



Relicensing Brief: FISHERIES

- Lake Jackson supports a popular fishery for largemouth bass, crappie, catfish, and other warm-water sport fishes. Georgia Power works collaboratively with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GDNR) in the agency's management of the fishery.
- Lloyd Shoals Dam is located on the Ocmulgee River, downstream of the confluence of the Alcovy, Yellow, and South Rivers and Tussahaw Creek in the Piedmont physiographic province. Impounded waters dominate aquatic habitats within the project boundary and the principal fisheries inhabiting project waters are reservoir fisheries.
- Several public access areas and marinas around the lake provide for a wide variety of boat- and bank-fishing opportunities and experiences.
- Lake Jackson is known for largemouth and spotted bass fishing, with significant fisheries for black crappie and catfish as well. Fallen timber and man-made brush piles provide habitat for largemouth and spotted bass, crappie, and bream, as well as nursery habitat for important forage species such as threadfin shad.
- Tournament fishing on Lake Jackson primarily targets largemouth bass and is limited to local tournaments. The GDNR uses the standard, statewide 12-inch minimum length limit for largemouth bass. All other species follow the statewide length and bag limits.
- GDNR stocks striped bass into Lake Jackson, which average 4-6 pounds but can reach as large as 18 pounds. American shad are also stocked with the intent of passing them downstream of Lloyd Shoals Dam and ultimately into the Altamaha River to contribute to the river fishery.
- There are no known occurrences of federally listed aquatic species within the Lloyd Shoals Dam project boundary. Federally listed Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon occur below Juliette Dam, which is located 19 miles downstream of Lloyd Shoals Dam, and the National Marine Fisheries Service has designated critical habitat in the Ocmulgee River downstream of Juliette Dam to the confluence with the Oconee River.
- State listed aquatic species occurring in the vicinity of the project include robust redhorse (endangered), Atlantic pigtoe (endangered), Altamaha shiner (threatened), and goldstripe darter (rare). However, none are currently known to occur within the project boundary.

Bottom Line Take Away: Lake Jackson supports popular warm-water reservoir fisheries. Numerous boat ramps and access areas around the lake provide for a wide variety of angling opportunities and experiences.

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