

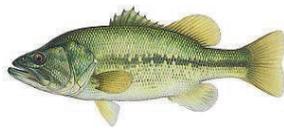


COURTESY PHOTO  
Ice fishing at Fremont Lakes SRA.

with a rounded margin. Breeding males become dark blue and are often misidentified as blue catfish. Many anglers are mistaken by thinking they can be stung by the whiskers (barbels). What they have to avoid are the hard spines (one in the dorsal fin and one in each pectoral fin) that can inflict a puncture wound if the fish is mishandled. Primarily bottom-feeder, consuming living or dead items. Diet is varied and includes fish, crayfish, insects, mollusks, and plant material. One of the top five commonly sought-after sport fish in the state.

**Crappie**

Silvery fish with irregularly arranged black speckles and blotches on sides and usually 7 or 8 spines in the dorsal fin. Spawning males become almost entirely black. They are less tolerant of turbidity and siltation than white crappie. Aquatic insects and large zooplankton compose a larger portion of the diet of black crappie than white crappie. They usually are heavier at any given length than white crappie. They can become overpopulated if predator populations are low. Crappies (black and white combined) are one of the top 5 commonly sought-after sport fish.



**Largemouth Bass**

Torpedo-shaped body with upper jaw extending beyond rear margin of eye and dorsal fin almost divided. Midside generally has a broad, continuous stripe with lower side either lacking dark spots or having dark spots that are irregularly arranged. It is an important predator, especially in small waters, and thrives in warm, moderately clear waters having little or no current. Young primarily feed on small crustaceans (mostly water fleas), insects, and small fish; whereas, adults primarily feed on fish, crayfish, and large insects, along with almost any other animal that swims or falls into the water. It is one of the top 5 commonly sought-after sport fish.

**Rainbow Trout (Lake No. 2 – seasonally)**

Non-native fish that requires cold (less than 70 degrees), well-oxygenated water. It tolerates slightly higher temperatures than other trout. It is speckled with small black spots on sides (no orange or reddish spots), back, and tail fin which is slightly forked. Sides also have a broad pinkish or red stripe. It also has small scales, an adipose fin on the midline of the back near the tail, and a small, triangular-shaped axillary process at the upper end of the pelvic fin. The bulk of its diet consists of aquatic and terrestrial insects, amphipods, crayfish, and small fish. It spawns from early winter to late spring, depending on genetic strain and availability of clean, gravelly riffles in streams. Readily caught by anglers.



**Muskellunge (Lake No. 20)**

Large, tubular-shaped, non-native fish having a single dorsal fin near the forked tail, duck-billed-shaped snout, large mouth



Fishing from a kayak at Fremont Lakes SRA.

FREMONT TRIBUNE FILES

with many sharp teeth, and 6 or more pores on each side of the lower jaw's underside. Both the gill cover and cheek are scaled on their upper halves. It has been

introduced as an additional large predator and survives better than northern pike in S.E. Nebraska reservoirs. It is usually "managed" to provide a trophy fishery.



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