

Distribution

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PENNSYLVANIA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION
 BUREAU OF FISHERIES
 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

UNT to North Branch Little Conemaugh River (rm 7.92) (18E),
 Section 01
 Environmental Services Report

Reviewed:
 Section Chief:

 Division Chief:

 Bureau Director:

Prepared by: Gary Smith	Fisheries Management Database Name: UNT To North Branch Little Conemaugh River (rm 7.92) Lat/Lon: 40°27'53"/78°40'36" Tributary To: North Branch Little Conemaugh River	Date Sampled: Sept 9, 2015 Date Prepared: Oct 7, 2015
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Survey Summary: Unnamed tributary (UNT) to North Branch Little Conemaugh River (rm 7.92) is a 2.45 km (1.52 mi) coldwater stream located in Cambria County that supports a high density, naturally reproducing Brook Trout population. A 253 m long sampling station covering ten percent of the stream length was evaluated at RM 0.07 on September 9, 2015 as a follow up to an initial survey during 2014 to determine Class A status. All procedures were carried out according to those outlined by Detar et al. (2011). Water quality was good with a pH of 7.9 and total alkalinity of 178 mg/l. A total of five fish species were captured during the survey. Forty-nine wild Brook Trout ranging in length from 75 mm to 274 mm total length (TL) were collected during the survey. Fourteen trout (29 percent) were greater than or equal to the legal harvestable length (175 mm: 7 in). The Brook Trout CPUE biomass estimate of 37.62 kg/ha met the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's minimum biomass criteria for a Class A wild trout population. Trout density was 195 Brook Trout/km (314 trout/mi) with 56 trout/km (90 trout/mi) being of legal length or longer. Information collected from this survey is summarized in Tables 1-4.

- Management Recommendations:
1. Add UNT to North Branch Little Conemaugh River (rm 7.92), Section 01 (from the headwaters downstream to the mouth) to the PFBC's list of stream sections that support natural reproduction of trout.
 2. Add UNT to North Branch Little Conemaugh River (rm 7.92), Section 01 (from the headwaters downstream to the mouth) to the Class A wild trout list.
 3. Request the Department of Environmental Protection designate UNT to North Branch Little Conemaugh River (rm 7.92) as High Quality-Cold Water Fishes (HQ-CWF) under 25 PA Code Chapter 93 based on the Class A qualifier found in 93.4b(2)(ii).

Table 1. UNT to North Branch Little Conemaugh River (rm 7.92) (18E), Cambria County. Site sampling location, length surveyed, average site width and site area.

Site Date	Rivermile	Site Coordinates	Downstream limit description	Length (m)	Ave. Width (m)	Site Area (ha)
9/9/2015	0.07	40.464610 / 78.675530	100 m upstream of the mouth	253	1.9	0.05

Table 2. Wild Brook Trout catch and biomass estimates at sample site RM 0.07 on UNT to North Branch Little Conemaugh River (rm 7.92) (18E), Cambria County, on September 9, 2015.

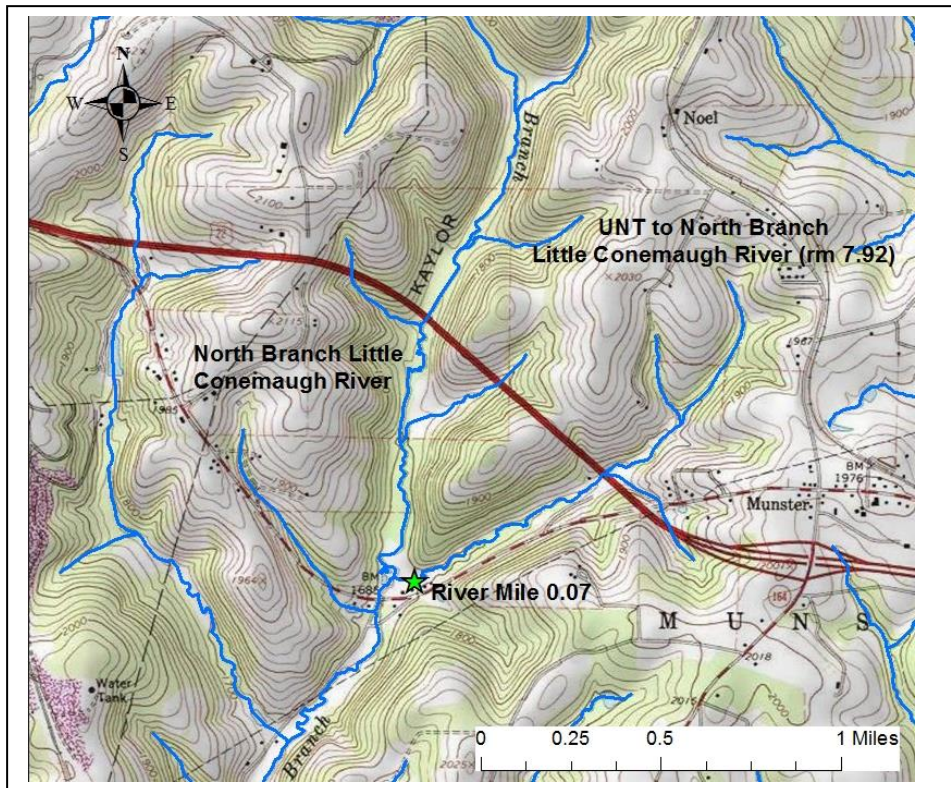
Size Group	Catch	Mean Wt (g)	Wt Source	Kg/Ha	Num/Ha	Num/Km
75	22	5.95	StateMeanWt	2.77	465	87
100	6	13.69	StateMeanWt	1.74	127	24
150	7	41.09	StateMeanWt	6.08	148	28
175	8	63.88	StateMeanWt	10.80	169	32
200	3	92.57	StateMeanWt	5.87	63	12
225	1	130.87	StateMeanWt	2.77	21	4
250	2	179.45	StateMeanWt	7.59	42	8
Totals	49			37.62	1,035	195

Table 3. Chemistries collected in UNT to North Branch Little Conemaugh River (rm 7.92).

Parameter	Site 0.07
Sample Date	09/09/2015
Time (24 hour)	1100
Water Temperature (C)	19.0
pH Field Colorimetric (SU)	7.90
Specific Conductance (UMHOS)	676
Total Alkalinity Field Mixed Indicator (MG/L)	178
Total Hardness Field EDTA (MG/L)	252

Table 4. Fish species occurrence in UNT to North Branch Little Conemaugh River (rm 7.92).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Abundance
Blacknose Dace	<i>Rhinichthys atratulus</i>	Abundant
Brook Trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>	
Creek Chub	<i>Semotilus atromaculatus</i>	Abundant
Mottled Sculpin	<i>Cottus bairdii</i>	Abundant
White Sucker	<i>Catostomus commersonii</i>	Present



Other Comments:

Literature Cited:

Detar, J., R. Wnuk, R.T. Greene, M. Kaufmann. 2011. Standard electrofishing protocols for sampling Pennsylvania wadeable streams. Pages 5-24 in D. Miko, editor. Sampling protocols for Pennsylvania's wadeable streams. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. Harrisburg, PA