

Lake Maxinkuckee

2020 General Fish Survey

Lake Information: 1,854 acres; 86 feet max depth
Located: Culver, IN; Marshall County
GPS Coordinates: N 41.19666; W -86.41645
Access: State owned ramp on Southwest shore, limited roadside parking
Amenities: Seasonal restroom
Ownership: N/A

Best Fishing: Bluegill, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye
Special Restrictions: None
Outboard Motor Restrictions: None
Fees: None
Depth Map: [Where to Fish Interactive Map](#)
DNR Contact Information:
 Fish Management District 1
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Highlights

- A total of 25 species and one hybrid were collected, higher than the 22 and 24 species collected in 2007 and 2012 surveys (Table 1). New species were likely historically present, but not encountered in previous surveys. Notable absent from this survey were White Bass and Channel Catfish often collected in low abundance.
- Bluegill were the most abundant species in this survey whereas in 2012 only 69 were collected (Figures 1 and 2). Historically Rock Bass were the most abundant.
- Half of the Rock Bass collected were 5 to 7 inches long and an impressive 10% were larger than 10 inches.
- Thirty percent of Smallmouth Bass collected were legal length (14 inches) or longer, attaining this length on average between 4 and 5 years (Figure 3).
- Over twenty percent of Yellow Perch were 10.0 inches or longer. On average perch 4 to 7 years old were 9.6, 10.4, 12.3, and 13.0 inches long, respectively.

Sport Fish

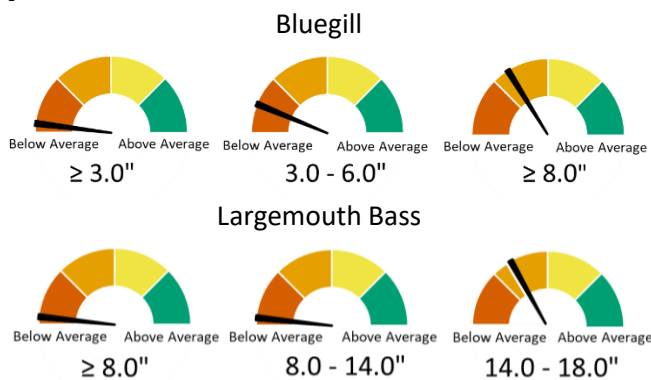


Figure 1. Bluegill and Largemouth Bass catch rates at Lake Maxinkuckee compared to regional averages among all glacial lakes in northern Indiana. Represented are 0.5 h electrofishing, two trap and gill nets.

Table 1. Fish community species composition (by total number and percent of catch) and size range.

Species	#	%	Length Range (in)	
			Min	Max
Bluegill	258	25.5	1.7	9.8
Rock Bass	196	19.4	2.0	11.7
Smallmouth Bass	144	14.2	3.3	18.4
Yellow Perch	98	9.7	2.3	13.3
Walleye	84	8.3	8.7	19.7
Longnose Gar	54	5.3	17.5	53.5
Largemouth Bass	33	3.3	5.7	16.7
Brook Silverside	32	3.2	3.0	3.8
Logperch	21	2.1	2.8	4.6
Yellow Bullhead	14	1.4	9.0	14.3
Black Crappie	13	1.3	7.4	12.0
Common Carp	10	1.0	9.6	27.3
Pumpkinseed	10	1.0	2.8	5.8
Warmouth	9	0.9	1.7	9.0
Spotted Gar	7	0.7	21.3	26.3
Bowfin	6	0.6	21.7	26.4
Brown Bullhead	5	0.5	11.1	15.0
Spotfin Shiner	4	0.4	2.5	3.4
Banded Killifish	2	0.2	2.5	3.0
Bluntnose Minnow	2	0.2	2.4	2.8
Gizzard Shad	2	0.2	17.5	19.7
Hybrid Sunfish	2	0.2	7.4	7.6
Spotted Sucker	2	0.2	14.9	15.5
White Sucker	2	0.2	10.7	11.0
Golden Shiner	1	0.1	4.4	4.4
Spottail Shiner	1	0.1	3.3	3.3
Total	1,012			



Your purchase of fishing equipment and motor boat fuel supports boating access and Sport Fish Restoration.

Indiana Fishing Regulation Guide:
www.Fishing.IN.gov

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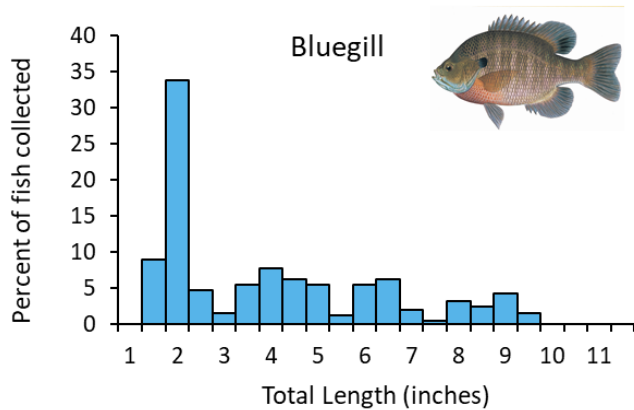


Figure 2. Bluegill length frequency for Lake Maxinkuckee.¹

- One trap net collected 45% of all Bluegill and most fish were less than 2.5 inches. Overall, Bluegill growth was above average compared to other glacial lakes.

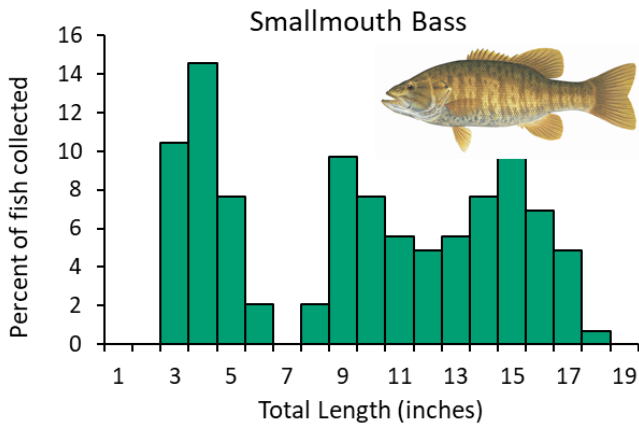


Figure 3 . Smallmouth Bass length frequency for Lake Maxinkuckee.¹

- Smallmouth Bass mean length at capture for ages 1 to 5 was 4.5, 9.8, 11.1, 13.9, and 15.1 inches, respectively.

Fish Survey Dates: 6/15/20 to 6/23/20

Fish Survey Techniques: 2.25 hours pulsed DC night electrofishing with 2 dippers; 9 overnight trap net lifts; 18 overnight gill net lifts

Water Quality Survey Dates: 6/15/20, 8/4/20, 8/28/20

Water Quality Survey Techniques: Water clarity and oxygen profiles

Vegetation Survey Dates: 8/4/20

Report Author: Tom Bacula, Fisheries Biologist

Report Approved By: Dan Carnahan, Fisheries Supervisor

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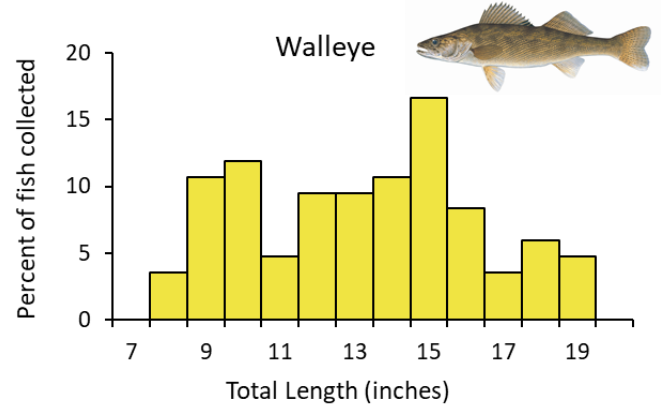


Figure 4. Walleye length frequency for Lake Maxinkuckee.¹

- Walleye abundance has increased since previous surveys, and fish averaged 10.0, 12.8, 15.6, and 18.1 inches at ages 1 to 4, respectively (Figure 4).

Stocking

Table 2. Fish stocking in Lake Maxinkuckee 2015-2020.

Year	Species	Number	Length (in)	Average
			Min. - Max.	length (in.)
2020	Walleye*	18,540	6.0 - 8.0	7.0
2019	Walleye	190,263	1.0 - 2.1	1.5
2018	Walleye*	17,798	5.4 - 10.4	7.1
2017	Walleye	172,435	1.0 - 1.9	1.4
2016	Walleye*	18,540	5.8 - 10.1	7.6
2015	Walleye	199,031	1.0 - 1.7	1.3

*Gollon Bait and Fish Farm

Habitat

- Oxygen was available (greater than 3.0 ppm) for fish down to 50 feet in June declining to 22 in early August and 26 feet in late August.
- A total of 14 species of aquatic vegetation were collected, *Chara* sp. was the most frequently collected species followed by slender naiad, variable pondweed and sago pondweed.
- A concern was first time documentation of starry stonewort, an invasive species at 18% of survey sites. Starry stonewort is an algae that creates dense mats inhibiting native plant growth and can impair recreation.

¹ Artwork by Rick Hill, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.



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