

Maloney Reservoir

2015 Fall Survey Summary



Jared Lorensen, Fisheries Biologist

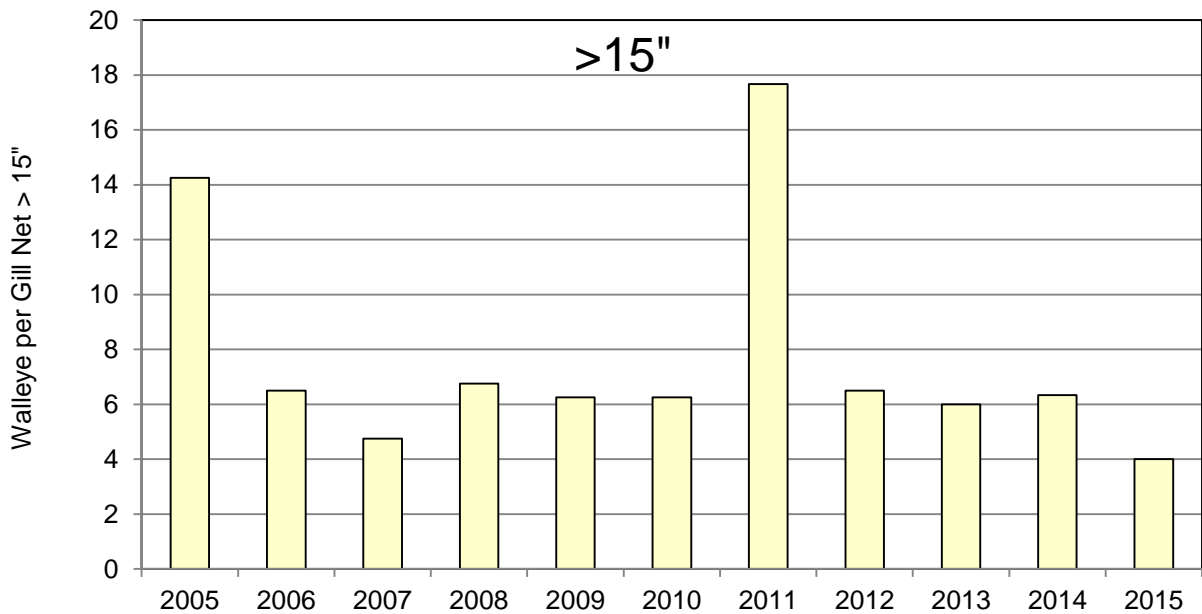
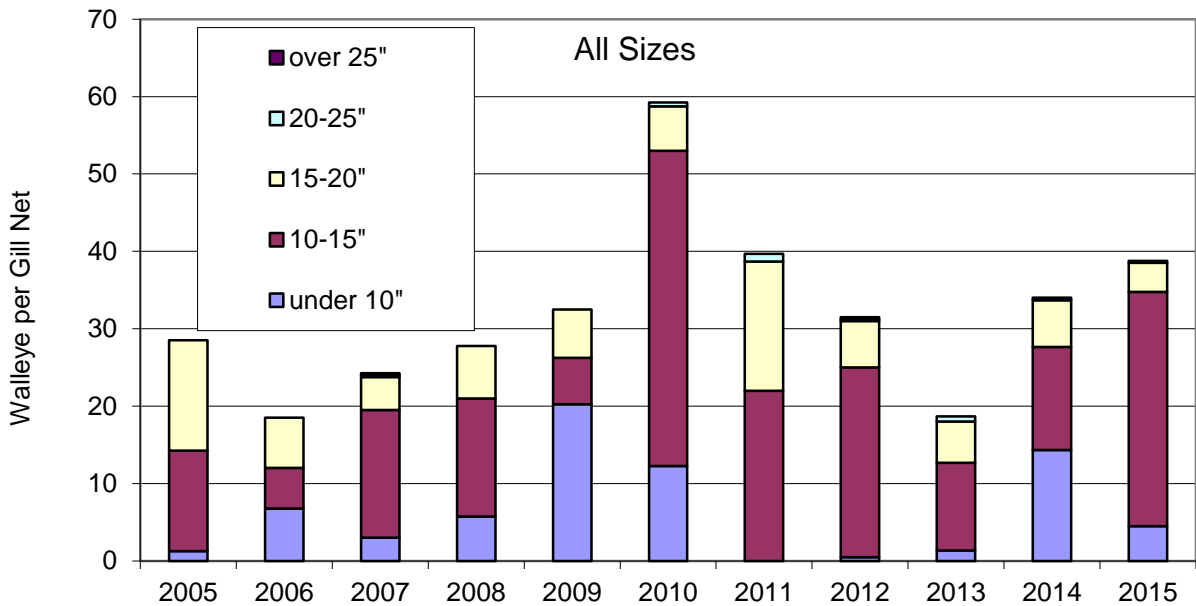
Lake Maloney is the second canal reservoir downstream from Lakes McConaughy and Ogallala. It is approximately 1600 surface acres. This reservoir is utilized for regulation of water used by Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). Lake Maloney offers unique fishing opportunities as a result of its functionality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

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 2015 gill netting survey at Lake Maloney. Graphs represent number of each species captured per gill net by length group. For comparative purposes it also shows results from previous years.

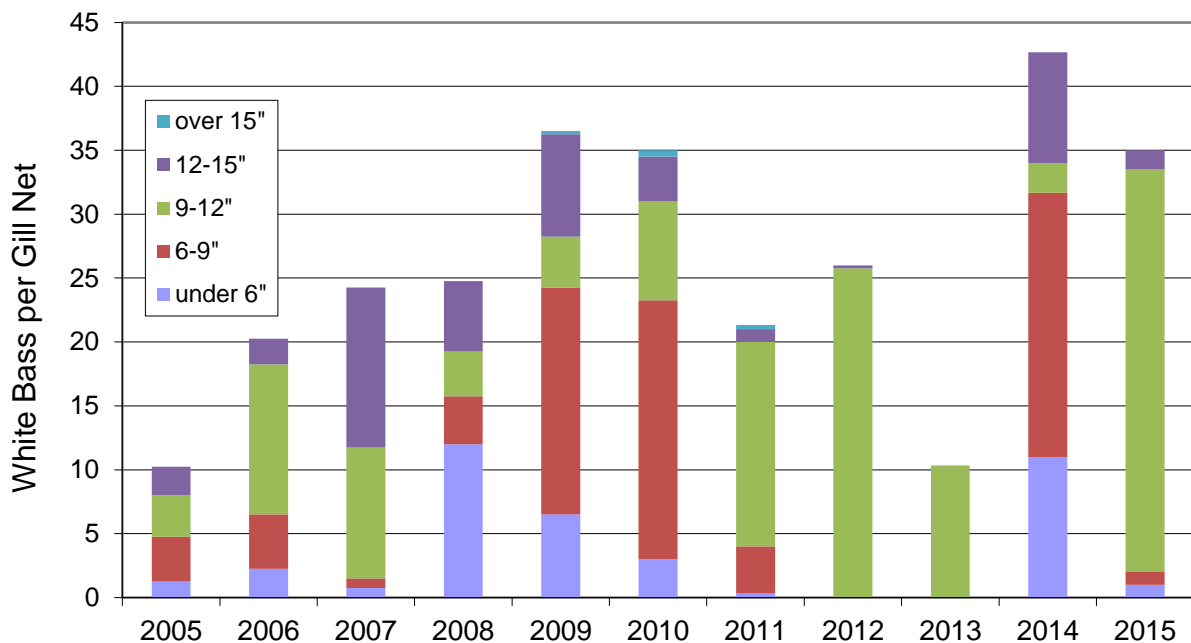


Walleye



In 2015, 39 walleye were sampled per gill net with 11% under 10", 78% 10-15", 10% 15-20" and 1% 20-25". This survey indicates that the large proportion of under 10" walleye sampled in 2014 recruited into the next length category (10-15"). The population may be in a similar situation as that observed in 2010. Current age and growth analysis indicates that it takes approximately three years of growth before a walleye reaches a length greater than 15" in Lake Maloney.

White bass



The 2015 white bass survey data is dominated by the 2014 age class. They made up 90% of the entire sample. Average length observed in this sample was 10.3". White bass population density can be cyclical and current age and growth data indicates that it takes Lake Maloney white bass approximately two years to reach 10".

With the current abundance of small white bass and hybrid striped bass (next page) anglers need to practice identification of these species as hybrid striped bass may reach greater sizes than white bass if allowed to grow. Tips on discriminating between these species can be found on [NGPC's Fish Identification Guide](#) online or a print booklet can be picked up at your local NGPC office.

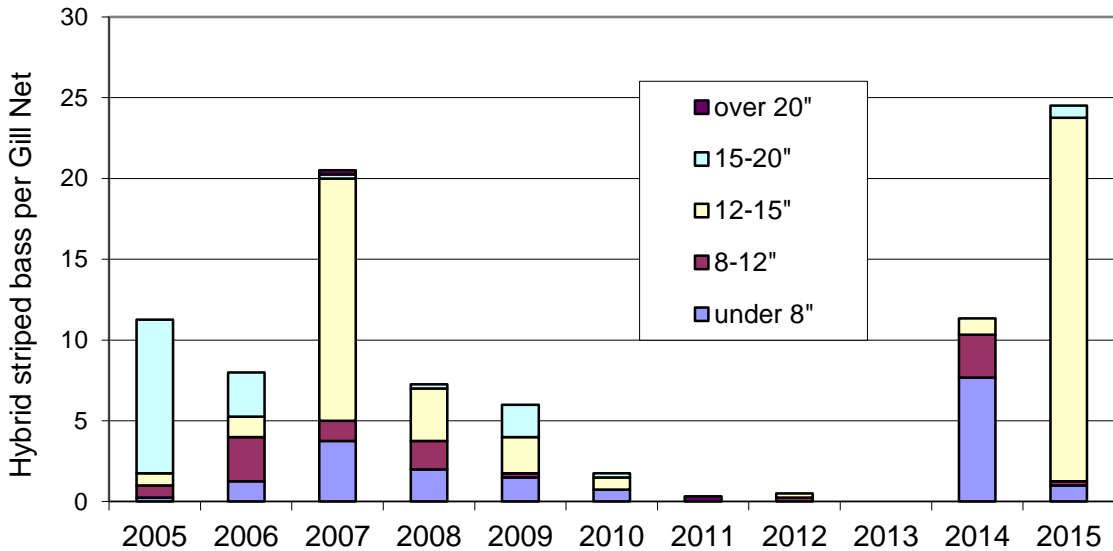


White bass



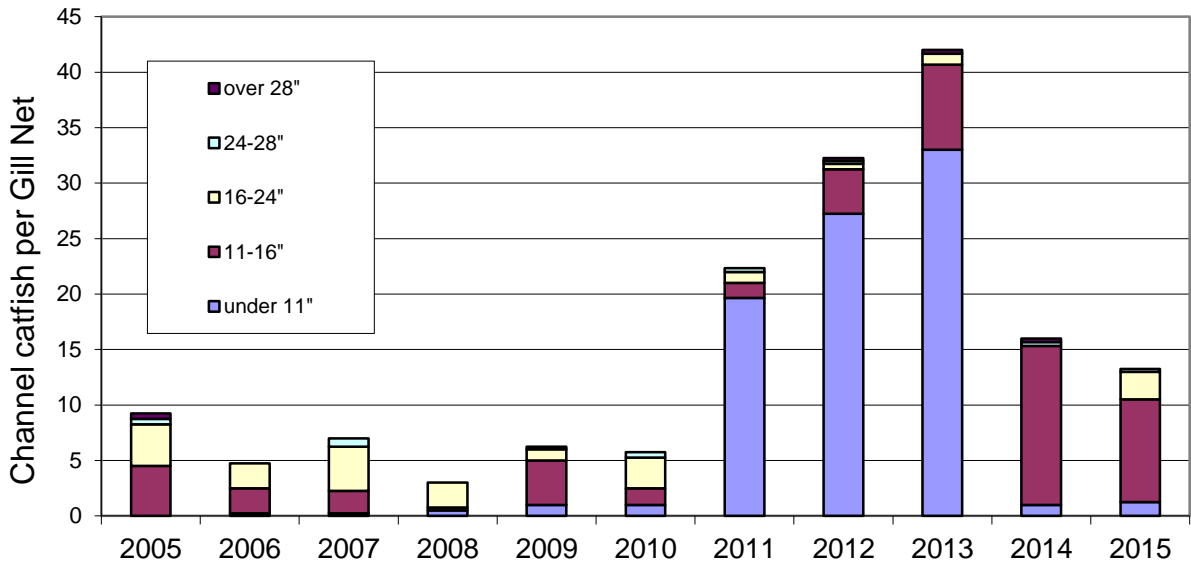
Hybrid striped bass

Hybrid striped bass



Hybrid striped bass were stocked into Lake Maloney during 2013,14 and 15. This reappearance is now dominated by the 12-15" length group. Mean length of those sampled was 13". A relatively small population consisting of large specimens is desired for this species as they can reach 20" in five years if environmental factors are favorable and mortality is low.

Channel catfish



In 2015, 13 channel catfish were sampled per gill net. Of these, 9% were less than 11" while the remaining 91% were over 11". The surge of abundance observed from 2011 through 2013 appears to be declined but favorable sized channel catfish may be the lasting influence.

Carp-O-Rama

On July 11, 2015 the third 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 corn. An estimated 100 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. Common carp cleaning and cooking were demonstrated along with fish printing and dutch oven cooking. Fried carp and sides were served for lunch. The Nebraska Fish and Game Association (NEFGA) was also present representing their organization. In 2016, Carp-O-Rama is scheduled for July 16th at Lake Maloney. Look for upcoming Family Fishing Event details at <http://outdoornebraska.gov/familyfishing/>.

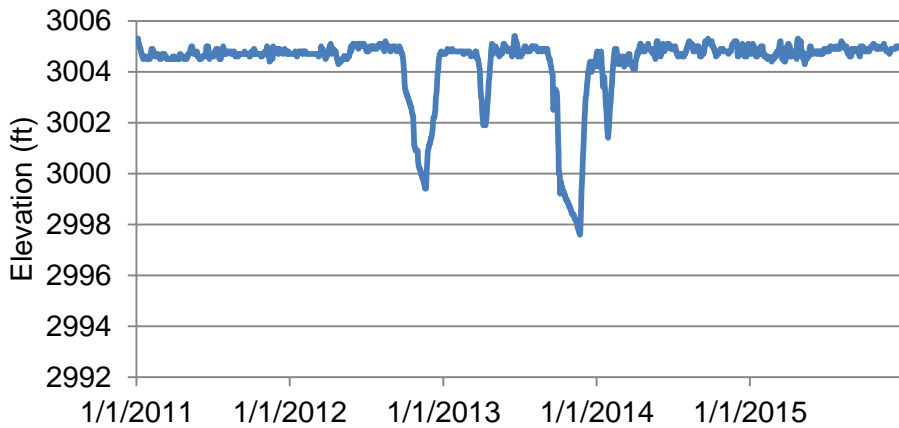




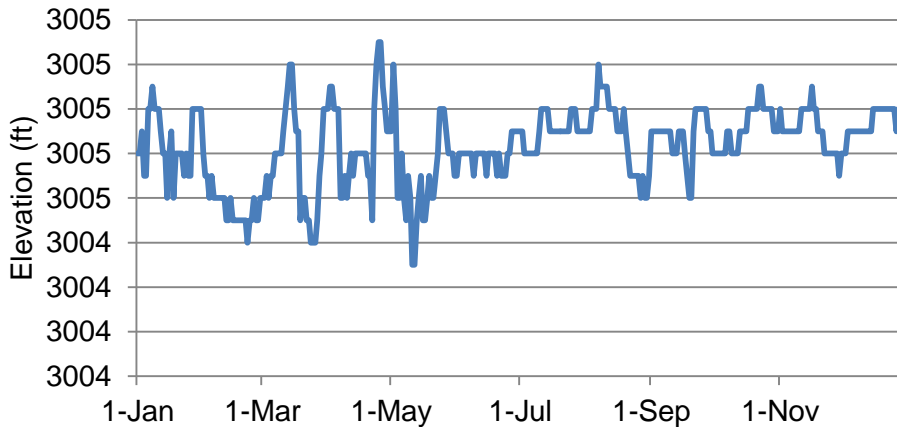
Lake Maloney receives stockings from NGPC's Hatchery System every year. Many factors are at play when stocking selections are made. Below you will find Lake Maloney's stocking history for the past eleven years. For more stocking details for Lake Maloney and other public waterbodies access [NGPC's Fish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

<u>Stocking Year</u>	<u>Walleye</u>	<u>Hybrid Striped Bass</u>	<u>Black crappie</u>
2005		12,000-1"	
2006	40,170-1"		
2007	40,000-1"	49,380-1.5"	
2008	26,800-1"	11,000-1.25"	17,500-1.25"
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"	

Lake Maloney Water Elevation January 2011 - December 2015



Lake Maloney Water Elevation 2015



Lake Maloney's water level fluctuates often. 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

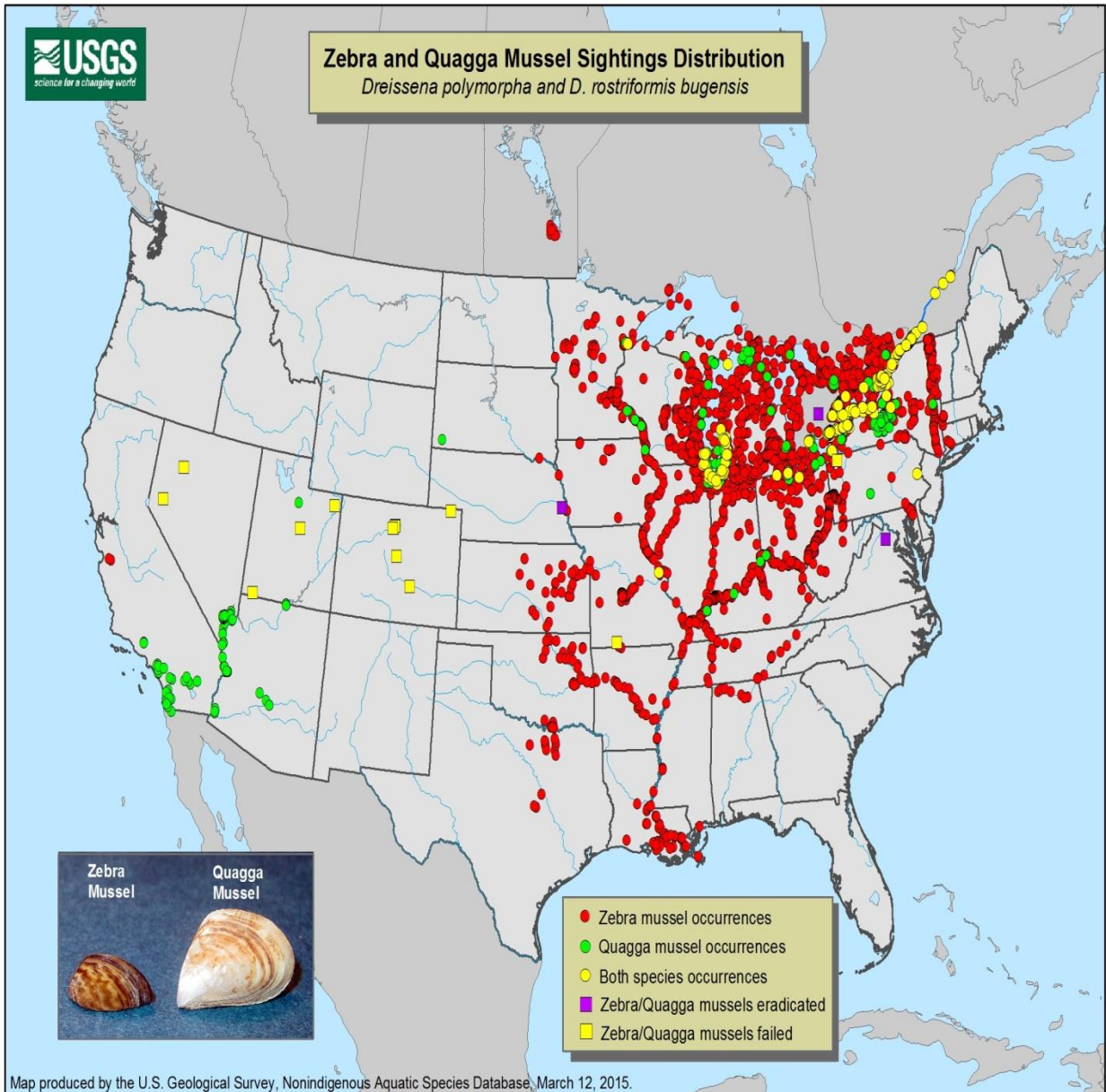
Jared Lorensen, Biologist 308-535-8025, jared.lorensen@nebraska.gov

OR

Brad Newcomb, District Mgr. 308-865-5330, brad.newcomb@nebraska.gov

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

Distribution of invasive zebra and quagga mussels is getting closer and closer to SW Nebraska. The most recent finding was at Lewis and Clark Reservoir in NE Nebraska during 2015. This [map](#) portrays the spread of these invasive mussels and is updated often.



Attention motorboat owners operating in Nebraska:

Starting in 2016, boaters whose motorized watercraft are registered in any state other than Nebraska must purchase and display a \$15 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Stamp each year they launch their boat in Nebraska. The stamp will help fund AIS education and inspection programs.



- Boat inspections for AIS prior to launch in Nebraska are NOT mandatory at this time.
- Personal watercraft registered outside of Nebraska must have this stamp.
- Non-motorized craft registered in any state are exempt from the stamp.
- Stamps are not required for boats registered in Nebraska. A \$5 AIS fee is included on the residents' three-year boat registrations.
- Residents who register their boats in other states must have this stamp before launching in Nebraska.

This stamp is available online at OutdoorNebraska.org or at Nebraska Game and Parks permitting offices.

Learn more about invasive species at neinvasives.com.





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!**

