



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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Bruce Rauner, Governor  
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

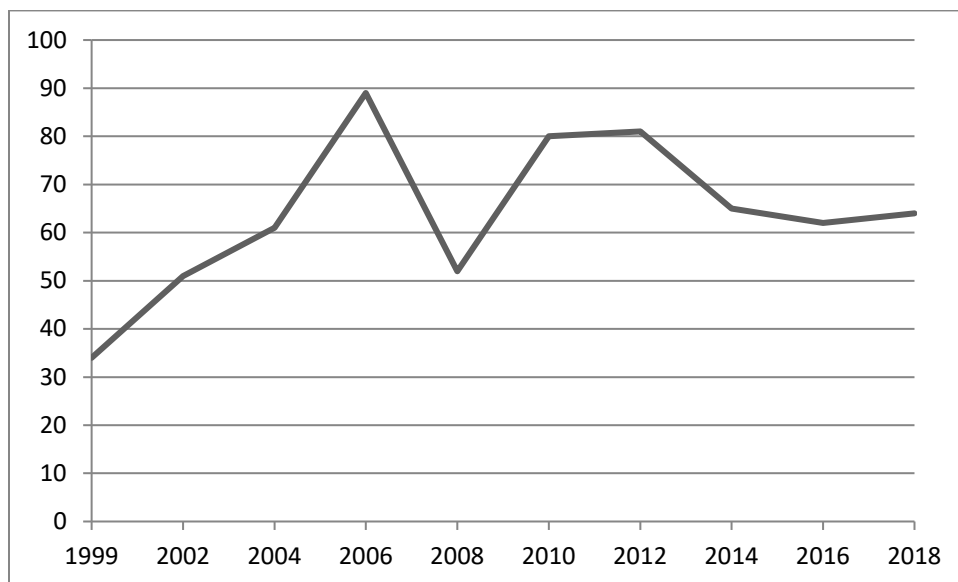
June 5, 2018  
Mr. Mike Hawks  
# 1 Holiday Point Parkway  
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Dear Mr. Hawks,

The purpose of this letter is to summarize the results of the electrofishing survey conducted on Holiday Shores Lake on May 24, 2018. 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 electro-shocking runs. We collected the following fish species and numbers:

Gizzard Shad	236	White Crappie	12
Bluegill	195	Flathead Catfish	5
Green Sunfish	69	Channel Catfish	5
Largemouth Bass	64	Common Carp	4
Redear sunfish	13	Warmouth	3

Largemouth bass - 64 largemouth bass were collected in one hour of shocking. This is about the same as the last 2 surveys. 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 over the last 10 surveys.



The largemouth bass collected from this survey show good numbers of fish in all size classes. There appears to be a slight shift from the previous surveys to a higher percentage of smaller fish with 53% of the bass collected under 12 inches. This suggests good natural reproduction over the past 2 years.

Largemouth Bass	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	<b>2018</b>
0-12 inches	51%	77%	10%	23%	35%	42%	45%	37%	<b>53%</b>
12-15 inches	18%	18%	19%	23%	23%	19%	25%	27%	<b>31%</b>
15-18 inches	21%	5%	55%	37%	34%	27%	15%	19%	<b>11%</b>
over 18 inches	10%	0%	16%	17%	9%	12%	15%	16%	<b>5%</b>

Bluegill - Bluegill were collected in good numbers. They ranged in size from 1 to 8 inches in length. The average size was over 5.5 inches. The quality of the bluegill looks a little better than previous surveys.  
Redear Sunfish – The redear sunfish looked great! 13 were collected compared to only 4 last year. They ranged from 7 – 10 inches with an average length of 9 inches. It is good to see the great growth of these fish.  
Crappie – Only 12 white crappie and 0 black crappie were collected. They were all between 8 - 9.5 inches.  
Hybrid Striped Bass - None collected. 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 in good condition with an average weight of 6.25 lbs.  
Flathead Catfish – 5 flathead catfish were collected in this survey. Although we have seen them in previous surveys, this is the most we have seen. They were smaller fish (for flatheads) from 20 -26 inches and about 7 lbs. average weight. This suggests some natural reproduction.  
Common Carp – 4 were collected and several more observed, all very large. 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 are about the same as the previous 2 surveys and remain above our goal level. The size distribution and condition also look good. No yellow bass were collected in this survey although a few were seen. Their numbers appear to be staying down since die off of this species. This likely has resulted in improved and consistent largemouth bass reproduction over the last few years. The redear sunfish collected this year were very impressive and it shows 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. Continued supplemental stocking of largemouth bass is still an option. 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,

Fred A. Cronin  
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