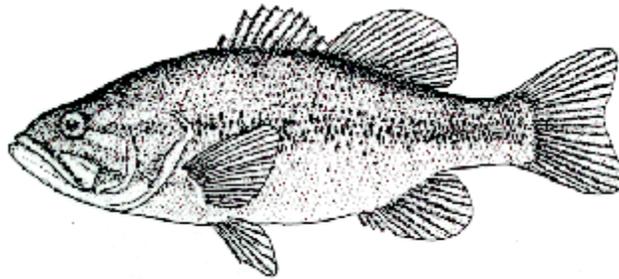


Georgia Bass Chapter Federation

2011

Tournament Creel Report



Submitted by

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University of West Georgia**

GBCF Tournament Report - 2011

This is the 34th year of the Georgia Bass Chapter Federation (GBCF) Tournament Creel Report. In 2011, 52 bass clubs submitted results from 543 tournaments. Several of these tournaments were not analyzed because they involved less than six anglers or lasted less than five hours. Also, Georgia reservoirs and rivers with less than six submitted tournaments were not analyzed. The data from tournaments held outside of Georgia were not analyzed. Data from 86 tournaments held at Alabama interior reservoirs and 59 from border reservoirs were sent to the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and became part of their annual tournament data analysis (B.A.I.T.). Data from 389 tournaments on 13 Georgia reservoirs and the Savannah River were analyzed for this report.

Fishing success at Georgia reservoirs and the Savannah River are compared on the attached table and figures. Bass anglers spent 45,631 hours of effort during the 389 tournaments. The weighed-in, tournament average catch rate was 0.272 bass / angler hour (or 2.72 bass in a 10-hour fishing day). This is the highest catch rate of the 34 years of this project and is significantly above the 0.245 catch rate average of the last 10 years. The second highest catch rate was 0.268 in 2008.

R. B. Russell again had the highest catch rate (0.389 bass / angler hour). Catch rates were also good at **Hartwell** (0.360), **West Point** (0.342), and **Clarks Hill** (0.337). The lowest percent of unsuccessful anglers was at **Hartwell** (10.4%), **Russell** (10.9%), and **West Point** (12.1%). The percent of anglers with five weighed-in bass (a "limit") was greatest at **Hartwell** (42%); also, over 30% of tournament anglers had a limit at **West Point, Clarks Hill, and Allatoona**. The average bass weight was greatest at **Seminole** (2.31 lbs), but it was almost as good at **Blackshear** (2.06 lbs) and **Lanier** (2.02 lbs). Note that **Blackshear** and **Lanier** have a 14-inch length limit but **Seminole** has a 12-inch limit. The tournament average largest bass was at **Seminole** (4.74 lbs), but this was not significantly greater than at **W.F. George** (4.72 lbs). The greatest winning weight average was 14.69 lbs at **Seminole**, and the second highest was 14.44 lbs at **W.F. George**. Both these lakes had several two-day tournaments, which contribute to greater winning weights.

This was the 8th year that clubs were asked to indicate how many bass 5.0 lbs or larger were caught during each tournament. Only 137 bass 5.0 lbs or larger were caught during the 389 tournaments. On average, it required 333 angler hours to catch a bass of this size. There was a big difference in this value across the fishing locations. Whereas it took 842 angler hours at **Russell** and 685 angler hours at the **Savannah River** to catch a bass \geq 5 lbs, it took only 158 angler hours at **Seminole**. No five pound bass were caught during the eight tournaments at **Allatoona** or the seven tournaments at **Bartlett's Ferry**.

Only at 21.3% of the tournaments were one or more five pound or larger bass caught. The most caught in one tournament was five in a tournament at **Jackson**. The largest bass reported in 2011 was 9.08 lbs caught at **Jackson** during a June tournament. Only five bass of 8.0 lbs or larger were caught in the 389 tournaments!

The reservoir abbreviations on the attached graphs are **AL** (Allatoona), **BF** (Bartlett's Ferry), **BS** (Blackshear), **CH** (Clarks Hill), **HW** (Hartwell), **JA** (Jackson), **LA** (Lanier), **OC** (Oconee), **RU** (R. B. Russell), **SE** (Seminole), **SI** (Sinclair), **SR** (Savannah River), **WG** (W. F. George), **WP** (West Point).

GBCF TOURNAMENT RESULTS FOR GEORGIA RESERVOIRS AND RIVERS - 2011

Reservoir or River	Number of Tournaments Analyzed	Number of Angler Hours	Bass Weighed-in /Angler Hour	Lbs. Weighed-in/Angler Hour	Percent Anglers with Five or More Bass	Percent Anglers with Zero Bass	Average Largest Bass (lbs.)	Average Bass Weight (lbs.)	Average Winning Weight (lbs.)	Percent Bass as Largemouth	Angler Hours Per ≥ 5 lb Bass
<i>Allatoona</i>	8	759	0.267	0.350	32.0	34.1	2.86	1.45	6.12	8.7	None Caught
<i>Bartlett's Ferry</i>	7	808	0.231	0.321	18.3	24.6	3.26	1.36	8.10	71.2	None Caught
<i>Blackshear</i> ^a	14	1209	0.166	0.328	5.3	32.9	4.02	2.06	8.18	100.0	605
<i>Clarks Hill</i>	68	7577	0.337	0.539	34.3	17.4	4.14	1.59	11.50	99.1	291
<i>Hartwell</i>	16	2174	0.360	0.599	42.0	10.4	4.06	1.63	12.63	55.9	544
<i>Jackson</i>	23	2283	0.236	0.418	13.9	26.1	4.09	1.77	9.15	50.4	254
<i>Lanier</i> ^a	47	5565	0.241	0.479	16.4	25.5	4.09	2.02	10.67	11.0	397
<i>Oconee</i> ^a	42	4392	0.185	0.358	9.0	33.8	3.81	1.96	8.51	100.0	338
<i>R. B. Russell</i>	11	842	0.389	0.545	29.6	10.9	3.28	1.38	10.12	31.0	842
<i>Seminole</i>	23	2843	0.238	0.547	16.3	29.1	4.74	2.31	14.69	98.5	158
<i>Sinclair</i>	40	4598	0.301	0.442	29.4	15.9	3.55	1.48	9.13	99.8	383
<i>W. F. George</i> ^b	32	5305	0.262	0.498	23.3	17.3	4.72	1.88	14.44	83.4	265
<i>West Point</i> ^b	19	3164	0.342	0.529	36.4	12.1	4.25	1.58	12.92	93.9	264
<i>Savannah River</i>	39	4112	0.253	0.357	17.0	24.5	3.14	1.41	7.80	97.3	685
Total	389	45631	0.272	0.461	22.9	22.1	3.94	1.74	10.53	80.2	333

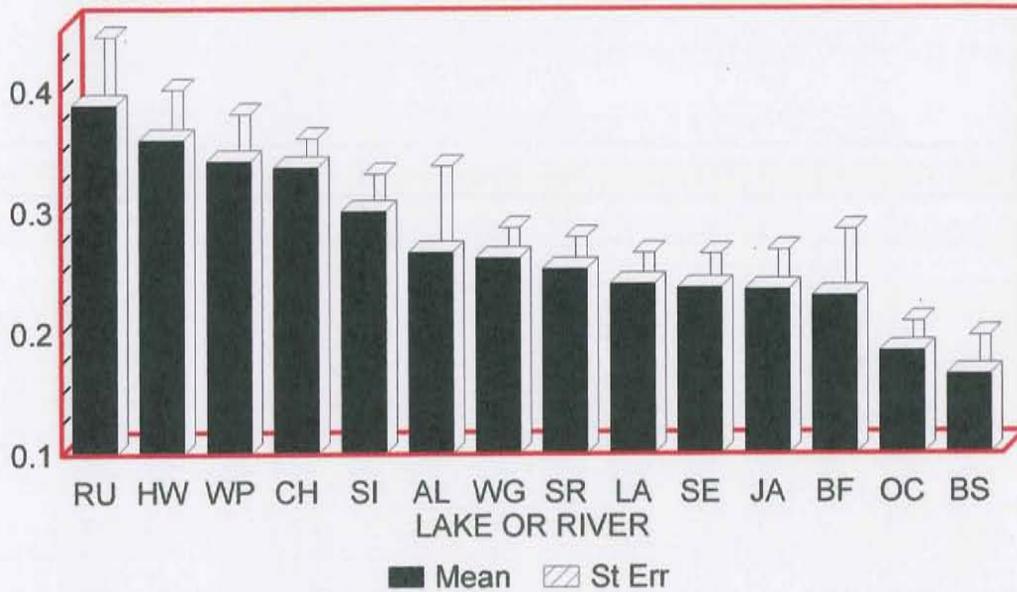
^a 14-inch size limit. ^b 12-inch size limit on spotted bass and 14-inch size limit on largemouth bass.

Note: Only tournaments with six or more anglers and five or more hours in length were analyzed.
Reservoirs or rivers with less than six tournaments were not analyzed.

Compiled and analyzed by Dr. Carl Quertermus, Biology Department, University of West Georgia.

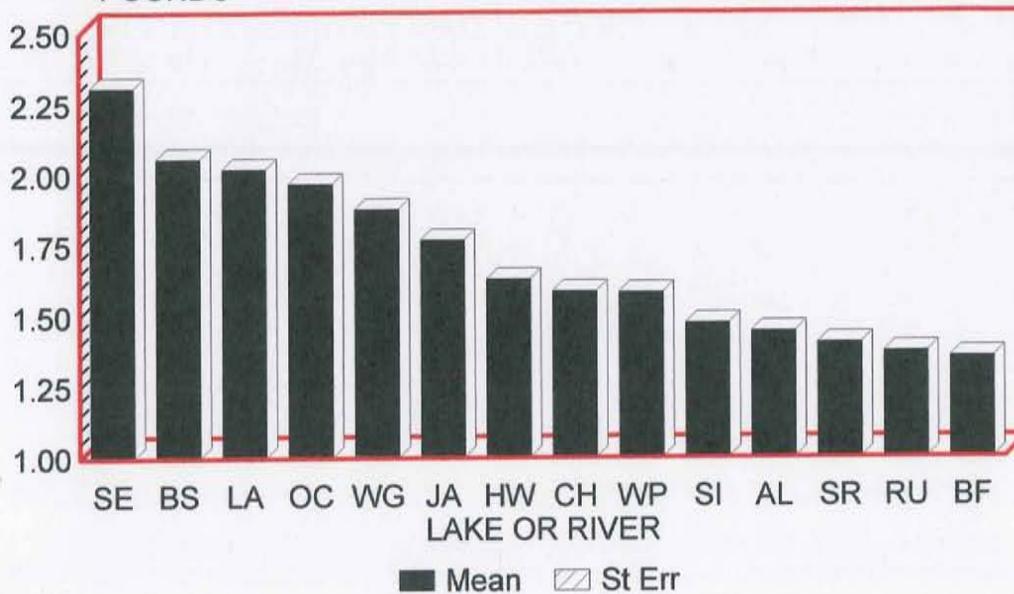
BASS / ANGLER HOUR GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2011

NUMBER



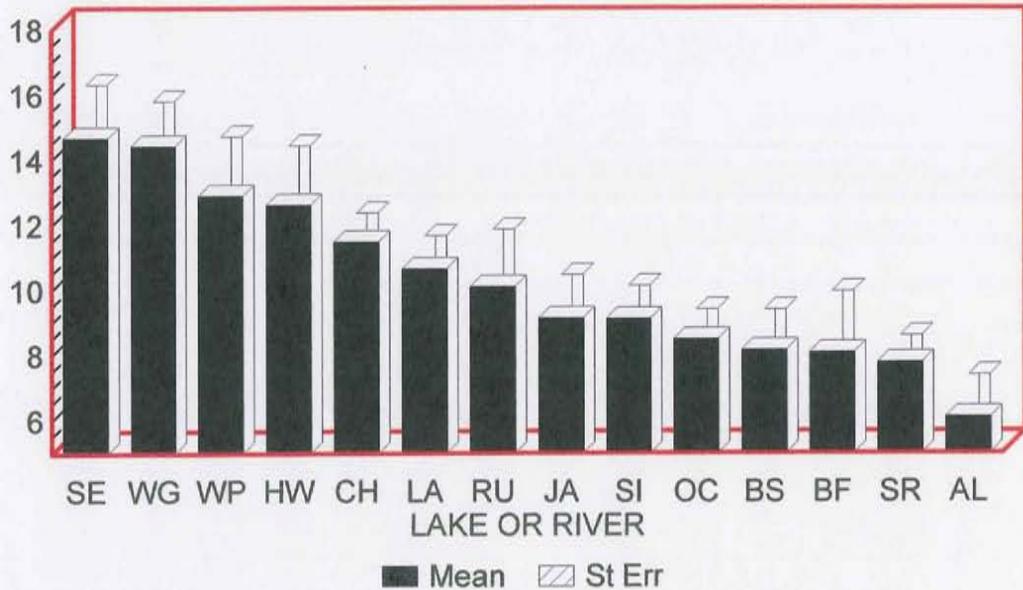
AVERAGE BASS WEIGHT GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2011

POUNDS



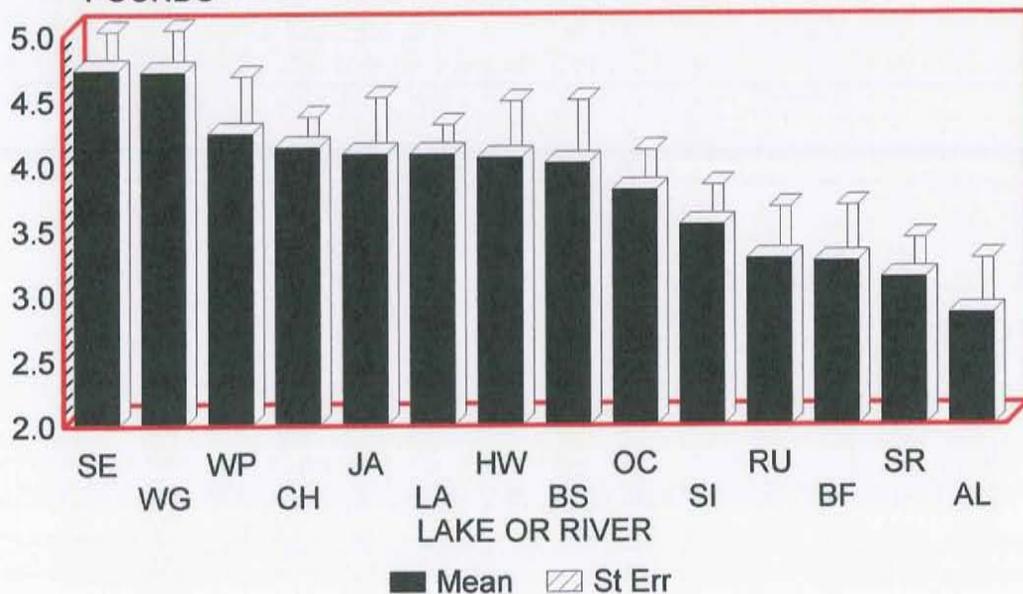
WINNING WEIGHT GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2011

POUNDS

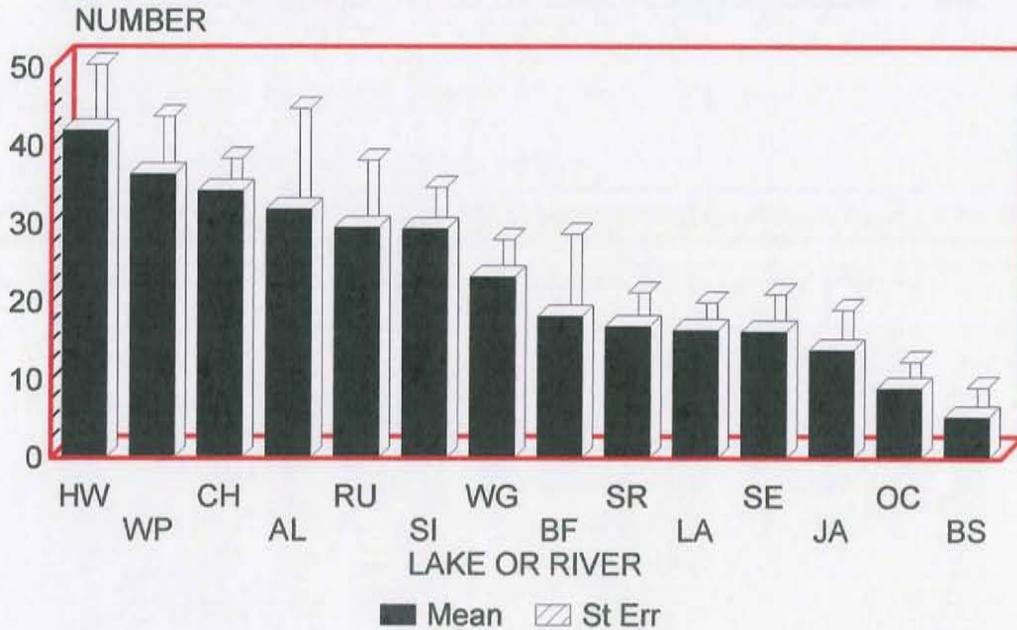


AVERAGE LARGEST BASS GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2011

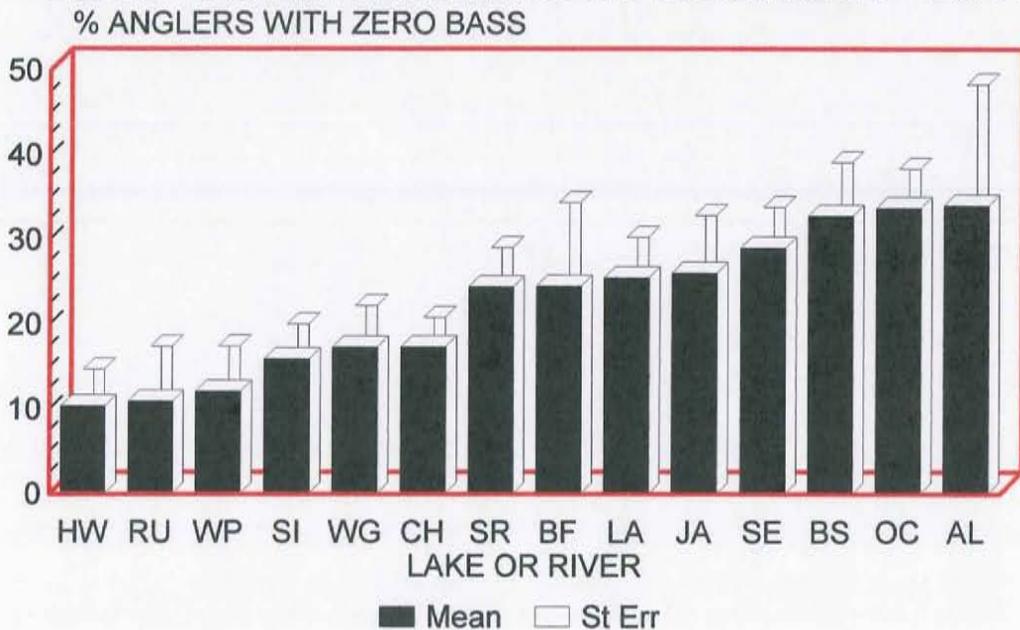
POUNDS



PERCENT ANGLERS WITH FIVE BASS GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2011



PERCENT UNSUCCESSFUL ANGLERS GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2011



NUMBER OF 5 LB BASS / TOURNAMENT GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2011

