



McGinty Slough Population Survey

Located in Lemont, north of 131st St and west of Will-Cook Rd. and is 38 acres with a depth of 8.2 feet. This lake is walk in access only, to access the lake walk the multi-use trail either from 131st Street to the south or from 123rd St. (McCarthy Road) from the north. Largemouth Bass, Bluegills make up most of the fish population in this slough. **Boating, Wading, and Ice Fishing are not allowed**

Fish Population Survey

Fish population surveys are periodically conducted on Forest Preserves lakes in order to assess the health of the lake and the fish population in it. Surveys last anywhere from a few hours to a few days depending on the size of the lake.

Water samples are collected and analyzed for each survey. The information collected over the years will show trends to the lake's health. If any unusual readings are found, further tests may be done, or the Illinois DNR and EPA may be asked to investigate.

Fish are collected during surveys to assess the health of the population. Several methods are used to collect fish, these include experimental gill nets, Fyke or trap nets and the use of an electro-fishing boat. All fish collected are measured, weighed and a scale sample is collected when applicable. These scale samples are used to age the fish. All fish are then returned to the lake when possible.

The information listed below was collected during the most recent survey. It is only a snapshot in time. Many factors such as temperature, wind, rain and even moon light can affect the species and number of fish that are collected. The Forest Preserves' Fisheries Section looks at data from many years when assessing a lake's fish population and assumptions from just one year of data therefore should not be made.

The dates of the survey along with the type of equipment used and the length of time it was fished is listed below. The "Total Population" tables & charts show all species collected and includes not only game fish but also forage fish. A healthy balanced population of forage fish and predatory (game) fish is needed in order to support a healthy overall fish population. Ideally, 30 to 40% of a lakes total fish population should be made up of forage fish in order to support a healthy predatory fish population. The species of forage fish varies from lake to lake, Gizzard Shad may be the main forage fish in one lake, while Bluegill/sunfish may be the main forage fish in another

Individual species tables are included only for the game fish that were collected. Game fish are those fish most sought after by anglers.

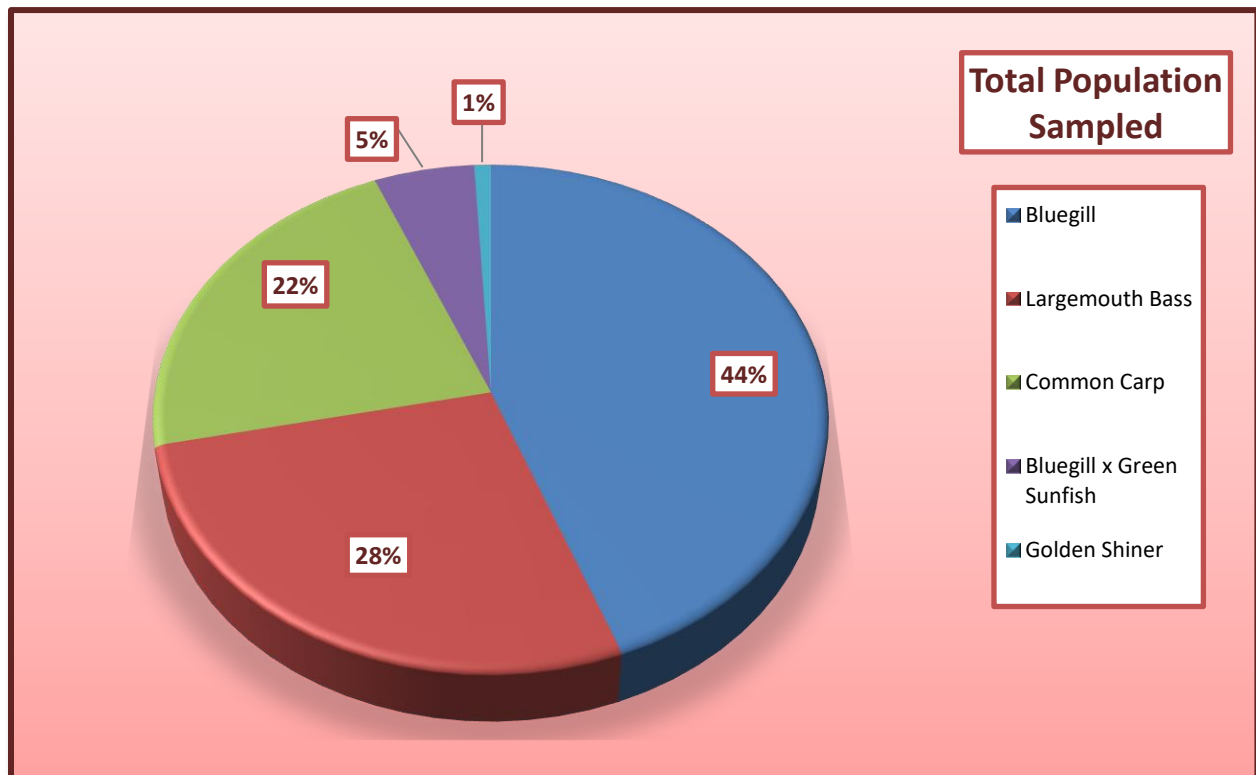
McGinty Slough Population Survey



Date of survey: August 16, 2022
Electro-fishing time: 50 minutes
Fyke nets fished: 0 hours
500 feet of gill nets fished: 24 hours

Total Population Sampled

Species	Number	Percent
Bluegill	50	44.25%
Largemouth Bass	31	27.43%
Common Carp	25	22.12%
Bluegill x Green Sunfish Hybrid	6	5.31%
Golden Shiner	1	0.885%
Total	113	99.96%



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Bluegill

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
1.0	1	2.00%	0.002	0+
-	-	-	-	-
2.0	1	2.00%	0.009	0+
2.5	5	10.00%	0.01	0+
3.0	11	22.00%	0.01	1+
3.5	5	10.00%	0.03	1+
4.0	6	12.00%	0.05	1-2+
4.5	8	16.00%	0.06	2+
5.0	11	22.00%	0.09	3-4+
5.5	1	2.00%	0.11	4+
6.0	1	2.00%	0.14	4+
Totals	50	100.00%		

Largemouth Bass

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
2.0	4	12.90%	0.01	0+
2.5	3	9.68%	0.01	0+
3.0	3	9.68%	0.02	1+
3.5	6	19.35%	0.03	1+
-	-	-	-	-
4.5	1	3.23%	0.04	1+
-	-	-	-	-
8.5	1	3.23%	0.31	2+
9.0	1	3.23%	0.34	2+
-	-	-	-	-
10.5	1	3.23%	0.51	2+
-	-	-	-	-
14.5	2	6.45%	1.47	3+
15.0	3	9.68%	1.69	4+
15.5	1	3.23%	1.83	4+
16.0	2	6.45%	1.98	5+
16.5	1	3.23%	2.24	6+
-	-	-	-	-
17.5	1	3.23%	2.81	6+
18.0	1	3.23%	2.79	6+
Totals	31	100.03%		

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Common Carp

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
10.5	1	4.00%	0.54	2+
-	-	-	-	-
11.5	1	4.00%	0.71	2+
12.0	1	4.00%	0.82	3+
12.5	2	8.00%	0.94	3+
13.0	3	12.00%	1.06	4+
13.5	2	8.00%	1.18	4+
14.0	6	24.00%	1.24	4-5+
14.5	2	8.00%	1.43	5+
15.0	3	12.00%	1.45	5+
15.5	1	4.00%	1.44	6+
16.0	3	12.00%	1.70	5-6+
Totals	25	100.00%		

Bluegill x Green Sunfish Hybrid

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
1.5	1	16.67%	0.002	0+
-	-	-	-	-
3.0	2	16.67%	0.02	1+
3.5	1	16.67%	0.04	1+
4.0	1	16.67%	0.04	1+
-	-	-	-	-
5.0	1	16.67%	0.08	2+
Totals	6	100.01%		

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Population Survey Overview

We freely admit that McGinty Slough is a hard lake to fish. Because it is so far off the beaten path, it is very difficult to get emergency help to this lake, for that reason there is no boating wading or ice fishing allowed. On top of that, shoreline fishing can be a little rough due to the overgrown vegetation. All that being said, McGinty Slough has a very nice population of bass & Bluegill for those who want an adventure.

Good numbers of Bluegill representing all age groups were either collected or observed during the 2022 survey. Of the 50 Bluegill collected for the survey more than a dozen were over 5-inches in length. Thirty-one Largemouth Bass were also collected with several dozen more seen but not collected. These fish ranged in size from 2-inches up to 18-inch. One third of all bass that were processed (weighed and measured) were over the legal size limit of 14-inches. Since this lake does not get a lot of fishing pressure and if you are willing to work for them, these bass might be worth the effort.