




  
**LOVEWELL STATE PARK**
  
**SPRING NEWSLETTER**



*Welcome to this edition of the Lovewell State Park Spring Newsletter! We sincerely hope you enjoy it and will provide us feedback on the format and content.*

**STATE PARK FEES FOR 2025**

★ Annual Vehicle	\$25.00
★ Kansas SR/Disabled Annual	\$13.75
★ Daily Vehicle	\$ 5.00
★ Kansas SR/Disabled Daily	\$ 3.25
★ Unconventional Vehicle Permit	\$52.50
★ Annual Camp Permit	\$202.50 (\$252.50 after March 31)
★ 14 Day Camp Permit	\$112.50
★ Daily Camp	\$ 10.00
★ Prime Site (all 50amp sites and 24hr Generator)	\$ 2.00
★ Electricity	\$ 9.00
★ Elect/Water	\$11.00
★ Elect/Water/Sewer	\$12.00
★ Seasonal Campsite Elect	\$371.50 per month
★ Seasonal Campsite Elect/Water	\$431.50 per month
★ Seasonal Campsite Elect/Water/Sewer	\$491.50 per month
★ * Transaction Fee of \$2.75 will be added to each campsite transaction TOTAL.	

OFFICE HOURS THRU MARCH ARE 8AM TO 4:00PM MONDAY–FRIDAY.  
 WEEKEND HOURS WILL BEGIN IN APRIL, DEPENDING ON WEATHER.

**New Marina Courtesy Dock!**



KDWP recently acquired a new floating courtesy dock, for

placement at the Marina Boat Ramp. It was purchased utilizing Motor Boat Access grant funding. This new courtesy dock replaces the original which was constructed in 1995. This dock survived its' 30 years very well. It could be moved further down the ramp as the reservoir was drawn down for irrigation, however the angle of the boat ramp itself was a detriment to the use of the courtesy dock at lower water levels, because it was fixed to the angle of the ramp. The new courtesy dock is a floating construction, and will float next to the boat ramp, all the way to the end of concrete.

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*Advice from A Honeybee:*

- Create a real buzz!
- Sip life's sweet moments!
- Mind your own beeswax!
- Work together!
- Always find your way home!
- Bee Yourself!



**Kansas Residents! Don't forget about the Kansas State**

**Park Passport! Available at the time of your vehicle license registration, only \$15.50 per vehicle!**





## SPECIAL EVENTS AT LOVEWELL FOR 2025

The 2025 special event season begins with Free Fishing Weekend on June 7th and 8th. Fishing licenses are not required to fish any public waters in the State of Kansas on these two days. The Kids Fishing Clinic will be held on Sunday June 8th, Kids 15 and under can learn the basics of fishing, from bait and tackle selection, to casting and fish identification, to fileting your catch! If you are in Jewell County on the third weekend of June for the Mammoth Festival, be sure to visit the State Park for a special Mammoth program on Saturday the 21st! Then join us Saturday, July 19th for a Creature Feature interpretive program, to learn about native reptiles and amphibians. Campground Christmas will be held August 9th with lots of campsite decorations and holiday fun. Enter your campsite, decorate with your favorite holiday lights, inflatables, decorations and props, or even dress yourselves up in costumes! You could win a great prize! Everyone is encouraged to

cruise the park, taking in all of the holiday sights and sounds! The Fireworks Display is scheduled for Sunday Aug 31st, Labor Day weekend, at the Cedar Point Rock Jetty, beginning at dusk. But remember, this event can't occur without donations for the purchase of fireworks! The Lovewell Lake Fireworks Committee appreciates any donations. Contact Lovewell Marina to make a donation or for information for the Fireworks Committee. A Free Park Entrance Day is September 7th in conjunction with the Annual 3D Archery Shoot. A classic car show is planned for Saturday September 20th. The final Free Park Entrance Day is part of the #OPTOUTSIDE campaign, encouraging folks to trade their traditional shopping plans for a day in the great outdoors, on Friday November 28th!



*Test Your Skills in the 3D Archery Tournament!*

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Free Fishing Wknd	June 7/8
Kids Fishing Clinic	June 8
Mammoth History	June 21
Creature Feature	July 19
Campground Christmas	August 9
Fireworks Display **	August 31
**Dependent on Fundraising **	

3D Archery Shoot	September 7
Free Park Entrance	September 7
Classic Car Show	September 20
#Optoutside	
Free Park Entrance	November 28

**Attend a Great Special Event at Lovewell This Year!**

*Lovewell State Park is a popular destination for family reunions, alumni reunions, weddings and company picnics. Reserving a shelter is very economical, \$40/day for a basic shelter, \$75/day for a deluxe shelter, and \$200 for a two-day wedding rental! Contact us to schedule your own special event today!*



**GIVE THE GIFT OF THE OUTDOORS!!** Birthday, Anniversary, Christmas, or Thank You gifts for the outdoor person in your life just got a whole lot easier, with a gift card for any dollar amount over \$25. The lucky recipient can use their gift card for vehicle and camping permits or merchandise at any Kansas State Park Office!! Treat your friends or family to a great adventure at a Kansas State Park this year!





## LOVEWELL STATE PARK SOUVENIRS!!!

*Get Your Lovewell State Park Logo Swag!!*

If you haven't seen Lovewell State Park's Brand Logo, you are missing out! Stop by the office and check out our new merchandise available this season!! The gorgeous new Lovewell State Park Logo, with its nighttime campfire scene, has been screen-printed on youth and adult long- and short-sleeved t-shirts, hiking medallions, collector coins, key chains, magnets, vinyl stickers, and now ADULT HOODIES!! Some sizes may be limited.



### **Welcome! Kaizer Kussman, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor**

Kaizer Kussman joined the Lovewell State Park Staff as Facilities Maintenance Supervisor in June of 2024. Kaizer has lived in the Lovewell area his entire life, and of course enjoys fishing, hunting and camping! He brings a wealth of knowledge, well beyond his years, of vehicle and equipment diagnostics and maintenance, construction, and facilities operations. Lovewell's staff is beyond excited to have Kaizer choose Lovewell State Park for his new career! **Welcome Kaizer!**

## Deluxe Camping Cabins Updated



*White Rock Cabin, In Progress*

Lovewell State Park's four deluxe cabins were such an exciting addition to the camping options back in 2009, with kitchens and bathrooms as an added amenity. However, as you can imagine, the heavy use that they have received over the past 16 years have left them in poor condition. An opportunity arose in late 2023, to replace two of the deluxe camping cabins with Yurt-style cabins, offering living and sleeping areas and complete with heating/air, kitchen and 1/2 bath. The yurts have been designated to replace the Lookout and Pilgrim cabins. Sleeping occupancy of each yurt will be 6, with a queen size bed and full-over-full bunks. The third deluxe cabin scheduled for replacement is the Scout Cabin. A newly constructed

camping cabin was purchased from Neosho Community College Construction program. This cabin, named White Rock Cabin, has a full kitchen, full bath/shower, bedroom and living area. Beds available will be the same as the Lookout and Pilgrim Yurts. The Scout Cabin will remain operational through the 2025 summer season, until the Pilgrim Yurt can be finished. The fourth deluxe cabin, Settler Cabin, remains the same structure that was initially delivered in 2009. It has kitchen, full bath/shower, living area with futon and bedroom with a full size bed. Six rustic cabins are also available to rent, with bedroom and dining area, large counter area with outlets, but no kitchen or bath amenities. For all nine camping cabins at Lovewell, renters must provide all cooking and eating utensils, bedding, towels and toiletries. Deluxe cabins are furnished with stove, refrigerator, microwave, toaster and coffee pot.



*Completed Lookout Yurt Cabin*



## REGULATION REMINDERS

Our state park regulations are not new, but its always good to remind visitors as we look forward to the new park season. **VEHICLE AND CAMPING EXPIRATION TIMES**—All daily vehicle and camping permits expire at 2 pm following the last day purchased. If your vehicle is still in the state park or your camping unit is still in a primitive or utility campsite after 2 pm, another day **MUST** be purchased. **14-DAY STAY LIMIT**—A camping unit is limited to 14 consecutive days in a campground/campsite, **utility and primitive**, with the exception of designated seasonal campsites. Following the 14th day of your stay, you must move your camping unit from the campground, and/or remove it from the state park, for at least 5 days. **GREY WATER DUMPING**—all wastewater from camping units (BLACK and GREY tanks) must be disposed of at dump stations only. **SPEED LIMIT**—there is a **25 mph speed limit** throughout the entire park. Speed should be reduced even further when entering and driving the individual campground roads. **QUIET HOURS** — are 11pm to 6am DAILY. The **UNCONVENTIONAL VEHICLE PERMIT** is available for golf cart and UTV type vehicles (no ATV's); licensed drivers only; only on park roadways; only sunrise to sunset. **PETS**—are allowed at Lovewell State Park, but must be kept on a 10 foot or shorter leash or chain **at all times**. Pets are **not allowed** inside any of the facilities, unless trained for assistance. This includes all shower and restroom facilities, swimming beach, park office, group shelters, and camping cabins (unless designated as pet-friendly). **COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY**— Commercial activity, such as the renting of sites and reselling reservations, is occurring on State Park property that is against agency regulations. KDWP regulation K.A.R. 115-8-19 states that no person shall advertise, engage in, or solicit any business, or make a charge for any event or service except as authorized by the Department on Department lands and waters. Persons or businesses found to be engaging in this activity can be ticketed resulting in a court appearance and related fines/costs. With everyone abiding by state park regulations, we can continue to provide a safe and family-oriented park and enjoyable visits for all!! *Thank you!*



### Blue Catfish Regulation Changes

A new statewide Blue Catfish regulation was

proposed to the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks commission. The regulation would allow ten Blue Catfish to be harvested per day with only one fish 30" or longer allowed. Lovewell and Glen Elder Reservoirs were both included in the new regulation when it was proposed. **The new regulation has already been adopted for GLEN ELDER**

**RESERVOIR, and is still being reviewed for LOVEWELL RESERVOIR.** Blue Catfish were stocked in Lovewell Reservoir from 2010-2014. The five Blue Catfish per day creel limit and 35-inch minimum length limit were put in place to protect this population as it established and matured. Recent sampling efforts are detailed in the 2025 Fishing Forecast article on Page 8 of this newsletter. With the right spawning conditions, a very large year class could be produced, potentially overpopulating the lake as seen in other parts of the country. By switching from the 5 fish per day, 35-inch minimum length limit to 10 fish per day with only 1 fish allowed over 30 inches, KDWP can allow harvest rates to increase while still protecting the larger fish. Increasing the harvest rate should maintain a low to moderate population density and high growth rates.



# BLUE-GREEN ALGAE FACTS

By KDHE's HAB Response Program



Blue-green algae are a natural part of the freshwater aquatic community and are normally present in low concentrations in most surface water, including lakes, streams and rivers. Under certain environmental conditions, blue-green algal blooms, also known as harmful algal blooms (HAB), can develop and strengthen very quickly. Some of these conditions may include warm temperatures, abundant sunlight, calm weather and high levels of nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus. Nutrients may enter the waterbody through external sources in the watershed, but also through internal releases of nutrients that may have accumulated in the waterbody over

time. Blooms take on a variety of appearances but are often described as a green or blue-green scum, floating clumps or strands, or water that is colored dark green. A bloom may be spread throughout the waterbody or may accumulate on a shoreline due to wind or wave action.

HABs can produce potent toxins that can cause adverse health effects to humans and animals. Possible routes of exposure to these toxins for humans and animals include eating or drinking water or bloom material, skin contact and breathing in of water droplets. Potential exposure symptoms can range from mild to severe. If a person or animal experiences symptoms after exposure to a bloom, contact a medical professional or veterinarian immediately. Kansas Department of Health and Environment's HAB Response program monitoring is simultaneous with the water recreation season, April 1 through October 31. The program examines, evaluates and monitors events in public waterbodies to assess the level of risk associated with an algal bloom. KDHE issues public health advisories due to blue-green algae and provides a weekly update in response to HABs and their corresponding risk level. Lovewell Lake has experienced a number of HAB events, including an extended public health advisory due to blue-green algae issued during the 2023 recreational season. Lovewell Lake's beneficial uses are impacted due to elevated levels of nutrient enrichment. KDHE's historical data indicates that while Lovewell Lake has experienced HAB events in prior years, it has not experienced them every year. Due to several environmental factors, HABs can be unpredictable. The public is encouraged to stay informed and remain vigilant when heading out to Kansas waters to engage in recreational activity.

Remember, when in doubt, stay out! Please check KDHE's HAB website for more information and to stay up to date on the latest advisories,

[kdhe.ks.gov/HAB](https://kdhe.ks.gov/HAB)





## Partnership With Pheasants Forever Continue Make Great Habitat and Habitat Managers!!

Matt Farmer, Public Lands Assistant Manager

Jamestown and Lovewell Wildlife Areas are fortunate to have one of the 17 Pheasants Forever Habitat Specialists on our Public Land Areas. Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) has been working with Pheasants Forever (PF) on this program for over a decade. PF works with KDWP in hiring field staff to assist with the operation and special habitat projects on several of our State Managed Wildlife Areas. Through a contractual agreement, the Habitat Specialist is an employee of PF, however KDWP supervises on habitat work while paying PF for a portion of the Habitat Specialist's salary. This allows more boots on the ground to complete important habitat work that is needed on our wildlife areas. It also provides terrific opportunities for these individuals to gain knowledge and experience that will carry them on in their career.

Approaching our sixth year with this program, we have been able to complete great habitat projects at Jamestown, Lovewell and our four other satellite properties, such as transplanting live plum and chokecherry plants from an established thicket to propagate new thickets to provide more suitable woody cover for Bobwhite Quail and Rabbits. The extra personnel have allowed us to plan and complete several growing season burns, setting back encroachment from undesirable woody plants such as Cedar trees, set back cool season monocultures of grass like Smooth Brome, and promote the native warm season grasses and forbs that are very important habitat. Continued mechanical removal of invasive Eastern Red Cedar Trees, Native Grass Plantings and the endless work in our wetland units have been the focus of the technical management work within this partnership over the years.

As mentioned above, this program provides a great stepping stone for those pursuing a career in Wildlife Management. Our first Habitat Specialist, Joe Daniels, moved on to pursue wetland and hardwood management in Southeast Kansas. Joe was able to utilize his experiences at Jamestown and Lovewell to interview and successfully land the position of Assistant Public Land Manager with KDWP at Marais Des Cygnes Wildlife Area near Pleasanton, KS. He has moved on as the new Manager of the Melvern Wildlife Area near Emporia. We are happy to have him as a Public Land Manager for the agency and we know he will continue to do great things for the natural resources of Kansas. Aden Shorney was soon hired on after Joe's departure, and he was introduced in the 2023 newsletter. Once again, this program produced another Public Land Manager as Aden moved on to become a Land Manager and Area Biologist for Nebraska Game and Parks in May of 2024. Throughout Aden's tenure, he impacted over 8,500 acres of active habitat management work. Aden and his new wife now reside near Kearney, Nebraska.

With Joe and Aden leaving, PF and KDWP went back to work to find a new Habitat Specialist for the area. Interviews were held, and Brad Whelchel was hired in September. Brad was born and raised on a farm outside of Solomon, KS where he grew up hunting and fishing with his dad, along with learning about the hard work that goes along with farming. He pursued a degree in Park Management and Conservation from Kansas State University. He worked seasonally for KDWP, Salina Animal Shelter as an Animal Control Officer, Lakewood Discovery Center as a Program Assistant, and most recently for a large farm south of Salina. Since his hiring, Brad has developed and maintained over seven miles of fire lines, planted cover crops, did a great job improving the roads at Jamestown and the access roads at Lovewell along the North Shore area, equipment maintenance, and learning the properties. He cleared over 30 acres of invasive Eastern Red Cedar Trees, has started dirt work on a small wetland enhancement, and has completed his certifications to conduct prescribed burning. He enjoys being able to give back to the natural resources that molded him as a child, by establishing/improving habitat on Public Lands, for all to enjoy as he did. If you see Brad out on the Wildlife Areas, make sure to stop and say hello. He loves to talk about what he is doing and what he has been seeing on our properties.

### Visit the Jamestown and Lovewell Wildlife Area Information Pages

Visit <https://ksoutdoors.com/KDWP-Info/Locations/Wildlife-Areas/Northwest/Jamestown>

OR <https://ksoutdoors.com/KDWP-Info/Locations/Wildlife-Areas/Northwest/Lovewell>

for updates on area management, construction progress, upcoming events, and waterfowl migrations.



# Puddler: A Marsh For All Ducks, Wildlife and People

Rob Unruh, Public Lands Manager

Puddler Marsh, a public land tract that is in the southeast corner of Jewell County underwent some major renovations in 2024. Thanks to a grant from Ducks Unlimited (DU), the wetland control structure and berms, originally built in 1997 by DU using a M.A.R.S.H project, were replaced and reconstructed to repair damages from several years of flood events. The undersized fiberglass water control structure was filled with sediment and cracked. It was replaced with a much larger aluminum structure. In the same timeframe, the damaged berm was rebuilt and reshaped with a new enlarged emergency spillway, designed to properly contain the anticipated future flooding events. Improvements were accomplished by a grant administered by conservation partner Ducks Unlimited from the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. This allowed for no cost to Kansas Dept of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP), other than an agreement to reseed the construction site and continued operational costs associated with managing the wetland. Puddler Marsh, now part of the Jamestown Wildlife Area wetland complex, is a 320-acre addition purchased from willing seller Harry C. Young Estate, on December 13, 1995, with Wildlife Fee Funds derived from the sales tax on firearms and ammunition. It had been a working farm with cropland and livestock grazing integrated into the annual wildlife management plan. Water for the wetland occupying almost half of the tract is supplied by the west arm of Marsh Creek, which flows along the south boundary of the property, and an unnamed drainage that flows through the middle of the property into the wetland from the north and empties into Marsh Creek after it flows through the wetland. The storage of water in this wetland is controlled by the Division of Water Resources administered by the Department of Agriculture. Puddler Marsh has a Junior Water Right, which prohibits diversion of water during drought time, as has been the case since September of 2022. Historically, management efforts on KDWP properties including Jamestown have focused on providing quantitative consumptive use of the area's resources, regardless of the demand or supply. The demand always and still exceeds the supply for harvesting the area's resources, sometimes at the expense of providing qualitative experiences. At Puddler Marsh, emphasis has been changed to manage habitat to maximize wildlife use and provide more qualitative outdoor experiences. Habitat resources and access on private land have decreased, making the demand for use of public lands even greater. The Walk-In Hunting Area (WIHA) program has helped with supplying access to private land hunting opportunities but is still not meeting the demand of the hunting public. The future management of the wildlife area will depend on being pro-active through planning, based on past experiences of other wildlife areas, to manage available habitat to its greatest potential. Implementing new concepts and strategies at Puddler are important to meet ever-changing resources and recreational needs of the area. Waterfowl habitat management on the area is based on a late winter drawdown of the wetland followed in early fall by a reflooding of the native moist soil plants that were propagated during the past spring and summer growing season. These annual moist soil plants produce an abundant seed crop on the alkaline, sub-irrigated soil, with yields far above any cultivated agricultural crop. The shallow marsh attracts puddle ducks and all waterfowl, with the early migrant teal sure to be abundant. Since Puddler Marsh is included in the Low Plains Early Zone (LPEZ), it will receive most of its migrant use during September, October and November. Historically, the wetlands at Jamestown can freeze any time after November. The small, shallow wetland is very accessible and easy to hunt and that is the reason it would make a good wetland for hunting by youth and those willing to walk into a hunting spot. No motorized boats are allowed due to the lack of boat ramps and vehicle access. The mixtures of habitats found at Puddler Marsh are very compatible with ring-necked pheasant, bobwhite quail, prairie chicken, mourning dove, whitetail deer, wild turkey, rabbits and hares and a host of other birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Insects and native prairie plant life are all present, plus the fish inhabiting Marsh Creek. The abundant annual weeds encouraged in the fallow croplands and brood strips left around production fields are important for good upland bird brood survival. The annual moist soil plants growing in the wetland are also available during the time of brood rearing. Managing grasslands, which make up half of the total area at Puddler Marsh, will be aimed at decreasing the amount of over-mature grass stands by burning and grazing by livestock thereby interrupting succession and increasing diversity, especially beneficial for wildlife. Puddler Marsh is open to all who wish to venture outdoors. Historically, most probably Col. Zebulon Pike and his party of explorers, sent by then President Thomas Jefferson to purview the lands recently acquired by the Louisiana Purchase in 1806, passed by this area as denoted in his journals. While the roads leading to both sides of Puddler are not well surfaced, it is still worth a trip.

**LOVEWELL RESERVOIR** - is 3 ft below conservation pool, as of February 2025.

By Paul Stockebrand Fisheries Biologist

## 2025 FISHING FORECAST!!

**CATFISH - Good.** The catfish population will again be very good in 2025 with all sizes of Channel Cats and Flatheads available to anglers and quality sized Blue Catfish showing up in the sample. Lovewell ranks second in terms of channel catfish density (16") among Kansas reservoirs. The fall 2022 Channel Catfish total catch rate went from 7.8 in 2023 to 7.1 in 2024. The biggest fish weighed 9.8 pounds with good numbers of fish between 16 and 20 inches. The Flathead Catfish sample was down a bit this year with a density rating of 17, ranked 3rd among Kansas reservoirs. The sample ranged in size from 6 to 42 inches with the biggest fish weighing 40 pounds. The bulk of the sample was 21-31 inches. Channels and flatheads will be vulnerable in all arms of the reservoir as well as up White Rock Creek near the Highway 14 bridge. During irrigation releases, catfish can be caught close to the inlet and outlet structures and are susceptible along the dam and other rocky areas during the spawn. We collected 65 Blue Catfish in 2024 using low frequency electrofishing in August. Almost the entire population are in the 26-40" range. Five substock individuals were sampled in 2022, the first indication of natural reproduction of Blue Catfish in Lovewell. Young-of-the-year fish were also sampled in 2023 and 2024. There is still a 35-inch minimum length limit on Blue Catfish at Lovewell for now. A 10 fish per day creel, with only 1 fish allowed over 30" has been proposed. All Blue Cats under 35 in must be released until a new regulation is adopted.



**CRAPPIE – Fair/Good.** Consistent, steady recruitment since 2014 has allowed this crappie population to become one of the best in the state. The new regulations have also worked well by protecting the smaller, young fish and allowing plenty of these fast growing fish to reach legal size. However, Fall sampling shows a decrease in Black Crappie and White Crappie populations. The combined species catch rate dropped from 42 in 2023 to 12, and the density rating fell from 31 to 9. Fall and winter crappie anglers have done well on 12" to 16" crappie despite these falling sampling numbers. Lovewell still ranks 6th among the state's reservoirs in terms of White Crappie density (8"), 3rd in combined crappie density (8"), and 7th in Black Crappie density (8").

**WALLEYE – Poor/Fair.** Lovewell continues to support a low density Walleye population but provides quality size fish that anglers can catch throughout the year. Poor recruitment from 2013 to 2018, combined with a summer fish kill in 2018, has continued to keep total numbers lower than desired. A significant decrease in shad numbers, plus a failed stocking due to poor water conditions in 2023, have not helped bolster this population. Walleye numbers are similar to 2023 with a density rating 0.4, and the preferred rating dropped down to 0.2. This continues a trend of lower catch rates since the 2012 sample but the 2019 year class should provide legal fish over the next couple of years. Stocking request was not met with only 1,500 intermediates and 0 fry going into the lake in 2024. Fishing continues to be good from late April through mid-June with anglers drifting jig/nightcrawler combos having the best success, especially along 2-mile road. Trolling a variety of crankbaits in late July and early August around the dam and Walleye Point has yielded good catches of big walleye the past several years. Anglers are encouraged to carefully measure any questionable fish and handle sublegal fish with care. **18 inch minimum length limit in effect.**

**WHITE BASS – Fair.** One of the more exciting developments of the 2024 sampling season is that White Bass have come back following an almost nonexistent year in 2023. This population is traditionally good to very good and anglers annually harvest high numbers of fish, but the fishing forecast ratings reached an all-time low in 2023. The density rating (9") has risen from 0.3 in 2023 to 3.6. Only 6 White Bass were sampled in 2023, all in the 9-15 inch range. The bulk of the 2024 sample were 11-17 inches. The best time to fish for Lovewell whites will be during peak irrigation releases. The inlet and outlet areas historically produce the vast majority of whites harvested while summer topwater activity can also be productive. Night fishing using floating lights can be fair to good. Drifting or slabbing over submerged roadbeds and humps is also effective for hooking into a nice stringer of whites.

**WIPERS – Fair/Good.** Lovewell continues to see moderate numbers of wiper in the fall netting samples. In 2024, the density rating is down from 2.5 to 1.1 fish per net, and the preferred rating has fallen from 1.2 to 0.3. The entire wiper sample this year was from 18 to 25 inches. Lovewell ranks tenth in wiper density among the state's reservoirs with the biggest fish weighing 8.0 pounds. In 2024, 300,000 fry were stocked. Similar to white bass, decent numbers of wipers can be caught during the irrigation season as the fish migrate to the inlet and outlet areas. Other anglers report good success for bigger wipers trolling crankbaits and deep-diving rapalas along the north shore and the dam. **Be sure to identify your catch carefully as those young wipers look very similar to white bass. The daily creel limit on wipers is 2 fish!**

### Contact Information:

Kansas Dept of Wildlife & Parks  
Lovewell State Park and Wildlife Area  
2446 250 Road  
Webber, KS 66970  
Phone: 785-753-4971  
Email: [kdwp.lovewellsp@ks.gov](mailto:kdwp.lovewellsp@ks.gov)

### Lovewell Staff:

Thane Loring	Park Manager
Colton Odette	Park Ranger
Kaizer Kussman	Facilities Specialist
Lisa Boyles	Public Service Administrator
Missie Wilt	Office Assistant
Rob Unruh	Public Lands Manager
Matt Farmer	Public Lands Assistant Manager
Carli McFarland	Game Warden
Brandon Tritsch	Wildlife Biologist
Paul Stockebrand	Fisheries Biologist

GET THE LATEST WEEKLY FISHING REPORTS FOR ALL AREA RESERVOIRS AT  
<https://ksoutdoors.com/Fishing/Fishing-Reports>