



Turks Pond

FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

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General Information: Turks Pond is a small lake located at the Turks Pond SWA in extreme SE CO. Turks Pond is one of very few fishing locations in the area. As such, it is highly valued by area residents. Turks Pond is very popular for its excellent catfish and wiper fishery, but other species such as largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie, saugeye, bullhead, and trout (seasonal) are also available.

Location: Baca County. Travel south of Two Buttes, CO on Co. Rd. 39, 5 miles (south of 116) to property.

Size: 55 surface acres (variable); pond supplied by well water from wildlife area. Average Depth: 5 - 6 ft.

Management: Colorado Division of Wildlife

Annual Survey Data: Page 2

<u>Amenities and General Info.</u>	<u>Previous Stocking</u>	<u>Sportfishing Notes</u>															
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 concrete/gravel boat ramp. Boating allowed with electric motors only. • Restrooms available • Picnic Shelters • Excellent bird-watching opportunities. 	<u>2010</u>	<u>Wiper</u>															
	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 60%;">Black Crappie</td><td style="width: 40%;">1.4"</td></tr> <tr><td>Bluegill</td><td>2.0"</td></tr> <tr><td>Channel Catfish</td><td>6.2"</td></tr> <tr><td>Grass Carp</td><td>10.2"</td></tr> <tr><td>Largemouth Bass</td><td>3.5"</td></tr> <tr><td>Largemouth Bass</td><td>10.4"</td></tr> <tr><td>Rainbow Trout</td><td>10.0"</td></tr> <tr><td>Saugeye</td><td>0.9"</td></tr> </table>	Black Crappie	1.4"	Bluegill	2.0"	Channel Catfish	6.2"	Grass Carp	10.2"	Largemouth Bass	3.5"	Largemouth Bass	10.4"	Rainbow Trout	10.0"	Saugeye	0.9"
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Regulations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO ATV's or OHV's allowed on the wildlife area. • No Camping or fires • Seasonal closures for water-fowl hunting season. No access: Oct. 1 - Feb. 28 annually. • New restrictions on bait fish apply in 2011: All bait fish must be purchased from a bait shop (receipt required) or collected from Turks Pond water only. 	<u>2009</u>	<u>Panfish (Crappie, Bluegill)</u>															
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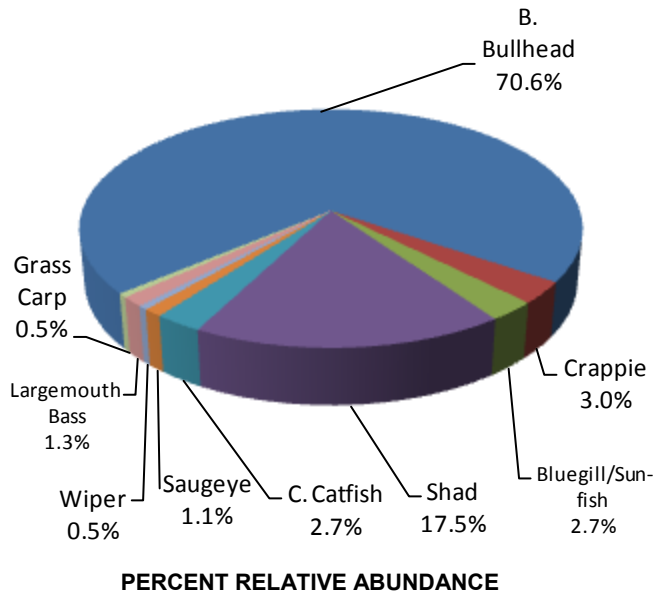
Turks Pond

2010 LAKE SURVEY DATA

(1 Hr. Boat Electrofishing)

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Lamar Service Center



Fresh Well Water Being Pumped into Turks Pond

LENGTH FREQUENCY TABLE

INCHES	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	T	
B. BULLHEAD	255	7																							262	
B. CRAPPIE	10							1																		11
BLUEGILL	2	4	3																							9
C. CATFISH									1	1				3	1			4								10
G. SHAD	6	18	35	6																						65
LM BASS		5																								5
SAUGEYE		2	2																							4
WIPER									2																	2
GRASS CARP																								2	2	
G. SUNFISH				1																						1
CENTIMETERS	10	13	15	18	20	23	25	28	30	33	35	38	40	43	45	48	50	53	55	58	60	63	65	68		

RELATIVE WEIGHT TABLE

SPECIES	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11 YR. AVG.
B. BULLHEAD	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	92.6	106.9	99.8
B. CRAPPIE	---	91.2	106.2	---	101.5	89.9	92.6	---	---	98.4	117.9	99.7
BLUEGILL	---	92.5	110.2	---	97.8	115.8	98.9	---	---	122.1	134.1	110.2
C. CATFISH	---	98.2	103.1	---	104.3	101.3	99.0	---	---	88.3	98.0	98.9
SAUGEYE	---	92.1	98.8	---	97.6	94.3	94.9	---	---	112.6	99.6	98.6
WIPER	---	89.4	103.3	---	91.8	90.7	93.4	---	---	97.9	79.2	92.2



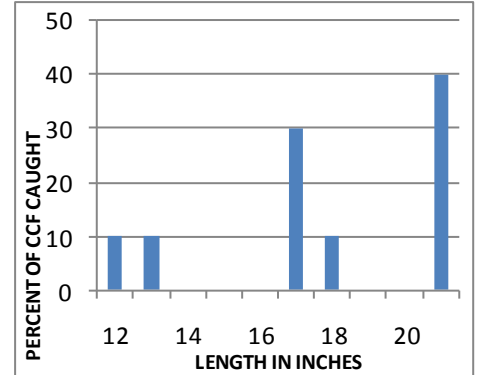
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2011 FISHING FORECAST

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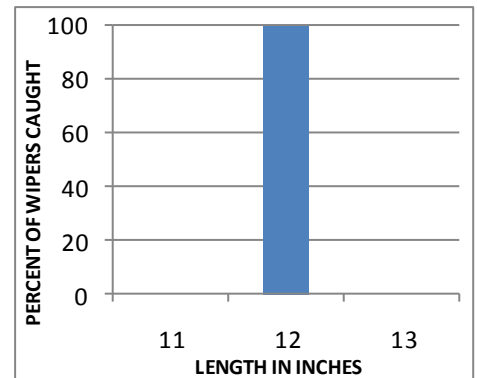
Channel Catfish

Turks Pond has been a hot spot for channel catfish over the years. These fish grow to large sizes in the pond's productive waters. Catfish are probably the most sought after species at Turks. Traditional catfish baits are effective, with shrimp, dough baits, chicken livers, and worms being most popular. Night fishing is permitted, and can be the most productive times to catch catfish. Daytime anglers are often successful as well. Fishing in 2011 is expected to be good to excellent. Water levels are rising and new catfish spawning habitat structures have been installed. Good numbers of catfish were stocked in 2010 and are planned for 2011.



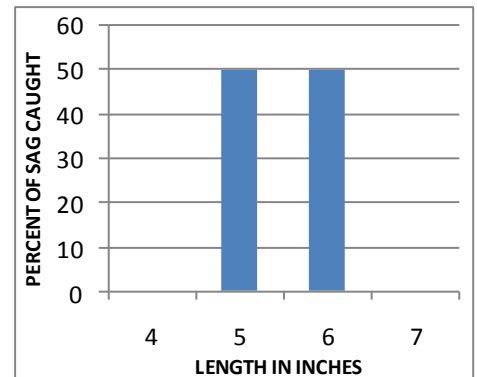
Wiper

For a few years during the latter part of last decade, Turks Pond suffered from a non-functioning well. As a result, no fresh water flowed into the pond. The pond decreased in size and depth dramatically. To complicate matters, a severe winter caused the death of the entire shad population in the pond. The hungry wipers became much easier to catch. Anglers began harvesting large numbers of big wipers. Today, wipers are still available in Turks, and fishing for them can be good, especially on windy days. Numbers are lower than in recent years, and stocking rates have been lowered to benefit some of the panfish species. Wiper fishing is expected to be fair in 2011.



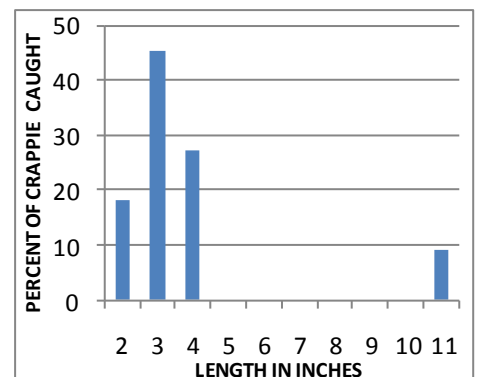
Saugeye

When water levels are normal and good numbers of shad are available, Turks Pond can grow large saugeye. Fish over 8 lbs were common just a few years ago. As pond levels increase and shad numbers rebound, we expect saugeye to make a good comeback. Fish availability has been good for the past few years, and saugeye have been stocked at prescribed rates. Fishing for saugeye should improve in the near future. In 2011, fishing for saugeye may be slow and average sizes will be small.



Panfish (Bluegill & Crappie)

As water levels improve following recent well repairs, management at Turks will focus on re-establishing good numbers of panfish, especially crappie. Our fall electrofishing efforts showed some crappie and bluegill in the sample. Habitat projects and stocking plans will favor these species in 2011. We hope to see good fishing for these species in the near future. Fishing for crappie in 2011 will probably be spotty. Fishing for bluegill should be fair. Anglers targeting these species should try live bait rigs (worms or minnows) or small jigs (< 1/8 oz.). Anglers are reminded of the new baitfish regulation at Turks. All baitfish must be collected from the pond, or bought at a bait dealer (receipt required).



Rainbow Trout

Catchable trout (10") are stocked in the spring and fall at Turks Pond.