

PAINT CREEK LAKE (Highland and Ross counties), 1,150 acres

Bluegill - Strong numbers of 5-7" fish. Best areas are around standing timber or rocky shorelines. Try casting small tube jigs, or use a wax worm or red worm below a bobber. In 2008, bluegill anglers had excellent catch rates and kept fish that averaged 6.7 inches. **OUTLOOK: VERY GOOD**

Channel, Flathead Catfish - Strong population of channel catfish, most 12-16". Fair numbers of flathead catfish, some over 20 pounds. Tailwater pool also provides excellent opportunities, especially from May through July. **OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT**

Crappie - Lots of 8-10" fish, some over 12". In 2008, crappie anglers had high catch rates and harvested black crappies averaging 9.2 inches. Flooded timber areas, shoreline brush, and rocky areas are best in spring. Also, late fall fishing usually good along steeper rocky shorelines. **OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT**

Largemouth Bass - Anglers should note that there is a 15" minimum size limit on bass. Lots of largemouth bass 12-17", with some up to 4 pounds. A few spotted bass and smallmouth bass present. Rocky areas productive, especially in autumn. A spring 2008 electrofishing survey produced excellent numbers of 13-19 inch fish. **OUTLOOK: VERY GOOD**

Saugeye - Stocked nearly 2.2 million fingerlings since 2000. Strong numbers of 10-16" fish, with some up to 26". Although the lake holds good numbers of fish, anglers are most successful in the tailwaters below the dam. Paint Creek Lake tailwaters is one of the best locations statewide for catching saugeye. A simple lead head jig (1/16 to ¼ ounce) with a plastic twister tail body is all you need. Tailwater fishing is best from November-May after high flows. In the lake, try points and dropoffs adjacent to flat areas. **OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT**

White Bass - Moderate numbers of 8-12" fish, with some 13-15 inchers. Try casting jigs with twisters or trolling small crankbaits. August through October can be peak time. Very few anglers target white bass in the lake. The average size white bass kept in 2008 was a very respectable 13.1 inches. **OUTLOOK: FAIR**