

Lakes were shocked and evaluated by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife on Monday, August 1st at approximately 11:00AM. All three lakes were shocked and evaluated; the reports were as follows:

Big Lake

Species caught: Large mouth, Bluegill, Redear Sunfish, Channel Catfish, Grass Carp,

<u>Undesirable species caught:</u> Common Carp, Flathead Catfish, White Crappie

Sample Time: 22.5 minutes

Species Observation:

Overall, our pan fish, bass, and catfish are healthy, balanced and consistent with similar water bodies in our area.

Environment Observation:

Potential problem, but acceptable aquatic vegetation was observed such as Coon tail, creeping water Primrose, duck weed, cattails, and Filamentous algae. Significant good habitat was observed including reminisce of our beaver lodges

Overall Evaluation and Recommendations:

The big lake is very close to being perfectly balanced. Removal of the Flathead Catfish by jugging or trout line with live bait was highly recommended. Flathead Catfish are easily the biggest predator in our lakes and should be eliminated. Harvest all Crappie when caught, this will not eliminate the species from our waters as crappie have a tendency to be invasive and we currently have a healthy population.

If we decide that we want better quality of a certain species, targeted pressure on the selected species will decrease the quantity (amount of fish) and increase the quality (size). It is also imperative that we protect the food source, of the species in which we decide to cater to. If bigger Panfish are desired, the larger panfish should be harvested and the Bass should be protected. If larger Bass are desired, 8'' - 13'' Bass should be harvested and the Panfish population should be protected so that they are a food source for the bass not harvested.

Suggested fish to stock if so desired were channel catfish. When asked about stocking species such as Paddlefish, Hybrid Striped Bass, and Hybrid Bluegill, the biologist gave reasons why each fish would either not do well, or not help improve our ecosystem. However he also stated that none would hurt our current environment. Hybrid Bluegill have the potential to introduce green sunfish into our waterbodies by breeding back to our current population. (No green sunfish were observed) Green sunfish would negatively impact our conditions. Paddlefish and Hybrid Striped Bass will not reproduce in our lakes due to size, depth and conditions. The mortality rate of fish would most likely result in the majority of Striped Bass and Paddlefish being eliminated before optimal harvest.

It was recommended that we remove woody trees from our dams to protect from leaks and eliminate invasive aquatic vegetation once it reaches beyond 20% coverage. While some vegetation is beneficial to habitat, it must be maintained. At this point our aquatic plant life is under control and regular maintenance should be sufficient. It is important that we continue to eliminate beaver and muskrats when observed. Any added structure should be placed no deeper than 6'. 6' or less is the optimal depth for fish habitat.



Lakes were shocked and evaluated by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife on Monday, August 1st at approximately 11:00AM. All three lakes were shocked and evaluated; the reports were as follows:

Members Pond

Species Caught: Large Mouth Bass, Bluegill, Redear, Channel Catfish (grass carp present)

Undesirable species caught: White Crappie

Sample Time: 14 minutes

Species Observation:

It was observed that we have a crowded Bass population and a healthy Panfish population. Catfish from our stocking program are present and healthy.

Environment Observation:

Acceptable levels of Creeping water Primrose, duckweed, floating pondweed and cattails were observed. Our banks have a sharp decline which helps against overgrowth of vegetation.

Overall Evaluation and Recommendations:

Stocked catfish and trout do not affect the native fish population as they do not have the same food source and they are fished heavily enough to control numbers. We should continue our stocking program if desired. Crappie should continue to be harvested to ensure a balanced population and it was recommended to reduce our Bass population as well as stock around 500, 3"-4" Bluegill for a food source to our Bass.

No significant observations were made regarding our cover structure and habitat. When addressed, the biologist stated that strategic placement of woody structure would be beneficial in all 3 waterbodies.



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Small Pond

<u>Species Caught:</u> Large Mouth Bass, Bluegill, Redear, (grass carp present)

Undesirable species caught: none

Sample Time: 7.5 minutes

<u>Species Observation</u>: Limited fish population due to the size of our waterbody however there is evidence of reproduction of all species present.

Environment Observation:

Cattails, Creeping Primrose, and Filamentous algae were present. We are also lacking depth around the banks and the finger, leading to the overflow.

Overall Evaluation and Recommendations:

Although a reproducing population was present, due to the size of the pond, it will be challenging to have a significant amount of above average size fish present. While the pond could be stocked, it is important to recognize the high probability of the stocked fish making their way to the big lake through the overflow. Therefore, we should only stock fish that we wouldn't mind having in the big lake.

It was recommended that we remove the cattails and deepen our banks to improve depth and accessibility. This will open multiple avenues to improve the quality of the pond.