## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission Biologist Report

## Lackawanna Lake

## Lackawanna County

## 2017 Largemouth Bass Survey

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has managed the bass population at Lackawanna Lake under <u>Big Bass Regulations</u> since 1991. The combination of conservative angling regulations, voluntary catch and release, and favorable environmental conditions produced an exceptional Largemouth Bass population. During <u>a 2010 survey</u>, Lackawanna Lake supported one of the best Largemouth Bass populations in the state.

Biologists returned to sample Largemouth Bass at Lackawanna Lake in May 2017. This work was part of a routine monitoring strategy. In a single night of electrofishing we caught 125 Largemouth Bass ranging from 5.0 to 22.9 inches long. Catch per hour values (Table 1) far exceeded Big Bass Program guidelines. The 2017 CPH values were very similar to those in 2010 and indicated that Lackawanna Lake continued to support an exceptional population of big Largemouth Bass.

Table 1. Night electrofishing catch per hour (CPH) values for Largemouth Bass at Lackawanna Lake compared to Big Bass Program guidelines.

Length Group	Lackawanna Lake 2017	Lackawanna Lake 2010	Big Bass Guidelines
Total Catch	120.4	113.6	<u>&gt;</u> 30
> 12 inches	91.3	79.2	8 – 12
> 15 inches	38.2	47.0	2 – 5
> 18 inches	16.1	15.8	NA
≥ 20 inches	6.5	3.6	NA

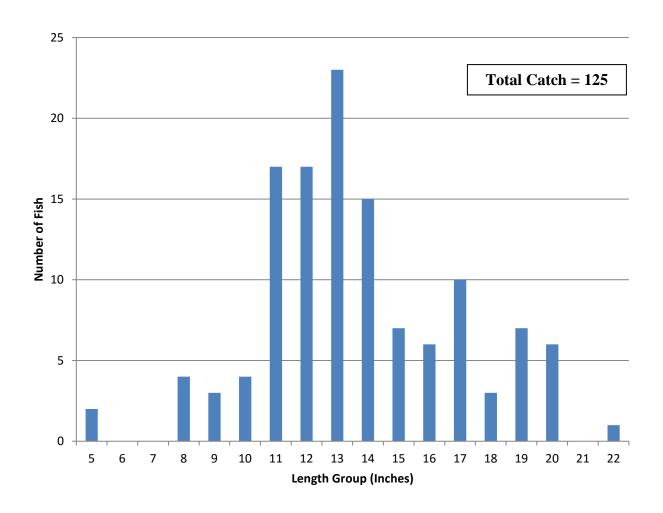


Figure 1. Length-frequency distribution of Largemouth Bass caught by electrofishing at Lackawanna Lake in May 2017.

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