SURVEY REPORT

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Fish Management Survey and Recommendations

For

Mitch Park Pond

In Edmond

2024

SURVEY REPORT

State: Oklahoma

Project Title: Mitch Park Pond Fish Management Survey Report

Operating Authority: City of Edmond

Period Covered: 2024

Prepared by: Oklahoma Fishery Research Laboratory

Date Prepared: Jan. 2025

ABSTRACT

Mitch Park Pond was surveyed by spring electrofishing in 2024 to assess the Sunfish population. Mitch Park pond was previously sampled by electrofishing in the spring of 2018, but it was drained in 2021 for cattail removal. No other sampling was done before or after the pond was drained. The fishery consists of various sunfish species and Channel Catfish. Regular sampling and stocking of Largemouth Bass and Bluegill Sunfish is recommended.

INTRODUCTION

Mitch Park Pond is located in Oklahoma County (1501 W. Covell Rd, Edmond, OK 73003 in Mitch Park). The impoundment is comprised of 0.25 miles of shoreline, is one acre in surface area, and has a max depth of 7 feet. This pond was impounded in 2000. It is heavily inundated with Coontail.

This pond is a Close to Home Fishing Pond. Close to Home Fishing Ponds are managed as put-and-take fisheries. Current management practices for the pond include stocking Channel Catfish and hybrid sunfish (Appendix 1). A fish feeder is maintained from April through September. Close to Home fishing ponds have an aggregate limit of 3 Channel Catfish and/or sunfish. Only rod and reel fishing is allowed, with a limit of three fishing poles per angler. Everything else falls under statewide regulations.

Sampling occurred to establish relevant baseline data for Sunfish spp. post renovation (2021). The fishery consists primarily of Green Sunfish, along with some Hybrid Sunfish, Bluegill Sunfish, and Channel Catfish. In efforts to enhance fishing, Channel Catfish and Hybrid Sunfish are periodically stocked (Appendix 1).

Aquatic Nuisance Species

There are no known ANS in Mitch Park Pond.

RESULTS

Spring Sunfish Electrofishing

Sunfish were surveyed in spring of 2024 by means of boat electrofishing. Sampling occurred in accordance with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation's Standard Sampling Procedures (SSP). During sampling the surface temperature was 22.6° C (72.7° F). The entirety of the shoreline was sampled for a total of two units of effort (two 10-minute runs), with a total of 90 sunfish collected.

Mean total length (TL) of Green Sunfish sampled was 67 mm with a minimum TL of 38 mm and a maximum TL of 212 mm (Figure 1). Mean catch per unit effort (CPUE) of substock Green Sunfish was 210 (162.96-257.04 95% CI) with a standard error (SE) of 24 and a relative standard error (RSE) of 11.43 (Table 1). No Largemouth Bass were collected.

RECOMENDATIONS

1. Continue to monitor population dynamics for sportfish species (sunfish spp., Catfish spp.).
2. Stock Largemouth Bass & Bluegill Sunfish to boost the population.

Table 1. CPUE of sunfish in Mitch Park Pond by size category.

Species	Size Category	Mean	RSE	SE	L 95% CI	U 95% CI	N RSE = 12.5 (25% range)	N RSE = 20 (40% range)
Bluegill	substock	18	33.33	6	6.24	29.76	14	6
Bluegill	stock	9	33.33	3	3.12	14.88	14	6
Green Sunfish	substock	210	11.43	24	162.96	257.04	2	1
Green Sunfish	stock	15	100	15	-14.4	44.4	128	50
Green Sunfish	quality	12	50	6	0.24	23.76	32	12
Green Sunfish	preferred	3	100	3	-2.88	8.88	128	50

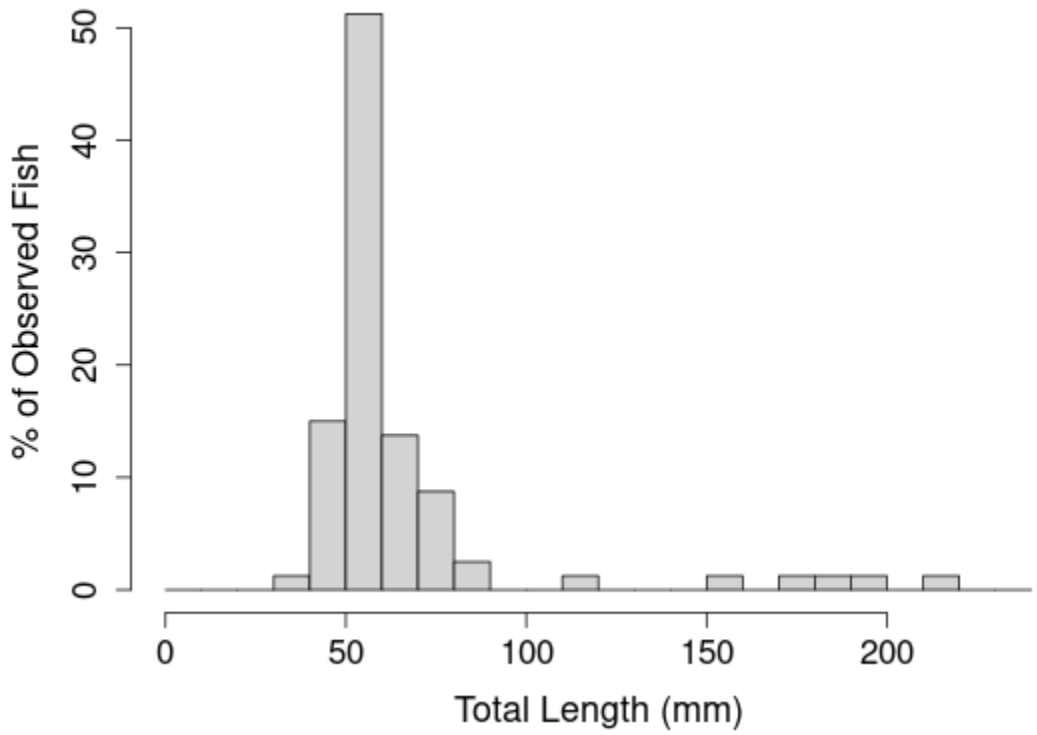

Figure 1. Length-frequency distribution of Green Sunfish in Mitch Park Pond.

Appendix 1. Species, number, and size of fish stocked in Mitch Park Pond since 2005.

Date	Species	Number	Size (inches)
9/19/2005	Channel Catfish	250	5
5/11/2006	Hybrid Sunfish	50	4 to 6
10/16/2006	Channel Catfish	195	5.5
9/17/2007	Channel Catfish	200	7
10/8/2008	Channel Catfish	200	7
10/22/2008	Hybrid Sunfish	500	0.5
4/21/2009	Hybrid Sunfish	350	1
10/12/2009	Channel Catfish	225	6
10/15/2010	Hybrid Sunfish	50	5
7/17/2012	Channel Catfish	100	10
6/26/2013	Channel Catfish	53	9
8/8/2013	Hybrid Sunfish	100	4
2/26/2014	Bluegill Sunfish	500	2
4/1/2014	Bluegill Sunfish	500	2.5
7/24/2014	Channel Catfish	51	11
4/28/2016	Channel Catfish	53	14
4/24/2017	Channel Catfish	50	9
5/10/2018	Hybrid Sunfish	200	5
6/14/2018	Hybrid Sunfish	100	6
4/17/2019	Hybrid Sunfish	200	6
4/24/2019	Channel Catfish	50	9
6/11/2020	Channel Catfish	100	14
9/4/2020	Grass Carp	3	12
	Post Habitat Project		
4/21/2022	Channel Catfish	50	10
5/24/2022	Hybrid Sunfish	500	6.75
6/21/2022	Hybrid Sunfish	200	6+
5/30/2024	Hybrid Sunfish	100	7
9/11/2024	Channel Catfish	50	13
10/22/2024	Channel Catfish	50	12