	0		0		1	92	0	
	2016	0		1		1	103	1	99
	2018	0		1	99	2	89 (3.0)	0	
Walleye Gill Net	2016	1		5	96	0		0	
	2018	0		2	88 (0.3)	2	91 (0.9)	0	
Yellow Perch Gill Net	2015	29	110 (1.8)	0		0		0	
	2016	120	99 (0.8)	70	95 (1.2)	4	91	0	
	2018	24	67 (2.3)	20	86 (4.4)	0		0	

## Length Frequency Distribution

Length frequency histogram of species sampled by year.

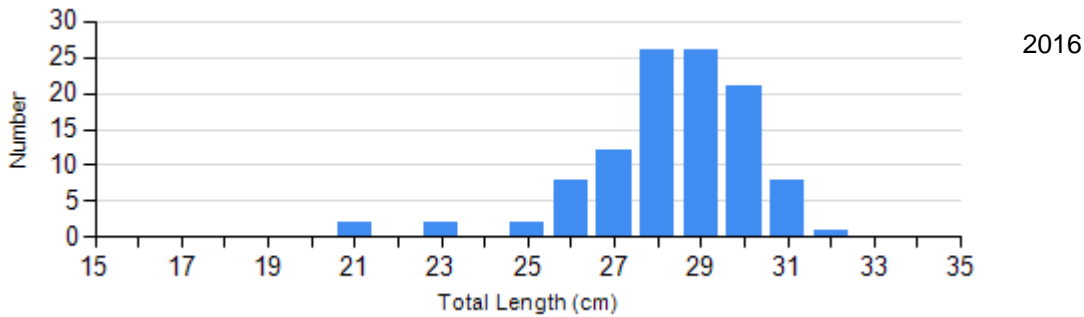
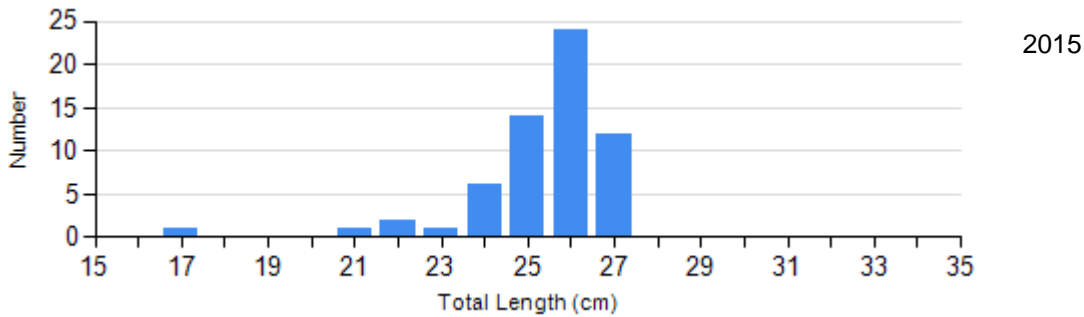
Species: Black Bullhead

Gear: AFS std gill net



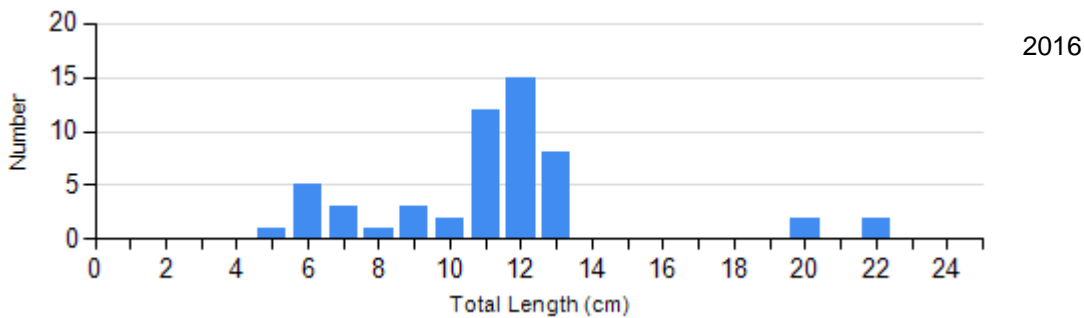
Species: Black Bullhead

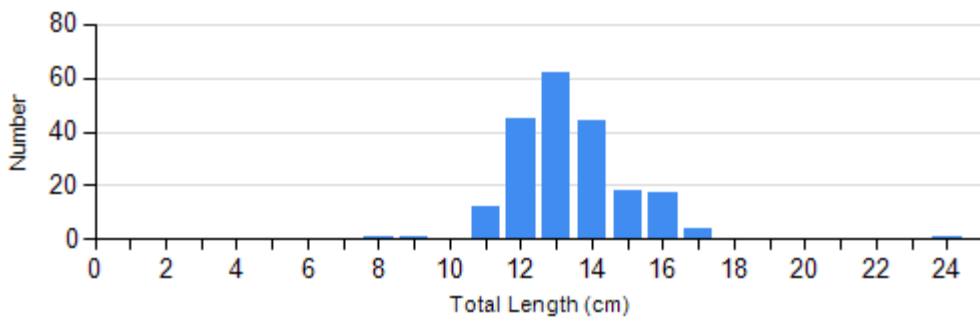
Gear: std exp gill net



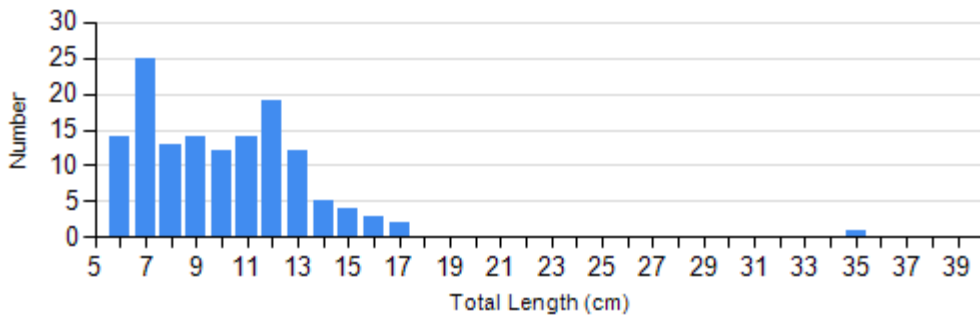
Species: Bluegill

Gear: frame net (std 3/4 in)

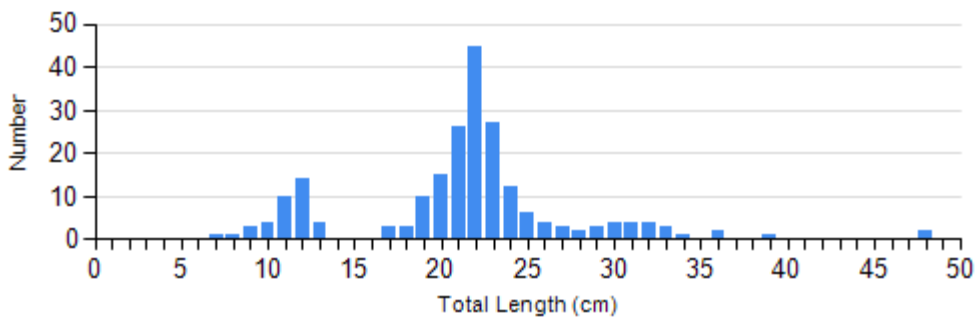
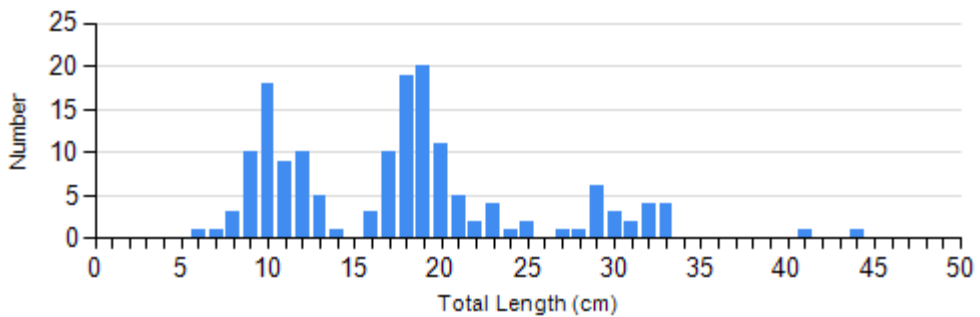
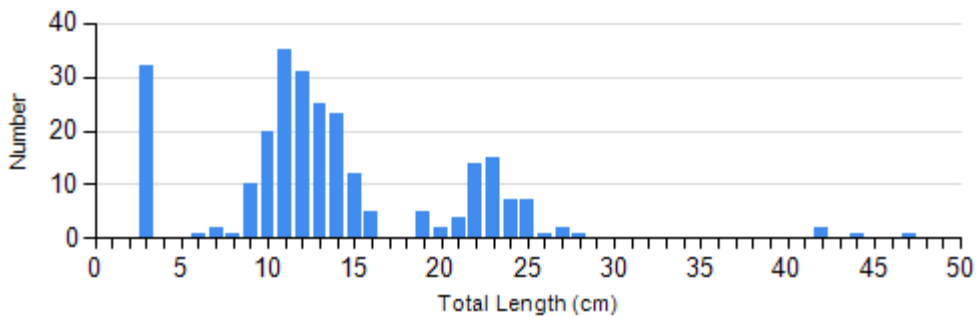




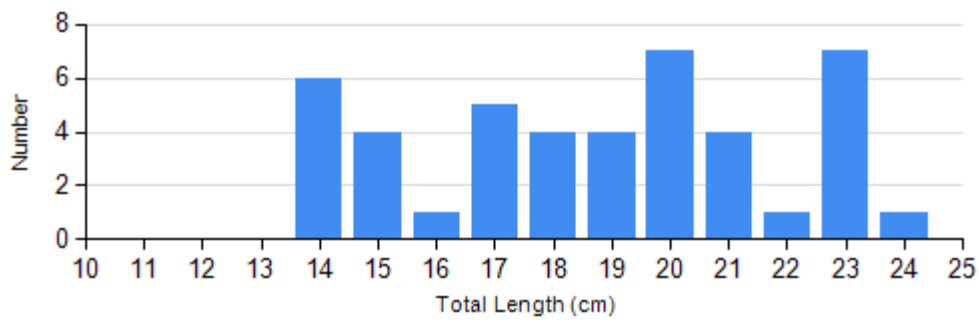
Species: Largemouth Bass  
Gear: boat shocker (day)



Species: Largemouth Bass  
Gear: boat shocker (night)

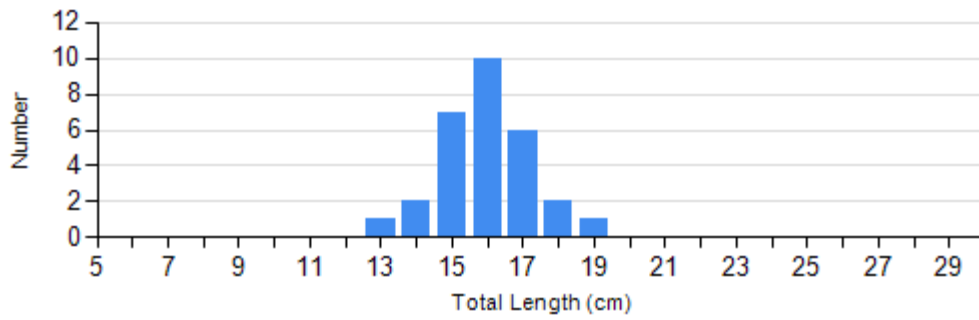


Species: Yellow Perch  
Gear: AFS std gill net

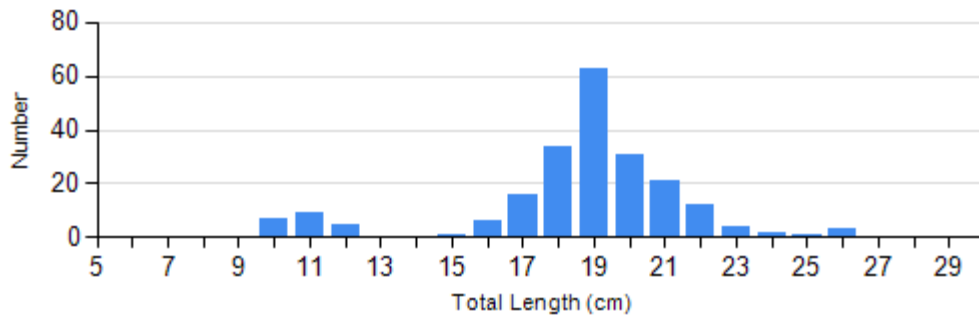


2018

Species: Yellow Perch  
 Gear: std exp gill net



2015

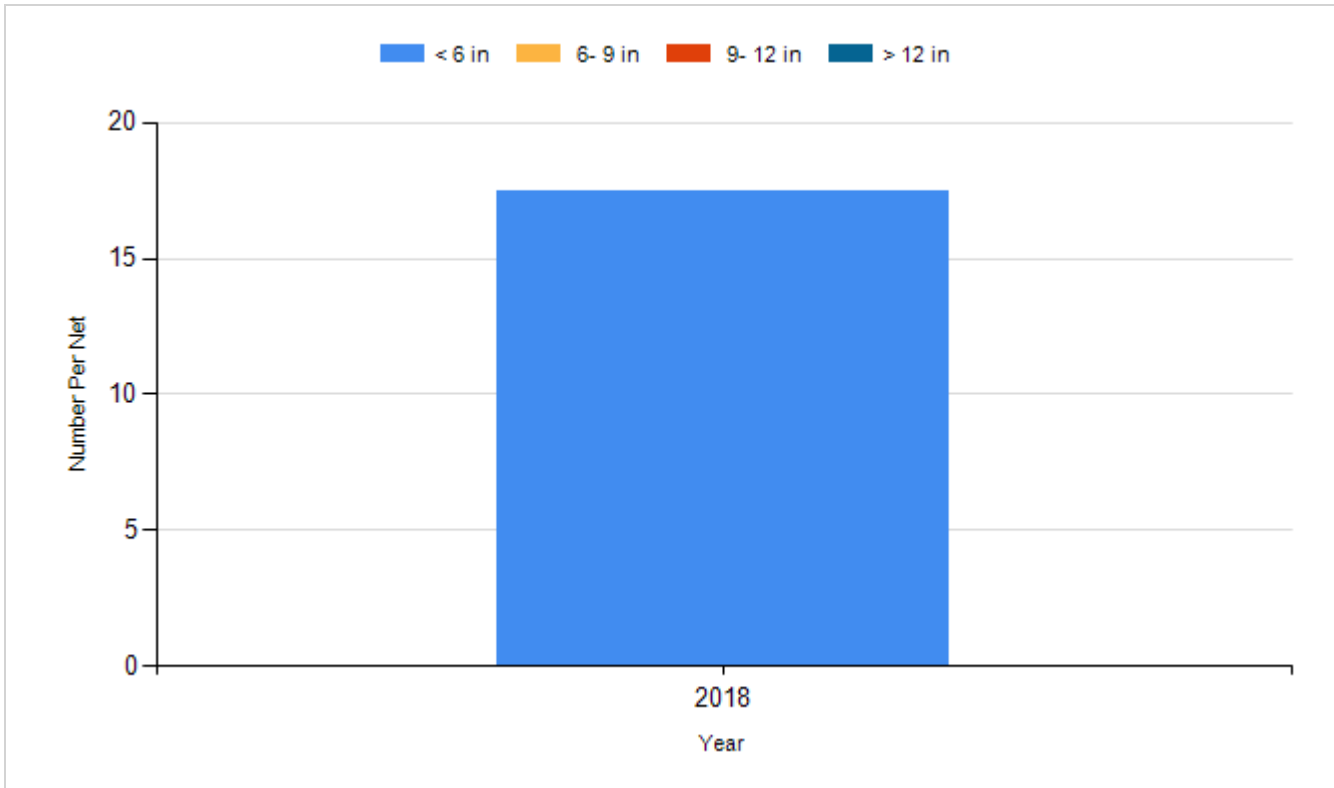


2016

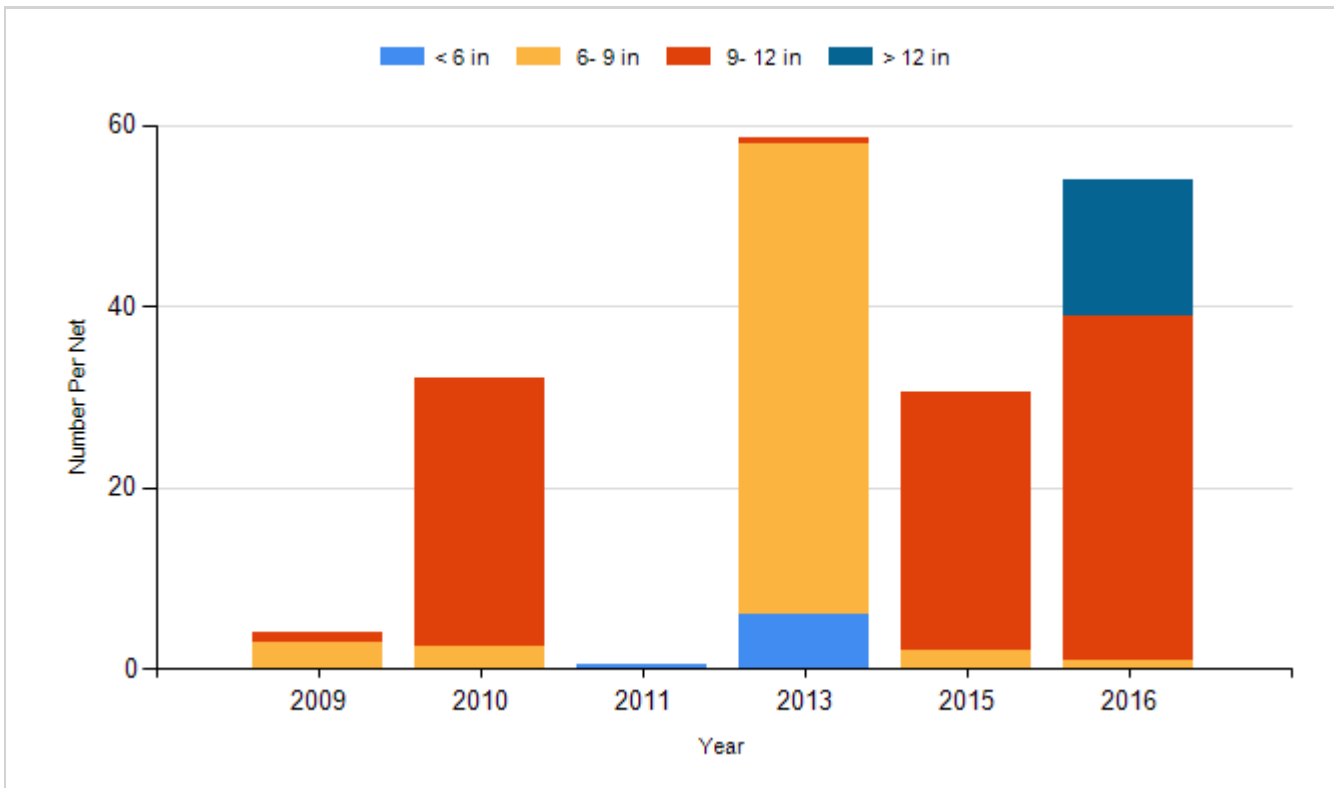
## Historic Fish Sizes and Relative Abundance

Size distribution per net by color for species sampled by year.

Species: Black Bullhead  
Gear: AFS std gill net

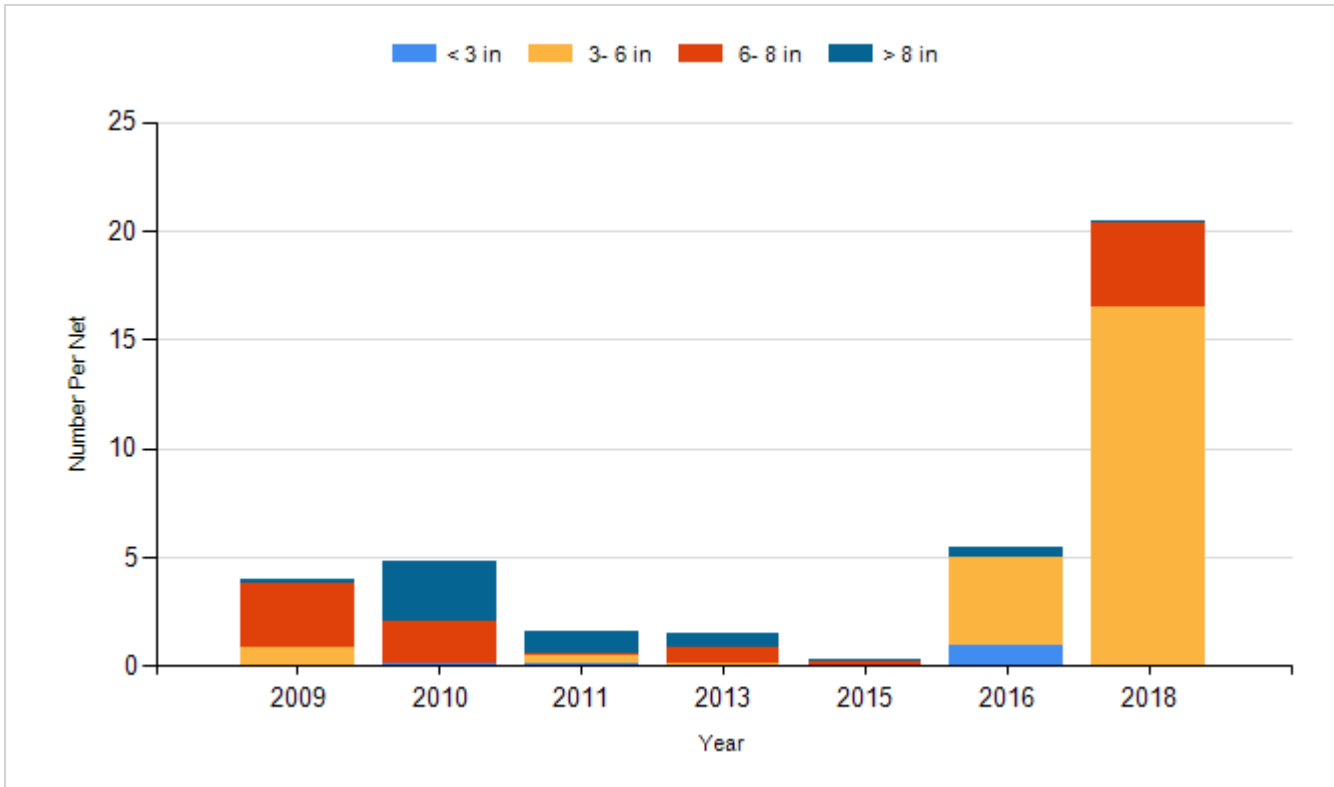


Species: Black Bullhead  
Gear: std exp gill net

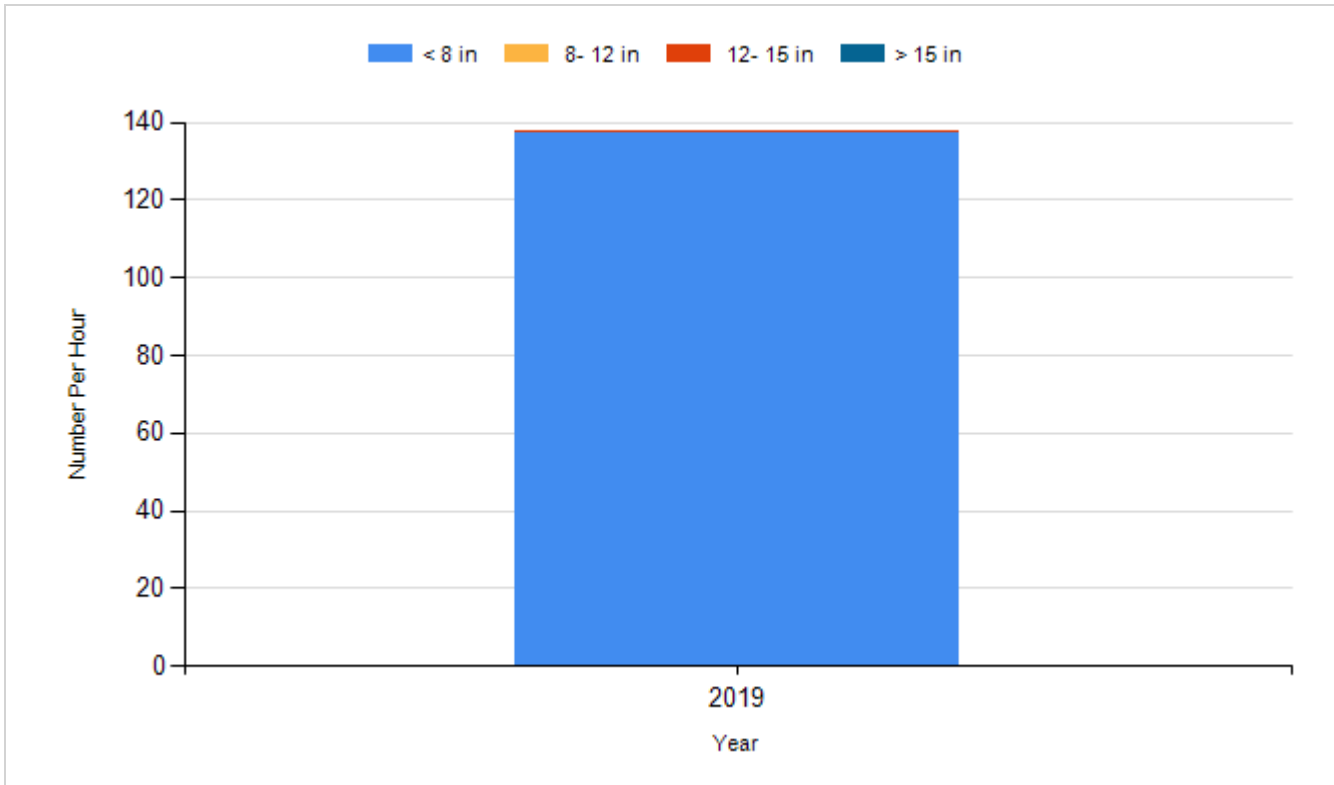




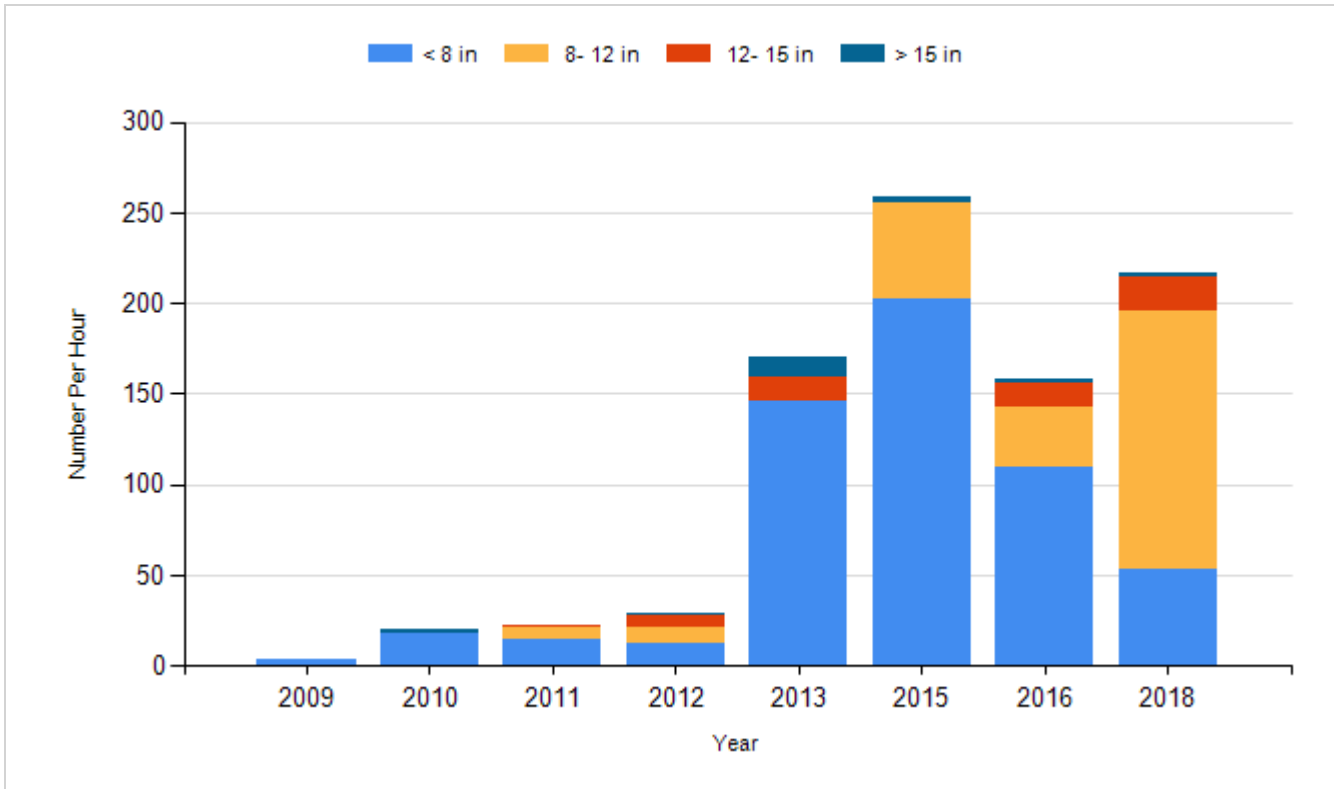
Species: Bluegill  
Gear: frame net (std 3/4 in)



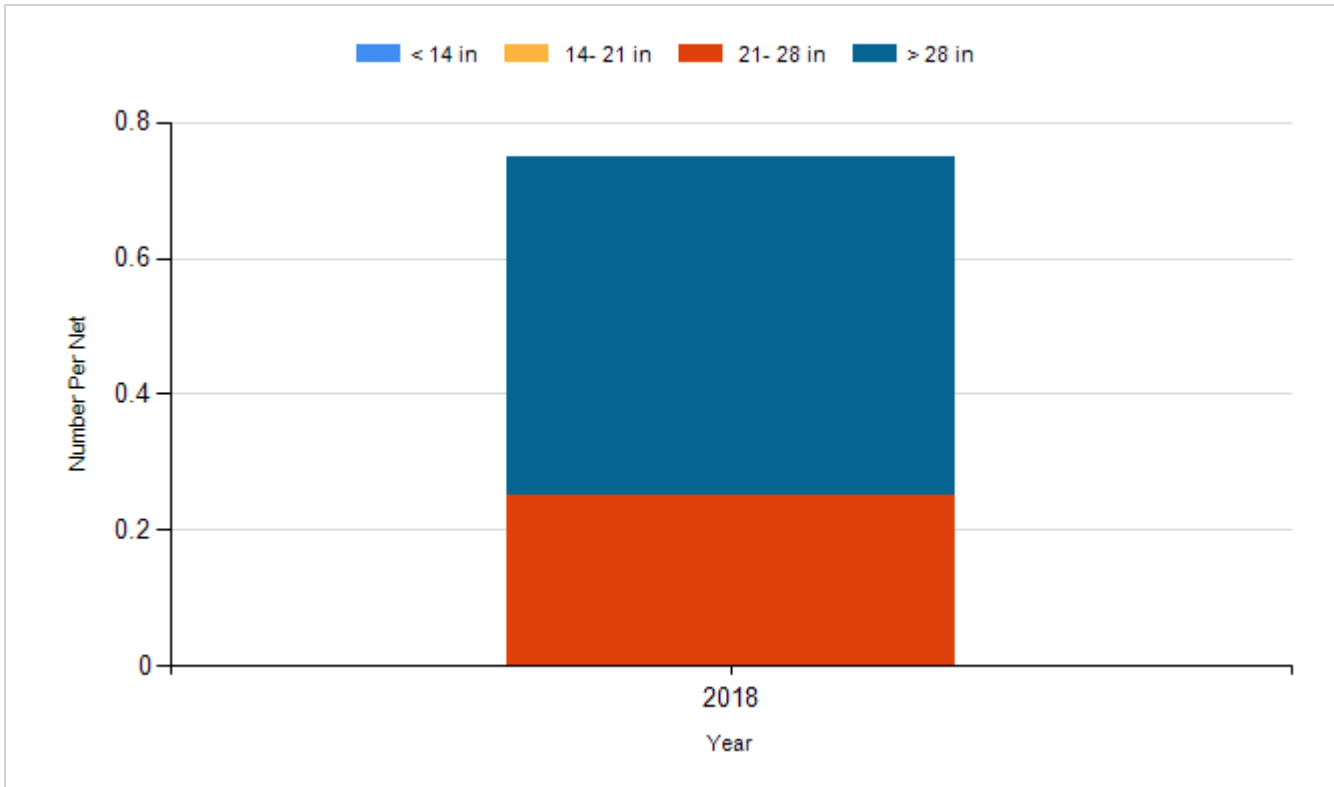
Species: Largemouth Bass  
Gear: boat shocker (day)



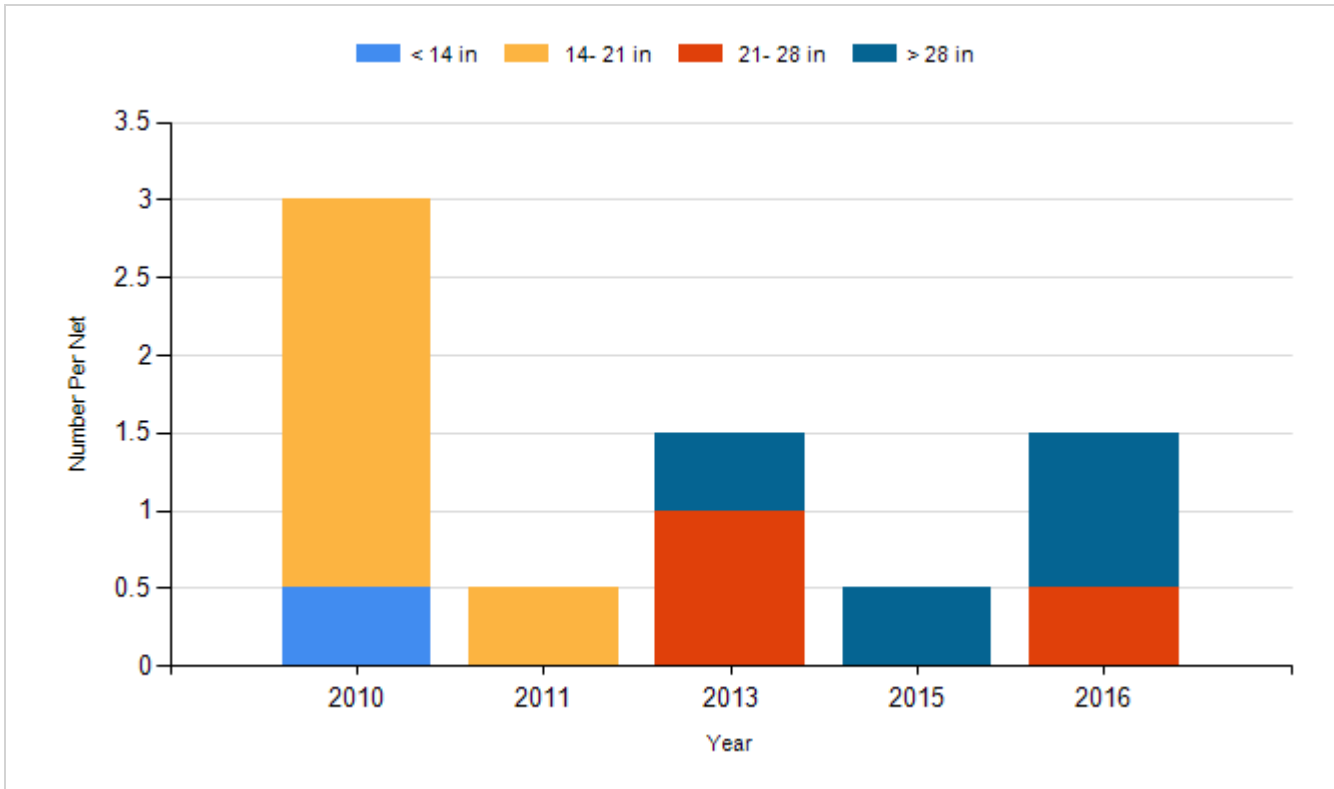
Species: Largemouth Bass  
Gear: boat shocker (night)



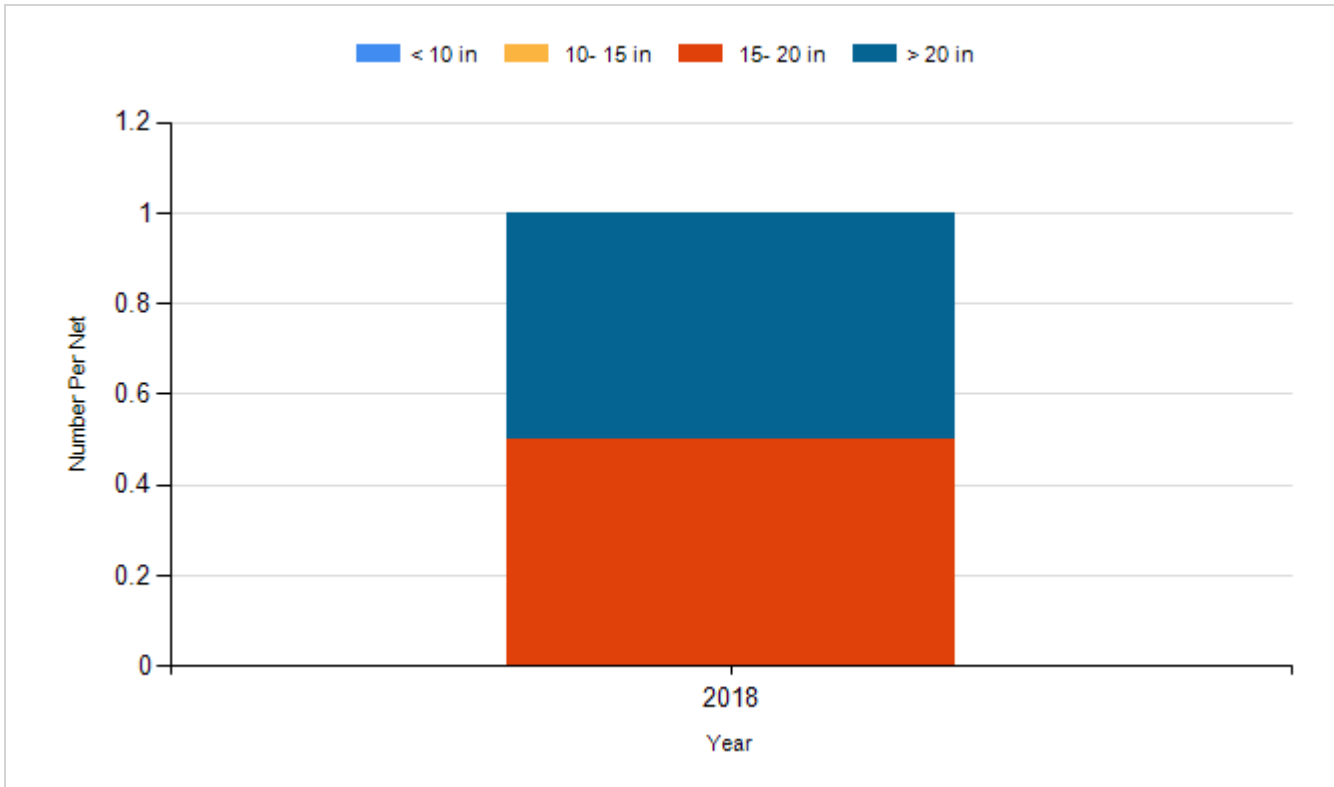
Species: Northern Pike  
Gear: AFS std gill net



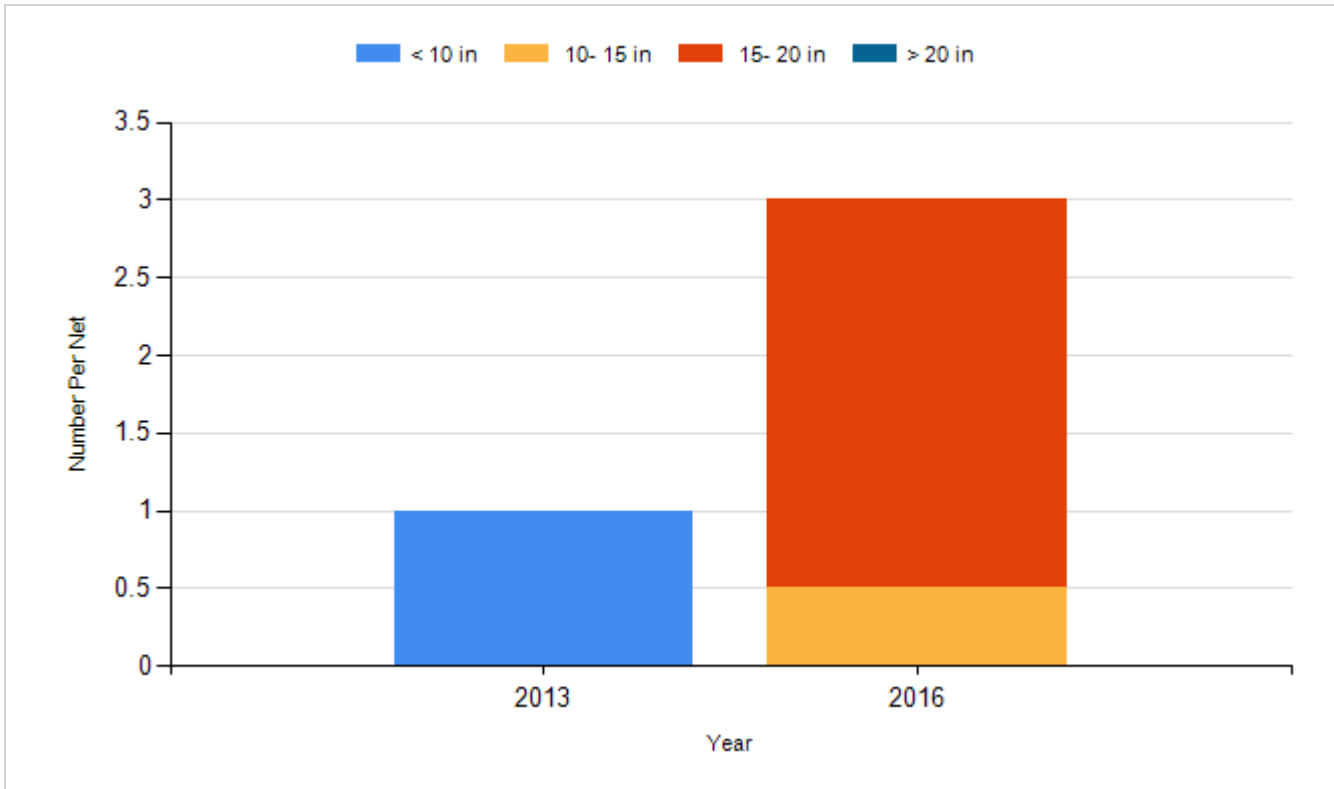
Species: Northern Pike  
Gear: std exp gill net



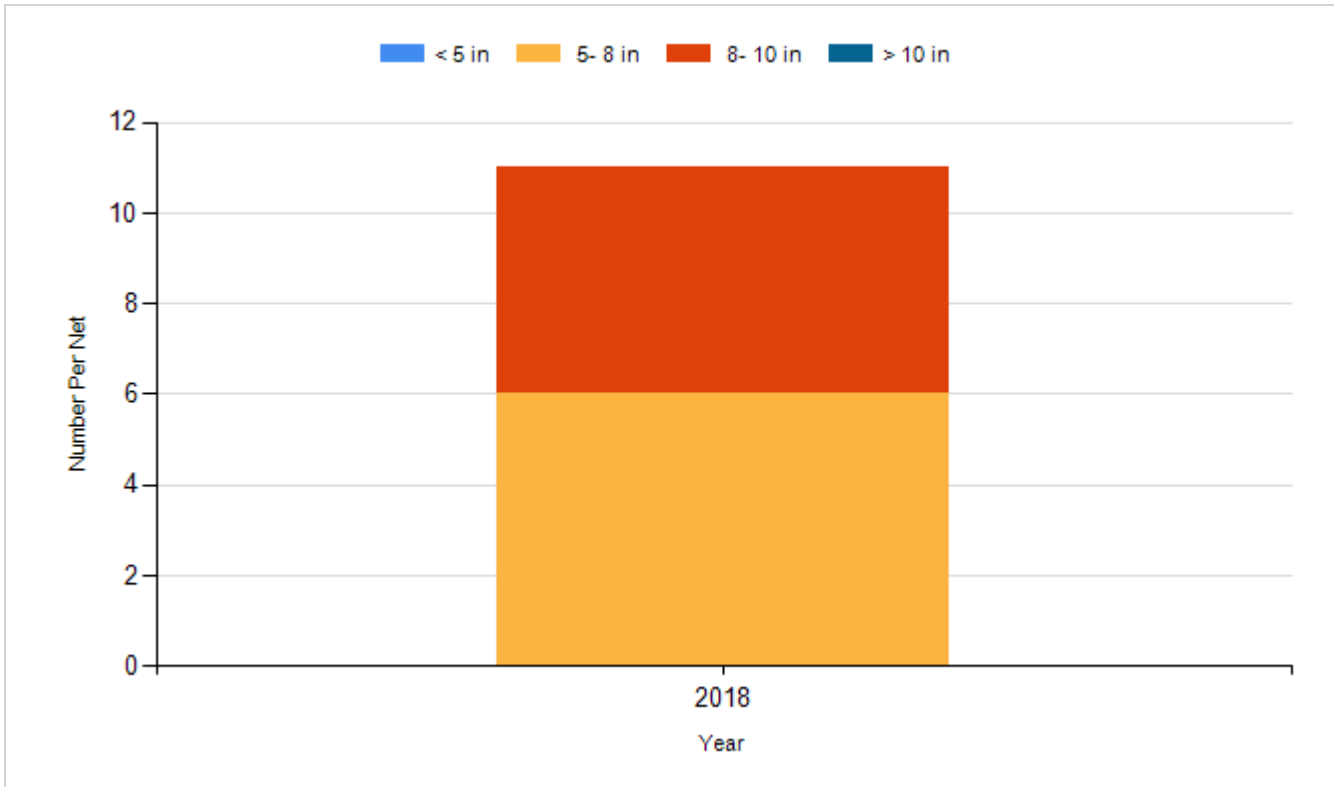
Species: Walleye  
Gear: AFS std gill net



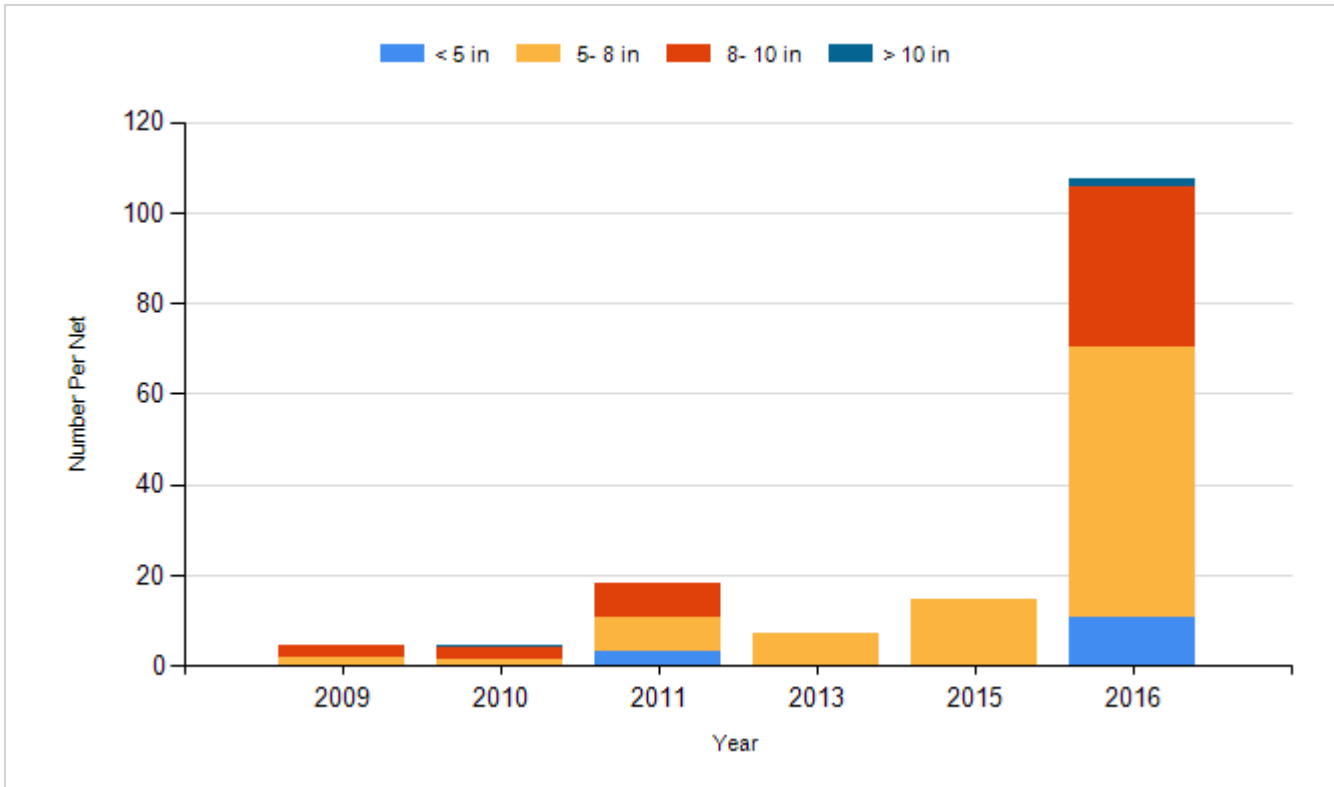
Species: Walleye  
Gear: std exp gill net



Species: Yellow Perch  
Gear: AFS std gill net



Species: Yellow Perch  
Gear: std exp gill net



## **Fish Stocking**

Number of fish stocked by year, species, and size.

Year	Species	Size	Number
2010	Walleye	Small Fingerling	23,360
2012	Largemouth Bass	Fingerling	5,640
2012	Walleye	Large Fingerling	1,630
2014	Walleye	Large Fingerling	1,613
2017	Walleye	Large Fingerling	2,200