



Tecumseh Lake

Hardin County, Illinois.

Fisheries Fact Sheet

Tecumseh Lake, located three miles northeast of Elizabethtown, was constructed in 1970 as a recreational resource. Tecumseh Lake is owned by the U.S. Forest Service and is surrounded by expanses of timbered land. The lake has one boat ramp and has an electric motors only designation. At normal pool, Tecumseh Lake has a surface area of 13 acres, maximum depth of 16 feet, and an average depth of 4 feet. Shallow shoreline areas become filled with submerged vegetation and the lake is fertile enough to support light to moderate plankton blooms during summer months. Recent survey data suggests Tecumseh Lake is currently supporting a balanced fishery. Fish most commonly sought after by anglers include largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, channel catfish and crappie.

Largemouth bass –Despite Largemouth bass population indices being below recommended ranges a fair representation of size structure exists. Bass abundance is good, as measured by catch per unit of effort of electro fishing, as the average number of bass caught in recent surveys is 205 bass per hour. Many fish between 0.5 to 1.0 pound are present with larger bass sampled and reportedly being caught by anglers. Bass fishing is expected to be fair. Currently, there is a 15 inch minimum size limit for bass and the creel limit is 6 fish per day.

Bluegill – Bluegill numbers at Tecumseh Lake are fair. Abundance as measured by the average catch per unit of effort of electro fishing, in recent samples, is 54 fish per hour. Bluegill size structure remains constant as most catchable fish are between 5.5 and 7.5 inches. Bluegill fishing at Tecumseh Lake is expected to be fair. Currently there are no size or creel limits for sunfish at Tecumseh Lake.

Crappie – Black and white crappie are present in Tecumseh Lake and fishing as reported from anglers has been fair. Anglers should target crappie around structure and the creek channel using minnows and jigs. Currently there are no size or creel limits for crappie at Tecumseh Lake.

Channel catfish – Anglers continue to report good catches of channel catfish. Many fish reported and collected during electro fishing surveys are 16 inches or better. Fishing prospects for channel catfish are expected to be fair to good. A daily catch limit of six fish applies.

Additional fisheries information can be obtained on the I Fish Illinois web site, <http://www.ifishillinois.org> or by consulting the Illinois Fishing Information booklet or by calling IDNR District Biologist Kurt Daine at 618-949-3432.