



Germantown Reservoir 2013

Germantown Reservoir is located in central Fauquier County near Midland and is owned by Fauquier County. Fauquier County Parks and Recreation manages C.M. Crocket Park which lies adjacent to the county owned lake and offers the following amenities: boat ramp, boat rentals, shore access, parking, restrooms, and a concession. Crockett Park is open daily from Dawn to Dusk. Concession hours vary seasonally and can be checked by contacting C.M. Crocket Park.

DGIF fisheries biologists sample the fishery approximately every 3-5 years. Most recently, an electrofishing sample was conducted in May 2012. Biologists employ numerical descriptors of length-frequency data such as Proportional Stock Density (PSD) and Relative Stock Density (RSD) when evaluating fish populations. Proportional Stock Density is calculated by dividing the number of fish \geq minimum quality length by the number of fish \geq minimum stock length x 100. Quality length is defined as the minimum size of fish most anglers like to catch. Stock length is the minimum length at which a fish provides recreational value. Relative Stock Density (RSD) is simply the percentage of any designated length group found within a population. RSD is calculated by dividing the number of fish \geq specified length by the number of fish \geq minimum stock length x 100.

Fish species available to anglers include largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, and channel catfish. Fish populations were sampled in 2012 by electrofishing the littoral zone. Largemouth bass were extremely abundant at a CPUE of 283 fish/hr, and the population size structure was balanced (PSD 52). Additionally, large fish were common (CPE-P 50; RSD-P 23). This fishery ranks 2nd out of 20 impoundments managed in the district and is classified as “bass heavy”, although the potential for a trophy largemouth bass exists. The largemouth bass fishery has moved up in the district rankings from 7th out of 17 impoundments (PSD 69; CPE-P 23; RSD-P 17) in 2008 to the current standing as the overall quality of the population has improved. Germantown Reservoir has been a consistent producer of “Preferred” size bass, with minimal variation observed in the long

term data. What does this mean for anglers? Largemouth bass in the 15” – 20” range are common with good numbers of 5-6 pound bass available to the angling public. Bass as large as 14 lbs have been caught in the past, however; any bass larger than 8 lbs should be considered a true trophy.

Several species of sunfish were abundant with bluegill dominating the fishery. Bluegill stock density values (PSD 6, RSD-P 0) were indicative of an unbalanced population (balance PSD 20-40), offering anglers opportunities for relatively few large fish. An extended drawdown due to drought conditions during the summer of 2007 seems to have had a positive impact on the size structure of both largemouth bass populations by reducing problematic aquatic vegetation and concentrating forage and predatory fish species. Bluegill size structure shifted from balanced in 2008 (PSD 40; RSD-P 6) to the current population comprised primarily of small individuals. At this point it is unclear as to what caused the shift in the bluegill size structure. Triploid grass carp were also stocked to control aquatic vegetation and should keep the vegetation at a desirable level.

Channel catfish are stocked at a rate of 10 fish/acre. Anglers pursuing channel catfish can expect fish to average about 2 pounds, with larger fish occasionally landed. Access is during daylight hours, which limits channel catfish harvest as they are most active at night.

Anglers can obtain additional information about this resource by contacting:

C.M. Crockett Park
10066 Rogues Road
Midland, VA 22728
(540) 788-4867

Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
1320 Belman Road
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
(540) 899-4169