

PRATHER LAKE  
Morgan County  
2008 Supplemental Evaluation

Date of Survey: 8/25/2008

Biologist: Jamie L. Smyth

Survey Objectives: Evaluate the stocking success at Prather Lake.

Methods: Survey effort consisted of 0.42 h (one lap around the lake) of nighttime DC electrofishing. Collected fish were measured to the nearest 0.1 in TL.

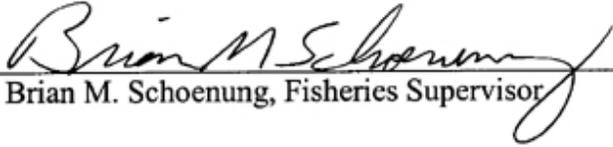
Summary: Prather Lake is a 4-acre lake located within Morgan-Monroe State Forest. In the spring of 2007, the lake was drained to make needed repairs to the dam. Upon completion of repairs, the lake refilled to normal pool that winter. Prather Lake was restocked by the Division of Fish and Wildlife in the spring of 2008 with 895 bluegill, 879 redear sunfish, and 289 largemouth bass. The majority of the fish stocked were fingerlings.

There were 44 fish collected and three species comprised the sample. There were 23 bluegill collected that ranged in length from 1.0 to 5.8 in and averaged 3.7 in. Eight of the bluegill collected were in the 1.0 in range and were likely spawned in 2008. There were 18 largemouth bass collected that ranged in length from 2.0 to 9.3 in and averaged 6.3 in. Forty-four percent of bass collected ranged in length from 2.0 to 4.0 in and were likely spawned in 2008. Only three redear sunfish were collected from 4.7 to 4.8 in.

The stockings at Prather Lake were successful. Since bluegill, largemouth, and redear are self-sustaining and are expected to spawn in 2009, no further stocking is required. Prather has been a quality fishery in the past due to its remote location. Anglers should start to see good numbers of harvestable size bluegill and redear within the next year. Largemouth bass should be approaching 14 in and larger in a couple more years.

Submitted by: Jamie L. Smyth, Assistant Fisheries Biologist  
Date: March 19, 2009

Approved by: J. Rhett Wisener, Fisheries Biologist

Approved by:   
Brian M. Schoenung, Fisheries Supervisor

Date: July 17, 2009

**NUMBER, PERCENTAGE, WEIGHT, AND AGE OF BLUEGILL**

TOTAL LENGTH (inches)	NUMBER COLLECTED	PERCENT OF FISH COLLECTED	AVERAGE WEIGHT (pounds)	AGE OF FISH	TOTAL LENGTH (inches)	NUMBER COLLECTED	PERCENT OF FISH COLLECTED	AVERAGE WEIGHT (pounds)	AGE OF FISH
1.0	8	34.8		not aged	19.0				
1.5					19.5				
2.0					20.0				
2.5					20.5				
3.0					21.0				
3.5					21.5				
4.0	2	8.7			22.0				
4.5	5	21.7			22.5				
5.0	3	13.0			23.0				
5.5	5	21.7			23.5				
6.0					24.0				
6.5					24.5				
7.0					25.0				
7.5					25.5				
8.0					26.0				
8.5					TOTAL	23			
9.0									
9.5									
10.0									
10.5									
11.0									
11.5									
12.0									
12.5									
13.0									
13.5									
14.0									
14.5									
15.0									
15.5									
16.0									
16.5									
17.0									
17.5									
18.0									
18.5									

ELECTROFISHING CATCH	54.8 / h	GILL NET CATCH	NA	TRAP NET CATCH	NA
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**NUMBER, PERCENTAGE, WEIGHT, AND AGE OF LARGEMOUTH BASS**

TOTAL LENGTH (inches)	NUMBER COLLECTED	PERCENT OF FISH COLLECTED	AVERAGE WEIGHT (pounds)	AGE OF FISH	TOTAL LENGTH (inches)	NUMBER COLLECTED	PERCENT OF FISH COLLECTED	AVERAGE WEIGHT (pounds)	AGE OF FISH
1.0				not aged	19.0				
1.5					19.5				
2.0	1	5.5			20.0				
2.5	2	11.1			20.5				
3.0	1	5.5			21.0				
3.5	3	16.7			21.5				
4.0	1	5.5			22.0				
4.5					22.5				
5.0					23.0				
5.5					23.5				
6.0					24.0				
6.5					24.5				
7.0					25.0				
7.5					25.5				
8.0	1	5.5			26.0				
8.5	6	33.3			TOTAL	18			
9.0	3	16.7							
9.5									
10.0									
10.5									
11.0									
11.5									
12.0									
12.5									
13.0									
13.5									
14.0									
14.5									
15.0									
15.5									
16.0									
16.5									
17.0									
17.5									
18.0									
18.5									

ELECTROFISHING CATCH	42.9 / h	GILL NET CATCH	NA	TRAP NET CATCH	NA
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**NUMBER, PERCENTAGE, WEIGHT, AND AGE OF REDEAR**

TOTAL LENGTH (inches)	NUMBER COLLECTED	PERCENT OF FISH COLLECTED	AVERAGE WEIGHT (pounds)	AGE OF FISH	TOTAL LENGTH (inches)	NUMBER COLLECTED	PERCENT OF FISH COLLECTED	AVERAGE WEIGHT (pounds)	AGE OF FISH
1.0				not aged	19.0				
1.5					19.5				
2.0					20.0				
2.5					20.5				
3.0					21.0				
3.5					21.5				
4.0					22.0				
4.5	3	100.0			22.5				
5.0					23.0				
5.5					23.5				
6.0					24.0				
6.5					24.5				
7.0					25.0				
7.5					25.5				
8.0					26.0				
8.5					TOTAL	3			
9.0									
9.5									
10.0									
10.5									
11.0									
11.5									
12.0									
12.5									
13.0									
13.5									
14.0									
14.5									
15.0									
15.5									
16.0									
16.5									
17.0									
17.5									
18.0									
18.5									

ELECTROFISHING CATCH	7.1 / h	GILL NET CATCH	NA	TRAP NET CATCH	NA
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