



pennsylvania
FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION



Mauch Chunk Lake Fish Population Assessment

November 10, 2022



Trap Net Gear

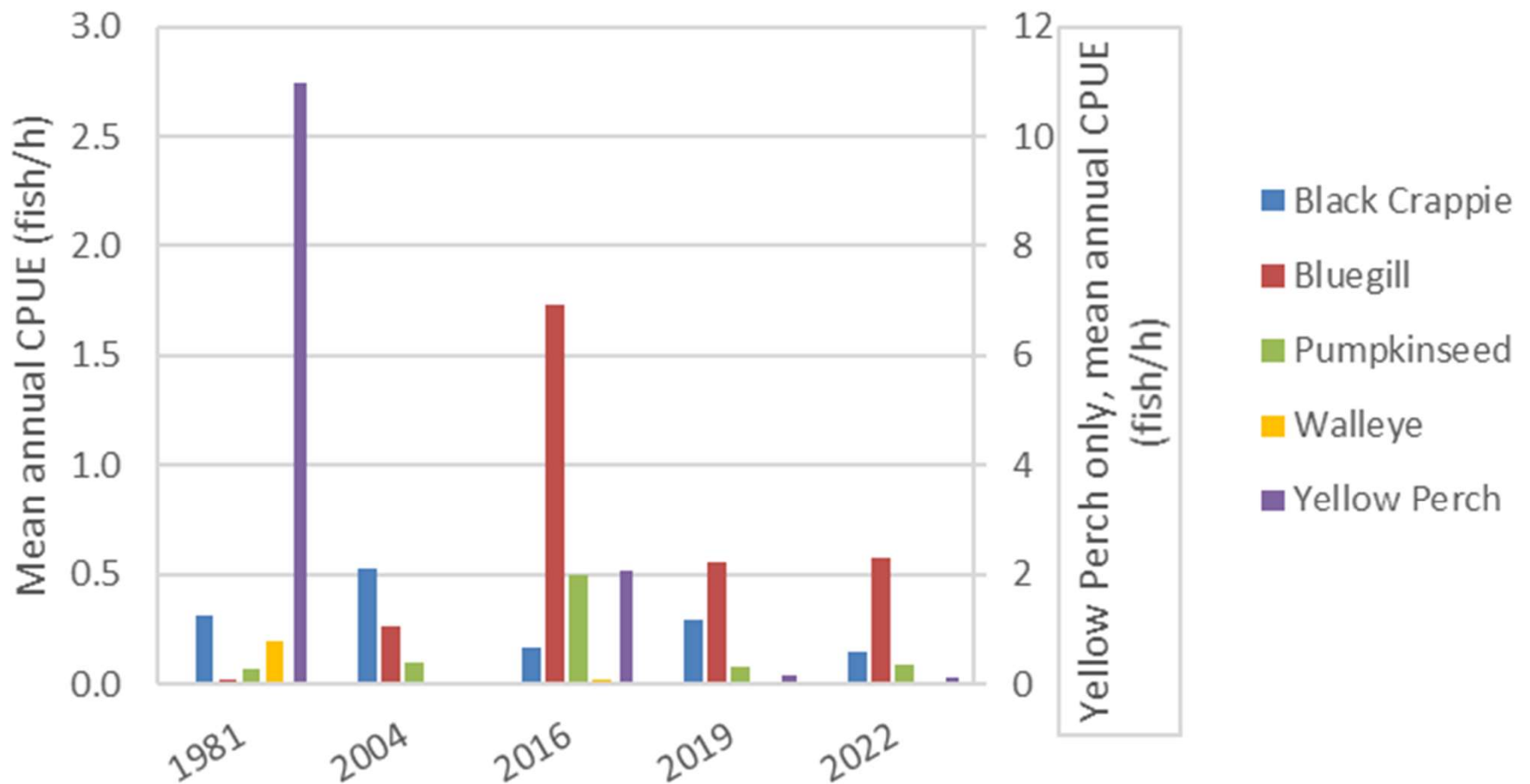
Targeting Panfishes and Walleye

Catch Rate/Relative Abundance



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Mauch Chunk Lake Springtime Trap Net

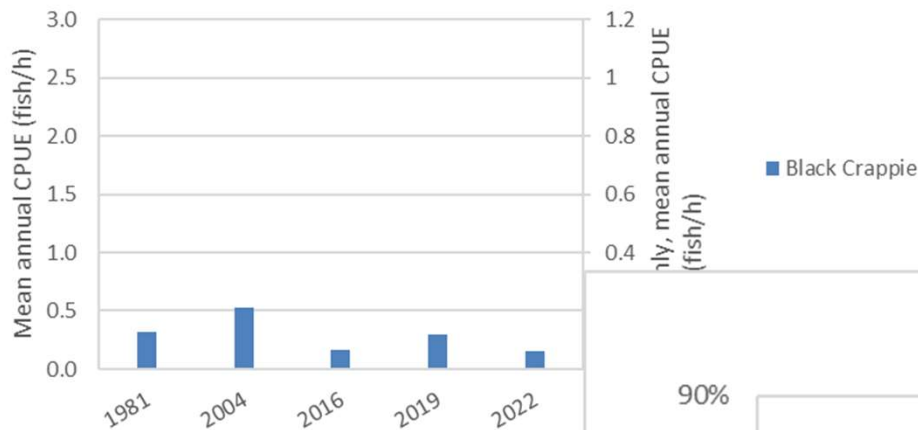


Black Crappie



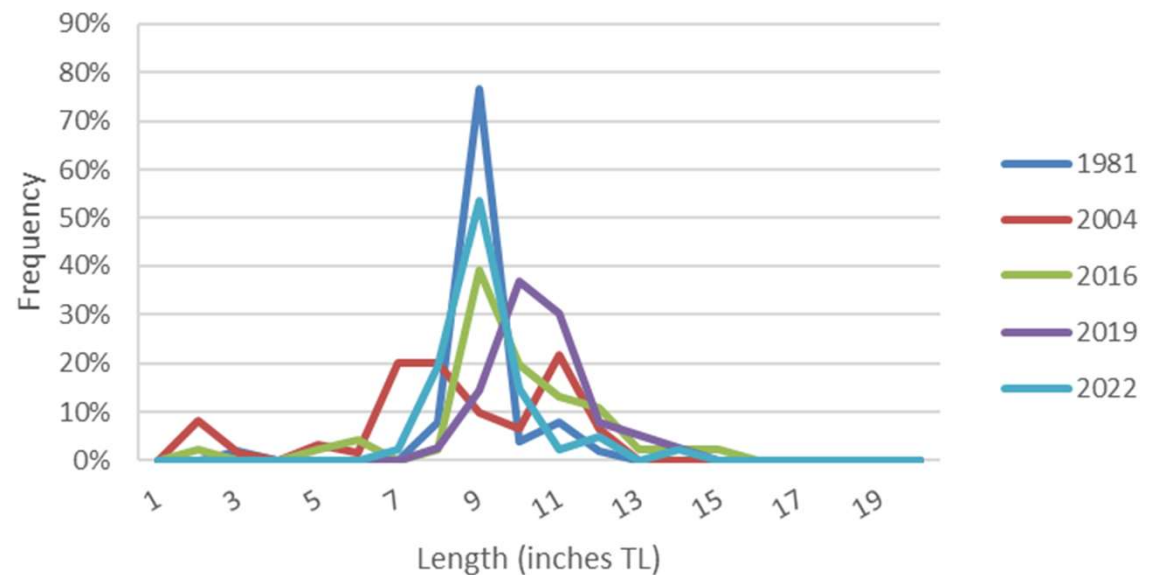
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Mauch Chunk Lake Springtime Trap Net (Black Crappie)



- [Commonwealth Inland Waters \(pa.gov\)](https://www.pa.gov/government/agencies/pennsylvania-fish-and-boat-commission)
- Season: Open year-round
- Minimum Size: No minimum
- Daily Limit: 50 (combined species)
 - Sunfish, Yellow Perch, White Perch, Crappies, Catfish, Rock Bass, Suckers, White Bass, Bowfin, and other gamefishes not otherwise listed

Black Crappie (Trap Net)

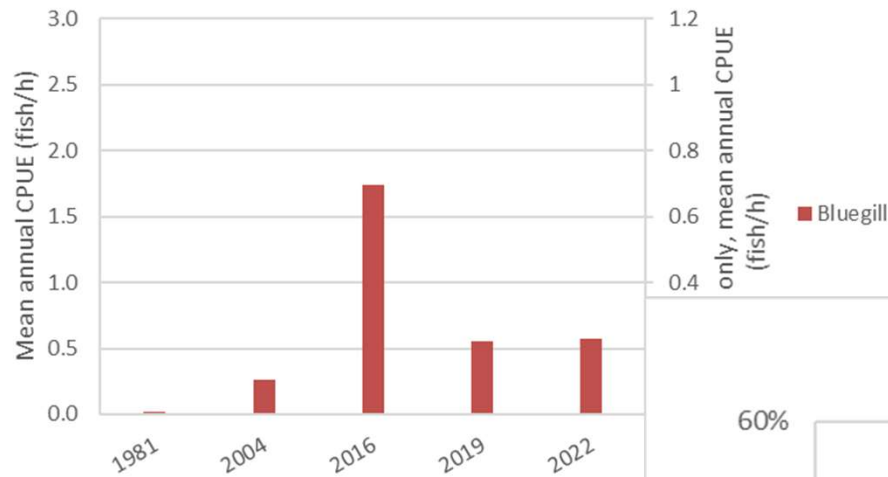


Bluegill



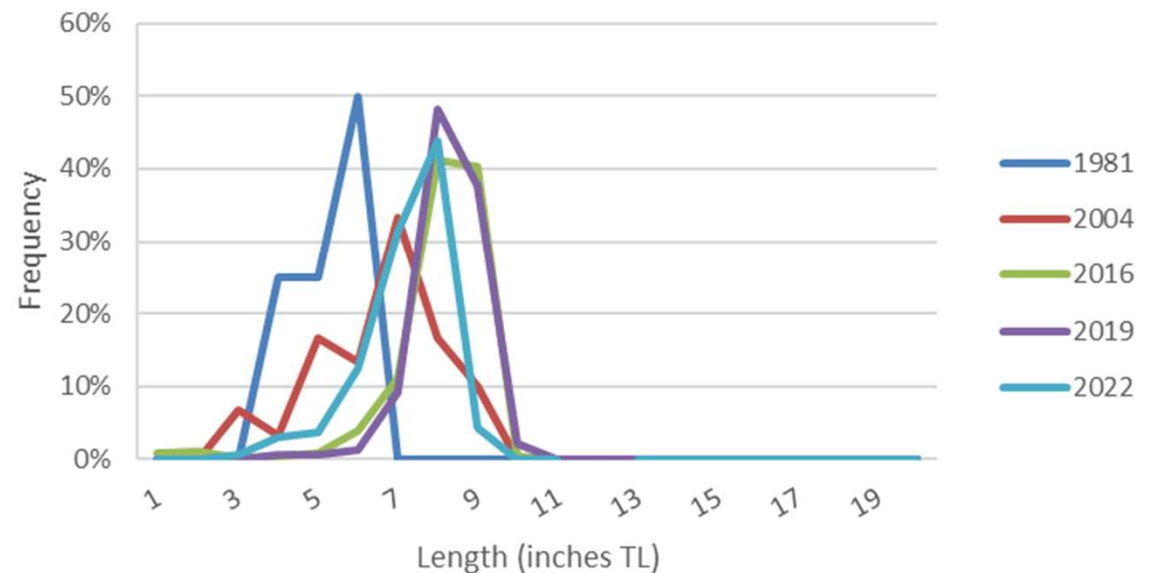
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Mauch Chunk Lake Springtime Trap Net (Bluegill)



- [Commonwealth Inland Waters \(pa.gov\)](https://www.pa.gov/government/agencies/pennsylvania-fish-and-boat-commission)
- Season: Open year-round
- Minimum Size: No minimum
- Daily Limit: 50 (combined species)
 - Sunfish, Yellow Perch, White Perch, Crappies, Catfish, Rock Bass, Suckers, White Bass, Bowfin, and other gamefishes not otherwise listed

Bluegill (Trap Net)

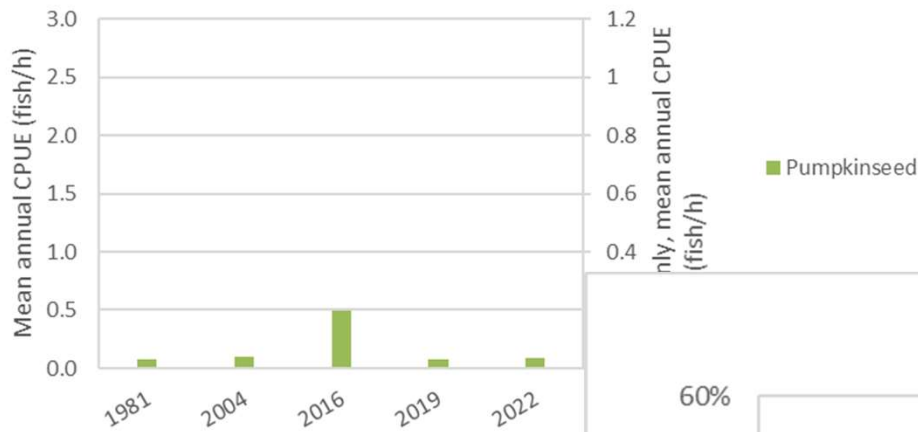


Pumpkinseed



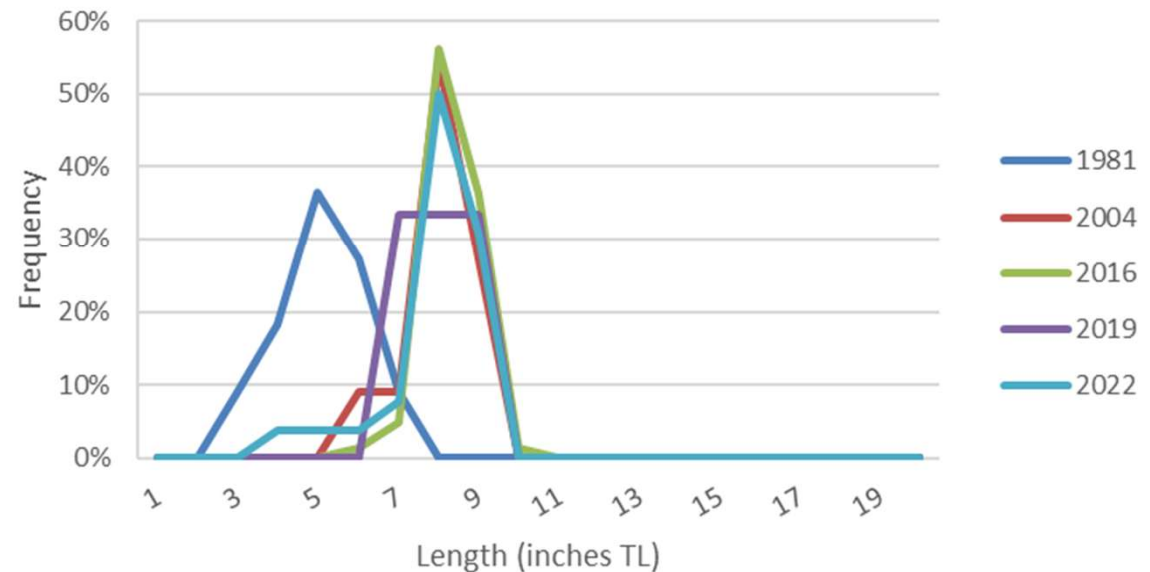
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Mauch Chunk Lake Springtime Trap Net
(Pumpkinseed)



- [Commonwealth Inland Waters \(pa.gov\)](https://www.pa.gov/department/natural-resources/fish-and-boat-commission)
- Season: Open year-round
- Minimum Size: No minimum
- Daily Limit: 50 (combined species)
 - Sunfish, Yellow Perch, White Perch, Crappies, Catfish, Rock Bass, Suckers, White Bass, Bowfin, and other gamefishes not otherwise listed

Pumpkinseed (Trap Net)

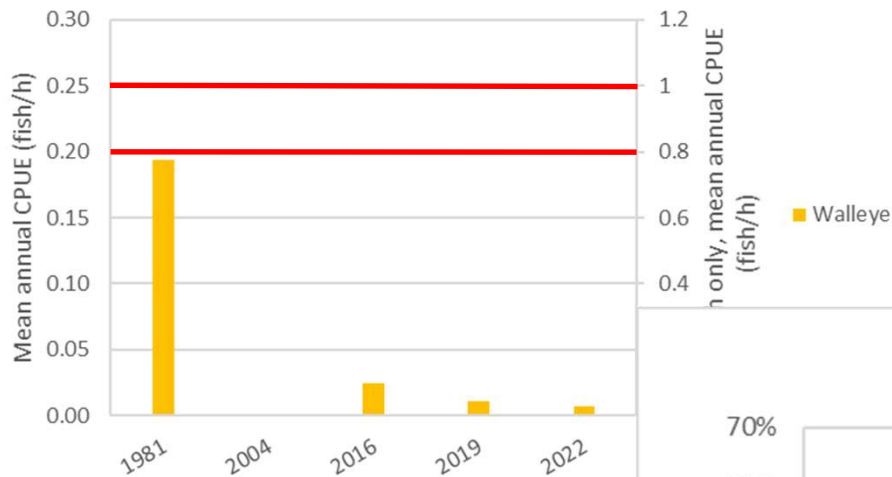


Walleye



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Mauch Chunk Lake Springtime Trap Net (Walleye)



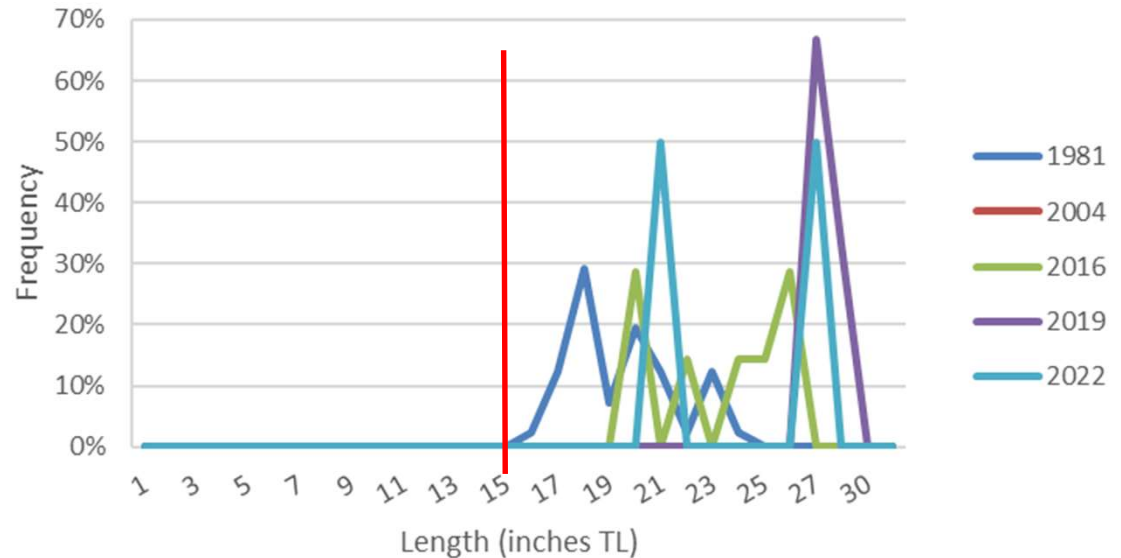
Red lines are minimum trap net catch rate Walleye (Legal-size: 0.2/h; all sized: 0.25/h) and minimum size

Total Catch (April)
Walleye

Year	Number
1981	41
2004	0
1016	7
2019	3
2022	2

- [Commonwealth Inland Waters \(pa.gov\)](https://www.pa.gov/Commonwealth%20Inland%20Waters)
- Season: Jan. 1 through Mar. 14 and May 7 through Dec. 31
 - Closed 15 Mar. – 6 May
- Minimum Size: 15 inches
- Daily Limit: 6

Walleye (Trap Net)

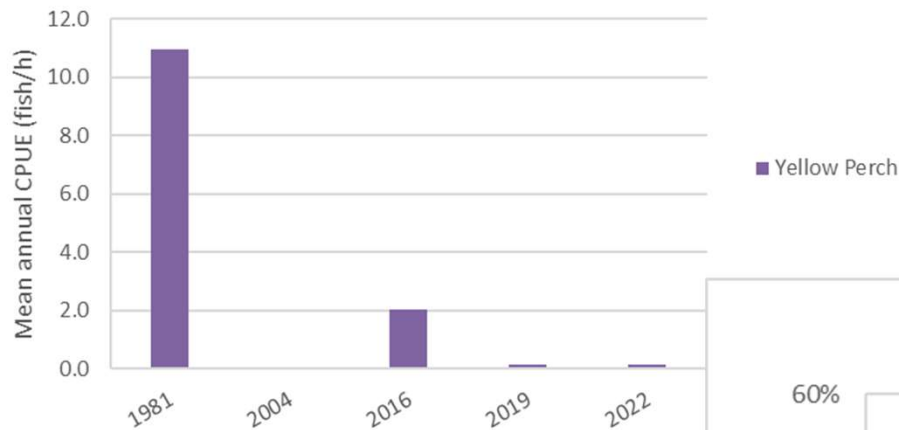


Yellow Perch



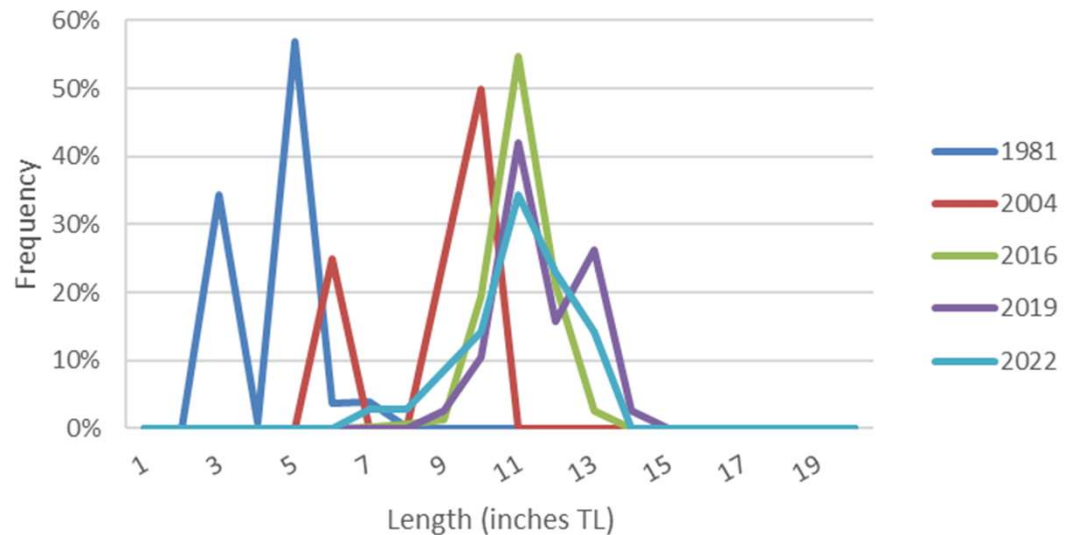
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Mauch Chunk Lake Springtime Trap Net (Yellow Perch)



- [Commonwealth Inland Waters \(pa.gov\)](https://www.pa.gov/)
- Season: Open year-round
- Minimum Size: No minimum
- Daily Limit: 50 (combined species)
 - Sunfish, Yellow Perch, White Perch, Crappies, Catfish, Rock Bass, Suckers, White Bass, Bowfin, and other gamefishes not otherwise listed

Yellow Perch (Trap Net)





Night-boat Electrofishing

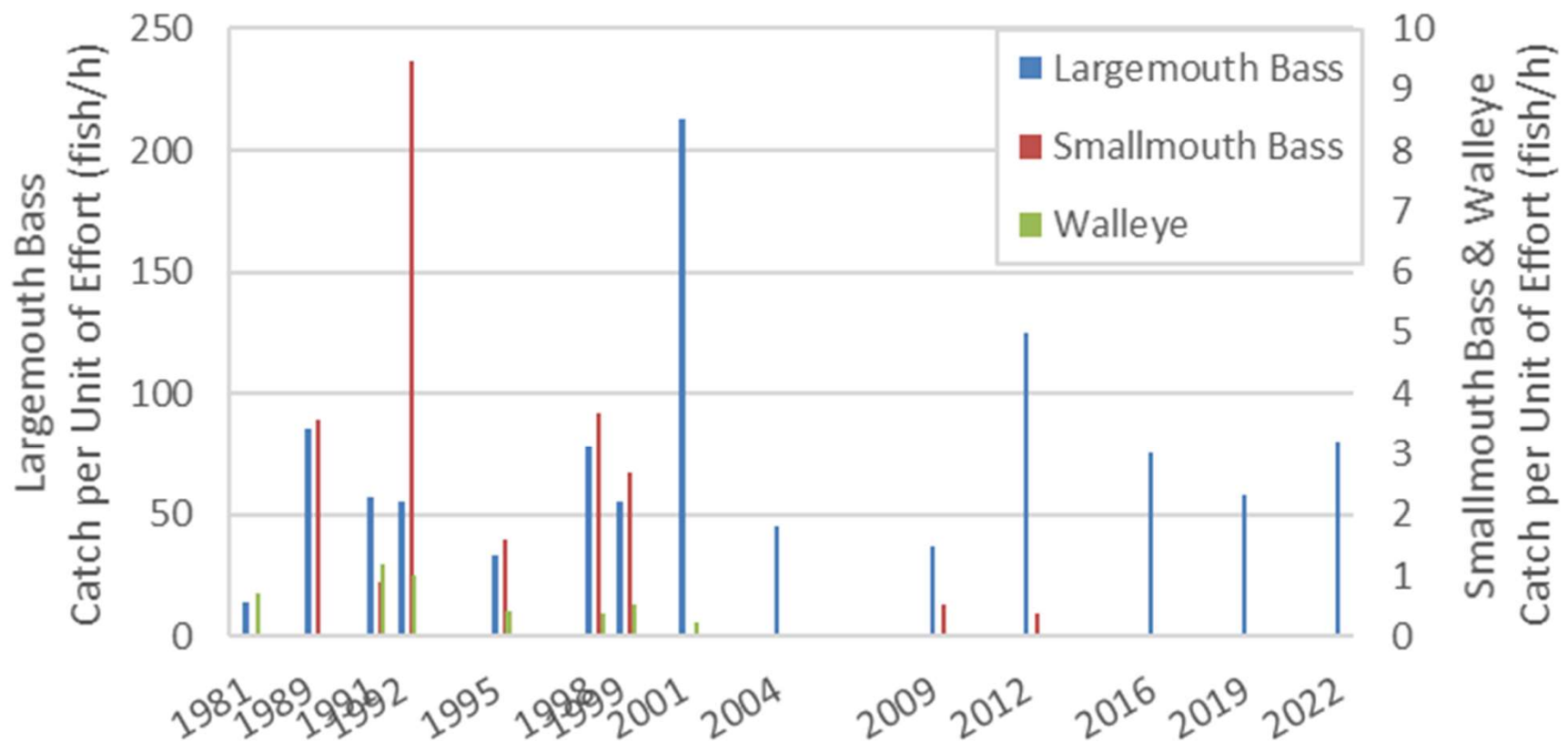
Targeting Black Bass (Largemouth & Smallmouth bass) and Walleye

Catch Rate/Relative Abundance



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Mauch Chunk Lake Summertime Night-boat Electrofishing

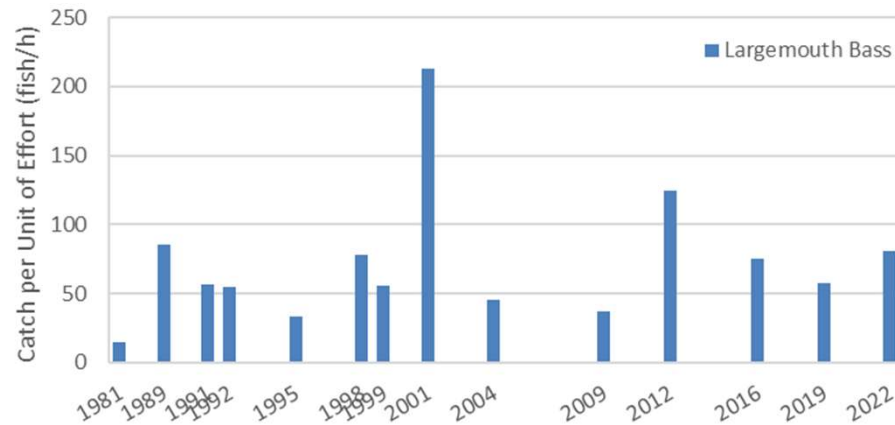


Largemouth Bass



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Mauch Chunk Lake Summertime Night-boat
Electrofishing



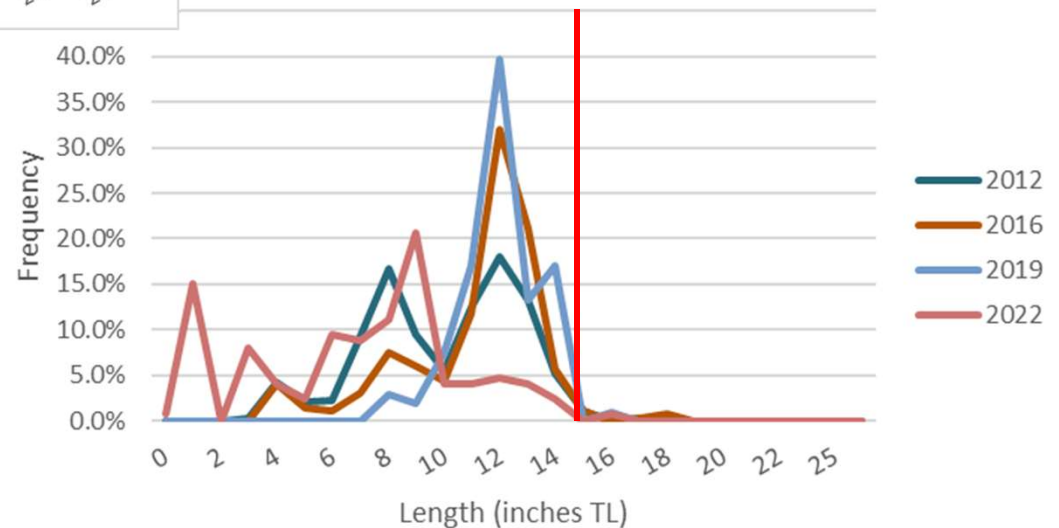
[Big Bass Program \(pa.gov\)](https://pa.gov)

LAKES		
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Jan. 1 through April 8 and June 11 through Dec. 31	15 inches	4 (combined species)
April 9 through June 10	NO HARVEST - Catch and immediate release only (no tournaments permitted)	

Big Bass Regulation
1.2% – 5.1% \geq 15"

Year	Occurrence
2012	1.3%
2016	2.0%
2019	0.9%
2022	0.8%

Largemouth Bass (NBE)

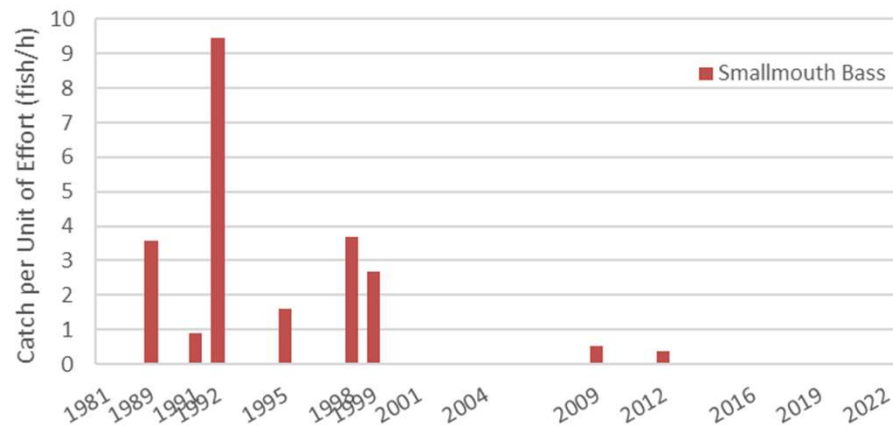


Smallmouth Bass



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Mauch Chunk Lake Summertime Night-boat
Electrofishing



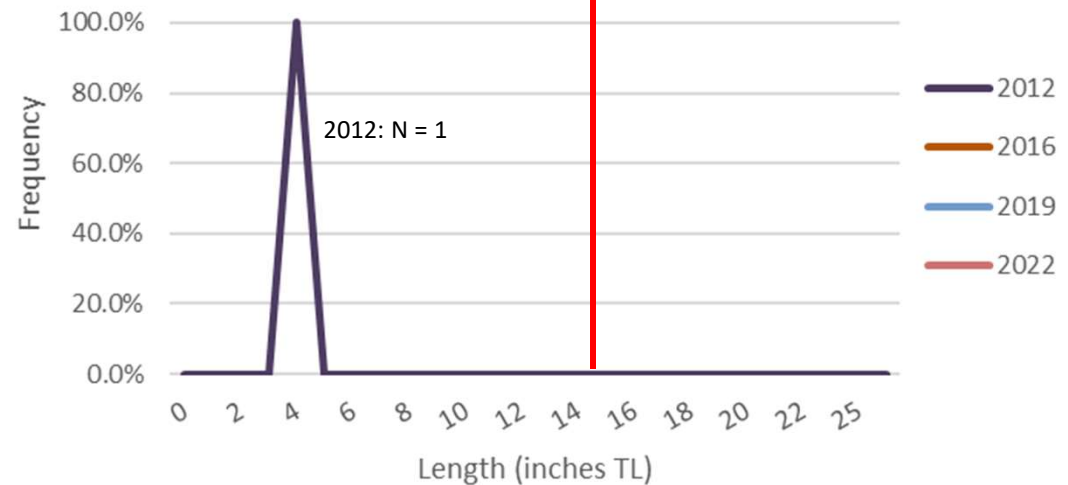
[Big Bass Program \(pa.gov\)](https://pa.gov)

LAKES		
Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit
Jan. 1 through April 8 and June 11 through Dec. 31	15 inches	4 (combined species)
April 9 through June 10	NO HARVEST - Catch and immediate release only (no tournaments permitted)	

Big Bass Regulation
0.0% \geq 15"

Year	Occurrence
2012	0.0%
2016	0.0%
2019	0.0%
2022	0.0%

Smallmouth Bass (NBE)

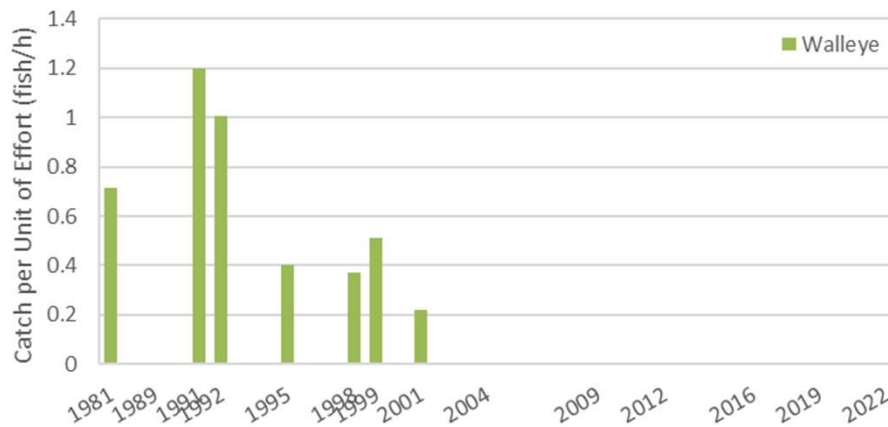


Walleye



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Mauch Chunk Lake Summertime Night-boat
Electrofishing

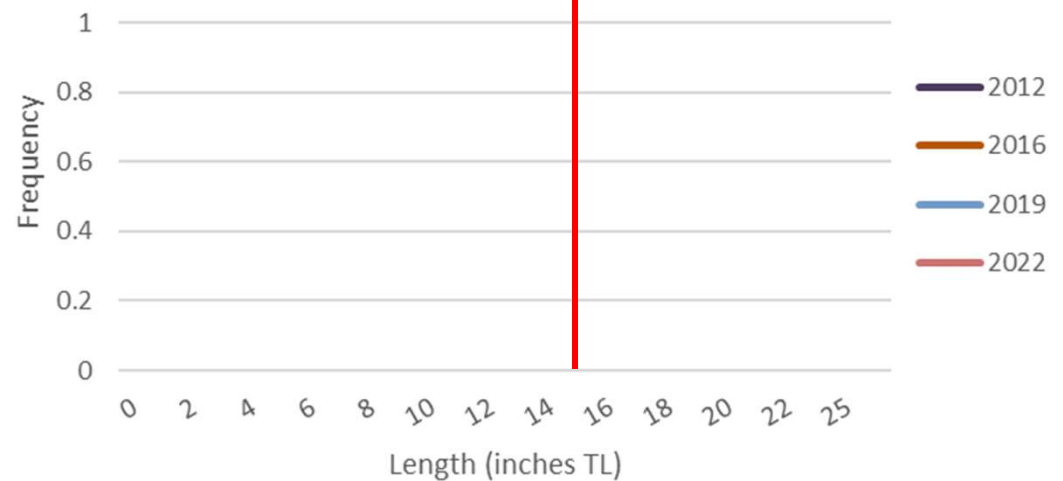


Summer electrofishing benchmark catch rate not
defined in Walleye Plan

Year	Occurrence
2012	0.0%
2016	0.0%
2019	0.0%
2022	0.0%

- [Commonwealth Inland Waters \(pa.gov\)](https://www.pa.gov/Commonwealth%20Inland%20Waters)
- Season: Jan. 1 through Mar. 14 and May 7 through Dec. 31
 - Closed 15 Mar. through 6 May
- Minimum Size: 15 inches
- Daily Limit: 6

Walleye (NBE)

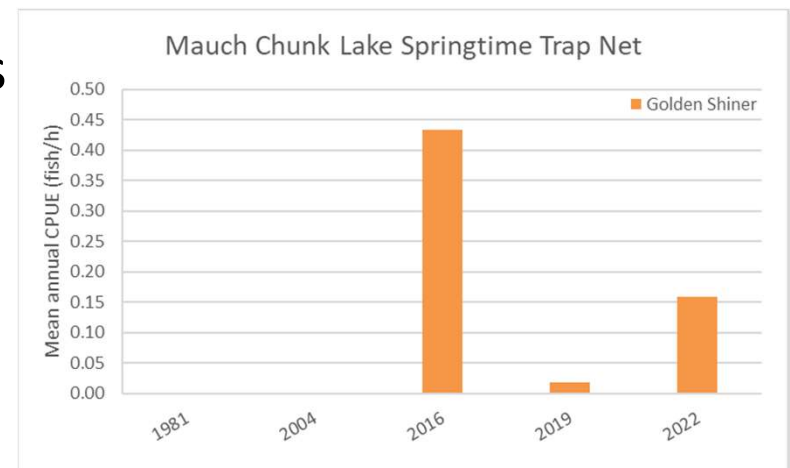




Stocking

Influences too Big Bass Occurrences

- Extensive quality habitat available all life stages
- Unknown angler use and harvest
 - Length frequencies not representative of cropping
- Competition for available forage
 - Bluegill and Pumpkinseed populations are stable
 - Golden Shiner uncommon occurrences in 2022 surveys
- Requested Golden Shiner stockings
 - Pending hatchery availability
 - 2023 through 2025
 - Reevaluate in 2025

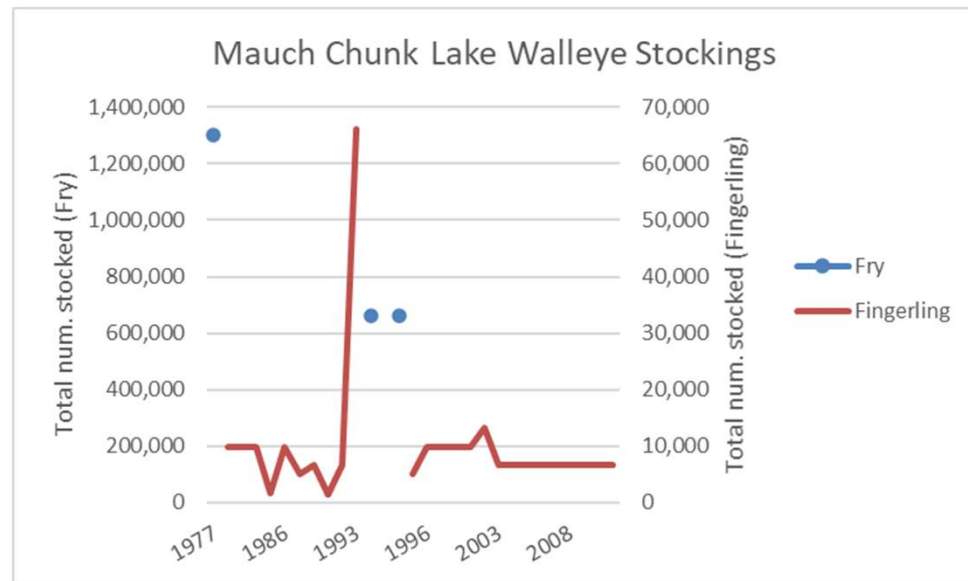


Walleye Stocking



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Year	Life stage	Total Stocked
1977	Fry	1,300,000
1980	Fingerling	9,900
1982	Fingerling	9,900
1984	Fingerling	9,900
1985	Fingerling	1,650
1986	Fingerling	9,900
1988	Fingerling	5,000
1990	Fingerling	6,600
1991	Fingerling	1,475
1992	Fingerling	6,600
1993	Fingerling	66,000
1993	Fry	660,000
1994	Fingerling	66,000
1994	Fry	660,000
1995	Fingerling	5,000
1996	Fingerling	9,900
1997	Fingerling	9,900
1999	Fingerling	9,900
2000	Fingerling	9,900
2002	Fingerling	13,200
2003	Fingerling	6,600
2004	Fingerling	6,600
2005	Fingerling	6,600
2006	Fingerling	6,600
2007	Fingerling	6,600
2008	Fingerling	6,600
2009	Fingerling	6,600
2010	Fingerling	6,600
2011	Fingerling	6,600



- [Walleye \(fishandboat.com\)](http://fishandboat.com)
- Discontinued 2012
- Failed to achieve Walleye Plan catch rate objectives

Trout Stocking



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[PFBC Trout Stocking \(pa.gov\)](https://www.pa.gov/agencies/efbc/troutstocking)

Season	Stocking Date	Brook	Brown	Rainbow	Brood	Golden	Total
Mauch Chunk Lake							
Not a Stocked Trout Water							
Mauch Chunk Creek							
P	Tuesday, March 29, 2022	420	0	280	40	0	700
I	Monday, April 11, 2022	0	150	150	10	0	300
I	Friday, May 6, 2022	0	150	150	0	0	300



Questions
