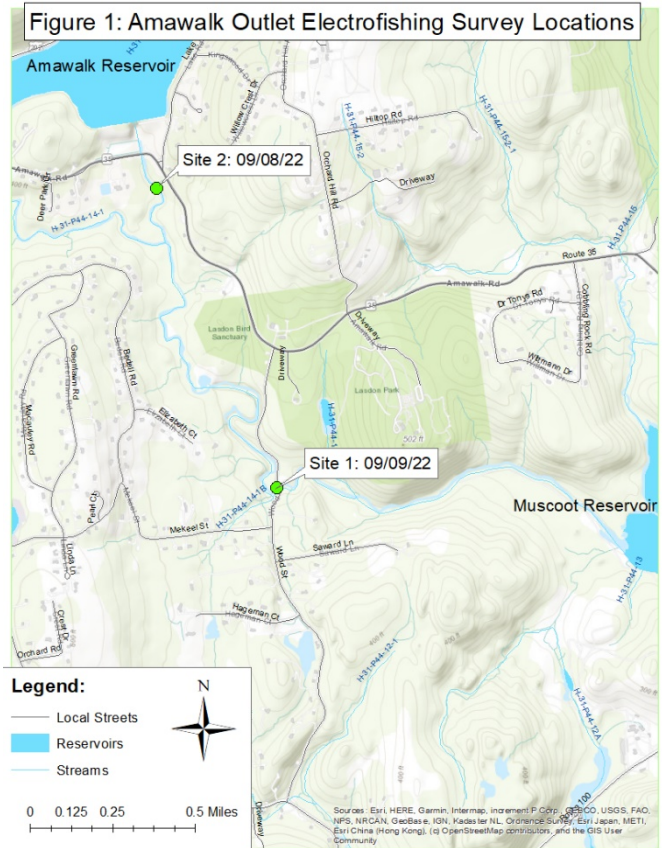


# Amawalk Outlet Trout Survey (Survey#: 322026)

Ryan Coulter, Region 3 Fisheries

September 2022

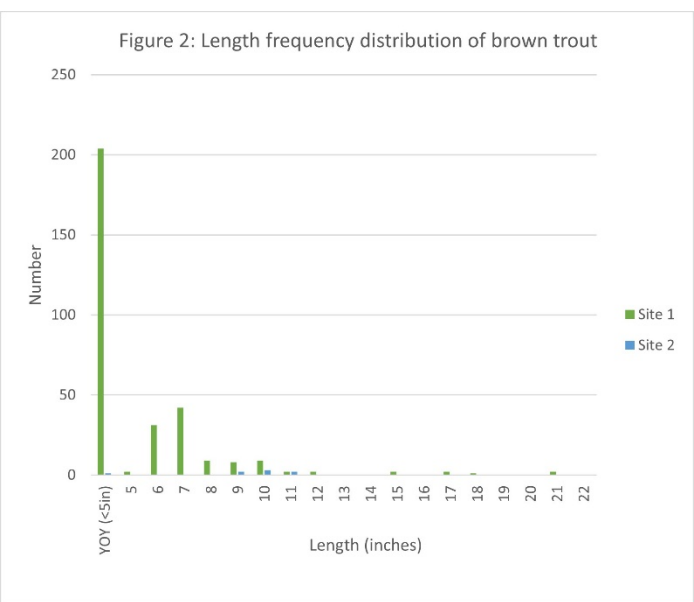
The Amawalk Outlet (Muscoot River) is a 2.7 mile-long tailwater fishery that starts at the Amawalk Reservoir Dam and ends at the Muscoot Reservoir located in the Town of Somers, Westchester County. The Amawalk Outlet receives a cold-water discharge through a bottom release from the Amawalk Reservoir. NYC DEP provides access to the entire stretch of river. Under the new Trout Stream Management Plan (NYSDEC 2020) the Amawalk Outlet is now managed as a “Wild Quality” trout stream. The Amawalk is no longer stocked with trout and has an open trout season from April 1<sup>st</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup> with a daily limit of 3 with no more than 1 longer than 12”. From October 16<sup>th</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> is catch and release only for trout using artificial lures only. Two sites were sampled in this managed reach using two backpack electrofishing units on 9/8 and 9/9/22 (Figure 1). Site one was 370 feet in length and two runs were conducted. Site two was 300 feet in length and two runs were conducted. No blocking seines were used during this survey. Emphasis was placed on targeting young of year size trout (<125mm). The purpose of this survey is to evaluate young of year trout abundance following the Angler Use and Wild Trout Young of Year Recruitment Sampling Plan (NYSDEC 2021).



Use and Wild Trout Young of Year Recruitment Sampling Plan (NYSDEC 2021).

A total of 324 brown trout were caught during this survey, with 205 considered to be young of year (YOY). Brown trout lengths ranged from 2.5 to 21.7 inches (Figure 2). The estimated YOY/acre is 896 for site one and four for site two. This compares to 379 YOY/acre at site one and 100 YOY/acre at site two in 2021.

As part of the Angler Use and Wild Trout Young of Year Recruitment Sampling Plan (NYSDEC 2021) this survey will be conducted every year through 2024. This statewide effort is in response to



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concerns regarding spawning success with the new catch and release season. A full report will be produced in 2025.

**Literature Cited**

NYSDEC. (2021). *Angler Use and Wild Trout Young of Year Recruitment: Evaluating New York's Inland Trout Stream Catch and Release Season*. Albany: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

NYSDEC. (2020). *New York State Trout Stream Management Plan*. Albany: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

