



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Restoring Eastern Brook Trout Habitat in McIntosh Brook

### Project Description

Eastern brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) have undergone significant declines throughout New York State. In western New York, Allegany State Park supports wild brook trout populations but their growth and abundance are limited by lack of large woody debris and deepwater pools during summer low-flow conditions.

This project will re-position and anchor downed trees to span the stream channel and increase large woody debris in McIntosh Brook – a second order stream located in Allegany State Park. Large woody debris will promote pool formation and provide habitat structure to increase brook trout growth and abundance, and improve the recreational fishery. All work will be done without heavy equipment to minimize disturbance to the stream and riparian.



Summer low-flow condition in McIntosh Brook.  
(Courtesy Scott Cornett, NY Dept. of Environmental Conservation)

### Project Statistics

Location: Cattaraugus County, NY  
Initiated: 2008  
Completed (est.): 2011  
Congressional District: NY 29<sup>th</sup>  
Watershed Status: *Intact*  
Landownership Status: *Public*

### Accomplishments

- Improve brook trout habitat along 1.5 miles of stream
- Increase deepwater pools and physical habitat structure
- Conduct pre- and post-restoration monitoring



Constructed pool-large woody debris complex.  
(Courtesy Chuck Godfrey, Trout Unlimited)

### Project Partners

- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Allegany State Park
- Trout Unlimited
- State University of New York (SUNY) Fredonia

### Funding Partner

- Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture

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For more information contact:

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