United States Department of Agriculture

Fishpond Managment (Code 399)

Fishpond management is the development or improvement of aquatic habitat and water quality in impounded waters to produce fish for domestic use or recreation.

Practice Information

This practice is applied in warm and cold water ponds, lakes, and reservoirs that are not managed for commercial aquaculture purpose. Fishpond management can be used to improve fish production in almost any pond, lake, or reservoir where a crop of fish is wanted. The objective is to improve fish production by improving aquatic habitat and managing water quality. The practice involves increasing food supplies and decreasing competition from unwanted plants and animals.

Operation and maintenance of the fishpond is essential for the successful management of the pond, lake, or reservoir. Activities include evaluation of habitat conditions on a regular basis, management of fish or other aquatic organism populations, supplemental feeding where applicable, removal of undesirable and overpopulated organisms, management and control of aquatic vegetation, application of fertilizer and lime where applicable, and monitoring and maintenance of desired water quality conditions (e.g., dissolved oxygen, hardness, pH, alkalinity, phytoplankton bloom, etc.).

Common Associated Practices

Fishpond management is commonly applied with the conservation practice Pond (378).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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