



Totier Creek Reservoir 2024



Located in southern Albemarle County near the town of Scottsville, Totier Creek Reservoir is a 66-acre impoundment administered by Albemarle County Parks and Recreation. The reservoir contains self-sustaining populations of Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Redear Sunfish, Black Crappie, and White Crappie. Additionally, the lake is stocked annually with Channel Catfish to maintain a fishery. In the spring of 2023, the fish community of Totier Creek was sampled by boat electrofishing. This report summarizes the results of the survey and what anglers can expect to catch in Totier Creek.

Totier Creek's fish community is very diverse with a total of eleven fish species collected in the 2023 survey (Table 1). Bluegill and Largemouth Bass were the most abundant species collected (Table 1). Totier Creek continues to provide a quality fishery for Largemouth Bass to anglers in central Virginia. Largemouth Bass catches were up when compared to previous surveys and the size distribution of bass collected was ideal. The reservoir has ample numbers of young fish (primarily bass between 8 to 12 inches) to sustain the population while also providing good numbers of fish in the 13-to-23-inch range (Figure 1). Anglers should not expect extremely high catch rates for Largemouth Bass in Totier Creek, but when they do catch a fish, it is likely to be a quality fish. The largest bass collected measured 23 inches and weighed 8.6 lbs. The most productive areas for Largemouth Bass were along the shoreline in the lower, deeper section of the lake. Gizzard Shad are common in the lake and are a major prey species of bass; anglers should use baits that mimic shad colors and movement.

Totier Creek provides fisheries for both Black and White crappie which is unique for the area. Most impoundments in central Virginia are dominated by Black Crappie, whereas Totier Creek has ample numbers of both species. White Crappie are associated with flowing water systems like rivers and the riverine nature of Totier Creek provides the preferred habitat for White Crappie. Extremely low numbers of crappie ($n = 2$) were collected with the electrofishing equipment. During the survey, water temperatures were lower than expected for the time of year and it is assumed that the crappie moved off to deeper water making them not susceptible to the electrofishing gear. Previous surveys indicate that the reservoir has a decent crappie fishery.

Anglers looking for an excellent Largemouth Bass and crappie lake should visit Totier Creek Reservoir. The reservoir also offers fisheries for Bluegill, Redear Sunfish, and Channel Catfish. Most Bluegill and Redear collected were small (< 8 inches), but there were several larger Redear collected in 2023 (Figure 2). Only one Channel Catfish was collected in the 2023 survey, but the species is stocked annually. Totier Creek has a concrete boat ramp with a courtesy pier and numerous areas for bank fishing. Gas powered motors are prohibited in the reservoir. Anglers should be aware that the reservoir will become very turbid after rain due to the reservoir's riverine design.

For more information on Totier Creek Reservoir, please contact:

Johnathan Harris
District Fisheries Biologist
Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
(804) 305-8940

Table 1. Species account and catch rates for fish collected throughout Totier Creek Reservoir in 2023.

Species	Electrofishing		
	Number Collected	Catch Rate (fish/hour electrofishing)	Percentage of Catch
American Eel	22	22	6
Bluegill	139	140	41
Channel Catfish	1	1	<1
Golden Redhorse	1	1	<1
Golden Shiner	4	4	12
Gizzard Shad	40	40	20
Largemouth Bass	69	70	4
Redear Sunfish	13	13	3
Warmouth	9	9	1
White Crappie	2	2	1
White Sucker	42	42	12

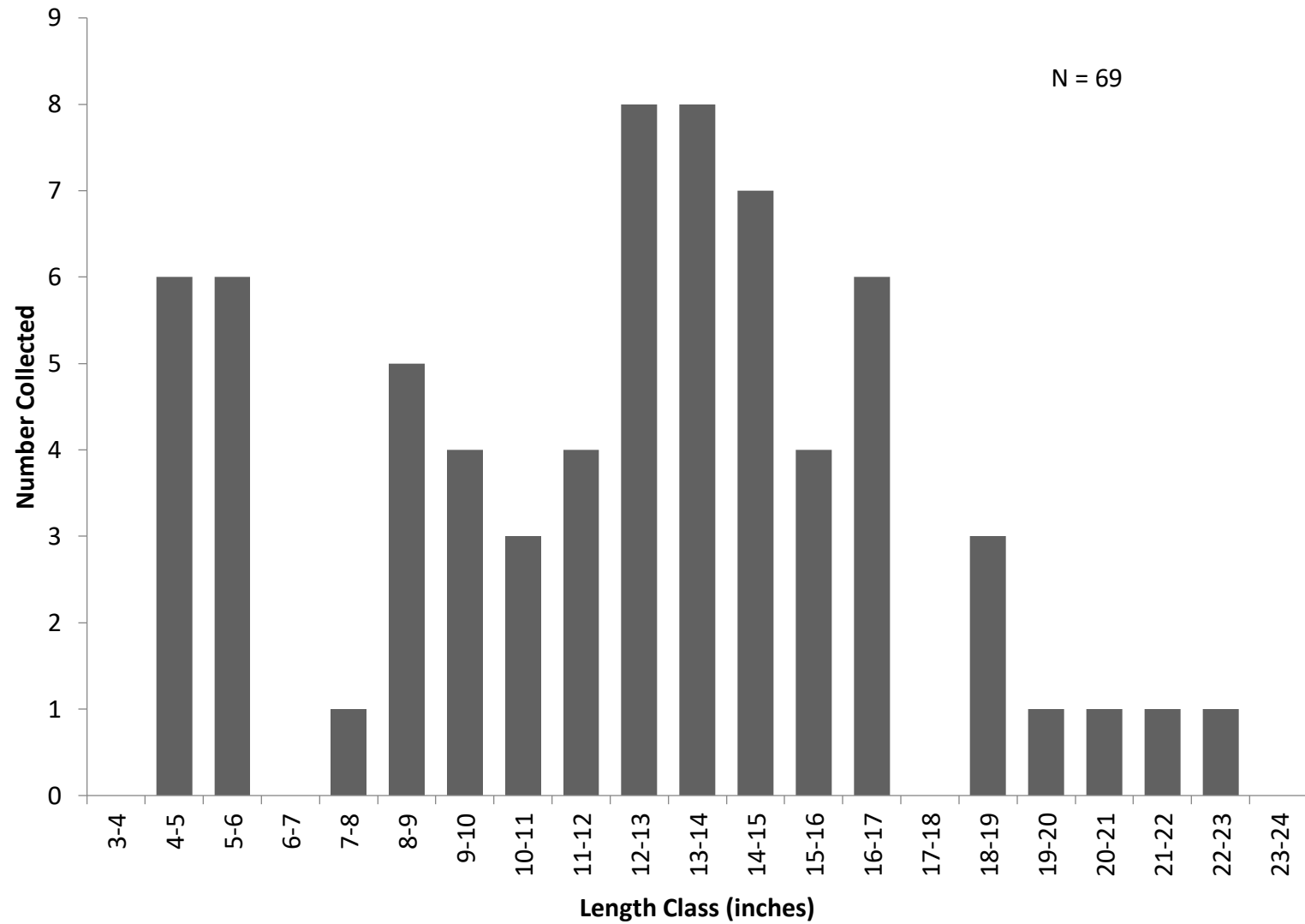


Figure 1. Length distribution of Largemouth Bass collected with electrofishing gear throughout Totier Creek Reservoir in 2023.

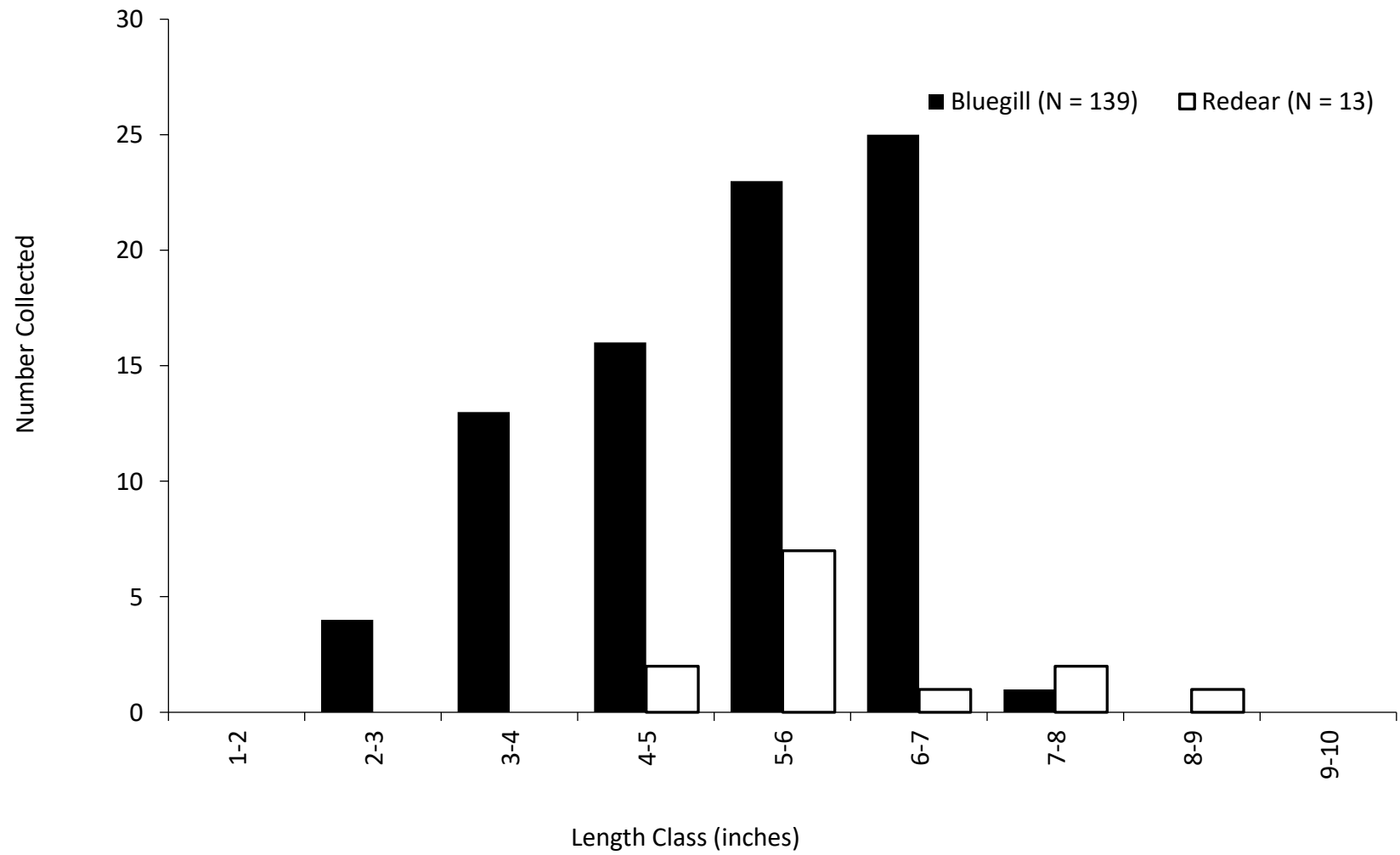


Figure 1. Length distribution of Bluegill and Redear Sunfish collected with electrofishing gear throughout Totier Creek Reservoir in 2023.