

Dodge City District Fisheries

Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks Fisheries Division

Fall 2020

Protecting the shoreline & adding habitat at Horsethief



Rip rap installation has begun on the south shore of the campground. After 10 years of southwest Kansas winds, the erosion of the bank was beginning to be a threat to the campsites, it has already exposed a portion of the water line. This photo shows about 600 feet that have been placed so far of the 2700 feet total that is planned. While there have been a few complaints that folks will not be able to beach their boats, the alternative is to lose the campsites. An additional benefit will be the addition of lots of great fish habitat just like on the dam where this 8+ pound walleye was caught early in May of this year.



Families & Fishing



One thing it seems the Covid pandemic has done is to reconnect folks with the outdoors. Our state parks, state fishing lakes and community lakes have been packed since April. These 3 photos were taken in April & May. Seeing all these folks out enjoying the outdoors reinforced the idea that we are all pretty much the same in that we want to enjoy our family and enjoy the great outdoors. Click on the link for a story that I did for a website about growing up and getting to go fishing with my large family. Hope you enjoy it!

<https://thefamilyofus.org/dig-worms>



Barber State Fishing Lake

Barber State Fishing Lake is in Northeast Barber County at the north edge of the City of Medicine Lodge. Camping, picnicking, and fishing are allowed throughout the area.

A boat ramp on the west side is available for boat launching, and boats are to be used for fishing only. Barber State Fishing Lake contains good populations of largemouth bass, channel catfish, walleye, crappie, and bluegill.

The table below shows the number of fish that have been stocked into Barber SFL since 2017.

Species	Size	Number
Channel catfish	Intermediates (approx. 3/lb.)	7,600
Channel catfish	Adult (2 lb. or larger)	490
Bluegill	Fingerlings	12,660
Walleye	Fingerlings	7,713
Largemouth bass	Intermediates (approx. 16/lb.)	315

The northern 80 acres of the area are open to public hunting. Species available include deer, turkey, quail, dove, waterfowl, and cottontail rabbit. A large furbearer population can also be found on the area.



Fall 2020 Water levels in southwest Kansas

Rainfall in July improved water levels in southwest Kansas going into the fall. Water levels in some of our State fishing lakes and larger Community Lakes as of September 15, 2020 can be seen below. The numbers in parentheses are the surface acreage when the lakes are full and at conservation pool.

State Fishing Lakes	Community Lakes
Barber State Fishing Lake – (51) - full	Coldwater City Lake – (250) – full
Clark State Fishing Lake – (337) – 7.5 feet low	Jetmore City Lake – (110) – full
Concannon State Fishing Lake – (50) – dry	Pratt County Lake – (51) – Full
Ford State Lake – (40) – 1 feet low	Larned City Pond – (2) - Full
Goodman State Lake – (40) acres – 4 feet low	HorseThief Reservoir – (450) – 1 foot low
Hain State Fishing Lake – (53) - 1 foot low	
Kiowa State Fishing Lake - 21 acres - full	
Meade State Lake – (80) - full	





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