



# Cherry Creek Reservoir

## FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT DATA

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**General Information:** Cherry Creek Reservoir, an 880 acre flood protection reservoir, offers good fishing for wiper, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, and trophy walleye. For park hours, fees, and other information: <http://parks.state.co.us/Parks/CherryCreek/>

**Location:** Cherry Creek State Park. I-225 to Parker Road, south on Parker Road to the east entrance. West entrance is off of S. Yosemite Street.

**Recreational Management:** Colorado State Parks (303-690-1166) and Army Corps of Engineers.

**Fishery Management:** Warm and Cold water species

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

### Amenities and General Info.

- Boat Ramps (2)
- Picnic Areas
- Camping
- Restrooms
- Swim Beach
- Marina
- Hiking trails
- Horseback Riding
- Model Airplane Field
- Birding

### Fishing Regulations

- Minimum size for walleyes is 18" long. The daily bag limit for walleye is 3 fish. Only 1 walleye longer than 21" can be taken per day. No saugeye are present in this lake.
- Minimum size for largemouth and smallmouth bass is 15".
- Fishing is prohibited from the dam and within 100 feet of the dam **or walleye spawning operation nets** March 15-April 15, 4 p.m. to 9 a.m.

### Previous Stocking

#### 2011

Rainbow Trout  
 Channel Catfish  
 Wiper  
 Walleye  
 Black Crappie

#### 2010

Rainbow Trout  
 Snake River Cutthroat Trout  
 Channel Catfish  
 Wiper  
 Walleye

#### 2009

Rainbow Trout  
 Channel Catfish  
 Walleye  
 Black Crappie

#### 2008

Rainbow Trout  
 Cuttbow  
 Channel Catfish  
 Walleye  
 Wiper  
 Black Crappie

### Sportfishing Notes

#### Walleye

- Big walleye are present in good number because the regulations protect large fish. These regulations give anglers an opportunity to catch trophy size walleye, while still allowing the DOW to run an egg take operation that supplies other Colorado waters with young walleye.
- Fish can be difficult to catch due to the large population of gizzard shad, their primary forage food.
- Anglers are successful using live bait rigs and jigging spoons.

#### Rainbow Trout

- Trout fishing is generally good during the cooler months using traditional baits.

#### Wiper

- Fishing for wipers can be good during April, when they are chasing spawning gizzard shad.
- Anglers are successful using jerkbaits.

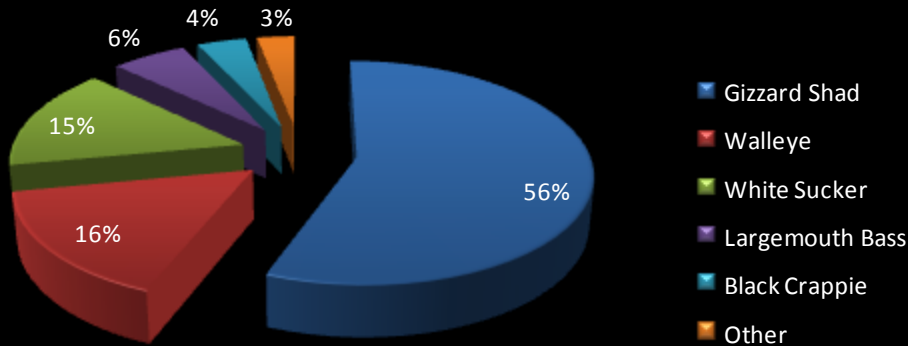


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### Cherry Creek 2011 Fish Survey



The figure to the left shows the percent relative abundance of the most abundant species in the 2011 fish collections at Cherry Creek Reservoir. Annual surveys here include the use of gill nets and boat electrofishing. The 2011 results show that gizzard shad comprised the majority (56%) of the sample, followed by walleye (16%), and then white sucker (15%). The high abundance of gizzard shad provides a good source of food for predators such as walleye, wiper, and largemouth bass in Cherry Creek Reservoir.

The figure below shows the length frequencies of largemouth bass, walleye, and wiper collected in 2011. These are three of the more popular gamefish at Cherry Creek Reservoir. The vertical bars represent the number of fish at a particular length. Although the sampling in 2011 collected bass up to 15", previous surveys show there are bass up to 20" in the lake. Walleye up to 21" were collected in 2011, with a good number of fish over the minimum length limit. The large gizzard shad population allows walleye to grow to large sizes in Cherry Creek Reservoir. Wiper between 13" and 15" were collected in 2011. Shore anglers fishing with canned mussels did well catching this size range of wipers. Sampling in previous years shows that wiper in excess of 10 pounds inhabit Cherry Creek Reservoir.

### Cherry Creek 2011 Length Frequencies

