BROCK LAKE FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY



LOCATION: Brock Lake is located 1.2 miles west of Mackinaw, IL at 29550 E. Hoffman Rd. Mackinaw, IL 61755. The lake is the property of the Village of Mackinaw.

DESCRIPTION : Brock lake is 10 acres in size. Approx. 0.3 miles of shoreline is accessible to bank fisherman. A gravel boat ramp and dock is present but the lake has an electric motors only restriction. This lake was enrolled into a fisheries Co-Op agreement with IDNR in 2019.

Status of the Sport Fishery: In 2019 the Village of Mackinaw enrolled Brock Lake into a Cooperative Fishery Management Agreement with IDNR. The 2019 sampling season will be used as a baseline for future management decesions for the lake. Currently the lake has an overabundance of aquatic rooted vegetation in the shallow areas of the lake consisting primarily of Eurasian milfoil. Future herbicide treatments will aid in thinning the vegetation, which will improve the fishery as well as fishing access from shore. In 2020 Brock Lake received stockings of channel catfish (264 at 8" in length), as well as 75 adult largemouth bass averaging 17" in length. 30 artificial fish attractors were also added to the lake in 2020 with their locations marked on the lake map.

Largemouth Bass: The 2020 fall electrofishing survey collected 88 largemouth bass and showed the population was concentrated from 5 to 12 inches in length. No bass over 13 inches were collected despite the stocking of adult fish. The body condition was good with an average value of 98. Bass were collected at a rate of 176/hr. indicating a high density population. Effective April 2021 the bass regulation will be changed to a protected slot limit from 12 to 15 inches and allowing the harvest of 2 bass under 12 inches per day and 1 bass over 15 inches per day. Signage indicating the new regulation is already present at the lake.

Bluegill: The bluegill population was sampled by 29 fish in the fall electrofishing survey. They ranged in size from 1 to 8.7 inches in length with an average body condition rating of 115. The current bluegill population is rated as very good. A future improvement in the bass population size structure as well as some aquatic vegetation management would help maintain this good bluegill size structure.

Black Crappie: The black crappie population was evaluated by 13 crappie ranging from 7.7 – 12.2 inches. The body condition was good with a value of 101.

Channel Catfish: The channel catfish population was evaluated by 2 catfish ranging from 20 – 21 inches. They had a relative weight value of 111. IDNR has added Brock Lake to the channel catfish stocking schedule and the first batch of 8-10" catfish were stocked in August 2020. **Effective April 2021 the catfish regulation will be changed to 3 fish per day. Signage indicating the new regulation is already present at the lake.**

Fishing Regulations:

Species	Size Limit	Creel Limit
Bluegill/Redear Sunfish	None	25/day
White/Black/Hybrid Crappie	None	No Limit
Largemouth Bass	Only 2 being 12" or smaller & 1 being 15" or greater	3 fish/day
Channel Catfish	None	3 fish/day

All fish 2 Pole and line fishing only. Electric boat motors only

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Mackinaw Township Recreation: (309) 359-5821 IDNR Fisheries Biologist - Blake Bushman: (309) 435-1010. Illinois Fishing Information booklet and IFISHILLINOIS website <u>http://www.ifishillinois.org/</u>

