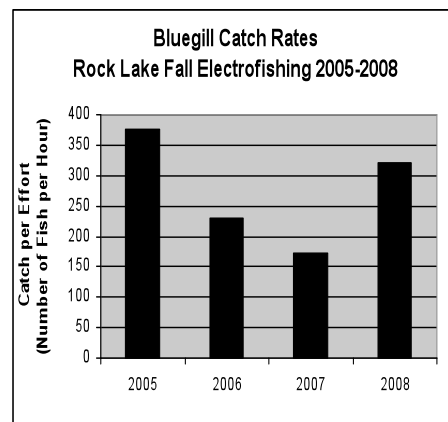
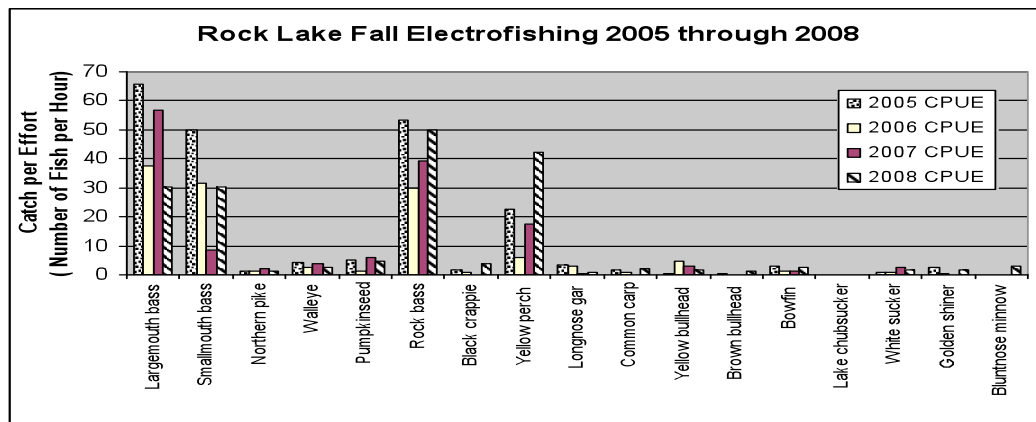


Rock Lake Fall Electrofishing Summary Report – 2008

Fall Electrofishing - Defined

Fall electrofishing was conducted on Rock Lake in Jefferson County on October 9, 2008. 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 2.75 hours (covering 4.9 miles of shoreline) and the following stations were sampled: 1.) County boat launch on Hwy B to boat canal north of Korth's Bay (30 minutes), 2.) Boat canal north of Korth's Bay to just past the railroad trestle bridge (55 minutes), 3. Sandy Beach Park to Tyranena Park (80 minutes). This summary report presents fall electrofishing data from 2008, with comparisons to 2007 and previous fall electrofishing surveys. This report was compiled by Laura Stremick-Thompson, DNR Fisheries Biologist-Horicon (920) 387-7876 or Laura.StremickThompson@wisconsin.gov



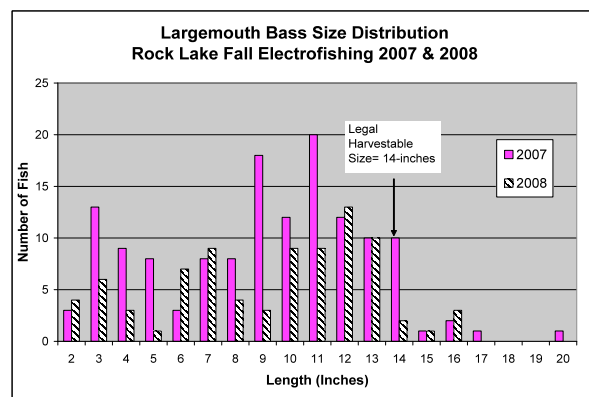
Gamefish Summary

Largemouth Bass

Abundance: 2008 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 84 fish total or 30.5/hour
2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 139 fish total or 56.7/hour

Size Structure: 2008 Length Range = 2.4-16.5 inches
2007 Length Range = 2.5-20.5 inches
2008 Average Length = 9.6 inches
2007 Average Length = 9.5 inches

2008 largemouth bass catch rates were 31.5/hour, below the 10-year fall electrofishing average of 54/hour. The number of largemouth bass greater than 14-inches (current legal harvestable size) was 7.1%, compared to 10.8% in 2007 and 3.7% in 2006. The largemouth bass population in Rock Lake is naturally reproducing and no stocking is currently conducted by the DNR.

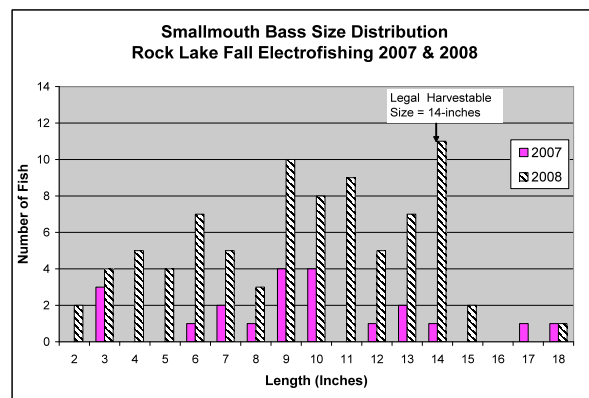


Smallmouth Bass

Abundance: 2008 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 83 fish total or 30.2/hour
2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 21 fish total or 8.6/hour

Size Structure: 2008 Length Range = 2.8-18.0 inches
2007 Length Range = 3.0-18.0 inches
2008 Average Length = 9.8 inches
2007 Average Length = 10.0 inches

2008 smallmouth bass catch rates (30.2/hour) are comparable to the 10-year fall electrofishing average of 31/hour. 17% of the smallmouth bass sampled were greater than 14-inches (current legal harvestable size). The smallmouth bass population in Rock Lake is naturally reproducing and no stocking is currently conducted by the DNR.



Walleye

Abundance: 2008 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 7 fish total or 2.5/hour
2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 9 fish total or 3.7/hour

Size Structure: 2008 Length Range = 13.0-24.0 inches
2007 Length Range = 7.1-23.8 inches
2008 Average Length = 18.2 inches
2007 Average Length = 14.9 inches

A total of 7 walleye were collected during 2008 fall electrofishing. No young-of-the-year (YOY) walleye (under 10-inches) were sampled compared to three YOY in 2007, zero in 2006 and one in 2005. No walleye stocking was conducted by DNR in 2008.

Northern Pike

- Abundance:** 2008 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 3 fish total or 1.1/hour
 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 5 fish total or 2.0/hour
- Size Structure:** 2008 Length Range = 10.6-34.2 inches
 2007 Length Range = 20.5-36.5 inches
 2008 Average Length = 20.9 inches
 2007 Average Length = 25.7 inches

A total of 3 northern pike were collected during 2008 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.

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:** 2008 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 881 fish total or 320.4/hour
 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 421 fish total or 171.8/hour
- Size Structure:** 2008 Length Range = 2.2-8.9 inches
 2007 Length Range = 2.5-8.7 inches
 2008 Average Length = 5.3 inches
 2007 Average Length = 5.4 inches

In 2008, 31% of the 288 bluegill measured were over 6-inches in length, compared to 34% in 2007, 49% in 2006 and 25% in 2005.

Rock Bass

- Abundance:** 2008 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 137 fish total or 50/hour
 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 96 fish total or 39.2/hour
- Size Structure:** 2008 Length Range = 2.9-10.8 inches
 2007 Length Range = 2.6-10.5 inches
 2008 Average Length = 6.7 inches
 2007 Average Length = 7.7 inches

Yellow Perch

- Abundance:** 2008 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 116 fish total or 42.2/hour
 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 43 fish total or 17.6/hour
- Size Structure:** 2008 Length Range = 2.3-8.6 inches
 2007 Length Range = 2.4-8.9 inches
 2008 Average Length = 4.5 inches
 2007 Average Length = 6.2 inches

2008 yellow perch catch rates (42.2/hour) are comparable to the 10-year fall electrofishing average of 35/hour. In 2008, 44% of yellow perch sampled were between 4.0 and 4.9 inches in length.

Pumpkinseed

- Abundance:** 2008 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 13 fish total or 4.7/hour
 2007 Fall Electrofishing Catch = 15 fish total or 6.1/hour
- Size Structure:** 2008 Length Range = 3.7-7.3 inches
 2007 Length Range = 2.0-7.4 inches
 2008 Average Length = 5.3 inches
 2007 Average Length = 5.0 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 2003, 2004 and 2005 fall electrofishing surveys. The lake chubsucker has been absent from fall electrofishing surveys since 2001, but was found in 2008 spring fyke netting and May electrofishing surveys.

