Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Biologist Report

Lackawanna Lake

Lackawanna County

2023 Spring Trap net Survey





Biologist Daniel Drake (left) with a Black Crappie and Biologist Aide Elliot Hoogerland (right) with a White Crappie caught during spring trap-netting on Lackawanna Lake (May 2023).

The Area 4 Fisheries Management Office conducted trap netting in Lackawanna Lake located at Lackawanna State Park during the week of May 1, 2023. This work was performed to assess abundance and size structure of panfish populations. We set 12 trap nets and caught 13 fish species (Table 1). Most frequently encountered were sunfishes (Bluegill and Pumpkinseed), crappie's (Black Crappie and White Crappie), followed by bullhead catfishes (Brown Bullhead and Yellow Bullhead) and White Suckers. Bluegill ranged from 2 to 9 inches and Pumpkinseed ranged from 5 to 8 inches (Figure 1). Of both sunfish species combined, 24% exceeded 8 inches. Black Crappie ranged from 6 to 16 inches and White Crappie ranged from 9 to 15 inches (Figure 2). Of both crappie species combined, 36% exceeded 10 inches. Brown Bullhead ranged from 9 to 16 inches and Yellow Bullhead ranged from 5 to 13 inches, (Figure 3). With all catfish species combined, 54% exceeded 12 inches total length.

Table 1. Abundances, and size ranges of species caught during trap netting at Lackawanna Lake in May 2023.

Species	Count	Size Range (in)
Bluegill	699	2-9
Pumpkinseed	143	5-8
Hybrid sunfish	1	7
Black Crappie	140	6-16
White Crappie	35	9-15
Yellow Perch	28	6-13
Yellow Bullhead	92	5-13
Brown Bullhead	77	9-16
White Sucker	167	9-20
Golden Shiner	24	8-10
Common Carp	5	13-29
Largemouth Bass	1	17
Chain Pickerel	1	19
Rainbow Trout	3	



Fisheries Biologist Aide Elliot Hoogerland with nice sized Pumpkinseed (right hand) and Bluegill (left hand) caught during spring trap netting on Lackawanna Lake in May 2023.

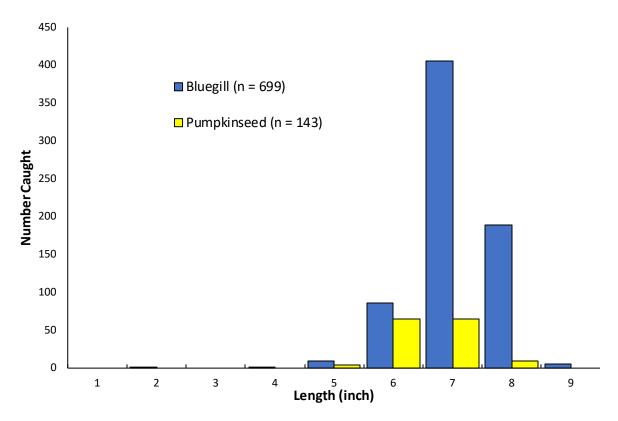


Figure 1. Lackawanna Lake Bluegill and Pumpkinseed length frequency distributions from May 2023.

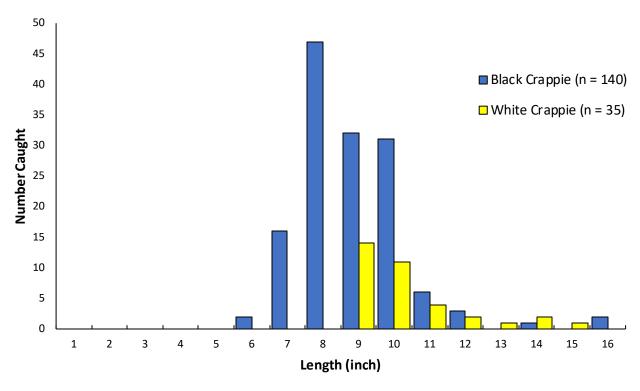


Figure 2. Lackawanna Lake Black Crappie and White Crappie length frequency distributions from May 2023.

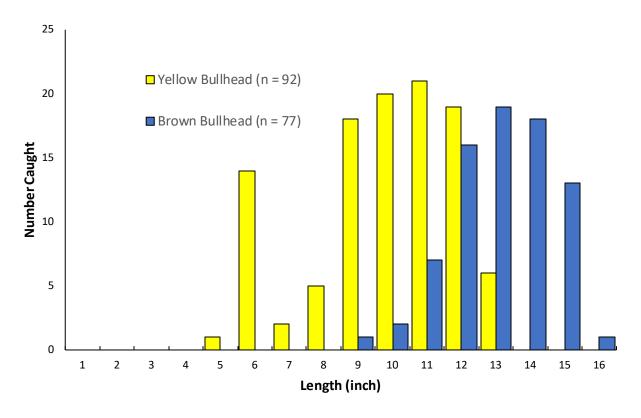


Figure 3. Lackawanna Lake Brown Bullhead and Yellow Bullhead frequency distributions from May 2023.

Aaron Frey Area 4 Fisheries Biologist