



IDNR – Fisheries

2017 Lake Status Summary

Ashland Old Reservoir



Location: Northwest Morgan County, 3 miles southwest of Ashland off of Rt. 123 and Collins Rd., 21 miles northwest of Springfield
Area: 5 acres

Lake history and characteristics: The Ashland Old Reservoir is owned by the Village of Ashland. The Village of Ashland entered into a formal Cooperative Management Agreement with IDNR in 1988. The lake is 5 acres and has a maximum depth of approximately 15 feet. Boats are not allowed. The entire shoreline is accessible to bank fishing.

Largemouth bass: The largemouth bass population is doing well as far as quantity, but not quality. There are numerous bass in the pond as evidenced by the high CPUE of 270 and the fairly low body condition value ($Wr = 91$). The majority of bass measure between 10-14", with a few fish breaking through the bottle neck and growing to larger sizes. While this population structure is not ideal for a trophy bass pond, it is ideal for a quality bluegill pond. The current bass regulation is the state wide regulation of 6 bass/day with no minimum length limit. Anglers can catch largemouth bass off of points, deadfalls, and stickups in the warmer months of the year with plastic worms, jigs, spinners, crank baits, minnows, crayfish and worms.

Bluegill: The bluegill population continues to be very good with 23% of the catchable population measuring over 7" and 13% over 8". The bluegill in Ashland Old Reservoir are in great body condition ($Wr = 98$ in 2016). The quality bluegill population structure at this pond is due to the hungry bass population. There is currently no protective regulation on bluegill, but may be warranted because of the ponds small size of only 5 acres. Overharvest is a potential problem. This quality bluegill fishery should provide anglers with excellent fishing opportunities for years to come.

Channel catfish: Only 1 channel catfish was collected electrofishing in the summer sample and no nets were set due to time constraints. The fish was in excellent body condition. The IDNR will continue the non-vulnerable channel catfish stockings to maintain the population as State Hatchery production allows. Catfish are regulated with a 6 fish/day creel limit. Anglers can catch channel catfish near deadfalls and stickups in the warmer months throughout the lake using bottom fishing techniques with cut bait, shrimp, chicken livers or night crawlers.

Fishing Regulations: see the Fishing Regulation Booklet or IFISHILLINOIS.org for updates

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

Channel catfish – creel limit of 6 per day.



	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Management Objectives
Largemouth Bass												
% >12"	71		30								49	40-60
% >15"	34		5								3	10-25
% >18"											2	5-10
condition	89										91	90-110
fish/hr EF	156		129								270	60-75
Bluegill												
% >6"	39		67								34	25-45
% >7"											23	10-20
% >8"	0		33								13	5-10
condition	91										98	90-110
fish/hr EF	417		63								213	>75
Channel Catfish												
condition											93	90-100
fish/hr EF											3	10-20

Aquatic vegetation and/or chemical treatment: none

Fisheries Management Activities Completed:

-conducted a summer electrofishing population survey
6/10/16

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Fish biologist:

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