

Wilson State Park

2015 FEE

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2015 SPRING NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

Open House 2015 Fees	1 1	Fees for 2015 are unchanged from last year. Vehicle permits	2015 STATE PARK FEES		
Park Regulations Kansas State Parks Passports Pocket Ranger	2 2 3	mits are at reduced rates through	<u>Permit</u> Daily Camping Prime Site	<u>Off Season</u> <u>Oct-Mar</u> \$7.00 N/A \$152.50	Prime Season April-Sept \$8.00 \$2.00 \$202.50
Reservations (ORMS)	3	March 31st. There will be a sav- ings of \$50.00 on the Annual Camp permit and \$15.00 on the 14 Day Camp permit if pur-	14-Day Camp	\$87.50	\$101.50
What's UP Outdoor Store	4 4	chased by the early deadline. Prices increase April 1st. An-	1 hookup (Electricity) 2 hookups (Elec/Water) 3 hookups (Elec/Mat/Sew)	\$9.00 \$11.00 \$12.00	\$9.00 \$11.00 \$12.00
OK KIDS WildLifer	5	nual Vehicle and Annual Camp permits can be purchased online at www.ksoutdoors.com by go-	Seasonal Electric <u>Cabin Rates</u> Weekends - Eriday/Saturday	\$271.50 \$70.00	\$271.50 \$115.00
Challenge	5	ing to License/Permits. You will	Weekdays - Sunday-Thursday	\$70.00	\$75.00
ECO-Meet	6	and bring them to the park of-	Weekly rate	\$445.00 \$14.00	\$520.00 \$14.00
Fish Habitat	7	fice to exchange for permanent stickers. Fees are listed in the	*A \$3.00 FEE WILL BE CHARG		
Fishing Forecast	8	tables for 2015.	CAMPSITES & CABIN WALK-I		
Fishing Costs	9	L			
Wilson Calendar	10		<u>Vehicle Permit</u> s Daily Vehicle	<u>Jan-Dec</u> \$5.00	

Sr Daily Vehicle

Duplicate Permits

Annual SR/Dis. Vehicle

Annual Vehicle



FREE PARK ENTRANCE

\$3.25

\$25.00

\$13.75

\$12.50

Saturday April 25th, 2015 is designated as Open House and Free Park Entrance Day at Wilson State Park. The park office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Events will be taking place at all state parks in Kansas and vehicle permits will not be required to enter the parks on Saturday April 25th. Enjoy your favorite state park!

RK REGULATIONS

Most of our state park regulations are not new, but warrant a reminder to all of our visitors as we begin looking forward to the new park season. VEHICLE AND CAMPING PERMIT **EXPIRATION TIMES** — All daily vehicle, camping and utility permits expire at 2pm following the last day purchased. You must purchase another day permit if it is after 2pm.CAMPING UNITS — shall not be left unoccupied in a campground for more than 24 hours in Kansas State Parks, with the exception of designated Seasonal campsites. 14 DAY STAY LIMIT—A camping unit is limited to 14 consecutive days in a campsite, utility and primitive. Following the 14th day of your stay, you must move your camping unit to another campground or apply for an extension at the park office. After an extension you must remove your camper from the state park area for at least 5 days. GREY WATER **DUMPING** — all waste water from camping units (GREY and BLACK tanks) must be disposed of at dump stations only. SPEED LIMIT - Speed limits are posted and should be adhered to. There is a 25 mph speed limit throughout all of the park. Speed should be re-duced even further when entering and driving the individual campground roads. Please take extra care to watch for pedestrians! **PETS** — are allowed at Wilson State Park, how-ever, must be kept on a 10-ft, or shorter leash or contained AT ALL TIMES. Pets are not allowed in any of the state park buildings, unless for assistance purposes. This includes all shower and restroom facilities, office, and group shelters. This also includes the state park cabins. Pets belonging to cabin renters must be kept outside on a leash or contained in a personal kennel. With everyone abiding by park regulations, we can continue to provide a safe, family-oriented park and enjoyable visits for all!! Thank You!

Kansas State Park Pass- this prior to the transac- the treasurer's office in

permits that allow Kansans cannot be changed. access into any state park in Kansas. Passports make enjoying our state parks more affordable and much more convenient. Families can benefit with a year full of adventure and outdoor activities.

Kansas residents can purchase their passports dur- The cost for each passport istration process either in less than person, by mail or online. through a KDWPT office or Be sure to check mark the website. This can be rebox for the passport if you newed every year when do your registration online registering your vehicles. or through the mail. Ask By law, passports are nonthe clerk for the passport if transferable to another veson. It is imperative to do your original receipt from

ports are annual vehicle tion. Once completed it case you lose or need to



ing their motor vehicle reg- is \$15.50, which is \$9.50 purchasing vou are registering in per- hicle. Be sure to retain

replace your passport. You must present the receipt to the park office in order to receive a duplicate permit for \$12.50.

Scan for Kansas State Parks Passport Information



Pocket Ranger® Smart Phone App

The Kansas State The interactive guide Parks Pocket Ranger® along with the advanced mobile app by Parksby GPS mapping technolas an interactive State with valuable informa-Parks tour guide acces- tion for planning that sible through today's perfect trip to any state leading mobile devices. park, making it easy for It is built with the most anyone to choose an up-to-date visitor infor- adventure of their mation, and designed choice. The app allows for both the novice out- users to keep abreast of doorsmen and the more weather conditions, view seasoned park-user.

Nature Network serves ogy provides park goers state-surveyed trails, and more-directly from their mobile device!

> Scan for Kansas State Parks Pocket Ranger® mobile app!







RESERVA

This April will mark the start of the fourth year since the launching of the Outdoor Recreation Management System (ORMS). ORMS allows users to reserve cabins & campsites from the comfort of their home computers. Customers can access photos of each campsite, amenities, size and cost as well as campsite availability on the website. Registration is free, and reserving sites in advance guarantees you a site as well as speeding up your check-in time. Not all sites can be reserved. Electric only sites in Grama and all primitive (non-utility) sites are available on a first-come, firstserved basis. The group camp area (Lovegrass) and shelters can be reserved by calling the park office. Seasonal campers must sign a 30-day agreement by contacting the office. Prime Season (April-September) campsite and shelter reservations can only be made for the current calendar year. Off season (Oct-March) is available on a walk-in basis only on campsites. Cabins can be reserved 364 days in advance and are available year round.

RESERVE A CABIN **OR CAMPSITE**

Reserving a campsite ahead is guick and easy and ensures having a site for the duration of your stay. Just go to www.reserveamerica.com



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WHAT'S UP!

Two new cabins were constructed in the Hell Creek area of Wilson State Park. Reservations went live on December 19th for these particular cabins. Construction began on these cabins, Sand Lilv and Pin Oak, back in the latter part of 2013, Foundation work was started first with the pouring of stem walls and footings. After completion of stem walls and footings, we awaited the arrival of the cabins from Ellsworth Correction Facility and Norton Correction Facility. Once delivered, the process of hooking up sewer lines to both cabins was finished. Installation of water and electrical on both cabins was contracted by outside providers. Once the cabins were connected to water, electricity and sewer; work was started on the inside. Ovens, refrigerators, heating/AC units and kitchen ware were all purchased and put into place. The two cabins then had a deep cleaning and an extensive walk through to make sure they were ready for patrons to rent. Charcoal barbeque grills and fire rings are located in living areas outside the cabins. The two new cabins are adjacent to the existing Foxtail and Kent's cabins. If you are interested in renting any of these cabins you can find them online at www.reserveamerica.com. Cabins can be rented 364 days in advance.



OUTDOOR STORE

Forget to pack an extra hoodie or tshirt? Stop by the park office and check out the "Outdoor Store" items available for sale.. State Park offices have a number of items to purchase. There are shirts for adults and children, adult hoodies, caps, key floats, coffee mugs, koozies and field guides. These make great gift items for the outdoor enthusiast! Take a look the next time you are at the park office!

KANSAS OUTDO,

SPRING NEWSLETTER

OK KIDS

OK Kids is a program spon- participating in the events of the lifer com and sign your child up as a participant.

sored by Kansas Wildscape Foun- day. dation and offers children and their families an alternative to sedentary Engineers provided a water safety sponsors make the O.K. Kids event lifestyles. It gives children the op- program in the afternoon which in- possible. The shirts and prizes are portunity to learn about nature and cluded a game for participants. A jet possible with the help of our sponwildlife and try new outdoor adven- ski simulator was also available to sors. Sponsors are: Kansas Wildtures. Wilson State Park's annual take a ride on in the afternoon. Un- scape Foundation, Corporate Spon-OK Kids Day was held Saturday, fortunately, the winds did not allow sors: Blue Cross Blue Shield of June 21, 2014. The wind was blow- the water slides to be utilized in the Kansas, Capitol Federal, T & C ing as forecasted that day but a afternoon but everyone seemed to Wildlife and Coleman. Local Sponnumber of kids and their families have an enjoyable day regardless sors: Troy's Grocery of Lucas, Wilventured out for the event.

cluded the Jim Smith Memorial Kids lenge which is another Kansas Pest of Sylvan, Wilson Lake Area Fishing Derby which kicked off the Wildscape program geared toward Association, Lake Wilson Marina, start of the events. Children were promoting the outdoors. For more Home Oil of Lucas, Russell County instructed at the Wheatgrass Beach details on the Wildlifer Challenge Sheriff's Office, Citizens State Bank area in Hell Creek by seasonal em- access the websites at kansaswild- & Trust Co of Ellsworth, and Benployee Fritz Berger and retired Fisheries Biologist Tommie Berger. Fishing poles and worms were provided for those that didn't bring their own and prizes for the event were fishing poles and other fishing related items.

The treasure hunt was replaced by a Ping Pong Ball Drop in the Pine Shelter area. Arrangements had been made to have a plane drop the balls in the open grass area but due to the high winds that day the plane was unable to do the drop. KDWPT staff dropped the ping pong balls by hand in the grass area and participants retrieved one ping pong ball and returned it for a prize. They were able to retrieve a minimum of 3 balls and receive a prize for each ball turned back in. The color of the ping pong ball indicated which prize they would receive. Prizes were Susan B Anthony dollars, 3 way lighted lanterns, glow in the dark cups and glow in the dark flying discs.

At noon the Wilson Lake Area Association prepared and served free hot dogs, chips, and

drinks to around attendees 225 and staff. Snow cones were also available after lunch and all children received a t-shirt for free

The Wilson Army Corps of

of the wind. Activities for the day in- could be used for the Wildlifer Chal- sell, McDonalds of Russell, World



Corporate and local area Activities provided son Family Foods, Klema's of Rusnington State Bank.

> OK Kids Day will be held Saturday, June 20, 2015. Contact the park office at a later date for details. 785-658-2465.

Start your journey towards completing

completion, you will be recognized as an

15 outdoor challenges! Upon

official Kansas WildLifer!

The challenges you'll encounter are not hard to complete if you have one ounce of "WildLifer" spirit inside you. Some challenges may only take you an hour to accomplish, while others may take an entire day. You'll quickly realize that you are not like everyone else! You're busting the norm wide open and living life to the fullest!

PROVE IT

CHALLENGE

w.kansaswildlifer.cor

OUR MISSION: PROVE to you that getting outside - beyond the playgrounds, ballfields and concrete sidewalks - is a blast!

YOUR MISSION: PROVE to us that you're not the kind of kid who wastes all of your

valuable free time lying around inside the house all day. That's not you. You like the thrill of adventure. The mystery of the unknown. Maybe even a little danger from time to time. You rock!

Exploring the outdoors will make you think for yourself. You have to be creative. Successful. Not because some video game congratulates you on completing another level, but because you PROVE IT TO YOURSELF with what you can do with a little determination and freedom in the wild outdoors!



Register today at www.kansaswildlifer.com and PROVE YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES

2014 ECO-MEET

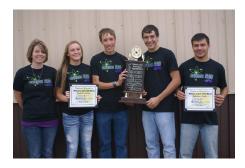
by Mike Rader, Wildlife Education Coordinator, KDWPT - Pratt

The sixteenth annual Wilson Lake ECO-Meet was held on October 8th at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Administration Area. This quiz bowl-type competition for students in grades 8th through 12th provided the opportunity for a total of 81 students on 21 different teams to compete. Schools participating in the event this year were: Ellinwood Middle School, St. John's-Beloit High School, Wilson High School and Wilson Junior High School.

Students were tested on their knowledge of Wetlands/Aquatic Ecosystems of Kansas in a 100-question, lab-type exam and on Mammalogy (mammals of Kansas) in a separate 100-question exam. The teams also competed in a Scavenger Hunt, proving their accuracy in identifying Kansas's plants, and in the Interpretive event, showing off their skills and ability to be entertaining and knowledgeable at the same time about Kansas animals in a five minute presentation for a group of judges.

Scholarship money for the top three teams and the top two individuals in the Wetlands/Aquatic Ecosystem and Mammalogy events was awarded again this year. This scholarship money is held in an account with the Kansas Wildscape Foundation until these student achievers enroll in any institution of higher learning after high school. This money can be utilized for a number of things, usually tuition or books. Funding of approximately \$1,200 is needed every year to be able to make these awards at the current level. Separate funding of approximately \$1,100 is needed to pay for tee shirts for all participants, coaches and helpers. This is due solely to the generous donations of a number of area business sponsors and is greatly appreciated.

Scholarship and tee shirt sponsors for the Wilson Lake ECO-Meet in 2014 are: Citizen's State Bank & Trust and Rolling Hills Electric COOP Association of Ellsworth; the Ellsworth County Independent/Reporter, Ellsworth Chapter of Pheasants Forever, Amy's Accounting Service, Wilson Communications, Wilson State Bank, Klassy Kuts & Tans of Wilson; Home Oil Service of Lucas; Wilson Lake Camper Rentals of Claflin: the Wilson Lake Area Association: Barton County Community College: the Russell County Conservation District; H & B Communications of Holyrood; Manweiler Chevrolet of Hoisington; Harper Camperland of Great Bend; and the Lake Wilson Marina and Knotheads



Bait Shop of rural Sylvan Grove.

The competition concluded with Wilson High School Team "B" (Anna Criswell, Aaron Dlabal, Trey Fink, and Kyle Goldwater) taking the top overall team placing by a margin of 41 points. Wilson High School Team "C" (Riley Dietz, Katie Zelenka, Katrina Zorn and Kendyl Zorn) secured second place and Wilson Junior High School (Ethan Dlabal, Lilly Duncan, Alex Moody and Mason Prester) came away with third place. These teams all qualified for the ECO-Meet State Finals,



held November 6th at Rock Springs 4H south of Junction City.

Aaron Dlabal of Wilson High School was the first place competitor in the Mammalogy event, with James Collins of St. John's-Beloit finishing second. Other area students scoring well in Mammalogy included Kyle Goldwater from Wilson High School Team B in 3rd place, Riley Dietz of Wilson HS Team C in 4th place, Katie Zelenka of



Wilson HS Team C in 7th place and Trey Fink of Wilson HS Team B in 9th place.

In the Wetlands/Aquatic Event, Aaron Dlabal of Wilson HS Team B scored the win in this event as well, with Garrett Mishler of St. John's-Beloit Team A placing second. Other area students that placed well in this event included Trey Fink of Wilson High School Team B in 6th, Lilly Duncan and Alex Moody of Wilson JH in a tie for 8th place. The students placing in both first and second in the two tests also are qualified for the State Finals competition, competing for individual honors in these events.

Volunteers assisting in the event came from many surrounding communities and federal, state and local agencies. These included: the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Russell Co. Conservation District, NRCS of Russell, Lakewood Discovery Center in Salina, the Lee Richardson Zoo in Garden City, the Kansas Wetlands Education Center at Cheyenne Bottoms, the Nature Conservancy, and the Lake Wilson Area Association.

Continued on next page

ECO-Meet continued from page 6

The goal of ECO -Meet is to familiarize students of the state with their natural surroundings and to challenge them to learn more about the inhabitants of those surround-

ings. The organizers of the event and many students are already looking forward to next year's competition.

Results from the State Finals event at Rock



Springs had Wilson HS Team B posting a 5th place standing, finishing behind 1st place Blue Valley CAPS, 2nd place Shawnee Mission South Team B, 3rd place

St.Mary's-Colgan of Pittsburg and 4th place Maize High School. A total of 27 teams competed at the event. Aaron Dlabal of Wilson High School achieved a tie for 2nd place in the Wetlands/Aquatic event with a student from Goddard.

Check out ECO-Meet on Facebook!

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT) fisheries staff and a host of volunteers including the Kansas B.A.S.S. Nation clubs recently placed new fish attractors in Wilson Lake. Biologists have used brush piles made out of cut trees to attract and hold fish. This has been the traditional way to enhance fishing at many lakes in previous years. Thanks to a structure known as the "Georgia Cube," brush piles made from cut trees may be replaced with a synthetic structure that can last more than 10 years. The structures were originally designed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR). More than 50 feet of corrugated pipe is placed on a PVC frame in a stacked form to create optimum surface area which attracts fish while maintaining an open design. Accumulation of periphyton, a complex mix of al- improve fish populations. The cubes will progae, fungi and bacteria, which further attracts vide habitat for adult fish of all species as well insects and fish, happens rather quickly when as critical nursery habitat. structures are placed in the water.

shape of cubes three feet tall, four feet wide, and many other community and state fishing and four feet deep. Attaching concrete blocks areas. Around 40 cubes were placed in Wilson to trees was labor intensive and time consum- the first part of March and cedar trees were ing. Another drawback is that trees don't last tied to the old bridge in Elm Creek to provide a very long once submerged in the water. The permanent fish attractor. new cubes will last more than three times longer than natural brush piles, and they have ing Wilson Lake, the water level is over 8 feet been shown to hold as many fish without af- below conservation pool. Please be cautious fecting water quality. The overall goal of when fishing, boating and recreating on the KDWPT is to accumulate enough structures to lake.



Structures will go in Milford, Wilson, The new PVC structures are in the Melvern, El Dorado, and Cedar Bluff for 2015

Just a reminder to all who are access-

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2015 WILSON FISHING FORECAST

WILSON RESERVOIR – The water level began 2014 at 5.8 feet below conservation. Drought persisted throughout the year and caused the water level to drop to 8.2 feet low by year's end. The previous record was 7.2 feet low in December 2006. 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. Wilson will continue to rank among the top 5 reservoirs in the state for both largemouth and smallmouth bass fishing. All black bass species (including spotted bass) are available in Wilson with good numbers over the 15 inch legal limit, and fish close to 5 pounds available. Lowered water levels and a lack of aquatic vegetation have led to poor recruitment over the past several years and most of the largemouth will be 12 to 18 inches. We did collect a handful of young bass that averaged 8 inches and are likely the result of the 39,000 large fingerlings we stocked in June 2013. Other young fish were observed, but not collected due to the high water conductivity which makes electrofishing difficult in Wilson. An additional 5,000 fingerlings were stocked in 2014. Largemouth body condition is poor to fair now due to a lack of bluegill and minnow production during the drought. Smallmouth bass numbers look good now, but were again underrepresented in the spring sample with only seven fish collected. We saw good numbers during our fall netting, however, with fish between 6 and 16 inches sampled, and the largest weighing 2 pounds. Smallmouth bass recruitment and body condition do not seem to be as affected by the low water levels, and both continue to remain strong. Anglers should again be satisfied with the number of black bass available in 2015, but will continue to notice a decline until water levels return and provide the necessary habitat for abundant largemouth bass and bluegill recruitment

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 dropped to #7 in catfish density when compared to other reservoirs in the state after coming in at #5 in 2013. Fifteen percent of the fish were 9-14 inches, 49% were between 15 and 20 inches, 33% were 21-25 inches, and 3% were between 25 and 30 inches. The biggest channel catfish weighed 12 pounds. 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 8 years (to provide another predator on white perch and zebra mussels), 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 thirteen in our nets this past fall (22- 27 inches), and sampled a 30 inch, 13 pound fish last summer.

CRAPPIE – **Poor.** Crappie numbers remain low even with the high water and flooded vegetation between 2008 and 2010 which proved beneficial to the largemouth bass and bluegill. There were several good angler reports this past year, however, so there are some fish to be caught out there. We did not collect any age-0 fish this year indicating poor recruitment of young crappie into the population. There are some adults, mostly 10-14 inches, at the current time with some of the crappie ranging up to nearly 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.** The catch rate for stripers this fall was up 33% compared with the 2013 sample, in large part because of young fish coming into the population. Body condition, however, was very poor with fish up to 18 inches in good shape, but fish between 21 and 29 inches were very skinny and growth rates have likely been suppressed. The population continues to be dominated by those 3 to 5 pounders, but there are still some big fish showing up every year based on angler reports. Our biggest striper in the fall sampling weighed 9.4 pounds, but anglers are still catching fish over 20 pounds each year. And of course, the state record striper (44 pounds) still stands at Wilson. We stocked 14,000 fingerlings in 2012 and collected a handful around 19 inches. The 2013 stocking consisted of 700,000 fry that showed up as 14 to 15 inch fish this fall. Fry and fingerlings were stocked in 2014 with many showing up between 7 and 10 inches. This is the first good striped bass year class since 2010 and anglers should be excited about the number of young fish coming into the population. 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 2015.

WALLEYE – **Good.** Total walleye catch exhibited an 18% increase compared with the last sample, and angling prospects for 2015 will remain good. The catch rate of walleye over the 15 inch length limit was similar to last year, but two good year classes were produced in 2013 and 2014 with natural reproduction that increased the number less than 15 inches by 71%. The 2014 year class is the best since 2008 and will provide a much needed boost to the walleye population. Most of these fish will be over 15 inches by fall 2015. The majority of the population is comprised of fish 3 years old and younger. A handful of fish up to 25 inches were also collected, but their numbers were few. Overall, 60% were 9 to 14 inches, 34% were between 15 and 17 inches, and 6% were over 18 inches. Anglers will notice similar numbers of legal size fish in 2015, but an increase in the number less than 15 inches. Body condition was good for smaller fish, but poor for the large fish. Natural recruitment continues to produce good numbers of young fish that have allowed for strong walleye harvest over the past decade and the total numbers will increase with continued production of these young fish. There is a 15 inche minimum length limit in effect for walleye at Wilson Reservoir

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2015 WILSON FISHING FORECAST Page 9

WHITE BASS – Fair. White bass numbers decreased slightly in our fall sample and 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 2-2.5 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.

WHITE PERCH – Good. White perch numbers decreased slightly in 2014 with a 14% decrease compared with 2013 and numbers continue to remain around half of what we saw through 2011. The average size continues to increase with a 10 inch average for all white perch, and some fish up to 13 inches available. The proportion of the population less than 8 inches did increase, however, as a large 2013 year class is evident with many 6 to 8 inch fish collected. This is the first large year class since 2010. Anglers continue to report that many of the sport fish collected this past fall had plenty of white perch in their stomachs indicating they remain an important prey species in Wilson. Fish condition improved slightly compared with the 2013 sample with the biggest fish in excellent condition. Approximately 60% of the catch was between 10 and 12 inches with 12% between 8 and 9 inches, and 28% less than 8 inches. 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!

	2014 Stocking Records	
Striped Bass	Fry (Fingerlings)	2.7 million (23,980)
Largemouth Bass	Advanced Fingerlings	4,974
Redear Sunfish	Fingerlings	202,241
Blue Catfish	Fingerlings	9,112

FALL SAMPLING DATA (2014)

		Length (in)		Weight (lb)	
	# Caught	Average	(Range)	Average	(Range)
Blue Catfish	13	25.4	21.9-27.4	6.4	4.0-8.5
Channel Catfish	122	19.4	8.9-30.1	2.5	0.2-12.3
Flathead Catfish*	39	15.8	10.1-41.9	2.4	0.4-36.0
Gizzard Shad	23	9.6	5.3-20.3	N/A	N/A
Largemouth Bass**	29	14.5	8.1-17.1	1.4	0.2-2.2
Smallmouth Bass	36	12.1	6.1-15.9	1.0	0.1-2.0
Striped Bass	85	22.0	6.8-29.3	3.6	0.1-9.4
Walleye	122	13.6	9.3-25.8	0.9	0.3-4.0
White Bass	79	13.8	6.9-17.5	1.4	0.2-2.4
White Crappie	12	11.7	8.8-14.4	1.0	0.4-1.7
White Perch	349	9.8	5.3-12.8	0.6	0.1-1.2

<u>Fishing Permit Costs</u> Resident Multi Year Youth (Age 16-21) \$42.50 Resident Annual Fishing Permit \$20.50 Resident Sr. Annual Fishing Permit Age 65-75 \$11.50 Resident Sr. Lifetime Combo Age 65-75 (Hunt/Fish) \$42.50 24 Hour Permit \$5.50 5 Day Trip Fish Permit \$22.50 Third Pole Fishing Permit \$6.50

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Date of Event	Event	Time	
April 25	Open House/Free Park Entrance Day Refreshments	8:00AM-4:00PM	
May 1st-3rd	Fat Tire Festival Mountain Bike Race	TBA	
June 6-7	Free Fishing Weekend	No Fishing License required these days	
June 20th	OK Kids Day Free Park Entrance Day	8:30AM-2:30PM	
Various	Wild Within You Trail Runs/Triathlon	Check the Wilson Calendar Online	
Various	Fishing Tournaments (See Link Below)	Check the Wilson Calendar Online	

For more events at Wilson State Park go to the department website at <u>www.ksoutdoors.com and click on Locations, Wilson State Park then calendar.</u>

OK KIDS DAY SATURDAY JUNE 20, 2015

Start your journey towards completing 15 outdoor challenges! Upon completion, you will be recognized as an official Kansas WildLifer! Many of the challenges can be completed at Wilson State Park during OK KIDS Day.!

*Catch a Fish * Take a Wildlife Picture * Pitch a Tent * Swim in a Lake Cover Yourself in Leaves * Stargazing * Catch a Frog * Pack a Picnic * Build a Campfire * Hike a Trail * Bird watching * Catch a Firefly * Go Canoeing and much more!

See Page 5 for more details on OK KIDS Day & WildLifer Challenge!



Don't forget: Open House Saturday April 25, 2015 8:00-4:00