



OSPREY LAKE

Mautino State Fish and Wildlife Area

FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

LOCATION – Osprey Lake is located just south of Sheffield or 3 miles west of Buda, within the Mautino State Fish and Wildlife Area.

DESCRIPTION – Osprey Lake was created by strip-mining in the 1950's. The lake did not open to the public until 1994 because of lack of roads and restroom facilities. Osprey Lake has 14.1 surface acres of water. A single lane concrete boat ramp with car/trailer parking is available.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES - The fishery is managed by species-specific surveys and fish stocking. Osprey Lake receives an annual stocking of Redear sunfish.

Largemouth Bass:

Historically Osprey Lake was sampled by nocturnal DC electrofishing, but later samples were done by day time electrofishing. After reviewing the data and time permitted, it was decided to go back to the nocturnal surveys. A total of 121 Largemouth Bass were sampled in 2022. The CPUE of 242 fish per hour was more like the historic data. Historical data shows a population with better size distribution for larger than 15-inch fish. Osprey currently has a very strong class of fish in the 8–12-inch group. The positive side of that strong length group is the sunfish group is looking great!

1.Management Plan: Goal	1998	1999	2003	2019	2022
# Stock (200mm)>100	47	51	59	169	80
PSD 40-60	62	51	64	28	19
RSD 14 10-20				1	1
RSD 18 0-10				0	0
Effort(Min)	60	56	40	30	30

2.Spring nocturnal DC electrofishing CPUE (fish/hr) of each length group of Largemouth bass collected at Osprey Lake

<u>Year</u>	<u><8</u>	<u>8-12</u>	<u>12.1-15</u>	<u>15.1-20</u>	<u>> 20</u>	<u>Total</u>
1998	14.0	18.0	25.0	3.0	1.0	61.0
1999	3.2	26.8	19.3	6.4	2.2	57.9
2003	13.5	31.5	36.0	16.5	4.5	102.0
2019	88.0	244.0	92.0	2.0	0.0	426.0
2022	82.0	13.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	242.0

Bluegill:

Historically Osprey Lake was sampled by nocturnal dc electrofishing, but later samples were done by day time electrofishing. After reviewing the data and the fact that the region was back to full staff and time permitted, it was decided to go back to the nocturnal surveys. A total of 91 Bluegill were sampled in 2022. The Bluegill population has really changed since historic nocturnal survey. Most notably are the numbers of fish over 6 inches and the increase in trophy 8-10 inches sized fish.

Management Plan: Goal: 2019 2022

#Stock(80mm)	>100	68	89
PSD	20-60	66	87
RSD 7	10-15	53	62
RSD 8	0-10	28	9

2.Spring Nocturnal DC electrofishing CPUE (fish/hr) of each length group of Bluegill collected at Osprey Lake.

<u>Year</u>	<u><3</u>	<u>3.1-6</u>	<u>6.1-8</u>	<u>8.1-10</u>	<u>Total</u>
1998	17.0	58.0	8.0	1.0	84.0
1999	5.4	66.4	5.4	0.0	77.2
2003	3.0	43.5	27.0	0.0	73.5
2019	56.0	46.0	52.0	38.0	192.0
2022	4.0	24.0	118.0	36.0	182.0

Redear Sunfish:

A total of 17 Redear sunfish were collected in 2022 which is like the 2019 survey. Size distribution is excellent with fish up to 9 inches sampled. Redear sunfish are not commonly sampled at high rates in most lakes due to habitat preferences.

1.Spring Nocturnal DC electrofishing CPUE (fish/hr) of each length group of Redear sunfish collected at Osprey Lake.

<u>Year</u>	<u><4</u>	<u>4-7.1</u>	<u>7.1-9.1</u>	<u>9.1-11</u>	<u>>11</u>	<u>Total</u>
2019	0.0	10.0	29.0	10.0	0.0	49.0
2022	0.0	20.0	12.0	2.0	0.0	34.0

Other Species Sampled: Black Crappie, Green Sunfish, Gizzard Shad, White Sucker and Yellow Bullhead.

FISHING REGULATIONS – Statewide fishing regulations apply at this lake (see current Illinois Fishing Information booklet and IFISHILLINOIS website <http://www.ifishillinois.org/> for specific details).

Additional Site Specific fishing regulations:

- All Fish 2 Pole and Line Fishing Only
- Large or Smallmouth Bass 1 Fish Daily Creel Limit (14" Minimum Length Limit)
- Bluegill or Redear Sunfish 10 Fish Daily Creel Limit (No Minimum Length Limit)
- Channel Catfish 6 Fish Daily Creel Limit (No Minimum Length Limit)
- Walleye, Sauger, or Hybrid Walleye State Wide Regulations
- White, Black, or Hybrid Crappie No Fish Daily Creel Limit (No Minimum Length Limit)

CONTACT INFORMATION – Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park: 815-454-2328
IDNR Fisheries County Biologist: 630-360-4185

Osprey Lake Map

