



West Frankfort Old City Lake

Fisheries Fact Sheet

West Frankfort Old City Lake is a relatively shallow, 147-acre, city-owned impoundment located approximately 4 miles east-southeast of West Frankfort, Illinois and one mile south of Route 149 in Franklin County. The lake is mostly surrounded by woods and has one boat ramp.

Largemouth bass: Largemouth bass were found in West Frankfort Old City Lake in relatively small numbers in spring 2013, but these fish exhibited acceptable quality. The annual electrofishing survey produced 38 bass per hour, of which 62% were over 12 inches, and 15% were larger than 15 inches. Bass body condition was very good.

Bluegill: Bluegill were collected from West Frankfort Old City Lake in 2013 at a rate of 80 per hour of electrofishing which was much lower than the previous year. Quality of these fish easily exceeded the management plan goal, as 53% were larger than 6 inches, but none were over 7 inches in length.

Crappie: Small numbers of black crappie were included in the 2013 sample, and most fish were relatively small. Only 8 crappie were collected per hour of electrofishing. Most of these fish were 6 to 8 inches in length, although a 15-inch individual weighing over 1.5 pounds was part of the survey. White crappie were somewhat more abundant, as this species was collected at a rate of 26 per hour. However, white crappie were all 7 to 8 inches in length. Crappie condition was slightly substandard.

Channel catfish: Channel catfish were relatively sparse in the 2013 West Frankfort Old City Lake sample, as evidenced by the electrofishing catch rate of 6 fish per hour, and length of these fish ranged from 21 to 29 inches. The channel catfish population of West Frankfort Old City Lake is maintained through supplemental stockings accomplished every other year.

Regulations in effect: Largemouth bass – no length limit and 6 per day creel limit. Channel catfish – 6 per day creel 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,