



Eastern Brook Trout
JOINT VENTURE
 A Fish Habitat Partnership

EBTJV Steering Committee Meeting Agenda
September 23, 2024 1-3pm ET

Participants:

Last (italics=virtual)	First	Organization	Position	Email
Courtemarche	Dalton	NH Fish and Game Department	Coldwater Program Leader	Dalton.F.Courtemarche@wildlife.nh.gov
Day	Geof	Sea Run Brook Trout Coalition	Fmr. Director	gday@searunbrookie.org
Detar	Jason	Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission	Area Fisheries Manager	jdetar@pa.gov
<i>Duncan</i>	<i>Will</i>	<i>US Fish and Wildlife Service</i>	<i>Aquatic Species/Habitat Conservation Branch</i>	<i>will_duncan@fws.gov</i>
Fink	Brad	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources	Fisheries Biologist	brad.fink@dwr.virginia.gov
Gallagher	Merry	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife	Native Fish Conservation Biologist	merry.gallagher@maine.gov
Gillespie	Nathaniel	USDA Forest Service	Assistant National Fish Program Leader	nathaniel.gillespie@usda.gov
Goetz	Dan	Maryland DNR	Regional Operations Manager	danielb.goetz@maryland.gov
Henson	Fred	New York DEC	Fisheries Biologist	fred.henson@dec.ny.gov
Kautza	Adam	Massachusetts DFW	Coldwater Fisheries Project Leader	adam.kautza@mass.gov
<i>Kazyak</i>	<i>David</i>	<i>USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center</i>	<i>Supervisory Research Fish Biologist</i>	<i>dkazyak@usgs.gov</i>
<i>Kozlowski</i>	<i>Gregory</i>	<i>New York State DEC</i>	<i>Inland Fisheries Section Head, DFW</i>	<i>gregory.kozlowski@dec.ny.gov</i>
Kratzer	Jud	Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department	Fisheries Biologist	jud.kratzer@vermont.gov
<i>Kulp</i>	<i>Matt</i>	<i>Great Smoky Mountains National Park</i>	<i>Supervisory Fishery Biologist</i>	<i>matt_kulp@nps.gov</i>
Maloney	Lori	EBTJV	Coordinator	lori.maloney@canaanvl.org
Pelletier	Corey	RI Fish and Wildlife	Biologist	corey.pelletier@dem.ri.gov
Perry	Steve	EBTJV	EBTJV and NFHP board members	ebtv.coordinator@gmail.com
Rankin	Dan	South Carolina DNR	Regional Fisheries Supervisor	Rankind@dnr.sc.gov
Rash	Jacob	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission	Coldwater Research Coordinator	jacob.rash@ncwildlife.org
<i>Reeser</i>	<i>Steve</i>	<i>Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources</i>	<i>Fisheries Biologist</i>	<i>steve.reeser@dwr.virginia.gov</i>
Rummel	Shawn	Trout Unlimited	Lead Science Advisor, NE Coldwater Habitat	shawn.rummel@tu.org
Shramko	Ross	New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife	Principal Biologist Fisheries	ross.shramko@dep.nj.gov
<i>Simcox</i>	<i>Brandon</i>	<i>Tennessee WRA</i>	<i>Rivers and Streams Coordinator</i>	<i>brandon.simcox@tn.gov</i>
Thorne	David	West Virginia DNR	Fisheries Biologist	david.w.thorne@wv.gov
Timmins	Dianne	NH Fish and Game Department	Chief, Inland Fisheries Division	dianne.m.timmins@wildlife.nh.gov

The following notes summarize the business conducted during the meeting held on **September 23, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jacob Rash at ~1:00 p.m. ET. It occurred within a larger Annual Meeting at the New England Outdoor Center. The agenda, speakers, and attendees for that meeting are attached at the end of these notes.

Steering Committee Roll Call (intros) & Establishment of Quorum (Jake Rash)

- The first order of business was for the Chair to establish a quorum (≥10 SC members), which was achieved as 21 Steering Committee members participated in the meeting.

Vote to adopt minutes of the June 18, 2024 meeting (Jake Rash)

Minutes were adopted.

Changes to SC membership (Lori Maloney)

- Sea-Run Brook Trout Coalition no longer has its 501c(3) status and is not an active organization. Therefore, it is no longer a Steering Committee member of the EBTJV.
- Geof Day – former Director of the SRBTC, spoke for a few minutes about his experiences with the EBTJV and SRBTC. He felt that the EBTJV could have done more to promote and make funding available for sea-run brook trout projects.
- Geof also noted that he was proud of SRBTC's work to elevate the need for awareness and funding of the unique sea run life history. He will continue working now in Maine with Dwayne of Downeast Salmon Federation.
- **Steve Perry** gave a history of the process to become a SC member to the EBTJV. By signing the MOU, you are then eligible. However all of EBTJV's current SC members had been ones that 'raised their hands' at the very early meetings 20 years ago.
- In current EBTJV Bylaws there is no limit on the number of SC member organizations. At one point it had been 25.
- There was a discussion of getting Tribal representation on the SC and suggestions on doing more outreach to tribes that are now formally recognized in the Eastern Brook Trout area.

Vote to add Downeast Salmon Federation (action)

- Downeast Salmon Federation has been an MOU signatory since 2015. They applied to the EBTJV for a seat on the Steering Committee.
- Dwayne Shaw, ED for the Federation, gave a short presentation to the group in the morning session. DSF's application was shared with the SC in advance of the meeting.
- Several SC members commented in support of DSF joining the EBTJV SC.
- Nat Gillespie made a motion, seconded by Dianne Timmins, that EBTJV accept DSF as a Steering Committee member organization. Steve Perry noted for the record that Lori Maloney created the new application out of a need this fall, and that it fits well with the types of information asked by the NFHP Board application, and he also felt that DSF filled it out well.
- Motion passed.

NFHP update (Steve Perry)

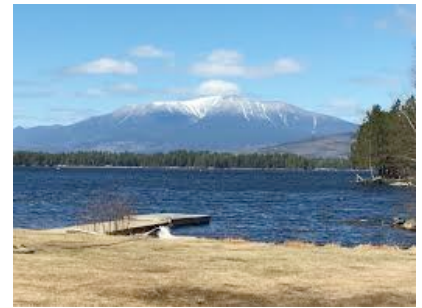
- Steve Perry gave an update from NFHP on Congressional designation. All FHPs must be designated by October 2025.
- The FY25 projects are making their way through the NFHP-FWS cycle.
- NFHP is working on its Action Plan (version 3.0)
- The ACE Act is in process of re-authorization; a version passed the Senate this spring; [House](#) working on its version.
- NFHP Chairman Robert Boyles is resigning in 2025; AFWA needs to select a new chairman in time for transition to occur.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Last (italics=virtual)	First	Organization	Position	Email	Presenter?	SC meeting?
Ashe	Wes	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries & W	Fishereis Biologist	wesley.ashe@maine.gov		N
Courtemarche	Dalton	NH Fish and Game Department	Coldwater Program Leader	Dalton.F.Courtemarche@wildlife.nh.gov	Monday roundtable	Y
Day	Geof	Sea Run Brook Trout Coalition	Fmr. Director	gday@searunbrookie.org	Monday roundtable	Y
Detar	Jason	Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commiss	Area Fisheries Manager	jdetar@pa.gov	Monday data	Y
<i>Duncan</i>	<i>Will</i>	<i>US Fish and Wildlife Service</i>	<i>Aquatic Species/Habitat Conservation Bra</i>	<i>will_duncan@fws.gov</i>		Y
Fink	Brad	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resour	Fisheries Biologist	brad.fink@dwr.virginia.gov		Y
Gallagher	Merry	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries & Wildli	Native Fish Conservation Biologist	merry.gallagher@maine.gov	Monday intro	Y
Gillespie	Nathaniel	USDA Forest Service	Assistant National Fish Program Leader	nathaniel.gillespie@usda.gov	Monday intro, Monday	Y
Goetz	Dan	Maryland DNR	Regional Operations Manager	danielb.goetz@maryland.gov	Monday roundatble; T	Y
Grant	Tyler	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries & W	Fishereis Biologist	tyler.grant@maine.gov		N
Henson	Fred	New York DEC	Fisheries Biologist	fred.henson@dec.ny.gov	Monday roundtable ar	Y
Kautza	Adam	Massachussetts DFW	Coldwater Fisheries Project Leader	adam.kautza@mass.gov		Y
<i>Kazyak</i>	<i>David</i>	<i>USGS Eastern Ecological Science Cen</i>	<i>Supervisory Research Fish Biologist</i>	<i>dkazyak@usgs.gov</i>		Y
<i>Kozlowski</i>	<i>Gregory</i>	<i>New York State DEC</i>	<i>Inland Fisheries Section Head, DFW</i>	<i>gregory.kozlowski@dec.ny.gov</i>		Y
Kratzer	Jud	Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department	Fisheries Biologist	jud.kratzer@vermont.gov	Monday roundtable	Y
<i>Kulp</i>	<i>Matt</i>	<i>Great Smoky Mountains National Park</i>	<i>Supervisory Fishery Biologist</i>	<i>matt_kulp@nps.gov</i>		Y
<i>Letcher</i>	<i>Ben</i>	<i>USGS Eastern Ecological Science C</i>	<i>Ecologist</i>	<i>bletcher@usgs.gov</i>	<i>Tuesday emerging thre</i>	N
Maloney	Lori	EBTJV	Coordinator	lori.maloney@canaanvi.org	Monday funding initita	Y
Naumann	Ben	USDA NRCS	Assistant State Conservationist for Pa	ben.naumann@usda.gov	Monday funding initita	N
O'Donnell	Matt	USGS Eastern Ecological Science C	Research Ecologist	modonnell@usgs.gov	Tuesday - emerging thr	N
Obrey	Tim	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries & W	Regional Fisheries Supervisor for the M	tim.obrey@maine.gov	Tuesday Moosehead L	N
Ombalski	Katie	Woods and Waters Consulting	Principal	katie@woodswaters.com		N
Parker	Jerrold	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries & W	Fishereis Biologist	jerrod.parker@maine.gov		N
Pelletier	Corey	RI Fish and Wildlife	Biologist	corey.pelletier@dem.ri.gov		Y
Perry	Steve	EBTJV	EBTJV and NFHP board members	ebtjv.coordinator@gmail.com		Y
Pickford	Lauren	Trout Unlimited	Maine Project Manager	lauren.pickford@tu.org		N
Poulos	Steven	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries & W	Fisheries Biologist	steven.poulos@maine.gov		N
Rankin	Dan	South Carolina DNR	Regional Fisheries Supervisor	Rankind@dnr.sc.gov	Monday roundtable	Y
Rash	Jacob	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Cor	Coldwater Research Coordinator	jacob.rash@ncwildlife.org	Monday facilitator	Y
<i>Reeser</i>	<i>Steve</i>	<i>Virginia Department of Wildlife Resour</i>	<i>Fisheries Biologist</i>	<i>steve.reeser@dwr.virginia.gov</i>		Y
<i>Rogers</i>	<i>Karli</i>	<i>USGS Eastern Ecological Science C</i>	<i>Fish Biologist</i>	<i>karlimrogers@gmail.com</i>		N
Rummel	Shawn	Trout Unlimited	Lead Science Advisor, NE Coldwater habi	shawn.rummel@tu.org	Monday data	Y
Shaw	Dwayne	Downeast Salmon Federation	Executive Director	dwayne@mainesalmonrivers.org	Monday roundtable	N
Shramko	Ross	New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlif	Principal Biologist Fisheries	ross.shramko@dep.nj.gov		Y
<i>Simcox</i>	<i>Brandon</i>	<i>Tennessee WRA</i>	<i>Rivers and Streams Coordinator</i>	<i>brandon.simcox@tn.gov</i>		Y
<i>Smalling</i>	<i>Kelly</i>	<i>USGS New Jersey Water Science C</i>	<i>Research Hydrologist</i>	<i>ksmall@usgs.gov</i>	<i>Tuesday - emerging thr</i>	N
Stankowski	Dakota	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries & W	Fishereis Biologist	dakota.stankowski@maine.gov		N
Tatko	Steve	Appalachian Mountain Club	Vice President for Land, Research and	statko@outdoors.org	Tuesday forestry and A	N
Thorne	David	West Virginia DNR	Fishereis Biologist	david.w.thorne@wv.gov		Y
Timmins	Dianne	NH Fish and Game Department	Chief, Inland Fisheries Division	dianne.m.timmins@wildlife.nh.gov		Y
Whittum	Kory	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries & W	Fishereis Biologist	kory.whittum@maine.gov	Monday roundtable	N
Wright	John	National Fish and Wildlife Foundat	Manager, Northeast Watersheds	john.wright@nfwf.org		N



Eastern Brook Trout
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EBTJV 2024 Meeting, September 22-24, 2024

New England Outdoor Center

200 Kathadin View Drive, Millinocket Maine

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

1-800-766-7238

wifi p/w **newengland**

AGENDA

Meetings will be in the Event Center, 1 mile south of River Drivers Restaurant/cabins.

Monday continued:

11:30 - Noon: **Lori Maloney**, Coordinator, EBTJV. Delaware River Watershed landscape scale brook trout initiative.

Noon - 1:30: Lunch at the event center, open time.

1:30 - 2:30: EBTJV business meeting (Steering Committee representatives).

Call to order/quorum - Jacob Rash

Approval of June EBTJV SC Meeting notes - Jacob Rash

Changes to EBTJV SC membership (discussion; Lori Maloney)

Downeast Salmon Federation application to join EBTJV SC (discussion; advance to action if there is a motion) - Application provided via email.

NFHP update: FY 26 RFP - Steve Perry

Close

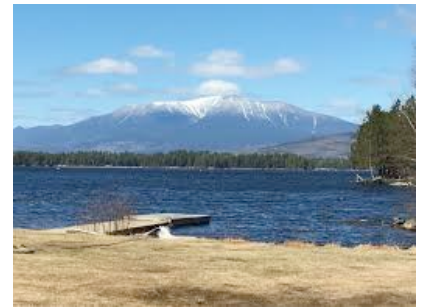
2:30 - 4:00: **Jason Detar**, Biologist, PA Fish and Boat Commission, **Shawn Rummel**, Trout Unlimited. EBTJV status assessment, where we are and where we are going.

4:00- 4:30: Parking lot items (any discussion topics we pinned from earlier in the day)

6-8 pm: Dinner at Knife Edge Brewing (pizza, wings, salad).



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Tuesday:

7 am: Buffet breakfast at River Drivers.

Event Center

8 - 8:30: Recap of Day 1

8:30- 10:30: **Emerging issues for brook trout** (Discussion host **Dan Goetz, Maryland DNR**)

Pre-meeting survey: <https://tinyurl.com/ya6tkram>

8:30: **Fred Henson**, Coldwater Fisheries Unit Leader, NYSDEC; "Browning" and climate change challenges for Adirondack brook trout pond management

9:00: **Kelly Smalling**, Research Hydrologist, USGS New Jersey Water Science Center. Tire Use and Aquatic Animal Health

9:30: **Matt O'Donnell**, Research Ecologist, USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center. Effects of flow and temperature on brook trout persistence: Ongoing and future studies at the USGS-EESC

10:00: Discussion.

10:30 - 11: Break, checkout if needed.

11:00 - 11:30: **Tim Obrey**, Regional Fisheries Supervisor for the Moosehead Lake Region, Maine IFW: Moosehead lake region brook trout management.

11:30: Wrap up discussions.

Noon: bagged lunch to go.

1:00- 5:00: Optional field trip to project sites near Kathadin Iron Works (wear orange).





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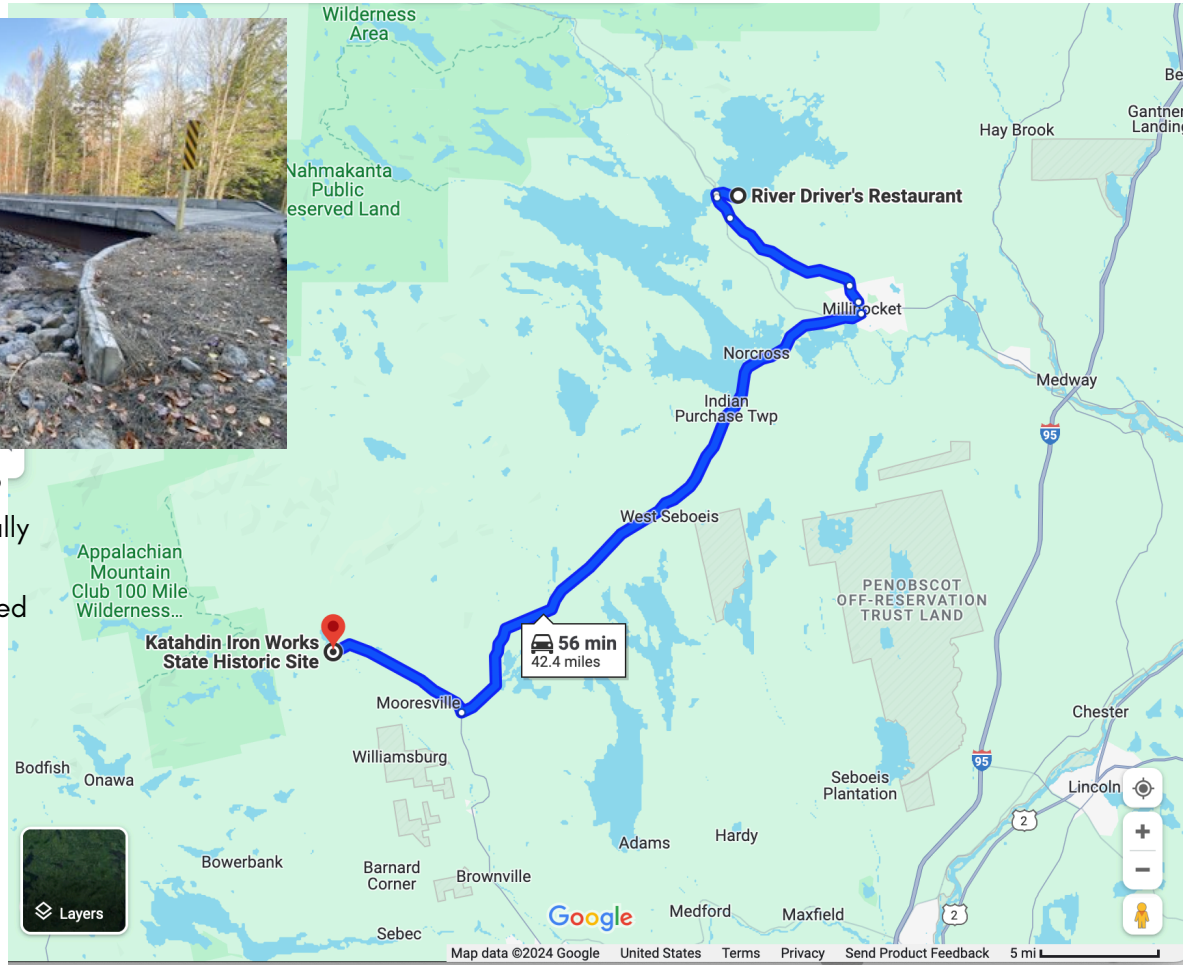


EBTJV 2024 Meeting, September 22-24, 2024

Field Trip September 24 noon-5pm **WEAR BLAZE ORANGE**

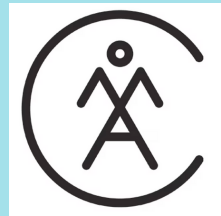


Henderson Brook AOP project, funded partially with EBTJV-NFHP support, and completed in 2023.



Steve Tatko - host

Vice President for Land, Research and Trails,
 Appalachian Mountain Club



Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve has overseen AMC's conservation acquisition, management planning, and implementation strategy for the Maine Woods Initiative, which has now grown to 114,000 acres in the 100 Mile Wilderness Region of Maine. In addition to his work in Maine, Steve oversees AMC's Conservation programming across the organization's 12 state footprint including its landholdings in five states, its Research Department, Trails Department, and Policy Department. A native of Willimantic, Maine where he still resides, Steve is a Licensed Maine Forester with over 20 years of experience in the forestry field.

DIRECTIONS: <https://www.neoc.com/directions-to-neoc/>

NEOC is about 1.5 hrs from Bangor, Maine.

Lori Maloney cel: 917-751-2616

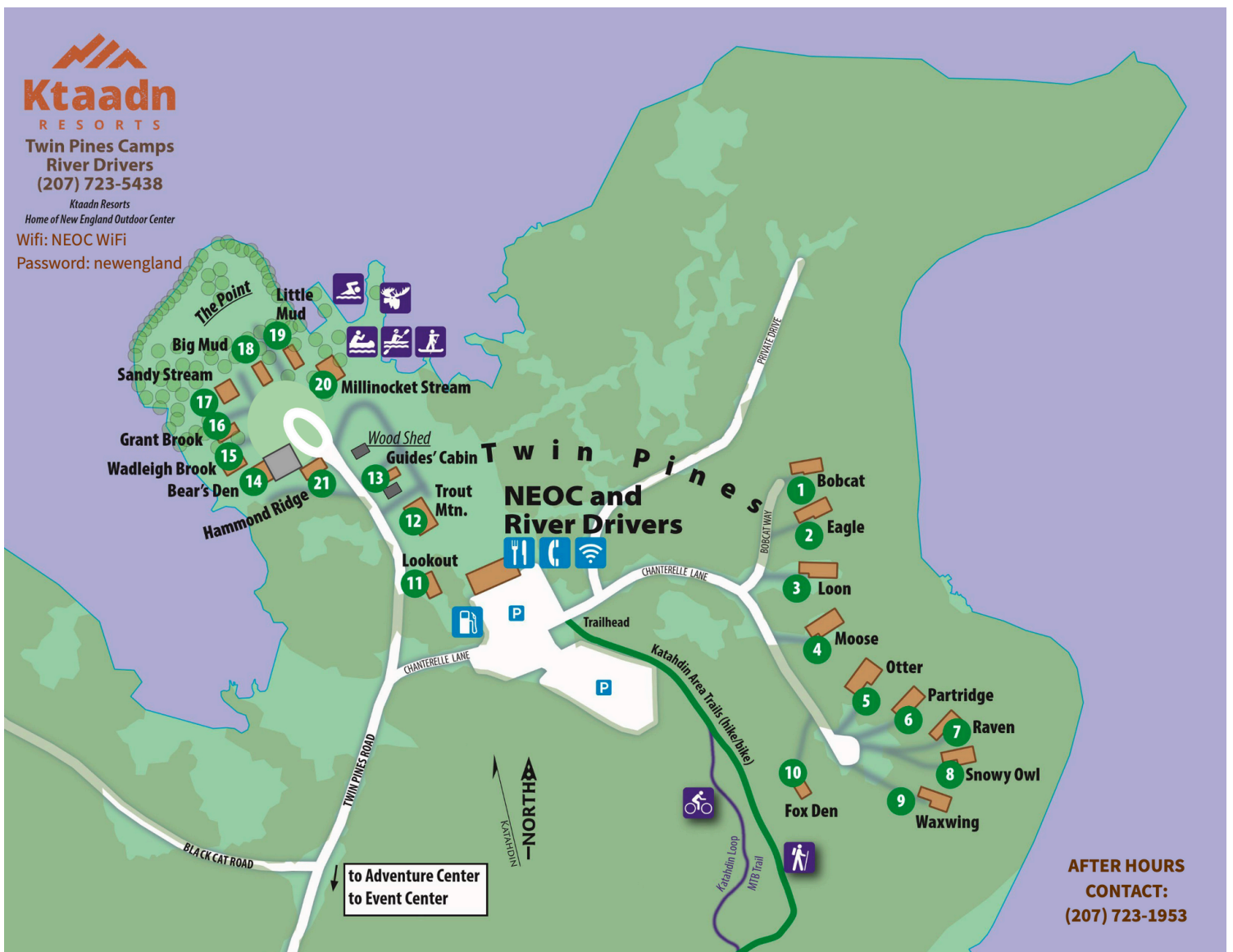
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1-800-766-7238

Room assignments made upon check-in. If you requested a shared room, you are with the person you named.



EBTJV Steering Committee Members

State Agency Members:

Adam Kautza – Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
Brian Eltz/Matt Goclowski/Andrew Bade – CT DEEP
Andrew Rabern – GA Dept. of Natural Resources
Matt Lawrence/Jason Cessna – MD Dept. of Natural Resources
Jake Rash – NC Wildlife Resources Commission
Merry Gallagher – ME Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
John Magee/Dalton Courtemarche – NH Fish and Game
Ross Shramko – NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
Greg Kozlowski/Fred Henson – NYS DEC
Jason Detar – PA Fish and Boat Commission
Corey Pelletier – RI Department of Environmental Management
Dan Rankin – SC Department of Natural Resources
Jim Habera – TN Wildlife Resources Agency
Brad Fink – VA Department of Game & Inland Fisheries
Lee Simard/Maureen Lynch – VT Fish and Wildlife Department
David Thorne – WV Division of Natural Resources

Federal Agency Members:

Will Duncan/Jaime Masterson – US Fish and Wildlife Service
US Geological Survey – David Kazyak (alternate to Steve Faulkner, retired)
Nat Gillespie – US Forest Service
Matt Kulp – National Park Service

NGO's:

Jud Kratzer – American Fisheries Society
Shawn Rummel – Trout Unlimited
Glenn Erikson – Federation of Fly Fishers
Geof Day – Sea Run Brook Trout Coalition

EBTJV Leadership:

Jake Rash (NCWRC) – S.C. Chairman
Lee Simard (VT FWD) – S.C. Vice Chairman
Nat Gillespie (USDA Forest Service) – Past Chairman
Lori Maloney (Canaan Valley Institute) – Coordinator

EBTJV Member at-large:

Steve Perry

National Fish Habitat Partnership Liaisons to the EBTJV:

Mike Leonard – American Sportfishing Association
Doug Austen – American Fisheries Society
Anne Kinsinger – US Geological Survey
Steve Perry – Landowner Representative
Bryan Moore – Trout Unlimited



The EBTJV is a network of fisheries managers, scientists, nonprofits, state and federal agencies, regional and local governments, businesses, conservation organizations, academia, scientific societies, and Tribal organizations that is working to conserve healthy populations of brook trout in the eastern native range. We work collaboratively with partners at multiple geographic and jurisdictional scales to reverse the declining trend for wild Brook Trout, and are one of the twenty members of the National Fish Habitat Partnership. EBTJV is supported by our 501c(3) sponsor, the Canaan Valley Institute.

www.easternbrooktrout.org

EBTJV Strategic Planning: A History

★ Star denotes the main strategic plan documents. Others are supporting or scaled-down versions.

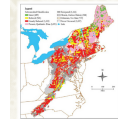
2005

Conserving the Eastern Brook Trout: an Overview of Status, Threats, and Trends. This documents summarizes an assessment of Brook Trout populations, documents opinions of fisheries managers on perturbations, and comments on future trends.



2006

Subwatershed scale assessment (HUC 12); first of its kind documenting the dramatic loss of brook trout habitat. This was followed in 2008 with CART analysis to predict brook trout occupancy in areas that lacked empirical data.



2008

★ Conserving the Eastern Brook Trout: Action Strategies (2008) This was the EBTJV's first Conservation Strategy. It summarizes the goals, objectives, and strategies designed to achieve the strategic goals of the EBTJV. This report also focuses on developing partnerships and securing funding.



2008

Roadmap to Restoration scaled down, more visually appealing version of the 2008 "Conserving the Eastern Brook Trout: Action Strategies".



2011

★ Conserving the Eastern Brook Trout: Action Strategies (2011). This was an update to the 2008 Conservation Strategy. Like the 2008 plan, this version contained numeric goals that were based on the 2006 assessment at the Subwatershed scale.



2016

EBTJV Completed its wild Brook Trout assessment at the catchment scale.

Classification Code	Number of
1.1	6,022
1.2	2,111
1.3	379
1.4	1,258
Totals	9,869

2018

★ Conserving the Eastern Brook Trout: Action Strategies This update to the Conservation Strategy outlines additional numeric goals and objectives following the 2015 wild Brook Trout assessment completed at the catchment scale.



2018

Roadmap to Conservation Public facing, scaled down report with EBTJV's Conservation Strategy and goals and objectives based on the catchment scale assessment.



2024

The EBTJV will update to the 2016 wild Brook Trout Assessment at the catchment scale, using a new on-line tool for data managers to update occupancy data from their jurisdictions.

