

Stream Team Meeting Minutes
7:30 PM Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Present: Bill Allen, Paul Benzing, Neil Borman, Lou Caprioglio, Kelley Curran, Gene Fox, Michael Hartwig, Todd Hayes, Karen Patterson, Lee Pollock, Robin Timmons, and Charles Whitmore

1. Bill Allen opened the meeting at 7:33 pm.
2. Gene Fox has not had the opportunity to compare Hach DO meter results with DO results from the test kits used for "World Water Monitoring Day". He surmised that the kits would most likely be less accurate and proposed conducting the comparison and reporting his findings at the March meeting.
3. Gene summarized his field trip with students from the Science Academy of Morristown High School, a group sponsored by Pfizer. Gene, along with Chuck Whitmore, led a group of 13 sophomore and junior science students and their teachers out to Loantaka Brook in an effort to introduce them to field research on Wednesday, February 4th. The team was split into two groups. The groups collected pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and total dissolved solids (TDS) readings at 10 locations along the stream. After the readings were collected, the groups met up with Lee Pollock who led a discussion on macroinvertebrates. One observation of note was the relatively high pH (>8) readings observed at several locations. Also of interest was increasing TDS readings upstream to the Woodland Treatment Plant. As a result of this effort, additional field trips may be scheduled in the future. Gene will be submitting the data along with a summary report of the outing to Kelley Curran for inclusion in the GSWA Stream Team files.
4. Chuck summarized the highlights of the NJ Cold Water Conservation Forum that he attended on Saturday, January 31st at the Kinnelon Public Library on behalf of the GSWA. Ross Kushner of the Pequannock River Coalition organized the Forum. The event was aimed at preserving and restoring New Jersey's sensitive trout waters. Approximately 35 individuals representing various organizations were in attendance to discuss the current conditions of waterbodies that support trout fisheries in the State. There was much discussion concerning the new NJDEP Category One designation for a number of waterways in New Jersey. Collectively, the group came up with a list of issues which include the following:
 - Developments resulting in an increase in non-point source pollution
 - Discharge from wastewater treatment plants
 - Siltation from construction
 - RLUIPA (federal religious/church development law) – impact on environmental quality
 - Thermal increases caused by top release dams
 - Golf courses
 - Well drilling on Green Acres land
 - Haphazard classification of C1 waterways

From this list of issues, the group comprised a list of potential needs/action items for prioritization. If anyone would like additional information on the Forum, please contact Kelley.

5. Neil Borman expressed interest in scheduling a training session on the ISCO sampler. Having additional Stream Team members trained in the operation of this equipment would give more individuals the opportunity to perform the set-up in the event of a storm sample collection. Several members have experienced problems with getting the equipment back to the “resting” mode. Bill Allen suggested placing a copy of the operating instructions in each shed. Lee provided Kelley with a set of instructions and she will look into the potential to reduce and laminate a set to be placed in each of the five sheds. Kelley will also attempt to locate a complete operating manual for the ISCO sampler. All agreed to wait until Spring to schedule the formal training on account of the current winter weather conditions.
6. For Kelley’s benefit, Bill had each stream team member present at the meeting introduce themselves and include a short description of their responsibilities within the Team.
7. The build-up of sticks/leaves continues to be a problem at the Primrose Brook station location. There is a good chance that the build-up is affecting the sensor and hence any recorded flow measurements. Kelley will follow-up with FXBrowne regarding options to fix this problem. The potential of sawing off the posts was a suggestion offered.
8. There are currently log sheets located in each of the five sheds. Date, time, staff gauge height, sampler level, actions, and comments are recorded each time a member visits the station location. The information recorded on these log sheets has been converted to Word documents (one per stream). Kelley will look into determining how far back the data goes and the possibility of placing this information on the GSWA website for easy access by the stream team members. A suggestion was made that if the space allocated in the comments column on the log sheets is not big enough, comments should continue to the row(s) below (as opposed to a separate sheet).
9. Lou Caprioglio inquired about the construction project on Green Village Road. There are siltation concerns associated with Black Brook that lies adjacent to the project site. Gene offered that the proposed project includes the construction of an onsite nature center and that a responsible contractor has been hired to do the work. Gene feels confident that the project is being handled well and that concerns regarding any degradation to Black Brook are minimal.
10. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 3, 2004.
11. The meeting convened at 9:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelley Curran.