

Return To:

Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission
P.O. Box 155
Federal Road
U.S. Route 209
Bushkill, PA 18324

Lehigh River Angler Log



Name and Address:

Work Phone:

Home Phone:

Email *(optional)*

Welcome!

As part of the evaluation of the trout fishery on the Lehigh River, the Fisheries Management staff of the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC) is attempting to obtain angler use and harvest information on the Lehigh River. As part of this evaluation, in the spring of 2009, the PFBC initiated a study to determine the contribution of hatchery fingerling trout stocking to angler catch in the river's reaches below the Francis E Walter Dam downriver to Northampton Dam. It is anticipated that the evaluation of the hatchery trout fingerling put-grow-and-take stocking will be a multi-year project. The most critical portion of this assessment is the estimation of the proportion of angler catch supported by the stocked trout fingerlings.

We are asking anglers who fish the Lehigh River to participate in this effort by keeping an angler log book. Angler logbook information will provide us with baseline data on the amount of angler use and harvest that occurs on the river. We are specifically looking for the amount of time anglers spend on the Lehigh River, how many trout they catch (stocked or wild) and what the overall catch rate is for anglers who fish the river. Further, it is imperative for the estimation of the proportion of stocked trout fingerlings to angler catch is the reporting of all trout caught **and** if they bear a fin clip indicating the trout was stocked as a fingerling. It is important that you fill out the information completely and accurately as soon as possible following your fishing trip. Also, if you are fishing with other anglers, please only record information relating to your fishing trip. The other anglers in your party can record their catch on a separate log sheet. This is very important to produce accurate results.

The Log Book:

The instructions for the log book are self-explanatory. Please put your name and address in the area provided, such that we can contact you about your trip(s), if necessary. For each species of trout and other fish you catch remember to enter the required information on a separate line. There are some examples of proper data entry included in the log book. In advance, thank you for your participation in this program. A summary of the log book results will be annually posted on the PFBC website as a biologist report.

Please return entire logbook by the end of the calendar year (December 31) in an envelope to:

Daryl Pierce
Delaware River Biologist
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
PO Box 155 Federal Road
US Route 209
Bushkill, PA 18324

If you require an additional log to complete the season please call: 570-588-6388 or 814-359-5110. Copies can also be downloaded from the PFBC website.

If you have any comments, please place them here:

Good Luck and Good Fishing!

Thank you for your participation!

Detailed Instructions:

In conjunction with each fishing trip, four pieces of information are essential to make this log program successful: Total hours fished by each angler, catch for each trip by river section and fishing mode, identifying and reporting fin clipped/no clip for all trout landed, and individual length measurements of trout harvested.

Total Hours Fished per trip:

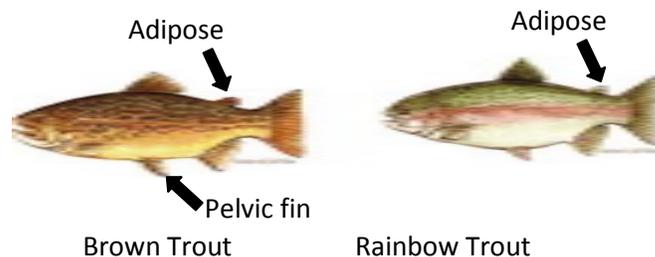
Record the time (hours and minutes to the nearest 5 minutes) fished for each trip. Also, record the fishing mode and the section of river you fished. Note that river sections are defined on Page 5. Shore fishing includes wading and fishing from shore, pier, or dock. Boat fishing includes fishing from any type of boat or canoe. NOTE THAT FISHING TIME INCLUDES THAT TIME WHEN THE FIRST LURE OR BAIT ENTERS THE WATER TO THE TIME WHEN THE LAST LURE OR BAIT IS RETRIEVED. Time spent traveling to the site, launching a boat, or eating lunch should not be counted as fishing time. If an angler spent part of his or her time fishing from a boat and part of his or her time fishing from shore, time should be allocated to each fishing mode for that angler in each river section. This would require multiple entries for each day on the same log page. The same would apply to an angler who fished at two different fishing locations or an angler who made separate trips on the same day.

Trip Catch by River Section and Fishing Mode:

For each trip, the catch of each angler should be recorded. Abbreviations for various fish species are listed on page 6. Please be specific. It is imperative that all species caught are accurately tallied. The number kept and released should be recorded and should sum to total catch of that species. Additionally, to the best of your ability, measure each fish harvested to the nearest 1/2 inch. An important element of this log program is that anglers record how long they fished and their catch associated with every fishing trip on the Lehigh River. It is just as important to record trip data when few or no fish are caught. Data only reflecting trips with high catches will be of little value to resource managers.

Identifying and reporting fin clipped trout:

Please examine each trout landed, **regardless** if you intend to harvest the fish, for identifying fin clips or the lack of any fin clip. Stocked rainbow trout will **only** bear a clipped adipose; whereas, brown trout can be **either** adipose clip **or** pelvic fin clip. Brook trout will not bear any fin clips. It **is** possible that a trout appears to be a stocked hatchery fish, but not bear a fin clip. The success of the contribution of stocked fingerling trout relies solely on the occurrence of fin clips and accurate reporting. Thus, PFBC strongly encourages anglers to refrain from fin clipping trout in the Lehigh River in an effort to preserve a clipped adipose or pelvic fin as an identifying mark for evaluating the survival of hatchery stocked fingerling trout.



When filling out your logbook page for a specific trip, PLEASE be sure to list the Section of the Lehigh River you fished based upon the limits described below.

Section Number	Upper section limit	Lower section limit
6	Outflow from FE Walter Dam	Sandy Run Confluence
7	Sandy Run Confluence	Relic low-head dam at Palmerton
8	Relic low-head dam at Palmerton	Northampton Dam

Please use the following abbreviations when recording catches. If the species is not listed then write in the common name:

Code	Common name
BT	Brown trout
ST	Brook Trout
RT	Rainbow Trout
GRT	Golden Rainbow Trout
SMB	Smallmouth Bass
WS	White Sucker
YP	Yellow Perch

Code	Common name
CARP	Common Carp
FF	Fall fish
LMB	Largemouth Bass
MKY	Muskellunge
CP	Chain Pickerel
NP	Northern Pike
RBSF	Redbreast sunfish
RB	Rock Bass
TMKY	Tiger Muskellunge
WE	Walleye
WCF	White catfish
WP	White Perch

HOW TO MEASURE A FISH

