

ATTENTION: KEUKA LAKE ANGLERS AND BOATERS

When boating and angling on Keuka Lake this year, please be on the lookout for fluorescent orange buoys with flags throughout the lake. Solar-powered lights and reflective tape are attached to the buoys so they will also be visible at night. Up to 20 buoys will be located around the lake for two years as part of a research project.

The research project that was initiated in 2018 as part of a cooperative effort by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), United States Geological Service (USGS), and Cornell University to study post-stocking survival and habitat use of cisco. Over the last two years, approximately 180,000 ciscoes were stocked as part of an experimental program to reestablish this native forage fish in Keuka Lake. Cisco were once abundant in the lake but have not been found since the mid-1990s. Since that time, lake conditions have become more favorable for cisco. A portion of stocked ciscoes have been implanted with small acoustic tags to track movements and survival of these fish. The buoys are attached to receivers placed on the lake bottom in waters generally more than 90 feet to pick up signals from the acoustic tags as cisco swim by. These receivers are anchored to the bottom of the lake. Interfering with the acoustic equipment will jeopardize research results.



Anglers, please be aware that if you are fishing within 150 feet of these buoys, it is possible that fishing gear may get entangled in equipment used to anchor the buoys to the bottom.

In addition, if anglers catch a cisco or notice one in a stomach while cleaning your catch, please save it and contact DEC at 585-226-5343, or USGS at 315-730-0096. Arrangements will be made to collect it. Information provided by this research will be utilized for future management decisions in Keuka Lake and other lakes throughout New York and the U.S. If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact us at the numbers listed above. Thank you for your cooperation.

Cisco Research

Please report Cisco catches to mchalupnicki@usgs.gov preferably with a picture, date, and location. Please keep carcass if possible.

