

# DUFURRENA PONDS



## ANGLER AND FISH SURVEY INFORMATION

**Brad Bauman- Fisheries Biologist, Winnemucca Field Office**  
705 E 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Winnemucca, NV 89445 (775)-623-6565 ext 105

**General information:** Dufurrena Ponds is a warmwater fishery. Most of the angler use is on Pond 20. Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Yellow Perch, Redear Sunfish and hybrid (Bluegill x Redear Sunfish). Most of these species are self-sustaining but are augmented on occasion. The state record Yellow Perch of 1 pound 8 ounces has been held in Dufurrena Ponds since 1987, but it was recently tied in 2019 with a fish caught in Wildhorse Reservoir. Road access is good, and these ponds are located less than 1 mile off SR 140.

**Location:** Humboldt County, Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge, 26 miles west of Denio Junction. Use our FishNV tool (<https://fish.wildlifenv.com/>) to find waters near you, and buy your fishing license at [ndowlicensing.com](http://ndowlicensing.com).

**Size:** Pond 20 is 50 surface acres with a maximum depth of 14 feet.

**Management:** Nevada Department of Wildlife manages the fishery as a General Warmwater Fishery. The USFWS Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge manages the adjacent lands. Please observe all rules and regulation of the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge.

### Amenities and General Info

- Developed camp sites at Virgin Valley Campground
- Restrooms and Showers
- No boat ramps
- Float tube, pontoon boats, kayak, canoes, and small boats recommended

### Fishing/Boating Regulations

- Season opens year-round
- Limit is 15 warmwater game fish of which not more than 5 can be Largemouth Bass
- Vessels must be operated at speeds that leave a flat wake. Electric motors only.

### Previous stocking

#### 2021

White Crappie 500 4.0 inches

Species are typically self-supporting in Dufurrena Ponds, but periodic stocking may be required to supplement existing populations



Standard ice flies for Yellow Perch

### Fishing notes

- Best fishing typically occurs starting in Late April through September.
- Spinner baits, rooster tails, and dropshot plastic worms and soft plastics are standard baits for Largemouth Bass. Top water baits can be effective in the evenings.
- Small rubber jigs or plastics tipped with a worm is effective for Crappie, Bluegill, Yellow Perch, and Sunfish.
- Ice fishing in the winter can be productive for Yellow Perch using small jugs tipped with a worm or small ice flies

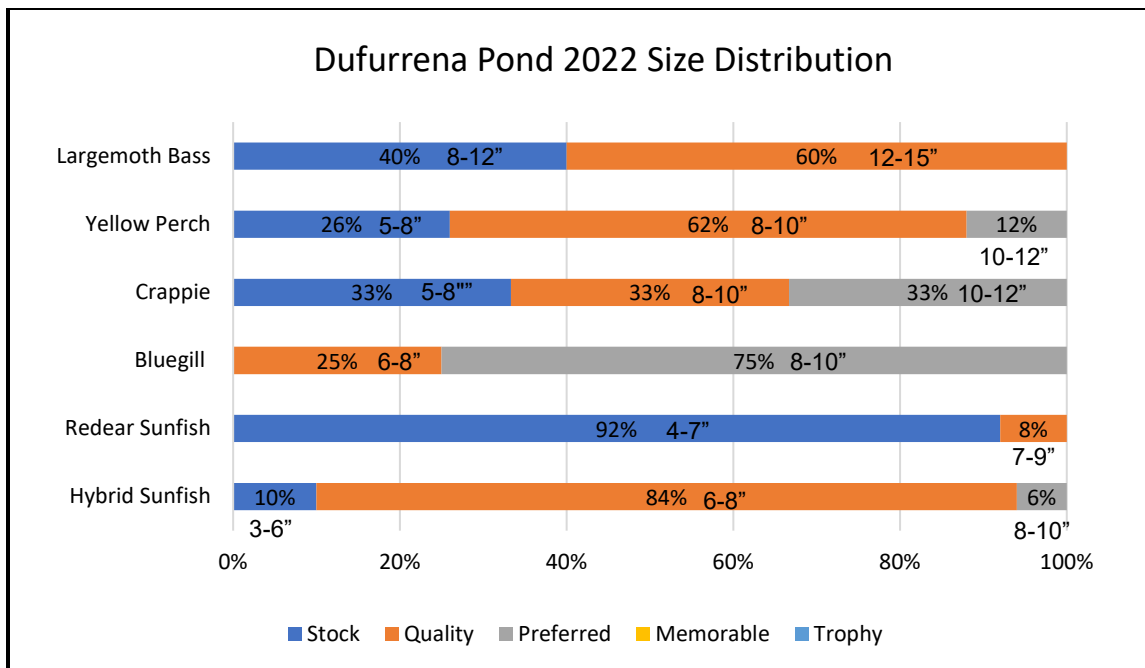
# DUFURRENA PONDS



**FISHERY SURVEY DATA - 2022**  
**Brad Bauman – Fisheries Biologist**  
**Winnemucca Field Office**



5-YEAR ANGLER CATCH RATES ONION VALLEY RESERVOIR		
	fish/hour	fish/angler
2022	3.65	8.14
2021	1.40	6.38
2020	2.88	13.68
2019	2.51	9.59
2018	2.95	12.46
2017	2.33	8.23
Average	2.62	9.75



**2023 Fishing Forecast-** Water levels should be normal with most ponds near full capacity. Fishing is expected to be good in late spring and early summer. Aquatic vegetation can limit shoreline access during the summer and a float tube or canoe can help you get to open water. Ponds 19 and 20 are expected to be the most productive and popular this year with good numbers of sunfish, Yellow Perch and Largemouth Bass are the most common fish caught. 2022 angler catch rates were 3.65 fish per hour and 8.14 fish per angler. These catch rates are near the 6-year average. Anglers can expect to catch 12–15-inch Largemouth Bass and Yellow Perch over 8 inches. Fishing is expected to be fair to good in 2023.