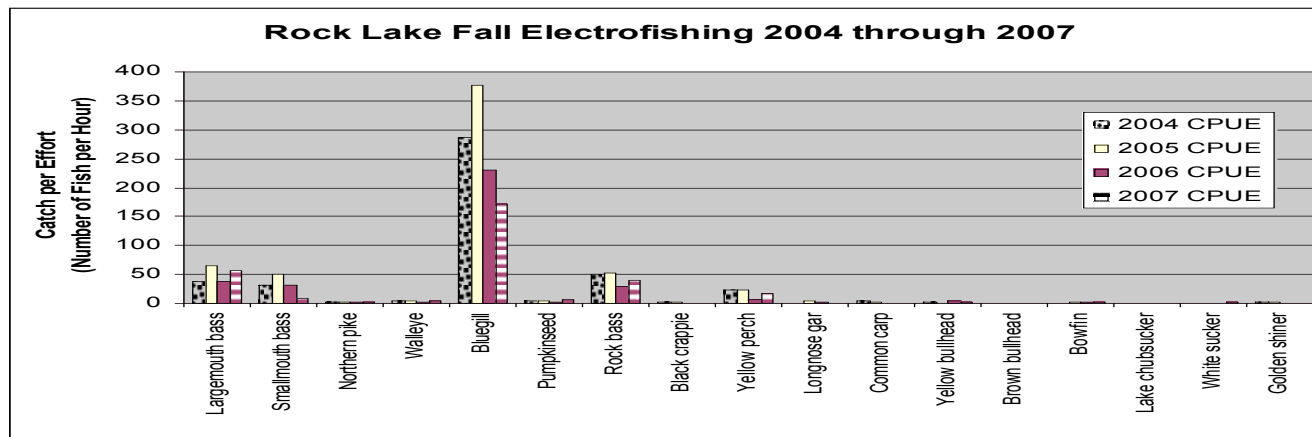


Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing Summary Report – 2007

Fall Electrofishing - Defined

Fall electrofishing was conducted on Rock Lake in Jefferson County on October 9, 2007. Fall electrofishing is conducted using a large boomshocker boat allowing for the collection of young-of-the-year (YOY) walleye and adult bass that are often undersampled by other gear types. In order to standardize fisheries data, total effort in the form of time spent shocking and/or miles of shoreline shocked is recorded. For this survey, the total effort expended was 2.45 hours (covering 5.3 miles of shoreline) and the following stations were sampled: 1.) County boat launch on Hwy B to boat canal north of Korth's Bay (65 minutes), 2.) Boat canal north of Korth's Bay to just past the railroad trestle bridge (42 minutes), 3. Sandy Beach Park to Tyranaena Park (58 minutes).

The 2007 fall electrofishing survey coincided with poor weather conditions and high winds. These conditions made operation of the electrofishing boat extremely difficult and detection of fish poor, resulting in low catch rates for some species. This summary report presents fall electrofishing data from 2007, with comparisons to 2006 and past fall electrofishing surveys. This report was compiled by Laura Stremick-Thompson, DNR Fisheries Biologist-Horicon (920) 387-7876 or Laura.Stremick-Thompson@wisconsin.gov



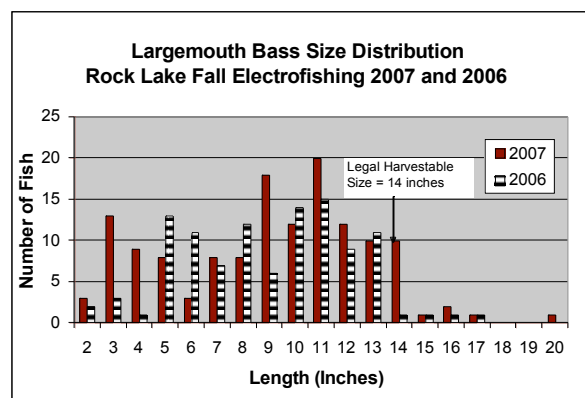
Gamefish Summary

Largemouth Bass

Abundance: 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 139 fish total or 56.7/hour
2006 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 108 fish total or 37.5/hour

Size Structure: 2007 Length Range = 2.5-20.5 inches
2006 Length Range = 2.9-17.8 inches
2007 Average Length = 9.5 inches
2006 Average Length = 9.4 inches

A total of 139 largemouth bass were sampled during 2007 fall electrofishing. The number of largemouth bass greater than 14 inches (current legal harvestable size) was 10.8%, compared to 3.7% in 2006. The largemouth bass population in Rock Lake is naturally reproducing and no stocking is currently conducted by the DNR.

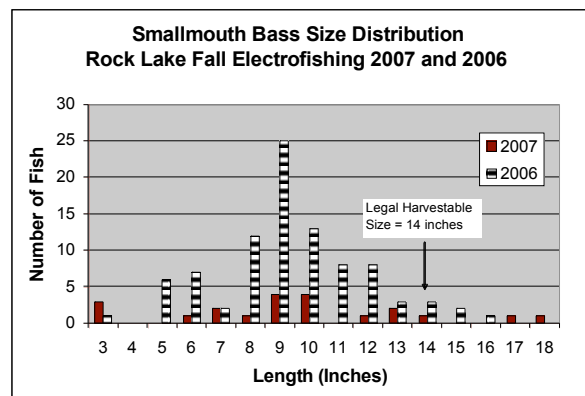


Smallmouth Bass

Abundance: 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 21 fish total or 8.6/hour
2006 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 91 fish total or 31.6/hour

Size Structure: 2007 Length Range = 3.0-18.0 inches
2006 Length Range = 3.3-16.7 inches
2007 Average Length = 10.0 inches
2006 Average Length = 9.8 inches

A total of 21 smallmouth bass were sampled during 2007 fall electrofishing. The low number of smallmouth bass is most likely the result of poor weather conditions resulting in poor detection of fish. Strong west winds prevented thorough sampling of the east shoreline, where smallmouth bass typically reside.



Walleye

Abundance: 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 9 fish total or 3.7/hour
2006 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 7 fish total or 2.4/hour

Size Structure: 2007 Length Range = 7.1-23.8 inches
2006 Length Range = 15.4-21.1 inches
2007 Average Length = 14.9 inches
2006 Average Length = 18.3 inches

A total of 9 walleye were collected during 2007 fall electrofishing. In 2007, DNR stocked 10,000 walleye fry (average length .5 inches) into Rock Lake. Three young-of-the-year (YOY) walleye (under 10 inches) were sampled during 2007 fall electrofishing compared to zero in 2006 and one in 2005.

Northern Pike

Abundance: 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 5 fish total or 2.0/hour
 2006 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 4 fish total or 1.4/hour

Size Structure: 2007 Length Range = 20.5-36.5 inches
 2006 Length Range = 22.0-25.3 inches
 2007 Average Length = 25.7 inches
 2006 Average Length = 23.4 inches

A total of 5 northern pike were collected during 2007 fall electrofishing. The low number of northern pike sampled is typical for the electrofishing gear used, as northern pike population data is best obtained using fyke nets set during spring spawning. In 2008, a spring fyke net survey is scheduled for Rock Lake that will include population estimates of northern pike and walleye.

Panfish Summary

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

Bluegill

Abundance: 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 421 fish total or 171.8/hour
 2006 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 662 fish total or 229.9/hour

Size Structure: 2007 Length Range = 2.5-8.7 inches
 2006 Length Range = 1.6-9.0 inches
 2007 Average Length = 5.4 inches
 2006 Average Length = 5.7 inches

In 2007, 34% of the 288 bluegill measured were over 6 inches in length, compared to 49% in 2006 and 25% in 2005.

Rock Bass

Abundance: 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 96 fish total or 39.2/hour
 2006 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 86 fish total or 29.9/hour

Size Structure: 2007 Length Range = 2.6-10.5 inches
 2006 Length Range = 3.2-10.5 inches
 2007 Average Length = 7.7 inches
 2006 Average Length = 6.9 inches

Yellow Perch

Abundance: 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 43 fish total or 17.6/hour
 2006 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 17 fish total or 5.9/hour

Size Structure: 2007 Length Range = 2.4-8.9 inches
 2006 Length Range = 4.4-8.4 inches
 2007 Average Length = 6.2 inches
 2006 Average Length = 6.1 inches

Of the 43 yellow perch measured, 35% were between 7.0 and 7.9 inches in length.

Pumpkinseed

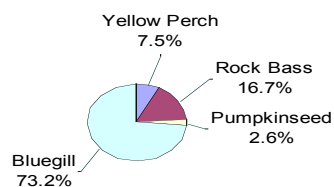
Abundance: 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 15 fish total or 6.1/hour
 2006 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 4 fish total or 1.4/hour

Size Structure: 2007 Length Range = 2.0-7.4 inches
 2006 Length Range = 4.4-6.6 inches
 2007 Average Length = 5.0 inches
 2006 Average Length = 5.5 inches

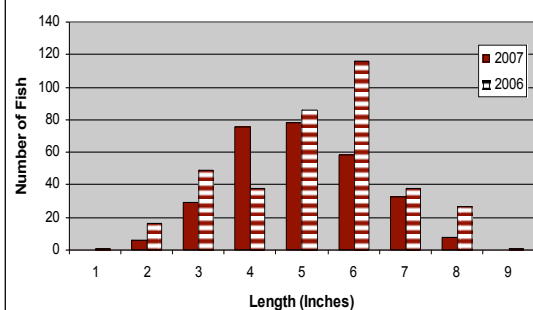
Non-game Species

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.

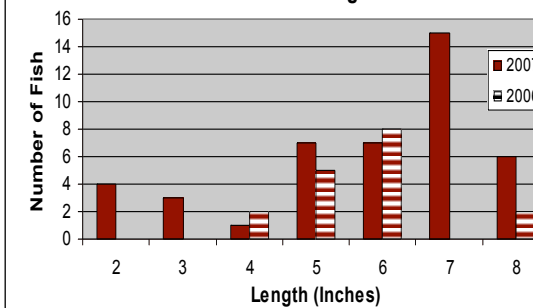
**Panfish Relative Abundance
 Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing 2007
 (N = 575 fish)**



**Bluegill Size Distribution
 Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing 2007 and 2006**



**Yellow Perch Size Distribution
 Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing 2007 and 2006**



**Forage/Non-Game Species Relative Abundance
 Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing 2007
 (N = 21 fish)**

