

Tampier Lake Population Survey



Located in Palos Park on 131st St. between Wolf and Will-Cook Rd.'s. Tampier Lake has 131-acres of fishable water, with a maximum depth of 9.4 feet. Walleye, Northern Pike, Largemouth Bass, and Channel Catfish are the top predators at Tampier. Yellow Bass, crappie, Bluegill, sunfish, bullheads, and a small remnant population of White Bass round out the species found here. A concession renting boats and selling bait can be found off the east parking lot along with a barrier free fishing wall and boat ramp. Watercraft are not permitted north of 131st St. and fishing is prohibited north of the power lines. For acceptable watercraft and general boating regulations see the District's Fishing Guide. Designated ice fishing lake.

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.

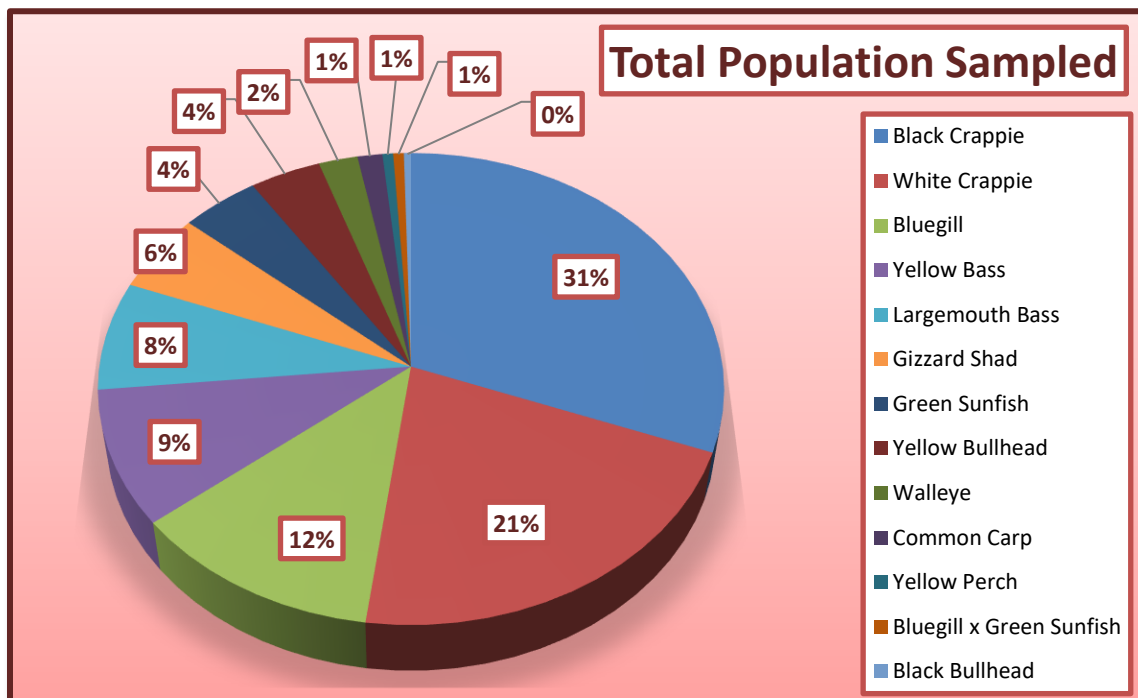
Tampier Lake Population Survey



Date of survey: September 20 - 23, 2021
Electro-fishing time: 45 minutes
3 Fyke nets fished: 48 hours
0 feet of gill nets fished: 0 hours

Total Population Sampled

Species	Number	Percent
Black Crappie	152	30.66%
White Crappie	106	21.37%
Bluegill	60	12.37%
Yellow Bass	46	9.27%
Largemouth Bass	37	7.46%
Gizzard Shad	27	5.44%
Green Sunfish	22	4.44%
Yellow Bullhead	20	4.03%
Walleye	11	2.22%
Common Carp	7	1.41%
Yellow Perch	3	0.60%
Bluegill x Green Sunfish Hybrid	3	0.60%
Black Bullhead	2	0.40%
Total	496	100.00%



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Black Crappie

1/2 Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
5.0	15	9.87%	0.07	1+
5.5	24	15.79%	0.09	1-2+
6.0	55	36.18%	0.11	2+
6.5	44	28.95%	0.14	2+
7.0	2	1.32%	0.17	2+
7.5	1	0.66%	0.23	3+
8.0	3	1.97%	0.22	3+
8.5	3	1.97%	0.30	3+
9.0	1	0.66%	0.34	3-4+
9.5	4	2.63	0.37	4+
Total	152	100.01%		

White Crappie

1/2 Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
5.0	1	0.94%	0.05	1+
5.5	3	2.83%	0.08	1+
6.0	3	2.83%	0.09	2+
6.5	11	10.38%	0.13	2+
7.0	5	4.72%	0.16	2+
7.5	5	4.72%	0.19	2-3+
8.0	3	2.83%	0.24	3+
8.5	6	5.66%	0.23	3+
9.0	26	24.53%	0.28	3+
9.5	18	16.98%	0.31	3+
10.0	18	16.98%	0.41	3+
10.5	6	5.66%	0.48	3-4+
11.0	1	0.94%	0.64	4+
Total	106	100.00%		

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Bluegill

1/2 Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
3.0	1	1.67%	0.02	1+
3.5	7	11.67%	0.04	1+
4.0	13	21.67%	0.07	1+
4.5	15	25.00%	0.06	1+
5.0	16	26.67%	0.09	2+
5.5	3	5.00%	0.13	2-3+
6.0	4	6.67%	0.19	3+
6.5	1	1.67%	0.19	3+
Total	60	100.01%		

Yellow Bass

1/2 Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
3.0	3	6.52%	0.01	0+
-	-	-	-	-
5.5	1	2.17%	0.10	1+
6.0	6	13.04%	0.10	2+
6.5	21	45.65%	0.14	2+
7.0	8	17.39%	0.17	2-3+
7.5	2	4.35%	0.20	2-3+
8.0	2	4.35%	0.24	3+
-	-	-	-	-
9.0	3	6.52%	0.37	4+
Total	46	99.99%		

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Largemouth Bass

½ Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
3.0	6	16.22%	0.03	0+
3.5	2	5.41%	0.04	0+
4.0	1	2.70%	0.04	0+
-	-	-	-	-
5.0	1	2.70%	0.06	0+
-	-	-	-	-
6.5	1	2.70%	0.14	1+
7.0	1	2.70%	0.15	1+
7.5	2	2.70%	0.22	1+
-	-	-	-	-
8.5	3	8.11%	0.27	1-2+
9.0	1	2.70%	0.38	2+
9.5	2	5.41%	0.41	2-3+
-	-	-	-	-
11.0	1	2.70%	0.67	3+
11.5	1	2.70%	0.77	2+
12.0	4	10.81%	0.94	3+
12.5	1	2.70%	0.97	4+
-	-	-	-	-
14.0	2	5.41%	1.28	4+
14.5	1	2.70%	1.67	4+
15.0	2	5.41%	1.61	5+
15.5	1	2.70%	2.15	5+
16.0	2	5.41%	1.99	5+
-	-	-	-	-
18.0	1	2.70%	2.95	6+
-	-	-	-	-
20.0	1	2.70%	4.13	7+
Total	37	100.00%		

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Green Sunfish

1/2 Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
2.0	1	4.55%	0.01	0+
-	-	-	-	-
3.0	7	31.82%	0.02	1+
3.5	2	9.09%	0.03	1+
4.0	2	9.09%	0.05	1-2+
4.5	3	13.64%	0.07	2+
5.0	5	22.73%	0.12	2+
5.5	1	4.55%	0.14	3+
6.0	1	4.55%	0.17	3+
Total	22	100.02%		

Yellow Bullhead

1/2 Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
5.0	2	10.00%	0.67	NA
5.5	1	5.00%	0.08	NA
6.0	2	10.00%	0.10	NA
6.5	3	15.00%	0.14	NA
-	-	-	-	-
7.5	4	20.00%	0.20	NA
-	-	-	-	-
9.0	5	25.00%	0.40	NA
9.5	1	5.00%	0.49	NA
10.0	1	5.00%	0.57	NA
10.5	1	5.00%	0.66	NA
Total	20	100.00%		

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Walleye

1/2 Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
9.0	2	18.18%	0.20	1+
9.5	1	9.09%	0.28	1+
-	-	-	-	-
11.0	2	18.18%	0.41	1+
-	-	-	-	-
12.0	1	9.09%	0.58	2+
-	-	-	-	-
16.0	2	18.18%	1.40	3+
16.5	1	9.09%	1.38	3+
-	-	-	-	-
19.0	2	18.18%	2.42	4+
Total	11	99.99%		

Common Carp

1/2 Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
12.0	2	28.58%	0.85	2+
-	-	-	-	-
14.5	1	14.29%	1.59	4+
15.0	1	14.29%	1.54	3+
15.5	1	14.29%	1.58	4+
-	-	-	-	-
17.5	1	14.29%	2.22	4+
-	-	-	-	-
19.0	1	14.29%	2.84	5+
Total	7	100.03%		

Other Species collected

Species	Number	Length	Weight	Age
Yellow Perch	3	4.5 – 8.5	0.02 – 0.21	1-3+
Bluegill x Green Sunfish Hybrid	3	1.5 – 6.0	0.004 – 0.01	2-3+
Black Bullhead	2	9.0 – 9.5	0.31 – 0.32	NA

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Stocking

The Forest Preserves of Cook County works closely with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to stock fishes within the Forest Preserves lakes. The decision to stock fish and the number of fish stocked is based on many factors including but not limited to type of species, size of fish stocked, size of the lake and type of stocking. The Forest Preserves of Cook County must follow State of Illinois regulation regarding the introduction and stocking of fish. All requests to stock a new species into a District lake must go through the State’s Management Recommendation Committee.

Most stocking fall under one of three categories, introduction, supplemental and put-and-take. Introduction stockings are the introduction of a new species within an existing lake or the stocking of a new body of water. Supplemental stockings are the stocking of species already in a lake and are used to supplement a species that may not successively reproduce on its own or has been over fished. Fish stocked in a put-and-take stocking are catchable size fish.

Size of Fish Stocked

Most of the fish stocked in the lakes of the Forest Preserves of Cook County are young-of-the-year and are provided by the IDNR Hatcheries. Fish from the hatcheries are stocked upon availability and are funded by your fishing licenses.

Bluegill are stocked at ½ to ¾-inch.

Channel Catfish are stocked at around 6-inches in most lakes.

The IDNR suspended the production, rearing and stocking of Northern Pike in 2017, Northern stocking resumed in 2020 and were stocked in the 7 to 9-inch range. Muskellunge range from 10 to 14-inches and are stocked in the Main Pool of Busse Reservoir intermittently.

Walleye fingerlings from the IDNR are 2 to 3-inches and the Walleye from the Tampier Walleye Propagation Program are stocked as fingerlings and/or fry.

Species	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Channel Catfish	3,021	2,109	3,000	3,000	3,000
Northern Pike	-	-	484	481	495
Walleye	14,510	301,348	27,915	16,253	149,400
Bluegill	59,472	57,966	130,013	122,936	-