

SOUTH DAKOTA STATEWIDE FISHERIES SURVEY

2102-F21-R-46

Name: Pasture 6 North (DU) Pond

County: Perkins

Legal description: Sec 29, T 20N, R 13E

Location from nearest town: 10 miles north and 5 miles west of Bison, SD.

Dates of present survey: June 3, 2013

Date last surveyed: June 26, 2012

Management classification: Warmwater semi-permanent

Primary Species: (game and forage)

1. Fathead Minnow

2. _____

3. _____

Secondary and other species:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Surface Area: 14 acres

Watershed: NA

Maximum depth: Apprx. 10 feet

Mean depth: NA

Lake elevation at survey (from known benchmark): -4 feet

Ownership of lake and adjacent lakeshore property:

The Pasture 6 North (DU) Pond is located on the Grand River National Grasslands. The pond is owned by the United States Forest Service (USFS).

Fishing Access

Shore fishing was difficult in many areas due to the amount of submergent vegetation. Wading gear may prove useful for fishing the pond. To reach the pond anglers must travel several miles on two-track trails. The two-track is washed out and very rough in certain areas making travel with large vehicles uncomfortable and risky. A four wheel drive vehicle is recommended to travel to this pond, and travel is not recommended after a heavy precipitation event. Anglers should also make sure to check USFS travel management plans prior to traveling in the grasslands.

Observations of Water Quality and Aquatic Vegetation

Cattle use the ponds for watering and cooling off which is causing some shoreline erosion. There is dense submergent vegetation throughout the shallow areas of the ponds.

Observations on conditions of structures (i.e. spillway, boat ramps and docks, roads, etc)

There were no obvious problems with the dams identified at the time of the survey. However, the dams were not closely inspected. There are no docks, ramps, or piers at the ponds. The roads are in poor condition.

BIOLOGICAL DATA

Sampling Effort and Catch

Seine Net Survey

The Pasture 6 North (DU) Pond was surveyed by completing three quarter arc seine hauls (Figure 1). A bag seine that was 16 m in length with 6 mm bar mesh was used to complete the seine hauls. During the seine hauls Fathead Minnows were the only fish species collected. A total of 101 Fathead Minnows were collected during the seine hauls with a mean catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) of 33.7.

Angling Survey

An angling survey was completed in 2013 to see if the Largemouth Bass stockings had been successful and to find evidence of overwinter survival in the Pasture 6 North (DU) Pond. During one angler hour no Largemouth Bass were collected. South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks (SDGF&P) personnel did not observe any signs (e.g. fish surfacing and young Largemouth Bass in the shallow water) of Largemouth Bass in the pond. Only one angler hour was completed on the Pasture 6 North (DU) Pond and no surveys were completed on the Pasture 6 South (DU) Pond due to remoteness of the pond and a thunderstorm coming into the area which would have made driving and sampling conditions hazardous.

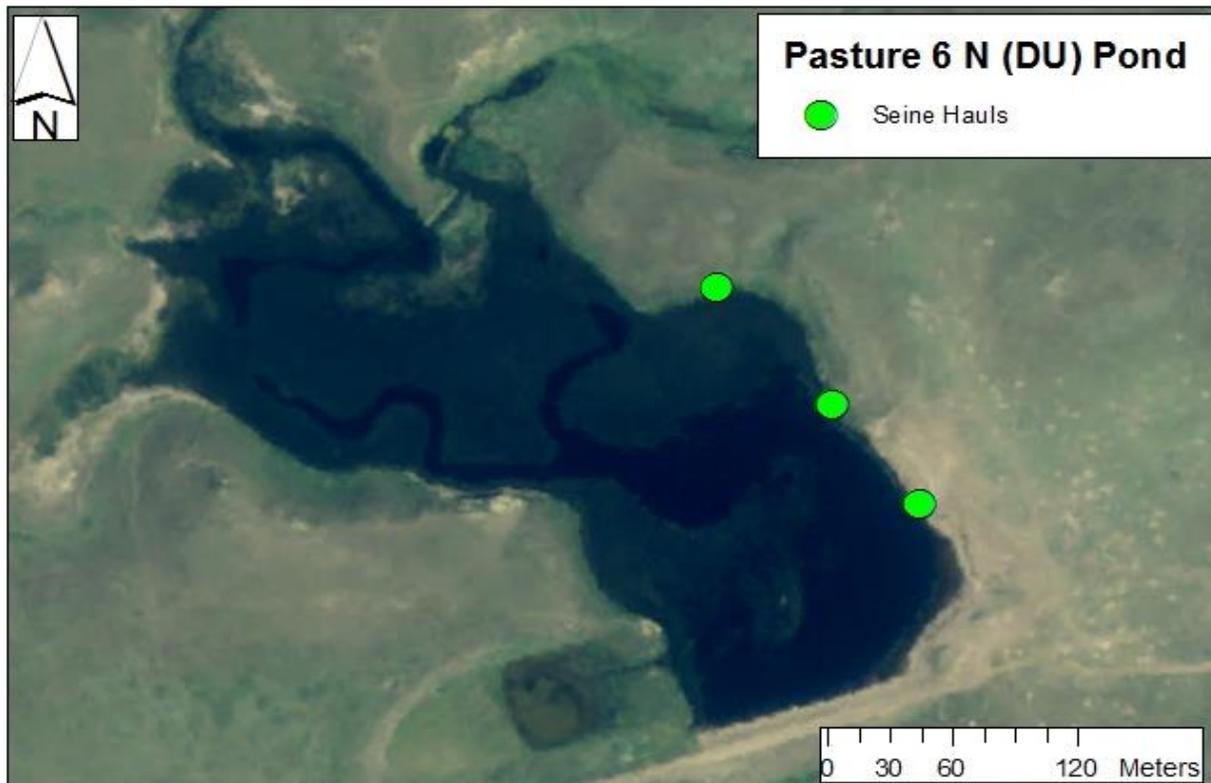


Figure 1. Map of seine net locations for Pasture 6 North (DU) Pond 2013.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Discontinue fish stockings and surveys to the Pasture 6 North (DU) Pond unless road improvements or other methods of accessing the pond are accomplished. The roads could damage department vehicles, and it is unlikely that anglers are using the pond.
2. Complete a more comprehensive angling survey on the Pasture 6 North (DU) when time is available.
3. If Largemouth Bass are not found in the next angling survey continue stocking only in years when forecasts suggest precipitation may maintain full levels of this pond.

APPENDIX

Appendix A. Recent stockings in Pasture 6 North (DU) Pond.

Pond	Year	Species	Size	Number Stocked
Pasture 6 North DU	2009	Largemouth bass	Fingerlings	1,000
Pasture 6 North DU	2012	Largemouth bass	Fingerlings	1,300