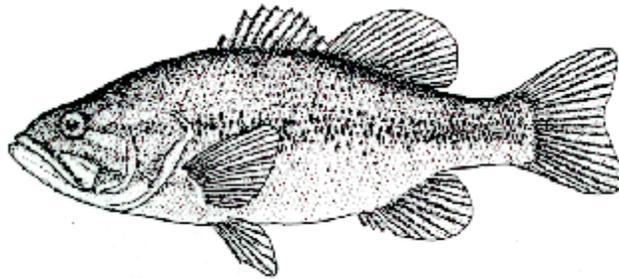


Georgia Bass Chapter Federation

2013

Tournament Creel Report



Submitted by

**Carl Quertermus, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus
University of West Georgia**

GBCF Tournament Report - 2013

This is the 36th year of the Georgia Bass Chapter Federation (GBCF) Tournament Creel Report. In 2013, 41 bass clubs submitted results from 430 tournaments. Several of these tournaments were not analyzed because they involved less than five anglers or lasted less than five hours. Also, Georgia reservoirs and rivers with less than five submitted tournaments were not analyzed. The data from tournaments held outside of Georgia were not analyzed. Georgia clubs fished many tournaments in other states including, Alabama, Tennessee, South Carolina and Florida. Data from 61 tournaments held at Alabama interior reservoirs and 37 at 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 314 tournaments on 15 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 38,099 hours of effort during the 314 tournaments. The weighed-in, tournament average catch rate was 0.308 bass / angler hour (or 3.08 bass in a 10-hour fishing day). This is the highest catch rate of the 36 years of this project and is significantly above the 0.255 catch rate average of the previous 10 years. The second highest catch rate was 0.295 in 2012 and the third highest was 0.272 in 2011.

Tobesofkee had the highest catch rate (0.440 bass / angler hour). **Bartlett's Ferry** (0.396) and **Carters** (0.379) were second and third. However, there were only five to seven tournaments at these three reservoirs. Catch rates were also very good at **Russell** (0.376) and **Hartwell** (0.366). The lowest percent of unsuccessful anglers was at **Tobesofkee** (4.4%), **Bartlett's Ferry** (9.1%) and **Hartwell** (10.2%). The percent of anglers with five weighed-in bass (a "limit") was greatest at **Tobesofkee** (44.4%); also, over 40% of tournament anglers had a limit at **Bartlett's Ferry** and **Hartwell**. The average bass weight was greatest at **W.F.George** (2.32 lbs), but it was also good at **Seminole** (2.28 lbs) and **Blackshear** (2.18). The tournament average largest bass was at **Seminole** (5.69 lbs). The greatest winning weight average was 16.67 lbs at **W.F.George**; however, this reservoir had several two-day tournaments, which would contribute to a greater winning weight.

This was the 10th year that clubs were asked to indicate how many bass 5.0 lbs or larger were caught during each tournament. Only 125 bass 5.0 lbs or larger were caught during the 314 tournaments. On average, it required 305 angler hours to catch a bass of this size. There was a big difference in this value across the fishing locations. Whereas it took 926 angler hours at **Russell** to catch a bass \geq 5.0 lbs, it took only 78 angler hours at **Seminole**. No bass \geq 5.0 lbs were caught during the six tournaments at **Allatoona**, the

six tournaments at **Carters**, or the seven tournaments at **Hartwell**. There was an average of only 0.40 bass ≥ 5.0 lbs caught during the 314 tournaments. The largest bass reported in 2013 was 8.58 lbs caught in the **Savannah River** during a November tournament. Only four bass of 8.0 lbs or larger were caught in the 314 tournaments. That works out to 9,525 angler hours to catch a bass ≥ 8.0 lbs!

The reservoir and river abbreviations on the attached graphs 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), **SR** (Savannah River), **TB** (Tobesofkee), **WG** (W. F. George), **WP** (West Point).

GBCF TOURNAMENT RESULTS FOR GEORGIA RESERVOIRS AND RIVERS - 2013

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>	6	721	0.329	0.414	27.0	15.0	2.64	1.27	7.66	7.7	None Caught
<i>Bartlett's Ferry</i>	7	1065	0.396	0.567	40.8	9.1	5.10	1.42	10.25	42.9	266
<i>Blackshear</i> ^a	9	800	0.216	0.475	7.0	22.9	5.00	2.18	10.56	100.0	200
<i>Carters</i>	6	889	0.379	0.673	37.9	14.5	4.18	1.77	12.50	1.5	None Caught
<i>Clarks Hill</i>	59	7270	0.322	0.558	33.5	17.8	4.23	1.73	11.57	98.3	259
<i>Hartwell</i>	7	1023	0.366	0.597	37.4	10.2	3.89	1.67	13.86	36.9	None Caught
<i>Jackson</i>	14	1986	0.283	0.374	20.0	22.9	3.15	1.35	6.63	41.9	199
<i>Lanier</i> ^a	48	5567	0.326	0.654	27.7	16.1	4.30	2.03	12.76	8.0	558
<i>Oconee</i> ^a	29	2794	0.254	0.511	16.2	21.3	3.93	2.00	10.69	100.0	349
<i>R. B. Russell</i>	13	1853	0.376	0.567	42.2	12.1	3.81	1.50	10.92	21.5	926
<i>Seminole</i>	13	1477	0.237	0.532	13.9	21.8	5.69	2.28	13.79	100.0	78
<i>Sinclair</i>	38	4266	0.310	0.523	29.2	19.0	4.26	1.65	10.87	100.0	251
<i>W. F. George</i> ^b	18	3205	0.233	0.516	25.0	21.7	4.89	2.32	16.67	82.5	214
<i>Tobesofkee</i>	5	534	0.440	0.737	44.4	4.4	4.89	1.64	11.91	100.0	178
<i>West Point</i> ^b	17	2372	0.330	0.501	33.9	12.9	4.66	1.52	10.99	31.9	296
<i>Savannah River</i>	25	2277	0.297	0.458	24.9	25.6	3.53	1.47	8.93	100.0	380
Total	314	38099	0.308	0.543	27.9	18.2	4.23	1.78	11.43	68.8	305

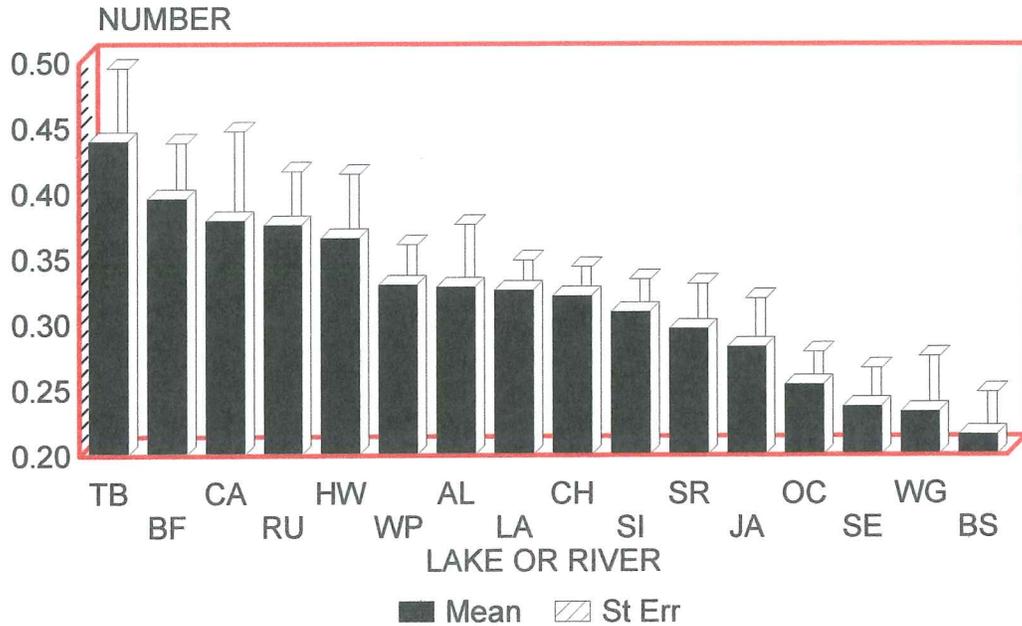
^a 14-inch size limit. ^b 12-inch size limit on spotted bass and 14-inch size limit on largemouth bass.

Note: Only tournaments with five or more anglers and five or more hours in length were analyzed.

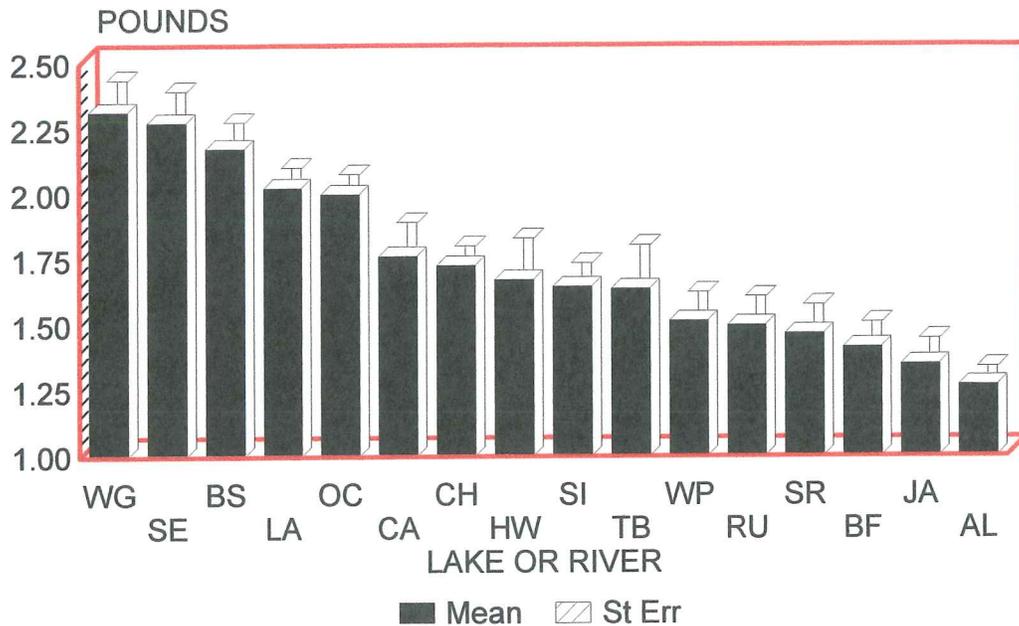
Reservoirs or rivers with less than five tournaments were not analyzed.

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

BASS / ANGLER HOUR GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2013

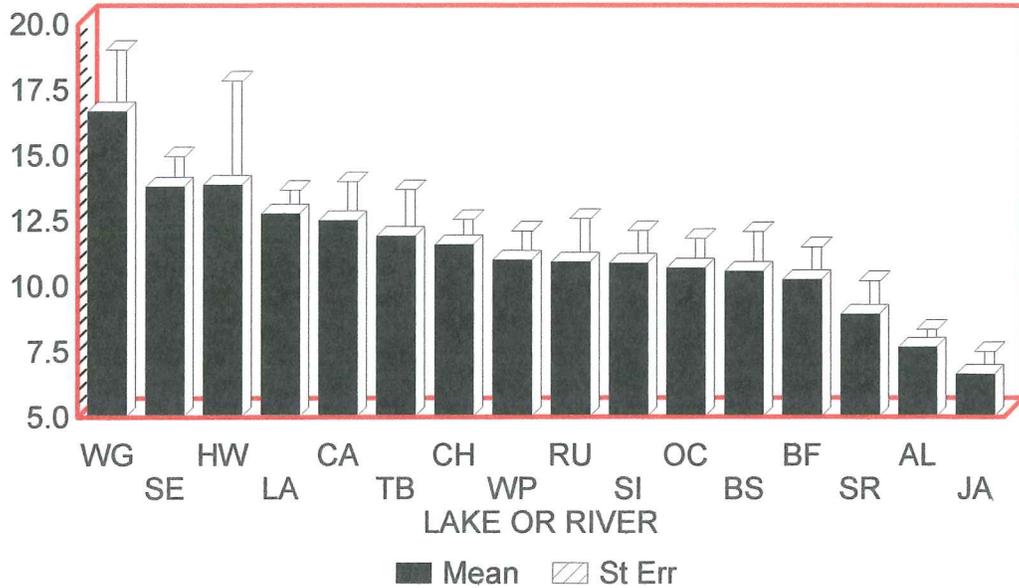


AVERAGE BASS WEIGHT GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2013



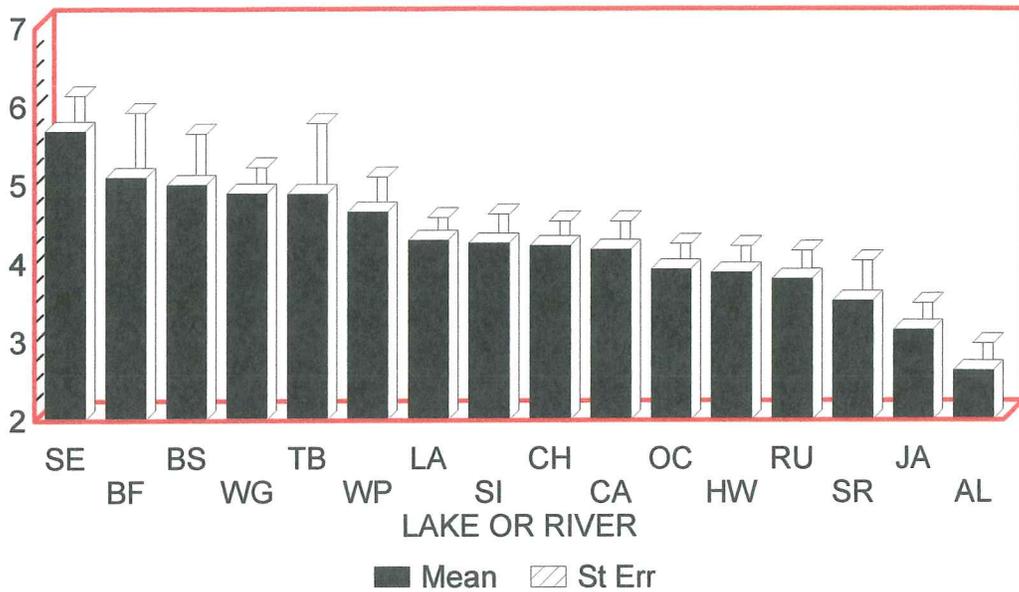
WINNING WEIGHT GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2013

POUNDS

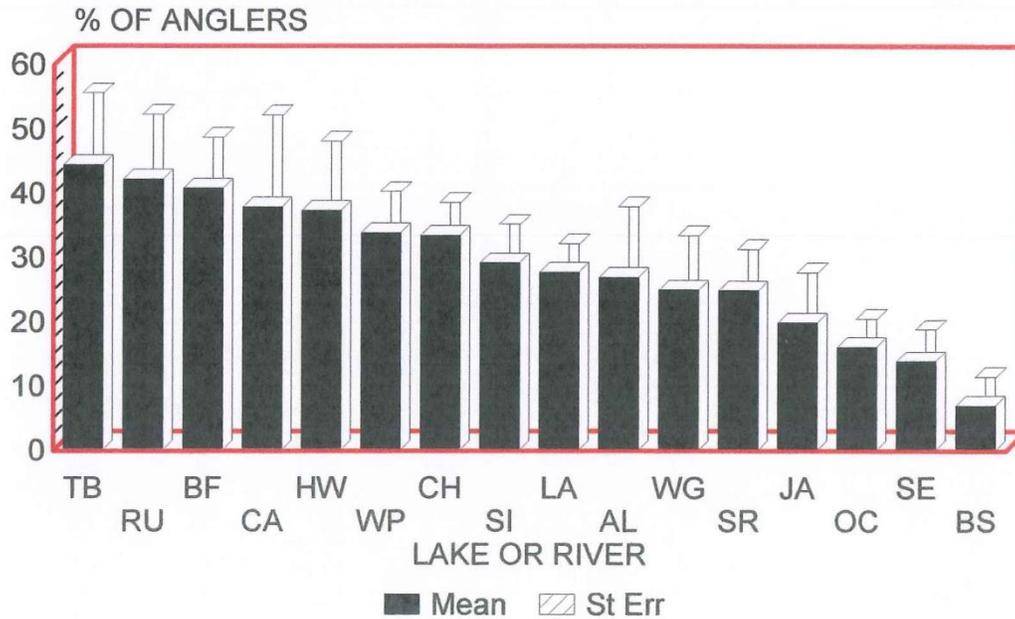


AVERAGE LARGEST BASS GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2013

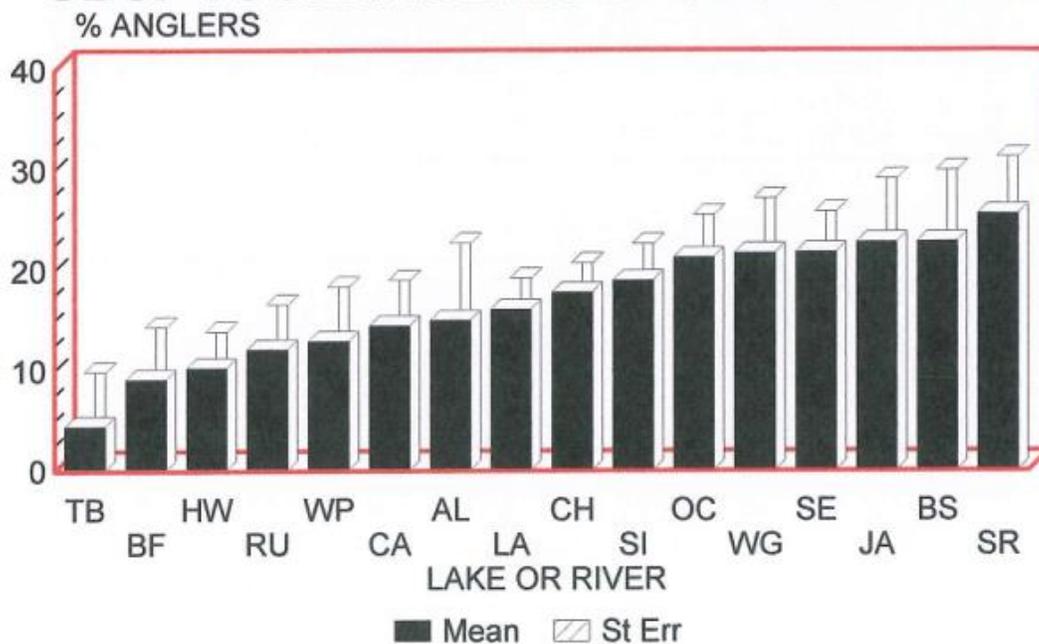
POUNDS



PERCENT ANGLERS WITH FIVE BASS GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2013



PERCENT UNSUCCESSFUL ANGLERS GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2013



NUMBER OF 5 LB BASS / TOURNAMENT GBCF TOURNAMENTS IN GEORGIA - 2013

