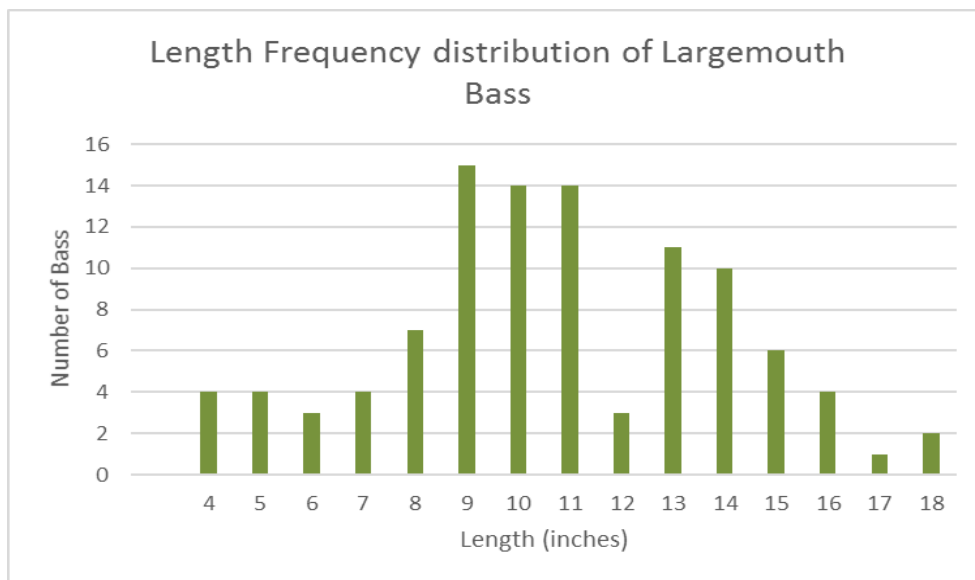


Lake Lauderdale Black Bass Survey (Survey #:517046)
James Pinheiro, Region 5 Fisheries

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Lake Lauderdale is a 63 acre natural lake in the Hoosic River watershed in Washington County which forms the headwater of the Owl Kill. The lake can be accessed via a county-operated park with a public beach on the southeast shoreline. There is also a canoe or kayak launch at the outlet of the lake along the park’s entrance road. NYSDEC annually stocks tiger muskies to provide an opportunity to catch a trophy fish. A boat electrofishing survey was conducted in 2017 to check the status of sportfish and panfish populations, with a focus on black bass.

During the 2017 survey a total of 302 fish of 10 different species were collected. There were 105 largemouth bass collected, ranging from 6 – 19 in. The boat electrofishing catch rate of 59 adult bass/h was significantly higher than the statewide average of 17/h (Perry et al. 2014). The size structure of the population was balanced (Figure 1, Table 1; Green 1989). Largemouth bass were also in good condition with weights ranging up to 5.68 lbs.



Other sportfish captured included northern pike and black crappie; however, no tiger muskies were collected (Table 1). Bluegill, pumpkinseed, yellow bullhead and yellow perch were commonly collected panfish. Lake Lauderdale should provide quality fishing for largemouth bass with good public access for both shoreline fishing and car top vessels. The variety of abundant panfish add to the diversity of fishing opportunities.

Despite the lack of tiger muskies collected during this survey they will continue to be stocked. Tiger muskies are not typically vulnerable to being captured by boat electrofishing, so these results are likely not indicative of their status. Tiger muskies are better assessed via angler reports, and successful tiger muskie anglers in Lake Lauderdale are encouraged to contact the Region 5 Fisheries office in Warrensburg to report their catches.

All sportfish and panfish in Lake Lauderdale are managed under statewide fishing regulations, and these continue to be appropriate.



Table 1. Night-time boat electrofishing catch rates of sportfish and panfish from a survey on Lake Lauderdale, 2017.

Species	Total catch	Time (h)	Length category ⁱ catch rate: # caught per hour (with Standard Deviation)			
			All sizes	≥Stock	≥Quality	≥Preferred
Largemouth bass	105	1.5	70 (11)	59 (10)	29 (8)	9 (4)
Northern pike	4	1.5	2.7 (1.4)	2.7 (1.4)	2.0 (1.4)	-
Black crappie	2	1.5	1.3 (0.7)	-	0.7	0.7
Bluegill	91	1	91 (26)	63 (28)	16 (6)	2 (1.2)
Pumpkinseed	52	1	52 (11)	50 (10)	30 (8)	3 (1.9)
Yellow perch	13	1	13 (6)	8 (5)	1	-
Yellow bullhead	8	1	8 (6)	8 (7)	8 (7)	6 (5)

Literature Cited

- Green, D.M. 1989. Fish Sampling Manual. Centrarchid Sampling Manual. Bureau of Fisheries. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Albany, New York.
- Perry, P.C., J.J. Loukmas, W.L. Fisher, P.J. Sullivan, and J.R. Jackson. 2014. Characterizing the status of black bass populations in New York. Final Report. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Albany, New York.

ⁱ Length categories for size structure indices of sportfish and panfish in Lake Lauderdale.

Categories	Largemouth bass	Bluegill & pumpkinseed	Yellow perch & black crappie	Northern pike	Yellow bullhead
Stock	≥8 in	≥3 in	≥5 in	≥13 in	≥4 in
Quality	≥12 in	≥6 in	≥8 in	≥20 in	≥7 in
Preferred	≥15 in	≥8 in	≥10 in	≥27 in	≥9 in