



STATE OF NEW YORK
CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
DIVISION OF FISH AND GAME
RAY BROOK, NEW YORK.

July 6, 1961.

Mr. Fred Ferrine, President
Eagle Lake Association
450 Fulton Street
Troy, New York

In reply refer to:
Eagle Lake P438
Upper Hudson Watershed

Dear Mr. Ferrine:--

This is in reply to your recent letter concerning the alleged decline of smallmouth bass and whitefish in Eagle Lake. Unfortunately we lack spare copies of our 1953 fisheries survey report. It is possible that you may be able to obtain a copy of this report from some other member of the association.

At any rate, the survey rated Eagle Lake as a barren relatively unproductive type of water. Growth rates for whitefish were considered about average for the species but smallmouth bass demonstrated retarded growth. The panfish population appeared to be excessive, particularly in terms of rock bass, which are direct competitors of the more desirable smallmouth. Some form of reclamation (poisoning) would seem to be the obvious fisheries technique to be applied. Unfortunately this drastic step would interfere with drinking water supplies and water sports such as swimming. Thus we would have to obtain the consent of all the shoreowners. In the case of resort lakes of this type, many summer residents prefer panfish species since the latter bite well when game fish undergo their summer doldrums.

Next season (1962), I will schedule a test netting check of Eagle Lake.

This will provide us with a relative basis of judging the present whitefish and bass populations as compared to our 1953 samples.

Sincerely,

M. Pfeiffer
MARTIN PFEIFFER
Regional Fisheries Manager
Regions 5 and 6. & S.

MP:vs