



# PYRAMID STATE PARK – DENMARK AREA – GREEN WING LAKE

## 2022 FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

**LOCATION:** Pyramid State Park is located south of Pinckneyville in Perry County. Green Wing Lake is a strip cut lake located on the Denmark Section of Pyramid State Park. From State Route 127 head west on Pyatt-Cutler Road. About 7 miles west of Pyramid State Park turn south into the Denmark Section.

**DESCRIPTION:** Facilities at this 40-acre lake include a concrete boat ramp, dock and bathrooms.

**STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY** – The following is a summary of the major sport fish species based on fish population surveys conducted by IDNR. During 2021, fisheries surveys consisted of a spring nocturnal electrofishing survey and a fall netting survey. Both trap nets and gill nets were utilized in the fall netting survey. In addition, a targeted nocturnal electrofishing survey was conducted for Walleye and Saugeye during November.

**Largemouth Bass** – Electrofishing is now a suitable sampling tool at this lake thanks to modernized equipment that can effectively stun fish in high conductivity water. Therefore, an electrofishing survey was conducted during April of 2021. The survey was conducted at night due to the deep, steep-sided nature of the lake, which can limit the efficiency of electrofishing during daylight hours. Results of the survey indicate a quality bass fishery in Green Wing Lake. A total of 32 Largemouth Bass were collected during 20 minutes of electrofishing. Of the bass collected, 53% were at least 15 inches and 13% were over 18 inches in length. Body condition generally increased with length and was excellent by the time bass reached 17 inches, likely due to the abundance of large shad in the lake. The largest bass collected was 7 lbs.

**Crappie** – Green Wing Lake possesses a quality crappie fishery consisting of both black and white crappie. Seven crappies were collected during the spring electrofishing survey and an additional 20 were collected during the fall netting survey. Of the 27 crappies collected, 33% were over 10 inches in length.

**Bluegill** – The bluegill population is poor. The majority of Bluegill were under 6 inches in length.

**Channel Catfish** – A low density population of Channel Catfish exists in the lake. Four were collected during the fall netting survey, ranging in size from 0.5 to 4.5 lbs.

**Walleye/Saugeye** – Walleye have been stocked annually at this lake since 2002. One Walleye was collected during the spring electrofishing survey which weighed nearly 5 lbs. None were collected during the targeted fall electrofishing survey. The largest walleye collected during a survey was 27 inches and weighed 7.5 lbs. The Walleye population in the lake seems to be relatively low-density, indicating relatively poor recruitment of stocked fish. Saugeye (Walleye x Sauger Hybrids) will be stocked during 2021 and subsequent years to determine if they are a better option than Walleye for stocking in this lake. As hybrids, Saugeye generally demonstrate faster growth and greater tolerance of warm water in comparison to Walleye.

### **Fishing regulations:**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Creel Limit</b>	<b>Minimum Length Limit</b>
Largemouth Bass	5 under 14" and 1 over 18"	14-18 inch protected slot (no possession)
Bluegill or Redear Sunfish	25	None
Crappie	25	None
Channel Catfish	6	None
Walleye/Saugeye	6	14 inches
All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only	

**RECREATIONAL USE RESTRICTIONS** – From November 1 through the end of February fishing is allowed in designated areas only, and fishing hours are from ½ hour before sunrise to 2 PM. There are no HP boat motor

restrictions at this lake but the entire lake is a “NO WAKE ZONE” and all sizes of boat motors must operate at no-wake speed.

**MAPS/CONTACTS – CONTACT INFO** – IDNR Fish Biologist – Nick Abell 618-967-0952, [nicholas.abell@illinois.gov](mailto:nicholas.abell@illinois.gov). Pyramid State Park 618-357-2574.