

**Stevens Brook General Biological Survey #519067:
Tom Shanahan, Region 5 Fisheries**

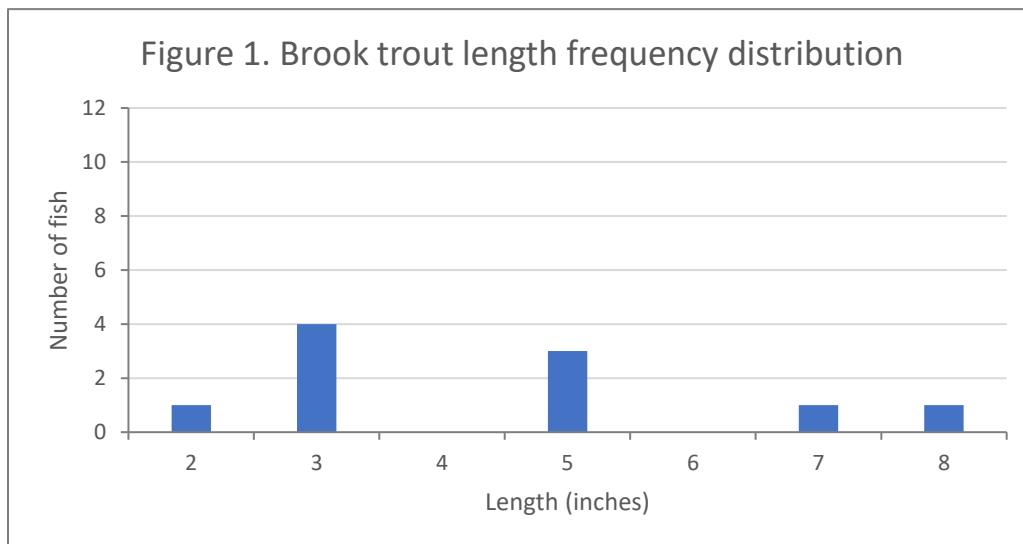
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Stevens Brook (C-48-56) is a tributary to the Boquet River in the Town of Elizabethtown in Essex County. The brook is part of the Champlain watershed and empties into the Boquet River below Split Rock Falls. The small brook (about 10 feet wide) is mostly within the Giant Mountain Wilderness, though the lowest section flows through private land. This was a general survey to update our database since the previous survey in 1965 and is also part of a larger effort to look at the distribution of wild brook trout in the Boquet system. Stevens Brook has never been stocked according to our records.

We sampled a single site, upstream of the Route 9 crossing, with a backpack electrofishing unit in August 2019. The 200-foot sampled section had excellent overhead tree canopy coverage and the dominant substrate types were cobble and gravel. The section primarily featured shallow riffles and runs without many deeper pools. The water temperature at the time of the survey was 59 °F, which is quite good for August. Ten wild brook trout were caught along with blacknose dace and slimy sculpin (Table 1.); a typical species assemblage for an Adirondack stream. Though the trout were not very large, the size range (Figure 1.) is characteristic of a low-productivity mountain stream for wild brook trout.

Table 1. Numbers caught and size ranges of fish from Stevens Brook in 2019.

Species	Number caught	Length range (inches)
brook trout	10	2.1 – 7.6
blacknose dace	2	2.2 – 2.4
slimy sculpin	4	1.9 – 2.9



Although we don't have recent data to allow temporal comparisons for Stevens Brook, the current sampling results show a viable brook trout stream with natural reproduction. No stocking or other management is contemplated at this time. Stevens Brook is governed by Statewide Angling Regulations and that will continue. We will periodically resurvey the brook to monitor water temperatures and species composition.