

June 11, 2020

## Newport Landing

Farmers National Company's Conservation and Recreation division electrofished Newport Landing on May 27, 2020. The electrofishing was conducted from 9:00 AM to 1PM. Water temperature was 65 degrees F. Water clarity averaged 30 inches.

We electrofished 10 shoreline areas throughout the lake and put 3000 seconds on the generator. We sampled 50 largemouth bass, ranging from 5 to almost 19 inches in length and 14 smallmouth bass from 7 to 15 inches in length. The smallmouth bass numbers and size is up from last year's sample. Unless people are stocking smallmouth bass, they are reproducing at this point. Black Bass combined over 8 inches were sampled at a rate of 72 bass per hour. This is down slightly from 2019 sample, but is higher than average last 4 samples. Bass numbers continue to rebound nicely from the fish kill. Bass sampled were in good condition.

We sampled 2 muskies up to 15 inches in length and observed a few more. Muskie were stocked last fall and I would wait at least another year before I did any additional muskie stocking. Muskie establish home ranges and will only tolerate so many muskie. We also sampled a walleye close to 4 pounds and a Northern Pike closer to 20 pounds.

Bluegill were sampled and observed ranging from 1 to 8 inches in length. Bluegill numbers have been consistent the past 3 samples. Black crappie were sampled and observed in areas of the lake that had shallower water. Some of crappie were still up spawning, 2020 crappie sample was very similar to 2019 sample. 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**).

### **2020 Recommendations**

- **Catch and release fishing for bass, walleye, muskie and pike. Any fish that eats carp should be protected.**
- **Fish habitat is lacking. I know there has been habitat projects in the past. Any habitat that can be put into the lake will be beneficial to the gamefish**
- **Stock 1000, 6-8 inch walleye in fall of 2020.**

Currently the lake is in pretty good shape. To be able to sample largemouth and smallmouth bass, walleye, muskie, and pike in the same lake is unique for eastern NE. Common carp numbers are high, but there are currently enough gamefish for a quality fishery.

Please call or email with any questions/concerns.

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