



Monroe Lake Walleye and Hybrid Striped Bass Stocking Evaluation 2015-2017

Lake Information: 10,750 acre Monroe Lake
Located: Monroe and Brown Counties
GPS Coordinates: N39.00712, W -83.513363 at dam.
Ownership: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 Land managed by IDNR and Hoosier National Forest
Fees: \$7/car resident, \$9/car non-residents, \$22/annual lake permit and State Recreation Areas. All boats must display the DNR Lake Permit. \$5 /car HNF Harden Ridge Recreation Area.
Amenities: Camping; hotel and resort; boat rentals; interpretive nature center; hunting and wildlife viewing.
Outboard Motor Restriction: None
Special Regulations: Statewide size and bag limits apply.

Best Fishing: Crappie, Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Catfish, Hybrid Striped Bass, and Walleye.
Stockings: Annual Walleye and Hybrid Striped Bass
DNR Contact Information
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Report Approved By: Dan Carnahan, Fisheries Supervisor
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Methods

The fish collection effort consisted of electrofishing after the thermocline has broken up in October. Both Walleye and Hybrid Striped Bass were collected. The 2015 effort consisted of 8 h of electrofishing over 2 weeks in October. In 2016, sampling time was similar and there was 6 h of electrofishing. In 2017, there was 5.5 h of pulsed DC night electrofishing.

Summary

Walleye

- In 2016, the walleye program at Monroe Lake was switched from a June fingerling stocking to an April fry stocking. This is a 5 year pilot program. The switch was an effort to provide a more consistent number of stocked walleye. The stocking rate for Walleye is 600 fry/acre (Table 1). This is a summary of stocking evaluations for Walleye pre and post fry stocking. In 2015, fingerling were stocked at 50/acre. The catch per unit of effort (CPUE) in 2015 for all Walleye was 22/h (Figure 1).

Table 1. Walleye and Hybrid Striped Bass Stocked from 2015 to 2017 at Monroe Lake.

Year	WAE fingerlings	fish/acre	HSTB fingerlings	fish/acre
2015	537,310*	50	53,750	5
2016	6,455,450**	600	30,030	3
2017	5,796,275**	539	37,605	3

*June fingerling stocking

**April fry stocking

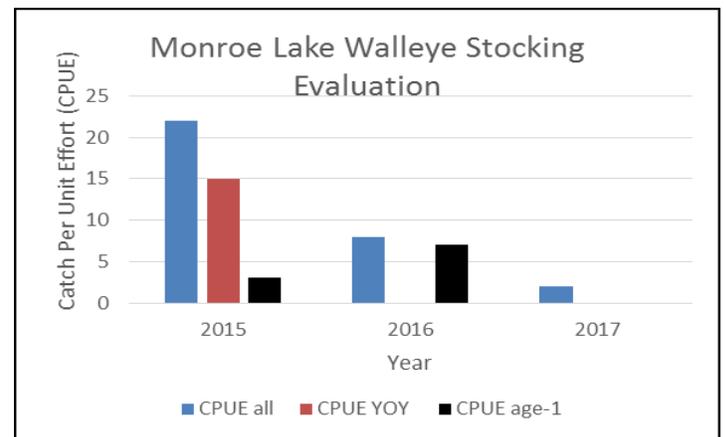


Figure 1. Catch per unit effort for Walleye for years 2015, 2016, and 2017, Monroe Lake.



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Indiana Fishing Regulation Guide:
Fishing.IN.gov

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- In 2015, the CPUE for age-0 Walleye was 15/h and age-1 CPUE was 3/h. In 2016, the first year of fry stocking, CPUE for all ages was 8/h and no age-0 were collected. Age-1 CPUE was 7/h. In 2017, the CPUE for all Walleye was 2, no age-0 and a single age-1 was collected.
- In 2018, gill nets will be added to the fall evaluation in an attempt to capture adult Walleye from the 2016 and 2017 fry stockings. In 2019 and 2020, nighttime electrofishing on the face of the dam and emergency spillway will occur in an attempt to find mature walleye from the 2015 fry stocking.

Hybrid Striped Bass

- In 2015, Hybrid Striped Bass were stocked at 5/acre. In 2015, the CPUE for all Hybrids collected was 15/h and the age-0 CPUE was 11. In 2016, the stocking rate was 3/ac. The CPUE for all fish was 9/h and age-0 CPUE was 3. The stocking rate in 2017 was 3 acre. The CPUE for all fish was 8 and the age-0 CPUE was 3.
- In 2016 and 2017, the Hybrid Striped Bass stocking rate was below the target stocking rate of 5 fish per acre. The Hybrid Striped Bass stocking program has been at or above the target stocking rate the past 10 years. These fish grow fast reaching the protected size limit of 17 in in 2 years and can live up 13 years old.

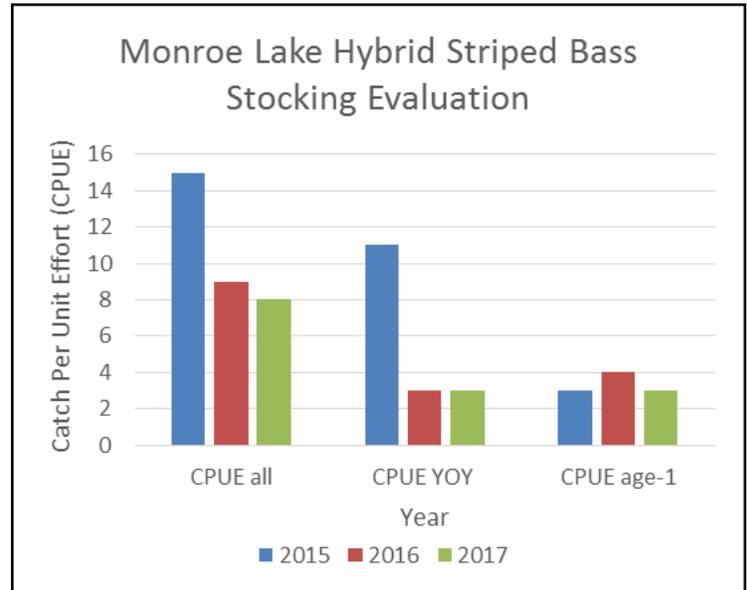


Figure 2. Catch per unit effort for Hybrid Striped Bass for years 2015, 2016, and 2017, Monroe Lake.

