

Turtlehead Lake Population Survey



Located in Palos Heights on the west side of Harlem Ave. ¼ miles south of 135th St. This 18 acre site includes Turtlehead Lake, Turtlehead Pond and West Pond. Turtlehead Lake is the deepest at 14.6 feet, Turtlehead Pond is 11.5 feet deep and West Pond comes in at 4.3 feet deep. Largemouth bass, bluegill, sunfish, bullheads and crappie can be found in these ponds. 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.

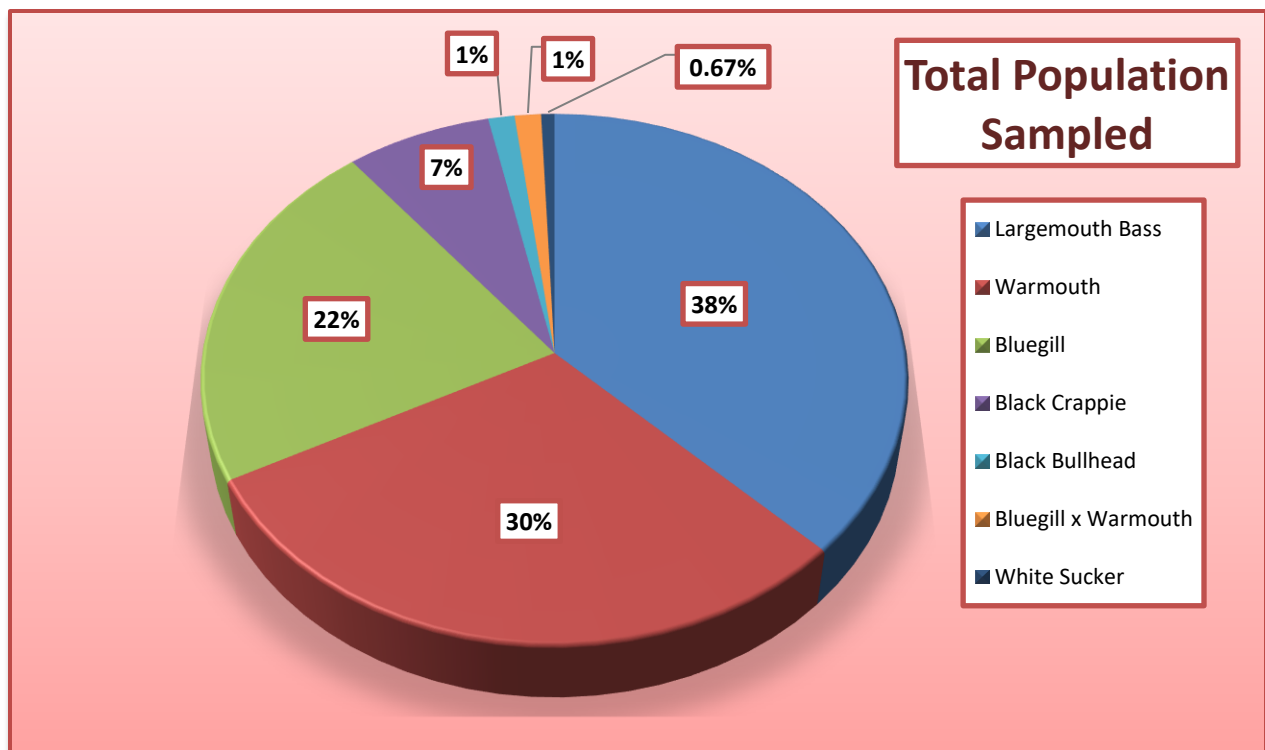
Turtlehead Lake Population Survey



Date of survey: July 15 – 17, 2019
 Electro-fishing time: 30 minutes
 0 Fyke nets fished: 0 hours
 500 feet gill nets fished: 24 hours

Total Population

Species	Number	Percent
Largemouth Bass	56	37.33%
Warmouth	45	30.00%
Bluegill	33	22.00%
Black Crappie	8	7.33%
Black Bullhead	2	1.33%
Bluegill x Warmouth Hybrid	2	1.33%
White Sucker	1	0.67%
Total	150	99.99%



Turtlehead Lake Population Survey



Largemouth Bass

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
3.5	1	1.79%	0.02	1+
4.0	1	1.79%	0.04	1+
-	-	-	-	-
5.5	1	1.79%	0.07	1+
-	-	-	-	-
6.0	2	3.57%	0.13	1-2+
-	-	-	-	-
9.5	1	1.79%	0.39	2+
-	-	-	-	-
10.5	4	7.14%	0.51	2-3+
11.0	13	23.21%	0.58	3+
11.5	2	3.57%	0.70	3+
12.0	10	17.85%	0.80	4+
12.5	9	16.07%	0.91	4+
13.0	4	7.14%	1.04	4+
13.5	4	7.14%	1.16	4-5+
14.0	2	3.57%	1.33	5+
14.5	1	1.79%	2.81	5+
-	-	-	-	-
20.0	1	1.79%	4.15	6+
Totals	56	100.00%		

Warmouth

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
2.0	1	2.22%	0.01	1+
-	-	-	-	-
3.0	1	2.22%	0.03	2+
3.5	3	6.67%	0.05	1-2+
4.0	2	4.44%	0.05	2+
4.5	4	8.89%	0.07	2-3+
5.0	7	15.56%	0.13	2-3+
5.5	6	13.33%	0.15	3+
6.0	3	6.67%	0.17	3+
6.5	13	28.89%	0.22	4+
7.0	4	8.89%	0.28	4+
7.5	1	2.22%	0.36	5+
Totals	45	100.00%		

Turtlehead Lake Population Survey



Bluegill

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
2.0	8	24.24%	0.007	0+
2.5	2	6.06%	0.01	0+
3.0	5	15.15%	0.02	1+
3.5	8	24.24%	0.04	1-2+
4.0	4	12.12%	0.04	1-2+
4.5	3	9.09%	0.05	2+
5.0	1	3.03%	0.08	2+
5.5	1	3.03%	0.11	3+
-	-	-	-	-
7.5	1	3.03%	0.26	4+
Totals	33	99.99%		

Black Crappie

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
3.0	1	9.09%	0.02	0+
3.5	1	9.09%	0.03	0+
-	-	-	-	-
6.5	2	18.18%	0.15	2+
7.0	1	9.09%	0.20	2+
7.5	3	27.27%	0.23	2+
-	-	-	-	-
8.5	2	18.18%	0.29	3+
-	-	-	-	-
15.5	1	9.09%	1.33	6+
Totals	11	99.99%		

Other Species collected

Species	Number	Length	Weight	Age
Black Bullhead	2	6.50	0.16	NA
Bluegill x Warmouth Hybrid	2	3.5-4.0	0.03-0.04	1+