



HORSESHOE LAKE – MADISON COUNTY

FISHERIES FACT SHEET

LOCATION: Horseshoe Lake is located near Granite City on Highway 111 just south of Horseshoe Lake Road.

DESCRIPTION: This 2107 acre lake is a very old floodplain lake created by an abandoned river channel. The lake is shallow with average depths of 3-5 feet. It maintains a connection with the Mississippi River through drainage ditches. Therefore, the lake supports a very diverse fishery. Besides the common sport fish the lake is home to carp, buffalo, drum, gar, and bowfin. The main boat ramp is on the north shore of the lake inside the park. Shore angler access is available at many areas around the lake and there is a 50 h.p. limit for boat motors.

CONCESSION: A small bait shop is located within the park.

HISTORY AND STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY: The IDNR Division of Fisheries routinely monitors the status of the fishery of Horseshoe Lake.

LARGEMOUTH BASS - This lake has good bass population although the numbers are down a little in the 2018 survey. The lake has a high percentage of quality fish (4-6 lbs) with 50% of the adult bass collected over 15 inches. The condition of the bass is always very good.

BLUEGILL - Bluegill are very abundant in the lake. The size quality and condition are very good with many over 6 inches. 14% of the adult bluegill collected in the 2018 survey were over 7 inches.

CRAPPIE - The crappie population supports a very popular fishery at the lake. Crappie numbers have dropped in recent surveys but the size quality is very good. All of the crappie collected in the 2018 survey were over 9 inches.

FISHING REGULATIONS:

2 Pole and Line fishing Only

- * Bow Fishing is permitted
- * Trotlines are permitted within 300 feet of shoreline

Largemouth or Smallmouth Bass - 15" Minimum Length Limit

Largemouth or Smallmouth Bass – 3 fish Dailey Creel Limit

Black and/or White Crappie - 25 Fish Daily Creel Limit

*Swimming, wading, and waterskiing are prohibited

For more information, contact Horseshoe Lake State Park: 618- 931-0270