



Hap-Hazzard News October 2023

Upcoming Events:

- October 10. Chapter meeting at 7 PM; Endwell Fire Station, 3508 Country Club Rd., Endwell.
- October 14. Fall camping, tree planting and barbecue with our 5 Rivers College Clubs. Willowemoc Creek/DeBruce and Catskill Fly Fishing Center. See details below.
- November 14. Chapter meeting at 7 PM; Endwell Fire Station, 3508 Country Club Rd., Endwell. Special presentation on the Saranac River Dam Removals and Atlantic Salmon by John Wylie of the USFWS.
- December 12. Chapter meeting at 7 PM; Endwell Fire Station, 3508 Country Club Rd., Endwell.

Fall Camping Trip & Tree Planting

Saturday, October 14th 10:00am

Join us for an exciting weekend with the New York State Council of TU, and *Youth Program Director Lindsay Agness!*

Trout Unlimited staff will be hosting a fall camping trip & tree planting for students from several TU/Costa 5 Rivers College Clubs around the Northeast. They will be arriving Friday night and staying thru Sunday morning.

TU Chapter volunteers are welcomed and encouraged to come help! The event (Saturday, Oct 14th: 10am) is open to the public and there are two different registration pages:

- 5 Rivers students who wish to camp for the weekend
- local volunteers who would like to help out: <https://tu.myeventscenter.com/.../Catskills-Tree-Planting...>

On Saturday morning (Oct 14th: 10am), we will all meet on the recent restoration site of the Willowemoc Creek for a brief site tour before we get started on planting native trees. The Catskill Fly Fishing Center will host a catered BBQ lunch that day before sending volunteers off to find some fish! All details listed on the registration pages above.

Editor Notes:

Happy fall everyone. Well that was certainly a hydrologically interesting summer! I'm sure the fish that made it through our dry May were really happy with their habitat thereafter, although it certainly did not help with our ability to catch them. I hope to see some improvements in our native trout recruitment next Spring as a result. Your board members continue to work on crafting an agenda that supports your interests. Our member survey will be coming to you very soon and we strongly encourage you to reply and let us know your thoughts. Please remember to send me any of your personal fishing news, pictures or updates that you'd like me to share; I'm sure I'm not the only one catching fish! Thanks very much, Allen Peterson.

Meanwhile in Iceland:

Bob Mead reports that the fish are biting.
(18 lb. sea-run brown)



Highlights from New York Trout Unlimited Staff

Tracy Brown, Restoration Manager – Tracy.Brown@tu.org

Jesse Vadala, Community Engagement Coordinator –

Jesse.Vadala@tu.org

Your New York Team has been busy! **We have secured more than \$5,000,000 of grants to conduct culvert and watershed assessments, fish and habitat monitoring and habitat improvement projects.** A listing of our some of our ongoing projects is below. Contact Tracy or Jesse if you want details on any of these efforts.

Priority Waters

- Over the next year we will be developing action agenda and opportunities for chapter involvement for each Priority Water. Reach out to Jesse if you want to be included in drafting any of these plans. Much of this work will happen in the fall after field season. If you are interested in providing information to be included in the strategic planning effort please see the survey we have created to collect this information.

Adirondacks

- We hired a field summer 2023 team to complete culvert assessments in Adirondacks – Tug Hill and South Branch Moose River.
- Received grant from Sustain Our Great Lakes Grant (\$319,636) - Black River Reconnection Project which will include two culvert replacements in Beaver River that will open up 7.4 miles (2024 construction) and 400+ culvert assessed in the headwaters Black River and Tug Hill summer 2023.
- FY2022 WQIP Grant (\$241, 680) to support the Black River Reconnection Project t project.
- Received grant from Cornell University for culvert assessments in South Branch Moose River watershed for \$126,387 – 2-year project to include prioritization and municipal outreach. Phase 1 culvert assessment work is complete. Community outreach planned for fall and winter 2023.

Saranac River

We received a Cooperative Agreement with USFWS (\$286,018) to work on the Saranac River Reconnection and Restoration Project.

- SUNY Plattsburgh Restoration Project on the Saranac in partnership with the Lake Champlain Chapter underway. Construction postponed until 2024.

- Working with USFWS, Lake Champlain Basin Program, NYSEG, Patriot Hydro and SLR Engineering to remove Indian Rapids Dam and Fredenburgh Falls Dam remnants. Received additional funding from Lake Champlain Basin Program to complete these projects - \$374,950.
- Culvert prioritizations are complete in the watershed. We met with the town of Franklin to discuss priorities. Completing NFWF Forest and Rivers grant and FY2023 WQIP grant to support replacement. Construction is planned for 2024-25.

Upper Delaware River

Delaware River Grant (\$249,758) Culvert Replacements in the Town of Delhi – Partnering with USFWS, DEC Region 4, Town of Delhi, Delaware County SWCD..

- East Branch Trout Habitat Improvement Project - fish tracking, temp study, culvert assessments (complete summer 2021)
- Webster Brook culvert replacement project (complete summer 2022); fish monitoring summer 2023 complete.
- Federal Hill Road #2 over Hughes Brook. Project complete summer 2022; fish monitoring and planting complete summer 2023.
- WQIP grant to support Federal Hill Culvert Project (\$109,085)

Delaware River Grant (\$239,509) Aquatic Passage and Restoration Project – Partnering with USFWS, DEC Region 4, Town of Colchester, Delaware County SWCD and Friends of Upper Delaware River.

- Laurel Brook Restoration Project on private property (completed 2022); planting and fish monitoring complete summer 2023.
- Town of Colchester Project (summer 2023; underway)
- WQIP grant to support Fuller Brook Project (\$109,085)

Delaware River Grant (\$249,072) Culvert Assessment and Restoration in the UDR – Partnering with USFWS, DEC Region 4, Village of Deposit, Town of Hancock, Town of Colchester and Friends of Upper Delaware River.

- Oquaga Creek Restoration Project Ext WWTP (postponed to summer 2024)
- Monguap Creek Restoration Project (complete summer 2023)

Delaware River Grant Subcontractor to FUDR for design and technical assistance (\$69,000) - Wilson Hollow Priority Habitat Improvement Project. Partnering with USFWS, DEC R4, Town of Colchester and Friends of Upper Delaware River.

- Mellis Brook Culvert Replacement Projects on private property (complete summer 2023)
- WQIP for Laurel Creek Culvert Replacement Project (\$162,785) on private property - Partnering with USFWS, DEC Region 4, and Friends of Upper Delaware River (summer 2023 construction).

Delaware River Grant (\$221,692) Willowemoc Creek Restoration Project - Partnering with USFWS, Town of Rockland and Friends of Upper Delaware River.

- Willowemoc Creek Restoration Project – Beveridge Property (construction complete 2023)
- Little Beaver Kill Waterline Protection Project – Coyne Property (construction underway 2023)
- Willowemoc Creek Waterline Protection Project – Riverside Park (construction postponed 2024)

Delaware River Grant Subcontractor to Sullivan County Planning for technical assistance (\$120,000)

- Neversink Management Plan. Partnering with Sullivan County and Friends of Upper Delaware River. Culvert assessments and prioritization with municipalities, conceptual level designs for project, subwatershed assessments and support in plan writing and outreach.

Delaware River Grant Subcontractor to Friends of Upper Delaware River for technical assistance (\$230,000)

- Willowemoc Creek Assessment. Partnering with USFWS, DEC R3, Town of Rockland and Friends of Upper Delaware River (summer 2023 and 2024). Year 1 data collected. Summary of data results underway.

Delaware River Grant (\$635,484) priority culvert replacements s Town of Hancock, Colchester, and Deposit (summer 2024, 2025). Partnering with USFWS, DEC R4, Towns and Friends of Upper Delaware River.

WQIP Grant (\$166,632) to support priority culvert replacements in Town of Hancock, Colchester and Deposit.

Upper Susquehanna River

Chesapeake Bay Grant (\$171,118) priority culvert replacements on Wylie Brook – Partnering with Town of Coventry, USFWS and DEC Region 7.

- Wylie-Horton Culvert Replacement (complete 2021)
- Wylie @ Cueball Road (complete 2022)
- Wylie unnamed tributary (complete 2022)
- Culvert assessments in watershed (complete 2022)

Chesapeake Bay Grant (\$140,000) Priority Culvert Replacements on Wylie Brook at Ives Road

- Partnering with Town of Coventry, USFWS and DEC R7 (construction 2024).

Chesapeake Bay Grant (\$359,159) Wylie Brook Assessment and Butternut Outreach – Partnering with Town of Coventry, USFWS and DEC R7.

- Wylie Brook Assessment – QAPP and monitoring plan draft complete (summer 2024)
- Butternut Culvert Assessment and Municipal outreach – assessments complete; outreach underway.

Chapter Supported Work

The team is working with DEC to implement DEC TU Habitat Program Projects for 2023 (\$142,500)

- Owego Creek Habitat Improvement (labor and materials)
- SUNY Saranac River Restoration Project (support for materials) – Project postponed.
- Battenkill Restoration Projects (support for materials)
- Oquaga Creek WWTP Project (support for materials)- Project postponed.
- Schenevus Creek Restoration Project design and fundraising support with USFWS and Clearwater Chapter.
- Quakenkill and Poestenkill Projects in partnership with Home Waters Chapter.
- Owego Creek Strategic Plan development in partnership with Region 7 VP Allen Peterson.
- Chittenango Creek Restoration Project support with Council Conservation Committee and Madison County Chapter.

Other Projects

- Big Creek (tributary to Oriskany Creek) Restoration Project in partnership with Village of Waterville and USFWS. Phase 2 underway. Phase 1 completed in 2022 with Mohawk River grant (\$100,000)
- West Kill Restoration and Reconnection Projects – Partnering with DEC R4.
- Briggs and Caulkins Road culvert replacement projects (construction underway summer 2023).

NY Council Update (From Allen Peterson):

- Ian Blackburn from DEC Cortland Fisheries has informed me that funding is formally approved for the Owego Creek project at West Creek Rd. It is now going to bid to replace two failing pool diggers with rock vanes.

At our recent State Council meeting, the following news items were shared:

- The State Council Conservation Committee has increased the funding available to Chapters for conservation projects to \$9,000.
- The New York City DEP has postponed the shutdown of the Delaware Aqueduct until October 2024 (thus delaying any impacts to trout in the downriver reaches by a year).
- Sarah Baker, the State Diversity coordinator is looking for a woman from each region to serve on her diversity committee (Contact Allen Peterson if you have interest or questions).
- And finally, after many years of planning, the Indian Rapids Dam on the Saranac is GONE!

Going, going:



GONE!



NY Council Youth Education Update (From Lindsay Agness):

NYS TU Youth Membership status:

Total NY TU Youth members = **236** members
Breakdown by gender: 160 Boys & 76 Girls
Stream Explorers (Ages 12 & under) = 176 members
TU Teens (ages 13-18) = 60 members
In June 2022 we had 60 youth, we are now at 236 youth memberships across the state.

Youth Membership by Chapter

Chapters leading the way with lots of youth are:
Mohawk Valley/Tug-Hill Black River, Seth Green, Western New York, Canandaigua Lake, Lake Champlain

Chapter Name	# of Youth Members
002 - Iroquois	7
028 - Catskill Mountain	1
029 - Clearwater	9
031 - Al Hazzard	2
068 - Western New York	19
069 - Long Island	1
073 - Seth Green	35
112 - Mohawk Valley	73
113 - Croton Watershed	6
209 - Chenango Valley	2
210 - Dave Brandt	5
239 - Leon Chandler	3
293 - Mid Hudson	9
419 - Lake Champlain	13
425 - Art Flick	4
447 - New York City	6
473 - Adirondack	3
518 - Finger Lakes	8
569 - Columbia Greene RVW	1
589 - Tug Hill- Black River	9
594 - Canandaigua Lake	15
611 - Upper Delaware	2
680 - Madison County	3
Grand Total	236

Trout in Classroom/Salmon in the Classroom (TIC/SIC)

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) programs are kicking off at the chapter level as school starts up again. I encourage each chapter to please identify a Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Coordinators at the chapter level. I'm happy to report we now have 25 chapters who have identified a TIC representation at the chapter level from across the state. 22 TU Chapters

are involved in TIC programs in their communities impacting over 19,638 students in 245 schools across New York State for the fall 2022/spring 2023 season. This is amazing work!

I'll be reaching out to the TIC Coordinators for each of the chapters to get a count of schools & # of students impacted by the programs this school year. As a reminder, all TIC students are eligible for a free TU membership by having the teacher fill out the Free Membership spreadsheet & contacting me at (lindsay.agness@gmail.com) and we can submit it to TU National (Franklin Tate franklin.tate@tu.org) for free memberships.

4-H Youth & Family Programs: We are lucky to have Keith Tidball as our TU member. Keith is the Assistant Director for Cornell Cooperative Extension. There are many county wide 4-H programs or camps in your area. They support Environment to conserve and protect ecosystems, wildlife, fisheries, waterways & forests. They also receive federal & state funding at the county level for environmental improvements to mitigate climate change impacts. Some of the counties are doing cold water fisheries work, brook trout education. I encourage each of our chapters to reach out to their local 4-H programs to understand how their youth programs align with your chapters TU's youth education events. This may be an easy way for a chapter to get started by helping at youth or family events that is run by the 4-H in their area. For more information visit <https://nys4h.org/> or <https://cals.cornell.edu/cornell-cooperative-extension/our-work/4-h-youth-development-strengthening-families>

Check Out the Tackle Box App on the NYSDEC HuntFishNY Phone App



HuntFishNY is the official New York State Department of Environmental Conservation mobile app, **Now Featuring the TACKLE BOX:**

Check out the new Tackle Box feature in the HuntFishNY mobile app! Tackle Box provides anglers with one stop shopping for waterbody-specific information on fishing regulations, stocking, and fishing/boating access sites.

Tackle Box features include:

- Ability to search waterbodies by name or zooming/panning a NYS map
- Waterbody-specific fishing regulations
- Fish species and stocking information by waterbody
- Fishing access information, including boat launches and parking areas
- Navigation feature for driving directions

To access these exciting new features today, download the latest version of HuntFishNY by visiting your [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#) (links leave DEC website).

You can also check out [How to Access Tackle Box in the HuntFishNY App](#) on DEC's YouTube Channel.

NOTE: A recent change in app developer ownership created an issue in the HuntFishNY mobile app that was causing the app to crash upon launch. An update to the app was released on 8/21/23 that resolved the issue. Users who had previously installed HuntFishNY on their phones will need to update the app to the most recent version. For those users who have automatic updates turned on, the app should auto-update on its own.

Member Pics

The Russell Brook Triple Play:



Stream Condition and Fishing Report Links

We send out thanks over to Gordon Mueller at the Canandaigua Chapter for pulling together this set of links to area condition and fishing reports! If you know of any others we should post here, please email them to Editor Allen Peterson:

Orvis New York Fishing

Reports: <https://fishingreports.orvis.com/northeast/new-york>

Delaware River, West Branch Angler: [Delaware Fishing Report — West Branch Angler Resort \(westbranchresort.com\)](#)

Ausable River, Hungry Trout: [Ausable River Stream Conditions | Hungry Trout Resort - An](#)

[Adirondack Escape](#)

Cayuga and Seneca Lakes, Finger Lakes Angling Zone: <http://fingerlakesanglingzone.com/reports/>

Oak Orchard Creek, Oak Orchard Tackle & Lodge: <https://fishoakorchard.com/stream-conditions/>

Salmon River, Douglaston Salmon Run <https://www.douglastonsalmonrun.com/Fishing-Report.aspx>

DEC Central NY Fishing

Hotline: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/9218.html>

DEC Lake Erie & Western NY Fishing

Hotline: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/9217.html>

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Web Links

Al Hazzard Chapter Website: <https://alhazardtu.org>

Al Hazzard Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/alhazardtroutunlimited>

NYS Council Website:

<https://newyorkcouncil-tu.org>

NYS Council Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/newyorktu>

TU Events Calendar:

<https://tu.myeventscenter.com/browseByState/NY/1>

