



Boulder City Reservoir

FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT DATA

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General Information: Boulder reservoir (700 acres) provides quality fishing for walleye, smallmouth bass, and catfish. Motor-boating is allowed with Boulder Reservoir Permit. The reservoir is only open during daylight hours. For hours of operation and more information visit:

<http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/>

Location: Boulder County. From Boulder go 2 miles N on HWY 119; go W at Jay Rd., then N 1 mile.

Recreational Management: City of Boulder (303-413-7200)

Fishery Management: Warmwater angling

Purchase a Fishing License: <http://wildlife.state.co.us/ShopDOW/AppsAndLicenses/>

Amenities

- Boat Ramp
- Swim Beach
- Modern Restroom
- Hiking Trails
- Boat Rentals
- Picnic Areas

Regulations

- Ice fishing is allowed, however Boulder considers the ice unsafe at times and does not recommend ice fishing.
- City of Boulder (not published in fishing regulation brochure) stipulates additional regulations; know before you go.
- Belly boats are allowed with check-in.

Previous Stocking

2011

Walleye
Channel Catfish
Black Crappie
Rainbow Trout

2010

Channel Catfish

2009

Walleye
Channel Catfish

2008

Walleye
Channel Catfish
Black Crappie

2007

Walleye
Channel Catfish

Sportfishing Notes

Walleye

- Fish the dam early when water temperatures are 40-50°F.
- Later, fish are scattered but tube jigs are good choice.
- If the inlet is running in water that area is worth a shot anytime of the year.

Smallmouth Bass

- Bass fishing can be frustrating given the limited amount of structure, but good numbers of smallies are in Boulder Reservoir. Try the dam with crayfish imitations!
- This population is self-sustaining.

Channel Catfish

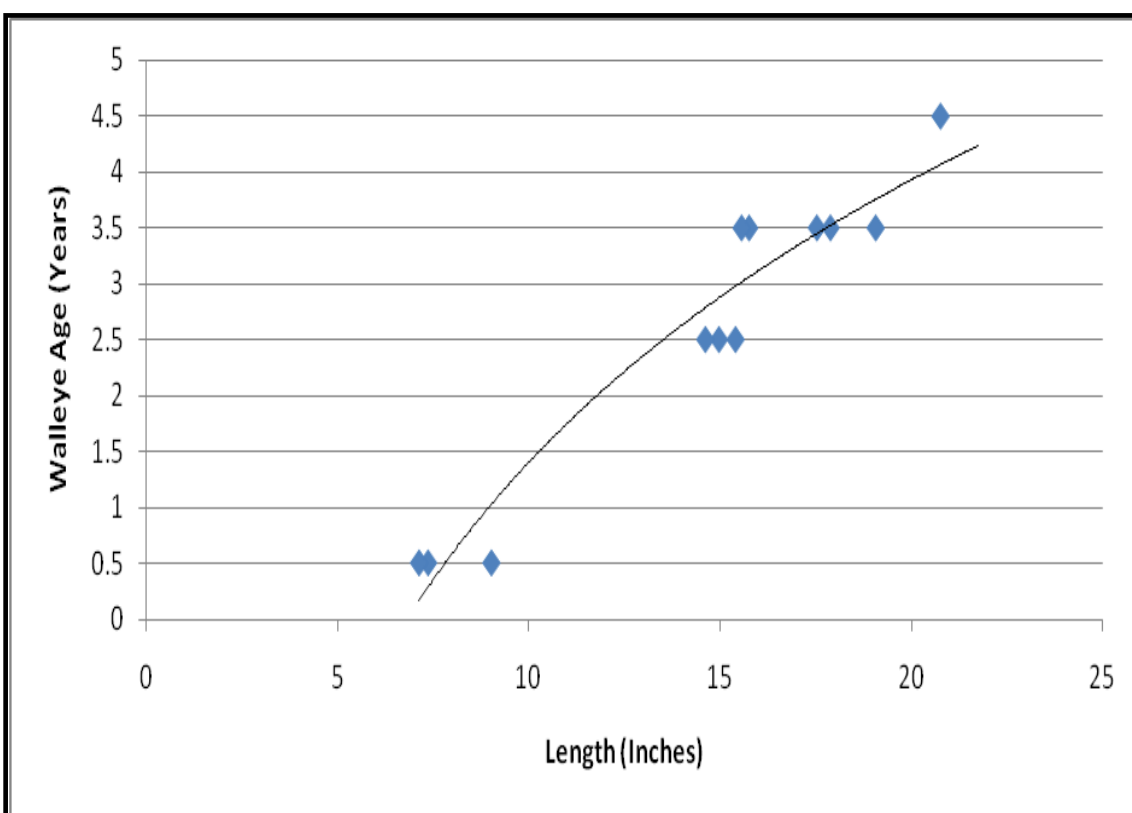
- Best baits are cut shad or chicken liver.
- Cats exceeding 10lbs are NOT uncommon.
- Fishing near the inlet and off the dam is best.



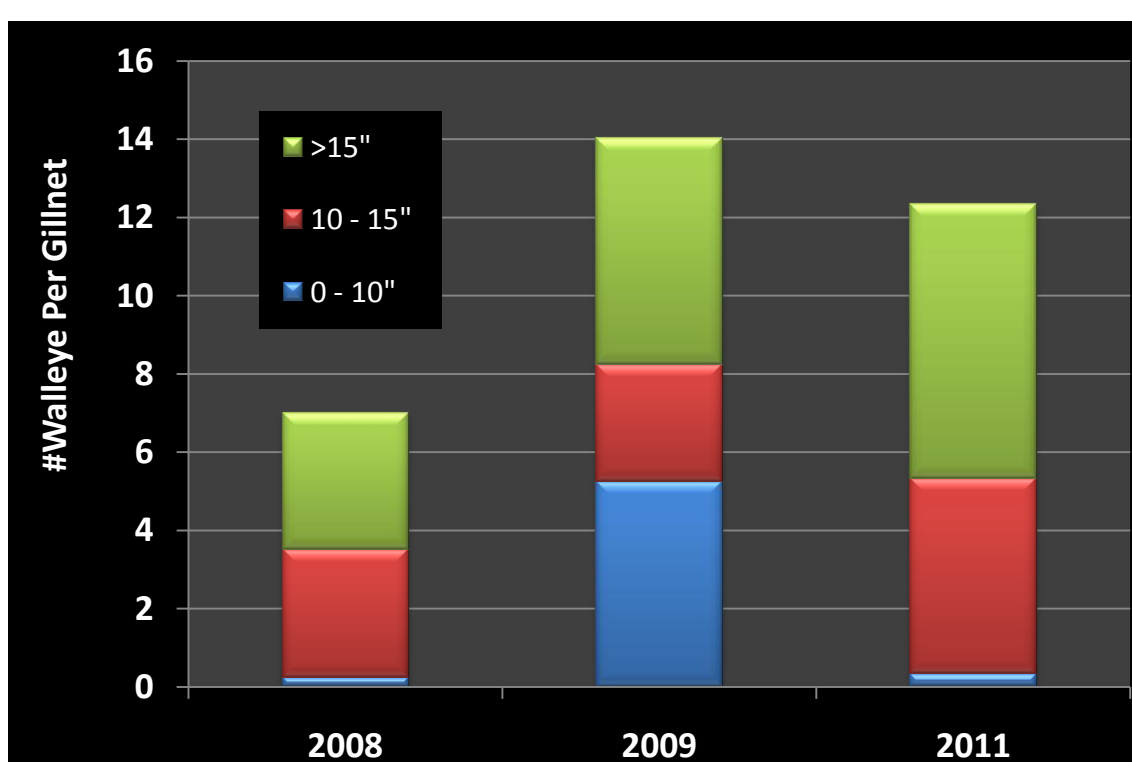
2011 Gillnetting Survey (September, 3 nets)

Fall 2011 Survey Species	# Caught	Average length and (range) in inches.	Average Weight (lbs)
Black Crappie	3	9.1 (9 - 10)	0.46
Channel Catfish	13	24.5 (19 - 28)	6.39
Common Carp	6	17.0 (15 - 21)	2.24
Gizzard Shad	8	15.1 (14 - 17)	1.31
Golden Shiner	1	7.6	0.2
Smallmouth Bass	3	10.2 (8 - 13)	0.58
Walleye	37	15.1 (7 - 21)	1.15
White Sucker	1	18.1	2.49
Yellow Perch	7	8.0 (5 - 11)	0.29

Walleye – Because of its particular location and the reservoir’s west slope water source, Boulder Reservoir is relatively unproductive compared with reservoirs which fill via native South Platte east slope water (Cherry Creek, Jackson Reservoir, Barr Lake, etc.). As a result, walleye in Boulder Reservoir grow slower while annual reproduction by gizzard shad, the forage base species, is sporadic. As a result of the slower growth of walleye in Boulder Reservoir the special walleye regulation was removed January 1, 2011. Anglers can now keep 5 walleye per day of ANY size (statewide general regulations now apply for all species in this reservoir).



The 2011 gillnet survey indicates walleye fishing at Boulder Reservoir should be fair in 2011. However, better number of large walleye (>15”) are present. Depicted in the graph is the number of walleye sampled using gillnets. The number collected is standardized for 1 gillnet fished overnight for comparison among years. Results from the 2011 survey suggest the fry stocking (April 2011) had below average success.



Channel Catfish – Catfish abundance at Boulder Reservoir is rather low but what is lacking in numbers is compensated by size. Huge cats have been sampled annually since 2007. The largest individual sampled in 2011 measured 29 inches and weighed 12 pounds. Catfish less than 10” were not detected but be assured there are smaller fish moving into the bigger size classes. Since 2008, 36,500 fingerlings have been stocked in Boulder Reservoir.

