



# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## Fisheries Information Sheet

**LAKE:** Peppermill Lake

**COUNTY:** Adams

**YEAR:** 2022

### Introduction

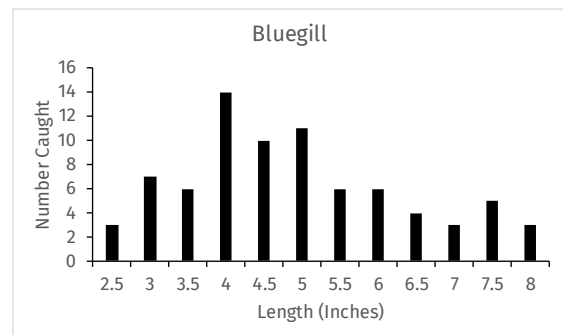
Peppermill Lake is a 64-acre warm water lake with a simple fish community. The lake is a drainage lake, a dam is at the lake's outlet to Peppermill Creek to raise the water level. The Maximum depth is 12.5 feet, 26.6% of the lake is under 3 feet deep and, while being small there is 4.4 miles of shoreline. The predominant substrate is muck and sand.

The Wisconsin Rapids Fisheries Staff conducted a nighttime electrofishing survey on May 18, 2022, water temperature was 70°F. The survey targeted largemouth bass and bluegill, yet all gamefish and panfish were collected. Panfish were collected for 1 mile of shoreline. All gamefish (i.e., largemouth bass and northern pike) were collected for a total of 2.5 miles of shoreline. Relative abundance (catch per mile of shoreline sampled) and size structure (Proportional Stock Density; PSD; % of fish over a given size) was evaluated and compared to lakes that have similar lake characteristics to Peppermill Lake.

### BLUEGILL



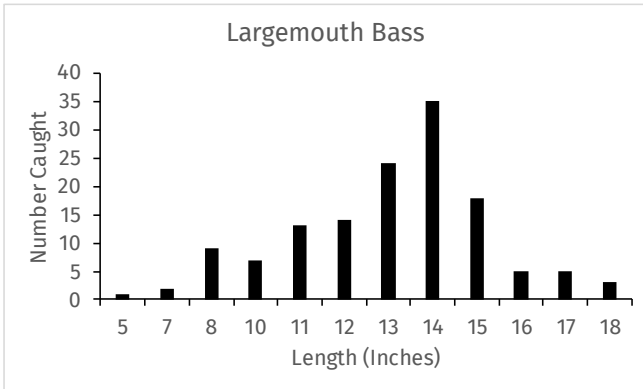
Bluegill relative abundance was 72 per mile, which is normal and just below the median for what we see in lakes like Peppermill Lake. Bluegill ranged in length from 2.5-8.4 inches with an average of 5.1 inches. Generally accepted PSD values for balanced bluegill-largemouth bass populations are PSD=20-60 and PSD-P = 5-20.



Captured Per Mile = 72	
Quality Size (≥6 inches)	PSD = 28%
Preferred Size (≥8 inches)	PSD-P = 4%

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## LARGEMOUTH BASS



Largemouth bass relative abundance was 53.2 per mile, which is high and greater than the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile compared to other similar lakes. The average length was 13.4 inches. The percentage of fish 14 inches or larger was 49.6% and is considered very high (> 90<sup>th</sup> percentile) compared to similar lakes. Generally accepted PSD values for balanced bluegill-largemouth bass fisheries are PSD = 40-70 and PSD-P = 10-40.

# Captured Per Mile = 54	
Quality Size (≥12 inches)	PSD = 78%
Preferred Size (≥15 inches)	PSD-P = 23%
≥ 14 inches	RSD-14 = 49.6%

## OTHER SPECIES

Other fish species caught during the survey included black crappie, northern pike, pumpkinseed, rock bass and yellow perch.

Fish Species	Count	Length (Inches)	
		Minimum	Maximum
BLACK CRAPPIE	7	9.2	12.2
BLUEGILL	78	2.5	8.4
LARGEMOUTH BASS	136	5.8	18.6
NORTHERN PIKE	25	8.7	24.3
PUMPKINSEED	12	5.0	8.3
ROCK BASS	2	4.9	10.5
YELLOW PERCH	4	4.3	7.2

## Summary

Peppermill Lake is a simple warm lake that supports a healthy largemouth bass and bluegill fishery. There are ample numbers of preferred sized largemouth bass for anglers to enjoy fishing. The bluegill size structure is good. While not targeted during the survey, the fish community also has northern pike, black crappie, yellow perch, and pumpkinseed. The fishery should continue to be managed for largemouth bass and bluegill.

*Table 1. General fishing regulations for Peppermill Lake, in Adams County Wisconsin.*

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT
Panfish	Open all Year	25	None
Largemouth bass	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday in May – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in March	5	14 inches
Northern pike	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday in May – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in March	2	26 inches

## Acknowledgements

Thanks to Jason Spaeth, Advanced Fisheries Technician, for operating the electrofishing boat and reviewing this report and Dave Osier, LTE Fisheries Technician, for dipping fish.

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities on Peppermill Lake, contact:

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