

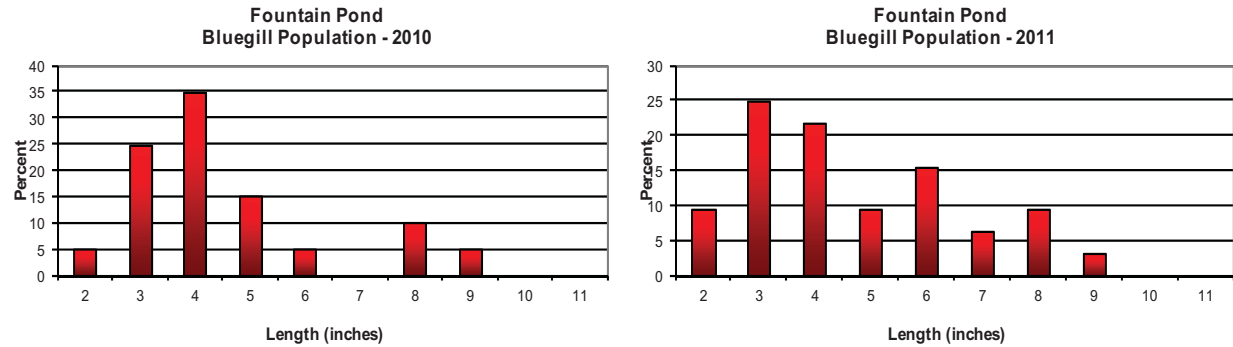


Figure 3. Comparison of the length distribution of bluegill collected from [Fountain Pond](#) in May 2010 and May 2011.

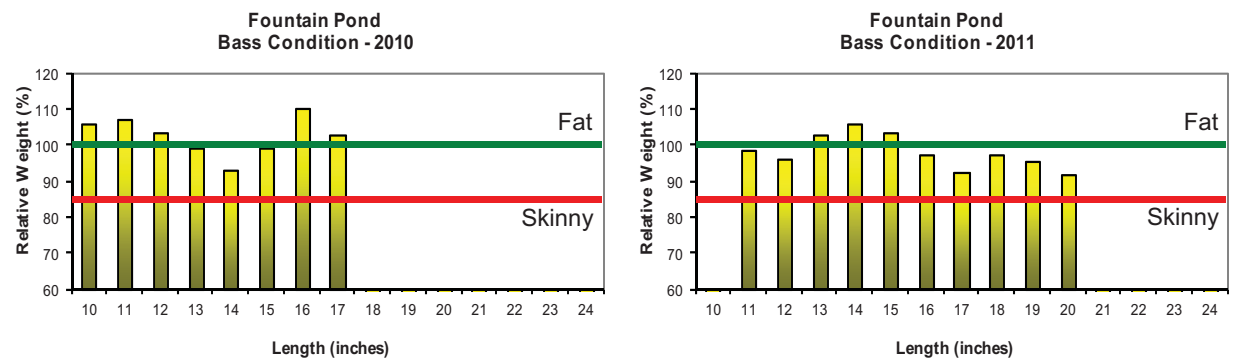


Figure 4. Relative weight distribution of adult largemouth bass collected from [Fountain Pond](#) in May 2010 and May 2011.



Fishery Assessment

The fishery in [Fountain Pond](#) was sampled with standard boat-mounted electrofishing equipment. The sample contained largemouth bass, threadfin shad, bluegill and redear sunfish (shellcracker). Currently, largemouth bass are functioning as the primary predators in [Fountain Pond](#). The bluegill, threadfin shad and shellcracker are the prey.

Threadfin shad have become an important component of the forage base in [Fountain Pond](#). We observed several different size groups, indicating a healthy population. Maintaining a healthy shad population will be important for [Fountain Pond](#) to continue producing quality and trophy size bass.

Largemouth bass ranging in size from 6 to 20 inches in total length were collected in high abundance. The length distribution of largemouth bass (Figure 2) reveals the presence of bass over a wide range of size classes. This represents an improvement from the previous year, most likely the result of bass harvest and the addition of fish structure.

The average relative weight of adult bass in our most recent sample reflects no improvement over last year. This year's average relative weight was 100, as compared to last year, 100 (Figure 4). As long as we can keep relative weights near 100, there is not much more you can ask for.

Largemouth bass 16 inches and smaller represent the primary targets for harvest over the coming year. We harvested 27 pounds of bass during the evaluation.

Bluegill and shellcracker were collected ranging in size from 2 to 9 inches in total length. Figure 3 depicts the length distribution of the bluegill population. Of note, an abundance of intermediate (3-5") bluegill and other forage was collected. Further, mature adult bluegill were relatively abundant in the sample.

Overall, we characterize the fish community in [Fountain Pond](#) as balanced. A more detailed explanation of balanced ponds in general, and [Fountain Pond](#) in particular is located in the Current State of Balance section of this report.

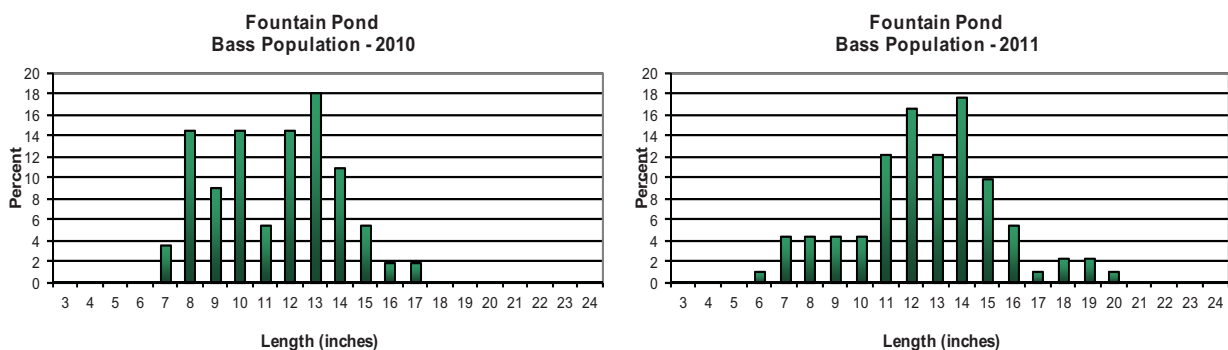


Figure 2. Comparison of the length distribution of bass collected in [Fountain Pond](#) in May 2010 and May 2011.