

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources

Bureau of Fisheries

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Dear Angler,

Thank you for participating in the 2019 Canandaigua Lake angler diary program. This is the 47th year of the volunteer program on Canandaigua Lake. A data set like this gives us a unique opportunity to identify long term trends in the fishery. The information you provide is very important us, especially in years that we do not sample the Canandaigua Lake trout population.

Enclosed is a summary of your personal catch information referenced to the code number on the cover of your diary, a summary of 1973 through 2019 catch statistics, your 2019 diary, and a diary for the 2020 season. Please contact our office if you need more diary books.

In 2019, 21 diary cooperators recorded 277 fishing trips (diary cooperators and party members). Anglers caught a total of 507 lake trout, 43 brown trout, and 136 rainbow trout. Anglers averaged 1.5 hours to catch a legal trout, very similar to last year. Anglers caught at least one legal length trout during 88% of trips reported.

Lake Trout

Anglers who specifically targeted lake trout had a very good catch rate, averaging only 1.2 hours to catch a legal lake trout. Average length of all lake trout caught was 19.6 inches, while average length of harvested lake trout was 21.4 inches. Average weight of lake trout weighed was 3.2 pounds, while average weight of harvested lake trout that were weighed was 3.5 pounds. Three lake trout exceeding 10 pounds were reported in 2019.

Fin clips reported indicated that 88% of the catch consisted of stocked lake trout while 12% of the catch consisted of wild lake trout. We found similar results during our lake trout netting survey in 2018. Fin clip data also indicated that many of the lake trout caught were stocked as fall fingerlings. Canandaigua Lake continues to be one of the few lakes where stocking fall fingerling lake trout is just as successful as stocking spring yearlings. For 2020, we will continue our current stocking of 12,100 spring yearlings (8-9 inches at stocking) and 24,100 fall fingerlings (5-6 inches at stocking). We will continue to fin clip all lake trout stocked in Canandaigua Lake to monitor natural reproduction.

Rainbow Trout

One hundred thirty-six rainbow trout were caught and 26 were harvested in 2019. Anglers who were specifically targeting rainbow trout had a very good catch rate of 2.5 hours to catch a legal rainbow trout. Average length of all rainbow trout caught was 18.5 inches, while average length of harvested rainbow trout was 23.4 inches. The Canandaigua Lake rainbow trout fishery continues to be one of the best in the Finger

Lakes.

Naples Creek continues to provide adequate reproduction to support the rainbow trout population. We conducted electrofishing at nine locations along Naples Creek during August 2019. Average densities of juvenile rainbow trout at these locations allow us to estimate the total number in the stream. In 2019, we estimated 45,900 young-of-year (1 to 3 inches) and 14,100 yearling (4 to 6 inches) rainbow trout in Naples Creek. This does not include the significant contributions that also come from Tannery, Grimes, and Reservoir Creeks.

Brown Trout

Forty-three brown trout were caught and 11 were harvested in 2019. Average length of all brown trout caught was 17.4 inches, while average length of harvested rainbow trout was 21.0 inches. Average weight of brown trout weighed was 5.1 pounds, while average weight of harvested brown trout that were weighed was 6.2 pounds. Two brown trout exceeding 10 pounds were reported in 2019.

The recent discovery of zebra mussels at the Rome Hatchery is limiting the locations where we can stock brown trout without the risk of inadvertently introducing zebra mussels. Since Canandaigua Lake is already a zebra mussel positive water, we will be stocking a larger number of brown trout in 2020. We feel that the current forage levels are adequate to support a larger stocking number for one year.

Participation in our warmwater diary program remains very low. We are interested in anglers fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass, and yellow perch. If you target these species and are interested in participating in the program or know other anglers that may be interested, please contact us at 585-226-5343. We would like to record trips targeting warmwater species in a separate diary.

Thank you again for all of the valuable data you provide. If you know of anyone interested in the program just have them contact our office. We are currently working on fishery management plans for all the Finger Lakes. We hope to have draft plans out to the public soon so we can get feedback from anglers. We are also planning to conduct another Angler Diary meeting in 2020 and will let you know when the time, date, and location are determined. However, we are unsure how COVID-19 may affect these plans.

We have also enclosed some information from the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association regarding visual monitoring on Canandaigua Lake. Please contact them if you are interested in participating in their program.

Thank you for all the valuable data you provided in 2019 and good luck fishing in 2020.

Good Fishing,

Pete Austerman

Pete Austerman
Aquatic Biologist

Summary of 2019 Canandaigua Lake Angler Diary Cooperator Results.

| Angler | Days Fished | Angler Trips | Angler Hours | Avg Trip (hrs) | Caught | | | | Kept | | | Legal Salmonids Caught | Hrs to Catch Legal | |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | LTC | BTC | RTC | LLS | LTK | BTK | RTK | | | |
| 425 | 7 | 11 | 30.50 | 2.71 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 0.92 |
| 431 | 4 | 11 | 58.50 | 5.25 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 17 | 3.44 |
| 565 | 3 | 9 | 61.50 | 6.83 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 5.13 |
| 576 | 4 | 4 | 20.00 | 5.00 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 2.50 |
| 595 | 2 | 6 | 39.00 | 6.50 | 17 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 21 | 1.86 |
| 699 | 1 | 2 | 15.00 | 7.50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 794 | 48 | 48 | 98.00 | 2.04 | 57 | 17 | 39 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 94 | 1.04 |
| 851 | 1 | 1 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 861 | 24 | 31 | 70.50 | 2.33 | 104 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 74 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 109 | 0.65 |
| 862 | 8 | 14 | 25.15 | 1.84 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 2.52 |
| 893 | 5 | 11 | 51.00 | 4.70 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 3.92 |
| 898 | 9 | 10 | 21.75 | 2.00 | 16 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 1.28 |
| 901 | 12 | 23 | 71.50 | 3.13 | 32 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 31 | 2.31 |
| 903 | 27 | 30 | 152.00 | 4.91 | 103 | 8 | 39 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 135 | 1.13 |
| 904 | 36 | 45 | 112.00 | 2.53 | 69 | 12 | 32 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 0 | 104 | 1.08 |
| 905 | 1 | 1 | 2.50 | 2.50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 908 | 1 | 1 | 5.50 | 5.50 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5.50 |
| 912 | 4 | 8 | 22.00 | 2.00 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 5.50 |
| 915 | 3 | 5 | 25.00 | 5.00 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 6.25 |
| 964 | 4 | 5 | 18.50 | 3.63 | 13 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1.68 |
| 968 | 1 | 1 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 21 | 205 | 277 | 903.90 | 3.80 | 507 | 43 | 136 | 0 | 164 | 11 | 26 | 0 | 624 | 1.45 |

LT = Lake Trout

RT = Rainbow Trout

BT = Brown Trout

LLS = Landlocked Atlantic Salmon (not currently found in Canandaigua Lake)

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
CANANDAIGUA LAKE TROUT AND SALMON FISHING DIARY SUMMARY**

| Year | Total Fishing Trips | AVG Hours/ Trip | Total Trout Caught | | | Total Trout Kept | | | AVG Length of Fish Kept (Inches) | | | AVG Weight of Fish Kept (LBS) | | | # Hours to Catch Legal Salmonid | # Cooperators |
|------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|------------------|-----|-----|----------------------------------|------|------|-------------------------------|-----|-----|---------------------------------|---------------|
| | | | LT | RT | BT | LT | RT | BT | LT | RT | BT | LT | RT | BT | | |
| 1973 | 527 | 6.2 | 392 | 389 | 103 | 231 | 389 | 103 | 22.4 | - | - | 4.5 | - | - | 4.2 | 25 |
| 1974 | 587 | 6.1 | 859 | 141 | 74 | 492 | 141 | 74 | 21.5 | - | - | 3.5 | - | - | 5.0 | 18 |
| 1975 | 927 | 5.1 | 851 | 124 | 107 | 635 | 124 | 107 | 19.6 | - | - | 2.9 | - | - | 4.2 | 38 |
| 1976 | 1150 | 4.9 | - | - | - | 1122 | 186 | 86 | 21.2 | - | - | 3.3 | - | - | 3.5 | 63 |
| 1977 | 1000 | 5.0 | - | - | - | 840 | 80 | 47 | 21.0 | 18.2 | 21.5 | 3.6 | 2.7 | 4.4 | 3.8 | 55 |
| 1978 | 1062 | 4.5 | 1099 | 335 | 191 | 610 | 215 | 103 | 20.0 | 17.4 | 17.0 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 2.9 | 4.1 | 48 |
| 1979 | 1022 | 4.0 | 1431 | 164 | 107 | 866 | 104 | 107 | 19.3 | 17.5 | 17.0 | 2.6 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 3.0 | 40 |
| 1980 | 942 | 4.4 | - | - | - | 931 | 120 | 100 | 20.5 | 18.8 | 16.9 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 44 |
| 1981 | 1443 | 5.4 | - | - | - | 1177 | 213 | 117 | 20.7 | 17.0 | 16.9 | 3.3 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 4.7 | 57 |
| 1982 | 982 | 4.6 | - | - | - | 521 | 57 | 80 | 20.2 | 17.1 | 15.1 | 3.1 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 5.8 | 42 |
| 1983 | 769 | 5.1 | - | - | - | 474 | 111 | 126 | 20.7 | 17.0 | 16.5 | 3.5 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 5.0 | 33 |
| 1984 | 757 | 5.0 | 530 | 151 | 151 | 364 | 129 | 121 | 20.1 | 17.1 | 16.1 | 3.3 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 5.2 | 36 |
| 1985 | 1025 | 5.0 | 1486 | 283 | 359 | 564 | 283 | 304 | 19.8 | 18.6 | 16.0 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 35 |
| 1986 | 835 | 4.9 | 1637 | 110 | 164 | 755 | 110 | 125 | 20.1 | 18.1 | 16.6 | 3.1 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 3.0 | 29 |
| 1987 | 917 | 4.8 | 1409 | 131 | 96 | 730 | 131 | 96 | 21.0 | 15.8 | 16.5 | 3.7 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 3.4 | 36 |
| 1988 | 799 | 4.9 | 1253 | 274 | 235 | 417 | 214 | 151 | 19.6 | 18.6 | 16.8 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 33 |
| 1989 | 945 | 4.6 | 1521 | 130 | 261 | 749 | 95 | 176 | 21.0 | 18.3 | 17.8 | 3.6 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.6 | 41 |

| (continued) | | | Total Trout Caught | | | Total Trout Kept | | | AVG Length of Fish Kept (Inches) | | | AVG Weight of Fish Kept (LBS) | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|--------------------|-----|-----|------------------|-----|-----|----------------------------------|------|------|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| | | | LT | RT | BT | LT | RT | BT | LT | RT | BT | LT | RT | BT | | |
| 1990 | 781 | 4.8 | 1275 | 187 | 225 | 538 | 143 | 154 | 20.5 | 18.8 | 17.9 | 3.4 | 2.9 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 32 |
| 1991 | 652 | 4.7 | 1440 | 184 | 153 | 405 | 92 | 61 | 21.6 | 17.5 | 17.8 | 3.7 | 2.2 | 3.0 | 2.2 | 27 |
| 1992 | 713 | 4.4 | 1569 | 220 | 282 | 498 | 173 | 126 | 19.5 | 18.4 | 18.2 | 2.9 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 2.0 | 31 |
| 1993 | 736 | 4.2 | 1855 | 124 | 155 | 696 | 57 | 83 | 20.5 | 19.3 | 18.3 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 40 |
| 1994 | 849 | 4.3 | 1549 | 127 | 185 | 640 | 75 | 85 | 21.1 | 18.2 | 19.3 | 3.6 | 2.4 | 3.4 | 2.4 | 42 |
| 1995 | 987 | 4.1 | - | 165 | - | 740 | 105 | 140 | 20.1 | 18.4 | 17.2 | 3.7 | 2.6 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 42 |
| 1996 | 838 | 4.6 | 1374 | 248 | 147 | 563 | 157 | 69 | 20.5 | 17.8 | 19.3 | 3.3 | 2.4 | 3.5 | 2.7 | 34 |
| 1997 | 721 | 4.1 | 1424 | 88 | 65 | 727 | 52 | 40 | 21.0 | 19.4 | 19.4 | 3.3 | 2.8 | 3.2 | 2.1 | 34 |
| 1998 | 443 | 3.9 | 740 | 43 | 60 | 353 | 20 | 34 | 22.0 | 19.4 | 19.1 | 3.4 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.3 | 30 |
| 1999 | 263 | 3.7 | 491 | 116 | 95 | 294 | 82 | 46 | 21.8 | 18.7 | 17.7 | 3.5 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 27 |
| 2000 | 331 | 3.9 | 595 | 59 | 44 | 295 | 53 | 26 | 21.9 | 20.3 | 20.4 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 4.3 | 2.0 | 24 |
| 2001 | 330 | 3.3 | 651 | 34 | 40 | 293 | 24 | 27 | 21.0 | 22.6 | 21.7 | 3.3 | 4.7 | 5.1 | 1.6 | 26 |
| 2002 | 360 | 3.4 | 648 | 65 | 50 | 350 | 44 | 23 | 21.6 | 19.4 | 22.5 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 5.7 | 1.7 | 28 |
| 2003 | 407 | 3.3 | 765 | 27 | 24 | 428 | 20 | 18 | 20.8 | 20.8 | 22.2 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 5.4 | 1.8 | 29 |
| 2004 | 336 | 3.0 | 718 | 29 | 47 | 421 | 13 | 23 | 21.1 | 21.0 | 21.2 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 4.8 | 1.3 | 24 |
| 2005 | 390 | 3.4 | 699 | 34 | 104 | 378 | 14 | 71 | 21.1 | 20.3 | 19.4 | 3.3 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 1.6 | 30 |
| 2006 | 328 | 3.0 | 614 | 33 | 25 | 337 | 9 | 10 | 21.4 | 19.1 | 21.7 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 4.6 | 1.6 | 29 |
| 2007 | 235 | 3.0 | 322 | 19 | 31 | 161 | 5 | 23 | 21.7 | 22.6 | 18.9 | 3.7 | 3.4 | 4.9 | 2.0 | 22 |
| 2008 | 240 | 3.2 | 388 | 20 | 26 | 211 | 9 | 20 | 21.7 | 22.2 | 21.9 | 3.7 | 4.6 | 5.4 | 1.9 | 26 |

| (continued) | | | Total Trout Caught | | | Total Trout Kept | | | AVG Length of Fish Kept (Inches) | | | AVG Weight of Fish Kept (LBS) | | | | |
|-------------|------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| | | | LT | RT | BT | LT | RT | BT | LT | RT | BT | LT | RT | BT | | |
| 2009 | 282 | 3.1 | 370 | 35 | 13 | 193 | 18 | 6 | 21.9 | 20.5 | 23.3 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 6.3 | 2.3 | 21 |
| 2010 | 312 | 3.7 | 470 | 50 | 8 | 241 | 29 | 6 | 21.8 | 19.2 | 21.6 | 3.7 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 1.9 | 28 |
| 2011 | 282 | 3.8 | 355 | 80 | 17 | 173 | 32 | 9 | 22.1 | 21.2 | 19.2 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 2.6 | 29 |
| 2012 | 312 | 4.2 | 280 | 115 | 35 | 131 | 53 | 20 | 20.9 | 19.5 | 21.5 | 3.6 | 3.0 | 5.0 | 3.5 | 29 |
| 2013 | 349 | 3.5 | 328 | 155 | 12 | 206 | 64 | 5 | 20.9 | 20.6 | 23.2 | 3.3 | 3.6 | 5.5 | 2.8 | 29 |
| 2014 | 232 | 3.5 | 223 | 63 | 27 | 126 | 25 | 5 | 21.3 | 21.8 | 20.7 | 3.3 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 2.7 | 22 |
| 2015 | 371 | 3.5 | 503 | 121 | 68 | 167 | 26 | 10 | 23.3 | 20.8 | 18.7 | 4.7 | 3.9 | 3.6 | 2.1 | 24 |
| 2016 | 333 | 3.6 | 376 | 106 | 55 | 135 | 22 | 35 | 22.7 | 19.1 | 19.9 | 4.4 | 3.0 | 4.9 | 2.2 | 23 |
| 2017 | 326 | 3.9 | 789 | 138 | 54 | 166 | 31 | 25 | 21.0 | 22.2 | 20.7 | 3.6 | 4.3 | 5.0 | 1.4 | 15 |
| 2018 | 306 | 4.0 | 609 | 199 | 39 | 188 | 51 | 22 | 19.9 | 21.7 | 20.2 | 2.8 | 4.6 | 5.0 | 1.4 | 19 |
| 2019 | 277 | 3.8 | 507 | 136 | 43 | 164 | 26 | 11 | 23.4 | 21.0 | 21.4 | 3.5 | 5.8 | 6.2 | 1.5 | 21 |