

Beltzville Lake

Carbon County

Spring 2017 Walleye Assessment

Beltzville Lake is a 946.9 acre impoundment maintained by U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) located in Carbon County, PA. It is a multi-use lake, supportive of a two-story fishery. The “two-story” reservoir characteristic is a function of reservoir depth that allows warm-, transitionally cool and cold- water thermal habitats to be maintained throughout all seasons of the year including summer. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) maintenance stocks fingerling walleye into Beltzville Lake. The lake is managed under [Commonwealth Inland Waters](#) regulations.

During April 2017, staff from Fisheries Management Area 5 Staff and US Army Corps of Engineers Philadelphia District surveyed the walleye population to monitor stocking success. We evaluated the walleye population during two nights of electrofishing. A total of 81 Walleye were captured and all were of legal size (≥ 15 inches). Sizes ranged from 15 to 27 inches, with most ranging from 19 to 22 inches. The mean catch rate was 18.4 per hour. This catch rate met the criteria set for Large Reservoirs (≥ 500 acres) at 18 per hour in [Pennsylvania's Inland Walleye Fisheries](#), with stocking set to continue in Beltzville Lake into the future.



In addition to walleye, we noted good numbers of large bass. The ratio of Largemouth Bass to Smallmouth Bass was near 3:1; which is consistent with the findings of the [2013 Web Report](#).