



Pounds Hollow Lake

Gallatin County, Illinois.

Fisheries Fact Sheet

Pounds Hollow Lake, located two miles southwest of Gibsonia, was constructed during the years 1941 - 1943 as a recreational resource. Pounds Hollow Lake is owned by the U.S. Forest Service and is surrounded by expanses of timbered land. The lake has no boat ramp and an electric motors only designation. Pounds Hollow Lake also has a swimming beach with concessionaire, picnic areas, and a developed campground. At normal pool, Pounds Hollow Lake has a surface area of 28 acres, a maximum depth of 24 feet, and an average depth of 16 feet. Shallow shoreline areas become filled with submerged vegetation and the lake is fertile enough to support light to moderate plankton blooms during summer months. Recent survey data suggests Pounds Hollow Lake is currently supporting a balanced fishery. Fish most commonly sought after by anglers include largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, channel catfish and crappie.

Largemouth bass – Largemouth bass population indices are within or near recommended ranges and a fair representation of size structure exists. Bass abundance is good, as measured by catch per unit of effort of electro fishing, as the average number of bass caught in recent surveys is 102 bass per hour. Many fish between 0.5 to 1.5 pounds are present with larger bass sampled and reportedly being caught by anglers. Bass fishing is expected to be fair. Currently, there is a 15 inch minimum size limit for bass and the creel limit is 6 fish per day.

Bluegill – Bluegill numbers at Pounds Hollow Lake are fair. Abundance as measured by the average catch per unit of effort of electro fishing, in recent samples, is 105 fish per hour. Bluegill size structure remains constant as most catchable fish are between 5.5 and 7.5 inches. Bluegill fishing at Pounds Hollow Lake is expected to be fair. Currently there are no size or creel limits for sunfish at Pounds Hollow Lake.

Crappie – Black crappie are present in Pounds Hollow Lake and fishing as reported from anglers has been fair. Anglers should target crappie around structure and the creek channel using minnows and jigs. Currently there are no size or creel limits for crappie at Pounds Hollow Lake.

Channel catfish – Anglers continue to report good catches of channel catfish. Many fish reported and collected during electro fishing surveys are 16 inches or better. Fishing prospects for channel catfish are expected to be fair to good. A daily catch limit of six fish applies.

Additional fisheries information can be obtained on the I Fish Illinois web site, <http://www.ifishillinois.org> or by consulting the Illinois Fishing Information booklet or by calling IDNR District Biologist Kurt Daine at 618-949-3432.

