

## Caroline Kleinschmidt

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**From:** Perry, John <John.Perry@maine.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 7:11 AM  
**To:** caroline@greenlakewaterpower.com  
**Cc:** Burr, Gregory  
**Subject:** RE: Green Lake Project (P-7189) - Question

**Categories:** GreenLakeWaterPower

Hi Caroline,

In our DLA comments, we requested the following clarification:

### Section 5.3.3.4 Arctic Charr

The DLA states, "Arctic char spawn during the fall in water that is 1.5 to 6 feet deep..."

MDIFW Comment: **The FLA should be clarified that Arctic charr likely spawn at depths deeper than 6 feet at Green Lake.**

Regional Fisheries Biologist Greg Burr (cc'd) recently confirmed that Arctic Char in Green Lake tend to spawn in water that is at least 6 feet deep, which reflects his staff's inability to catch them in their trap nets.

I hope this helps clarify the issue. I am on the road to a meeting in NH today, but hopefully Greg is around if you have any follow-up questions regarding charr

John

**John Perry**  
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**From:** caroline@greenlakewaterpower.com <caroline@greenlakewaterpower.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 7, 2024 11:08 PM

To: Perry, John <John.Perry@maine.gov>

Subject: Green Lake Project (P-7189) - Question

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Hi John,

In your response to the GLWP DLA – Accession 20220131-5099 – you stated:

Section 5.3.3.4 Arctic Charr

The DLA states, “Arctic char spawn during the fall in water that is 1.5 to 6 feet deep...”

The FLA should be clarified that Arctic charr likely spawn at depths deeper than 6 feet at Green Lake.

We would like to clarify if this should be interpreted as:

1. Arctic char in Green Lake spawn in water that is 1.5 to 6 or even more feet deep, or
2. Arctic char in Green Lake tend to spawn in water that is at least 6 feet deep?

We are concerned that the fall drawdown timing given in MDEP’s draft WQC may not reflect the best available science on arctic charr in Green Lake. The WQC calls for the fall drawdown levels and timing to remain unchanged in the new license. We do not expect the summer and winter lake level restrictions to change, but it would benefit lake residents and potentially GLWP and the Hatchery to move the drawdown later in the fall, and possibly to allow a spring drawdown level lower than that achieved in the fall (still subject to the overall minimum, winter level though).

If statement #2 above is correct, then the easiest way to allow fall drawdown flexibility is to remove the timing requirements altogether. If arctic charr spawn below 6 feet water depth, then their eggs wouldn’t be dewatered by GLWP’s 3.2 ft drawdown, even with 24-30” of ice on the lake (the actual drawdown would likely be less than 3.2 ft, since it would be unlikely arctic charr would spawn before at least part of the drawdown had occurred.) The summer level would be in effect from 01-June through at least Labor Day weekend and the winter level would be in effect from when the summer period ended until the following 01-June.

In case conditions change for arctic charr in Green Lake, the fall drawdown timing for a particular year or “until further notice” could be worked out by GLWP in consultation with MDIFW and the Green Lake Association, and be subject to final approval from MDIFW.

Our main concern right now, is that if the current draft WQC remains unchanged, FERC will be barred from putting more appropriate and beneficial fall drawdown conditions in the license.

Thanks, Caroline