



Brush Hollow Reservoir

FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT DATA

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General Information: Brush Hollow Reservoir is a 97 acre impoundment that offers good fishing for seasonal trout, largemouth bass, walleye and channel catfish. The reservoir is part of the [Brush Hollow State Wildlife Area](#).

Location: Fremont County. From Penrose, go 2 miles west on County Road 123; then 2 miles north.

Recreational Management: Colorado Parks and Wildlife. [click here to buy a fishing license](#)

Fishery Management: Coldwater and warmwater species.

Amenities

- Boat Ramp
- Shade Shelters
- Restrooms

Regulations

- Minimum size for largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass is 15 inches long.

Fish Consumption Advisory

The Colorado Department of Health has posted a Fish Consumption Advisory for **walleye** in Brush Hollow Reservoir. Advisories are posted at the reservoir or can be found at the [Colorado Department of Health web page](#).

Previous Stocking

2019

Bluegill
Channel Catfish
Rainbow Trout
Cutbow Trout
Largemouth Bass
Walleye

2018

Black Crappie
Bluegill
Channel Catfish
Rainbow Trout
Largemouth Bass
Walleye

2017

Black Crappie
Channel Catfish
Rainbow Trout
Cutbow Trout
Largemouth Bass
Walleye

2016

Black Crappie
Bluegill
Channel Catfish
Rainbow Trout
Cutbow Trout
Largemouth Bass
Walleye

Sportfishing Notes

The water level in this reservoir fluctuates drastically during the summer months when there are demands on the water for irrigation. Boat ramp access is typically difficult or impossible after June 15.

Walleye

April and May are the best months to target this species. They are most active during twilight and after dark. Anglers have good success casting jerk baits parallel and several feet off of shore. Bouncing various types of worm harnesses off the bottom typically produce good results.

Bass

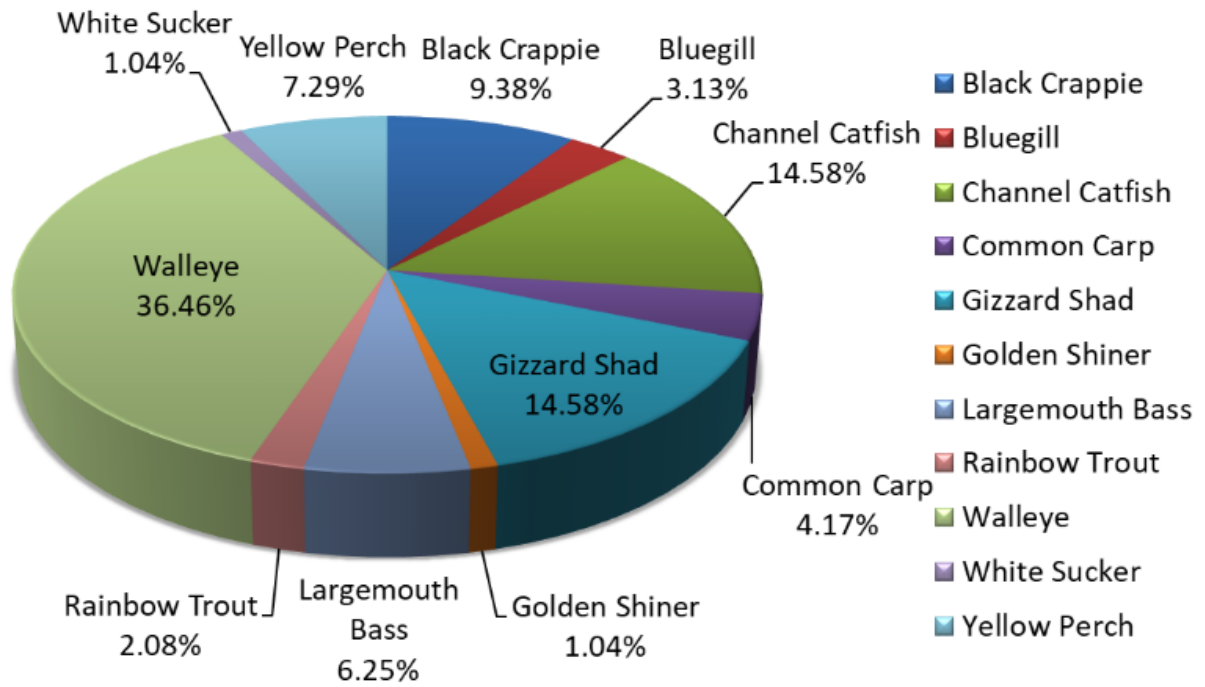
Bass fishing is typically the best once water temperatures rise above 60°F. Large tree cribs along the east and west shorelines typically hold good numbers of fish. When the water level is high the shallow weedbeds on the north end of the reservoir become very productive.

Black Crappie

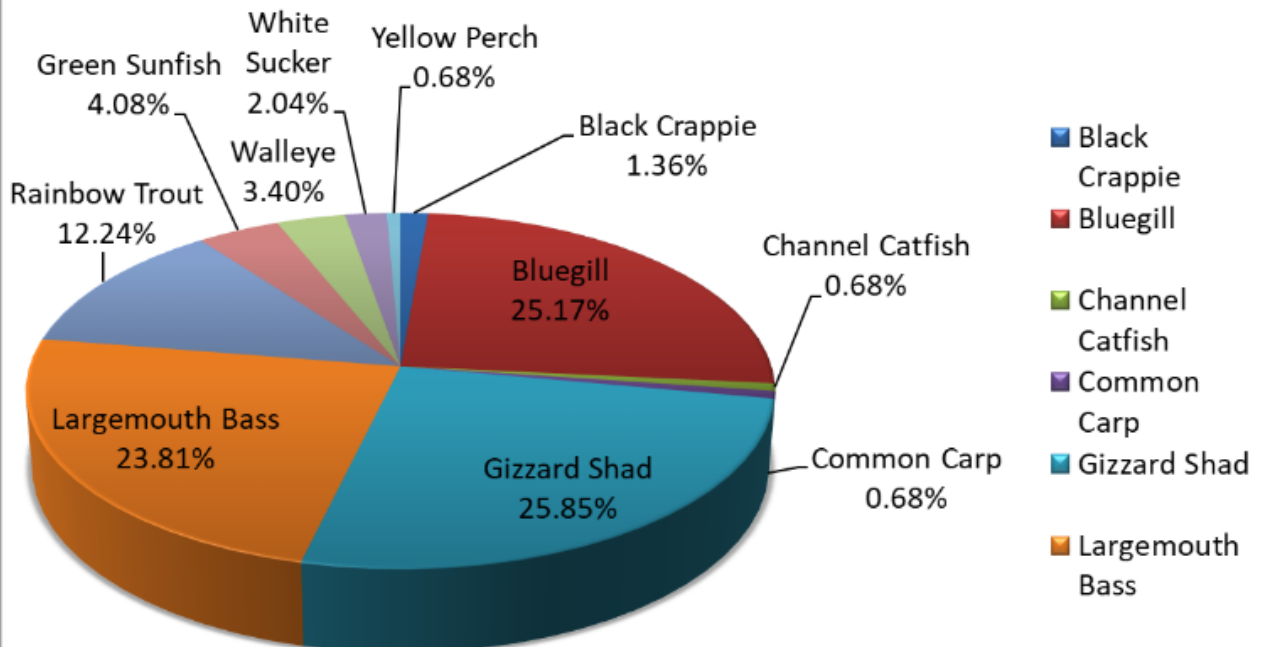
Fishing for crappie is typically the best in the spring along the dam and western shoreline.

OCTOBER 2017 SAMPLING

2017 Brush Hollow Reservoir Gill Nets



2017 Brush Hollow Reservoir Electrofishing



2017 Length Frequency Table - Gillnetting

Inches	<4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27+
Black Crappie	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bluegill	10	12	6	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Channel Catfish	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Largemouth Bass	11	1	1	0	1	7	3	6	1	4	5	2	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rainbow Trout	0	0	0	1	2	5	8	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Walleye	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Centimeters	<10	10	13	15	18	20	23	25	28	30	33	35	38	40	43	45	48	50	53	55	58	60	63	65	68+

2017 Length Frequency Table - Electrofishing

Inches	<4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27+
Black Crappie	0	1	2	2	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bluegill	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Channel Catfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	5	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Largemouth Bass	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rainbow Trout	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Walleye	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	11	4	1	1	1	3	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Yellow Perch	0	0	0	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Centimeters	<10	10	13	15	18	20	23	25	28	30	33	35	38	40	43	45	48	50	53	55	58	60	63	65	68+

Brush Hollow Reservoir contains a boom and bust type fishery. Part of this is due to water levels that can vary widely through the summer months depending on runoff and irrigation demands downstream. The water level through late winter and spring are usually quite high due to winter irrigation storage. Early in the year, water floods brush and small trees near the shoreline. This provides good cover for prey and predatory fish such as largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass as well as crappie and perch.

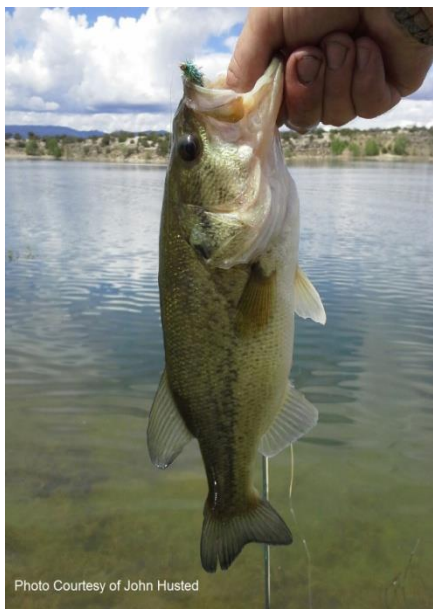


Photo Courtesy of John Husted

Anglers have had good success catching crappie near the flooded vegetation on the north end of the reservoir and along the habitat structures that were installed on the west shoreline near the dam. Largemouth bass seem to be doing quite well.



Photo Courtesy of John Husted

The gizzard shad population has exploded in Brush Hollow providing an excellent prey item for walleye and bass. These should continue to support a healthy sportfish population for several years to come.