



www.wnytroutunlimited.org / March 2021

OFFICERS

[Open Position] —President

Joseph Morgan-Vice President (VicePresident@wnytroutunlimited.org)

Dave Unetich-Secretary (Secretary@wnytroutunlimited.org)

Tony Messina-Treasurer (Treasurer@wnytroutunlimited.org)

COMMITTEES

Awards-**Dave Tooke** (Awards@wnytroutunlimited.org)

Education- **Bob Bohner**

Library- [open]

Membership- **Bob Bohner**

Fly Tying Sessions-**Dave Bollman**

Resource Protection-**Gary Coons** (Resource

Protection@wnytroutunlimited.org)

Salmon & Steelhead-**Don Kwiatkowski** (SalmonandSteelhead@wnytroutunlimited.org)

Shows-**Dave Bollman** (Shows@wnytroutunlimited.org)

Spring Banquet- [open]

Conservation- **Joe Morgan** (Conservation@wnytroutunlimited.org)

Sunshine- **Chuck Godfrey**

Website: www.wnytroutunlimited.org.

(**Ric Toczek** webmaster@wnytroutunlimited.org)

Welcome- **Bob Bohner**

Video Library- [open]

Erie County Federation Reps:

Chuck Godfrey (440-6995) steelheader03@hotmail.com;

Debbie Godfrey

State Council Delegates:

Chuck Godfrey (440-6995)

Gene Romanyshyn, Debbie Godfrey

Newsletter: **Jim Jowsey** wnytunews@gmail.com

Stamp

Label

Next WNY TU Chapter Meeting: Tuesday, March 30th, 2021

The next chapter meeting will be held “virtually” (via “Zoom”) on Tuesday, March 30th, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. Our presenter is fly fishing author, photographer, and instructor Rick Kustich and he’ll be presenting “Swinging the Fly for Steelhead” If you would like to attend this Zoom meeting, please email your request to meeting@wnytroutunlimited.org. You will then receive an email that will allow you to register for the meeting and to obtain the Zoom link. Please join us (virtually, of course!).

Did You Know?

That you can get 35% off your first year of LifeLock Identity Theft Protection Service as well as save on hotels, insurance, office supplies, hearing aids and MORE simply by being a TU member? Visit <https://troutbenefits.org/> and take a look around.

Scott Cornett from DEC submitted the following document about accessing some of the new upcoming stream information from the DEC's Locator Map...

Using the DECinfo Locator map for inland trout stream information

Between March 24th and 30th, the DEC website will go live with inland trout stream information on the DECinfo Locator map that can be found on-line at: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/109457.html> There are instructions for using the map listed on this webpage. In the next two paragraphs, I list some instructions for getting to the trout stream stuff.

The inland trout streams part of this map will be a work in progress, but for now anglers will be able to view many streams included in the new inland trout stream management plan, including all stocked streams and streams managed with special regulations in the Stocked-Extended, Wild- Premier and Wild-Quality categories. Not included on the map at this point will be streams in the "Wild" management category, even if they have public access. I am told these streams will be added within the next year.

Once you are in the DECinfo Locator map, you will want to open a few layers to view the trout streams and access areas. First, click on "DEC information layers", then choose "outdoor activities", then "land related activities" and click the boxes for "state lands" and "wildlife management areas" so these public access lands will be active. Next choose "water related activities" and click on the box for "inland trout stream fishing". Please note you will need to zoom into a more focused area of the state where you plan to fish before some of the layers become active (and if you zoom in too far, the public access layer turns off). Once you are zoomed in fairly close to a stream you are interested in, you will see the color coding for the management category of the stream and also the public access sections of the stream (either public fishing easements or other public properties). You can click on the line for the stream itself and you will get an information box that gives the name of the stream, the management section downstream and upstream limits, management category, the regulations for that section and any pertinent stocking information.

Time to Catch a Movie

Both the International Fly Fishing Film Festival and The Fly Fishing Film Tour are gearing up for virtual releases of their annual collections of some of the best short films out there dedicated to fly fishing. For my money there's no better way to beat a cold winter afternoon than huddled over my vise with one of these fine films playing in the background. Follow the links below for trailers and ticket information.



<https://www.flyfilmfest.com/>



<https://flyfilmtour.com/>

Vice-President's Message: Joseph Morgan

Hope this finds everyone well. Spring is upon us. I hope everyone gets the chance to get out on the streams. The new Trout Plan and Regulations go into effect on April 1. Chuck Godfrey will have the latest info later on in the newsletter. This month's speaker is Rick Kustich who will be presenting "Swinging the Fly for Steelhead". Promises to be a good one. The April guest speaker Jerry Kustich's Topic will be "Bamboo Rods - Historical and Modern Construction". Stay safe.

Joe

Stream Conservation Report: Joseph Morgan

The DEC and I are coming up with a list of past tree planting sites that need some maintenance. We are hoping to do this in early May. I will let you know more once the details are worked out. The DEC also made an announcement that unfortunately no volunteers will be allowed to assist in Trout stocking once again this year due to Covid 19 restrictions. Hopefully better days are ahead. If anyone is interested in helping out the Lake Ontario Trout and Salmon Association with their pen rearing project they are looking for volunteers. The plan is to raise 17000 steelhead at Olcott. The first date is March 27 and then one later on in May. If you are interested in giving a hand contact Joe Yeager jry193@yahoo.com for more details.

New Trout Regulations: Chuck Godfrey

On April 1st NYS will have new inland trout stream regulations in place. This is the culmination of a process to update the DEC's Inland Trout Stream Management Plan, which started in 2017. The regulations will implement the actual fishing part of the plan. There will be new regulations in place for quite a number of streams. The DEC is planning on having a press release and "rollout" of the regulations on March 24th. For a complete explanation of what the plan entails, and perhaps more importantly what the new regulations are, consult the DEC's website. The Plan is at <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/111015.html>

The new Plan recognizes that not all streams are the same throughout their length and divides them into "reaches" and categorizes the management of each "reach" according to what its characteristics are. It takes into account, among other things, the "reach's" physical and water quality characteristics, the extent of its wild trout population, and amount of angler use. These categories are:

Wild

Wild-Quality

Wild-Premier

Stocked

Stocked-Extended

Here is the link to the DEC's webpage listing all publicly accessible or stocked streams in the state and what category they fall into.. https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/tsmpreachcat.pdf Within this plan (in the first link) is what the regulations will be in general on each of the 5 types of "reaches" designated in the plan.

The regulations for each type of stream will be available on the DEC's website soon. Also to be announced on March 24th will be a link for a new interactive map listing streams in NYS and their classifications. This will match the information in the link above, but will be more easily accessible.

All this will actually simplify the regulations overall for trout fishing, but different reaches WILL have different regulations from each other, and from previous years. In the attachment is the signage that will be going up on the "stocked extended" stream reaches. It is important to realize that these signs are for the "stocked extended" reaches ONLY. The regulations are different on other types of "reaches." There has only been time to get paper signs printed up and posted, which will only be on the "stocked extended" reaches for now. The DEC plans to have permanent correct signs up on all streams in the state by the end of June.

There will also be an article in the April/May issue of *The Conservationist* which addresses the plan and its ramifications. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing pandemic and restrictions it has caused for the staff of the magazine, the issue won't be out before the April 1st change in the regulations. It should be out by mid to late April, and the online version should be out early in April.

Springville Dam Update: Chuck Godfrey

The Corps of Engineers has redone its sediment load modelling what will happen downstream as a result of the dam/fish passage project and has concluded that the present plan will have a detrimental impact downstream as far as sediment goes - larger gravel bars, increased erosion due to sediment, etc. This has caused a need for a change in plans on dealing with sedimentation. There will need to be massive excavation and removal of sediment behind the dam before anything else can be done. Since this was not planned for, it will necessitate spending millions of dollars that was not budgeted. The State and County don't have that kind of money, and don't foresee having it in the near future, so the project has been "shelved" for now. I will repeat my oft mentioned expectation – from day 1 – that this project will be completed on "the 12th of Never."

Trout Stocking Schedule: Chuck Godfrey

The Erie County inland trout stockings have been scheduled. Note that specific dates and times will not be shared/distributed to general public this year to avoid mass gatherings at the release sites. The trout stocking schedule that is distributed to the public via email, will list the waters to be stocked each given week, but will not include specific day of stockings.

Hatchery and Regional Fisheries personnel will be making every effort to get all our local streams stocked in a timely manner and in accordance with the newly established Trout Stream Management Plan (TSMP). The following is the tentative stocking schedule.

- Week of 3/22 : Little Buffalo Creek and Eighteen Mile Creek.
- Week of 3/29 : Ellicott Creek, Cayuga Creek, Cattaraugus Creek and E. Branch Cazenovia Creek.
- Week of 4/5 : Main Park Pond (Clarence) and Westwood Park Pond.
- Week of 4/12 : Sprague Brook Park Ponds.

Treasurer's Report: Tony Messina

WESTERN NEW YORK CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED TREASURERS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1, 2021 thru FEBRUARY 28, 2021					
				prior period	this period
				thru 01/31/21	thru 02/28/21
(CHECKING ACCOUNT)					
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 1, 2021			\$907.94	
BALANCE AT	FEBRUARY 28, 2021				\$907.94
INFLOWS:	NONE				
		TOTAL INFLOWS:		\$0.00	\$0.00
OUTFLOWS:	NONE				
		TOTAL OUTFLOWS:		\$0.00	\$0.00
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 31, 2021			\$907.94	
BALANCE AT	FEBRUARY 28, 2021				\$907.94
(MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT)					
				prior period	this period
				thru 01/31/21	thru 02/28/21
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 1, 2021			\$26,874.79	
BALANCE AT	FEBRUARY 28, 2021				\$26,875.02
INFLOWS:	INTEREST			\$0.23	\$0.21
		TOTAL INFLOWS:		\$0.23	\$0.21
OUTFLOWS:	NONE			\$0.00	\$0.00
		TOTAL OUTFLOWS:		\$0.00	\$0.00
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 31, 2021			\$26,875.02	
BALANCE AT	FEBRUARY 28, 2021				\$26,875.23
(RESTRICTED FUNDS ACCOUNT)					
				prior period	this period
				thru 01/31/21	thru 02/28/21
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 1, 2021			\$10,000.00	
BALANCE AT	FEBRUARY 28, 2021				\$10,000.00
INFLOWS:	NONE			\$0.00	\$0.00
OUTFLOWS:	NONE			\$0.00	\$0.00
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 31, 2021			\$10,000.00	
BALANCE AT	FEBRUARY 28, 2021				\$10,000.00

Our Advertiser

Whispering Pines Fish Farm

Pond Stocking

Trout, Bass, Perch, Minnows

Grass Carp, Koi, Crayfish

716-496-7440