

LAKE MANAGEMENT STATUS REPORT

Date of Report: 3/10/2023 **Fisheries Manager:** Rob Hilsabeck
District No.: 4 **LAKE NAME:** Citizen's Lake **County:** Warren
Water No.: 0031 **Ownership:** Public-Coop **Acreage:** 26

1. All Fish - 2 pole and line fishing only.

Large or Smallmouth Bass:

- Protected Slot Length Limit with 1 fish greater than or equal to 15 inches and/or 5 fish less than 12 inches daily.

Bluegill or Redear Sunfish:

- 10 Fish Daily Harvest Limit

Channel Catfish:

- 6 Fish Daily Harvest Limit

Trout:

- Fall Closed Season

2.

Little Grassy Wolf Hatchery stocked 1,200 channel catfish at 6.8 inches on 8/1/2022.

IDNR Fisheries and the City of Monmouth completed the annual fall drawdown of the Lake in 2022. No fall drawdown was completed in 2019 or 2020.

Crystal Lake Hatchery stocked approximately 450 pounds of Rainbow trout in early October 2022.

IDNR Fisheries completed the annual fall boat electrofishing survey on 10/13/2022.

		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Black Crappie			WFK*					WFK*		BWH	BWH	BWH	
Stock#		11	3	12	13	13	33	22	0	1	1	25	
PSD		100	100	100	92	85	6	0		100	100	100	30-50
RSD9		100	67	100	85	77	6	0		0	100	32	20-40
RSD10		82	33	83	23	46	0	0		0	100	12	5+
RSD11		27	0	42	8	8	0	0		0	100	12	
Wr > 8"		98	112	97	97	87	92	87		91	100	100	90-100
CPUE f/min		0.4	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.1	0.5		0.04	0.03	0.5	
		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Channel Catfish			WFK*					WFK*					
Stock #		29	19	0	0	5	12	4	0	0	1	9	
PSD		69	79	0	0	100	58	100			100	89	40-60
RSD18		35	63	0	0	80	33	100			100	44	20+
Wr		95	103	0	0	98	96	106			117	96	90-100
CPUE f/min		1	0.6	0	0	0.1	0.4	0.1			0.03	0.2	

4. In 2022, a fall D.C. electrofishing surveys was used to evaluate the fish population. A repeating fish kill occurred from September 2018 into the spring of 2019 at Citizen's Lake. It was believed to have started as a low dissolved oxygen fish kill and then developed into a bacterial fish kill. The fish kill was severe on the south half of the lake and moderate on the north half of the lake. The kill appeared to remove all of the gizzard shad and black crappie populations and only left YOY largemouth bass, bluegill and green sunfish. In 2019, the lake was restocked with largemouth bass, channel catfish, redear sunfish, blacknose hybrid crappie and rainbow trout.

In 2022, the largemouth bass population was evaluated by 115 bass from the electrofishing survey. The largemouth bass population was represented by most of the fish from 5 to 16 inches in length, with a small number up to 20 inches in length. These fish were a combination of stocked and reproduced fish in the lake. They were in very good body condition with an average Wr of 100.

The bluegill population was sampled by 413 fish in the fall electrofishing surveys. Most of the sampled bluegill population is under 7.5 inches in length. The bluegill had a good average body condition value (Wr) of 93. The collection

rate was very high at 8.3 fish per minute of electrofishing. This very high density may cause competition and slowed growth for the bluegill in the future. The annual fall drawdowns should be continued in the near future.

The redear sunfish and redear x bluegill hybrid population was sampled by 380 fish from 4 to 8.5 inches in the fall electrofishing survey. These fish also had a good body condition rating with an average Wr of 95. This population is also present in a high density with 7.6 fish collected per minute of electrofishing.

The current bluegill and redear sunfish harvest limit is 10 fish daily per angler.

In 2022, 25 hybrid crappies were sampled in the fall electrofishing survey. They ranged from 7.5 to 13 inches in length. This experimental stocking of Blacknose x White Crappie hybrids in the fall of 2019 appears to have grown well. This population and any recruitment from future spawns will be evaluated.

The channel catfish population was sampled by 9 fish in the fall of 2022 electrofishing survey. They ranged in size from 13 to 25 inches in length. They had a good body condition rating with an average Wr of 96. An average of 1,200 channel catfish are stocked each fall into Citizens Lake.

In 2022, approximately 450 pounds of rainbow trout were stocked. They ranged from 8 to 13 inches in length from the fall fish survey.

In 2022, we also collected 5 green sunfish and 3 yellow bullheads. These fish appear to be present at a very low population level and should not impact the sport fishery.

Recommended Lake Management Activities with Rationale for Implementation:

Supplemental stocking is required for the following species due to no natural recruitment currently occurring in Citizen's Lake.

Channel Catfish: 1200 every year at 8 inches which is 46/acre.

Rainbow Trout: 450 pounds every fall at about 12 inches which is about 750 fish.

Biological Surveys - Conduct annual surveys to measure trends in fishery population dynamics, angling regulations and progress toward management goals. In the fall, utilize D.C. electrofishing to sample a target number of at least 100 stock-size largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, redear sunfish and channel catfish populations.

Aquatic Vegetation Control - IDNR Fisheries will apply aquatic herbicides as needed to manage exotic or nuisance aquatic plants for fishing access or sportfish management. IDNR Fisheries treated the shoreline terrestrial vegetation on both sides of lake with 2.5 gallons of Aquaneat herbicide on 6/21/2019. The main purpose of this application was for the control of Purple loosestrife. On 5/22/2020, the shoreline terrestrial vegetation was again treated with 2 gallons of Aquaneat herbicide, and the shoreline submerged rooted aquatic vegetation was treated with 10 gallons of Aquathol K herbicide.

Contaminate Monitoring - Fish flesh samples were collected from the main sportfish with the electrofishing survey in 2016. The current fish population should be resampled for a contaminate level in 2023.

Lake Access - Coordinate with the city staff on the development of shoreline fishing areas, the boat dock and scheduled improvements for the boat ramp. The City of Monmouth completed the new handicap dock and boat access area on the north lake in 2018. This project also improved the campground and restroom area in 2020.

Water Level - coordinate with the city staff on the annual fall drawdown.

Citizens Lake fish stocking 2012-2022.

Waterbody	Species	Size (in)	Count	Delivery Date	Source
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	6.8	1200	8/1/2022	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	7.5	1200	8/9/2021	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	7.7	1200	8/4/2020	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Black Crappie x White Crappie	2.5	1500	10/22/2019	Banner Marsh Rearing Pond #1 (09390)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	8.4	842	7/25/2019	#2 Jake Wolf Hatchery (09000)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Largemouth Bass	3	3300	7/5/2019	#2 Jake Wolf Hatchery (09000)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Redear Sunfish	1.3	7792	10/17/2018	#3 LaSalle Fish Hatchery (09010)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Bluegill	1.1	15419	10/17/2018	#3 LaSalle Fish Hatchery (09010)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	6.4	1213	7/19/2018	#2 Jake Wolf Hatchery (09000)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	9.3	768	9/7/2017	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	8	800	7/26/2016	#2 Jake Wolf Hatchery (09000)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	8	1200	7/30/2015	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	8	1200	9/2/2014	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)
Citizen's Lake (00031)	Channel Catfish	6	1208	8/14/2014	#1 Little Grassy Hatchery (09050)