Greenbo Lake Bass Assessment 2016

Greenbo Lake is a 181 acre multipurpose reservoir located at Greenbo Lake State Park in Greenup County, where anglers enjoy fishing for largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, channel catfish and rainbow trout. The following graphs show trends and rankings for each of the five population parameters used for the largemouth bass assessment.

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 the minimum size limit for largemouth bass on this lake is 12.0 inches.

In 2002, the water level was lowered to accommodate repairs to the dam which made sampling efforts impossible. Therefore data from that year is not included in the assessment.
Parameter 1 – Length at age-3 (growth rate)

At Greenbo Lake, the length of an age-3 largemouth bass has averaged 11.1 inches since 1993 (represented by the red line). When compared to other lakes of similar size, this is considered to be “Good” growth for largemouth bass. Over the past 12 years, age-3 length has been relatively stable ranging from 10.7-11.7 inches. Growth rates are generally related to factors such as population density, food resources, lake fertility and weather patterns. The last time growth rates were determined was in 2012 and the average length of age-3 largemouth bass was 11.2 inches, which was right on the 20 year average.
Parameter 2 – Numbers of age-1 bass (how good the spawn was)

KDFWR looks at the electrofishing catch rate of age-1 largemouth bass to assess the success of the spawn which occurred in the previous 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 Greenbo Lake, age-1 largemouth bass catch rates have averaged 36.0 fish/hour (f/h) of electrofishing since 1990. When compared to other lakes of similar size, this is considered to be a “Good” age-1 catch rate. When poor spawns are observed, KDFWR stocks the lake to make up for any deficiencies with age-1 fish. At present, anglers should not be alarmed when viewing low numbers of age-1 bass collected from 2007-2013 as the numbers of 12.0-14.9 inch bass continue to increase (see following graph).
Parameter 3 – Number of 12.0-14.9 inch bass

The electrofishing catch of 12.0-14.9 inch largemouth bass has averaged 43.5 f/h over the last 24 years, which gives Greenbo Lake a “Good” rating when compared to other lakes of similar size. Since 2009 the catch rates of fish in this group have all been well above average and would be considered “Excellent” when compared to lakes of similar size. These numbers should translate into continued opportunities to catch larger fish for several years to come.
Parameter 4 – Numbers of 15.0 inch and larger bass

The catch rate of 15.0 inch and larger largemouth bass at Greenbo Lake has averaged 10.1 f/h since 1990. As compared to other lakes, this is a "Fair" catch rate for this size group. Observations in 2016 were among some of the highest recorded and would be considered “Good” for a lake of this size.
Parameter 5 – Numbers of 20 inch and larger bass

The electrofishing catch of 20.0 inch and larger largemouth bass has averaged 2.3 f/h since 1990. This catch rate gives the lake a “Good” rating when compared to other lakes of similar size. Catch rates varied greatly from 2006 to present, and have the occasional spike in abundance of larger fish. However, Greenbo Lake is still regularly producing trophy sized fish over 20.0 inches.
Overall, the largemouth bass fishery at Greenbo Lake has averaged a “Good” rating since 1990. Based on the overall trends revealed by these assessments and other data, the largemouth bass fishery at Greenbo Lake should remain good for the immediate future and will continue to offer anglers a chance to catch trophy largemouth bass.