PYRAMID STATE PARK – CAPTAIN AREA - SUPER LAKE



2024 FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

LOCATION: Super Lake is in the Captain Unit of Pyramid State Park, Perry County.

DESCRIPTION: At 300 acres, Super Lake is the largest strip mine lake within Pyramid State Park. There is a concrete boat launch, floating docks and bathroom facilities at this lake.

STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY – The following is a summary of sport fish species based on fish population assessments. During 2023, surveys completed included a targeted spring trap net survey for Muskie and a targeted bass electrofishing survey.

Muskellunge - Super Lake has been stocked annually with Muskie reared at Jake Wolf Fish Hatchery. Muskie have been collected during trap net surveys up to 45 inches in length. During the 2023 targeted trap net survey, 16 Muskie were captured, all of which had been PIT-tagged. The implanted tags verified that all Muskie captured were from the 2021 year-class (age-2), which were between 24 and 28 inches long. This strong year-class of Muskie is growing well and should offer great angling opportunities in the coming years.

Largemouth Bass – A repeat bass electrofishing survey was conducted during April of 2023. The Largemouth Bass catch rate was good at 103/hour. In addition, size structure and mean body condition were excellent. Nearly 25% of bass captured were over 18 inches. Overall, the population is in excellent shape and should continue to offer quality angling opportunities.

Smallmouth Bass – Since 2021, about 90,000 Smallmouth fingerlings (1"-2") have been stocked. In addition, 150 adult Smallmouth were stocked during June of 2022, which were frequently caught by anglers for the remainder of 2022. However, targeted bass electrofishing surveys have yet to identify evidence of fingerling survival.

Crappie – The Crappie population is primarily composed of Black Crappie. During the 2023 Muskie trap net survey, 72 Crappie were caught as bycatch. Most fish were over 10 inches and demonstrated good body condition. A few hybrid Crappie were collected, 3 of which measured between 15 and 16 inches long. Anglers can expect to find quality-size Crappie in Super Lake.

Bluegill – The bluegill population appears relatively poor. Nearly all Bluegill collected from Super Lake have been under 7 inches in length.

Channel Catfish – Super Lake contains a quality fishery for Channel Catfish that does not appear to need supplement stocking. Past surveys have yielded numbers of catfish in the 3-6 lb. range.

Yellow Bass – Although considered a nuisance species in most waters, Yellow Bass are fine table fare and a great sport fish when growth rates are sufficient and fish over 10 inches are common. Several Yellow Bass in the 10"-12" range have been collected during surveys at Super Lake.

Fishing regulations:

Species	Creel Limit	Size Limit
Largemouth Bass	6	None
Bluegill or Redear Sunfish	25	None
Crappie	25	None
Channel Catfish	6	None
Muskellunge	1	48-inch minimum length
All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only	
Live Bait	All live bait in excess of 8" must be rigged with a quick set rig.	

RECREATIONAL USE RESTRICTIONS – Fishing is prohibited from November 1 through the end of February. There are no motor horsepower restrictions, but the entire lake is a no wake zone.

CONTACT INFO – IDNR Fish Biologist – Nick Abell 618-967-0952, nicholas.abell@illinois.gov. Pyramid State Park 618-357-2574.