



Christopher Old City Lake

2013 Lake Status Summary



Christopher Old City Lake is a very fertile, shallow, 20-acre, city-owned impoundment located just northwest of Christopher, Illinois and north of Route 14 in Franklin County. Christopher Old City Lake is mostly surrounded by woods and has a gravel ramp.

Largemouth bass: Similar to the previous year, small numbers of largemouth bass were found in Christopher Old City Lake in spring 2013. The annual electrofishing survey produced 21 bass per hour, and these fish ranged from 11 to 19 inches in length. Seventy-one percent were larger than 12 inches, 57% were over 15 inches, and 29% exceeded the 18-inch mark. Bass body condition was excellent. Another supplemental stocking of fingerling largemouth bass is planned for 2014.

Bluegill: Bluegill numbers in Christopher Old City Lake were somewhat lower in 2013 than the previous year, and most were small. Seventy-two bluegill were collected per hour of electrofishing, and the majority of fish were 4 to 6 inches in length. Although 29% were larger than 6 inches, none approached 7 inches. Surprisingly, bluegill body condition was still very good.

Channel catfish: Fair numbers of channel catfish (18 per hour) were included in the 2013 Christopher Old City Lake sample, and these fish ranged from 10 to 22 inches in length with excellent body condition. The Christopher Old City Lake channel cat fish population is maintained via supplemental stockings every other year.

Black crappie: Black crappie were included in the 2013 sample and were collected at a rate of 48 per hour. Similar to the previous year, nearly all fish were between 7 and 8 inches in length and displayed marginal body condition.

Regulations in effect: 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.

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