



Sesser City Reservoir

Fisheries Fact Sheet

Sesser City Reservoir is a relatively fertile and shallow, 20-acre, city-owned impoundment located just southeast of Sesser, Illinois in Franklin County. Sesser City Reservoir is mostly surrounded by woods and has a gravel ramp.

Largemouth bass: Largemouth bass were found in Sesser City Reservoir in fair numbers at the time of the spring 2013 survey. Largemouth bass were collected at a rate of 54 per hour of electrofishing, which fell slightly short of the general management plan goal of 60 per hour, but this represented an improvement over the previous year. Quality of bass also improved. Eighty-three percent were larger than 12 inches, 33% were over 15 inches, and 6% exceeded the 18-inch minimum size limit. In addition, bass body condition was excellent.

Bluegill: Bluegill abundance matched that of bass in 2013, as 54 were collected per hour of electrofishing, a marked decrease compared to the previous year. However, quality of these fish improved as 77% were over 6 inches and 24% exceeded 7 inches in length. Bluegill also displayed excellent body condition.

Redear: Redear were much less common than bluegill (18 collected per hour), but their quality was higher, as 83% were larger than 7 inches in length, and maximum size was 8.5 inches. Redear body condition was also excellent.

Crappie: Like the other panfish, white crappie were not very abundant in 2013 (12 collected per hour), and all were 8 to 9 inches in length. One 8-inch black crappie was also collected. Crappie body condition was slightly substandard.

Channel catfish: Channel catfish made up a relatively small portion of the 2013 sample, as evidenced by their catch rate of 12 per hour. Size range was 19 to 22 inches. The Sesser City Reservoir channel catfish population is maintained by IDNR stockings every other year.

Regulations in effect: Largemouth bass – 18 inch length limit and 1 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,