2010 Fishing Forecast

Grand Lake St.Marys

Auglaize and Mercer counties

12,626 Acres- Unlimited Horsepower Motors

Compared to Other Inland Lakes and Reservoirs

Species	FISH POPULATION STATUS			Stocked	Anglers Seeking(%)
	Overall Numbers	This size or Larger	Largest Sampled		
Bluegill Sunfish	Fair	6"	7"	☐	1
Bullhead Catfish	Excellent	10"		☐	
Largemouth Bass	Poor	12"	19"	☐	29
Crappie	Poor	8"	12.6"	☐	7
Channel Catfish	Good	11"	0"	☐	-

Bluegill Sunfish

OUTLOOK: GOOD

A 2004 electrofishing survey produced fair numbers of 5-7 inch fish. The 2007 creel survey showed that bluegill anglers caught and kept bluegills at a good, fast pace. Try fishing around boat docks, sea walls, rip rap shorelines, and brushy structure.

Bullhead Catfish

OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT

Large numbers of bullhead catfish 9 - 13". Bullheads are one of the first species to become active as the water warms in March and April. Fishing tactics are simple-- fish a night crawler on the bottom in 3-4 foot depths. These pint-size catfish are easy to catch, and have sweet-tasting white flesh that is favored by Midwestern anglers.

Largemouth Bass

OUTLOOK: FAIR

As compared to other lakes, standard population surveys suggest relatively low numbers of 12-16 inch fish. However, bass tournament results from 2008 placed GLSM in the top 10 Ohio lakes based on numbers of bass caught per hour of fishing. Best time is April-June. Try fishing rocky areas along east and west shores, woody areas in channels and tributaries, and around numerous boat docks.

Crappie

OUTLOOK: FAIR

Low numbers, most 7 – 10", some up to 13". In March and early April 2009, crappie anglers experienced their best success that they have had in the last 4-5 years. Best fishing is usually around boat docks or brushy shoreline areas using live minnows and small twister tail or tube jigs. March and April are the best months for crappie fishing success.

Channel Catfish

OUTLOOK GOOD

Large population of channel catfish, most 11 - 18", some up to 15 pounds. Night fishing is best. Fair numbers of flathead catfish up to 20 pounds are also present.