



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Iowa Fishing Report

Conservation and Recreation



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[Top Iowa Fishing Spots for the Week of August 18](#)

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NORTHWEST

[Black Hawk Lake](#)

Water levels are about 6 inches below the crest of the spillway. Surface water temperature is in the low 70s. Water clarity is roughly 12 inches. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Fish are 8- to 11-inches. Try along Ice House Point and around the fish house and stone piers in Town Bay. **Bluegill** - Slow: Find bluegills along shore near Ice House Point and the rock pile by Gunshot Hill. Fish are 6- to 7-inches. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Look for cats around the deeper rock piles or try drifting in the evening and at night. Use cut bait, crawdads or dip bait. Catfish average 4 to 7 pounds.

[Browns Lake](#)

Water levels remain low; use caution when launching boats.

[Brushy Creek Lake](#)

Surface water temperature is in the mid-70s. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Find crappie near submerged woody structure in 5-20 feet of water. Use a small jig tipped with a crawler or small minnow. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Try plastics and traditional bass lures along submerged woody structure and weed lines near shore.

[Storm Lake \(incl Little Storm Lake\)](#)

Surface water temperature is in the mid-70s. Water clarity is variable depending on location. **All walleye between 19 and 25-inches must be immediately released unharmed at Storm Lake; no more than one walleye longer than 25-inches can be taken per day.** **Black Crappie** - Fair. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Storm Lake has a good population of 4-6 pound catfish. Try cut bait, liver or crawlers fished on the bottom along

shore. **Walleye** - Fair: Anglers are trolling crankbaits, using crawler harnesses and drifting leeches and near the edges of the dredge cuts. Also try a minnow under a slip bobber. **Yellow Bass** - Fair: Fish are 5- to 11-inches long. Use a small piece of crawler fished under a bobber.

Surface water temperature is in the mid-70s in most area lakes. For more information, contact the Black Hawk District office at 712-657-2638.

Beeds Lake

Black Crappie - Fair: Drift fish or troll a tube jig along the north shore. **Bluegill** - Fair: Try small jigs from the causeway. **Yellow Bass** - Slow.

Clear Lake

The lake is 1/2 inch below crest. Water temperature is in the low 80s. Water clarity is about 17 inches. **Clear Lake has a protected slot on walleye. All walleye between 17 and 22 inches must be immediately released unharmed. No more than one walleye longer than 22 inches may be taken per day.** **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try cut bait or chicken liver from the wind-swept shore. Best bite is after sunset. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Try fishing weedless baits near the vegetation edge. **Walleye** - Slow: Try fishing a slip bobber with live bait on the rock reefs or a jig and minnow near the vegetation edge. Best bite is early morning. **Yellow Bass** - Slow.

Crystal Lake

Black Crappie - Fair: Drift fish a small jig in the dredge cut. **Bluegill** – Fair.

Lake Cornelia

Channel Catfish - Fair: Use cut bait from the windswept shore after sunset. **Yellow Bass** - Fair.

Silver Lake (Worth)

Bluegill - Fair: Try a piece of worm under a bobber in the open pockets in the vegetation. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Bass are biting on topwater baits.

Upper Pine Lake

Black Crappie - Fair: Drift fish or troll small jigs or minnows. Best bite is early morning. **Largemouth Bass** – Good: Bass are biting on a variety of baits fished near woody structure.

For information on the lakes and rivers in north central Iowa, contact the Clear Lake Fish and Wildlife office at 641-357-3517.

East Okobojo Lake

Lake temperature is in the mid-70s. The water level is at crest. Fish are out deeper during warm water temperatures. Trolling has been working very well. Find crappie and yellow bass in 12-17 feet of water. Try fishing weed lines where there is new vegetation growth. **Black Crappie** - Good: Best bite is in 10-15 feet of water along weed lines. **Bluegill** - Good. **Walleye** - Fair: Try spinners, crankbaits and long and shallow

shad raps in the main basins. Best bite is an hour before and after sunset. **Yellow Bass** - Good.

Lost Island Lake

Fishing/trolling is getting more difficult as aquatic vegetation reaches the surface in many places. There has been a decent-sized algae bloom lately. **Black Crappie** – Fair. **Walleye** – Slow: Try trolling crankbaits or with lindy rigs off weed lines. Best bite is an hour before and after sunset. **Yellow Perch** – Fair.

Minnewashta Lake

Bluegill and crappie fishing has been good; some sorting may be needed. **Black Crappie** - Good. **Bluegill** - Good.

Silver Lake (Dickinson)

The late afternoon bite has been fair. Many anglers are targeting fish schools during the day. Vegetation growth and a large algae bloom is making fishing more difficult in many areas. Many large schools of young of the year bullhead are swimming around the lake. **Walleye** - Fair: Try spinners, crankbaits and long and shallow shad raps.

Spirit Lake

Water temperature is in the mid-70s. The lake level is 2 inches below crest. Most species are out deeper in 17+ feet of water. **Black Bullhead** - Fair: Try fishing the northern grade of Spirit Lake. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Use a tube jig and bobber. **Bluegill** - Fair. **Walleye** - Fair: Use spinners, crankbaits and long and shallow shad raps; try to find weed lines. **Yellow Perch** - Good: Many perch can be caught, you may need to sort for size.

West Okoboji Lake

Water temperature is in the lower 70s. The water level is at crest. Most fish are out deeper in 15+ feet of water. Rocky points and areas with new vegetation growth have seen the most success. **Black Crappie** - Good: Use crankbaits or shad raps. **Bluegill** - Good: Try small shad raps. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair. **Smallmouth Bass** - Fair: Try fishing off points with surface baits or jerk baits. **Walleye** - Fair: Try fishing off points by trolling crankbaits or with lindy rigs. Best bite is an hour before and after sunset. Some fish have been caught while trolling for crappie.

Most area lake temperatures are in the mid-70s. This week's forecast calls for continued temperatures in the 70s-80s. Bass and panfishing has been good on most lakes out along weed lines in 15+ feet of water. Most fish have been caught out in deeper water as temperatures have increased. For current conditions, call the Spirit Lake District Office at 712-336-1840.

NORTHEAST

Cedar River (above Nashua)

Water levels are stabilizing. Water clarity is improving. Visit the [USGS Water Dashboard](#) for current water levels. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Try a hook loaded with a crawler, chub, chicken livers or stink bait. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow: Use a spinnerbait

or crankbait along lake edges at dawn and dusk. **Northern Pike** - No Report: Find pike in shallow vegetated areas out of current. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Find smallies below the dams; use a hook tipped with a ringworm, twister tail or nightcrawler. **Walleye** - Good: Try worms or minnows under a slip bobber with enough weight to get your bait near the bottom.

Decorah District Streams

Trout streams continue to be stocked every week, even if not announced. Most area trout streams are high. Water clarity is much improved. Use caution when crossing or fishing in faster current. **Brook Trout** - Fair: Try fishing the weed lines and head end of riffles for actively feeding fish. Terrestrial insects are abundant. **Brown Trout** - Good: Dirty water favors brown trout anglers. Increasing terrestrial insect numbers such as crickets, beetles and grasshoppers washing into streams creates a feeding frenzy for brownies. **Rainbow Trout** - Good: A few streams get too warm to stock rainbow trout in the heat of the summer. This is an annual occurrence; plenty of fish remain in the streams. Stocking the other streams continues as scheduled.

[Lake Hendricks](#)

Green algae bloom on Lake Hendricks. Water temperature is in the low 70s. Angling is slow with recent weather. **Black Crappie** - Slow: Slowly troll for crappie. Best bite is in the evening. **Bluegill** - Slow: Catch one of these beauties with a small piece of worm. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Best time to catch a nice-size cat is at night using stink bait. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow: Find fish on the edges of vegetation; use weedless lures to minimize the frustration of casting into weeds.

[Lake Meyer](#)

Lake levels are up and off-color from recent rain. Shoreline angling is much improved. Water temperatures is in the 70s. **Black Crappie** - Slow: Find crappie suspended. Try trolling weed edges with a jig and twister tail. **Bluegill** - Slow: Find a cove or weed edge. Use an ice fishing jig tipped with a small piece of worm. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try a chunk of worm or squished minnow fished off the bottom near stumps or other woody debris. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow: Use crankbaits or a jig with plastic tail on weedless hooks along vegetation edges.

[North Bear Creek](#)

Bridge replacement work is starting on the Sacquitne Bridge on 360th St. Stream access and parking lot remain open; be courteous to workers. **Rainbow Trout** - Excellent: Stocked weekly from April through October.

[Turkey River \(above Clermont\)](#)

Water levels are stabilizing with improved water clarity. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Find smallies near undercut banks or rock ledges; use a jig with a twister tail or crankbait. **Walleye** - Good: Find walleye in deeper pockets just out of flow.

[Turkey River \(below Clermont\)](#)

Water levels are stabilizing with improved water clarity. Flows remain high. Visit the [USGS Water Database](#) for more information on water levels. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Try fishing the eddies and drop-offs. **Walleye** - Good: Find walleye in current breaks or eddies; use crankbaits or spinnerbaits.

Upper Iowa River (above Decorah)

Water levels are stabilizing. Water clarity is good. Give strainers such as tree limbs and log jams a wide berth. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Try fishing rocky ledges or along a current break. **Walleye** - Good.

Upper Iowa River (below Decorah)

Water levels are stabilizing with good clarity. Current is swift. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Find deeper holes and eddies. Try fishing near the bottom. **Walleye** - Good: Use a jig tipped with a natural colored twister tail in the edges of eddies.

Volga Lake

Water clarity is fair. Water temperature is in the 70s. Few anglers are out. Algae bloom is occurring. Try slowly trolling around lake to find suspended fish. **Black Crappie** - Slow: Use small jigs tipped with plastic tails or minnows off the jetties. Also try trolling around the lake to find suspended fish. **Bluegill** - Slow: Anglers are finding gills off the jetties. Try a small piece of worm under a bobber. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Trophy-sized catfish are abundant in this lake. Use a dead chub or squished minnow fished off the bottom near woody debris. **Largemouth Bass** - Slow: Use crankbaits in drop-offs and around brush piles and other attracting structures.

Temperatures are in the 70s to 60s. Rain likely over the weekend. Area waterbodies are in good condition. Use caution when paddling with high flows and dirty water. For current fishing information, please call the Chuck Gipp Decorah Fish Hatchery at 563-382-8324.

Brinker Lake

Reports of anglers catching a few crappies. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Try a crappie minnow under a slip bobber near structure.

Casey Lake (aka Hickory Hills Lake)

Anglers are catching a few channel catfish after dark. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Try fishing off the old beach area and to the west using stink baits, livers, leopard frogs or dead cut baits fished on the bottom. Best bite is after dark.

Cedar River (Nashua to La Porte City)

Water levels continue to drop on the Cedar River. Reports of anglers catching pike, smallmouth bass, walleye and channel catfish. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Try stink baits, chicken livers or dead cut baits fished above fallen tree snags. **Northern Pike** - Fair: Cast spinnerbaits or try live chubs or shiners under a bobber in backwater areas or eddies. **Smallmouth Bass** - Fair: Cast a jig with half a nightcrawler near current breaks, eddies and rocky shorelines. **Walleye** - Fair: Cast a jig with half a nightcrawler near current breaks, eddies and rocky shorelines.

George Wyth Lake

Anglers are catching northern pike, crappie, channel catfish and largemouth bass. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Try a crappie minnow under a slip bobber near structure. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Use nightcrawlers, chicken livers, dead cut baits or leopard frogs on the bottom in 10 feet of water or less. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Cast topwater artificial or spinnerbaits early morning or late evening. **Northern Pike** - Fair: Troll crankbaits

around the lake or cast spinnerbaits along the edges of willows on the west end of the lake.

[Maquoketa River \(above Monticello\)](#)

The Maquoketa River is in excellent condition. Reports of anglers catching smallmouth bass. **Smallmouth Bass** - Fair: Cast a jig with half a nightcrawler near current breaks, eddies and rocky shorelines.

[Shell Rock River \(Greene to Shell Rock\)](#)

Water levels continue to drop on the Shell Rock River. Reports of anglers catching pike, smallmouth bass, walleye and channel catfish. **Smallmouth Bass** - Fair: Cast a jig with half a nightcrawler near current breaks, eddies and rocky shorelines. **Walleye** - Fair: Cast a jig with half a nightcrawler near current breaks, eddies and rocky shorelines

[Wapsipinicon River \(Tripoli to Troy Mills\)](#)

Water levels on the Wapsipinicon River continue to drop. Reports of anglers catching pike, smallmouth bass, walleye and channel catfish. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Try stink baits, chicken livers or dead cut baits fished above fallen tree snags.

NE Iowa interior river levels are falling. Reports of anglers catching walleye, northern pike, smallmouth bass and channel catfish. Trout streams are in excellent condition across NE Iowa. Area Black Hawk County lakes are producing catches of panfish, channel catfish and largemouth bass. Contact your local area bait shops for the most recent hot spots. For more information, contact the Manchester Hatchery at 563-927-3276.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

[Mississippi River Pool 9](#)

Water level is 8.2 feet at Lansing and is expected to remain stable. Water temperature is 75 degrees. The water is somewhat stained after heavy rains. Fishing is good, but floating weeds are a nuisance. Heytman's Landing is closed due to replacing the railroad bridge. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Anglers are catching crappies in the flooded timber on crappie rigs with minnows. **Bluegill** - Good: Use light tackle tipped with piece of worm in areas away from current along the weed edges in backwaters. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Try cut bait or stink bait fished in deeper holes along current breaks of side channels. Also try rock lines where they are spawning. **Flathead Catfish** - Fair: Reports of lots of small flathead biting on nightcrawlers. Try a shiner or small bluegill for bait to catch bigger catfish. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Freshwater drum bite is coming on. Use a weighted crawler rig in the current anywhere from shore. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Cast jigs or jerk baits in woody cover in the shallows of backwaters. **Northern Pike** - Fair: Cast crankbaits off vegetation lines or near the mouth of tributary streams. **Smallmouth Bass** - Excellent: Smallmouth are getting more active along main channel rock structure. Cast inline spinners or crankbaits along the faster current. **Walleye** - Good: Troll crankbaits off the wing-dams and side channels. **Yellow Perch** - Good: Use a jig tipped with a crawler.

[Mississippi River Pool 10](#)

Water level is 613.4 feet at Lynxville and is predicted to remain steady. Water temperature is 78 degrees at Lynxville dam. The backwaters are covered in duckweed and lily-pads. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Anglers are catching crappies in the flooded timber on crappie rigs with minnows. **Bluegill** - Excellent: Use light tackle tipped with piece of worm in areas away from current along the weed edges in backwaters. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try cut bait or stink bait fished in deeper holes along current breaks of side channels. **Flathead Catfish** - Fair: The flathead bite is picking up with the warmer temperatures. Try a shiner or small bluegill for bait. Some anglers are using bank poles with bullheads for bait. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Freshwater drum bite is coming on. Use a weighted crawler rig in the current anywhere from shore. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Cast jigs or jerk baits in woody cover in the shallows of backwaters. **Northern Pike** - Fair: Cast crankbaits off vegetation lines or near the mouth of tributary streams. **Smallmouth Bass** - Excellent: Smallmouth are getting more active along main channel rock structure. Cast inline spinners or crankbaits along the faster current. **Walleye** - Good: Troll crankbaits off the wing-dams and side channels. **Yellow Perch** - Good: Use a jig tipped with a crawler.

[Mississippi River Pool 11](#)

Water level is 4.9 feet at Guttenberg and is expected to remain fairly stable. Water temperature is in the mid-70s. The backwaters are covered in duckweed and lily-pads. Water clarity has improved. **Black Crappie** - Fair: Anglers are catching crappies in the flooded timber on crappie rigs with minnows. **Bluegill** - Good: Use light tackle tipped with piece of worm in areas away from current along the weed edges in backwaters. **Channel Catfish** - Good: Try cut bait or stink bait fished in deeper holes along current breaks of side channels. **Flathead Catfish** - Fair: The flathead bite is picking up with the warmer temperatures. Try a shiner or small bluegill for bait. Lots of bank pole fishing with anglers using live bullheads or green sunfish for bait. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Freshwater drum bite is coming on. Use a weighted crawler rig in the current anywhere from shore. **Largemouth Bass** - Good: Cast jigs or crankbaits in woody cover in the shallows of backwaters. **Northern Pike** - Fair: Cast crankbaits off vegetation lines or near the mouth of tributary streams. **Smallmouth Bass** - Excellent: Smallmouth are getting more active along main channel rock structure. Cast inline spinners or crankbaits along the faster current. **Walleye** - Good: Troll crankbaits off the wing-dams and side channels. **Yellow Perch** - Good: Use a jig tipped with a crawler.

Upper Mississippi River levels remain low. Boaters should use caution not to back off the end of ramps. The bite has picked up with slightly lower water temperatures this week. Walleye slot length limits now apply on the entire Iowa border of the Mississippi River. All walleyes less than 15 inches long and between 20-27 inches must be immediately released. One walleye over 27 inches may be kept. Walleye/sauger combined daily limit 6/possession 12.

[Mississippi River Pool 12](#)

Water levels are 5.4 feet at the Lock and Dam and 8.0 feet at the RR bridge. Water levels are receding. Water temperature is around 77 degrees. Lots of mixed bags of

many species reported. **Black Crappie** - Good: Black and white crappie are being caught on woody structures in larger side channel areas; most anglers are using small jigs or minnows. **Bluegill** - Good: Use a simple bobber and worm around rock lines and behind fallen trees. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Many anglers switch to stink baits in larger sloughs and mud flats. **Flathead Catfish** - Good: Banklines are popular with most anglers using live bullheads or small carp for bait. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Drum are being taken in areas of moderate current with an egg sinker and worm rig. Keep fish on ice if you plan to eat them; they can be very good table fare. **Largemouth Bass** - Excellent: Bass of all sizes are being reported mostly from backwater areas on spinnerbaits and swimbaits. Find fish along weed lines. **Northern Pike** - Good: Some nice pike are being reported on spinnerbaits. Find fish along the newly established vegetation lines; use gaudy white spinnerbaits. **Smallmouth Bass** - Excellent: Use a spinnerbait or crankbait along rock lines with moderate current. Most smallies are small; use bigger crankbaits to catch bigger fish. **Walleye** - Good: The walleye has been up and down. At times they are feeding heavily; other anglers complain they cannot find them at all. Changing water levels negatively affects walleye angling. **White Bass** - Good: Use white spinners or jigs. Look for schools of white bass chasing minnows especially near sandy areas.

[Mississippi River Pool 13](#)

The water level at the Bellevue Lock is near 5.5 feet and is falling. The water temperature is around 78 degrees. Lots of mixed bags of many species reported. **Black Crappie** - Good: Black and white crappie are being caught on woody structures in larger side channel areas; most anglers are using small jigs or minnows. **Bluegill** - Excellent: Try a simple bobber and worm rig along rock lines or near fallen trees in larger sloughs. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Stink bait works best. **Flathead Catfish** - Good: Many anglers are using bank poles and a live bullhead or green sunfish for bait. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Drum are being taken in areas of moderate current with a egg sinker and worm rig. Keep your fish on ice if plan to eat them; they can be very good table fare. **Largemouth Bass** - Excellent: The bass bite is hot. They are heavily feeding on minnows in side channels and rock lines. **Northern Pike** - Good: Use gaudy white spinners. **Rainbow Trout** - No Report: The Kids Trout Pond is unfishable due to excessive vegetation. The pond will be restocked with trout in later fall. **Smallmouth Bass** - Excellent: Try fishing very close to rock in stronger current areas. **Walleye** - Good: Good numbers coming off the wing-dams; use crankbaits or worm rigs. Some good fishing reported, but changing water levels affect the bite of walleye more than most species. **White Bass** - Good: White bass are feeding at the surface in various parts of Pool 13; use white jigs and small spinners in these feeding schools.

[Mississippi River Pool 14](#)

The water level at the Fulton Lock and Dam is receding at 56.4 feet, 9.6 feet at Camanche, and 4.7 feet at Le Claire. Water temperature is around 78 degrees in the main channel. Water clarity is good. **Bluegill** - Excellent: Bluegills are on the bite throughout Pool 14; use a simple bobber and worm rig in 3 feet of water or less. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Try stink bait in larger sloughs upstream of fallen trees. **Flathead Catfish** - Good: Walleye and bass anglers are finding flatheads in rocky

habitat using crankbaits. Anglers are also targeting flatheads with bank poles, often with a bullhead for bait. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Drum are being taken in areas of moderate current with an egg sinker and worm rig. Keep your fish on ice if you plan to eat them; they can be very good table fare. **Largemouth Bass** - Excellent: Bass of all sizes are being reported out of most of the common highly fished backwater lakes in Pool 14 like Beaver Island, Rock Creek and Sunfish Lake. **Longnose Gar** - Excellent: Numerous large gars are biting in Pool 14. **Northern Pike** - Good: Some pike have been seen in mixed species bags, mostly by anglers bass fishing. Look for pike along weedy shorelines with gaudy white spinners. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Look for smallmouth bass along rock lines with stronger currents; try fishing in 1 to 2 feet of water next to the rock. **Walleye** - Good: Some nice walleyes continue to be reported from sloughs and near shore wing-dams. Most anglers are using crankbaits. **White Bass** - Good: Good numbers of white bass mixed in with hybrid striped bass reported near the tailwater area. Use a white jig or small spinner. **White Crappie** - Good: Black and White crappie angling continues to be good in around brush piles. Use a small jig tipped with minnows.

[Mississippi River Pool 15](#)

The water level is receding at 6.0 feet at Rock Island. The water temperature is near 79 degrees. Water clarity is good. **Channel Catfish** - Excellent: Use stink baits in deeper side or edge channel habitats. **Freshwater Drum** - Excellent: Drum are being taken in areas of moderate current using an egg sinker and worm rig. Keep your fish on ice if you plan to eat them; they can be very good table fare. **Smallmouth Bass** - Good: Pool 15 can be surprising good smallmouth fishing with lots of rock lines available; this a preferred habitat for smallmouth bass. Use small spinners or crankbaits near these rock habitats.

Water levels are receding throughout the district. The water temperature is in the upper 70s. Water clarity is good. If you have angling questions, please call the Bellevue Fisheries Management Station at 563-880-8781.

[Mississippi River Pool 16](#)

Tailwater stage is 5.67 feet at Lock and Dam 15 in the Quad Cities and is forecast to fall over the weekend. Flood stage is 15 feet. **Bluegill** - Fair: Look for bluegills in the backwaters. Use pieces of worm under a bobber around brush piles in Sunset Marina and the Andalusia Islands. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Try stink baits or chicken livers around brush piles and snags along the main channel and side channels in the Andalusia Island complex. Channel catfish can also be caught on the upstream side of wing-dams. **Walleye** - Fair: Look for walleye on the wing-dams. Cast or troll crankbaits or three-way rigs with nightcrawlers. Some walleyes are also being caught in Sylvan Slough on jigs and plastics. **White Bass** - Fair: Cast jigs and twister tails in Sunset Marina and Sylvan Slough. Some white bass can also be caught fishing from shore below the Lock and Dam. **White Crappie** - No Report: Look for crappies in the backwaters. Try jigs and minnows or minnows under a bobber around brush piles.

[Mississippi River Pool 17](#)

Tailwater stage is 4.83 feet at Lock and Dam 16 in Muscatine and is forecast to fall over

the weekend. Flood stage is 15 feet. **Bluegill** - Fair: Look for bluegills in the backwaters. Try pieces of worm under a bobber around brush piles at Big Timber and Cleveland Slough. **Channel Catfish** - Fair: Try stink bait or nightcrawlers around brush piles and snags along the main channel and side channels. Some channel catfish can also be caught fishing the upstream side of wing-dams. **Largemouth Bass** - Fair: Largemouth bass are being caught in Big Timber; use plastics around brush piles and logs. **Walleye** - Fair: Look for walleyes on the wing-dams. Cast or troll crankbaits or three-way rigs with nightcrawlers. **White Crappie** - Fair: Look for crappies in the backwaters around brush piles. Use jigs and minnows or minnows under a bobber in Big Timber and Cleveland Slough.

[Mississippi River Pool 18](#)

Tailwater stage is 5.43 feet at Lock and Dam 17 and is falling. Flood stage is 15 feet. **Bluegill** - No Report: Look for bluegills in the backwaters around brush piles. Try pieces of worm under a bobber. **Channel Catfish** - No Report: Look for channel catfish around brush piles and snags along the main channel and side channels. Use stink bait or nightcrawlers. Channel catfish can also be caught fishing the upstream side of wing-dams. **Walleye** - No Report: Look for walleyes on the wing-dams. Cast or troll crankbaits or three-way rigs with crawlers. **White Bass** - Fair: Some white bass are being caught in Boston Bay by the bridge; cast jigs and twister tails. **White Crappie** - No Report: Look for crappies in the backwaters. Try jigs and minnows or minnows under a bobber around brush piles.

[Mississippi River Pool 19](#)

Tailwater stage is 2.85 feet at Lock and Dam 18 above Burlington and is forecast to fall over the weekend. Flood stage is 10 feet. River stage is 525.50 feet at Ft. Madison; flood stage is 528.0 feet. **Bluegill** - No Report: Use pieces of worm under a bobber in the backwaters around brush piles. **Channel Catfish** - No Report: Try stink bait or nightcrawlers around snags and brush piles along the main channel and side channels. **White Crappie** - No Report: Use jigs and minnows or minnows under a bobber in the backwaters around brush piles.

River stage has falling this past week. Water clarity is fair. Main channel water temperature is around 78 degrees. If you have questions on fishing Pools 16-19, contact the Fairport Fish Hatchery at 563-263-5062.

SOUTHEAST