

Lackawanna Lake

Lackawanna County

2022 Black Bass Survey



Fisheries Biologist Dan Drake with an outstanding 21 inch Lackawanna Lake Largemouth Bass collected June 2022.

Lackawanna Lake is a 198-acre impoundment owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and managed by DCNR within [Lackawanna State Park](#). Amenities include picnic areas, trails, campground, and a swimming pool. Boat launches are available at the north end off Wallsville Road, at the south end off North Abington Road, and south of Route 407 off Lake View Drive. Boats are restricted to electric motors and non-powered only. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has placed numerous habitat structures in Lackawanna Lake, a map of their locations can be viewed in the habitat section of the [PFBC](#) website. A color map is available from [DCNR](#) depicting depth contours, amenities, and general locations of habitat structures. Lackawanna Lake is managed under the PFBC [Big Bass Program](#) regulations. The lake is designated as [Stocked Trout Water Open to Year-Round Fishing](#), receiving catchable Rainbow Trout and Brook Trout twice in the spring, and again with Rainbow Trout in the fall.

Fisheries Management Area 4 biologists conducted a night boat electrofishing survey of Lackawanna Lake on June 13-14, 2022, to collect [Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass](#) as part of a routine monitoring strategy. No Smallmouth Bass were collected or observed; however, 288 Largemouth Bass were captured ranging from 4 to 22 inches in total length (Figure 1). The night electrofishing total catch rate for Largemouth Bass was 134.5/hour (Table 1). The catch rate for bass ≥ 12 inches was 63.0/hour, and the catch rate for bass ≥ 15 inches was 17.3/hour. Total catch rates (all bass collected) from the 2022 survey were higher than the two previous surveys total catch rates though catch rates for bass ≥ 12 inches and ≥ 15 inches were lower than our previous surveys conducted in [2010](#) and [2017](#). The 2022 survey catch rates continued to meet and exceed guidelines for the Commissions Big Bass program. Interesting to note is the large number of bass in the 7-inch size group that were collected. This could indicate a strong year class which will continue to add to the high abundance of quality bass in Lackawanna Lake.

Table 1. Night electrofishing catch rate comparisons of Largemouth Bass from Lackawanna Lake.

	Big Bass Guidelines	Year		
		2022	2017	2010
Total catch/hour	≥ 30	134.5	120.4	113.6
≥ 12 in/hour	8-12	63.0	91.3	79.2
≥ 15 in/hour	2-5	17.3	38.2	47.0



Fisheries Biologist Dan Drake with a trophy 22-inch Largemouth Bass collected from Lackawanna Lake in June 2022.

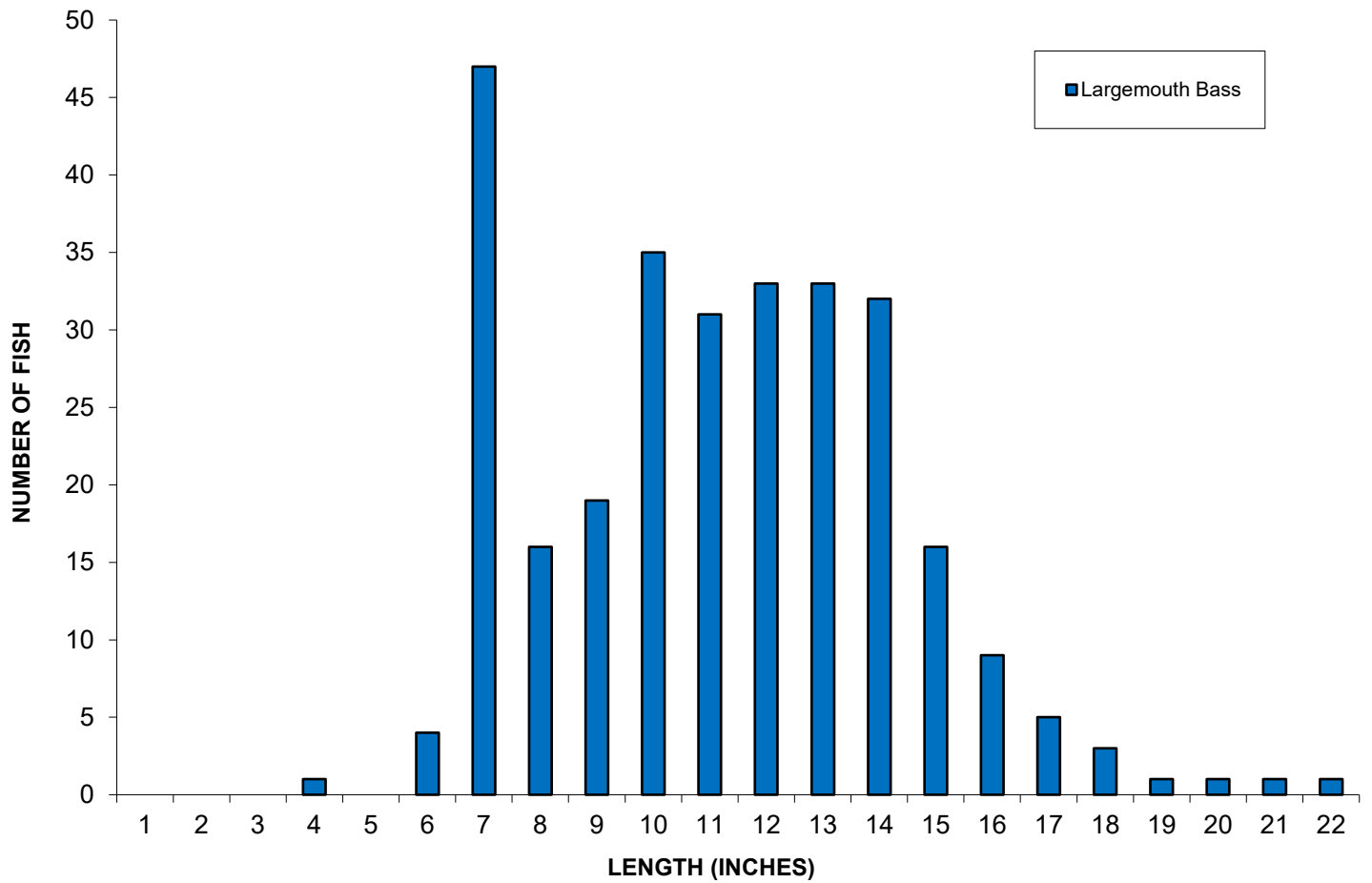


Figure 1. Length frequency distribution of Largemouth Bass caught on June 13-14, 2022 from Lackawanna Lake.

Dan Drake
Area 4 Fisheries Biologist