# Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

**AGENDA** 

164<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Volume 82

HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA OCTOBER 27, 2025

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# Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

## AGENDA<sup>1</sup>

The 164th Meeting of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission will be held on Monday, October 27, 2025, at the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission headquarters, 1601 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110.

The public session for review of this agenda will begin on October 27, 2025, at approximately 10:00 a.m.

**Call to Order** 

**Roll Call** 

John E. Mahn, Jr., President
Donald K. Anderson, Vice President
William C. Brock
Charles J. Charlesworth
William J. Gibney
Eric C. Hussar
Richard S. Kauffman
Richard Lewis
Daniel J. Pastore
Robert B.J. Small

Pledge of Allegiance

**Staff and Volunteer Recognition** 

**Public Comments to Commissioners and Staff** 

Review and Approval of Minutes of July 28, 2025, Meeting

**Executive Director's Report** 

**Reports of Commissioner Committees** 

**Announcement of Executive Sessions** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>All items that have been or will be published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin are formatted in accordance with the *Pennsylvania Code & Bulletin Style Manual*.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

A. Dates for Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Meetings in 2026.

## **Commentary**:

Title 30 § 301(e) requires the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) to hold meetings in the Harrisburg area in January and July of each year. Traditionally, the Commission has held two additional meetings each year.

Staff have reviewed the available dates and possible conflicts for scheduling 2026 quarterly Commission meetings. Based upon this review, the following dates are proposed for 2026 quarterly Commission meetings:

- January 26, 2026
- April 27, 2026
- July 27, 2026
- October 26, 2026

The January and July 2026 meetings will be held at the Harrisburg headquarters. The April and October 2026 meetings will be held at locations designated by the Commission for the transaction of business.

## Briefer:

Timothy Schaeffer, Executive Director

## **Recommendation**:

Staff recommend that the Commission approve the 2026 quarterly Commission meeting dates as described in the Commentary.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

B. Cooperative Nursery Grant program: Grant to the Salisbury-Elklick Hunting Club for a stream habitat and nursery intake improvement project on the unnamed tributary (UNT) to Tub Mill Run, Somerset County.

## Commentary:

The Salisbury-Elklick Hunting Club's Jack Wagner nursery raises approximately 9,000 trout per year, which are stocked in Somerset County streams. The Salisbury-Elklick Hunting Club is requesting grant funding to install 10 stream habitat structures to reduce streambank erosion and provide in-stream habitat to aquatic organisms. Included are two Coanda boxes which will provide water to the Jack Wagner nursery for trout-rearing purposes. Coanda boxes require minimal maintenance, improve user safety and provide aquatic organism passage. These habitat and intake improvements go hand-in-hand. The habitat structures allow for the Coanda boxes to work properly while stabilizing the streambank. Due to the various floods that occurred over the past few years, there is some destabilization of the streambank above and below the nursery. The habitat structures will stabilize the streambank which will allow the Wagner nursery to operate without the threat of structural damage. The total estimated cost of the project is \$56,000. The Salisbury-Elklick Hunting Club is requesting \$55,000 to complete this project.

## Briefer:

Brian McHail, Chief, Division of Fish Production Services

## Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission approve a grant not to exceed \$55,000 to the Salisbury-Elklick Hunting Club as described in the Commentary.

## PROPOSED RULEMAKING

A. Amendment to 58 Pa. Code § 53.12a (relating to access areas and marinas).

## **Commentary**:

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) proposes to amend 58 Pa. Code § 53.12a (relating to access areas and marinas) to remove the Commission's restrictions prohibiting hunting that apply to the North East Access and Marina, which the Commission no longer owns.

On June 18, 2025, through a notational vote, the Commission voted to authorize the disposition of the North East Marina Property to the North East Community Marina Authority (NECMA) and consented to the acquisition of an easement from NECMA for the purpose of a public boating and fishing access. On July 9, 2025, the Commission conveyed the North East Marina Property to NECMA and acquired an easement from NECMA. As a result, the Commission is no longer responsible for the control, management and operation of the property.

Staff propose an amendment to 58 Pa. Code § 53.12a to delete the now irrelevant language as follows:

§ 53.12a. Relating to access areas and marinas.

\* \* \* \* \*

[(c) North East Access and Marina, Erie County. The following restrictions apply to the North East Access area and Marina: It is unlawful to hunt on Commission property at the North East Access area and Marina.]

\* \* \* \* \*

## Briefer:

Penny Ayers, Chief, Division of Public Access and Property Services

## Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission approve the publication of a notice of proposed rulemaking containing the amendment as described in the Commentary. If adopted on final rulemaking, this amendment will go into effect upon publication of a second notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

## PROPERTY SERVICES

A. Acquisition of Property adjacent to Huntsdale State Fish Hatchery, Penn Township, Cumberland County.

## **Commentary**:

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) owns +/- 169 acres known as the Huntsdale State Fish Hatchery (Hatchery), in Penn and Dickinson Townships, Cumberland County. The hatchery is located eight miles west of Mt. Holly Springs on State Route 3006 as depicted on Exhibit A (Location Map). The Hatchery property contains Bucher Spring, a fresh water source for the Hatchery, as well as Irishtown Run, a small stream fed by the spring.

Albert H. Shuller, Jr., owns 7.3 acres adjacent to the Hatchery as depicted on Exhibit B (Site Map). The property contains a portion of Irishtown Run. Mr. Shuller has offered to sell the property to the Commission. Currently the Commission only has access to the east side of the stream. The acquisition would add approximately 240 yards of riparian access on the west side of the stream. The Commission having full access to both sides of the stream will help ensure that this water source for the Hatchery can be kept clear of debris and be otherwise available for Hatchery needs. The land also provides additional space for future Hatchery projects.

Another benefit of this acquisition will be the addition of 175 yards of access along Leeds Road, which will better enable the Commission to use the property for future projects, as well as providing protection from potential residential development close to the Hatchery.

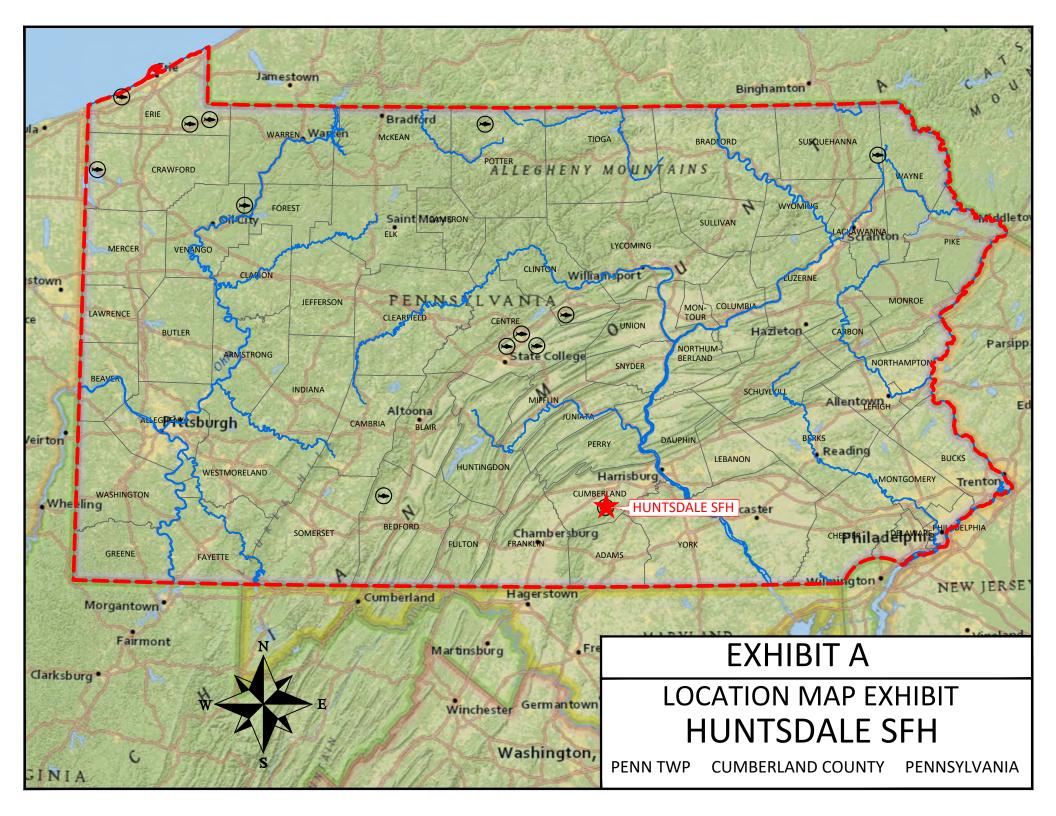
The Commission has received a signed Agreement of Sale to purchase the property for \$120,000. Staff will adhere to the Commission's standard practices for acquiring property including meeting due diligence and funding requirements.

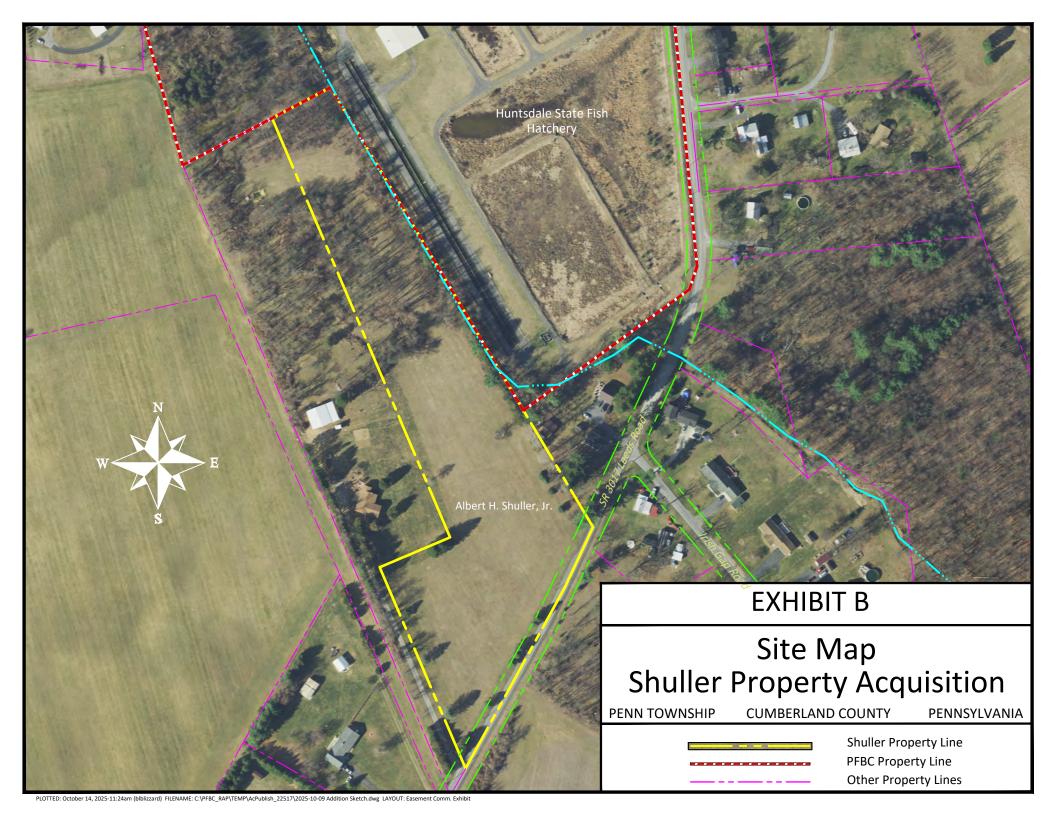
## Briefer:

Penny Ayers, Chief, Division of Public Access and Property Services

## Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission consent to the acquisition of property adjacent to Huntsdale State Fish Hatchery in Penn Township, Cumberland County, as described in the Commentary.





## **PROPERTY SERVICES**

B. Acquisition of a Flowage Easement of 0.41 acres at Beechwood Lake, Clymer Township, Tioga County.

## **Commentary**:

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) owns +/-186 acres in Clymer Township, Tioga County, containing a +/-67-acre impoundment, known as Beechwood Lake. Beechwood Lake is located one mile southwest of Sabinsville as depicted on Exhibit C (Location Map). The existing Beechwood Lake dam structure was designed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Soil Conservation Service, and constructed by McCormick Contracting Company in 1963.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) classifies Beechwood Dam as a high-hazard-potential dam. Additionally, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has categorized Beechwood Dam as a Hazard Potential Category 1 dam. Both classifications are based on the potential for loss of life and property damage as a result of a dam failure due to the prevalence of population, bridges, roads and buildings existing in the downstream breach inundation zone.

The objectives of this project are to rehabilitate the dam to meet state and NRCS dam safety criteria, maintain the current level of flood protection and extend the service life of the structure by 100 years. The dam rehabilitation project will include raising the dam crest height from 1,800.4 feet to 1,802.7 feet.

The required flowage easement consists of +/-0.41 acres and is depicted on Exhibit D (Site Map). The Commission will pay the estimated fair market value of the easement.

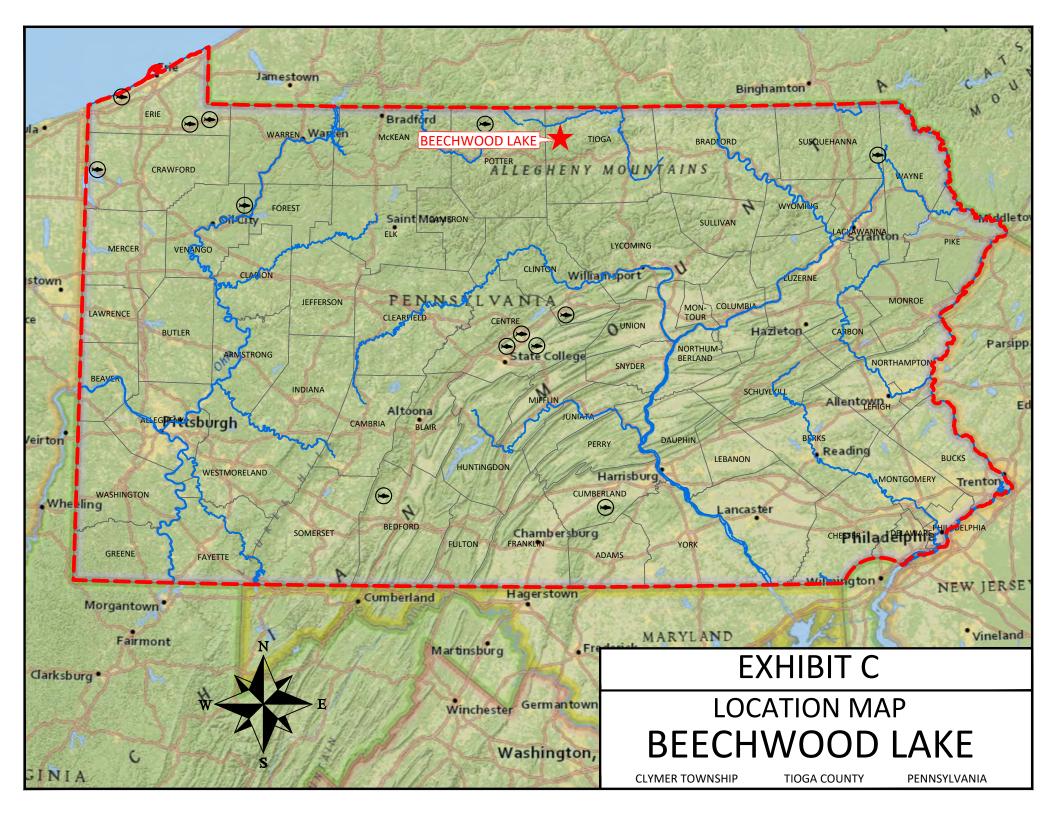
Staff will pursue the acquisition of the easement areas in an amicable manner and only use the Commonwealth's power of eminent domain as a last resort. Additionally, staff will adhere to the Commission's standard practices for acquiring property including meeting due diligence and funding requirements.

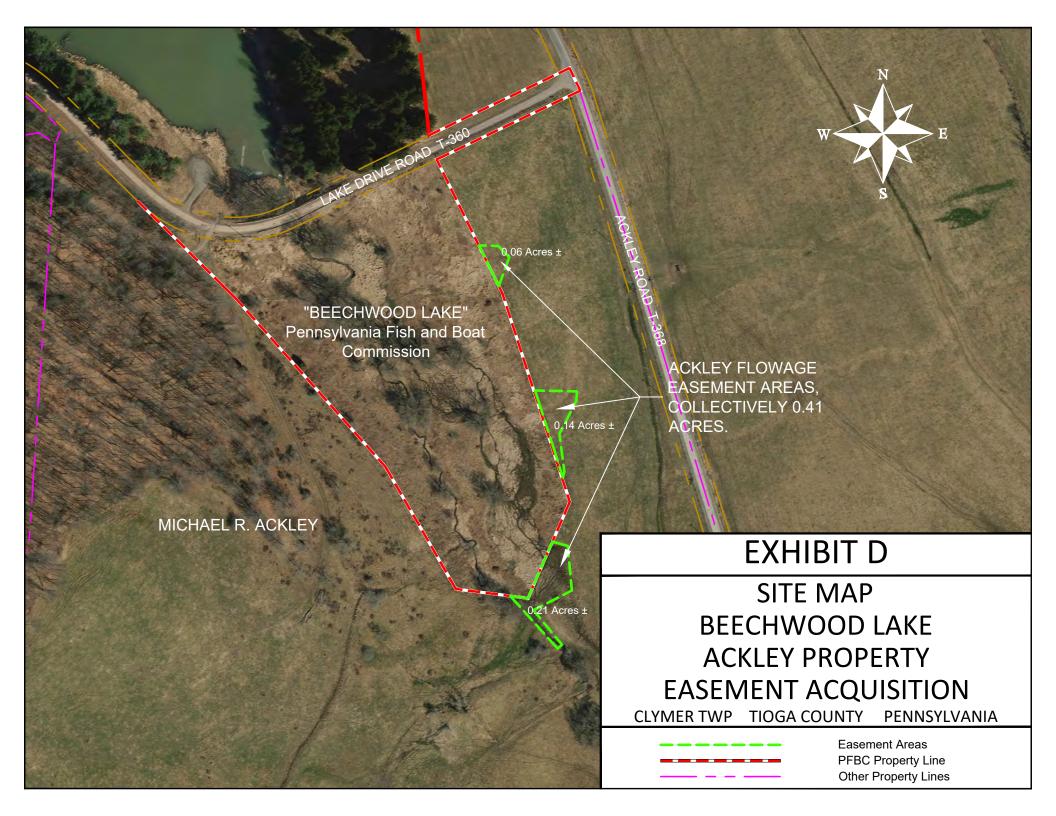
## Briefer:

Penny Ayers, Chief, Division of Public Access and Property Services

## Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission consent to the acquisition of the flowage easement at Beechwood Lake in Clymer Township, Tioga County, by donation, fair market value purchase or eminent domain as described in the Commentary.





## **PROPERTY SERVICES**

C. Acquisition of a Flowage Easement of 0.01 acres at Beechwood Lake, Clymer Township, Tioga County.

## Commentary:

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) owns +/-186 acres in Clymer Township, Tioga County, containing a +/-67-acre impoundment, known as Beechwood Lake. Beechwood Lake is located one mile southwest of Sabinsville as depicted on Exhibit E (Location Map). The existing Beechwood Lake dam structure was designed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Soil Conservation Service, and constructed by McCormick Contracting Company in 1963.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) classifies Beechwood Dam as a high-hazard-potential dam. Additionally, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has categorized Beechwood Dam as a Hazard Potential Category 1 dam. Both classifications are based on the potential for loss of life and property damage as a result of a dam failure due to the prevalence of population, bridges, roads and buildings existing in the downstream breach inundation zone.

The objectives of this project are to rehabilitate the dam to meet state and NRCS dam safety criteria, maintain the current level of flood protection and to extend the service life of the structure by 100 years. The dam rehabilitation project will include raising the dam crest height from 1,800.4 feet to 1,802.7 feet.

The required flowage easement consists of +/- 0.01 acres and is depicted on Exhibit F (Site Map). The Commission will pay the estimated fair market value of the easement.

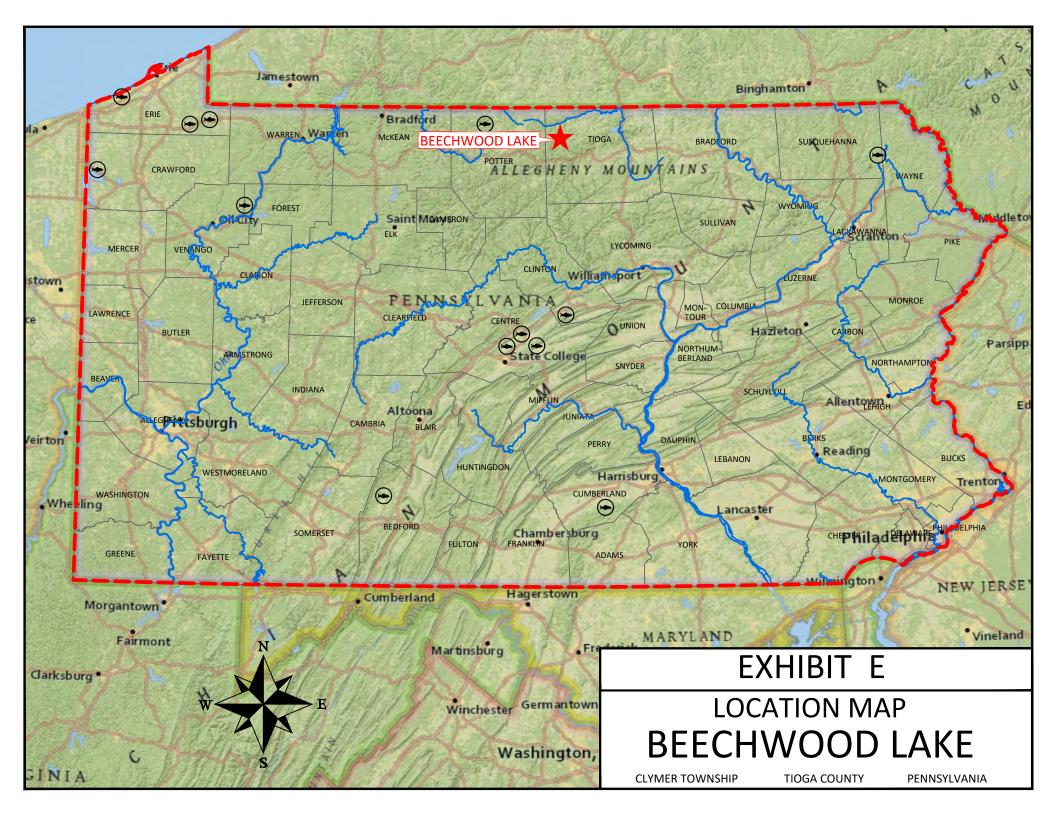
Staff will pursue the acquisition of the easement area in an amicable manner and only use the Commonwealth's power of eminent domain as a last resort. Additionally, staff will adhere to the Commission's standard practices for acquiring property including meeting due diligence and funding requirements.

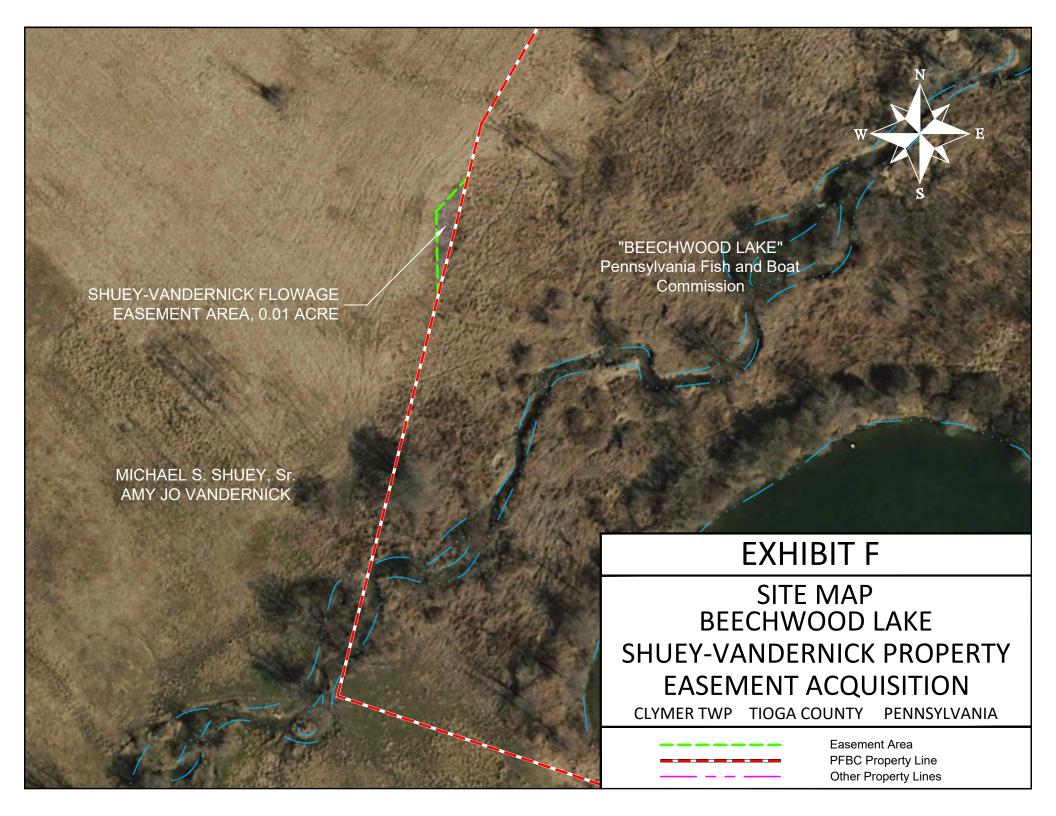
## Briefer:

Penny Ayers, Chief, Division of Public Access and Property Services

## Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission consent to the acquisition of the flowage easement at Beechwood Lake in Clymer Township, Tioga County, by donation, fair market value purchase or eminent domain as described in the Commentary.





## **PROPERTY SERVICES**

D. Acquisition of Property at Beechwood Lake, Clymer Township, Tioga County.

## **Commentary**:

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) owns +/-186 acres in Clymer Township, Tioga County, containing a +/-67-acre impoundment, known as Beechwood Lake. Beechwood Lake is located one mile southwest of Sabinsville as depicted on Exhibit G (Location Map). The existing Beechwood Lake dam structure was designed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Soil Conservation Service, and constructed by McCormick Contracting Company in 1963.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) classifies Beechwood Dam as a high-hazard-potential dam. Additionally, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has categorized Beechwood Dam as a Hazard Potential Category 1 dam. Both classifications are based on the potential for loss of life and property damage as a result of a dam failure due to the prevalence of population, bridges, roads and buildings existing in the downstream breach inundation zone.

The objectives of this project are to rehabilitate the dam to meet state and NRCS dam safety criteria, to maintain the current level of flood protection and to extend the service life of the structure by 100 years. The dam rehabilitation project will include raising the dam crest from 1,800.4 feet to 1,802.7 feet.

Although the pool elevation will stay at its current level, revised design criteria require the acquisition of +/-0.49 acres consisting of two separate parcels as depicted on Exhibit H (Site Map). The Commission will pay the \$3,000 estimated fair market value of the acquisition. The Commission has received a signed offer to purchase the combined parcels for this amount.

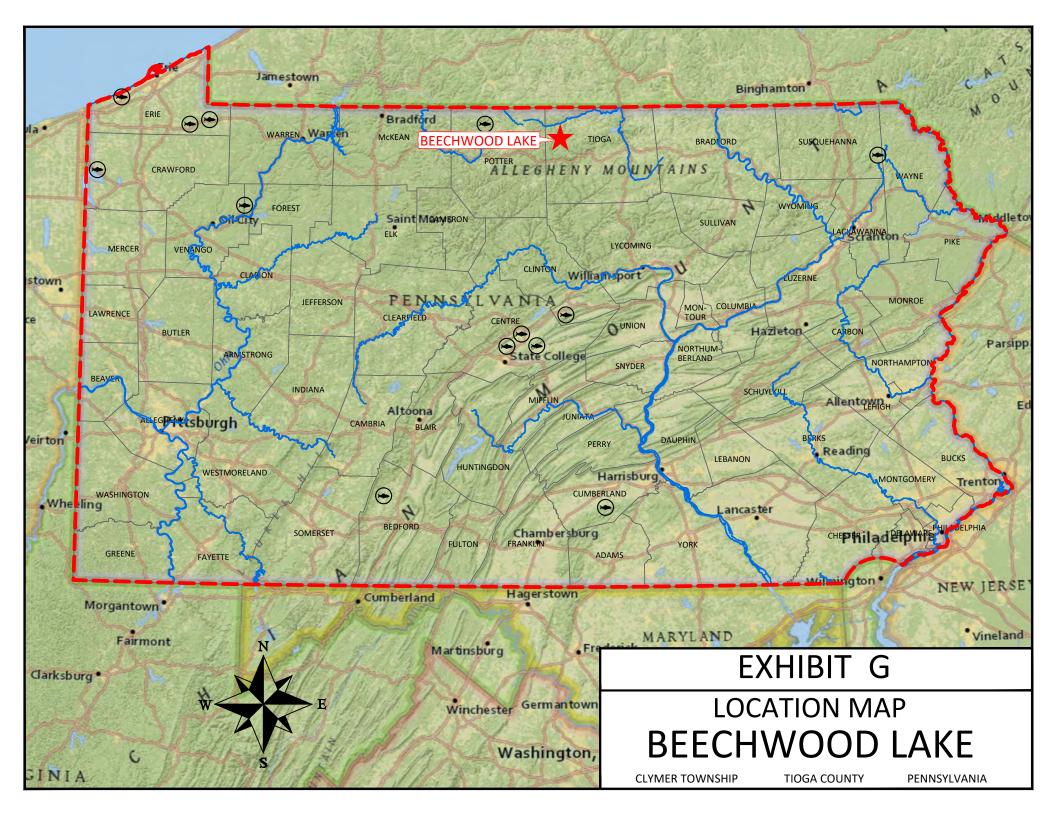
Staff will adhere to the Commission's standard practices for acquiring property, including meeting due diligence and funding requirements.

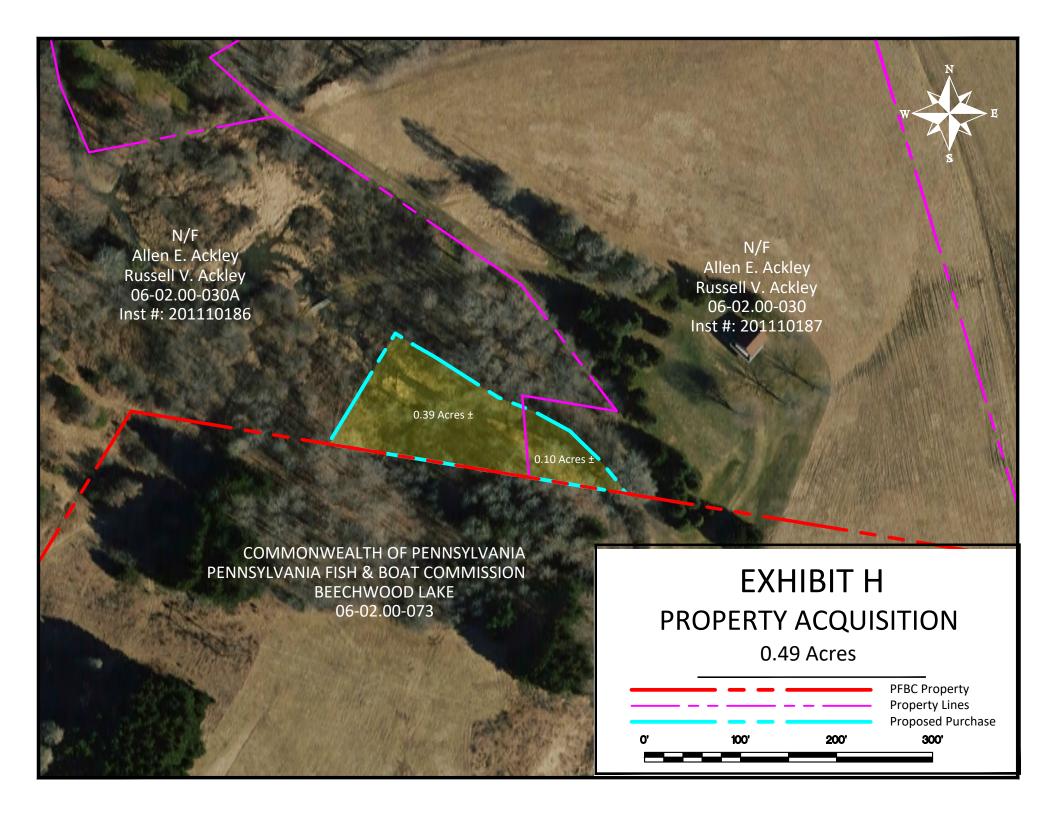
## Briefer:

Penny Ayers, Chief, Division of Public Access and Property Services

## Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission consent to the acquisition of property at Beechwood Lake in Clymer Township, Tioga County, as described in the Commentary.





## PROPERTY SERVICES

E. Acquisition of a Conservation Easement at Minsi Lake Vernal Pool Preserve, Upper Mt. Bethel Township, Northampton County.

## Commentary:

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has offered a conservation easement to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) on +/-115 acres adjacent to Commission-owned property near Minsi Lake, known as the Minsi Lake Vernal Pool Preserve (Preserve). The Preserve is located one-half mile north of Minsi Lake, as depicted on Exhibit I (Location Map).

TNC currently owns this property and intends to transfer fee title to Northampton County while reserving a conservation easement for the Commission for the purchase price of \$1.00. The conservation easement covers a combined area of +/-115 acres as depicted on Exhibit J (Site Map). TNC requests that the Commission hold the conservation easement in perpetuity to ensure the property cannot be developed. This area provides destination habitat for regionally declining plant and invertebrate populations, while the stream corridors provide pathways for species movement and migration. Holding an easement on this parcel allows the Commission to maintain control of key areas with the Minsi Lake watershed.

The Preserve lies within the Minsi Lake Corridor, which extends from the Kittatinny Ridge and the National Park Service's Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to Northampton County's Park System at Minsi Lake and Bear Swamp. The corridor is a series of forested tracts and encompasses the headwaters of an exceptional value stream, several perennial and intermittent streams and a system of vernal pools and wetlands. The preserve is primarily forested, interspersed with a series of vernal pools and traversed by a series of north/south tributaries to the East Fork of Martin's Creek. The corridor has the highest concentration of vernal pools in the glaciated portion of Eastern and Central Pennsylvania. Notably, the area contains Martin's Creek, which is designated by the Commission as a wild trout stream and as a high-quality cold-water fishery by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. The protection of headwaters in the Minsi Lake corridor ensures the preservation of the quality of these streams. The Commission's ability to continue to monitor, manage and enhance the aquatic habitat will allow for greater public fishing opportunities.

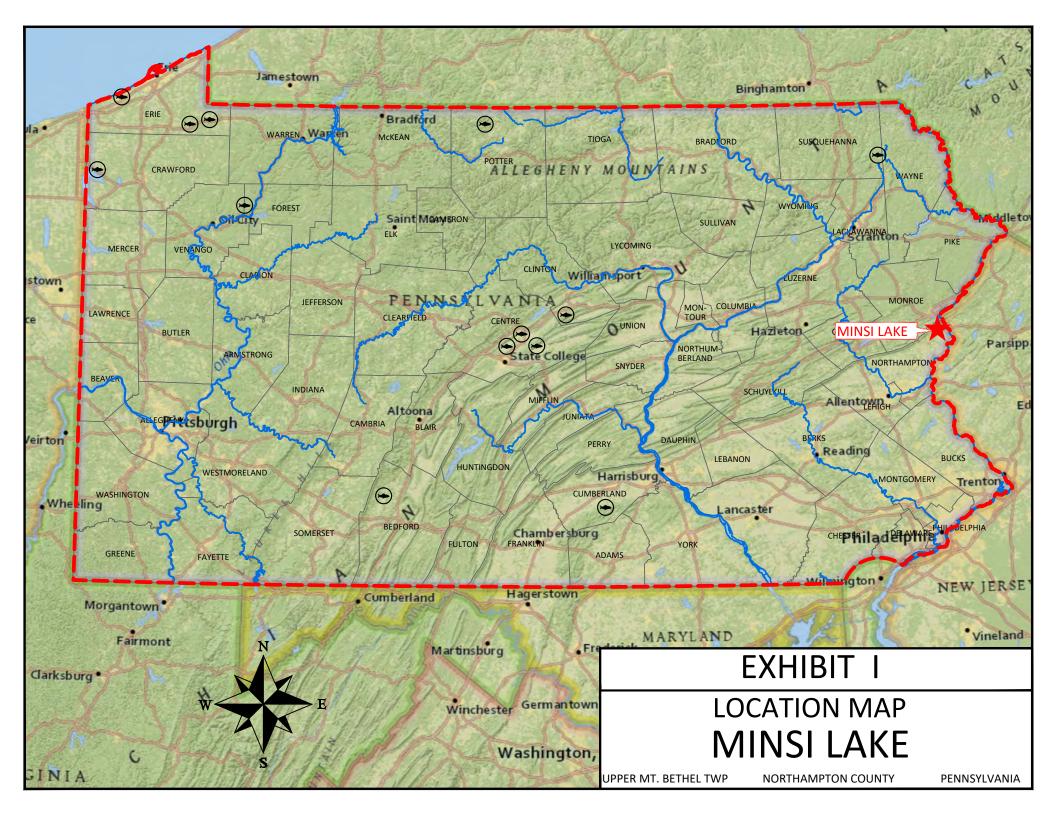
Staff will adhere to the Commission's standard practices for acquiring easements including meeting due diligence.

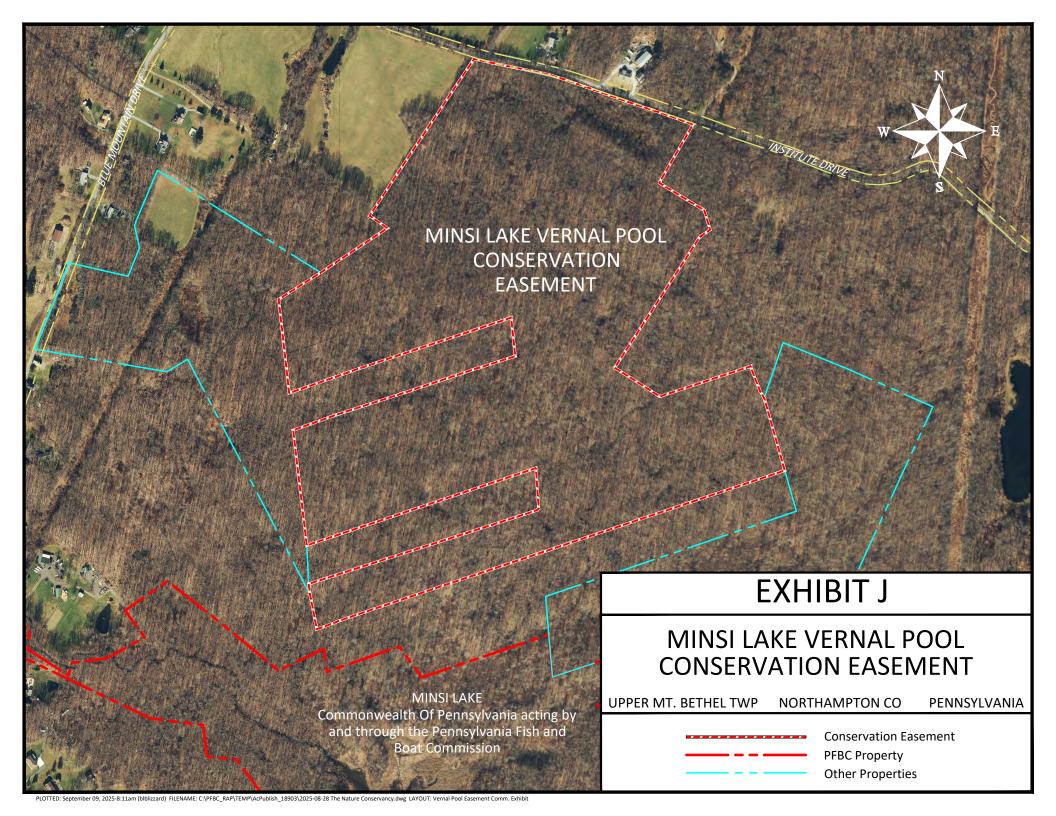
## Briefer:

Penny Ayers, Chief, Division of Public Access and Property Services

## **Recommendation**:

Staff recommend that the Commission consent to the acquisition of a conservation easement at Minsi Lake Vernal Pool Preserve in Upper Mt. Bethel Township, Northampton County, as described in the Commentary.





## PROPERTY SERVICES

F. Acquisition of Four Conservation Easements at Mt. Bethel Fens Preserve, Upper Mt. Bethel Township, Northampton County.

## **Commentary**:

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has offered a conservation easement to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) on +/- 30 acres along Jacoby Creek, known as Mt. Bethel Fens Preserve (Preserve). The Preserve is located one-half mile north of Minsi Lake as depicted on Exhibit K (Location Map) and consists of four separate parcels of land as depicted on Exhibit L (Site Map).

TNC currently owns these properties and intends to transfer fee title to Northampton County while reserving conservation easements for the Commission for the purchase price of \$1.00. TNC requests that the Commission hold the conservation easements in perpetuity to ensure the property cannot be developed. This area provides destination habitat for regionally declining plant and invertebrate populations while the stream corridors provide pathways for species movement and migration. Holding an easement on this parcel allows the Commission to maintain control of key areas with the Minsi Lake watershed.

The Preserve contains nine acres of fens that support an impressive variety of state imperiled conservation targets both at the community level as well as individual species. There are over 20 state-ranked plant species and several state-ranked invertebrates in these fens. The significance of the fens as critical habitats is probably attributable to the extent, distribution and interconnection of these habitats along the riverine corridor and valley bottom. The glaciated limestone valley supports a network of spring-fed fens, seeps, marshes and swamps all connected through small perennial stream corridors. The fens and seeps provide destination habitat for regionally declining metapopulations while the stream corridors provide pathways for species movement and migration.

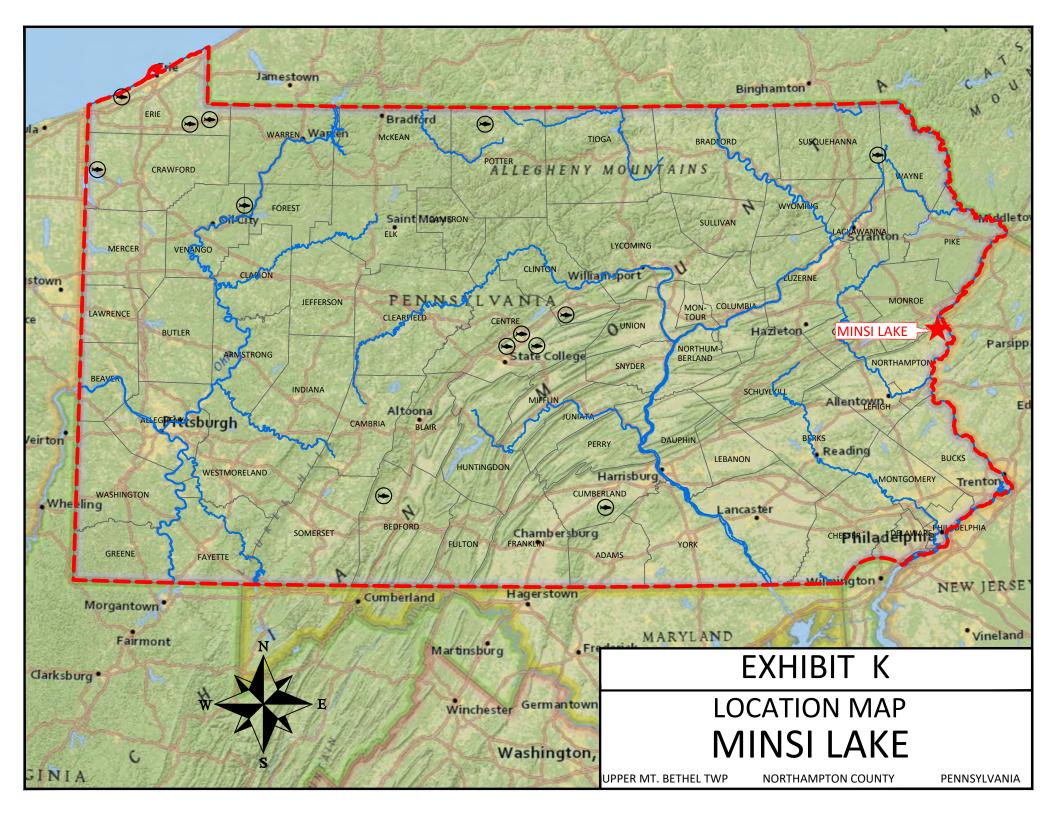
Staff will adhere to the Commission's standard practices for acquiring easements including meeting due diligence.

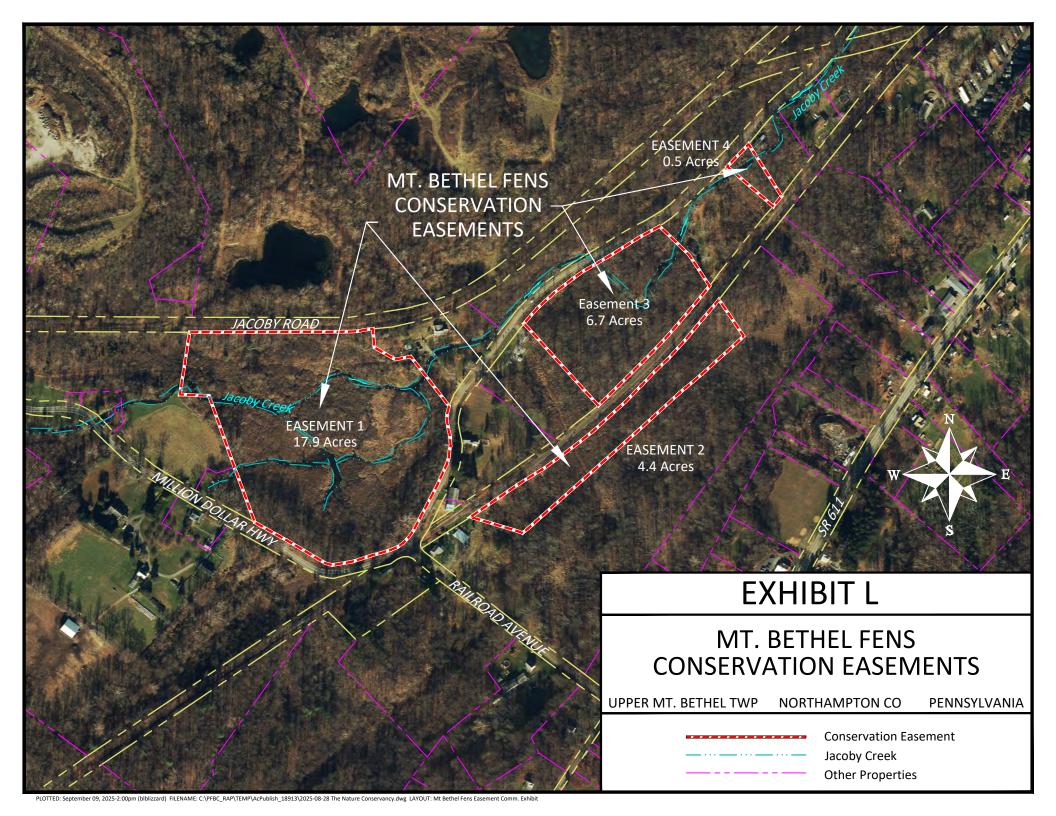
#### Briefer:

Penny Ayers, Chief, Division of Public Access and Property Services

## Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission consent to the acquisition of four conservation easements at Mt. Bethel Fens Preserve in Upper Mt. Bethel Township, Northampton County, as described in the Commentary.





## PROPERTY SERVICES

G. Disposition of Halifax Access, Halifax Township, Dauphin County.

## **Commentary**:

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) owns +/-12.3 acres in fee simple and +/-0.7 acres in easement known as the Halifax Access (Access Area) along the Susquehanna River in Halifax Township, Dauphin County, as depicted on Exhibit M (Location Map). The Access Area is located on Route 147, approximately six miles upriver from the Clarks Ferry bridge as depicted on Exhibit N (Site Map) and was acquired in 1981.

The Access Area has a shared entrance with a railroad crossing that complicates its management and operation. Due to this complication, the Commission has determined it would be best to dispose of the property.

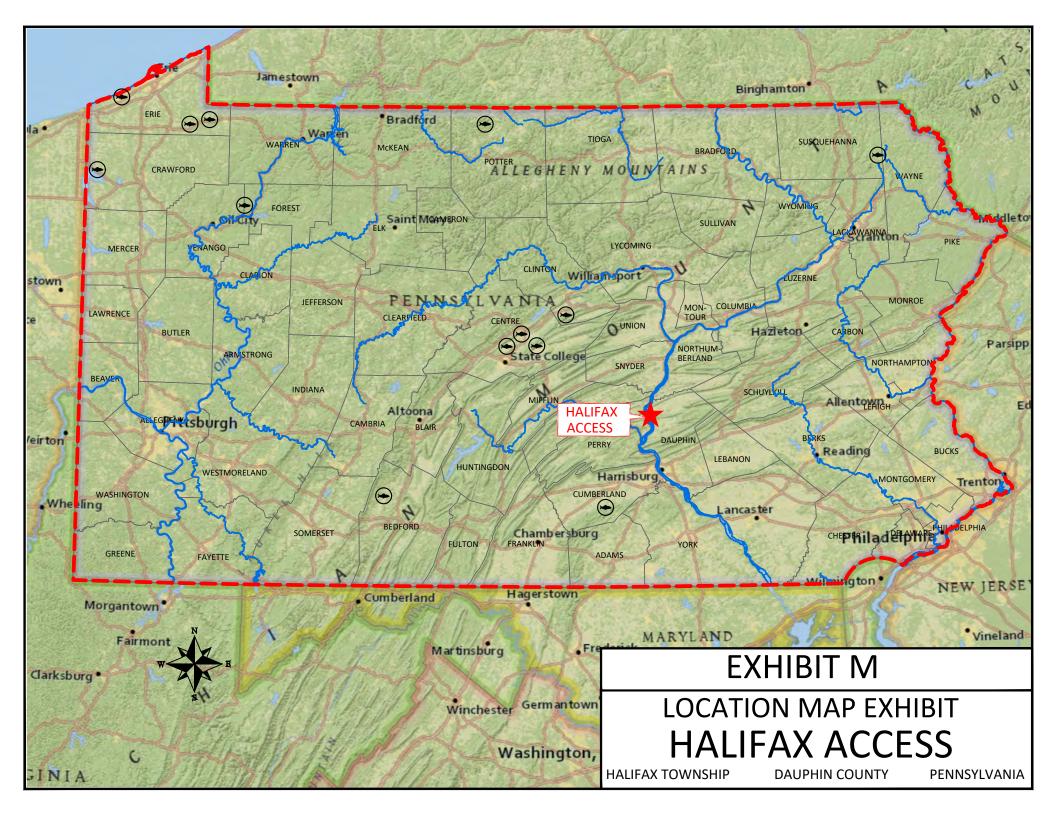
Staff will request a market value analysis from the chosen real estate professional and will seek fair market value for the property. Proceeds from the sale of the property will be used for a similar or comparable future public access acquisition or public access improvements within the same geographic area.

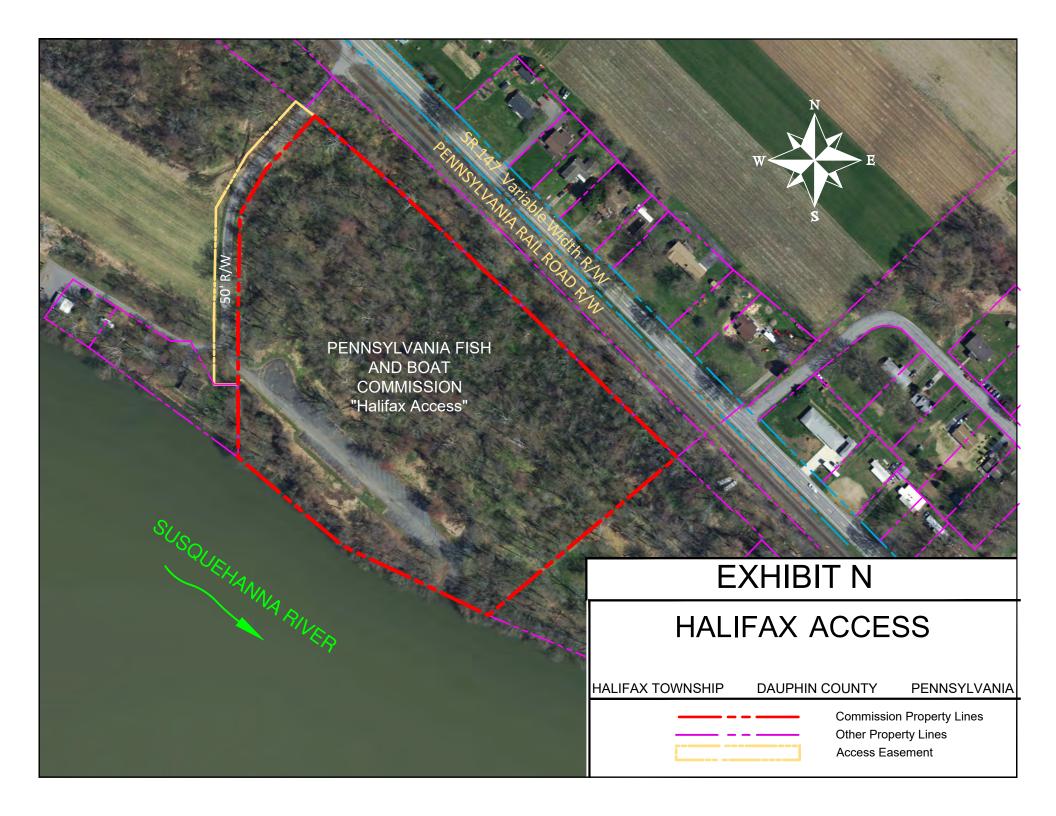
## Briefer:

Penny Ayers, Chief, Division of Public Access and Property Services

## Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission authorize the disposition of the property for fair market value, to be determined in coordination with a real estate professional, as described in the Commentary.





## **BOATING**

## FINAL RULEMAKING

A. Amendments to 58 Pa. Code § 111.43 (Mercer County).

## **Commentary**:

A notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 55 Pa.B. 6544 (September 13, 2025) (Exhibit O). The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) did not receive any public comments relating to this proposal.

## Briefer:

Mark Sweppenhiser, Director, Bureau of Boating

## Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission adopt the amendments as set forth in the notice of proposed rulemaking. If adopted, these amendments will go into effect upon publication of a second notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

# PROPOSED RULEMAKING

## FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

[58 PA. CODE CH. 111]

**Special Regulations Counties; Mercer County** 

[55 Pa.B. 6544] [Saturday, September 13, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (commission) proposes to amend Chapter 111 (relating to special regulations counties). The commission is publishing this proposed rulemaking under the authority of 30 Pa.C.S. (relating to Fish and Boat Code). The proposed amendment relates to boating regulations at the portion of Lake Wilhelm that is owned and managed by the commission.

## A. Effective Date

This proposed rulemaking, if approved on final-form rulemaking, will go into effect upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

## B. Contact Person

For further information on this proposed rulemaking, contact Robert J. Schefter, Esq., P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, (717) 705-7810. This proposed rulemaking is available on the commission's website at https://www.pa.gov/agencies/fishandboat.html.

## C. Statutory Authority

The amendment to § 111.43 (relating to Mercer County) is proposed under the statutory authority of 30 Pa.C.S. § 5124 (relating to particular areas of water).

## D. Purpose and Background

The specific purpose and background of this proposed rulemaking are described in more detail under the summary of proposal.

## E. Summary of Proposal

Lake Wilhelm is a 1,860-acre impoundment in New Vernon Township, Mercer County. It is bisected by Interstate 79. The 1,440-acre portion of Lake Wilhelm southeast of Interstate 79 is within Maurice K. Goddard State Park and is owned and managed by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). DCNR permits the operation of boats powered by internal combustion motors and prohibits the use of motors in excess of 20 horsepower. As such, an amendment to § 111.43 is required to bring the commission's regulations into alignment with DCNR's posted restrictions for Lake Wilhelm.

The 240-acre portion of Lake Wilhelm northwest of Interstate 79 is owned and managed by the Game Commission (PGC) as part of State Game Lands 270. The PGC has regulations in place for State Game Lands lakes. Specifically, as stated in § 135.41 (relating to State game lands), these lakes are restricted to electric motors only, and boats may not exceed slow, no-wake speed, unless otherwise posted by PGC. Therefore, there is no need for the language already found in § 135.41 to be made part of Chapter 111.

The Interstate 79 causeway over Lake Wilhelm is a recognizable boundary between State Game Lands 270 and Maurice K. Goddard State Park, which simplifies the division of regulations for boaters. Both DCNR and PGC staff are in favor of this amendment.

The commission proposes that § 111.43 be amended to read as set forth in Annex A.

## F. Paperwork

This proposed rulemaking will not increase paperwork and will not create new paperwork requirements.

## G. Fiscal Impact

This proposed rulemaking will have no adverse fiscal impact on the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions.

## H. Public Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, objections or suggestions about this proposed rulemaking to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted.

Comments also may be submitted electronically to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. Electronic comments submitted in any other manner will not be accepted.

TIMOTHY D. SCHAEFFER, Executive Director

**Fiscal Note:** 48A-365. No fiscal impact; recommends adoption.

## Annex A

## TITLE 58. RECREATION

## PART II. FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

## **Subpart C. BOATING**

## **CHAPTER 111. SPECIAL REGULATIONS COUNTIES**

## § 111.43. Mercer County.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) Lake Wilhelm—Maurice Goddard State Park. The operation of boats powered by internal combustion motors is permitted [except from a point approximately 200 yards north of the Interstate 79 causeway over Lake Wilhelm upstream to the Game Commission Propagation

Area above the Sheakleyville Causeway (State Route 1018, Milledgeville Road)] southeast of

<u>Interstate 79. The use of motors in excess of 20 horsepower is prohibited. Regulations on Lake Wilhelm northwest of Interstate 79 are as posted by the Game Commission.</u>

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 25-1255. Filed for public inspection September 12, 2025, 9:00 a.m.]

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#### **FISHERIES**

## **OTHER MATTERS**

A. Exemptions to 58 Pa. Code § 57.8a (Class A wild trout streams) to allow for the stocking of trout at Freeman Run, Section 04, Potter County.

## Commentary:

A notice of proposed exemptions was published at 55 Pa.B. 6807 (September 20, 2025) (Exhibit P). The Commission received 109 public comments relating to this proposal: 13 support the proposal and 96 oppose the proposal. Copies of public comments were provided to the commissioners.

## Briefer:

Kristopher Kuhn, Director, Bureau of Fisheries

## Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission approve exemptions to 58 Pa. Code § 57.8a (Class A wild trout streams) to allow for Commission and cooperative nursery stocking of trout at Freeman Run, Section 04, Potter County, as set forth in the notice of proposed exemption.

# **NOTICES**

## FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

Proposed Exemption to 58 Pa. Code § 57.8a (Class A wild trout streams) to Allow for the Stocking of Trout at Freeman Run, Section 04

[55 Pa.B. 6807] [Saturday, September 20, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) will consider at its meeting on October 27, 2025, whether to allow trout stocking in the Class A wild trout stream at Freeman Run, Section 04, Potter County. Under 58 Pa. Code § 57.8a (relating to Class A wild trout streams), prior to granting permission to stock a Class A wild trout stream section under § 71a.8 (relating to stocking of designated waters), the Executive Director will consult the stocking criteria set forth in the current edition of the *Operational Guidelines for the Management of Trout Fisheries in Pennsylvania Waters* available at pa.gov/agencies/fishandboat. If any of the stocking criteria are met, the Executive Director may grant an exemption to stock a Class A wild trout stream section. To grant an exemption to stock a Class A wild trout stream section that does not meet any of the stocking criteria, the Executive Director shall obtain the approval of the Commission.

Freeman Run, a tributary to the First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek in Potter County, is 12.23 miles in length and managed in four stream sections. The waterway is characteristic of a small, high-gradient, infertile, freestone stream. Section 01 extends 2.83 miles from the headwaters to Postalweight Hollow, is managed for wild trout with no stocking and was designated as a Class A wild trout stream section in February 2019. Section 02 extends 2.00 miles from Postalweight Hollow to Bark Shanty Hollow, is managed for wild trout with no stocking and was designated as a Class A wild trout stream section in January 1983.

Section 03 extends 4.50 miles from Bark Shanty Hollow to West Branch Freeman Run, and Section 04 extends 2.90 miles from West Branch Freeman Run to the mouth. Prior to 2021, Sections 03 and 04 were included in the Commission's Stocked Trout Water (STW) program. Trout stocking was discontinued in 2021 following designation as Class A wild trout stream sections after wild brown trout biomass was estimated to be 56 kg/ha and 67 kg/ha, respectively, during 2018 surveys. To qualify for Class A wild trout stream designation based on wild brown trout, biomass must be greater than or equal to 40 kg/ha. Subsequent surveys conducted in 2022, 2 years following stocking cessation, estimated the wild brown trout biomass to be 94 kg/ha in Section 03 and 103 kg/ha in Section 04.

The impacts of stocking on wild trout populations are well documented in the literature and through Commission surveys of wild trout streams in this Commonwealth. Commission monitoring and evaluation of wild trout populations in this Commonwealth demonstrate that stocking depresses wild trout populations for a variety of reasons, including competition for habitat and food, interference competition, increased harvest, increased hooking and handling, among other factors. However, the Commission does not have strong Commonwealth-specific data regarding the use of special regulations to mitigate the negative impacts of stocking over Class A wild trout populations.

As such, the Commission applied a Miscellaneous Special Regulation (58 Pa. Code § 65.24 (relating to miscellaneous special regulations) in 2024 to 12 of 13 Class A stream sections stocked by the Commission that allows for the harvest of stocked rainbow trout and brook trout but catch and release of wild brown trout. Staff are currently monitoring and evaluating the effect of this regulation on the wild brown trout populations over a 5-year to 7-year period at which time staff will either recommend continuing the management strategy applied to these fisheries or recommend an alternate approach to optimize these fisheries. The results of this evaluation will provide valuable management insight regarding the use of these regulations on large, productive streams with high angler use that are of size and character sufficient to support a fishery comprised of both Class A wild trout and stocked trout components.

At the January and April 2025 Fisheries and Hatcheries Committee meetings, Commission staff were tasked with developing an approach to evaluate a similar management strategy on small-to-moderate-sized, infertile, freestone streams and Freeman Run, Section 04, was selected for this purpose. Freeman Run, Section 04, provides a unique opportunity to evaluate a stream section that was stocked previously, designated as a Class A wild trout stream section and removed from the STW program, and then added back to the STW program and managed with special regulations.

To accomplish this, Freeman Run, Section 04, must be added back to the STW program beginning in 2026, and stocked only with rainbow trout at the same rate and frequency consistent with its resource classification from when it was last stocked in 2020. This would include reinstating rainbow trout only cooperative nursery stockings. It was recommended that Section 04 then be managed under a similar Miscellaneous Special Regulation applied to the 12 Class A wild trout streams that are stocked by the Commission: catch and release for all trout species except Rainbow Trout. Sections 01, 02 and 03 from the headwaters downstream to the confluence of Freeman Run and the West Branch Freeman Run would continue to be managed for wild trout with no stocking under Commonwealth Inland Waters regulations (58 Pa. Code § 61.1 (relating to Commonwealth inland waters)). Commission staff would monitor the stream over a 5-year period from 2026—2030 while evaluating the biological and social data against interim and final management triggers that would inform staff recommendations to the Commission regarding the fate of continued stocking in Section 04 and application of special regulations. If wild trout abundance declines significantly, or if angler use does not justify the continued stocking during the 5-year evaluation, the study could be terminated, stocking discontinued and regulations revised. If data available during the interim evaluation is not sufficient to adequately assess trends, then the study would continue for the full 5year period and be evaluated against final biological and social management triggers, after which a recommendation would be made to the Commission as to whether Section 04 should remain in the STW program and regulations revised.

To facilitate the use of special regulations to mitigate the negative impacts of stocking trout on the wild trout populations in Freeman Run, Section 04, staff proposed implementing a Miscellaneous Special Regulation that would manage brown trout and brook trout with catch-and-release regulations and maintain Commonwealth inland waters regulations for all other species with all tackle types permitted. At its meeting on July 28, 2025, the Commission approved publication of a notice of proposed rulemaking for this Miscellaneous Special Regulation. If adopted on final rulemaking, this amendment will go into effect on January 1, 2026.

Commission staff now recommends that the Commission approve an exemption to stock trout as Freeman Run, Section 04, does not meet any of the criteria that provide direction and guide decisions regarding stocking trout in Class A wild trout streams published in the *Operational Guidelines for the Management of Trout Fisheries in Pennsylvania Waters*. Should an exemption be granted, the Commission will determine the species of trout, number of trout and frequency of stocking consistent with stocking strategies and historical stocking rates of the stream section to minimize impacts to the Class A wild trout population. Stocking provisions will be communicated in writing by the Commission to the entity receiving the exemption for continued stocking in Class A designated waters. Stocking exemptions will be valid for no more than 5 years at which time the

need for continuance may be evaluated.

Other matters

• Proposed exemption to 58 Pa. Code § 57.8a to allow for the stocking of trout at Freeman Run, Section 04, Potter County.

Persons with comments, objections or suggestions concerning the classification of the streams listed may submit them in writing to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, prior to the October 27, 2025, Commission meeting. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted.

Comments may also be submitted electronically to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. Electronic comments submitted in any other manner will not be accepted.

TIMOTHY D. SCHAEFFER, Executive Director

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 25-1310. Filed for public inspection September 19, 2025, 9:00 a.m.]

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#### **FISHERIES**

### FINAL RULEMAKING

A. Amendment to 58 Pa. Code § 65.24 (Miscellaneous special regulations): Add Freeman Run, Section 04, Potter County.

### Commentary:

A notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 55 Pa.B. 6541 (September 13, 2025) (Exhibit Q). The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) received 24 public comments relating to this proposal: 4 support the proposal and 20 oppose the proposal. Copies of public comments were provided to the commissioners.

### Briefer:

Kristopher Kuhn, Director, Bureau of Fisheries

### **Recommendation**:

Staff recommend that the Commission adopt the amendment as set forth in the notice of proposed rulemaking. If adopted, the amendment will go into effect January 1, 2026.

### Action:

## PROPOSED RULEMAKING

### FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

[58 PA. CODE CH. 65]

Special Fishing Regulations; Miscellaneous Special Regulations

[55 Pa.B. 6541] [Saturday, September 13, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (commission) proposes to amend Chapter 65 (relating to special fishing regulations). The commission is publishing this proposed rulemaking under the authority of 30 Pa.C.S. (relating to Fish and Boat Code) (code). The proposed amendment relates to the addition of Freeman Run, Section 04, Potter County, to the commission's list of waters that are subject to a miscellaneous special regulation to manage brown trout and brook trout with catch-and-release regulations and maintain Commonwealth inland waters regulations for all other species with all tackle types permitted.

### A. Effective Date

This proposed rulemaking, if approved on final-form rulemaking, will go into effect on January 1, 2026.

#### B. Contact Person

For further information on this proposed rulemaking, contact Robert J. Schefter, Esq., P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, (717) 705-7810. This proposed rulemaking is available on the commission's website at https://www.pa.gov/agencies/fishandboat.html.

### C. Statutory Authority

The amendment to § 65.24 (relating to miscellaneous special regulations) is proposed under the authority of 30 Pa.C.S. § 2307(a) (relating to waters limited to specific purposes).

### D. Purpose and Background

The specific purpose and background of this proposed rulemaking are described in more detail under the summary of proposal.

### E. Summary of Proposal

Freeman Run, a tributary to the First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek in Potter County, is 12.23 miles in length and managed in four stream sections. The waterway is characteristic of a small, high-gradient, infertile, freestone stream. Section 01 extends 2.83 miles from the headwaters to Postalweight Hollow, is managed for wild trout with no stocking and was designated as a Class A wild trout stream in February 2019. Section 02 extends 2.00 miles from Postalweight Hollow to Bark Shanty Hollow, is managed for wild trout with no stocking and was designated as a Class A wild trout stream in January 1983.

Section 03 extends 4.50 miles from Bark Shanty Hollow to West Branch Freeman Run, and Section 04 extends 2.90 miles from West Branch Freeman Run to the mouth. Prior to 2021, Sections 03 and 04 were included in the commission's Stocked Trout Water (STW) program. Trout stocking was discontinued in 2021 following designation as Class A wild trout stream sections after wild brown trout biomass was estimated to be 56 kg/ha and 67 kg/ha, respectively, during 2018 surveys. To qualify for Class A wild trout stream designation based on wild brown trout, biomass must be greater than or equal to 40 kg/ha. Subsequent surveys conducted in 2022, 2 years following stocking cessation, estimated the wild brown trout biomass to be 94 kg/ha in Section 03 and 103 kg/ha in Section 04.

The impacts of stocking on wild trout populations are well documented in the literature and through commission surveys of wild trout streams in this Commonwealth. Commission monitoring and evaluation of wild trout populations in this Commonwealth demonstrate that stocking depresses wild trout populations for a variety of reasons, including competition for habitat and food, interference competition, increased harvest, increased hooking and handling, among other factors. However, we do not have strong Pennsylvania-specific data regarding the use of special regulations to mitigate the negative impacts of stocking over Class A wild trout populations. As such, the commission applied a miscellaneous special regulation (see § 65.24) in 2024 to 12 of 13 Class A stream sections stocked by the commission that allows for the harvest of stocked rainbow trout and brook trout but catch and release of the wild brown trout. Commission staff are currently monitoring and evaluating the effect of this regulation on the wild brown trout populations over a 5-to-7-year period, at which time we will either recommend continuing the management strategy applied to these fisheries or recommend an alternative approach to optimize these fisheries. The results of this evaluation will provide valuable management insight regarding the use of these regulations on large, productive streams with high angler use that are of size and character sufficient to support a fishery composed of both Class A wild trout and stocked trout components.

At the January and April 2025 Fisheries and Hatcheries Committee meetings, commission staff were tasked with developing an approach to evaluate a similar management strategy on small-to-moderate-sized, infertile, freestone streams, and Freeman Run, Section 04, was selected for this purpose. Freeman Run, Section 04, provides a unique opportunity to evaluate a stream section that was stocked previously, designated as a Class A wild trout stream section and removed from the stocking program, and then added back to the program and managed with special regulations.

To accomplish this, Freeman Run, Section 04, must be added back to the STW program beginning in 2026 and stocked only with rainbow trout at the same rate and frequency consistent with its resource classification from when it was last stocked in 2020. This would include reinstating rainbow-trout-only cooperative nursery stockings. It is recommended that Section 04 then be managed under a similar miscellaneous special regulation applied to the 12 Class A wild trout streams that are stocked by the commission: catch and release for all trout species except rainbow trout. Sections 01, 02 and 03 from the headwaters downstream to the confluence of Freeman Run and the West Branch Freeman Run would continue to be managed for wild trout with no stocking under Commonwealth inland waters regulations (see § 61.1 (relating to Commonwealth inland waters)). Commission staff would monitor the stream over a 5-year period from 2026 through 2030 while evaluating the biological and social data against interim and final management triggers that would inform commission staff recommendations to the Board of Commissioners (Board) regarding the fate of continued stocking in Section 04 and application of special regulations. If wild trout abundance declines significantly, or if angler use does not justify the continued stocking during the 5-year evaluation, the study could be terminated, stocking discontinued and regulations revised. If data available during the interim evaluation is not sufficient to adequately assess trends, then the study would continue for the full 5-year period and be evaluated against final biological and social management triggers, after which a recommendation would be made to the Board as to whether Section 04 should remain in the STW program and regulations revised.

To facilitate the use of special regulations to mitigate the negative impacts of stocking trout on the wild trout populations in Freeman Run, Section 04, commission staff propose implementing a miscellaneous special regulation that would manage brown trout and brook trout with catch-and-release regulations and maintain Commonwealth inland waters regulations for all other species with all tackle types permitted. Should this miscellaneous special regulation be adopted on final-form rulemaking, commission staff will recommend at a future meeting that the Board approve an exemption to stock trout as Freeman Run, Section 04, does not meet any of the criteria that provide direction and guide decisions regarding stocking trout in Class A wild trout streams published in the Operational Guidelines for the Management of Trout Fisheries in Pennsylvania Waters.

The commission proposes that § 65.24 be amended to read as set forth in Annex A.

### F. Paperwork

This proposed rulemaking will not increase paperwork and will not create new paperwork requirements.

### G. Fiscal Impact

This proposed rulemaking will have no adverse fiscal impact on the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions.

### H. Public Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, objections or suggestions about this proposed rulemaking to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted.

Comments also may be submitted electronically to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. Electronic comments submitted in any other manner will not be accepted.

TIMOTHY D. SCHAEFFER, Executive Director

Fiscal Note: 48A-366. No fiscal impact; recommends adoption.

#### Annex A

### TITLE 58. RECREATION

### PART II. FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

### **Subpart B. FISHING**

### **CHAPTER 65. SPECIAL FISHING REGULATIONS**

### § 65.24. Miscellaneous special regulations.

The following waters are subject to the following miscellaneous special regulations:

#### Name of Water **County Special Regulations** Monocacy Creek, Section 08, All tackle types are permitted. Brown trout— Northampton from Illicks Mill Dam catch and release/no harvest; it is unlawful to take, downstream to Schoenersville kill or possess brown trout at any time. All other trout species—7 inches minimum size limit—5 Road bridge trout daily limit (combined species) from 8 a.m. on the opening day of the regular season for trout to midnight on Labor Day. Catch and release/no harvest—it is unlawful to take, kill or possess any trout from 12:01 a.m. the day after Labor Day to midnight the third Sunday in February the following year. Closed to all fishing from 12:01 a.m. the third Monday in February until 8 a.m. on the opening day of the regular season for trout. All species except trout—inland regulations apply. See § 61.1. **Potter County** Freeman Run, Section 04, All tackle types are permitted. from the confluence with Brown trout and brook trout—catch and **West Branch Freeman Run** release/no harvest; it downstream to the mouth is unlawful to take, kill, or possess brown trout or brook trout at any time. Rainbow trout—7 inches minimum size limit— 5 trout daily limit from 8 a.m. on the opening day of the regular season for trout to midnight on Labor Day. Catch and release/no harvest—it is unlawful to take, kill, or possess any trout from 12:01 a.m. the day after Labor Day to midnight the third Sunday in February the following year. Closed to all fishing from 12:01 a.m. the third Monday in February until 8 a.m. on the opening day of the regular season for trout. All species except trout—inland regulations apply. See § 61.1. Youghiogheny River from Trout (all species)—no closed season. Daily limit: Somerset, confluence with Casselman opening day of the regular season for trout until Fayette, Westmoreland River downstream to the Labor Day—5 trout per day; day after Labor Day to opening day of the regular season for trout of and Allegheny confluence with Ramcat Run the following year—3 trout per day. Inland Youghiogheny River from the pipeline crossing at the regulations apply to warmwater/coolwater confluence with Lick Run species. downstream to the mouth of the river.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 25-1253. Filed for public inspection September 12, 2025, 9:00 a.m.]

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#### **FISHERIES**

### FINAL RULEMAKING

B. Amendment to 58 Pa. Code § 65.24 (Miscellaneous special regulations): Remove Donegal Lake, Westmoreland County.

### Commentary:

A notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 55 Pa.B. 6543 (September 13, 2025) (Exhibit R). The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) did not receive any public comments relating to this proposal.

### Briefer:

David Nihart, Chief, Division of Fisheries Management

### Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission adopt the amendment as set forth in the notice of proposed rulemaking. If adopted, the amendment will go into effect January 1, 2026.

### Action:



## PROPOSED RULEMAKING

### FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

[58 PA. CODE CH. 65]

### Special Fishing Regulations; Miscellaneous Special Regulations

[55 Pa.B. 6543] [Saturday, September 13, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (commission) proposes to amend Chapter 65 (relating to special fishing regulations). The commission is publishing this proposed rulemaking under the authority of 30 Pa.C.S. (relating to Fish and Boat Code). The proposed amendment relates to the removal of Donegal Lake, Westmoreland County, from the commission's list of waters that are subject to miscellaneous special regulations.

### A. Effective Date

This proposed rulemaking, if approved on final-form rulemaking, will go into effect on January 1, 2026.

### B. Contact Person

For further information on this proposed rulemaking, contact Robert J. Schefter, Esq., P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, (717) 705-7810. This proposed rulemaking is available on the commission's website at https://www.pa.gov/agencies/fishandboat.html.

### C. Statutory Authority

This amendment to § 65.24 (relating to miscellaneous special regulations) is proposed under the authority of 30 Pa.C.S. § 2307(a) (relating to waters limited to specific purposes).

### D. Purpose and Background

The specific purpose and background of the proposed amendment are described in more detail under the summary of proposal.

### E. Summary of Proposal

Donegal Lake, a 92-acre impoundment owned by the Commonwealth and managed by the commission, is located in Donegal Township, Westmoreland County, approximately 2 miles northeast of the Borough of Donegal. The dam impounds Fourmile Run at river mile (RM) 13.04 upstream from its confluence with Loyalhanna Creek at RM 32.7. This reservoir was completely dewatered during spring 2016 to upgrade the dam and spillway structures per Department of Environmental Protection dam safety standards.

Since 2020, Donegal Lake has been managed under miscellaneous special regulations (see § 65.24) that allow for the harvest of trout under Commonwealth inland waters regulations (see § 61.1 (relating to Commonwealth inland waters)) seasons, sizes and daily limits but no harvest of

other fish species. The intent was to facilitate rapid development of the warm-water and cool-water fish populations in the absence of harvest while allowing for the harvest of trout as the lake is included in the commission's Stocked Trout Waters program. Once the warm-water and cool-water fish populations were sufficiently re-established, the lake would then be recommended for removal from the miscellaneous special regulations and moved to one or more of the commission's existing regulation programs.

The black bass and panfish populations were evaluated during 2025 to monitor progress towards the development of the warm-water and cool-water fishery. Sportfish abundance and population size structure have improved to levels where populations can now sustain harvest. As such, it is recommended that Donegal Lake be removed from miscellaneous special regulations, allowing staff to consider this reservoir for management with big bass (see § 65.9 (relating to big bass)) and panfish enhancement (see § 65.11 (relating to panfish enhancement)) special regulations.

The commission proposes that § 65.24 be amended to read as set forth in Annex A.

### F. Paperwork

This proposed rulemaking will not increase paperwork and will not create new paperwork requirements.

### G. Fiscal Impact

This proposed rulemaking will have no adverse fiscal impact on the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions.

### H. Public Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, objections or suggestions about this proposed rulemaking to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted.

Comments also may be submitted electronically to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. Electronic comments submitted in any other manner will not be accepted.

TIMOTHY D. SCHAEFFER, Executive Director

**Fiscal Note:** 48A-367. No fiscal impact; recommends adoption.

#### Annex A

### TITLE 58. RECREATION

### PART II. FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

Subpart B. FISHING

### **CHAPTER 65. SPECIAL FISHING REGULATIONS**

§ 65.24. Miscellaneous special regulations.

The following waters are subject to the following miscellaneous special regulations:

County	Name of Water	Special Regulations  * * * * *
Wayne	West Branch Delaware River	Trout: From the Pennsylvania/ New York border downstream to the confluence with the East River Branch of the Delaware River: no-harvest artificial lures only season on trout from October 16 until midnight of the Friday before the opening day of the regular season for trout. During the no-harvest artificial lures only season: 1. Fishing may be done with artificial lures only, constructed of metal, plastic, rubber or wood, or flies or streamers constructed of natural or synthetic materials. Lures may be used with spinning or fly fishing gear. Use or possession of any other lures or substances is prohibited. 2. The daily creel limit for trout is 0.
[Westmoreland	d Donegal Lake	All species except trout—catch and release/no harvest; it is unlawful to take, kill or possess any fish except trout. All fish caught other than trout must be immediately returned unharmed. Trout—inland regulations apply. See § 61.1. This miscellaneous special regulation will remain in effect until further notice.]
York	Sheppard- Meyers Reservoir	All species except trout—catch and release/no harvest; it is unlawful to take, kill or possess any fish except trout. All fish caught other than trout must be immediately returned unharmed. Trout—inland regulations apply. See § 61.1. This miscellaneous special regulation will remain in effect until further notice.
[Pa.B. Doc. No. 25-1254. Filed for public inspection September 12, 2025, 9:00 a.m.]		

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#### **FISHERIES**

#### **DESIGNATIONS**

A. Addition of Donegal Lake, Westmoreland County, to the Big Bass program (58 Pa. Code § 65.9) and Panfish Enhancement program (58 Pa. Code § 65.11) for crappies.

#### Commentary:

Donegal Lake, a 92-acre impoundment owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and managed by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission), is located in Donegal Township, Westmoreland County, approximately two miles northeast of the Borough of Donegal. The dam impounds Fourmile Run at river mile (RM) 13.04 upstream from its confluence with Loyalhanna Creek at RM 32.7. This reservoir was completely dewatered during spring 2016 to upgrade the dam and spillway structures per Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection dam safety standards. Following the completion of these repairs and modifications, refill occurred in 2020, and the Commission stocked the lake from 2020 through 2025 with select fish species to establish a high-quality, warm-water and cool-water fishery.

Since 2020, Donegal Lake has been managed under Miscellaneous Special Regulations (58 Pa. Code § 65.24) that allow for the harvest of trout under Commonwealth Inland Waters regulations (58 Pa. Code § 61.1) for seasons, sizes, and daily limits but no harvest of other fish species. The intent was to facilitate rapid development of the warm-water and cool-water fish populations in the absence of harvest while allowing for the harvest of trout as the lake is included in the Commission's Stocked Trout Waters program. Once the warm-water and cool-water fish populations were sufficiently reestablished, the lake would then be recommended for removal from the Miscellaneous Special Regulations and moved to one or more of the Commission's existing regulation programs.

The black bass and panfish populations were evaluated during 2025 to monitor progress towards development of a high-quality, warm-water and cool-water fishery. Sportfish abundance and population size structure have improved to levels where populations can now sustain limited harvest. As such, it is recommended that the black bass fishery in this reservoir be managed with Big Bass regulations (58 Pa. Code § 65.9) and the crappie fishery with Panfish Enhancement angling regulations (58 Pa. Code § 65.11).

Big Bass regulations applied to lakes allow for the harvest of a combined total of four black bass species (Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass) greater than or equal to 15 inches in length from January 1 to midnight the day before the second Saturday in April and 12:01 a.m. the second Saturday in June to midnight December 31. No harvest is permitted from 12:01 a.m. the second Saturday in April to 12:01 a.m. the second Saturday in June. Panfish Enhancement regulations allow for year-round harvest of crappies (Black Crappie and White Crappie) greater than or equal to nine inches in

length with a daily limit of 20, with the total creel not to exceed 50 panfish combined. All other fish species not managed under these special regulations will be managed with Commonwealth Inland Waters angling regulations (58 Pa. Code § 61.1).

A notice of proposed designations was published at 55 Pa.B. 6808 (September 20, 2025) (Exhibit S). The Commission did not receive any public comments relating to this proposal.

### Briefer:

David Nihart, Chief, Division of Fisheries Management

### **Recommendation:**

Staff recommend that the Commission add Donegal Lake, Westmoreland County, to the Big Bass program (58 Pa. Code § 65.9) and the Panfish Enhancement program (58 Pa. Code § 65.11) for crappies. If approved, these designations will go into effect January 1, 2026.

### Action:

# **EXHIBIT S**

# **NOTICES**

### FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

## **Proposed Special Regulation Designations**

[55 Pa.B. 6808] [Saturday, September 20, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) has approved guidelines with regard to encouraging public participation on possible changes to the designation of streams, stream sections or lakes for special regulation programs. Under 58 Pa. Code Chapter 65 (relating to special fishing regulations), the Commission designates or redesignates certain streams, stream sections and lakes as being subject to special fishing regulations. These designations and redesignations are effective after Commission approval when they are posted at the site and a notice is published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Under the Commission's guidelines, a notice concerning the proposed designation of a stream, stream section or lake under special regulations ordinarily will be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* before the matter is reviewed by the Board of Commissioners.

At the next Commission meeting on October 27, 2025, the Commission will consider taking the following actions with respect to waters subject to special fishing regulations under 58 Pa. Code Chapter 65, effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.17. Catch and release lakes

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "catch and release lakes" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.17 (relating to catch and release lakes):

# County Water Jefferson Kyle Lake

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.9. Big bass

The Commission will consider adding the following waters to its list of "big bass" waters regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.9 (relating to big bass):

CountyWaterJeffersonKyle LakeWestmorelandDonegal Lake

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.11. Panfish enhancement

The Commission will consider adding the following waters to its list of "panfish enhancement" waters regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.11 (relating to panfish enhancement):

**County Water Species** 

Jefferson Kyle Lake Crappie and Sunfish

Westmoreland Donegal Lake Crappie

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider revising the section limits of the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6 (relating to delayed harvest artificial lures only areas):

**County Water** 

Lycoming Muncy Creek, Section 06

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider revising the section limits of the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6:

County Water

Dauphin Manada Creek

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6:

**County Water** 

Berks West Valley Creek

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.19. Stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.19 (relating to stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing):

**County Water** 

Bucks Lake Luxembourg

Persons with comments, objections or suggestions concerning the designations are invited to submit comments in writing to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted.

Comments may also be submitted electronically to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. Electronic comments submitted in any other manner will not be accepted.

TIMOTHY D. SCHAEFFER, Executive Director

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 25-1311. Filed for public inspection September 19, 2025, 9:00 a.m.]

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#### **FISHERIES**

### **DESIGNATIONS**

B. Removal of Kyle Lake, Jefferson County, from the Catch and Release Lakes program (58 Pa. Code § 65.17) and addition to the Big Bass program (58 Pa. Code § 65.9) and Panfish Enhancement program (58 Pa. Code § 65.11) for crappies and sunfish.

#### Commentary:

Kyle Lake, a 165-acre impoundment owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and managed by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission), is located in Washington Township, Jefferson County, approximately four miles northwest of the City of Dubois. This reservoir was completely dewatered in 2016 to complete dam and spillway repairs and modifications per Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection dam safety standards. Following completion of these repairs and modifications refill occurred in 2020. The Commission stocked the lake from 2020 through 2025 with select fish species to establish a high-quality, warm-water and coolwater fishery.

Since 2020, Kyle Lake has been managed in the Catch and Release Lakes program (58 Pa. Code § 65.17) which allows catch-and-release fishing for all species. The intent of these temporary regulations was to facilitate rapid development of the warm-water and coolwater fish populations in the absence of harvest, and once re-established, the lake would be recommended for removal from these regulations and moved to one or more of the Commission's existing regulation programs.

The black bass and panfish populations were evaluated from 2022 through May 2025 to monitor progress towards development of a high-quality, warm-water and cool-water fishery. Sportfish abundance and population size structure have improved to levels where populations can now sustain limited harvest. As such, it is recommended to remove Kyle Lake from the Catch and Release Lakes program and manage the black bass fishery with Big Bass regulations (58 Pa. Code § 65.9) and the crappie and sunfish fisheries with Panfish Enhancement regulations (58 Pa. Code § 65.11).

Big Bass regulations applied to lakes allow for the harvest of four black bass (Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, and Spotted Bass; combined species) greater than or equal to 15 inches in length from January 1 to midnight the day before the second Saturday in April, and 12:01 a.m. the second Saturday in June to midnight December 31. No harvest is permitted from 12:01 a.m. the second Saturday in April to 12:01 a.m. the second Saturday in June. Panfish Enhancement regulations allow for year-round harvest of sunfish greater than or equal to seven inches in length with a daily limit of 20 and the year-round harvest of crappies (Black Crappie and White Crappie) greater than or equal to nine inches in length with a daily limit of 20, with the total creel not to exceed 50

panfish combined. All other fish species not managed under these special regulations will be managed with Commonwealth Inland Waters angling regulations (58 Pa. Code § 61.1).

 A notice of proposed designations was published at 55 Pa.B. 6808 (September 20, 2025) (Exhibit T). The Commission did not receive any public comments relating to this proposal.

### Briefer:

David Nihart, Chief, Division of Fisheries Management

### **Recommendation:**

Staff recommend that the Commission remove Kyle Lake, Jefferson County, from the Catch and Release Lakes program (58 Pa. Code § 65.17) and add this reservoir to the Big Bass program (58 Pa. Code § 65.9) and the Panfish Enhancement program (58 Pa. Code § 65.11) for crappies and sunfish. If approved, these designations will go into effect January 1, 2026.

### Action:

# **EXHIBIT T**

## **NOTICES**

### FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

### **Proposed Special Regulation Designations**

[55 Pa.B. 6808] [Saturday, September 20, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) has approved guidelines with regard to encouraging public participation on possible changes to the designation of streams, stream sections or lakes for special regulation programs. Under 58 Pa. Code Chapter 65 (relating to special fishing regulations), the Commission designates or redesignates certain streams, stream sections and lakes as being subject to special fishing regulations. These designations and redesignations are effective after Commission approval when they are posted at the site and a notice is published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Under the Commission's guidelines, a notice concerning the proposed designation of a stream, stream section or lake under special regulations ordinarily will be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* before the matter is reviewed by the Board of Commissioners.

At the next Commission meeting on October 27, 2025, the Commission will consider taking the following actions with respect to waters subject to special fishing regulations under 58 Pa. Code Chapter 65, effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.17. Catch and release lakes

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "catch and release lakes" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.17 (relating to catch and release lakes):

County Water

Jefferson Kyle Lake

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.9. Big bass

The Commission will consider adding the following waters to its list of "big bass" waters regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.9 (relating to big bass):

County Water

Jefferson Kyle Lake

Westmoreland Donegal Lake

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.11. Panfish enhancement

The Commission will consider adding the following waters to its list of "panfish enhancement" waters regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.11 (relating to panfish enhancement):

**County Water Species** 

Jefferson Kyle Lake Crappie and Sunfish

Westmoreland Donegal Lake Crappie

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider revising the section limits of the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6 (relating to delayed harvest artificial lures only areas):

**County Water** 

Lycoming Muncy Creek, Section 06

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider revising the section limits of the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6:

County Water

Dauphin Manada Creek

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6:

**County Water** 

Berks West Valley Creek

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.19. Stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.19 (relating to stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing):

**County Water** 

Bucks Lake Luxembourg

Persons with comments, objections or suggestions concerning the designations are invited to submit comments in writing to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted.

Comments may also be submitted electronically to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. Electronic comments submitted in any other manner will not be accepted.

TIMOTHY D. SCHAEFFER, Executive Director

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#### **FISHERIES**

### **DESIGNATIONS**

C. Removal of Lake Luxembourg, Bucks County, from Stocked Trout Waters Open to Year-Round Fishing program (58 Pa. Code § 65.19).

#### Commentary:

Lake Luxembourg, a 166-acre impoundment owned by Bucks County and managed by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission), is located in Core Creek Park, Middletown Township, Bucks County, approximately two miles southeast of the Borough of Newtown. The reservoir is included in the Commission's Stocked Trout Waters (STW) program and managed with Stocked Trout Waters Open to Year-Round Fishing (STW-OYR) regulations (58 Pa. Code § 65.19).

In December 2021, the Commission was notified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) of a do-not-eat fish consumption advisory issued for the entire Neshaminy Creek basin, which includes Lake Luxembourg. The consumption advisory was issued due to elevated levels of Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) in water samples collected and analyzed by the DEP. Subsequently, the Commission cancelled stockings of all waters included in the STW program within the Neshaminy Creek basin beginning in 2022. Staff have not proposed to remove Lake Luxembourg from the STW-OYR program until this time because additional water quality sampling by the DEP could have resulted in the consumption advisory being revised to be less inclusive of the entire basin; however, the consumption advisory for the basin will remain through 2026 and potentially longer. Given that the consumption advisory has remained in effect since 2022, staff recommend Lake Luxembourg be removed from the STW-OYR program. Upon removal of this regulation, Lake Luxembourg will be managed with Commonwealth Inland Waters regulations (58 Pa. Code § 61.1).

A notice of proposed designation was published at 55 Pa.B. 6808 (September 20, 2025) (Exhibit U). The Commission did not receive any public comments relating to this proposal.

#### Briefer:

David Nihart, Chief, Division of Fisheries Management

#### Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Commission remove Lake Luxembourg, Bucks County, from the Stocked Trout Waters Open to Year-Round Fishing program (58 Pa. Code § 65.19). If approved, the section will revert to Commonwealth Inland Waters regulations (58 Pa. Code § 61.1) on January 1, 2026.

#### Action:

# **EXHIBIT U**

# **NOTICES**

### FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

### **Proposed Special Regulation Designations**

[55 Pa.B. 6808] [Saturday, September 20, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) has approved guidelines with regard to encouraging public participation on possible changes to the designation of streams, stream sections or lakes for special regulation programs. Under 58 Pa. Code Chapter 65 (relating to special fishing regulations), the Commission designates or redesignates certain streams, stream sections and lakes as being subject to special fishing regulations. These designations and redesignations are effective after Commission approval when they are posted at the site and a notice is published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Under the Commission's guidelines, a notice concerning the proposed designation of a stream, stream section or lake under special regulations ordinarily will be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* before the matter is reviewed by the Board of Commissioners.

At the next Commission meeting on October 27, 2025, the Commission will consider taking the following actions with respect to waters subject to special fishing regulations under 58 Pa. Code Chapter 65, effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.17. Catch and release lakes

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "catch and release lakes" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.17 (relating to catch and release lakes):

County Water

Jefferson Kyle Lake

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.9. Big bass

The Commission will consider adding the following waters to its list of "big bass" waters regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.9 (relating to big bass):

County Water

Jefferson Kyle Lake

Westmoreland Donegal Lake

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.11. Panfish enhancement

The Commission will consider adding the following waters to its list of "panfish enhancement" waters regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.11 (relating to panfish enhancement):

**County Water Species** 

Jefferson Kyle Lake Crappie and Sunfish

Westmoreland Donegal Lake Crappie

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider revising the section limits of the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6 (relating to delayed harvest artificial lures only areas):

**County Water** 

Lycoming Muncy Creek, Section 06

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider revising the section limits of the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6:

County Water

Dauphin Manada Creek

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6:

**County Water** 

Berks West Valley Creek

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.19. Stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.19 (relating to stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing):

County Water

Bucks Lake Luxembourg

Persons with comments, objections or suggestions concerning the designations are invited to submit comments in writing to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted.

Comments may also be submitted electronically to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. Electronic comments submitted in any other manner will not be accepted.

TIMOTHY D. SCHAEFFER, Executive Director

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 25-1311. Filed for public inspection September 19, 2025, 9:00 a.m.]

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#### **FISHERIES**

### **DESIGNATIONS**

D. Removal of West Valley Creek, Section 03, Chester County, from the Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only Areas program (58 Pa. Code § 65.6).

#### Commentary:

West Valley Creek, Chester County, is a nine-mile-long stream that originates near the Borough of Malvern and flows southwest to its confluence with the East Branch Brandywine Creek near the Borough of Downingtown. The stream is currently managed as four sections for fisheries management purposes. Sections 02 and 03, which total 3.44 miles in length, are included in the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's (Commission) Stocked Trout Waters (STW) program. Sections 01, 02, and 04 are managed under Commonwealth Inland Waters angling regulations (58 Pa. Code § 61.1), while Section 03 is managed under Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only (DHALO) regulations (58 Pa. Code § 65.6).

The DHALO program is designed to maintain a recreational trout fishery through stocking. Delayed harvest management provides for an extended period of catch-and-release angling, then, as angler interest for trout fishing declines and stream conditions become less favorable for survival of stocked trout due to decreased flows and elevated water temperatures, harvest is allowed utilizing a reduced creel limit so that emphasis remains on the angling experience rather than harvest. The harvest season has been set to allow for some harvest before hatchery trout are lost to natural mortality.

In February 2024, the Commission was notified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) of an issue with sinkholes forming in the immediate vicinity of West Valley Creek. To ensure safety of Commission personnel, volunteers and anglers, the Commission cancelled all trout stockings for both Sections 02 and 03 for 2024 and 2025. To date, the DEP has documented over 100 sinkholes, creating a very unsafe and unstable environment in sections 02 and 03. Given the ongoing safety concerns, staff recommend that Section 03 be removed from the DHALO program. Sections 02 and 03 will also be removed from the STW program for 2026.

A notice of proposed designation was published at 55 Pa.B. 6808 (September 20, 2025) (Exhibit V). The Commission did not receive any public comments relating to this proposal.

### Briefer:

David Nihart, Chief, Division of Fisheries Management

### **Recommendation**:

Staff recommend that the Commission remove West Valley Creek, Section 03, Chester County, from the Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only Areas program (58 Pa. Code § 65.6). If approved, the stream section will revert to Commonwealth Inland Waters regulations (58 Pa. Code § 61.1) on January 1, 2026.

### Action:



## **NOTICES**

### FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

### **Proposed Special Regulation Designations**

[55 Pa.B. 6808] [Saturday, September 20, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) has approved guidelines with regard to encouraging public participation on possible changes to the designation of streams, stream sections or lakes for special regulation programs. Under 58 Pa. Code Chapter 65 (relating to special fishing regulations), the Commission designates or redesignates certain streams, stream sections and lakes as being subject to special fishing regulations. These designations and redesignations are effective after Commission approval when they are posted at the site and a notice is published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Under the Commission's guidelines, a notice concerning the proposed designation of a stream, stream section or lake under special regulations ordinarily will be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* before the matter is reviewed by the Board of Commissioners.

At the next Commission meeting on October 27, 2025, the Commission will consider taking the following actions with respect to waters subject to special fishing regulations under 58 Pa. Code Chapter 65, effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.17. Catch and release lakes

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "catch and release lakes" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.17 (relating to catch and release lakes):

County Water
Jefferson Kyle Lake

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.9. Big bass

The Commission will consider adding the following waters to its list of "big bass" waters regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.9 (relating to big bass):

County Water

Jefferson Kyle Lake

Westmoreland Donegal Lake

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.11. Panfish enhancement

The Commission will consider adding the following waters to its list of "panfish enhancement" waters regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.11 (relating to panfish enhancement):

**County Water Species** 

Jefferson Kyle Lake Crappie and Sunfish

Westmoreland Donegal Lake Crappie

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider revising the section limits of the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6 (relating to delayed harvest artificial lures only areas):

**County Water** 

Lycoming Muncy Creek, Section 06

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider revising the section limits of the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6:

**County Water** 

Dauphin Manada Creek

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6:

County Water

Chester West Valley Creek

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.19. Stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.19 (relating to stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing):

**County Water** 

Bucks Lake Luxembourg

Persons with comments, objections or suggestions concerning the designations are invited to submit comments in writing to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted.

Comments may also be submitted electronically to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. Electronic comments submitted in any other manner will not be accepted.

TIMOTHY D. SCHAEFFER, Executive Director

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#### **FISHERIES**

#### **DESIGNATIONS**

E. Revision to the limits of two stream sections managed as Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only Areas (58 Pa. Code § 65.6).

### **Commentary**:

Staff identified two stream sections currently managed under Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only (DHALO) regulations (58 Pa. Code § 65.6) that warrant a revision to their section limits. Public and landowner feedback received in 2025 pertaining to these sections suggest that small reaches on each of the two streams would be better managed under alternative regulations. As such, it is recommended that portions of these streams be removed from the DHALO program in favor of Commonwealth Inland Waters regulations (58 Pa. Code § 61.1) to optimize angling opportunities while meeting the desires of landowners and anglers that fish these waters.

Manada Creek, Section 02, Dauphin County, extends 1.18 miles from Fogarty Road downstream to Furnace Road. An increase in landowner posting has resulted in a loss of angler access to the upstream portion of the stream section. Upon further review of this stream section, staff recommend reducing the limits of Section 02 by 0.50 miles to the unnamed tributary (UNT) to Manada Creek at river mile (RM) 11.50 downstream to Furnace Road. If this recommendation is approved, the 0.50-mile portion removed from Section 02 will also be removed from the Stocked Trout Waters (STW) program.

Muncy Creek, Section 06, Lycoming County, extends 1.10 miles from 0.25 miles downstream of the state route (SR) 220 bridge downstream to 0.20 miles downstream of the Pine Run Road bridge. Section 06 was added to the DHALO for 2025; however, staff met with a landowner and determined the section limits should be revised, allowing for optimal use of this section while meeting the desires of landowners and anglers. Upon further review of this stream section, staff recommend reducing the limits of Section 06 by 0.19 miles to 0.44 miles downstream of the SR 220 bridge downstream to 0.20 miles downstream of the Pine Run Road bridge. If this recommendation is approved, the 0.19-mile portion removed from Section 06 will be added to Section 05 which is included in the STW program.

A notice of proposed designation was published at 55 Pa.B. 6808 (September 20, 2025) (Exhibit W). The Commission did not receive any public comments relating to this proposal.

### Briefer:

David Nihart, Chief, Division of Fisheries Management

### **Recommendation**:

Staff recommend that the Commission revise the limits of two stream sections managed as Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only Areas (58 Pa. Code § 65.6) as described in the Commentary. If approved, the designations will go into effect January 1, 2026.

### Action:

# **EXHIBIT W**

# **NOTICES**

### FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

### **Proposed Special Regulation Designations**

[55 Pa.B. 6808] [Saturday, September 20, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) has approved guidelines with regard to encouraging public participation on possible changes to the designation of streams, stream sections or lakes for special regulation programs. Under 58 Pa. Code Chapter 65 (relating to special fishing regulations), the Commission designates or redesignates certain streams, stream sections and lakes as being subject to special fishing regulations. These designations and redesignations are effective after Commission approval when they are posted at the site and a notice is published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Under the Commission's guidelines, a notice concerning the proposed designation of a stream, stream section or lake under special regulations ordinarily will be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* before the matter is reviewed by the Board of Commissioners.

At the next Commission meeting on October 27, 2025, the Commission will consider taking the following actions with respect to waters subject to special fishing regulations under 58 Pa. Code Chapter 65, effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.17. Catch and release lakes

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "catch and release lakes" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.17 (relating to catch and release lakes):

County Water
Jefferson Kyle Lake

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.9. Big bass

The Commission will consider adding the following waters to its list of "big bass" waters regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.9 (relating to big bass):

County Water

Jefferson Kyle Lake

Westmoreland Donegal Lake

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.11. Panfish enhancement

The Commission will consider adding the following waters to its list of "panfish enhancement" waters regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.11 (relating to panfish enhancement):

**County Water Species** 

Jefferson Kyle Lake Crappie and Sunfish

Westmoreland Donegal Lake Crappie

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider revising the section limits of the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6 (relating to delayed harvest artificial lures only areas):

**County Water** 

Lycoming Muncy Creek, Section 06

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider revising the section limits of the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6:

**County Water** 

Dauphin Manada Creek

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.6. Delayed harvest artificial lures only areas

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "delayed harvest artificial lures only areas" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.6:

**County Water** 

Berks West Valley Creek

### 58 Pa. Code § 65.19. Stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing

The Commission will consider removing the following water from its list of "stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing" regulated and managed under 58 Pa. Code § 65.19 (relating to stocked trout waters open to year-round fishing):

**County Water** 

Bucks Lake Luxembourg

Persons with comments, objections or suggestions concerning the designations are invited to submit comments in writing to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted.

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TIMOTHY D. SCHAEFFER, Executive Director

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 25-1311. Filed for public inspection September 19, 2025, 9:00 a.m.]

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#### **FISHERIES**

#### **DESIGNATIONS**

F. Changes to the list of Class A wild trout streams (58 Pa. Code § 57.8a).

#### **Commentary**:

During recent surveys, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) staff documented 20 additional stream sections to have Class A wild trout populations. Exhibit X provides information on the locations and a data summary for each of these waters.

A notice of proposed designation was published at 55 Pa.B. 5960 (August 16, 2025) (Exhibit Y). The Commission received a total of 13 public comments regarding the proposed additions: six support the full proposal. Copies of public comments were provided to the commissioners.

#### Briefer:

David Nihart, Chief, Division of Fisheries Management

#### Recommendation:

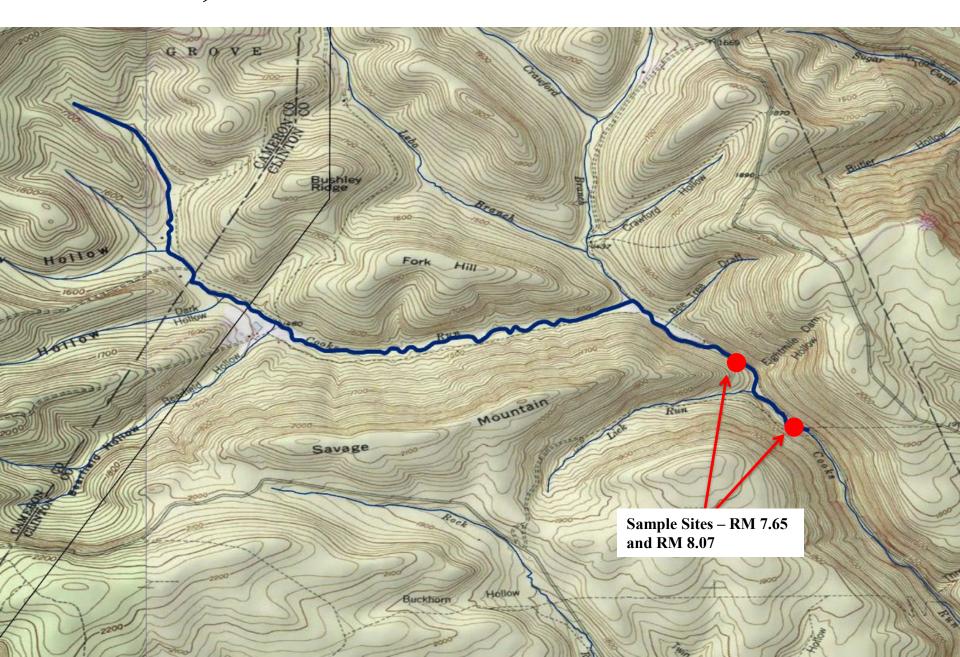
Staff recommend that the Commission add 20 stream sections to its Class A wild trout streams list as set forth in the notice of proposed changes. If approved, these additions will go into effect upon publication of a second notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

#### Action:

#### **EXHIBIT X**

# Class A Additions

#### Cooks Run, Cameron/Clinton Counties



#### Cooks Run, Cameron/Clinton Counties

Brook Trout RM – 7.65 Site Length – 370 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	39	2.06	311
3	24	1.02	65
4	8	0.99	27
5	32	7.78	119
6	7	2.08	19
7	4	2.31	14
8	5	4.02	16
Total	119	20.26	571

Brown Trout RM – 7.65 Site Length – 370 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	27	0.50	73
3	19	0.87	51
4	1	0.10	3
5	14	3.04	43
6	17	5.40	46
7	7	4.38	24
8	4	2.81	11
9	1	0.98	3
10	1	1.32	3
11	1	1.72	3
12	1	2.20	3
16	1	5.04	3
Total	94	28.36	266

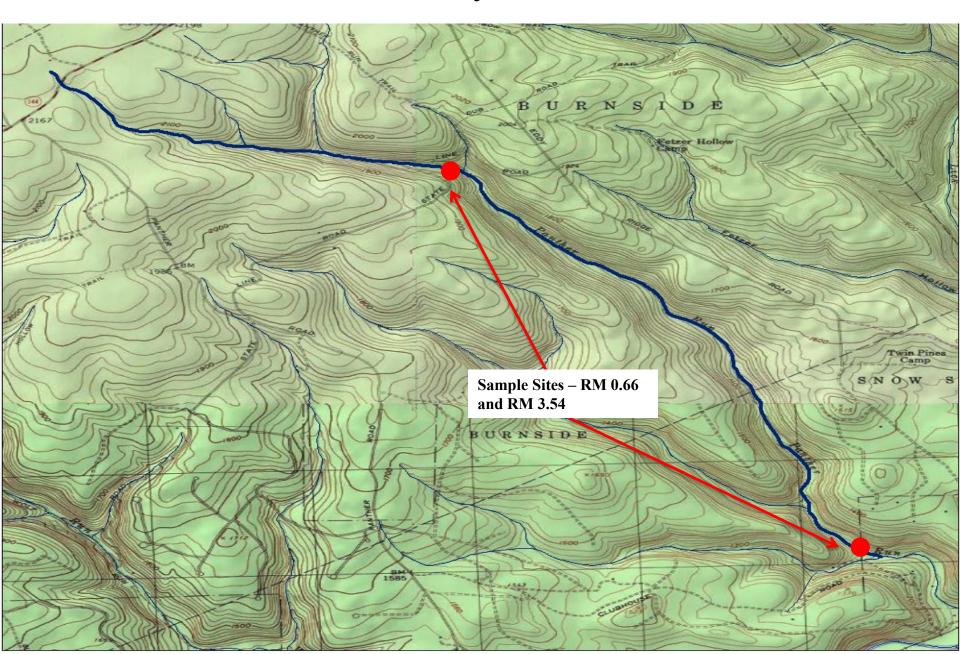
#### Cooks Run, Cameron/Clinton Counties

Brook Trout RM – 8.07 Site Length – 420 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	11	0.18	26
3	12	0.46	29
4	2	0.18	5
5	13	2.09	31
6	6	1.62	14
7	1	0.42	2
8	2	1.22	5
Total	47	6.17	112

Brown Trout RM – 8.07 Site Length – 420 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	5	0.08	12
3	10	0.42	24
5	20	3.45	48
6	18	5.19	43
7	3	1.33	7
8	5	3.19	12
9	6	5.33	14
10	4	4.80	10
11	4	6.24	10
13	3	7.54	7
14	1	3.11	2
22	1	13.03	2
Total	80	53.71	191



Brook Trout RM – 0.66 Site Length – 400 meters

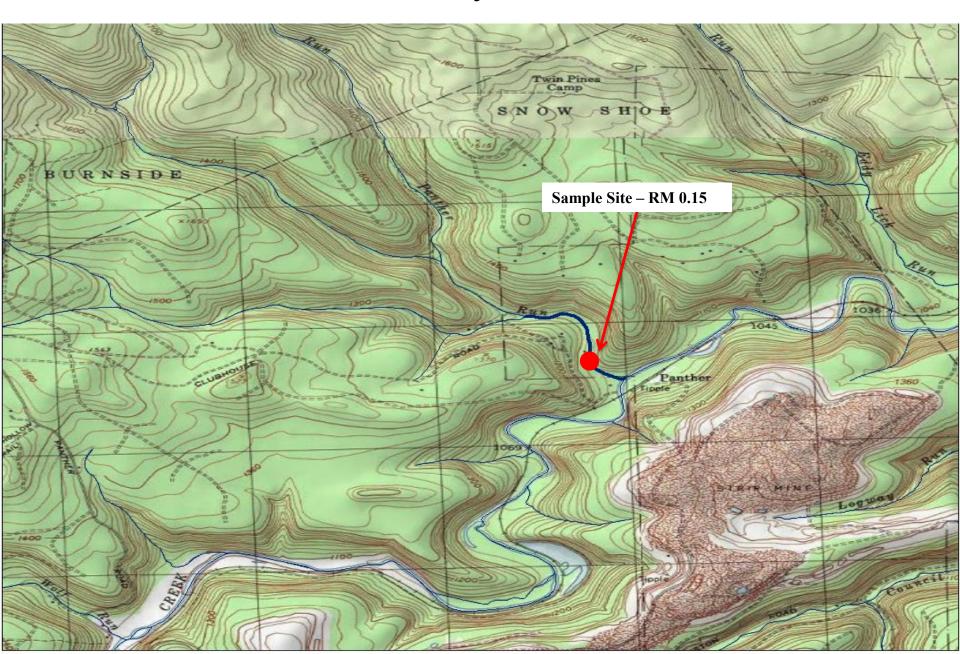
Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
1	12	0.13	30
2	21	0.52	53
3	37	3.88	165
4	47	7.78	143
5	28	8.05	83
6	5	2.46	15
7	5	3.19	13
8	4	4.63	13
9	1	1.32	3
Total	160	31.96	518

Brown Trout RM – 0.66 Site Length – 400 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
8	2	1.94	5
9	1	1.35	3
Total	3	3.29	8

Brook Trout RM – 3.54 Site Length – 430 meters

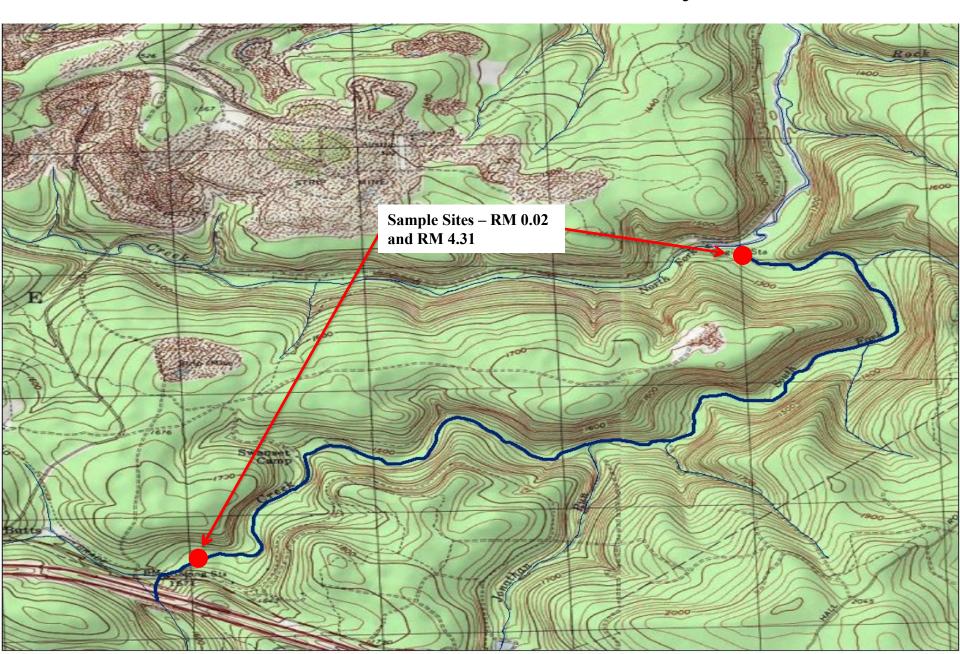
Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
1	2	0.03	5
2	17	0.68	40
3	49	4.66	114
4	39	8.60	91
5	36	14.19	84
6	14	9.29	33
7	2	2.06	5
Total	159	39.51	372



Brook Trout RM – 0.15 Site Length – 120 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
1	3	0.09	25
2	21	1.44	175
3	23	3.76	192
4	25	9.48	208
5	18	12.20	150
6	5	5.70	42
7	6	10.65	50
Total	101	43.32	842

## South Fork Beech Creek, Centre County



#### South Fork Beech Creek, Centre County

Brook Trout RM – 0.02 Site Length – 500 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	6	0.06	12
3	31	1.64	136
4	9	0.62	22
5	15	1.70	34
6	9	1.51	18
7	9	2.62	20
8	7	3.03	16
9	2	1.08	4
Total	88	12.26	262

 $\begin{array}{l} Brown \ Trout \ RM - 0.02 \\ Site \ Length - 500 \ meters \end{array}$ 

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
3	19	0.68	52
4	3	0.18	6
5	23	2.80	52
6	36	7.19	80
7	15	4.68	34
8	14	5.97	30
9	8	4.98	18
10	2	1.49	4
11	5	5.83	12
14	1	1.94	2
Total	126	35.74	290

#### South Fork Beech Creek, Centre County

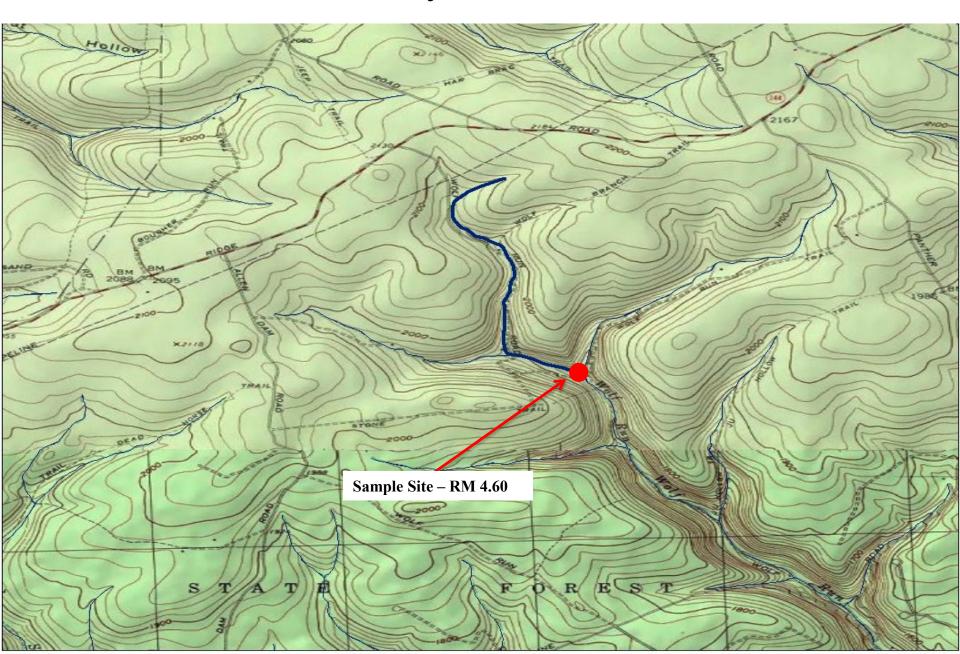
Brook Trout RM – 4.31 Site Length – 315 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	2	0.04	6
3	10	0.47	32
4	2	0.22	6
5	7	1.76	29
6	3	1.32	13
7	2	1.02	6
8	1	0.74	3
Total	27	5.57	95

Brown Trout RM - 4.31Site Length -315 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	4	0.08	13
3	8	0.56	35
4	6	0.69	19
5	30	7.37	111
6	8	3.87	35
7	16	9.16	54
8	12	10.90	44
9	12	15.17	44
10	5	8.77	19
Total	101	56.57	374

## Wolf Run, Centre County

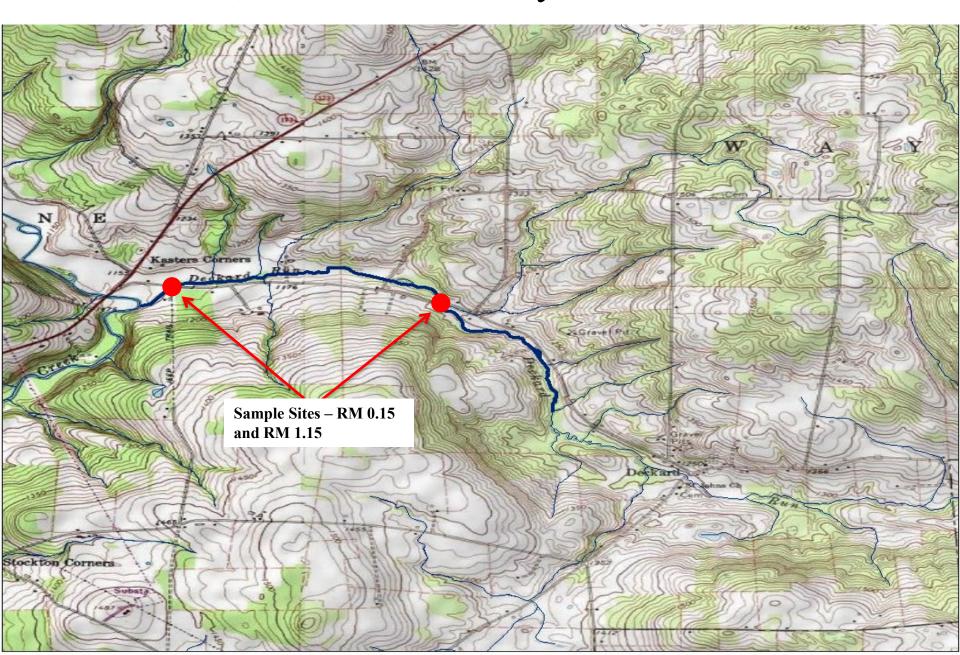


#### Wolf Run, Centre County

Brook Trout RM – 4.60 Site Length – 225 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
1	1	0.03	4
2	31	4.45	302
3	45	10.28	293
4	37	18.05	222
5	14	10.33	71
6	2	2.17	9
Total	130	45.31	901

#### Deckard Run, Crawford County



#### Deckard Run, Crawford County

Brown Trout RM – 0.15 Site Length – 385 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	2	0.03	5
5	2	0.30	5
6	6	1.52	16
7	2	0.78	5
8	1	0.56	3
9	1	0.78	3
10	1	1.06	3
11	4	5.49	10
13	1	2.22	3
14	1	2.74	3
15	1	3.35	3
16	2	8.07	5
17	2	9.96	5
18	1	6.08	3
Total	27	42.94	72

#### Deckard Run, Crawford County

Brown Trout RM – 1.15 Site Length – 355 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	2	0.04	6
4	1	0.11	3
5	6	1.21	17
6	5	2.02	17
7	4	2.07	11
9	2	2.08	6
11	1	1.82	3
12	6	18.69	23
13	1	2.94	3
14	1	3.64	3
15	3	13.34	8
Total	32	47.96	100

## Byrnes Run, Elk County



#### Byrnes Run, Elk County

Brook Trout RM – 4.34 Site Length – 210 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	28	1.67	133
3	35	4.98	167
4	55	18.13	262
5	29	17.09	138
6	12	11.90	57
7	1	1.54	5
Total	160	55.31	762

## Blood Run, Forest County

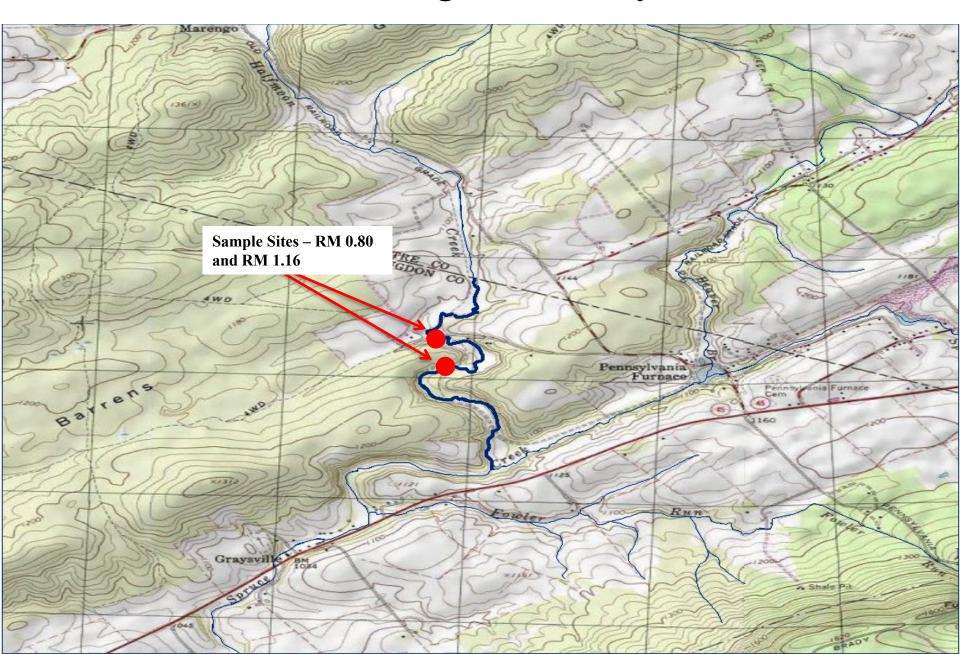


#### Blood Run, Forest County

Brook Trout RM – 0.16 Site Length – 396 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	77	3.01	263
3	18	1.72	63
4	30	6.70	106
5	22	13.13	116
6	9	4.32	23
7	5	3.74	13
Total	161	32.62	584

## Halfmoon Creek, Huntingdon County



#### Halfmoon Creek, Huntingdon County

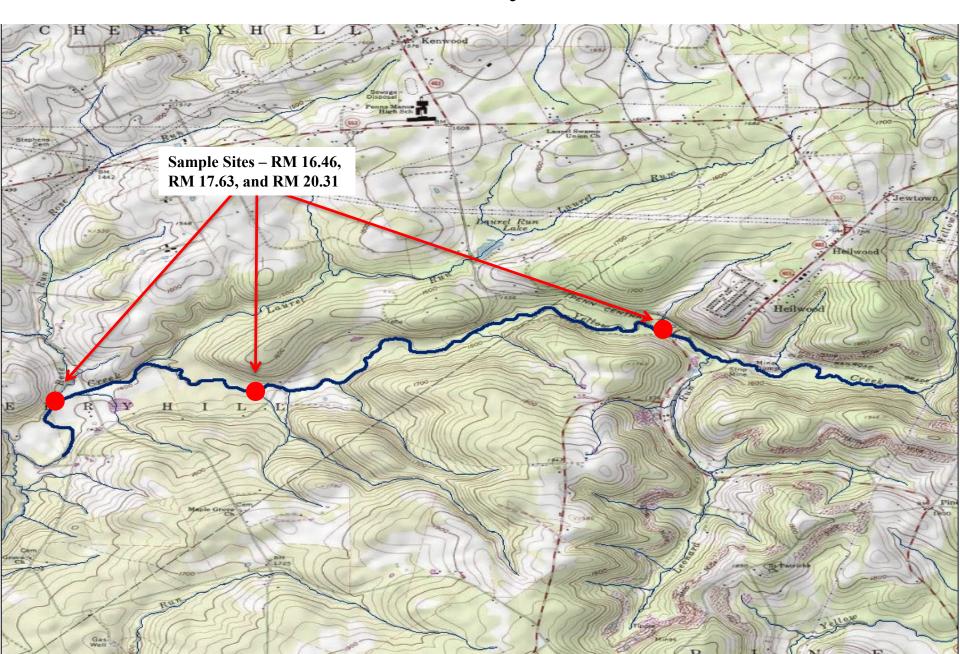
Brown Trout RM – 0.80 Site Length – 440 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	3	0.03	7
3	32	0.85	73
4	12	0.72	27
5	5	0.55	11
6	37	12.07	150
7	45	19.60	159
8	14	6.48	36
9	20	14.65	59
10	13	13.68	41
11	13	19.76	45
12	9	12.66	23
13	2	3.19	5
14	1	1.97	2
15	1	2.41	2
17	2	7.17	5
Total	209	115.79	645

# Halfmoon Creek, Huntingdon County

Brown Trout RM – 1.16 Site Length – 320 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
(menes)			
3	5	0.26	16
4	2	0.23	6
6	4	1.43	13
7	7	3.83	22
8	5	3.95	16
9	3	3.30	9
10	7	11.86	25
11	4	9.64	16
12	2	4.94	6
13	2	6.22	6
14	1	3.85	3
Total	42	49.51	138



Brown Trout RM – 16.46 Site Length – 300 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	4	0.05	13
3	47	2.00	210
4	7	0.57	27
7	7	2.35	23
8	5	2.43	17
9	1	0.68	3
10	1	0.91	3
11	5	5.93	17
12	4	6.08	13
14	1	2.37	3
15	3	8.67	10
Total	85	32.04	339

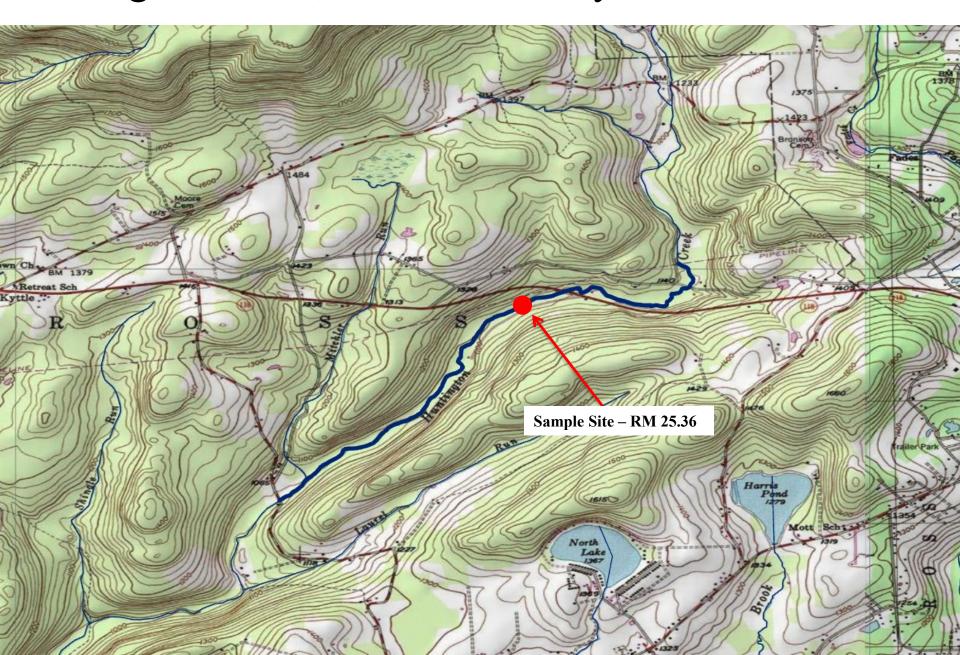
Brown Trout RM – 17.63 Site Length – 382 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	5	0.05	13
3	14	0.45	45
4	1	0.06	3
5	5	0.55	13
6	20	4.22	60
7	35	10.97	102
8	6	2.44	16
9	6	3.39	16
10	6	5.34	18
11	10	11.91	31
12	5	7.63	16
13	2	3.20	5
14	3	5.94	8
16	1	2.91	3
Total	119	59.06	349

Brown Trout RM – 20.31 Site Length – 350 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	1	0.01	3
3	7	0.26	20
5	4	0.61	11
6	16	4.81	54
7	34	14.73	109
8	5	2.80	14
9	2	1.56	6
10	11	13.67	37
11	11	17.77	37
12	5	8.76	14
13	2	4.41	6
14	1	2.73	3
18	1	6.05	3
Total	100	78.17	317

## Huntington Creek, Luzerne County



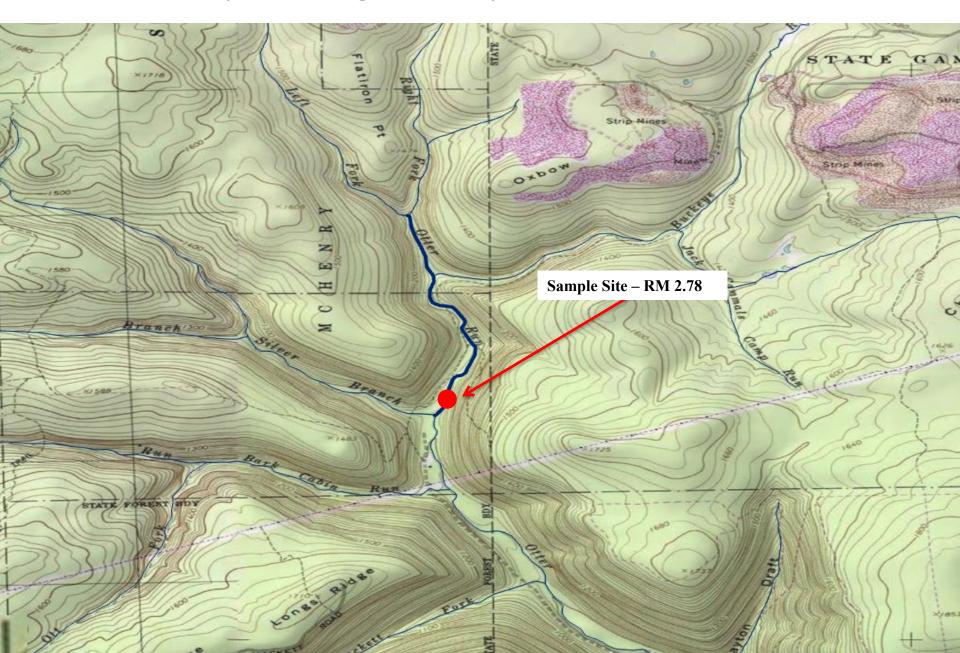
## Huntington Creek, Luzerne County

Brook Trout RM – 25.36 Site Length – 380 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	6	0.07	16
3	23	0.63	61
5	8	0.92	21
6	9	1.73	24
7	3	0.90	8
8	2	0.87	5
9	4	2.47	11
Total	55	7.59	146

Brown Trout RM – 25.36 Site Length – 380 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	9	0.11	24
3	2	0.06	5
4	19	1.28	50
5	14	1.72	37
6	10	2.67	34
7	5	1.57	13
8	5	2.28	13
9	8	5.07	21
10	4	3.42	11
11	11	12.23	29
12	2	2.85	5
13	2	3.58	5
14	3	6.66	8
Total	94	43.50	255



Brook Trout RM – 2.78 Site Length – 230 meters

Length Group	Catch	Estimated	Estimated
(inches)		Kg/Ha	Number/Km
2	12	0.29	52
3	19	1.10	83
4	5	0.67	22
5	9	2.17	39
6	6	2.43	26
7	7	4.42	30
8	3	2.74	13
9	3	3.90	13
10	2	3.58	9
11	1	2.39	4
12	2	6.64	9
Total	69	30.33	300

 $\begin{array}{l} Brown \ Trout \ RM-2.78 \\ Site \ Length-230 \ meters \end{array}$ 

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
12	1	3.00	4
Total	1	3.00	4



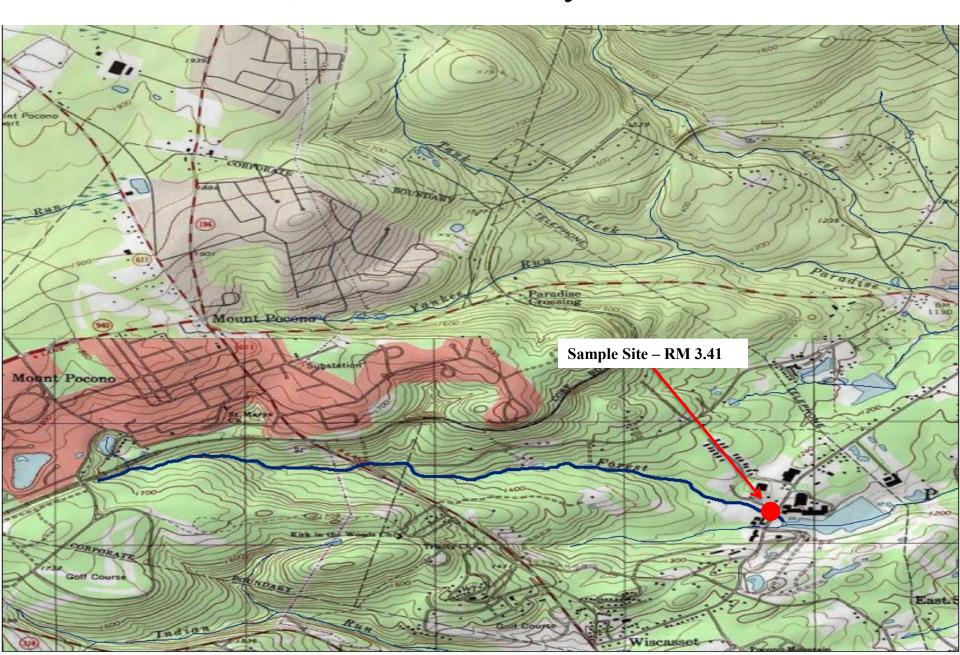
Brook Trout RM – 0.11 Site Length – 535 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	166	2.87	544
3	165	6.70	533
4	7	0.44	15
5	36	3.80	73
6	26	4.92	56
7	21	5.87	43
8	9	4.07	21
9	4	2.10	7
10	1	0.72	2
13	1	1.83	2
Total	436	33.32	1296

Brown Trout RM – 0.11 Site Length – 535 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
3	2	0.05	4
5	2	0.21	4
6	1	0.18	2
7	3	1.07	7
8	2	0.78	4
9	1	0.54	2
10	1	0.73	2
11	3	2.84	6
12	1	1.21	2
13	1	1.53	2
14	1	1.89	2
15	1	2.31	2
16	1	2.78	2
Total	20	16.12	41

#### Forest Hills Run, Monroe County

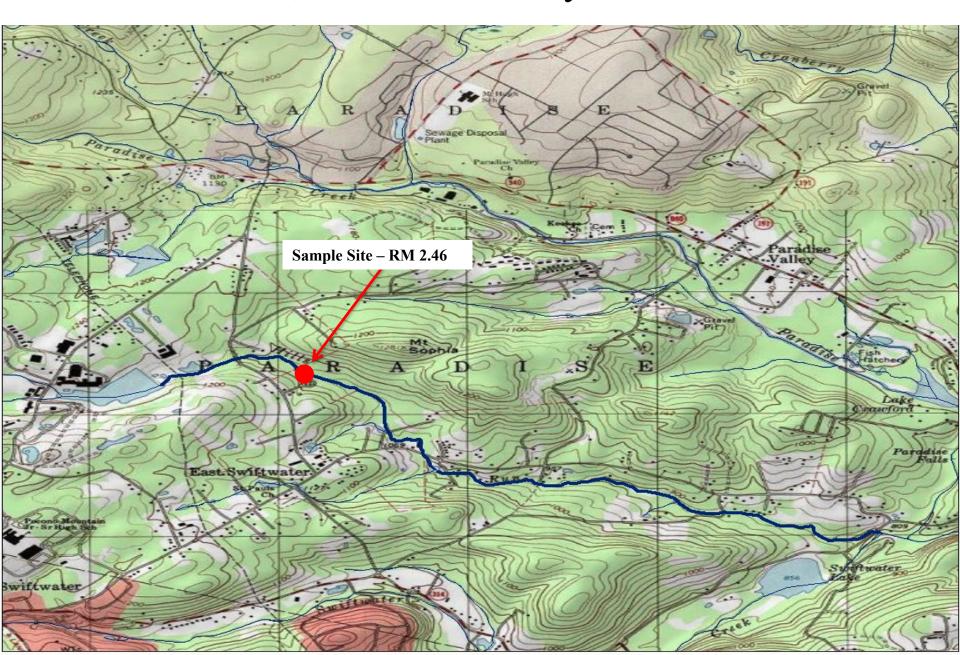


### Forest Hills Run, Monroe County

Brown Trout RM – 3.41 Site Length – 500 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	27	0.49	54
3	11	0.50	22
4	22	2.24	44
5	33	6.14	66
6	53	16.48	106
7	64	30.48	128
8	54	37.18	108
9	28	26.83	56
10	23	29.73	46
11	7	11.76	14
12	9	19.38	18
13	2	5.42	4
14	3	10.07	6
Total	336	196.70	672

### Forest Hills Run, Monroe County

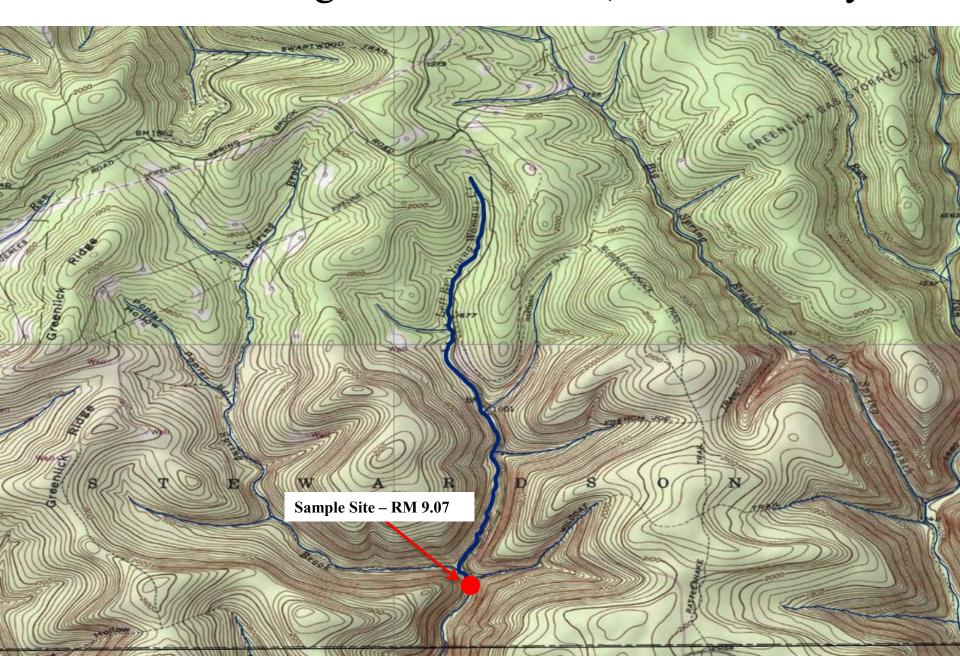


### Forest Hills Run, Monroe County

Brown Trout RM – 2.46 Site Length – 440 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	6	0.10	14
3	8	0.33	18
4	5	0.46	11
5	30	5.10	68
6	30	8.52	68
7	13	5.65	30
8	15	9.43	34
9	14	12.25	32
10	13	15.35	30
11	3	4.60	7
12	2	3.93	5
16	1	4.51	2
Total	140	70.23	319

Left Branch Young Womans Creek, Potter County



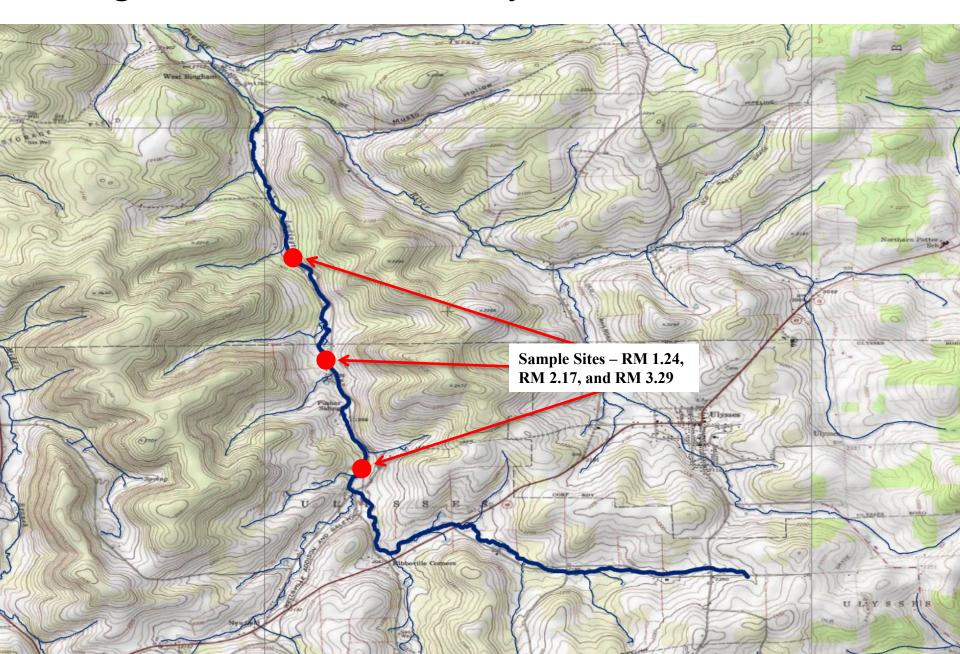
### Left Branch Young Womans Creek, Potter County

Brook Trout RM – 9.07 Site Length – 350 meters

_			
Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	45	1.66	129
3	26	2.33	74
4	40	8.24	114
5	24	8.82	69
6	13	8.04	37
7	4	3.84	11
8	1	1.39	3
Total	153	34.32	437

Brown Trout RM – 9.07 Site Length – 350 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
4	6	1.29	17
5	2	0.79	6
6	2	1.32	6
7	2	2.02	6
Total	12	5.42	35



Brook Trout RM – 1.24 Site Length – 425 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	1	0.02	2
3	6	0.29	14
4	5	0.56	12
5	4	0.80	9
6	6	2.03	14
7	1	0.53	2
8	4	3.04	9
Total	27	7.27	62

Brown Trout RM – 1.24 Site Length – 425 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
3	5	0.26	12
5	2	0.43	5
6	10	3.61	24
7	8	4.42	19
8	10	7.98	24
9	13	14.44	31
10	9	13.49	21
11	6	11.69	14
12	3	7.49	7
13	5	15.71	12
Total	71	79.52	169

Brook Trout RM – 2.17 Site Length – 300 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
3	1	0.09	3
4	1	0.21	3
6	1	0.62	3
7	1	0.97	3
9	2	3.99	7
10	1	2.74	3
Total	7	8.62	22

 $\begin{array}{l} Brown \ Trout \ RM-2.17 \\ Site \ Length-300 \ meters \end{array}$ 

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
4	2	0.43	7
11	1	3.59	3
Total	3	4.02	10

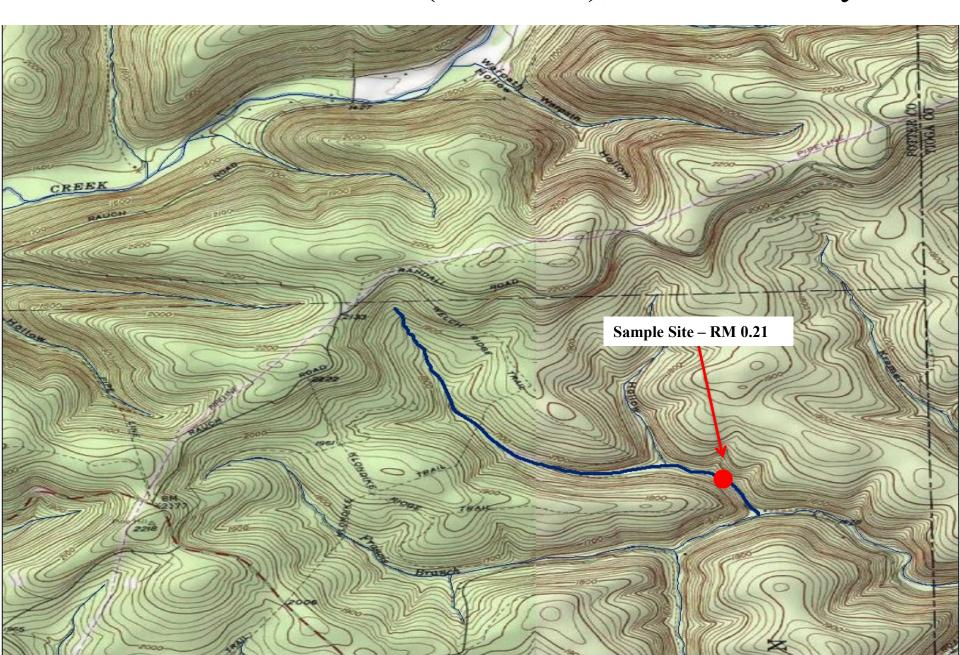
Brook Trout RM – 3.29 Site Length – 360 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
6	2	0.63	6
8	1	0.71	3
10	1	1.39	3
Total	4	2.73	12

Brown Trout RM - 3.29Site Length - 360 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
3	9	0.44	25
4	8	0.88	22
6	7	2.36	19
7	11	5.68	31
8	3	2.24	8
9	3	3.12	8
10	6	8.41	17
11	2	3.65	6
12	1	2.34	3
13	3	8.82	8
15	1	4.44	3
Total	54	42.38	150

### UNT to Francis Branch (RM 3.44), Potter County



### UNT to Francis Branch (RM 3.44), Potter County

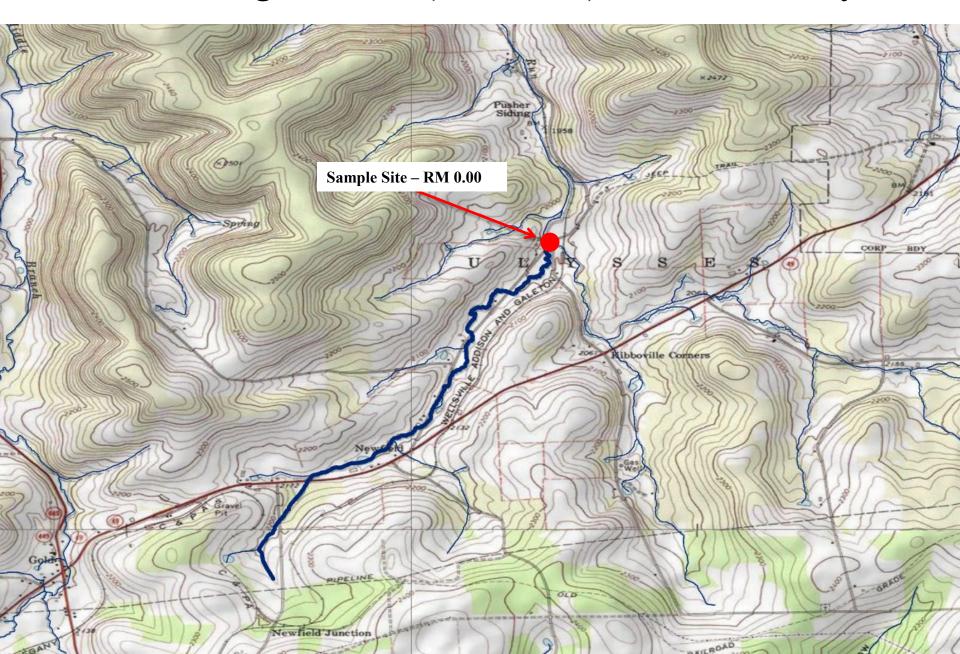
Brook Trout RM – 0.21 Site Length – 300 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	43	2.81	143
3	18	2.80	60
4	32	11.55	107
5	19	12.27	63
6	11	11.95	37
7	3	5.07	10
Total	126	46.45	420

 $\begin{array}{c} Brown \ Trout \ RM - 0.21 \\ Site \ Length - 300 \ meters \end{array}$ 

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
3	7	1.18	23
4	13	4.93	43
5	4	2.78	13
6	1	1.16	3
Total	25	10.05	82

### UNT to Ludington Run (RM 3.43), Potter County



### UNT to Ludington Run (RM 3.43), Potter County

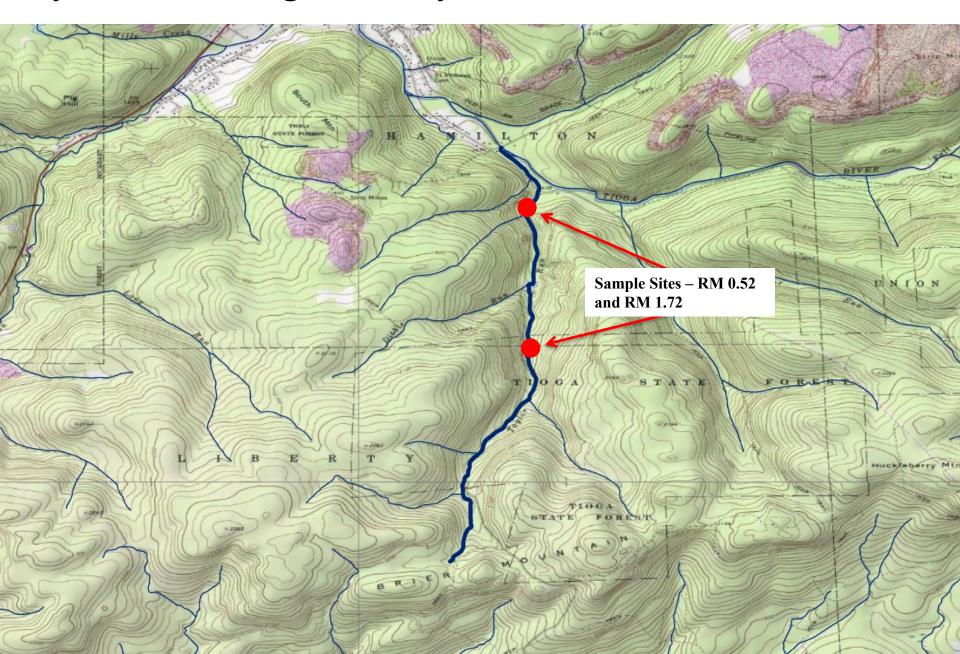
Brook Trout RM – 0.00 Site Length – 351 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
4	1	0.28	3
5	1	0.50	3
6	10	8.42	28
7	12	15.71	34
8	5	9.48	14
Total	29	34.39	82

 $\begin{array}{c} Brown \ Trout \ RM - 0.00 \\ Site \ Length - 351 \ meters \end{array}$ 

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
5	1	0.54	3
6	3	2.70	9
7	3	4.13	9
8	4	7.96	11
9	1	2.77	3
10	6	22.41	17
11	2	9.71	6
13	2	15.66	6
19	1	24.59	3
Total	23	90.47	67

### Taylor Run, Tioga County



## Taylor Run, Tioga County

Brook Trout RM – 0.52 Site Length – 305 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	108	4.68	603
3	21	1.27	69
4	35	5.75	134
5	16	5.52	72
6	2	0.84	7
7	2	1.31	7
8	3	2.85	10
9	1	1.35	3
Total	188	23.57	905

## Taylor Run, Tioga County

Brook Trout RM – 1.72 Site Length – 300 meters

Length Group (inches)	Catch	Estimated Kg/Ha	Estimated Number/Km
2	92	6.94	513
3	17	2.57	80
4	64	24.37	327
5	11	5.78	43
6	8	6.73	30
7	1	1.16	3
Total	193	47.55	996



### **NOTICES**

#### FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

#### Proposed Changes to List of Class A Wild Trout Streams; October 2025

[55 Pa.B. 5960] [Saturday, August 16, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) is considering changes to its list of Class A wild trout streams. Under 58 Pa. Code § 57.8a (relating to Class A wild trout streams), it is the Commission's policy to manage self-sustaining Class A wild trout populations as a renewable natural resource to conserve that resource and the angling it provides. Class A wild trout populations represent the best of this Commonwealth's naturally reproducing trout fisheries. With rare exceptions, the Commission manages these stream sections solely for the perpetuation of the wild trout fishery with no stocking.

- (1) Criteria developed for Class A Wild Trout fisheries are species specific.
- (2) Wild Trout Biomass Class Criteria include provisions for:
- (i) Wild brook trout fisheries.
- (A) Total brook trout biomass of at least 30 kg/ha (26.7 lbs/acre).
- (B) Total biomass of brook trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre).
- (C) Brook trout biomass must comprise at least 75% of the total trout biomass.
- (ii) Wild brown trout fisheries.
- (A) Total brown trout biomass of at least 40 kg/ha (35.6 lbs/acre).
- (B) Total biomass of brown trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre).
- (C) Brown trout biomass must comprise at least 75% of the total trout biomass.
- (iii) Mixed wild brook and brown trout fisheries.
- (A) Combined brook and brown trout biomass of at least 40 kg/ha (35.6 lbs/acre).
- (B) Total biomass of brook trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre).
- (C) Total biomass of brown trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre).
- (D) Brook trout biomass must comprise less than 75% of the total trout biomass.
- (E) Brown trout biomass must comprise less than 75% of the total trout biomass.
- (iv) Wild rainbow trout fisheries. Total biomass of rainbow trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 2.0 kg/ha (1.78 lbs/acre).
  - (v) Mixed wild brook and rainbow trout fisheries.
  - (A) Combined brook and rainbow trout biomass of at least 40 kg/ha (35.6 lbs/acre).
  - (B) Total biomass of brook trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre).
  - (C) Total biomass of rainbow trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre).
  - (D) Brook trout biomass shall comprise less than 75% of the total trout biomass.

- (E) Rainbow trout biomass shall comprise less than 75% of the total trout biomass.
- (vi) Mixed wild brown and rainbow trout fisheries.
- (A) Combined brown and rainbow trout biomass of at least 40 kg/ha (35.6 lbs/acre).
- (B) Total biomass of brown trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/ acre).
- (C) Total biomass of rainbow trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/ acre).
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During recent surveys, Commission staff documented the following stream sections to have Class A wild trout populations. The Commission intends to consider adding these waters to its list of Class A wild trout streams at its meeting on October 27, 2025.

County	Stream	Section	Limits	Tributary to	Mouth Lat/Lon	Trout	Trout	Rainbow Trout (kg/ha)		
Cameron/Clinton		1	Headwaters to end of road near Lick Run	West Branch Susquehanna River	41.277500	13.22	41.04		4.10	2020
Centre	Panther Run	1	Headwaters to first tributary upstream of Mouth	Beech Creek	41.107222 77.835000		1.65 -	_	4.83	2024
Centre	Panther Run	2	First tributary upstream of Mouth to Mouth	Beech Creek	41.107222 77.835000			_	0.53	2024
Centre	South Fork Beech Creek	3	Interstate 80 to Mouth	Beech Creek	41.048332 77.867775		46.16		4.40	2024
Centre	Wolf Run	1	Headwaters to Wolf Run Trail	Beech Creek	41.087778 77.865556				1.30	2024
Crawford	Deckard Run	2	576 meters upstream of Gravel Pit Access Road to Mouth	Little Sugar Creek	41.536667 80.010000		45.45 -		1.95	2024
Elk	Byrnes Run	1	Headwaters to unnamed tributary (UNT) 1,000 meters upstream of Auman Hollow	Kersey Run	41.294167 78.513611	55.31			1.28	2024
Forest	Blood Run	1	Headwaters to Mouth	Tionesta Creek	41.606944 79.168056				2.40	2024
Huntingdon	Halfmoon Creek	2	Centre/Huntingdon County line to Mouth	Spruce Creek	40.697629 78.015718		82.65 -		1.70	2024
Indiana	Yellow Creek	2	UNT at RM 21.42 upstream of Rosebud Mining Treatment Ponds to 300 meters upstream Diehl Road Bridge	Two Lick Creek	40.541111 79.167222		56.42		5.39	2024
Luzerne	Huntington Creek	2	300 meters upstream of T-575 to Grassy Pond Road	Fishing Creek	41.104721 76.361389		43.50 -		2.30	2023

, 3:49 PM				PA Bulletin, Doc.	No. 25-1120			
Lycoming	Otter Run	1	Headwaters to Silver Branch	Little Pine Creek	41.405872 30.33 77.333755	3.00 —	1.12	2022
Lycoming	Otter Run	2	Silver Branch to Mouth	Little Pine Creek	41.405872 33.32 77.333755	16.12 —	2.68	2022
Monroe	Forest Hills Run	1	Headwaters to Mount Airy impoundment	Paradise Creek	41.100664 — 75.270047	196.70 —	2.45	2024
Monroe	Forest Hills Run	2	Mount Airy impoundment to Mouth	Paradise Creek	41.100664 — 75.270047	70.23 —	2.98	2024
Potter	Left Branch Young Womans Creek	1	Headwaters to Forest Road Bridge	Young Womans Creek	41.370833 34.32 77.699722	5.42 —	2.30	2020
Potter	Ludington Run	1	Headwaters to Mouth	Genesee River	41.939243 6.21 77.812650	41.97 —	6.63	2021
Potter	UNT to Francis Branch (RM 3.44)	1	Headwaters to Mouth	Francis Branch	41.555195 46.45 77.610760	10.05 —	1.80	2024
Potter	UNT to Ludington Run (RM 3.43)	1	Headwaters to Mouth	Ludington Run	41.895926 34.39 77.802045	90.47 —	2.49	2021
Tioga	Taylor Run	1	Headwaters to Mouth	Tioga River	41.658611 35.56 77.048333		2.48	2023

Persons with comments, objections or suggestions concerning the classification of the streams listed may submit them in writing to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Comments, objections or suggestions also may be submitted electronically to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov.

TIMOTHY D. SCHAEFFER, Executive Director

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 25-1120. Filed for public inspection August 15, 2025, 9:00 a.m.]

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9/5/25,

#### **FISHERIES**

#### **DESIGNATIONS**

G. Changes to the list of wild trout streams (58 Pa. Code § 57.11).

#### **Commentary**:

During recent surveys, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) staff documented wild trout populations in five new waters and in one water that is currently listed, qualifying them for listing or limit revision as wild trout streams under 58 Pa. Code § 57.11. Exhibit Z provides information on the locations and a data summary for each of these waters.

A notice of proposed additions and revision was published at 55 Pa.B. 5964 (August 16, 2025) (Exhibit AA). The Commission received a total of 10 public comments regarding the proposed additions and revisions: all support the full proposal. Copies of all public comments were provided to the commissioners.

#### Briefer:

David Nihart, Chief, Division of Fisheries Management

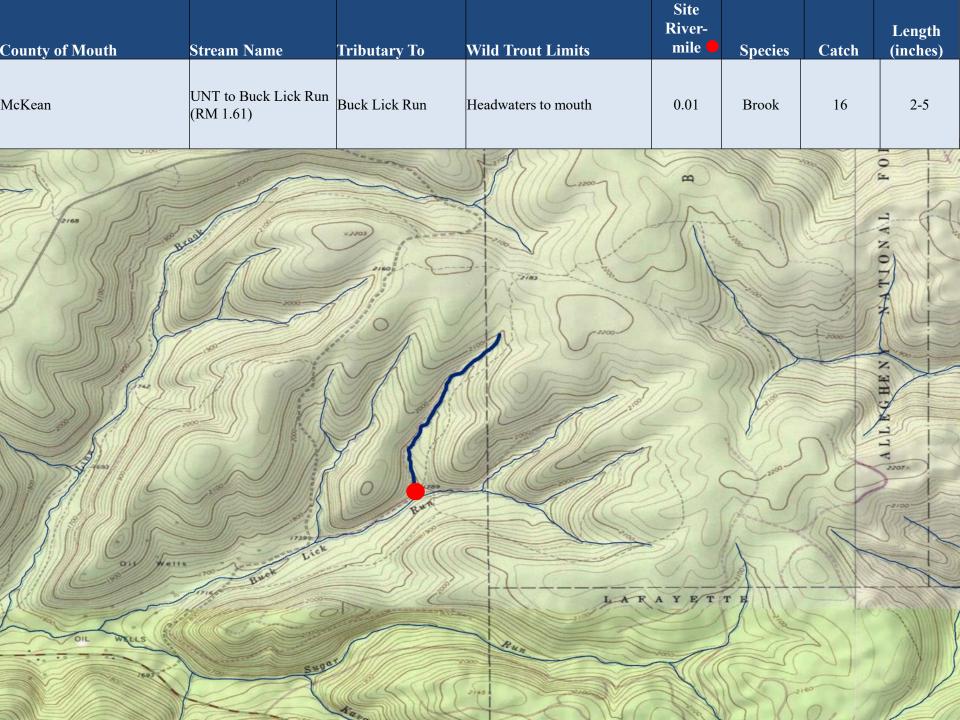
#### Recommendation:

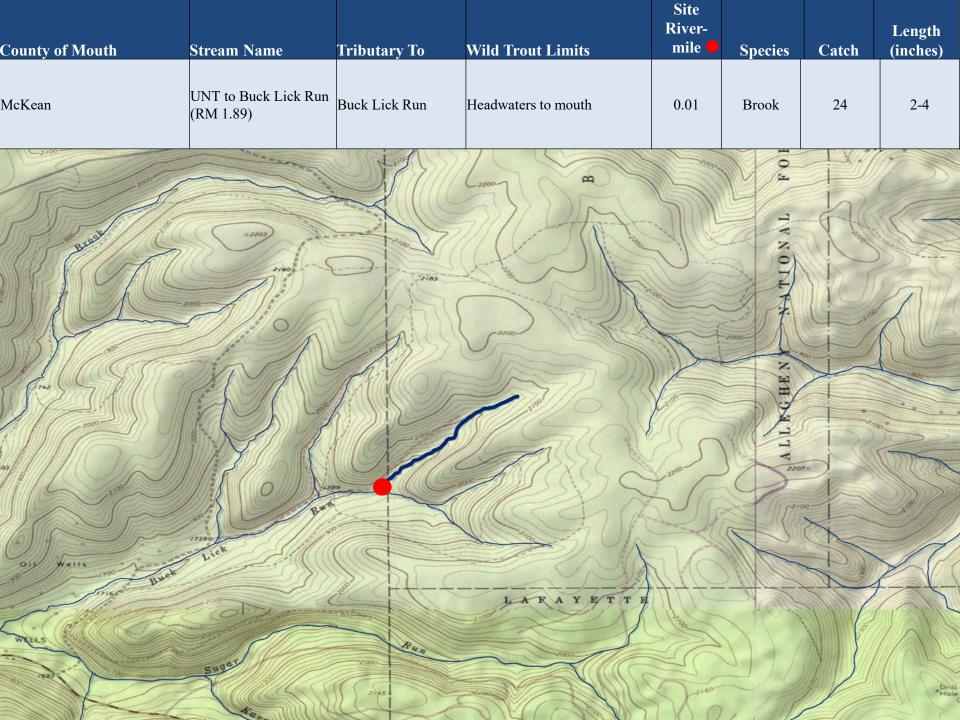
Staff recommend that the Commission add five streams or portions of streams to its list of wild trout streams and revise the section limits of one water that is currently listed as set forth in the notice of proposed changes. If approved, these additions and revision will go into effect upon publication of a second notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

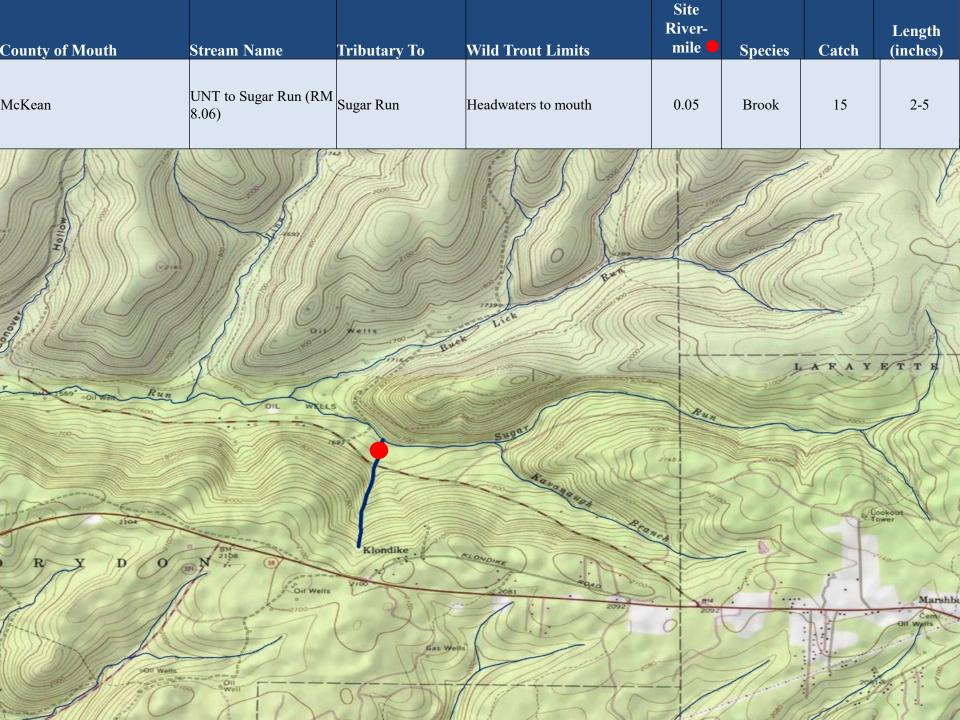
#### Action:

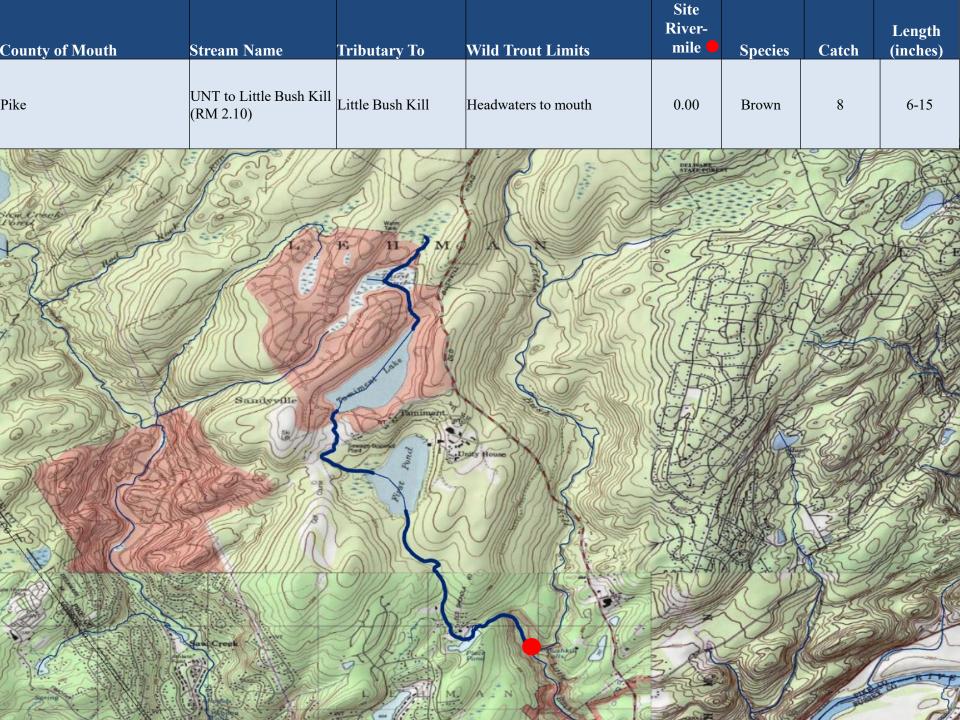
### **EXHIBIT Z**

# Wild Trout Additions











# Wild Trout Revisions

County of Mouth	Stream Name	Tributary To	Current Wild Trout Limits	Revised Wild Trout Limits	Site River- mile •	Species	Catch	Length (inches)
Westmoreland	Tubmill Creek	Conemaugh River	Headwaters to Tubmill Reservoir	Headwaters to private lane bridge at RM 7.88	7.95	Rainbow	6	2-7
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### **NOTICES**

#### FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

#### Proposed Changes to List of Class A Wild Trout Streams; October 2025

[55 Pa.B. 5960] [Saturday, August 16, 2025]

The Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) is considering changes to its list of Class A wild trout streams. Under 58 Pa. Code § 57.8a (relating to Class A wild trout streams), it is the Commission's policy to manage self-sustaining Class A wild trout populations as a renewable natural resource to conserve that resource and the angling it provides. Class A wild trout populations represent the best of this Commonwealth's naturally reproducing trout fisheries. With rare exceptions, the Commission manages these stream sections solely for the perpetuation of the wild trout fishery with no stocking.

- (1) Criteria developed for Class A Wild Trout fisheries are species specific.
- (2) Wild Trout Biomass Class Criteria include provisions for:
- (i) Wild brook trout fisheries.
- (A) Total brook trout biomass of at least 30 kg/ha (26.7 lbs/acre).
- (B) Total biomass of brook trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre).
- (C) Brook trout biomass must comprise at least 75% of the total trout biomass.
- (ii) Wild brown trout fisheries.
- (A) Total brown trout biomass of at least 40 kg/ha (35.6 lbs/acre).
- (B) Total biomass of brown trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre).
- (C) Brown trout biomass must comprise at least 75% of the total trout biomass.
- (iii) Mixed wild brook and brown trout fisheries.
- (A) Combined brook and brown trout biomass of at least 40 kg/ha (35.6 lbs/acre).
- (B) Total biomass of brook trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre).
- (C) Total biomass of brown trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 0.1 kg/ha (0.089 lbs/acre).
- (D) Brook trout biomass must comprise less than 75% of the total trout biomass.
- (E) Brown trout biomass must comprise less than 75% of the total trout biomass.
- (iv) Wild rainbow trout fisheries. Total biomass of rainbow trout less than 15 cm (5.9 inches) in total length of at least 2.0 kg/ha (1.78 lbs/acre).
  - (v) Mixed wild brook and rainbow trout fisheries.
  - (A) Combined brook and rainbow trout biomass of at least 40 kg/ha (35.6 lbs/acre).
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**Other New Business** 

Time and Place of January 2026 Commission Meeting

Adjournment