

# Glen Elder District Fisheries

Volume 3, Issue 2 Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism Summer 2012

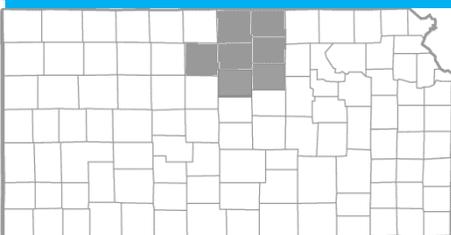
Well, I think it's safe to say that this has been one of the hottest summers we have experienced in some time. This is largely in part to the extreme temperatures and dry conditions we've witnessed, but also because of the excellent fishing that has occurred during the first 7 months of 2012.

The mild winter and warm spring seemed to speed things up a few weeks compared with the normal fish patterns and anglers had to adjust on the fly. This didn't keep them from figuring out where the best opportunities were and taking advantage of them. At Glen Elder, the winter crappie bite was exceptional with over 10% of the anglers achieving 50 fish limits, according to our creel. The crappie fishing continued through the spawn in June and the walleye bite was hard to beat during late April and May.

Wilson has had numerous bass tournaments this year with good success and Lovewell has seen a nice increase in the harvest of white bass, wipers, and channel catfish during the summer months.

Many anglers are taking a break from angling right now, but look for things to "heat up" again this fall as temperatures cool down. We should be in for some more great fishing later this year.

Each spring, fisheries biologists across the state pull out the electrofishing boats for the annual black bass sample. Largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass are most effectively sampled with this technique when they are in shallow water near the shore, normally for spawn or prespawn activities. The maps that follow will allow anglers to see where the highest densities of bass were found. Each square represents 10 minutes of electrofishing time along the shoreline. The colors and labels correspond with the number of fish collected. Hopefully, this will assist you with your bass angling exploits in the future.



# Glen Elder Smallies Dominate Again

The Glen Elder smallmouth bass fishery continues to provide a unique opportunity to catch good numbers of bronzebacks throughout the year. Numbers in the spring sample were down slightly from last year, but remain near the top of the state rankings. Anglers reported catching fish up to 21 inches this year with 12-17 inches the most common size. We did not see many largemouth bass in this sample, but anglers have been catching a handful throughout the year. We did sample a few spotted bass in Marina Cove.



# Wilson Bass Remain Strong



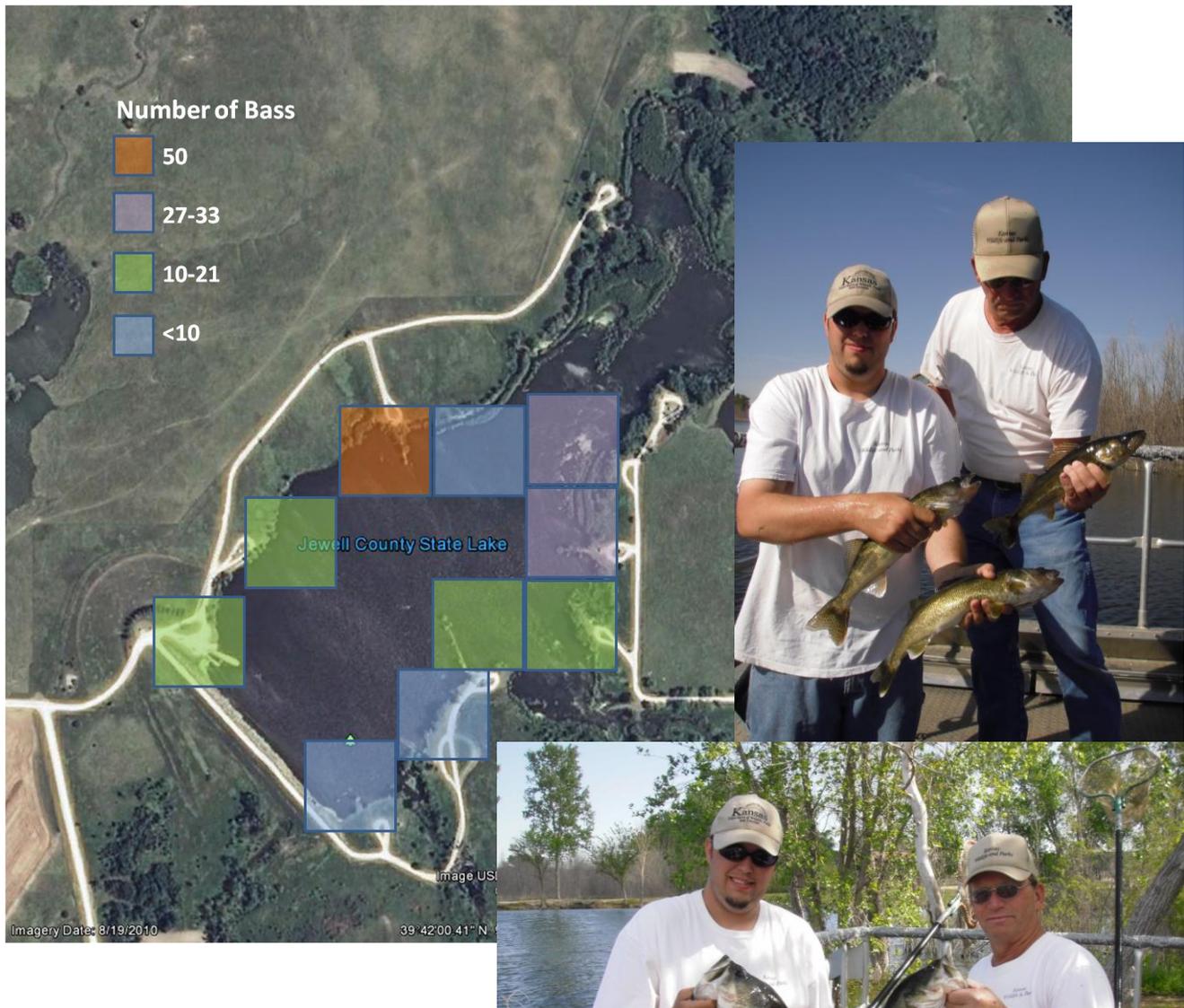
Wilson Reservoir is consistently among the top 3 reservoirs for both largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. The 2012 largemouth sample was higher than the 2011 sample with 131 fish collected in 3.7 hours of sampling. Eighty-eight percent of the fish collected were between 12.5 and 17 inches with a few fish over 18 inches sampled as well.



Smallmouth numbers were down in the 2012 sample with only 29 fish collected compared with 64 the previous year. This is likely due to sampling variability and water chemistry which made it difficult to collect these fish from deep water. Anglers should expect to see a wide range of sizes with fish up to 16 inches. A few spotted bass continue to show up in the sample as well.



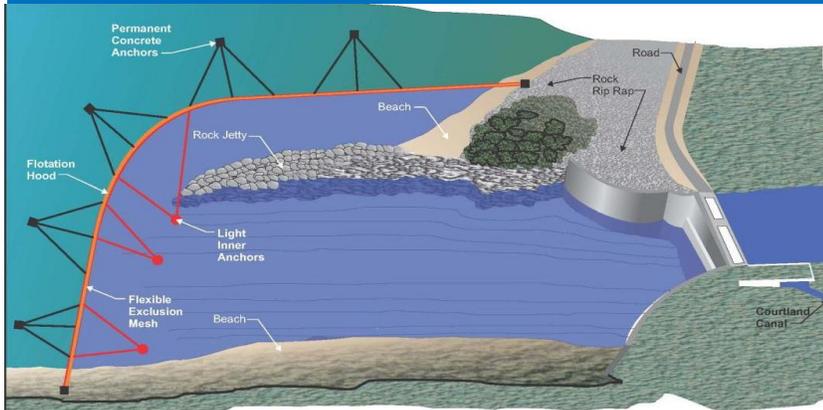
# Jewell SFL Bass Continue to Grow



The 2012 bass sample at Jewell State Lake did not disappoint. We collected 282 bass in about 1.8 hours of sampling. The greatest numbers were in the 9 to 12 inch size range with a strong year class of 4-7 inch fish collected as well. There were also some larger fish represented in the sample. We collected eleven fish greater than 15 inches with a couple over 18 inches and 4.5 pounds. Due to the high number of young fish, a 13-18 inch slot limit was placed on largemouth bass at Jewell beginning in 2012.

# Lovewell Fish Barrier Update

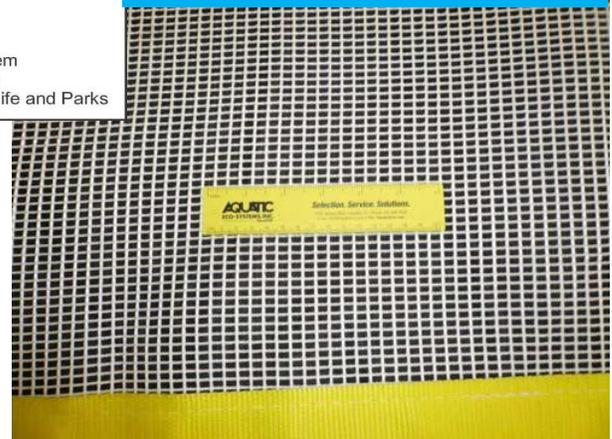
The fish barrier has been purchased from Mackworth Aquatic Environmental Systems and is on site at Lovewell Reservoir. Unfortunately, it was too late to deploy the system in 2012, but this new device will be in place prior to the 2013 irrigation season. The image below indicates where the barrier will be placed around the rock jetty with termination points on the south shore and on the dam. We are currently in the process of pouring the anchors and placing them in the water this fall and winter.



**BARRIER LOCATION**  
Fish Exclusion Barrier System  
Lovewell Reservoir, Kansas  
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

The goal of this project is to improve the Lovewell fishery by reducing the high number of fish lost during water releases.

The pictures below help illustrate how the barrier is constructed.



# Images from the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Glen Elder Youth Fishing Tournament



# More Habitat Work Completed

Because of the efforts of many generous volunteers, habitat improvements were again completed at Glen Elder Reservoir this year.

Over 20 volunteers assisted with this 2-day effort which resulted in over 350 cedar trees anchored in the reservoir.

We targeted three shallow (5 to 12 feet) locations to provide additional spawning and brood rearing habitat. Meals Cove, Schoen's Cove, and Mill Creek were focused on and should provide some quality habitat for many years thanks to the efforts of everyone involved.

There will be another habitat weekend in spring 2013 and we're always looking for more volunteers!



I sincerely hope you enjoyed the latest edition of the Glen Elder district newsletter. I will continue to provide information for Glen Elder, Wilson, and Lovewell Reservoirs, Jewell State Fishing Lake, Rocky Pond in Belleville, and Jewell City Lake.

Don't forget to check out the many FISH properties in the area as well. They can offer some great fishing for those without a boat.

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