



**WISCONSIN DNR
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET**

LAKE: Seidel

COUNTY: Florence

YEAR: 2019

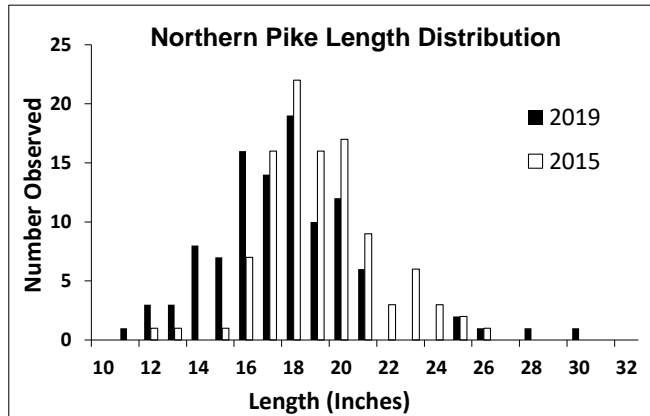
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources conducted a comprehensive survey of Seidel Lake, Florence County, to analyze the health of its fishery. Seidel Lake is located approximately 7 miles southwest of Florence, just north of HWY 101. Seidel Lake covers 55 acres and achieves a maximum depth of 44 feet.

Northern Pike



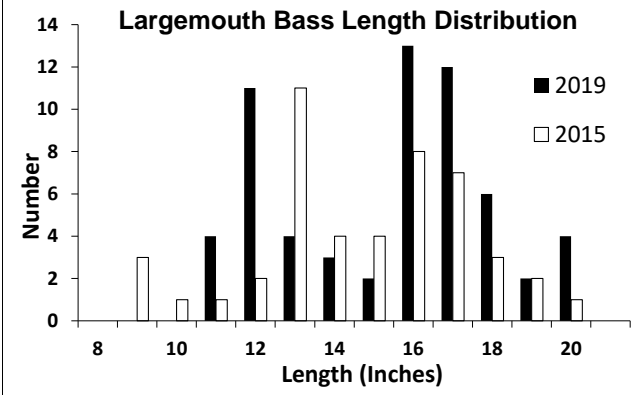
Northern pike are the most abundant game fish species in Seidel Lake. Early spring fyke nets were set for 7 days to estimate the abundance of adult northern pike (≥ 12 "). The data from this survey estimates the population to be roughly 185 adults (3.4/acre). This suggests a decrease of approximately 19% in abundance since 2015, when the same survey estimated approximately 4.2/acre. Northern pike abundance in Seidel Lake is still above average for this area.

A total of 104 different northern pike were captured and measured during the 2019 survey to assess the size structure of the population. After removing fish < 14 inches, we found that only 11.3% of the pike captured were ≥ 21 inches (23.3% in 2015). This is a very poor size structure for northern pike.



* Note: Adult northern pike are defined as all sexable northern pike and northern pike of unknown sex ≥ 12 inches long.

Largemouth Bass Length Distribution



* Note: Adult largemouth bass are defined as all fish ≥ 8 inches long.

Largemouth Bass



A total of 5 electrofishing surveys were conducted to estimate the abundance of largemouth bass. The data obtained from these surveys estimates that there are approximately 110 adult (≥ 8 ") largemouth bass in Seidel Lake (2.0/acre). The previous survey conducted in 2015 estimated the adult population at 74 fish (1.3/acre). Our data suggests the abundance of adult largemouth bass has increased by approximately 50% in the last 4 years. While abundance is increasing, the population is still considered to be of low abundance.

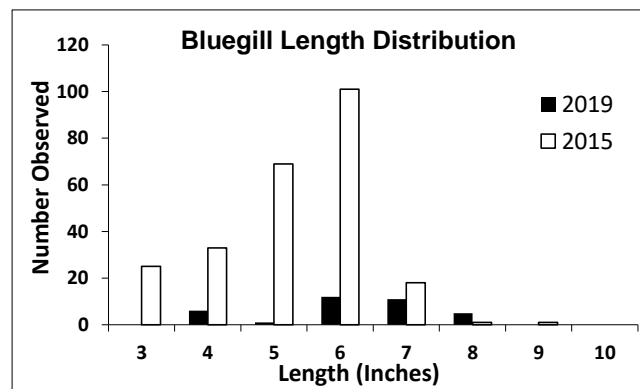
A total of 61 different largemouth bass were captured and measured during these surveys on Seidel Lake. The largemouth bass population has very impressive size structure with 68.9% and 19.7% being ≥ 14 and 18 inches respectively. During 2015 size structure was measured at 61.7% and 12.8% ≥ 14 and 18 inches.

Bluegill



Summer spawning panfish were targeted during 4 days of fyke netting in the middle of June. During 2019, bluegill relative abundance was measured at 2.9 fish per net-night. This is substantially lower than the 24.1 fish per net-night observed in 2015, suggesting that bluegill abundance has drastically decreased to the current low density population.

Every bluegill captured during the June fyke net survey was measured (35 fish) to assess the size structure of the population. While abundance has decreased, size structure has increased, with approximately 80% and 14.3% of fish measured being ≥ 6 and 8 inches respectively. During 2015 48.8% and 0.8% of the catch was in those size classes.

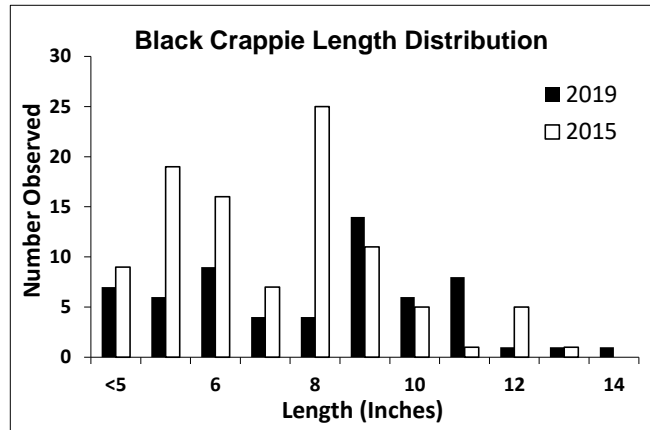


Black Crappie



Black crappie were the most abundant panfish species encountered during mid-June fyke netting at 4.6 fish/net-night. In the survey conducted in 2015, black crappie abundance was 5.0 fish/net-night. This data suggests that there is a moderate-to-fair population of black crappie in Seidel Lake.

A total of 54 black crappie were measured to assess the size structure of the population. The size structure of black crappie has increased over the last 4 years from 53.3% to 64.8% of fish being ≥ 8 inches. Fish ≥ 10 inches increased from 13.3% to 31.5%. The largest black crappie captured during the 2019 survey was 14.7 inches.

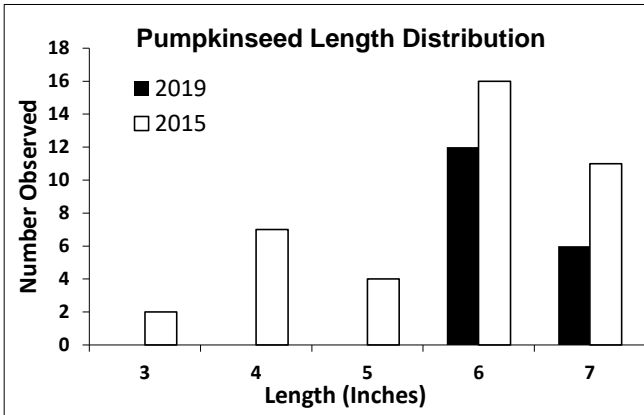


Pumpkinseed



Pumpkinseed were sampled over the same 4 day netting period as bluegill. A total of 18 pumpkinseed were captured during this survey, which equates to a relative abundance of 1.5 fish per net-night. This data suggests that pumpkinseed abundance has decreased since 2015, when relative abundance was 3.3 fish per net-night.

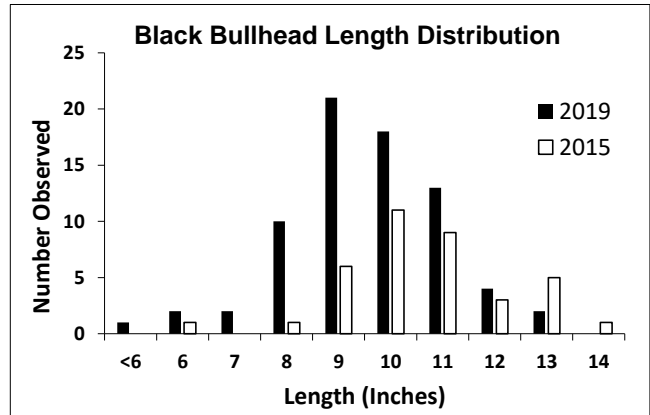
The size structure of the pumpkinseed population in Seidel Lake appears to have increased since 2015. However, the only real change was the lack of fish captured less than 6 inches during this year's survey.



Black Bullhead

Black bullhead were the most abundant fish during the June fyke net survey. Relative abundance has quadrupled over the last 4 years, increasing from 1.6 fish per net-night to 6.4 fish per net-night.

The black bullhead size structure has decreased from 94.6% (2015) to 80.6% (2019) of fish sampled being ≥ 9 inches.



Other Species

In addition to the six species mentioned above, four other species were captured during the 2019 survey of Seidel Lake. Yellow bullhead were the most common while warmouth, white sucker, and golden shiner appear to be relatively low in abundance. In 2015, yellow perch, central mudminnow, and common shiner were caught but none were sampled in 2019.

This report is interim only; data and findings should not be considered final.
For answers to questions about fisheries management activities and plans for Seidel Lake, Florence County, contact:

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