

Appendix C

1992 Policy on Fisheries Management

APA/DEC MOU

Executive Department
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY
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GUIDELINES FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN WILDERNESS,
PRIMITIVE and CANOE AREAS

Adopted by the Adirondack Park Agency on April 26, 1990
and Amended July 10, 1992

1. The primary purpose of aquatic resource management in wilderness, primitive, and canoe areas is to perpetuate natural aquatic ecosystems, including perpetuation of indigenous fish species on a self-sustaining basis.
2. Angling is recognized as a compatible recreational pursuit in wilderness, primitive, and canoe areas. Aquatic resource management will emphasize the quality of the angling experience over quantity of use.
3. In the Adirondack Park, aquatic resources in wilderness, primitive, and canoe areas will be protected and managed so as to preserve, enhance and restore, where necessary, their natural conditions. Aquatic resource management, including stocking of game and non-game fishes and pond reclamation may be necessary to achieve and perpetuate natural aquatic ecosystems.
4. Brown trout, rainbow trout, splake and landlocked Atlantic salmon are cold water fish species historically associated with the Adirondack Park. Small mouth bass, large mouth bass, northern pike, and walleye are warm water species historically associated with the entire Adirondack Park, and indigenous to some lowland areas. These species may be included in the management and stocking regimes of specific waters in wilderness, primitive, and canoe areas in instances when indigenous fish communities cannot be protected, maintained, or restored in those waters. Fish species, other than indigenous species and species historically associated with the Adirondack Park, will not be stocked in the waters of wilderness, primitive, and canoe areas.
5. Waters found to be naturally barren of fish species will not be stocked. Waters which are self-sustaining or which otherwise would be self-sustaining except that they have been compromised by human-caused disturbances may be stocked consistent with these guidelines.

6. Pond reclamation will be practiced as appropriate to prepare or maintain waters in wilderness, primitive, and canoe areas but only for the restoration or perpetuation of indigenous fish communities.
7. The Unit Management Plan for each wilderness, primitive, or canoe area shall identify aquatic resource management actions on a water-body-specific basis through analysis of ~~unit inventory data sufficient to adequately support the~~ actions.
8. In those instances where a Unit Management Plan has not yet been approved for a given wilderness, primitive, or canoe area, aquatic resource management actions to stock waters may be continued in waters so managed before December 31, 1989, consistent with these guidelines pending approval of the Plan. Waters reclaimed prior to December 31, 1989 may be reclaimed subject to case-by-case review by the Adirondack Park Agency for consistency with these guidelines pending approval of the Plan. New waters may be stocked, reclaimed or limed only to prevent significant resource degradation, subject to case-by-case review by the Adirondack Park Agency for consistency with these guidelines, pending approval of the Plan.
9. Liming to protect and maintain indigenous fish species may be continued as a mitigation measure for acid rain in Horn Lake (P04854) and Tamarack Pond (P06171). As unit management plans are completed, new waters may be limed in accordance with the provisions of the Division of Fish and Wildlife Liming Policy presented on pages 2-7 of the Final GEIS on the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Program of Liming Selected Acidified Waters. As provided in the Liming Policy, no naturally acidic waters or bog waters will be limed. All limed waters will be relimed in accordance with the provisions of the Liming Policy. Any water that must be limed more than three times in ten years, except for original sources of heritage strains, will be allowed to reacidify.
10. All aquatic resource management activities in wilderness, primitive, and canoe areas will be consistent with guidelines for use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, and aircraft as stated in the State Land Master Plan.

CWS:pak:c