



Test Water
Designation

Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

Dewey Building, 1 National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620, 802-828-1000
STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 10 V.S.A. SECTION 4142

Jobs and Martins Ponds

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 V.S.A. § 4142, Jobs Pond in Westmore and Martins Pond in Peacham, as described below are hereby designated as Test Waters from April 13, 2019 through October 31, 2019.

1. Findings

- A. Wild brook trout ponds are limited in Vermont. Currently, there are only eight ponds in the state known to have populations of wild brook trout that are large enough to provide significant angling opportunities. Jobs and Martins Ponds are the only two of these wild brook trout ponds that consistently produce brook trout longer than 15 inches. The brook trout populations of both ponds have been sampled repeatedly over the last several years with fall electrofishing.
- B. Stocking of trout at Jobs Pond was ended in 2012 in order to eliminate competition for food and habitat between wild and stocked fish. The Martins Pond brook trout population is less dense, so it continues to be stocked with brook trout to enhance the fishing experience there.
- C. Fishing is only permitted from the second Saturday in April to October 31. The use of fish (alive or dead) as bait is prohibited.
- D. The Fish Division collected angling information with angler survey boxes stationed at Martins Pond from 2010 to 2012 and with a creel survey at Jobs Pond in 2012. The Jobs Pond creel survey data suggested that a large proportion of the wild brook trout population was being harvested.
- E. The intention of this designation is to increase the abundance and size of wild brook trout in these ponds.
- F. The same designation was in effect from 2013 through 2018. This one-year extension will provide time for the Fish and Wildlife Board to establish permanent rules for these waters.


2. Statutory Determination

- A. Pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 4142, the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept Commissioner may, for the purpose of securing data relative to the propagation of fish, designate as test waters streams and ponds within the state.
- B. The Commissioner has determined that the designated Test Water is important for the conservation and propagation of the species in those waters. (See Findings 1.A.-F.)

3. Conditions of the Test Waters

During the above specified period, fishing in Jobs Pond (Westmore) and Martins Pond (Peacham) shall be in accordance with the following:

- A. All brook trout between 12 and 15 inches in length must be immediately released.
- B. The daily creel limit for brook trout is 2 fish, of which only one can be 15 inches or longer.

Authorized by: 
Louis Porter, Commissioner

Date: *Sept 12 18*