

Colyer Lake

Centre County

Night Electrofishing Surveys - October 2017 and 2018



Colyer Lake is a 77-acre impoundment owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and is managed by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) for public fishing and boating. The lake is located about 10 miles east of State College, PA right off Interstate 322. Colyer Lake was drawn down to fix structural components of the dam and re-filled in 2015. While the lake was drained, lime was applied to the lake-bed and numerous habitat improvements were made to the lake including addition of logs, Christmas trees, post clusters, and other habitat structures. Stocking of minnows, shiners, bass, catfish, perch, and sunfish began in 2016 by the PFBC to re-establish forage and sportfish populations. In addition, Colyer Lake has been placed under the PFBC's Catch and Release Lakes Program while fish populations begin to develop.

On the nights of October 17, 2017 and October 17, 2018 PFBC staff conducted a night boat electrofishing survey on the lake to monitor success of our re-stocking program. Two sample sites were surveyed for a total of 20 minutes electrofishing time. All fish species were captured and were tabulated by 1-inch length group. Nine fish species were captured including; Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Chain Pickerel, Black Crappie, Yellow Perch, Brown Bullhead, Golden shiner, and White Sucker (Table 1).

Table 1: Length range of fish captured from Colyer Lake on October 17, 2017 and October 17, 2018.

Species	2017		2018	
	Number Caught	Size Range (inches)	Number Caught	Size Range (inches)
Largemouth Bass	65	2 - 14	44	3-13
Bluegill	145	1 - 6	119	1-7
Pumpkinseed	21	2 - 5	28	3-7
Chain Pickerel	54	7 - 19	24	12-20
Black Crappie	6	1 - 9	2	9-10
Yellow Perch	11	2 - 3	1	3
Brown Bullhead	5	6 - 12	27	5-12
Golden Shiner	8	Not Measured	3	Not Measured
White Sucker	2	Not Measured	5	Not Measured

Following dam repairs, habitat improvements, and re-stocking; Colyer Lake is once again providing angling opportunities for Largemouth Bass, Chain Pickerel, and Panfish (Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Black Crappie, Yellow Perch, and Brown Bullhead). The lake will be monitored periodically in the future to further evaluate the sustainability of newly stocked fish associated with catch and release angling regulations. Once gamefish populations become self-sustaining and fully recovered, angling regulations will be adjusted to allow harvest again at the lake. Currently, catch and release regulations remain in effect.



Largemouth Bass from Colyer Lake.



Panfish from Colyer Lake.

Area 3 Staff