

SOUTH DAKOTA STATEWIDE FISHERIES SURVEY

2102-F-21-R-45

Name: West Dam **County(ies):** Stanley
Legal Description: T109N-R77W-Sec. 18 **GPS:** 44°14'59.10"N 100°07'43.30"W
Location from nearest town: 8 miles S and 10.5 miles E of Fort Pierre

Date of present survey: July 11-12, 2012 (netting)

Date of last survey: None known

Most recent lake management plan: None done

Management classification: Unknown

Primary Game Species	Secondary and Other Species
Largemouth Bass	Black Bullhead
Bluegill	

PHYSICAL DATA

West Dam is located in Stanley County, South Dakota. The surrounding land and the dam grade are owned and managed by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and is part of the Fort Pierre National Grasslands. West Dam is a 1.0 acre pond that had a maximum depth at the time of the survey in 2012 of about 12 feet. The dam was about 2-3 feet low at the time of the survey.

Sedges were the only emergent vegetation found around West Dam and they would not hamper shorefishing opportunities. Submergent vegetation on West Dam was a fairly dense mat of a mixture of pondweed species. There is very limited boat access that is limited to a canoe or small duck boat that can be loaded and unloaded by hand. Good ice fishing opportunities do exist. No contour map or depth contour had ever been done.

CHEMICAL DATA

No pollution problems were evident at the time of the survey. Water clarity was good with a secchi disc reading of 5 feet. No other water quality measurements were done this survey.

BIOLOGICAL DATA

Methods:

West Dam was sampled on July 11-12, 2012, with two overnight trap net sets. The trap nets have 3ft x 5ft frames, 60ft leads, and ¾ inch knotted mesh. No experimental gill nets or electrofishing was done during this survey. Fish indices and statistics were completed using Winfin.

Results and Discussion:

Trap Net Catch

Table 1. Total catch of two, overnight ¾-inch frame nets at West Dam, Stanley County, July 11-12, 2012.

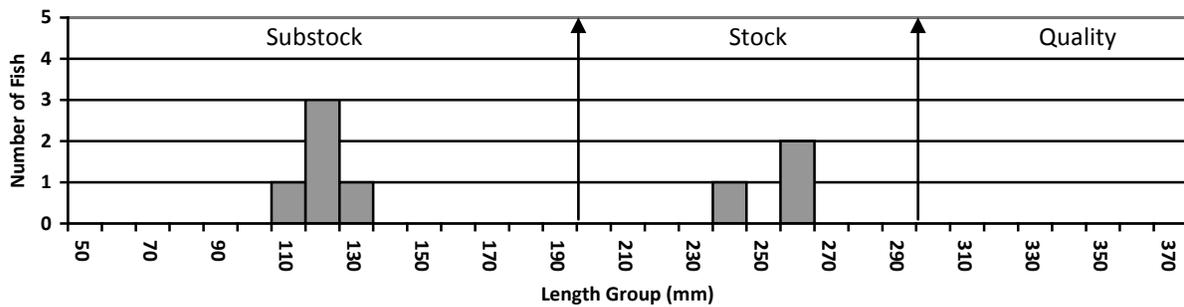
Species	#	%	CPUE	80% C.I.	Mean CPUE	PSD	RSD-P	Mean Wr
Largemouth Bass	8	100	4.0	± 9.26	0.0*	0	0	105

* First survey

Fish populations

West Dam was sampled for the first time in 2012 to get a better idea of what fish species are present. Two nets were set for one night and only 8 largemouth bass were sampled. Figure 1 illustrates the length frequency histogram for the fish sampled, with none being very big. Another survey sampled in a couple years will be attempted again along with possibly an electrofishing sample to get a better idea of what is going on in the lake.

Figure 1. Length frequency histogram for largemouth bass sampled from West Dam, Stanley County, 2012.



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Resurvey, when time allows, to further monitor the fish populations and to continually collect trend data on the pond.
2. Attempt to electrofish to see what type of largemouth bass population exists.