

## LAKE MANAGEMENT STATUS REPORT

**Date of Report:** 6/28/2024      **Fisheries Manager:** Rob Hilsabeck  
**District No.:** 4      **LAKE NAME:** Citizen's Lake      **County:** Warren  
**Water No.:** 0031      **Ownership:** Public-Coop      **Acreage:** 26

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**1.** All Fish - 2 pole and line fishing only.

Large or Smallmouth Bass:

- Protected Slot Length Limit with 1 fish greater than or equal to 15 inches and/or 5 fish less than 12 inches daily.

Bluegill or Redear Sunfish:

- 10 Fish Daily Harvest Limit

Channel Catfish:

- 6 Fish Daily Harvest Limit

Trout:

- Fall Closed Season

**2.**

Little Grassy Wolf Hatchery stocked 1,200 channel catfish at 8 inches on 8/1/2023.

IDNR Fisheries and the City of Monmouth completed the annual fall drawdown of the Lake in 2023. No fall drawdown was completed in 2019 or 2020.

Crystal Lake Hatchery stocked approximately 450 pounds of Rainbow trout in early October 2023.

IDNR Fisheries completed the annual fall boat electrofishing survey on 10/3/2023.

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CITIZEN'S LAKE**

Indices table 2013-2023. \*Major Winter Fish Kill occurred (WFK)

		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
		WFK					WFK						
<b>Largemouth Bass</b>													
Stock Number		66	79	67	40	39	39	18	47	27	115	70	
PSD		76	15	58	38	54	51	17	4	44	23	56	40-60
RSD14		15	15	13	30	41	49	17	2	33	19	47	
RSD15		9	15	13	20	33	49	17	2	33	14	40	
RSD16		5	9	13	5	26	46	17	0	26	9	37	
RSD18		3	0	8	0	5	21	11	0	0	4	19	5+
Wr > 8"		106	104	108	98	95	101	101	90	103	100	96	90-110
YAR		0.8	21.8	1.9	2.1	1.3	0.3	47	13	1.4	0.9	0.2	
CPUE Stock		2.2	2.3	1.8	1	1.3	0.8	0.9	3.6	0.8	2.3	2.2	1/min
Effort EL		30	35	37	40	30	46	20	13	34	50	32	
		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
<b>Bluegill</b>													
Stock #		121	27	31	235	98	112	35	92	20	413	24	20-40
PSD		90	4	39	14	68	74	69	1	80	69	38	
RSD7		60	0	26	0	1	2	0	0	0	20	4	5+
RSD8		18	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	90-110
Wr > 5"		100	119	108	100	87	90	99	102	92	93	86	
CPUE f/min		4	0.8	0.8	5.9	3.3	2.4	1.8	3.5	0.6	8.3	0.8	
		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
<b>Redear Sunfish</b>													
Stock #		4	3	0	47	10	1	0	20	104	380	3	
PSD		100	100	0	87	100	100		5	46	65	100	30-50
RSD10		100	67	0	0	60	100		15	0	0	0	
Wr		149	122	0	97	97	113		93	95	95	92	90-100
CPUE f/min		0.1	0.1	0	1.2	0.3	0.02		0.77	3.1	7.6	0.09	
		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	

Black Crappie									BWH	BWH	BWH	BWH	
Stock#		3	12	13	13	33	22	0	1	1	25	13	
PSD		100	100	92	85	6	0		100	100	100	100	30-50
RSD9		67	100	85	77	6	0		0	100	32	54	20-40
RSD10		33	83	23	46	0	0		0	100	12	38	5+
RSD11		0	42	8	8	0	0		0	100	12	38	
Wr > 8"		112	97	97	87	92	87		91	100	100	90	90-100
CPUE f/min		0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.1	0.5		0.04	0.03	0.5	0.4	
		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Channel Catfish													
Stock #		19	0	0	5	12	4	0	0	1	9	48	
PSD		79	0	0	100	58	100			100	89	56	40-60
RSD18		63	0	0	80	33	100			100	44	46	20+
Wr		103	0	0	98	96	106			117	96	89	90-100
CPUE f/min		0.6	0	0	0.1	0.4	0.1			0.03	0.2	1.5	

4. In 2023, a fall D.C. electrofishing surveys was used to evaluate the fish population. A repeating fish kill occurred from September 2018 into the spring of 2019 at Citizen's Lake. It was believed to have started as a low dissolved oxygen fish kill and then developed into a bacterial fish kill. The fish kill was severe on the south half of the lake and moderate on the north half of the lake. The kill appeared to remove all of the gizzard shad and black crappie populations and only left YOY largemouth bass, bluegill and green sunfish. In 2019, the lake was restocked with largemouth bass, channel catfish, redear sunfish, blacknose hybrid crappie and rainbow trout.

In 2023, the largemouth bass population was evaluated by 70 stock size bass from the electrofishing survey. The largemouth bass population was represented by most of the fish from 5 to 18 inches in length, with a small number up to 20 inches in length. These fish were a combination of stocked and reproduced fish in the lake. They were in very good body condition with an average Wr of 96.

The bluegill population was sampled by 24 fish in the fall electrofishing surveys. Most of the sampled bluegill population is under 7.5 inches in length. The bluegill had an average body condition value (Wr) of 86. The collection

rate was very low at .8 fish per minute of electrofishing. This very high density from the 2022 survey was not observed in the 2023 survey. The annual fall drawdowns should be continued in the future.

The redear sunfish and redear x bluegill hybrid population was sampled by 17 fish from 6.8 to 7.6 inches in the fall electrofishing survey. These fish also had a good body condition rating with an average Wr of 92. This population is also present in a low density with .5 fish collected per minute of electrofishing.

The current bluegill and redear sunfish harvest limit is 10 fish daily per angler.

In 2023, 13 hybrid crappies were sampled in the fall electrofishing survey. They ranged from 8.4 to 12.9 inches in length. This experimental stocking of Blacknose x White Crappie hybrids in the fall of 2019 appears to have grown well. This population and any recruitment from future spawns will be evaluated.

In 2023, 2 White Crappie and 2 Black Crappie were also collected. Most likely these are recent introductions by local anglers.

The channel catfish population was sampled by 48 fish in the fall of 2023 electrofishing survey. They ranged in size from 12.5 to 26.4 inches in length. They had a good body condition rating with an average Wr of 89. An average of 1,200 channel catfish are stocked each fall into Citizens Lake.

In 2023, approximately 450 pounds of rainbow trout were stocked. They ranged from 8 to 13 inches in length from the fall fish survey.

In 2023, we also collected 4 green sunfish, 10 yellow bullheads. These fish appear to be present at a very low population level and should not impact the sport fishery.

**Recommended Lake Management Activities with Rationale for Implementation:**

Supplemental stocking is required for the following species due to no natural recruitment currently occurring in Citizen's Lake.

Channel Catfish: 1200 every year at 8 inches which is 46/acre.

Rainbow Trout: 450 pounds every fall at about 12 inches which is about 750 fish.

Biological Surveys - Conduct annual surveys to measure trends in fishery population dynamics, angling regulations and progress toward management goals. In the fall, utilize D.C. electrofishing to sample a target number of at least 100 stock-size largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, redear sunfish and channel catfish populations.

Aquatic Vegetation Control - IDNR Fisheries will apply aquatic herbicides as needed to manage exotic or nuisance aquatic plants for fishing access or sportfish management. IDNR Fisheries treated the shoreline terrestrial vegetation on both sides of lake with 2.5 gallons of Aquaneat herbicide on 6/21/2019. The main purpose of this application was for the control of Purple loosestrife. On 5/22/2020, the shoreline terrestrial vegetation was again treated with 2 gallons of Aquaneat herbicide, and the shoreline submerged rooted aquatic vegetation was treated with 10 gallons of Aquathol K herbicide. No vegetation treatments were needed in 2023.

Contaminate Monitoring - Fish flesh samples were collected from the main sportfish with the electrofishing survey in 2016. The current fish population should be resampled for a contaminate level in 2024.

Lake Access - Coordinate with the city staff on the development of shoreline fishing areas, the boat dock and scheduled improvements for the boat ramp. The City of Monmouth completed the new handicap dock and boat access area on the north lake in 2018. This project also improved the campground and restroom area in 2020.

Water Level - coordinate with the city staff on the annual fall drawdown.

Citizens Lake fish stocking 2012-2022.

Waterbody	Species	Size (in)	Count	Delivery Date	Source
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	6.8	1200	8/1/2022	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	7.5	1200	8/9/2021	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	7.7	1200	8/4/2020	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Black Crappie x White Crappie	2.5	1500	10/22/2019	Banner Marsh Rearing Pond #1 (09390)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	8.4	842	7/25/2019	#2 Jake Wolf Hatchery (09000)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Largemouth Bass	3	3300	7/5/2019	#2 Jake Wolf Hatchery (09000)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Redear Sunfish	1.3	7792	10/17/2018	#3 LaSalle Fish Hatchery (09010)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Bluegill	1.1	15419	10/17/2018	#3 LaSalle Fish Hatchery (09010)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	6.4	1213	7/19/2018	#2 Jake Wolf Hatchery (09000)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	9.3	768	9/7/2017	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	8	800	7/26/2016	#2 Jake Wolf Hatchery (09000)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	8	1200	7/30/2015	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	8	1200	9/2/2014	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	6	1208	8/14/2014	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)