

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**  
**Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources, Region 9**  
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Alexander B. Grannis  
Commissioner

August 10, 2007

National Fish Habitat Action Plan grant evaluators:

This letter is written in support of the proposed brook trout habitat enhancement project on McIntosh Creek in Allegany State Park. This project will help to meet DEC's New York State Brook Trout Conservation Strategy goal to identify and conduct habitat improvement projects to enhance wild brook trout populations and also its goal to provide expanded recreational fishing opportunities for quality wild brook trout populations. DEC has been looking for ways to conduct brook trout enhancement work in western NY and we believe this project has the potential to both create a quality wild brook trout fishery and to provide a model for how brook trout populations can be enhanced in other New York State streams where the use of heavy machinery and substantial disturbance to the surrounding area is not feasible or allowed. The Region 9, DEC Fisheries Unit believes the overall goal of this project to provide the habitat that will allow wild brook trout to reach their maximum age and growth potential for western New York streams will provide anglers with a fresh perspective on what wild brook trout fishing can be if the fish once again have healthy habitat to live in. We highly recommend this project for funding through the EBTJV cost share program.

Sincerely,

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Scott C. Cornett  
Fishery Biologist