

MILFORD DISTRICT FISHERIES NEWSLETTER

KDWP

Fisheries Division

Fall 2021

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Various tournament circuits make stops at Milford Reservoir

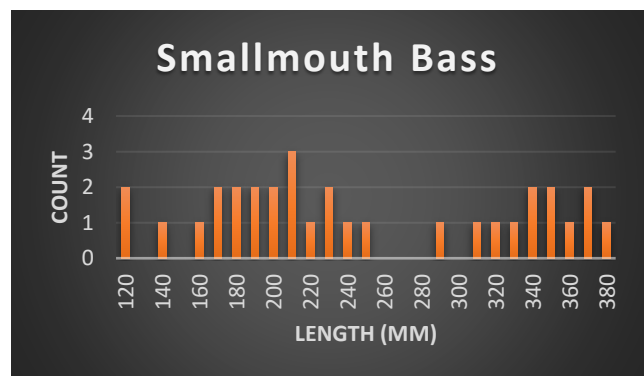
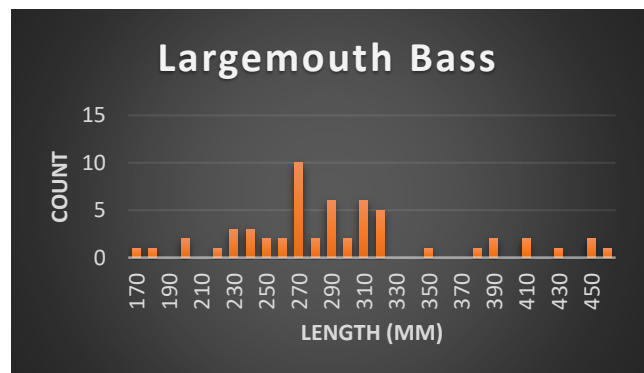
What do Catfish Chasers, B.A.S.S., Cabela's King Kat, Crappie USA, and The Catmasters have in common? They have all made stops at Milford Reservoir during their respective tournament trail circuits so far in 2021. Catfish Chasers will return for a second tournament in September while The Catmasters is scheduled to make a stop in October.

Milford Reservoir Spring Electrofishing Results

Largemouth Bass catch rates (fish/hr) in 2021 were the lowest since 2018 with 56 individuals collected. However, 16% of those collected individuals were above 15". The largest fish sampled was 3.69 lbs. Smallmouth Bass catch rates (fish/hr) were the lowest since 2018 with 32 individuals collected. No fish collected were above 15". The largest fish was 1.58 lbs. Cooler water temperatures at the time of sampling could be the reason catch rates have declined.

Spring electrofishing will be conducted again in 2022 to continue monitoring the black bass populations.

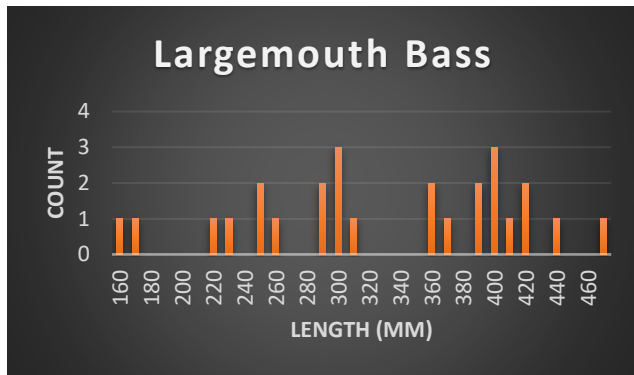
Milford Reservoir



**Geary State Fishing Lake Spring
Electrofishing Results**

Largemouth Bass catch rates (fish/hr) in 2021 were similar to catch rates from 2020 with 26 individuals collected. 38% of collected individuals were above 15". The largest fish sampled was 3.78 lbs.

Geary State Fishing Lake

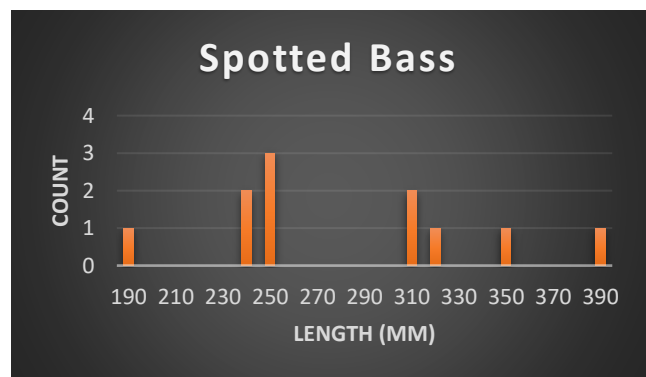
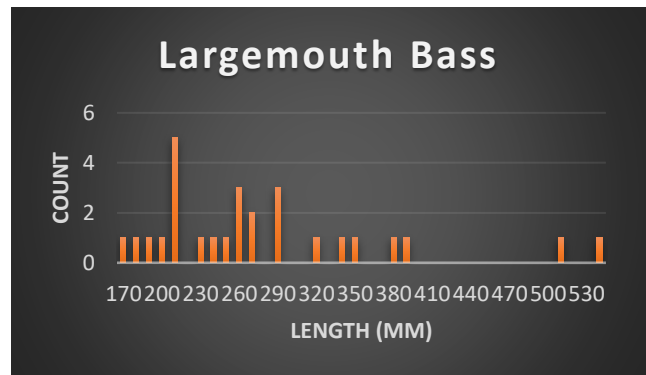


Russel Haynes, KDWP Seasonal Employee, pictured with a pair of nice Largemouth Bass from Geary State Fishing Lake

**Council Grove City Lake Spring
Electrofishing Results**

Largemouth bass catch rates (fish/hr) have remained consistent over the past five years. 25 individuals were collected with five of those fish in the 13"-18" protected slot and two fish above 18". The two largest fish collected were 5.48 and 6.06 lbs. Spotted bass catch rates (fish/hr) decreased from 2020 to 2021 with 11 individuals collected. However, one fish was collected over 15". The largest fish collected was 1.65 lbs.

Council Grove City Lake





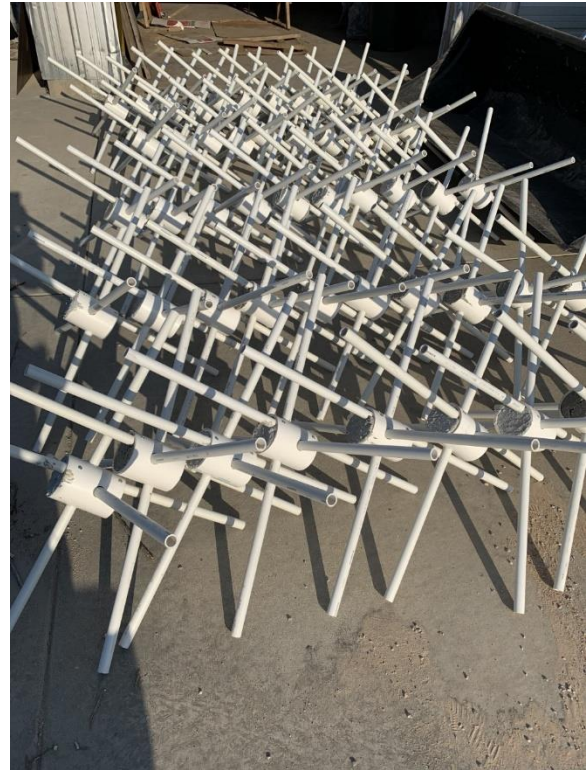
Myself, pictured with a 6.06 lb Largemouth Bass from Council Grove City Lake



Vanessa Salazar, KDWP Fisheries Biologist, pictured with a 5.48 lb Largemouth Bass from Council Grove City Lake

Milford Reservoir Habitat Locations

KDWP and I-70 Bass Anglers join forces to deploy artificial habitat in Milford Reservoir in 2021. All locations are found on the KDWP website.



MILR Crappie Jack Locations		
# of structures	Latitude	Longitude
5	N39°10.860'	W96°54.801'
10	N39°09.238'	W96°54.313'
10	N39°09.343'	W96°54.241'
10	N39°09.170'	W96°56.094'
10	N39°09.209'	W96°56.109'
10	N39°08.048'	W96°55.873'
10	N39°07.919'	W96°55.863'
15	N39°07.986'	W96°55.736'
4	N39°07.071'	W96°56.348'
4	N39°06.918'	W96°56.722'
4	N39°06.626'	W96°57.087'
6	N39°05.038'	W96°56.612'
3	N39°05.090'	W96°56.826'
6	N39°04.766'	W96°56.542'
3	N39°04.509'	W96°54.803'
5	N39°04.462'	W96°54.505'
4	N39°04.256'	W96°54.593'
6	N39°05.608'	W96°54.001'

KDWP Biologists Aim to Learn More About Flathead Catfish Population Dynamics in Small Impoundments

KDWP Fisheries Biologists are interested in understanding Flathead Catfish population dynamics in small impoundments (less than 250 acres) during 2021 and 2022. The goal of this project is to determine population estimates, growth rates, age, etc. The study lakes for this project are Lake Afton, Crawford SFL, Geary SFL, Leavenworth SFL, Middle Creek SFL, Montgomery SFL, Neosho SFL, and Wilson SFL. Some preliminary results have indicated that population estimates range from 65 to 449 fish in these eight impoundments. Also, catch rates have ranged from 2.6/hr to 23.2/hr. The final results of this project will be determined after the project is completed in the Fall of 2022.



Sam Urquidez, KDWP Seasonal Employee, pictured with a Flathead Catfish from Geary State Fishing Lake



My Final Thoughts

So far, 2021 has provided excellent fishing opportunities for all anglers who utilize our Kansas waters. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to interfere with our daily lives, I hope everyone remains healthy during this time. With fall weather approaching, there are plenty of outdoor activities to take advantage of and I wish everyone good luck in their outdoor pursuits! If you want any more information, please feel free to visit our website at <http://ksoutdoors.com/>. Have fun and good fishing!