

Sesser City Reservoir

Fisheries Fact Sheet

Sesser City Reservoir is a relatively fertile and shallow, 20-acre, city-owned impoundment located just southeast of Sesser, Illinois in Franklin County. Sesser City Reservoir is mostly surrounded by woods and has a gravel boat ramp.

Largemouth bass: Largemouth bass were found in Sesser City Reservoir in better numbers at the time of the spring 2021 survey, at a rate of 69 per hour of electrofishing, which met the general management plan goal. The proportion of bass larger than 12 inches was slightly higher than the previous year at 68%, and this index easily exceeded the goal. Proportions of larger bass increased markedly. 46% of fish sampled were at least 15 inches, and 9% were over 18 inches. Bass body condition remained within the management plan goal range.

Bluegill: Sesser Reservoir bluegill abundance in 2021, as measured by electrofishing catch rate, increased from the previous year at 135 per hour, and the proportion larger than 6 inches (PSD) stayed within management range at 42%. Seven percent of sampled fish were over 7 inches in length (RSD18). Bluegill still displayed excellent body condition.

Redear: Redear numbers were better in 2021 (48 collected per hour), with good population and condition indices. 30% were 8 inches or bigger, and condition was excellent.

Crappie: Black crappie were collected at a low rate in 2021. Crappie were between 4 and 11 inches in length, and body condition was substandard.

Channel catfish: No channel catfish was included in the 2021 sampling of Sesser City Reservoir. The Sesser City Reservoir channel catfish population is maintained by IDNR stockings every other year.

Regulations in effect: Largemouth bass – 18 inch length limit and 1 per day creel limit. Channel catfish – 6 per day creel limit. Consult the Illinois Fishing Information booklet for additional regulation information.

Additional Fisheries Information can be obtained by calling IDNR District Biologist Luke Nelson at 618-364-5381