



# 2010 Fishing Forecast

# Pymatuning Lake

Ashtabula County  
16,349 Acres- 20 horsepower



Compared to Other Inland Lakes and Reservoirs

Species	FISH POPULATION STATUS			Stocked	Anglers Seeking(%)
	Overall Numbers	This size or Larger	Largest Sampled		
Largemouth Bass	Poor	12"	18.6"	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.2
Smallmouth Bass	Good	11"	15.5"	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.1
Crappie	Excellent	8"	13.1"	<input type="checkbox"/>	22.5
Walleye	Excellent	15"	27.6"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	33.3
Yellow Perch	Excellent	8"		<input type="checkbox"/>	2.5
Channel Catfish	Excellent	16"	29.7"	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.2
Sunfish	Excellent	6"	0"	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.4
White Bass	Poor	9"		<input type="checkbox"/>	0.0
Muskie	Excellent	30"	52.0"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.0

## Largemouth Bass

### OUTLOOK: FAIR

Largemouth bass were sampled by electrofishing during spring 2007. Twenty-eight percent of the fish sampled were at least 12". Seven percent of the fish captured also measured 15" or more.

## Smallmouth Bass

### OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT

Smallmouth bass were also sampled by electrofishing during 2007. Forty-two percent of the fish measured 11" and longer, with 16% of the fish measuring at least 14".

## Crappie

### OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT

Crappie were sampled during fall 2009 trap-net surveys. Seventy-two percent of the catch was comprised of black crappie. Eighty-four percent of the black crappie captured were at least 8", with 33% making it to 10" or more. White crappie, although less numerous, were even more impressive, with 62% of the catch making it to 8" and 40% of the white crappie reaching 10" and longer.

## Walleye

### OUTLOOK: GOOD

Walleye fingerling stockings appear to be turning this fishery around. Our fall 2009 young-of-year electrofishing surveys were proof of this, with more than 84 six to nine inch first year walleye captured per hour (60 walleye per hour would be considered as an excellent catch rate). The fall 2008 catch rate of 34 fish per hour was more than adequate also (a catch rate of 30 fish per hour would be considered good).

## Yellow Perch

### OUTLOOK EXCELLENT

Yellow perch have "exploded" number-wise in this lake. This is a much under-utilized fishery, evidenced by less than 3% of the angler hours being spent seeking perch (2007 results). The average perch kept in 2007 was around 8". Yellow perch rate very highly as "table fare" so this lake is a great spot to target them!

# Pymatuning Lake

## **Channel Catfish**

### **OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT**

Channel catfish were sampled during fall 2008 gill-netting surveys. Nearly 77% of the catfish sampled were at least 16", with 7% of the fish also making it to at least 24". Channel catfish that were kept averaged over 18", based on 2007 creel survey results.

## **Sunfish**

### **OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT**

Bluegill were sampled by electrofishing during spring 2007. Fifty percent of the fish sampled were 6" and longer. The average length of bluegill kept was a quite impressive 7.8", based on 2007 creel survey results!

## **White Bass**

### **OUTLOOK: GOOD**

Fall 2008 gill-netting surveys were performed. Based on a small sample of fish, all white bass captured exceeded 12", with some fish making it to 15" or more.

## **Muskie**

### **OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT**

A total of 66 muskellunge were reported caught in 2009 through the Muskie Angler Log. Ninety-seven percent of the fish were released. Fifteen muskies of at least 42" were caught, with three fish measuring 50" or more! This is one of the few lakes where we suspect that under-reporting of catches is an issue. Since the resurgence of the fishery, some very successful anglers have tended to be "tight-lipped" about their success.

## **NOTES:**

Wheelchair accessible shoreline fishing facilities are available. Pymatuning Lake is an inter-jurisdictional fishery, since it is located both in Ohio and Pennsylvania. The fisheries resources are jointly managed by the Ohio Division of Wildlife and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.