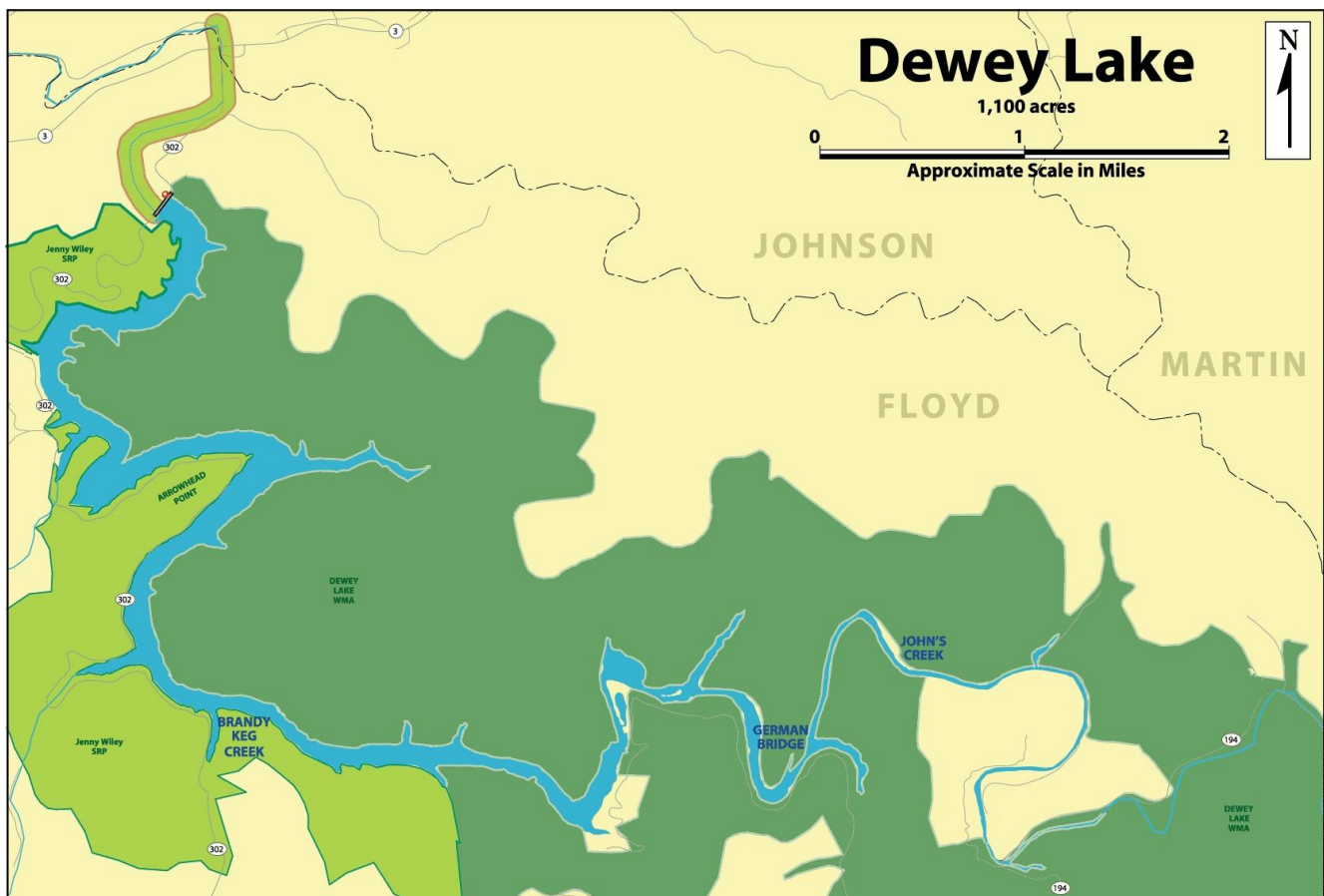


## Dewey Lake Bass Assessment 2016

Dewey Lake is a 1,100 acre multipurpose reservoir on Johns Creek. This lake, located in Floyd County, has quietly become a popular fishing destination for largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, and catfish. The following graphs show trends and rankings for each of the five population parameters used in the largemouth bass assessment. The lake was not sampled in 2011 due to spring flooding.

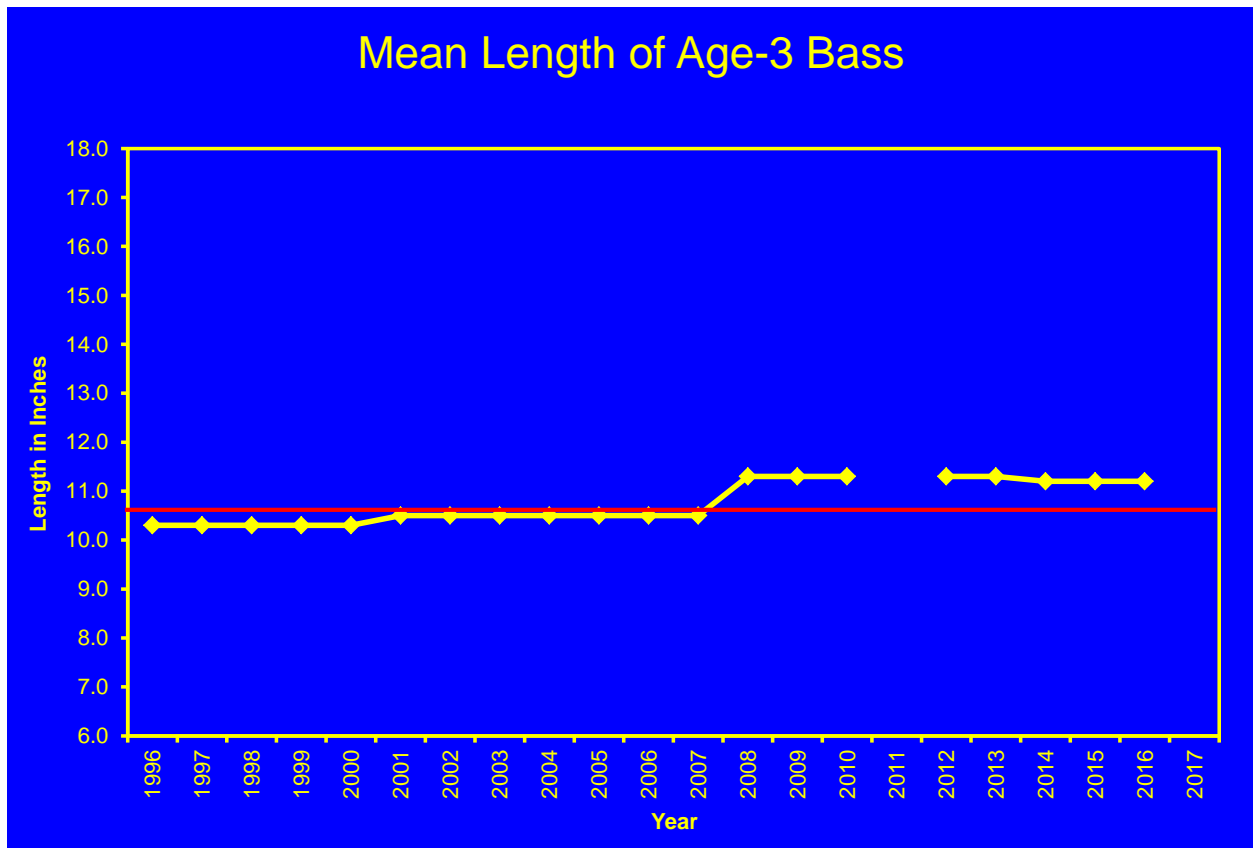
Please see the [Sportfish Assessments](#) page for an explanation of how the assessment works and for a list of other lakes with largemouth bass assessments.

*Please note that the minimum size limit for largemouth bass on this lake is 15 inches.*



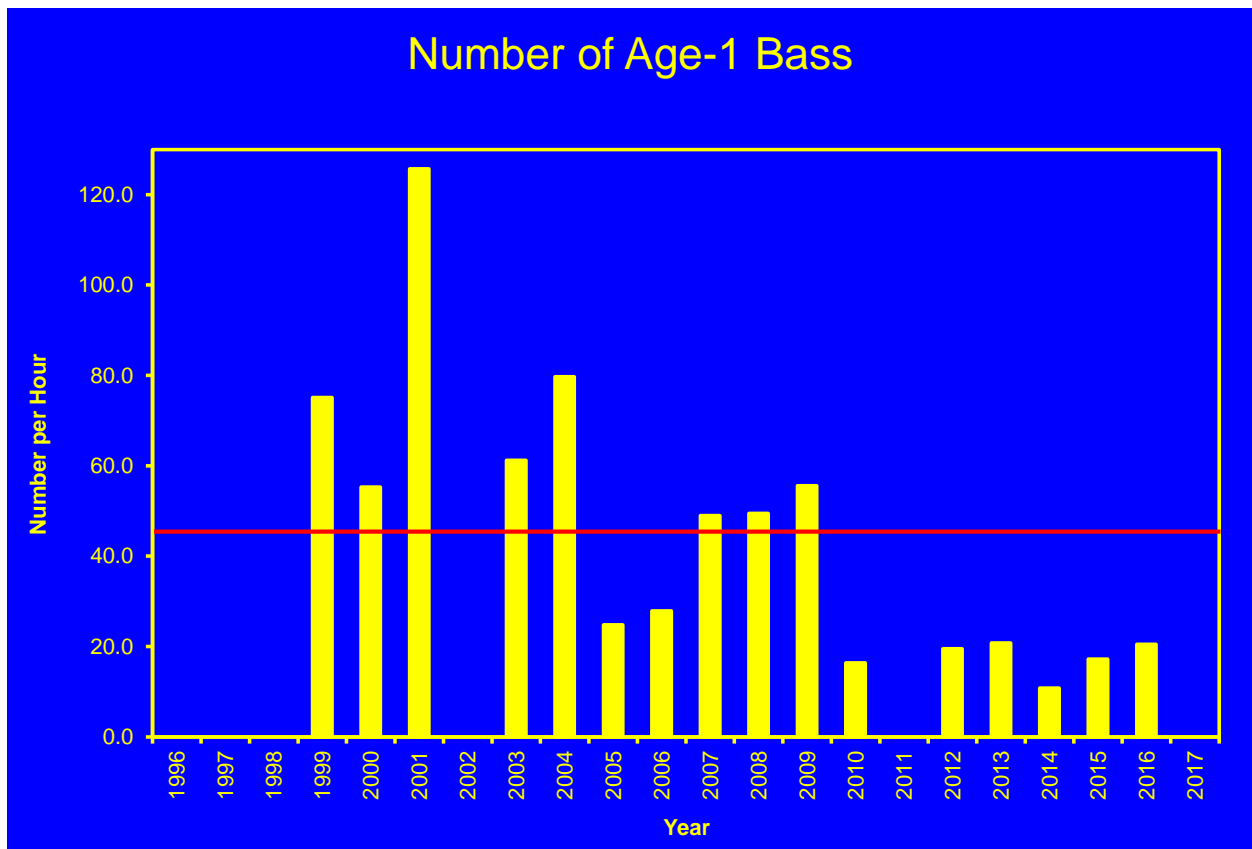
## Parameter 1 – Length at age-3 (growth rate)

At Dewey Lake, the length of an age-3 largemouth bass has averaged 10.7 inches (represented by the red line). When compared to other lakes of this size, this is considered to be “poor” growth for largemouth bass. The most recent age data (2014), however, shows a slight increase at 11.2 inches. Growth rates are generally related to factors such as population density, food resources, and weather patterns.



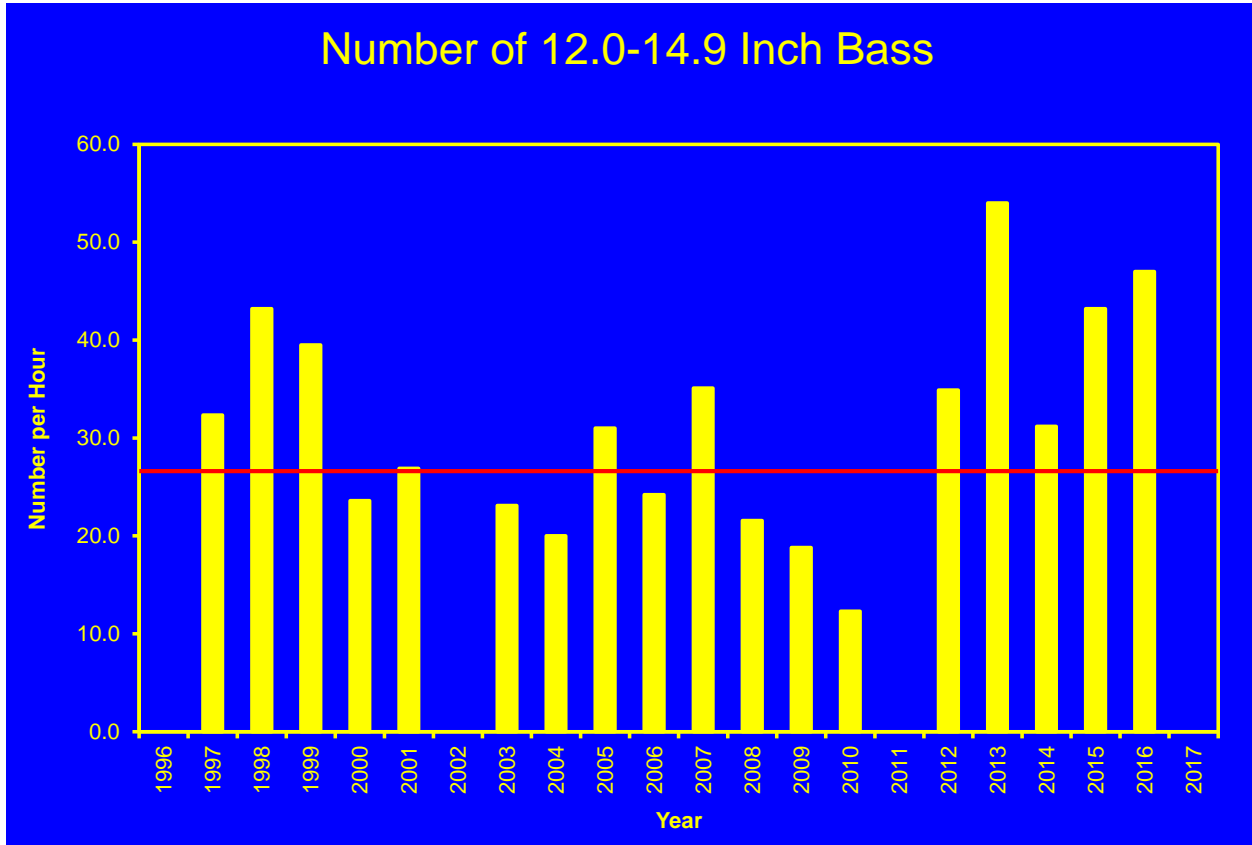
## Parameter 2 – Number of age-1 bass (how good the spawn was)

KDFWR looks at the electrofishing catch rates of age-1 largemouth bass to assess the success of the spawn which occurred in the prior year. This is an important parameter because the number of age-1 bass produced represents how good the fishing will be once these fish grow large enough for anglers to catch. At Dewey Lake, age-1 largemouth bass catch rates have averaged 44.3 fish per hour of electrofishing (see red line). When compared to other lakes in this size range, this is considered to be an “excellent” age-1 catch rate. Since 2010, the spring catch of age-1 largemouth bass has been low and supplemental bass stocking has occurred in 2011, 2012, 2014 and 2015 to aid numbers. These stockings have helped to maintain stability in the overall largemouth bass population.



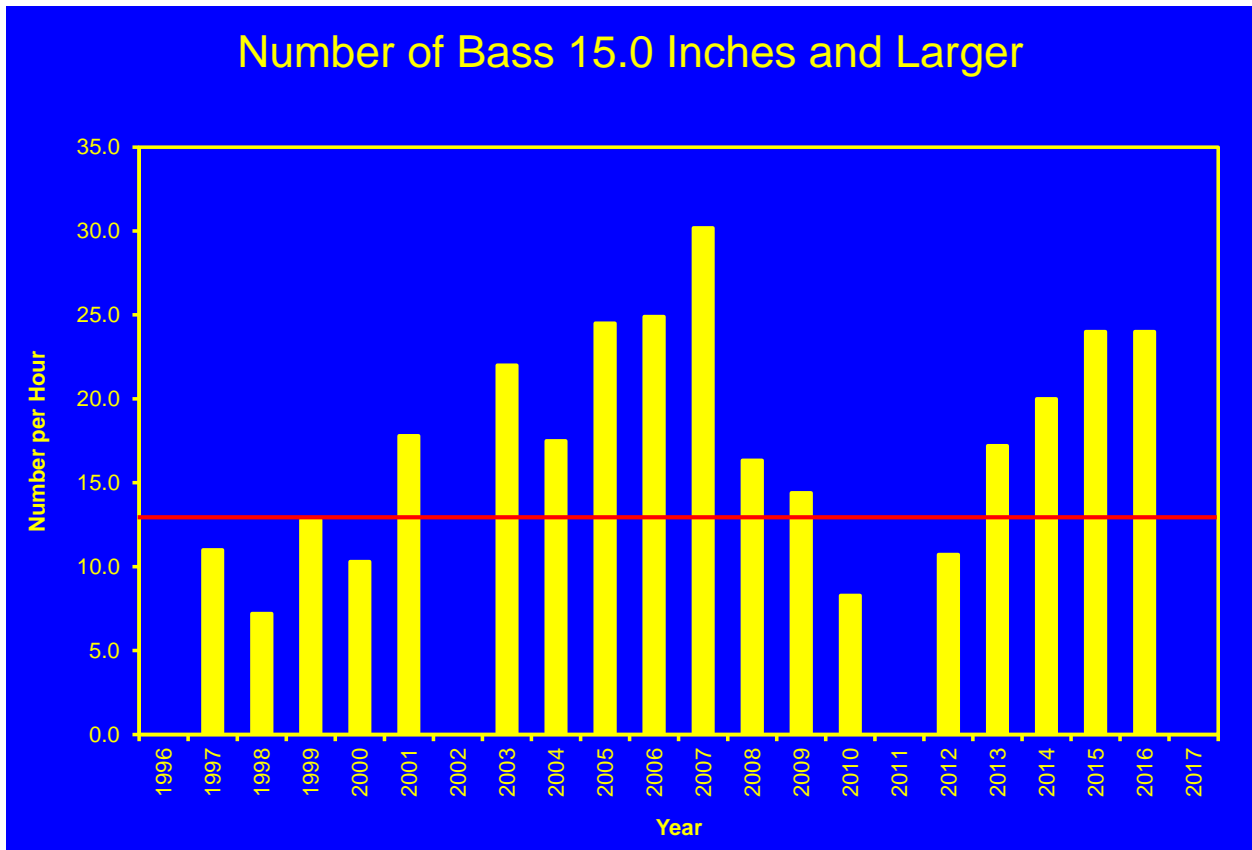
### Parameter 3 – Number of 12.0-14.9 inch bass

The electrofishing catch of 12.0-14.9 inch largemouth bass has averaged 26.9 fish per hour over the years (see red line), which gives Dewey Lake a “good” rating when compared to other lakes in its size range. From 2012 to 2016 the catch rate for this size range of bass moved up to a rating of “excellent” with an average of 42.1. This level of increase means good numbers of fish are reaching legal harvest size and will continue for years to come.



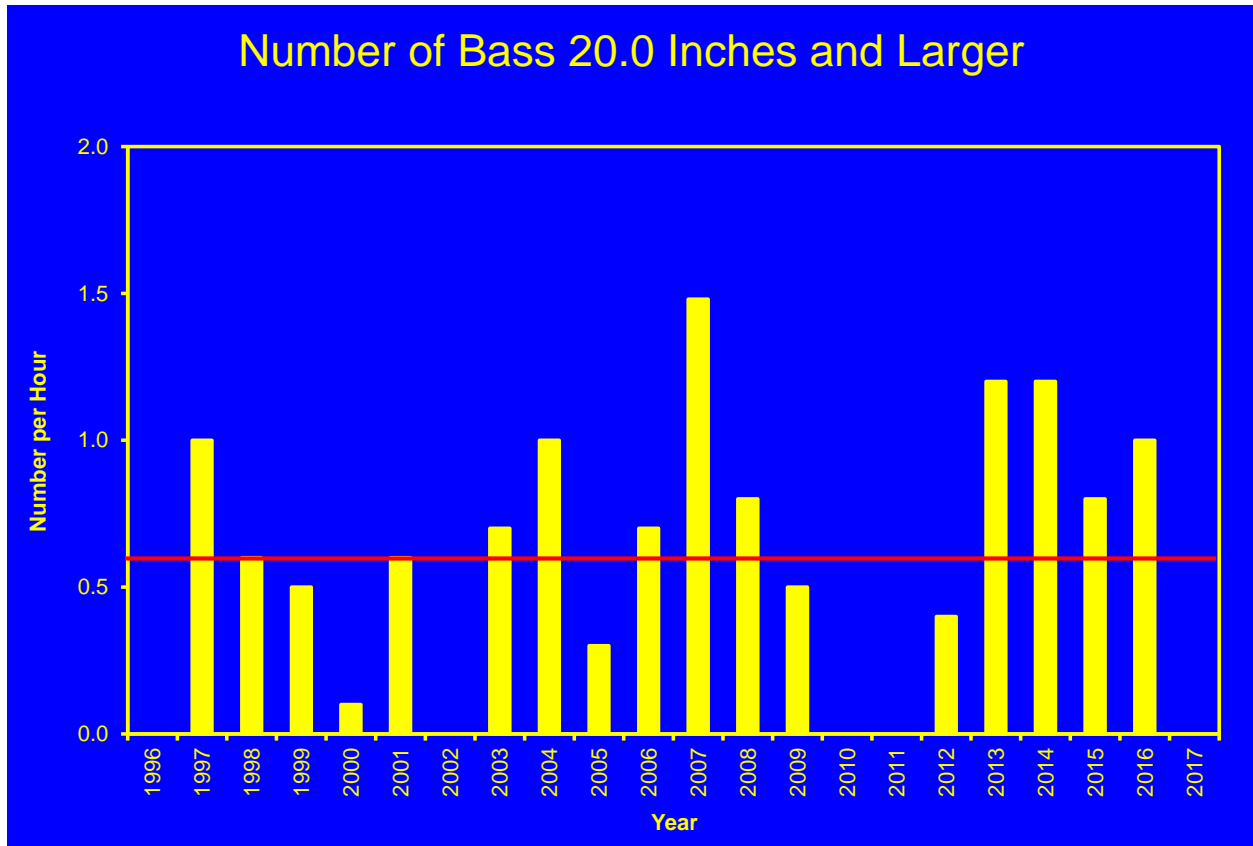
## Parameter 4 – Number of 15.0 inch and larger bass

The catch rate of 15.0 inch and larger largemouth bass at Dewey Lake has averaged just over 13.3 fish per hour of electrofishing (red line). Compared to other lakes, this is a “good” catch rate for this size group. Numbers of 15.0 inch and larger bass at the lake have been steadily increasing since 2010. This is good news for anglers as these are fish that may be legally harvested. It is also noteworthy that growth rates have remained stable as these numbers have increased indicating that the fishery as a whole is healthy and growing.



## Parameter 5 – Number of 20.0 inch and larger bass

The electrofishing catch of 20.0 inch and larger largemouth bass has averaged 0.6 fish per hour at Dewey Lake (red line). This catch rate gives the lake a “good” rating when compared to other lakes in its size range. In 2016, the catch rate for fish 20.0 inches and larger was 1.0 fish per hour of electrofishing. This would put 20.0 inch or larger fish above average and increase the potential to catch a trophy fish at present.



## Overall – Total Assessment Score (All five parameters added together)

Overall, the largemouth bass fishery at Dewey Lake has averaged 13.6 and received a “good” rating (red line). The largemouth bass population at this lake has been fairly consistent in most categories except for recruitment. The assessment score has steadily increased since 2010, representing an overall healthy fishery. The success of the fishery can be attributed to stocking efforts and habitat improvement projects aimed at improving recruitment. Dewey Lake also has a healthy forage base from zooplankton to shad helping to maintain good growth rates.

