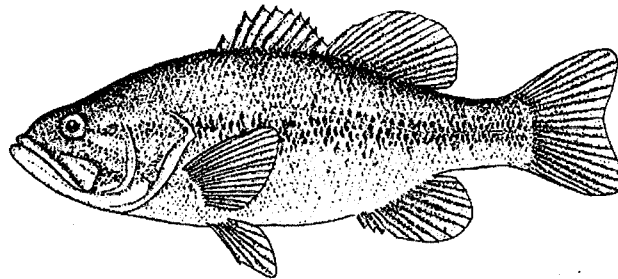


**Georgia B.A.S.S. Chapter Federation**

**2003**

**Tournament Creel Report**



**Submitted by**

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## GBCF Tournament Report - 2003

In 2003, 103 bass clubs, affiliated with the Georgia B.A.S.S. Chapter Federation (GBCF), submitted results from 1,099 tournaments. Tournaments at out-of-state reservoirs and tournaments that involved less than six anglers or lasted less than five hours were not analyzed. Data from 775 tournaments on 14 Georgia reservoirs and two rivers were analyzed for this report. The data from tournaments at Alabama reservoirs were sent to the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and became part of their annual tournament data analysis.

Fishing success at Georgia reservoirs and rivers are compared on the attached table and figures. Bass anglers spent 101,690 hours of effort during the 775 tournaments. The weighed-in catch rate was 0.214 bass / angler hour. This is slightly better than in 2002 (0.201) but about the same as in 2001 (0.219). The highest catch rates were at R .B. Russell (0.278) and at Allatoona (0.277). R. B. Russell also had the lowest percent of unsuccessful anglers (14.6%) and third highest percent of anglers with five or more bass (22.4%). The greatest average bass weight was at W. F. George (2.30 lbs). Seminole (2.18 lbs) had the greatest average bass weight for lakes with a 12-inch limit. The smallest average bass weight was at Allatoona (1.36 lbs). The average largest bass weight was greatest at W.F. George (4.83 lbs). Blackshear had the lowest weighed-in catch rate for 2003 (0.143), but this was better than the 0.087 catch rate in 2002. Thirty-nine percent of the anglers were unsuccessful at Blackshear tournaments in 2003, compared to 50% in 2002.

Over the 26 years (1978-2003) of the GBCF tournament analysis, the percent of the weighed-in bass composed of spotted bass and other non-largemouth black basses has dramatically increased. Largemouth bass now make up less than 15% of the catch at Allatoona and Lanier. At several reservoirs, where largemouth bass dominated the tournament catch for many years, there has been a decreasing percent of largemouth compared to other black basses. In 2003, the weighed-in catch at West Point was 42.3% largemouth; at Jackson 56.3%, at R. B. Russell 67.2%, and at Hartwell it was 74.7%.

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

## GBCF TOURNAMENT RESULTS FOR GEORGIA RESERVOIRS AND RIVERS - 2003

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	Percent Anglers with Only One Bass	Average Largest Bass (lbs.)	Average Bass Weight (lbs.)	Average Winning Weight (lbs.)	Percent Bass as Largemouth
<i>Allatoona</i>	20	2,556	0.277	0.387	23.0	20.7	19.6	3.46	1.36	8.74	13.8
<i>Bartlett's Ferry</i>	17	2,544	0.246	0.378	14.5	18.6	18.8	3.51	1.54	8.74	58.9
<i>Blackshear</i> <sup>a</sup>	19	2,044	0.143	0.287	1.3	39.4	22.1	3.92	2.02	8.13	94.7
<i>Carters</i>	7	786	0.210	0.276	14.3	27.4	23.0	3.57	1.43	6.61	5.8
<i>Clarks Hill</i>	132	15,085	0.219	0.348	14.0	27.8	20.6	3.83	1.68	8.90	97.1
<i>Hartwell</i>	43	7,013	0.262	0.409	18.2	17.0	18.1	4.42	1.59	11.65	74.7
<i>Jackson</i>	32	3,339	0.233	0.353	10.6	29.0	24.5	3.76	1.62	8.77	56.3
<i>Lanier</i> <sup>a</sup>	75	10,282	0.155	0.298	6.0	37.5	24.7	3.62	1.93	8.15	12.4
<i>Oconee</i> <sup>a</sup>	90	11,656	0.203	0.386	12.3	28.4	23.2	4.08	1.94	10.09	98.6
<i>R. B. Russell</i>	33	4,514	0.278	0.422	22.4	14.6	20.0	3.57	1.52	10.84	67.2
<i>Seminole</i>	33	4,203	0.204	0.418	13.3	29.4	21.1	4.52	2.18	10.36	99.5
<i>Sinclair</i>	97	12,505	0.236	0.360	14.9	22.1	19.4	3.89	1.54	9.20	97.7
<i>W. F. George</i> <sup>b</sup>	60	10,650	0.172	0.395	13.7	24.3	23.4	4.83	2.30	14.22	89.1
<i>West Point</i> <sup>b</sup>	62	9,167	0.217	0.360	14.2	23.6	21.1	4.37	1.67	10.05	42.4
<i>Altamaha River</i>	27	2,722	0.245	0.374	23.8	36.0	12.5	3.09	1.57	7.01	100.0
<i>Savannah River</i>	28	2,624	0.195	0.292	12.0	35.5	23.8	2.88	1.48	6.63	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>101,690</b>	<b>0.214</b>	<b>0.362</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>3.94</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>9.60</b>	<b>76.8</b>

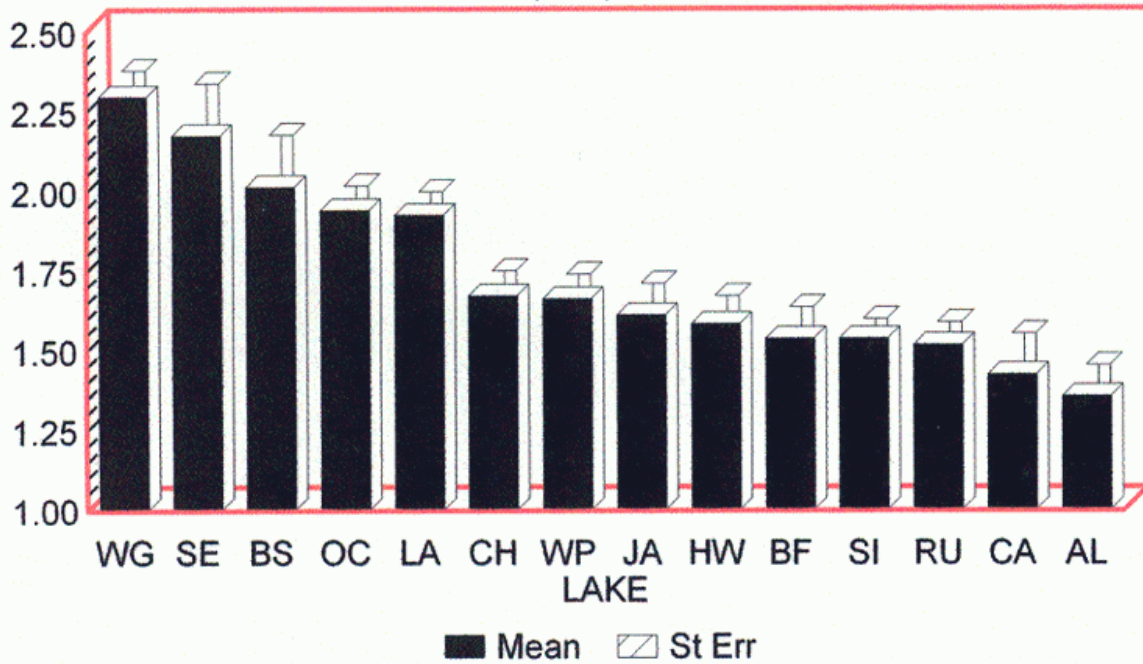
<sup>a</sup> 14-inch size limit. <sup>b</sup> 12-inch size limit on spotted bass and 14-inch size limit on largemouth bass.

Note: Only Georgia B.A.S.S. Chapter Federation (GBCF) tournaments with six or more anglers and five or more hours in length were analyzed.

Compiled and analyzed by Dr. Carl Quertermus and Amber Williams, University of West Georgia.

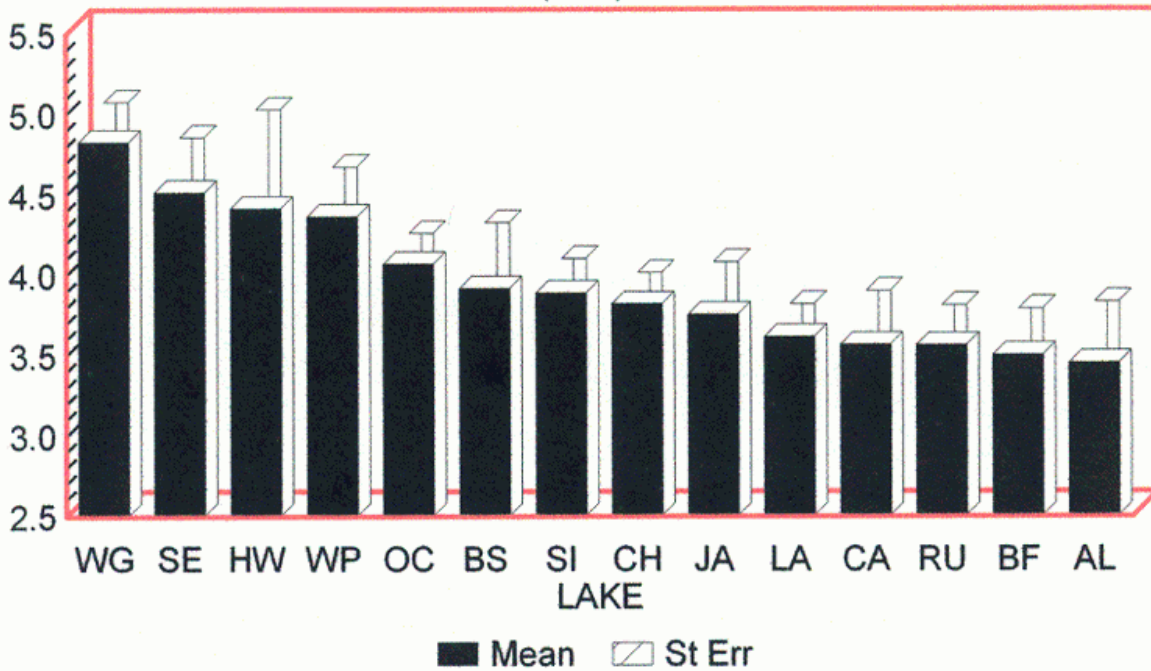
## AVERAGE BASS WEIGHT - 2003 GBCF TOURNAMENTS ON GEORGIA LAKES

AVERAGE BASS WEIGHT (LBS)

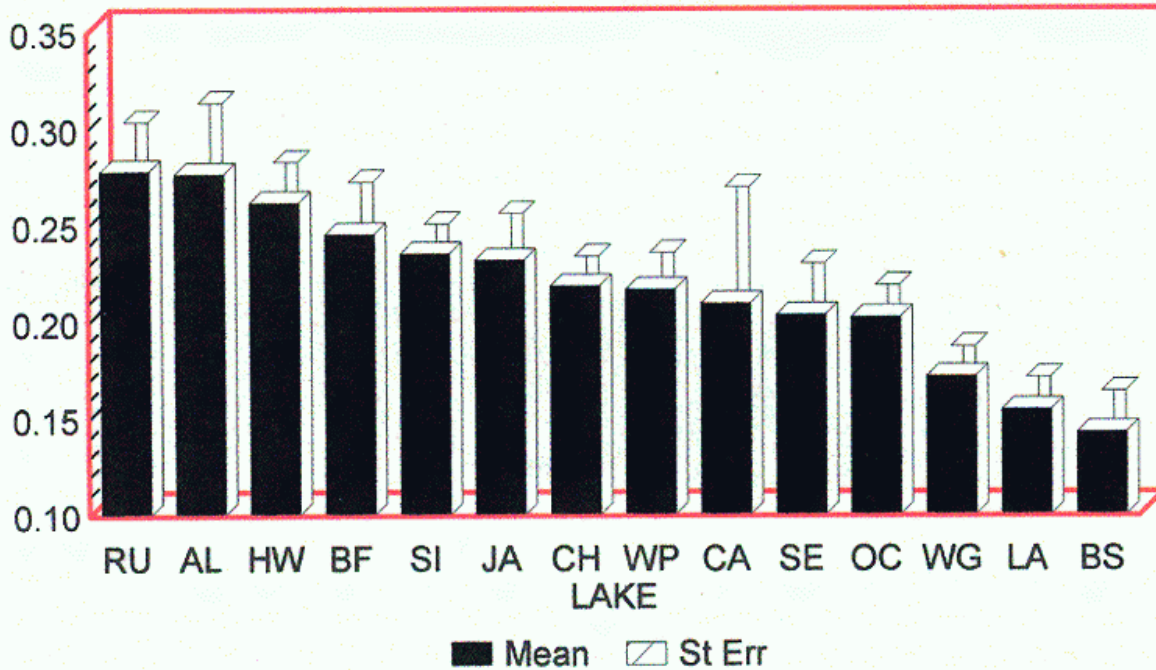


## AVERAGE LARGEST BASS - 2003 GBCF TOURNAMENTS ON GEORGIA LAKES

AVERAGE LARGEST BASS (LBS)



**BASS / ANGLER HOUR - 2003**  
**GBCF TOURNAMENTS ON GEORGIA LAKES**  
 BASS / ANGLER HOUR



**PERCENT UNSUCCESSFUL ANGLERS - 2003**  
**GBCF TOURNAMENTS ON GEORGIA LAKES**  
 % ANGLERS WITH ZERO BASS

