

North Carolina Sport Fish Profiles



Bodie Bass (striped bass hybrid)

Scientific Name:

Morone saxatilis x Morone chrysops

Other Common Names:

hybrid striped bass, hybrid, wiper



Illustration by Duane Raver

The Bodie bass (or striped bass hybrid) was named for Bodie McDowell (now retired) who was the public information officer for the Wildlife Resources Commission. Previously, Mr. McDowell was an outdoor writer from Greensboro. He remains a strong advocate for sport fishing and conservation.

Identification:

The Bodie bass is a cross between a male white bass and a female striped bass. Its color is gray to steel blue above, with white-to pale-green sides. Its appearance is very similar to the striped bass, but the Bodie bass has a deeper body and broken stripes or lines on the sides. The striped bass has stripes that are more distinct and solid.

Habitats and Habits:

Striped bass hybrids grow very fast and rarely reproduce. They are reared in hatcheries owned by the Commission and stocked in several lakes for recreational fishing. Although these fish may not get as big as striped bass, individuals larger than 10 pounds are common. Bodie bass are very similar to striped bass and white bass in their habitat preferences and feeding habits. They are found primarily in open waters, where they search for forage fish such as shad.

Fishing Techniques:

Live shad, minnows or lures that imitate minnows often work well. Bank fishing with chicken livers is also a popular angling method.

Good Places to Fish:

Striped bass hybrids are currently stocked in Moss Reservoir, Oak Hollow Lake, Lake Townsend, Lake Thom-A-Lex, Salem Lake and W. Kerr Scott Reservoir.

Other Information:

NCARP Minimum Requirements: 8 pounds or 24 inches

State Record: 17 lbs., 7 oz., from Lake Chatuge, March 15, 1996