

## New Underwood Lake Survey Summary

New Underwood Lake is a 20-acre impoundment located a half mile North and a half mile west of the town of New Underwood. Low water combined with the harsh winter of 2022/2023 caused a substantial winterkill. The lake was typically managed as a Largemouth Bass/ Bluegill fishery. The winterkill was such, that Bluegill were not sampled in 2023 after having 336.3 per net in 2022. It also knocked down Black Crappie and Largemouth Bass numbers substantially. Species present in the lake now include Black Bullhead, Black Crappie, Channel Catfish, Golden Shiner, Largemouth Bass, Northern pike and Yellow Perch.

**Black Crappie.** Black Crappie numbers had a huge decline from the winterkill with a catch rate of 3.5 per net in 2023. In 2022, a catch rate of 251.5 was observed. The remaining fish that were sampled were between 6 and 8 inches.

**Largemouth Bass.** Numerous bass were seen floating in the lake after ice out in the spring of 2023. In response, 191 adult bass were stocked. Fall electrofishing yielded a catch rate of 66.0 bass per hour. Fish ranged from 6.5 to 15 inches.

**Yellow Perch.** Perch numbers remain strong, with 1,600 adults stocked in the spring of 2023. Frame net catch sampled 30.0 perch per net. Most perch were between 6 and 8.5 inches in the sample.

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATEWIDE FISHERIES SURVEY**  
**New Underwood Dam, Pennington County**  
**MCE-Lake-8-000**  
**2023**

**Lake Information**

**Name:** New Underwood Dam  
**County:** Pennington  
**Surface Area:** 18 Acres

**Surveys and Investigations**

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

Gear	Date	Effort
boat shocker (night)	Jul 04, 2023	1781 seconds
boat shocker (night)	Sep 25, 2023	1200 seconds
frame net (std 3/4 in)	Jun 15, 2023	4 net-nights

## **Common Fish Species Present**

Largemouth Bass

Yellow Perch

Channel Catfish

Bluegill

Black Crappie

Black Bullhead

Northern Pike

Golden Shiner

Catfish

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## 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	CI-80
boat shocker (night)	Largemouth Bass	35	38.6	29.1	56	13	6		111	4
frame net (std 3/4 in)	Black Bullhead	10	2.5	1.4	100		50	28	102	2
	Black Crappie	14	3.5	2.9	7		0		109	5
	Catfish	3	0.0	0.0						
	Channel Catfish	2	0.5	0.8	50		0		84	8
	Golden Shiner	6	0.0	0.0						
	Largemouth Bass	2	0.5	0.8	0		0		99	0
	Northern Pike	2	0.5	0.8	100		0		92	1
	Yellow Perch	120	30.0	41.3	17	5	0		100	1

## 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.

\* Methods/Species that ignore stock length

Gear	Species	CPUE										Avg	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
AFS std frame net	Black Bullhead				0.5								0.50
	Black Crappie				13.8								13.80
	Bluegill				62.8								62.80
	Golden Shiner				0.0								0.00
	Green Sunfish				0.3								0.30
	Yellow Perch				1.3								1.30
boat shocker (day)	Largemouth Bass							162.0	61.5				111.75
boat shocker (night)	Largemouth Bass	205.1				102.0	144.0				38.6		122.43
frame net (std 3/4 in)	Black Bullhead		2.3			1.7	2.7		5.3	0.8	2.5		2.55
	Black Crappie		1.3			1.7	15.3		48.5	241.5	3.5		51.97
	Bluegill		67.0			24.3	21.7		162.5	335.8	0.0		101.88
	Catfish		0.0			0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0		0.00
	Channel Catfish		0.5			0.0	0.0		0.0	0.8	0.5		0.30
	Golden Shiner		0.0			0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0		0.00
	Green Sunfish		0.8			0.0	17.7		0.0	0.0	0.0		3.08
	Largemouth Bass		0.5			0.0	0.0		0.3	1.3	0.5		0.43
	Northern Pike		0.0			0.0	0.0		0.0	0.8	0.5		0.22
	White Sucker		0.3			0.0	0.0		0.0	0.3	0.0		0.10
	Yellow Perch		55.3			4.0	3.0		9.5	3.8	30.0		17.60

## 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										
			2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
AFS std frame net	Black Bullhead	PSD				100							
		PSD-P				100							
		Wr				89							
	Black Crappie	PSD				44							
		PSD-P				7							
		Wr				96							
	Bluegill	PSD				59							
		PSD-P				8							
		Wr				99							
Yellow Perch	PSD				60								
	PSD-P				20								
	Wr				82								
boat shocker (day)	Largemouth Bass	PSD								41	50		
		PSD-P								34	39		
		Wr								94	106		
boat shocker (night)	Largemouth Bass	PSD	16				41	36				56	
		PSD-P	11				12	11				6	
		Wr	95				96	100				111	
frame net (std 3/4 in)	Black Bullhead	PSD		100			100	100		90	100	100	
		PSD-P		89			60	63		10	0	50	
		Wr		93			99	102		107	129	102	
	Black Crappie	PSD		100			40	83		4	4	7	
		PSD-P		0			0	9		1	1	0	
		Wr		99			101	97		94	93	109	
	Bluegill	PSD		91			86	97		21	17		
		PSD-P		1			3	3		1	1		
		Wr		106			106	108		104	89		
	Channel Catfish	PSD		50							33	50	
		PSD-P		50							0	0	
		Wr		83							85	84	
Largemouth Bass	PSD		100							0	100	0	
	PSD-P		100							0	80	0	



Gear	Species	Index	Year										
			2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
frame net (std 3/4 in)	Largemouth Bass	Wr		103							85	95	99
		PSD										0	100
	Northern Pike	PSD-P										0	0
		Wr										87	92
	Yellow Perch	PSD		41			75	89			34	27	17
		PSD-P		0			0	0			3	7	0
		Wr		95			100	97			83	75	100

## 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+
2017	248	94 (1)	132 (94)	158 (51)	188 (72)	192 (22)	202 (8)				

Species: Largemouth Bass

Mean Length (expanded sample number) at capture by age											
Year	N	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
2014	296		205 (15)	195 (49)	222 (120)	269 (73)	323 (35)	441 (4)			

## **Fish Condition**

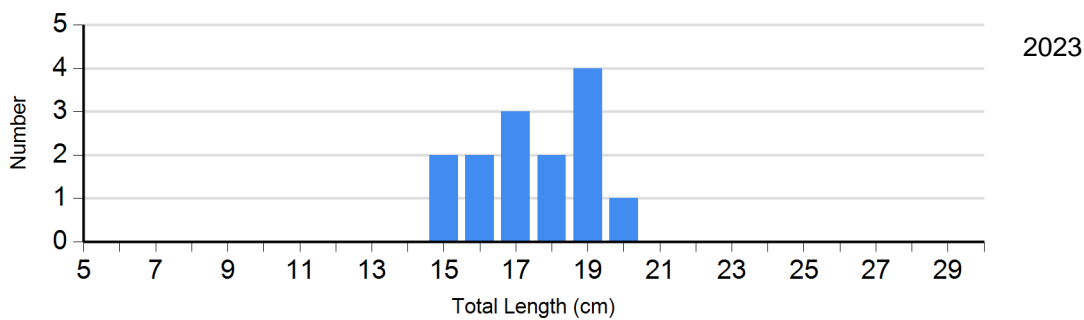
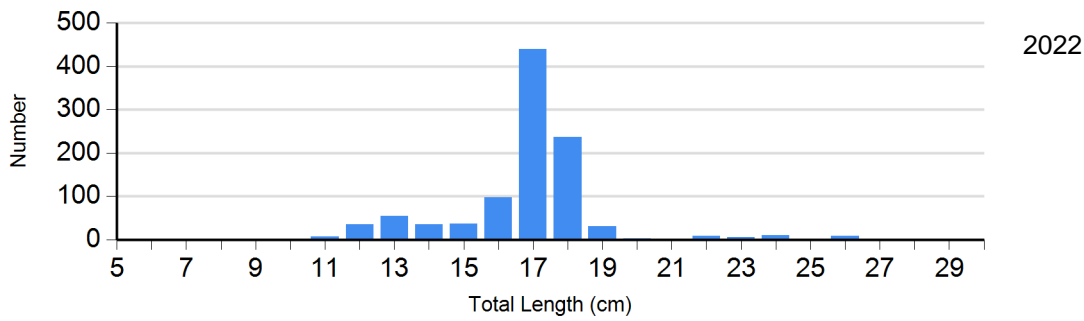
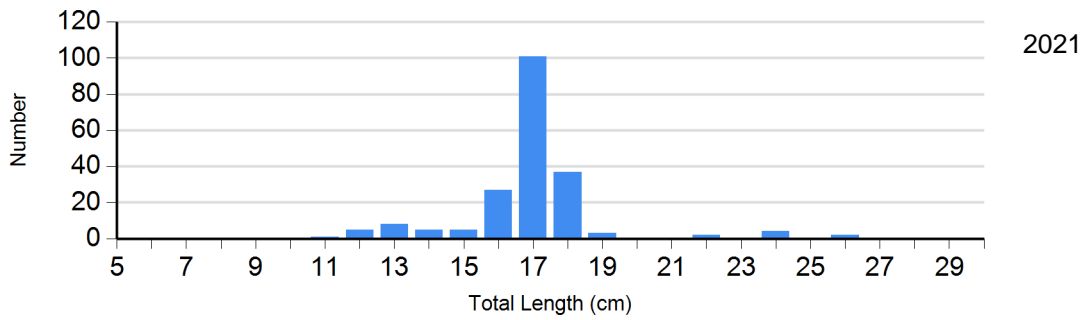
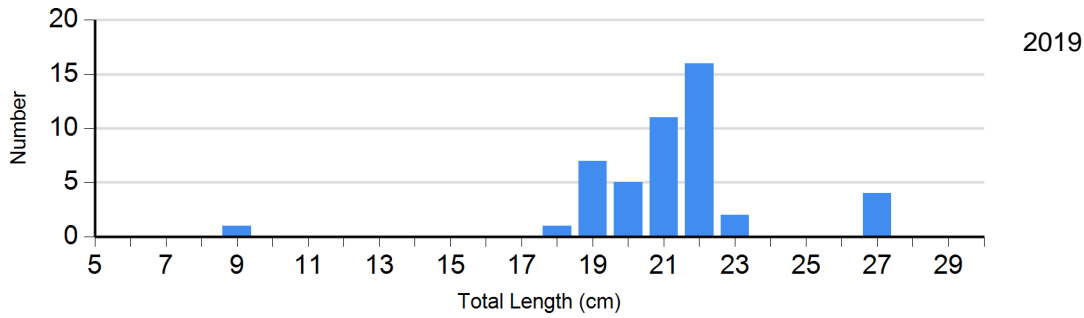
Mean relative weight (Wr) by sample size (N), length category stock to quality (S-Q), quality to preferred (Q-P), preferred to memorable (P-M), and memorable (M) for species collected across survey years with standard error (SE).

Species	Year	Length Groups							
		S-Q		Q-P		P-M		M	
		N	Wr (SE)	N	Wr (SE)	N	Wr (SE)	N	Wr (SE)
Black Crappie Frame Net	2019	8	103 (1.0)	34	96 (0.8)	4	90 (1.4)	0	
	2021	186	97 (0.8)	6	76 (1.9)	2	83	0	
	2022	930	94 (0.4)	28	71 (1.4)	8	76	0	
	2023	13	110 (4.4)	1	97	0		0	
Bluegill Frame Net	2019	2	107	61	108 (0.9)	2	95	0	
	2021	515	109 (1.2)	129	94 (1.2)	6	92	0	
	2022	1113	91 (0.5)	221	86 (1.8)	9	79	0	
Largemouth Bass Electro Fishing	2019	23	101 (1.2)	9	98 (2.1)	4	95 (2.9)	0	
	2021	17	91 (0.7)	2	97 (5.9)	10	99 (1.6)	0	
	2022	9	99 (2.1)	2	119 (8.4)	7	112 (4.4)	0	
	2023	14	114 (4.5)	16	111 (3.1)	2	93 (25.5)	0	

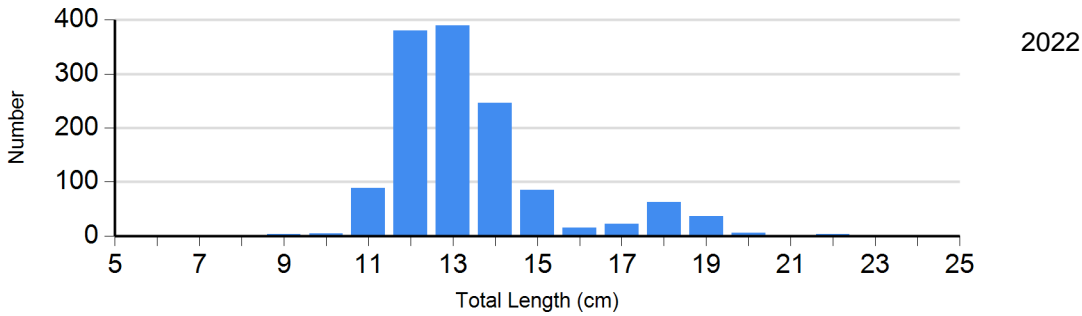
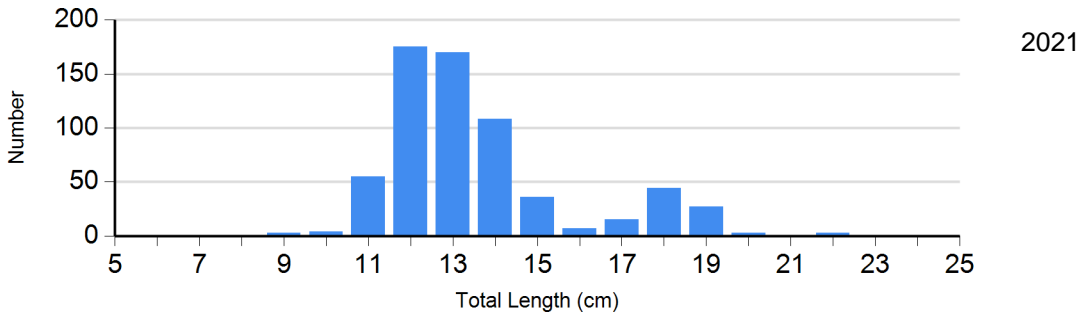
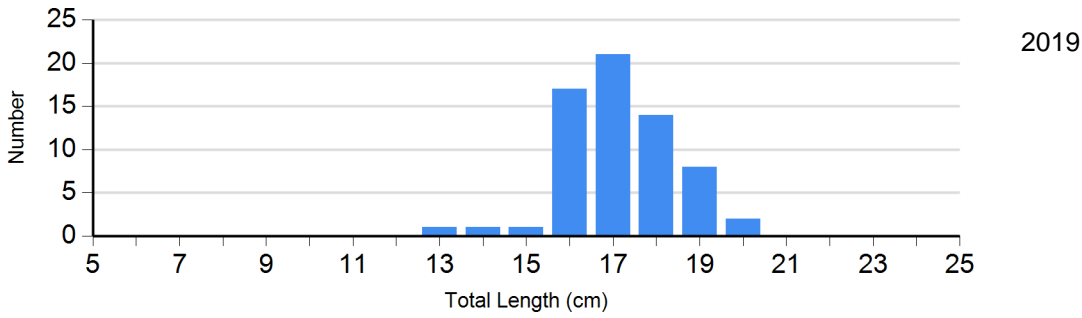
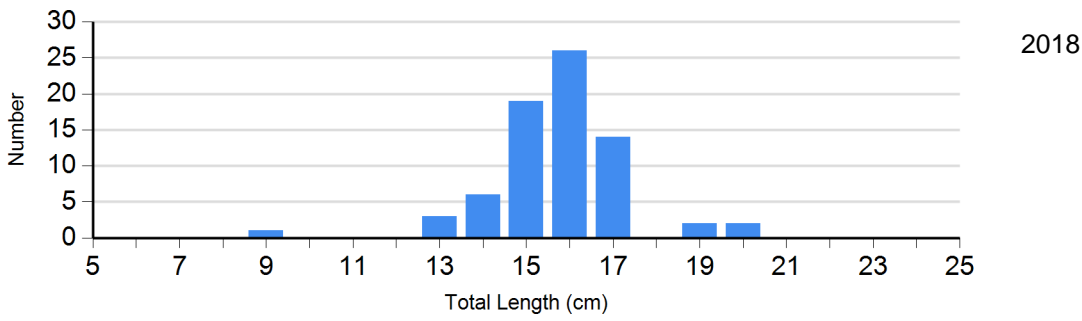
## Length Frequency Distribution

Length frequency histogram of species sampled by year.

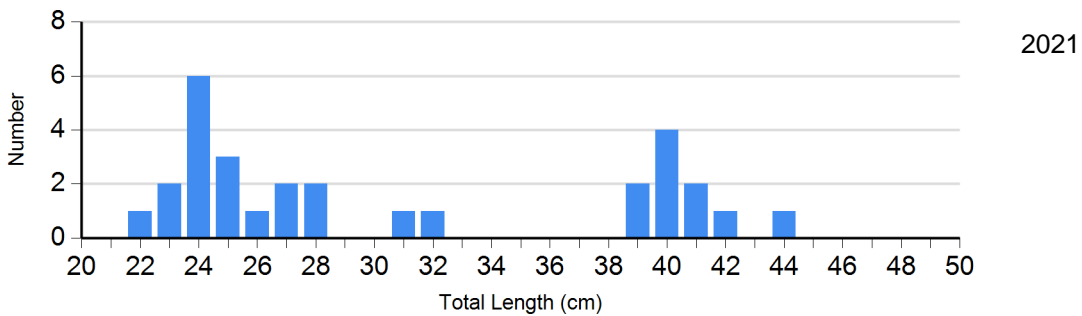
Species: Black Crappie  
Gear: frame net (std 3/4 in)

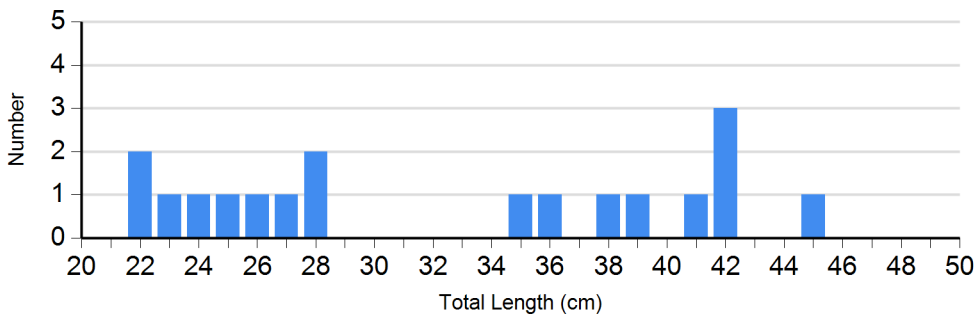


Species: Bluegill  
 Gear: frame net (std 3/4 in)

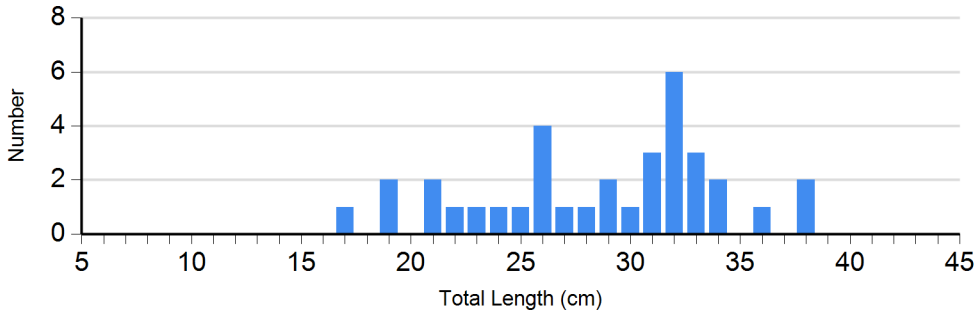
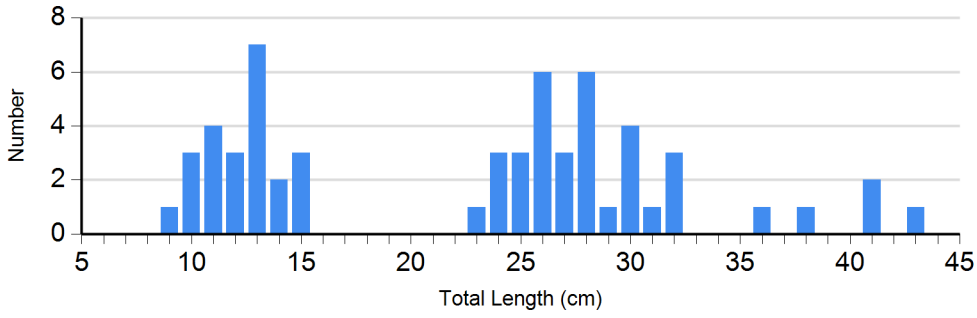
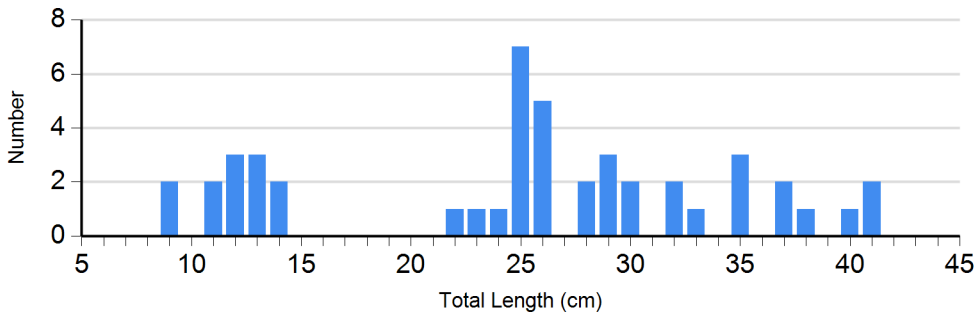


Species: Largemouth Bass  
 Gear: boat shocker (day)





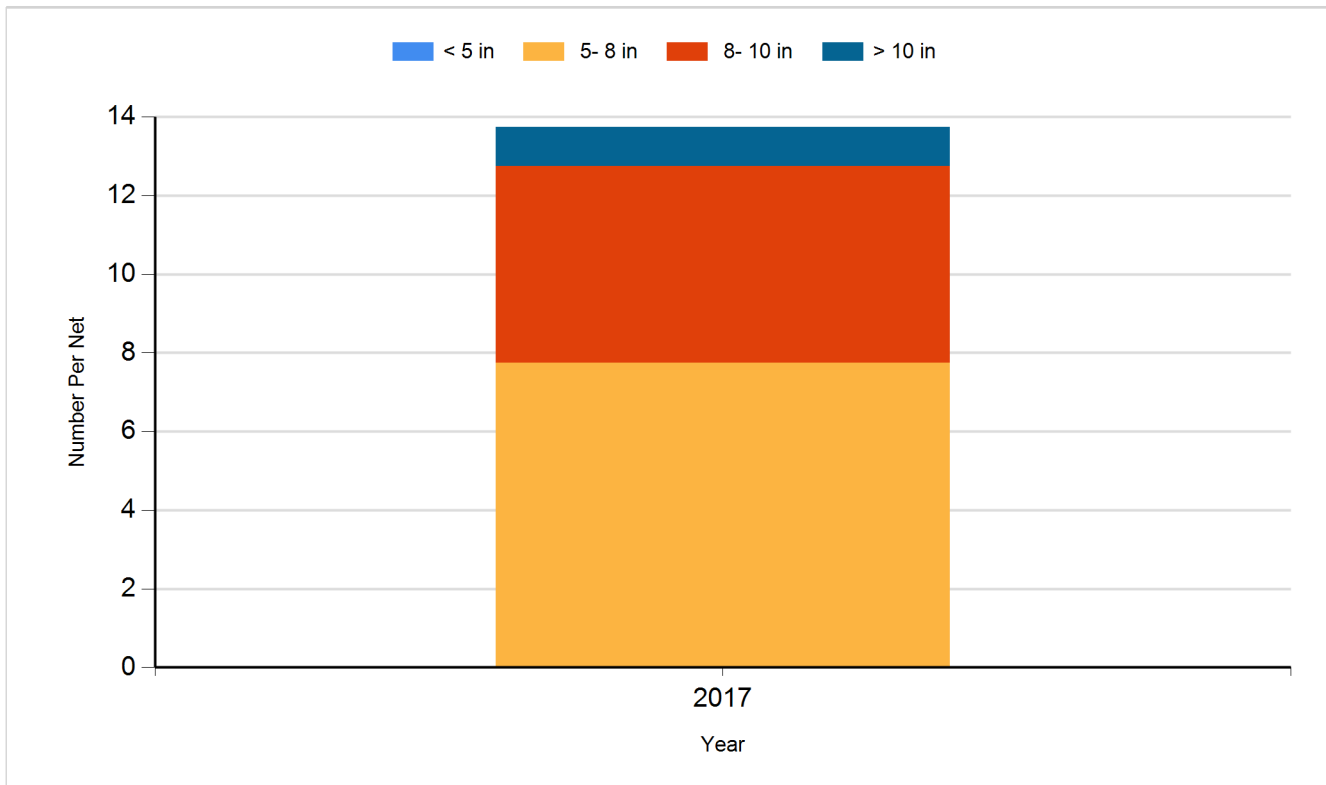
Species: Largemouth Bass  
 Gear: boat shocker (night)



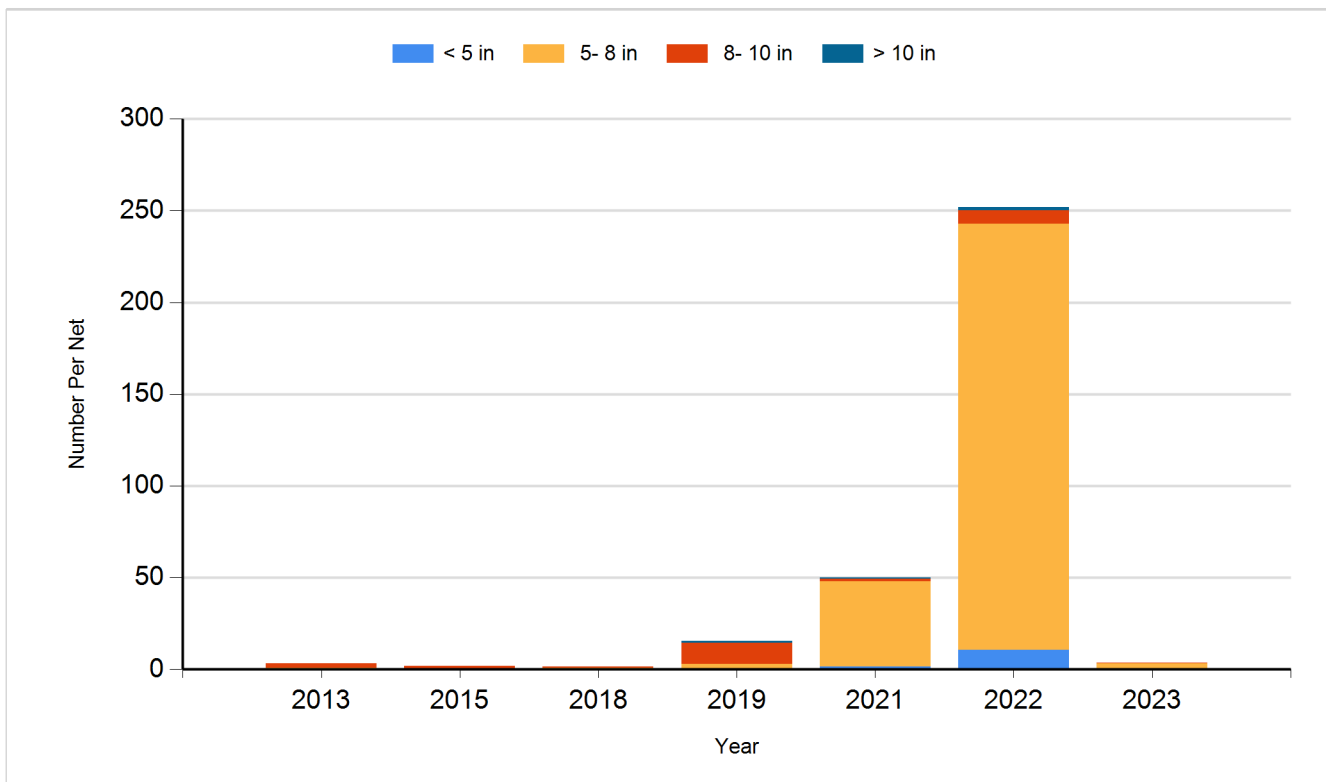
## Historic Fish Sizes and Relative Abundance

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

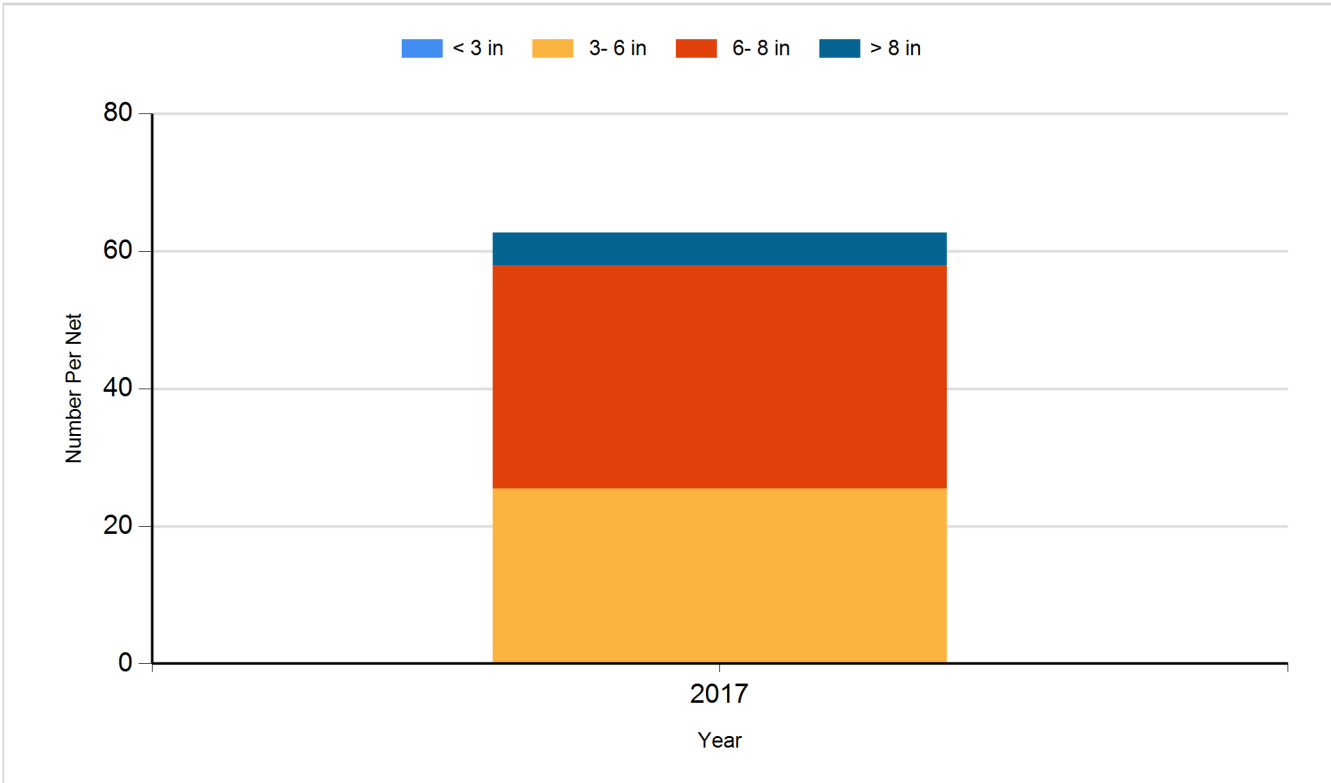
Species: Black Crappie  
Gear: AFS std frame net



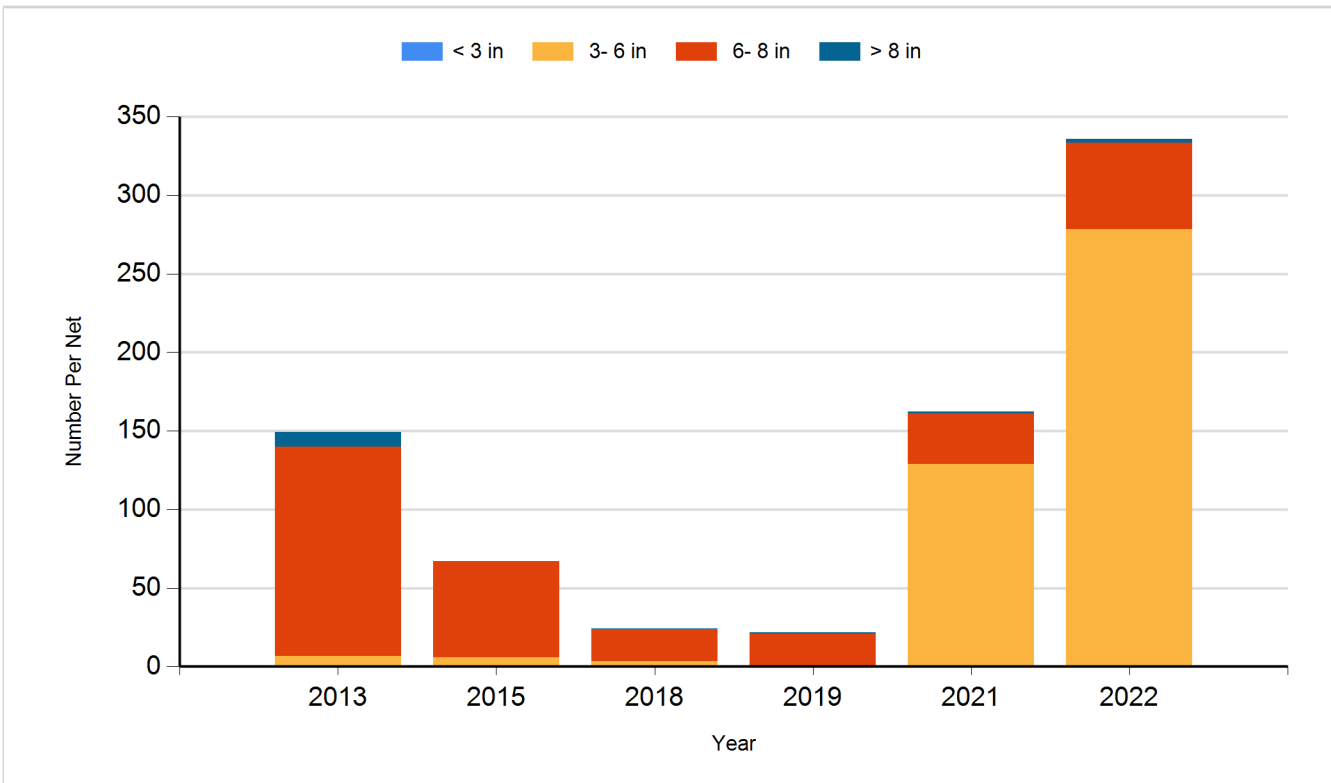
Species: Black Crappie  
Gear: frame net (std 3/4 in)



Species: Bluegill  
Gear: AFS std frame net

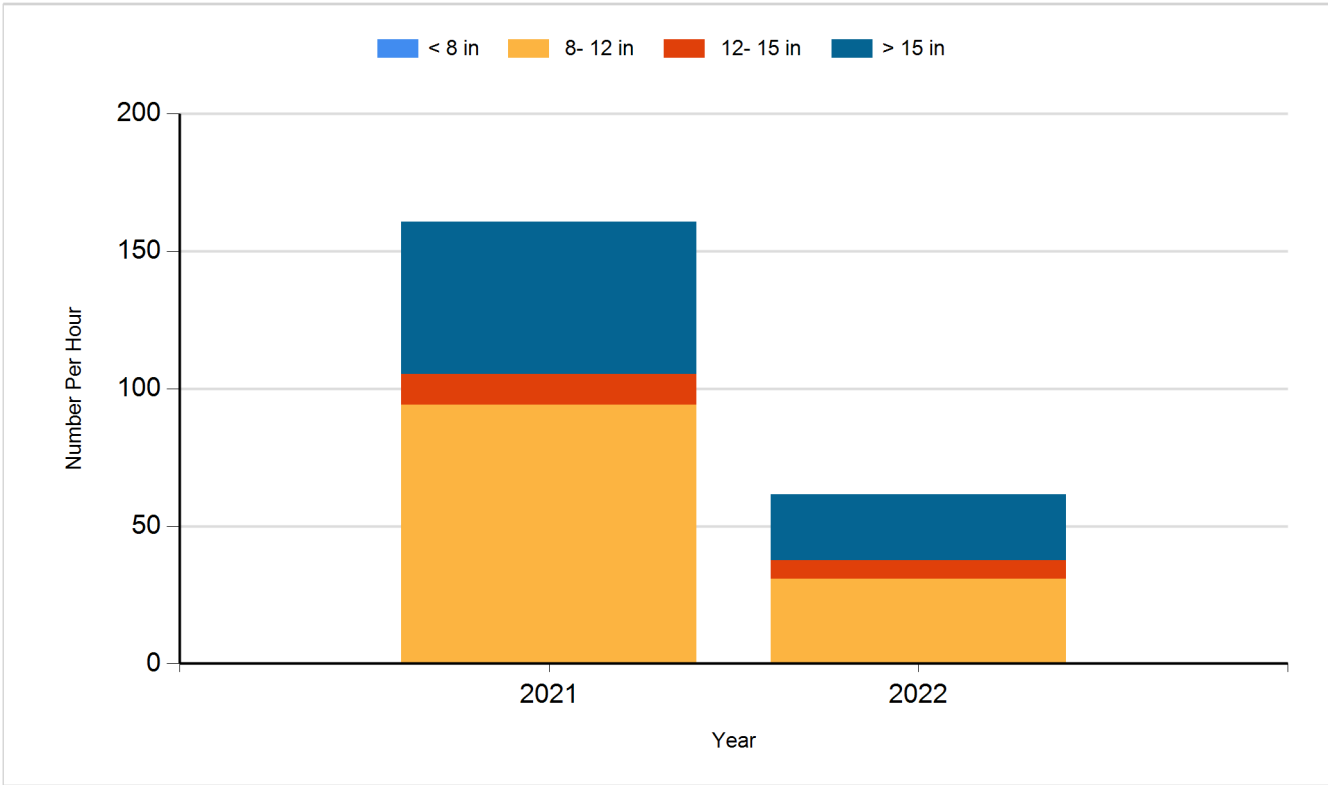


Species: Bluegill  
Gear: frame net (std 3/4 in)

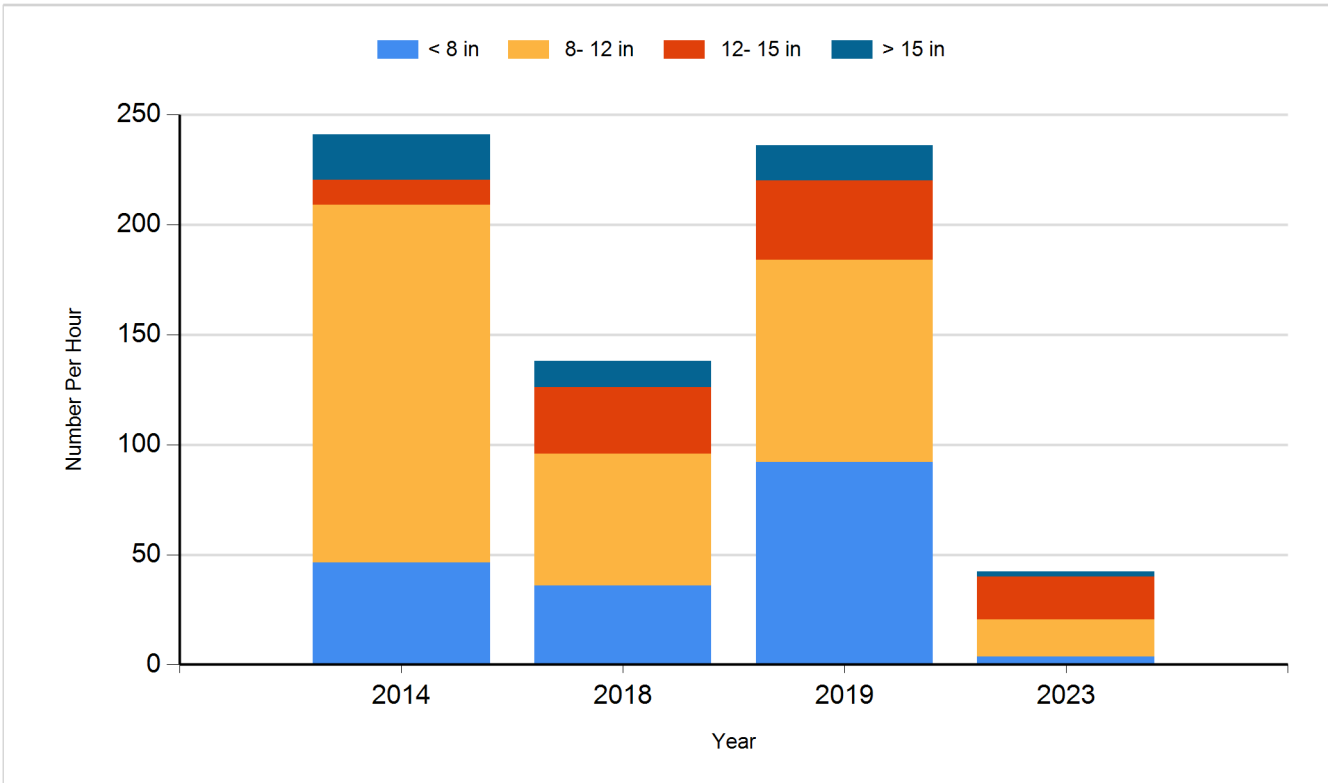




Species: Largemouth Bass  
Gear: boat shocker (day)



Species: Largemouth Bass  
Gear: boat shocker (night)



## **Fish Stocking**

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

Year	Species	Size	Number
2012	Largemouth Bass	Fingerling	1,500
2014	Channel Catfish	Adult	143
2014	Yellow Perch	Adult	325
2015	Channel Catfish	Adult	100
2016	Channel Catfish	Adult	200
2017	Channel Catfish	Adult	137
2018	Channel Catfish	Adult	219
2018	Largemouth Bass	Juvenile	272
2019	Channel Catfish	Adult	200
2020	Yellow Perch	Adult	600
2021	Channel Catfish	Adult	300
2022	Channel Catfish	Juvenile	40
2023	Channel Catfish	Adult	150
2023	Largemouth Bass	Adult	191
2023	Yellow Perch		1,600