

BEAVER DAM LAKE

2015 - 2016 FISHERIES FACT SHEET

Beaver Dam Lake was purchased by the State of Illinois in 1947-1948 which resides within Beaver Dam State Park. This impoundment was constructed via two earthen dams, and records indicate the original water body was accomplished by beavers in 1870.

LOCATION – Resides in west-central Illinois, seven miles southwest of Carlinville, IL. in Macoupin County.

AREA – 56.6 acres ; shoreline length 1.7 miles ; watershed 225 acres (4 to 1) ; maximum depth 10 feet ; average depth 4 feet.

DESCRIPTION – Beaver Dam Lake has a trolling motor only rule. There is a single, concrete boat ramp on the west end of the lake. A concession stand offers boat, and motor rental, live bait, tackle, ice, food, and soft drinks. A fish cleaning station is positioned just north of the boat ramp.

STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY – Approximately 12 species live in this small, fertile impoundment. Beaver Dam Lake receives annual stockings of 8” to 10” Channel Catfish, and 10” to 14” Rainbow Trout. Periodically Black, or White Crappie, and Redear Sunfish are also released. Below is a brief description of catchable game species in this water body.

LARGEMOUTH BASS – In 2015, 82 bass were found in one hour of shocking. These fish measured 6.5” to 16”, and weighed up to 1.8 lbs. 77 (94%) were 10” to 14”, while 2 (2.4%) exceeded 15”. This size structure is allowed to create better pan fishing for the angling public.

BLUEGILL – In 2015, 60 Bluegill were captured in one hour of electrofishing. They ranged from 1” to 8.5”, and topped the scale at .6 lbs. 44 (73%) attained 6”, while 18 (30%) were at least 8” in length.

REDEAR SUNFISH – During the same year, 11 Redear were boated from 7.5” to 11.5” and weighing up to 1.53 lbs. in total weight. 7 (64%) were 8”, or more, and 5 (46%) were at least 10” in size.

BLACK and WHITE CRAPPIE – 13 Black and White Crappie were collected in 2015. These fish measured from 9.5” to 12”, and weighed up to .9 lbs. in weight. 13 (100%) topped 9”, and 1 (8%) exceeded 12” in size.

CHANNEL CATFISH – This species is stocked every year at 8” to 10”. Large numbers of 1 to 4 lb. individuals are caught every year. As well, annually Catfish up to 15 lbs. are also harvested from this lake. In 2015, 6 Channel Catfish were collected. These specimens measured 10” to 27.5”, and weighed up to 9.7 lbs. 3 (50%) weighed at least 2 lbs.

FISHING REGULATIONS – Site specific angling regulations. Two pole and line fishing only, and all other statewide regulations apply at this lake.

Bluegill or Redear Sunfish – 25 fish daily creel limit.

Channel Catfish – 6 fish daily creel limit.

Largemouth Bass – 15” minimum length limit ; 3 fish daily creel limit.

Rainbow Trout – Fall closed season.

White, Black, or Hybrid Crappie – 10 fish daily creel limit ; 9” minimum length limit.

CONTACT INFORMATION – Beaver Dam State Park: 217/854-8020. IDNR Fisheries District Fish Biologist: 217/833-2811.

