



Norris City Reservoir White County, Illinois

Fisheries Fact Sheet

Norris City Reservoir is a 28.0 acre impoundment located approximately one half mile east of Norris City. Indian Creek was impounded in 1937 to create the reservoir and provide a public water source. In 1979 the city converted to well water and the reservoir was no longer used as a primary or secondary water source. Norris City Reservoir has a surface area of 28 acres, maximum depth of 22 feet, with an average depth of 11 feet. The reservoir has a storage capacity of 308 acre-feet of water and a shoreline distance of 1.5 miles that is primarily rip-rap. Recent survey data suggests Norris City Reservoir is currently supporting a balanced fishery. Fish most commonly sought after by anglers include largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, channel catfish, crappie and occasionally flathead catfish.

Largemouth bass - Bass fishing is expected to be good. The 2024 catch per unit effort by electrofishing was 84 fish/hr. Of the bass collected, 38% were over 14 inches, 26% were over 15 inches, and 7% were over 18 inches. The largest bass collected was 4.5 pounds. There is a 15-inch minimum size limit for bass and the daily harvest limit is 6 fish per day.

Bluegill – Bluegill fishing at Norris City Reservoir is expected to be fair with high numbers but few fish over 8 inches. No bluegill over 8 inches were collected in the 2024 survey. There are no size or harvest limits for sunfish. Anglers are encouraged to harvest bluegill to increase the growth rate.

Crappie – Black and white crappie are present in Norris City Reservoir. Three black crappie (7-8 inches) were collected in the 2024 survey. Although present in the lake, no white crappie were collected in the 2024 survey. There are no size or harvest limits for crappie.

Channel catfish – Sixty-two channel catfish (9-19 inches) were collected in the 2024 survey. Fishing prospects for channel catfish are expected to be good to excellent. Channel catfish (810 fish averaging 9 inches) were stocked in 2024. There is a daily harvest limit of 6 fish per day.

Additional information can be obtained on the I Fish Illinois web site: <http://www.ifishillinois.org>

Updated: January 2025