

NEBRASKA



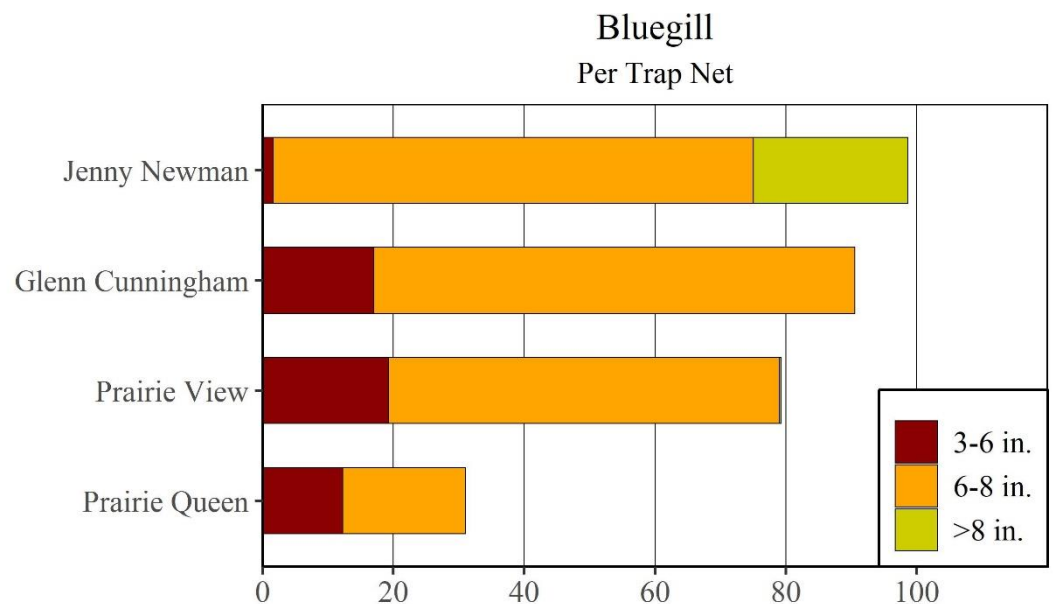
2023 Omaha Area Fishing Forecast

This is a fishing forecast for the Omaha area. The forecast includes figures for area public water bodies that were surveyed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) during 2022. Therefore, there may be other water bodies in the area that provide good fishing opportunities that are not included in this forecast (see map). The following information will help anglers decide on where the best fishing for a variety of species can be found based on survey results. Anglers seeking more information on area lakes such as locations, lake maps, regulations and stocking reports are encouraged to browse the Nebraska Game and Parks website at www.outdoornebraska.gov.



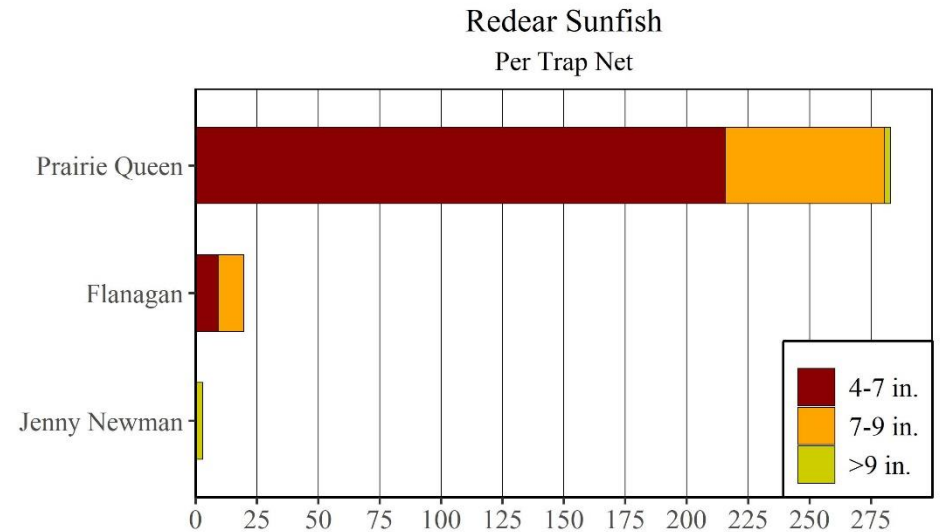
Bluegills

Anglers in the Omaha area will have plenty of lakes to choose from for Bluegills in 2023. **Jenny Newman, Glenn Cunningham, and Prairie View** had the highest catch rates of Bluegills. Lakes with good water quality and habitat such as **Walnut Creek, Lawrence Youngman, and Flanagan** will provide quality Bluegill fishing in 2023. **Prairie Queen** will also provide some good Bluegill fishing even though net survey results were low. **Anglers are required to release all Bluegill greater than 8 inches in length caught at Flanagan beginning January 1st, 2023.** Anglers are required to release all Bluegill Caught at **Jenny Newman**.



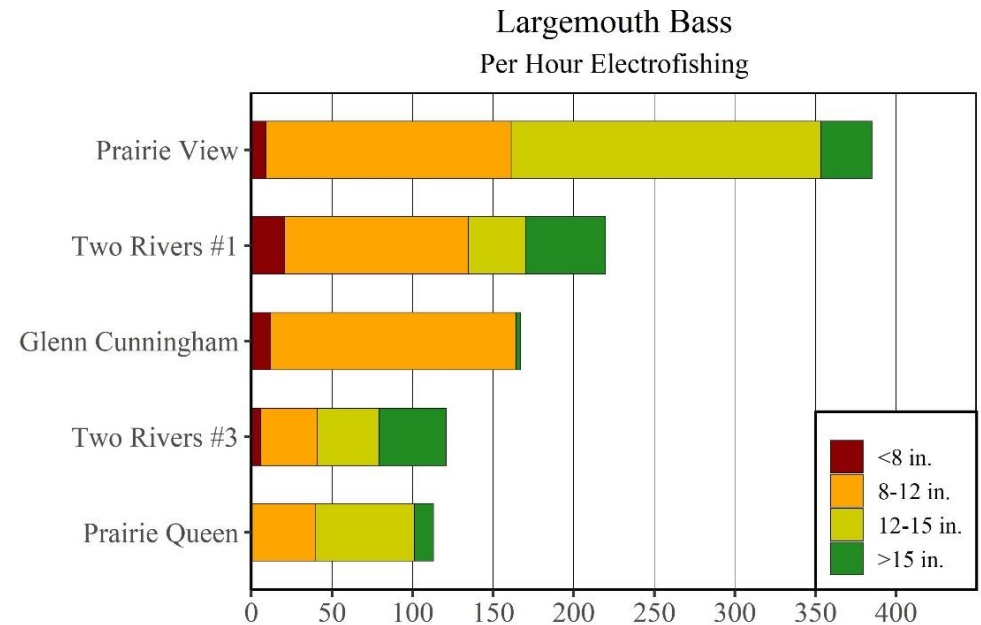
Redear Sunfish/Redear Sunfish Hybrids

Redear Sunfish continue to thrive in our southeast Nebraska waters and 2023 will offer good fishing opportunities at multiple lakes. Higher abundances can be found at **Flanagan** and **Prairie Queen**, as well as Louisville State Park. The Redear Sunfish at **Jenny Newman** and **Walnut Creek** will provide the best chance at a master angler. **Anglers are required to release all Redear Sunfish greater than 8 inches in length caught at Flanagan beginning January 1st, 2023.** Anglers are required to release all Redear Sunfish caught at **Jenny Newman**.



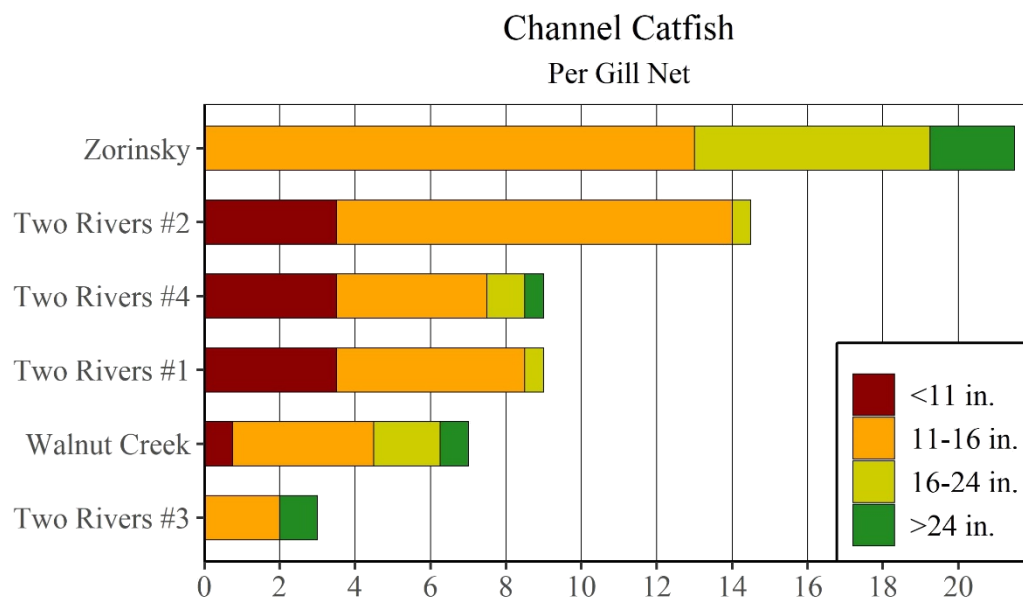
Largemouth Bass

Largemouth Bass fishing opportunities will continue in the Omaha area in 2023. **Prairie View** and **Two Rivers #1** in Two Rivers State Park had the highest catch rates with good proportions of the catch >12 inches in length. Newly renovated lakes, **Glenn Cunningham**, and **Flanagan** should provide high catch rates of fish. **Prairie Queen** and **Lawrence Youngman** should provide good opportunities for fish around 15 inches. Anglers seeking larger fish should head to **Wehrspann** or **Wanahoo**.



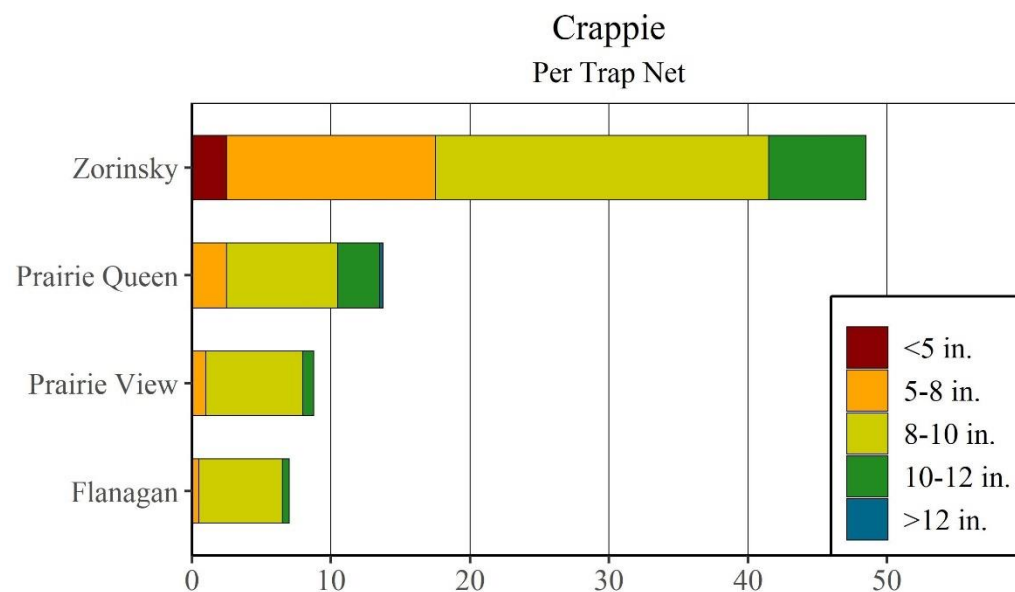
Channel Catfish

Channel Catfish can be found in almost every reservoir and river in the metro area; however, **Zorinsky** and **Walnut Creek** will be an angler's best bet at large Channel Catfish. Anglers can also find eater sized fish at all the lakes mentioned above as well as **Wehrspann**, **Prairie Queen**, and all the lakes at **Two Rivers State Park**. Anglers are required to release all Channel Catfish caught at **Two Rivers #2** and **Two Rivers #3**.



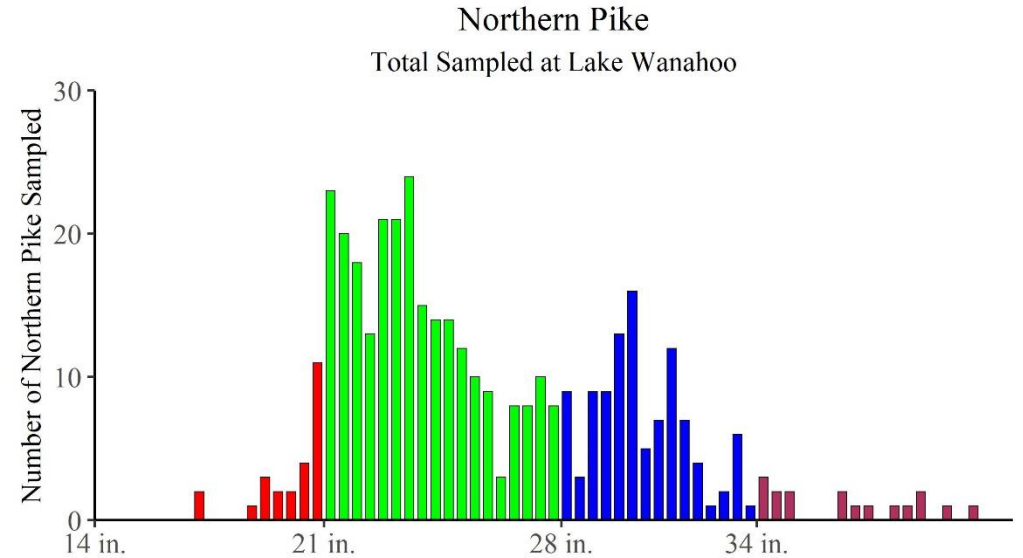
Crappie

Anglers targeting crappie should have no trouble finding fish at **Zorinsky**, **Prairie Queen**, **Flanagan**, and **Walnut Creek**. Anglers will also find plenty of crappie at **Prairie View** and **Wehrspann** in 2023. Anglers are required to release all Crappie **greater than 10 inches** in length caught at **Flanagan** beginning **January 1st, 2023**.

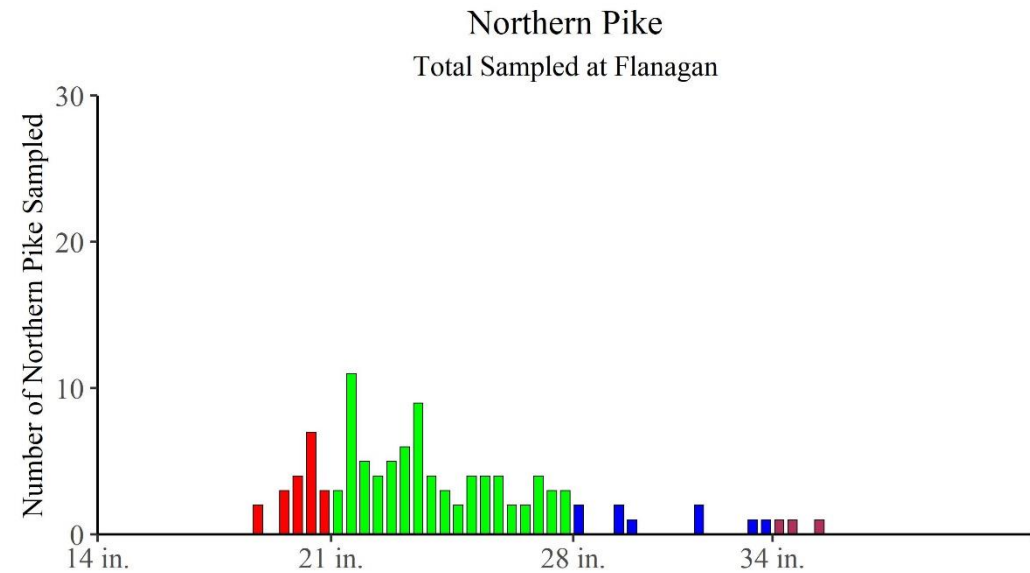


Northern Pike

Lake Wanahoo will again provide a unique fishing opportunity to catch Northern Pike in eastern Nebraska. A multitude of fish in the 20-30 inch range were caught and tagged in the spring of 2022 as well as a good number of fish over 34 inches. The Northern pike tagging study will continue in 2023 and anglers are asked to report all tagged fish to NGPC.FISHTAGS@NEBRASKA.GOV. Anglers are required to release all northern pike caught at **Lake Wanahoo**.

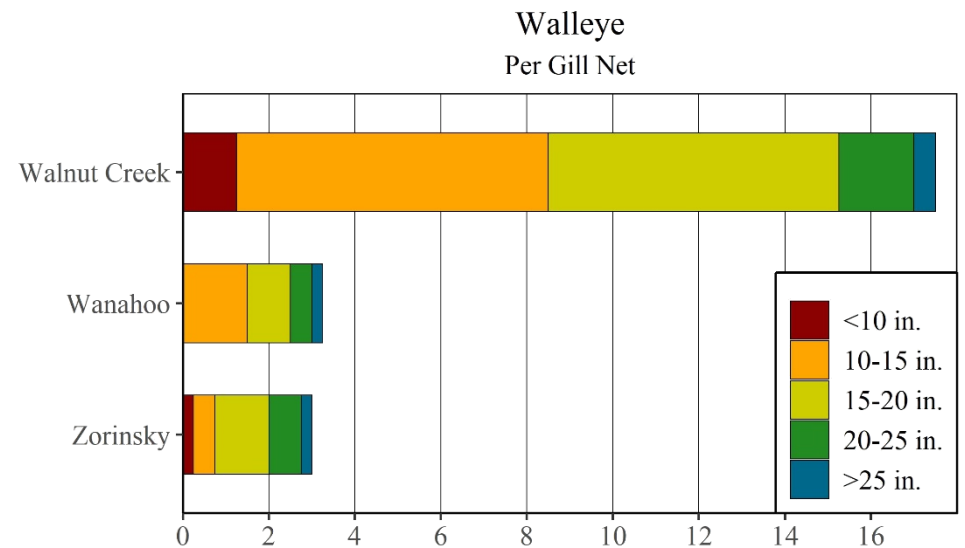


Northern Pike stocking in **Flanagan** began in 2018 and continued in 2022, creating another unique fishing opportunity in the Omaha area. Already, several fish were caught that were over 34 inches. The Northern Pike tagging study has been extended to include **Flanagan** and will continue in 2023. Anglers are asked to report all tagged fish to NGPC.FISHTAGS@NEBRASKA.GOV. Anglers are required to release all Northern Pike caught at **Flanagan**.



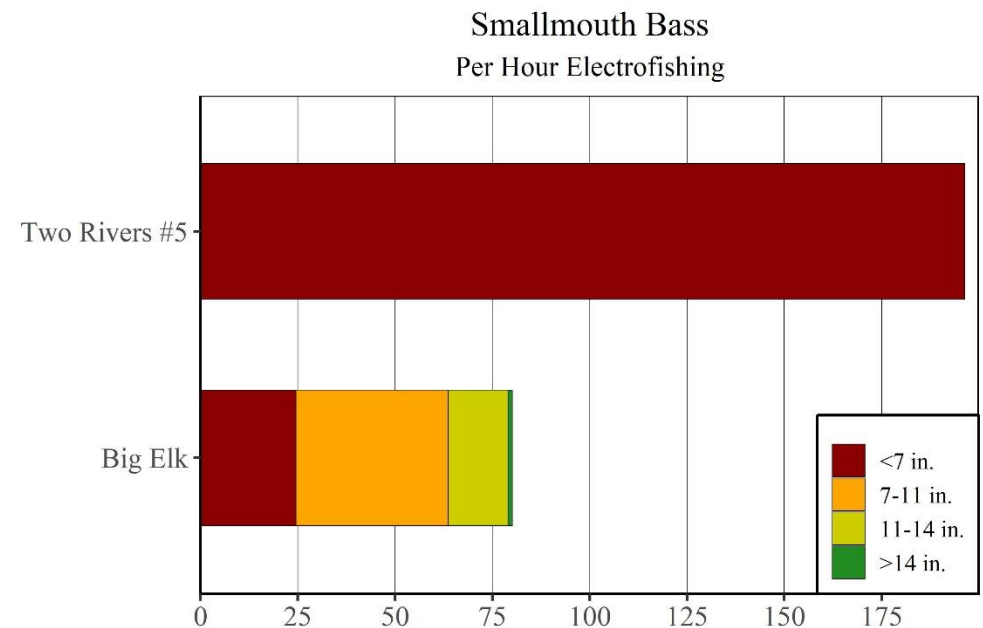
Walleye/Saugeye

We are now going on the seventh year of our advanced walleye/saugeye stocking program and multiple reservoirs in the metro have benefitted. **Walnut Creek, Lawrence Youngman, Zorinsky, Prairie Queen, and Wanahoo** will all provide anglers a chance at some legal 15 inch walleyes in 2023. Anglers seeking larger Walleye should head to **Lawrence Youngman** and **Walnut Creek**. Saugeye were stocked into Glenn Cunningham starting in 2021 and will be evaluated next fall.



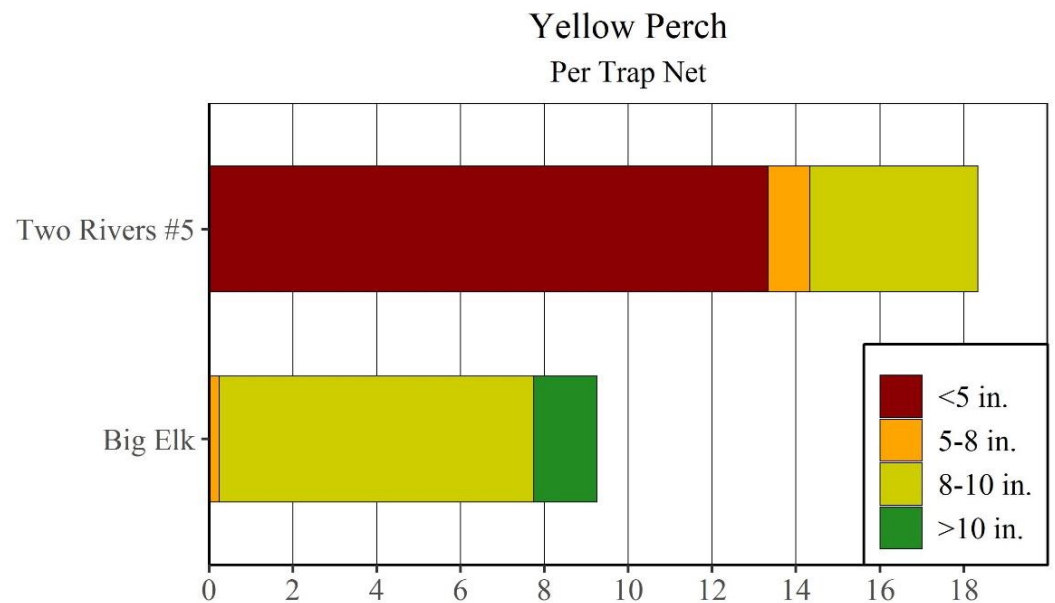
Smallmouth Bass

Smallmouth Bass were stocked in **Big Elk** and **Portal** in 2021 to create another unique fishing opportunity in the Omaha metro area. It is imperative to keep Largemouth Bass out of **Big Elk** and **Portal** to avoid competition between Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass. Smallmouth were stocked into **Two Rivers #5** in Two Rivers State Park after the renovation in 2021. **Big Elk** and **Portal** will provide anglers with opportunities to catch fish >11 inches in 2023 while catch rates may be higher at **Two Rivers #5**. Anglers are allowed to keep two Smallmouth Bass less than 12 inches in length from **Big Elk** and **Portal**. Anglers are allowed to keep five Smallmouth Bass greater than 15 inches from **Two Rivers #5**.



Yellow Perch

Yellow Perch were stocked in **Big Elk** and **Portal** in 2021 to create another unique fishing opportunity in the Omaha metro area. It is imperative to keep Bluegill and Crappie out of **Big Elk** and **Portal** to avoid competition between Yellow Perch and other panfish. Yellow Perch were also stocked in **Two Rivers #5** in Two Rivers State Park after the renovation in 2021. **Big Elk, Portal, and Two Rivers #5** will provide opportunities to catch Yellow Perch >8 inches in length. Anglers seeking larger Yellow Perch should fish at **Big Elk** and **Portal**. Anglers are allowed to keep 5 perch per day of any length at **Big Elk** and **Portal**. Anglers are allowed to keep 15 Yellow Perch per day of any length from **Two Rivers #5**.



Other Species

Rainbow Trout

Although the Omaha metro doesn't have cold-water streams that support trout, there is still plenty of opportunity in and around Omaha to catch them. Rainbow trout are routinely stocked in the spring at **Two Rivers 5** while **Louisville #1a, Benson Lake, Hitchcock Lake, and Towl Lake** receive fall stockings. **Lake Halleck** and **CenturyLink Lake (in Mahoney SP)** receive spring and fall stockings. Anglers can check the stocking database on the Game and Parks website to see the exact date rainbow trout were stocked.

