

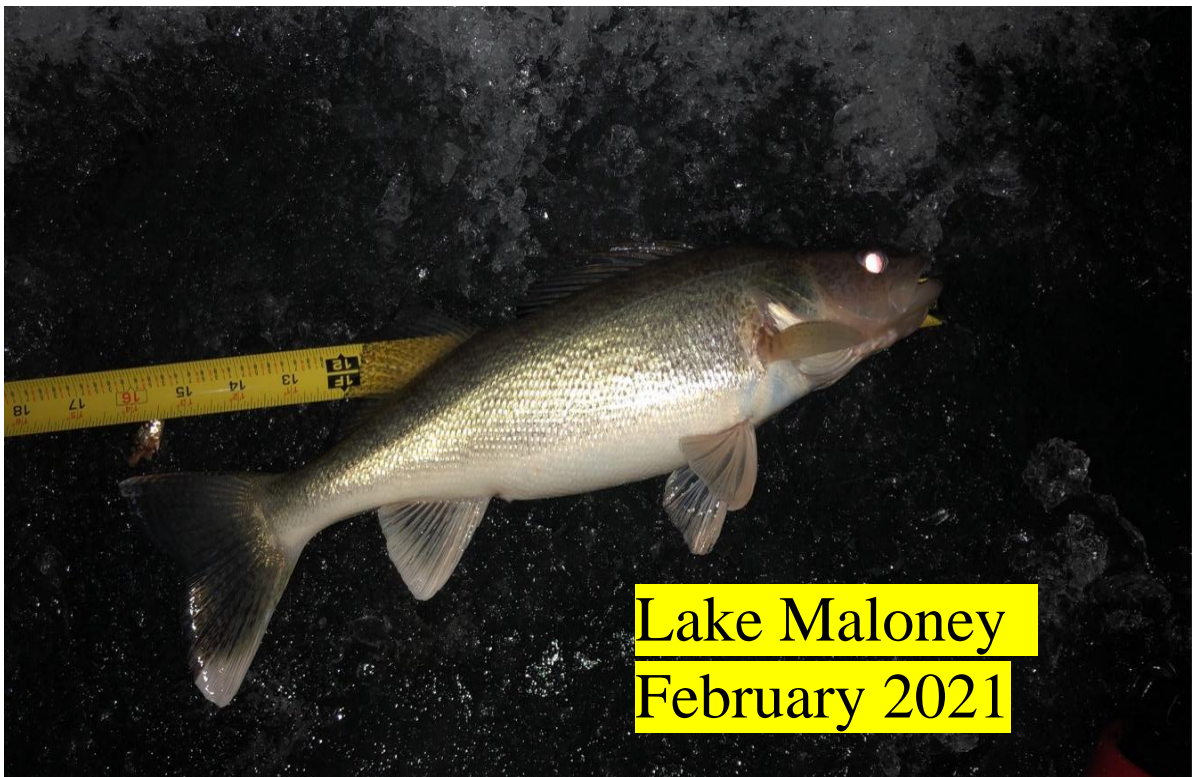
Maloney Reservoir 2021 Fall Survey Summary



Jared Lorensen, Fisheries Biologist

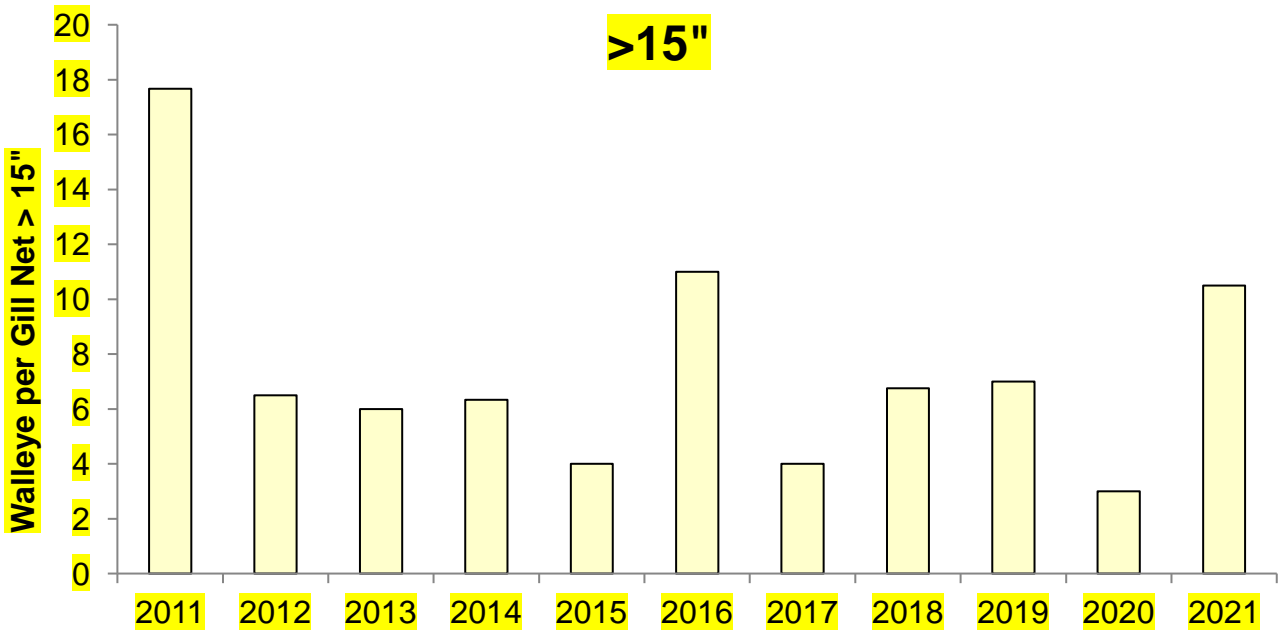
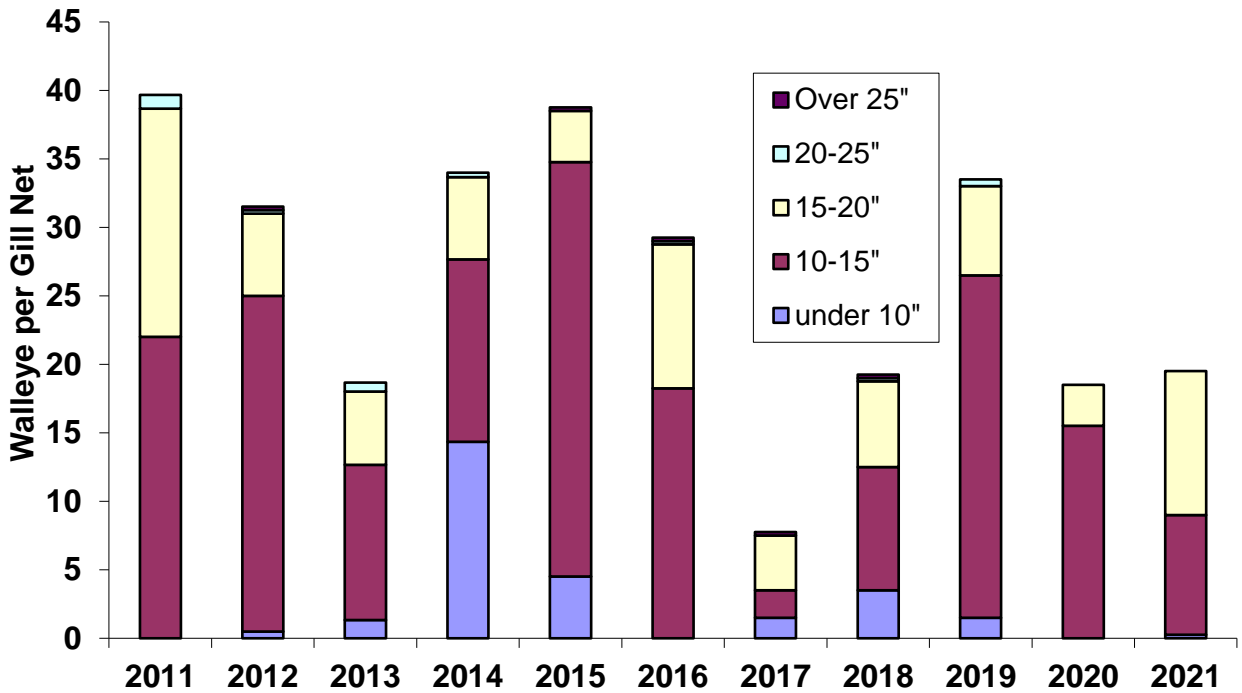
Lake Maloney is the second canal reservoir downstream from Lakes McConaughy and Ogallala. It is approximately 1600 surface acres. This reservoir is utilized for regulation of water used by Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). Lake Maloney offers unique fishing opportunities as a result of its functionality as noticeable on [NGPC's Lake Map](#). Check the [2022 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.



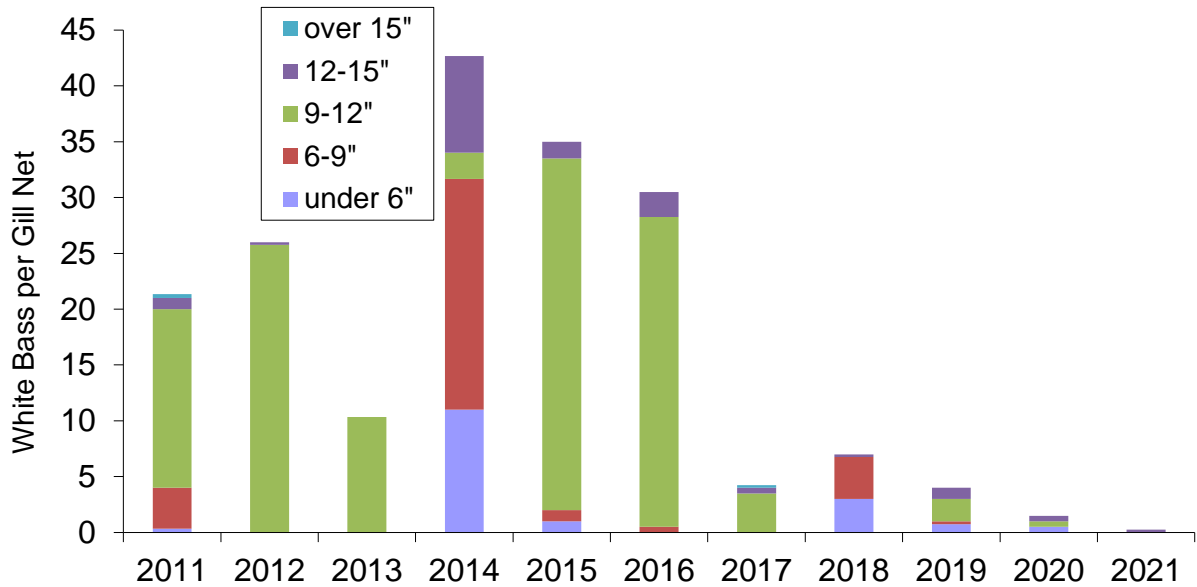
The following text and graphs are the result of the 2021 gill netting survey. Graphs represent number of each species captured per gill net by length group. For comparative purposes it also shows results from previous surveys.

Walleye



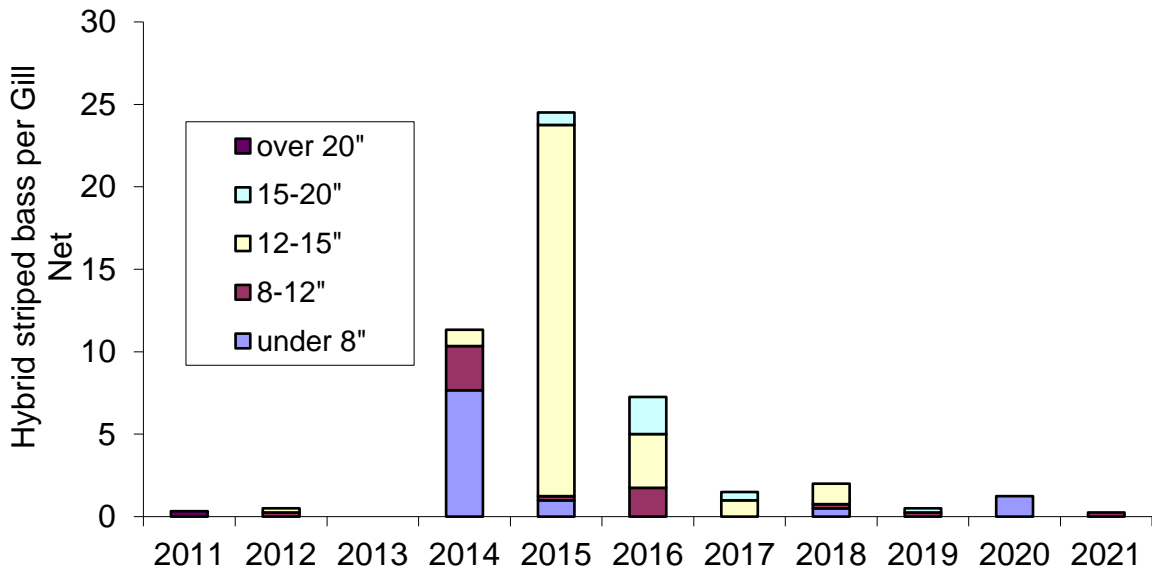
In 2021, 19.5 walleye were sampled per gill net with 1% <10", 45% 10-15" and 54% 15-20". Average length of those sampled was 14.6". This survey data indicates success of the year class stocked in 2018. Walleye fingerlings are requested to be stocked again in 2022.

White bass



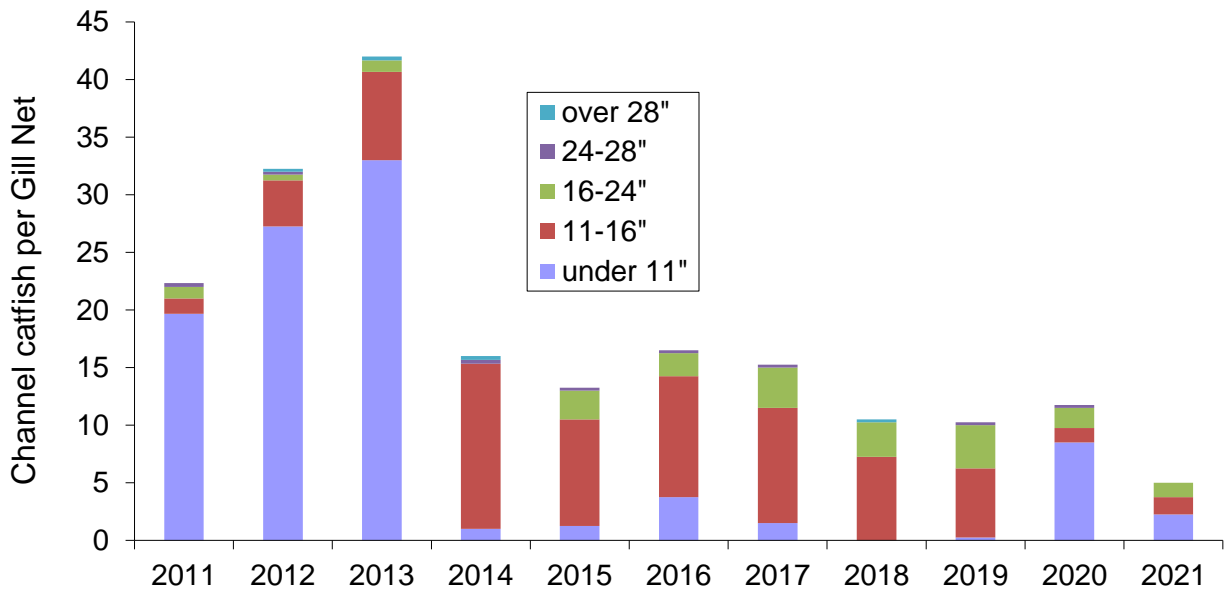
Only one white bass was sampled, in total during 2021. The recently observed low values haven't been observed since the early 2000's. The abundance of this species is of concern and changes in management strategies are being discussed. Current age analysis data indicates that white bass require 3 years of growth to reach 12.6" in Lake Maloney.

Hybrid striped bass



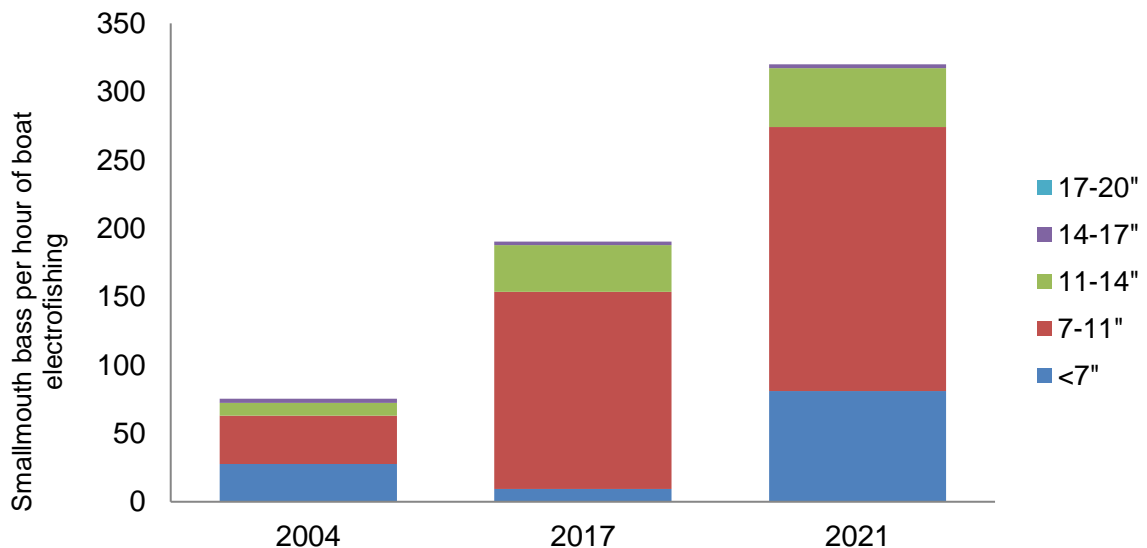
A relatively small population consisting of large specimens is desired for this species as they can reach lengths greater than white bass if environmental factors and mortality rates are favorable. Only one wiper (Hybrid striped bass) was sampled in total during 2021. Access the [NGPC Fish Identification 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 2021, 5 channel catfish were sampled per gill net. Of these, 45% were less than 11", 30% were 11-16" and 25% 16-24". Although overall abundance is low, the quantity of small channel catfish is encouraging for future angling.

Smallmouth bass



In 2021, 320 smallmouth bass per hour of boat electrofishing were collected. This large value depicts an abundance of smallmouth bass. Of those surveyed, 25% were <7", 60% were 7-11", 14% 11-14" and 1% 14-17". Average length of those sampled was 8.4". Check the [2022 Fishing Guide](#) concerning harvest length restriction removal on Lake Maloney smallmouth bass.

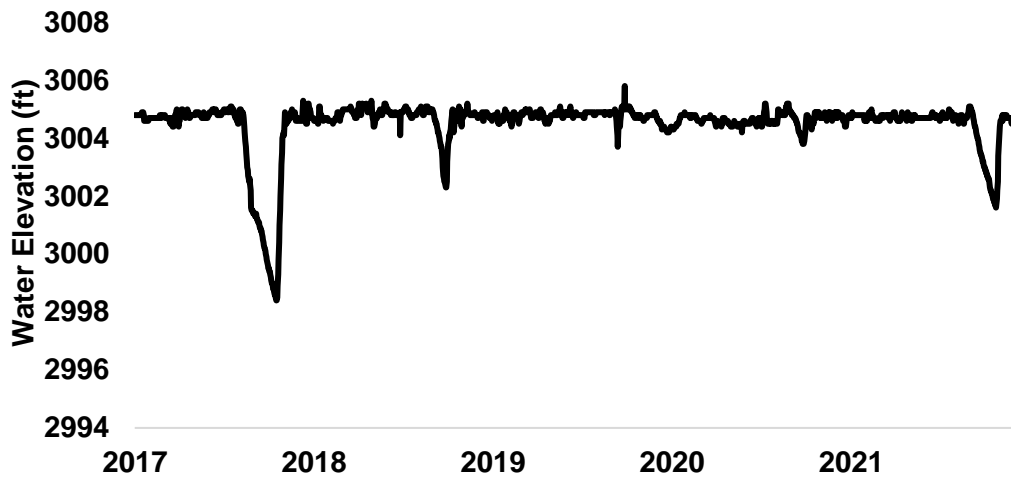


Lake Maloney receives stockings from NGPC's Hatchery System every year. Many factors are at play when stocking selections are made. Below you will find Lake Maloney's stocking history for the past eleven years. For more stocking details for Lake Maloney and other public waterbodies access [NGPC's Fish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

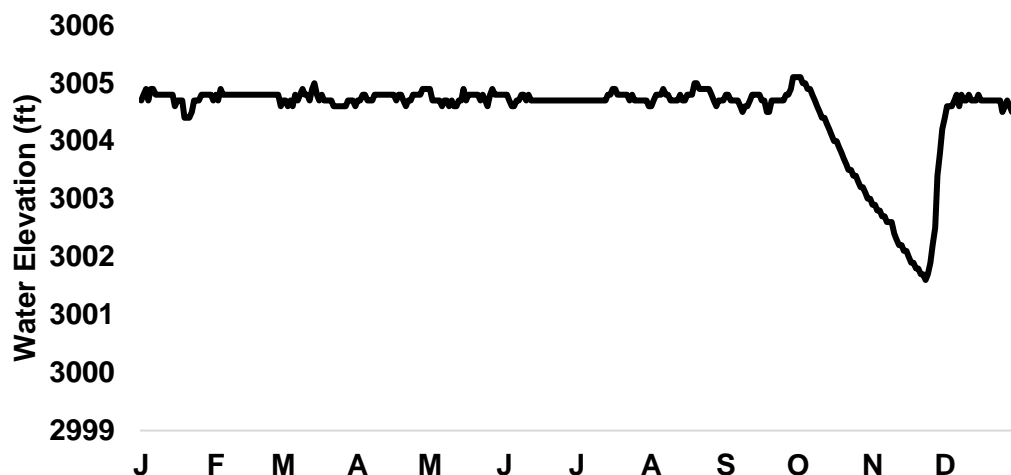
<u>Stocking Year</u>	<u>Walleye</u>	<u>Hybrid Striped Bass</u>	<u>Yellow perch</u>
2011	42,831-1.25"		
2012	40,472-1.3"		
2013	40,160-1.3"	24,037-1"	
2014	40,170-1.5"	24,000-1.3"	
2015	40,000-1.5"	12,000-1.5"	
2016	41,760-1.5"		29,677-4"
2017	39,983-1.25"	8,113-1.25"	
2018	80,000-1.5" & 1,925,000-fry	7,968--1.25"	8,100-4"
2019	1,300,000-fry & 80,000-1.25"	8,160-1"	
2020	96,607-0.75"	8,000-1.25"	45,547-1.75"
2021	81,720-1"		

Water Elevation

2017-2021



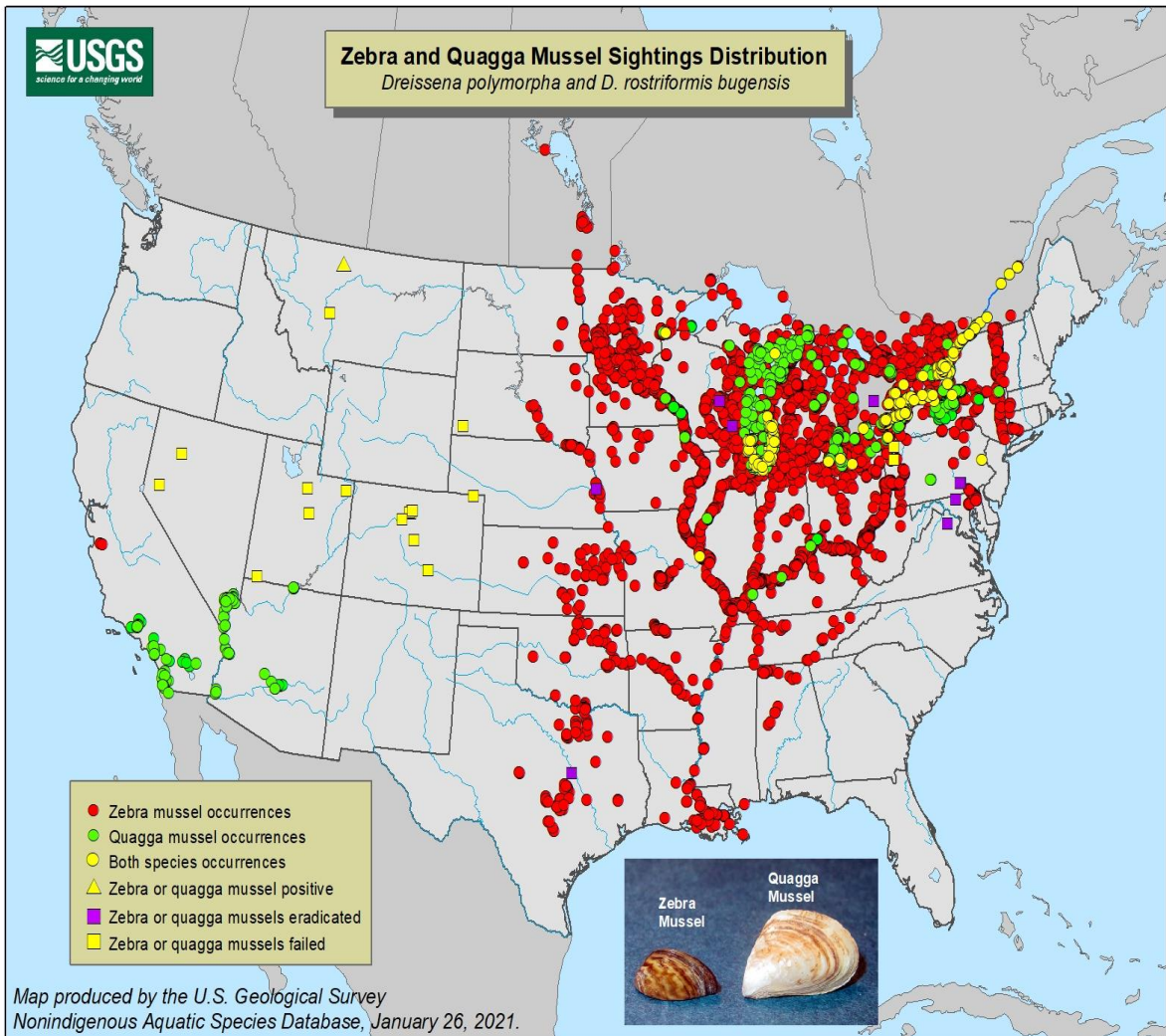
2021



Lake Maloney's water level fluctuates often and this 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. Access [NPPD's Newsroom](#) for more details.

If you have questions or concerns about Lake Maloney's fishery please contact Jared Lorensen, Biologist 308-535-8025, jared.lorensen@nebraska.gov
Brad Eifert, District Mgr. 308-865-5331, brad.eifert@nebraska.gov

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)



- Distribution of [zebra mussels](#) surrounding Nebraska is expanding, especially in Kansas and South Dakota. Currently the only waterbodies in Nebraska with confirmed zebra mussel infestations are the Missouri River, Lewis and Clark Lake, and Offutt Base Lake.
- NGPC employs technicians every year to inspect watercraft for AIS with the goal of preventing infestations into Nebraska waterbodies. In 2021 over 2,000 watercraft were inspected and four were infested with live zebra mussels.
- **To report AIS utilize 402-471-7602 or ngpc.ais@nebraska.gov**

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)



Eurasian watermilfoil is an invasive aquatic plant and is now found in 18 waterbodies across Nebraska including East Hershey I-80 Lake and Ironhorse City Park Lake (North Platte I-80). This plant spreads through tiny fragments of leaves and can grow up to 20 feet deep. New infestations are often caused by boaters not following the **Clean, Drain, and Dry** protocol and introducing fragments into new lakes. Make sure you clean all aquatic vegetation from your boat to prevent this invasive aquatic plant from spreading to new waterbodies.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

Silver & Bighead carp have found their way into every tributary of the Missouri River in Nebraska, including the Platte, Elkhorn, Loup and Nemaha rivers. Obstacles to their continued spread are vital as these species cause substantial damage. These obstacles include physical structures and angler awareness. Silver carp have invaded the Platte to Lexington, NE as the below known distribution map indicates.

Bighead & Silver Carp Estimated Species Distribution

(As of Fall 2021)

Rapid City

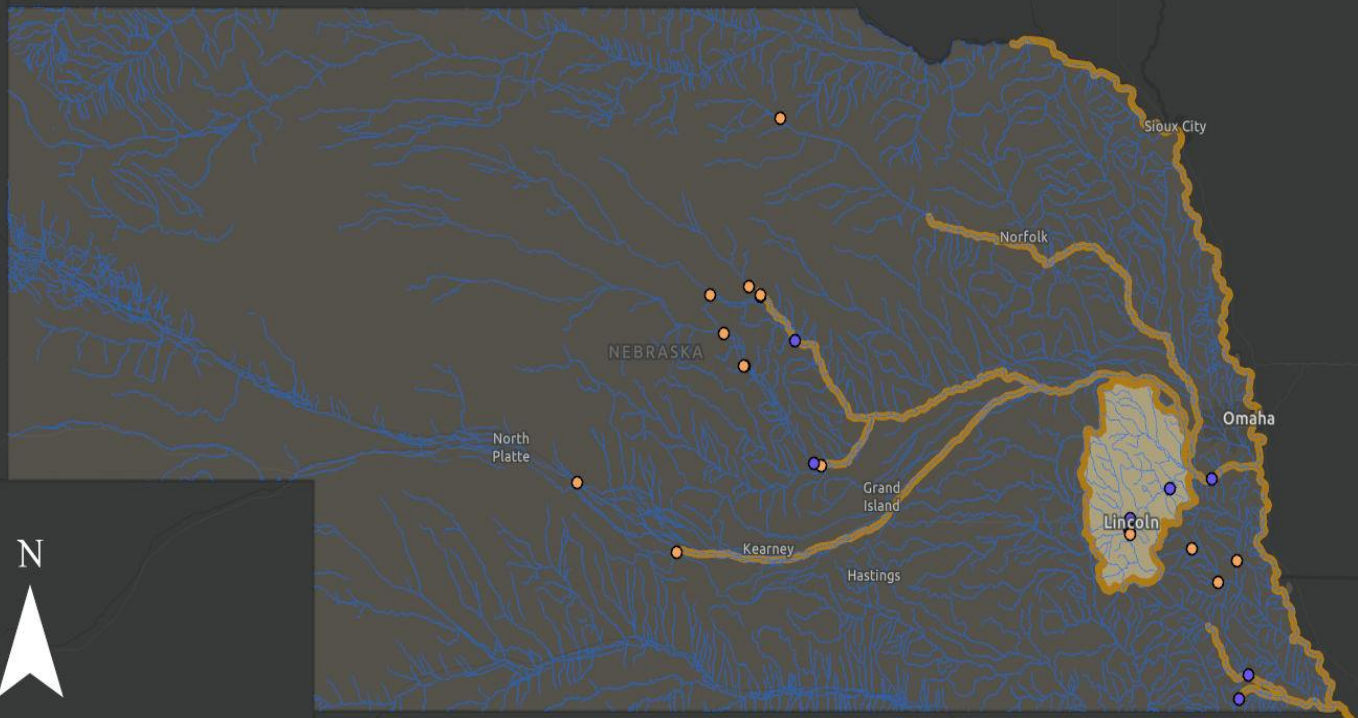
Invasive Carp Range

- Rivers and Streams
- Salt Creek Basin

Survey Sites 2020-2021

Occurrence

- None Observed
- Silver or Bighead Carp Present



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

To report AIS utilize 402-471-7602 or ngpc.ais@nebraska.gov

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!**

