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SURVEY REPORT

OKLAHOMA FISHERIES MANAGEMENT REPORT

FISH MANAGEMENT SURVEY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR

ONAPA LAKE

2001

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Job Performance Report

Oklahoma Fisheries Management Program

Federal Aid Project No. F-44-D-16

Fish Management Surveys and Recommendations

for

Onapa Lake

Prepared by Billy Fillman and Gary Peterson

## PERFORMANCE REPORT

**State:** Oklahoma **Project No.:** F-44-D-16

**Project Title:** Oklahoma Fisheries Management Program

**Study Title:** Surveys and Recommendations - Onapa Lake

**Period Covered:** 1 January 2001 - 31 December 2001

**Lake:** Onapa

### ABSTRACT

Onapa Lake was sampled by Fall gillnetting in 2001 to determine population trends of channel catfish. Abundance of channel catfish decreased in 2001. Recommendations were to continue to stock channel catfish. A Spring electrofishing survey should be conducted in 2003 to monitor changes in the largemouth bass population.

## RESULTS

### Channel Catfish

1. Channel catfish abundance from Fall gillnetting ( $C/f = 0.07$ ) was below the minimum acceptable level for a quality fishery (Table 2).
2. Catch rates of fish  $\geq 300$  mm was 0.06 which is considered to be acceptable for a quality fishery.
3. Body condition values ( $W_r$ 's) of channel catfish in all length groups were acceptable (Table 2).

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Fish Stockings

1. Stock 1500 channel catfish in 2002 to supplement existing population.
2. Stock adult threadfin shad to provide an additional food resource for sport fish.

### Fish Surveys

1. Conduct Spring electrofishing survey in 2003 to monitor changes in largemouth bass populations.

Prepared by:

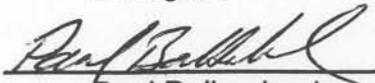


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**Table 1.** Species, number and size of fish stocked in Onapa Lake, 1991-2001.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Size</b>
1991	Certified FLMB	53,000	Fry
1992	Certified FLMB	39,000	Fry
1992	Channel catfish	6500	5 in
1993	Channel catfish	4900	7 in
1994	Channel catfish	3000	7 in
1995	Channel catfish	3900	7 in
1997	Channel catfish	1504	7 in
2000	Channel catfish	1500	7 in
2001	Channel catfish	1508	7 in

**Table 2.** Total number (No.), catch rates, (C/f), and relative weights by size groups of channel catfish collected during Fall gillnetting surveys from Onapa Lake. Numbers in parentheses represent acceptable C/f values for a quality fishery. Acceptable Wr's values are  $\geq 90$ .

Year	Total ( $\geq .20$ )		< 300 mm ( $\geq .10$ )		$\geq 300$ mm ( $\geq .10$ )		$\geq 400$ mm ( $\geq .05$ )	
	No.	C/f	C/f	W <sub>r</sub>	C/f	W <sub>r</sub>	C/f	W <sub>r</sub>
1991	5	0.05	0.01	99	0.04	109	0.02	123
1994	23	0.1	0.05	91	0.04	90	0.02	92
1996	11	0.1	0.07	95	0.03	93	0.01	102
2001	5	0.07	0.01	95	0.06	109	0.06	109

# OKLAHOMA RESERVOIR FACT SHEET

YEAR OF SURVEY: 2001

LAKE NAME: Onapa

SURFACE ACRES: 60

AVG DEPTH (ft.): 14

LOCATION: 8 miles South and 1 mile West of Checotah

COUNTY: McIntosh

DATE IMPOUNDED: 1936

OPERATOR: City of Checotah

PHONE:

PRIMARY USES: Water supply, recreation

PUBLIC USE FACILITIES: Earthen boat ramp

NOTABLE CHARACTERISTICS OF LAKE OR FISHERY: Clear water with shoreline vegetation comprised mostly of water willow. Lake was Oklahoma Fishery Research Lab Florida largemouth bass research lake.

## STATUS OF FISHERY

SPORT FISH	TOTAL ABUNDANCE	QUALITY SIZE ABUNDANCE	QUALITY SIZE
Channel catfish	LOW	Moderate	16 in.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: None

HABITAT TYPES STATUS AND IMPROVEMENTS: Rip rap dam, shoreline vegetation, some rocky shoreline

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: Enhance food resources for largemouth bass population by stocking threadfin shad; continue to stock channel catfish