



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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Drawdown underway at Argyle Lake

Project intended to enhance sport fishing at Argyle Lake State Park

COLCHESTER, IL – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is conducting a managed drawdown of the water level at Argyle Lake in an effort to enhance the sport fishery at Argyle Lake State Park.

The managed drawdown, which began today, will reduce the lake water level by approximately six feet, and the lake will be allowed to start re-filling naturally as soon as it reaches the prescribed lower elevation. The lake's full pool is expected to be restored by January 1, 2011. **The Argyle Lake boat ramp and access to the lake will be available for public use throughout the process.**

The drawdown is being conducted to benefit the overall sport fishery. Argyle Lake has an extensive shallow zone which harbors small fish. The drawdown will cause the small fish to move into deeper water, providing a ready food source for the larger fish and helping increase sport fish growth rates. The drawdown is being accomplished by the IDNR site staff operating one of the lake's water release valves.

For more information on the project or on recreation opportunities at Argyle Lake State Park, contact Site Superintendent Robin Hinchee at 309/776-3422.