



Bear Creek Reservoir

FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT DATA

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General Information: Bear Creek Reservoir, a 205 acre flood control reservoir, offers fishing for small-mouth bass, saugeye, and rainbow trout. For park hours, fees, and other information: <http://www.lakewood.org/comres/page.cfm?ID=641&BearCreekLakePark/>

Location: South of Morrison Road (Hwy 8), north of W. Hampden Avenue (U.S. 285), west of S. Kipling Street, and east of C-470. Main entrance is on Morrison Road.

Recreational Management: City of Lakewood (303-697-1522)

Fishery Management: Warm and coldwater species

Annual Survey Data: ([see page 2](#))

Amenities and General Info.

- Picnic Tables and shelters
- Restrooms
- Camping
- Bicycling
- Hiking
- Horseback riding
- Swim beach (Big Soda Lake)
- Windsurfing (Big Soda Lake)
- Swimming
- Waterskiing (Little Soda Lake)

Fishing Regulations

- Minimum size for walleye and saugeye is 15" long. Only 1 walleye or saugeye in the aggregate longer than 21" can be taken per day.

Previous Stocking

2011

Rainbow trout
 Saugeye
 Bluegill

2010

Rainbow trout
 Saugeye

2009

Rainbow trout
 Saugeye

2008

Rainbow trout
 Saugeye
 Smallmouth bass

2007

Rainbow trout
 Walleye

2006

Rainbow trout
 Saugeye
 Smallmouth bass

Sportfishing Notes

Smallmouth Bass

- Most of the bass congregate on the east end of the lake, near the rocks of the dam.
- Target bass using lures such as crankbaits, jerkbaits, and jigs.

Saugeye

- Most of the saugeye will also be in the eastern half of the lake.
- Target these fish using live bait rigs and jiggging spoons.

Rainbow Trout

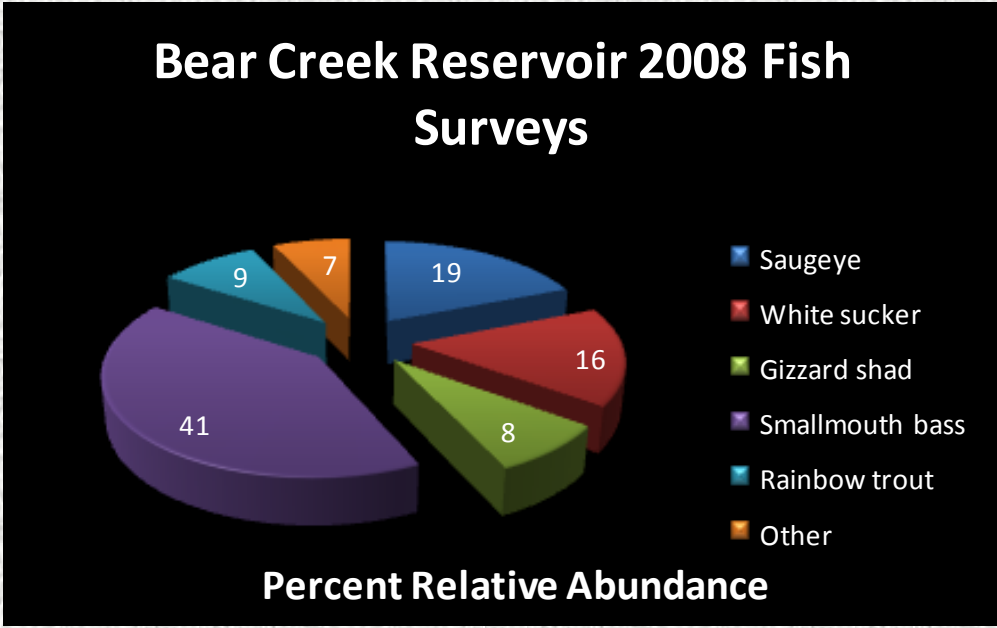
- Fishing for trout is best during the cooler months before and after summer using traditional baits.



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The figure to the left shows the percent relative abundance of the most abundant species in Bear Creek Reservoir. Annual surveys here include the use of gill nets and boat electrofishing. The 2008 results show that smallmouth bass comprised the majority (41%) of the sample, followed by saugeye (19%), white sucker (16%), and then rainbow trout (9%). Species in the “other” category included brown trout, yellow perch, largemouth bass, and bluegill.

The figure below shows the length frequencies of saugeye, smallmouth bass, and brown trout at Bear Creek Reservoir. The vertical bars represent the number of fish at a particular length. Saugeye up to 24” and brown trout up to almost 20” were collected in 2008. These two species grow well on a diet of gizzard shad and white suckers. Brown trout are not stocked in the reservoir, but come in from Bear Creek, which has a self-sustaining population. Once in the lake the brown trout have ample food to grow to larger sizes than in the stream. Smallmouth bass are very abundant in Bear Creek Reservoir, and fish up to 16” were collected in 2008.

