



2010 Fishing Forecast Ashtabula River

Ashtabula County



Compared to Other Inland Lakes and Reservoirs

Steelhead Trout OUTLOOK: **GOOD**

Even though steelhead trout are not stocked in this river, it receives a good run of steelhead trout from fall through spring. The Ashtabula Township Park Commission has two parks adjacent to the river (Indian Trails and Cedarquist Ball Fields) that offer excellent public access. Upstream areas (just upstream of State Road) are outside of park boundaries and should only be accessed by anglers having written permission!

Channel Catfish OUTLOOK: **GOOD**

The potential for trophy-sized catches exists, based on summer 2008 electrofishing surveys. Despite a relatively small sample, the largest catfish surveyed was 26" and the average length of channel catfish captured was 22". Anglers should focus on the area within Indian Trails Park and downstream.

Rock Bass OUTLOOK: **EXCELLENT**

Based on summer 2008 electrofishing surveys, there is an excellent population of rock bass throughout this river. Although the average length sampled was only 4.5", individuals of up to 10" were captured. The larger rock bass were found in the downstream sections of the river.

Smallmouth Bass OUTLOOK: **FAIR**

There is a mediocre smallmouth bass fishery in this river, based on summer 2008 electrofishing surveys, with these fish comprising only 3% of the sport fish sampled. The average length was only 4", with the largest fish measuring 7". Anglers should concentrate on the downstream portion of the river. A seasonal run of Lake Erie smallmouth bass does occur, with them traveling during April and May to as far upstream as Indian Trails Park.

NOTES:

A map showing public fishing access sites on Ashtabula River can be found in the Steelhead fishing section of the Division of Wildlife's web site: www.WildOhio.com.