LAKE MANAGEMENT STATUS REPORT

Date of Report: 01/03/2024	Fisheries Manager: Brennan Caputo	District: 1
Lake Name: Hanover Bluff Lake	County: Jo Daviess	Water No: 11031
Ownership (STATE, PUBC, PUBO): State		Acreage: 15.5

LM STATUS REPORTS WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

1. List of the Sport Fish Regulations in Effect
2. Listing of Stocked Fish
3. Vegetation Treatments
4. Fish Surveys
5. Lake Management Plan Progress Table
6. Recommendations for Observed Problem Trends

1. SPORT FISH REGULATIONS IN EFFECT:

All Fish . . . . . .2 Pole and Line Fishing Only
Large or Smallmouth Bass . . . . . .1 Fish Daily Creel Limit (14″ Minimum Length Limit)
Bluegill or Redear Sunfish . . . . . .25 Fish Daily Creel Limit (No Minimum Length Limit)
Channel Catfish . . . . . 6 Fish Daily Creel Limit (No Minimum Length Limit)

2. FISH STOCKING:

08/25/2021	Channel Catfish	812	8”	Jake Wolf Hatchery

3. AQUATIC VEGETATION TREATMENTS:

A vegetation treatment was completed on 04/13/2023. A table below contains a list of chemicals that were applied.

1. Avast	128 oz.	Curlyleaf Pondweed

4. FISH SURVEYS:

A spring community assessment survey took place on 05/18/23 and consisted of 2 daytime DC-electrofishing runs for a total of 20 minutes of sampling effort. Overall, 5 species and 175 individual fish were collected.

5. LAKE MANAGEMENT PROGRESS TABLES:

Largemouth Bass:

A total of 111 Largemouth Bass were collected ranging from 80 – 512 mm (3.1 – 20.2 in), with 106 of those fish $\geq$ Stock size (200 mm [7.9 in]). Average length was 332 mm (13.1 in). This survey meet the minimum required number of fish $\geq$ Stock size (n = 30) to accurately quantify population demographics as set forth in the Lake Management Plan (LMP). Both the PSD and RSD-14 fell above their respective target ranges. Body condition (as indexed by relative weight) values are above the 90th percentile. Overall, the Largemouth bass population looks to be in great shape and seems to be a healthy population.

Lake Management Plan:	Goal	2016	2021	2023
# Stock (200mm)	>100	45	109	106
PSD	40-60	91	72	82
RSD 14	30-40	47	65	35
Wr	90-110	114	98	94

Spring diurnal DC electrofishing CPUE (fish/hr.) of each length group of Largemouth bass collected.

Year	<7.9”	7.9-11.8”	11.8-15”	15-20.1”	>20.1”	Total
2016	46	8	46	36	0	136
2021	63	93	63	171	0	390
2023	15	57	174	84	3	333

Bluegill:

A total of 54 Bluegills were collected ranging from 50 – 237 mm (2.0 – 9.3 in), with 47 ≥ Stock size (80 mm [3.1 in]). Average length was 166 mm (6.5 in). This survey did not meet the minimum required number of fish > Stock size (n = 50) to accurately quantify population demographics as set forth in the Lake Management Plan (LMP). However, I believed 47 fish > Stock size sufficient to continue with the analysis. Body condition (as indexed by relative weight) values are above the 90th percentile range. Overall, the Bluegill population looks to be in great shape and seems to be a healthy population.

Lake Management Plan:	Goal	2016	2021	2023
#Stock(80mm)	>100	119	99	47
PSD	20-40	2.5	14	81
PSD-P (8 in)	5-20	0	5	36
Wr	90-110	94	107	113

Spring diurnal DC electrofishing CPUE (fish/hr.) of each length group of Bluegill collected.

Year	<3.1”	3.1-5.9”	5.9-7.9”	7.9-9.8”	Total
2016	172	232	6	0	410
2021	99	255	27	15	396
2023	21	27	63	51	162

6. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OBSERVED PROBLEM TRENDS:

1. Continue to monitor the vegetation and treat if necessary to increase predation of Bluegills.
2. Continue bi-annual stocking of Channel Catfish
3. Continue fish population surveys on a routine basis