

Habitat GIT – Brook Trout

Where we've been

- November 29, 2012 joint science session with EBTJV at Cacapon SP, WV
- Assessment and climate change resiliency data handed out on CDs by Mark Hudy, USGS
- New York data not included yet; NY and EBTJV partners looking to incorporate in assessment
- Data subsequently hosted on EBTJV website with assistance from Appalachian LCC
- Call April 2013 between CBP action team and new EBTJV leaders
 - Doug Besler, North Carolina – Chair
 - Steve Perry, New Hampshire – Coordinator
- Discussed rationale (P. Tango) for revised outcome & steps for review
- Hosted April 23 webinar by USGS on shale gas impacts to brook trout

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Revised outcome statement:

“Restore naturally reproducing brook trout populations in Chesapeake headwater streams with an **8% increase in cumulative occupied brook trout patch area** by 2025.”

Old outcome statement:

“Restore naturally reproducing brook trout populations in headwater streams by improving 58 sub-watersheds from “reduced” classification (10-50 percent of habitat loss) to “healthy” (less than 10 percent habitat lost) by 2025”

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Where we're going/next steps

- Letter dated April 24 from Habitat GIT Chair to EBTJV Chair requests input on revised outcome before presenting to **MB on May 16**
- **June EBTJV** meeting; opportunity to discuss working together to:
 - Identify interim milestones and track project success
 - Identify appropriate geographic targets in Ches Bay states
 - Explore funding opportunities for projects of mutual priority
- **Need GIS assistance** in overlaying catchment/resiliency data with:
 - State identified healthy waters and Audobon identified priority forest blocks ➡ basis for land protection plan for brook trout (with GIT 4?)
 - Land cover data to identify areas for riparian buffer restoration (Forestry WG?)
 - Work with Fish Passage Workgroup to prioritize projects that would increase brook trout patch size
 - Well pad permit maps to identify areas for BMPs associated with fracking
- **FOD and OMB** have expressed interest in briefings