

# SOUTH DAKOTA STATEWIDE FISHERIES SURVEY

2102-F-21-R-44

**Name:** Garber Dam

**County(ies):** Lyman

**Legal Description:** T108N-R79W-Sec. 21

**GPS:** 44°08'31.864"N 100°19'16.549"W

**Location from nearest town:** 14 miles S and 1.5 miles E of Fort Pierre

**Date of present survey:** June 29-30, 2011 (netting)

**Date of last survey:** None known

**Most recent lake management plan:** None done

**Management classification:** Unknown

Primary Game Species	Secondary and Other Species
Bluegill	
Largemouth Bass	

## PHYSICAL DATA

Garber Dam is located in Lyman County, South Dakota. The surrounding land and the dam grade are owned and managed by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and is part of the Fort Pierre National Grasslands. Garber Dam is a 1.2 acre pond that had a maximum depth at time of survey in 2011 of about 18 feet. The dam was full and running over at the time of the survey.

No emergent vegetation was present. Garber Dam did contain submergent vegetation that consisted mainly of largeleaf pondweed and coontail with other species possibly mixed in. There is very limited boat access and would be limited to a canoe or small duck boat that can be loaded and unloaded by hand. Good ice fishing opportunities do exist. No contour map or depth contour has ever been done.

## CHEMICAL DATA

No pollution problems were evident at the time of the survey. A temperature and dissolved oxygen profile was the only water quality measurements done this survey and the results are found in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Water chemistry results from Garber Dam, Lyman County, June 28, 2011.

Station	Depth (ft)	Temp (F)	DO (ppm)
A	0	73.4	10.03
A	3	73.4	10.30
A	6	71.2	9.85
A	9	68.4	7.10
A	10	67.3	8.10
A	11	65.6	3.17
A	12	63.0	4.82
A	13	61.9	4.6
A	14	61.5	4.1
A	17	60.8	1.75

### **BIOLOGICAL DATA**

#### **Methods:**

Garber Dam was sampled on June 28-29, 2011, with five overnight trap net sets. The trap nets have 3ft x 5ft frames, 60ft leads, and 3/4 inch knotted mesh. No experimental gill nets or electrofishing was done during this survey. Fish indices and statistics were completed using Winfin.

#### **Results and Discussion:**

##### **Trap Net Catch**

**Table 2.** Total catch of 5, overnight 3/4-inch frame nets at Garber Dam, Lyman County, June 28-29, 2011.

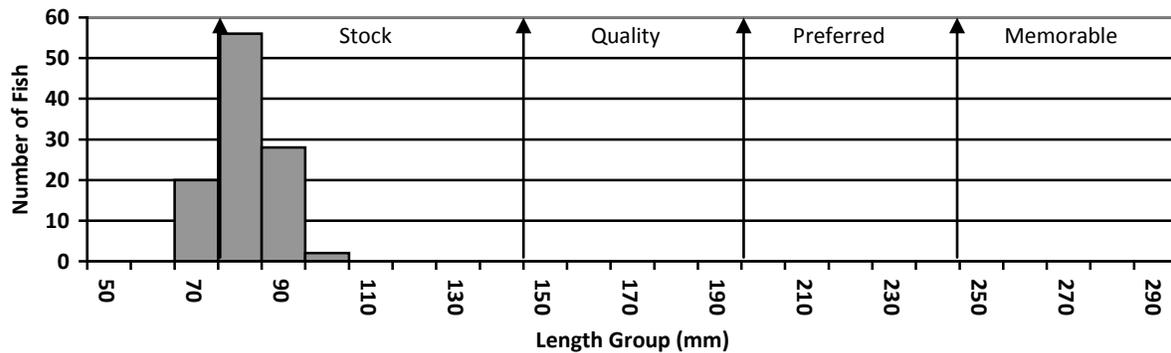
Species	#	%	CPUE	80% C.I.	Mean CPUE*	PSD	RSD-P	Mean Wr
Bluegill	106	100	21.2	± 16.7	--	0	0	0

\* First recorded survey

##### **Fish Populations**

Bluegills were the only species sampled in five trap net sets. The CPUE was 21.2 fish per net. Not much other information is known about this population as the only measurement taken was lengths. Figure 1 illustrates the length frequency histogram for the fish sampled. The population is dominated by small fish. No age and growth data was taken either. The addition of largemouth bass would greatly help get these fish to bigger sizes.

**Figure 1.** Length frequency histogram for bluegill sampled from Garber Dam, Lyman County, 2011.



### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Resurvey, when time allows, to further monitor the fish populations and to continually collect trend data on the pond.
2. Attempt to electrofish to see what type of largemouth bass population exists, if any.
3. Make any stockings or transfers out if needed to help the fish populations.