

Duman Lake

Cambria County

May 2012 Trap Net and Night Electrofishing Survey

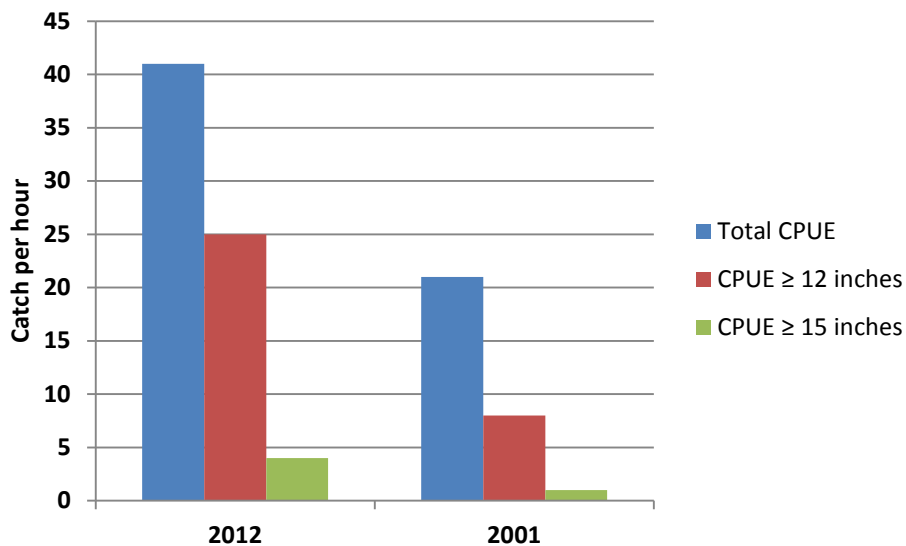
Duman Lake is a 21 acre Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) owned lake located next to Duman Lake County Park near Belsano in northwestern Cambria County. The lake is stocked with adult trout and also contains populations of warmwater and coolwater gamefish and panfish. Biologists from the Area 8 Fisheries Management Office in Somerset surveyed the lake in May 2012 to assess the warmwater and coolwater fisheries. Three overnight trap net sets and two night electrofishing runs were used to assess the lake's resident warmwater and coolwater populations.

Largemouth bass and chain pickerel were the two species targeted during the night electrofishing survey. Table 1 below summarizes the catch of bass and pickerel from night electrofishing. Largemouth bass catch rates for total number of bass, bass over 12 inches, and bass over 15 inches were 41, 25, and 4 fish per hour respectively. These numbers exceed the Big Bass Guidelines of 35, 7, and 2 fish per hour (Figure 1). The bass population has shown an improvement since the last survey in 2001 and should provide quality angling opportunities for bass. Chain pickerel captured during night electrofishing were generally small. Chain pickerel were also collected at Duman Lake during our previous 2001 survey.

Table 1. Length and frequency distribution of sampled fish from night electrofishing at Duman Lake.

Species	Number caught	Size range (inches)
Largemouth bass	26	8 - 16
Chain pickerel	26	6 - 14

Figure 1. Largemouth bass catch rates at Duman Lake in May 2012 and May 2001.





Fisheries Biologist Aide Joe Cocco with a pair of nice largemouth bass

The primary targets of the trap net survey at Duman Lake were the lakes resident panfish populations. Table 2 shows the results of our catch from the three overnight trap net sets. Bluegill were the most common species captured with 134 individuals captured. Fifty one of the bluegill captured were over 7 inches in length as were six of the pumpkinseed. The large bluegill and pumpkinseed were in very good condition and should provide excellent opportunities for anglers. Other panfish species captured in lesser numbers included black crappie and yellow perch. Our yellow perch catch was somewhat disappointing as we noted the presence of numerous large yellow perch when electrofishing the previous night. Anglers fishing with minnows have a good opportunity to land a nice sized yellow perch or crappie at Duman Lake.

Bullhead catfish were extremely abundant at Duman Lake. The fish captured in our trap nets ranged from 7 to 12 inches, but larger fish were noted during the night electrofishing runs. Night fishing anglers should do well targeting bullheads at this small impoundment.

Table 2. Length and frequency distribution of sampled fish from trap netting at Duman Lake.

Species	Number caught	Size range (inches)
Black crappie	27	2 - 10
Bluegill	134	2 - 7
Pumpkinseed	22	5 - 7
Yellow perch	15	7 - 11
Brown bullhead	45	7 - 12
Yellow bullhead	5	5 - 11
Chain pickerel	1	17
Rainbow trout - hatchery	24	Not measured
Golden shiner	54	Not measured

***Mike Depew
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