



Omaha City Reservoir

Gallatin County, Illinois.

Fisheries Fact Sheet

Omaha City Reservoir is a small reservoir (22 acres) located 1 mile west of the City of Omaha in Gallatin County. Omaha City Reservoir was constructed by the damming of an unnamed stream in 1964 to create a potable water supply for the city. In 2002 the City converted to well water and the reservoir is no longer used as a primary water source. Omaha City Reservoir has a surface area of 22 acres, maximum depth of 16 feet, with an average depth of 7 feet. The reservoir has a storage capacity of 184 acre feet and a shoreline distance of approximately 1.0 mile. Recent survey data suggests Omaha City Reservoir is currently supporting a balanced fishery. Fish most commonly sought after by anglers include largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, channel catfish and crappie.

Largemouth bass –Despite Largemouth bass population indices being below recommended ranges a fair representation of size structure exists. Bass abundance is good, as measured by catch per unit of effort of electro fishing, as the average number of bass caught in recent surveys is 128 bass per hour. Many fish between 0.5 to 1.0 pound are present with larger bass sampled and reportedly being caught by anglers. Bass fishing is expected to be fair. Currently, there is a 14 inch minimum size limit for bass and the creel limit is 6 fish per day.

Bluegill – Bluegill numbers at Omaha City Reservoir are good. Abundance as measured by the average catch per unit of effort of electro fishing, in recent samples, is 149 fish per hour. Bluegill size structure remains constant as most catchable fish are between 5.5 and 7.5 inches. Bluegill fishing at Omaha City Reservoir is expected to be fair to good. Currently there are no size or creel limits for sunfish at Omaha City Reservoir.

Crappie – Black and white crappie are present in Omaha City Reservoir and fishing as reported from anglers has been fair. Anglers should target crappie around structure using minnows and jigs. Currently there are no size or creel limits for crappie at Omaha Reservoir.

Channel catfish – Anglers continue to report good catches of channel catfish. Many fish reported and collected during electro fishing surveys are 16 inches or better. Fishing prospects for channel catfish are expected to be good. A daily catch limit of six fish applies.

Additional fisheries information can be obtained on the I Fish Illinois web site, <http://www.ifishillinois.org> or by consulting the Illinois Fishing Information booklet or by calling IDNR District Biologist Kurt Daine at 618-949-3432.