



Fish Pathogen Investigation On the Batten Kill

2004 Fish Health Investigations

PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Four Proposed Index Sites on the Batten Kill:

- West Branch by Manchester Recreation Field
- Union Street Bridge, Manchester
- Green River, Sandgate
- Woodman, Arlington

TIMING AND SAMPLING NUMBER

TWO SAMPLING DATES

- **June** – specific to juvenile young-of-year (yoy) brook and brown trout.
- **September/October** – re-sampling yoy brook and brown trout populations with additional adult fish sampled.

SAMPLE SIZE

- Up to 10 yoy brook and brown trout at each site during both sampling periods.
- Up to 5 adult fish from each species at each site sampled during the fall.

RESULTS: SPRING & FALL SAMPLING



- Union Street, Green River, Woodman Sites: brook and brown trout positive for *Myxobolus cerebralis*.
- Young brook trout more heavily infected compared to brown trout.

CONCLUSION

- No clinical (visual) disease signs of either Bacterial Kidney Disease or Whirling Disease found during fish sampling.
- Whirling Disease is established in the Batten Kill below the dam on the West Branch.
- Data collected suggest that brown trout are not heavily infected with Whirling Disease.
- Disease incidence at the Woodman Site would seem to indicate that there could be mortality in young brook trout.

