



2010 Fishing Forecast

ROCKY FORK LAKE

Highland County

2,088 Acres- Unlimited Horsepower Motors



Compared to Other Inland Lakes and Reservoirs

Species	FISH POPULATION STATUS			Stocked	Anglers Seeking(%)
	Overall Numbers	This size or Larger	Largest Sampled		
Largemouth Bass	Excellent	12"	20.7"	<input type="checkbox"/>	33
Crappie	Good	8"	12.4"	<input type="checkbox"/>	14
Channel Catfish	Excellent	11"	27.8"	<input type="checkbox"/>	10
Bluegill Sunfish	Excellent	6"	8.3"	<input type="checkbox"/>	7
Saugeye	Good	14"	23.8"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6
White Bass	Excellent	6"	13.6"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<1

Largemouth Bass

OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT

Excellent numbers of largemouth bass 12-18" and lots of 2-4 pound fish; a few smallmouth bass are present, some up to 3-4 pounds. Tournament anglers weighed in a 5 lb. 8 oz. fish in 2005 and a 6 lb. 3 oz. bass in 2006. In 2009, bass anglers experienced good catch rates as compared to other lakes statewide. Try spinner baits, jigs, or plastic worms around weed beds, fallen shoreline trees or rocky shorelines.

Crappie

OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT

Large population, most 8-10", with fair numbers up to 12". In spring, fish around brushy shorelines or fallen trees. In summer and fall, try dropoffs or points adjacent to deep water for some of the larger fish. In 2009, anglers enjoyed good catch rates and harvested fish which averaged 9 inches. Effective March 1, 2010 there is a 9-inch minimum size limit and a daily bag limit of 30 for crappies at Rocky Fork Lake.

Channel Catfish

OUTLOOK: GOOD

Strong population of channel catfish, most 1-3 pounds, some over 10 pounds. Good numbers of flathead catfish present, some over 30 pounds. Best time June - August.

Bluegill Sunfish

OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT

Large population, most 5-7". In 2009, bluegill anglers had excellent catch rates and harvested bluegills that averaged 6.7 inches. Fish around weed beds, fallen trees, or boat docks using red worms, wax worms, or small jigs. May and June are the best months.

Saugeye

OUTLOOK GOOD

Saugeye fishing over the last 5 years has been hard to predict-- great in 2005, slow in 2007, very good in 2008, and good in 2009. The average length of saugeye harvested in 2009 was 14.3". This year, look for good numbers of 13-18" fish, with some fish over 24". The best catches are during May through July. Drift bottom-bouncing night crawler rigs, cast jigs and twister tails, and casting or troll crankbaits.

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White Bass

OUTLOOK: GOOD

Good numbers of 8-12 inch fish. The population has grown considerably over the last 5 years, yet very few anglers target white bass. Try casting small spinners or small jigs with twister tails. In the main lake, try trolling small silver crankbaits or casting jigs, spinners, and blade baits from July through October. In May, try Rocky Fork Creek near the SR 124 bridge for spawning fish.