

## APPENDIX F

### Plan for Utilization of Hatchery Surplus Trout

#### **Excess Trout (overproduction spring fingerlings)**

Over production spring fingerlings are referred to as “excess” trout that become available in the spring and are to be utilized according to the following prioritized list:

- a) Recommendations by regional fisheries biologists to accomplish a specific objective (e.g. new impoundments, establishment of a reproducing population in a stream). Recommendations should be submitted to the hatchery by December 1 to ensure availability for the following spring.
- b) Initiating new, but on a limited basis (as surplus numbers permit), stocking programs.
- c) Sportsmen sponsored and operated fish culture nurseries (none at present).
- d) Barter with other state/federal agencies
- e) Large streams that support trout year round (maximum quantity given):

Musconetcong R. (from Stephens S.P. downstream)	60,000
Paulinskill – Lower	40,000
Paulinskill – Upper	3,000 (brook trout only)
Pohatcong Creek – Lower	30,000
Raritan River S/B – Middle	50,000
Toms River (bkt only)	3,000
Wanaque River – Upper	20,000

\*Assumptions: year round survival possible but contribution to the creel will be insignificant; impact to the existing resource will be minimal.

- f) Forage for other cultured fish species

#### **Bonus Trout (overproduction spring catchables)**

Overproduction spring catchable trout are referred to as “bonus” trout that may be available for distribution in the spring during In-season Weeks 6 & 7. These fish are to be stocked primarily in waters that support trout and provide a trout fishery year round. The following prioritized list of waters indicates the maximum quantity per water (maximum may be split between Weeks 6 & 7 unless otherwise noted):

- a) Fishing Education Pond (if needed – quantity undetermined)
- b) Stream sections regulated as year round or seasonal trout conservation areas:

Musconetcong River	500
Pequest River	1,500
S/Br. Raritan River	1,000
Toms River	500
Paulinskill- Upper	100 (no brown trout)

\* Exception - Do not stock bonus trout in Pequannock STCA (naturally reproducing population.)

c) Large streams and lakes that support trout year round (if maximum available, split between Weeks 6 & 7 for streams – stock lakes Week 6 only):

d) Small streams that support trout year round (if maximum available, split between Weeks 6 & 7):

Capoolong Creek	300 (Week 6 only, no brown trout)
Metedeconk River N/B	600
Pequest River – Upper	300
Wallkill River – Upper	500
Lockatong Creek	200 (Week 6 only)

e) Streams having closed in-season stocking dates that marginally support trout year round (preference is given to Week 6, but could be split between Weeks 6 & 7):

Ramapo River	800
Raritan River S/B – Lower	500
Rockaway River	1,000
Wallkill River – Lower	250
Wanaque River – Lower	150

f) Repeat item (c) reducing numbers proportionally for the amount of bonus trout remaining.

### **Surplus Trout (overproduction fall subcatchables)**

Over production fall subcatchable trout are referred to as “surplus” trout. Although these fish are generally not of a desirable harvestable size, if stocked they may provide additional recreational opportunities immediately (catch & release) and the following spring. These trout are termed “surplus” and utilized as follows:

- a) Sportsmen sponsored and operated fish culture nurseries (none at present).
- b) Prior to 2005 these trout were stocked during the third week of fall stocking. Commencing in 2005 these surplus trout will be stocked prior to the traditional fall stocking period. Stream temperatures must be checked to determine if water is sufficiently cool (less than 21°C) and trout may have to be “tempered” before stocked. The number of trout specified below for each waterway may be increased or decreased proportionally, depending upon availability):

Big Flatbrook – Lower	8,000
Black River	1,200
Manasquan River	1,400
Metedeconk River N/B	1,400
Metedeconk River S/B	1,200
Musconetcong River – Lower	10,000
Musconetcong River – Upper	3,000

Paulinskill River – Lower	7,000
Paulinskill River – Middle	800
Paulinskill River – Upper	1,200 (no brown trout)
Pequest River – Lower	6,000
Pequest River – Middle	1,600
Pequest River – Upper	600
Pohatcong Creek – Lower	3,600
Ramapo River	4,000
Raritan River N/B	4,600
Raritan River S/B – Lower	3,000
Raritan River S/B – Middle	9,000
Rockaway River	6,000
Toms River	2,000
Wallkill River – Lower	1,000
Wallkill River – Upper	1,000
Wanaque River – Lower	800

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