

Cowanesque Lake

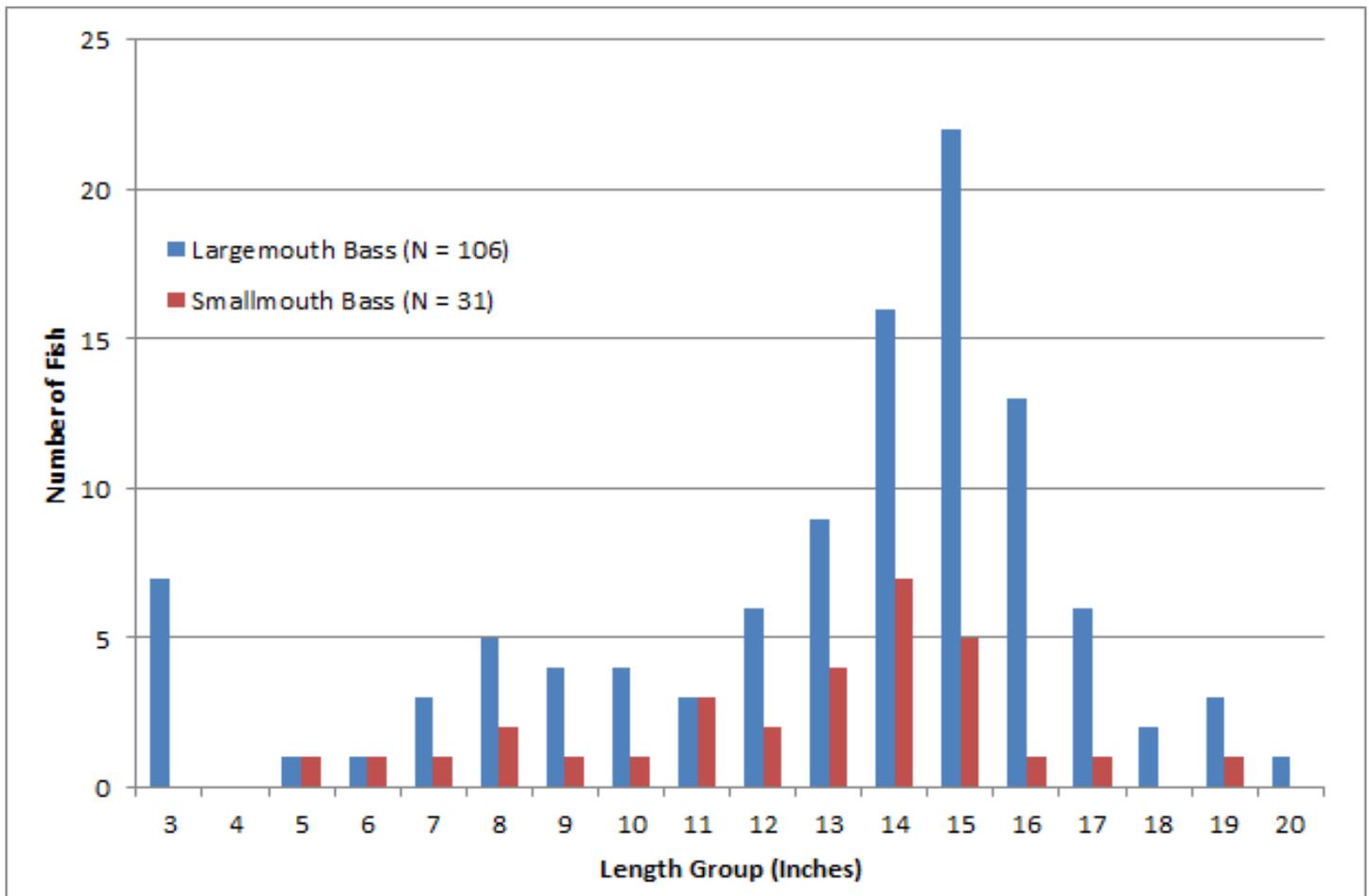
Tioga County

2016 Bass Population Survey

Cowanesque Lake is a 1,090 acre Army Corps of Engineers flood control impoundment located near Wellsboro in Tioga County. Area 4 biologists surveyed the black bass population at Cowanesque Lake in 2016. The survey took place over three nights from May 31 through June 2. During this work we captured 106 Largemouth Bass and 31 Smallmouth Bass. Largemouth Bass ranged from 3.0 to 20.9 inches long while Smallmouth Bass ranged from 5.0 to 19.9 inches long (Figure 1). Black bass (Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass combined) catch per hour (CPH) values were: 60.0/hour for total catch; 43.3/hour for fish \geq 12 inches; and 25.4/hour for fish \geq 15 inches. All CPH values in 2016 were vastly improved over the previous survey in 2010. Additionally, the 2016 CPH values for Bass \geq 12 and \geq 15 inches were far above regional averages.

Incidental catch during this work included two small Tiger Muskellunge and four Walleye. The largest Walleye measured 27 inches.

Figure 1. Length-frequency distributions of Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass captured at Cowanesque Lake in 2016.



Rob Wnuk
Area 4 Fisheries Manager