



Runyon Lake

FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT DATA

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General Information: Runyon Lake, which is approximately five acres in size, offers good fishing for rainbow trout, saugeye and walleye, channel catfish, and black crappie. Additional species present include bluegill and bass. Limited boating is allowed for fishing only, and includes float tubes or carry-on craft propelled by hand.

Location: East Pueblo, Pueblo county. From I-25, take exit 98-A and go south on Santa Fe Road and east on Runyon Field Road to the Runyon/Fountain Lakes SWA.

Recreational Management: Colorado Parks and Wildlife (719-561-5300)

Fishery Management: warmwater and coldwater species. **Annual Survey Data:** See following pages

Amenities

- Wheelchair-accessible parking and fishing pier
- Fishing docks (2)
- Picnic Areas
- Restrooms
- Nature trail

Regulations

- Ice fishing is prohibited.
- Daily bag and possession limits for saugeye/walleye are 10 fish in aggregate.
- Catfish daily bag and possession limits are 10 fish in aggregate.
- Trout daily bag limit is 4 fish in aggregate and the possession limit is 8 fish in aggregate.
- See the regulations brochure for bag and possession limits of other fish species: <http://wildlife.state.co.us/RulesRegs/RegulationsBrochures/>

Previous Stocking

2011

Black crappie
Channel catfish
Rainbow trout
Snake River cutthroat trout
Saugeye

2010

Channel catfish
Cuttbow
Rainbow trout
Saugeye

2009

Bluegill
Channel catfish
Rainbow trout
Saugeye

2008

Channel catfish
Rainbow trout
Saugeye

2007

Black crappie
Channel catfish
Rainbow trout

Sportfishing Notes

Saugeye / Walleye

Saugeye and walleye are sometimes difficult to catch, particularly when shad are abundant. However, anglers can be successful fishing with night crawlers and plastic grub jigs fished near the bottom.

Channel catfish

Supplemental feeders have increased the growth and condition of channel catfish. In 2011, condition was 120% greater than it was in 2008. Catfish are well above average weight and will be a great catch.

Rainbow trout

Catchable trout typically are stocked monthly, and some 19" fish are stocked on occasion. In the spring, fishing with night crawlers or salmon eggs in shallow water is a good bet. Traditional baits are effective.



RUNYON LAKE

FISH SAMPLING DATA



2011 FALL SAMPLING

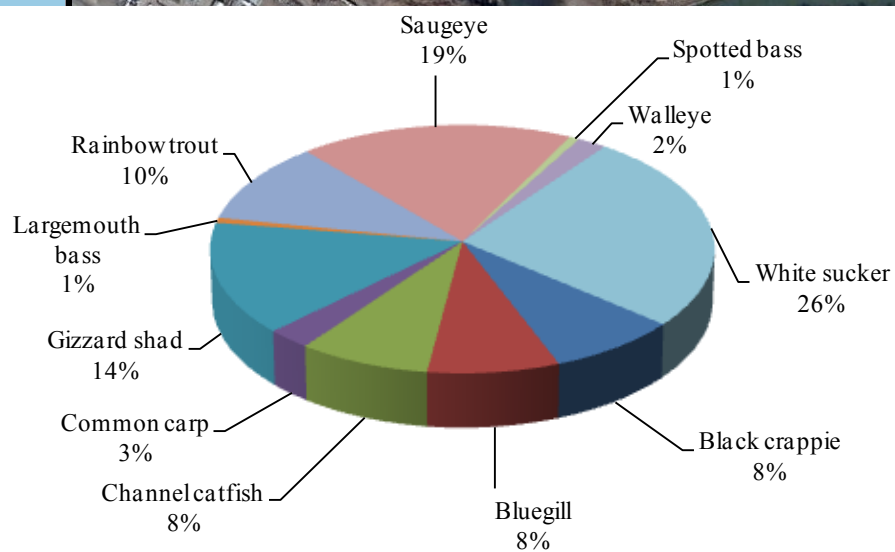


Figure 1. Relative species abundance; data from fall sampling on Runyon Lake, October 2011.

	# Caught	Length (in)		Weight (lbs)	
		Average	(Range)	Average	(Range)
Black crappie (BCR)	12	6.0	(2.6-9.6)	0.18	(0.01-0.49)
Bluegill (BGL)	12	6.0	(3.9-7.3)	0.18	(0.07-0.31)
Channel catfish (CCF)	12	16.8	(6.9-26.8)	3.13	(0.09-8.86)
Common carp (CPP)	4	21.2	(19.2-23.5)	3.94	(3.34-5.22)
Gizzard shad (GSD)	22	6.2	(5.0-15.6)	0.25	(0.07-1.71)
Largemouth bass (LMB)	1	12.1	(12.1-12.1)	1.10	(1.10-1.10)
Rainbow trout (RBT)	16	10.9	(10.1-11.6)	0.53	(0.38-0.71)
Saugeye (SAG)	28	17.0	(5.4-27.5)	2.43	(0.48-7.72)
Spotted bass (SPB)	1	11.7	(11.7-11.7)	0.91	(0.91-0.91)
Walleye (WAL)	3	25.1	(20.2-29.6)	3.45	(2.25-4.99)
White Sucker (WHS)	39	15.1	(8.0-18.1)	1.58	(0.20-2.57)
TOTALS	150				
<i>2010 TOTALS</i>	<i>117</i>				



RUNYON LAKE

FISH SAMPLING DATA AND 2012 FORECAST

WALLEYE/SAUGEYE

Walleye and saugeye survive well in Runyon Lake, and are predicted to be abundant in 2012. There was a high proportion of fish greater than 10 inches in 2011, reaching almost 30 inches in length (see Figure 2). Even more high quality fish should be caught in 2012.

Saugeye fry and fingerlings were planted in 2011, and their presence in the gillnet sample indicates that these fish have survived. These fish, should survival continue to be high, should recruit well to the population and become good fish to catch in 2012.

The condition of these fish was also good in 2011, indicating that they are eating and growing well. Their good weight, combined with a high population size of large fish, should produce some excellent fishing opportunities in 2012.

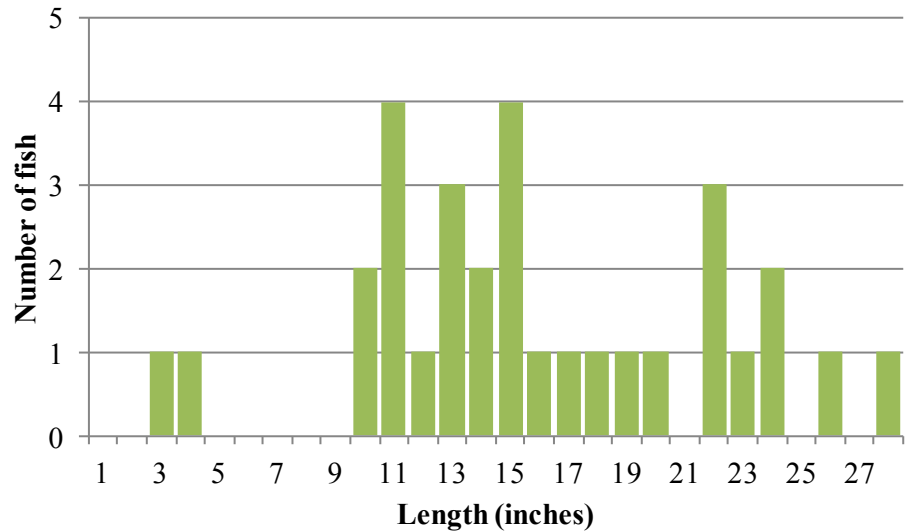


Figure 2. Walleye and Saugeye length frequency data from fall sampling, October 2011.



CHANNEL CATFISH

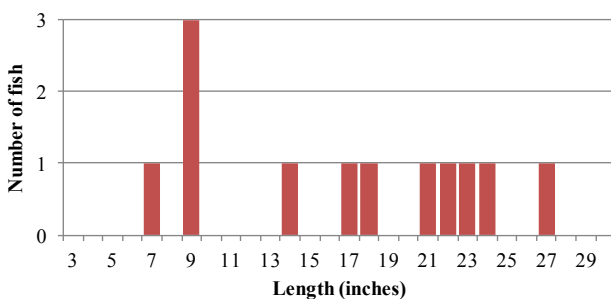


Figure 3. Catfish length frequency data from fall sampling, October 2011.

Most of the channel catfish sampled in 2011 were between 13 and 27 inches (Figure 3). With the supplemental feeding program continuing to provide additional food for growth, there should be some very nice fish caught in 2012. Supplemental feeding has greatly increased the condition of catfish in Runyon.

The number of small (<10") catfish sampled in 2011 was approximately the same as 2010 but the overall number of catfish caught in gillnets in 2011 was less than in 2010. However, the difference is small and is likely due to sampling variation between years. In 2012, catfishing should be very similar to 2011.



RUNYON LAKE

FISH SAMPLING DATA AND 2012 FORECAST

RAINBOW TROUT

Most of the fishing recreation at Runyon Lake comes from stocked trout. These fish are planted monthly, with the exception of July, August, and sometimes September when temperatures are too high. Most of the rainbow trout are what we call “catchable” size, which is approximately 10 inches in length. Occasionally, broodfish measuring up to 19 inches in length are available and stocked into Runyon Lake.

Anglers fishing for trout should be aware of the statewide bag and possession limits for trout (daily bag of 4 and possession limit of 8 fish). Fishing from shore is productive throughout most of the year.

BLACK CRAPPIE AND BLUEGILL

Runyon Lake also has a substantial panfishery, and black crappie and bluegill are often overlooked. Black crappie caught during fall sampling ranged from 3 to 10 inches, and bluegill ranged from 4 to 7 inches in length (Figure 4). Anglers willing to target these fish could see some great fish in 2012.

In 2011, Colorado Parks and Wildlife hatcheries were able to produce a good number of black crappies. This should continue into 2012 and pan fishing should only get better at Runyon Lake.

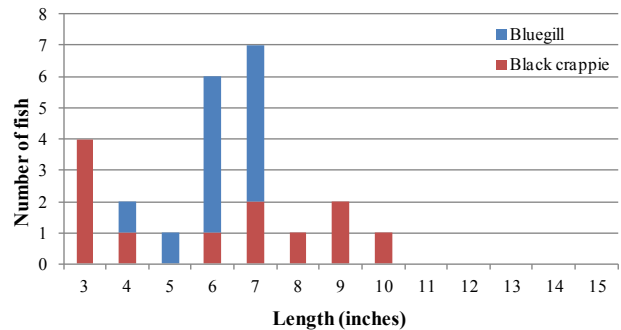


Figure 4. Panfish length frequency data from fall sampling, October 2011.

MASTER ANGLER AWARDS

The Master Angler Recognition Program is designed to recognize anglers for success in their sport, as well as to promote the conservation of fishery resources and quality fishing by encouraging the careful release of trophy-size popular sport species. The program offers Master Angler award certificates in two general categories: fish caught and released, and fish caught and kept. Awards are based on fish length rather than weight. See <http://wildlife.state.co.us/Fishing/AwardsRecords/MasterAnglers/Pages/MasterAnglers.aspx> for more information.

2011 Runyon Lake Master Anglers

Name	Species	Length	Location	Month	Year	Status
Issac Hernandez	largemouth bass	20 1/2"	Runyon Lake	August	2011	Kept
Tammy Naranjo	channel catfish	30"	Runyon Lake	September	2011	Kept