

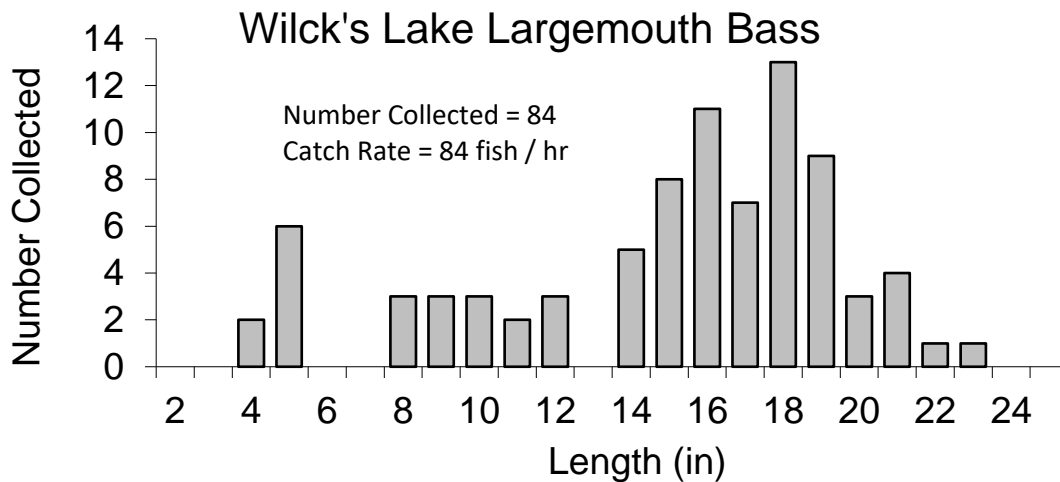


Wilck's Lake Report 2021

*Hunter Hatcher
Fisheries Biologist
Farmville Field Office*

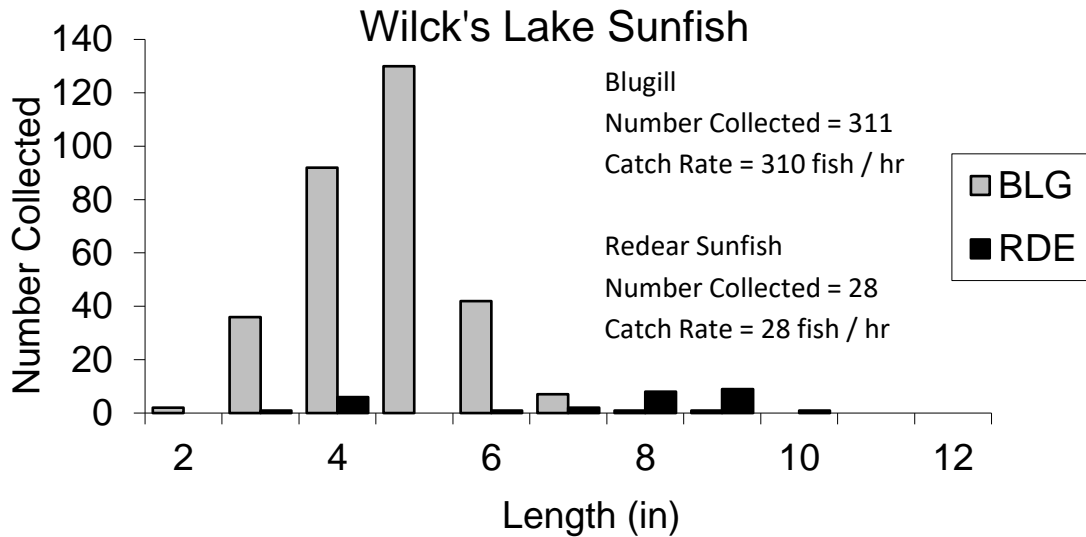
Wilck's Lake is a 42 acre lake located in Prince Edward County. The lake is owned by the town of Farmville and located within Wilck's Lake Park. The lake provides a warmwater fishery for Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Redear Sunfish, Black Crappie, and Channel Catfish. Fishing regulations can be viewed online or at the kiosk near the boat ramp. Biologists conduct spring electrofishing surveys intermittently to monitor sport fish population characteristics. Below are results from the spring 2020 survey.

Largemouth Bass: Wilck's Lake exhibits strong catch rates for Largemouth Bass, they represent the highest catch rates ever observed in the lake. The high number of fish in the 15-20 inch range is also impressive and highlights the quality of the fishery in the system. Poor numbers of young Largemouth Bass are mildly concerning, however 255 Largemouth Bass <12 inches were stocked into Wilck's Lake in Spring 2020 to supplement natural reproduction. Largemouth Bass can be found around woody debris, which is prevalent throughout the lake. Deeper banks will generally hold more and larger fish, especially during Summer months.



Largemouth bass size distribution, number collected, and catch rate at Wilck's Lake from 2020 electrofishing surveys.

Sunfish: Sunfish at Wilck's are very abundant. Catch rates for Bluegill are high with a low average size of approximately 5 inches. Redear Sunfish are less abundant but average size is much higher at 7-8 inches. Any structure along the shoreline is good for sunfish, but try to target fallen trees and rip-rap banks.



Sunfish (Bluegill and Redbreast Sunfish) size distribution, number collected, and catch rate at Wilck's Lake from 2020 electrofishing surveys.

Crappie: Black Crappie are present in Wilck's lake. However catch rates during 2020 samples were low with only 8 fish collected. The largest of these was an 11 inch fish indicating that some quality fish are present in the lake. It's worth noting that Spring electrofishing samples can have sporadic success in effectively collecting Crappie and the findings of this sample may not accurately represent the Crappie population in the lake. Crappie can be found around woody debris in deeper water.

Catfish: Electrofishing does not target channel catfish well during electrofishing surveys, but catfish are still present and popular among the anglers at Wilck's. Channel Catfish are stocked annually to supplement the lakes fishery with approximately 420 fish added each year. Try cut bait or other natural baits fished on the bottom near deeper water for catfish.

Area Attractions:

- [Briery Creek Lake](#)
- [High Bridge Trail State Park](#)
- [Twin Lakes State Park](#)
- [Sandy River Reservoir](#)

For more information please contact Hunter Hatcher, Fisheries Biologist, at 434-392-4369