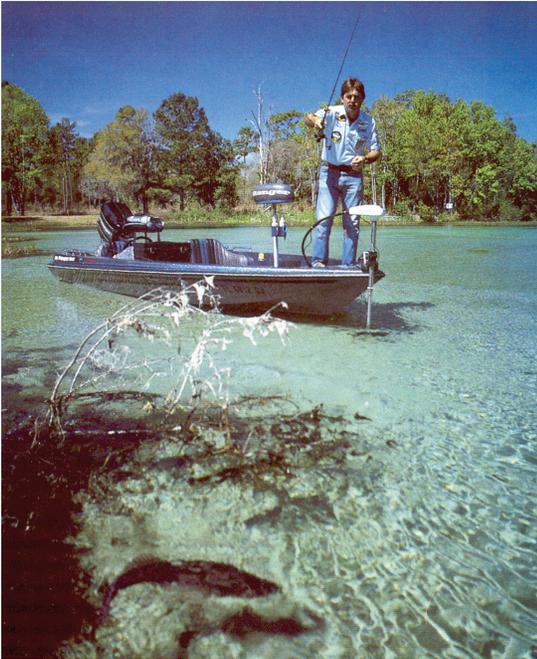


Components of the Black Bass Management Plan

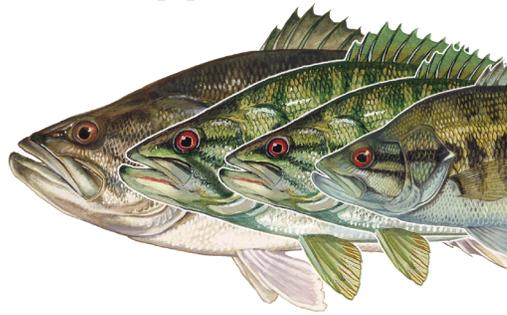
Vision: The worldwide angling public recognizes Florida as the “Bass Fishing Capital of the World,” based on great resources and responsible management. Florida’s bass fisheries provide outstanding ecological, social and economic benefits to the state of Florida.



Our purposes are:

- Create a scientifically justified document to guide FWC efforts.
- Ensure the public has open input into the objectives and priorities.
- Be proactive and open to new ideas.

The Florida largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides floridanus*) is genetically unique and has been stocked worldwide because of its potential for rapid growth to trophy size (10 pounds or heavier). Moreover, Florida has shoal (*M. cataractae*), spotted (*M. punctulatus*) and Suwannee bass (*M. notius*), each one of which exists only in discrete areas and requires specific habitat and prey to maintain its population.



Introduction

This Black Bass Management Plan for Florida incorporates widespread public input from surveys, public meetings, a citizen’s Technical Assistance Group (TAG), and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) staff. We collectively created the plan to ensure Florida is the undisputed “Bass Fishing Capital of the World.”

New opportunities

Identify new or special opportunities to create or substantially enhance black bass fisheries, and ensure FWC is proactive about opening new fisheries for the public.



Habitat management

Habitat management is the most important component of maintaining good fisheries.



Components of the Black Bass Management Plan

Fish management

Black bass management generally involves actions that affect rates of recruitment, growth, natural mortality, and fishing mortality for bass.



People management

Human dimensions include education, outreach, partnerships, tournament management, ethics, and law enforcement.



The Black Bass Management Plan

This plan is action-based and will help Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) staff develop solutions for management issues such as habitat enhancement, aquatic plant management, fisheries regulations and appropriate stocking plans, while improving communications about angling ethics and opportunities, ensuring access, and reaching out to youth. Effective implementation of the plan should benefit fishing-dependent private businesses and create jobs, including those that indirectly profit (gas stations, local grocers, motels, and restaurants).

For more information, visit
www.MyFWC.com/Fishing

Thank you to Glen Lau for use of bass images.

*Supported by Federal Aid
in Sport Fish Restoration*



Black Bass Management Plan

Introduction



A long-term, science-based, and citizen-guided plan to ensure Florida is the undisputed "Bass Fishing Capital of the World."



Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission

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