



FARM POND FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Foster Lake and Pond Management

WHAT IS YOUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE?

- **WHAT IS MY FAVORITE TYPE OF FISH?**
- **DO I WANT FISH TO EAT?**
- **DO I WANT TO GROW TROPHY SIZE FISH?**
- **HOW MUCH BIOMASS CAN MY POND SUPPORT?**
- **HOW MUCH TIME WILL IT TAKE TO REACH MY GOAL?**
- **WHAT LEVEL OF MANAGEMENT DO I WANT TO COMMIT TO?**



MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

TROPHY MANAGEMENT

QUALITY VS. QUANTITY

**INCREASED BIOMASS &
PRODUCTIVITY**

**INCREASED MAINTENANCE
ACTIVITIES**

**LARGER FINANCIAL
COMMITMENT**

RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT

SMALLER AVERAGE FISH SIZE

SELF SUSTAINING

SLOWER RESULTS

**FEWER MAINTENANCE
ACTIVITIES**

LESS EXPENSE

CUSTOM MANAGEMENT

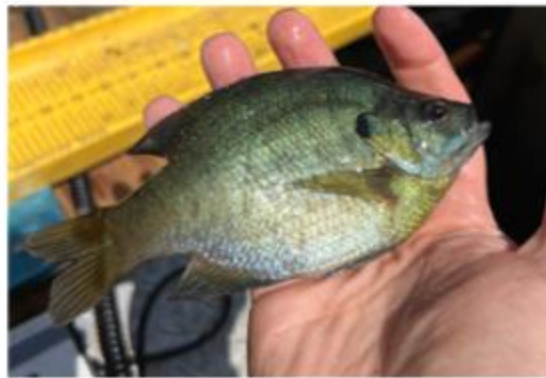
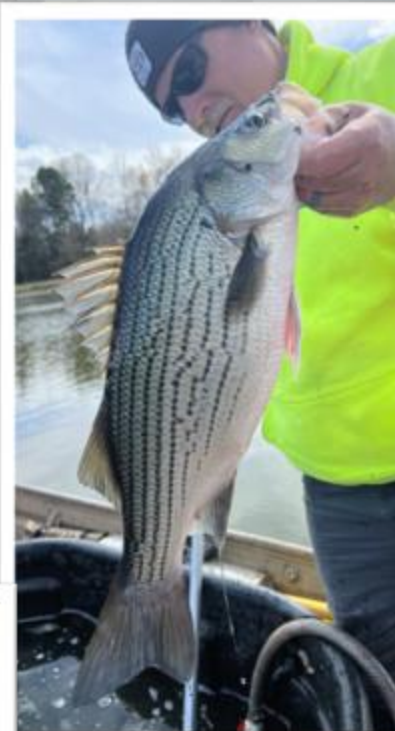
FEEDER BASED

PUT & TAKE STRATEGY

FOOD FISH

FISH SPECIES

- **BLUEGILL**
- **REDEAR SUNFISH (SHELLCRACKER)**
- **LARGEMOUTH BASS**
- **CHANNEL CATFISH**
- **FATHEAD MINNOWS**
- **TRIPLOID GRASS CARP**



- **BLACK CRAPPIE**
- **HYBRID BLUEGILL**
- **HYBRID STRIPED BASS**
- **RAINBOW TROUT**
- **THREADFIN SHAD**

STOCKING RATES

BASIC POND STOCKING/ACRE

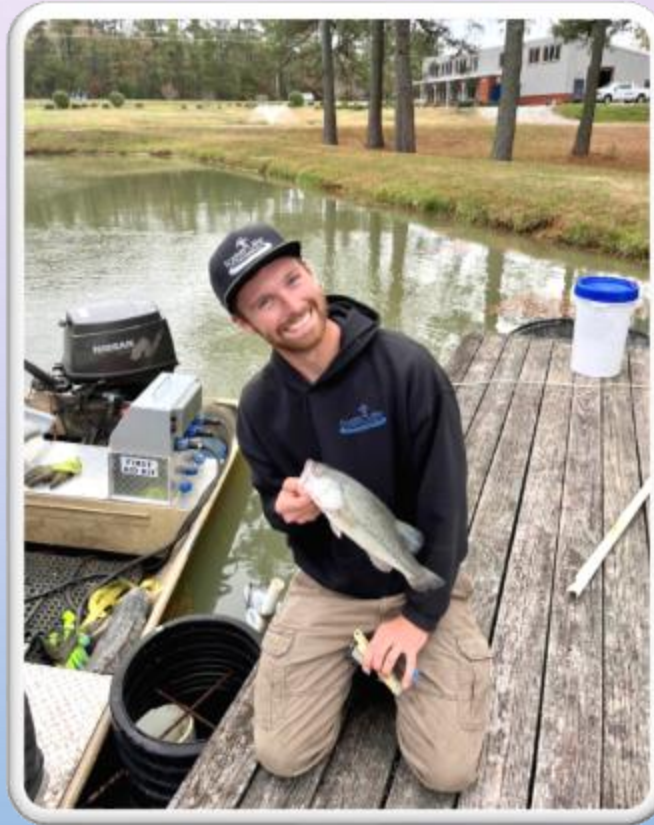
- **350 BLUEGILL**
- **150 SHELLCRACKER**
- **50 LARGEMOUTH BASS**
- **15 LBS. FATHEAD MINNOWS**
- **7 TRIPLOID GRASS CARP**
- **50 CHANNEL CATFISH****

TROPHY STOCKING/ACRE

- **2000 BLUEGILL**
- **1000 SHELLCRACKER**
- **25 F1 LARGEMOUTH BASS**
- **THREADFIN SHAD (~50 LBS.)**
- **100 LBS. MIXED MINNOWS**

CUSTOM STOCKING FOR SMALL PONDS

- **CHANNEL CATFISH**
- **HYBRID STRIPED BASS**
- **HYBRID BLUEGILL**
- **BLACK CRAPPIE**
- **RAINBOW TROUT**



HABITAT

- **NECESSARY IN ALL LAKES/PONDS**
- **RECRUITMENT**
- **ANGLING**
- **GROWTH**



TYPES OF HABITAT/STRUCTURE



Artificial "Ugly Trees"



Natural habitat



Artificial "honey holes"




SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING

PROS

- **FAST GROWTH**
- **INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY**
- **IMPROVED FLAVOR**
- **IMPROVED FISHING RESULTS**
- **MAXIMUM GROWTH POTENTIAL**
- **NECESSARY FOR “TROPHY” PONDS**

CONS

- **EXPENSE**
 - **INCREASED NUTRIENTS**
 - **COMMITMENT**
 - **INCREASED NEED TO HARVEST**
- 



HARVEST

- **HARVEST BEGINS AFTER 3RD YEAR .**
- **20LBS LARGEMOUTH BASS/ACRE**
- **40-50LBS SUNFISH/ACRE**
- **CHANNEL CATFISH, HYBRID STRIPED BASS, TROUT, "PUT AND TAKE"**
- **ALWAYS REMOVE BLACK CRAPPIE AND "TRASH" FISH**



AERATION

- **“INSURANCE” FOR FISHERY**
- **INCREASED DISSOLVED OXYGEN**
- **NUTRIENT REDUCTION**
- **INCREASED “LIVABLE” WATER VOLUME**



COMMON MISTAKES

- **UNDERHARVEST**
- **LACK OF HABITAT**
- **INTERRUPTION OF FEEDING/FERTILIZATION**
- **IMPROPER STOCKING STRATEGY**
- **“WILD” FISH INTRODUCTION**

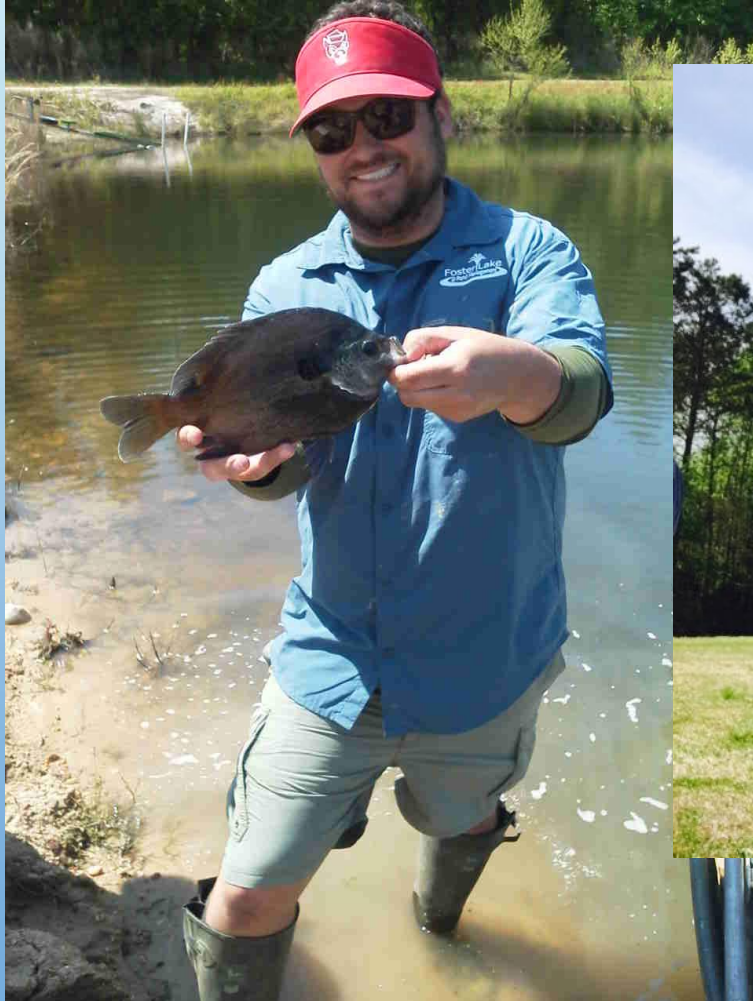


FIXING PROBLEMS



- **IDENTIFY THE OBJECTIVE**
- **ELECTROFISHING SURVEY**
- **ROTENONE (“STARTING OVER”)**
- **SUPPLEMENTAL STOCKING**

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?



QUESTIONS?



ENJOY YOUR POND!

