

June 3, 2019

## Newport Landing

Farmers National Company's Conservation and Recreation division electrofished Newport Landing on May 22, 2019. The electrofishing was conducted from 10:00 AM to 1PM. Water temperature was 60 degrees F. Water clarity averaged 36 inches.

We electrofished 12 shoreline areas throughout the lake and put 3400 seconds on the generator. We sampled 66 largemouth bass, ranging from 4 to almost 20 inches in length and 11 smallmouth bass from 12 to 14 inches in length. The smallmouth bass numbers and size is up from last year's sample. Bass combined over 8 inches were sampled at a rate of 80 bass per hour. This is up from 61 bass per hour last year. Bass numbers continue to rebound nicely from the fish kill.

Bluegill were sampled and observed ranging from 1 to 8 inches in length. I do not believe any additional bluegill sampling is necessary. Black crappie were sampled and observed in most areas of the lake that we sampled. The crappie were still up spawning, thus the increase in crappie sampled from 2018. We did not sample any walleye, but talked to anglers that had caught some walleye this spring. The walleye will not reproduce in the lake and will need to be periodically stocked to keep walleye in the system.

Common carp were sampled lake wide again this sample. The best way to combat the carp is to add more predatory fish and leave any gamefish caught in the lake (**including pike**).

### 2019 Recommendations

- **Catch and release fishing for bass, walleye and pike.**
- **Stock 60, 15-20 inch pure muskie this fall. This will provide a unique sportfishery and help reduce carp numbers.**
- **Stock 1000, 6-8 inch walleye in fall of 2020.**

I am currently working with Nebraska Game and Parks concerning the state length limits on the pike and then muskies. The muskie are expensive and it would not be good to watch them get harvested from public fishing pier. Muskie minimum size is currently 40 inches. If they are stocked, trying to establish a catch and release fishery for them.

Please call or email with any questions/concerns.

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