

Lo the angler.

He rises in the morning and upsets the whole household.

Mighty are his preparations.

He goes forth with great hope in his heart –
and when the day is far spent he returns,
smelling of exertion and strong spirits.

And the truth is not in him.

In 1918 The Camden Queen Central News reported that

- *Grace Peck and William Harrison Mills - married*
- *Eva Stowell and Ray Stevenson - engaged*
- *A violent electrical storm*
 - *damaged a Church in McConnellsville*
 - *three area barns destroyed by lightning*
 - *burned hay, killed foul and swine*

AND

In 1918 The Camden Queen Central News reported that

- *Grace Peck and William Harrison Mills - married*
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 - *damaged a Church in McConnellsville*
 - *three area barns destroyed by lightning*
 - *burned hay, killed foul and swine*

Anglers were catching three-to-six- pound brook trout from the Salmon River at Redfield.

*The Greats
Of
Adirondack Fly Fishing*

Robert W. Streeter

William E Scripture, Jr.

- Fly fisherman – Favored streamers
- Fished all over but loved the East Branch of Fish Creek - Taberg to Fish Creek Club
- **3 to 5 pound fish - both brookies and browns.**



Habitat Degradation Happened

Dams and obstacles to fish movement

- Isolation from food, mates and spawning habitat

Deforestation

- Warming water
- Bank erosion
- Sedimentation

Exotic/invasive species

Pollution

- Acid rain/deposition

CLIMATE CHANGE

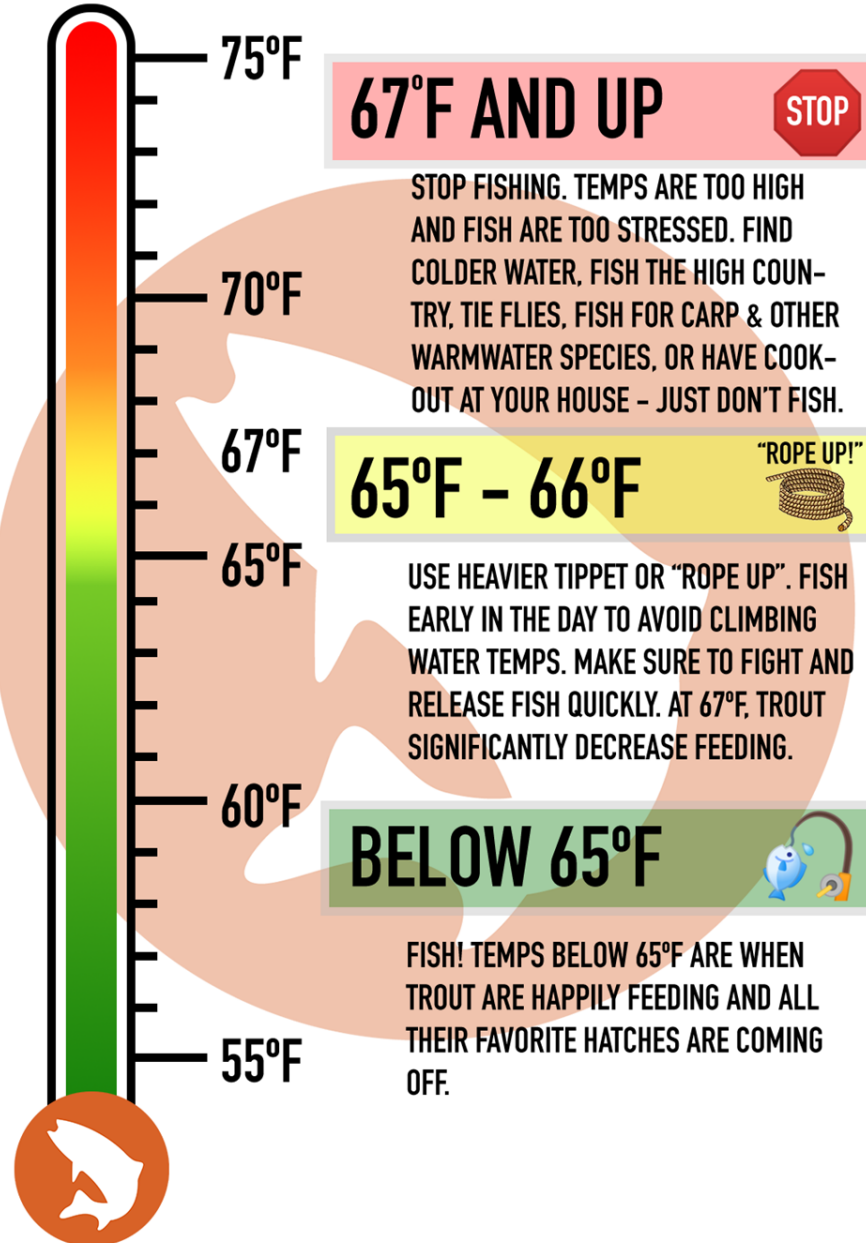
Trout Unlimited – a national conservation organization



- Mission: To bring together diverse interests to care for and recover rivers and streams so that our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout and salmon.
- Vision: For communities across America to engage in the work of repairing and renewing our rivers, streams, and other water bodies on which we all depend.

WATER TEMPERATURE & TROUT

WHEN TO FISH & WHEN NOT TO





Protect - wild trout and salmon and their habitat

Reconnect - waterways so they can function naturally

Restore - populations of native fish

Sustain - those fisheries thru advocacy and education



Terminology - *Just to confuse you*

Native – Species naturally occurring here

Wild - Individual born here but not necessarily from here

Exotic - Species not from around here

Invasive – Species not from around here and harmful to the new environment



Brook Trout

Native



Brown Trout- *Salmo trutta*
averages 8 - 20 inches in inland waters
20 - 32 inches in Great Lakes

Brown Trout

Exotic



Rainbow trout - *Oncorhynchus mykiss*
averages 8-20 inches in Inland waters and
20-34 inches in Great Lakes

Rainbow Trout

Exotic

Guiding Principles for Trout Stream Management

- Wild Trout
- Habitat
- Stocked Trout
- Angling Opportunity
- Management Approach



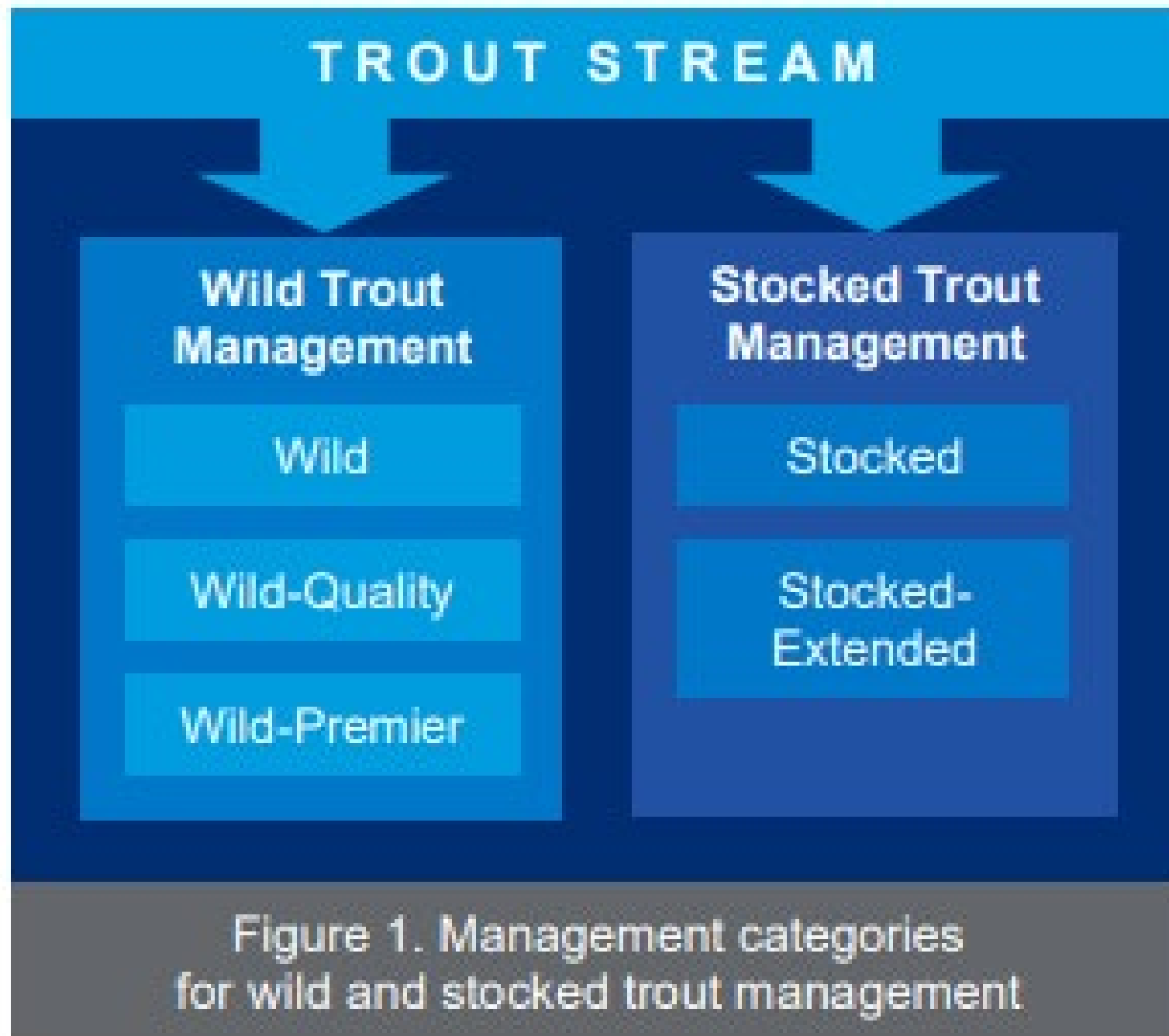
Department of
Environmental
Conservation

New York State Trout Stream Management Plan

NOVEMBER 2020

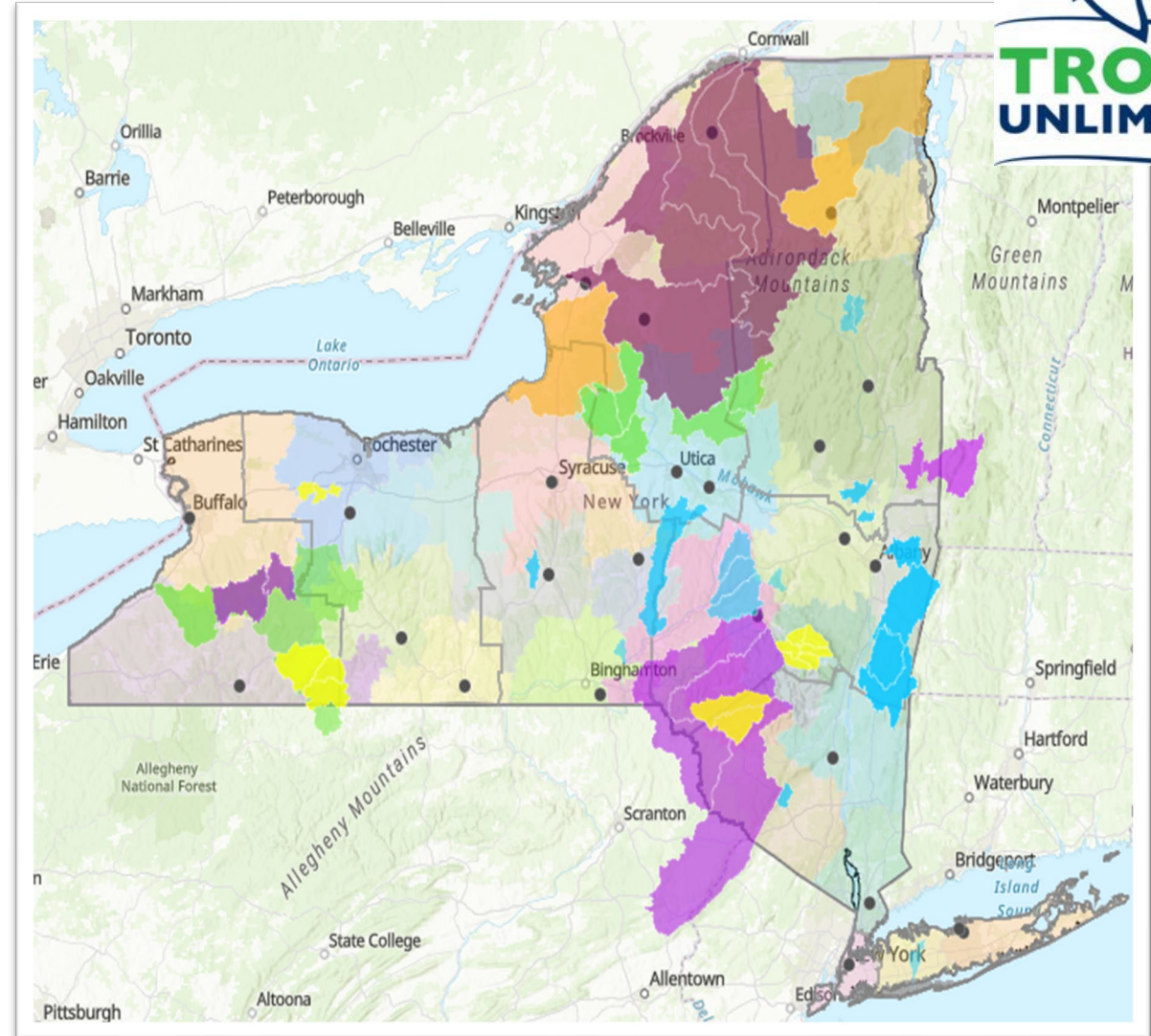
Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor | Basil Seggos, Commissioner





Finding the Right Places – TU's Priority Waters

- Strongholds, those large, intact habitats that support healthy populations.
- Climate resilient populations that occur in habitats anticipated to persist in the face of changing climate.
- Populations that represent the range of ecological, life history, and genetic diversity across a species' distribution.
- Outstanding wild trout waters where there is no conflict with native species management objectives.



UPDATE -- What We Want to Accomplish



Promote a singular NY Priority Waters concept for use at all NY TU organizational levels

- 5-year forward view
- 5-10 high quality projects
- Portfolio perspective

Continuous refinement of the NY Priority Waters Maps

- Follow the data
- identify specific Priority Waters for protection, restoration, reconnection, and reintroduction

Use the NYS DEC Trout Stream Management Plan Categories

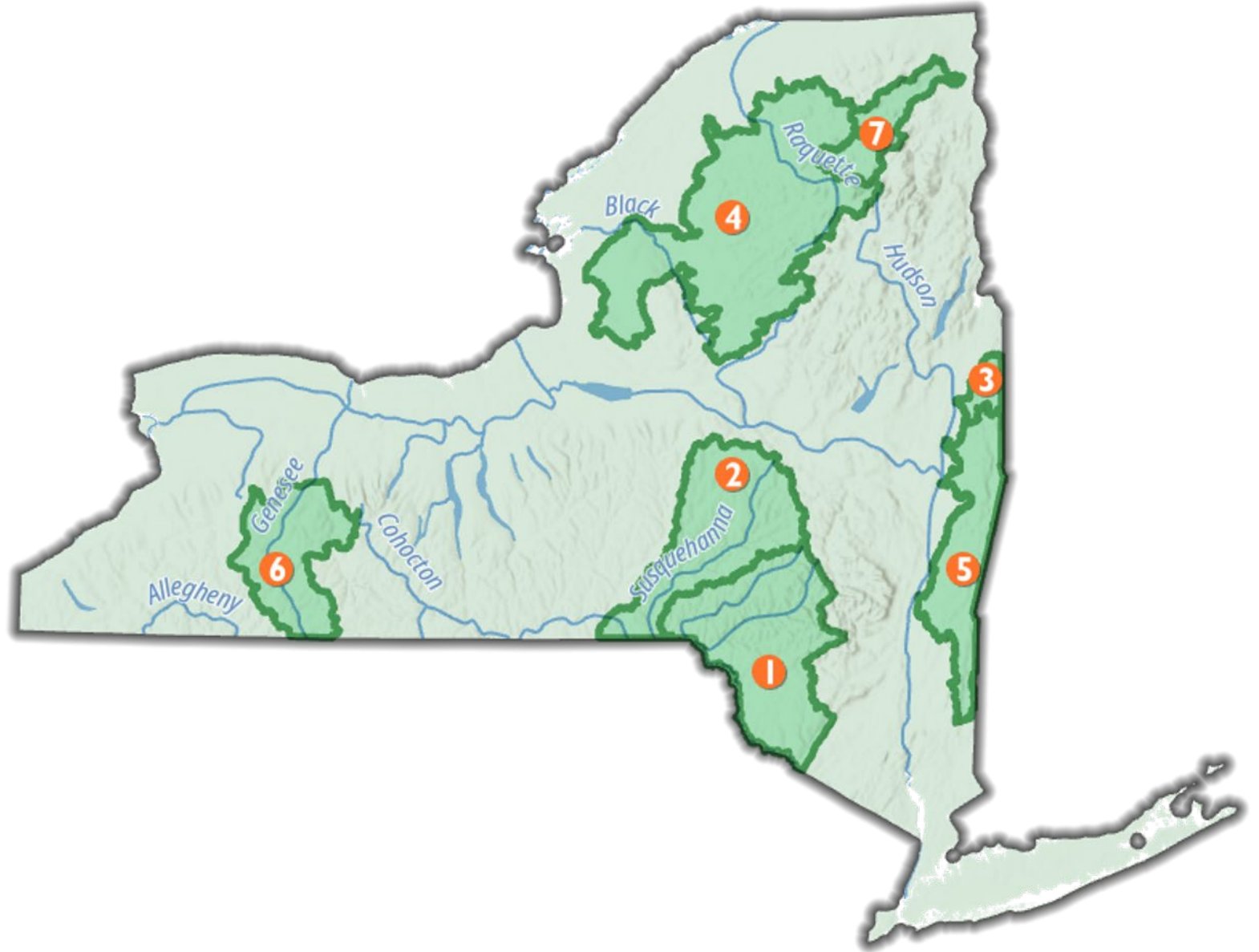
- As a simple project development concept for chapters
- As a shared tool for collaboration with NYS DEC

Identify and strengthen partnerships across all levels of TU through improved communication

- Council
- Regional
- Chapter



New York Priority Waters

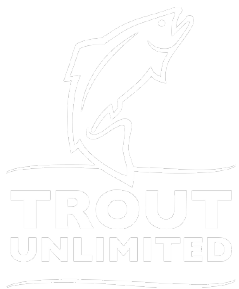


RECONNECT!

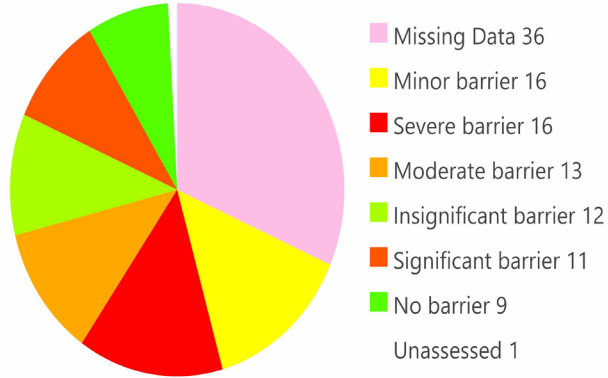


Tug Hill Region – Trout Unlimited Aquatic Passage Project Outline

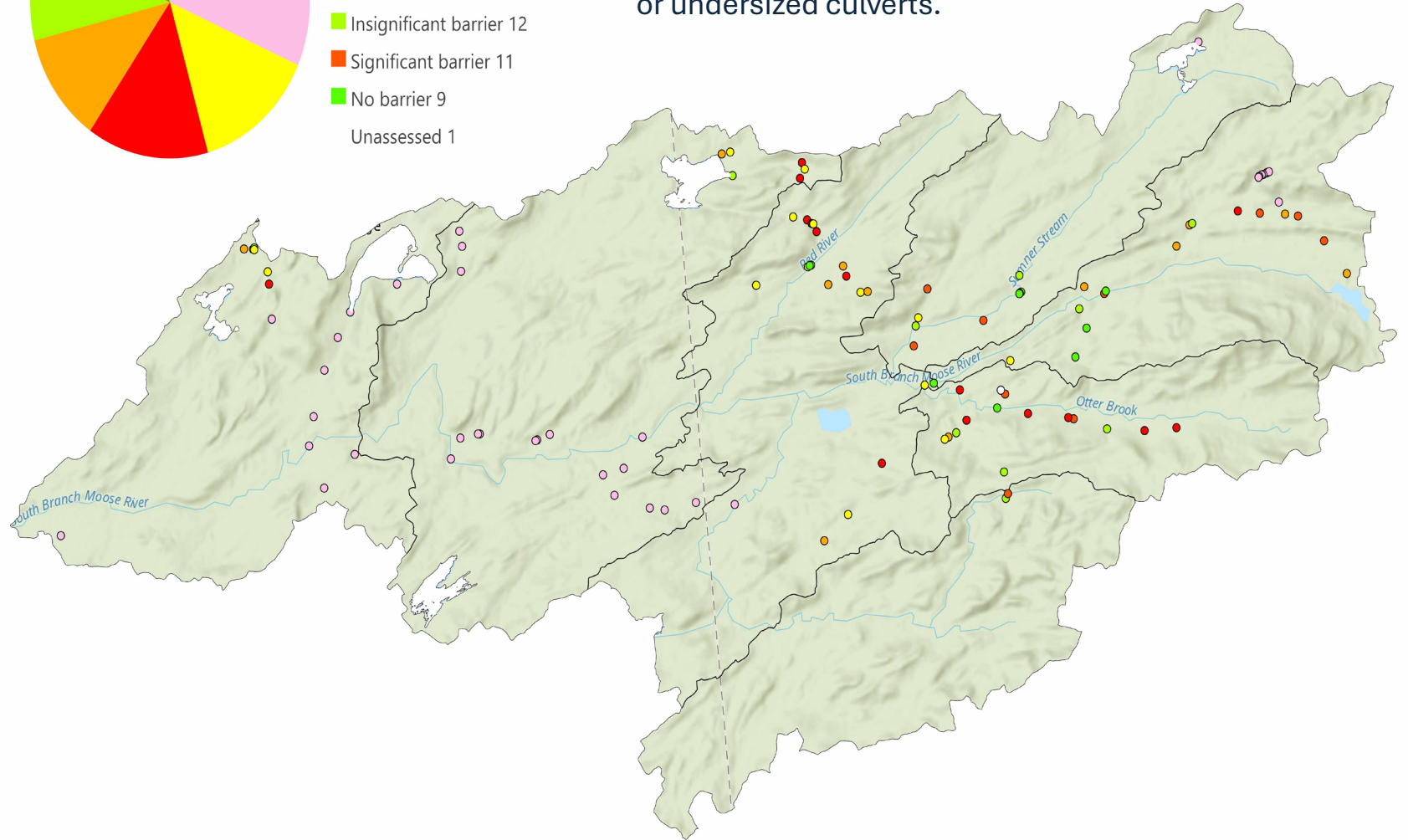




Crossings by NAACC Evaluation

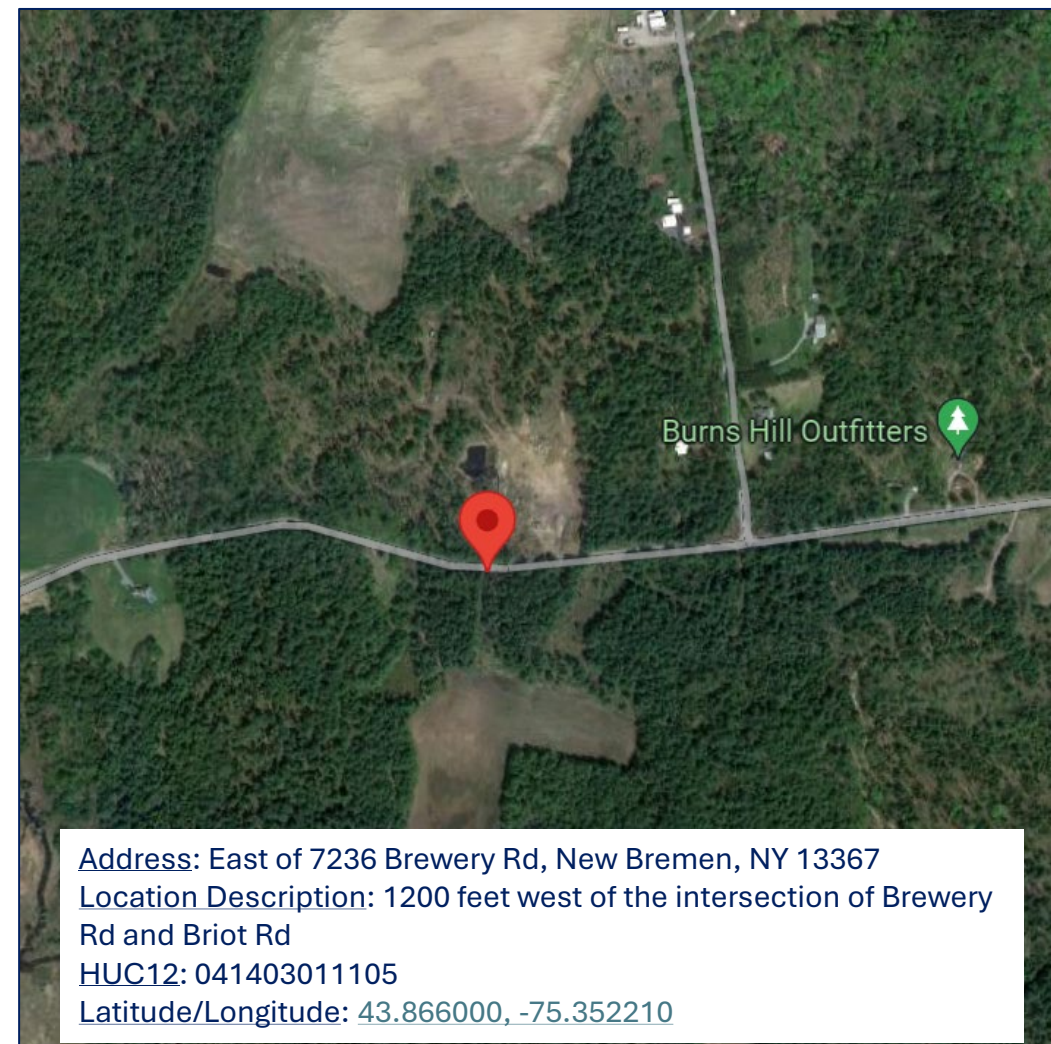
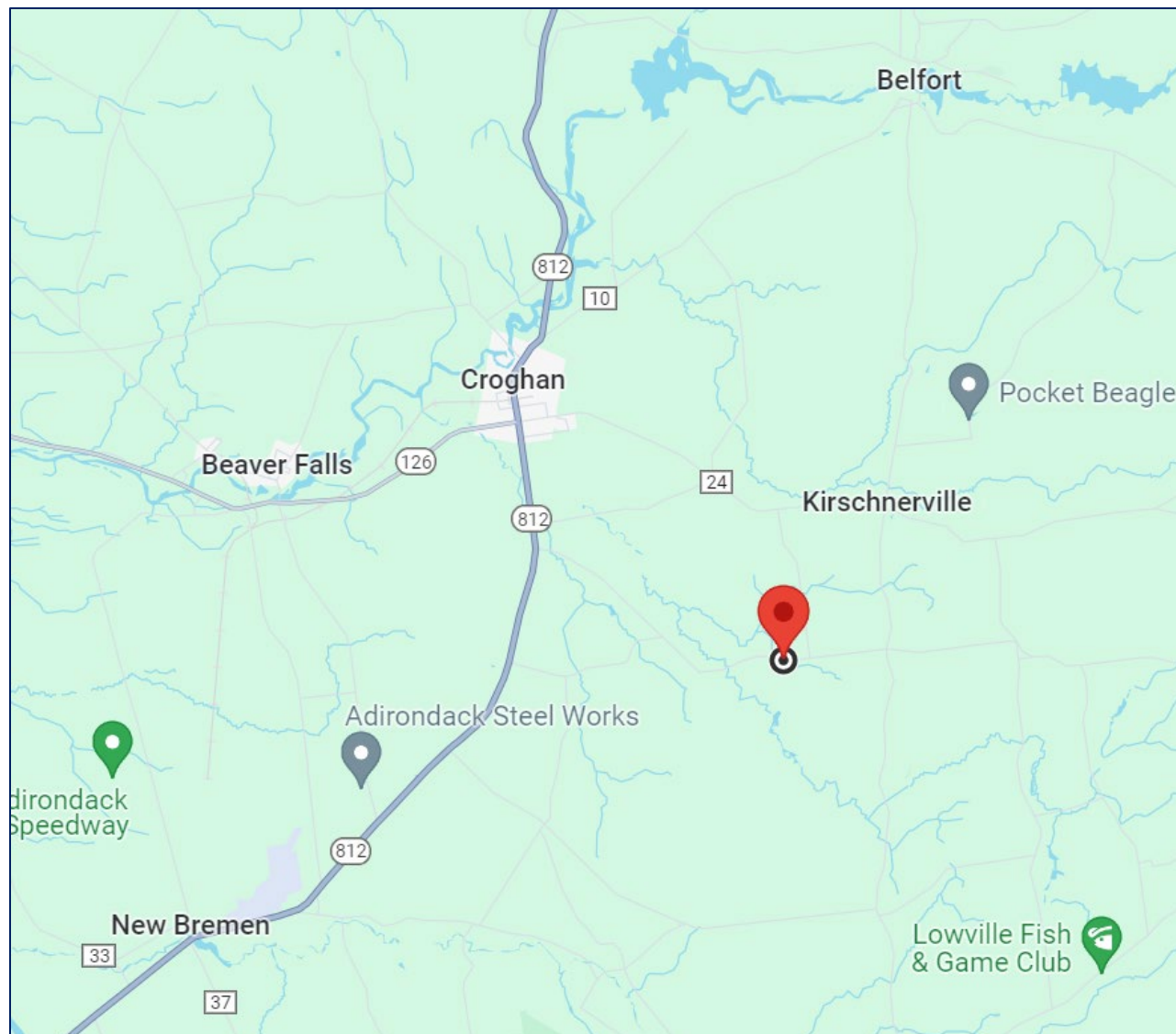


America's first state forest reserve still harbors native Eastern brook trout and still draws anglers. In this national landmark, we are assessing watershed fragmentation on the west slope streams, which drain into Lake Ontario, we anticipate surveying hundreds of culverts on state land. In the Black River watershed, we are reconnecting tributaries by replacing failing or undersized culverts.



Trout Unlimited Brewery Rd Culvert Replacement Project

Town of New Bremen, NY



Address: East of 7236 Brewery Rd, New Bremen, NY 13367
Location Description: 1200 feet west of the intersection of Brewery Rd and Briot Rd
HUC12: 041403011105
Latitude/Longitude: 43.866000, -75.352210

Last Updated 7/30/2026

Trout Unlimited Brewery Rd Culvert Replacement Project – Town of New Bremen, NY



Project Goals:

- Remove **significant barrier** for aquatic organisms and reduce habitat fragmentation for brook trout.
- **Reconnect 2.6 miles upstream** (USGS NHD) and **0.36 miles downstream** to confluence with **Black Creek**.
- Improve stream conditions by creating a stable stream reach that is climate change resilient.
- Improve town infrastructure to reduce maintenance costs and ensure flood resiliency
- Minimize project construction footprint and maintain mature vegetation.

Ownership:

Town of New Bremen, majority of the work will be done within the town's right-of-way. The town highway department will contribute to site restoration. The project will be completed by a hired contractor.

Partners:

USFWS Partners for Wildlife – lead agency Nationwide Permit-27 review

Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District - monitoring

Funding:

WQIP Round 18 (C01898GG)

Project Timeline:

Implementation summer 2024



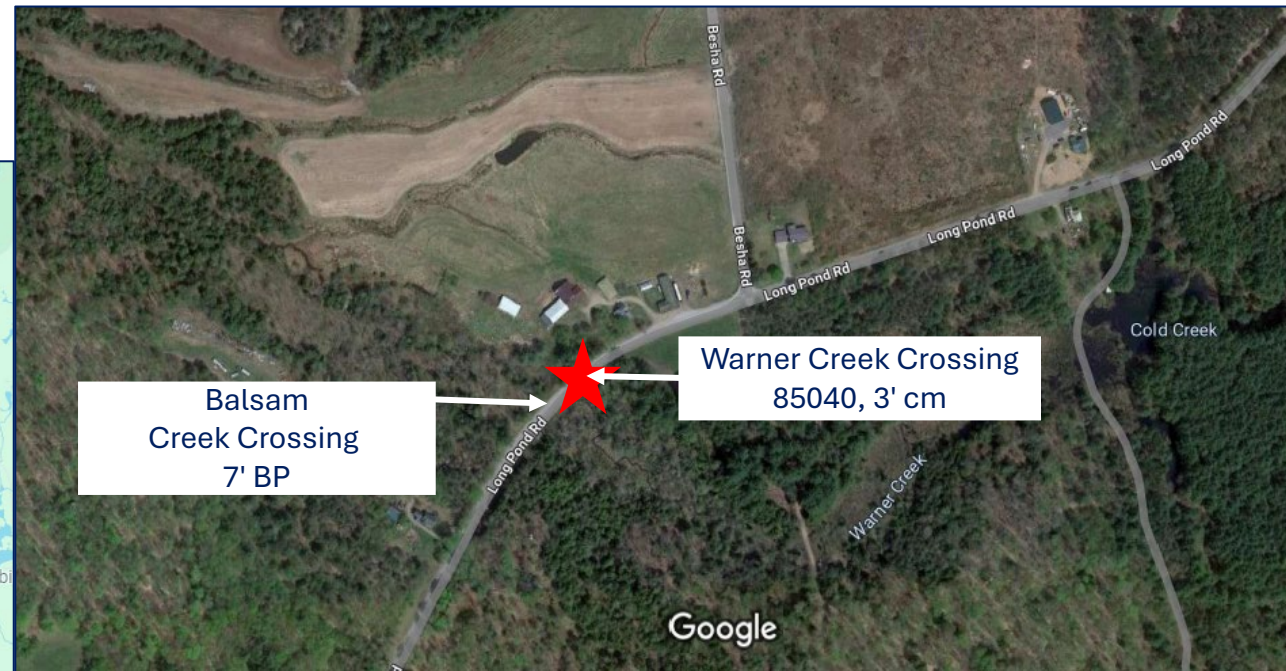
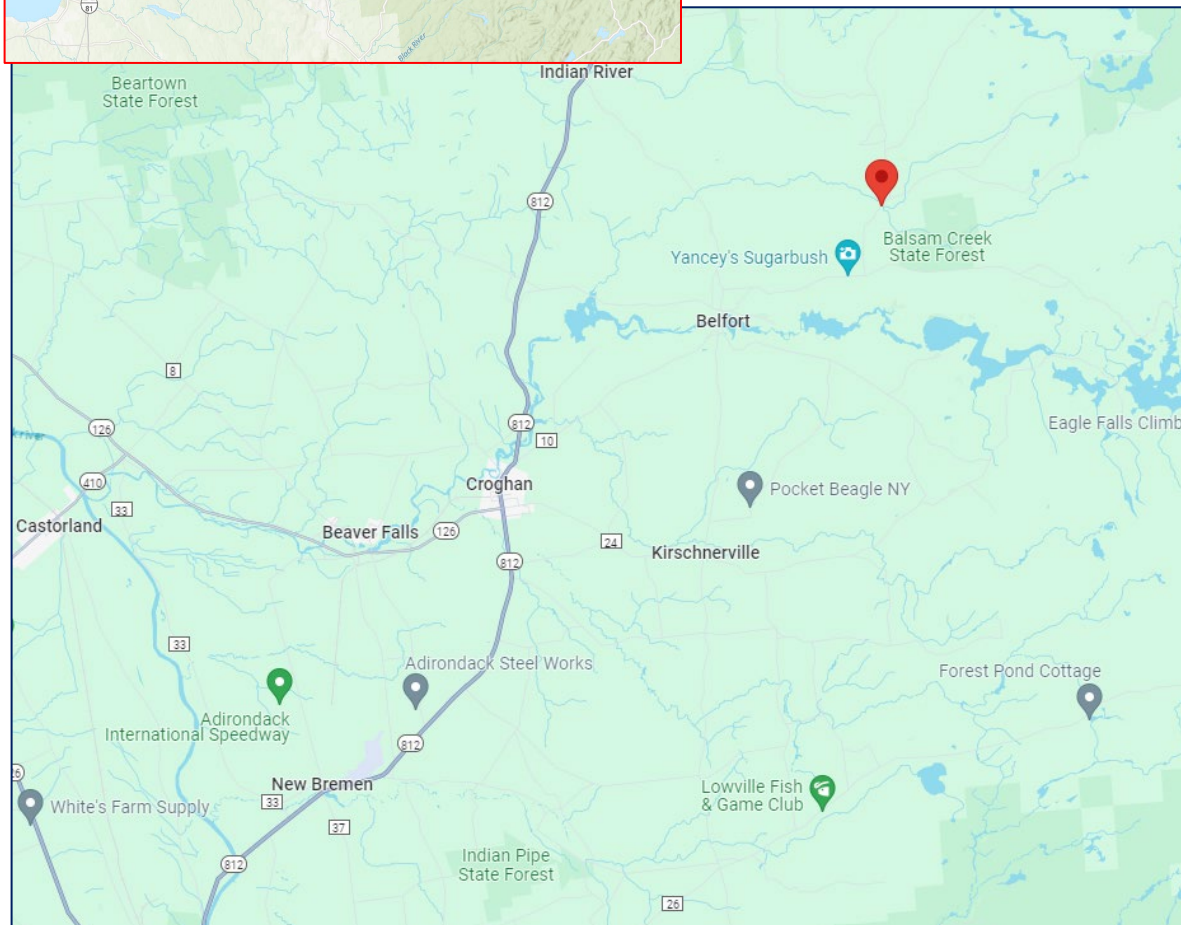
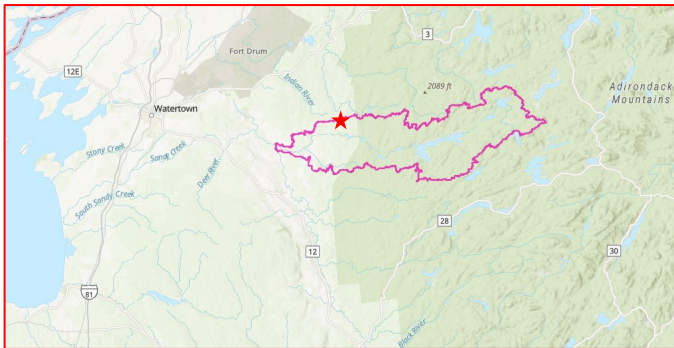
*Class C(T) un-named tributary to **Black Creek**, tributary to the **Beaver River**. The culvert is a significant barrier for aquatic organism passage based on [NAACC Survey ID 85334](#) evaluation.*

Last Updated 7/30/2026

TU Long Pond Road Over Warner Creek Culvert Replacement Project

Town of Croghan NY

Permit Designs Version 1
July 30, 2026



Address: Near 8235 Long Pond Rd., Croghan, NY 13327

Location Description: The Warner Creek crossing is located on Long Pond Road feet ~500' south/southwest of the intersection of Long Pond Road and Bisha (or Kilbourn) Road in the Town of Croghan in Lewis County (Figure 1).

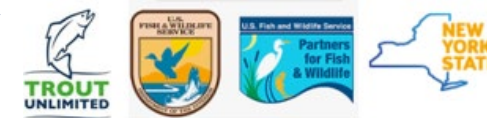
HUC12: 041403011103

Latitude/Longitude: [43.95102, -75.28877](#)



dated 7/30/2026

TU Long Pond Road Over Warner Creek Culvert Replacement – Town of Croghan, NY



Project Goals:

- Remove **significant barrier** for aquatic organisms and reduce habitat fragmentation for brook trout.
- Reconnect aquatic organism passage for **4.9 miles upstream** (USGS NHD Flowlines) and **5.8 miles downstream** to the next confluence with Beaver River. There are no barriers downstream.
- Improve stream conditions by creating a stable stream reach that is climate change resilient.
- Improve town infrastructure to reduce maintenance costs and ensure flood resiliency
- Minimize project construction footprint, maintain mature vegetation and expand riparian restoration upstream and downstream of the site.

Ownership:

Town of Croghan, majority of the work will be done within the town's right-of-way; town securing easements from landowners for additional instream work. The town highway department will complete project construction.

Partners:

USFWS Partners for Wildlife – lead agency Nationwide Permit-27 review
NYS DEC Region 6 – Fish monitoring

Funding:

WQIP Round 18 (C01898GG) Project Timeline: Summer 2024



Warner Creek is a Class C(T) tributary to **Balsam Creek** in the Beaver River Watershed. The culvert is a significant barrier for aquatic organisms ([NAACC Survey ID 85040](#)). Beaver River flows to the Black River, a tributary to Lake Ontario.

Last Updated 7/30/2026



Trout Power, Inc.
"Catch the Power"

Tug Hill – Black River Chapter
Trout Unlimited

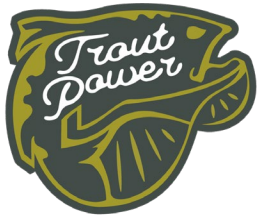




What is Trout Power?

Trout Power is 501c3 nonprofit organization (established in 2017) with the mission statement:

Enlisting the power of anglers to protect, restore and enhance native brook trout populations and their habitats across their native range, through citizen science, advocacy and stewardship



What does Trout Power do?

Trout Power uses volunteer anglers as **citizen scientists** to take part in a variety of different projects.

Trout Power has its own **solo projects**

Also work with other **groups** and **organizations** such as the DEC and TU.

We work with **Universities** on various projects

What is citizen science?



Citizen science is a form of scientific research that is conducted, in whole or in part, by amateur scientists.

Trout Power's projects involve volunteers doing the field portion of the research, while professionals and academics perform the lab work and the analysis

Advantages of Citizen Science

- **Economical** - passionate volunteers!
- **More volunteers** leads to **larger amount of data** over a **wider expanse of area**
- Way to educate and **connect the public** to a cause
- It's fun!



Genetic analysis- our bread and butter!

Since 2016, Trout Power has focused on searching for and identifying the genetic diversity of populations of brook trout in the Adirondack park.

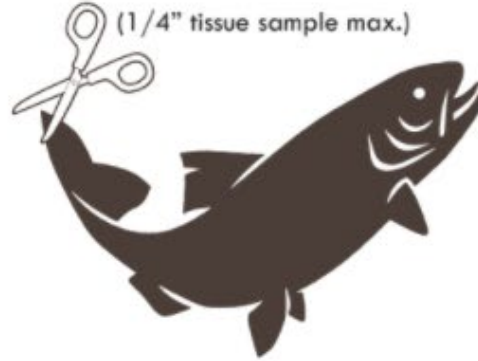


How we do this - Fin Clip protocol



STEP 1

Catch fish, safely keep fish wet in net or gallon ziploc bag. Sterilize scissor's by burning scissor blades for at minimum five seconds.



STEP 2

Wet hands and carefully handle fish. Use scissor's to cut a very small sample from the corner of the fish's tailfin. The clip should remain on the scissors blade.



STEP 3

Without touching the clipped sample, place the scissor blade with sample in the vial so the fin clip falls into the liquid. Cap vial, store in kit.



PRACTICE CATCH AND RELEASE

STEP 4

Carefully release fish.



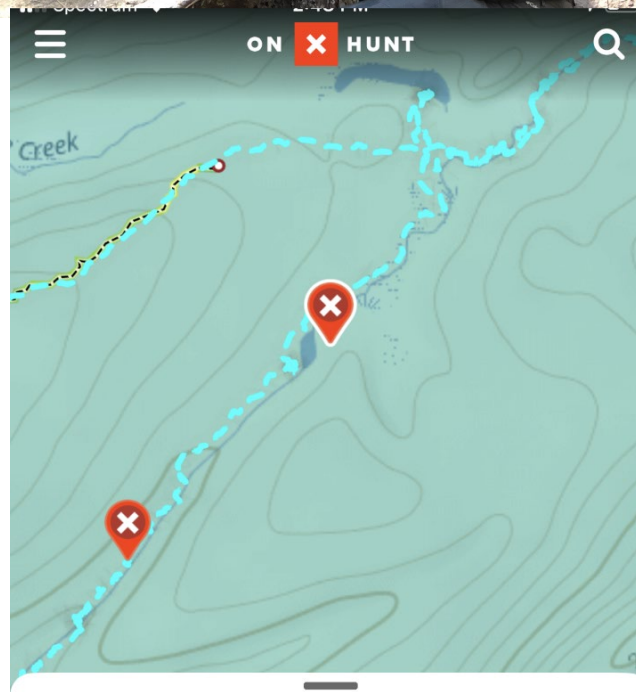
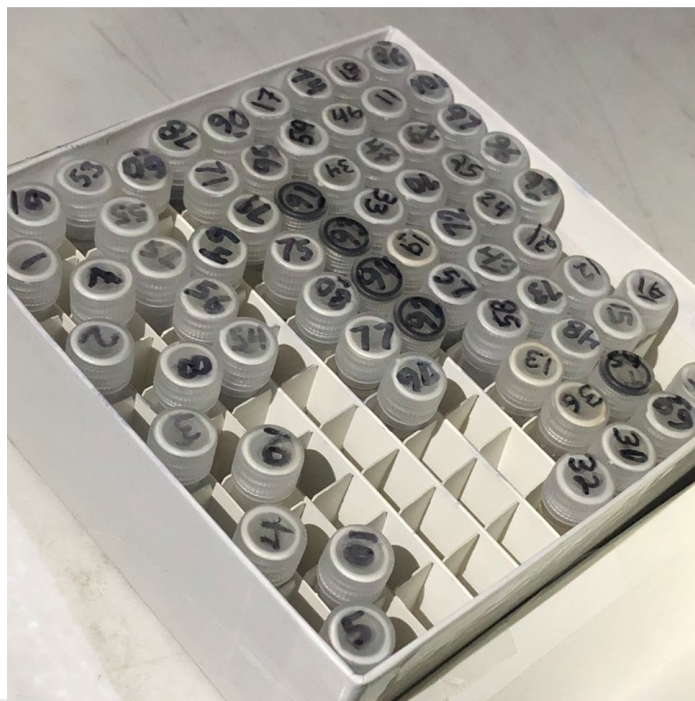
STEP 5

Log the GPS location, vial/sample number, and general notes or observations on fish.



STEP 6

Sterilize scissors by burning scissor blades for at least 5 seconds, return to kit. Clear area of any of trash



Fin clip 22-01

Fin clip kits

Volunteers who go into the field for Trout Power receive:

- **Fin clip kit**
 - Scissors
 - Lighter (for sterilization)
 - Vials with ethanol for clips
- **Log sheet**
- **Instructions on where to go and what direction to fish**

****All volunteers sign waivers and are trained in safety procedures before going into the field**

[illegible]

Type of Genetic Analysis Done 2016-2019

From 2016 - 2019, Trout Power used a genetic analysis technique called **microsatellite analysis**.

The following is a surface level synopsis of how microsat works and the genetic data it has provided us.

Microsatellite analysis

We can visualize this across many fish with bar plots that represent the percentage of ancestry derived from each population (where each vertical bar represents a fish)



Population 1

GCGCGCGCGCGCGCGC
GCGCGCGCGCGCGCGC
GCGCGCGCGCGCGCGC
GCGCGCGCGCGCGCGC



Pop 1 / Hatchery Hybrid

GCGCGCGCGCGCGCGC
GCGCGC
GCGCGCGCGCGCGCGC
GCGCGC



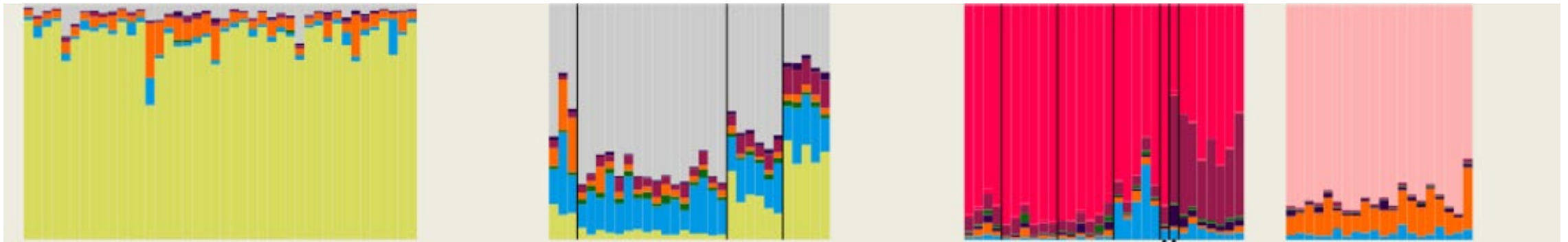
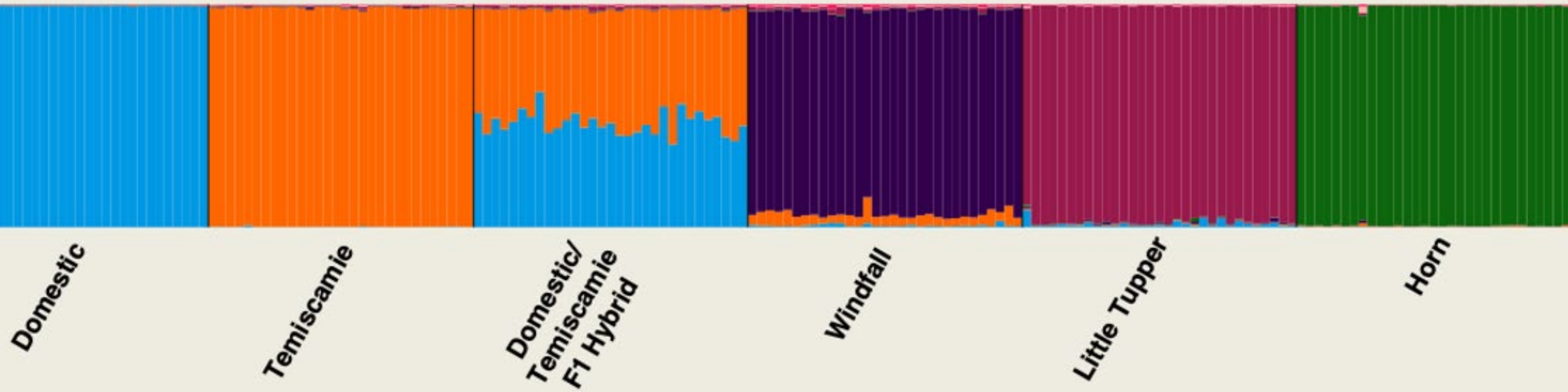
Hatchery Population

GCGCGC
GCGCGC
GCGCGC
GCGCGC



Example of using microsat and stocked strains

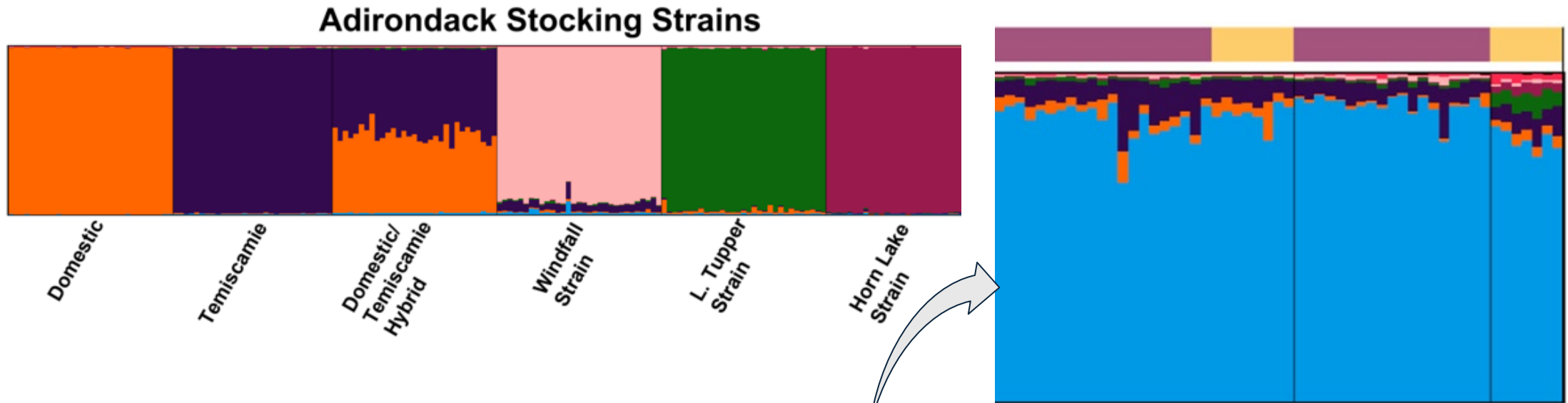
NYSDEC Stocked Strains



Trout Power Genetic studies performed- 2016

(b)

K = 7



Adirondack Stocking Strains

Samples collected in 2016

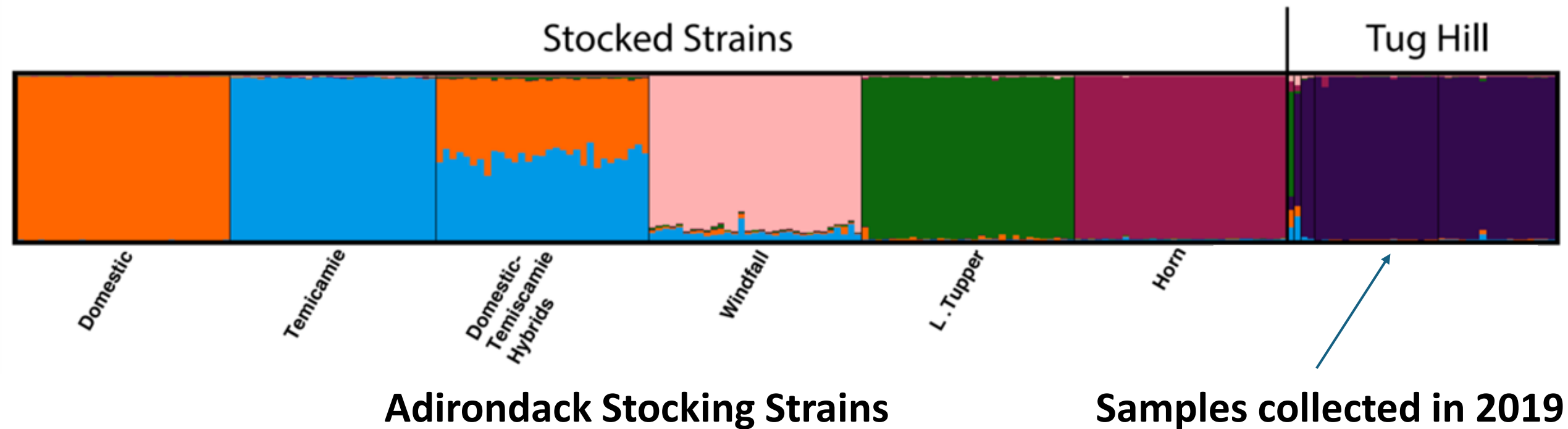
Blue coloration shows unique genetics that do not match with any stocked strains



Results from
Trout Power - Tug Hill TU
Collaboration

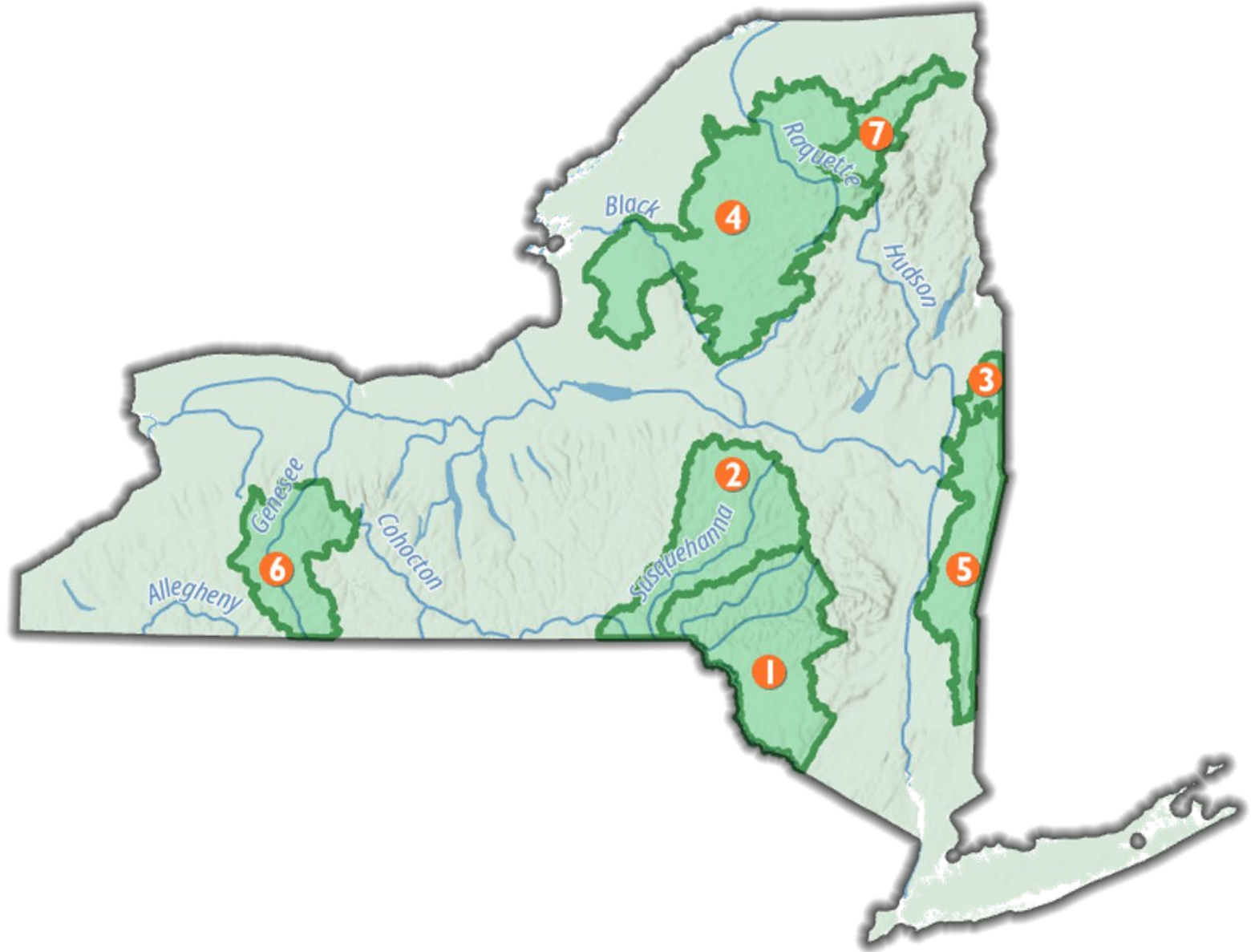
Trout Unlimited / Trout Power Genetic study

2019 Tug Hill





New York Priority Waters



Where to find us:

Website: Troutpower.org

Become a member! Various levels of membership available



Instagram: troutpowerorg

Facebook: Trout Power





troutpower.org

A stream
without its
fish is just a
ditch.



tu.org