

# 2011 South River Angler Survey

Funding: DuPont  
Clerks: Dave Keeling,  
Kyle Rhodes  
Coordination: Scott  
Gregory





# Purpose

- Capture river use info – angling and rec
- Gauge angler knowledge of consumption advisory
- Gather angling statistics – effort, catch, harvest
- This is the second survey of this kind for South River – a follow-up to the 2005 survey



Conducting an angler interview

# Methods

- A stratified “roving” angler survey was selected due to access point limitations
- Non-uniform probabilities were assigned to river reaches, time of day, days of week...then selected randomly to determine the sample schedule
- Plus to roving survey: more remote contacts; Drawback: incomplete trips



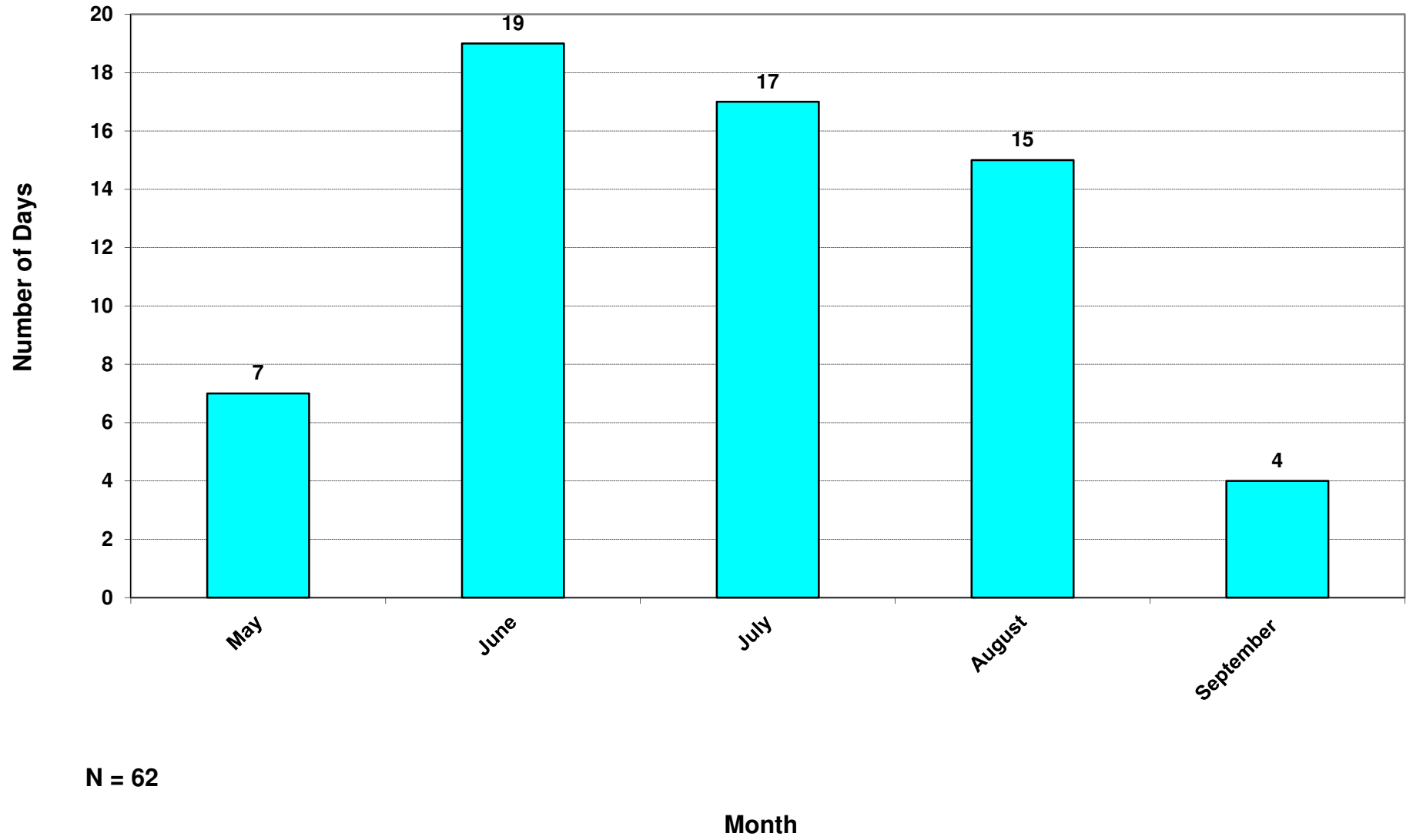
# Methods

- Two students were trained how to interview constituents and how to safely handle kayaks
- These “clerks” would launch at assigned time and place, float until encountering a fishing or rec party, conduct the interview, and continue to endpoint
- Fishing effort, catch, harvest, and expenses were entered electronically and run through a SAS program developed by Steve Malvestuto

# Days on the Water 2011

93 Individuals

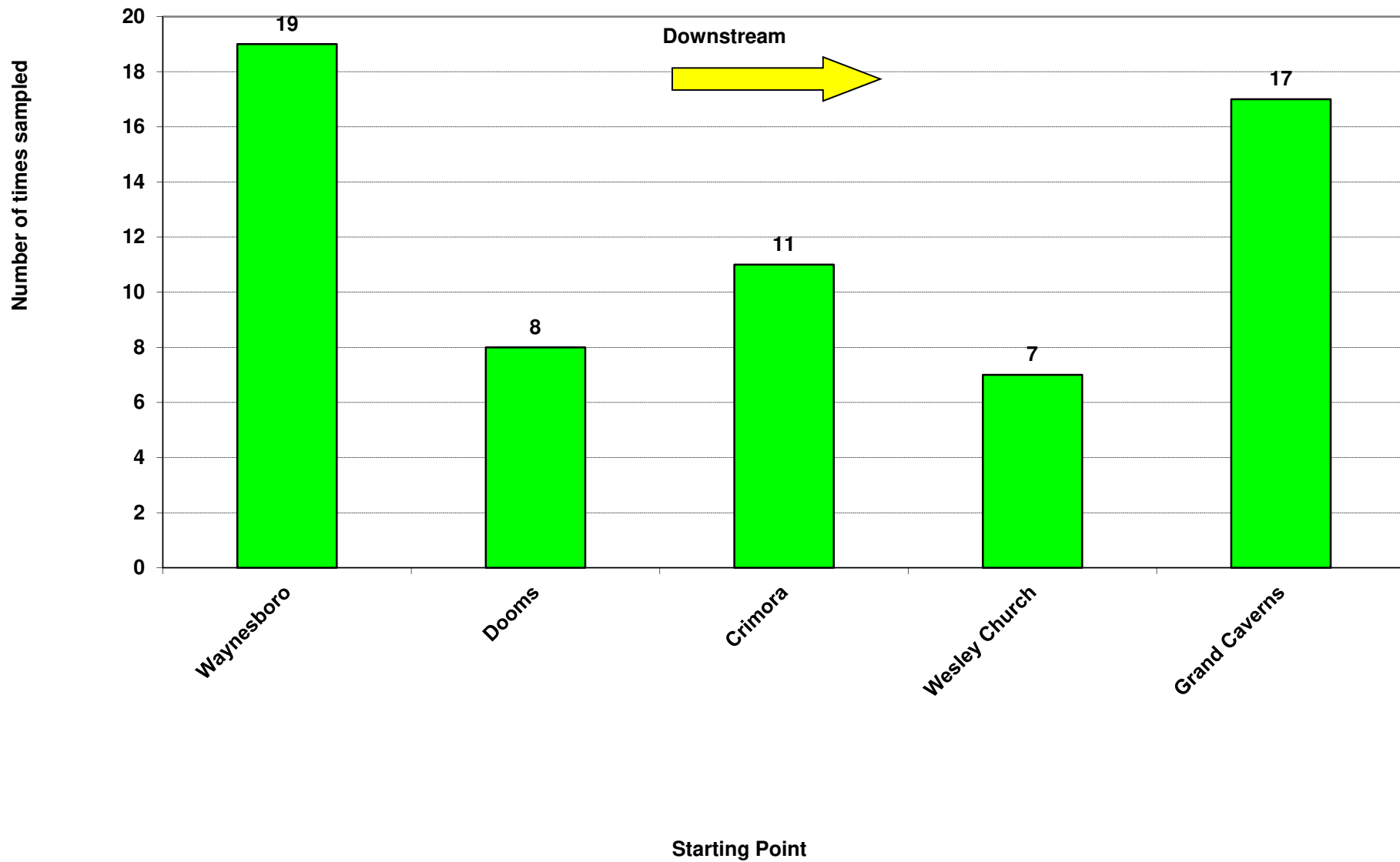
72 Party Interviews



# Locations

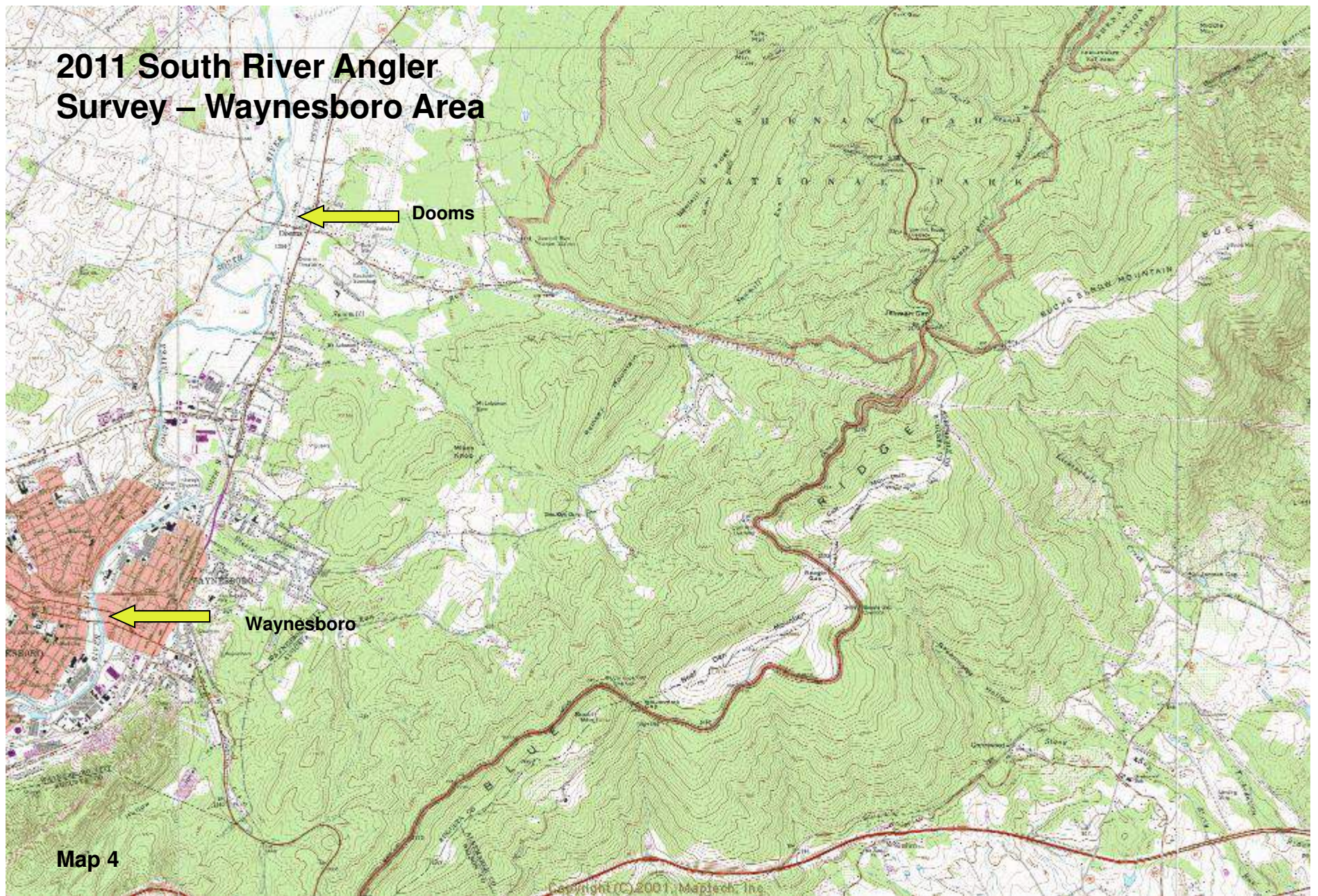
- Waynesboro to Port Republic – 25 river miles
- Five reaches sampled
- Average reach length – 4.9 miles

### 2011 River Reaches Sampled





# 2011 South River Angler Survey – Waynesboro Area

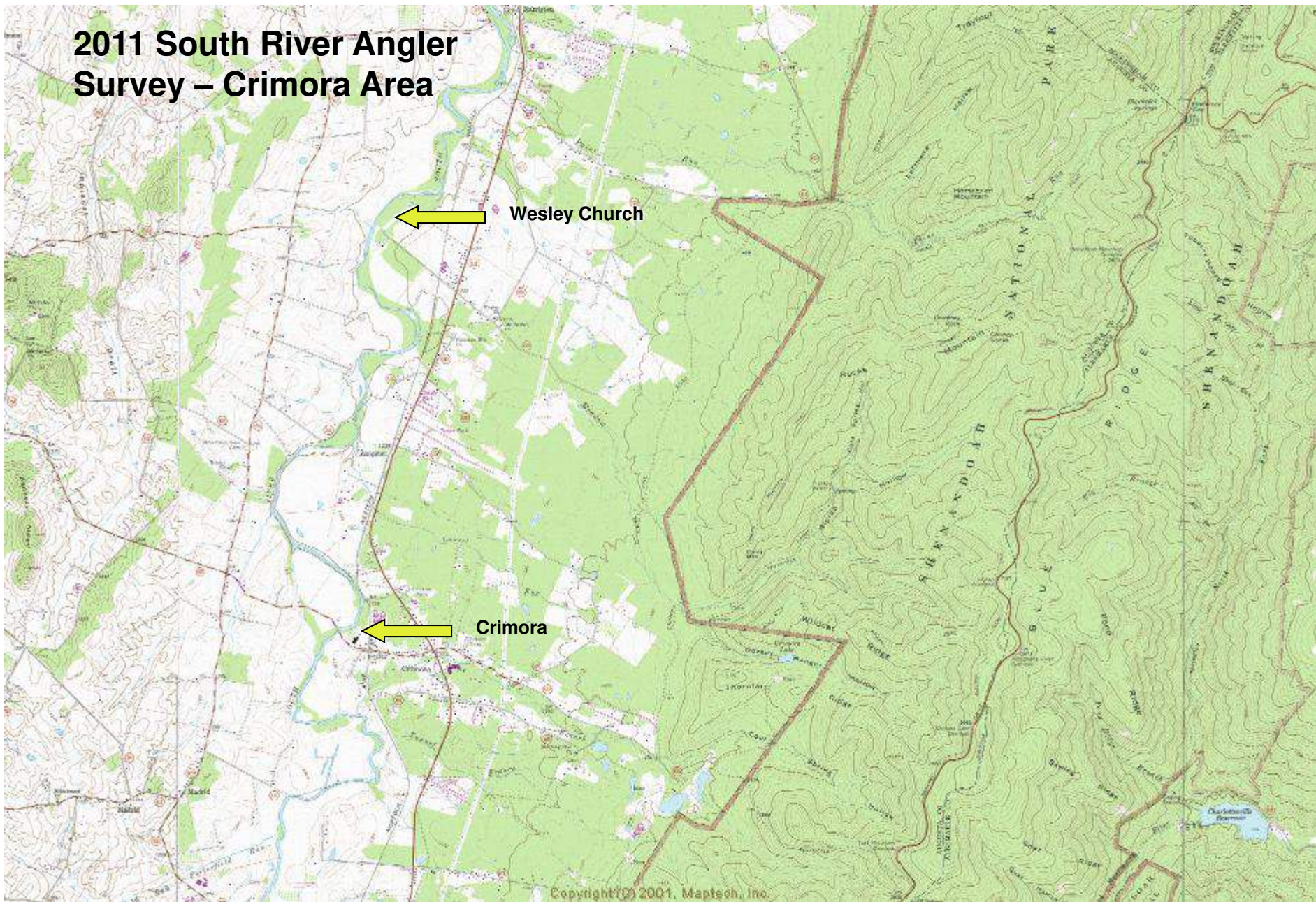




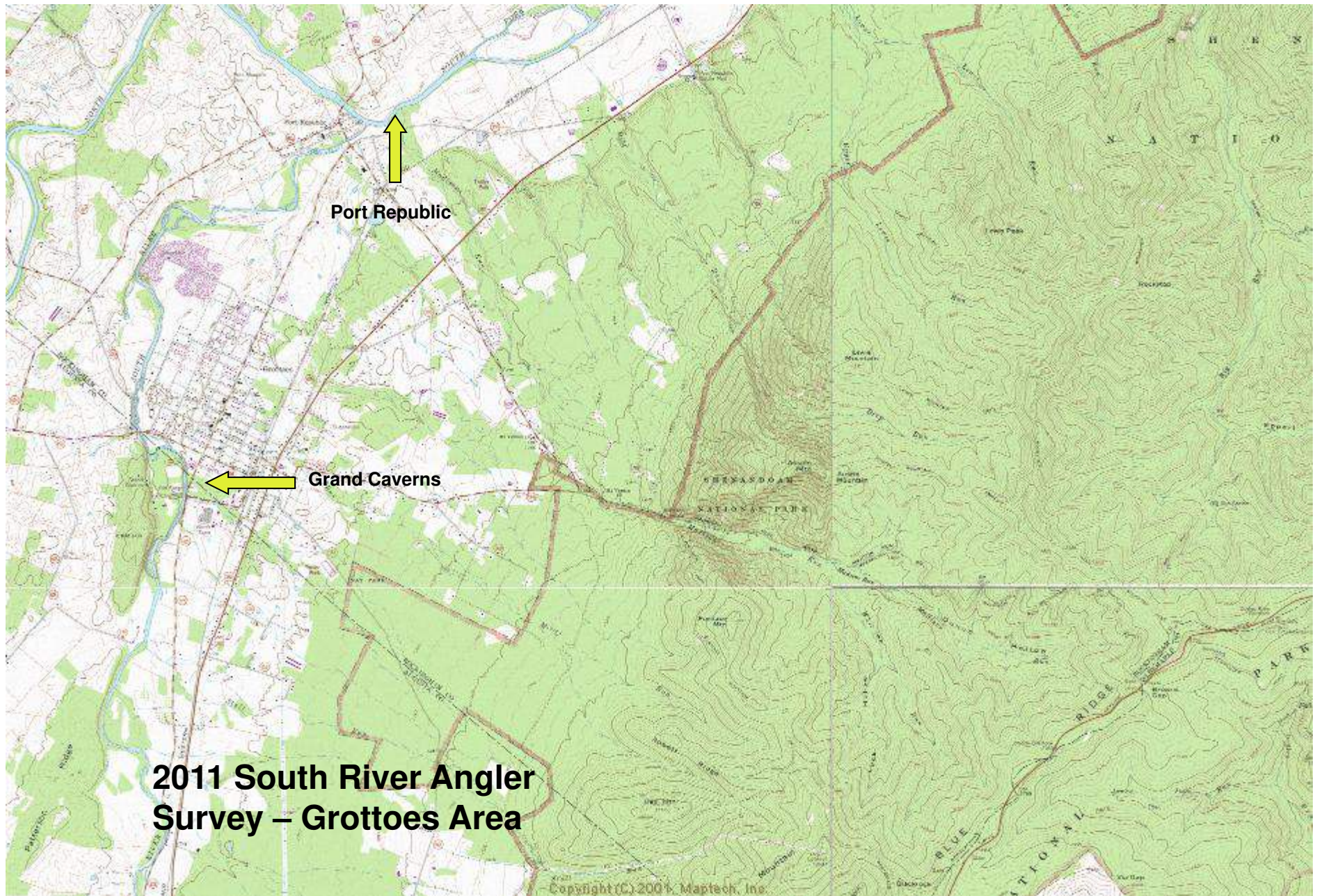
# 2011 South River Angler Survey – Crimora Area

← Wesley Church

← Crimora







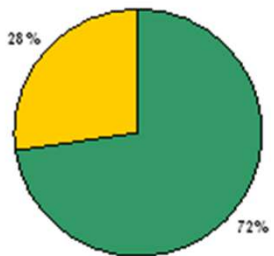




# **Results**

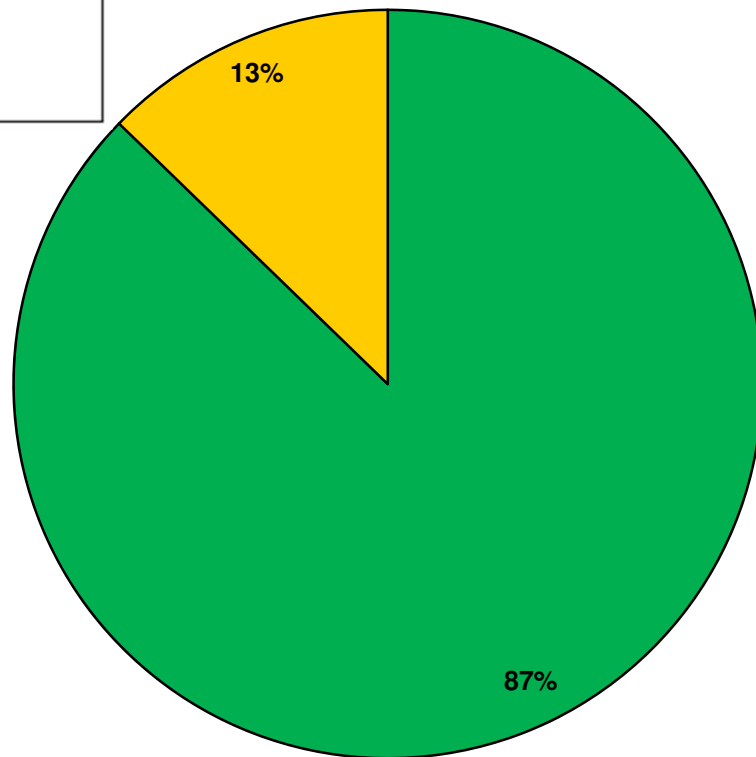
## **Angler Characteristics**

Gender



Male Female

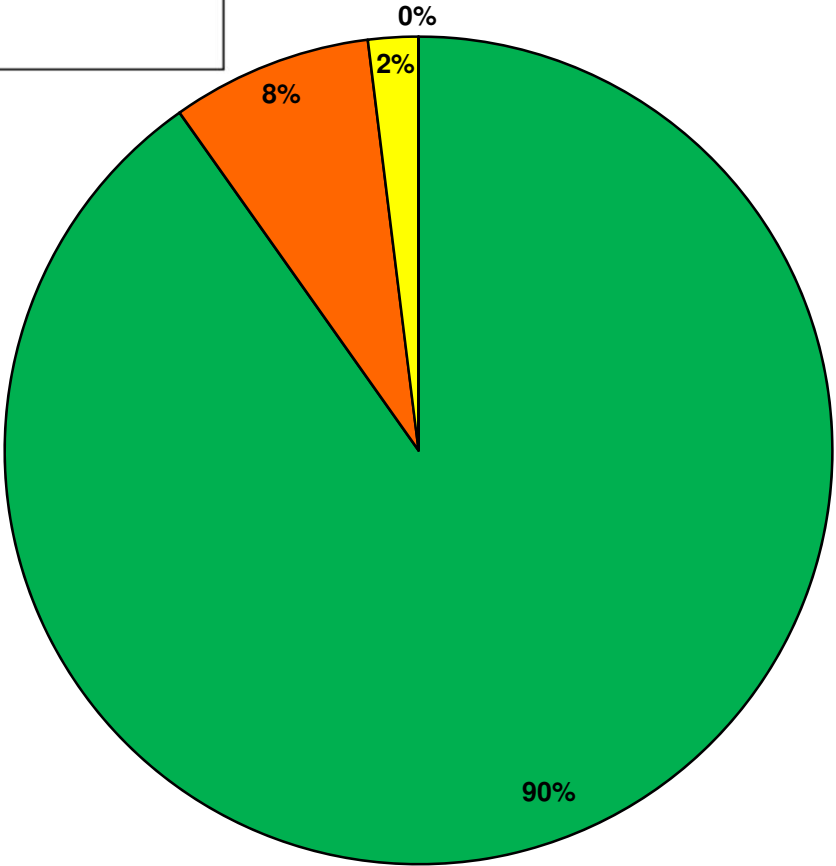
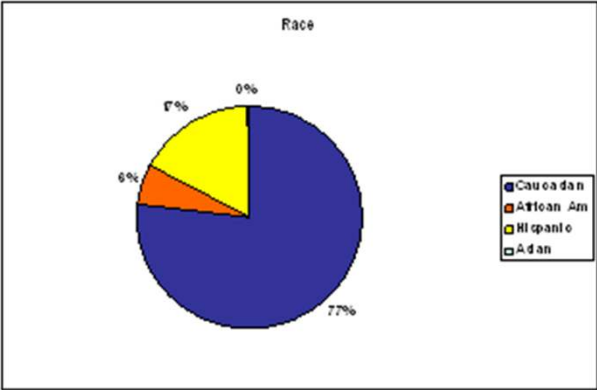
### 2011 Gender Angling



N = 92

Male Female

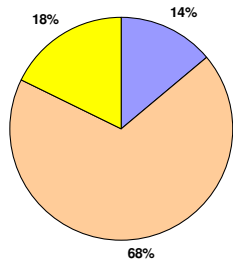
# 2011 Race Angling



N = 92

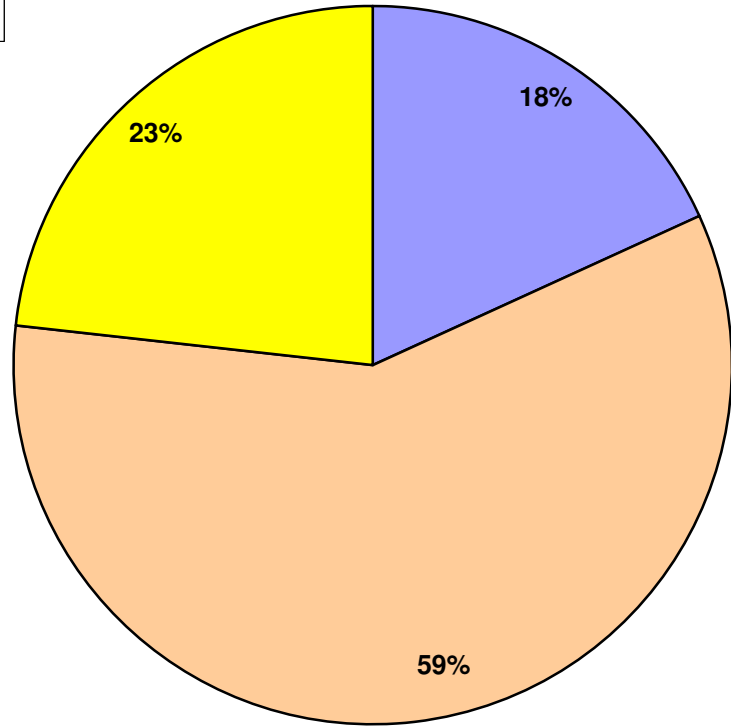


Do you fish from...?



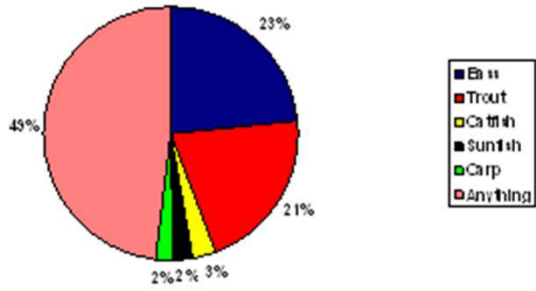
Boat Bank Wade

2011 Do you fish from...?

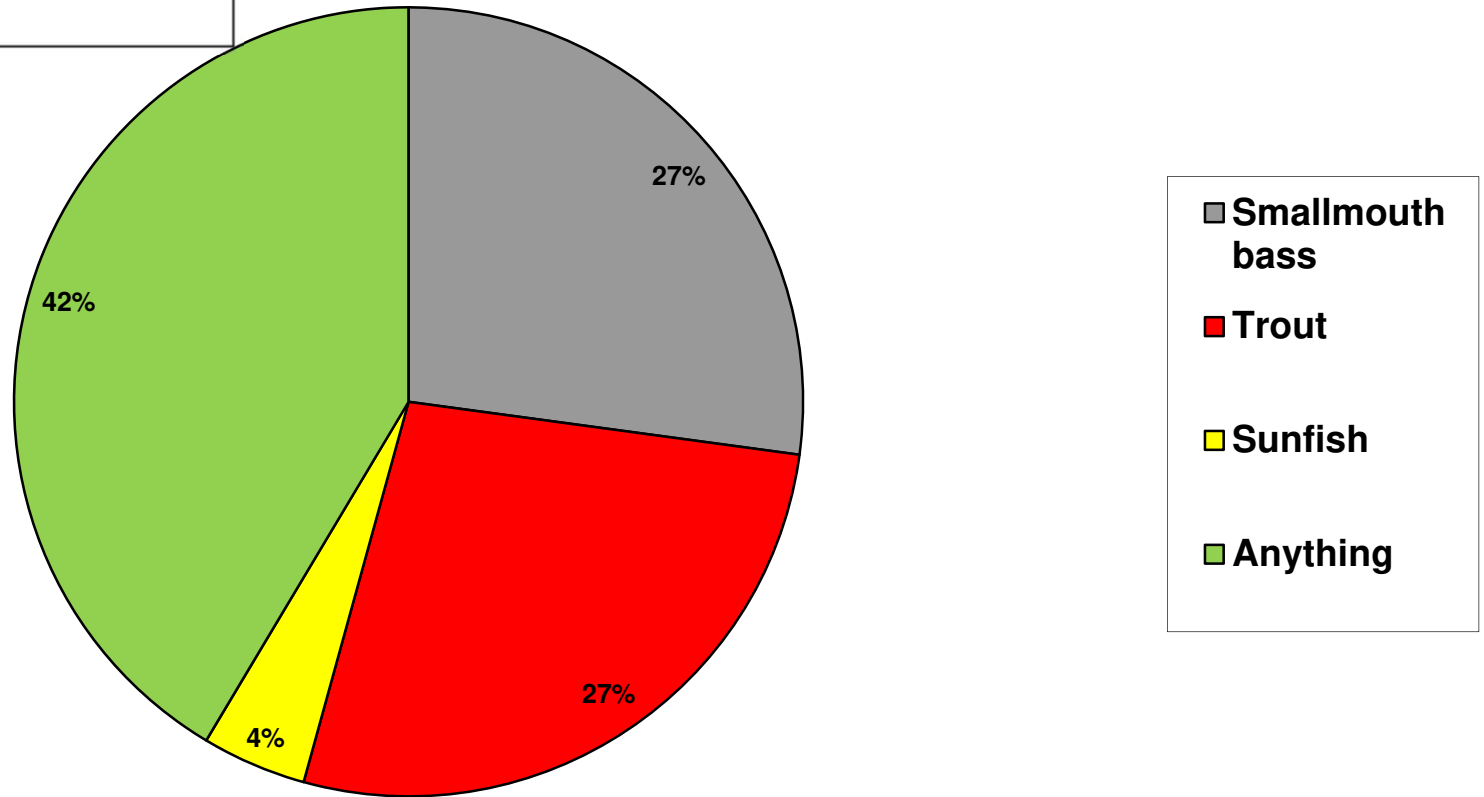


Boat Bank Wade

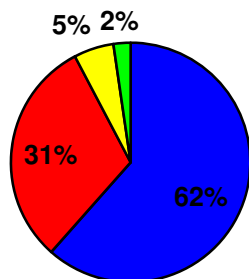
What are you fishing for?



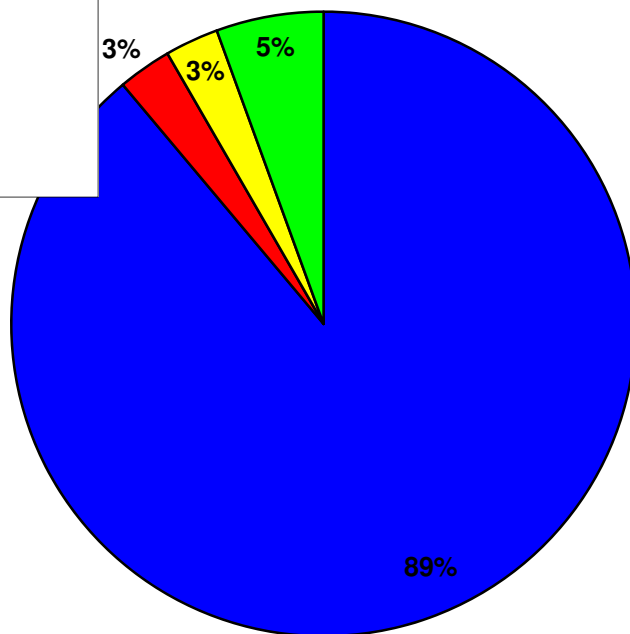
2011 What are you fishing for?



What type of fishing gear did you use?

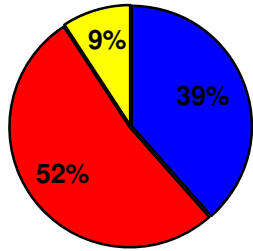


What type of fishing gear did you use? 2011

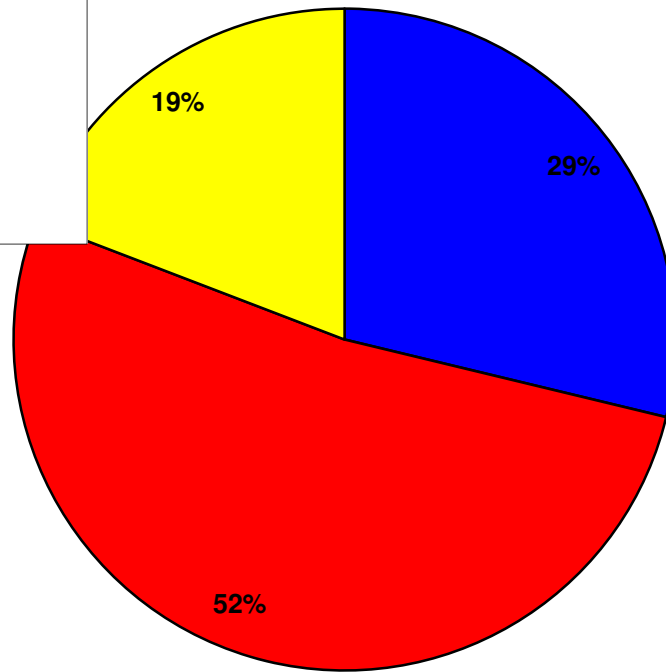




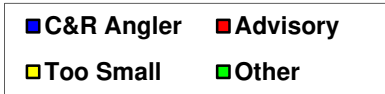
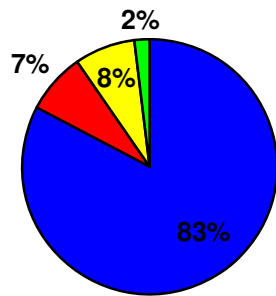
What was your bait preference?



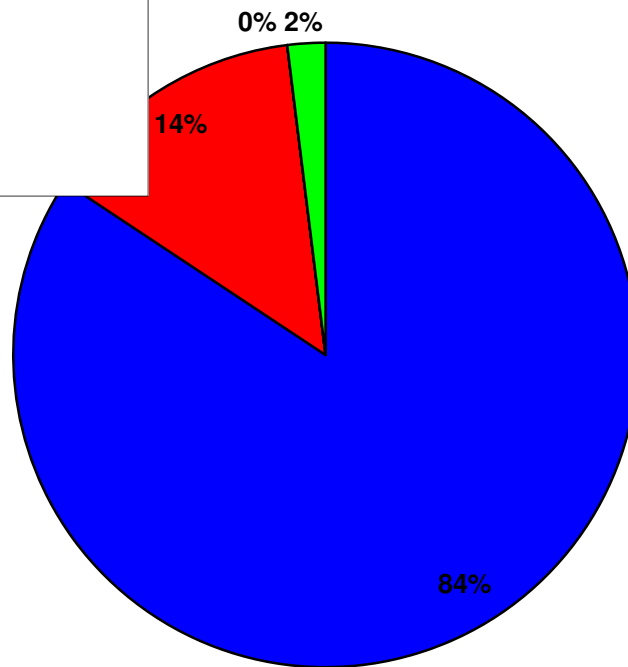
What was your bait preference? 2011



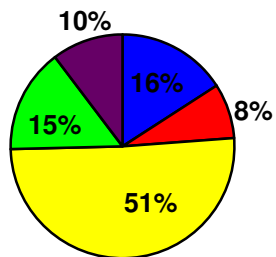
### Why did you release your catch?



### Why did you release your catch? 2011

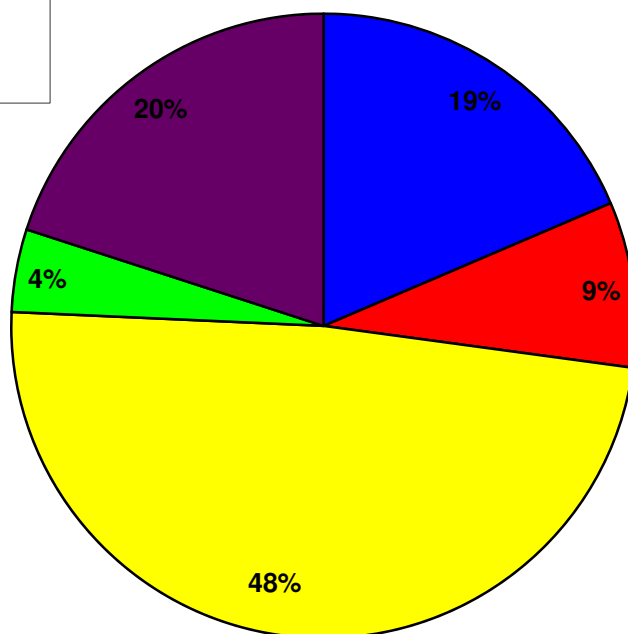


### Why do you like fishing South River?



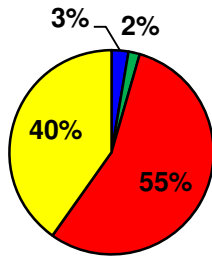
■ Fishing Quality ■ Scenery  
■ Close to Home ■ All  
■ Other

### Why do you like fishing South River? 2011



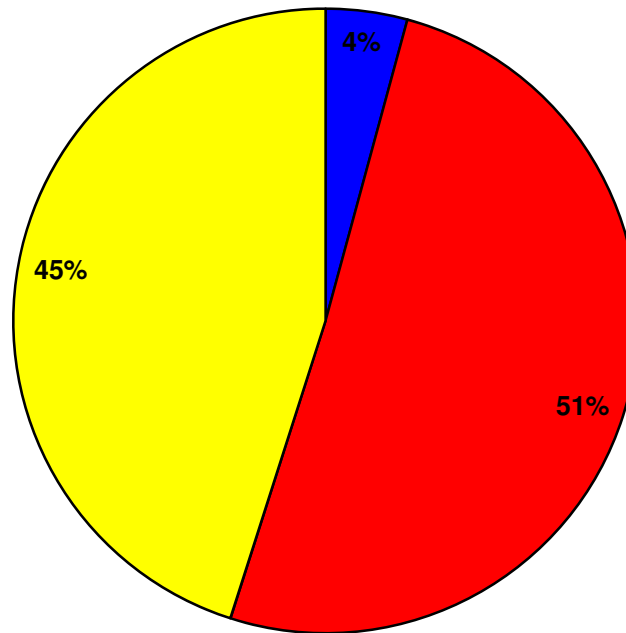
■ Fishing Quality ■ Scenery ■ Close to Home ■ All ■ Other

**What do you dislike about fishing South River?**



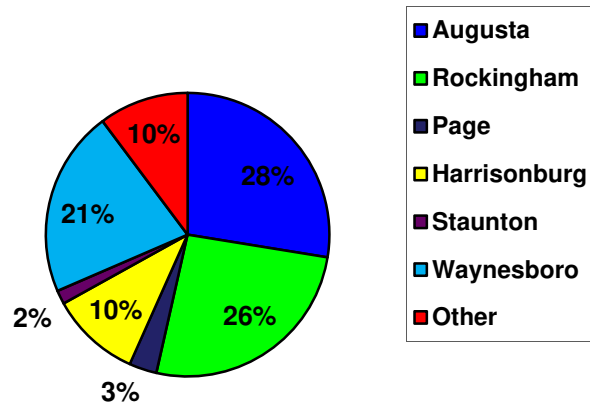
- Fishing Quality
- Too Crowded
- Pollution
- Other

**What do you dislike about fishing South River? 2011**

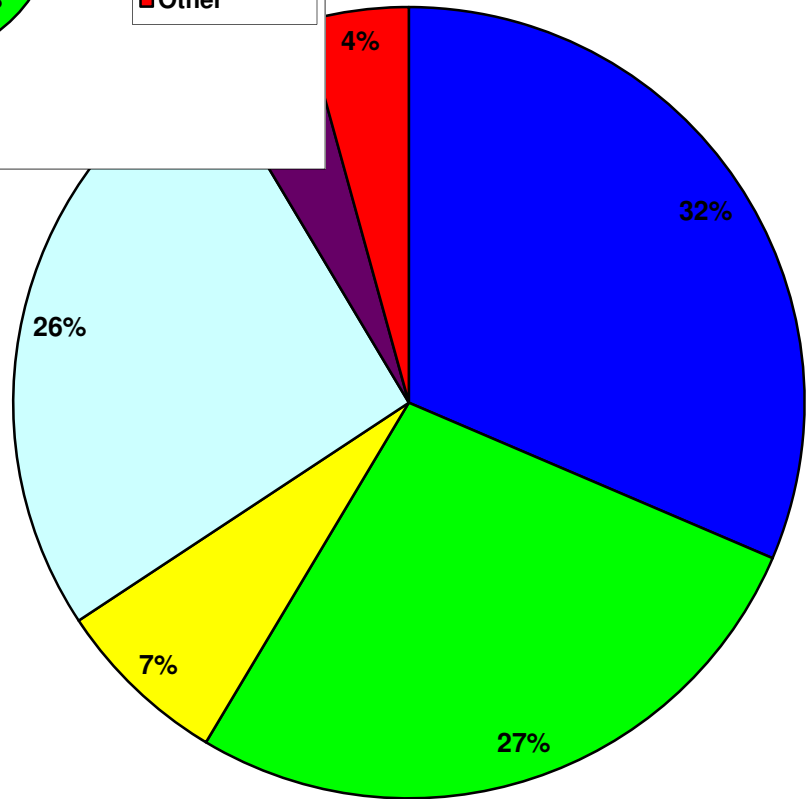


- Fishing Quality
- Pollution
- Other

Where are you from?



2011 Where are you from?



- Augusta
- Rockingham
- Harrisonburg
- Waynesboro
- In State
- Out of State

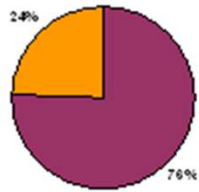




# Results

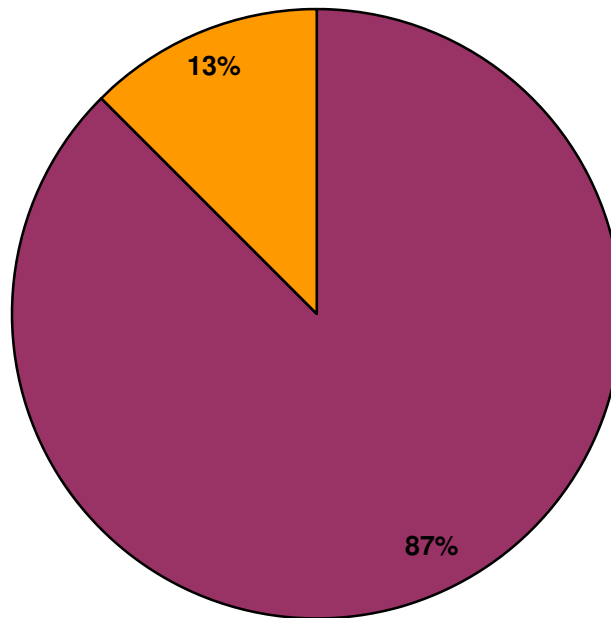
Consumption Advisory

Do you know about the advisory?



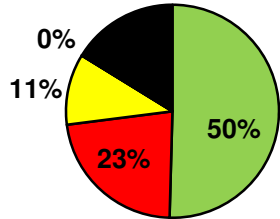
■ Yes ■ No

## Do you know about the advisory? 2011



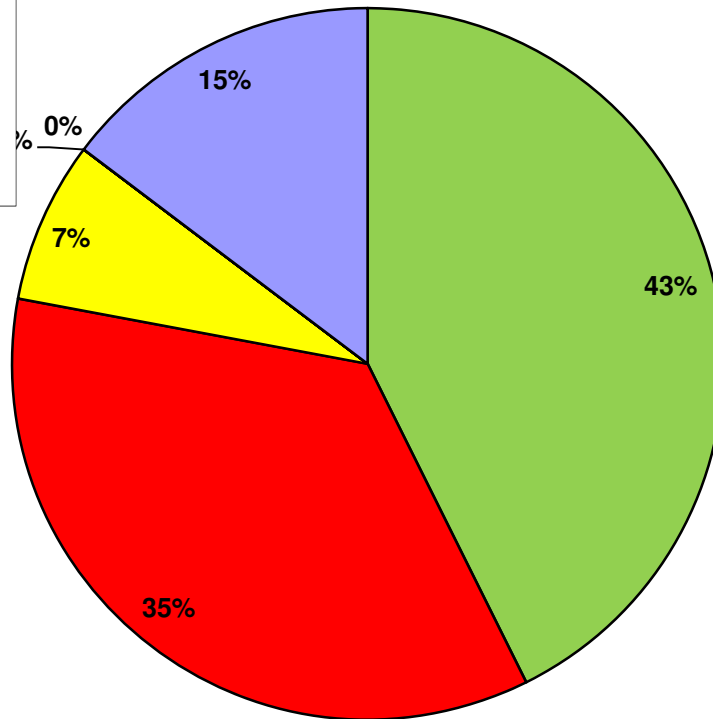
■ Yes ■ No

How do you know about the advisory?



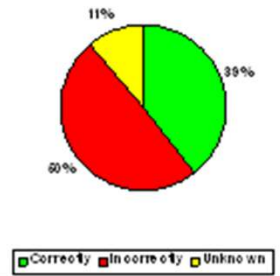
- Signs
- Word of Mouth
- Newspaper
- Radio
- Other

How do you know about the advisory? 2011

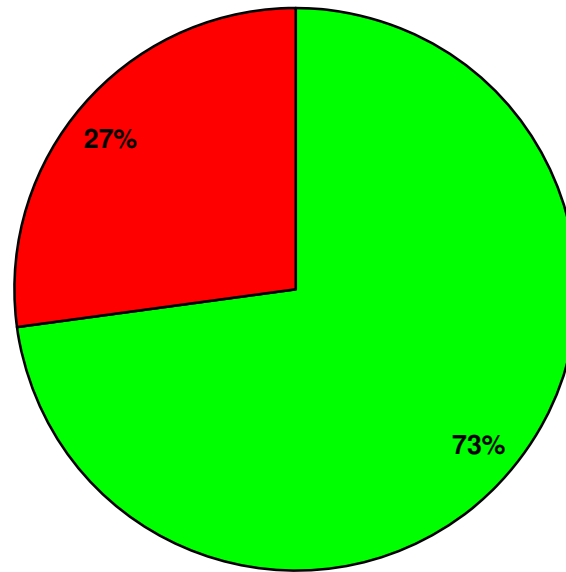


- Signs
- Word of Mouth
- Newspaper
- Website
- Radio
- Other

Answered advisory question correctly?



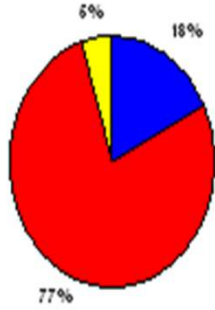
Answered advisory question correctly? 2011



■ Correctly

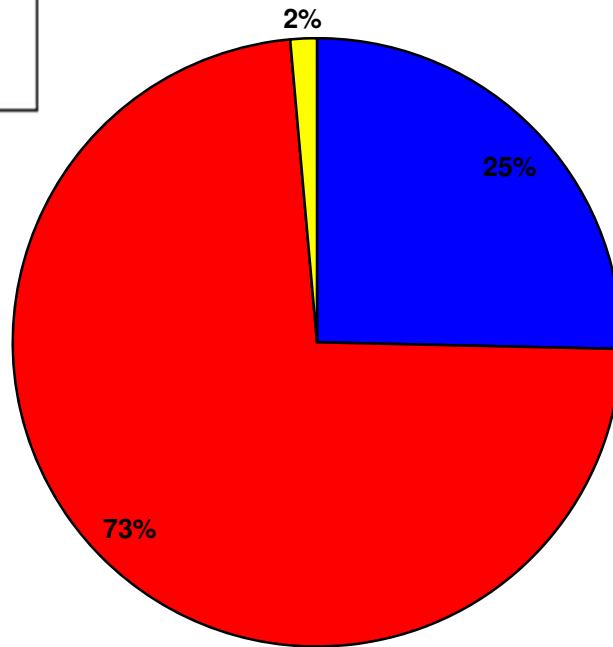
■ Incorrectly

Do you keep fish from South River?



Keep Release Both

Do you keep the fish from South River? 2011



Keep Release Both

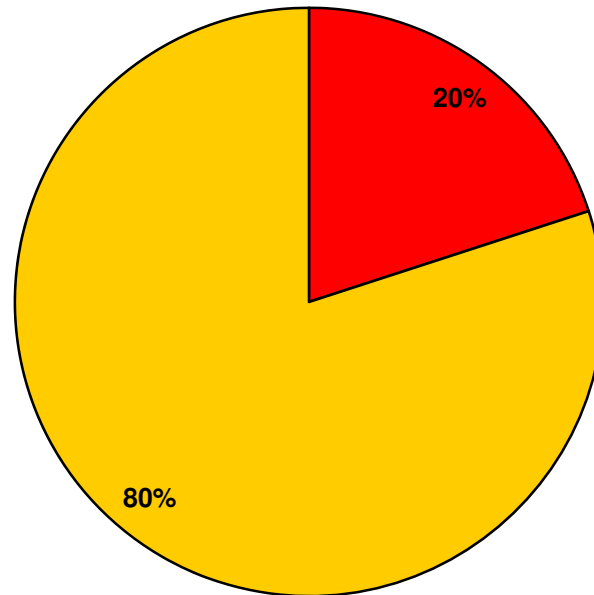


Do you eat fish from South River?



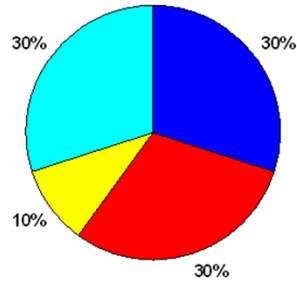
■ Yes ■ No

Do you eat fish from South River? 2011



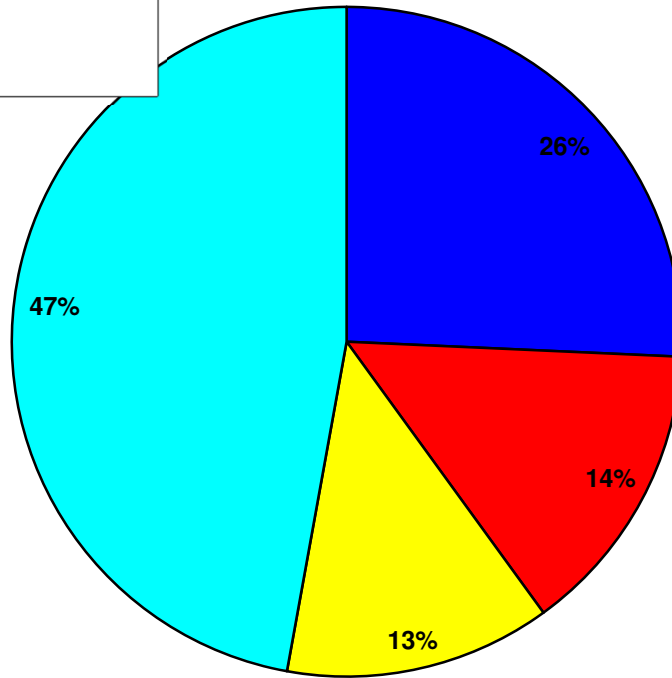
■ Yes ■ No

How many times do you visit the river?



■ 1 to 5 ■ 6 to 10 ■ 11 to 20 ■ >20

2011 How many times do you visit the river?



■ 1 to 5 ■ 6 to 10 ■ 11 to 20 ■ >20

# Recreation

- 12 surveys, 8 were in June & July
- Swimming and boating were top two
- Almost 100% Caucasian
- Males outnumbered females 2 to 1
- Local users from Waynesboro, Augusta, Rockingham

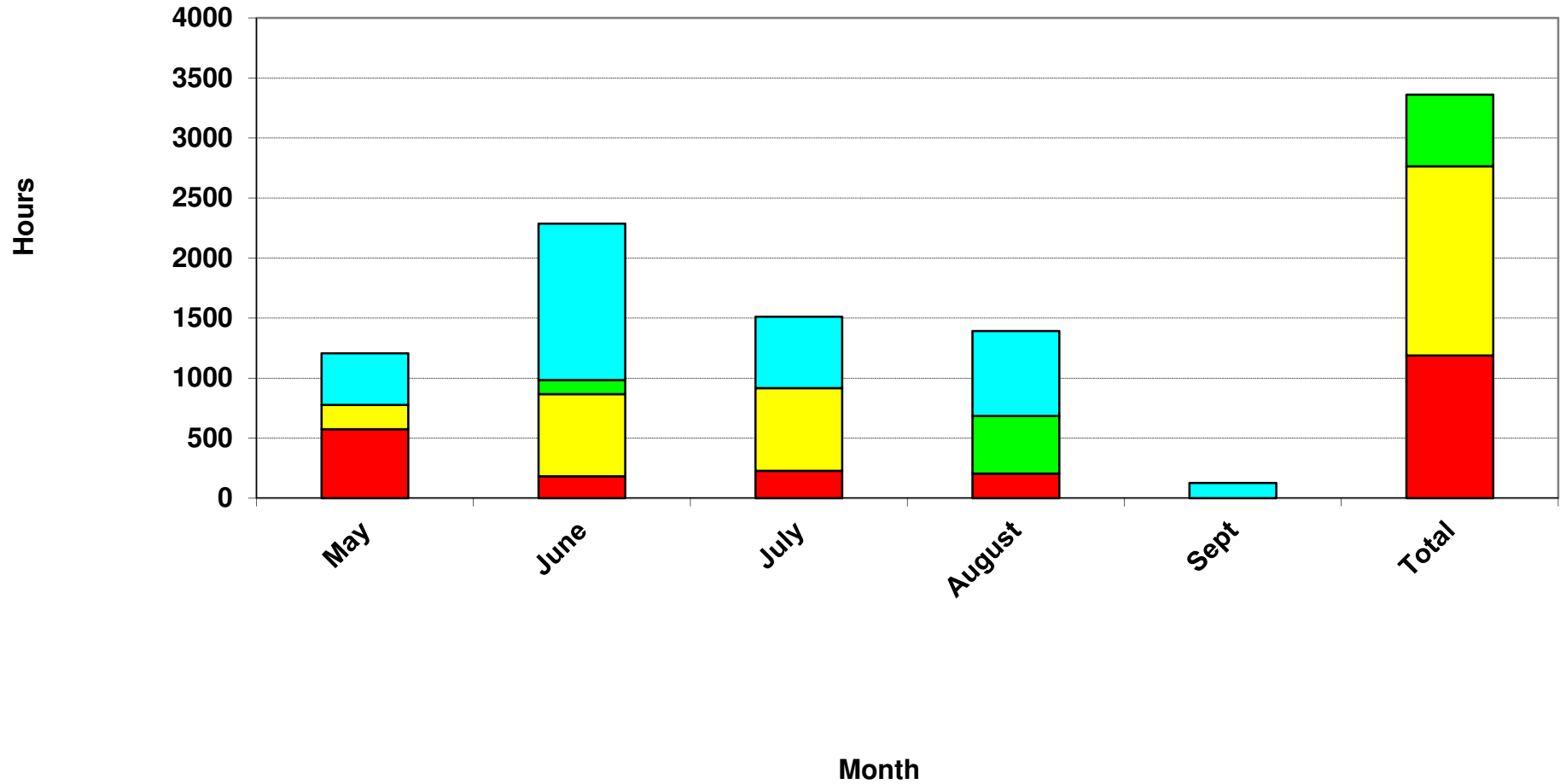


Angling effort, catch, and harvest



AUG 23 2006

# Fishing Pressure South River 2011

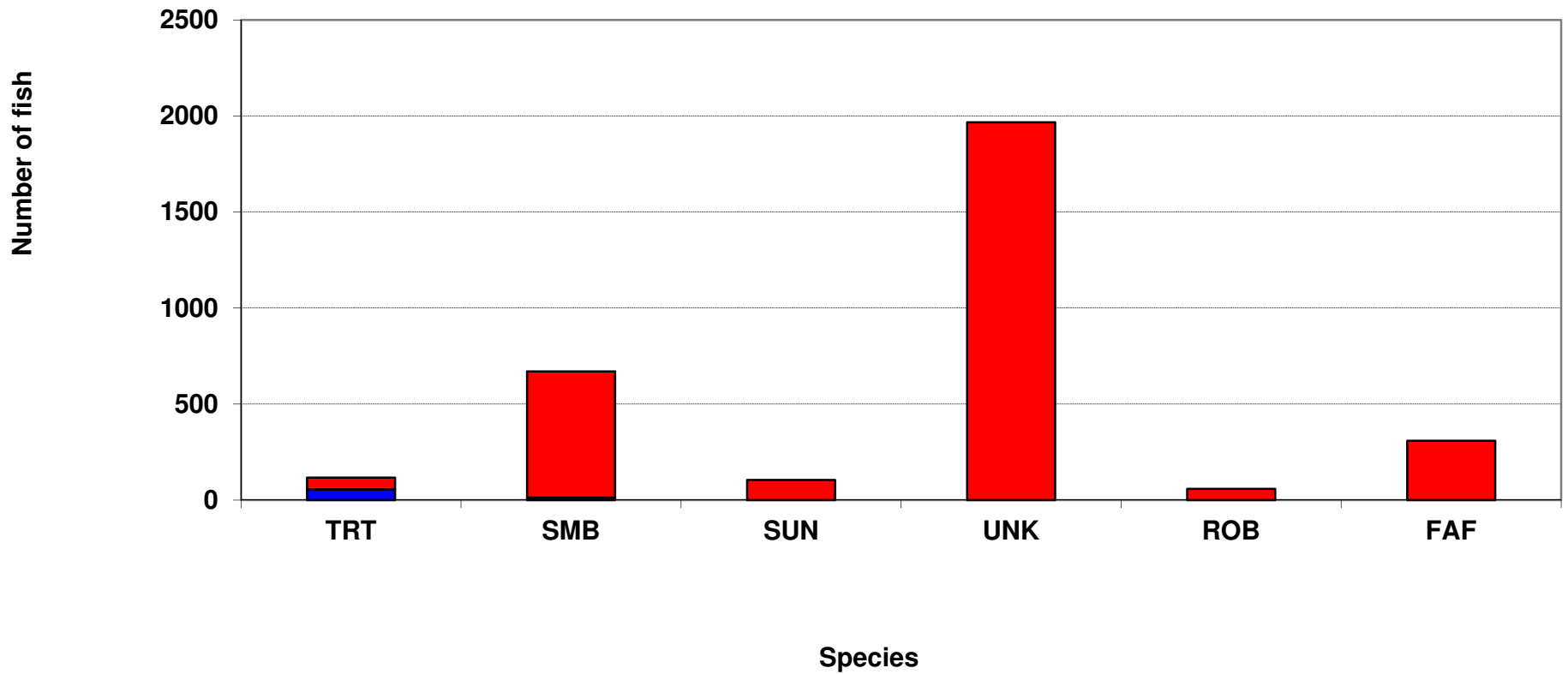


Total Bank and Boat Effort =  
6,523 hours

TRT SMB SUN CRP CAT ANY



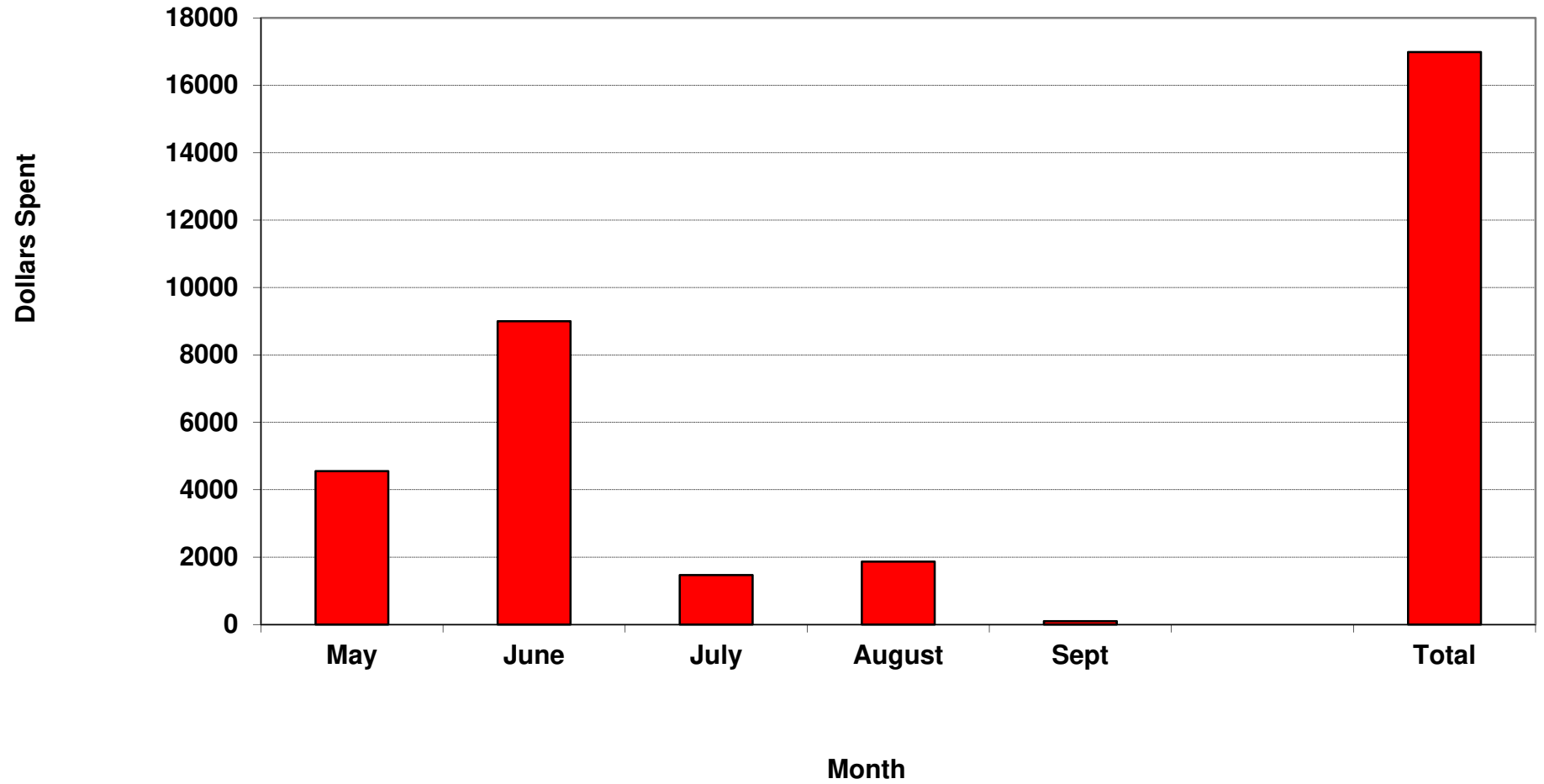
### Catch and Harvest By Species South R 2011



■ Harvested

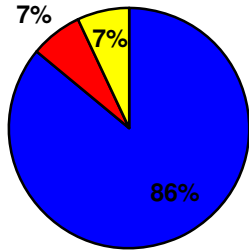
■ Released

## Angler Expenditures by Month South R 2011



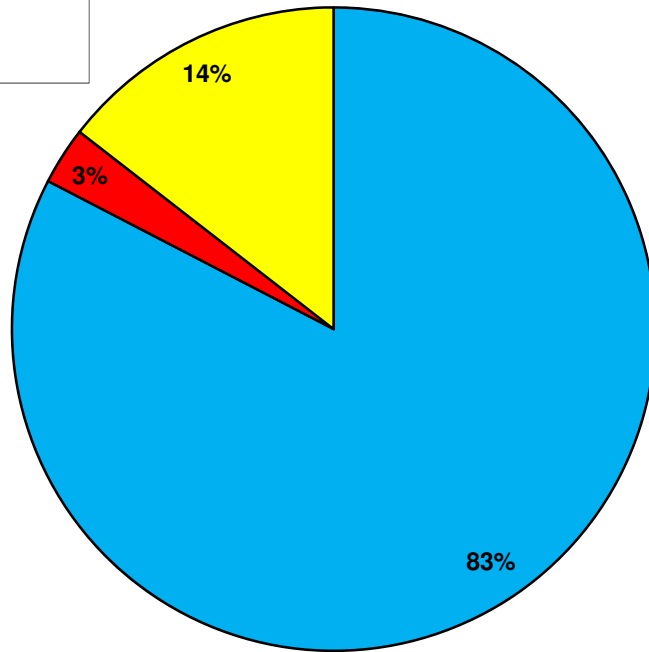
Total Money Spent Fishing in  
2011 = \$16,988

**Proportion of Money Spent Locally  
South R 05**



- All within 20 miles
- Most within 20 miles
- None within 20 miles

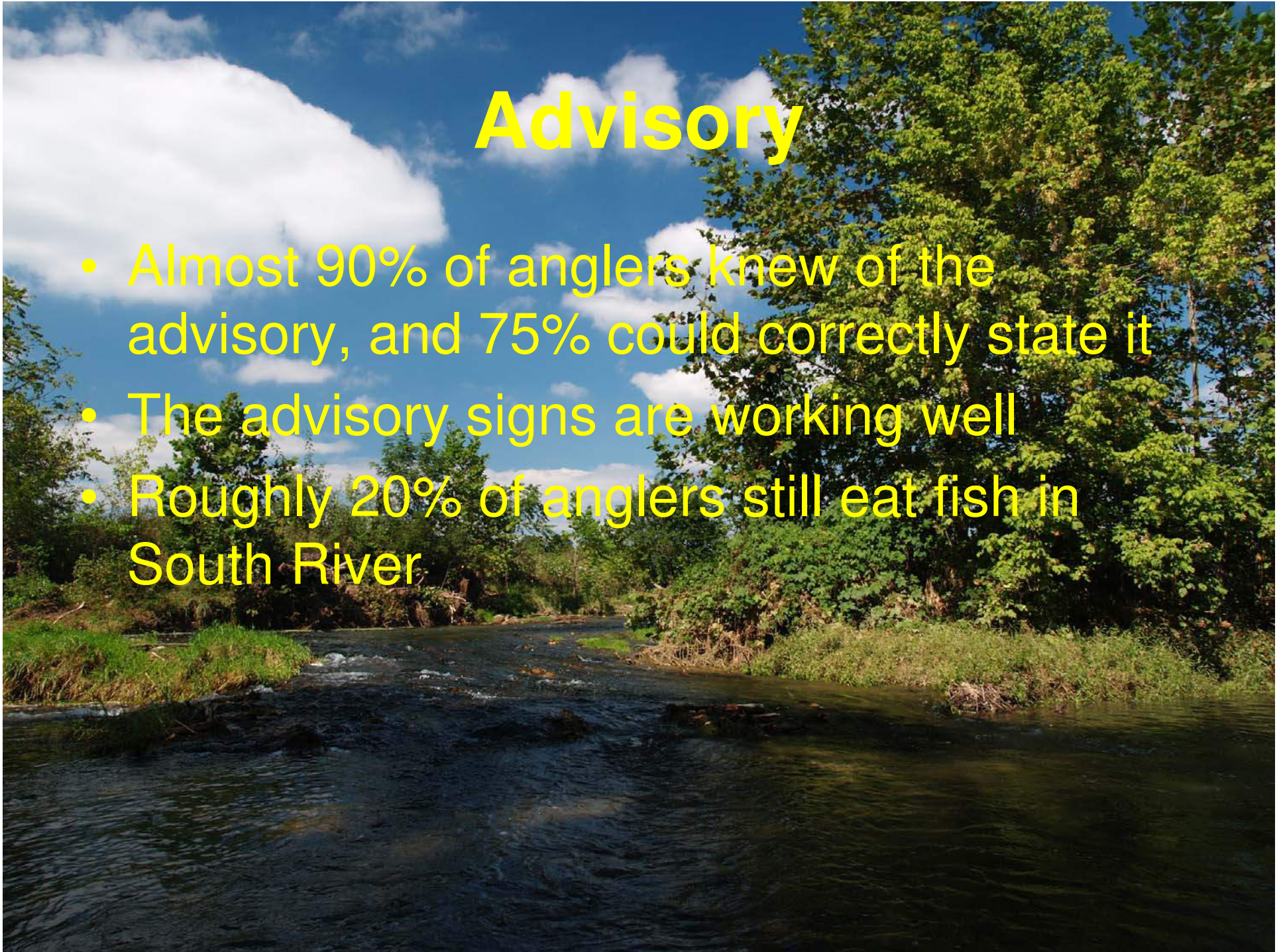
**Proportion of Money Spent Locally South R 2011**



- All within 20 miles
- Most within 20 miles
- None within 20 miles

# Advisory

- Almost 90% of anglers knew of the advisory, and 75% could correctly state it
- The advisory signs are working well
- Roughly 20% of anglers still eat fish in South River







This is a locally used resource that is moderately used

SR Anglers contribute financially to local economy (\$17,000)

SR Anglers are generalists and 73% release their catch (C&R ethic)

Trout harvest rate is 52%, SMB is 2%