



IDNR Fisheries Lake Status Summary Waverly Lake

Location: Waverly Lake is in Morgan County, 3 miles northwest of Waverly, and 23 miles southwest of Springfield.

Area: 119 acres

Lake history and characteristics: The Division of Fisheries entered into a formal Cooperative Management Agreement with the City of Waverly in 1984. The lake has one boat ramp on the south side of the lake on Waverly Lake Road. The lake is mostly surrounded by hardwood timber offering an abundance of submerged snags and stumps for fish habitat.

Largemouth Bass: The bass population remains poor. Only 12 largemouth bass were collected per hour in the 2017 population survey. The goal is 60-75 bass per hour. The fish were in good body condition, however the structural indices as well as the catch rate indicate a very low density. There is little reproduction and recruitment. The largest bass collected measured 20" and weighed 5.27lbs.

Bluegill: This population is poor. Only 15 Bluegill were collected per hour of electrofishing. The relative weights are excellent, but no fish collected exceeded 7".

White Crappie: No White Crappie were collected in 2017. Very few White Crappie were collected in 2016 and they showed poor body condition.

Channel Catfish: Very few Channel Catfish have been collected in our surveys. Three Channel Catfish were collected in 2017. The largest fish measured 22" and 5.5lbs. Non-vulnerable Channel Catfish were stocked in 2018. There is a lack of predators and the lake is turbid, which suggests that catfish should be doing well, however our surveys are not revealing a high-quality Channel Catfish fishery. Hopefully the 2018 Channel Catfish stocking will improve this fishery.

Flathead Catfish: Flathead Catfish are currently not found in Waverly Lake. A Flathead Catfish stocking program is planned for 2019. Gizzard Shad and Common Carp are abundant and could provide good forage for Flathead Catfish, so these large predators may do well in this lake.

Other fish species: Other species collected during the population survey included Black Bullhead, Common Carp, Freshwater Drum, Green Sunfish, Gizzard Shad, Yellow Bullhead, and Yellow Bass.

Fishing Regulations: see the Illinois Fishing Information Booklet or www.IFISHILLINOIS.org for updates.

Two pole and line fishing only and each pole must not have more than 2 hooks or lures attached while fishing.

Channel catfish - 6 fish daily harvest limit

Largemouth Bass – 6 fish daily harvest limit / 15" minimum length limit

Aquatic vegetation and/or chemical treatment:

- none

Fisheries Management Activities Completed:

-Conducted a summer population survey on 6/20/2017 utilizing a standard sampling protocol (1 – 60 min Pulsed-DC electrofishing run). 626 fish were collected, representing 11 species. Water temperature was 80F.

-Hatchery stocked 2,850 - 7” channel catfish on 8/14/2018.



West-Central Illinois