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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lake</th>
<th>Peak Number of Cooperators (Year)</th>
<th>Current Number of Cooperators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Otisco</td>
<td>27 (1994)</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owasco</td>
<td>64 (1992)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skaneateles</td>
<td>77 (1981)</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cayuga</td>
<td>102 (1981)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seneca</td>
<td>152 (1994)</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keuka</td>
<td>81 (1995)</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canandaigua</td>
<td>63 (1976)</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honeoye</td>
<td>45 (2003)</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadice</td>
<td>35 (1983)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemlock</td>
<td>40 (1992)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conesus</td>
<td>28 (2000)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.
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.
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
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.
Jaw Tags

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**.
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**.
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
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
or
Region 8 Fisheries at
585-226-5343, or
Email; fwfish8@dec.ny.gov
THANK YOU!

We really appreciate the efforts of our Angler Diary Cooperators.

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