

Appendix 9

Historical Stocking/Fish Information for Amnicon and Dowling Lakes

Date	Species	Number Planted	Size	Remarks
1953	walleye	6,200		
1954	walleye	9,431	fingerling	
1956	walleye	6,200	fingerling	
1958	Walleye	2,033	fingerling	
1959	Muskellunge	423	fingerling	
		84	fingerling	
1960	Walleyes	6,200	fingerlings	
1961	Muskellunge	846	fingerlings #2	
1961	Muskellunge	168	fingerlings 9-11"	
1962	Muskellunge	61,000	fry	
1962	Muskellunge	159,000	fry	
1962	Walleye	6,200	2" fingerling	
1963	Muskellunge	846	#2 fingerlings	
1963	Muskellunge	168	fingerlings	
1964	Walleye	6,200	#3	
1965	Muskellunge	846	#2	
"	Muskellunge	168	Fingerling 11"	
1966	Walleye	6,200	Fingerling	
1967	Musky	105	Fgl.	
1967	Musky	210	Fgl.	
1968	Musky	100	Fgl.	
1968	"	200	Fgl.	
1969	Musky	100	FGL. 11-13"	
1969	Musky	115	FGL. 15-17"	
1970	Musky	500	Flg. 11"	
1971	Musky	600	Fgl. 3"	
1971	Musky	200	Fgl. 13"	
1972	Musky	415	Fgl. 13"	
1973	" "	423	Fgl. 13"	
1974	" "	824	Fgl 13"	
1975	Musky	303	Fgl 10"	R. P. Clip
1976	Musky	1,692	Fgl. 3"	
	"	423	Fgl. 11"	L.P. Clip
1977	Musky	425	Flg. 13"	
1978	Musky	200	Fgl. 11"	L.V. Clip
1979	Musky	425	Fgl. 9"	R.P. Clip
1980	Musky	425	Fgl. 7"	R.V. Clip
1983	Musky	400	Fgl. 9"	L.V. Clip
3 SEPT 85	Muskellunge	400	Fgl. 9"	
1986	Musky	400	Fgl. 9"	R.V. Clip
9/87	Musky	200	11"	LV clip
8/23/88	Musky	400	Fgl 9"	RV clip
9/12/89	Musky	200	Fgl. 11"	LV. clip
9/18/90	Musky	200	Fgl 11"	RV clip
9/12/91	MUSKY	400	Fgl 11.3"	LV clip
9/3/92	Mosky	400	400 10.2"	RV clip

Annond Lake

PLANTING RECORD

Fi-241

Date	Species	Number Planted	Size	Planting Site
09/01/93	Mosku	400	9.9" tree	
09/12/96	Mosku	400	10.9" tree	
09/18/97	Mosku	200	12.1" tree	
05/22/02	Walleye	500,000	0.3" tree	tree Penns Bac
05/08/03	Walleye	300,000	0.2" tree	tree Penns Bac

STOCKING PLAN

6/30/99

American Lake

- Discontinue muskie stocking until 2001
- Evaluate for repro.
- Stock every 4th year?

LAKE SURVEY - FISH COLLECTION

Name of Lake Amnicon Lake Point of Examination Northeast Shoreline
 County Douglas Immediate Shore Cottages, boathouses
 Bottom Types Sand & Gravel
 Vegetation None in evidence
 Gear Used 8 5' Fyre nets 50-60' leads
 Amount of Area or Time Sampled Sampled 8 nets for 8 days during
 Date April 18-26, 1955 Investigator Russell Doly ^{Spawning} _{Time}

Species	Number Collected	Range in Size
Yellow Walleye	430 tagged	13-28" AVER 16"
Yellow Perch	1,200	4-7" AVER 6"
Rock bass	7	6-8"
Suckers	17	9-11"
Brown Bullhead	3	6-11"
Crappies	24	5-13" AVERAGE 11"
Bluegill	7	7-9"

* Purpose of the study was to tag walleyes in an attempt to trace their migration in the lake & to determine whether or not they migrate into Lyman & Doherty lakes.

LAKE SURVEY - FISH COLLECTION

Name of Lake Amnicon Point of Examination general
 County Douglas Immediate Shore varies from firm to bog
 Bottom Types Sand - muck.
 Vegetation Yellow lily, Elodea, Potamogeton were abundant (8-47)
 Gear Used fyke nets and seine hauls.
 Amount of Area or Time Sampled filled ⁴ hours with fyke nets.
 Date June 11 to 12, 1953 Investigator Donald K. Drimhan

Species	Number Collected	Range in Size
<u>muskellunge</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>12" - 44.5"</u>
<u>Crappies</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1" - 12.6"</u>
<u>Bluegill</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6.7" - 8.5"</u>
<u>Rock Bass</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6.8" - 9.4"</u>
<u>Bullhead</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8.7" - 10.6"</u>
<u>Perch</u>	<u>numerous</u>	<u>under 2 inches.</u>

(see other side for aging)

A REPORT ON FISHING IN AMNICON LAKE, DOUGLAS COUNTY
During 1954

Received from Clarence King of the Amnicon Lake Association
on October 18, 1954.

Fish Caught

May
1 Muskellunge - 36 inches
1 Bass - Returned
1 Walleye - 14 inches

Total Time Fished for May - 81 hours 45 minutes

June
5 Muskellunge -
1 Walleye - 14 inches
1 Crappie
140 - 145 Perch

Total Time Fished For June - 387 hours 40 minutes

July
3 Walleyes
2 Crappies
1 Bass
10 Sunfish
53 Perch
A few Bluegills

Total Time Fished for July - 124 hours 45 minutes

August
To 25th
72 Perch
9 Bluegills
2 Walleyes

Total Time Fished For August - 130 hours 55 minutes

GRAND TOTAL FISH CAUGHT ALL YEAR

• In 724 hours 25 minutes

About
6 Muskellunge
270 Perch
7 Walleyes
15 Bluegills
2 Bass
10 Sunfish
3 Crappies

4-26-55
mb

*so Kenneth
notes & file.*

REPORT ON FISHING IN AMNIGON LAKE, DOUGLAS COUNTY
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5 Muskellunge -
1 Walleye - 14 inches
1 Crappie
140 - 145 Perch

Total Time Fished For June - 387 hours 40 minutes

July
3 Walleyes
2 Crappies
1 Bass
10 Sunfish
55 Perch
4 Fox Bluegills

Total Time Fished for July - 124 hours 45 minutes

August
To 25th
72 Perch
9 Bluegills
2 Walleyes

Total Time Fished For August - 130 hours 55 minutes

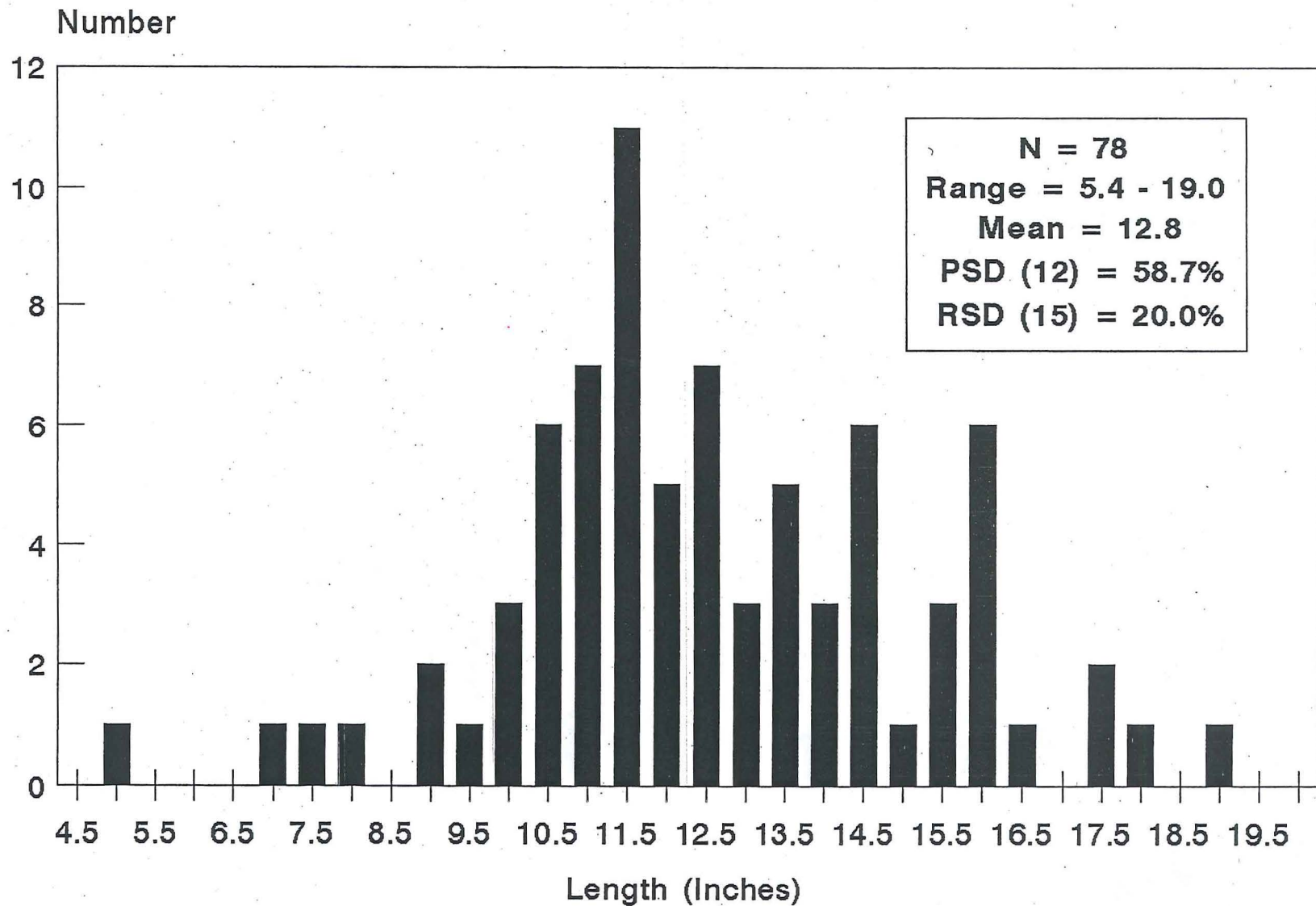
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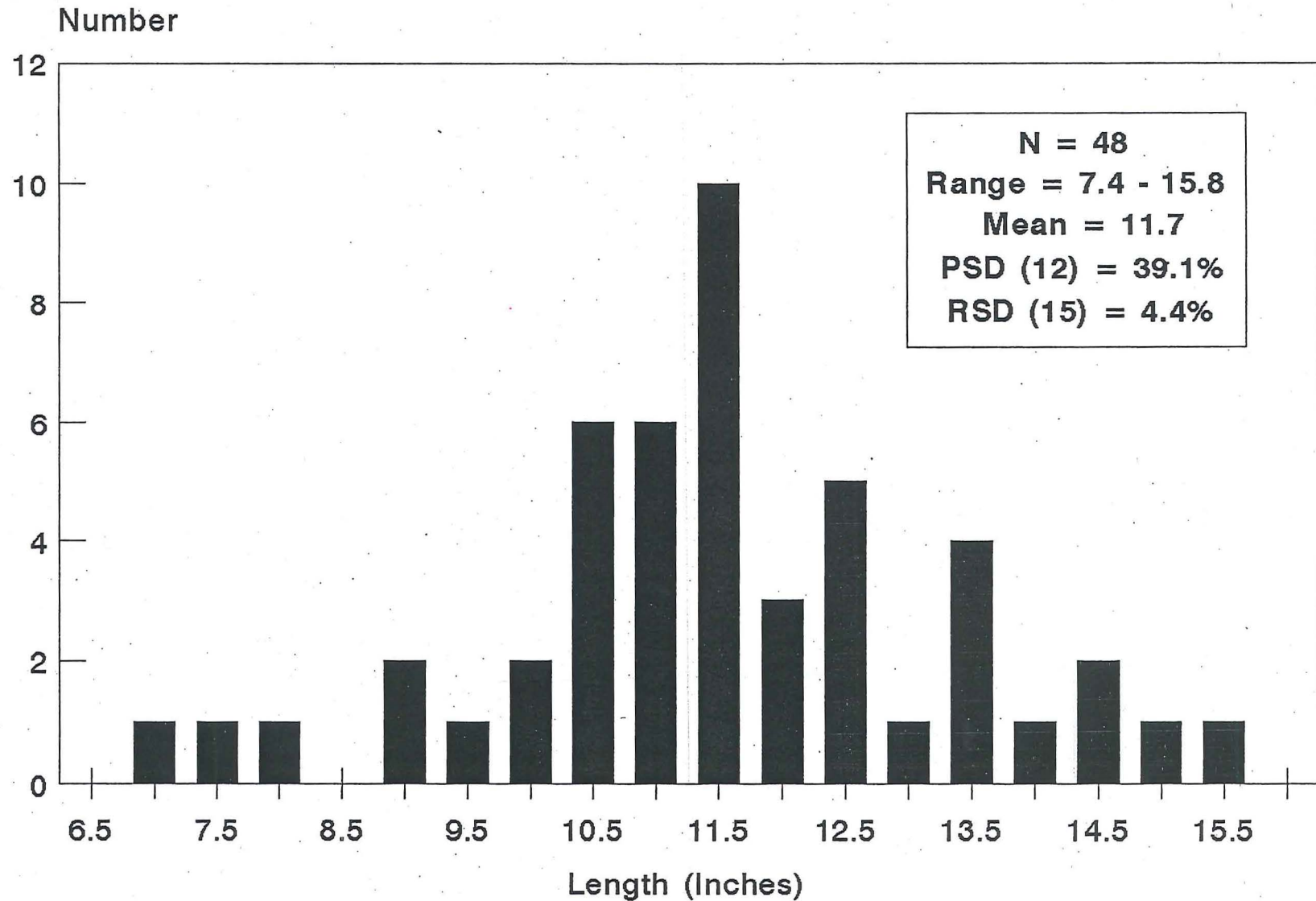
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Amnicon Lake Largemouth Bass 1992



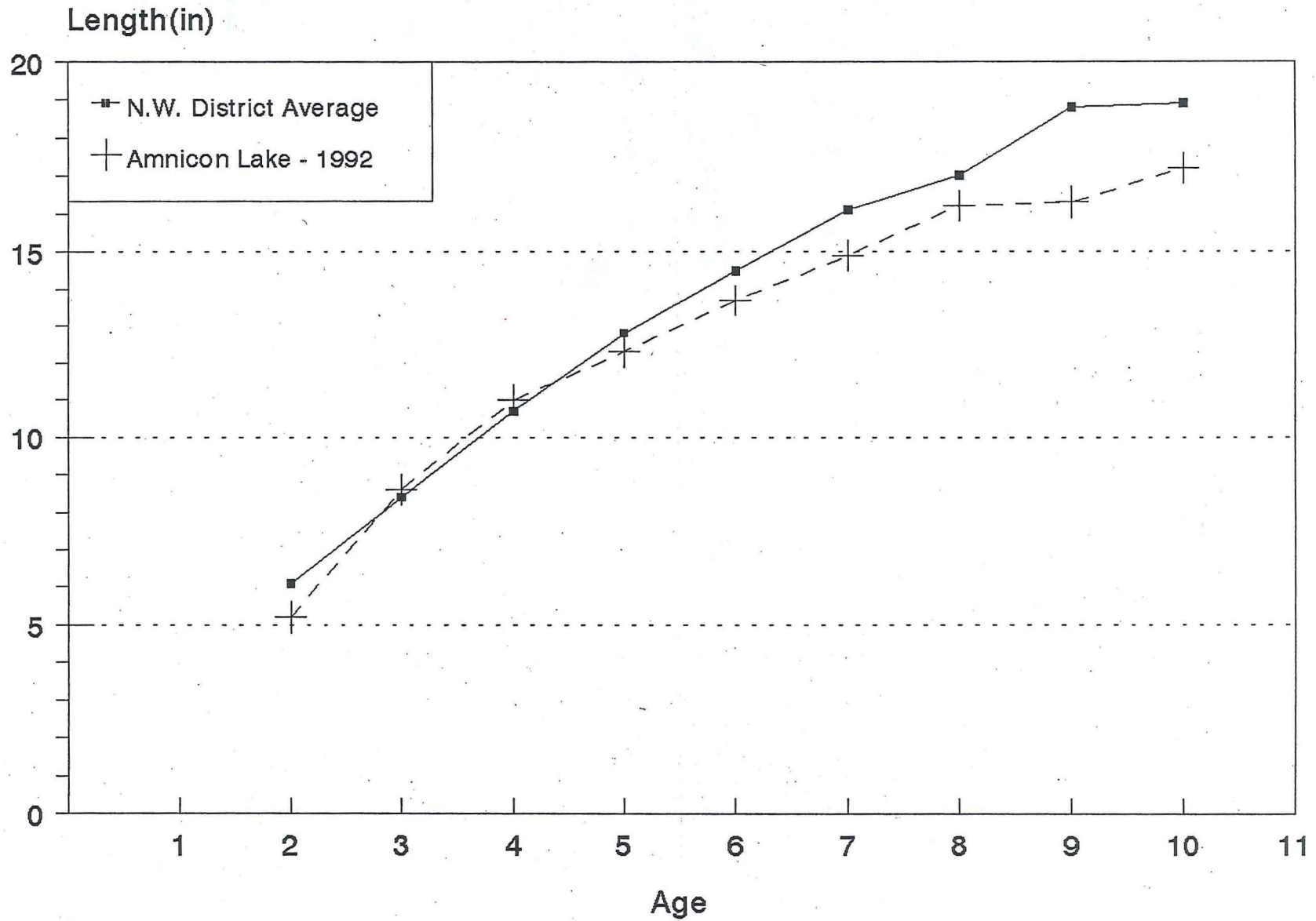
Netting and Shocking Combined

Amnicon Lake Largemouth Bass 1992

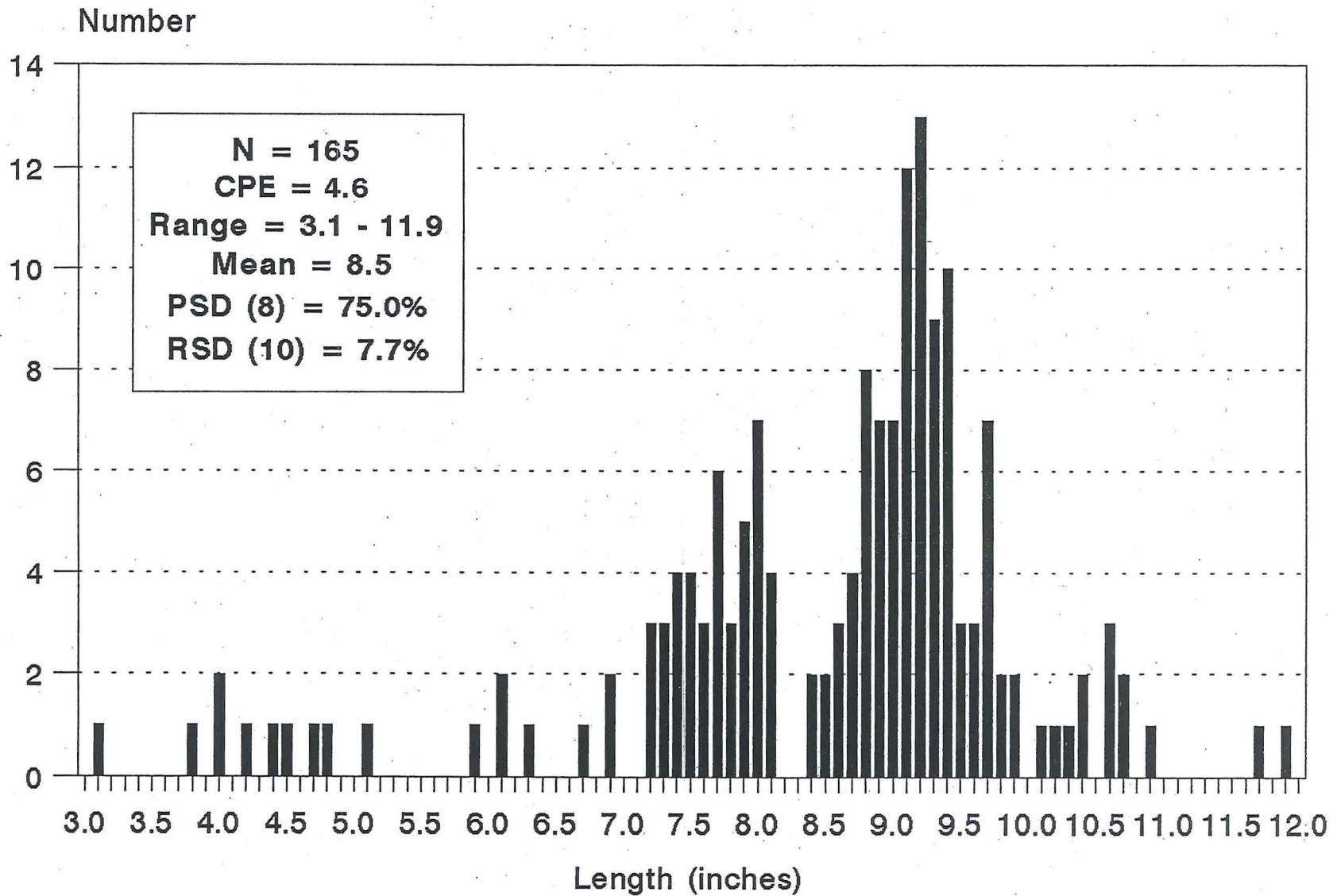


Shocking Only

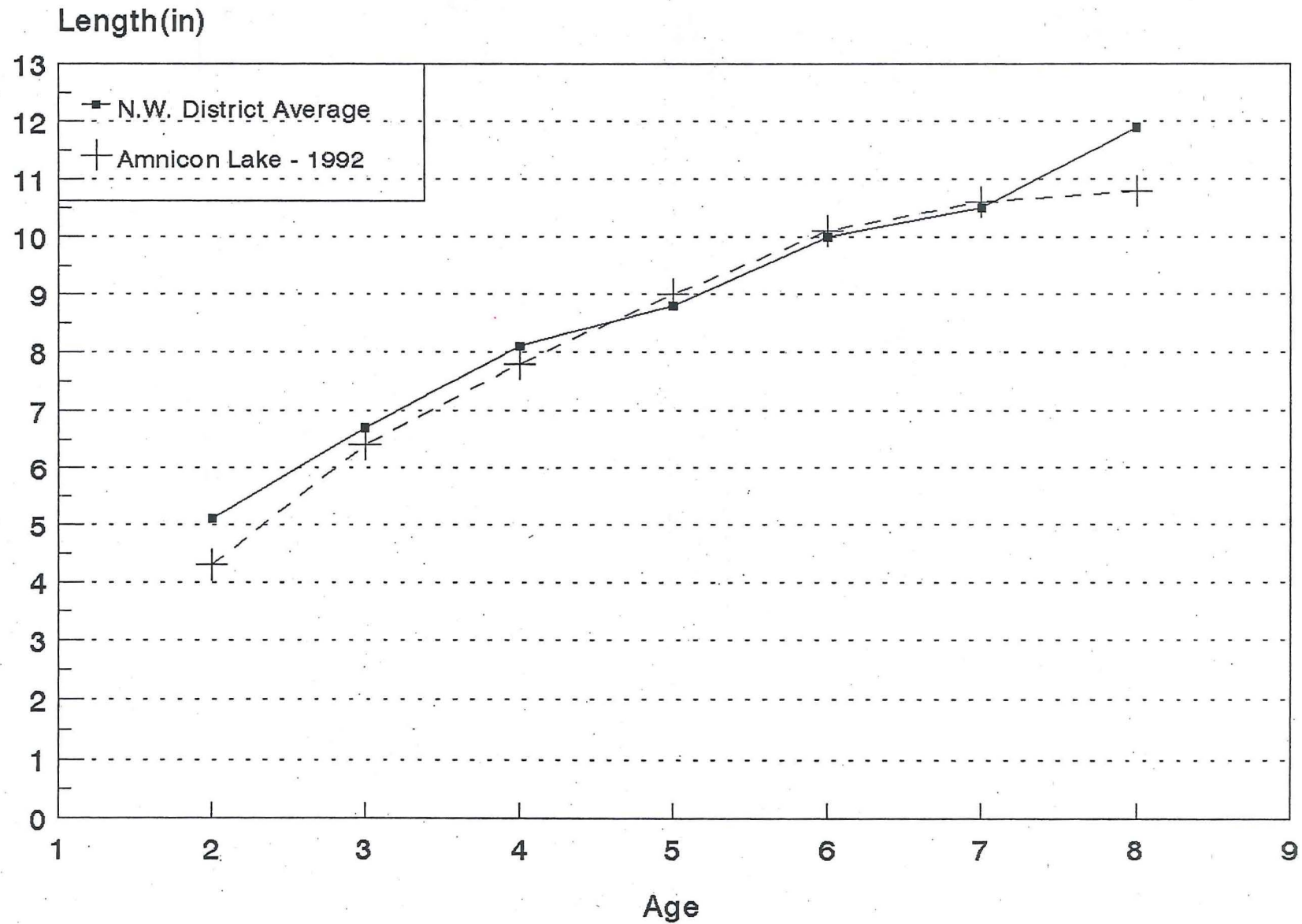
Amnicon Lake Largemouth Bass Growth Comparison



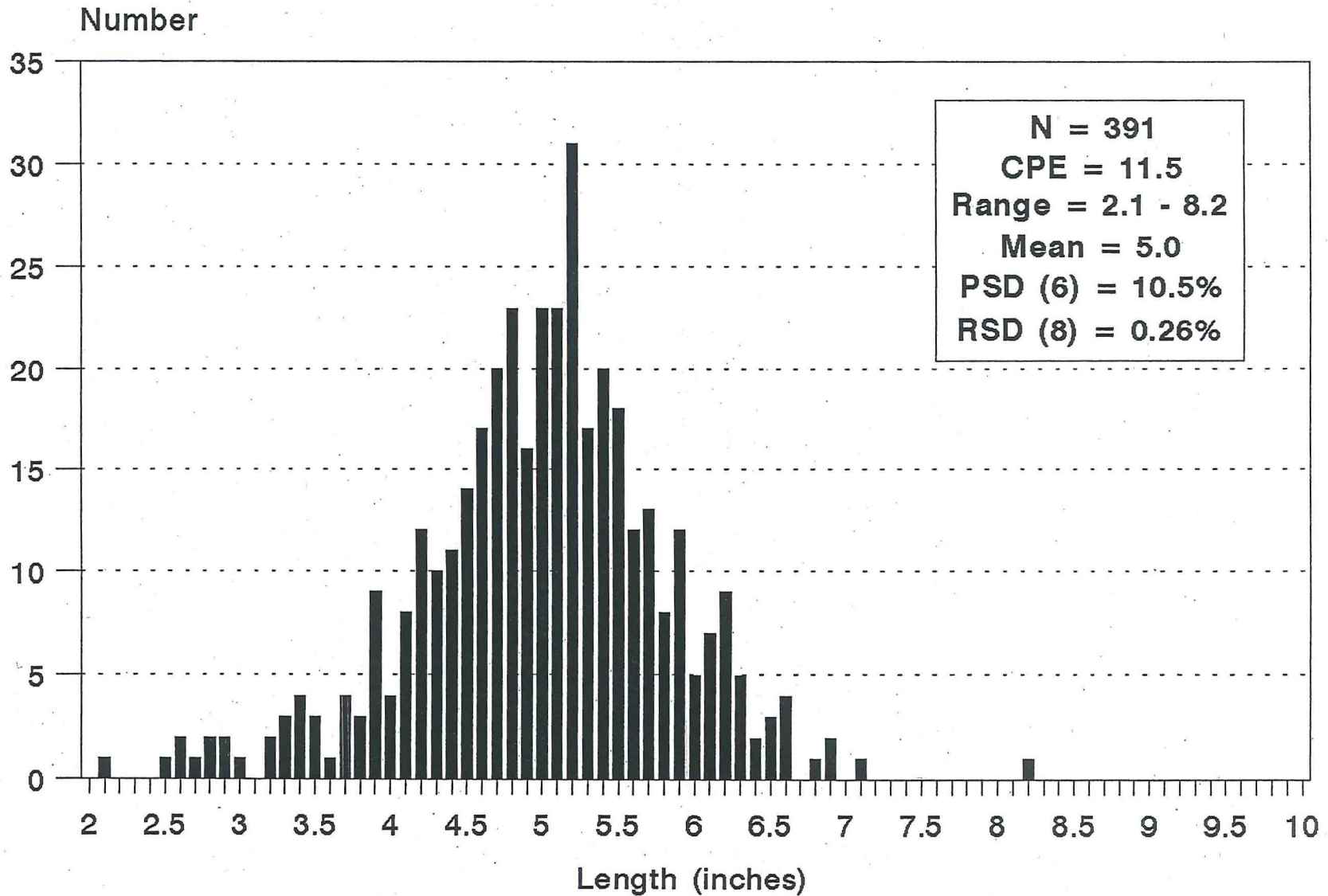
Amnicon Lake Black Crappie 1992



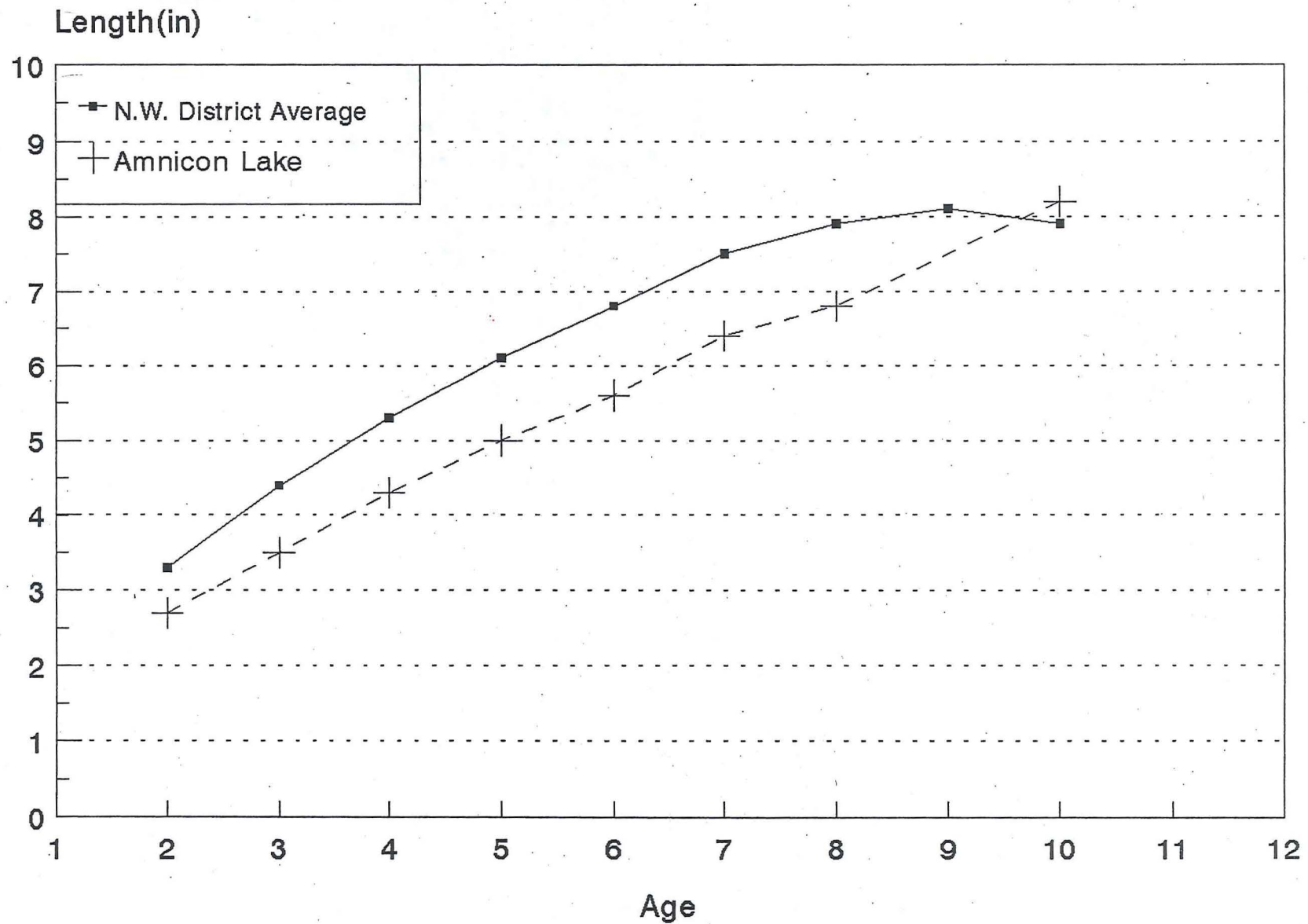
Amnicon Lake Black Crappie Growth Comparison



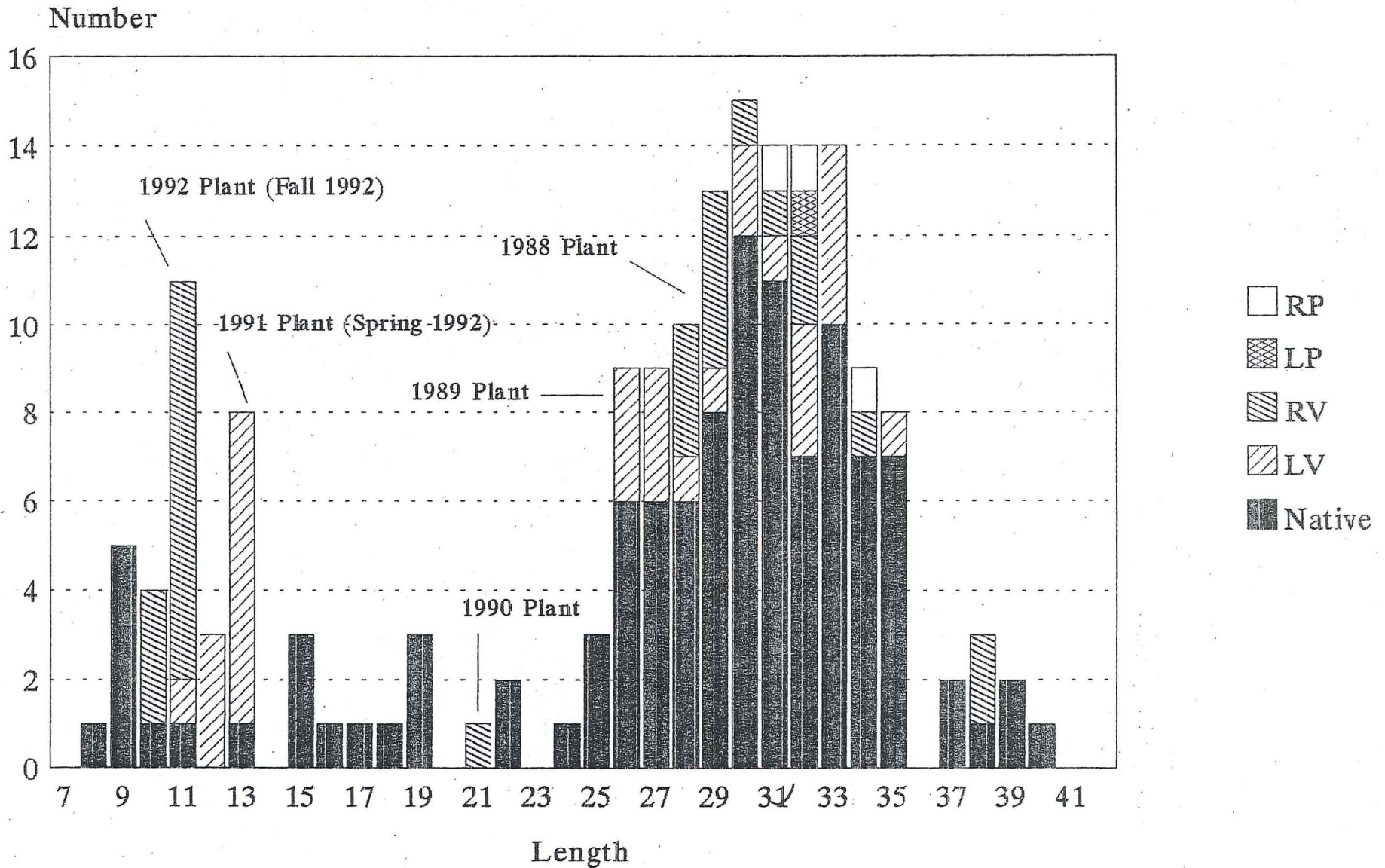
Amnicon Lake Bluegill 1992



Amnicon Lake Bluegill Growth Comparison



Amnicon Lake Muskellunge Length Frequency by Clip



Brule

January 23, 1968

TO: Clarence Wistrom

FROM: William Weiher

SUBJECT: Survey - Dowling Lake, Douglas County

Dowling Lake be continued to be managed for muskellunge;

Dowling Lake is a medium soft water drainage lake of 437.8 surface acres. The water is medium brown stained. Inlets consist of a small stream on the north end and inlet from Newman Lake on the east end. The outlet with flow of approximately 1.7 G.F.S. eventually empties into Amnicon Lake.

The littoral bottom types are dominantly sand with small areas of gravel, detritus and rubble. The shoreline has gradual slopes with vegetation being mainly mixed hardwood.

Private development around the lake is considerable with 98 cottages and homes encircling the lake. Two public access sites exist but are narrow and provide difficult access.

For the last ten years Dowling Lake has been managed for walleye, muskellunge, and pan fish, with walleye and muskellunge being stocked on alternate years. Dowling Lake is one of the three muskellunge lakes in Douglas County which does not contain northern pike. Fishing pressure is primarily for muskellunge, walleye and crappie. Fishing success has generally been good.

A shocker survey was conducted on April 27, 1967 with supplemental shocking on October 12, 1967. Each sampling consisted of several trips around the shoreline.

A total of 26 muskellunge were captured on both surveys with eleven being marked or stocked fish (42% of total muskellunge captured). These marked fish appeared to consist of two year classes with modal size of 15.2 and 23.5 inches.

There is a strong year class of walleye with modal size of 9.2 inches. These would appear to be two year old walleye. Six thousand walleye fingerling were stocked in 1966 which could have bolstered this year class.

Although spawning areas appear to be good, the bluegill and crappie length frequency does not show many smaller fish. Possibly the time periods when surveys were conducted (April and October), the smaller fish were not in shallows.

LAKE DOWLING

WATERS

AG LAG To: Clarence Wistrom - January 2, 1968

10-12-67

AG LAG 2.7

Range	Walleye	Musky	Notes
3.0-3.4			
3.5-3.9			
4.0-4.4			
4.5-4.9			Potential good spawning areas for both walleye and muskellunge appears to be limited, both being located near the inlet from Newman Lake. The potential muskellunge spawning areas have considerable sandy bottom and is not considered prime spawning areas. The walleye spawning areas are small.
5.0-5.4			
5.5-5.9			
6.0-6.4			
6.5-6.9			
7.0-7.4			It would appear that with these limited spawning areas, stocking will be necessary to maintain the muskellunge and walleye population.
7.5-7.9			
8.0-8.4			
8.5-8.9			It is recommended Dowling Lake be continued to be managed for muskellunge, walleye and pan fish with stocking of walleye and muskellunge.
9.0-9.4			
9.5-9.9			
10.0-10.4			
10.5-10.9			
11.0-11.4			
11.5-11.9			
12.0-12.4			
12.5-12.9			WW:da
13.0-13.4			
13.5-13.9			NOTED:
14.0-14.4			
14.5-14.9			
15.0-15.4			
15.5-15.9			
16.0-16.4			Date
16.5-16.9			
17.0-17.4			
17.5-17.9			
18.0-18.4			
18.5-18.9			
19.0-19.4			1 (W. L. W.)
19.5-19.9			
20.0-20.4			
20.5-20.9			
21.0-21.4			
21.5-21.9			
22.0-22.4			
22.5-22.9			
23.0-23.4			
23.5-23.9			
24.0-24.4			
24.5-24.9			
25.0-25.4			
25.5-25.9			
26.0-26.4			

William Weiher


CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Date: December 15, 1978

File Ref: 3600

To: William Weiher

From: Stephen Schram 

Subject: Comprehensive Inventory - Dowling Lake, Douglas County

Introduction:

Dowling Lake is a shallow (13 ft. maximum), stained (2 ft. secchi reading), soft water (MPA 27) drainage lake located in central Douglas County (T46N-R13W, Sections 7, 18). The 153.8 acre lake is circumscribed by 1.95 miles (2.06 with island) of shoreline. A 5 ft. wide outlet channel connects the lake with Amnicon Lake. There is a small inlet from Newman Lake on the east shore and an intermittent stream on the north end. Sand is the major littoral substrate. Emergent aquatic vegetation is abundant along the entire shoreline.

Past Management and Fishing History:

Dowling Lake has a long fish stocking history dating back to 1934. Prior to 1940, walleyes, muskellunge, bass and panfish were stocked but only walleyes and muskies were stocked from 1941-1970. Muskies have been stocked on a yearly basis since 1971.

A netting survey of Dowling lake was conducted in 1947. At that time walleyes, muskies and black crappies were the dominant species. Only 5 bluegills and one perch were sampled.

A boomshocking survey in 1967 again revealed walleyes, muskies and black crappies as the dominant species. It was recommended at that time to continue stocking walleyes and muskellunge.

Dowling Lake is rated as Class B muskellunge water. It is one of the three muskellunge lakes in Douglas County that does not contain northern pike.

Walleyes, muskellunge and black crappie fishing has been rated as fair to good. The majority of fishing is done by local residents possibly because of the poor public access site.

Present Fish Resources:

The 1977 inventory consisted of 7 nights of boomshocking, 2 days of fyke netting and 9 shoreline seine hauls, plus collection of water chemistry data.

Present Fish Resources (continued)

A total of 1,113 walleyes, 151 muskies, 1,135 perch, 1,078 bluegills, 87 black crappies, 23 pumpkinseeds, 41 largemouth bass, 44 rock bass, 66 Johnny Darters, 115 golden shiners, 115 spottail shiners, 7 common shiners, 2 blacknose shiners, 10 white suckers, 15 black bullheads and 1 tadpole madtom were sampled.

Population estimates were made for walleyes and muskies during the spring. The estimate for walleyes using Bailey's modification of the Peterson mark and recapture method is as follows:

Population Estimate	=	3,205
No. walleye/acre	=	20.8
Lbs. walleye/acre	=	18.7

The average weight used to compute the total biomass was 14.4 oz. Average weights for each year class are listed along with the growth rates. The spring estimate for muskellunge follows:

Population Estimate	=	290
No. Musky/acre	=	1.8
Lbs. Musky/acre	=	2.0

The average weight used to compute the biomass was 18.1 oz. Average weights for each year class are listed along with the growth rates. Algal blooms obscured vision and precluded fall population estimates.

The number of walleyes per acre is higher for Dowling Lake than most other lakes in the area. There is an adequate forage base but high numbers plus additional competition for food from muskies have inhibited walleye growth. Walleye growth rates are slower compared to the northern Wisconsin average. Natural recruitment is more than adequate to sustain the fishery. Interestingly, walleye spawning areas are limited to a silt and muck bottom on the eastern shore. There also appeared to be some spawning activity in the inlet from Newman Lake.

Muskellunge have been stocked in Dowling Lake on a yearly basis but continuation of that program does not appear warranted at this time. Growth rates for muskies is equal to the northern Wisconsin average until the fish reach their second year or around 18 inches in length. After their second year musky growth is slow. Yearly musky stocking plus competition with the walleye population has apparently resulted in suppressed musky growth. Natural reproduction was documented when 9 Y-0-Y musky (5.2"-7.2") were seined in mid-July prior to the scheduled stocking time. Major spawning areas could not be identified but the submerged island on the north end of the lake is potentially a good area. Only one legal musky (37.0") was captured during the survey but boomshocker efficiency was hampered by algal blooms and soft water. Muskellunge capture rates were consequently affected with the resultant population estimate undoubtedly low.

Yellow perch, bluegills and black crappies are the most abundant panfish. Perch growth is slow until the fish reach 8.0 inches in length. Bluegill growth is also slow until around 5.0 inches. Both species begin growing well when they are in their fourth year. Crappies are growing slightly above the northern Wisconsin average. A few crappies sampled were over 14 inches and close to 2 pounds.

Present Fish Resources (continued)

Largemouth bass, pumpkinseeds and rock bass are all present, but not in sufficient numbers or sizes to sustain an important fishery.

Primary forage species include golden shiners, spottail shiners, common shiners, blacknose shiners, Johnny darters and white suckers.

Aquatic vegetation observed during the survey included:

Yellow water lily	-	<u>Nuphar sp.</u>	Abundant
Spikerush	-	<u>Eleocharis sp.</u>	Abundant
Clasping leaf pondweed	-	<u>Potamogeton sp.</u>	Abundant
Bur-reed	-	<u>Sparganium sp.</u>	Common
Pickerelweed	-	<u>Pontederia sp.</u>	Present
Bulrush	-	<u>Scripus sp.</u>	Present
Arrowhead	-	<u>Sagittaria sp.</u>	Scarce

Recommendations:

Dowling Lake should continue to be managed for walleyes and muskellunge. The lake classification should be upgraded to Class A muskellunge waters.

Muskellunge stocking should be discontinued. It is suspected that stocked muskies are suppressing natural recruitment. Less than average growth rates in both muskies and walleyes verify this assumption.

Based on slow walleye growth and a high population density, stocking of that species is not required.

Present access, via the inlet channel, is considered inadequate. There is no ramp, water depth in the channel is too shallow for most boats and fishermen must park their cars on the town road. There are eight other platted access sites scattered around the lake. All are very narrow and have limited use. Improvement of the existing facility or one of the other ones should be given top priority by the town or lake association.

Dowling Lake should be surveyed again in 5 years to monitor growth rates of walleyes and muskellunge.

SS:b

NOTED:

Date

Walleye and Muskellunge Population Estimates

Dowling Lake - Spring 1977

Walleye	No. marked initially	426		
	No. marked recaptures	41		
	No. unmarked recaptures	274		
	All recaptures	315		
	Population estimate	3,205	± 892	95% C.I.
		20.8	fish/acre	
		18.7	lbs./acre	

Average weight for all fish 14.4 oz.

Muskellunge	No. marked initially	44		
	No. marked recaptures	4		
	No. unmarked recaptures	28		
	All recaptures	32		
	Population estimate	290	± 213	C.I.
		1.8	muskie/acre	
		2.0	lbs./acre	

Average weight for all fish 18.1 oz.

Estimates were made using Bailey's modification of the Peterson Mark and Recapture Method.