



BOWEN LAKE

WASHINGTON PARK DISTRICT

FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

LOCATION: Bowen Lake is located in Tazewell County approximately 1 mile north of Washington at the junction of Route 24 and the Washington, Metamora blacktop. The lake is the property of the Washington Park District.

DESCRIPTION : Bowen is a borrow pit of 5.8 acres in size with a maximum depth of 64 feet. The majority of the shoreline is accessible to anglers. A fishing dock and concrete ramp are available. The water clarity averages over 10 feet.

Status of the Sport Fishery: In 2017, a fall D.C. boat electrofishing survey was used to evaluate the fish population. Aquatic vegetation control was completed in the spring of 2017.

Largemouth Bass: The largemouth bass population was evaluated by 55 bass from electrofishing. The largemouth bass population appears to be defined by a high percentage of fish from 8.0 to 13.5 inches in length. The body condition of these fish was only average with a Relative weight value of 83. The collection rate was 2.6 fish per minute which indicates a high density.

Bluegill: The bluegill population was sampled by 13 fish in fall electrofishing survey. They ranged in size from 2 to 6.3 inches in length with a poor body condition rating of 80. The current bluegill population is rated as poor. A future improvement in the bass population size structure and annual aquatic vegetation control should help the bluegill size structure.

Black Crappie: Only 2 black crappie were sampled from 7.9 to 9.6 inches in length. The body condition of these fish was only average with a Wr value of 83.

Redear Sunfish: 9 redear sunfish were sampled from 3.5 to 8.7 inches in length. The average body condition of these fish was good with a Wr value of 92.

Channel Catfish: The channel catfish population was not sampled in the electrofishing survey in 2017. A channel catfish stocking is anticipated for the fall of 2018.

Fishing Regulations:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Size Limit</u>	<u>Creel Limit</u>
Large or Smallmouth Bass	12" to 15" protected slot limit	3 fish/day
Channel catfish	None	6 fish/day

All fish 2 Pole and line fishing only.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Washington Park District: (309) 444-9413.
 IDNR Fisheries County Fish Biologist: (309) 446-9143.
 Illinois Fishing Information booklet and IFISHILLINOIS website <http://www.ifishillinois.org/>

