

# Lake Albemarle

**LOCATION:** Approximately 20 miles north of Eagle Lake on Highway 465.

**SIZE:** 600 acres.

**DEPTH:** Depth varies with the Mississippi River.

**AQUATIC VEGETATION:** None.

**MAJOR SPORTFISH:** Largemouth bass, white bass, striped bass, crappie, bream (bluegill), channel catfish.

**OTHER FISH:** Paddlefish, bowfin, buffalo, common carp, drum, flathead catfish, green sunfish, gar, yellow bass.

**FISH FORAGE:** Shad, silversides, minnows, small sunfish.

**VISIBLE COVER:** Willow trees, brush, man-made stick-ups.

**BOTTOM FEATURES:** Man-made fish structures, points, drop-offs.

**FISHING LICENSE:** CALL 1-800-5-GO-HUNT

**GUIDE SERVICES:** CALL 1-800-270-DELTA



## MAN-MADE FISH STRUCTURES:

Twenty-four structures were placed at eight different locations along the eastern side of the lake. Structures were placed in 10' of water when the Vicksburg gauge for the Mississippi River read 11". The structures will be marked temporarily with orange flagging on the bank and will eventually be marked with buoys. These buoys should become visible as the Vicksburg gauge nears 12'.

**ACCESS:** Richard Dent provides the only public access into the lake. There is a \$3 fee for boat launching. Dent also has jon boats, which one can rent for \$3. There is a small store at the ramp that sells fishing supplies and bait. Soft drinks and snacks can also be purchased there.

**DESCRIPTION:** Prior to 1913, the Mississippi River made a sharp turn into a 14-mile long bend, through what is now called Lake Albemarle. The river's main channel at that time was about eight miles to the east of its present course. During the flood of 1913, the Mississippi River suddenly

abandoned its old bed in Albemarle Bend creating what is now called Newman Cutoff. By 1934 it seemed apparent that the river was creating a new bend at Newman Cutoff which endangered the mainline levee on the eastern bank. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers therefore began the construction of an artificial cutoff at Willow Point. It was opened on April 8, 1934; but for several years intensive dredging was necessary to keep the cutoff open. The river finally accepted the Willow Cutoff as its new channel and permanent bed leaving behind two abandoned riverbeds now known as Lake Albemarle and Lake Chotard.



