



High Country Fly Fishers June 2025



Utah Division of
Wildlife Resources

Jordanelle Update



Utah Division of
Wildlife Resources

Jordanelle Tiger Muskie Summary

- ▶ Tiger Muskie finally showed up this year... Kind of??
 - ▶ Morning electrofishing versus night
- ▶ 3 MKTG were sampled while electrofishing
 - ▶ 2 were stocked this year
 - ▶ caught in inches of water near the boat ramp
 - ▶ 1 is suspected last year stock
 - ▶ caught in bays east of hailstone
- ▶ Great Yellow Perch boom
- ▶ Also sampled Splake, Kokanee, Smallmouth Bass



Jordanelle MKTG Stocking Summary

- ▶ Stocking numbers and size increased from previous years
 - ▶ ~ 2,000 - 4.5"
 - ▶ ~ 16,000 - 7"
- ▶ Anglers are actually catching fish
 - ▶ one angler had caught 3, ~ 40" fish before July
- ▶ Haven't had any reports in 2025

The Park Record

NEWS WASATCH COUNTY

18,000 'fish of 10,000 casts' released into Jordanelle Reservoir



by Brock Marchant
July 12, 2024



Mike Slater pulls his net filled with tiger muskies out of the transport tank to place them near the shore of the Jordanelle Reservoir while Tyler Robinson films the release on a GoPro.

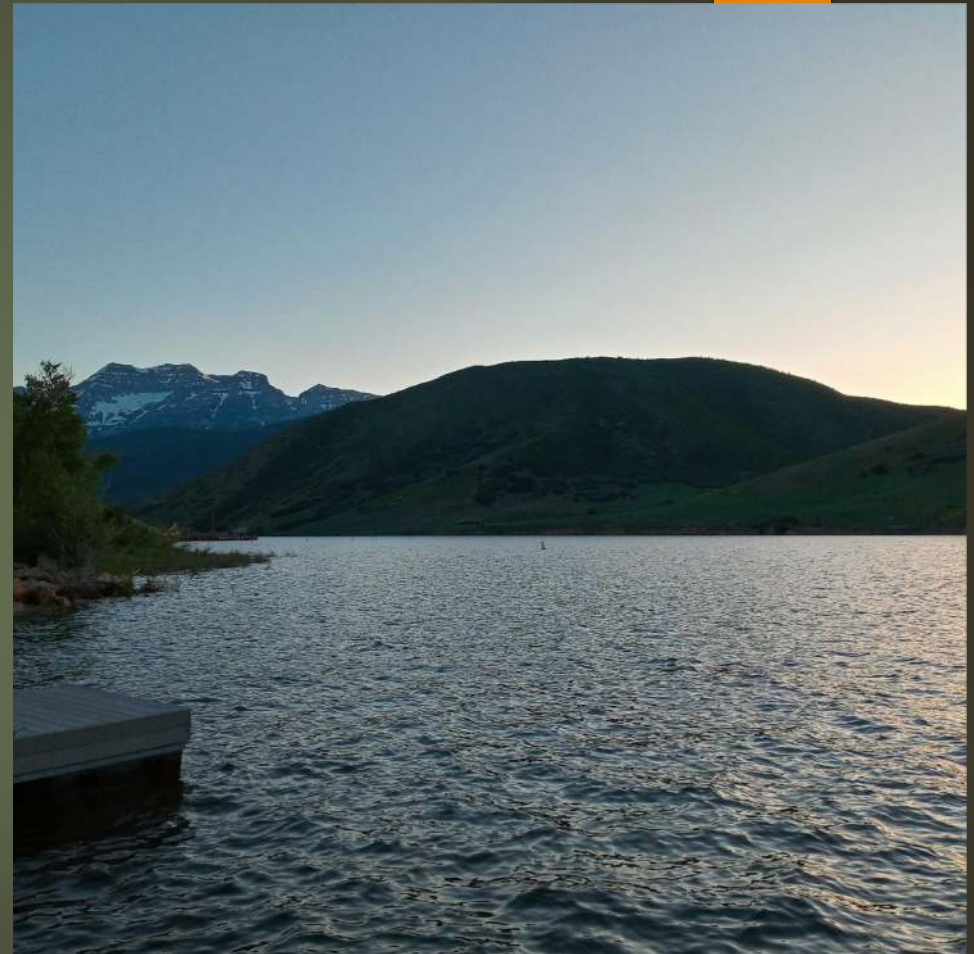
Jordanelle General Summary

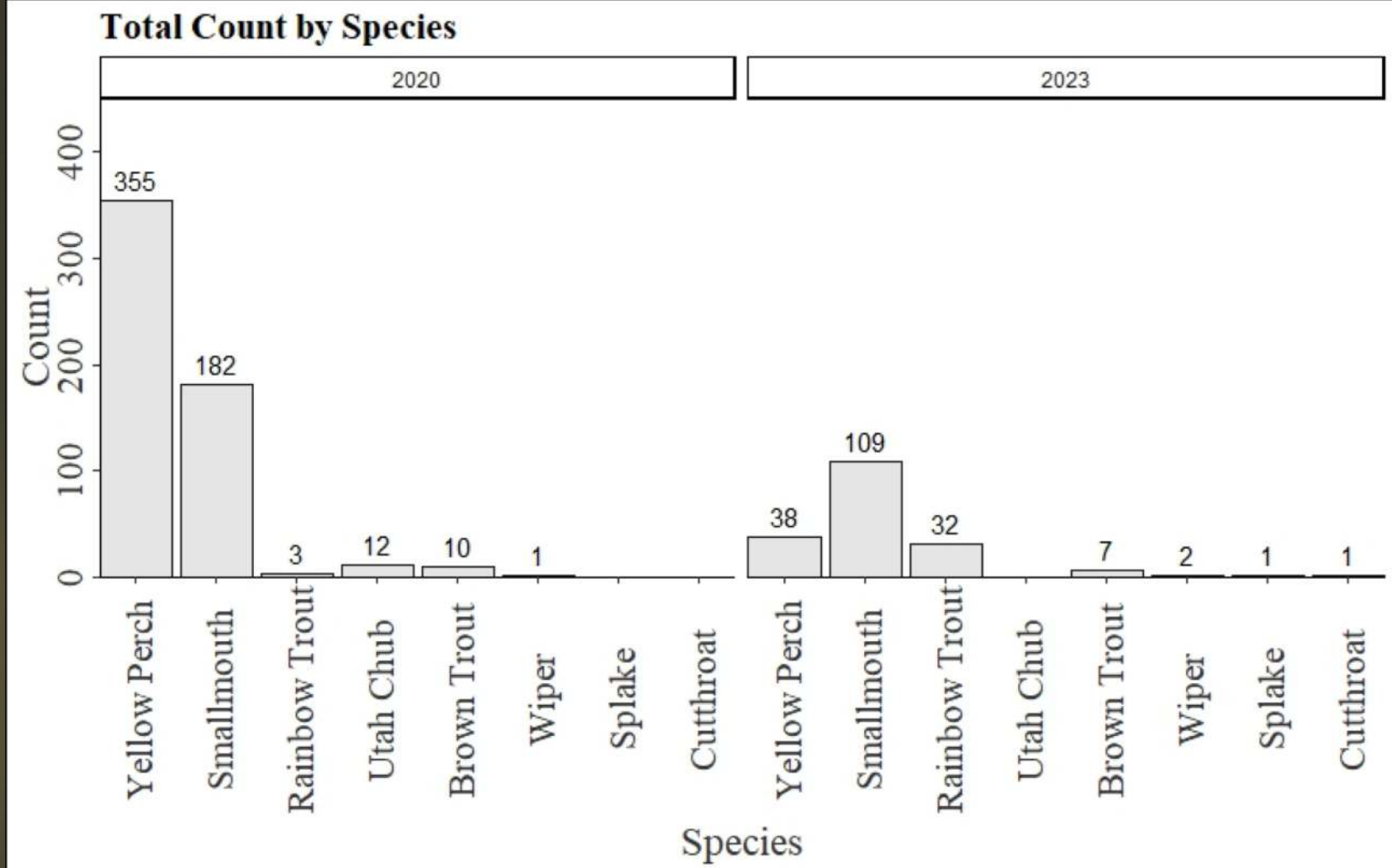
- ▶ 2025 Stocking
 - ▶ ~ 24,000 Rainbows (12")
 - ▶ ~ 225,000 Kokanee (4")
- ▶ 2025 Expected Stocking
 - ▶ ~25,000 Wiper (2") in July
 - ▶ ~15,000 Tiger Muskie (6-8") in July
 - ▶ ~200,000 Splake (4") in October
- ▶ Curtain Net sampling will occur fall 2026
- ▶ Electrofishing will occur Fall 2026 (MKTG) and Spring 2027



Methods

- ▶ Surveyed Deer Creek 20 June & Jordanelle 21 June, 2023
 - ▶ Surveys are conducted at night beginning at dark
- ▶ Water temperature ranged from 13°C (JR) to 15°C (DC)
- ▶ Conducted survey using 4, 20 minute transects across the lake
- ▶ Deer Creek Locations
 - ▶ North-west (near Provo), Rainbow Bay, Dam Point (north of dam), Wallsburg Bay
- ▶ Jordanelle Locations
 - ▶ Provo arm (south), East of dam, Bass bay's (East of the state park), Northwest shore





Jordanelle Results



Utah Division of
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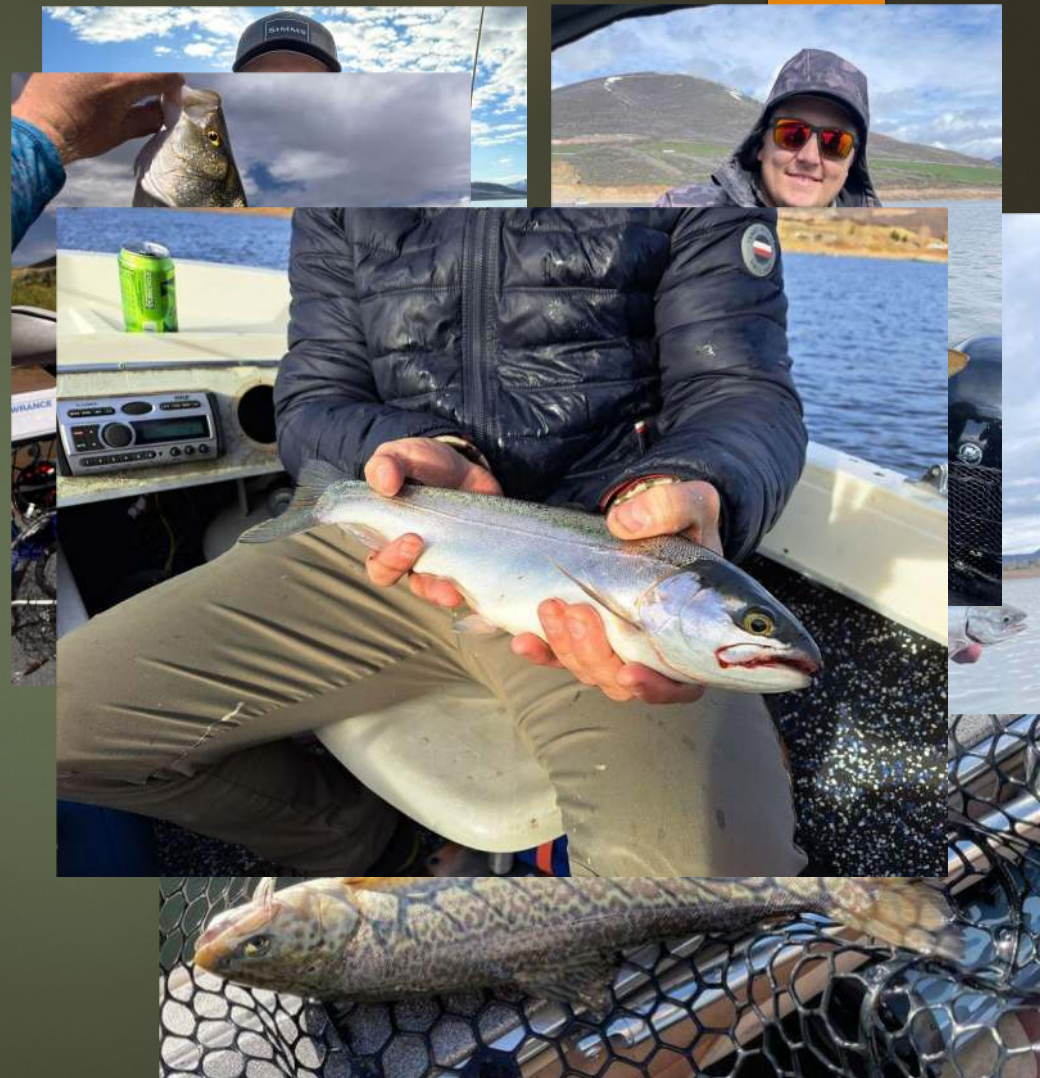
Creel Data Update

Jordanelle Methods

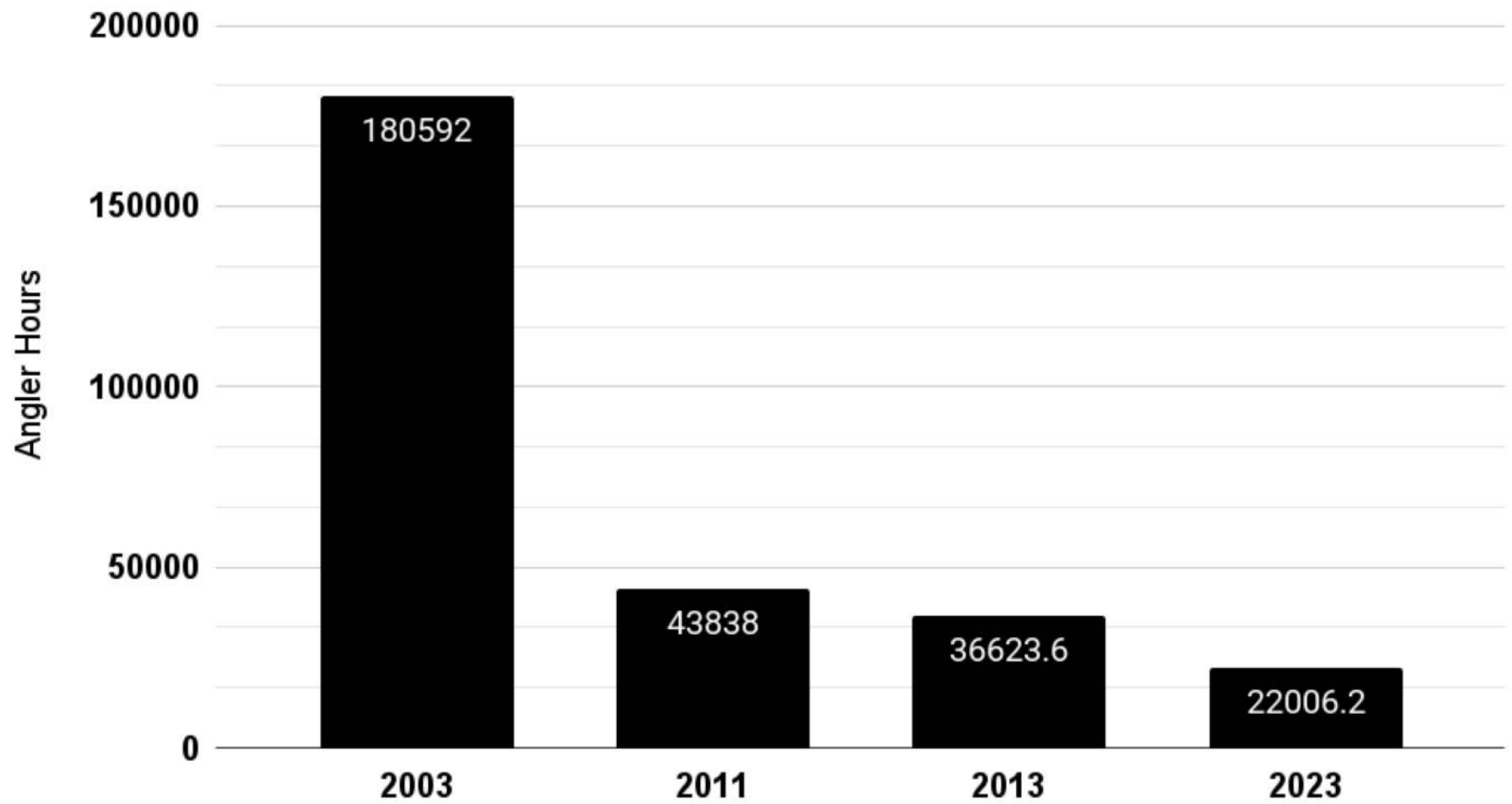
- ▶ Jordanelle Reservoir creel began mid-May (ice-off) and ran through October 2023
- ▶ Survey strata included day of week (weekday or weekend).
- ▶ Survey strata included day of week (weekday or weekend) and time of day (AM or PM). Survey days were randomly selected with regard to weekday, weekend/holiday days, and time of day.
- ▶ Shifts lasted 5.5 to 7.75 hours depending on the month.
- ▶ 73 total surveys were conducted
- ▶ Jordanelle was divided into 3 regions.
 - ▶ Provo Arm, Dam, North Arm
- ▶ Anglers were counted 3 times per shift in each region

Jordanelle Creel Summary

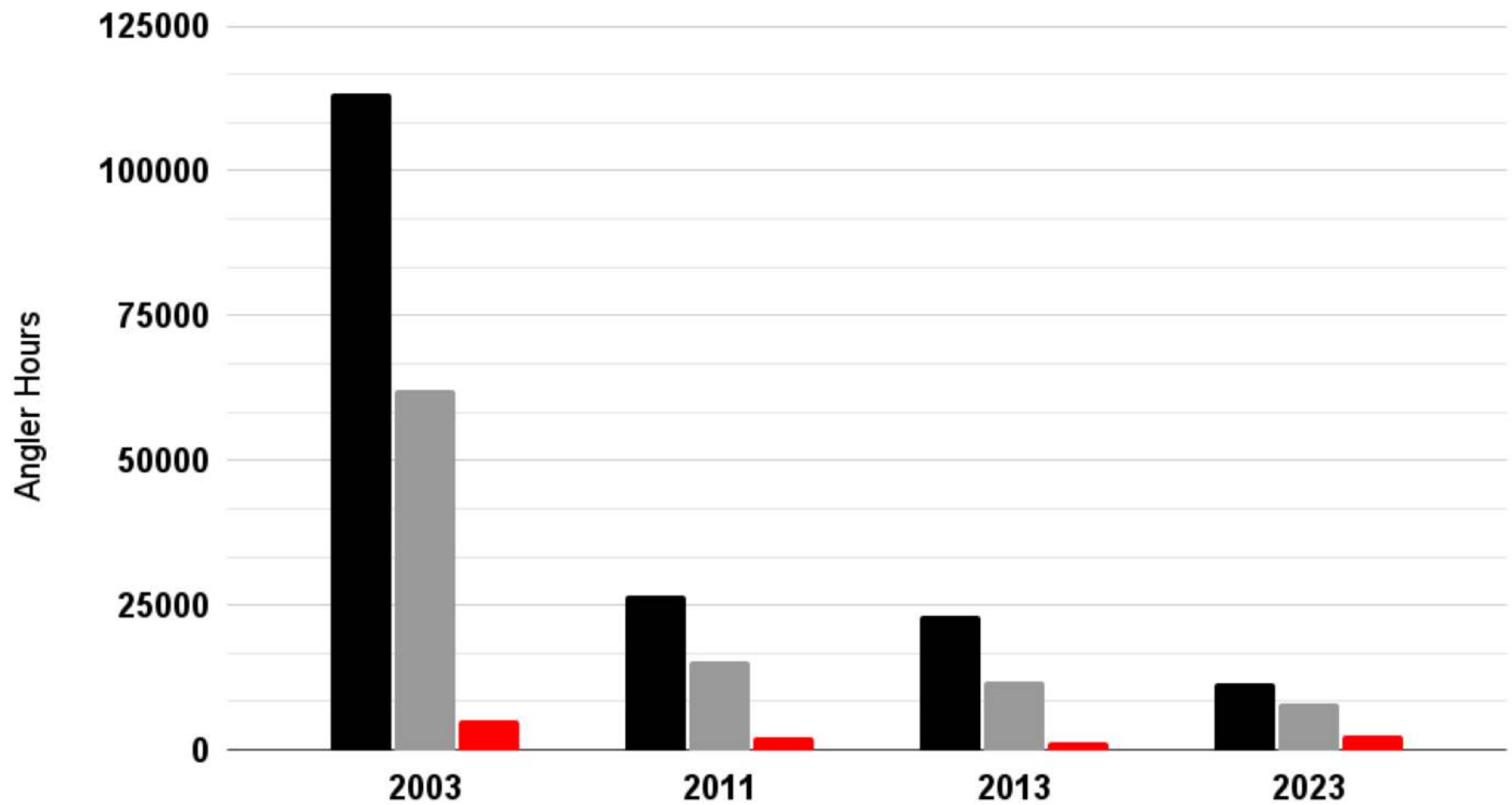
- ▶ Kokanee fishing was great all season
 - ▶ Lots of anglers came down from Strawberry
- ▶ October fishing pressure was minimal
- ▶ All our introduced species appear to get caught by anglers
 - ▶ One “report” of a Tiger Muskie caught by an angler
- ▶ Trout are still the most targeted species



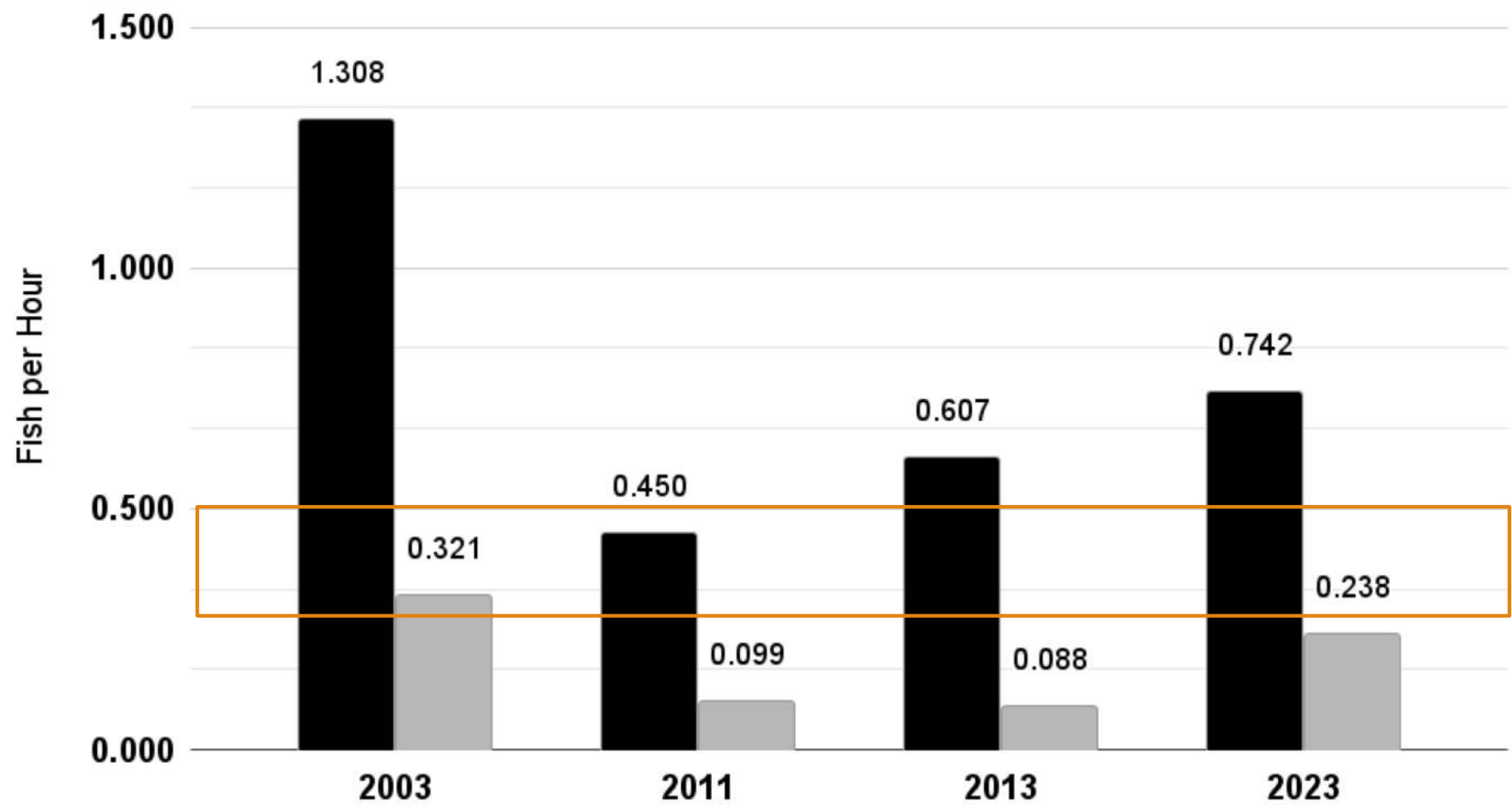
Overall Effort



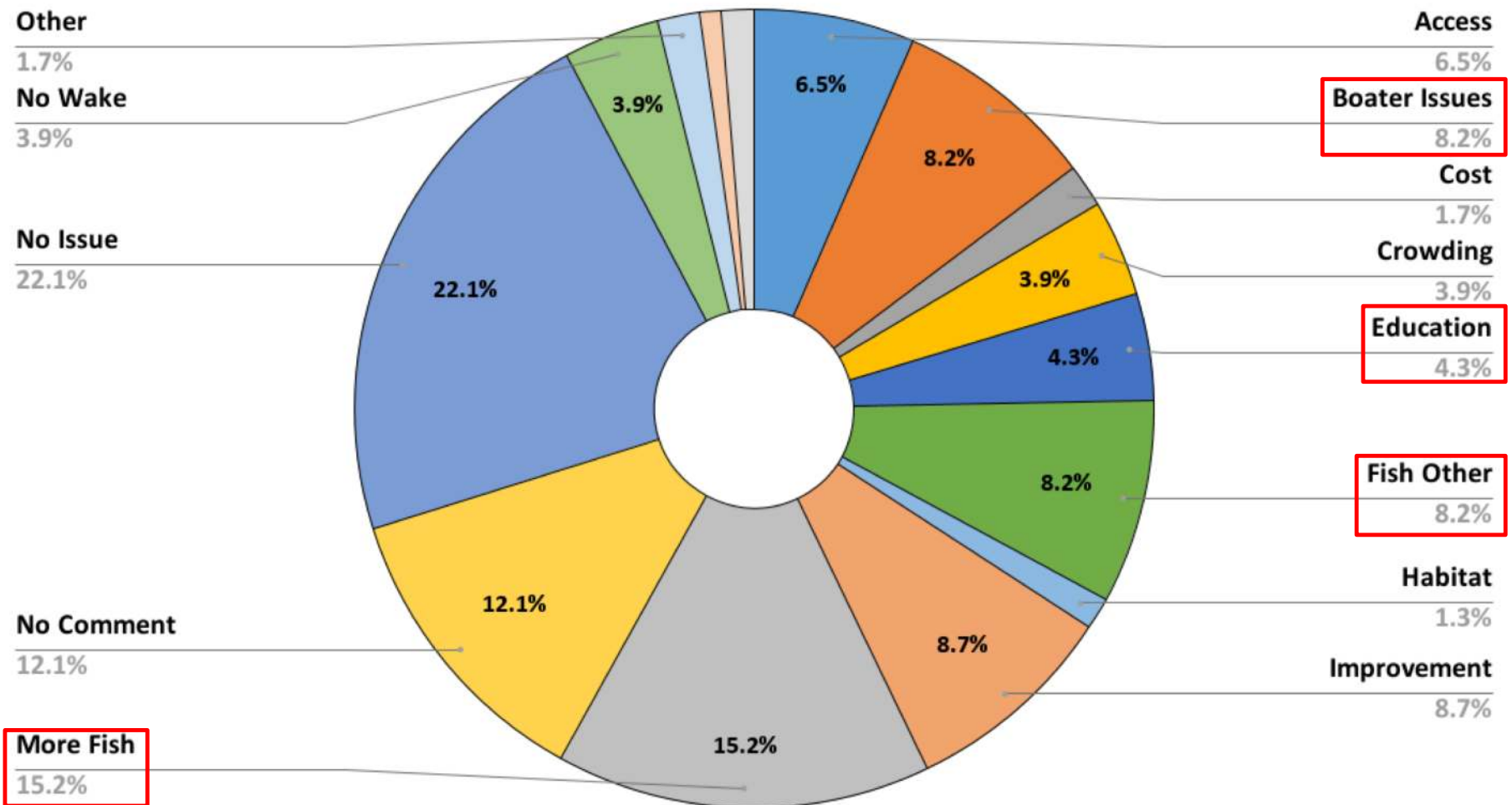
Angling Type Effort



Overall Catch vs. Harvest Rate



How can we improve your experience on Jordanelle?



What did we learn...

- ▶ Angler use on Jordanelle appears to be dropping... but why?
 - ▶ High recreational usage (wakeboards, jet skis, beach goers, etc.)
- ▶ Overall catch and harvest was similar to the past creel results
- ▶ Catch rates are well above the state objective of 0.5 fish/hour
 - ▶ However harvest is also up from previous years
- ▶ We exceeded our 0.25 Rainbow Trout/hour catch rate goal from management plan
 - ▶ Can we sustain this in the future?
- ▶ PEOPLE WANT MORE FISH!!!
 - ▶ And bigger fish, and different fish, and less predators...
 - ▶ How can we please them all??
- ▶ We need to work with State Parks to help satisfy anglers needs for
 - ▶ better/more access
 - ▶ Increased no wake zone
 - ▶ Boater education

**Full! Jordanelle
is at capacity.
Expect long
waits to enter!**



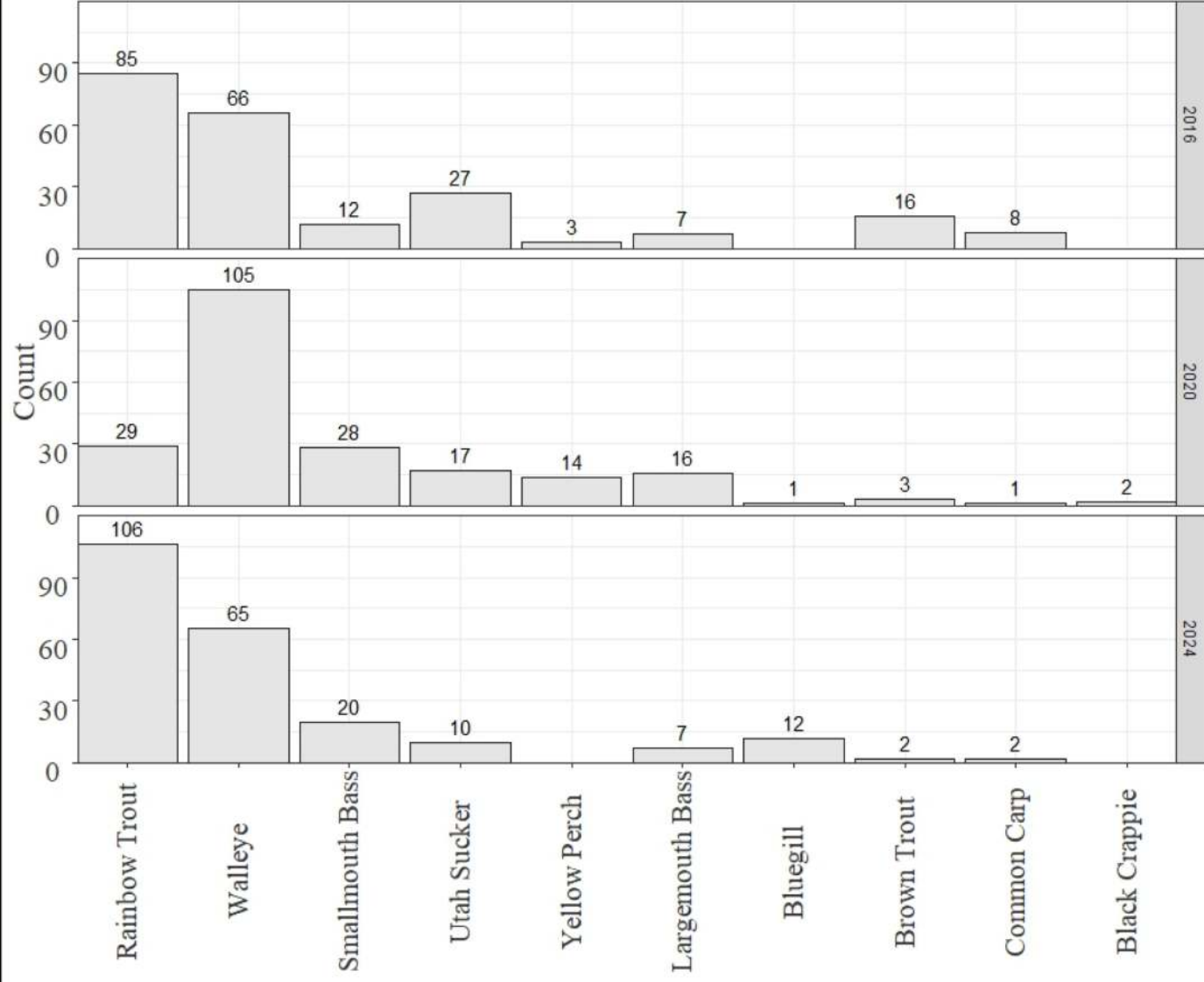
2024 Gill Netting: Deer Creek



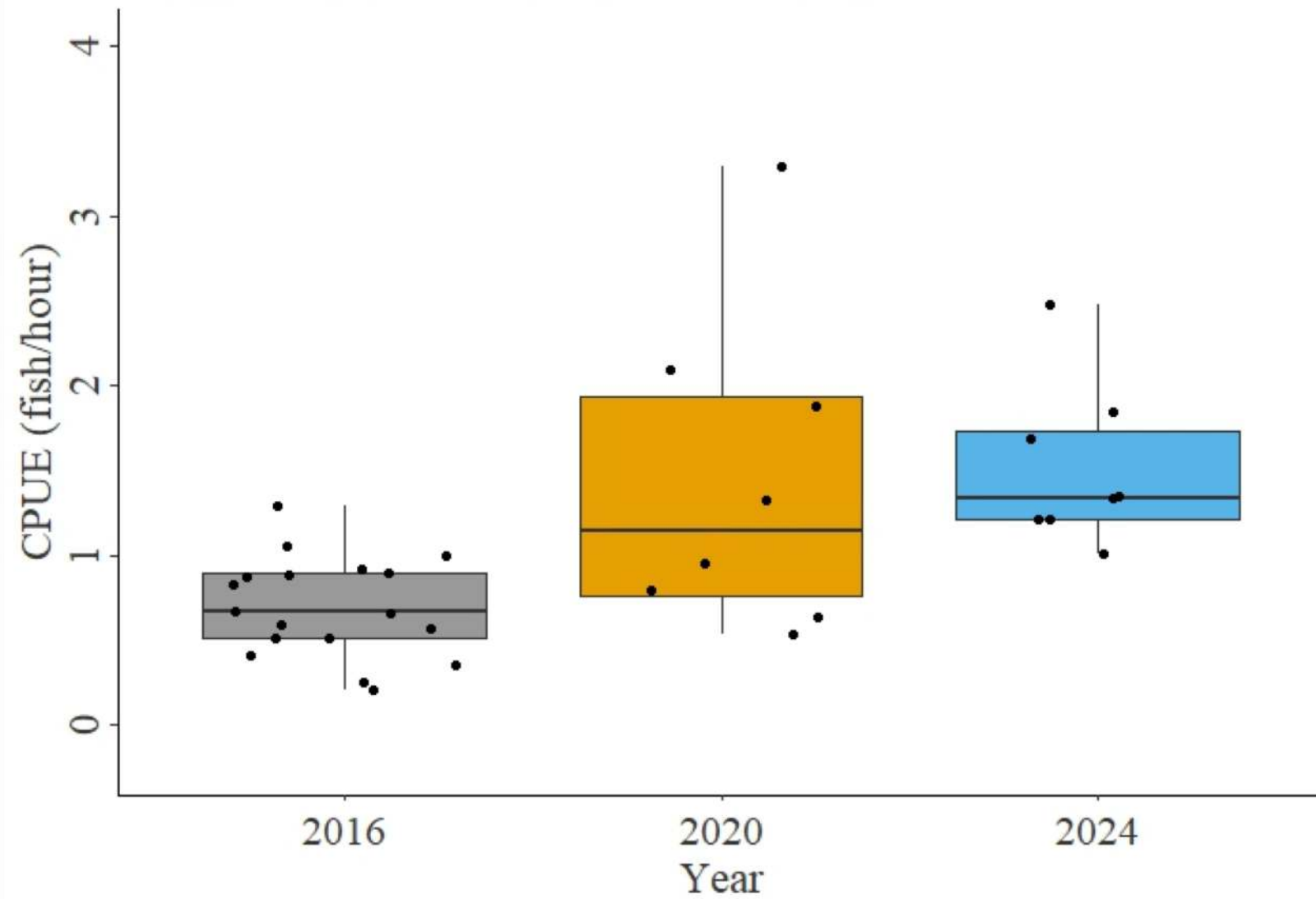
Sample Summary

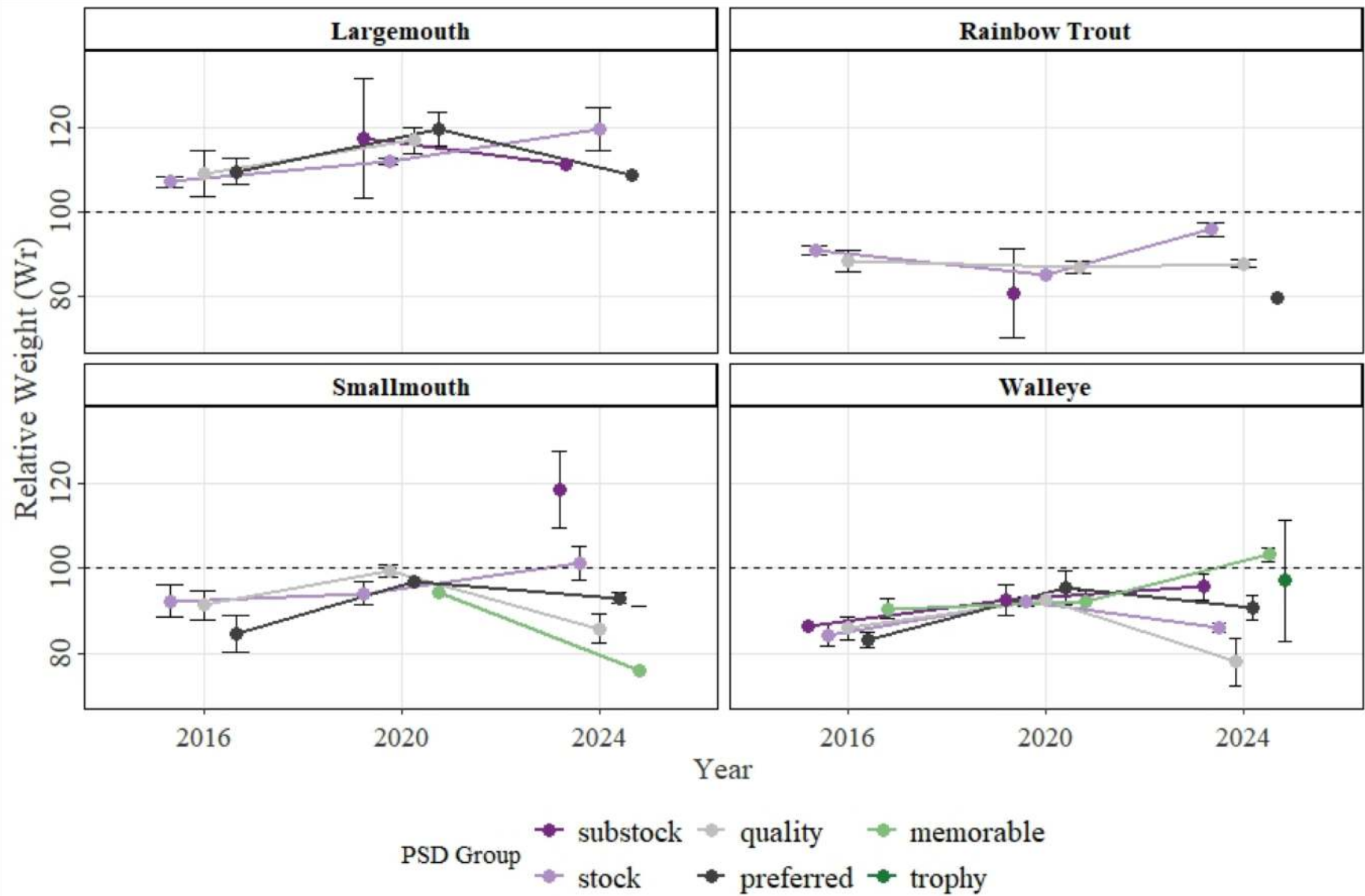
- ▶ October 7th, 2024
 - ▶ 8 AFS nets (4 floaters, 4 divers)
- ▶ Average soak time = 18.55 hours
- ▶ Water Temp = 18.0 °C
- ▶ Dominated by Rainbows and Walleye
- ▶ Encountered Bluegill, Brown Trout, Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass, Utah Sucker
 - ▶ Most Walleye diets were empty but body cavities were full of fat
 - ▶ Bluegill and Yellow Perch were frequent food items in WE, two fish had 10" rainbows
 - ▶ Crayfish and Bluegill were present in both small and largemouth diets
- ▶ LOTS of big Walleye

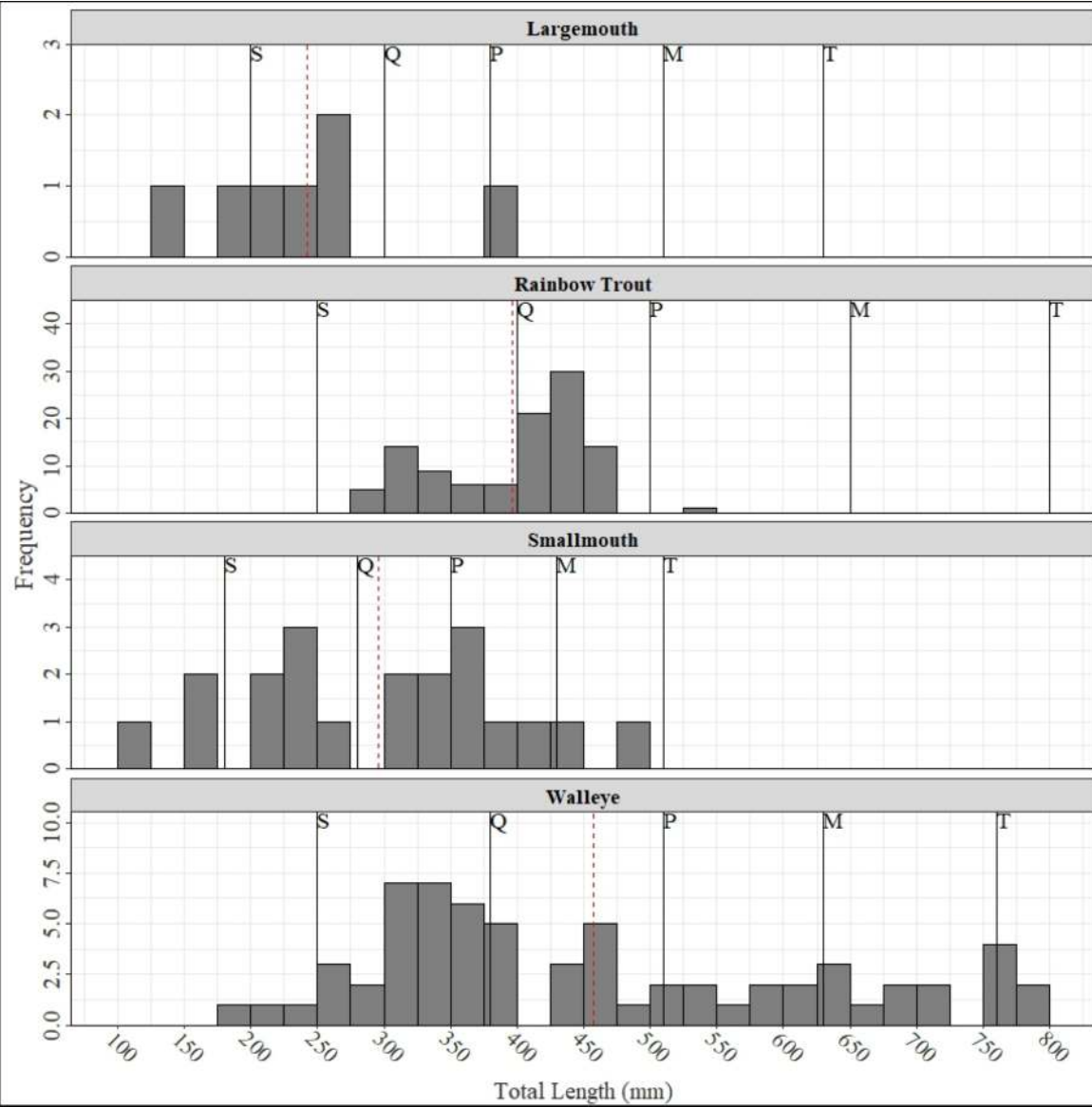


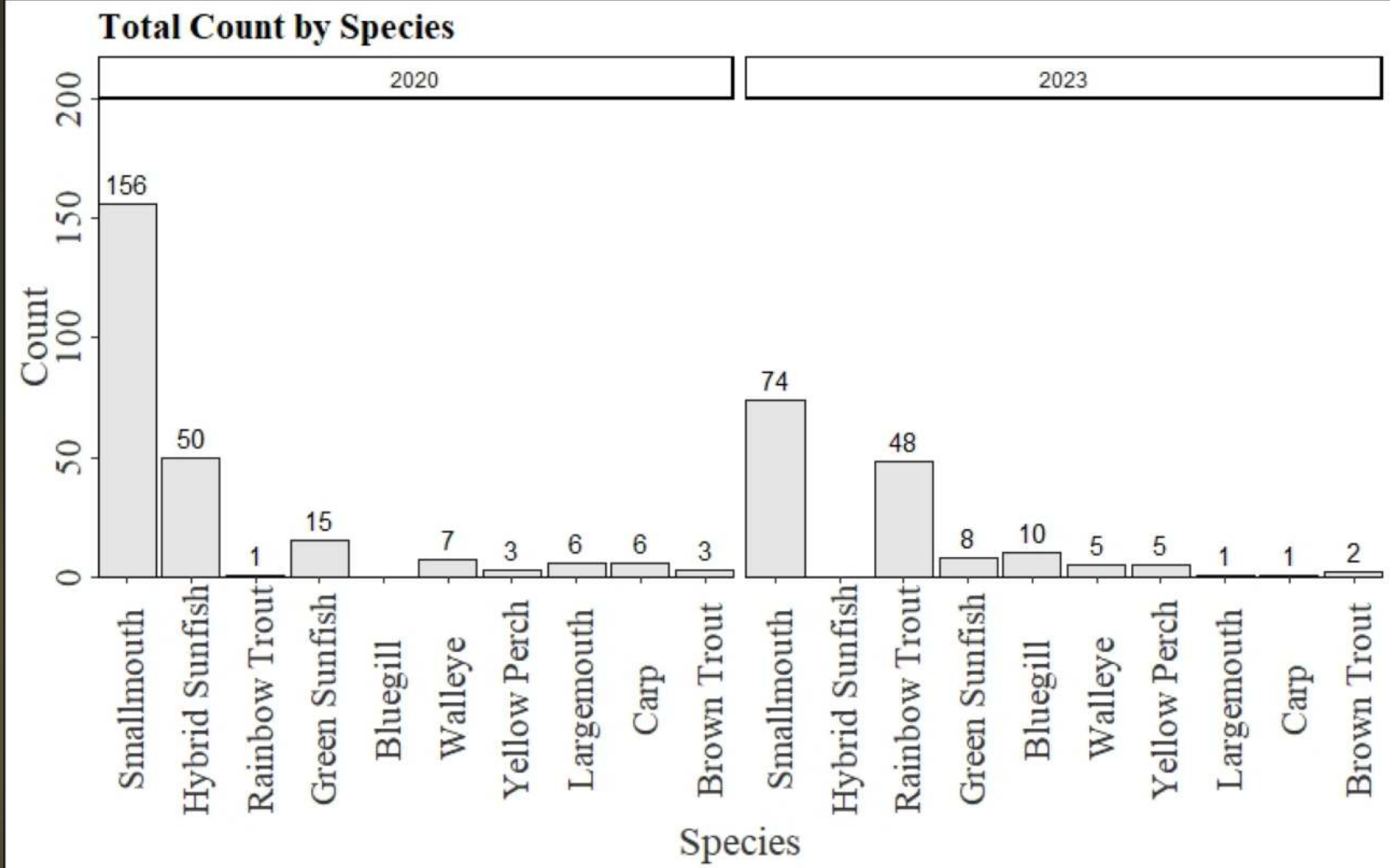


Yearly CPUE of Deer Creek Gill Net Sampling









Deer Creek Results

- ▶ Catch declined in both systems from previous years
 - ▶ Perch saw the largest decline between years in Deer Creek
 - ▶ Lower numbers in both lakes could be caused by high water levels
- ▶ Jordanelle Tiger Muskie are still missing
 - ▶ We did miss one fish, expected to be a Muskie
- ▶ Smallmouth numbers declined but size structure was still poor
 - ▶ Deer Creek: 2023 = 182mm; 2020 = 184mm
 - ▶ Jordanelle: 2023 = 120mm; 2020 = 130mm
- ▶ Rainbow Trout numbers appear high and size structure improved between years



Conclusions

- ▶ Catch declined in both systems from previous years
 - ▶ Perch saw the largest decline between years in Deer Creek
 - ▶ Lower numbers in both lakes could be caused by high water levels
- ▶ Jordanelle Tiger Muskie are still missing
 - ▶ We did miss one fish, expected to be a Muskie
 - ▶ Planning to do targeted sampling in 2024
- ▶ Smallmouth numbers declined but size structure was still poor
 - ▶ Deer Creek: 2023 = 182mm; 2020 = 184mm
 - ▶ Jordanelle: 2023 = 120mm; 2020 = 130mm
- ▶ Rainbow Trout numbers appear high and size structure improved between years



Conclusions