



Dutchman Lake

2013 Lake Status Summary



Dutchman Lake is a relatively clear, infertile, 118-acre U.S. Forest Service-owned impoundment located approximately five miles north of Vienna, IL in Johnson County. The lake is surrounded by forest and has a gravel access road and boat ramp. The Dutchman Lake watershed is large, so significant rains have the potential to quickly raise the water level and decrease transparency.

Largemouth bass: Largemouth bass were abundant in Dutchman Lake in spring 2013 as evidenced by an electrofishing catch rate of 100 per hour. Fifty-six percent of bass were larger than 12 inches, while 22% were larger than the 15-inch minimum length limit. A few bass measured more than 18 inches and one weighed over 6 pounds. Bass body condition met the management plan goal.

Bluegill: Relatively small numbers of bluegill were collected from Dutchman Lake during the 2013 survey, as exhibited by an electrofishing catch of 46 per hour. However, 50% of these fish were larger than 6 inches, and 15% exceeded 7 inches in length. Bluegill body condition was excellent.

Redear: Redear were collected at approximately half the rate of bluegill in 2013 (22 per hour), and 45% of these fish were larger than 7 inches in length, while 9 percent were longer than 8 inches. Like bluegill, redear body condition was excellent.

White crappie: Dutchman Lake white crappie were collected at the same rate as redear in 2013 (22 per hour), and these fish ranged from 8 to 9.5 inches in length. Crappie body condition was somewhat substandard and did not meet the management plan goal.

Channel catfish: Generally, few channel catfish are collected during the annual spring Dutchman Lake electrofishing survey, and 2013 was no exception. The collection rate was 6 fish per hour of electrofishing, and these fish ranged from 13 to 16 inches in length. Body condition was excellent. The channel catfish population is maintained by annual or biennial stockings depending on fish availability.

Regulations in effect: Largemouth bass – 15 inch length limit, 6 per day creel limit. Channel catfish – 6 per day creel limit. Ten horsepower outboard motor limit. Consult the Illinois Fishing Information booklet for additional regulation information.

Additional Fisheries Information can be obtained by calling IDNR District Biologist Chris Bickers at 618-993-7094, or by contacting the Shawnee National Forest office in Vienna at 618-658-2111.