



**WISCONSIN DNR  
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET**

**Water:** Reservoir Pond

**County:** Oconto

**WBIC:** 466700

**Year:** 2005

The Department of Natural Resources surveyed Reservoir Pond, Oconto County (T33N, R15E, Sec 33), with a one night mini fyke net lift on July 26, 2005 and two night electroshocking runs on October 3 and 11, 2005, to determine the health of the fishery. The survey was designed to give a basic overview of the lake's fishery. Reservoir pond is a medium hard water drainage lake (impoundment) on McCaslin Brook with a littoral zone comprised of 95% muck. The shoreline is 75% upland and 25% wetland of open bog. Reservoir pond has a surface area of 409 acres, 12.1 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 16 feet. Reservoir Pond is located in the Ceded Territory. The predominant fishery is composed of largemouth bass, northern pike, bluegill, pumpkinseed and black crappie. Growth rates of largemouth bass age 1 to 9 were found to be above the WDNR northeast average, where as northern pike age 1 to 6 growth rates were found to be below the WDNR northeast average. The most abundant panfish species in the lake was bluegill.

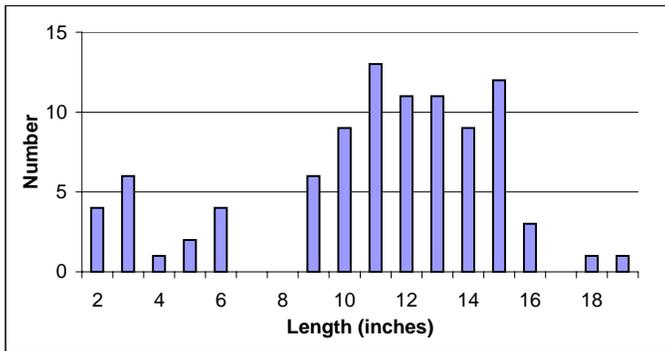


Figure 1. Length frequency of largemouth bass from Reservoir Pond during electroshocking surveys on October 3rd and 11th, 2005.

**Largemouth Bass**

We captured 109 young-of-year (yoy) largemouth bass during the summer mini fyke net survey and 13 yoy as well as 80 age 1 and older during our October electro-fishing survey. Our fall catch per unit effort was 23.5 per mile or 27.9 per hour. The largemouth bass ranged in size from 1.7 to 4.4 inches in the summer survey and 2.3 to 19.0 inches in the fall survey (figure 1). The age 1 and older fish surveyed in the fall showed good growth rates for all ages. Largemouth bass aged 1 to 9 in Reservoir Pond grew above the WDNR northeast average.

**Northern Pike**

We captured 3 young-of-year northern pike during the summer mini fyke net survey and 3 yoy as well as 34 age 1 and older during our October electro-fishing survey. Our fall catch per unit effort was 9.25 per mile or 11 per hour. The northern pike ranged in size from 3.6 to 6.1 inches in the summer survey and 6.6 to 28.2 inches in the fall survey (figure 1). The age 1 and older fish surveyed in the fall showed slow growth rates for all ages. Northern pike aged 1 to 6 in Reservoir Pond grew below the WDNR northeast average.

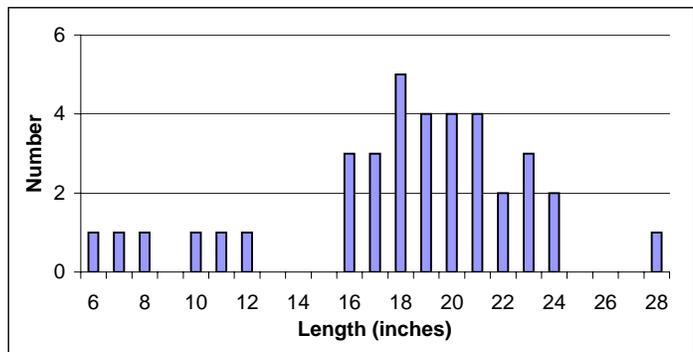


Figure 2. Length frequency of northern pike from Reservoir Pond during electroshocking surveys on October 3rd and 11th, 2005.

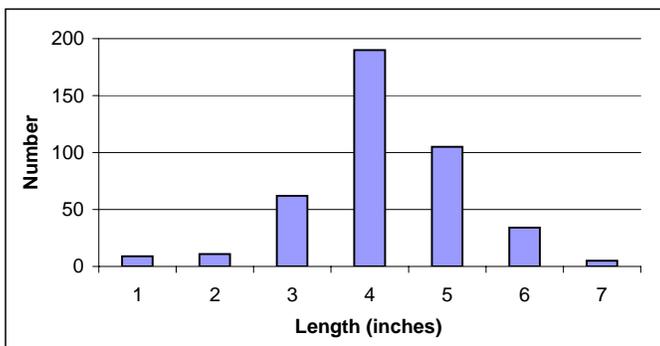


Figure 3. Length frequency of bluegill from Reservoir Pond during electroshocking surveys on October 3rd and 11th, 2005.

**Bluegill**

We captured 96 young-of-year bluegill during the summer mini fyke net survey and 82 yoy as well as 334 age 1 and older during the October electro-fishing survey. Bluegill were the most numerous of the panfish species collected during our surveys. Our fall catch per effort was 165.6 per mile or 73.6 per hour. The bluegill ranged in size from 1.0 to 4.0 inches in the summer survey and 1.3 to 7.3 inches in the fall survey (figure 3).

**Black crappie**

We captured no young-of-year black crappie during the summer mini fyke net survey and 16 yoy as well as 83 age 1 and older during the October electro-fishing survey. Our fall catch per effort was 39.6 per mile or 44 per hour. The black crappie ranged in size from 2.6 to 8.0 inches in the fall survey (figure 3).

**Other Species**

We captured 10 species of fish in our mini fyke netting and electro-fishing surveys of Reservoir Pond in addition to the gamefish and panfish mentioned above. Yellow bullhead, pumpkinseed, rockbass and yellow perch were caught in moderate numbers in our electro-fishing survey.

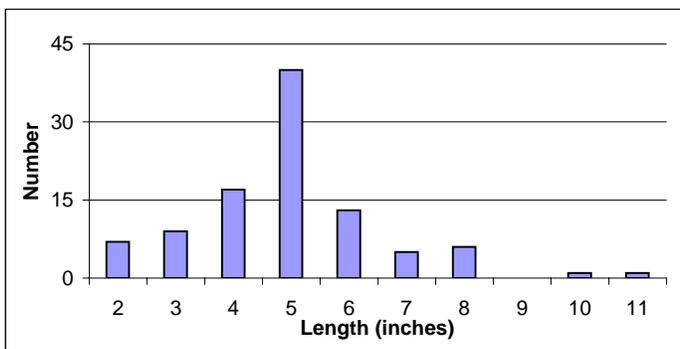


Figure 4. Length frequency of black crappie from Reservoir Pond during electroshocking surveys on October 3rd and 11th, 2005.

**Conclusions**

Reservoir Pond should be managed for a largemouth bass, northern pike and panfish (bluegill, black crappie, yellow perch, pumpkinseed and rockbass) fishery. A comprehensive study was last conducted in 1993 and that survey indicated similar results with the 2005 assessments, indicating a generally good fishery. Natural reproduction of the major species present (largemouth bass, northern pike and bluegill) continues to support the Reservoir Pond fishery, therefore I do not recommend any additional stocking. Shoreline development has impacted habitat however, there is still a good variety of habitat available and the aggressive plant management program has aided recreation.

There is adequate public access with two boat launching facilities one on reservoir pond and the other on Horn lake. However, parking is limited at both access points.

The current fishing regulations are adequate to protect the fishery in this lake.

**Table 1. General Fishing Regulations for Reservoir Pond, Oconto County, 2006-2007**

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Largemouth Bass	May 6 to June 16	0	Catch and Release Only
	June 17 to March 4	5	14 Inches
Northern Pike	May 6 to March 4	5	None
Pan Fish	Open all Year	25	None

A brief summary of selected fishing regulations for Reservoir Pond is included above (Table 1). While the regulatory information provided was current at the time the surveys were conducted, it is not comprehensive and should not be used a substitute for the current fishing regulation pamphlet. You may obtain a copy of current fishing regulations when you purchase your fishing license, or download a copy from our web site at: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/fish/>



Figure 5. Location of Reservoir Pond, Oconto County.

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities and plans for Reservoir Pond, Oconto County, contact:

Justine Hasz, Fisheries Biologist  
 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
 101 N. Ogden Rd  
 P.O. Box 208  
 Peshtigo, WI 54157  
 (715) 582-5017  
 Email: [Justine.Hasz@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:Justine.Hasz@dnr.state.wi.us)