



# Queens Reservoir

## FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

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**General Information:** Queens Lake is part of the Great Plains Reservoir system in Southeast CO. This popular lake, which had been dry since 2005, refilled in 2015. The fishery has been re-established, and provides excellent angling opportunities. As an irrigation storage reservoir, water levels are prone to fluctuation. When levels are high, Lower Queens will hold water and can provide angling opportunity in addition to the main upper lake. Lower Queens is currently dry. Upper Queens is low, but fishable.

**Location:** Kiowa County. Travel south of Eads, CO on Hwy 287 to Rd. C, Travel 3-1/4 miles east to lake.

**Size:** 1367 surface acres (variable). Average Depths: 15 - 20 ft. (variable)

**Management:** Colorado Parks and Wildlife

**Annual Survey Data: P2**

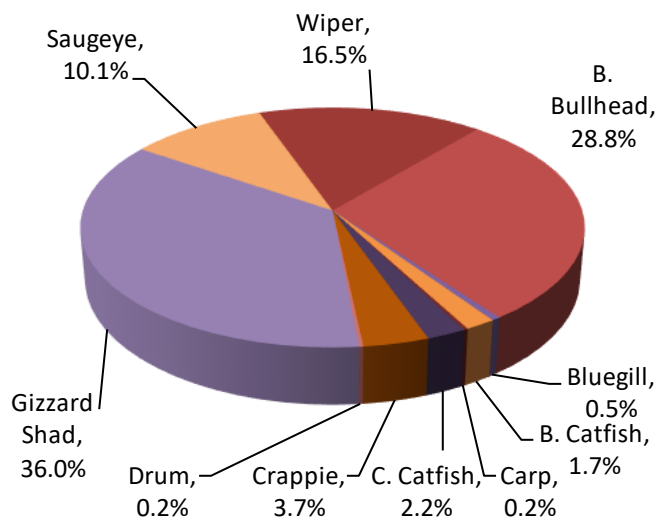
<u>Amenities and General Info.</u>	<u>Previous Stocking</u>	<u>Sportfishing Notes</u>																
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2 concrete boat ramps, 1 low-water gravel ramp at Upper Queens, 1 cement ramp at Lower Queens.</li><li>Restrooms available at Upper Queens Ramp</li><li>Excellent bird-watching opportunities.</li><li>Camping available in designated areas only.</li><li>Occasional fire bans may be in place.</li></ul>	<div><u>2019</u><table><tr><td>Black Crappie</td><td>1.7"</td></tr><tr><td>Blue Catfish</td><td>3.6"</td></tr><tr><td>Channel Catfish</td><td>3.2"</td></tr><tr><td>LM Bass</td><td>1.3"</td></tr><tr><td>LM Bass</td><td>0.2"</td></tr><tr><td>Saugeye</td><td>0.3"</td></tr><tr><td>Walleye</td><td>1.3"</td></tr><tr><td>Wiper</td><td>0.3"</td></tr></table></div>	Black Crappie	1.7"	Blue Catfish	3.6"	Channel Catfish	3.2"	LM Bass	1.3"	LM Bass	0.2"	Saugeye	0.3"	Walleye	1.3"	Wiper	0.3"	<div><u>Saugeye/Walleye</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prefer areas with submerged structure, aquatic vegetation, or near schooling bait fish.</li><li>Best months are May &amp; June</li><li>Effective lures are walleye type crank baits, minnow imitations, and jigs tipped with bait.</li></ul></div> <div><u>Panfish (Crappie, Bluegill)</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prefer areas with submerged trees, brush, or rocks. Tend to gather in canal between lakes. Also can be found near schooling bait fish.</li><li>Best months are Apr - June.</li><li>Effective tackle includes live bait rigs (minnow and worm), small jigs (&lt; 2", 1/8 oz.), small spinners, and dry flies.</li></ul></div> <div><u>Channel Catfish</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Variable depths, shallow during June/July spawning. Good night fishing.</li><li>Best months are May–Oct.</li><li>Effective baits include: worms, minnows, shrimp, crawdads, cut bait, dough bait, or livers.</li></ul></div>
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<div><u>Regulations</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>NO ATV's or OHV's allowed on the wildlife area.</li><li>Seasonal closures for waterfowl hunting season may exist (as posted).</li><li>No access to the frozen surface of the lake.</li><li>Vehicles must remain on roads. No off-road travel permitted.</li><li>Parking in designated areas only.</li><li>No wake in canal between lakes.</li><li>.</li></ul></div>	<div><u>2018</u><table><tr><td>Black Crappie</td><td>1.5"</td></tr><tr><td>Channel Catfish</td><td>3.8"</td></tr><tr><td>Largemouth Bass</td><td>0.2"</td></tr><tr><td>Saugeye</td><td>0.3"</td></tr><tr><td>Wiper</td><td>0.3"</td></tr></table></div>	Black Crappie	1.5"	Channel Catfish	3.8"	Largemouth Bass	0.2"	Saugeye	0.3"	Wiper	0.3"							
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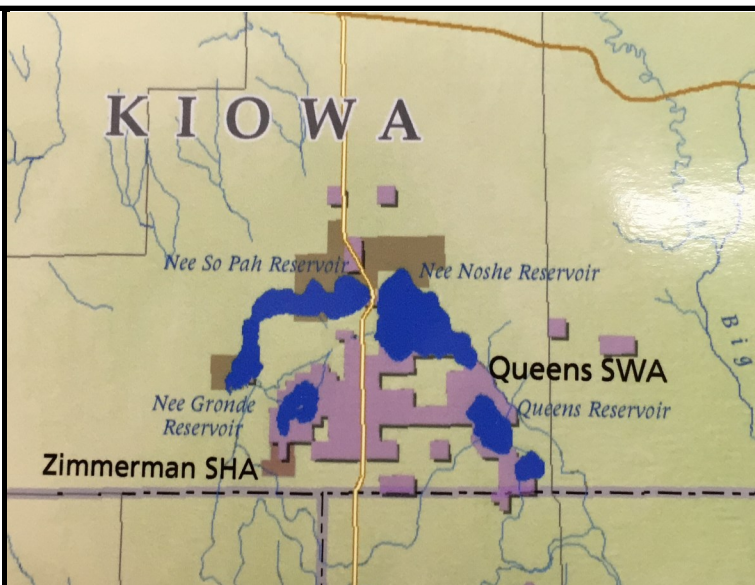
# Queens Reservoir

## FISHERY SURVEY DATA - FALL 2019

Jim Ramsay - Aquatic Biologist  
Lamar Service Center



PERCENT RELATIVE ABUNDANCE



Queens SWA - Kiowa County in SE CO

### LENGTH FREQUENCY TABLE

INCHES	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	T
B. BULLHEAD		22	55		32	3	3	2																	117
CARP										1															
C. CATFISH						3													1	1		1	2	1	7
CRAPPIE		12	1				2																		15
DRUM		1																							
G. SHAD		5	2		99	25	7	1		4		2													146
SAUGEYE													2	1	6	2	3		6	14	7				41
LM BASS																									0
WIPER			1		6	1	1						1	2	12	10	6	2		12	10	3			67
CENTIMETERS	10	13	15	18	20	23	25	28	30	33	35	38	40	43	45	48	50	53	55	58	60	63	65	68	

### RELATIVE WEIGHT TABLE

SPECIES	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	AVG
C. CATFISH	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	103.6	101.3	94.8	101.4	100.3
CRAPPIE	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	101.7	96.2	94.9	92.5	96.3
G. SHAD	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	91.0	82.5	57.4	81.6	78.1
LM BASS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	100.4	110.1	128.7	---	113.1
SAUGEYE	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	103.8	104.2	104.3	103.7	104.0
WIPER	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	92.6	88.6	85.2	88.5	88.7



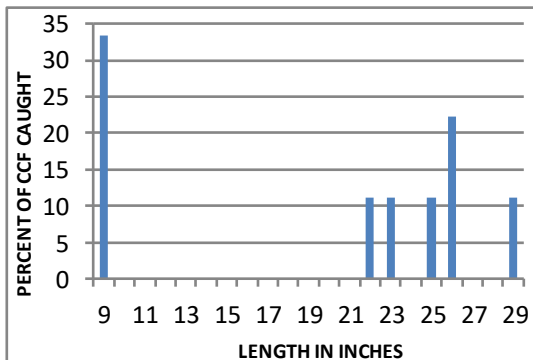
# Queens Reservoir

## 2020 Fishing Forecast

Jim Ramsay - Aquatic Biologist  
Lamar Service Center

### Catfish

Catfish have been stocked abundantly since Queens was filled in 2015. Lower water levels in 2020 may result in improved fishing for cats. Smaller lake size usually equates to improved fishing for catfish, as the fish tend to congregate more in the smaller lake. Blue cats and channel cats are stocked annually by CPW, as supplies are available. While both species can be caught at Queens, techniques can vary for each species. Anglers targeting blue cats sometimes prefer to suspend a live bait fish or water dog. Channel cats are more often caught with traditional baits fished on the bottom. Fishing should be good for catfish in 2020, as stocking success and recruitment increases.



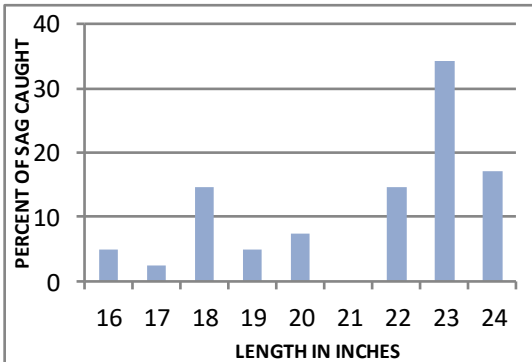
### Crappie

The fall sample showed some promise of a developing crappie fishery. Most of the fish in the sample were small. However, angler creel checks in 2019 showed that some good sized crappies are available at Queens. Gillnets are not an effective method for sampling crappie. Queens has historically been known to be a good crappie lake. Fishing should be fair to good for crappie in 2020. Crappie tend to congregate during the spring months in preparation for spawning. Anglers targeting crappie often use minnows or small jigs (2", 1/8 oz. or less). Look for schools of these fish around submerged tamarisk and flooded trees.



### Walleye/Saugeye

One of the more successful species at Queens since it was restocked in 2015 have been the saugeyes. Stocking success appears to have been very good for walleye/saugeye. Good numbers of fish up to 24" were indicated by our sample, with the average fish measuring a very respectable 21". Boat anglers target these fish with worm rigs, walleye style crank baits, lindy rigs, jigs, and live bait. Shore anglers can catch these fish with similar rigs, and wading and casting can be a very effective method. Numerous snags are a nuisance, thanks to the flooded timber around the lake bottom. Jigging may be the most effective way to get the saugeyes at Queens.



### White Bass and Wiper

These fish (known as "true bass") have been stocked in good numbers at Queens. Wipers have been stocked as fingerlings and fry, while the white bass were transplanted from nearby John Martin Reservoir. Historically, Queens has been a good lake to catch white bass and wipers. White bass can successfully reproduce in Queens. Wipers are a sterile hybrid, and are stocked annually as supplies allow. Feeding schools of these fish can provide exciting action. Shiny casting lures, shad imitating crank baits, and jigs can provide good results. Bait anglers favor worms, minnows, shrimp, crawdad tails, or mussels to catch these fish. Fishing success should be good to excellent for wipers in 2020 as the population has progressed nicely and is dominated by fish over 16".

