



## IDNR Fisheries Lake Status Summary Gillespie Old City Lake

**Location:** Resides in south-eastern Macoupin County, 3 miles northwest of Gillespie, Illinois.

**Area:** 71 acres; shoreline length 5.0 miles; watershed 3,300 acres, maximum depth 21 feet; average depth 8.8 feet.

**Lake history and characteristics:** Gillespie Old City Lake entered into a cooperative management agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in 1985. This agreement was developed to improve fishing opportunities for the angling public. There is one concrete ramp on the north end of the lake. Lake users are primarily recreational fishermen. A general store is located on the lake property. Approximately 14 fish species occupy this waterbody. Below are species that do well in this lake.

**Largemouth Bass:** In 2017, 114 Largemouth Bass ranging from 6.7-21.7" were collected. Seventeen Largemouth Bass exceeded 15", and six exceeded 18". The catch rate of 114 bass/hour exceeds the management goal ( $\geq 60$  bass/hour). This bass fishery continues to offer excellent bass fishing opportunities.

**Bluegill:** Bluegill were collected at a catch rate of 380 fish/hour. The fish collected ranged from 2.0-7.5". Two fish were over 7". Bluegill body condition is poor ( $Wr=91$ ). This population is always going to have its challenges competing for food resources with Gizzard Shad.

### **Redear Sunfish**

Redear Sunfish were collected at a rate of 310 fish/hour. 54.8% of fish collected were stock size (7") or larger. Ten fish collected exceeded 8".

### **Black and White Crappie**

In 2017, Forty-Two Black Crappie were collected ranging from 6.3-9.8". Two Black Crappie exceeded 9". Thirty-Six White Crappie were collected ranging from 5.9-14.6", eight of which exceeded 9". The largest White Crappie measured 14.6" and weighed 1.52lbs. Anglers should be encouraged to harvest crappies. There are currently no crappie length limits or harvest limits on this lake.

**Channel Catfish:** Four Channel Catfish were collected, measuring 16.5-24.4". Body Condition was average ( $Wr=98$ ). Channel Catfish were stocked in 2017 and 2019. IDNR will continue to stock Channel Catfish as hatchery production allows.

**Other fish species:** Other species collected during the population survey included Common Carp, Gizzard Shad, Golden Shiner, Warmouth Sunfish, and Yellow Bullhead.

**Fishing Regulations:** see the Illinois Fishing Information Booklet or [www.IFISHILLINOIS.org](http://www.IFISHILLINOIS.org) for updates.

- Two pole and line fishing only and each pole must not have more than 2 hooks or lures attached while fishing.
- Channel Catfish - 6 Fish Daily Harvest Limit
- Largemouth Bass – 15” Minimum Length Limit, 3 Fish Daily Harvest Limit.

**Aquatic vegetation and/or chemical treatment:**

- none

**Fisheries Management Activities Completed:**

- Conducted a fall population survey utilizing a standard sampling protocol. (2 – 30 min Pulsed-DC electrofishing runs) 10/16/2017. 347 fish were collected, representing 11 species. Water temperature was 66F.
- Hatchery stocked 903 9.3” Channel Catfish on 9/18/2017.
- Hatchery stocked 994 7.5” Channel Catfish on 7/30/2019.