

**2009
PROPOSED FISH HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR
QUEMAHONING RESERVOIR, SOMERSET
COUNTY, PA
SOMERSET COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**



**SOMERSET
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**



**PLANS BY:
THE PA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION
DIVISION OF HABITAT MANAGEMENT, LAKE SECTION**



2009
THREE-YEAR FISH HABITAT MANAGEMENT PROJECT
For
QUEMAHONING RESERVOIR, SOMERSET COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
Sponsored by
SOMERSET COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Plans designed by
THE DIVISION OF HABITAT MANAGEMENT
LAKE SECTION
PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION
Plans prepared by
Benjamin Page

MANAGEMENT PLAN

The purpose of this plan is to address the habitat needs of Quemahoning Reservoir as they relate to its classification, fish species diversity and abundance, angler use and paid and/or volunteer work force. This plan is being installed at the request of the Somerset County Conservation District. This project is aimed at long-term and long-lasting artificial habitats that fit the reservoir's existing native habitats.

This proposed plan will provide the basis for the Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program cooperator, Somerset County Conservation District, to place artificial fish habitat structures in Quemahoning Reservoir. Construction supervision, structure placement and design are the responsibility of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's (PFBC), Division of Habitat Management (DHM) and/or its designee. All structures constructed must meet the requirements of the Division of Habitat Management-Lake Section. All structures included in this plan meet the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers General Permits (BDWW-GP-1 & SPGP-3).

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance is available through the Division of Habitat Management (maximum \$3000 per project, per calendar year) for the purchase of materials on a 50/50 matching basis with the cooperator. All requests for funding must come from a representative of Somerset County Conservation District to the PFBC's Division of Habitat Management. The Cooperator is responsible for all other material and labor costs.

IMPOUNDMENT INVENTORY

Quemahoning Reservoir is a man-made impoundment, rather than a natural lake. Due to this fact, this impoundment contains native fish habitats (existing physical characteristics), artificial fish habitats (structures or devices placed to act as fish habitat), and natural fish habitats (aquatic vegetation). The native fish habitats in the impoundment combined with the natural topography of the land provide a basis for classification of reservoirs in relationship to habitat. These native habitats existing in Quemahoning Reservoir can be enhanced through the placement of appropriate artificial habitats that best match the reservoir's classification, the native habitats, and the fisheries and angler needs.

Quemahoning Reservoir was physically surveyed by the Division of Habitat Management- Lake Section on October 14th, 2008 using a Lowrance X515C DF sonar and an Lowrance GlobalMap 5300c iGPS (global positioning system) on a 20' Boston Whaler Outrage utilizing one 90-degree transducer. The survey was conducted to inventory the existing native habitats and classify the impoundment, plus find any existing artificial habitats and determine their usefulness. Any existing artificial habitats found are shown on the attached plan map.