



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

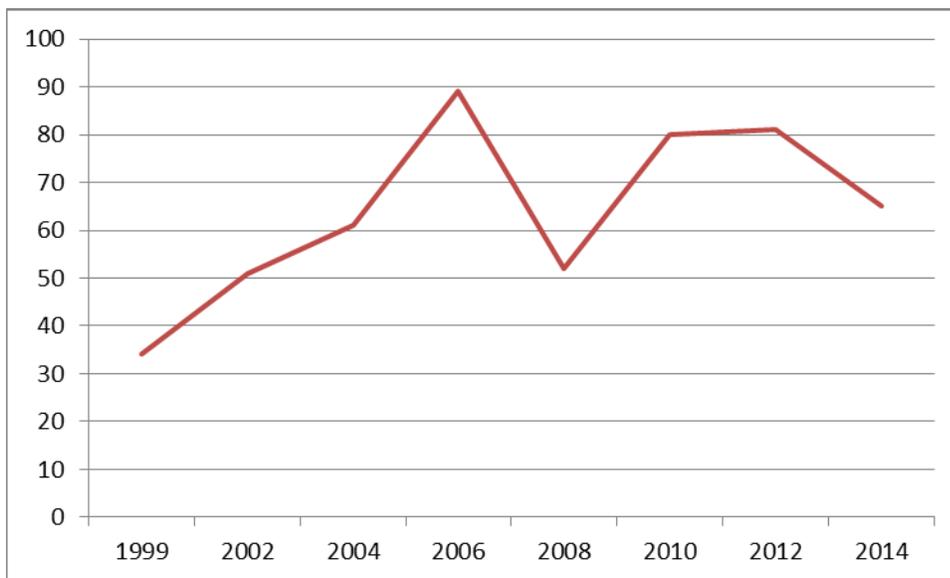
May 19, 2014
Mr. Glenn Dalton
1 Holiday Point Parkway
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Dear Mr. Dalton,

The purpose of this letter is to summarize the results of the electrofishing survey conducted on Holiday Shores Lake on May 8, 2014. I will also compare this data to previous surveys and provide some management recommendations. The lake was sampled for 1 hour in two separate 30 minute electroshocking runs. We collected the following fish species and numbers:

Bluegill	188	Channel catfish	5
Largemouth bass	65	Redear sunfish	2
Gizzard shad	32	Yellow bass	1
White crappie	7	Common carp	1
Green sunfish	7	Smallmouth bass	1
Black crappie	6		

Largemouth bass - 65 largemouth bass were collected in one hour of shocking. This is down slightly from the previous survey in 2012. Typically we like to see at least 60 bass per hour in this type of lake, so we are still above this goal. The following graph shows the changes in bass numbers from the last 8 surveys.



The largemouth bass collected from this survey show a very desirable size distribution. Good numbers were collected in all size classes. An impressive 15% of the bass collected were over 18 inches. The largest bass from this survey was 7 lbs! The bass collected show signs of good growth and very good condition. This bass population should provide great angling opportunities for quality size fish. It is also

good to see 45% under 12 inches. This suggests good natural reproduction over the past 2 years.

<u>Largemouth Bass</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2014</u>
0 - 12 inches	51%	77%	10%	23%	35%	42%	45%
12 - 15 inches	18%	18%	19%	23%	23%	19%	25%
15 - 18 inches	21%	5%	55%	37%	34%	27%	15%
over 18 inches	10%	0%	16%	17%	9%	12%	15%

Smallmouth Bass – One collected that was just under 7 inches. It appeared in good condition and may be evidence of natural reproduction.

Bluegill - Bluegill were collected in good numbers. They ranged in size from 3 to 7 inches in length. The average size was about 5 inches. The quality of the bluegill is not great, but in lakes with gizzard shad in high numbers that is to be expected.

Redear Sunfish – Only 2 were collected with 1 over 10 inches.

Crappie – 7 white crappie and 6 black crappie were collected. Most were 7-8 inches.

Hybrid Striped Bass - None collected, but 2-3 were seen. They appeared to be 4-8 lbs. We do not expect to get a good sample of these fish with an electrofishing survey. I would suspect these fish are doing well and growing well. There are plenty of gizzard shad, which is the primary food source for these fish. With periodic stocking these fish will provide good angling opportunities and help to reduce the shad population.

Channel Catfish – 5 were collected. They were all large fish in good condition with an average weight of over 7.5 lbs.

Common Carp – One collected and several seen, all very large. The one collected was 32 inches and over 20 lbs. These fish can provide a good angling opportunity for anyone interested in fishing for them. They can be caught on home-made dough bait or corn.

Summary and Recommendations - Overall the fish population of the lake looks very healthy and balanced. The largemouth bass numbers have dropped a little from the previous survey but remain above our goal level. The size distribution and condition also look great. Only 1 yellow bass was collected in this survey! Their numbers appear to be staying down since die off of this species. This has resulted in improved and consistent largemouth bass reproduction over the last few years. With only 1 collected, the success of the smallmouth bass stocking cannot be determined by this survey. Better information on numbers and sizes will be provided by the Sunday bass tournaments. Additional stockings of this species may be considered. The redear sunfish show they will grow to very desirable sizes. Continued stocking of this species would benefit this developing quality panfish population. Continued stocking of hybrid striped bass will ensure improvement of this fishery. Supplemental stocking of channel catfish at a rate of up to 25 per acre is also a good option. Encourage harvest of bluegill, carp, crappie, and larger channel catfish.

If you need more information or have questions regarding this report please contact me.

Sincerely,

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