

Team Name & School: The Smart GOATS @ MD Roberts School of the Arts

Teacher Name: Mrs. Greneta Foreman

Green Heart Action Plan

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Problem Definition/ Problem Statement

There is an overpopulation of catfish in Lake Jodeo, in Jonesboro, Georgia.

Root Cause of the Problem

Lake Jodeo is less than five miles away from our school. It is a man-made lake and is currently undergoing dredging. Dredging causes the water level of the lake to significantly drop and disrupts the balance of the aquatic organisms that live in the lake. As a result of the dredging, the residents who live near the lake and are members of the community's home owners association have become aware that there is an overpopulation of catfish in the lake. The overpopulation of catfish in the lake is limiting the growth of gamefish in the lake which limits the various types of gamefish that can be caught by resident fishers from the lake.

List at Least Three Credible Resources that Support Your Problem Statement

- Lakejodeco.org/home
- [dlg.usg.edu/record/gov-lane-4123?canvas=o\\$x=65&y=43&w=3098](http://dlg.usg.edu/record/gov-lane-4123?canvas=o$x=65&y=43&w=3098)
- https://www.lakejodeco.org/editor_upload/File/Jodeco%20Wildlife/Lake%20Jodeco%20Wildlife.pdf

Proposed Solution

We will research to find out what catfish eat and what eats catfish and what could be causing the overpopulation of catfish in the lake. We will ask the home owners association if we can partner with them to help bring about a solution to the overpopulation of catfish by hosting a "Catfish Fishing" initiative that would invite people in neighboring communities to come fish for catfish for a specified period of time. With the home owners' association's approval we will work to bring about



community awareness of the problem and invite people to come fish only for catfish on designated days.

How We Will Measure Our Success

We will measure our success by getting approval from the homeowners association, getting the necessary materials and permits to host a catfish fishing season on the lake, and count the number of people who participate on the days designated for people to come fish.

Who are Decision Makers We Need to Reach

- Lake Jodeco Home Owners Association
- Local Wildlife and Fisher Department
- Neighboring Communities

Our 3-5 Step Plan for Change

- Pitch our Solution to the Home Owners Association
- Bring About Community Awareness via Fliers, Local News Bulletins, etc.
- Plan and host the “Catfish Fishing on the Lake” Initiative

Impact & Equity

We foresee our initiative impacting the Lake Jodeco community by reducing the number of catfish in the lake such that the lake’s ecological balance is restored, bringing communities together, and helping people experience days of fun and making memories with their loved ones.



What Help We Need to Be Successful

- School Sponsors
- Members of the Home Owners Association
- Members of the Community

