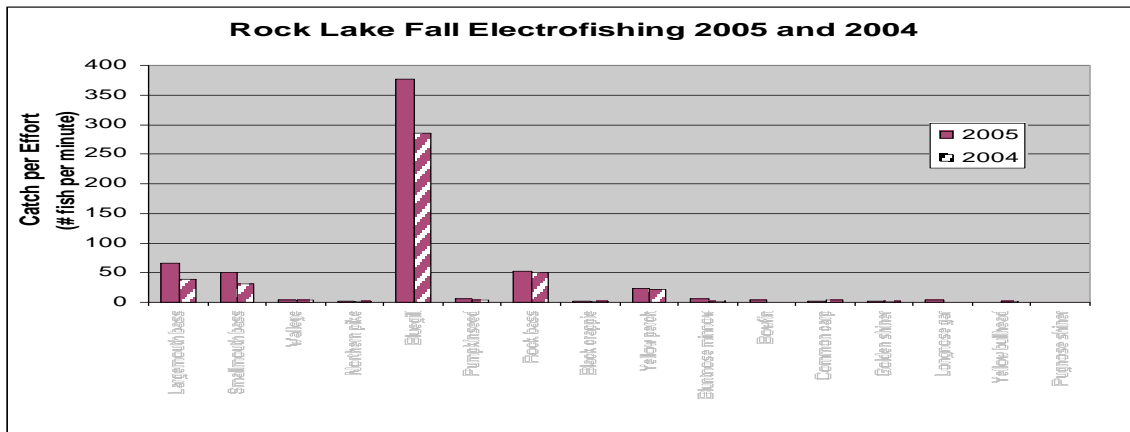


Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing Summary Report – 2005

Fall Electrofishing - Defined

Fall electrofishing was conducted on Rock Lake in Jefferson County on October 13, 2005. Fall electrofishing is conducted using a large boomshocker boat during the fall allowing for the collection of young-of-the-year (YOY) walleye and adult bass that are often undersampled by other gear types. Stations sampled in 2005 included: 1.) County boat launch on Hwy B to boat canal north of Korth's Bay (54 minutes). 2.) Boat canal north of Korth's Bay to just past the railroad trestle bridge (36 minutes). 3. Sandy Beach Park to Tyrana Park (68 minutes). The total shoreline sampled in 2005 was 4.33 miles. This summary report will present fall electrofishing data from 2005, and compare these results with similar surveys conducted in 2004. This report was compiled by Laura Stremick-Thompson, DNR Fisheries Biologist-Horicon (920) 387-7876 or Laura.Stremick-Thompson@dnr.state.wi.us.



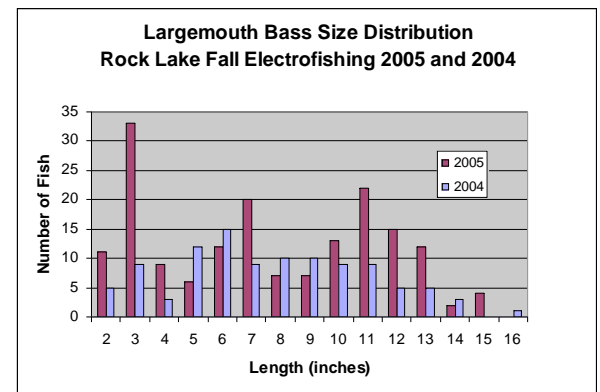
Gamefish Summary

Largemouth Bass

Abundance: 2005 Fall Electrofishing = 65.8/hour
2004 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 38.6/hour

Size Structure: 2005 Length Range = 2.6-15.8 inches
2004 Length Range = 2.3-16.5 inches
2005 Average Length = 8.0 inches
2004 Average Length = 8.1 inches

A total of 173 largemouth bass were sampled during 2005 fall electrofishing. The number of largemouth bass greater than 14 inches (current legal harvestable size) was 2.3%, compared to 3.8% in 2004. The largemouth bass population in Rock Lake is naturally reproducing and no stocking is currently conducted by the DNR.

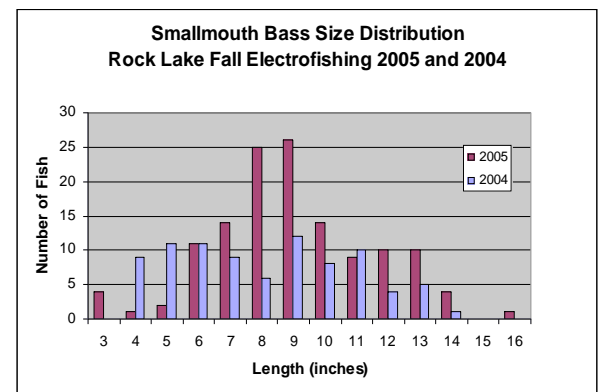


Smallmouth Bass

Abundance: 2005 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 49.8/hour
2004 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 31.6/hour

Size Structure: 2005 Length Range = 3.0-16.4 inches
2004 Length Range = 4.4-14.2 inches
2005 Average Length = 9.5 inches
2004 Average Length = 8.5 inches

A total of 131 smallmouth bass were sampled during 2005 fall electrofishing. The number of smallmouth bass greater than 14 inches (current legal harvestable size) was .76%, compared to 1.2% in 2004. The smallmouth bass population in Rock Lake is naturally reproducing and no stocking is currently conducted by the DNR.



Walleye

Abundance: 2005 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 4.2/hour
2004 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 3.7/hour

Size Structure: 2005 Length Range = 7.8-20.4 inches
2004 Length Range = 14.2-18.9 inches
2005 Average Length = 16.8 inches
2004 Average Length = 17.2 inches

A total of 11 walleye were collected during 2005 fall electrofishing. Despite the stocking of 499,200 walleye fry (average length .5 inches) in spring 2005, only one young-of-the-year walleye (under 10 inches) was sampled during 2005 fall electrofishing.

Northern Pike

Abundance: 2005 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 1.1/hour
2004 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 1.5/hour

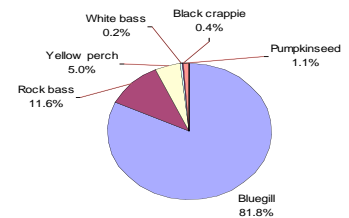
Size Structure: 2005 Length Range = 21.0-24.9 inches
2004 Length Range = 19.3-23.4 inches
2005 Average Length = 22.4 inches
2004 Average Length = 20.9 inches

A total of 3 northern pike were collected during 2005 fall electrofishing. The low number of northern pike sampled is a reflection of the electrofishing gear used, not low population levels. Electrofishing is not an effective gear type to sample northern pike as their strength and swimming abilities allow them to avoid capture.

Panfish Summary

A diverse panfish community exists in Rock Lake, including the most abundant species, bluegill, as well as pumpkinseed and rock bass. Fairly small populations of yellow perch, green sunfish, white bass and black crappie also inhabit the lake.

**Panfish Relative Abundance
Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing 2005
(N = 1210 fish)**



Rock Bass

Abundance: 2005 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 53.2/hour
2004 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 50/hour

Size Structure: 2005 Length Range = 2.8-11.5
2004 Length Range = 2.0-9.9 inches
2005 Average Length = 6.9 inches
2004 Average Length = 6.3 inches

Bluegill

Abundance: 2005 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 376/hour
2004 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 286/hour

Size Structure: 2005 Length Range = 1.1-9.2 inches
2004 Length Range = 1.3-8.1 inches
2005 Average Length = 5.0 inches
2004 Average Length = 4.7 inches

In 2005, 25% of the bluegill measured were greater than 6 inches in length, compared to 20.4% in 2004.

Yellow Perch

Abundance: 2005 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 22.8/hour
2004 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 22/hour

Size Structure: 2005 Length Range = 2.9-10.4 inches
2004 Length Range = 2.4-8.4 inches
2005 Average Length = 5.8 inches
2004 Average Length = 5.8 inches

In 2005, 40% of the perch measured were 3-4 inches, and 10% were 9-10 inches.

Pumpkinseed

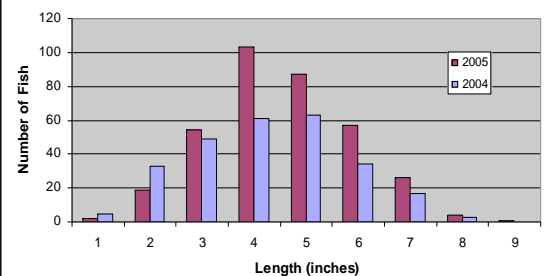
Abundance: 2005 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 5/hour
2004 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 4/hour

Size Structure: 2005 Length Range = 2.6-7.2 inches
2004 Length Range = 2.9-5.8 inches
2005 Average Length = 4.6 inches
2004 Average Length = 4.2 inches

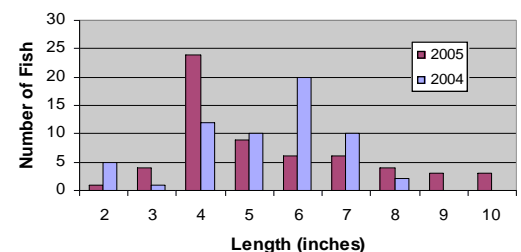
Non-game Species

Rock Lake contains a diverse non-game fish community including: bowfin, grass pickerel, white sucker, brook silverside, golden, emerald, blacknose, and mimic shiners, bluntnose and fathead minnows, yellow, black and brown bullhead, longnose gar, central mudminnow, blackstripe topminnow, banded killifish, Johnny darter, Iowa darter and common carp. In addition, two Special Concern (SC) species, the lake chubsucker and least darter and one Threatened (T) species, the pugnose shiner, inhabit Rock Lake. The pugnose shiner was collected during 2005, 2004 and 2003 fall electrofishing surveys. The lake chubsucker has been absent from fall electrofishing surveys since 2001.

**Bluegill Size Distribution
Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing 2005 and 2004**



**Yellow Perch Size Distribution
Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing 2005 and 2004**



**Non-game Species Relative Abundance
Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing 2005
(N = 41 fish sampled)**

