



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Headquarters

2901 West Truman Boulevard, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0180
Telephone: 573/751-4115 ▲ Missouri Relay Center: 1-800-735-2966 (TDD)

JOHN D. HOSKINS, Director

REPLY TO: St. Louis Regional Office
2360 Hwy. D
St. Charles, MO 63304
Telephone: 636/441-4554 ext. 312
Fax: 636/926-9125

June 28, 2007

Steve Probst
100 Cognac Ct.
Lake St. Louis, MO 63367

Dear Steve,

On May 2, 2007, the Missouri Department of Conservation completed an electrofishing survey of Lake St. Louis, in St. Charles County. The main purpose of this survey was to collect fish for contaminant analysis. We did record data for the entire catch, but I would not consider this a full survey. Our effort was less than half an hour and conditions were not optimum. The results do not show any significant change from the last sample in 2005. A summary and a few observations are attached, but recommendations given in the 2005 report still stand. I will let you know when I get the results from the contaminant sample. Call if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Sarah Oakes
Fisheries Management Biologist
Missouri Department of Conservation

COMMISSION

STEPHEN C. BRADFORD
Cape Girardeau

CHIP MCGEEHAN
Marshfield

CYNTHIA METCALFE
St. Louis

LOWELL MOHLER
Jefferson City

LAKE SURVEY RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Missouri Department of Conservation

Fish Population Characteristics:

Lake St. Louis

- 1) A low number of largemouth bass (48/hour) were taken during the survey. Bass ranged in size from 9.0 to 19.5 inches. Most were larger than 15 inches. All bass appeared robust and healthy. Bass PSD(12) remained high at 89.5 (previous years PSD(12) were 94 in 2005, and 86 in 2000). Bass RSD(15) rose from 50 in 2005 to 79 in 2007.
- 2) A moderate number of bluegill (183/hour) were taken during the survey, ranging in size from 3.5 to 6.0 inches.
- 3) White crappie were collected at a rate of 85/hour. All were between 5.5 to 7.0 inches.
- 4) Also collected were gizzard shad, green sunfish, and longear sunfish.

Management Recommendations

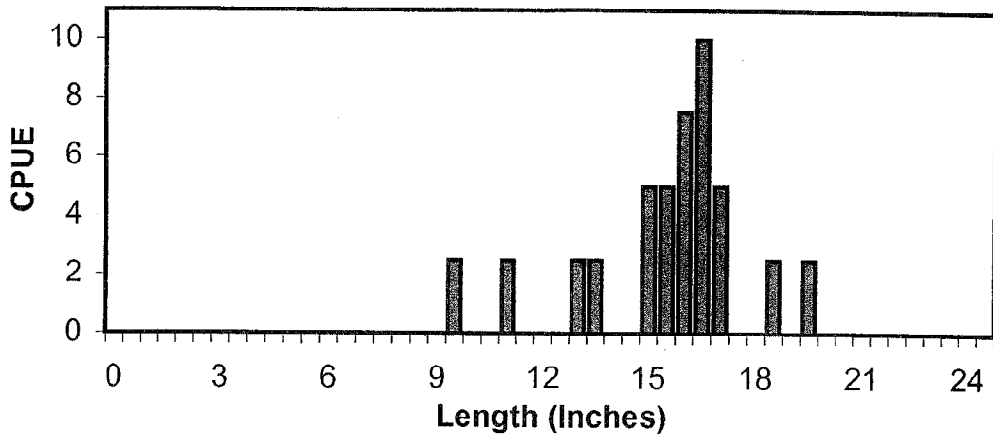
Largemouth Bass

In regard the regulations posted on the lake, the city of Lake St. Louis technically can not set fishing regulations. Lake St. Louis is considered waters of the state because it impounds a flowing stream; therefore people fishing on the lake must abide by standard statewide fishing regulations set forth in the Missouri Wildlife Code. For black bass the current statewide daily limit is six with no length limit. Any more restrictive limits may only be put forth as suggested limits. Restrictions posted by the community can not be legally upheld in a court of law. Beyond that, from a conservation standpoint, there is no reason to try to totally restrict bass harvest. Your bass are a wonderful resource; there is no reason that resource should not be put to wise use. I would recommend that you post a suggested 14-18 inch slot limit with a daily limit of four largemouth bass. In this way, your large fish are protected, a trophy or two can be harvested by lucky anglers who would like a wall mount, and small fish can be harvested for eating. If you would like to be more protective of your trophy fish you could suggest a slot of 15-20 inches.

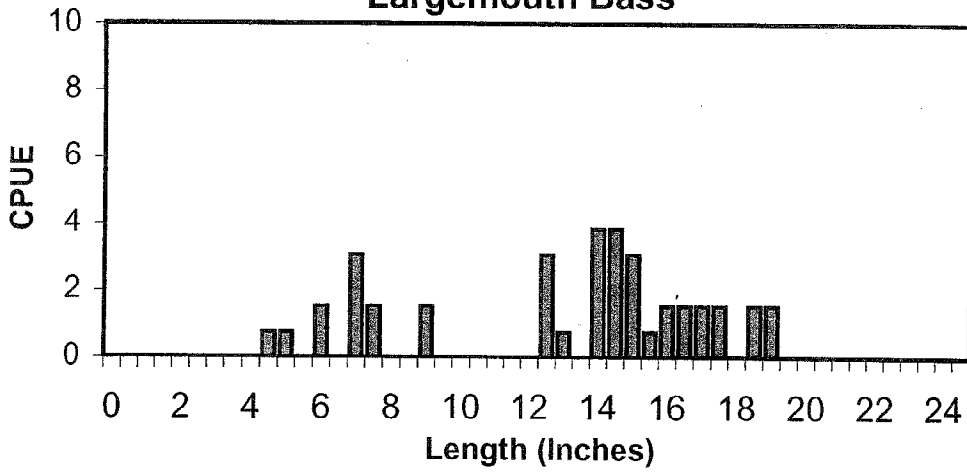
Fish Cover

More and more of the lake's shoreline is being converted to retaining wall systems. This move away from natural shoreline will reduce woody habitat in the lake. Encourage lot owners to sink cedar trees or other brush piles along the shoreline to recover some of this lost habitat. Also encourage native plantings to provide shoreline shade. Follow guidelines from previous reports for brush pile placement.

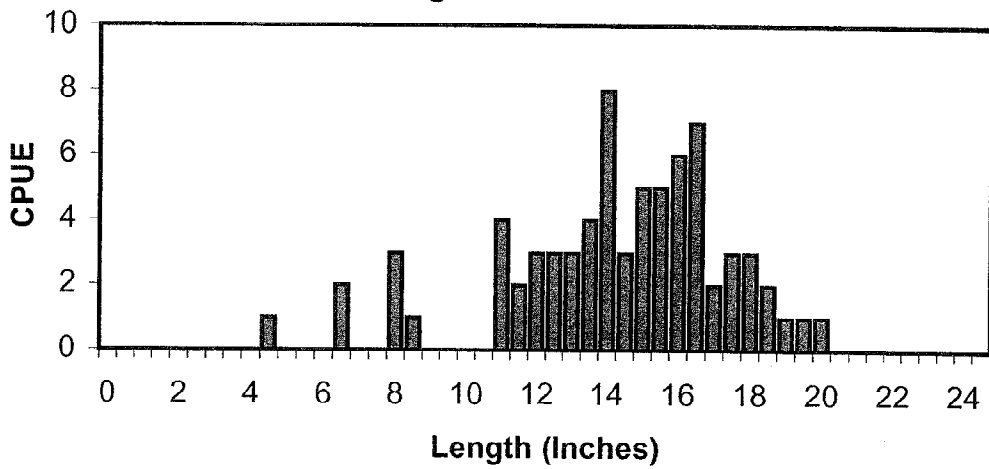
**Lake St. Louis 2007
Largemouth Bass**



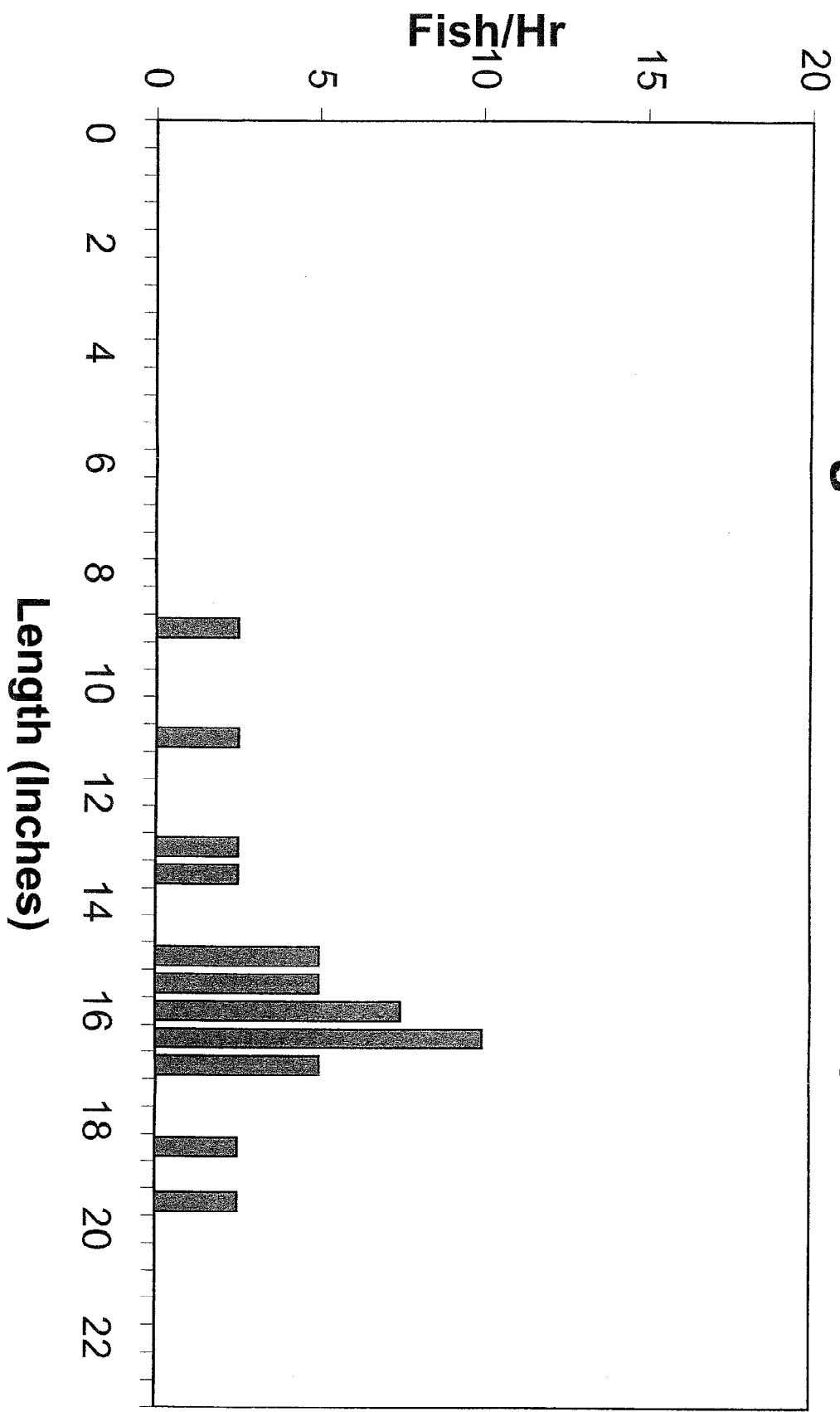
**Lake St. Louis 2005
Largemouth Bass**



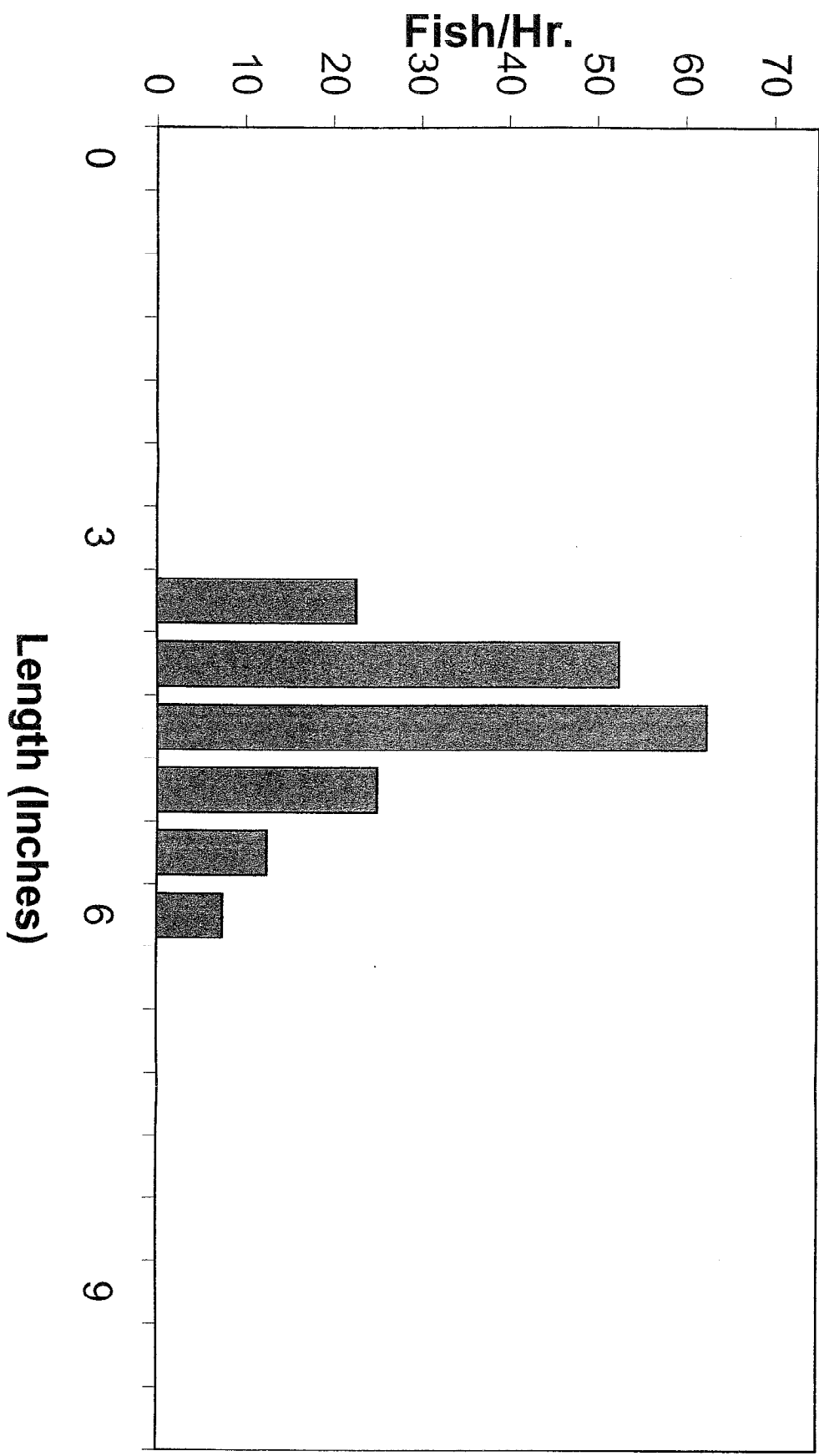
**Lake St. Louis 2000
Largemouth Bass**



Lake St. Louis Largemouth Bass - 2007



Lake St. Louis Bluegill - 2007



Lake St. Louis Black Crappie - 2007

