



THE CONNECTICUT RIVER SALMON ASSOCIATION N·E·W·S·L·E·T·T·E·R

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WINTER 2005-2006

A New Year's Wish List for Salmon Restoration

By Robert A. Jones, President, CRSA

Many people make wish lists this time of year so we thought we would make a New Year's wish list for salmon restoration. Some wish lists are realistic and others are "off the wall." Ours will be a little of both.

WE WISH that the fisheries scientists and managers working on the restoration program be given the recognition that they richly deserve for their dedication and patience for what might be termed a "labor of love."

WE WISH that the "doubters" would recognize the immense value of a restored Atlantic salmon population in the Connecticut River; not so much for the potential for recreational angling but for the signal it sends that man can undue the mistakes of the past.

WE WISH that members of Congress would see the wisdom in investing in the well being of the Connecticut River by seeing to it that the appropriate federal agencies are adequately funded so as to enhance the on-going efforts.

WE WISH that the companies that have invested heavily in the construction of fish passage facilities that have proved inefficient would move expeditiously to make necessary modifications to improve passage for American shad as well as Atlantic salmon.

WE WISH that relevant agency administrators would consider the past investment in the program by all parties when developing budget allocation priorities.

WE WISH success to those parties that are investigating the fate of Atlantic salmon on the high seas.

WE WISH our friends in Maine success in their efforts to restore salmon to the Penobscot and Down East rivers.

WE WISH that 1000 adult salmon would come back to the River in 2006. (But we'll be happy if we see a few more than last year.)

WE WISH all the supporters of this effort the best for the New Year and keep up the good work! ♦

CONNECTICUT RIVER SALMON ASSOCIATION

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Saturday, January 21, 2006
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Jim Carroll at (860) 236-5181



Sandra and Jim Tripp stand before the Heath Tray Incubator, loaned by CTDEP and located in the basement of their Old Lyme house. Read more about their unusual contribution to Atlantic salmon restoration on page 3.

Extracts from the 2005 Report of the CRASC Technical Committee

From the report prepared by Jay McMenemy, Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife and CRASC Technical Committee Chair

Fish Culture Workgroup

A total of 7.7 million salmon fry was stocked last spring into habitat in the four basin states. This is the same number as last year, but still short of our 10 million goal and the 9.6 million we stocked in 2001. Agency staffs were again assisted by hundreds of volunteers.

THE CONNECTICUT RIVER SALMON ASSOCIATION

The Connecticut River Salmon Association (CRSA) is a nonstock, nonprofit Connecticut corporation. Our mission is to support the effort to restore Atlantic salmon in the Connecticut River basin, a joint undertaking by the states of Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut, together with the US Fish and Wildlife Service of the National Marine Fisheries Service, pursuant to an act of Congress in 1983.

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A total of 84,000 smolts was stocked from the Pittsford National Fish Hatchery (NFH) last spring into the Connecticut River mainstem and the Farmington River. Smolts were transported by several cooperators. Pittsford has 80,000 presmolts on hand for stocking in 2006. A large interagency group adipose-clipped and vaccinated the presmolts against *Vibrio* and furunculosis in October. The Pittsford presmolts continue to be in good condition. Approximately 100,000 0+ salmon are on hand for smolt production in 2007. Pittsford is incubating eggs for fry production next spring and will be receiving eggs for 2008 smolt production in January.

Joe Ravita of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP) again developed the spawning plan and coordinated spawning activities for the program. Spawning at all facilities was again a cooperative effort of program partners. Sea-run broodstock were again treated with hormones to synchronize spawning for the egg bank for future broodstock. Mature parr were collected from the Williams River to supplement sea-run males to maximize genetic diversity and increase effective population size.

Spawning is not complete at this writing, but egg production was projected to be 10.6 million, which is down almost two million from last year and well short of our 15 million goal. Egg production is low due to the reduction of kelts and elimination of domestic brood stock at North Attleboro NFH, the loss of production from the closed Whittemore Salmon Station, and more barren fish than usual at White River NFH.

Staffing and budgetary concerns continue to be a major problem at several program facilities. New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's Warren State Fish Hatchery (SFH) received a surplus chiller from the Nashua NFH but installation proved to be more expensive than anticipated and will not be completed this season. The Sunderland

Office of Fisheries Assistance remains vacant as does the manager position at Pittsford. However, the assistant manager position at White River NFH will be advertised soon and seasonals are being hired there. The term position at Cronin National Salmon Station (NSS) has been extended until April and hopefully will be converted into a permanent position. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has their budget for the current fiscal year already and it is basically flat with continued reprogramming of maintenance funds for operations. Barring a hurricane-related rescission, it appears that production will be able to be maintained at 2005 levels.

Fish Passage Workgroup

Holyoke

The new lift facility at Holyoke appeared to operate well. One issue is that salmon sometimes linger in the flume for extended periods, which caused some salmon escapes and other problems. Installation of some type of night gate is being investigated to address this. The new shad trucking facility was a major improvement and will be even better with some additional mechanical and operational changes planned for the coming season.

Turners Falls

Continued evaluations of the Turners Falls fishways were done in 2005 to address ongoing problems with shad passage. Testing of an experimental mock entrance for the Gatehouse fishway was again successful. Every shad that entered the Gatehouse ladder entered the mock entrance first and in most cases one to two weeks earlier. The Cabot ladder continued to have poor passage efficiency. Northeast Utilities (NU) is developing design plans for the new entrance after which we will need to reach an agreement on construction and a moratorium on major new changes. NU is proposing to have the new Gatehouse entrance ready for 2008 and a new lift at Cabot in 2009. We had hoped that at least the

(See CRASC, page 6)

Enthusiasm, Creativity and an Old Mill Provide Perfect Conditions

Old Lyme Couple Teams with CTDEP To Create Incubation Facility

By Steve Gephard, Senior Fisheries Biologist, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

Not everyone can incubate 70,000 salmon eggs in their basement. Of course, not everyone lives in an old mill and has stream water cascading out of an old pipe below their kitchen. But that is the situation with the Tripp family in Old Lyme. Jim and Sandra Tripp live in a house that was converted from an old mill built on Mill Brook (a tributary to the Connecticut River). A 9-foot high dam across the brook is immediately upstream of the house and the gate and penstock that delivered the water from the mill-pond above the dam to the old mill are still intact. Jim and Sandra used this supply of water when they constructed a prototype alewife incubation and rearing facility to help the CTDEP/Inland Fisheries Division and Yale University experiment with artificial rearing of alewives, captured from below the dam, to assist research.

The CTDEP wondered if the Tripps' site could also be used to incubate salmon eggs. Sandra Tripp, a native of Columbia with two college degrees in biology and work experience with fish, jumped at the opportunity. Jim, an artist by trade, is a very skillful carpenter and clever at tackling challenges. The CTDEP loaned a stack of Heath Tray incubators — the standard device used in all salmon hatcheries — and provided technical guidance. In 2004, 70,000 'eyed' eggs from the Kensington State Salmon Hatchery were loaded into the incubator. There was a lot of hard work by the Tripps between then and April 14, 2005 but on that day 42,531 fry were stocked out into the Eightmile River (spearheaded by CRSA member Art Howe, III).

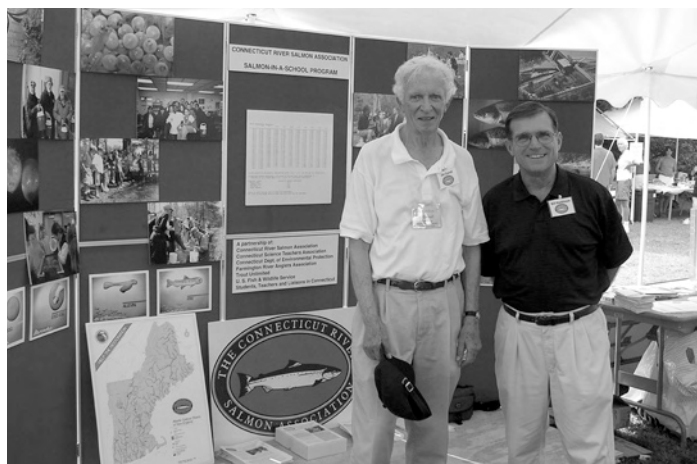
Both the CTDEP and the Tripps were buoyed by the early success of this experimental facility, dubbed the Tripp Streamside Incubation Facility (TSIF). Jim and Sandra took note of the facilities' weaknesses and over the summer, Jim overhauled the system, adding extra water capacity, increasing insulation against freezing, and improving water filtration (sediment and leaves are a major concern). On December 20, 2005, we brought from the Kensington hatchery 72,898 eyed eggs, which were loaded into the



Each tray within the Heath Tray incubator, loaned by CTDEP, is loaded with about 4,500 salmon eggs. Water from the Mill Brook trickles down through each screened tray from an old pipe below the Tripps' kitchen.

incubator trays. The fry should be ready to stock by April 17, 2006. If hatching success is comparable to 2005, we expect this will cover 100% of the stocking needs for the Eightmile River watershed with plenty left over to stock some tributaries of the nearby Salmon River watershed. (Art — start signing up your 2006 volunteers now!)

The Tripps' corporation, the Tributary Mill Conservancy, Inc., has received a Sea Grant grant to produce an educational video about the TSIF and they hope to interact with local schools on other environmental education projects. We in the CTDEP are extremely grateful for their enthusiastic assistance with the salmon stocking program. Not only do their efforts provide fish for the Eightmile River (which means fewer fry we have to truck down from Vermont), but their facility could be a prototype for similar satellite incubation facilities throughout the Connecticut River Basin — increasing public participation, de-centralizing some of the egg hatching, and reducing the need to transport fry long distances from the few government hatcheries. ♦



CRSA INVITED TO AUDUBON FESTIVAL

CRSA Secretary Jim Carroll and CRSA Director Bill Hankinson manned the new CRSA Booth on a hot August 13 & 14 at the 38th Annual Sharon Audubon Festival in Sharon, CT. The CRSA was invited to attend as an important source of environmental education in the state.

The two-day festival featured live red tailed hawks and merlins in hunting demonstrations, expert talks about dragonflies, rattlesnakes, waterfowl, and bird songs, among many subjects, and live music too. Special programs for parents and children developed by Sharon Audubon staff included nature walks, bird banding, canoeing and learning about pond ecology, and fly casting. The Sharon facility has a museum, classroom facilities and an expert staff who are nature educators and specialists in bird care. The Sharon sanctuary includes over one thousand acres.

The CRSA School Program

Record 62 Schools Participate in 2005-2006 School Program

By Dick Bell, Education Committee Chair and Vice President, Connecticut River Salmon Association

For the 11th year in row, the Connecticut River Salmon Association (“CRSA”) will conduct an Atlantic salmon rearing program in Connecticut schools. The program was started in 1995-96, with one school in North Haven, Connecticut. It came about because attorney Gerald Feinberg, a CRSA officer, had a daughter, Jackie, in the North Haven Middle School. Feinberg had learned of such a program in maritime Canada, co-sponsored by the Canadian government and CRSA’s affiliate, the Atlantic Salmon Federation. It was called “Fish Friends” and appeared to be very successful. Could such a program work in a US school? Steve Gephard, Supervising Biologist for the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, thought so, provided a competent and imaginative teacher was in charge. Marge Drucker, Jackie Feinberg’s science teacher, was just such a teacher.

And so it started. Jackie has long since graduated from the North Haven system, and is now a senior at Bucknell University. Marge has left North Haven, but still participates, running the program at Barnard Magnet School in New Haven. She is no longer alone! There are 62 schools committed for 2005-2006, scattered across and up and down the state in 51 Connecticut cities, towns and villages. Because some of our schools operate with multiple classrooms, a total of 85 tanks will be deployed. The champion in the tank department is Tyl Middle School in Oakdale, which operates a remarkable seven tanks.

The delivery of Atlantic salmon eggs to the participating schools will take place during the 2nd and 3rd weeks of January. Before then, however, CRSA volunteers will have to make arrangements to transport nearly 17,000 eggs from the Federal White River hatchery in Bethel, Vermont, to the Connecticut hatchery in Burlington. Then, on the school delivery days, a platoon of CRSA volunteers will fan out across the state, sometimes in relays, to reach schools as far away as New Fairfield, Milford, Groton and Lisbon. They will deliver a cooler containing 200 eggs to each of the 85 tanks involved.

New Schools Join CRSA Program, and Old Ones Return

There are six brand new schools in the CRSA School Program this year, along with one not-so-new school which is renewing its affiliation after a year’s absence. This one is Moylan Elementary in Hartford, where Karen Field will again lead the effort. We are proud of all our schools, but especially so of schools like Moylan, and its colleague in Hartford, Fox Middle, and Barnard Magnet in New Haven, which help inner city children share environmental causes, issues and experiences.

The first of the new schools is Avon Middle School. Science teacher Chris Jones will lead the program, and expects about 100 student participants from five 8th grade classes. Chris obtained a mini-grant from the Avon Education Foundation to incorporate the CRSA program into an existing Farmington River Study. David Palinkus will lead the program at Squadron Line Elementary School — what a wonderful name! — in Simsbury. While the school is new, David himself is a veteran, having led the effort at Andover Elementary for the past two years. His replacement there is David Caron, who will carry on for us. Another new school with a picturesque name is Buttonball Elementary in Glastonbury, where Jennifer Overstreet will preside.

The River-to-the-Sea program of Connecticut’s Vo-Ag schools, funded by special grants from the State of Connecticut and operating out of Harris Agri-Science Center in Bloomfield, has been our largest single source of new schools over the years. Seven such referrals are now participating schools. The middle school branch of the program is now run by the Bloomfield Board of Education. Jaunice Edwards, formerly the middle school coordinator, is currently the Harris Center director and also the coordinator of the high school branch of the program which is funded by a Connecticut state educational grant. Jaunice was a presenter at our fall orientation, held at the Northeast Utilities headquarters in Berlin. Her description of the reach and resources of her program was eye-opening. She has produced yet another participant this year in the form of the Killingly High School Vo-Ag Center, led by Kenneth Couture and located in the village of Danielson.

The Robert Brown Middle School in Madison has similarities to both Squadron Line Elementary and Moylan. It is itself a brand new school, but the teacher is an old friend, who has been out of the program for a couple of years. Kathryn Hart ran a very successful program for several years for us at the Jeffrey Elementary School in Madison. She then took a leave, and the Jeffrey School dropped out. It’s a pleasure to welcome Kathryn back at this handsome new and well-equipped middle school. She is a math teacher, having taken several science methodology courses at the Master’s level. Approximately 97 of her math students will be involved. Kathryn believes that the CRSA program, with its emphasis on science, especially Development Index projection and planning, is an excellent vehicle for demonstrating “the importance of learning math skills and applying them to a real world problem.” Virginia Stolzman is of the same opinion. She will lead the program at the Sterling Memorial School in — look this up — Oneco, Connecticut. Virginia hopes to “create an awareness of environmental issues” and give students “a real world connection to applying mathematical concepts.” We hope to help her do just that. ♦

The CRSA School Program

2005 Teachers Orientation Held at Northeast Utilities

By Jim Carroll, Secretary, CRSA

CRSA Education Chair Richard Bell opened the 2005 CRSA School Program Teachers Orientation on November 14, 2005 at Northeast Utilities' (NU) headquarters in Berlin, CT for nineteen new teachers. The CRSA School Program, a partnership with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP) Fisheries Diadromous Division, enables teachers to incubate Atlantic salmon eggs and alevin to the fry stage as a science tool. Salmon eggs are distributed to the schools in January and students and teachers stock the fry out in late April and May in CTDEP selected river sites.

More than 100 Connecticut teachers and some from Rhode Island and Vermont have attended the required orientations since 1996 and been provided with the necessary technical background and instructional materials to be able to use the project as a powerful environmental education tool. They receive teaching manuals, classroom graphic art materials, tank set-up and operation instructions, instructions and examples from experienced teachers how to use the materials in a classroom curriculum, and a basic introduction to the life cycle of Atlantic salmon.

Dick Bell presented the background of the Connecticut River basin Atlantic salmon restoration project and the 2005-2006 School Program schedule. Stephen Gephard, Senior Biologist with the CTDEP and a world salmon expert, explained the life cycle of Atlantic salmon. Gary Bogli, a retired teacher



Participants in the CRSA November 2005 Teachers Orientation at Northeast Utilities headquarters in Berlin. (Photo: J. Carroll)

and consultant to the CRSA, instructed the teachers in how to use the development index as a math and tank management tool, to have the fry mature on the day selected in advance by the teachers and students.

Douglas Gagne from Catherine McGee Middle School in Berlin provided a detailed explanation about how he uses the program in his middle school curriculum. Jaunice Edwards, director of the Harris Agri-Science Center VoAg school in Bloomfield, provided insight into how this science tool is used at the high school level at a school centered on aquaculture.

The orientation was held at the NU headquarters in Berlin, thanks to an introduction by Robert Stira of Northeast Generation Services. It was the key help of Linda Yost of Northeast Utilities which made the site services and facilities perfect for the purpose. ♦

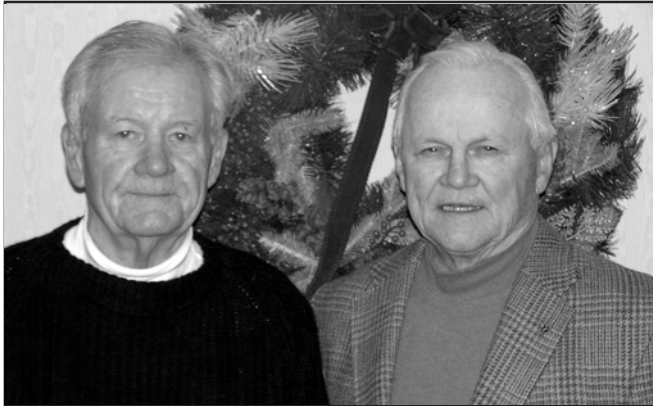


By Jim Carroll, Secretary, CRSA (Photo: J. Carroll)

CRSA school liaisons met at Limestone Trout Club in East Canaan on October 12 with Education Chairman Dick Bell and his committee to organize their crucial part in the CRSA School Program for school year 2005–2006. Those attending held a business meeting, enjoyed lunch and caught a number of brook, rainbow and brown trout — some as large as eighteen inches.

The participants pictured at left in the back row are CRSA secretary Jim Carroll, new liaison Ed Fidrych, CRSA president Bob Jones and CRSA Educational Consultant Gary Bogli. In the front row are CRSA Education chairman Dick Bell, Bloomfield liaisons Joel Berman and Dave Berg, East Hartford liaison Art Howe and CRSA director Bill Hankinson.

If you'd like to catch big trout and also have rewarding fun as a school liaison, contact Jim Carroll at 860-236-5181 or go to www.ctriversalsalmon.org for more information. ♦



CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Dick Bell (right), CRSA Vice President, Director, and Education Committee chairman, has stepped down after five years from his position as president of the Western New England Council of the Atlantic Salmon Federation. This position confers a directorship in ASE. "I've enjoyed my five years with ASF enormously. Among other things, we completely revised the status of the Regional Councils, resulting in a more meaningful voice and enhanced participation." Bell's successor will be CRSA Director Bob Wolter (left) of Little Compton, RI. "I look forward to service with ASF with great anticipation," said Wolter. "It is a world-class conservation organization and all of us at CRSA are proud to be affiliated."

CRASC Technical Committee *(continued from page 2)*

Gatehouse entrance could be accelerated but with the additional complication of NU planning to sell the project, this probably is not feasible.

Westfield River

Large numbers of smolts were trapped in the canal at DSI this spring. They were eventually flushed out, but this problem needs to be addressed. The final comments on the exemption for the Westfield Paper/Russell Paper Dam to restart were filed. Downstream passage, eel passage and bypass flows will be required. Another proposal at this site is to construct a pulpwood-burning generator which would use large quantities of river water and discharge heated water back to the river. CRASC sent in a letter of concern.

Deerfield River

The trigger number of four radio-tagged salmon reached the No. 2 Dam. If at least four salmon reach the dam next year, construction of upstream salmon passage would be triggered.

Ashuelot River

Construction of a denial ladder at Fiske Mill Dam, which had been planned for this year has been delayed until next year. The Homestead Woolen Mill/West Swanzey Dam will either be removed or taken over by the town for repair. It was further damaged during flooding this fall, so hopefully this will facilitate the removal option, which is cheaper. The Lower Robertston and Ashuelot Paper dams had embankment breaches during the flooding, but likely will be repaired.

Vermont Yankee

Entergy, the owner of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Plant has applied to increase their thermal discharge limits by one degree Fahrenheit during the "summer" (May 16 to October 15). The draft permit proposes to allow the increase except for May 16 to June 15, pending further study, because of concerns about impacts on smolt migration. Entergy also announced their intention to extend the operating license of the plant.

Salmon Studies Workgroup

A total of 186 adult salmon returns was documented this year, up from 69 last year. This is the best run since 1998. Most of the returns (182) were from fry stocking but there

were four returns from Pittsford smolts. The run was comprised of 23 grilse and 163 2SW salmon.

Twelve of the salmon captured at Holyoke were radio-tagged and released as part of Transcanada's evaluation of fish passage needs on the Deerfield. Of these, seven spent time in the Green River. One entered the Manhan River. Three passed Turners Falls, Vernon and Bellows Falls and two passed Wilder. One salmon entered the White River and two ascended the Ammonoosuc River, passing the Woodsville Dam, previously thought to be impassable. Two salmon were known to have escaped capture at Holyoke and an additional untagged grilse was seen at Vernon. Two salmon were released into the upper Westfield.

Shad Studies Workgroup

A total of 117,000 shad was counted at Holyoke, the lowest in many years. Only 1,500 shad passed Turners Falls and 167 passed Vernon. Shad passage was also very low at Rainbow (8) but increased somewhat at DSI (913 to 1,237) from last year. Blueback herring counts were very low again; only 534 passed Holyoke.

Shad trucking to various sites in the Basin was greatly facilitated by the new facility at Holyoke. Trucking had to be suspended when USFWS funds for fuel for the shad trucks ran out. It is likely that fewer trips will be possible next spring unless additional funding for fuel can be found.

CRASC Research Funding

Last winter, CRASC charged the Technical Committee with seeking funding for research into the limiting factors in salmon restoration. Proposals were submitted to the USFWS Region 5 Science Support program and the CTDEP SEP program but no funding was obtained.

Technical Committee Chair

Caleb Slater, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, was elected chair of the Technical Committee at its last meeting. ♦

Bringing Back the Giants of Yesteryear: Western Maine's Restoration Efforts

By Elaine K. Holcombe, CRSA Director and Secretary, Rangeley Region Guides and Sportsmen's Association

"It's the easiest thing in life to describe me. I am a plain woman of uncertain age, standing six feet in my stockings. I have earned my bread for a good many years doing the work of a bank clerk. I scribble a bit for various sporting journals, and I would rather fish any day than go to heaven."

So said Fly Rod Crosby, the woman who is credited with marketing Maine to the public and outdoor enthusiasts as well as the vacationing neophytes who want only a small taste of the true outdoors. At no time is it more critical than today to protect, savor and attempt to preserve for the use of our future generations the amazing outdoor experiences that define Maine. Fly Rod Crosby said it well: that if some people today could have their druthers, they too, would be fishing.

Because the western mountain streams have a long history of wood driving, many streams remain in a degraded condition with respect to brook trout habitat. Major restoration focuses have been to restore these streams to their original or primordial conditions; in other words, to return the streams to a status before man had settled in the areas. Efforts to protect and restore these habitat streams have been a prime focus of Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IF&W) and the Rangeley Region Guides and Sportsmen's Association (RRG&SA). Of particular interest is the effort to restore some of the important streams that serve as nurseries for wild trout and salmon. Working with IF&W personnel, volunteers from RRG&SA have had several opportunities to work on particular projects indigenous to the Rangeley Lakes region. The goals of these projects to date have been to narrow over-widened reaches in specific rivers, to create pools that provide critical adult brook trout habitat, to correct plains and reduce sediment transportation that negatively delays or stops the movement of trout and salmon. The two projects of significance have been the Cuspsuptic and South Bog Streams. With the support of IF&W, Wagner Forest Management, the land manager, The Trout & Salmon Foundation and RRG&SA, ten log deflectors were installed along several hundred feet of the lower stream to squeeze the channel back to its proper width and concentrate the water. Pools were created and, given time, the water will eventually scour the sides of the streams and deepen the pools. A second phase of the South Bog Stream restoration project was just recently completed along a 250-foot section upstream of the South Shore Drive Bridge.

Another area of restoration is the headwaters of the Megalloway River — more specifically, its two tributaries: the First East Branch and the Moose above Lake Parmachenee. Basic to the work done on the stream was to find out how identifiable stream characteristics related to the health and productivity of the river system, and to determine HOW the health and productivity of that particular stream that ultimately would affect its output as a fisheries habitat. Again working with biologists, the volunteers

were asked to lend a hand. Log and boulder grade control structures were set in place to trap sediment so downstream pools would not be filled, thereby improving adult brook trout habitat. To properly restore a stream to its original state is quite a scientific undertaking. As I have alluded to, there are many characteristics to be studied, information to be analyzed and tests to be performed that influence the length of time it takes to see productive results. It is a slow, time-consuming task to try to return the stream to its natural state and measurements of cross-sections of streams must be regularly taken and data analyzed to see what the next steps ought to be.

Another restoration project currently deals with the control of small mouth bass illegally introduced to the Rapid River. The Save the Rapid River initiative is a public as well as private partnership that is currently addressing the interactions between native brook trout and illegally introduced small mouth bass in the Upper Androscoggin River Watershed in Maine and New Hampshire.

Efforts to preserve an outstanding and unique brook trout fishery include the commitment of many agencies such as Trout Unlimited, Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust, Rangeley Region Guides and Sportsmen's Association, Orvis, University of Maine and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The invasion of bass threatens this premier wild brook trout fishery and could spread and threaten other waterways. The use of radio telemetry of landlocked salmon, brook trout and bass on the Rapid River helps scientists gain a better understanding of the species' interactions. In addition, an assessment of the flow manipulation to favor brook trout over bass is being conducted. Selective removal of bass is being considered as a possible way to control their numbers. In the future, we may see the construction of barriers to prevent upstream colonization of the upstream waters that hold brook trout populations. There will be extensive public education campaigns on the risks of illegal fish stocking, hopefully heightening public awareness of these risks.

It is hoped that strategic management plans will lead to improved conservation of native trout and salmon in Maine. Because there are many streams in need of attention, they must be rated according to their inherent value. Information comes from guides, anglers, and the general public who are familiar with the waters and can identify possible changes that would improve the stream's health and productivity.

In conclusion, as ambitious and innovative our restoration efforts are, it is an on-going process with the likelihood that the results will have a far-reaching impact on the health of Maine's world class wild brook trout, bass, and salmon fisheries.

Could be that one day we might be fortunate enough to bring back the giants of yesteryear! ♦

Not a Member Yet?

If you are not a member of CRSA, you are receiving this complimentary copy of our Newsletter, in the hopes that you find it informative and that you will consider joining our organization. Publishing this Newsletter is not inexpensive and our income is limited to membership dues and receipts from our Annual Dinner. By becoming a member, you not only help support this Newsletter, our School Program, and our web site, but you will also be adding your name to the list of individuals dedicated to the health and welfare of the Connecticut River and the restoration of Atlantic salmon and other fisheries resources. We need you help. Please use the membership application below and send your check today!

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SUSTAINING: \$100

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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TELEPHONE _____

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