



New York State Conservation Council Convention

Bureau of Fisheries Update

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August 11th, 2023

Trout Stream Access Verification

Year 2 – 22 Counties to be Verified in 2023

| Region | 2023 Counties (22) for Access Verification | Pre verification mileage* | % of each Region's Total Stocked Mileage |
|--------|--|---------------------------|--|
| 3 | Dutchess, Rockland, Westchester | 124.2 | 39.7% |
| 4 | Columbia, Rensselaer, Otsego | 119.2 | 42.3% |
| 5 | Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga | 93.3 | 25.1% |
| 6 | Herkimer, Jefferson | 107.7 | 31.1% |
| 7 | Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Oswego | 96.7 | 30.7% |
| 8 | Chemung, Schuyler, Seneca, Yates | 35.1 | 32.2% |
| 9 | Allegany, Chautauqua | 118.0 | 45.2% |
| | | 694.3 | 34.7% |

Trout Stream Access Verification

Year 2 – Responses to landowner letters (1488 parcels)*

| Landowner Response | Number of parcels | % of parcels |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Interested | 297** | 20.0%*** |
| Declined | 574 | 38.6% |
| Non-response | 617 | 41.5% |
| | 1488 | 100.0% |

* As of 8/9/23

** 79 parcels have had access confirmed thus far

*** Interested response rate is similar to 2022 response rate

Trout Stream Access Verification

Year 2 – Municipal response (234 parcels)*

| Municipal Response | Number of parcels | % of parcels |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Access permitted | 29 | 12.4% |
| Access denied | 7 | 3.0% |
| Ongoing contact** | 198 | 84.6% |
| | 234 | 100.0% |

* As of 8/9/23

** Municipalities often require a motion to be passed to permit access

Trout Stream Access Verification

Year 2 Remaining timeline

- **August 25:** Final CO letters sent
- **October 15:** Reaches assessed and adjustments made if needed, including creation of RASs.
- **March 31:** Verified access sites are posted with fishing permitted signs.

Trout Stream Access Verification

Year 2 partnership collaboration

- FWMB
- Trout Unlimited

Adirondack Brook Trout Pond Management Plan

- Historical Perspective Report
- Focus Group Meeting
- Draft Plan

Climate Adaptive Trout Stocking Study



- Browning (DOC)
- Oxy-thremal Squeeze
- Heritage strain survival
 - Evaluate different strains
 - Determine behavior – acoustic tagging

DEC / TU Habitat Partner Projects

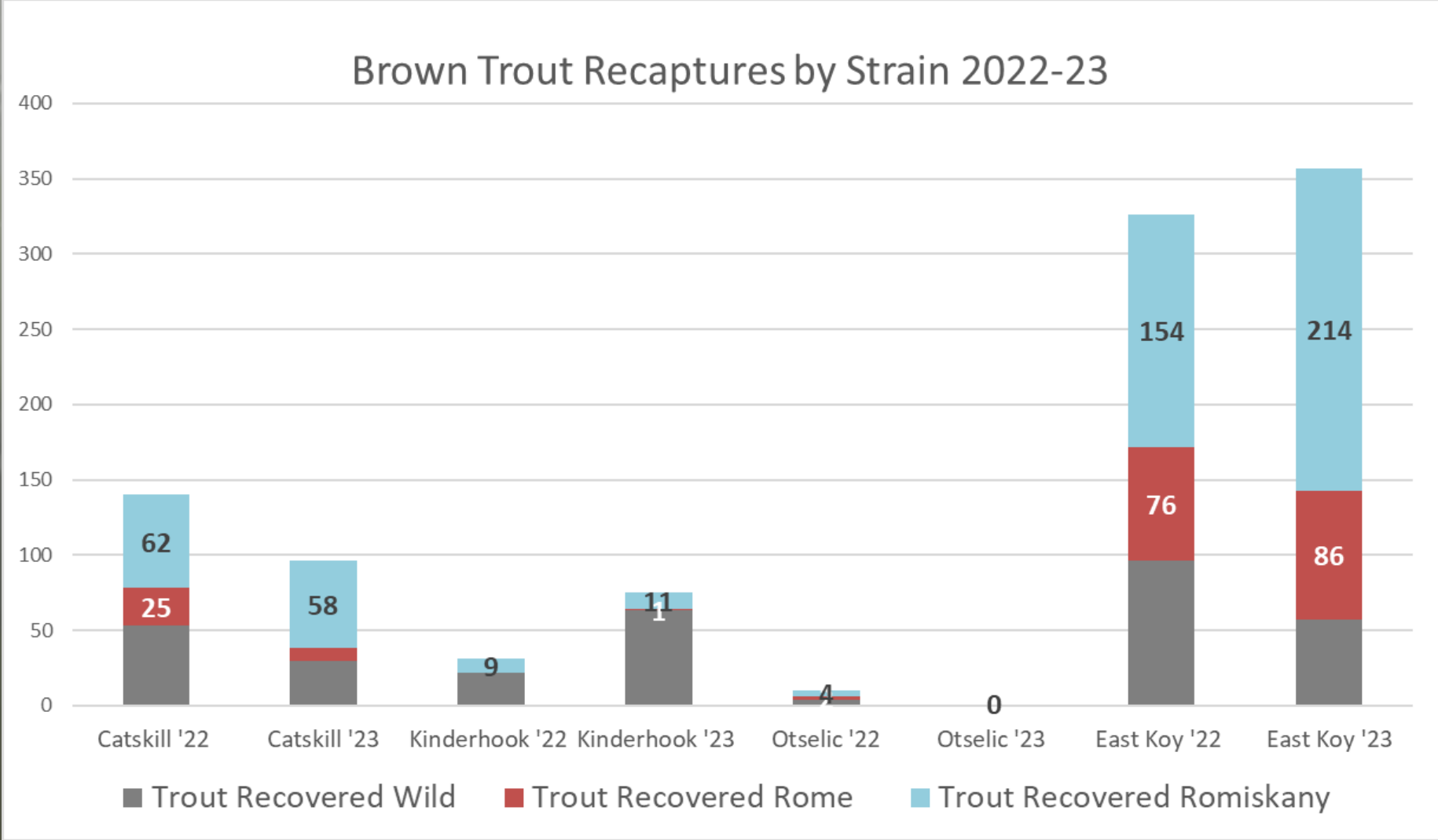
Seven projects slated for 2023 @ \$146,000

- Battenkill (2)
- Owego Creek
- Saranac River
- Willowemoc Ck
- Chittenango Ck
- Schenevus Ck

Brown Trout Refresh

- Growth is behind but should catch up
- Better survival in the wild
- One more year until full production

Brown Trout Refresh



Catch and Release Season Evaluation

- 2022 angler counts completed according to plan. Fishing pressure from October 16- December 15 was generally low across the board.
- 2022 YOY abundance surveys completed except for 3 sites (persistent high water, equipment failure).
- 2023 angler counts will start October 16
- Delaware count methodology being revised
- 2023 YOY abundance surveys - late August/early September

Cormorants – Lake Ontario

- Hazing crews from USDA, DEC Region 9 fisheries, and DEC Region 8 wildlife hazed Cormorants to protect newly stocked fish for 25 days at 16 stocking events from April 24 to May 31, 2023.
- Hazed 30,000 birds
 - 25,000 Cormorants
 - 5,000 Gulls
- Killed
 - 371 Cormorants
- Protected 1,036,600 stocked fish
 - Chinook Salmon 687,000
 - Brown trout 173,600
 - Atlantic Salmon 80,000
 - Lake trout 80,000
 - Steelhead 25,000

Genetic Parental Based Tagging Lake Ontario

- Tagging using genetics
- Hatchery moms
- Determine proportion of wild vs stock Chinooks
- Assistance from the Lake Ontario Fisheries Advisory Panel

Invasive Fish

A large, dark, mottled fish, likely a Goby or Northern Snakehead, swimming in shallow water. The fish is the central focus of the image, with its body covered in dark spots and blotches. The background is a blurred, shallow-focus view of water and possibly some vegetation or rocks.

- Goby:
 - Hudson River – Champlain Canal
- Northern Snakehead
 - Delaware River
 - Bashakill Marsh

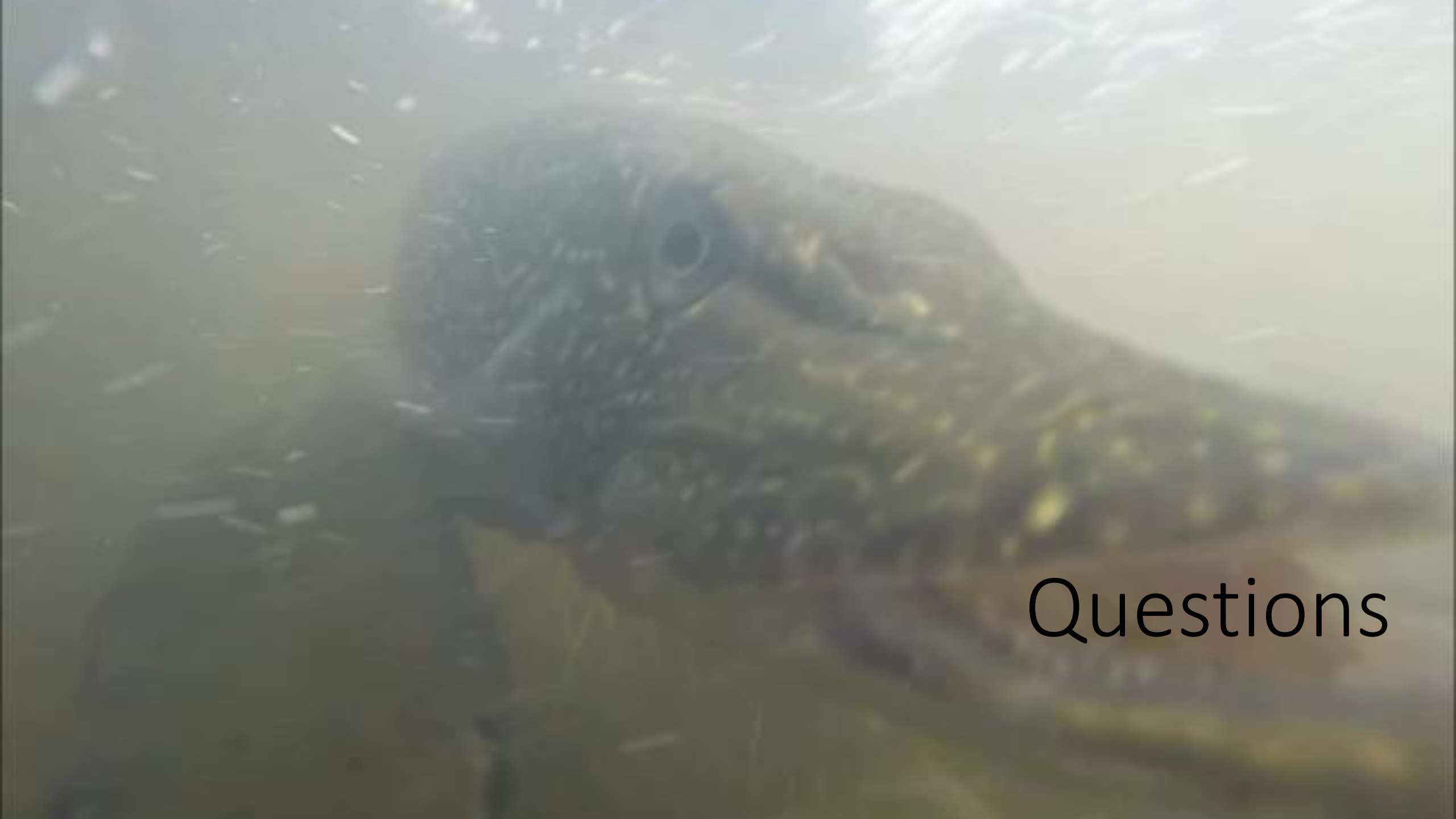
Big Panfish Initiative

- Size structure, condition and growth will be annually assessed on all populations through 2025.
- 2022 survey data are currently being compiled and assessed.
- 2023 survey data are in the process of being entered in the Statewide Fisheries Database.
- Reports on the 2021 surveys are available on DEC's website <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/124966.html>.

Bass Tournaments



- Environmental scanning
- Meetings with tournament directors
- Evaluating options for a registry



Questions