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Conservation

# Finger Lakes Angler Diary Program

Otisco, Skaneateles, Owasco, Cayuga, Seneca, Keuka, Canandaigua,  
Honeoye, Canadice, Hemlock, and Conesus Lakes

March 05, 2019

# History

Cayuga and Skaneateles – Started in 1963

Owasco – 1966

Keuka - 1968

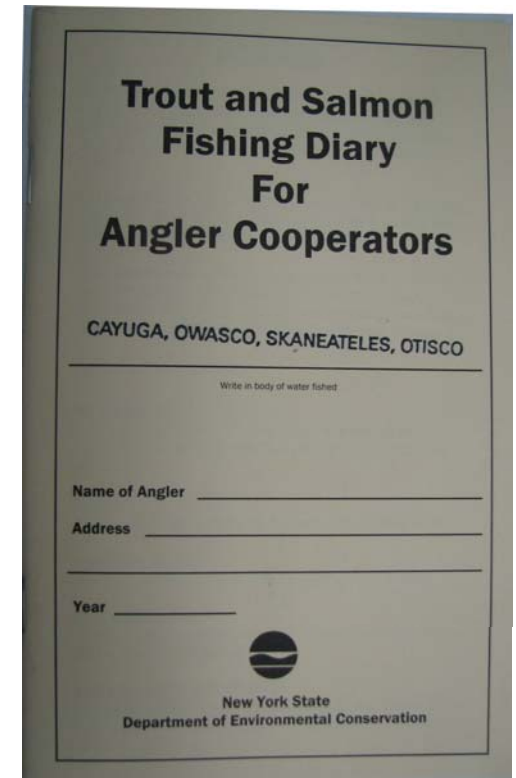
Seneca and Canandaigua - 1973

Otisco - 1979

Hemlock and Canadice – 1980

Honeoye – 1989

Conesus – 2000



## Unfortunately, number of cooperators are declining.

Lake	Peak Number of Cooperators (Year)	Current Number of Cooperators
Otisco	27 (1994)	16
Owasco	64 (1992)	3
Skaneateles	77 (1981)	28
Cayuga	102 (1981)	40
Seneca	152(1994)	56
Keuka	81 (1995)	35
Canandaigua	63 (1976)	29
Honeoye	45 (2003)	22
Canadice	35 (1983)	9
Hemlock	40 (1992)	7
Conesus	28 (2000)	5



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# Sample Diary Page

Fill out a page for every fishing trip. Even for trips when **NO** fish are caught.

Every blank at the top of the page must be filled in for each trip.

Write in the Time Started and Time Finished and circle AM or PM.

Check the box if no fish are caught.

Number of Anglers	2		Date	7/15/2017		
Water Fished	Owasco Lake					
Area Fished	2					
Time Started	6:30	<input checked="" type="radio"/> AM <input type="radio"/> PM	Time Finished	10:30	<input checked="" type="radio"/> AM <input type="radio"/> PM	
Type of Fishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boat <input type="checkbox"/> Shore <input type="checkbox"/> Ice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Fish Caught					
Target Species	Lake Trout					
RECORD OF ALL SALMON AND TROUT KEPT OR RELEASED						
Species	C/R	Total Length	Tag Num.	Weight	CIRCLE MISSING FINS	
					Left Side	Right Side
						
						
						



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## Sample Diary Page Cont.

Each blank should be filled out for each fish caught.

Write C if the fish is Kept (Creeled).


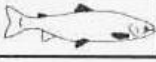







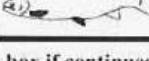
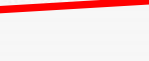
Write R if the fish is Released

Record weight if you normally weigh your fish, but weighing fish is optional.

Circle any missing fins.

Write "No Marks" if no fins are missing.

If more than 10 fish caught on this trip, check the box and continue on the next page.

Target Species <u>Lake Trout</u>						
RECORD OF ALL SALMON AND TROUT KEPT OR RELEASED						
Species	C/R	Total Length	Tag Num.	Weight	CIRCLE MISSING FINS	
					Left Side	Right Side
LT	C	22		3.1		
LT	R	18			No Marks	
RT	R	14.5			No Marks	
						
						
						
						
						
						
						
REMARKS:					Check box if continued on next page <input type="checkbox"/>	



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## It's OK to use the following codes for fish species:

LT = Lake Trout

BT = Brown Trout

RT = Rainbow Trout

LLS = Landlocked (Atlantic)  
Salmon

LMB = Largemouth Bass

SMB = Smallmouth Bass

WAE = Walleye

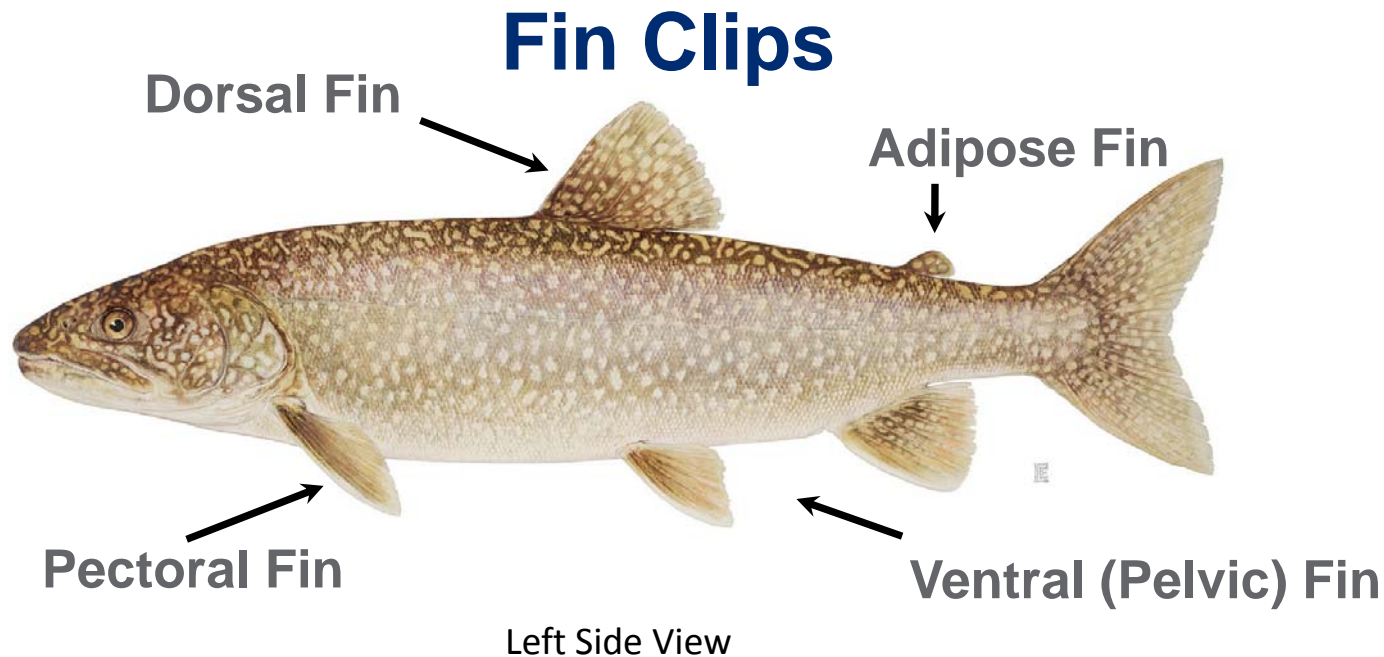
NOP = Northern Pike

CHP = Chain Pickerel

TGM = Tiger Musky



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**Lake Trout** stocked into Cayuga, Owasco, Seneca, Canandaigua, Hemlock and Canadice Lakes are fin clipped.

**Rainbow Trout** stocked into tributaries of Cayuga, Owasco, Seneca and Keuka Lakes are fin clipped. Skaneateles Lake rainbows are currently being clipped.



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# Jaw Tags



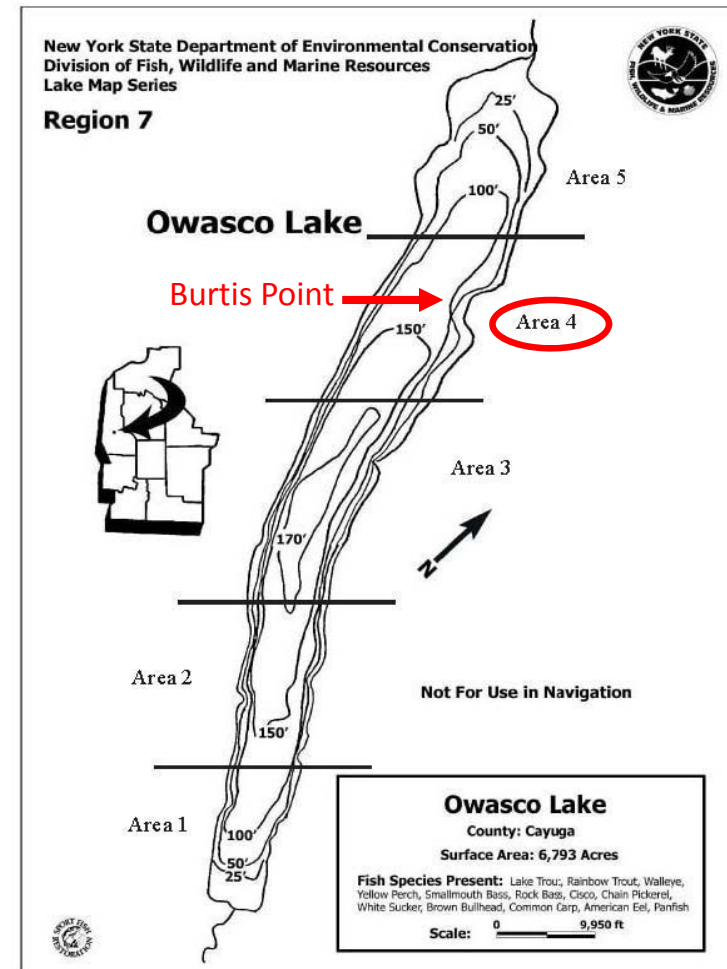
Number of Anglers	2		Date	7/15/2017		
Water Fished						
Area Fished	2					
Time Started	6:30	AM	PM	Time Finished	10:30 AM PM	
Type of Fishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boat <input type="checkbox"/> Shore <input type="checkbox"/> Ice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Fish Caught					
Target Species						
<b>RECORD OF ALL SALMON AND TROUT KEPT OR RELEASED</b>						
Species	C/R	Total Length	Tag Num.	Weight	CIRCLE MISSING FINS	
					Left Side	Right Side

Report number on jaw tag in diary or call Region 8 Fisheries  
 Over 700 walleye in Conesus Lake were jaw tagged in April 2014 and over 800 walleye were jaw tagged in April 2002.



# Area Fished

Use area number from maps  
or landmarks, ex. Burtis Point



The red circles will show the data needed to calculate **Catch Rate**.

- Number of Anglers
- Time Started and Finished
- Species
- Total Length

For this trip example:







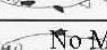





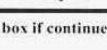
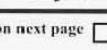
2 Anglers x 4 Hours = 8 Angler Hours.

6 Legal trout caught.

Catch Rate of legal sized fish = 0.75 fish per hour  
or **1.3 hours to catch a legal trout.**

Number of Anglers	2	Date	7/15/2017
Water Fished	Owasco Lake		
Area Fished	2		
Time Started	6:30 AM	Time Finished	10:30 AM
Type of Fishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boat <input type="checkbox"/> Shore <input type="checkbox"/> Ice <input type="checkbox"/> No Fish Caught		
Target Species	Lake Trout		

RECORD OF ALL SALMON AND TROUT KEPT OR RELEASED						
Species	C/R	Total Length	Tag Num.	Weight	CIRCLE MISSING FINS	
					Left Side	Right Side
LT	C	22		3.1		
LT	R	18			No Marks	
RT	R	14.5			No Marks	
LT	C	19		2.2		
LT	C	21		3.0		
LT	C	18		2.1		
LT	C	25.5		4.5	No Marks	
						
						
						















REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_ Check box if continued on next page ☐

The red circles will show the data needed to determine percentage of **Stocked or Wild** fish. Fin clips also help with year class.

- Species
- Missing Fins

For this trip example:

4 out of 6 Lake Trout fin clipped  
= 67% stocked and 33% wild.

Number of Anglers <u>2</u>		Date <u>7/15/2017</u>				
Water Fished <u>Owasco Lake</u>						
Area Fished <u>2</u>						
Time Started <u>6:30</u> <u>AM</u> PM		Time Finished <u>10:30</u> <u>AM</u> PM				
Type of Fishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boat <input type="checkbox"/> Shore <input type="checkbox"/> Ice <input type="checkbox"/> No Fish Caught						
Target Species <u>Lake Trout</u>						
RECORD OF ALL SALMON AND TROUT KEPT OR RELEASED						
Species	C/R	Total Length	Tag Num.	Weight	CIRCLE MISSING FINS	
					Left Side	Right Side
LT	C	22		3.1		
LT	R	18			No Marks	
RT	R	14.5			No Marks	
LT	C	19		2.2		
LT	C	21		3.0		
LT	C	18		2.1		
LT	C	25.5		4.5	No Marks	
						
						
						
REMARKS:					Check box if continued on next page <input type="checkbox"/>	

# Problems Encountered When Diary Information is Left Blank

## Number of Anglers left blank

- Can't calculate angler hours, so can't calculate the catch rate.

## Time Started or Time Finished left blank

- Can't calculate time fished, so can't calculate the catch rate.

## Creeled/Released left blank

- Can't tell if fish was kept or released, can't calculate the harvest or release rate.

**Trips with No Fish Caught are just as important and need to be recorded.**

## Importance of Angler Diary Information

- **Efficient method for tracking the fishery.**
  - Only source of information for some lakes and time periods.
  - 4 year netting schedule.
- **Major component of determining any regulation changes.**
- **Good way to communicate with anglers.**



# Angler Diary Cooperator Program

Yearly Reports can be viewed  
at:

**[www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)**



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# Angler Diary Cooperator Program

**Always Looking for New Anglers**

**If you would like to join call either**

**Region 7 Fisheries at**

**607-753-3095, or**

**Email; [fwfish7@dec.ny.gov](mailto:fwfish7@dec.ny.gov)**

**or**

**Region 8 Fisheries at**

**585-226-5343, or**

**Email; [fwfish8@dec.ny.gov](mailto:fwfish8@dec.ny.gov)**



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# THANK YOU!

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We really appreciate the efforts of our Angler Diary Cooperators.

You do make a difference in our ability to provide quality fishing opportunities.

