

This Free Electroshock Analysis from the State saved Us up to \$5000 from area lake management companies and shows how networking in Carolina Trace works for us all!

Sanford, NC. A free electroshock analysis was performed for three hours on Carolina Trace Lake May 27th, 2008. Bill Collart, a fish biologist with 20 years experience at the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission conducted the study to determine fish population densities and health.



Carl Woodard of North Shore helps Bill launch the state-owned electroshock boat. Bill is the son of Al Collart, also of North Shore and Carl's neighbor. When Carl discovered that Bill was a fish biologist with the NCWRC, he asked Bill to see if the State could analyze Lake Trace. (Yes!)



Libby Bibb (HL), Chair of the CTA-CTCC Joint Lake Committee, was the designated "Netter". After scooping up the fish that were stunned by a mild electrical current that went down about six feet below the boat, she placed the netted species in a large aerated tub filled with lake water.



The tension mounts! Libby, Lee Amcher (GW) and Carl wait for the results...



Crowds form awaiting the verdict, including Karl Heidinger (GE), Vice-Chair of the CTA-CTCC JLC.



Bill examines a young bass. Over 50 fish were netted, examined and released unharmed.



Bottom line... the sport fish population is healthy!! (Witness this five pound bass.) *The way to catch fish in Lake Trace has changed.* When the invasive weed hydrilla clogged the lake in 2002, this cover was reduced very quickly by the introduction of 2000 sterile grass carp. A lot of feedback has suggested that the fish population has declined from this lack of cover and the carp stirring up spawning beds as they foraged along the shoreline for weeds to eat. However, this Lake Study shows that the bass and bluegill population have acclimated themselves to different structure and are in good numbers from fingerlings (one year olds) to larger sizes. The CTA-CTCC Joint Lake Committee is currently addressing permanent lake structures (fish attractors) that will provide more cover for the small fry.