

# Maloney Reservoir 2019 Fall Survey Summary



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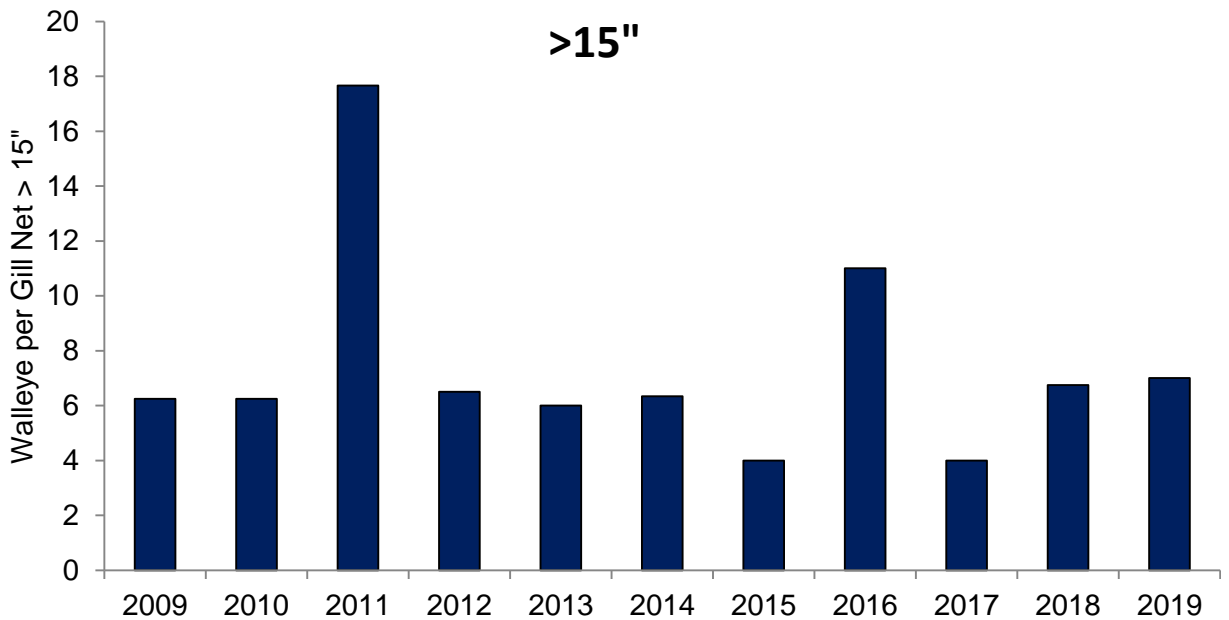
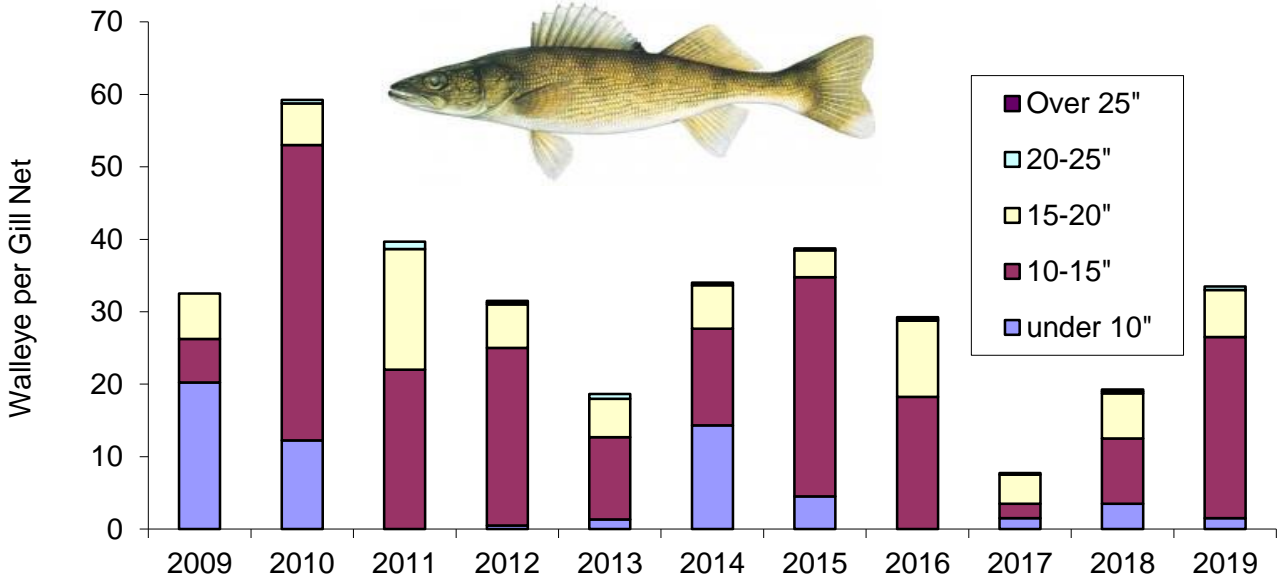
Lake Maloney is the second canal reservoir downstream from Lakes McConaughy and Ogallala. It is approximately 1600 surface acres. This reservoir is utilized for regulation of water used by Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). Lake Maloney offers unique fishing opportunities as a result of its functionality as noticeable on [NGPC's Lake Map](#). Check the [2020 Fishing Guide](#) for regulations concerning Lake Maloney's Fishery.

Information collected from standard surveys allows biologists to evaluate the population density, size structure, and growth rates for several species. This data provides valuable information to guide decision making scenarios that include fish species stocked, stocking rates and fishing regulations. This information also assists Game and Parks staff in guiding anglers to waterbodies that have the desired populations for fishing.



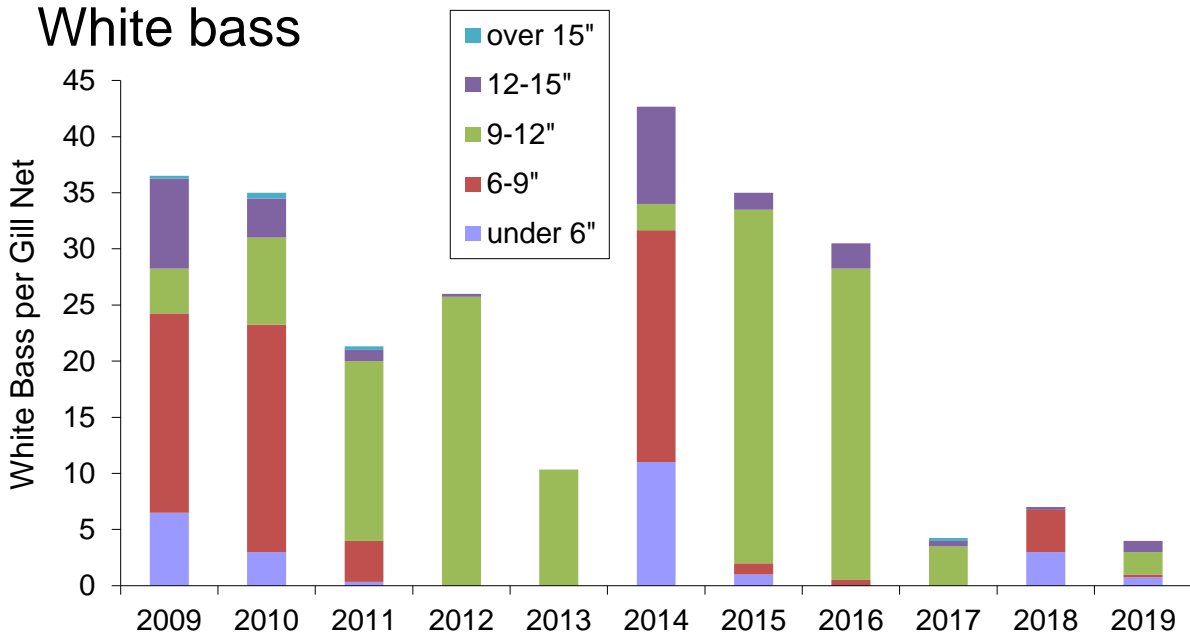
The following text and graphs are the result of the 2019 gill netting survey. Graphs represent number of each species captured per gill net by length group. For comparative purposes it also shows results from previous surveys.

# Walleye



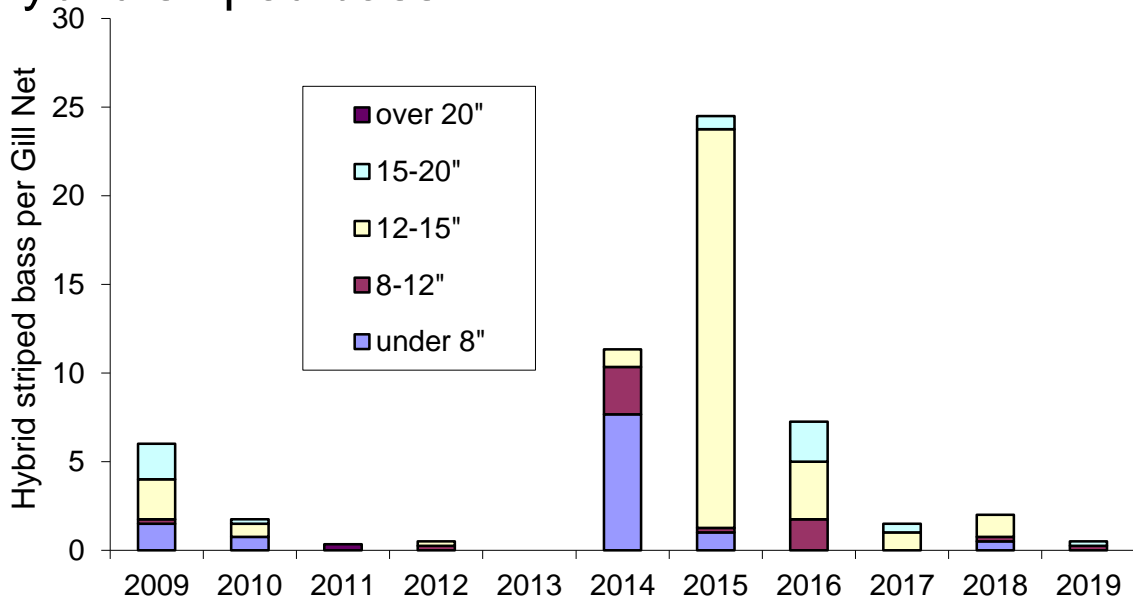
In 2019, 33.5 walleye were sampled per gill net with 4% under 10", 75% 10-15", 19% 15-20" and 1% 20-25". This survey suggests that the population is recovering from substantial harvest that occurred during 2016/17. Although a large portion of the population is likely composed of <15" individuals, this data is a good sign for future angling at Lake Maloney. Walleye fingerlings are requested to be stocked in 2020.

## White bass



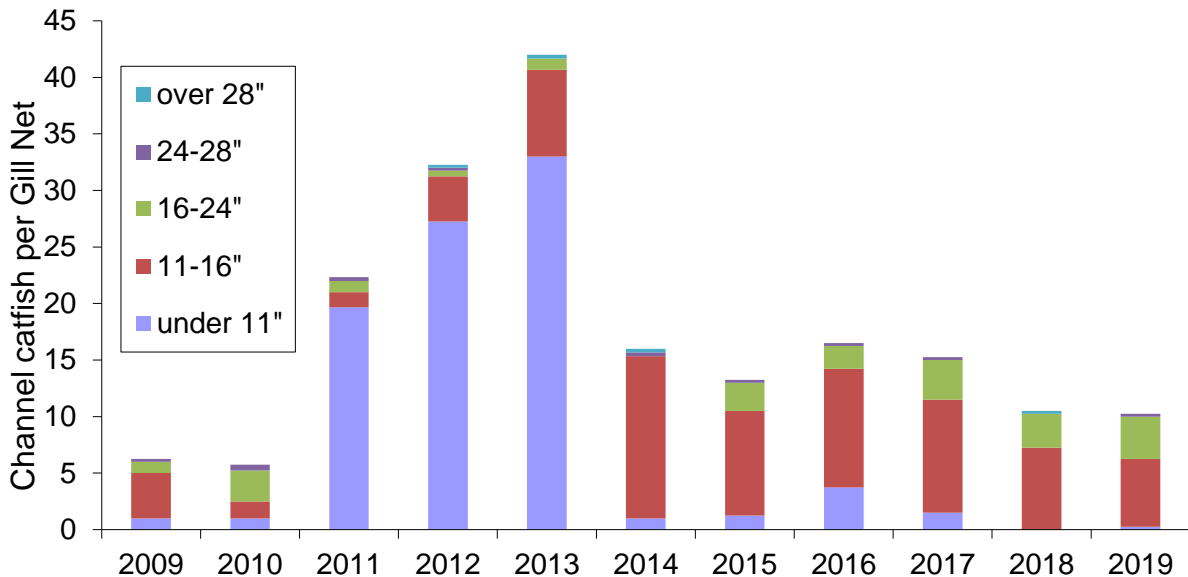
Only four white bass per gill net were surveyed during 2019. These low values haven't been observed since the early 2000's. The abundance of young-of-year observed during 2018's survey along with favorable environmental conditions will aide in population recovery of this cyclical species. Current age analysis data indicates that white bass require 3 years of growth to reach 11" in Lake Maloney.

## Hybrid striped bass



Only 0.5 wiper were sampled per gill net in 2019. Mean length of those sampled in 2019 was 10.5". A relatively small population consisting of large specimens is desired for this species as they can reach lengths greater than white bass if environmental factors are favorable and mortality is low. Access the [NGPC Fish Identification Guide](#) for tips on identifying these species prior to harvest. In addition to what this website states, hybrid striped bass have more than one stripe that extends to the tail.

# Channel catfish



In 2019, 10.25 channel catfish were sampled per gill net. Of these, 2% were less than 11", 59% were 11-16", 37% 16-24" and 2% over 24". The surge of abundance observed from 2011 through 2013 appears to have declined but favorable sized channel catfish may be the lasting influence.

## Carp-O-Rama

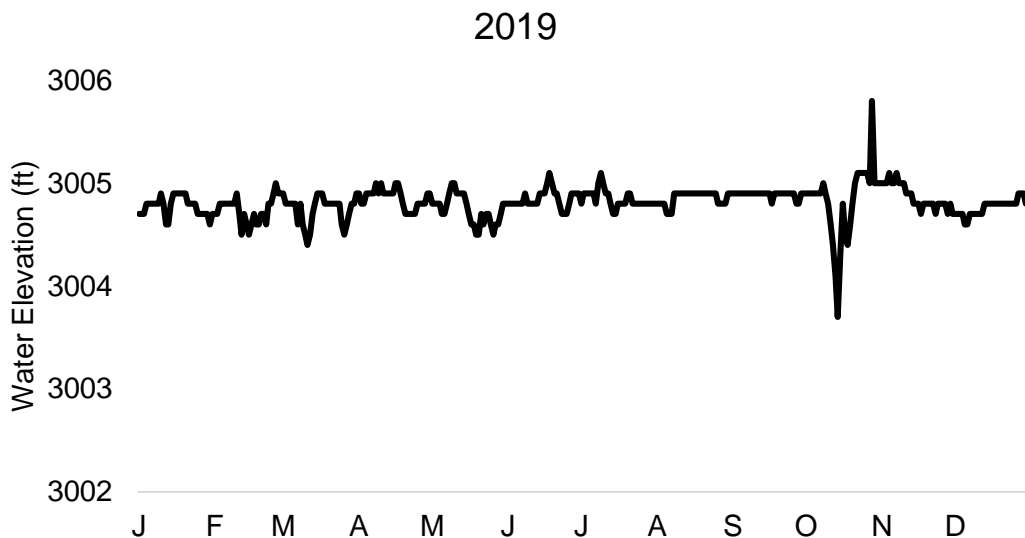
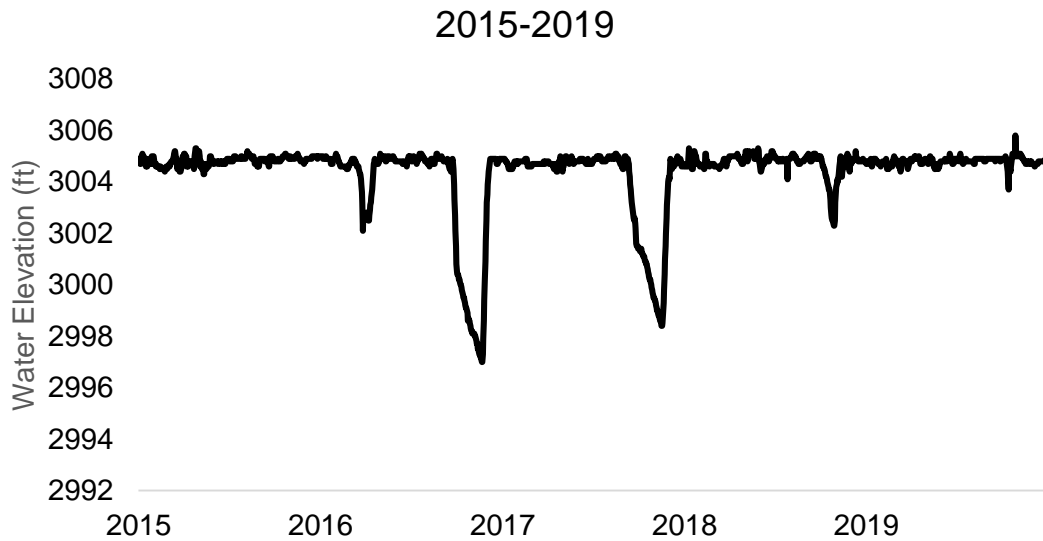
On July 20, 2019 the 7th annual Carp-O-Rama Family Fishing Event was held at Lake Maloney's Outlet Area State Recreation Area. Previous to the date, common carp were baited into the area with spoiled grain. Participants caught common carp from shore. Nearly all participants who fished caught at least one hard fighting common carp. Gear, bait, advice and netting assistance was provided by NGPC employees and volunteers. The Nebraska Fish and Game Association (NEFGA) was also present representing their organization and dispersing bait. Cleaning and cooking of common carp were skills demonstrated along with Dutch oven cooking. Fried carp and sides were served for lunch. Look for upcoming Family Fishing Events details and schedules at <http://outdoornebraska.gov/familyfishing/>.



Lake Maloney receives stockings from NGPC's Hatchery System every year. Many factors are at play when stocking selections are made. Below you will find Lake Maloney's stocking history for the past eleven years. For more stocking details for Lake Maloney and other public waterbodies access [NGPC's Fish Stocking Reports](#).

| <u>Stocking Year</u> | <u>Walleye</u>                     | <u>Hybrid Striped Bass</u> | <u>Yellow perch</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 2009                 | 40,166-1.5"                        | 4,392-2"                   |                     |
| 2010                 | 40,611-1.3"                        |                            |                     |
| 2011                 | 42,831-1.25"                       |                            |                     |
| 2012                 | 40,472-1.3"                        |                            |                     |
| 2013                 | 40,160-1.3"                        | 24,037-1"                  |                     |
| 2014                 | 40,170-1.5"                        | 24,000-1.3"                |                     |
| 2015                 | 40,000-1.5"                        | 12,000-1.5"                |                     |
| 2016                 | 41,760-1.5"                        |                            | 29,677-4"           |
| 2017                 | 39,983-1.25"                       | 8,113-1.25"                |                     |
| 2018                 | 80,000-1.5" &<br>1,925,000-fry     | 7,968--1.25"               | 8,100-4"            |
| 2019                 | 80,000-1.25"<br>&1,300,000-<br>fry | 8,160-1"                   |                     |

# Water Elevation



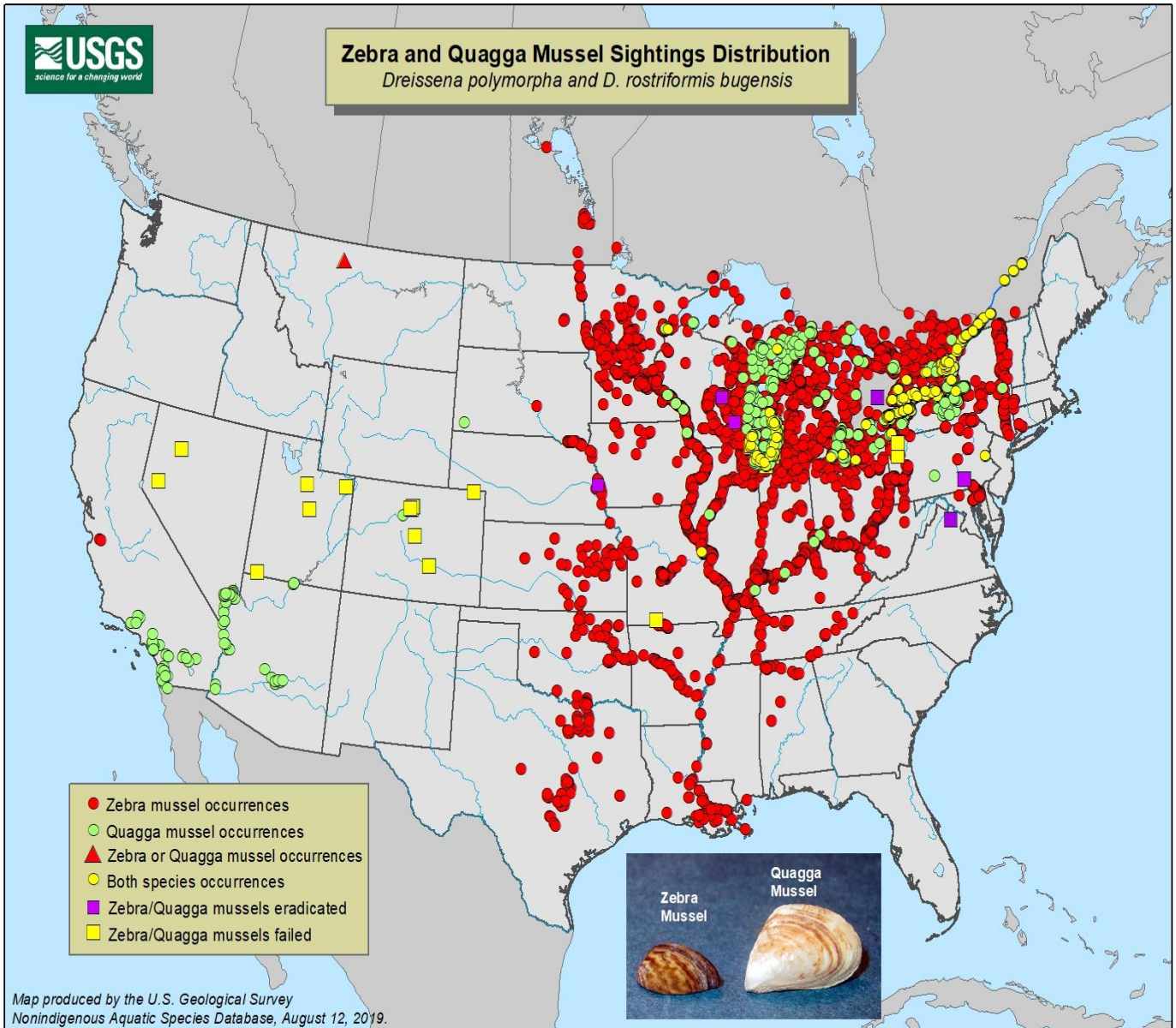
Lake Maloney's water level fluctuates often and plays a vital role in fish populations. During the last decade, two periods of stable water elevation has contributed to excellent fishing. Access [NPPD's Water Data](#) to follow Lake Maloney's water level.

If you have questions or concerns about Lake Maloney's fishery please contact Jared Lorensen, Biologist 308-535-8025, [jared.lorensen@nebraska.gov](mailto:jared.lorensen@nebraska.gov)  
Brad Newcomb, District Mgr. 308-865-5330, [brad.newcomb@nebraska.gov](mailto:brad.newcomb@nebraska.gov)

# Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

Distribution of zebra and quagga mussels is growing. The most recent finding in Nebraska was Glen Cunningham Lake in Omaha during 2018. The below map portrays the spread of these invasive mussels. Access [U.S. Geological Society's Site](#) for more information.

In 2016, Nebraska boaters became required to possess a [Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Stamp](#). Residents acquire the stamp when registering their watercraft. Nonresidents have to purchase a physical sticker that must be displayed on their watercraft.



# Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)



**STOP AQUATIC  
HITCHHIKERS!™**

According to Nebraska State Law, **it is illegal for watercraft to enter a Nebraska waterbody or leave a launch area while containing water.** This includes all containers, compartments, and equipment that are permanently attached to the watercraft.

**AND**

**All aquatic vegetation must be removed from watercraft and trailers before leaving a launch area.**

Protect Your Waters—Remember to **CLEAN, DRAIN, and DRY!**

