

# 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 lower numbers at the time of the spring 2019 survey, at a rate of 44 per hour of electrofishing, which didn't meet the general management plan goal. The proportion of bass larger than 12 inches was slightly lower than the previous year at 62%, and this index easily exceeded the goal. Proportions of larger bass increased markedly. 33% of fish sampled were at least 15 inches, and 14% were over 18 inches. Bass body condition remained within the management plan goal range.

**Bluegill:** Sesser Reservoir bluegill abundance in 2019, as measured by electrofishing catch rate, decreased from the previous year at 82 per hour, but the proportion larger than 6 inches (PSD) drastically increased to 46%. Two percent of sampled fish were over 7 inches in length (RSD18). Bluegill still displayed excellent body condition.

**Redear:** Redear numbers were better in 2019 (40 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 sparse rates of 6 per hour in spring 2019. Crappie were between 4 and 11 inches in length, and body condition was substandard.

**Channel catfish:** Only one channel catfish was included in the 2019 sampling of Sesser City Reservoir, and it displayed excellent body condition. 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