



PANA LAKE 2016 FISHERIES FACT SHEET



LOCATION: Pana Lake is located east of the City of Pana in Christian and Shelby Counties.

DESCRIPTION: These two lakes combine to cover 219 surface acres and consist of a separate older upper lake (69 acres) and newer lower lake (144 acres). The maximum depth is 36 feet with an average depth of 13.7 feet. A public boat launch is available only on the lower lake. The City of Pana (217-562-3626) collects a boating access fee. All tournaments must be scheduled through *ifishillinois.org*.

CONCESSION: City parks, restaurants, convenience stores, and hotels are available.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES: The fish population of Pana Lake is intensively surveyed every two years, primarily by electrofishing. The fish are measured, weighed, and scales collected for aging before releasing the fish alive. Channel catfish and muskellunge (muskie) are stocked annually through the IDNR hatcheries.

FISHERY STATUS: **Largemouth bass** are fairly abundant with bass from 1/2-3 lbs. common. Fish over 6 lbs. are caught on occasion. The number of bass collected was very similar in 2014 (102) compared to 2012 (109) with most being young-of-the-year fish. Recruitment has improved with the presence of aquatic vegetation in the lake. The collection rate of larger bass was less than desirable at 0.45 bass (age 1+ and older)/minute in both 2014 and 2012, but the population density is likely higher than these numbers reflect. The largest bass collected, 19” and 3.7 lbs. Fishing quality is rated as fair-good for both size structure and density for 2016.

Crappie, both white and black crappie are present, with white crappie abundant. Anglers may catch crappie up to 11+ inches and 0.5+ pounds. Fishing prospects for 2016 are good.

Muskellunge, of larger sizes, were initially stocked in 2011. Numbers collected have been highly variable, with none collected in 2014 and eight (8) in 2012. Anglers have reported catching large fish. Fishing quality is rated as fair for 2016.

Channel catfish are stocked by IDNR hatcheries and very abundant in this lake. The average catch goes from 3/4 - 5 lbs., with the occasional fish over 10 pounds caught. Good numbers were collected in 2014. Fishing prospects are rated as excellent for 2016!

Flathead catfish are fairly abundant. Many young flathead catfish are collected in surveys. The largest flathead collected in 2014 was 32 inches and weighed 14+ lbs. Fishing quality is rated as fair-good.

Common carp are abundant with fish exceeding 14 lbs. Fishing quality is rated as good.

Bluegill fishing is poor-fair. Few fish exceed 7 inches.

Yellow bass, longear sunfish, green sunfish, warmouth, and yellow bullheads are present, but are seldom harvested by fishermen due to the small size attained by most of these species. **Gizzard shad** and **golden shiners** are the primary forage for gamefish.

REGULATIONS: All statewide regulations are in effect.

Species	Daily Harvest Limits	Length Limits
ALL	2 pole and line only with no more than two hooks or lures per pole	
Largemouth or Smallmouth Bass	6	14-inch minimum
Muskellunge	1	48-inch minimum
Muskellunge	Live bait in excess of 8 inches must be rigged with a quick strike rig	
Channel Catfish	6	None

COOPERATIVE SPORTSMEN + STRUCTURED HARVEST = OPTIMAL FISHING QUALITY!

Please Remove All Litter!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

City of Pana: Phone: 217-562-3626

or

Mike Mounce, IDNR, Phone: 217-345-2420

or visit *ifishillinois.org*.