

GLEN ELDER DISTRICT FISHERIES

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Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, & Tourism

Spring 2013

Crappie Creel Limit Reduced at Glen Elder Reservoir

Anglers who fish Glen Elder Reservoir, also known as Waconda Lake, need to be aware that the daily creel limit on crappie is now 20. Before Jan. 1, 2013, the daily creel limit on Glen Elder crappie was 50, which is the statewide creel limit, unless special regulations such as this are implemented.

The Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission approved the new creel limit at a public meeting in October. Biologists made the recommendation after receiving public comments and entering harvest and sample data into a management model. The new limit should reduce overall harvest and spread harvest out among anglers. Few lakes in the Midwest can boast the quality of crappie fishing anglers have enjoyed in recent years at the 12,000-acre reservoir in Mitchell County. And while **April and May** are generally thought to be the most productive months for crappie fishing, ice fishing for the delicious panfish can also be excellent. The 20-fish daily limit includes both white crappie and black crappie in combination. The possession limit is three **times** the daily creel.



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Glen Elder Reservoir 2013 Fishing Forecast

The reservoir is approximately 2 feet low as of April 2013. All boat ramps and facilities will be open and usable again this year. Also, be on the lookout for blue catfish which we have stocked each of the last three years.

BLACK BASS - Good. Our spring electrofishing efforts revealed another nice sample of smallmouth bass (SMB), but largemouth bass (LMB) numbers were down again. SMB continue to dominate the population with 97% of the fish collected being smallies with only one largemouth and two spotted bass collected. SMB between 5 and 16 inches were collected, but the majority of the fish were between 10 and 14 inches. Fair numbers of small age-0 and age-1 fish were collected again illustrating continued recruitment of this species. Anglers reported fish over 20 inches and close to 5 pounds last year so there are some real trophies out there. SMB were found along the dam, around the state park between the dam and Campground 3, the south bluffs, Granite Creek, and Cawker City causeway. We stocked spotted bass adults this past fall to improve that population. These fish are most often found in Marina Cove and along the north shore points. Glen Elder ranks #3 in the state for smallmouth bass density (11 inches) and preferred ranking (14 inches) when compared with the other reservoirs. **18 inch minimum length limit in effect.**

CATFISH - Good. A good sample of channel catfish was collected last fall with fish of all sizes represented, and Glen Elder ranks #8 among the state's reservoirs. Compared with the 2011 fall sample, total numbers and the number over 24 inches were down 25%. Fish between 9 and 30 inches were represented in the sample illustrating a wide range of sizes in the population. The majority of the catch was between 16 and 20 inches, though, and anglers should expect to see many in the preferred eating size range. Catfish condition remains excellent and the population



appears very healthy. Fishing over chum piles of soybeans, wheat, and milo with stinkbaits, cut shad, and nightcrawlers is the most popular method during the summer. Fishing the south bluffs, Cawker City causeway, Granite Creek causeway, and other rocky areas during the spawn can yield nice limits of catfish. Setliners have good success for both channels and flatheads fishing up the river channels, around Mill Creek, Walnut Creek, and in the Carr Creek area.

No blue catfish were collected during standard sampling in 2012, but anglers report catching a few with the biggest fish between 19 and 22 inches. Smaller fish stocked in 2011 and 2012 are also found in the reservoir. Please release any blue catfish you catch as we will continue stocking them annually until a naturally reproducing population is established.

CRAPPIE - Good. Anglers should expect another good year of crappie angling at Glen Elder in 2013, but the numbers will again be down from the last three excellent years we had due to angling mortality and less production between 2010 and 2012. Fall netting results again were very poor with few fish collected, but this is not a good representation of the population. Most crappie can be found in deeper water than we sample in October, thus catch rates are annually lower than expected. Still, good numbers of fish remain in the reservoir and most anglers will be satisfied with their catch in 2013. White crappie continue to dominate the population, but we are seeing better numbers of black crappie on the lower end

in Marina and Osage Coves, and along the dam. White crappie between 7 and 15 inches will be available to anglers with fish from 11-14 inches most common. Black crappie between 8 and 11 inches were collected and should offer some additional angling opportunities. Fish condition for both species was excellent again this year. Thanks to the high water that persisted throughout much of 2011, fair to good numbers of 6 to 8 inch crappie were observed in 2012 illustrating a decent year class of crappie. Very few fish from the 2012 year class were produced and it looks like production will be limited from last year. Fishing will be excellent



from mid-April through early June during the spring spawning activities in Osage and Marina Coves, Mill Creek, along the dam, south bluffs coves, and along the riprap at the Cawker and Granite Creek causeway. Fall and winter fishing is best at the brush piles near swim beach point, Campground 3, Harrison Point, and near the Cawker causeway. Additional trees will be added to some of these fish attractors in 2013 to enhance the habitat.

WALLEYE - Good. The total number of walleye collected in 2012 was identical to the number collected in 2011, but 60% were over the 18 inch length limit compared with only 41% last year as most of the 2008 hatched fish now exceed 18 inches. Glen Elder currently ranks #3 among the state's reservoirs in terms of walleye density (15 inches) and is 5th for preferred (20 inches) size fish. The adult population consists mostly of fish between 17 and 22 inches although fish up to 26

inches and 7 pounds were collected in the trap nets last fall. Fish condition was excellent despite poor shad production in 2012. The 2011 year class was well represented with fish between 13 and 16 inches accounting for 14% of the sample. There were also good numbers of 6 to 8 inch walleye collected during fall electrofishing so a strong 2012 year class should develop. The best fishing usually occurs during an 8 week period between late April and June. The fish move to the flats on the west end of the reservoir and can be caught using a variety of methods. Angling success during the spawn was fair to good in 2012. Nine million fry have been requested for stocking this year. **18 inch minimum length limit in effect.**



WHITE BASS – Good. Total white bass numbers were 14% higher in the fall 2012 sample while the number of fish 12 inches and bigger was 67% higher, ranking Glen Elder as the #1 reservoir in the state for density (9 inches) and #2 for preferred (12 inches) and lunker (15 inches). Most of the sample was between 10 and 15 inches with very good numbers of 13 to 15 inch fish collected. Anglers will notice strong numbers of young fish in the catch with 6 to 8 inch fish representing 17% of the catch. Fish condition was again excellent as the white bass had no problem finding shad this past year. Anglers can try a variety of methods to catch white bass with the spring spawning period up both river forks an excellent bet given adequate inflows. Hot summer days will find whites schooling in open water and chasing shad

on the surface while night anglers do very well using floating lights. Fall is often a great time to pull out the slabs and fish along rocky points and other inshore areas, while winter ice fishing may be the best time to catch these guys when they stack up along the river channels.

WIPERS - Fair. Wiper numbers declined again in this latest sample due to minimal stocking since 2008 and moderate harvest over that time. The 5 year old fish will dominate the wiper catch and range from 18 to 22 inches or 3 to 5 pounds. A few of those 7 year old fish still remain and are between 7 and 11 pounds. A few large stripers (9-20 pounds) can also be found with ice anglers catching most of them. Anglers can find wipers mixed in with white bass throughout the year, but in general, the wipers tend to occupy the lower end of the reservoir near the dam. Slabbing over humps, trolling crankbaits, or casting bucktail jigs off windy points are some of the better methods for catching wipers. Wiper and striper fingerlings have been requested in 2013 to help control the large numbers of shad annually produced at Glen Elder.



Fishing Events in 2013

Glen Elder

| | |
|--|---|
| May 1st-Sept. 3rd | WLA Fish-a-Thon |
| May 12th | WLA Crappie Tournament |
| May 19th | Governor's Cup |
| June 1st | 9th Annual Youth Tournament |
| June 1st | Free Park Entrance Day |
| June 8th | WLA Walleye Tournament |
| August 10th | WLA Catfish Tournament |

Lovewell

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| June 2nd | Kids Fishing Derby |
| August 3rd | Lovewell Fun Day |

Wilson

| | |
|---|---|
| April 13th-14th | Rocky Mnt. Team Series |
| May 5th | KWA Walleye Tournament |
| May 19th | The Bass Federation High School Championship |
| June 15th-16th | "West" State Qualifying |
| June 15th-16th | Kansas Bass Nation |
| June 29th-30th | Rocky Mnt. Team Series |
| August 10th-11th | Pikes Peak Bassmasters |
| Sept. 14th | HBAA Big Bass Challenge |

**Free Fishing Weekend
is June 1st and 2nd**

Lovewell Reservoir 2013 Fishing Forecast

The reservoir is at conservation pool as of April 2013. Be on the lookout for blue catfish which we stocked in 2010, 2011, and 2012. The fish barrier will be installed in April 2013 so keep an eye out for it near the outlet.

CATFISH - Good. The catfish population will remain good again in 2013 with all sizes of channel cats and flatheads available to anglers. The fall 2012 channel catfish sample was up 163% from the previous year while the number of fish over 24 inches was up 96%. Fifty percent of the fish were between 17 and 20 inches, 24% were 21-25 inches, and 9% were between 26 and 30 inches. Flathead catfish sampled using summertime electrofishing varied from 11 to 41 inches with the biggest fish collected weighing 42 pounds. Channels and flatheads will be vulnerable in all arms of the reservoir, including Montana, Windmill, and Prairie Dog Creek, as well as up White Rock Creek near the Highway 14 bridge. During peak irrigation releases, catfish can be readily caught close to the inlet and outlet structures, and are susceptible along the dam and other rocky areas during the spawn.

Six blue catfish were collected near Walleye Point during fall netting. These fish were 16 to 21 inches long and appear to be growing very well. **Please release any blue catfish you catch as we will continue stocking them annually until a naturally reproducing population is established.**

CRAPPIE - Good. The crappie population again showed a very nice increase in the number of adult fish collected, and Lovewell looks like it will offer some fine crappie angling over the next few years. The total number of fish collected increased 109% from the fall 2011 sample while the number of crappie 8 inches and longer increased 131%. Of the adults, 71% are between 8 and 10 inches with 29% between 11 and 14 inches. In addition, excellent numbers of 4-5



crappie were collected, and could provide a nice year class with good survival. Compared with the other reservoirs in the state, Lovewell ranks #1 for white crappie density and preferred size fish, and #2 for black crappie. Several brush piles are maintained to help concentrate fish for anglers, and decent success can be found fishing around the flooded vegetation in Montana Creek and other coves during late April and May when the fish are spawning. We added another 280 trees to the fish attractors in 2011 and will likely add more this year.

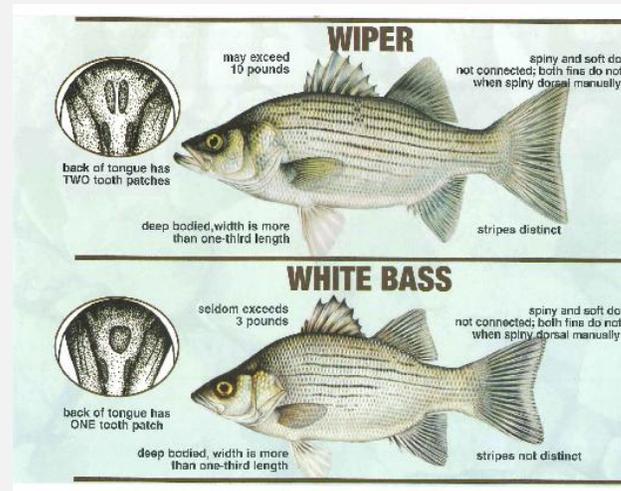
WALLEYE - Good. Walleye numbers exhibited a 77% increase compared with the 2011 sample, and the number of fish greater than the 18 inch minimum length limit was up 61%. There is also a strong 2011 year class represented by 40% of the population between 13 and 16 inches. A fair to good year class was produced in 2012 and these 8 to 10 inch fish represent 9% of the catch. Overall, 49% of the catch was over the 18 inch length limit. Fish up to 29 inches and 9 pounds were collected during fall netting indicating the presence of some nice trophies. Lovewell ranks #7 in the state for walleye density (15inches), #3 for preferred (20 inches), and #4 for lunker (25 inches) size fish. Fishing continues to be best from late April through mid-June with anglers drifting jig/nightcrawler combos having the best success, especially along 2-mile road. Anglers are encouraged to carefully measure any questionable fish and handle sublegal fish with

care. **18 inch minimum length limit in effect.** Nearly 3 million walleye fry have been requested to stock this year.

WHITE BASS – Good. White bass numbers exhibited the biggest decline of all the sportfish species and catch rates were down during fall 2012 sampling compared with the previous sample. Total numbers were 65% lower and the number of fish 12 inches and greater was down 57%. Anglers may observe this with lowered catch rates in 2013, but there should still be enough fish to provide decent angling. Following poor white bass production in 2010, a strong year class was produced in 2011; however, only 13 age-0 fish were collected this past fall resulting in poor production in 2012. The biggest fish sampled weighed 2 pounds and the fish were in good body condition. Overall, 37% of the sample was between 13 and 15 inches, 51% was 9-12 inches, and 12% were 5-6 inches. Lovewell ranks as the #11 white bass reservoir in the state based on density (9 inches), and ranks #15 for preferred (12 inches) size fish. As in the past, the best time to fish for Lovewell whites will be in the summer, during peak irrigation releases. The inlet and outlet areas historically produce the vast majority of whites harvested while summer topwater activity can also be productive. Night fishing using floating lights was fair to good in 2012, and drifting or slabbing over submerged roadbeds and humps throughout the year is also an effective method for hooking into a nice stringer of whites.

WIPERS - Fair. Wiper numbers were up 87% in 2012 compared with the fall 2011 sample. Wipers have been stocked every year since 2010 after stocking on alternate years for a short period. A strong year class was produced in 2012 with fish between 6 and 8 inches accounting for 72% of the catch. Only 12 adults were collected, however, illustrating the poor wiper production between 2007 and 2011. Fish between 13 and 18 inches accounted for 12% of the catch while fish between 22 and 25 inches were 16% of the catch. Biggest fish collected came from the 2007 stocking and weighed 8.3 pounds. Anglers will

have limited success this year targeting wipers, but should be able to find a few while fishing for white bass and walleye. Lovewell ranks #13 in the state for density (12 inches), #13 for preferred (15 inches) fish, and #10 for lunkers (20 inches). Fingerling and intermediate wipers will be stocked every year in the near future in an attempt to boost the numbers. Similar to white bass, decent numbers of wipers can be caught during the irrigation season as the fish migrate to the inlet and outlet areas. Other anglers report good success for bigger wipers trolling crankbaits and deep-diving rapalas along the north shore and the dam. **Be sure to identify your catch carefully as those 6-9 inch wipers look very similar to white bass. The daily creel limit on wipers is 2 fish!**



Annual District Fish Stocking Update—2012

Each spring, I will provide a list of stockings completed in the last year (2012) at each of my district waters. The information below should help to answer many questions about what species and sizes we are adding to each water body.

| <u>Water Body</u> | <u>Species</u> | <u>Size</u> | <u>Number</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Glen Elder | Walleye | Fry | 9.3 million |
| Glen Elder | Wiper | Fingerling | 63,000 |
| Glen Elder | Blue Catfish | Fingerling | 14,000 |
| Glen Elder | Striped Bass | 5-18 pounds | 58 |
| Glen Elder | Spotted Bass | Adults | 38 |
| Wilson | Striped Bass | Fingerling | 14,000 |
| Wilson | Blue Catfish | Fingerling | 9,000 |
| Lovewell | Walleye | Fry | 2.5 million |
| Lovewell | Wiper | Fry | 600,000 |
| Lovewell | Wiper | Fingerling | 16,000 |
| Lovewell | Wiper | Intermediate | 3,000 |
| Lovewell | Blue Catfish | Fingerling | 3,000 |
| Jewell State Lake | Saugeye | Fingerling | 2,000 |
| Jewell State Lake | Channel Catfish | Intermediate | 2,500 |
| Jewell State Lake | Channel Catfish | Adult | 38 |
| Jewell State Lake | Walleye | Adult | 142 |
| Jewell State Lake | Black Crappie | Adult | 12 |
| Jewell City Lake | Channel Catfish | Intermediate | 750 |
| Belleville—Rocky Pond | Channel Catfish | Intermediate | 1,500 |
| Belleville—Rocky Pond | Rainbow Trout | Adult | 7,500 |
| Glen Elder Park Pond | Rainbow Trout | Adult | 3,300 |

Wilson Reservoir 2013 Fishing Forecast

In April 2013 the lake is 3.7 feet below conservation elevation and stable. There is not much flooded vegetation around the shoreline with the lowered water levels. **“Clean, Drain, Dry” will continue to be the phrase to remember for this year as we don’t want to spread the Zebra Mussels around. Also, remember that it is illegal to have live white perch in your possession so put them on ice. We want to continue to encourage anglers to not return any live white perch back to the lake.**

BLACK BASS – Good. Numbers got a real boost with the increased water levels, the increase in aquatic vegetation, and the abundance of small bluegill around the shoreline between 2008 and 2010 and those recruiting classes continue to pay dividends. Smallmouth used to outnumber largemouth by a wide margin but we have seen a tremendous increase in largemouth numbers this past couple of years and actually collected four times as many LMB as SMB during spring sampling. Currently, Wilson is ranked #7 in SMB density, but this is not representative of the current population. Wilson ranks #3 in LMB density compared to other reservoirs in the state. All black bass species are available in a wide variety of sizes with fair numbers over the 15 inch legal limit, and fish close to 5 pounds collected. Most of the largemouth will be 12 to 18 inches with the smallies between 10 and 18 inches. Recruitment has been down the past couple of years and we



are seeing fewer small fish due to lowered water levels and a lack of vegetation growing in the coves, creeks, and around the exposed shoreline. Anglers will be very pleased with the adult numbers, though, and should have a great bass fishing year at Wilson.

CATFISH – Good. Channel catfish are plenty abundant in Wilson and blue catfish numbers are stable. There are all size ranges and the larger fish look very chunky. Wilson now ranks #12 in catfish density when compared to other reservoirs in the state. There are a few flatheads showing up every year so don’t be surprised if you tie into one of them too. We have been stocking blue catfish for 6 years now (to provide another predator on white perch and they eat zebra mussels too), but because of the 35 inch minimum length limit those catfish will not be available for harvest for several years. Anglers have reported catching a few of these blues occasionally and we caught seven in our nets this past fall (19-24 inches). Floatline fishing will again be allowed on Wilson during daylight hours from July 15 through September 15 under the fourth year of the pilot program.

CRAPPIE – Fair. Crappie numbers remain low even with the recent high water and flooded vegetation which proved beneficial to the largemouth bass and bluegill, but there were several good angler reports of limits this past year. We did not see very many age-0 fish again this year indicating poor recruitment of young fish into the population. There are some adults, mostly 11-13 inches, at the current time with some of the crappie ranging up to 2 pounds. Black crappie prefer the clearer waters on the lower end of the lake, white crappie are mostly found in the upper end. Crappie are scattered all over the lake but just not in any big concentrations. Anglers have some success catching crappie during the fall and winter months near the fish attractors by Minooka and Elm Creek and around the marina.

STRIPED BASS – Good. Numbers of stripers collected this fall were approximately half of the 2011 catch and the body condition was similar

with some fish appearing skinny and others in good shape. We still have a lot of those 3 to 7 pounders but more big fish are showing up every year. Fish in the teens are fairly common and that occasional 20 and 30 pounder really gets lots of attention! And of course, the state record (44 pounds) fell in May 2010 and Paul Bahr says he is planning to continue to up that record again in the near future. Striper fingerlings have not been available the past 2 years with only 14,000 stocked during that time compared with the 90,000 requested. We hope to make up for that this year with a combination of striper fry and possibly fingerlings. The management plan includes stocking stripers heavily as a predator on the white perch and so far they have been doing a pretty good job. Wilson is the #1 striper reservoir in the state and should provide lots of exciting striped bass angling in 2013 although anglers may notice a slight decline in total numbers.

WALLEYE – Good. Total walleye catch exhibited a 93% increase compared with the last sample and angling prospects for 2013 should be good. The number of walleye over the 15 inch length limit was 171% higher than last year and there are good numbers of age-1 and age-0 fish in the population as well. This increase in total numbers is mostly due to the nice 2011 year class which resulted in good numbers of 14 to 16 inch fish. The number of age-0 fish collected in 2012 was again good as represented by the 9 to 11 inch fish. There is a **15 inch minimum length limit** in effect for walleye at Wilson Reservoir. Wilson is currently ranked #4 in the state as far as walleye density as compared to other reservoirs in the state. Few fish over 18 inches were collected with the biggest at 24 inches and 4 pounds, but the high number of young fish produced in 2011 and 2012 illustrates the future of Wilson walleye angling is very bright!

WHITE BASS – Fair. White bass numbers increased in our fall sample, but overall numbers continue to remain down from the early years of Wilson. There is a diversity of sizes available with some very healthy fish in the 2-3 pound plus range and up to 18 inches. Fish condition was excellent



this past fall and anglers will be happy with the quality of fish they catch. We continue to see some small whites coming on so they are spawning successfully but the numbers of smaller fish never seem to be very high. The white perch have certainly taken up a portion of the niche that the white bass used to occupy. Wilson is currently #19 among reservoirs in white bass density (9"+), but is ranked #4 in terms of density of fish over 15 inches.

WHITE PERCH – Good. White perch numbers showed another large decrease this year and a nice increase in the average size with fewer young fish showing up in the fall sample. The average size of the fish remained near 10 inches. The number of fish less than 8 inches increased 29%, however, indicating some level of recruitment continues. Fish condition declined compared with the 2011 sample. We collected nearly as many 12 inch and longer fish as the previous year with the biggest at 13 inches and 1.3 pounds. Very nice size for white perch. Keep plenty of worms on hand for next summer and **remember too, keep all you catch so that we can remove as many as we can to reduce numbers as much as possible.** The white perch is an Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) on the prohibited species list which means they must be dead if you keep them in your possession for consumption or if you keep them for bait or any other reason. Cut the small ones in half and feed the other fish if you catch ones you don't want to keep – do not throw any live white perch back!

Lovewell Fish Barrier Project is Here

A unique fish barrier project is being implemented at Lovewell Reservoir this year. The goal is to reduce fish loss during irrigation releases and improve the fishery. The barrier system consists of a floating log boom in front of a large mesh netting system, all upstream from the outlet structure at the Lovewell Dam.

The floating structures will be held in place by permanent concrete anchors. It is designed to prevent most fish from entering the outlet area during the annual irrigation releases, which has been a significant problem in the past. The entire structure will be set in place in April of each year and removed in September.

Boats **will not be allowed** beyond the log boom barrier, to help prevent damage to the netting and structures. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in steering clear of the structure, and avoid the temptation "to get a closer look", in order to keep this project in operating condition for many years to come!

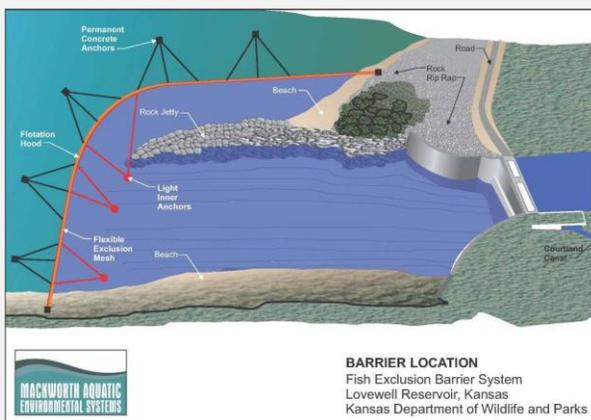


Diagram illustrating the placement of the fish barrier (orange line) around the outlet.

Jewell State Fishing Lake 2013 Fishing Forecast

Approximately 3.5 feet low and stable as of April 2013.

CATFISH - Good. A wide range of sizes were collected during fall netting and catfish numbers improved for the fourth consecutive year with fish between 10 and 23 inches collected, and the biggest weighing 4.5 pounds. Over 80% of the sample was greater than the 15 inch minimum length limit, indicating anglers should harvest good numbers of legal size fish in 2013. Fish between 14 and 20 inches will be most common, but catfish up to 14 pounds were reported in 2012 so be on the lookout for bigger fish as well. Another 2,500 8-12 inch fish were stocked in the fall to maintain numbers. We will have two feeders operational from mid-May to September to concentrate catfish for anglers while also improving growth rates and body condition. **Remember there is a 15 inch minimum length limit on channel catfish!**

CRAPPIE - Fair. Thirty-three black crappie were collected during fall netting indicating a minor increase in numbers, but overall fishing prospects are still low. Twenty-three of these fish were between 7 and 10 inches and were in good body condition with one fish over 12 inches. Several 3 to 5 inch crappie were collected, and represent the limited reproduction occurring in Jewell since adults were stocked in 2008. If available, more adult black crappie will be stocked in 2013 to attempt and boost this population. Anglers may not be able to target crappie right now, but will catch them incidentally while fishing for other species, especially during the spawning period when the fish move in close to shore.

LARGEMOUTH BASS - Good. Spring electrofishing revealed another increase in the total number of largemouth bass collected for the fourth consecutive year. Nearly 300 bass were sampled ranging in size from 4 to 20 inches and up to 5 pounds. The initial 2009 year class continues to dominate the sample with fish

between 10 and 12 inches representing 50% of the catch. Younger age-1 and age-2 fish between 4 and 7 inches comprised 32% of the sample with larger fish between 13 and 20 inches providing the remaining 18%. **The current slot length limit of 13-18 inches** will allow anglers to harvest these short fish less than 13 inches or the trophy fish over 18 inches. Only 5% of the bass were in the protected slot this past spring, but that number should increase as the fish continue to grow. Anglers will generally be pleased with the bass angling opportunities at Jewell and should have no trouble catching good numbers of smaller fish with the occasional lunker mixed in.

SUNFISH – Good. Anglers looking for some fast action for the kids or some good fillets will again enjoy fishing for the sunfish at Jewell in 2013. A nice mixture of bluegill, redear sunfish, green sunfish, and hybrid sunfish can be found with some fish up to 10 inches available. Bluegill are much more abundant than redear sunfish, but redears offer more quality fish at this time. The bluegill population consists of fish between 6 and 10 inches as well as a good numbers of smaller fish between 2 and 5 inches. Reproduction continues to be good for bluegill, but limited for redear sunfish with only four redears less than 9 inches collected. These guys are primarily adults from the original stocking and have reached lengths from 9 to 10 inches and weights of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a pound. Jewell ranks 5th in redear density (7"+) and 1st in preferred ranking (9 "+) among the state's impoundments. In addition, green sunfish between 6 and 9 inches, and hybrids up to 10 inches can be found. Fishing with a bobber and small worm will still yield the best results throughout the year, but fly fishing from a float tube during the spawn, and throughout the summer can be a blast with these big sunfish.



SAUGEYE/WALLEYE - Fair. We have been stocking a mixture of walleye and saugeye in Jewell since 2008 after it refilled. For the most part, the results have been limited, but we are seeing a few fish recruit into the population with equal numbers of each species collected this past fall. The saugeye ranged from 13 to 19 inches with 90% of the fall catch greater than 15 inches. We stocked 142 adult walleye this past fall to boost their numbers and collected 11 in the sample. Jewell ranks 6th in walleye density among the state's smaller impoundments. Their sizes range from 16 to 23 inches with an average length of 19 inches. Saugeye fingerlings will be requested annually for stocking as we continue to try and boost the numbers of these species. **15 inch minimum length limit in effect.**



This is the latest edition of the Glen Elder district newsletter. I will continue to provide information for Glen Elder, Wilson, and Lovewell Reservoirs, Jewell State Fishing Lake, Rocky Pond in Belleville, and Jewell City Lake. Don't forget to check out the many FISH properties in the area as well. They can offer some great fishing for those without a boat.

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