

# PYRAMID STATE PARK – GALUM AREA - REDHEAD LAKE

## 2023 FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY



**LOCATION:** Pyramid State Park is located south of Pinckneyville in Perry County. Redhead Lake is a strip cut lake located on the Galum Section of Pyramid State Park. The Galum Section is accessed off Panda Bear Road. From State Route 127 head west on Pyatt-Cutler Road. About 6 miles west of Pyramid State Park turn north onto Panda Bear Road.

**DESCRIPTION:** The only facilities offered at this 55-acre lake is a gravel boat ramp. Parking is very limited and anglers should check the condition of the ramp before attempting to launch at this lake.

**STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY** – The following is a summary of the major sport fish species based on fish population surveys conducted by IDNR. During 2021, fisheries surveys consisted of a spring nocturnal electrofishing survey and a fall netting survey. Both trap nets and gill nets were utilized in the fall netting survey.

**Largemouth Bass** – Electrofishing is now a suitable sampling tool at this lake thanks to modernized equipment that can effectively stun fish in high conductivity water. Therefore, an electrofishing survey was conducted during April of 2021. The survey was conducted at night due to the deep, steep-sided nature of the lake, which can limit the efficiency of electrofishing during daylight hours. A total of 79 Largemouth Bass were collected during 30 minutes of electrofishing. Of the bass collected, 22% were at least 15 inches and 4% were over 18 inches in length. Body condition was relatively poor until bass reached 17 inches, likely due to the abundance of large shad in the lake. The abundance of larger bass in Redhead Lake was less than most other lakes within the Arch Properties of Pyramid State Park.

**Crappie** – Redhead Lake contains both Black and White Crappie. Although few crappie were collected during 2021, past surveys have indicated that quality crappie fishery exists in the lake.

**Bluegill** – The bluegill population is poor. Very few Bluegill over 7 inches were collected.

**Channel Catfish** – Redhead Lake is home to a quality Channel Catfish fishery. Catfish up to 8.5 lbs. were collected during 2021 surveys.

**Hybrid Striped Bass** – Redhead Lake is home to an excellent fishery for Hybrid Striped Bass, which have been stocked most years since 2015. During the fall netting survey, 9 were collected in experimental gill nets. Individuals collected ranged in length from 14 to over 24 inches. The largest individual was 24.5 inches and weighed nearly 9 lbs.

### **Fishing regulations:**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Creel Limit</b>	<b>Minimum Length Limit</b>
Largemouth Bass	5 under 14" and 1 over 18"	14-18 inch protected slot (no possession)
Bluegill or Redear Sunfish	25	None
Crappie	25	None
Channel Catfish	6	None
Hybrid Striped Bass	No limit under 17", 3 over 17"	None
All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only	

**RECREATIONAL USE RESTRICTIONS** – Fishing is prohibited from November 1 through the end of February. There are no HP boat motor restrictions at this lake but the entire lake is a “NO WAKE ZONE” and all sizes of boat motors must operate at no-wake speed.

**MAPS/CONTACTS – CONTACT INFO** – IDNR Fish Biologist – Nick Abell 618-967-0952, [nicholas.abell@illinois.gov](mailto:nicholas.abell@illinois.gov). Pyramid State Park 618-357-2574.