

Deep water habitat

↳ make it better → no fish

Bluff Lake Initial Project meeting

12/5/2018

↳ where?

Attendees: J.B. Davis, M. Colvin, V. Starnes, D. Schumann, S. Reagan

Agenda items

1. Introduction of team
2. Timing of initial fish sampling in early January
3. Timing of creel survey in March, stratified by weekday, weekend, holiday. ✓
4. Thesis proposal defense end of spring semester
5. Other logistical discussion items
 1. Water releases - monitoring and recording ✓
 2. Historical data on site? ✓
 3. Staff willing to do instantaneous counts of boat and bank anglers ✓ OK
 4. What metrics are monitored during fillup and drawdown (e.g., duck use days, stork use) ✓
 5. Sampling contact and heads up. ~24 hours before ✓
 6. Volunteers or intern assistance? ✓
 7. Motor on lake? Electric only? — No lake
 8. PIT Antenna on Oktoc Creek.

Specific research questions:

1. How does the current Bluff Lake fish assemblage compare to the past fish assemblage?
2. Does summer drawdown of Bluff Lake result in hypoxic or anoxic areas?
3. How much water is in Bluff Lake at varying lake levels?
4. What is the current angler usage, harvest, and angling objectives?
5. What is the objective hierarchy of competing Bluff Lake water uses?

The objectives of this study are to:

1. Quantify the current fish assemblage and compare, if possible to the historic fish assemblage
2. Quantify lake volume and areas of hypoxia and anoxia in Bluff Lake
3. Quantify Bluff Lake angler preferences, effort, and harvest.
4. Identify and hierarchically structure Bluff Lake management objectives for ducks, wood storks, Paddlefish, and the fishery
5. Develop a prototype water level decision support tool that can evaluate the tradeoff of competing management objectives and inform what metrics important to monitor in the context of lake level management

Water Management

Wood Stork Counts - MAR
- Remote Camera on Lake →

- Visual Estimation of MAP milt/ft
↳
- No Brack Pairs

AI

- Search for fish
- Put down all fish
- Contact List

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- 279134 Fund #