



Douglas Reservoir

FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT DATA

Kurt Davies - Aquatic Biologist (Fort Collins)

kurt.davies@state.co.us / 970-472-4396

General Information: Douglas Reservoir (565 acres) is a state wildlife area providing diverse fishing opportunities for both warmwater and coldwater species. For more information call the Fort Collins Service Center (970) 472-4300.

Location: Larimer County. From I-25, go 5.5 mi W on Hwy 1 to CR 15; 1 mi N to CR 60 and turn W. Go 1/4 mi to La Vina Dr. and go N to lake.

Recreational Management: Colorado Division of Wildlife

Fishery Management: Warm and coldwater angling

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

Amenities

- Boat Ramp
- Restrooms
- Ice Fishing

Regulations

- Waterskiing, sailboards prohibited.
- Wakeless speed only
- Hunting, discharging fire-arms or bows, fires, and camping prohibited
- Closed, except for fishing, 1 hour after sunset to 1 hour before sunrise
- No fishing from dock
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Mandatory Boat Inspections

for Aquatic Nuisance Species

April 1 - September 30

Boating Hours:

6:00 am-10:00 pm

Boat ramp will be closed to use after these hours. All boats must be off the lake by 10:00 pm. Fishing from shore is still allowed after 10:00 pm.

Previous Stocking

2010

Rainbow Trout
Rainbow/Cutthroat Hybrid
Channel Catfish
Sauger

2009

Rainbow Trout
Rainbow/Cutthroat Hybrid
Channel Catfish
Sauger

2008

Rainbow Trout
Rainbow/Cutthroat Hybrid
Smallmouth Bass
Channel Catfish
Sauger

2007

Rainbow Trout
Rainbow/Cutthroat Hybrid
Smallmouth Bass
Channel Catfish

Sportfishing Notes

Smallmouth Bass

- Smallmouth bass tend to associate with the dam.
- Try rock rip-rap areas with crayfish imitations.

Walleye/Sauger

- Try targeting the dam when water temps are 40-50° F.
- Cast along mudlines caused by windy conditions.

Channel Catfish

- Try cats at night on the shallow flats of the north side of the lake.

Other Species

- Bluegill, black crappie, yellow perch and some large-mouth bass are also present in the lake.



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History:

The Colorado Division of Wildlife leased Douglas Reservoir from the Windsor Reservoir and Canal Company in 1993. This lease provides access for fishing only, excluding other recreational activities on the property. The DOW does not have control of the water usage or water levels in the lake.

Management Notes

The reservoir has been managed as a coolwater assembly since DOW took over management. Primary game species have been: Walleye, Wiper (Hybrid - White Bass x Striped Bass), Channel Catfish, Smallmouth Bass, and Rainbow Trout. Other species have established self sustaining populations: Bluegill, Black Crappie, Largemouth Bass and Yellow Perch.



Young of the year sauger

Douglas Reservoir meets the proper criteria and has been selected as a site to establish sauger for a potential brood source. Walleye and wiper stocking has been suspended to reduce competition and provide the sauger the best opportunity to compete for resources and grow to size. There was great survival of the sauger plant in 2009 which should lead to abundant numbers in future years.

Sauger: Note the spots on the dorsal fin, the splotchy patches on the body, the lack of a white spot on the tail fin and the lack of a black spot in the dorsal fin.

Walleye: Note the black spot at the rear of the dorsal fin, the white spot at the base of the tail fin and the way the body patches form “saddles” across the back.





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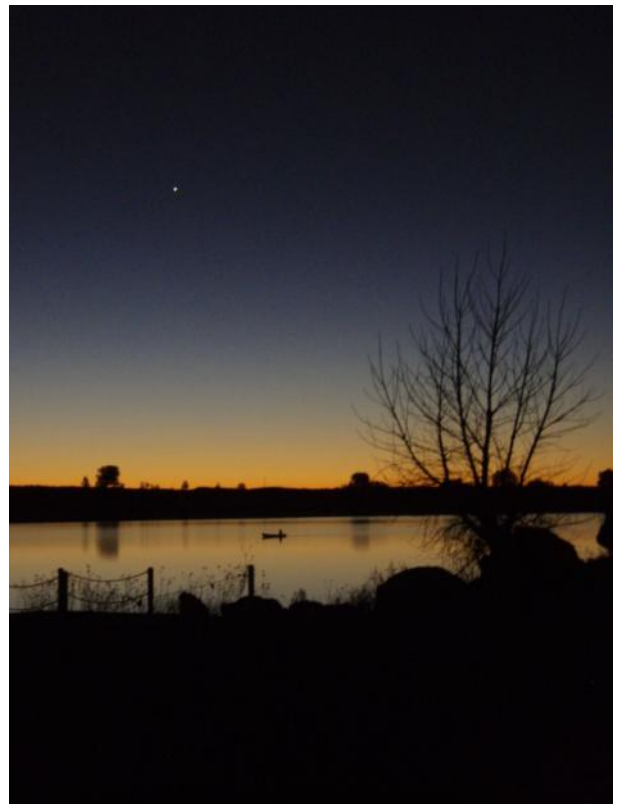
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Black crappie and forage fish in Douglas Reservoir had a great year in 2010 as the water in the reservoir remained high through the early spawning season. Water levels are expected to be similar in the spring of 2011. Trout also did well with the higher water levels with more fish surviving and growing into and through the winter, both 09-10 and 10-11.

Sauger fishing should continue to improve with a successful year class in 2009 continuing to grow and remain in good condition. Sauger stocking efforts in 2011 will be expanded to increase numbers in future years.



Combined Sampling: Electrofishing, Gillnet, Trapnet and Seining 2010			
	# Caught	Average Length (Range) in Inches	Average Weight (Range) in Pounds
Black Crappie	29	9.4 (5.5-12.8)	0.54 (0.1-1.3)
Bluegill	4	4.0 (2.6-5.5)	0.5 (0-0.1)
Channel Catfish	2	21.8 (10.9-32.7)	8.43 (0.3-16.5)
Carp	52	17.7 (12.7-24.1)	2.74 (1.1-6.4)
Gizzard Shad	7	17.6 (16.1-18.8)	0.52 (0-2.8)
Largemouth Bass	10	8.1 (5.1-13.7)	0.46(0.1-1.3)
Rainbow Trout	26	11.7 (6.3-18.9)	0.95 (0.1-3.2)
Cuttbow	4	18.3 (16.7-20.4)	2.73 (1.9-4.1)
Sauger	4	12.5 (12.7-19.0)	0.91 (0.2-2.5)
Smallmouth Bass	8	9.4 (7.0-12.0)	0.45 (0.2-0.8)
Wiper	48	20.8 (14.3-24.1)	4.48 (1.2-6.9)
Walleye	14	20.0 (15.7-27.6)	3.06 (1.2-8.8)
White Sucker	66	14.1 (8.7-15.9)	1.13 (0.2-1.8)
Yellow Perch	9	6.1 (3.0-8.3)	0.11 (0.0-0.2)