



## Henry Lake

### FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

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**General Information:** In 2013, Henry Lake went dry and lost the entire fishery. The lake was refilled in 2014 and has been restocked. The fishery is still young, but good angling opportunities exist again at Henry. Known primarily as a catfish lake, Henry also contains several other warm water species. Henry lake is shallow, with max. depths of less than 10 ft.

**Location:** Crowley County, Travel 2 miles E. of Ordway on Hwy 96, then 2 mi N. on Lane 20 to lake.

**Size:** 1,100 surface acres, Average Depth: 6 ft.

**Management:** Colorado Canal Co., Crowley County, and CPW (recreation mgmt.).

**Survey Data: P2**

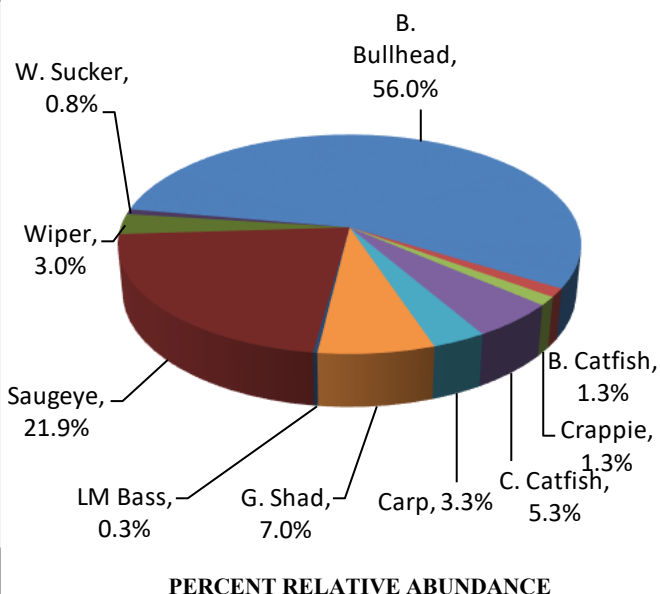
<u>Amenities and General Info.</u>	<u>Previous Stocking</u>	<u>Sportfishing Notes</u>												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lake went dry in 2013. The entire fishery was lost. The lake was restocked in 2014.</li><li>• Cement boat ramp and pier (constructed in 2012)</li><li>• Restrooms available</li><li>• Free camping, fire pits allowed.</li><li>• Trotlines and jug fishing permitted.</li></ul>	<div><u>2019</u><table><tr><td>Blue Catfish</td><td>3.6"</td></tr><tr><td>Black Crappie</td><td>1.5"</td></tr><tr><td>Channel Catfish</td><td>3.2"</td></tr><tr><td>Largemouth Bass</td><td>0.3"</td></tr><tr><td>Saugeye</td><td>0.2"</td></tr><tr><td>Wiper</td><td>0.3"</td></tr></table></div>	Blue Catfish	3.6"	Black Crappie	1.5"	Channel Catfish	3.2"	Largemouth Bass	0.3"	Saugeye	0.2"	Wiper	0.3"	<div><u>Catfish</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Variable depths, shallow during June/July spawn, good night fishing.</li><li>• Best months are May–Oct.</li><li>• Effective baits include: worms, minnows, shrimp, crawdads, cut bait, dough bait, or livers.</li></ul></div> <div><u>Wiper</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prefer open water areas or near schooling bait fish. Schools are very mobile.</li><li>• Best months are Apr. - Oct.</li><li>• Effective lures are shad type crank baits, shiny minnow imitations, and jigs tipped with minnows or worms.</li></ul></div> <div><u>Crappie</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prefer areas near the large rip-rap levy. Also near submerged trees or habitat structures.</li><li>• Best fishing occurs during spring as water warms into the upper 50s (usually late April).</li><li>• Best Baits: Live minnows, or small plastic jigs (&lt; 2", 1/8 oz or less).</li></ul></div>
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<div><u>Regulations</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vehicles must remain on roads.</li><li>• Special Arkansas drainage limits apply for wiper, white bass, and striped bass. Bag and possession limit is 20 in aggregate.</li><li>• Special Arkansas drainage limits apply for walleye and saugeye: Bag and possession limit is 10 in aggregate.</li><li>• Boaters are encouraged to ensure vessels are clean, drained, and dry before launching (at any water in CO) to prevent the spread of aquatic hitchhikers.</li></ul></div>	<div><u>2018</u><table><tr><td>Black Crappie</td><td>1.5"</td></tr><tr><td>Channel Catfish</td><td>3.5"</td></tr><tr><td>Largemouth Bass</td><td>1.4"</td></tr><tr><td>Walleye</td><td>0.4"</td></tr><tr><td>Wiper</td><td>0.3"</td></tr></table></div>	Black Crappie	1.5"	Channel Catfish	3.5"	Largemouth Bass	1.4"	Walleye	0.4"	Wiper	0.3"			
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## 2019 LAKE SURVEY DATA

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**MEAN, MIN. & MAX. LENGTHS FOR SAMPLED SPECIES**

SPECIES	MEAN	MIN.	MAX.
B. BULLHEAD	7.3"	6.3"	9.6"
B. CATFISH	5.9"	5.7"	6.5"
CARP	14.7"	10.2"	22.8"
C. CATFISH	10.8"	4.5"	27.6"
CRAPPIE	9.6"	8.3"	11.0"
G. SHAD	12.8"	11.4"	14.4"
LM BASS	15.9"	15.9"	15.9"
SAUGEYE	8.1"	6.9"	22.6"
W. SUCKER	10.2"	9.3"	11.6"
WIPER	18.8"	14.2"	20.1"

**LENGTH FREQUENCY TABLE**

INCHES	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27+	T
*BULLHEAD			22		72	3	1																		98
CARP							1	1	1	1		7				1				1					13
C. CATFISH	1				4	9	2			1		1		2										1	21
CRAPPIE						2	1	2																	5
G. SHAD								3	12	11		2													28
LM BASS													1												1
SAUGEYE			1		68	16											1			1					87
WIPER												1			2	8	1								12
CENTIMETERS	10	13	15	18	20	23	25	28	30	33	35	38	40	43	45	48	50	53	55	58	60	63	65	68	

\* Subsample of Total used in LF Table

**RELATIVE WEIGHT TABLE**

SPECIES	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	AVG
B. BULLHEAD	86.5	82.2	79.2	---	---	---	99.5	85.4	85.5	77.3	79.9	84.4
CRAPPIE	115.0	112.6	110.3	---	114.2	---	106.9	108.7	100.6	117.8	91.8	108.7
C. CATFISH	102.9	91.7	93.4	---	89.0	---	118.9	109.3	89.3	107.4	96.0	99.8
SAUGEYE	---	96.9	98.2	---	88.2	---	100.0	95.7	91.3	97.7	94.3	95.3
G. SHAD	84.8	84.3	84.4	---	---	---	96.9	79.4	75.9	82.2	79.5	83.4
WIPER	100.8	104.2	100.7	---	---	---	90.4	93.1	82.6	91.1	80.6	92.9



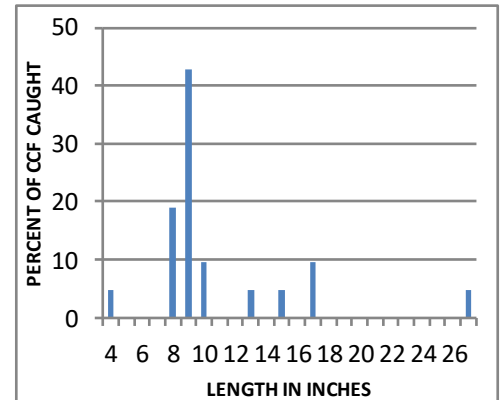
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## 2020 FISHING FORECAST

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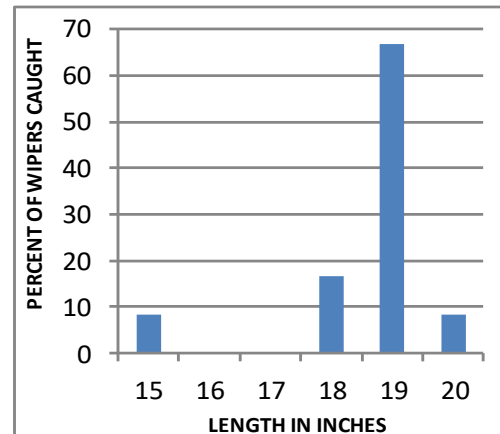
### Catfish

A positive trend in 2019 was the higher numbers of the more desirable catfish species (blue and channel catfish). While bullheads continue to be very abundant, other populations are building. Stocking efforts and natural reproduction of the species are helping to increase catfish numbers. Artificial spawning containers are placed yearly at Henry to encourage catfish spawning behavior. Henry lacks natural habitat for catfish spawning, so these containers allow catfish to spawn on their own. Historically, Henry has been a popular destination for catfish anglers. All indications point to a positive trend in catfish numbers at Henry. Fishing for catfish in 2020 will be good for bullheads, and fair for other species.



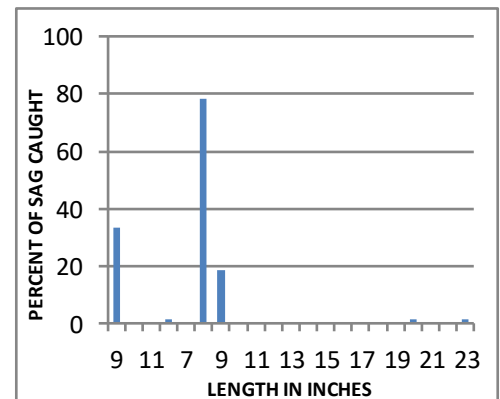
### Wiper

Wipers have been stocked yearly since the lake refilled in 2014. Wipers have done fairly well at Henry and have produced some decent fishing opportunities. Henry has historically produced some good wiper fishing, although these fish tend to exit the reservoir with water releases. A fish retention structure is needed to keep fish in the lake. Fishing for wipers was fair in 2019. Good numbers of wipers in the 19" range are available at Henry. These fish grow quickly in Henry's shad-rich environment. Anglers targeting wipers often fish along the rocky levy with shad imitating lures such as rattle traps, shad raps, rattlin' raps or sassy shad (many other choices are available). Bait anglers can be successful with worms, minnows, shrimp, crawdad tails, and mussels.



### Saugeye

Like the wipers, saugeye were restocked in Henry shortly after the lake refilled in 2014. These fish tend to grow quickly in Henry's productive waters. A positive trend in 2020 will be the developing year class of 8"-9" fish. Sometimes, year classes of these fish decline sharply as large numbers of fish exit the lake with the irrigation releases. A fish retention structure is needed to keep fish in the lake during the water releases. Fortunately, CPW stocks good numbers of these fish annually. When good year classes develop, anglers should target these fish to enjoy the catch while it lasts. Liberal limits allow anglers to keep up to 10 fish, regardless of size. Fishing in 2020 should be fair to good for saugeye, although the average fish may be small.



### Crappie

In years past, Henry has been an excellent crappie fishery. Crappie fingerlings have been stocked in large numbers since 2014 at Henry, in an effort to rebuild the crappie population following the lake refilling. Crappie tend to remain in the lake in better numbers, even during years with large irrigation releases. These fish are not very abundant yet, but crappie populations can grow very quickly once they are established. CPW will continue a dedicated effort to getting these popular fish back to a prominent species at Henry. Fishing may be only fair for crappie in 2020. Anglers targeting crappie begin fishing in mid to late April, as water temps warm into the upper 50s. The rocky levy surrounding much of the lake is a good place to try.

