



Thrasher Lake 2021

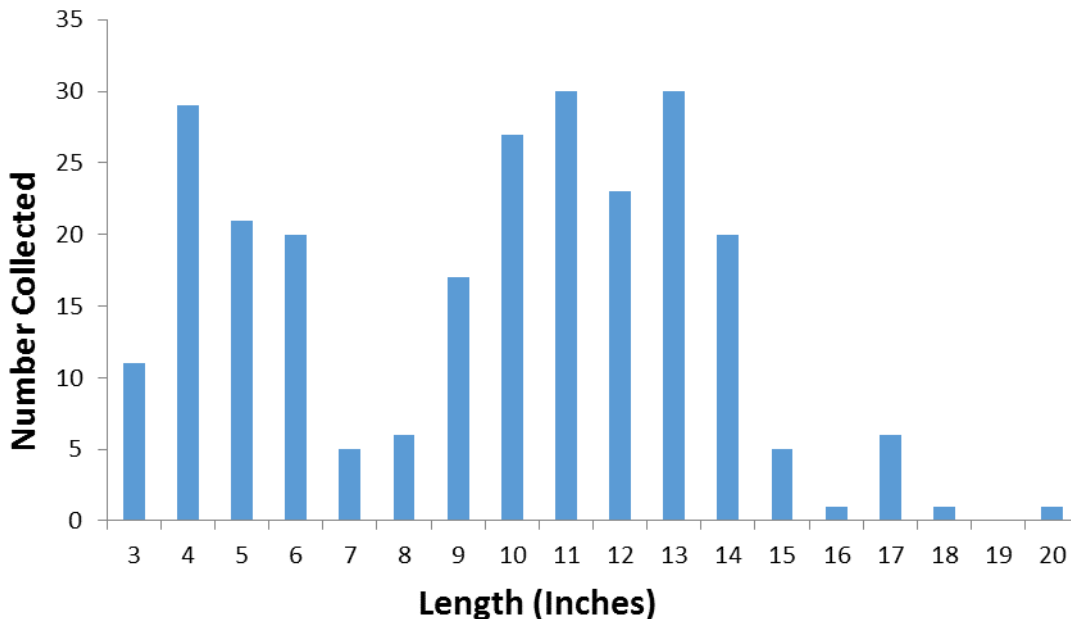


Thrasher Lake is a 36-acre impoundment located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Amherst County. This is one of three public reservoirs owned by the County and offers a scenic view of the mountains while providing opportunities for fishing and family outings. Various facilities include picnic tables, restroom, play area, boat ramp, and associated parking. The lake is open year round but nighttime activities are prohibited except for fishing. Anglers are required to obtain a permit from the county to fish at night. Boats propelled by oar or electric motor are welcome but outboard motor use is prohibited. To access this reservoir, turn northeast on Rt. 610 from Rt. 60 (approximately 9 miles west of Amherst), then turn left on Rt. 617, and the lake access road will be the first road on the left. Permits for night fishing are available through Amherst County at 434-946-9371.

Largemouth Bass

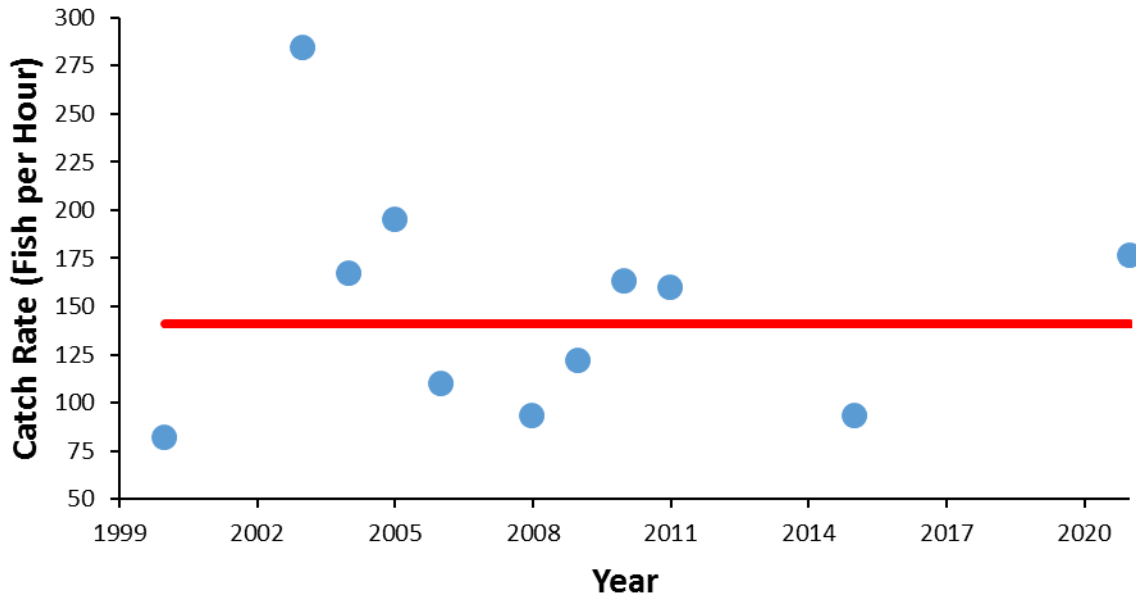
The largemouth bass population has fluctuated both in number and quality. In 2021, 253 largemouth bass were collected and ranged in size from 3 to 20 inches in length. After collecting fish with electrofishing equipment, catch rates are calculated in terms of fish collected per hour. The catch rate of adult largemouth bass (bass greater than approximately 8 inches in length) was 176 per hour, which is greater than the long-term average of 141 per hour. There are good numbers of bass but most are less than 15 inches with an occasional fish up to 20 inches in length. The bass population is regulated with a 12-15 inch protective slot limit.

Thrasher Lake Largemouth Bass



Number and sizes of largemouth bass collected from Thrasher Lake in 2021.

Thrasher Lake Adult Largemouth Bass Catch

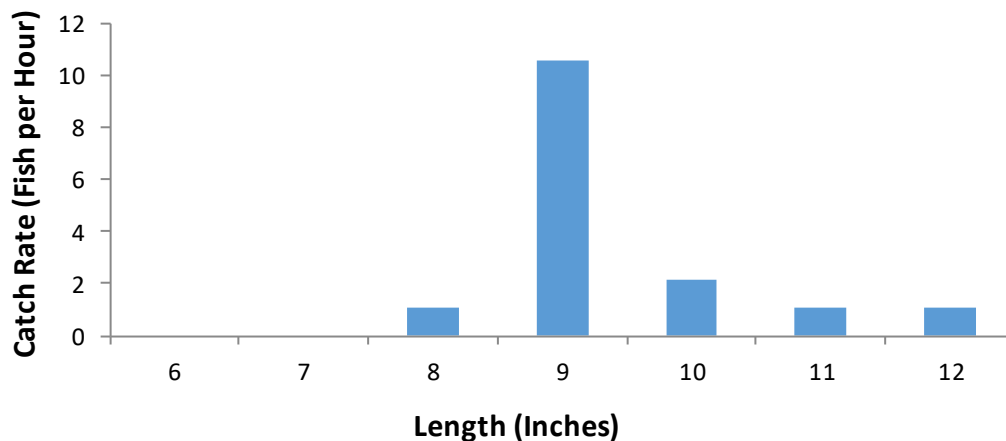


Catch rates of adult largemouth bass (greater than 8 inches) in Thrasher Lake from 2000-2021, the red line represents the historic average catch rate.

Crappie

The catch rate of black crappie in 2021 was 16 per hour and crappies ranged in size from 8 to 12 inches in length. Catch rates of black crappie in previous years range from 8 to 76 per hour with an average of 29 per hour. Crappie reproduction is generally poor with an occasional good reproduction year that improves fishing for only 1-2 seasons several years later. Reproduction is not expected to get much better due to limited crappie habitat in the lake and heavy bass predation. Thrasher Lake crappie have maintained good growth rates so a 9-inch minimum size limit was initiated in the spring of 2013 to protect additional fish from harvest and improve harvest size.

Thrasher Lake Black Crappie

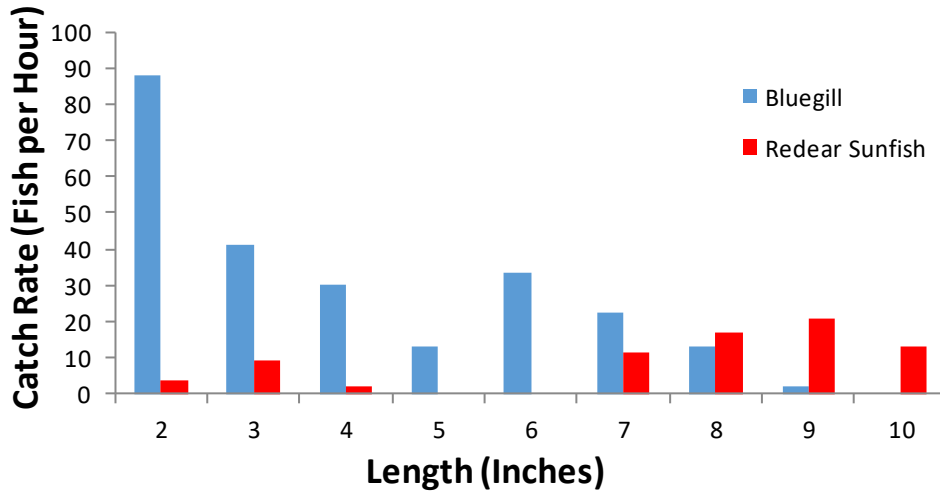


Catch rate and sizes of black crappie collected from Thrasher Lake in 2021.

Sunfish

The sunfish population consists primarily of bluegill with few redear sunfish available. In 2021, the catch rate for all sunfish was 324 per hour. In previous years, catch rates for sunfish ranged from 224 to 701 per hour with an average of 397 per hour. Sunfish collected ranged in size from 2 to 10 inches in length.

Thrasher Lake Sunfish



Catch rate and sizes of sunfish collected from Thrasher Lake in 2021.

For more information please contact:

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