



**Fishing access:**

There are two boat ramps to access the water with a boat. The ramp on the east end of the lake is the better of the two, but both are good ramps. There is also shoreline fishing opportunities around most of the lake.

**Condition of all structures (i.e. spillway, boat ramps, level regulators, etc.):**

Dam and spillway are in good condition. Access to the shoreline is a dirt trail, which is impassable when wet.

**Field observations of aquatic vegetation condition:**

Emergent vegetation is present in both arms of East Morristown Dam. Submergent vegetation is scattered throughout the lake and is heaviest in the shallow areas.

**CHEMICAL DATA**

**Field observations of water quality and pollution problems:**

No pollution problems were evident during the present survey. Water clarity was good with a secchi disc reading of 5 feet. Other water quality characteristics were measured in the field on June 29, 2009, using a HACH water quality kit, an Oyster meter and a YSI 55 meter. Results are found in Table 1.

**Presence of a thermocline and depth from surface:** No

**Station for water chemistry located on attached map:** Yes

**Table 1.** Water chemistry results from East Morristown Lake, Corson County, June 29, 2009.

Station	Depth (ft)	Temp (F)	DO (ppm)	CO2 (ppm)	ALK (mg/l)	Hardness (mg/l)	pH	Secchi disc (ft)
A	Surface	72.5	5.84	24.6	238	343	7.59	5
A	25	60.6	4.47	29.4	573	830	7.69	

**BIOLOGICAL DATA**

**Methods:**

East Morristown Lake was sampled on June 29 – July 1, 2009, with ten overnight trap net sets. The trap nets have 3ft x 5ft frames, 60ft leads, and 3/4 in. knotted mesh. Two experimental gill nets were also set. The gill nets are 150ft x 6ft with 25ft panels of 1/2, 3/4, 1, 1-1/4, 1-1/2, and 2-inch monofilament mesh. No electrofishing was done during this survey. Fish indices and statistics were completed using Winfin.

## Results and Discussion:

### Gill net catch

**Table 2.** Total catch of two, 150ft experimental gill nets at East Morristown Lake, Corson County, June 29 – July 1, 2009.

Species	#	%	CPUE	80% C.I.	Mean CPUE*	PSD	RSD-P	Mean Wr
No fish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\* Six years (1981, 1989, 1994, 1997, 1999)

### Trap Net Catch

**Table 3.** Total catch of ten, overnight ¾-inch frame nets at East Morristown Lake, Corson County, June 29 – July 1, 2009.

Species	#	%	CPUE	80% C.I.	Mean CPUE*	PSD	RSD-P	Mean Wr
Northern Pike	5	83.3	0.5	± 0.4	1.8	100	0	96
Yellow Perch	1	16.7	0.1	± 0.1	3.4	--	--	110

\* Seven years (1981, 1989, 1994, 1997, 1999, 2002, 2005)

### Fish Population

East Morristown's fish populations have been severely impacted by the ongoing drought. The drought has finally broke and the lake has refilled, but the fish populations are still way down. The current survey indicated that East Morristown only contained a very small number of fish. There were no fish caught in two gill nets sets (Table 2). In ten trap net sets, there were only a total of 6 fish caught (Table 3). Five northern pike and one yellow perch is all. Not much can be said about the fish population in East Morristown with such a small number sampled but Table 4 illustrates what the past surveys have caught. The lake is in the process of being restocked to get the populations going again. A stocking of 23,400 small fingerling largemouth bass were stocked (Table 5) to start rebuilding the predator population with other species to fallow in the coming years.

**Table 4.** Gill net (GN) and trap net (TN) CPUE for all fish species sampled from the first survey to the present in East Morristown Lake, Corson County.

Species	1981	1989	1994	1997	1999	2002	2005	2009
BLB (GN)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
BLB (TN)	--	0.63	--	--	--	--	--	--
BLC (GN)	73.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
BLC (TN)	134.0	132.5	2.75	0.63	0.5	1.0	1.2	--
YEP (GN)	36.0	--	--	--	--	19.5	--	--
YEP (TN)	22.0	0.88	--	0.5	--	--	0.1	0.1
NOP (GN)	4.0	--	6.0	8.0	4.0	1.5	5.0	--
NOP (TN)	2.0	0.63	1.63	1.25	3.5	1.5	2.3	0.5
BLG (GN)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
BLG (TN)	--	--	--	--	--	1.5	--	--
WAE (GN)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
WAE (TN)	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.1	--

BLB – Black Bullhead, BLC – Black Crappie, YEP – Yellow Perch, NOP – Northern Pike, BLG – Bluegill, WAE - Walleye

**Table 5.** Stocking records from 1999 to the present for East Morristown Lake, Corson County.

Year	Number	Species	Size
1999	135	Bluegill	Adult
2000	824	Bluegill	Adult
2001	80	Black Crappie	Adult
2002	124	Black Crappie	Adult
2003	640	Black Crappie	Adult
2004	300	Black Crappie	Juvenile
2009	23,400	Largemouth Bass	Small Fingerling

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue to monitor and stock fish according to the management plan as needed to rebuild the populations after the recent drought and loss of fish.
2. Resurvey in 2011 to monitor the fish populations in East Morristown Lake.