

**EVALUATION OF SUPPLEMENTALLY STOCKED  
STRIPED BASS HYBRIDS**

**Name and Description of Water Area:** LAKE MATTOON is located approximately eight miles southwest of Mattoon and about 1.5 miles northwest of Neoga, in Shelby, Coles, and Cumberland Counties. The lake covers 1050 surface acres with a maximum depth of 31 feet and average depth of 11.4 feet. The lake is the primary water supply for the City of Mattoon. Recreational use includes fishing, boating, skiing, and limited waterfowl hunting. A large portion of the lake shoreline has been developed for residential use. Public boat launching facilities are available.

**Striped Bass Hybrid Stocking History:** Supplemental stockings of striped bass hybrids have occurred in five of the past seven years. Below is a table of Lake Mattoon's striped bass hybrid stocking history.

Stocking Date	Number Stocked	Size Stocked
1982	800	8 inch
1994	15,308	1.5 inch
1995	7,650	2 inch
1996	0	
1997	0	
1998	9,800	1.8 inch
1999	5,532	2.0 inch

**Rational for Stocking:** An abundance of gizzard shad forage in Lake Mattoon allows for the stocking of addition of predator species to take advantage of this situation and create an additional fishery.

**Method of Assessment:** This fishery has been evaluated every two years during the standardized survey through two 60 minute electrofishing surveys and two gill nets. Supplemental electrofishing surveys have been performed every other year to evaluate stocking success for largemouth bass and striped bass hybrids.

**Summary of Assessment Results:** As expected, collection of striped bass hybrids in standard electrofishing surveys has resulted in few fish being captured. In 1998, two fish were collected in gill nets. The fish were 7.9 inches and 8.6 inches, respectively. In 1999, a large individual fish was observed during an electrofishing survey, but not netted. Anglers have reported catching numbers of fish. Angler creel surveys are the recommended way to evaluate this fishery after four stockings within a six year period.

**Comparison with Stocking Success Criterion:** No comparison can be made at this time.

## EVALUATION OF SUPPLEMENTALLY STOCKED STRIPED BASS HYBRIDS

**Name and Description of Water Area:** LAKE DECATUR is located on the east side of the City of Decatur, in Macon County. The lake covers 3093 surface acres with a maximum depth of 22 feet and average depth of six feet. The lake is the primary water supply for the City of Decatur. Recreational use includes fishing, boating, skiing, and limited waterfowl hunting. A large portion of the lake shoreline has been developed for residential use. Public boat launching facilities are available.

**Striped Bass Hybrids Stocking History:** Supplemental stockings of striped bass hybrids have occurred in six of the last seven years. Below is a table of Lake Decatur's striped bass hybrid stocking history.

Stocking Date	Number Stocked	Size Stocked
1984	3,646	2 inches
1994	21,000 18,780	2 inches 1.5 inches
1995	32,430	2 inches
1996	4,894	2 inches
1997	0	
1998	30,930	2 inches
1999	17,320 17,625	2 inches 1.5 inches

**Rational for Stocking:** An abundance of gizzard shad forage in Lake Decatur allows for the stocking of addition of predator species to take advantage of this situation and create an additional fishery.

**Method of Assessment:** This fishery has been evaluated every two years during the standardized survey through three 60 minute electrofishing surveys and two gill nets. Supplemental electrofishing surveys have been performed every year to evaluate stocking success for largemouth bass, walleye, and striped bass hybrids.

**Summary of Assessment Results:** As expected, collection of striped bass hybrids in electrofishing surveys has resulted in few fish being captured. Two possible hybrids were collected during the standardized survey in September, 1998. These fish were 8.5 inches and 14.0 inches long. Two large hybrids were collected during additional night D.C. electrofishing. They were 21.8 and 19.0 inches long.

**Comparison with Stocking Success Criterion:** No comparison can be made at this time, as angler creel surveys are the recommended way to evaluate this fishery after four stockings within a six year period. No reports from anglers has been received.

**Name and Description of Water Area:** CHARLESTON SIDE CHANNEL LAKE is located approximately three miles southeast of Charleston, in Coles County. The lake covers 313 surface acres with a maximum depth of 16 feet and average depth of 7.7 feet. The lake is the primary water supply for the City of Charleston. Recreational use includes fishing and limited boating. Public boat launching facilities are available. There is a no wake regulation in effect on the entire lake.

**Striped Bass Hybrid Stocking History:** Supplemental stockings of striped bass hybrids have occurred in five of the past ten years. Below is a table of Charleston Side Channel Lake's striped bass hybrid stocking history.

Stocking Date	Number Stocked	Size Stocked
1988	2,000	4-5 inches
1989	3,460	5 inches
1990	0	
1991	3,460	5-6 inches
1992	0	
1993	0	
1994	6,920	1.5 inches
1995	3,460	2 inches
1996	0	
1997	0	
1998	3,460	2 inches
1999	1,937	2 inches

**Rational for Stocking:** An abundance of gizzard shad forage in the Charleston Side Channel Lake allows for the stocking of addition of predator species to take advantage of this situation and create an additional fishery.

**Method of Assessment:** This fishery has been evaluated every two years during the standardized survey through two 60 minute electrofishing surveys and two gill nets when the lake level permits. Supplemental electrofishing surveys have been performed every other year to evaluate stocking success for largemouth bass and striped bass hybrids.

**Summary of Assessment Results:** As expected, collection of striped bass  
EVALUATION OF SUPPLEMENTALLY STOCKED  
 STRIPED BASS HYBRIDS

hybrids in electrofishing surveys has resulted in few fish being captured. Four fish were collected during the standardized survey in October, 1999. These fish ranged between 5 to 28 inches long. The

largest fish weighed 14.8 lbs!

**Comparison with Stocking Success Criterion:** No comparison can be made at this time, as angler creel surveys are the recommended way to evaluate this fishery after four stockings within a six year period. Many anglers have reported catching hybrids from 8 to 15 pounds, usually in spring.