Fish Species at Lake Red Rock

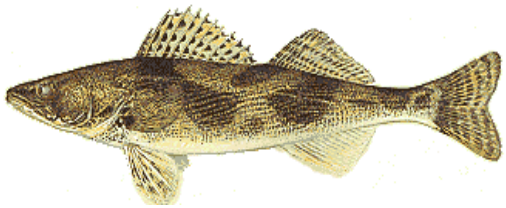
PERCH Family

WALLEYE

Fish along the old river channel where the water depth drops off along the face of the dam, where sand and rock meets mud and grass. Also fish the river during cold weather months. Back trolling crank baits can provide fast action. When identifying Walleye, check for the white tip on the lower lobe of the caudle fin.

Ideal spawning conditions for Walleye occur in March and April at water temperatures between 45 degrees and 52 degrees Fahrenheit.

SAUGER

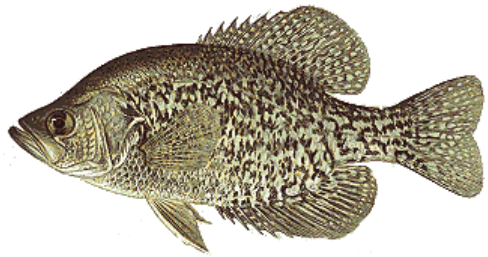


Fish for Sauger similarly to Walleye; look for points of inflow where they wait for prey, and in the river below the dam around rocky abutments. Sauger are generally much smaller than Walleye, rarely exceeding 4 pounds.

Ideal spawning conditions for Sauger occur in April and May at water temperatures between 40 degrees and 45 degrees Fahrenheit.

SUNFISH Family

BLACK CRAPPIE



Fish around underwater structures, brushy areas, Robert's Creek spillway, near bridge pilings on the western end of the lake, and Whitebreast Creek shallows prior to spawning. Use jigs and minnows for bait.

Ideal spawning conditions for Black Crappie occur in May and June at water temperatures between 58 degrees and 65 degrees Fahrenheit.

Woodsy the Owl says; "Give a Hoot. Don't Pollute."

For a complete list of regulations, review the Title 36 brochure available from Corps of Engineers Park Rangers or at the Lake Red Rock Visitor's Center.

BLUEGILL

Fish for Bluegill in the backwater areas of creeks flowing into the lake, as well as ponds like the one at the end of 160th Ave. Also, try fishing Robert's Creek or shoreline along the main body of the lake in search of the saucer-shaped spawning beds under 2 to 6 feet of water. Another place to find Bluegill would be in the Tailwater areas below the dam where the water backs into pools. Use live bait like a night crawler and a bobber.

Ideal spawning conditions for Bluegill occur in June but can occur from May until August at water temperatures between 70 degrees and 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

LARGEMOUTH BASS

Fish the rocks around the marina point, the face of the dam among the rocks, and off of the old Wallashuck boat ramp.

Ideal spawning conditions for Largemouth Bass occur in May and June at water temperatures between 63 degrees and 68 degrees Fahrenheit.

PIKE Family

NORTHERN PIKE

Fish in the Tailwater areas and use large lures with lots of flash such as spoons or crankbaits and a fast retrieve. Floating jigs with chubs or large minnows are effective in the spring.

Ideal spawning conditions for Northern Pike occur in March and April at water temperatures between 40 degrees and 52 degrees Fahrenheit.

Woodsy the Owl says; "Give a Hoot. Don't Pollute."

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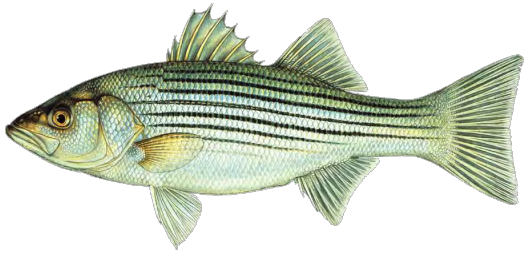
TEMPERATE BASS Family

STRIPED BASS



Striped Bass ("sea bass") commonly reach 20 pounds, have a slender body shape, and have very distinct horizontal striping. The spiny dorsal fin and soft rear dorsal fins are not connected and do not move together when manually lifted.

Information for comparison only – Striped Bass are not native to Lake Red Rock.

WIPER

The Wiper is a hybrid breed of fish made by crossing a female Striped Bass and a male White Bass. Wipers are much smaller than Striped Bass but may still exceed 10 pounds. Wipers are deep bodied and have fairly distinct horizontal stripes. Like the Striped Bass the spiny and soft dorsal fins are not connected and do not move together when manually lifted.

The Striped Bass and Wiper both have two tooth patches at the back of the tongue as shown here.

WHITE BASS

The White Bass is the smallest of the temperate bass family and rarely exceeds 3 pounds. White Bass have deep, broad-sided bodies and have faint, indistinct stripes. As with other temperate bass, the spiny and dorsal fins are independent.

Ideal spawning conditions for White Bass occur in March and April at water temperatures between 45 degrees and 48 degrees Fahrenheit.

Unlike the Striped Bass and Wiper, the White Bass has only one tooth patch at the back of the tongue as shown here.

CATFISH Family

CHANNEL CATFISH

Fish the areas just above cut banks, snags, rocks and other submerged structures on the lake and in the river. Use cut bait or dead minnows during late winter and spring and use prepared stink bait during the summer months when the lake is stable or rising.

Ideal spawning conditions for Channel Catfish occur in June and July at water temperatures between 75 degrees and 80 degrees.

FLATHEAD CATFISH

Fish for Flathead Catfish with small sunfish in the river after dark and look for undercut banks and deep holes.

Ideal spawning conditions for Flathead Catfish occur in June and July at water temperatures between 75 degrees and 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

BLUE CATFISH

Fish areas with a swift current such as the Tailwater areas below the dam or the main channel of the lake where water is very deep. Blue Catfish have no spots and get their name from the grey-blue color they possess.

Ideal spawning conditions for Blue Catfish occur in June and July at water temperatures between 70 degrees and 75 degrees Fahrenheit.