

Hardy Lake

2015 Hybrid Striped & Striped Bass Survey

Lake Information: 741 acres; 38 feet max depth

Located: Scottsburg, Indiana; Scott and Jefferson Counties

GPS Coordinates: N 38.79137; W -85.70977; **Lake Map:** [Contour Map](#)

Ownership: Division of State Parks **Access:** Boat ramp; **Fees:** Entrance and launch fee

Outboard Motor Restrictions: None; **Fishing Restrictions:** [Indiana Fishing Regulations Guide](#)

Best Fishing: Largemouth Bass, Crappie and Redear Sunfish

Thermocline: 12 feet

DNR Contact Information: Andrew Bueltmann, District 6 Fisheries Biologist D6Fish@dnr.IN.gov

Fish Survey Dates: June 24 to 25, 2015

Comments: At the time of this survey, the thermocline was at 10 ft and the water temperature was 77°F. A total of 65 Hybrid Striped Bass were sampled. The Hybrid Striped Bass ranged in length from 15.0 to 25.5 in and the largest weighed 6 lbs. The Hybrid Striped Bass gill net catch rate increased to 5.4/overnight lift compared to the 2013 catch rate of 4.5/overnight lift. Hybrid Striped Bass from all stockings except 2014 (age 1) and 2010 (age 5), were represented in our sample, indicating good survival. The 2014 year class was not susceptible to the gear. The 2013 (age 2) cohort had the highest catch, followed by age 4, age 3, age 5, and age 6. Length ranges by cohort are in the attached age-length key. Hybrid Striped Bass grew faster than what was found in the most recent survey (2013) at Hardy. Age-2, age-3 and age-4 fish averaged 16.6, 19.0, and 20.8 in, respectively. In 2013, length at ages 2 through 4 were 14.4, 18.0, and 24.5 in, respectively. A total of 22 Striped Bass were sampled. The Striped Bass ranged in length from 26.0 to 35.5 in and the largest weighed 16 lbs. The Striped Bass gill net catch rate was 1.8/overnight lift while the previous catch rate from 2013 was 0.4/overnight lift. Only Striped Bass from the last two stocking years (2007 (age 8) and 2008 (age 7) were represented in the sample. A total of 7,480 Hybrid Striped Bass and 1,000 Striped Bass should continue to be stocked annually as they have high survival rates as indicated by the representation of fish in each age class. Both species are attaining large sizes, which are providing exciting angling opportunities.

Fish Species Composition

Species	Number	Percent	Min Length	Max Length
Hybrid Striped Bass	65	74.7	15.0	25.5
Striped Bass	22	25.3	26.4	35.7
Total	87			

Fish Stockings (*most recent*)

Year	Species	Number	Average Length
2015	Hybrid Striped Bass	7,480	1.3
2014	Hybrid Striped Bass	7,480	1.3
2013	Hybrid Striped Bass	14,960	1.2
2012	Hybrid Striped Bass	14,960	1.4
2011	Hybrid Striped Bass	22,232	1.2

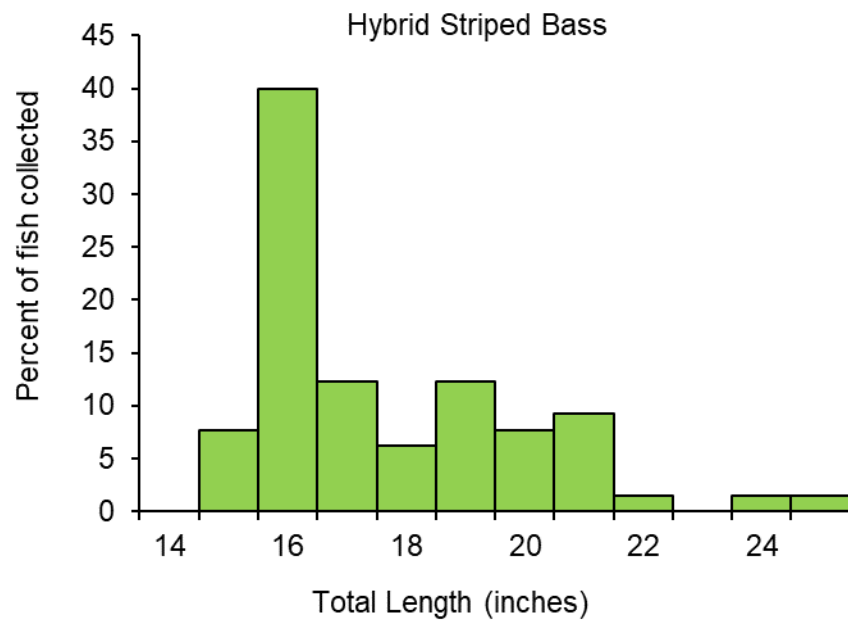


Figure 1. Length frequency distribution of Hybrid Striped Bass collected by inch groups.

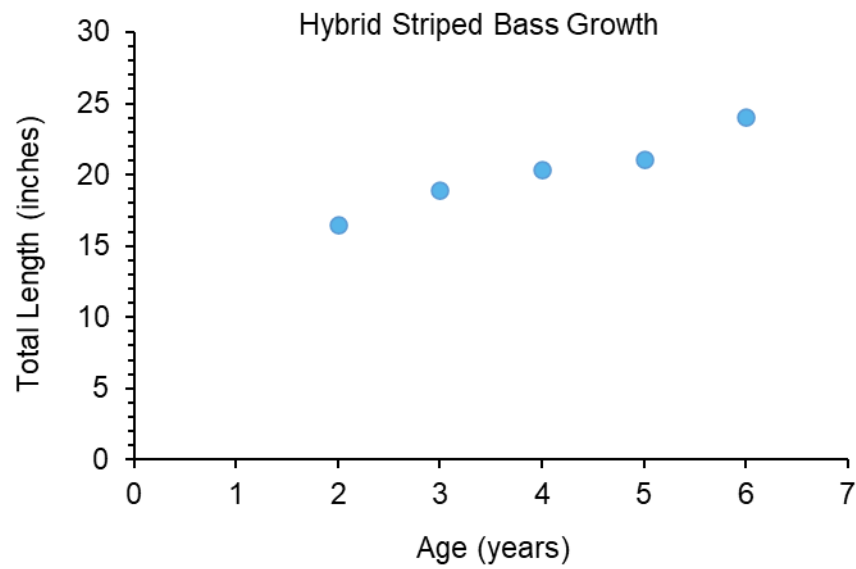


Figure 2. Hybrid Striped Bass average length at age.

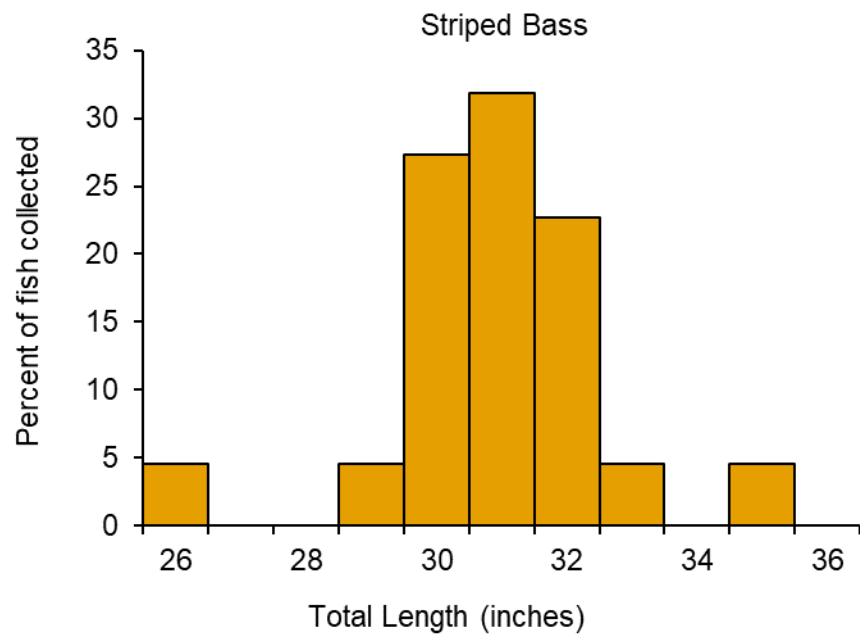


Figure 3. Length frequency distribution of Striped Bass collected by inch groups.