



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 in 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 moonlight 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 lake's 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.

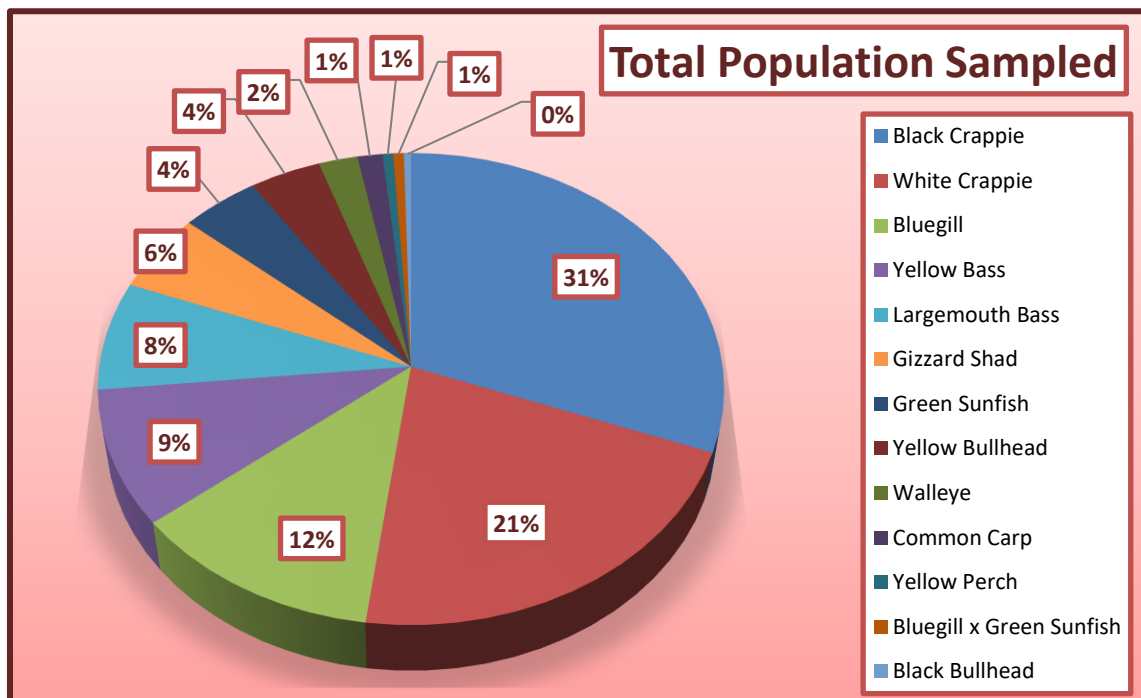
Tampier Lake Population Survey



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% |



Tampier Lake Population Survey



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% | | |

Tampier Lake Population Survey



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% | | |

Tampier Lake Population Survey



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% | | |

Tampier Lake Population Survey



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 |

Tampier Lake Population Survey



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 overfished. 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 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Channel Catfish | 2,109 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Northern Pike | - | 484 | 481 | 495 | 481 |
| Walleye | 301,348 | 27,915 | 16,253 | 149,400 | 14,003 |
| Bluegill | 57,966 | 130,013 | 122,936 | - | - |