

Mauch Chunk Lake

Carbon County

Trap net Survey, April 2016

Biologists from Area 5 fisheries management office surveyed [Mauch Chunk Lake](#) with trap nets between April 18 and April 21, 2016. The purpose of the survey was to assess sportfish populations, namely Yellow Perch and sunfish that were last inventoried in [2004](#). A summary of the fish species collected is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Fish caught during the 2016 Mauch Chunk Lake trap net survey.

Trap Net Catch (April 18 through 21)			
Species	Number Caught	Length Range (inches)	Comments
Black Crappie	46	2 - 15	89% were 9 inches or greater
Bluegill	494	1 – 10	82% were 8 inches or greater
Brown Bullhead	1	16	
Chain Pickerel	27	12 – 25	11% were 18 inches or greater
Largemouth Bass	4	12-14	
Pumpkinseed	146	6 - 10	94% were 8 inches or greater
Smallmouth Bass	1	21	
Walleye	7	20 – 26	
White Sucker	2	17 - 19	
Yellow Bullhead	14	9 – 13	
Yellow Perch	574	7 - 14	98% were 10 inches or greater
Forage			
Golden shiner	126	6 – 11	

Mauch Chunk Lake supports exceptional sunfish (Bluegill and Pumpkinseed) and Yellow Perch populations (Figures 1 and 2). Combined catch of Bluegill and Pumpkinseed (n=640) were most numerous with 85 and 40 percent of the catch comprised of fish greater than 8 and 9 inches in total lengths, respectively. Yellow perch (n=574) were second in catch number with 99 and 24 percent of the catch greater than 9 and 12 inches, respectively. Panfish species such as Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, and Yellow Perch are managed under [Commonwealth Inland Waters](#) regulations at the lake. Fishing and boating (electric motor only and un-powered) are permitted year round with

24 hour access to Boat Launch "A" (lower lake) and Boat Launch "B" (upper lake). Mauch Chunk Lake is located west of Jim Thorpe and currently offers anglers high quality panfish fishing opportunities!



Figure 1. Quality size sunfish (Pumpkinseed and Bluegill).



Figure 2. Quality size Yellow Perch.