

VISIT 
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FISHING GUIDE

An Angler's Guide to Adirondack
Lakes, Ponds and Streams

I 
NY
iloveny.com

VisitAdirondacks.com

Adirondack Region Information

ADIRONDACK REGIONAL TOURISM COUNCIL

Comprehensive travel information
for a seven-county region.
Lake Placid, NY 12946
VisitAdirondacks.com

REGIONAL OFFICE OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM/LAKE PLACID CVB (Essex and Hamilton Counties)

2608 Main Street, Lake Placid, NY 12946
518-523-2445 or 800-447-5224
lakeplacid.com
tupperlake.com
saranalake.com
adirondackhub.com
whitefaceregion.com
lakechamplainregion.com
adirondackexperience.com

ADIRONDACK COAST VISITORS BUREAU (Clinton County)

7061 State Route 9, P.O. Box 310,
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
518-563-1000
info@goadirondack.com
goadirondack.com

ADIRONDACK FRONTIER (Franklin County)

355 West Main Street, Suite 438
Malone, NY 12953
518-481-1573
exploreadirondackfrontier.com

ADIRONDACK EXPERIENCE (Hamilton County)

South Shore Road, P.O. Box 57,
Lake Pleasant, NY 12108
518-548-3076 or 800-648-5239
adirondackexperience.com

DISCOVER TUG HILL (Lewis County)

7551 South State Street
Lowville, NY 13367
315-376-3014
discovertughill.com

ADIRONDACK SEAWAY (St. Lawrence County)

101 Main Street, 1st Floor
Canton, NY 13617
315-386-4000 or 877-228-7810
slccoc@northnet.org
visitsltlc.com

LAKE GEORGE REGION (Warren County)

Municipal Center, 1340 Route 9
Lake George, NY 12845
518-761-6366 or 800-365-1050
visitlakegeorge.com

WELCOME TO



Find the right hiking destination for you,
and get ready to hit the trails.

VISITADIRONACKS.COM



THE ADIRONDACKS

3,000 FRESHWATER LAKES AND PONDS

30,000 MILES OF STREAMS AND BROOKS

1,000 MILES OF ADIRONDACK RIVERS

100 COLD AND WARM WATER FISH SPECIES BY
CANOE, KAYAK, BOAT, DOCKSIDE, IN WADERS OR ON ICE

With so many options for fishing in the Adirondacks, where do you begin?

Right here. This fishing guide will tell you just about everything you need to know about the region's lakes, rivers, inlets and ponds. Find more than 200 listings organized by town of key resources, such as marinas, bait and tackle, fuel, and launch sites.

The Adirondacks offer opportunities for world-class angling as well as the makings of memories—and a few good fish stories—to last a lifetime.

Reel fun. Found here in the enchanting six-million-acre Adirondack Region.



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Additional Map Resources

United States Geological Survey

Topographic maps. Available at area sporting goods stores.
888-392-8545; usgs.gov

Adirondack Lakes Survey

Online depth maps for over 1,465 lakes in the Adirondacks.
adirondacklakessurvey.org/historic.php

DEC Lake Contour Maps

400 Lake contour maps in PDF format.
dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/places-to-fish

DEC Public Stream Fishing Rights Maps

Online maps include the Lower Schroon River, Chateaugay River and Marble River.
dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/places-to-fish/public-fishing-rights-streams

ELEVEN TIPS FOR WILDERNESS VENTURES

1. Familiarize yourself with maps and guides of the area before embarking on your journey.
2. Build your wilderness skills gradually by starting with shorter trips.
3. Maintain your physical fitness by incorporating activities like walking several miles daily.
4. Stay informed about both short-term and long-term weather forecasts before setting out.
5. Inform a trusted individual of your planned route and expected time of return.
6. Register at all trail checkpoints along your route.
7. Equip yourself with essential tools including a map, compass, and basic survival gear.
8. Guard against giardia by either carrying your water or using a reliable filtering system.
9. Travel with minimal gear to lighten your load.
10. Always venture into the wilderness with a companion for added safety.
11. In the event of becoming completely disoriented, remain in place, and rescue personnel will locate you.

Park-wide DEC Forest Ranger Emergency Search and Rescue and Forest Fire Hotline: 518-891-0235

Disclaimer: By its compilation and distribution of this brochure, the Adirondack Regional Tourism Council & JMF Publishing Inc. assume no responsibility of any nature for damages or injury to persons or property arising out of or resulting from travel on any of the routes described herein, or from any service, sales or accommodations provided by the businesses represented herein, and accordingly, does disclaim any and all liability on its part for such damages or injuries should they occur. © All rights reserved. Printed in the USA.

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Where to Fish to Land an Adirondack Monster

With more than 3,000 freshwater lakes, rivers, streams and ponds, the Adirondack Region offers abundant fishing for more than 100 species, including Walleye, Northern Pike, Chain Pickerel, Tiger Muskellunge, Land-Locked Salmon, Trout, and Smelt. Legendary Adirondack rivers flow into deep glacial lakes, providing a perfectly balanced eco-system where Rainbow and native trout thrive, and Small and Largemouth Bass are abundant.

➡ **WALLEYE**, one of the largest fish on the perch family tree, are New York's favorite sportfish. Walleye can reach a considerable size, anywhere up to 12 pounds, and are challenging to land. The DEC stocks over 140 bodies of water across the state, including major watersheds. Some of the Adirondacks' most productive walleye fisheries in the Adirondacks include Tupper Lake, Union Falls Flow, Saratoga Lake, Great Sacandaga Lake, and Delta Lake.

➡ **NORTHERN PIKE** are abundant in New York State, which has developed a well-deserved reputation as a priority destination for trophy pike anglers. Pike are found in many of the larger Adirondack Lakes such as Tupper Lake, Schroon Lake, Lake George, the Saranac Lake Chain, Cranberry Lake, Long Lake, Upper Chateaugay, and the St. Regis Chain of Lakes. Great Sacandaga Lake has the ultimate pike fishing, and anglers there have been known to land monsters weighing in at over 20 pounds.

➡ **CHAIN PICKEREL**, these toothy sport fish put up a fight when hooked, inhabit shallow, weedy waters of Lake George, Brant Lake, Lake Champlain and the Black River.

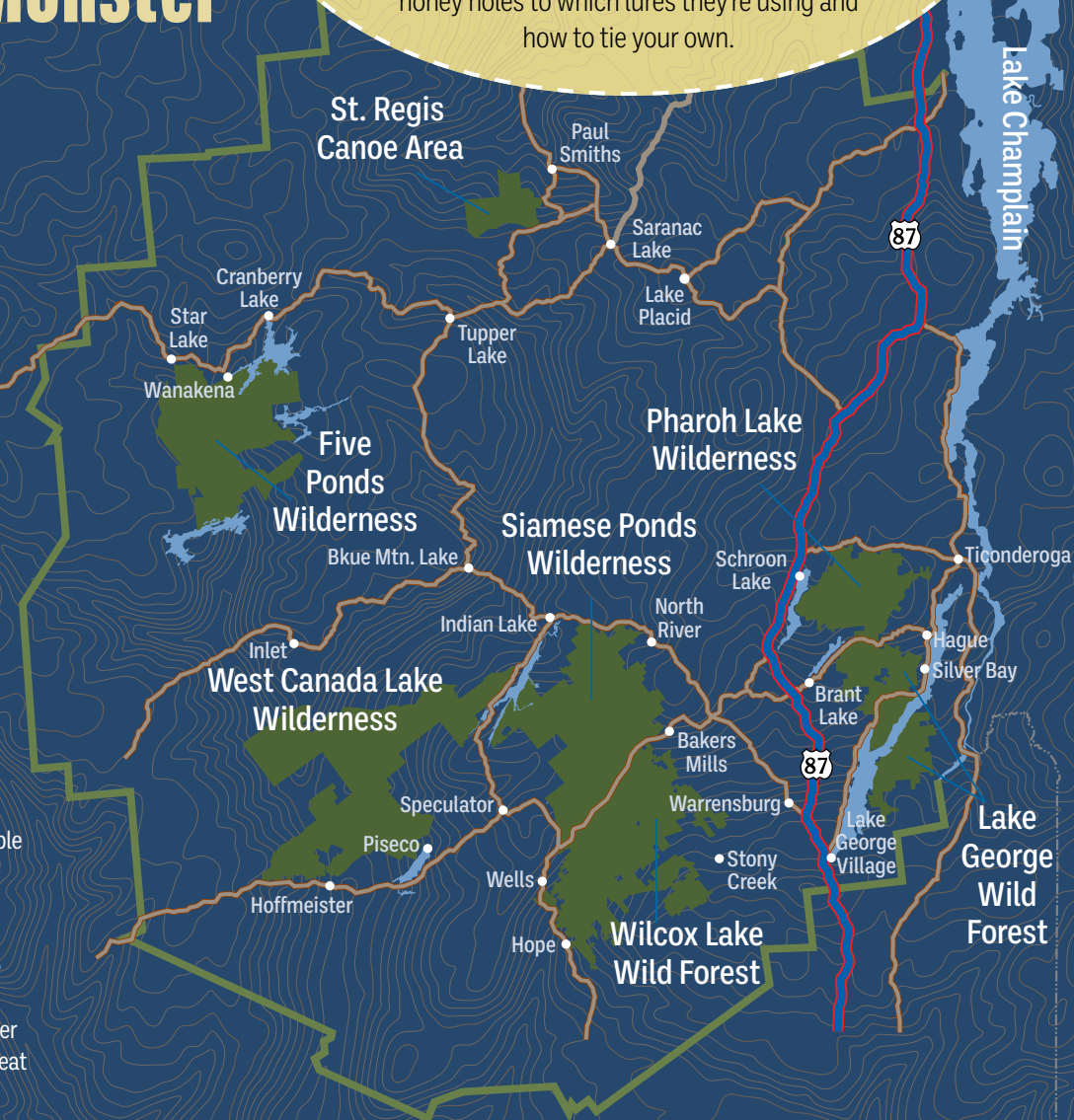
➡ **TIGER MUSKELLUNGE**, a cross between Northern Pike and Muskellunge, have been stocked by the DEC since the mid-1960s. Like most hybrid fish species, Tiger Muskies grow fast, sporting the long sleek bodies of both parent fish, with an elongated bottom jaw featuring what's called a duck-bill mouth. Fish for this

hybrid species in Horseshoe Lake, Lake Durant, St. Lawrence River, and Lincoln Pond.

➡ **TROUT** flourish in hundreds of lakes, ponds and streams throughout the Adirondacks. Four species of trout: Lake, Brown, Rainbow and Brook, or Speckled trout, abound in the region. Brook, or Speckled trout, is New York's official state fish, and are plentiful in cold, clean, small-to-moderate sized streams, lakes and ponds across the Adirondacks.

LEGENDARY FISHING WATERS

Named one of the "Best Hunting and Fishing Towns in the US" by *Outdoor Life*, Lake Placid's West Branch of the Ausable River offers incredible fly fishing for anglers throughout the spring, summer and fall. Nearby fishing outfitters provide the lures you need to land the river's massive native trout, while experienced guides offer insider tips—from favorite honey holes to which lures they're using and how to tie your own.



Wilderness Brook Trout

THE NATIVE

The brook trout, like the common loon, signifies the essence of the Adirondack wilderness. Any venture to a remote pond in search of brookies promises an awesome setting, a respite from the hectic pace of modern lifestyles, an enriching experience, an intimacy with the natural world, a magical solitude, and a personal renewal. Anyone who spends time in the Adirondack wilderness returns home a richer person. Whenever this individual recalls the experience, nature beckons; mind, body, and spirit come alive with an overwhelming urge to return to the wild.

St Regis Canoe Area

Of the Big Three, the St. Regis Canoe Area is most accessible and is the only designated Canoe Area in New York State. Located in southern Franklin County, the Canoe Area covers 18,000 acres, includes 58 bodies of water, and is managed as wilderness with a special focus on non-motorized water recreation and the protection of fishery resources. This vast tract of wilderness offers a variety of trip possibilities ranging from a half day to two weeks. In addition to brook trout, waters in the Canoe Area hold lake trout, splake, landlocked salmon, and rainbow trout. (See map and description on page 20.)

Pharaoh Lake Wilderness

Accessible by foot only, Pharaoh Lake Wilderness offers a remote experience with outstanding scenery. Located in southeastern Essex County and extending into northern Warren County, Pharaoh Lake Wilderness has a network of marked trails leading to twenty ponds of various size and fishing quality. A number of these ponds offer excellent brook trout fishing and some waters promise high populations of wild lake trout. The eastern portion of the wilderness has a more intricate trail system while the western half offers fewer trails and a more remote experience. (See map and description on page 32.)

West Canada Lake Wilderness

West Canada Lakes Wilderness offers the ultimate Adirondack brook trout adventure. Located in southern Hamilton County, West Canada Lakes Wilderness covers 160,000 acres and has over 50 ponds and lakes. A number of marked trails exist in the region, including the Northville-Lake Placid Trail, but many sections remain trackless. Waters in the large circle of lakes from Cedar to Spruce are good bets for brook trout action. Anglers must have serious wilderness skills to venture into these truly remote waters. (See map and description on page 29.)

BROOK TROUT BASICS

The best brook trout fishing occurs in spring and autumn when water temperatures are cool. Also, brookies are easier to locate then because they typically inhabit waters close to shore. Summer fishing, however, can be good for those who know the whereabouts of natural springs in a pond or lake. A temperature gauge can help anglers find such spots.

Traditionally, anglers opt for trolling to locate Adirondack brook trout. One technique involves trailing flies, nymphs, or streamers on a sinking fly line. Black or dark-green nymphs and leeches seem to produce best. Considered "THE" Adirondack brook trout technique, trolling a Lake Clear Wabblers and worm is the most popular angling approach. The general guideline calls for the use of copper-colored blades for dark-water conditions and silver-colored blades on bright days or in clear water. Even though trolling dominates as a technique, fly fishing and spincasting can also be effective on backwater brook trout. Fly fishers present Montana nymphs, muddler minnows, black leeches, and olive woolly buggers while spin fishers toss spoons, spinners, and minnow plugs.



Bass Fishing

Enjoy premier bass fishing on New York's Adirondack Coast and throughout the Adirondack Seaway.

From the excitement of reeling in trophy-sized bass to the tranquility of exploring its pristine waters, both Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence River offer something for every angler. Renowned bass fishing tournaments attract skilled anglers from around the globe, adding to the region's allure as a premier fishing destination. Additionally, local charters offer tailored fishing excursions, catering to various preferences, from leisurely spin casting to adrenaline-pumping musky chasing and deep-water adventures. Whether you're a seasoned angler or a novice, both Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence River promise thrilling fishing experiences amidst breathtaking scenery.

With stunning vistas, international waters, and abundant fish populations, it's no wonder the Adirondack Coast and Seaway regions are favorites among fishing enthusiasts. Embark on an unforgettable angling journey, and discover the unmatched beauty and excitement of bass fishing on Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence River.

Bass Fishing Tournaments in the Adirondacks

Fishing fans delight! You'll find many world-class bass tournaments with scheduled stops along the Adirondack Seaway and the Adirondack Coast. Join elite anglers on Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence River, vying for cash prizes and points in esteemed fishing tournaments, including Bassmaster and Major League Fishing, as they chase the perfect bass. Whether you're competing or cheering from the sidelines, it's an adrenaline-packed adventure you won't want to miss! Experience these top bass fishing waters for yourself and catch the excitement.

goadirondack.com/bass and visitstlc.com/fish





Walleye & Northern Pike Season

May 1 of every year marks the opening for **Walleye** and **Northern Pike** season here in the Adirondacks. This opening encompasses one of the largest and most astounding spectacles every spring—the annual spawning run of the Rainbow Smelt. These small 3-5” baitfish reside in the deep, cool waters for 9-10 months out of the year. But when the spring thaw starts these little guys move into the shallower waters and a feeding frenzy ensues.

At a time when angling pressure is increasing, the **walleye** population is actually expanding. Fish numbers are on the rise because of stocking efforts and habitat improvement projects at primary spawning sites. Walleyes can be caught from opening day in May until freeze up in December. In the early season, look for fish near spawning areas. Throughout summer and fall, walleyes hold near mid-river shoals, along island dropoffs, at mainland points, and over soft-bottomed flats with mild current. Drifting crawler-tipped jigs or worm harnesses is the most effective technique followed by trolling crankbaits, particularly long, slender ones.

Toothy **pike** are the river’s “fish for all seasons” as they can be readily taken throughout the year with the prime months being May and September. Pike populations have declined over the last decade because of changes in river ecology, but the action still ranks among the best in the state. To locate northerns, head to any of the mainland or island bays where fish congregate at dropoffs, along weedlines, on points, or in deep holes. Effective techniques include live minnows suspended below a bobber or casting spinners and spoons. Local anglers, however, prefer to cast bucktail jigs tipped with a minnow or plastic worm.

The world record Northern Pike was caught on Great Sacandaga near Benedict Bay, September 15, 1940, measuring 52” and weighing in at 46 lbs. 2 oz.

Keep aquatic invasives out of the Adirondacks

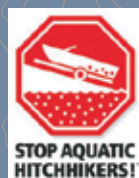
There are a variety of non-native species and fish diseases that threaten our native Adirondack fish communities. The introduction of non-native fish species such as yellow perch and golden shiners can have severe consequences on native fish such as brook trout. An aquatic nuisance algae, known as “didymo” or “rock snot” has recently been found in eastern New York. Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) is a serious disease of fish that has caused fish mortalities ranging from a few fish to thousands of fish. The most likely way VHS can become established in Adirondack fish is by humans introducing it through stocking or the use of infected bait fish. These are just a few examples of the non-natives that threaten Adirondack waters.

You can help prevent the spread of unwanted aquatic species and diseases and maintain the best possible fishing in the Adirondacks by carefully following these guidelines:

- ✓ follow the regulations regarding bait fish,
- ✓ always dispose of your bait bucket water on land,
- ✓ do not transport fish from one body of water to another,
- ✓ remove all mud and aquatic plants from all gear, waders, boats, motors, and trailers before departing from the access site,
- ✓ drain all water; including bilges, livewells, and bait tanks; before departing from the site,
- ✓ clean live wells and waders with a 10% bleach to water solution (1 3/4 cups of bleach per gallon of water). Rinse well to remove all chlorine residue,
- ✓ if you cannot clean your equipment, wait 48 hours after it is completely dry before using another body of water.



New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
518-402-8920 • www.dec.ny.gov



SPECIES OF THE ADIRONDACK REGION

Nestled among the mountains, the lakes, ponds, and running waters of the Adirondacks are an anglers' dream come true. Whether you are fishing from a boat or the shoreline, on a populated lake or backwoods treasure, with bobbers or electric downriggers, there is something for everyone in these fish-filled waters. With a wide variety of species varying by location and season. Adirondack lakes and ponds present a pleasant problem not found in other regions of the country; too many waters from which to choose.



ATLANTIC SALMON

Also know as Landlocked Salmon

Spring, summer and fall
Water temp. 58-62 degrees
Lakes, rivers and tributary mouths
Up to 24 inches



BLUE GILL

Anytime
Found in shallow waters
Perfect for worms
Great for kids



NORTHERN PIKE

All seasons
Lakes, ponds and rivers
Best months are May and June
Fierce fighters
Often grow to trophy size



LARGEMOUTH BASS

Spring, summer and fall
Lakes and ponds
Prefer shallow, covered water
Often found in weeds



BULLHEAD

Spawns in May and June
Spring time is best season
Cool and warm water temps
Land and Ponds
Great for kids



PICKEREL

Spring and fall
Lakes
Fierce fighters
Find them in weeds



SMALLMOUTH BASS

Spring, summer and fall
Lakes and ponds
Found in rocky shoals and shorelines



CARP

Spring, summer and fall
High number in St. Lawrence River
Can reach 30-40 lbs.
Popular with European anglers
Catch and release only



PUMPKINSEED

Anytime
Found in shallow waters
Perfect for worms
Great for kids



ROCK BASS

Anytime
Found in shallow waters
Perfect for worms
Great for kids



CRAPPIE

Anytime
Found in shallow waters
Perfect for worms
Great for kids



WALLEYE

Spring, summer and fall
Great taste
Stocked fish
Best action in evenings
Like swift waters



BROOK TROUT

Spring and early fall
Water temp. 55-65 degrees
Lakes, ponds and rivers



BROWN TROUT

Spring and fall; some summer
Water temp. under 68 degrees
Lakes, ponds and rivers
Use a quiet approach.
Up to 20 inches



LAKE TROUT

Spring, summer and fall
Water temp. 48-52 degrees
Lakes and tributaries
Troll in spring and fall
Use downriggers or weights in summer



RAINBOW TROUT

Spring, summer and fall
Water temp. 56-70 degrees
Stocked lakes and ponds; rivers
Fish mornings and evenings in summer



YELLOW PERCH

Anytime
Found in all shallow waters
Perfect for worms
Great for Kids

IMPORTANT OPEN SEASON DATES:

- **TROUT**
Trout in inland streams
Catch and release only; artificial lures only
April 1 – October 15
April 1 – October 15
October 16 – March 31
- **LANDLOCKED ATLANTIC SALMON**
All year
- **LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH BASS**
Catch and Release only; artificial lures only
June 15 – Nov 30
December 1 – June 14
Bass fishing season is closed from December 1 through June 14 on all waters in St. Lawrence, Jefferson, Franklin and Hamilton counties. This includes Lake Ontario (in Jefferson County) and the St. Lawrence River.
- **MUSKELLUNGE**
June 15 – November 30
- **NORTHERN PIKE**
May 1 – March 15
- **PICKEREL**
May 1 – March 15
- **TIGER MUSKELLUNGE**
May 1 – March 15
- **WALLEYE**
May 1 – March 15

Open season dates reflect statewide seasons. Be sure to check DEC Freshwater Fishing Regulations to ensure there are no Special Regulations on the water you plan to fish.

FISHING LICENSE:

ANNUAL FISHING LICENSE: Valid for one full year from date of purchase, \$25 for residents, \$50 for nonresidents. Residents 70 years and older, \$5.

SEVEN DAY: \$12 for residents, \$28 non-residents

ONE DAY: \$5 for residents, \$10 for non-residents

FREE OR REDUCED-FEE FISHING LICENSES ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU ARE:

- Active duty military
- Military veteran with 40% or greater disability
- Senior citizen 70 years or older
- Legally blind
- Non-resident student attending a New York State college or university full-time

LIFETIME FISHING LICENSE:

The DMV, DEC, and NYS Parks teamed up to offer a Lifetime Sporting License for anglers. Simply opt to have icons added to your NYS Driver License for \$12.50, or wait for your next license renewal at no charge.
dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/sporting-and-use/sporting/lifetime

For the most up-to-date information on New York State Department of Environmental Conservation fishing season regulations and licenses, scan the QR code.



ICE FISHING ❄️

BY BOB SCOTT

Some people complain that winters are too long, but such is not the case for ice anglers who revel in that time of the year when ice covers northern waters. In truth, the winter months offer some of the year's best fishing, and the ice fishing season typically extends from December to April. Available species include **northern pike, walleyes, tiger muskies, lake trout, brown trout, rainbow trout, landlocked salmon and a variety of panfish.**

In the winter, my go-to place is definitely Lake George. Once the ice is safe ice on Lake George, I will spend 3-4 days a week fishing there. I enjoy fishing Lake George because it is hands-down the best lake trout fishery in our area. Not only can you catch an abundance of trout, but you have the chance of catching a 20+ pound fish on any given day. For open water fishing I enjoy going to Jabe Pond for the big brook trout and the wildlife. There are usually loons on the pond who seem to be more curious of you than afraid.

I use many tackle setups when fishing in the Adirondacks, from small pins minnow for small ponds and streams, white tub jigs for lake trout and as a fly fisherman, the mayfly hatch is one that you don't want to miss on the back Adirondack ponds.

ICE FISHING THOROUGHOUT THE REGION

Look for the snowflake symbol ❄️ at the end of the descriptions on pages 15-33 to find some of the more popular ice fishing lakes.

Before heading out, anglers are advised to check the Special Regulations section of the Fishing Regulations Guide because ice fishing regulations can vary from water to water, and not all lakes are open to winter fishing. Furthermore, fishermen should contact DEC offices to verify that ice conditions are safe. DEC can also provide up-to-date information on how the fishing has been as well as the dates of ice fishing derbies. Such derbies serve as social outings as well as celebrations of winter angling.

Three of the most popular winter destinations are Lake Champlain, Lake George, and the St. Lawrence River. Note that these are large water bodies and may not freeze over entirely, so caution is urged. Among the other top ice fishing waters are Black Lake, Brant Lake, Chazy Lake, Lake Bonaparte, Lake Clear, Lake Colby, Lake Eaton, Meacham Lake, Piseco Lake, Schroon Lake, Seventh Lake, Tupper Lake, and Upper and Lower Chateaugay Lake. Dozens of smaller waters also offer outstanding winter angling.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, check the DEC website: dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/ice-fishing

PROTECT YOUR WATERS

Aquatic invasive species pose a significant threat to bodies of water and it's crucial to prevent their spread through proper cleaning, drying, or disinfecting of fishing and boating equipment. State regulations mandate these steps before launching watercraft into public waters. While some invasive species like Eurasian water-milfoil are visible, many others are too small to detect easily. To safeguard against spreading invasive species, adhere to these guidelines:

- ✓ **Check**
- ✓ **Clean**
- ✓ **Drain**
- ✓ **Dry**
- ✓ **Disinfect**
- ✓ **Visit your local boat steward**

Check your boating and fishing equipment for invasive species. Carefully examine common attachment points such as trailer bunks, axles, rollers, lights, transducer, license plate, and motor props for any plants, mud, or debris. If your boat has been used in a waterbody known to have zebra mussels, run your hand along the hull. If it feels like sandpaper, it likely has mussels attached. Also inspect all gear used during your trip, including fishing gear and anchor lines.

Clean any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment. Discard materials in an upland area or in one of the invasive species disposal stations that have been installed at many boat launch sites for your convenience. Do not wash or release material into a waterbody. Some invasive species, such as zebra mussels, can be difficult to remove from a boat hull. They first need to be killed by water or steam that is 140 degrees F, then they need to be removed by a brush or pressure washer. For help cleaning your boat and equipment, visit a decontamination station for a free boat wash (leaves DEC website). Dump unused bait in trash cans and bucket water on dry land, not in the water.

Drain all water holding compartments including ballast tanks, live wells, and bilge areas. Drain your boat before you leave an access site. Be sure to drain boat ballast tanks if your waterski or wake-board has them. Drain your live well if you have one.

Dry boats, trailers and all equipment before use in another waterbody. The most effective way to ensure that no invasive species or fish diseases are transported to a new body of water is to completely dry your boating and fishing equipment. Drying times vary significantly depending on the type of equipment, air temperature, and relative humidity. While the outside of a boat will dry relatively quickly, bilge, live wells, and other parts of a boat not reached by the sun or lacking good air circulation will take additional time to dry completely. A minimum of 5-7 days drying time in dry, warm conditions is recommended.

Disinfect anything that came into contact with water if it cannot be dried before reuse. Hot water is an effective disinfection agent for all aquatic invasive species and fish diseases. Soak all equipment in water that is at least 140 degrees F for 30 seconds.

Visit Your Local Boat Steward

To help protect New York's waters, boat stewards are located at various boat launches throughout the state. Boat stewards assist visitors with a free boat inspection to look for invasive species and they educate on the importance of cleaning, draining, and drying watercraft. They may also direct you to an on-site or nearby decontamination station. At decon stations, you may get your boat washed with high pressure hot water for free.

To find a boat launch with a steward or nearby decontamination station search 'boat stewards' at dec.ny.gov or visit adkcleanboats.com for more information.

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

For trail conditions, backcountry information and permits, fishing and hunting regulations and licenses, consult the DEC offices listed below. Normal office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 4:45pm.

dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing

DEC HEADQUARTERS:

625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233

518-402-8013

dec.ny.gov

DEC REGION 5:

Clinton, Franklin, Essex, Hamilton, Warren, Fulton, Saratoga and Washington Counties

Region 5 Headquarters:

Route 86, Box 296, Ray Brook

518-897-1200

Region 5 Sub-Offices:

701 South Main Street, Northville

518-863-4545

232 Golf Course Road, Warrensburg

518-623-1200

DEC REGION 6:

St. Lawrence, Lewis, Herkimer, Jefferson and Oneida Counties

Region 6 Headquarters:

317 Washington Street, Watertown

315-785-2239

DEC Region 6 Sub-Offices:

109 Outer Main Street, Potsdam

315-265-3090

225 North Main Street, Herkimer

315-866-6330

7327 Route 812, Lowville

315-376-3521

FOREST PRESERVE CAMPGROUNDS:

Information: 518-457-2500

dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/camping

Reservations: 800-456-CAMP

newyorkstateparks.reserveamerica.com

CLEANING, DRAINING AND DRYING

1. What is the purpose of Cleaning, Draining and Drying?

All watercraft can transport aquatic invasive species (AIS). Cleaning, draining, and drying protects New York's waters by reducing the possibility of aquatic invasive species being introduced into new water bodies.

2. Is cleaning, draining, and drying my boat mandatory?

YES!! In New York State, it's mandatory for all boats, including motorboats, kayaks, canoes, and their associated equipment, to be cleaned, drained, dried, or treated before they are launched into any public body of water. This responsibility can be fulfilled either by the boat operator themselves or by visiting a watercraft inspection station.

3. What is involved in cleaning, draining, and drying?

- Clean all boating and fishing equipment thoroughly, removing any mud, plants, fish, or animals from trailer bunks, axles, rollers, lights, transducers, license plates, motor props, tackle, waders, etc. Dispose of this material in trash cans, at a disposal station, or away from water bodies to prevent it from being washed in during storms.
- Ensure all water-holding compartments are drained before leaving an access site.
- Thoroughly dry all equipment before using it in another water body. It's recommended to let it dry for at least 5-7 days in dry, warm conditions.
- Disinfect boats, trailers, and equipment using high-pressure hot water (at least 140 degrees F), or visit a boat steward/decontamination site for this step. Remember to disinfect water-holding compartments such as bilges and live wells as well.

4. What is a Watercraft Inspection Station (WISP)?

Watercraft inspection stations are stationed at frequently used boat ramps and roadside areas. They are manned by boat stewards, easily identifiable by their blue vests. These stewards provide education to boaters about aquatic invasive species and help them with the necessary inspection procedures.

5. Where can I find a map of steward and decontamination unit locations and learn about the Watercraft Inspection Steward Program?

You can locate the map here :dec.ny.gov/animals-plants-aquatic-life Alternatively, you can search for "boat stewards" on the DEC website at dec.ny.gov or visit adkcleanboats.com for further details.

6. Are there different requirements when launching in the Adirondacks?

YES. State law requires all motorboats launching into public water bodies within 10 miles of and in the Adirondack Park, comply with Clean. Drain. Dry. AND operators must be in possession of a self-issued or steward-is-sued certificate obtained at an accredited aquatic invasive species inspection station operated by a watercraft inspection steward. These certificates must be kept with the motorboat when launched.



7. How do I certify my motorboat before launching?

Motorboat operators should perform all necessary Clean.Drain.Dry steps and then fully complete these certificates before launching. Visit an inspection station to have your motorboat inspected and certified by a watercraft inspection steward. Self-issued certificates are also available and can be obtained for download and printing from DEC's website dec.ny.gov/animals-plants-aquatic-life.

8. Is there a difference between self-issued certificates and an inspection certificate received from a boat steward?

The certificates might vary in appearance, but both confirm your adherence to Clean.Drain.Dry. protocols and should always be kept on board your boat.

9. If I am re-launching into the same waterbody do I need to perform clean/drain/dry steps or obtain a new certification?

No. Operators should keep the certification form obtained during the initial launch.

10. Do I need a certificate for my kayak or canoe?

No. However, you are still required to Clean.Drain.Dry. your vessel and equipment.

11. Do these requirements apply to small boats with trolling motors?

Yes. All vessels that are driven with a motor (electric or fuel-driven) must follow these requirements.



Oswegatchie River

From Hailesboro to Ogdensburg, the Oswegatchie River offers 70 miles of angling for small boaters, canoeists, and shore fishers. Primary species are smallmouth bass and walleyes. Drifting with the river's gentle flow will put anglers in contact with plenty of fish. For smallies, concentrate on boulder areas and downed trees. Live minnows produce well as do tube jigs. For walleyes, focus on shoreline dropoffs, areas where the current increases, and deep holes above and below rapids. Casting crawler-tipped jigs or trolling shallow-diving, minnow plugs work well on walleyes.

ACCESS: Numerous access sites dot the shores of the river.

Black Lake

This 20-mile lake has been called a "fish factory" and "angler's paradise." National publications have rated Black Lake among the top ten bass lakes in the country. A 15-inch minimum length requirement in effect for the past six years has resulted in a growing number of big bass. Look for largemouths in the lake's numerous bays and along island shorelines. Traditional lures such as the jig and pig work well. Look for smallmouths around mid-lake and island shoals. Crayfish and tube jigs work well in the summer. In the fall, use small surface baits or crankbaits. Panfishing is phenomenal on the lake. Most outings result in combination catches of yellow perch, black crappies, and bluegills. Use tiny jigs tipped with grubs. Northern pike inhabit all of the lake's bays, and the best fishing occurs in spring and fall. Live minnows and spinnerbaits work well during both seasons. Due to a dedicated stocking program by local sportsmen and DEC, the walleye population is thriving. The narrow, currented stretches of the lake are prime walleye areas, and anglers have success using minnow plugs, crawler harnesses, and worm-tipped jigs.

ACCESS: A state launch just south of Edwardsville provides quality access to the lake. ❄️





St. Lawrence River

The majestic St. Lawrence River holds good populations of walleyes, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, muskies, northern pike, carp, and panfish. Anglers cast bucktail jigs, drift spinner and worm rigs, or troll minnow plugs for walleyes. Prime spots include Chippewa Point, American Island, Ogdensburg Bridge Shoals, Ogden Island, Croil Islands, and Long Sault Islands. These same areas hold plenty of smallmouths, too. In early summer, work along mainland points, island shorelines, rocky areas, and large flats. As summer progresses, bronzebacks congregate near deep-water points, island drop offs, and mid-river shoals. For half a century, the river has been consistently producing some of the largest muskies in the world. For these monsters, troll deep-diving plugs at Halfway and Cedar islands, upriver from American Island, at the Ogdensburg Sandbar, at the Ogdensburg Bridge, at Coles Creek Campground, and near the oil tanks and Town Beach at Massena. All of the river's bays hold northern pike and panfish.

ACCESS: Public launches give access in every community along the river. Public campgrounds are located at Morristown, Coles Creek, and Massena.



Grasse River

From Canton to Massena, the Grasse River has angling opportunities for small boaters, canoeists, and waders. Like the Oswegatchie River, the Grasse holds plenty of smallmouths and walleyes. Look for bronzebacks in rocky, currented stretches many of which are best fished by wading. Effective lures include Mepps spinners, Mr. Twister spinners, and the Zara Puppy surface bait. Look for walleyes along shoreline drop offs, deep-water bends, and deep areas near rapids. Try casting crawler-tipped jigs or trolling plugs such as the Shad Rap. Grasse River anglers will hook into an occasional muskie. Because the river's muskie population is fragile, anglers are encouraged to handle fish carefully and to practice catch-and-release.

ACCESS: Access is available at various communities and bridge crossings along the river.

St. Regis River, East Branch St. Regis River, Little Salmon River, Salmon River, Trout River, Little Trout River, Mountain View Lake, Indian Lake



St. Regis River

The St. Regis River has excellent access and an abundance of stocked browns and rainbows. Oxygenated water below the hydro dam at St. Regis Falls draws fish throughout the summer. Spin fishers and fly fishers have success here, with big nymphs and stoneflies working well.

ACCESS: Anglers can access the river in the village of St. Regis Falls and from the campground just down river from the village.

East Branch St. Regis River

The East Branch St. Regis River offers canoe fishing for wild brook trout. There are eight miles of canoeable water upstream from Everton Falls, with prime spots where tributaries enter the main flow.

ACCESS: Take Cty. Rt. 14 (Red Tavern Road) three miles east of the village of St. Regis Falls. Look for the Nature Conservancy sign at Everton Falls Preserve.

Little Salmon River

The river receives hefty stockings of brown trout but is best known for its wild browns. Upstream stretches hold wild brook trout. The Little Salmon is wadable with quality "pocket fishing" opportunities.

ACCESS: Anglers can access the Little Salmon River via a number of road crossings, the most prominent being Route 11 and Route 11B.

Salmon River

Because of easy access and gentle flows, the Salmon River from Malone to the Canadian border is ideal for family outings. Furthermore, the area is heavily stocked with brown and rainbow trout. Wild browns comprise 20 percent of the population, and fish up to five years old and 20 inches are possible. Anglers who want to tackle more difficult and less pressured waters should head upstream from the Cargin Road crossing. This beautiful area offers challenging fishing and wild fish. The Upper Salmon from Chasm Falls to Malone offers eight miles of winding river with a slow gradient and an abundance of stocked brown trout. Near Chasm Falls and Titus Mountain, wild brookies and wild browns comprise 50 percent of the population.

ACCESS: Both sections of the river can be accessed from adjacent roads and at bridges. Because of limited public fishing rights along the Upper Section, anglers should always ask permission even if an area is not posted.

Trout River

Trout River is heavily stocked with browns including many two-year-olds, and wild brookies, especially in feeder tributaries. The best fishing is near the Canadian border at the Trout River Road crossing, a good option for spin fishers. You can also access the river at Constable, the site of two-year-old brown

trout stockings. Fly fishers will find fishable water upstream from Constable.

ACCESS: Trout River Road crossing and Route 122 in Constable.

Little Trout River

Little Trout River is good for fly fishing, with both stocked and wild brook trout and brown trout. Spring-fed streams make it a good choice throughout the summer.

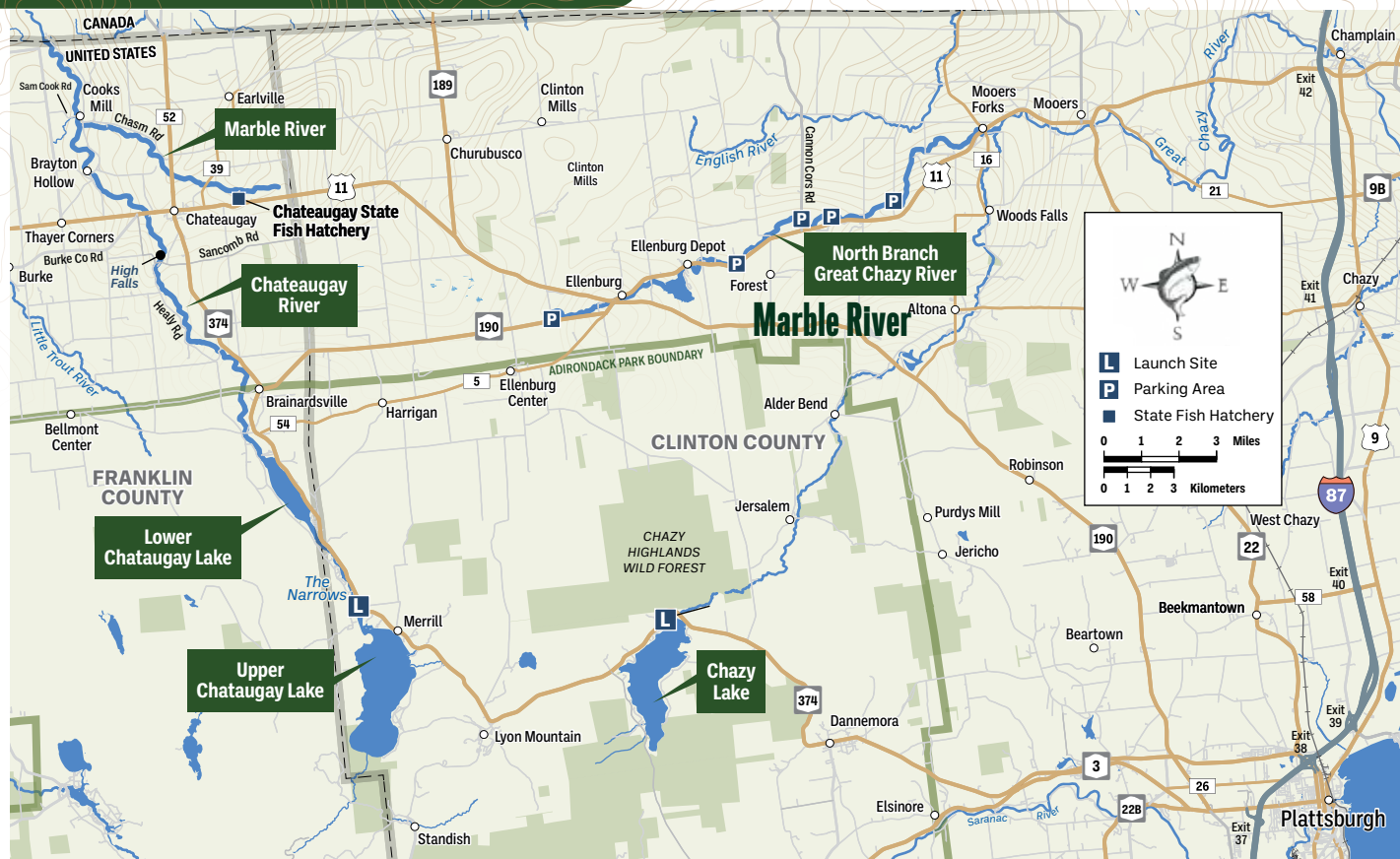
ACCESS: Route 122 parallels the river, and prime access spots include the McManus Road and Coveytown Road crossings.

Mountain View Lake and Indian Lake

A navigable channel connects these lakes which are abundant with northern pike and largemouth bass. Indian Lake sees a high volume of recreational traffic during the summer, so early morning or spring/fall outings are best. Both are popular ice-fishing destinations.

ACCESS: Mountain View Lake has a car-top launch while Indian Lake has a small launch on its northwest corner. ❄️

Chazy Lake, North Branch Great Chazy River, Marble River, Chateaugay River, Upper and Lower Chateaugay Lakes



Chazy Lake

Dive into the depths of Chazy Lake, a two-story fishery teeming with year-round opportunities for trout and salmon. While the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) stocks rainbows and landlocks, it's the wild and self-sustaining population of lake trout that truly sets this lake apart. Spring heralds the perfect time to troll smelt-imitation plugs, spoons, or flies along the west shoreline, especially near the tributaries. For the spirited challenge of smallmouth bass, explore the rocky shorelines and drop-offs that dot the lake's perimeter. And when winter casts its icy spell, join the throngs of ice fishing enthusiasts who flock to Chazy Lake, eager to test their mettle against its frozen depths. Convenient access awaits at the Town of Dannemora launch, nestled snugly at the northwest end of the lake.

North Branch Great Chazy River

A haven for trout enthusiasts, the North Branch Great Chazy River boasts an annual stocking of 8,000 trout, including brook and brown trout. Venture forth into its pristine waters and discover the thrill of reeling in trophy browns, with the tantalizing possibility of fish over 20 inches in length. Rainbow trout also grace the river's currents, promising an angling experience unlike any other. With numerous parking areas and miles of public fishing rights between Ellenburg Center and Mooers Forks, accessing this angler's paradise is a breeze.

Marble River

Unleash your angling prowess upon the Marble River, where five miles of angling await from the Chateaugay River upstream beyond the Chateaugay Fish Hatchery. Spring-fed and brimming with pools and "pocket water," this scenic waterway is home to wild rainbow, brown, and brook trout. Accessible from various points along the Sam Cook Road, Route 374, County Route 39, and Route 11, the Marble River promises an unforgettable fishing experience for enthusiasts of all skill levels.

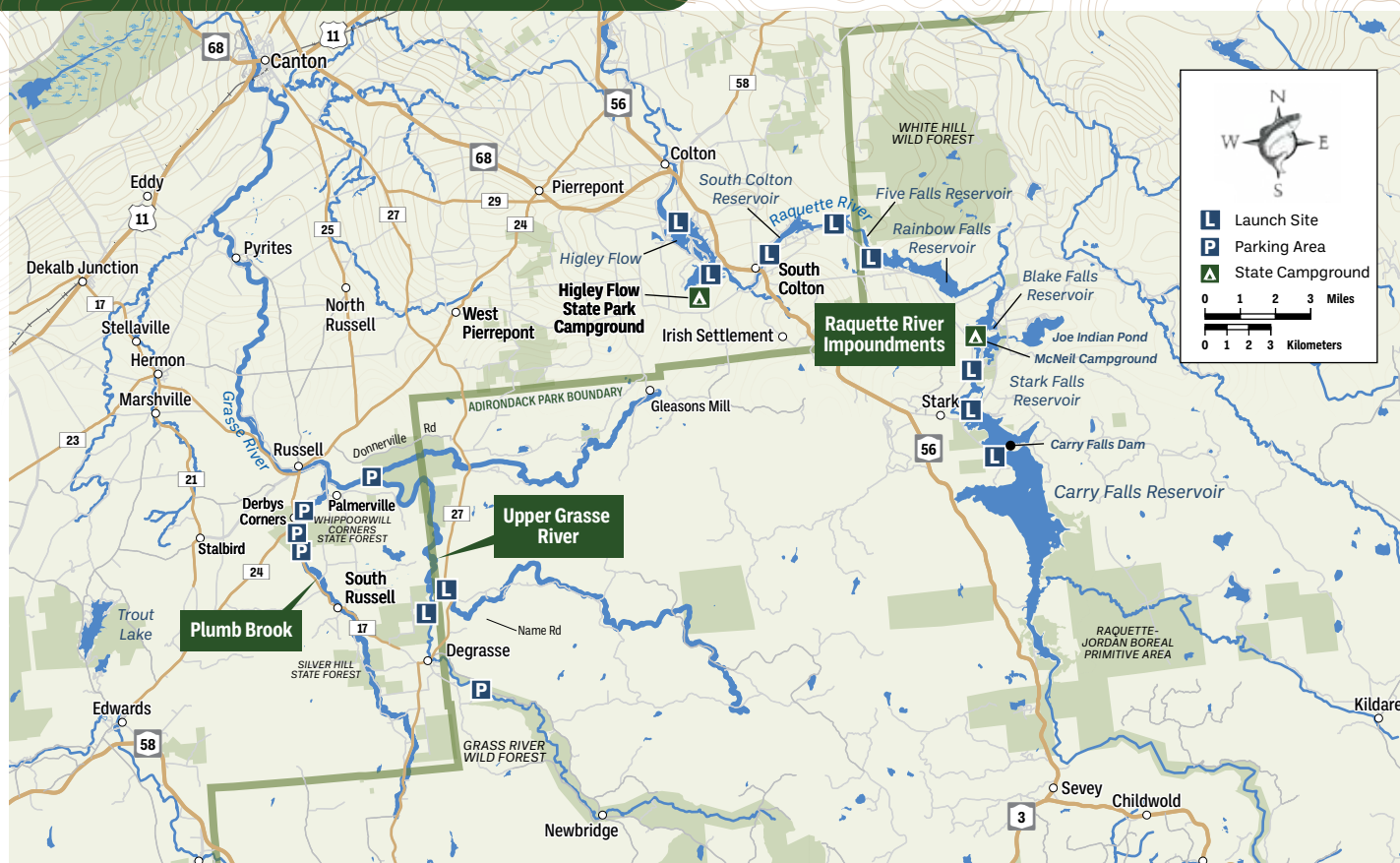
Chateaugay River

Embark on a wild and challenging adventure along the Upper and Lower sections of the Chateaugay River. From the Forge Dam to High Falls, anglers will find themselves immersed in a world of stocked and wild brook, rainbow, and brown trout. The Upper Section offers exhilarating "pocket water" fishing, while the Lower Section, stretching from High Falls to the Canadian border, boasts popular access points and abundant fishing opportunities. With complete public fishing rights maps available on the DEC website, navigating these storied waters has never been easier.

Upper and Lower Chateaugay Lakes

Dive into the depths of Upper and Lower Chateaugay Lakes, where cold-water and warm-water species abound. While Upper Chateaugay Lake boasts annual stockings of lake trout, rainbow trout, and landlocked salmon, it's the burgeoning northern pike population that steals the spotlight. Meanwhile, Lower Chateaugay Lake offers a warm-water haven teeming with northern pike, smallmouth bass, and yellow perch. With a DEC launch providing convenient access to both lakes, anglers can cast their lines with ease and embark on an angling adventure like no other.

Upper Grasse River, Plumb Brook, Raquette River Impoundments



Upper Grasse River and Plumb Brook

The Upper Grasse River and Plumb Brook rate highly for brown trout. Annual DEC stockings include nearly 700 browns in the South Branch of the Grasse and over 2,000 in the Grasse River. Plumb Brook sees an annual stocking of over 4,000 brown trout.

ACCESS: Public access for the Upper Grasse River exists at DeGrasse State Forest, County Route 27 canoe launch, Lampson Falls Trail, Donnersville Road, County Route 17, and the bridge in Russell. Plumb Brook is accessible from Whippoorwill Corner State Forest and Silver Hill State Forest, both of which are located off County Route 17 between Russell and DeGrasse.

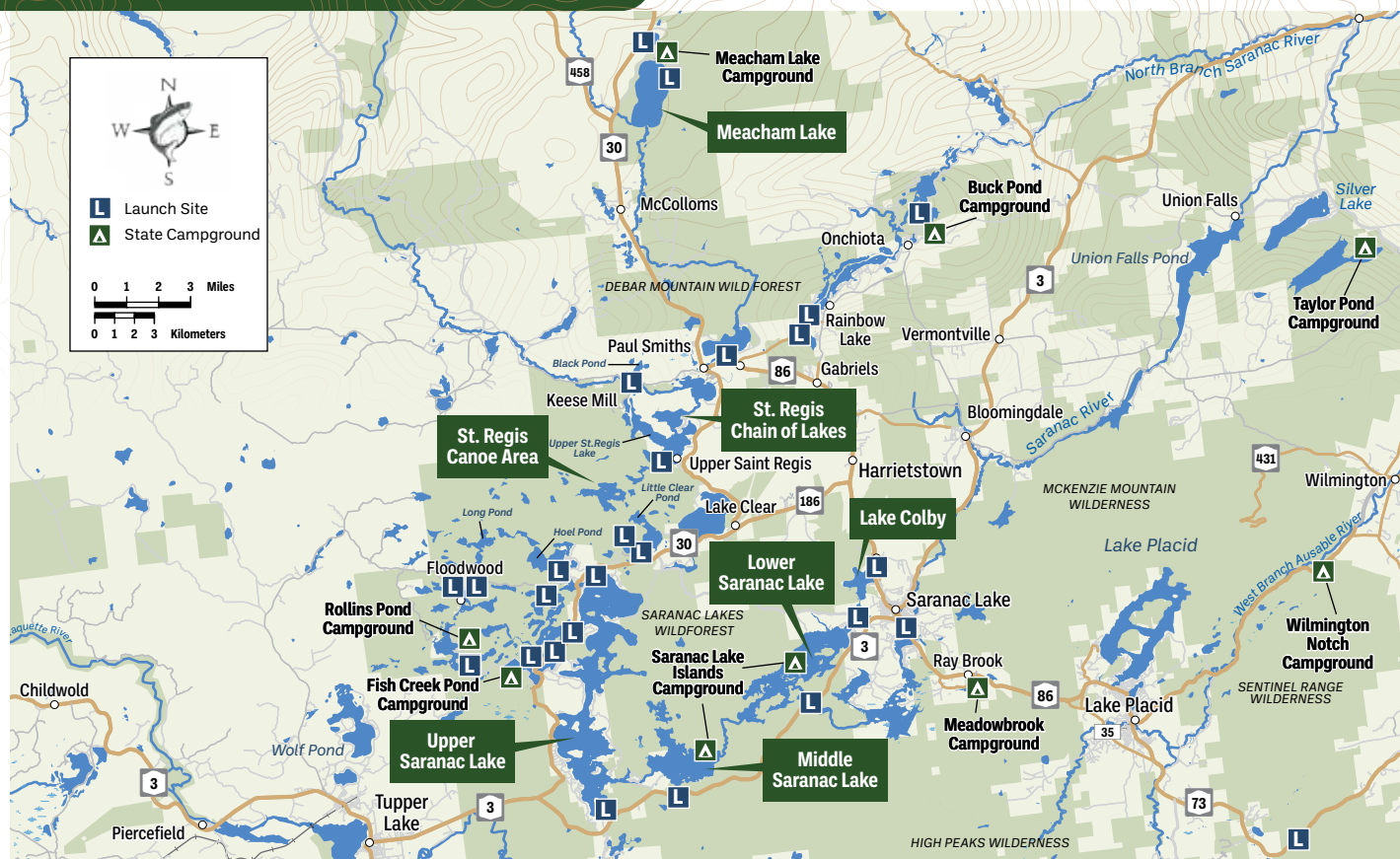
Raquette River Impoundments

The construction of hydroelectric dams on the Raquette River created a series of eight reservoirs called the Upper Impoundments. Carry Falls, Stark Falls, Blake Falls, Rainbow Falls, Five Falls, South Colton, Higley Flow, and Colton Flow comprise this 30-mile stretch of river. Smallmouth bass, walleyes, yellow perch, and northern pike are the most popular species in the reservoirs. Carry Falls and Stark Falls also have tiger muskies. Carry Falls, the largest reservoir, covers 3,170 acres in a wilderness setting. Stark Falls comprises 586 acres, and it receives significant pressure because of the walleye population. The 710-acre Blake Falls Reservoir is very popular because of the good fishing and McNeil Campground. At 122 acres, Five Falls offers a quiet and scenic angling location. South Colton (230 acres) and Higley Flow (1,135 acres) have quite a few private cottages on their shores. Higley also has a state campground. Colton Flow (154 acres) has moderate development and is fished primarily by local residents.

ACCESS: Public access is available at each of the Upper Impoundments.



St. Regis Canoe Area, Meacham Lake, Saranac Chain of Lakes, St. Regis Chain of Lakes, Lake Colby



St. Regis Canoe Area

The St. Regis Canoe Area, New York State's only designated canoe area without motorized watercraft, is a jewel for anglers and canoeists. Covering 18,000 acres with 58 bodies of water, it's ideal for pursuing Adirondack brook trout. Ponds accessible via the "Nine Carries" and "Seven Carries" routes are good bets for wild brookies. Other species include lake trout, rainbow trout, and splake. The "wabbler and worm" technique, along with spinners and nymphs, are popular.

ACCESS: Canoe launch sites at Little Clear Pond, Upper St. Regis Lake, Hoel Pond, and Long Pond provide access. Lightweight canoes are recommended for long portages such as the "Nine Carries" route.

Meacham Lake

A state campground makes Meacham Lake ideal for fishing and camping. It holds splake, brown trout, northern pike, smallmouth bass, and yellow perch. In spring, look for splake and browns near Winnebago Creek. Pike are found in the southeast weeds, while the west shoreline is best for smallmouths. **WARNING:** Mercury contamination advisory for yellow perch over 10 inches.

ACCESS: The launch at Meacham Lake State Campground has a poor gradient. Canoeists can use the car-top launch near the outlet dam off Route 30.

Saranac Chain of Lakes

Stay just steps away from world-class fishing holes on this lake. The quality of fishing here has attracted the likes of ESPN's Great Outdoor Games, choosing the Saranac Chain for the bass fishing segment for three consecutive years! Largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike, yellow perch, lake trout, brown trout, and rainbow trout can all be found here. On **Lower Saranac**, work the islands and shoals for smallies, and check out Pope Bay and the weed beds in the southwest portion for northern pike. On **Middle Saranac**, try the shoals near Shaw Island for smallmouths and Hungry Bay for pike. On **Upper Saranac**, fish the weedy bays for northern pike and the deep water in the southern half for trout.

ACCESS: Two sets of locks connect all the lakes except for Upper Saranac which must be accessed separately. Find quality launches throughout the chain.

St. Regis Chain of Lakes

The St. Regis Chain of Lakes is a good bet for small boaters who are looking for smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, or northern pike; find them by concentrating on marked shoals, downed trees, and boat docks. Navigable channels connect these three lakes for a day's worth of exploration in diverse waters. Landlocked salmon and lake trout call the Upper St. Regis home, while largemouths stick to Lower St. Regis.

ACCESS: Access from a small town launch at Upper St. Regis Landing and from Lower St. Regis Lake at the Keese Mill Road car-top launch site for Black Pond, or the trailhead parking for St. Regis Mountain.

Lake Colby

Rough it Adirondack style on Lake Colby. Offering three primitive campsites, the lake is perfect for a classic fishing getaway. Yearling rainbow and brown trout are stocked annually, as well as two-year-old browns, with an additional 50-100 broodstock salmon placed here every autumn.

ACCESS: The DEC fishing access site has a hand launch off of Route 86. The launch has a 10-horsepower restriction on motors.

Saranac River, Franklin Falls Flow, Union Falls Flow, Taylor Pond, East Branch Au Sable River, West Branch Au Sable River, Lake Placid



Saranac River

Fish the Upper Saranac River, from Bloomingdale to Franklin Falls Flow, offering rainbow and brown trout, including two-year-old browns. With its characteristic “pocket water,” the Saranac River beckons both spin and fly fishers. You’ll need solid wading skills, as navigating the river’s rounded, slippery boulders demands finesse. Watch the mesmerizing evening hatches on the river’s surface. There are six access points along River Road, just east of Bloomingdale.

Franklin Falls Flow

The 437-acre Franklin Falls Flow offers views and incredible fishing. The jewel of the lake is the walleye, stocked annually. The flow features an irregular shoreline with numerous islands, backwaters, and drop-offs. Anglers can find largemouth and smallmouth bass, northern pike fishery and panfish.

ACCESS: DEC hand launch and from a parking area near the bridge above the dam.

Union Falls Flow

Union Falls Flow is just downstream from Franklin Falls Flow, a reservoir with a shallow, rocky bottom, and plenty of fish. Anglers are advised to find the old Saranac River channel to find their catch, including walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, pumpkinseed, smallmouth bass, brown bullhead, largemouth bass, fallfish, and rock bass.

ACCESS: For a small fee, anglers can access the flow from a private campground. There is a 10-horsepower restriction on motors.

Taylor Pond

Cast your line into Taylor Pond, where an annual stocking of landlocked salmon, kokanee (red) salmon, and lake trout awaits. This waterbody boasts a self-sustaining population of lake trout, with whispers of a potential state-record contender. Taylor Pond produces trophy-sized landlocked salmon and an increasing presence of kokanee salmon. Smelt imitations are the lure of choice.

ACCESS via a DEC campground with a paved launch.

East Branch Au Sable River

Immerse yourself in the tranquility of the East Branch Au Sable River, where brown and rainbow trout await. Despite heavy stockings, certain sections of the river boast low fish numbers, making it essential to seek out the higher gradient stretches for success. With wide and wadable waters, the East Branch Au Sable River is tailor-made for fly fishing. From Keene Valley to Au Sable Forks, scattered public fishing rights ensure that anglers can explore the river with ease.

West Branch Au Sable River

Discover the unparalleled allure of the West Branch Au Sable River, a trout stream renowned for its beauty and abundant fish. While browns reign supreme, opportunities abound for landing impressive rainbows and even brook trout in the upper stretches. With its expansive size and impressive hatches, the West Branch Au Sable River is a fly-fishing haven, particularly for skilled waders. Special regulations in designated areas ensure a sustainable fishing experience, with artificial lures mandated in certain stretches.

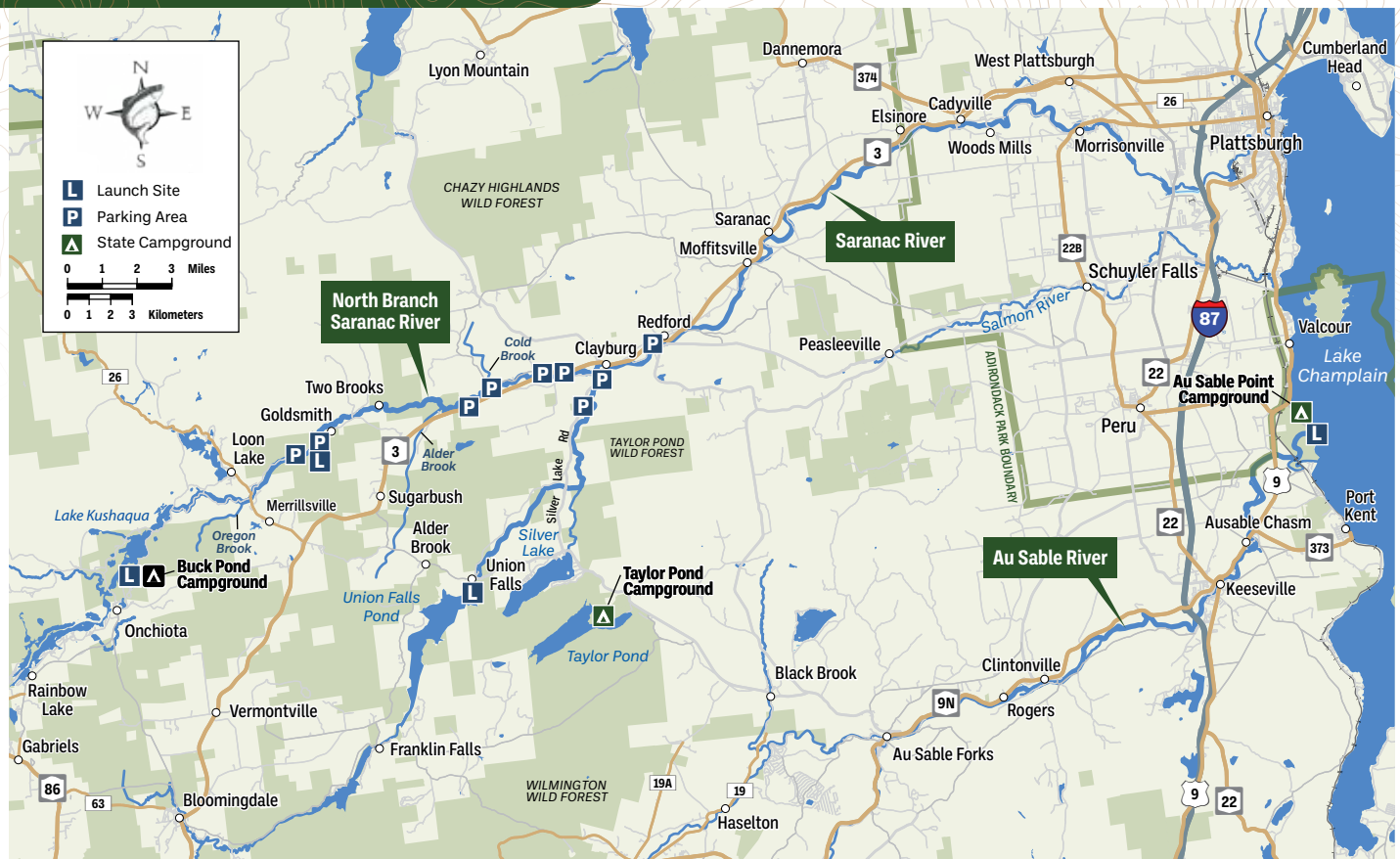
ACCESS: Abundant access points can be found along Route 86, Riverside Drive, and Route 73.

Lake Placid

Fishing in the tranquil waters of Lake Placid is an adventure that promises a reel-worthy experience. Located at the north end of the village of Lake Placid, the lake includes lake trout, rainbow trout, and smallmouth bass. You’ll also find perch, brown trout, and rock bass. This pristine lake offers not just a chance to catch trophy-sized bass or elusive trout, but also a quiet escape.

ACCESS: Lake Placid has a no-cost public boat launch with first-come, first-serve parking for cars and trailers on Mirror Lake Drive.

North Branch Saranac River, Saranac River, Au Sable River



North Branch Saranac River

Venture into the pristine waters of the North Branch Saranac River, stretching from Lake Kushaqua to Clayburg, where brown, brook, and rainbow trout await eager anglers. A testament to the exceptional fishing quality is the designated Trophy Section, extending from the mouth of Cold Brook upstream to Alder Brook, offering year-round fishing opportunities exclusively for artificial lures. Abundant public fishing rights between Oregon Brook and Clayburg ensure easy access for anglers seeking to explore this renowned trout haven.

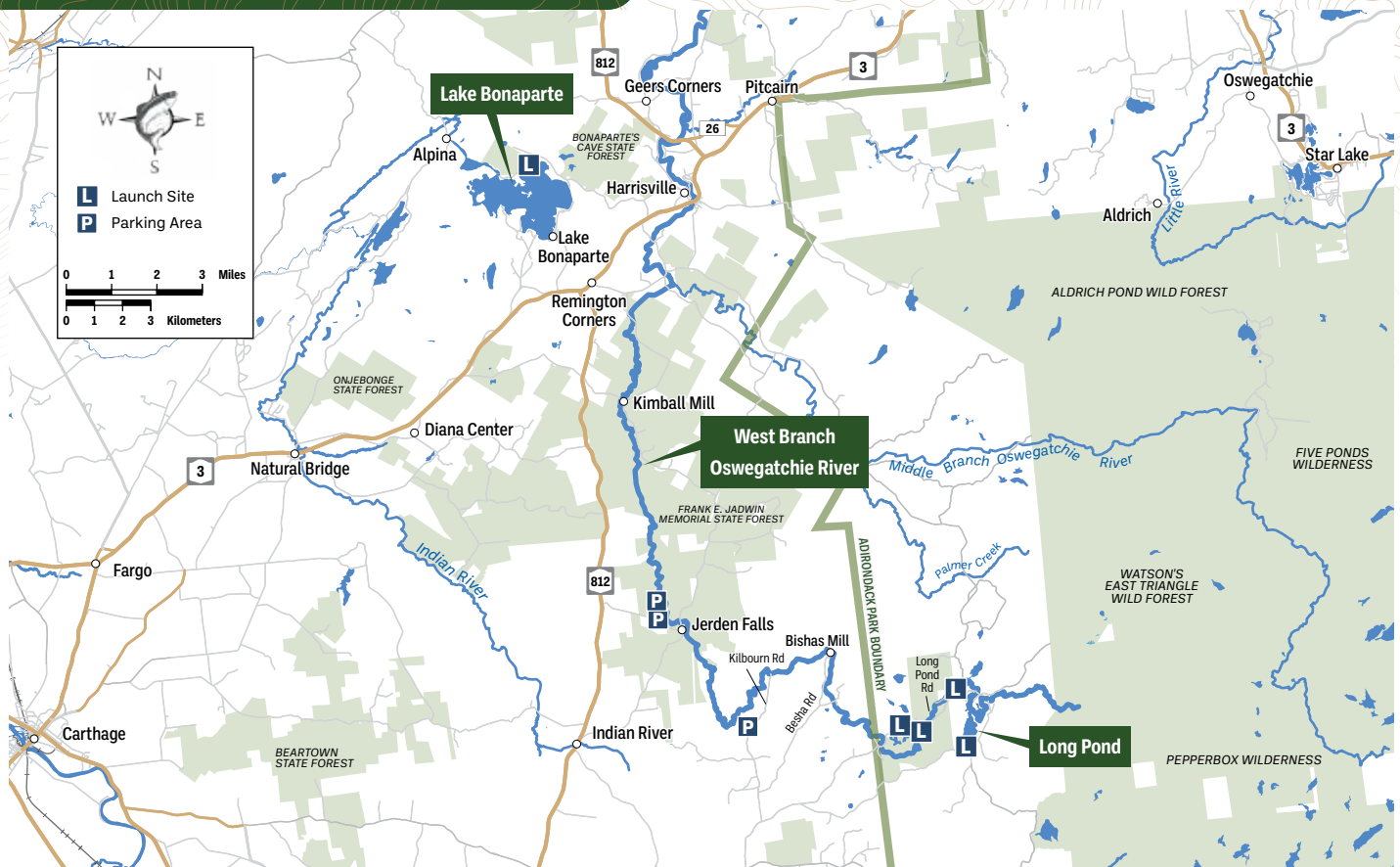
Saranac River

Discover the angler's paradise nestled within the Middle Section of the Saranac River, spanning from Union Falls Flow to Cadyville, boasting prime fishing grounds for brown and brook trout. With annual stockings exceeding 30,000 trout, including 2,000 two-year-old browns, this section promises exhilarating angling experiences for enthusiasts of all levels. Abundant public fishing rights, both upriver and downriver of Clayburg, along with convenient parking areas and access points off Silver Lake Road, make it a favored destination for trout aficionados. In the Lower Section, near Plattsburgh, anglers can reel in landlocked salmon during spring and fall migrations from Lake Champlain, with the Saranac River renowned as the top Lake Champlain tributary for steelhead. With ample access and public fishing rights in Plattsburgh, anglers can cast their lines with confidence, employing smelt-imitation plugs, spoons, and flies to entice these prized catches.

Au Sable River

Embark on a journey along the Main Stem of the Au Sable River, from Au Sable Forks to Lake Champlain, where a blend of brown and rainbow trout awaits amidst its expansive waters. Easily wadable and boasting excellent fishing opportunities from Ausable Forks to Clintonville, this section promises memorable angling experiences for all who venture forth. Further downstream, the Lower Main Stem transforms into a spring haven for landlocked salmon, with prime fishing action occurring from late April through mid-May. Whether wading upstream of the Route 9 bridge or trolling downstream, anglers can deploy smelt and minnow-imitation flies, spoons, and plugs to entice these elusive salmon. With accessible walk-in points and launch areas at Ausable Point State Campground, anglers can immerse themselves in the tranquil beauty of the Au Sable River's fertile waters.

Lake Bonaparte, West Branch Oswegatchie River, Long Pond



Lake Bonaparte

Lake Bonaparte sees heavy recreational use during the summer, but the lake offers quality, year-round fishing for both warmwater and coldwater species. Available fish include smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, northern pike, panfish, brown trout, and lake trout. Every year the lake yields several trophy bass, pike, and brown trout. Prime smallmouth spots include the rocky islands and mid-lake shoals marked by buoys. Largemouths along with northern pike and various panfish hang out along weed lines and in openings in weed beds. Spring and fall offer the best trout fishing, and anglers have success by trolling minnow plugs or spoons at Sand Bay, Round Island, Benton Point, Bullrock Point, High Rock, the open water between Rock and Birch Islands, and the open water between Birch and Sister islands. A growing number of anglers are experiencing lake trout success by drifting live minnows.

ACCESS: Boaters should note that the state launch at Sand Bay on the north shore has a poor gradient, but private marinas are available for launching large boats. ❄️

West Branch Oswegatchie River

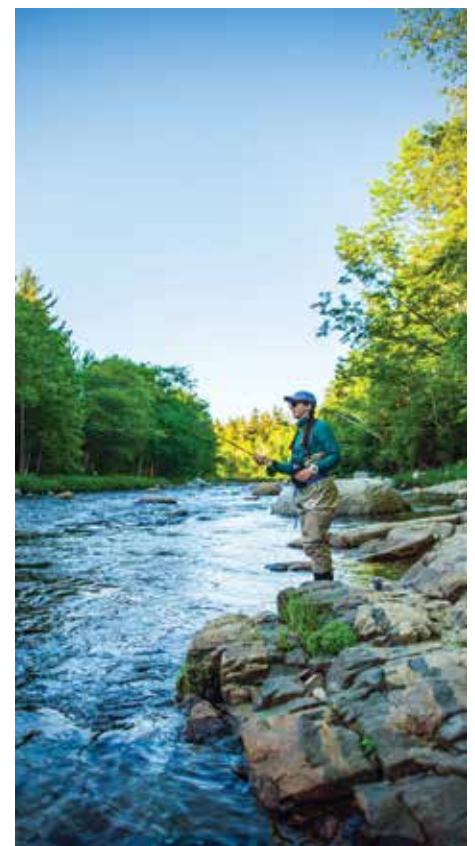
The upper reaches of the West Branch of the Oswegatchie River in the Town of Croghan offer brook trout opportunities. Annual stockings consist of 750 brookies. 360 brook trout measuring 9.5 inches are stocked annually in the West Branch in the Town of Diana.

ACCESS: Spin fishers and fly fishers can access the Upper West Branch from the Kilbourn, Besha, and Long Pond roads. In the Town of Diana access is available at a number of bridge crossings.

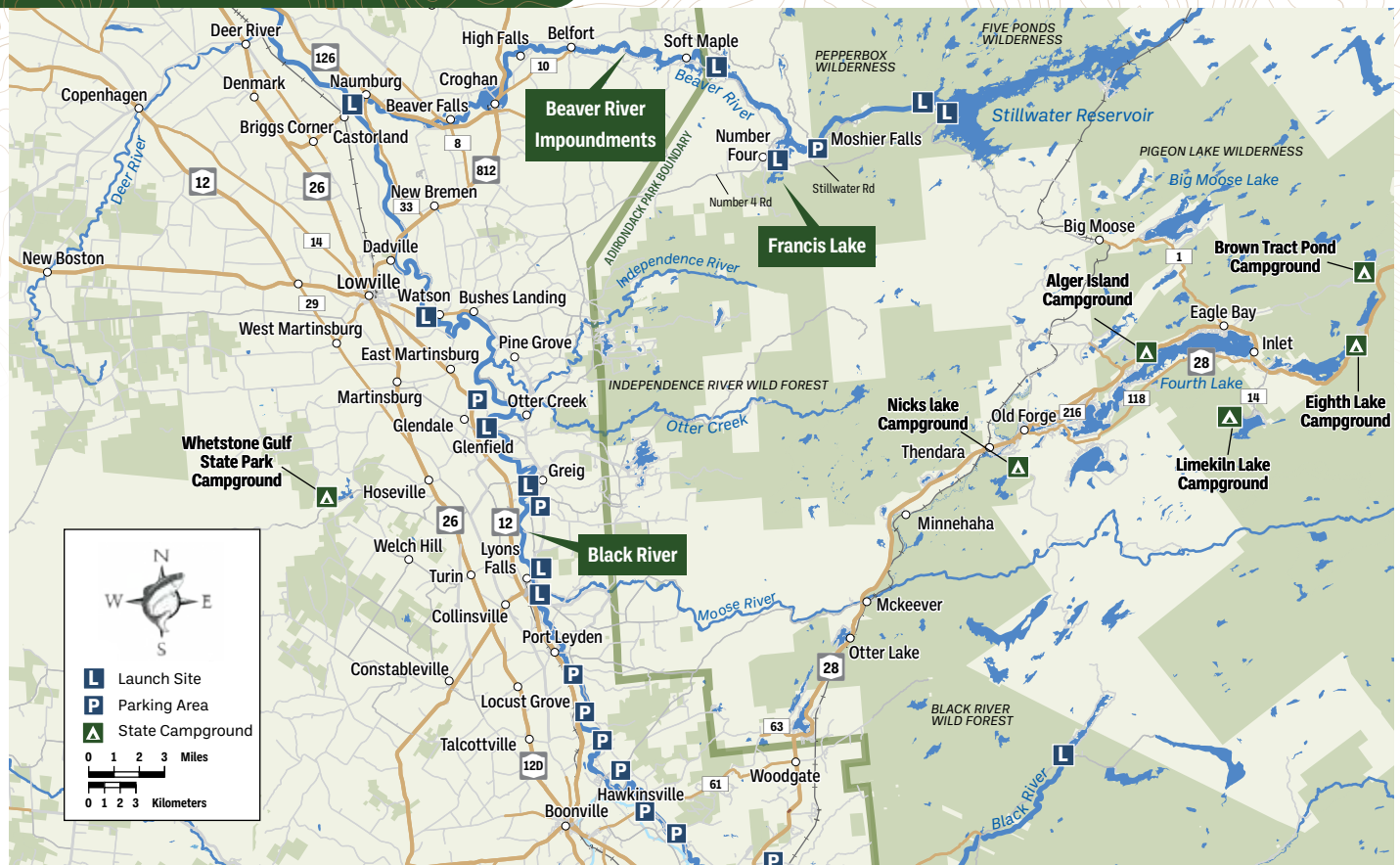
Long Pond

Previously stocked with splake and red salmon, Long Pond presently receives stockings of brook trout. Long Pond is a deep, dark-water lake. The best fishing occurs in spring and fall when anglers troll or cast shoreline areas, especially where cover is present.

ACCESS: To reach the state hand-launch site here, anglers must travel 15 miles of secondary road from Route 12.



Beaver River Impoundments, Francis Lake, Black River



Beaver River Impoundments

A series of hydro-electric dams on the Beaver River has created the Beaver River Impoundments, a waterway consisting of nine reservoirs and one lake. The Beaver River Impoundments offer a scenic and peaceful setting for smallmouth bass and tiger muskie angling. Bronzebacks can be found along rocky shorelines while tiger muskies prefer weed lines. Soft Maple Reservoir is the best bet for muskies because the DEC initiated a stocking program here in 1993, and the impoundment has received over a thousand fish annually since then.

Canoeing is extremely popular along Brookfield Renewable Power's Beaver River Canoe Route which offers a 14-mile venture from Moshier Impoundment put-in to High Falls Impoundment take-out. Camping opportunities exist en-route, and the trip includes six portages totaling just over two miles. Canoeists can, of course, choose shorter trips as hand launches are located on most of the impoundments.

ACCESS: A free map of the area is available from Brookfield Renewable Power (315-779-2400).

Francis Lake

Francis Lake is shallow and weedy with a maximum depth of 15 feet. This water is home to panfish and chain pickerel. Both species can be found along weed lines. Small jigs or worms suspended below a bobber work well for panfish while casting spinners, spoons, plugs, or surface lures is an effective way to entice pickerel to strike.

ACCESS: Francis Lake is accessible via a short carry from the Number Four Road- Stillwater Road off Route 26.

Black River

The Black River, a north-flow river, offers 73 fishable miles of flow across Lewis County. The best trout fishing occurs in the 8.5-mile stretch from the county line to Lyons Falls. Annual stockings here number over 11,000 brown and rainbow trout including 750 two-year-old browns. Fly fishing is popular in the upper-most portion of the river. Anglers can access the river from bridge crossings as well as from a half-dozen hand launches. Downstream from Lyons Falls, warmwater fishing exists for walleye, smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, and northern pike.

ACCESS: Both hand and trailer launches dot the river.

Massawepie Mire, Five Ponds Wilderness Area, Lake Lila, Little Tupper Lake, Rock Pond



Massawepie Mire

Scenic and remote, the Massawepie Mire contains the largest bog in New York state. This area, made up of Massawepie Lake, Long Pond, Deer Pond, Town Line Pond, and Pine Pond, offers anglers classic wilderness trout fishing opportunities. In addition to brook trout, the area has lake trout, landlocked salmon, and smallmouth bass. For the best results, trolling spinners, spoons, or wobblers and worms are popular among spin fishers, while fly fishers opt to troll their favorite flies on a sinking line.

RESTRICTIONS: Public use is prohibited from June 15 to August 31 when the Boy Scouts are in residence.

ACCESS: Except for Pine Pond, which requires a paddle across the lower end of Massawepie Lake, the waters have roadside access.

Five Ponds Wilderness Area

Bordering the southern portion of Cranberry Lake, the Five Ponds Wilderness Area has a network of well-marked trails, and the area offers a remote experience for brook trout. Among the ponds that have been stocked with brook trout in past years are Cowhorn, Darning Needle, Fishpole, Glasby, Nicks, Olmstead, Simmons, and Spectacle. The uppermost section of the Oswegatchie River flows through the Five Ponds Wilderness Area, and this is a good choice for canoeists who are seeking Adirondack brook trout.

Cranberry Lake

Cranberry Lake offers brook trout and smallmouth bass weighing over four pounds. Best fishing in spring at the mouths of the lake's brooks and creeks. Try trolling Mepps spinners, Lake Clear Wabblers and worms, or streamer flies. Smallmouth bass can be caught in the summer by working points and rocky areas. Techniques include drifting with live minnows, trolling minnows plugs, or casting in-line spinners, small crankbaits, or tipped jigs. Evening is most productive. The Oswegatchie River at the lake's outlet is a popular trout water because of easy access and high numbers of stocked browns and brookies.

ACCESS: State launch, campground, and handicap-accessible fishing pier. Car-top boaters can also launch near Wanakena.

Lake Lila

Formerly the site of an expansive Adirondack Great Camp, Lake Lila has been cherished by anglers and outdoor enthusiasts alike for generations, for its remoteness, quiet atmosphere, and quality fishing. The lake is bordered by primitive campsites and plenty of shoreline to cast from. The smallmouth bass and lake trout opportunities here are first-rate. For smallies, work any rocky area particularly in the bay at the lake's northeast end. For lakies, fish the deep water west of Buck and Spruce islands. Lake

trout see limited pressure here despite the high density of fish, including some over 30 inches. The catch and release, or "no kill" regulation pertains to trout only. Statewide regulations apply for all other species. Largemouth bass were illegally introduced into these waters years ago and have proliferated.

ACCESS: Long dirt access road and a one-third mile carry to reach the water's edge.

Little Tupper Lake and Rock Pond

Little Tupper Lake and Rock Pond were part of the state's 1997 Whitney Land Purchase. These waters offer a wilderness experience (no motors) for wild brook trout. Little Tupper Lake produces a genetically unique "heritage" strain of brook trout that is descended directly from trout that first reached the lake 12,000 years ago when the glaciers receded. Little Tupper and Rock Pond are "no kill" waters, and special regulations call for the use of artificial lures only. Little Tupper holds some 3- to 5-pound brookies. Rock Pond drains into Little Tupper at the south end, and it offers good fishing.

ACCESS: Rock Pond requires a seven-mile canoe trip from the access site at Little Tupper Headquarters off the Sabattis Road.

Be advised that Little Tupper is easily windswept.

Raquette River, Long Lake, Tupper Lake, Raquette Pond, Simon Pond, Lake Eaton, Lake Harris



Raquette River

The majestic 146-mile-long Raquette River is one of the most popular paddling and fishing destinations in the Adirondack Park. As the river meanders through the Adirondacks, anglers will find an amazing series of twists, turns, elbows, and oxbows which make for a both scenic and relaxing fishing experience. The combination of flat-water river setting and marsh habitats make this an excellent fishing spot, holding bass, pike, and walleye. Brown trout, walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, pumpkinseed, brown bullhead, as well as both large and smallmouth bass can all be found here.

ACCESS: State launch off Route 30/3 east of Tupper Lake.

Long Lake

The 14-mile stretch of Long Lake offers up plenty of pockets and coves for quality fishing. Although most of the shoreline is privately owned, fishing by boat makes way for anglers to explore unique spots throughout the waters. Cast for smallmouth bass in the northern section of the lake near the islands, and in the shallow, weedy areas at Big Brook Bay in the northeast corner, you'll find two good pike spots. The southern section of the lake has a growing largemouth bass fishery with the

possibility of anglers catching a five-pound bucketmouth.

ACCESS: DEC maintains a launch in the village of Long Lake.

Tupper Lake, Raquette Pond, and Simon Pond

Because of the large forage base of smelt, fish grow big on Tupper Lake. Indeed, Tupper is a trophy water for lake trout, northern pike, and walleye; fishery biologists believe that a state-record walleye lives here! Trolling minnow plugs around the islands at night is the most consistent producer for walleyes. Shore fishing for tiger muskies, northern pike, walleye, smallmouth bass, and lake trout is available where the Bog River enters Tupper Lake. Dip netting for smelt is popular here in the spring. Raquette Pond and Simon Pond are broad, shallow, weedy waters that have exceptional populations of northern pike.

ACCESS: A DEC launch on Route 30 at Moody provides access to Tupper Lake, Raquette Pond, and Simon Pond.

Lake Eaton

Lake Eaton is well known for its peaceful fishing and paddling opportunities, tucked away from the town of Long Lake and nestled right along the William C.

Whitney Wilderness Area. An expansive shoreline gives anglers the chance to fish from land along most of the lake, although paddling out and casting reaps just as many rewards! The lake is stocked with lake trout, rainbow trout, brown trout, and landlocked salmon. For several years, broodstock salmon weighing 5-14 pounds have been released here in November, and for the past 50 years, the lake has held wild landlocked salmon. Despite its reputation as a coldwater fishery, the lake holds plenty of smallmouth bass.

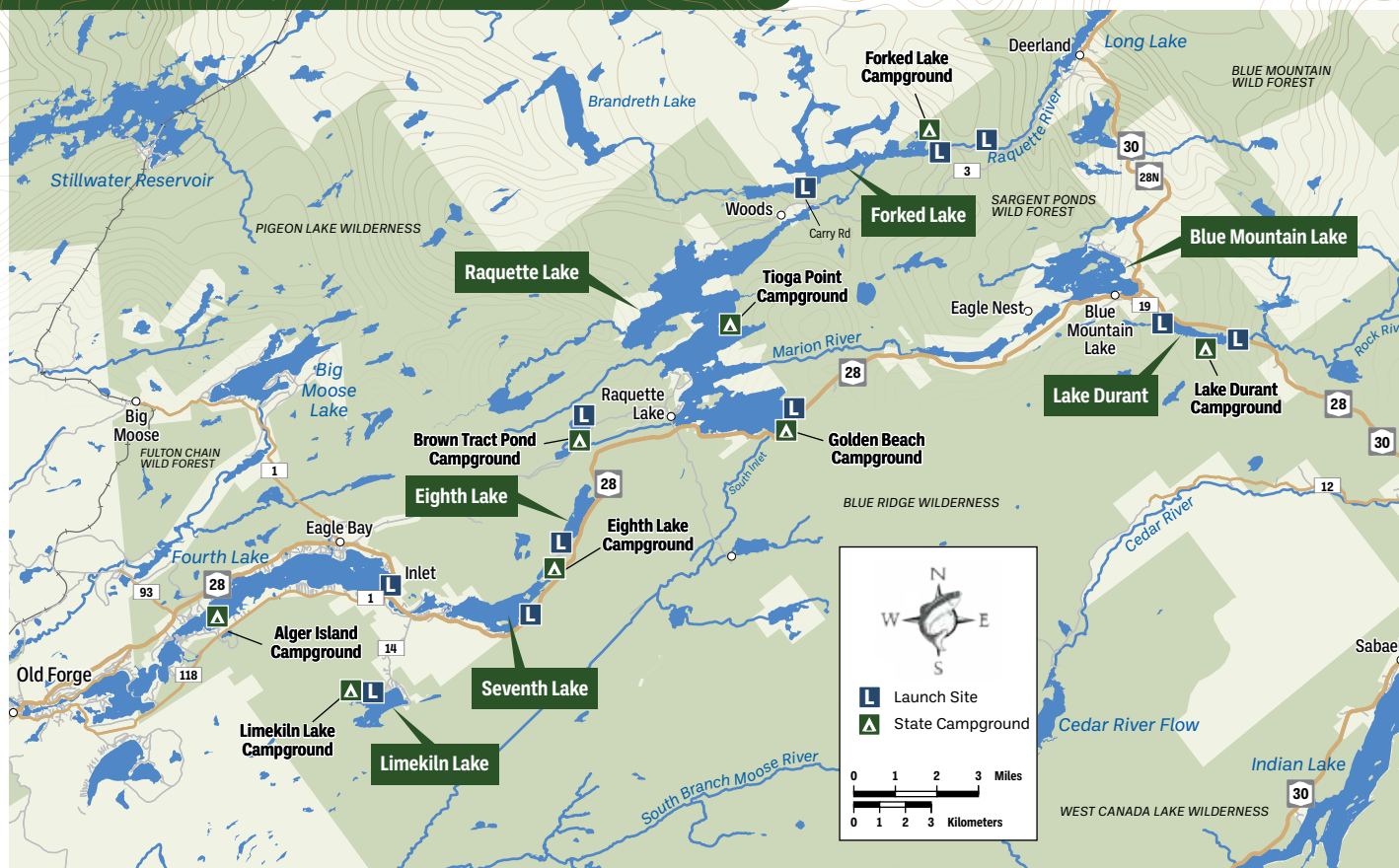
ACCESS: Lake Eaton has a DEC campground and car-top launch.

Lake Harris

With 301 acres, multiple launch sites, a campground, and naturally reproducing walleye, anglers will find a world-class fishing experience on Lake Harris. Features aside, the lake holds decent amounts of northern pike, smallmouth bass, walleye, brown bullhead, rock bass, pumpkinseed, and yellow perch in its depths. Rocky areas hold smallies while weedy areas hold largemouths and northerns.

ACCESS: Access from the ramp at the state campground as well as the public boat launch found on Beach Road.

Raquette Lake, Forked Lake, Eighth Lake (Fulton Chain), Blue Mountain Lake, Seventh Lake (Fulton Chain), Lake Durant, Limekiln Lake



Raquette Lake

Once a hidden oasis of the Gilded Age, this lake still serves as a playground for adventurers and anglers alike to come explore its 99 miles of shoreline. Three basins can be found around the lake; the northern basin boasts lake trout fishing near Beecher Island, the middle basin holds largemouth bass in all of its back bays, and the same holds true for the other basins. For good brook trout fishing, return in May to the Marion River.

ACCESS: Find a launch site in the village of Raquette Lake. Several private marinas (small fee) around have launch ramps or takeoff from Golden Beach State Campground's sandy car-top launch.

Forked Lake

The 893-acre Forked Lake keeps busy in the warmer months, with ample populations of both smallmouth and largemouth bass available. Look to the south end for the best bass fishing.

In spring, Forked Lake draws some brook trout anglers, and if you're on the hunt for landlocked salmon, these fish are stocked annually!

ACCESS: A DEC campground with a dirt launch sits at the lake's east end, and anglers will find a paved launch at the south end off the Carry Road.

Eighth Lake (Fulton Chain)

Part of the Fulton Chain Lakes, Eighth Lake boasts quality lakefront fishing with many species and opportunities for anglers to roam. The lake is connected to Seventh Lake via creek, where a nice, short fishing dock extends into it. Rainbow trout, lake trout, and landlocked salmon can all be found, with rainbows being the most popular species among anglers. Troll in the evenings for the best results with rainbow trout.

ACCESS: A DEC campground has a trailer launch for small boats.

Blue Mountain Lake

Blue Mountain Lake is one of the best fishing spots in New York for large lake trout, where you'll also find landlocked salmon and smallmouth bass! Due to the irregular depths, trolling is not recommended, instead, drifting baitfish in deep holes is the preferred method to lure your catch. For smallmouths, work the rocky shoals, especially those in the southwest corner near the outlet.

ACCESS: Two private launches (small fee) in the village of Blue Mountain Lake provide boat access.

Seventh Lake (Fulton Chain)

Seventh Lake receives annual stockings of landlocked salmon including broodstock fish up to

34 inches, rainbow trout, and lake trout. Traditional techniques will yield decent catches of landlocked salmon and rainbow trout. The smallmouth bass fishing is pretty good, too; check out rocky shorelines especially along the north shore.

ACCESS: A DEC launch provides public access. ❄️

Lake Durant

Lake Durant offers good fishing for tiger muskies and largemouth bass. Look for tigers along weedlines and near points and feeder streams. Early morning and early evening usually produce the best action. Shallow, weedy, stumpy areas promise the best largemouth fishing with bass up to five pounds a realistic possibility.

ACCESS: A launch at the state campground here can handle bass boats.

Limekiln Lake

Limekiln Lake receives an annual stocking of 2,000 splake, and it yields plenty of fish in the 15- to 18-inch range and an occasional 5-8 pounder! The lake draws more attention during winter for some incredible hard-water casting.

ACCESS: A state campground here has a cartop launch, but large boats can access the lake at a private marina. ❄️

Indian River, Hudson River, Indian Lake, Jessup River, Thirteenth Lake, Mason Lake, Lewey Lake, Miami River, Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area



Indian River

The Indian River is fairly wide, making it a good choice for spin fishers or fly fishers, with rainbow and brown trout stocked annually. The river produces an abundance of yearling fish; two-year-old browns are stocked just below the dam! **WARNING:** Water is periodically released into the river to accommodate white-water rafting so caution is urged.

ACCESS: The Chain Lakes Road parallels the river, offering many access points.

Hudson River

The Hudson River offers anglers an incredible wilderness setting for brown trout and smallmouth bass. Significant brown trout stockings occur, and the river's large size makes it a good choice for fly fishers. **WARNING:** Periodic, whitewater rafting releases cause dangerous water conditions on the Indian and Hudson rivers.

ACCESS: Hike from the Northwoods Club Road and Huntley Pond trailhead OR raft from Lake Abanakee on the Indian River. Water conditions on the Hudson range from big pools to rough, whitewater.

Indian Lake and Jessup River

A tremendous smelt population translates to big fish at Indian Lake. The southern two-thirds of the

lake contains a rocky bottom—a prime smallmouth bass habitat. Some of the best smallie action occurs near Doherty Island. Pumpkinseeds, yellow perch, and northern pike can all be caught. Flowing from the south end of Indian Lake, the Jessup River receives annual stockings of brown and brook trout.

ACCESS: A DEC launch at the lake's south end provides access and island camping.

Thirteenth Lake

Thirteenth Lake is primarily a brown and rainbow trout fishery, but some brook trout and wild salmon are present. Trolling and fly fishing are effective techniques. Spring offers the best action, and trout are likely to be found anywhere on the lake as they change preferred locations from year to year.

ACCESS: A 100-yard carry from a state parking area is required to get boat and motor to lakeside.

Mason Lake

Largemouth bass are the story at Mason Lake. The population of largemouths is well-established thanks to an abundance of shallow water, massive weedbeds, and underwater stumps! The large-mouths here can reach up to five pounds.

ACCESS: The lake has six primitive campsites and Route 30 borders the lake.

Lewey Lake and Miami River

For coldwater and warm water fishing, come to Lewey Lake! Its populations of northern pike, brown trout, lake trout, and smallmouth bass have attracted anglers for years. Search for pike around the big weed beds at the south end of the lake where the Miami River enters. Browns and lakers can be found in the deep mid-lake water. The Miami River, located to the south of Lewey Lake, offers remote opportunities for wild brook trout. Ice fishing is extremely popular.

ACCESS: Lewey Lake has a DEC campground and trailer launch at its north end.

Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area

Covering over 175 square miles and harboring 79 ponds, the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area offers trout fishing in a remote setting. Brook trout are the main draw, but some ponds hold rainbow and lake trout. The two most popular ponds are Upper and Lower Siamese, with potential for outstanding rainbow trout fishing.

RESTRICTIONS: Anglers should note that fish may not be used as bait in any waters in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.

ACCESS: Anglers will have to hike the trails before reaching any water.

Fawn Lake, Sacandaga River, South Branch West Canada Creek, Piseco Lake, Oxbow Lake, West Canada Lake Wilderness Area



Fawn Lake

Shallow lake offering the perfect wilderness outing for wild lake trout. Fawn Lake offers a peaceful paddle for those looking to fish calm waters; motorboats not permitted. When trout season opens on April 1, anglers jig for lakery through the ice. If you're lucky you might snag a smallmouth bass or pickerel.

ACCESS: Fawn Lake can be reached via a 1/4 mile hike. ❄️

Sacandaga River

A tributary to the Hudson River, the Sacandaga River gleams with premiere fishing and plenty of access points. The flow holds wild brook trout, and is heavily stocked with yearling brown trout. A popular fishing spot is a DEC campground two miles south of Wells. Excellent access, deep pools, and hefty stockings including two-year-old browns. Moving upstream from the campground where a road crosses, anglers will find a gorge that appeals to the adventurous fly fisher seeking wild brook trout!

ACCESS: Route 30 parallels the main branch of the river; a DEC campground is located two miles south of Wells.

South Branch West Canada Creek

The South Branch West Canada Creek offers superb fishing. The creek receives stockings of two-year-old brown trout and yearling brook trout in the waters downstream of The Floe. Above The Floe, wild brook trout are waiting to be caught! In addition to wading, anglers can canoe to their favorite spots below The Floe.

ACCESS: Several roads off Route 28 where these roads cross the river.

Piseco Lake

Piseco Lake remains popular among anglers, due to its healthy population of landlocked salmon and lake trout, stocked annually. Additionally, a good number of whitefish call this lake home! With an abundance of fish, Piseco Lake sees heavy angling pressure, especially in winter; comprising 80 percent of the pressure. For the best chances of snagging salmon or trout, troll near creeks in the spring.

ACCESS: Three DEC campgrounds with launches provide quality access. ❄️

Oxbow Lake

The steep slopes of Oxbow Mountain to the west hug the shores of Oxbow Lake, where largemouth and smallmouth bass fishing are king! Look for

largemouths near fallen trees, and the rocky areas along the north shore for smallies. Bass here grow to three pounds. Oxbow Lake has a plentiful pumpkinseed population and a decent number of pickerel in addition to bass fishing.

ACCESS: An unofficial launch at the east end and from a private launch (small fee) at mid-lake on the south shore.

West Canada Lake Wilderness Area

Comprising nearly the entire southern half of Hamilton County, the West Canada Lake Wilderness Area has over 50 ponds, with acres of water surrounded by a wilderness experience rarely encountered anywhere else. Of the dozen lakes, Cedar and Spruce are recognized as the best for brook trout. For a remote experience steeped deep within the backcountry, anglers should check out the pocket of ponds two miles southwest of Spruce Lake.

ACCESS: The remote nature of this area requires a significant hike from most directions. A rough jeep road from Perkins Clearing provides the closest access to Spruce Lake with a 3.5 mile hike from the end of the road, 9.3 miles from Perkins Clearing. Cedar Lake is a 5.5 mile hike from the Sled Harbor parking area. The Northville-Lake Placid Trail corridor traverses the area from Piseco to Cedar River Road.

Lake Pleasant, Sacandaga Lake, Wilcox Lake Wild Forest, Great Sacandaga Lake, Caroga Lake, Canada Lake



Lake Pleasant and Sacandaga Lake

Two lakes heavily stocked with big brown and rainbow trout await you here. Additionally, due to a thriving rainbow smelt population, brown and rainbow trout grow large, meaning a hefty reward. A navigable channel connects Lake Pleasant and Sacandaga Lake; although anglers may want to wait until the waters are high enough to attempt passage through here! During the summer, anglers can catch rainbows by using lanterns and chumming with corn. Both lakes hold significant numbers of smallmouth bass and offer some excellent early season walleye fishing, with pickerel found in weedy areas.

ACCESS: Boaters can access Lake Pleasant from an unpaved town launch near the outlet at Sacandaga River. Sacandaga Lake has a launch at Moffitt Beach State Campground. ❄️

Wilcox Lake Wild Forest

In the Wilcox Lake Wild Forest Area (WFA), brook trout are the prize species, with populations of brown trout, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and pickerel also available. The most popular water is Wilcox Lake, which offers a challenge for outdoorsmen and women to reach it. Anglers must hike almost five miles from any direction to reach these waters, but the reward is worth it! The DEC

stocks nearly 5,000 brook trout annually here. Vegetation makes shore fishing difficult, so most anglers use inflatable rafts or lightweight canoes when fishing backcountry ponds.

ACCESS: The WFA has 45 ponds and lakes, most of which require a long hike to reach. Most of the trails into Wilcox Lake follow old roads and are marked primarily as snowmobile trails. The scenic East Stony Creek Trail (near Hope Falls) to Wilcox Lake is 4.8 miles one-way; the least used route from Willis Lake is 4.7 miles. From Harrisburg Lake, it is a 4.9 mile hike to Wilcox Lake.

Great Sacandaga Lake

The Great Sacandaga Lake, situated in the southern Adirondacks, is one of the largest lakes in the region and stretches over 29 miles, with depths up to 70'. Species include Northern Pike (world record 52.5"), walleye, bass, brown and rainbow trout, northern pike, and yellow perch, along with various panfish species. Smallmouth bass has been excellent in recent years.

ACCESS: Four state launches including Northville, Town of Day, Northampton and Broadalbin. ❄️

Caroga Lake

Caroga Lake, with a mean depth of 13', provides anglers a chance to catch rainbow trout and warm

water game fish including smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, brown bullhead, yellow perch, pumpkinseed. Trolling flashy artificials in the evening offers a good chance to catch these fish!

ACCESS: State campground located off of Route 29A. ❄️

Canada Lake

Canada Lake is deep (70') and provides colder water for species such as brown and lake trout to survive; also fish for chain pickerel, lake whitefish, and yellow perch. Smallmouth bass can be found along the rocky shores.

ACCESS: West Lake Road Parking Area, includes wheelchair accessible trailered boat launch and dock. ❄️

Peck Lake

Peck Lake is a man-made lake in the Town of Bleeker, averaging 14' deep and approximately 1,418 square acres in size. Anglers can expect to find a variety of fish including largemouth bass, northern pike, rock bass, smallmouth bass, white crappie, yellow bullhead, yellow perch, pickerel, and sunfish.

ACCESS: Private marina on Peck Lake Road, off Route 29A.

Schroon River, Lake George Wild Forest, Glen Lake, Lake George



Schroon River

The Schroon River sees an annual stocking of 10,500 rainbow, brown, and brook trout. The majority of stocked fish are rainbows. The Schroon flows for over 20 miles through Warren County, but much of the land is private. One popular public section is Starbuckville Dam. This heavily stocked area draws fly fishers, and it is a good spot for families. Another popular area is the mile of public fishing rights (PFR) paralleling the Schroon River Road. Fly fishers should note the Schroon has nice caddis fly hatches during May and June.

ACCESS: Partially posted. The DEC website has a map of the PFR stretch of river (see page 35). Canoe access sites exist at South Horicon and Riverbank as well as at several other locations.

Lake George Wild Forest

Bordered by Lake George itself, Lake George Wild Forest Area has 47 ponds and lakes. Many of these waters hold wild or stocked brook trout. Other available species include rainbow trout, brown trout, and largemouth bass. Two popular ponds are Fishbrook Pond and Bumps Pond. Jabe Pond is the most heavily fished water because it can be

accessed via a four-mile jeep trail. Rainbow trout stockings were initiated at Jabe Pond in the early 1990s, and it also sees hefty brook trout stockings annually.

ACCESS: Most waters here require a several mile hike to reach.

Glen Lake

Glen Lake sees an annual stocking of 2,250 rainbow trout, so the lake offers outstanding fishing for big rainbows. May through early summer is a prime time to troll minnow plugs, flies, or wabblers and worms. The best catches frequently occur near the 40-foot depths in the eastern end of the lake.

ACCESS: A town launch provides car-top access, but parking is very limited here. ❄️

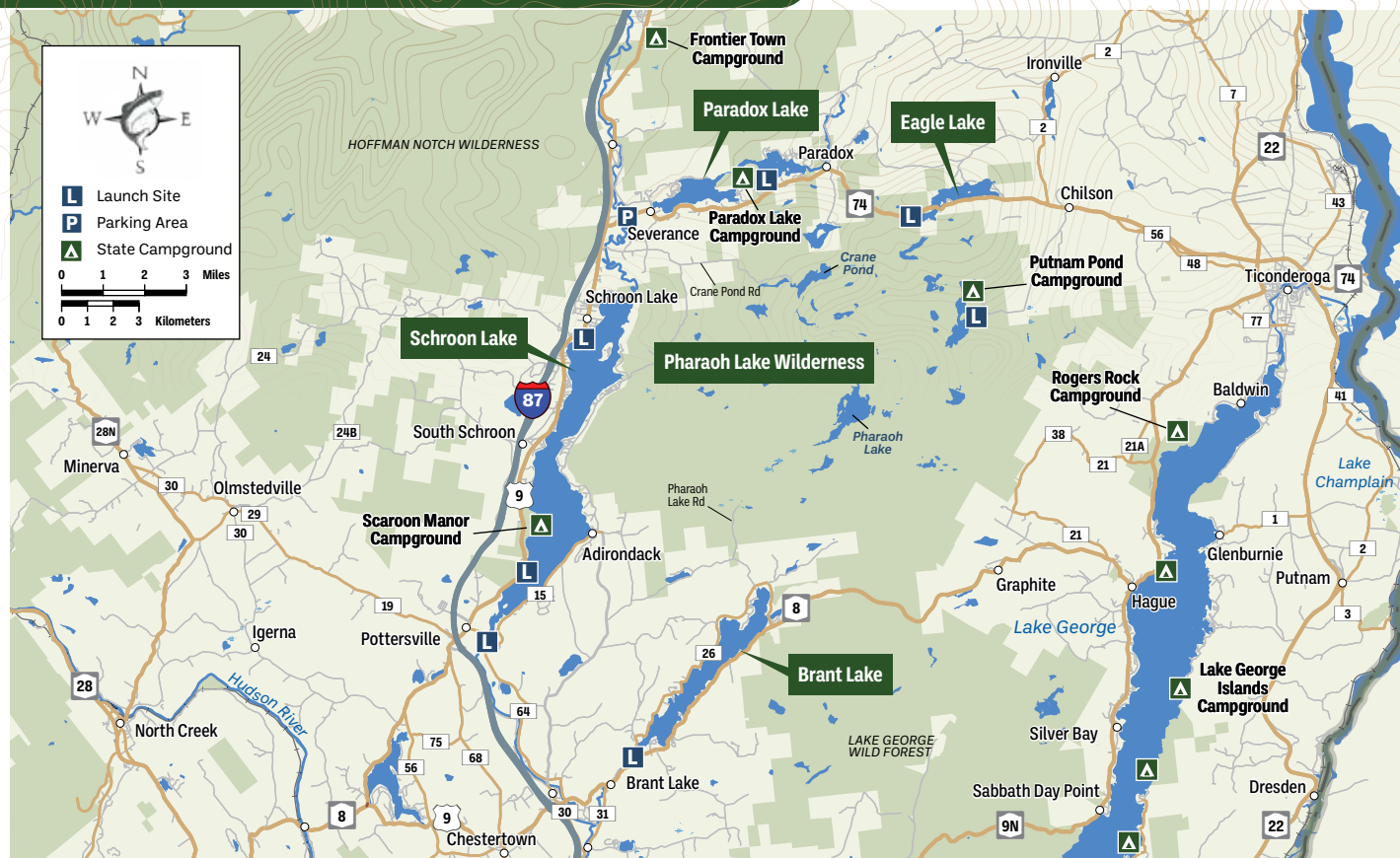
Lake George

Lake George is a first-rate fishing water. Both the North and South basins hold populations of wild lake trout, landlocked salmon, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, pickerel, northern pike, and panfish. Trout and salmon are very accessible in the spring near tributary mouths, but during the summer, anglers will need downriggers or other

deep-water gear to reach these fish. When bass season opens in June, look for smallies in rocky areas. Summertime smallmouths prefer rocky habitat, too, but they are typically caught at 70-foot depths on minnows or crayfish. Throughout the season, check out the weedy bays for largemouth bass, pickerel, and pike. Lake George's high panfish population makes the water a good choice for young anglers.

ACCESS: Four public DEC launches provide access: Mossy Point, south of Ticonderoga on Black Point Road, and the launch at Roger's Rock State Campground, both have concrete ramps and are located at the northern end of the lake. There's a car-top launch in Northwest Bay and a launch ramp in the southern basin at Million Dollar Beach which is open from ice-out until the week before Memorial Day and from the week after Labor Day until ice-in. Numerous fee-charging launches exist around the lake. Lake George sees heavy recreational use from Memorial Day through Labor Day so summer anglers should plan their outings for early morning or poor weather days. ❄️

Paradox Lake, Eagle Lake, Schroon Lake, Pharaoh Lake Wilderness, Brant Lake



Paradox Lake

Steps away from Mount Severance, Paradox Lake opens up with over 800 acres of fishable waters, and plenty of species to discover. The lake holds a natural population of lake trout, with landlocked salmon and rainbow trout stocked annually. Anglers will also find smallmouth and largemouth bass lurking about in the depths below. For those on the salmon hunt, the west basin is your target, also popular with rainbow trout. Look for large-mouth bass around The Narrows, and scope out the rocky islands and shoals for smallmouths.

ACCESS: A state campground and launch provide access.

Eagle Lake

Eagle Lake is a beautiful spot that sits right alongside Route 74 between Ticonderoga and Schroon Lake. With approximately 420 acres, there's plenty of space to spread out and catch smallmouth bass, northern pike, and brown trout. Smallmouth action can be found along the rocky shorelines and islands. The lake sees an annual stocking of over 3,500 brown trout, and the best fishing occurs in the larger, deeper basin. After you're done casting, at the farthest east end of the lake away from the boat launch lies a sandy beach and campsites.

ACCESS: A state-owned, car-top launch on the smaller, south basin provides access and small to medium-size boats that can maneuver under the causeway to the main basin. ❄️

Schroon Lake

Stretching over nine miles and surrounded by lush forested hills, Schroon Lake is renowned for its diverse fish population, including lake trout, landlocked salmon, smallmouth and largemouth bass, and northern pike. The trout and salmon are stocked annually, with numbers reaching to nearly 10,000 fish added to the lake per year. In winter you'll find the largest pike under the ice, as well as primed salmon and lake trout; these fish flourish in the colder months. In the warmer months, check out weedy areas for largemouth bass and northern pike.

ACCESS: Anglers can access the lake from a state launch on the south end or from a village ramp at the north end. ❄️

Pharaoh Lake Wilderness

Accessible by foot only, the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area offers remote experiences for stocked and wild brook trout. Some of the 20 or so ponds here also have wild lake trout, and fishing for lakers can be outstanding. Hikers can reach some ponds via a short hike of a mile or so, or they can spend a few days backpacking to waters deeper in the wilderness area. The best fishing occurs in spring and fall when water temperatures are cool. Plugs, spoons, and flies will take trout, but the most consistent producer is the traditional Adirondack wabber and worm.

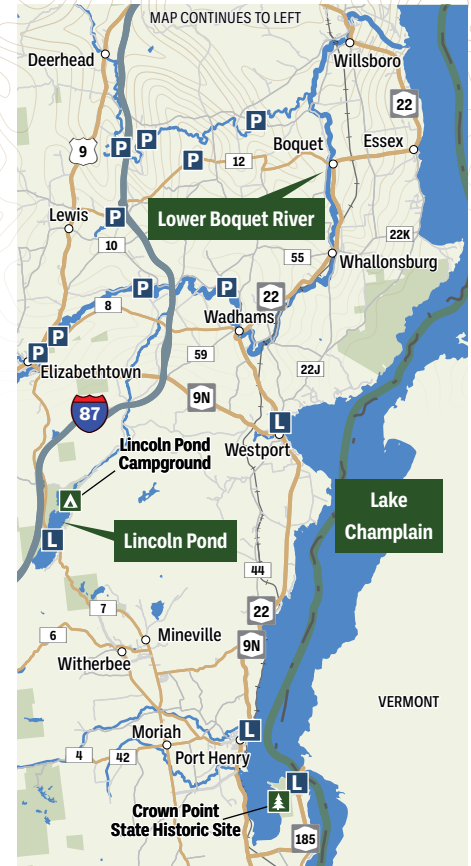
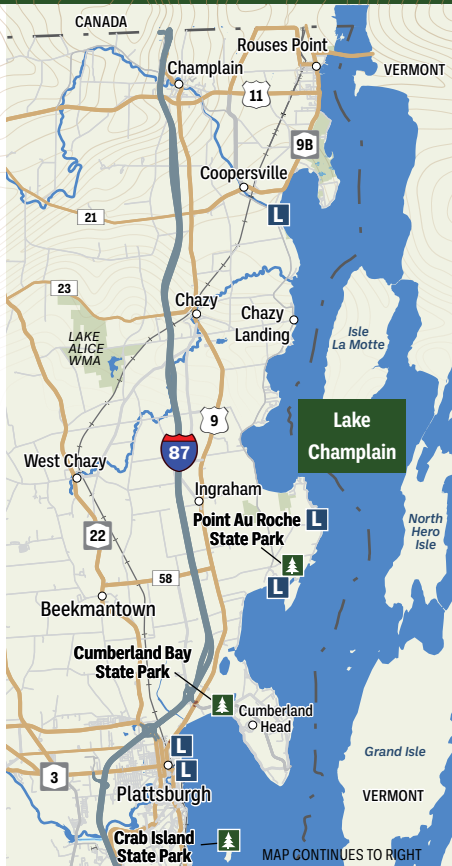
ACCESS: Popular access points include Putnam Pond State Campground on the east side, Crane Pond Road on the west side, and Pharaoh Lake Road on the south end.

Brant Lake

Annual stockings of nearly 3,000 brown trout bring anglers to this lake. The best fishing occurs from May through early July when anglers troll minnow plugs or flies. Both browns and rainbows are open-water fish so they could be anywhere on the lake. Brant Lake has a decent largemouth bass fishery in the weedy bays.

ACCESS: Anglers will find public access at a DEC launch at the west end near the outlet. ❄️

Lower Boquet River, Lincoln Pond, Lake Champlain



Lake Champlain

Lake Champlain, including the area around Plattsburgh, offers a diverse range of coldwater and warmwater species, making it a coveted destination for anglers throughout the year. From Port Henry to Cumberland Head, the central portion of the lake presents prime opportunities for lake trout and landlocked salmon. Trolling reigns supreme as the most effective technique, with anglers venturing near shore in spring and fall, while mid-summer sees them heading to open waters. Key to success is locating schools of smelt, enticing catches with smelt-imitation plugs, spoons, or flies. Plattsburgh's rocky shoals and shorelines provide excellent habitat for smallmouth bass, while weedy areas harbor largemouth bass and northern pike.

ACCESS: Quality launch sites around the lake, including those in Plattsburgh, ensure easy access for anglers, setting the stage for exhilarating pro bass fishing tournaments.

Lower Boquet River

The Lower Boquet River shines in the spring and fall season when it comes to landlocked salmon! The best action occurs during these seasons when the fish are most active, swimming against the current of this meandering river. Anglers can cast in the spring from Willsboro out toward Lake Champlain, using canoes or car-top boats to troll smelt-imitation offerings. In the fall, landlocked salmon are available to both shore anglers and small boaters as the fish run upstream to Wadhams Falls.

ACCESS: Public fishing rights are scattered through the river so anglers should check DEC maps before hitting the water.

Lincoln Pond

For exceptional largemouth bass fishing, tiger muskies, and hidden smallmouth bass, Lincoln Pond is a heavily vegetated waterbody that serves as an oasis for fish in the Adirondacks. Anglers will also find northern pike, smallmouth bass, black crappie, pumpkinseed, and yellow perch within its waters. Fish are located all throughout this shallow lake, although bass numbers are lower in the southern basin. For the best results, standard presentations such as spinnerbaits, surface lures, and plastic worms work well especially along weedlines and in openings in the weeds. Due to thick vegetation and weedy waters, it is advised to fish this lake early on in the season.

ACCESS: The DEC campground and launch provide public access.



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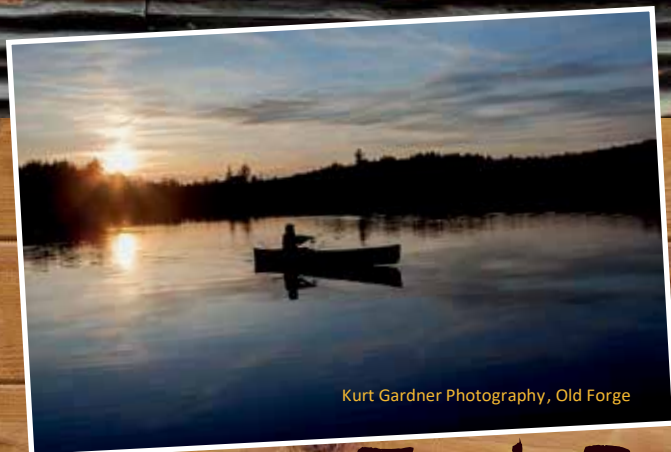
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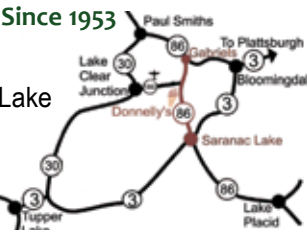





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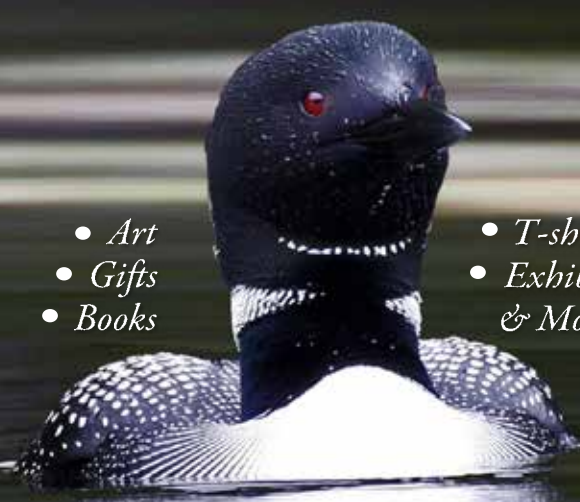
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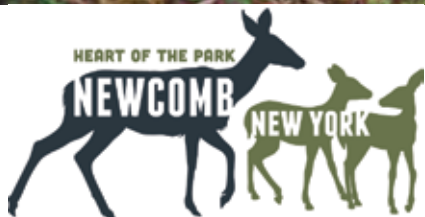
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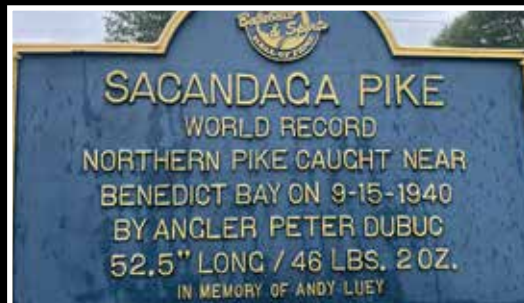
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