

Guide to Fishing Big Lazer Creek PFA

This 195-acre public fishing lake is located on Big Lazer Creek Wildlife Management Area in Talbot County between Talbotton and Thomaston, Georgia. Big Lazer Creek PFA offers excellent fishing for bluegill, channel catfish, crappie and largemouth bass. Approximately 15 acres of standing timber remain along the old creek channel and around a small island. The upper end of the lake is fairly shallow, averaging less than five feet deep. Fish attractors have been installed around the fishing pier to improve fishing. All PFA users are asked to please sign in.

Hours

Open year-round, 7 days/week, 24 hours/day

Facilities

- Concrete two-lane boat ramp
- Restrooms
- Picnic tables with grills
- Fish cleaning station
- Primitive camping
- Fishing piers
- Some facilities ADA accessible

Regulations

Public fishing areas have special regulations that are posted on site as well as published in the Georgia Sport Fishing Regulations. Anglers 16 years of age and older, except honorary license holders, must possess a current fishing license. For more information, visit www.gofishgeorgia.com or call (800) 366-2661.

Directions

From Talbotton: Following the signs, go east on Highway 80 for 4 miles; left on Po Bidy Road for 6.4 miles; left on Bunkman Road at sign; left into area.

From Thomaston: Following the signs, go south on Highway 19 for about 2 miles; right on Indian Trail for less than 2 miles; bear right on Po Bidy Road for about 8 miles; right on Bunkman Road at sign; left into area.

For more fishing information, visit the Georgia Wildlife Resources Division website at www.gofishgeorgia.com or call (478) 825-6151.

Trip Check List

- Check the current boating regulations about life jackets.
- Boats with enclosed areas that may trap gas or vapors are required to be equipped with a USCG approved fire extinguisher.
- Carry your current license and boat registration with you.
- Check your boat's trailer and navigation lights, and fuel before leaving home.
- Carry a first aid kit, insect repellent, sunscreen, extra clothing, food and drinking water.
- Be aware of and abide by all fishing regulations.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.

Be an Ethical Angler!

Ethical anglers fish responsibly, consider the rights of others, portray a positive image, and help to protect and conserve our natural resources. Be an ethical angler, the future depends on it.

- Know and obey the fishing regulations.
- Keep only the fish they can use and release all others.
- Pass on the tradition by taking a child fishing.
- Leave a place cleaner than it was found.
- Do not transfer fish or plants between bodies of water.
- Report violations and pollution.
- Do not litter!
- Dispose of fishing line properly.
- Do not trespass.
- Are courteous of others.
- Lend a helping hand.

T.I.P. (Turn in Poachers): To report game/fish law violations, fish kills or hazardous spills, call (800) 241-4113.



Major Fish Species & Fishing Tips

Largemouth bass • Crappie • Bluegill • Redear sunfish (shellcracker) • Channel catfish

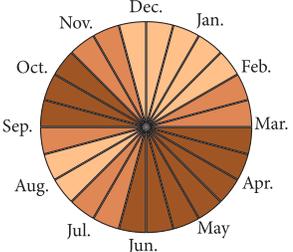
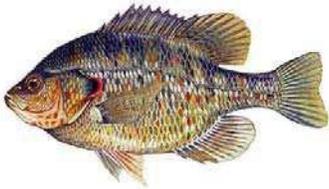
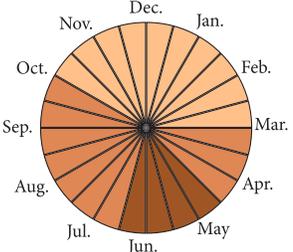
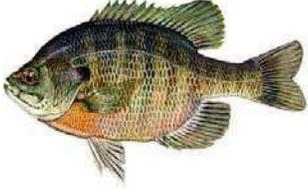
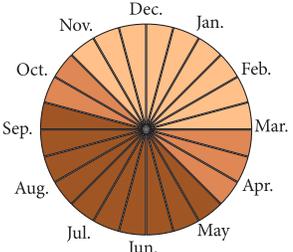
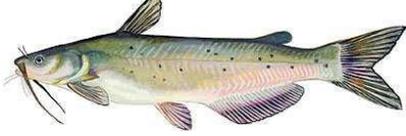
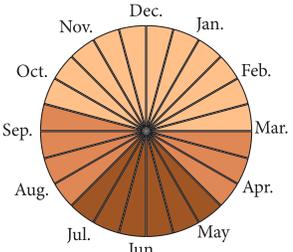
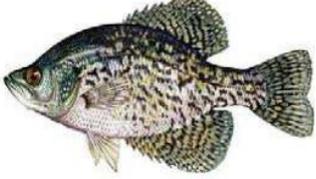
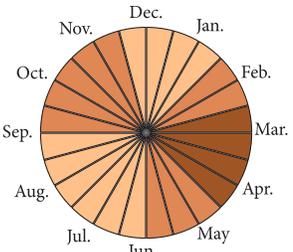
The standing timber that was left in the lake during construction holds a lot of fish. Fishing jigs to these suspended fish is a good technique. Early in the morning, top-water baits fished around the edges of the shoreline weeds may fool hungry bass. Later in the day, fishing swimming lures around the edges of the thicker timber or pitching weedless baits right into the thick cover can be productive. In the spring, spinner baits as well as watermelon and pumpkin seed colored finesse worms and lizards produce well.

Bluegill and shellcracker (bream) fishing heats up in late April and early May. Before May, bream likely will be in deeper water near the standing timber and in close proximity to the main channel. Once water temperatures warm up for the bream to spawn, anglers can catch them on beds. Bream will aggressively guard their nests and can be fairly easy to catch on small hooks with bobbers. Live worms and crickets are effective for catching either bluegills or shellcrackers. When the water reaches summertime temperatures, try fishing shady areas around the banks and flooded timber. They can usually be found at a depth of 10 ft. or less during the summer. Fishing just after sunrise and in the late evening should provide good results for the bream angler.

In winter, crappie can be caught in deep water around the old river channel and around standing timber. Multi-colored plastic jigs often work well in these locations. As temperatures increase in the spring, crappie can be found in more shallow water by trolling with black and chartreuse jigs. Curly tail jigs and grubs can also catch good sized crappie. In warmer months, crappie will utilize shade from the timber as cover. Fishing jigs to the suspended fish is a good option. Fishing with live minnows is allowed. Channel catfish can be caught by fishing deep or on the bottom with night crawlers or livers.



Big Lazer Creek Fish Guide

Fish Species	Biology	Best Fishing Times
<p>Largemouth Bass</p> 	<p>Bass spawn from February to May. Occupy a variety of habitats in reservoirs and rivers. Feed both day and night motivated by hunger or striking. Females are typically larger and more aggressive than males. Bait: Crankbaits, plastic worms & jigs</p>	
<p>Redear Sunfish</p> 	<p>“Shellcracker” feed primarily on aquatic insects including midge larvae to snails. Unlike bluegill, shellcracker typically do not stunt. Fast growth, larger size and good flavor make these a desirable fish. Bait: Crickets, Red Wigglers & small top water lures</p>	
<p>Bluegill</p> 	<p>Most likely the first fish caught by children. They aggressively guard nest during spawns. Bluegill are hard fighters, hit a variety of baits, and are abundant in most rivers and lakes. Known as a tasty panfish. Bait: Crickets, Red Wigglers & small top water lures</p>	
<p>Channel Catfish</p> 	<p>Channel catfish are a highly adaptable and desirable fish that are easily caught. They can reach sizes up to 20 lbs and use their barbells for taste. Larger individuals are often confused with blue catfish. Bait: Chicken livers, worms, “stink bait” & crickets</p>	
<p>Black Crappie</p> 	<p>As one of Georgia’s most popular and desired panfish, crappie may be caught around flooded timber or fish attractors from fall through early spring. Often found near vegetation during spawns. Bait: Minnows, jigs & red wigglers</p>	

Best Fishing Times Key

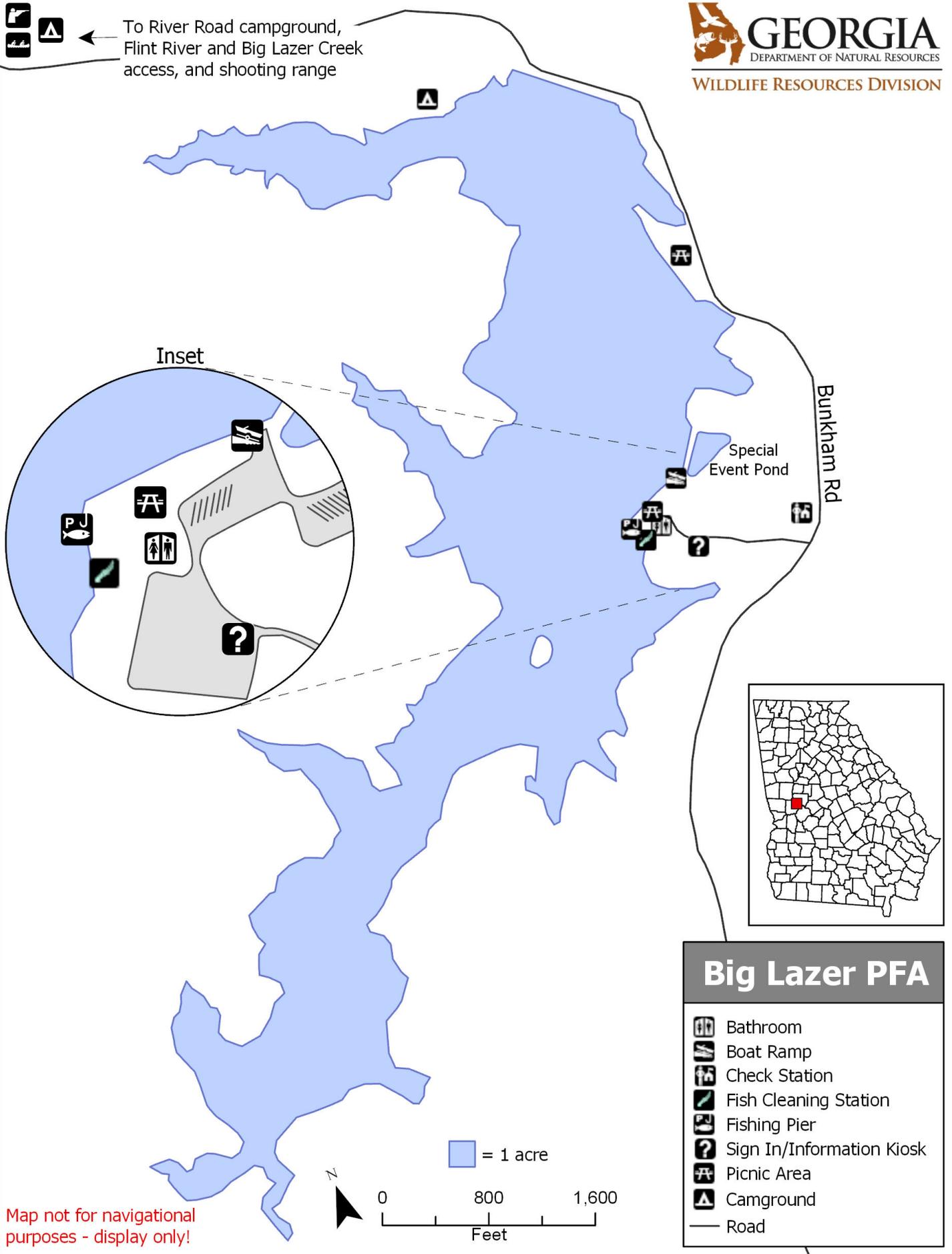
Excellent
 Good
 Fair



Fish images: Duane Raver/USFWS



← To River Road campground, Flint River and Big Lazer Creek access, and shooting range



Map not for navigational purposes - display only!

Big Lazer PFA

- Bathroom
- Boat Ramp
- Check Station
- Fish Cleaning Station
- Fishing Pier
- Sign In/Information Kiosk
- Picnic Area
- Campground
- Road

