



# Lake Loveland

## FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT DATA

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**General Information:** Lake Loveland (475 surface acres) is a storage reservoir owned by the City of Greeley who uses it for a domestic water source. The boating recreation rights belong to the homeowners whose properties surround the lake. Public fishing is available from the public shorelines. Anglers can expect to catch carp, catfish, walleye, yellow perch, trout, and smallmouth bass..

**Location:** Central Loveland near N. Taft Avenue and W. Eisenhower Drive (HWY 34).

**Recreational Management:** City of Loveland (Parks) / Private Homeowner Association (Boating)

**Fishery Management:** Warmwater angling

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

### Amenities

- Public Park (north shore)
- Picnic Facilities
- Restrooms
- Paved Walking Trails

### Regulations

- No public boating.
- Public access at North Lake Park, along Taft Avenue (west shore), and along the south shore dam walkway (Eisenhower Drive).
- Ice fishing IS allowed.
- General bag/possession limits apply (see regulation brochure).

### Previous Stocking

#### 2011

Brown Trout  
Channel Catfish  
Walleye

#### 2010

Brown Trout  
Channel Catfish  
Rainbow Trout  
Walleye

#### 2009

Gizzard Shad  
Rainbow Trout  
Walleye

#### 2008

Channel Catfish  
Walleye

#### 2007

Walleye

### Sportfishing Notes

#### Walleye

- Fish the inlet and rock rip-rap areas (south shore) especially during March-May.
- Minnows or small rapalas are good baits.
- Some walleye are caught through the ice.

#### Yellow Perch

- Good baits are small jigs or tubes tipped with a small piece nightcrawler.
- No particular location, but ice fishing often yields perch 6-9".
- Perch numbers have increased over the past 2 years.

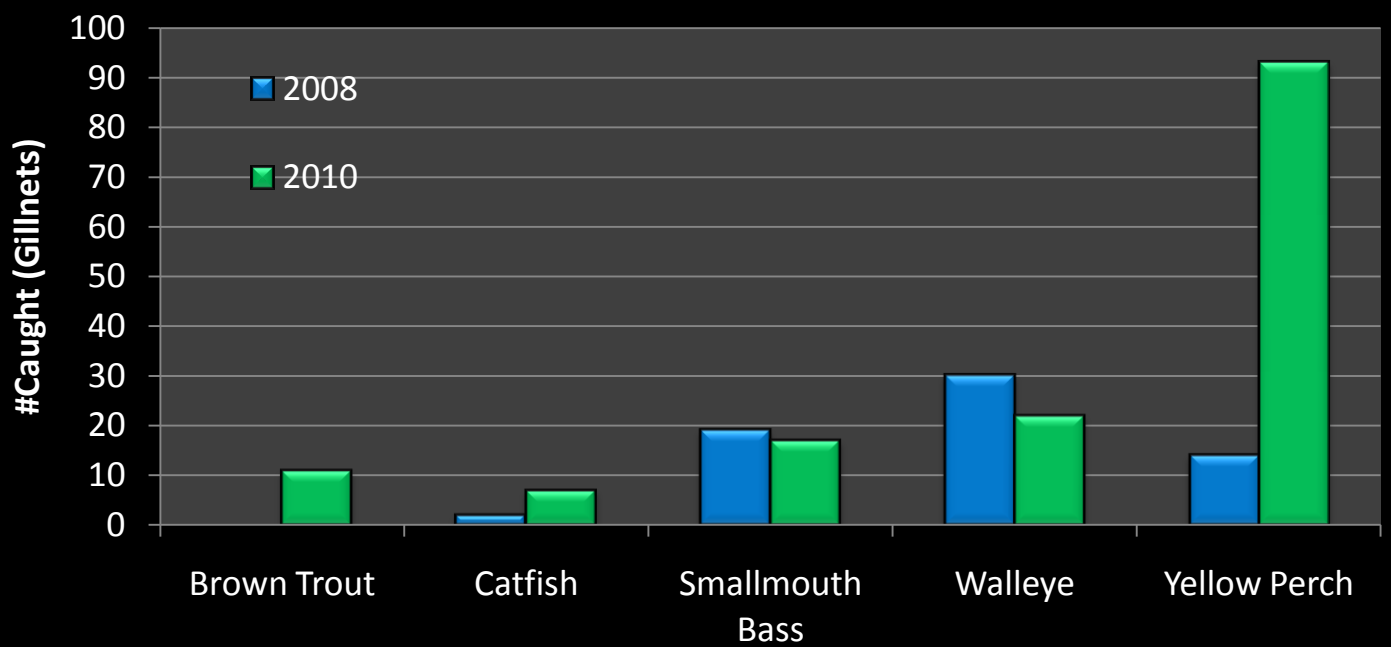


Shoreline Angling Opportunities (public access)

2010 Gillnet Survey Species	# Caught	% Total Catch	Average Length (Range) Inches	Average Weight (lbs)
Black Crappie	1	0.4%	4.7	0.16
Bluegill	1	0.4%	6.7	0.23
Channel Catfish	7	3.0%	30.9 (27 - 35)	15.25
Common Carp	8	3.5%	22.6 (21 - 24)	5.01
Gizzard Shad	4	1.7%	17.4 (15 - 19)	1.74
Brown Trout	11	4.8%	18.9 (11 - 24)	2.78
Rainbow Trout	3	1.3%	12.6 (6 - 16)	0.76
Smallmouth Bass	17	7.4%	9.2 (6 - 17)	0.55
Walleye	22	9.5%	15.5 (9 - 23)	1.23
White Sucker	64	27.7%	15.5 (12 - 19)	1.73
Yellow Perch	93	40.3%	6.4 (5 - 10)	0.14

**Above:** The complete summary of all fish sampled during the July 21, 2010 survey (5 gillnets). Shore fishing for walleye and smallmouth bass should be fair during 2011. The abundance of gizzard shad, the a primary forage fish, appears to be declining as the survey sampled only a handful of large adults. Shad were transferred to Lake Loveland in 2009 to boost forage fish production. No size restrictions for bass or walleye are in effect, however the daily bag/possession limit is 5 fish of each species. Yellow perch number have substantially increased since the 2008 survey; good news for ice anglers.

Walleye averaged 15 ½ - inches in length with 5.3 walleye were collected per net set (7.5/net in 2008). A water intensively managed for walleye should have a much high catch rate closer to 20 walleye per net (see Boyd Lake). Limited public fishing opportunities at Lake Loveland reduces the priority for fish stocking. Large catfish up to 25 lbs were identified. Some quality brown trout which entered the lake through the irrigation ditch via the Big Thompson River were also identified. Additional sub-catchable brown trout were stocked in 2010 and 2011.



**Future Management:** Because of the limited public access at Lake Loveland, fish stocking is generally limited to walleye fry, channel catfish fingerlings, or times when CPW hatcheries have surplus fish. In 2010, the Las Animas hatchery produced an incredible number of 3" catfish. Nearly 22,000 of these were stocked in Lake Loveland. An addition 7,000 (4-inch) cats were stocked in 2011. Waters which provide more public angling access receive higher priorities for stocking bass, bluegill, crappie, catfish, trout, wiper, etc. Natural reproduction by smallmouth bass and yellow perch in Lake Loveland solely support these populations while walleye must be stocked in order to provide an annual year class.



Channel catfish collected during the 2010 survey (24.3 lbs); released unharmed.