



West Branch Sacandaga River Watershed (0202000202)

Water Index Number

H-369..20
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 H-369..20- 9-P216,P218,19-P219
 H-369..20-19-P220,P221
 H-369..20-23
 H-369..20-23-4-P225
 H-369..20-23-6-P232
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 H-369..20-23-P234-11-5-P247
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Waterbody Segment

West Branch Sacandaga, Lower, and tribs (1104-0063)
 West Branch Sacandaga, Upper, and tribs (1104-0156)
 Mud Lake, Buck Pond, Chartreuse Lake (1104-0157)
 Hamilton Lake, Sand Lake (1104-0158)
 Piseco Lake Outlet and tribs (1104-0159)
 Sand Lake (1104-0015)
 Spy Lake (1104-0160)
 Piseco Lake (1104-0047)
 Tribs to Piseco Lake (1104-0314)
 Fawn Lake (1104-0161)
 Oxbow Lake (1104-0049)
 Kennels Pond (1104-0162)
 Silver Lake (1104-0016)
 Minor Lks in UppW.Br Sacandaga Wshed (1104-0013)

Category

NoKnownImpct
 NoKnownImpct
 UnAssessed
 UnAssessed
 UnAssessed
 Impaired Seg
 Impaired Seg
 NoKnownImpct
 NoKnownImpct
 UnAssessed
 UnAssessed
 UnAssessed
 Impaired Seg
 Impaired Seg

West Branch Sacandaga, Lower, and tribs (1104-0063) NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 07/06/2005

Water Index No: H-369..20
Hydro Unit Code: 02020002/040 **Str Class:** C(T)*
Waterbody Type: River
Waterbody Size: 158.3 Miles
Seg Description: stream and tribs from mouth to Piseco Lake Outlet

Drain Basin: Upper Hudson River
Sacandaga River
Reg/County: 5/Hamilton Co. (21)
Quad Map: LAKE PLEASANT (H-23-0)

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 8 (No Known Use Impairment)
Verification Status: (Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)
Lead Agency/Office: n/a
TMDL/303d Status: n/a ()

Resolution Potential:

Further Details

Biological (macroinvertebrate) assessments of West Branch of the Sacandaga River near the mouth at Blackbridge and well above this reach in Arietta were conducted in 2001. Sampling results indicated non-impacted water quality conditions. Both sites contained many clean-water mayflies, stoneflies, and caddisflies. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, June 2005)

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs from the mouth near Blackbridge to Piseco Lake Outlet below Shaker Place. The waters of this reach of the stream not in the forest preserve are primarily Class C(T); with a small reach between Dugway Creek (-10) and tribs -18 near Whitehouse designated Class AA(T). Tribs to this reach/segment, including Vly Creek (-1), Devorse Creek (-2), Jimmy Creek (-5), Ninemile Creek (-9), Dugway Creek (-10), Hamilton Lake Stream (-19) and Cold Brook (-20), are primarily Class C,C(T), with other portions in the forest preserve.

West Branch Sacandaga, Upper, and tribs (1104-0156) NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 07/06/2005

Water Index No: H-369..20
Hydro Unit Code: 02020002/030 **Str Class:** C(T)
Waterbody Type: River
Waterbody Size: 126.8 Miles
Seg Description: stream and tribs above Piseco Lake Outlet

Drain Basin: Upper Hudson River
Sacandaga River
Reg/County: 5/Hamilton Co. (21)
Quad Map: PISECO LAKE (H-22-0)

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 8 (No Known Use Impairment)
Verification Status: (Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)
Lead Agency/Office: n/a
TMDL/303d Status: n/a ()

Resolution Potential:

Further Details

Biological (macroinvertebrate) assessments of West Branch of the Sacandaga River in Arietta and below this reach near the mouth at Blackbridge were conducted in 2001. Sampling results indicated non-impacted water quality conditions. The Arietta sample appeared to be limited by headwater conditions. Applying the correction factor resulted in an assessment of non-impacted water quality. Both sites contained many clean-water mayflies, stoneflies, and caddisflies. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, June 2005)

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs above Piseco Lake Outlet near Shaker Place. The waters of this portion of the stream not in the forest preserve are Class C(T). Tribs to this reach/segment, including Moose Creek (-24), Cow Creek (-26), Teeter Creek (-28), Jockeybush Outlet (-32), North Branch (-40), Silver Lake Outlet (-43) and Whitman Flow (-45) are primarily Class C,(C(T), with other portions in the forest preserve.

Sand Lake (1104-0015)

Impaired Seg

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 12/08/2006

Water Index No: H-369..20-23-4-P225
Hydro Unit Code: 02020002/030 **Str Class:** N
Waterbody Type: Lake
Waterbody Size: 115.1 Acres
Seg Description: entire lake

Drain Basin: Upper Hudson River
Sacandaga River
Reg/County: 5/Hamilton Co. (21)
Quad Map: PISECO LAKE (H-22-0)

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
FISH CONSUMPTION	Impaired	Known
AQUATIC LIFE	Impaired	Known

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: METALS (mercury), ACID/BASE (PH)
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ATMOSPH. DEPOSITION
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))
Verification Status: 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)
Lead Agency/Office: ext/EPA **Resolution Potential:** Low
TMDL/303d Status: 2a,2b (Multiple Segment/Categorical Water, Atmosph Dep, more))

Further Details

Fish consumption and aquatic life support in Sand Lake is impaired due to an advisory limiting the consumption of certain fish species due to mercury contamination. This lake is also listed as an acid rain impaired water .

Fish consumption in Sand Lake is impaired due to a NYS DOH health advisory that recommends eating no more than one meal per month of chain pickerel because of elevated mercury levels. The source of the mercury contamination is generally thought to be from atmospheric deposition. This waterbody is included on the NYS 2006 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The lake was included on Part 2b of the List as a Fish Consumption Water. (2005-06 NYS DOH Health Advisories and DEC/FWMR, Habitat, December 2006)

Historical surveys of the lake indicate that low pH due to acid deposition is limiting the fishery. Monitoring conducted by DFW in 1979 revealed a pH <5.0. Aquatic life use is considered to be impaired. This waterbody is included on the NYS 2006 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The lake was included on Part 2a of the List as an Atmospheric Deposition (Acid Rain) Water as well as on Part 2b of the List as a Fish Consumption Water. (DEC/DOW, BWAR, 2006)

Efforts are underway on a national level to address problems caused by acid rain by reducing pollutant emissions, as

required by the Clean Air Act. New York State (and other northeastern states) have taken legal action against USEPA to accelerate implementation of controls. Monitoring of these waters will continue, in order to assess changes in water quality resulting from implementation of the Clean Air Act. However, these changes are expected to occur only slowly over time.

In 2006, NYSDEC established and USEPA approved a TMDL to address acid rain impairment to 143 Adirondack lakes that are located in NYS Forest Preserve lands, including Sand Lake. Recognizing that the available pH data for many of these lakes is 20-30 years old, the TMDL outlines a phased/adaptive management approach, that initially relies heavily on monitoring and assessment to determine current conditions, modeling refinements to estimate future conditions, and the implementation of statewide, regional and national efforts to reduce atmospheric loadings causing the impairment. (Impaired Water Restoration Plan/TMDL for Acid Rain Lakes (NYS Forest Preserve), DEC/DOW, BWAM, August 2006)

Spy Lake (1104-0160)

Impaired Seg

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 12/11/2006

Water Index No: H-369..20-23-6-P232
Hydro Unit Code: 02020002/030 **Str Class:** C
Waterbody Type: Lake
Waterbody Size: 358.3 Acres
Seg Description: entire lake

Drain Basin: Upper Hudson River
Sacandaga River
Reg/County: 5/Hamilton Co. (21)
Quad Map: PISECO LAKE (H-22-0)

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
FISH CONSUMPTION	Impaired	Known

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: METALS (mercury)
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ATMOSPH. DEPOSITION
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))
Verification Status: 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)
Lead Agency/Office: ext/EPA
TMDL/303d Status: 2b (Multiple Segment/Categorical Water, Fish Consumption))

Resolution Potential: Low

Further Details

Fish consumption in Spy Lake is impaired due to a NYS DOH health advisory that recommends eating no more than one meal per month of larger smallmouth bass (over 15 inches) because of elevated mercury levels. The source of mercury is considered to be atmospheric deposition, as there are not other apparent sources in the lake watershed. The advisory for this lake was first issued in 2006-07. (2006-07 NYS DOH Health Advisories and DEC/FWMR, Habitat, December 2006).

This waterbody is included on the NYS 2006 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The lake was included on Part 2b of the List as a Fish Consumption Water.

Piseco Lake (1104-0047)

NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/08/2007

Water Index No:	H-369..20-23-P234	Drain Basin:	Upper Hudson River
Hydro Unit Code:	02020002/030	Str Class:	A(TS)
Waterbody Type:	Lake	Reg/County:	5/Hamilton Co. (21)
Waterbody Size:	2848.1 Acres	Quad Map:	PISECO LAKE (H-22-0)
Seg Description:	entire lake		

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 8 (No Known Use Impairment)
Verification Status: (Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)
Lead Agency/Office: n/a
TMDL/303d Status: n/a ()

Resolution Potential:

Further Details

Piseco Lake has been sampled as part of the NYSDEC Citizen Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) beginning in 1999 and continuing through 2003. An Interpretive Summary report of the findings of this sampling was published in 2004. These data indicate that the lake continues to be best characterized as mesoligotrophic, or moderately unproductive. Water quality conditions in 2003 were about as productive (lower water clarity and algae levels, and similar phosphorus concentrations) as those measured in the typical CSLAP sampling season, and although water transparency readings have decreased slightly in recent years, these small changes were probably within the normal variability for this lake. Phosphorus levels in the lake fall well below the state guidance values indicating impacted/stressed recreational uses. Corresponding transparency measurements significantly exceed what is recommended for swimming beaches. Readings for pH consistently fall within the NYS water quality standard range (6.5 to 8.5). (DEC/DOW, BWAM/CSLAP, July 2004)

Public perception of the lake and its uses is also evaluated as part of the CSLAP program. These assessment indicate recreational suitability of the lake to be highly favorable since the lake was first evaluated and continuing through the most recent assessment. The recreational suitability of the lake is described most frequently as "could not be nicer" and "excellent." The lake itself is most often described as "crystal clear." Assessments have noted that aquatic plants typically grow to the lake surface but not densely. Aquatic plants are dominated by native species and have not been

cited as impacting recreational uses. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/CSLAP, July 2004)

This lake waterbody is designated class A(TS), suitable for use as a water supply, public bathing beach, general recreation and aquatic life support. Water quality monitoring by NYSDEC focuses primarily on support of general recreation and aquatic life. Samples to evaluate the bacteriological condition and bathing use of the lake or to evaluate contamination from organic compounds, metals or other inorganic pollutants have not been collected as part of the CSLAP monitoring program. Monitoring to assess potable water supply and public bathing use is generally the responsibility of state and/or local health departments.

Tribs to Piseco Lake (1104-0314)

NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 07/08/2005

Water Index No: H-369..20-23-P234- **Drain Basin:** Upper Hudson River
Hydro Unit Code: **Str Class:** C
Waterbody Type: River **Reg/County:** 5/Hamilton Co. (21)
Waterbody Size: 0.0 Miles **Quad Map:** ()
Seg Description: total length of all tribs to the lake

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 8 (No Known Use Impairment)
Verification Status: (Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)
Lead Agency/Office: n/a
TMDL/303d Status: n/a ()

Resolution Potential:

Further Details

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Mill Stream in Piseco (at hiking trail) was conducted in 2001. A very sparse fauna was found, dominated by clean-water stoneflies. The original metrics placed the assessment as slightly impacted. When these were corrected for headwater conditions, the final assessment was non-impacted. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, June 2005)

This segment includes the total length of all tribs to Piseco Lakes. Tribs within this segment, including Sheriff Lake Outlet (-3), Big Marsk/Panther Mountain Stream (-4), Warner Brook (-7), Mill Stream (-9), Cold Stream (-10), Fall Stream (-11) and Oxbow Lake Outlet (-12), are primarily Class C, C(T), with some portions located in the forest preserve.

Silver Lake (1104-0016)

Impaired Seg

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 12/08/2006

Water Index No: H-369..20-43-P270
Hydro Unit Code: 02020002/030 **Str Class:** N
Waterbody Type: Lake
Waterbody Size: 64.1 Acres
Seg Description: entire lake
Drain Basin: Upper Hudson River
Sacandaga River
Reg/County: 5/Hamilton Co. (21)
Quad Map: LAKE PLEASANT (H-23-0)

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
AQUATIC LIFE UnAssessed Water	Impaired	Known

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ACID/BASE (PH)
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ATMOSPH. DEPOSITION
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))
Verification Status: 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)
Lead Agency/Office: ext/EPA
TMDL/303d Status: 2a (Multiple Segment/Categorical Water, Atmosph Dep))
Resolution Potential: Low

Further Details

Aquatic life support in Silver Lake is known to be impaired by low pH, a result of atmospheric deposition (acid rain).

Historical surveys of the lake indicate that low pH due to acid deposition is limiting the fishery. Monitoring by DFW (1978) revealed a pH <5.0 and no fish in the lake. Aquatic life is considered to be impaired. This segment is included on the NYS 2006 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The segment was included on Part 2a of the List as an Atmospheric Deposition (Acid Rain) Water. (DEC/DOW, BWAR, 2006)

Efforts are underway on a national level to address problems caused by acid rain by reducing pollutant emissions, as required by the Clean Air Act. New York State (and other northeastern states) have taken legal action against USEPA to accelerate implementation of controls. Monitoring of these waters will continue, in order to assess changes in water quality resulting from implementation of the Clean Air Act. However, these changes are expected to occur only slowly over time.

In 2006, NYSDEC established and USEPA approved a TMDL to address acid rain impairment to 143 Adirondack lakes that are located in NYS Forest Preserve lands, including Holmes Lake. Recognizing that the available pH data

for many of these lakes is 20-30 years old, the TMDL outlines a phased/adaptive management approach, that initially relies heavily on monitoring and assessment to determine current conditions, modeling refinements to estimate future conditions, and the implementation of statewide, regional and national efforts to reduce atmospheric loadings causing the impairment. (Impaired Water Restoration Plan/TMDL for Acid Rain Lakes (NYS Forest Preserve, DEC/DOW, BWAM, August 2006)

Minor Lakes in UppWestBr Sacandaga Wshed (1104-0013) Impaired Seg

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 12/08/2006

Water Index No: H-369..20-P222 thru P276
Hydro Unit Code: 02020002/030 **Str Class:** N
Waterbody Type: Lake
Waterbody Size: 589.5 Acres
Seg Description: total area of selected lakes in watershed

Drain Basin: Upper Hudson River
Sacandaga River
Reg/County: 5/Hamilton Co. (21)
Quad Map: LAKE PLEASANT (H-23-0)

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
AQUATIC LIFE	Impaired	Known

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ACID/BASE (PH)
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ATMOSPH. DEPOSITION
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))
Verification Status: 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)
Lead Agency/Office: ext/EPA
TMDL/303d Status: 2a (Multiple Segment/Categorical Water, Atmosph Dep))

Resolution Potential: Low

Further Details

Aquatic life support in a number of smaller lakes in this watershed is known to be impaired by low pH, a result of atmospheric deposition (acid rain).

Historical surveys of the lake indicate that low pH due to acid deposition is limiting the fishery. Monitoring by DFW (1975-79) revealed pH to be <5.0 and many lakes to have no fish present. Aquatic life is considered to be impaired in these lakes, which include Clockmill Pond (P228), Rock Lake (P229), Lower Loomis Pond (P256), Middle Loomis Pond (P257), Trout Lake (P260), Chub Lake (P264), Rock Lake (P275) and Meco Lake (P276). These lakes are located in the forest preserve. This segment is included on the NYS 2006 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The segment was included on Part 2a of the List as an Atmospheric Deposition (Acid Rain) Water. (DEC/DOW, BWAR, 2006)

Efforts are underway on a national level to address problems caused by acid rain by reducing pollutant emissions, as required by the Clean Air Act. New York State (and other northeastern states) have taken legal action against USEPA to accelerate implementation of controls. Monitoring of these waters will continue, in order to assess changes in water quality resulting from implementation of the Clean Air Act. However, these changes are expected to occur only slowly over time.

In 2006, NYSDEC established and USEPA approved a TMDL to address acid rain impairment to 143 Adirondack lakes that are located in NYS Forest Preserve lands, including Holmes Lake. Recognizing that the available pH data for many of these lakes is 20-30 years old, the TMDL outlines a phased/adaptive management approach, that initially relies heavily on monitoring and assessment to determine current conditions, modeling refinements to estimate future conditions, and the implementation of statewide, regional and national efforts to reduce atmospheric loadings causing the impairment. (Impaired Water Restoration Plan/TMDL for Acid Rain Lakes (NYS Forest Preserve, DEC/DOW, BWAM, August 2006)

Lakes in this segment include Owl Pond (P222), Mud Pond (P226), Clockmill Pond (P228), Rock Lake (P229), Mud Lake (P231), Sheriff Lake (P235), Meco Lake (P236), Scotch Lake (P241), Fall Lake (P243), Vly Lake (P244), Mud Pond (P245), Buckhorn Lake (P251), Airowood Lake (P254), Loomis Pond (Upper) (P255), Lower Loomis Pond (P256), Middle Loomis Pond (P257), Jockeybush Lake (P259), Trout Lake (P260), Little Trout Lake (P261), Chub Lake (P264), Good Luck Lake (P265), Canary Pond (P267), Brown Lake (P268), White Lake (P271), Eastman Lake (P272), Duck Lake (P273), County Line Lake (P274), Rock Lake (P275), Meco Lake (P276). Most of these lakes are located in the forest preserve. Sand Lake (P225), Spy Lake (P232), Piseco Lake (P234), Fawn Lake (P247), Oxbow Lake (P252), Kennels Pond (P258) and Silver Lake (P270) are listed separately.