



Cherry Creek Reservoir

FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT DATA

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General Information: Cherry Creek Reservoir, an 880 acre flood protection reservoir, offers good fishing for wiper, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, and trophy walleye. For park hours, fees, and other information:

<http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/Parks/CherryCreek/>

Location: Cherry Creek State Park. I-225 to Parker Road, south on Parker Road to the east entrance. West entrance is off of S. Yosemite Street.

Recreational Management: Colorado Parks and Wildlife (303-690-1166) and Army Corps of Engineers.

Fishery Management: Warm and Cold water species

Annual Survey Data: ([see page 2](#))

Amenities and General Info.

- Boat Ramps (2)
- Picnic Areas
- Camping
- Restrooms
- Swim Beach
- Marina
- Hiking trails
- Horseback Riding
- Model Airplane Field
- Birding

Fishing Regulations

- Minimum size for walleyes is 18" long. The daily bag limit for walleye is 3 fish. Only 1 walleye longer than 21" can be taken per day. No saugeye are present in this lake.
- Minimum size for largemouth and smallmouth bass is 15".
- Fishing is prohibited from the dam and within 100 feet of the dam **or walleye spawning operation nets** March 15-April 15, or until walleye spawning operations are complete.

Previous Stocking

2021

Rainbow Trout
 Walleye
 Black Crappie
 Channel Catfish
 Wiper

2020

Rainbow Trout
 Walleye
 Black Crappie
 Channel Catfish

2019

Rainbow Trout
 Walleye
 Black Crappie
 Channel Catfish
 Wiper

2018

Rainbow Trout
 Walleye
 Black Crappie
 Walleye

2017

Rainbow Trout
 Walleye
 Black Crappie

Sportfishing Notes

Walleye

- Big walleye are present in good number because the regulations protect large fish. These regulations give anglers an opportunity to catch trophy size walleye, while still allowing CPW to run an egg take operation that supplies other Colorado waters with young walleye.
- Fish can be difficult to catch due to the large population of gizzard shad, their primary forage food.
- Anglers are successful using live bait rigs and jigging spoons, especially at night.

Rainbow Trout

- Trout fishing is generally good during the cooler months using traditional baits.

Wiper

- Fishing for wipers can be good during April, when they are chasing spawning gizzard shad. Use jerkbaits
- Shore anglers are successful for mid-size wipers using canned mussel meat of the bottom.

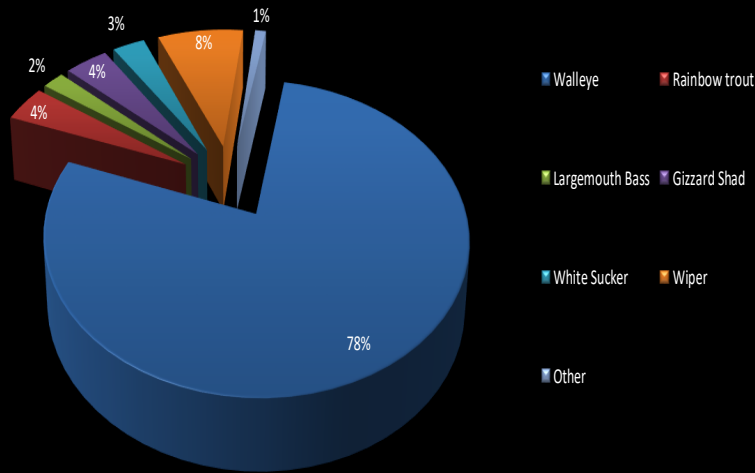


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Cherry Creek Reservoir 2021 Fish Survey



The figure to the left shows the percent relative abundance of the species in the 2021 fish collections at Cherry Creek Reservoir. Annual surveys here include the use of gill nets and boat electrofishing. Walleye comprised the majority (78%), of the sample, with 228 of those fish being greater than 15". Wiper followed (8%), and then rainbow trout (4%) and gizzard shad (4%). Crappie and white sucker were also collected in smaller numbers.

The figure below shows the length frequencies of walleye, largemouth bass and rainbow trout collected in 2021. The vertical bars represent the number of fish at a particular length. Walleye up to 21" were collected in 2021. The wide range of size classes of walleye show a balanced population. Largemouth bass up to 13" and rainbow trout up to 14" were collected in 2021. The abundant gizzard shad population allows walleye to grow to large sizes in Cherry Creek Reservoir, but because of this the walleyes are notoriously hard to catch at Cherry Creek.

Cherry Creek Reservoir
 2021 Length Frequencies

