



**Winner of the Hornbeck Canoe 2015**

**Clearwater Currents**

**The Official Publication of the Clearwater Chapter of  
Trout Unlimited**

**17 Sutherland Drive Watervliet, NY 12189**

Issue No. 15-04

April, 2015



*America's Leading Coldwater Fisheries Conservation  
Organization  
Promoting Habitat for Wild Trout and Salmon  
Trout Unlimited Has Been Fighting for Coldwater Fisheries  
Conservation for 56 Years*

**Join us** before each meeting at 6:30pm for a tying demonstration. Meetings begin at 7:30pm, the third Monday of each month (except Banquet month, July and August), at the Albany Ramada located on Watervliet Avenue Extension off Exit 5 of I-90 (Everett Road).

**Upcoming Events**

April , 2015	Clearwater Chapter Conservation Banquet – see inside for more info!
April 25	Battenkill Cleanup 9am meet at Rt 313 rest area
June 27	Battenkill Cleanup
August 15	Battenkill Cleanup
September 26	Battenkill Cleanup

**Board of Directors/Staff**

President	Scott Parker	894-4661	ExOfficio	Heath Clayson	573-6008
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Battenkill	Greg Cuda	587-1189	Banquet	Jessica Galasso	716-913-5550
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Website	Bill Wemple	384-0014	Publicity	Bill Wemple	384-0014
Disabled Angler Program	Bart Chabot	393-9918			

**Clearwater Chapter of TU PO Box 9686 Schenectady, NY 12309**  
**[www.ClearwaterTU.org](http://www.ClearwaterTU.org)**

## Clearwater Chapter General Meeting

Chapter General Meeting is scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Albany Ramada off exit 5 of I-90. Meeting starts at 6:30pm with a guest fly tier and at 7:30pm our featured speaker. As usual meeting is free and all are welcome.

## Annual Ausable Trip Information

Bob Mead

Our annual Ausable trip to the Hungry Trout will be May 29, 30, and 31 this year. Cost will be \$214 per person and you are responsible for your own gratuities, the same as the last two years. Includes two night stay, 2 breakfasts and one dinner off the menu. Please email me at [rmead1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rmead1@nycap.rr.com) or call me at [518-399-9000](tel:518-399-9000).

## Adirondack Paddling Lawsuit Heads To NYS Court Of Appeals

By [Jessica Morrissey](#)

March 27, 2015

More than five years after it was initiated, a [paddling lawsuit](#) concerning the right of paddlers to navigate waterways that wind through private property will be heard in New York State's highest court, the **Court of Appeals**.



In 2009, **Adirondack Explorer** Editor **Phil Brown** paddled through Mud Pond, Mud Pond Outlet, and a portion of Shingle Shanty Brook, and documented his trip for the magazine. Those bodies of water cross private property owned by the Brandreth Park Association, which later **sued Brown and Adirondack Explorer for trespassing**. Brown could have avoided the private property on his journey between Salmon Lake and Lake Lila, but it would have required that he carry his canoe on land for three-quarters of a mile.

**The case calls into question state navigation laws** and whether or not the small, remote waterway Brown traversed is "navigable-in-fact," and can therefore be used by the public. Because the waterway's size and location are of no concern when determining "navigability-in-fact," **the State Supreme Court ruled in Brown's favor in 2013 with the Third Department of the Appellate**

**Division of State Supreme Court following suit in January 2015.** In both cases, it was ruled that the waterway has the capability to be used for travel, and therefore is navigable-in-fact.

**The January 2015 ruling, though, was a 3-2 split decision,** which is why it will be heard again in the Court of Appeals. According to *Adirondack Almanack*, "The two dissenting justices said that the waterway's remoteness - and the difficulty of undertaking such a journey - makes the stream of little practical use to the public."

The landowners and their representatives are still hopeful that the Court of Appeals will rule in their favor. There is a possibility that if the case is not definitively resolved, it could go all the way to the United States Supreme Court. **By this time next year, a new precedent could be set for paddling in the Adirondacks, or an old precedent could be solidified even further.**

## **GO WITH THE FLOW** **Fly Fishing and Mindfulness Seminar** May 30th, 2015

Ladies, Join us for a one day seminar where you will learn scientifically proven, simple techniques to manage stress and increase feelings of well being and calm, as well as introductory fly fishing skills on a beautiful central New York stream. These experiences blend together beautifully, as fly fishing asks us to be in the moment, and fully aware of our experience. We will also be enjoying a custom-prepared lunch in a beautiful setting. This introductory seminar promises to be deeply enriching and revitalizing. "Come join us as we explore together the potential for beauty, renewal, connection, and growth inherent in every trip to the stream." For further details and to register contact Nicole at: [NicoleChristina.com](http://NicoleChristina.com), [Nicolesgarden@gmail.com](mailto:Nicolesgarden@gmail.com), 315-426-8330, [BreatheTasteSavor.com](http://BreatheTasteSavor.com) or Vicky at: [victorialn63@gmail.com](mailto:victorialn63@gmail.com), 315-748-6951

Supported by NYS DEC

*Ron Urban, Chairman  
NY Trout Unlimited*

## **Fish of the Month 2015 Contest in Full Gear**

Mark A Brown

The Chapter's Fish of the Month Contest is already in its sixth year having crowned **Rich Atkinson, Noe Mead, Jim Berry, Bill Bach, Ron Boutin** and for 2013, **Brad Mohr**, as winners in its first six years.

The contest is open to all members (except me!) and family members of Chapter members and is not necessarily based on the biggest fish, but the quality of the fish, story behind it and picture quality all make up a winning entry. Simply send a photograph to me at my email address at [mrbrownie6@gmail.com](mailto:mrbrownie6@gmail.com) or contact me via email for my mailing address if you have a Polaroid or 35mm shot. As the entries come I'll publish them in the newsletter and select a winner at the March Banquet when the winner will get a dozen hand tied flies or something else really nice as a prize.

The winner announced at this year's Clearwater Banquet was **Jim Boyle!** Congratulations on his fine catch and wonderful picture and story.

## [NYS Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame Inductees](#)

NYS Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame - Press Release



The New York State Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame proudly announces its class of inductees for 2015. The NYSOHOF is an organization dedicated to conservation of our resources and the preservation and enhancement of our traditional outdoor sports. It recognizes and honors men and women who have dedicated a lifetime to these ideals and have made significant contributions to our outdoor heritage.

**Joan Wulff** of Livingston Manor has been a major contributor to the popularity of fly fishing, especially for women and youngsters. In 1979 she and her husband, Lee, founded the Wulff School of Fly Fishing in the Catskills. This has been instrumental in the growth of fly fishing, especially among women and youth. She established the Lee Wulff Conservation Award which recognizes individuals and helps preserve wild game fish through protection of water quality and catch and release fishing. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Catskill Fly Fishing Center Museum and devotes considerable time and resources to its operation. She is also a member of the Catskill Fly Fishing Center Museum Hall of Fame and the International Game Fish Association Hall of Fame.

The late **Lee Wulff** was elected to the Hall of Fame posthumously. On the popular TV show American Sportsman he helped popularize fly fishing to a wide audience. He was also a strong advocate for the idea of catch and release fishing.

While fishing the Catskills, he began to tie his own flies and designed several innovative dry flies. His adaptations of existing patterns for American streams led to a distinctive American style of dry flies. The Lee Wulff Fly Fishing School in the Catskills introduced the sport to many and helped dispel the idea that fly fishing was too difficult. The school also was a major supporter of youth fishing and conservation. These individuals will have their plaques enshrined at the NYSOHOF Museum in Vails Mills. They will be honored at the annual banquet on Saturday, April 25, 2015 at the Rusty Rail in Canastota. Friends, family, and all outdoorsmen are invited to share in this evening and honor the inductees. Call 363-3896 for reservations by April, 18, 2015.

## [Embrace A Stream Grants 2015](#)

**Russ Meyer** Chairman Embrace A Stream Grant Committee

TU is strong thanks to the incredible amount of time and dollars each member and volunteer invests in protecting and restoring our rivers and streams. I see that every day as a member of my local TU chapter and every year it's reinforced even more for me as chair of TU's national Embrace-A-Stream (EAS) grants committee.

I'm pleased to announce that **this year, our EAS program has awarded \$132,394 in grants to 26 TU chapters and councils in 18 states across the country!** The average grant awarded was \$5,092. These funds will go a long way to help replace culverts or remove dams that impede fish passage, improve water quality by reducing bank erosion and re-establishing streamside vegetation, fostering a sense of stewardship and appreciation among landowners and communities, and more! [You can click here to view the full list of 2015 EAS grants and learn more about the program.](#)

Since 1975, EAS has funded more than 1,000 local projects for a total of \$4.4 million in direct cash grants. Local TU chapters and councils contributed an additional \$13 million in cash and in-kind services to EAS funded projects, for a total investment of more than \$17 million.

The program is a remarkable testament to the work we all do as TU volunteers to protect and restore our local rivers and build a community of stewards to care for them.

At the same time, this year was particularly challenging for me and the other members of the EAS committee, because we received 37 requests for funding totaling nearly \$300,000. This meant that 11 of the project proposals we received – great projects led by dedicated TU volunteers like you – were not funded. Additionally, many of the projects we were able to fund only received a portion of the funds they had requested because our pool of available grant dollars was not large enough to support more work.

As a committee, we are working to grow EAS funding and make sure the money is available to help even more TU chapters.

As a fellow TU volunteer, I hope you will join me in helping to grow our EAS funding pool by making a donation to this important program. I would also encourage your chapters and councils to consider [making a gift to the EAS program as well](#).

Together, we can grow the EAS program and ensure that in future year we have the funds available to support even more great local-level restoration work.

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## **DEC to Stock Albany's Rensselaer Lake for Free Fishing Event Weeklong Event to Provide Free Fishing Opportunities**

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Joe Martens today hosted a free sportfishing clinic and trout stocking event in Rensselaer Lake at Albany's Six Mile Waterworks. The clinic is part of Governor Cuomo's New York Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative and DEC's I FISH NY program.

"What better way to celebrate the end of a long winter than to get outdoors and fish," Commissioner Martens said. "Getting more people involved in the sport of fishing is an important component of Governor Cuomo's NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative. These events provide great opportunity for new fishermen and women to be introduced to the sport and can inspire anglers that haven't been out in some time to test the waters. I encourage New Yorkers and visitors to take advantage of the many free fishing events that will take place this season across the state."

Six Mile Waterworks is home to Rensselaer Lake, which contains a variety of freshwater fish species including largemouth bass, sunfish, yellow perch, chain pickerel, brown bullhead and most recently, rainbow trout. DEC stocks the lake with approximately 2,000 catchable-size rainbow trout for the event. Six Mile Waterworks is just one of more than 312 lakes and ponds and roughly 2,900 miles of streams that will be stocked by DEC's 12 fish hatcheries. DEC plans to stock more than 2.3 million catchable-size brook, brown and rainbow trout in 2015.

After the stocking at today's event, participants had the opportunity to take to the water and spend some time with knowledgeable DEC Fisheries staff to learn about fish identification, angling equipment and techniques, fisheries management, and angling ethics. In addition, L.L. Bean staff were on hand demonstrating fly casting techniques.

"Spring is here, but the effects of winter remain visible," Commissioner Martens added. "While the ice cover is rapidly melting on Rensselaer Lake and may prevent anglers from fishing open water earlier on the week, trout fishing opportunities should be plentiful towards the end of the week or soon thereafter."

DEC staff will be at Six Mile Waterworks the remainder of the week (Tuesday-Friday, April 7-10) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to provide angling assistance. This event coincides with spring recess for many Capital District schools, making it the ideal opportunity for families to spend time together and enjoy the outdoors. Large groups that plan on attending are encouraged to call [\(518\) 402-8891](tel:518-402-8891) to ensure adequate staff are present to assist.

Six Mile Waterworks provides good trout fishing opportunities throughout the spring, especially as the water warms up. Early in the season, trout are more apt to bite on artificial lures, such as spinners and spoons, which seem to be most effective. Sunfish will begin to move into shallow water to begin spawning in the later spring months. A simple bobber and worm rig is always a great option.

These events are designated as free sportfishing events which are fishing clinics where participants can fish for free and no freshwater fishing license or enrollment in the Recreational Marine Fishing Registry is required. Participants should note that all applicable fishing laws and regulations remain in effect during the event. Free sportfishing clinics are held throughout the state. For information on conducting a clinic or for a list of [current clinics](#) scheduled, visit DEC's website.

Ordinarily, anyone 16 years of age and older who desires to fish in New York must have a New York State fishing license. New York State reduced license fees in 2014 for both resident and non-resident anglers, making fishing in New York more affordable than ever. Buying a license has also been made more convenient. Anglers can purchase their [license](#) and print them for immediate use on their home computer from DEC's website. Anglers can also purchase their license by phone by calling [1-866-933-2257](tel:1-866-933-2257), or from the numerous license issuing agents across the state. Those purchasing by phone will receive a confirmation number that can be used as proof of purchase until they receive their actual license by mail. Fishing licenses are now valid for 365 days from the date of purchase. Anglers interested in purchasing a lifetime fishing license should consider a New York State Adventure license which is incorporated on

their NY Drivers' License. Additional information can be found at: [License Center website](#)(link leaves DEC website). Governor Cuomo's NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative is an effort to improve recreational opportunities for sportsmen and women and to boost tourism activities throughout the state. This initiative includes streamlining fishing and hunting licenses, reducing license fees, providing Adventure Plates for license holders. A significant component of the NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative is the improvement of access for fishing and increasing hunting opportunities in New York State. NY Works has dedicated a combined \$22 million in funding for fish hatchery repairs and more than 50 new land and water access projects such as boat launches, hunting blinds, trails and parking areas. In addition, over \$6 million has been invested over the past five years in developing new and renovating existing boat launches. The 2015-16 budget provides an additional \$8 million for state land access projects and an additional \$4 million for the state's hatcheries in NY Works funding. This year's budget also created a new capital account which along with federal Pittman-Robertson funds will be used to manage, protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat, and to improve and develop public access for fish and wildlife-related recreation.

**New Fishing Opportunity in the Capital District**

Based on the success of the annual Six Mile Waterworks event, DEC will provide a similar opportunity in Rensselaer County. The pond in East Greenbush Town Park will be stocked with rainbow trout by April 24, followed by a free sportfishing clinic to be held on April 25. This event will be open to all members of the public. Further details will be provided in a future press release.

**Library Fishing Rod Program**

Albany residents can also participate in a program through the Albany Public Library that provides fishing rods for loan. The main branch at 161 Washington Avenue has a limited number of fishing rods that are available to library card holders. In addition, the Cohoes, Middleburgh, Scotia and Rensselaerville public libraries participate in the rod lending program for library members.

Six Mile Waterworks is located off of Fuller Road between Washington and Central avenues. For more information about the Six Mile Waterworks event, contact DEC's Bureau of Fisheries at [\(518\) 402-8891](tel:5184028891).

## [Trout in the Classroom Volunteer Needs](#)

Ron Dorn

Date	Day of Week	School	Location	Stream	Time
4/22/15	Tuesday	Voorheesville Elementary	At the School	Vly Creek	10:45 AM
5/2/15	Saturday	Niskayuna		Alpaus Creek	
5/3/15	Sunday	Niskayuna		Lisha Kill	
5/7/15	Tuesday	Amsterdam High School	Cobleskill	Doc Shaul's Spring	
5/8/15	Friday	Bethlehem Children's School		Vly Creek	
5/12/15	Tuesday	Cohoes	Barnerville Road, Cobleskill	Doc Shaul's Spring	11:00 AM
5/13/15	Wednesday	Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake Stevens Elementary School		A tributary of the Sacandaga	11:00 AM
5/14/15	Thursday	Gloversville High School	Gloversville, NY	Cayadutta Creek	10:00 AM

5/16/15	Saturday	Bethlehem's Children's School Greenfest		Staff a table at the Greenfest highlighting TIC for grades 1-5?	10:00 AM
5/19/15	Tuesday	Ravena Coeymans Selkirk Pieter B Elementary School	Bridge Street Stream Crossing	Coeyman's Creek	10:00 AM
5/20/15	Friday	Eagle Elementary School, Bethlehem	South Bethlehem Park	Coeyman's Creek	10:30
5/21/15	Thursday	Green Island Heatley Elementary School	Barnerville Road, Cobleskill	Doc Shaul's Spring	11:00 AM
5/26/15	Tuesday	Schenectady Middle School, 1121 Forest Rd., Schenectady, NY 12303	Barnerville Road, Cobleskill	Doc Shaul's Spring	10:30 AM
5/27/15	Wednesday	Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake Middle School	Saratoga Spa State Park	Geyser Creek	11:00 AM
Unknown	Friday	BOCES Saratoga			TBD

I am looking for volunteers to help with fly casting, fly fishing, getting students into and out of waders, and sampling for benthic macroinvertebrates. We are planning on the dates in the attached spreadsheet, but with spring weather, we may have to adjust a date here and there.

**Ron Dorn**  
[518-598-8789](tel:518-598-8789)

## **Banquet 2015 Thank You's**

Banquet 2015 is now history and congratulations to **Bill Cosgrove** and **Jessica Galasso** as recipients of the Chapter's Cornerstone and Volunteer Award. Special thanks to the below listed people and businesses that made the Banquet a special night and our biggest fundraiser.

Ron Bellisario  
 John and Mary Morrrette  
 Bill and Judy Cosgrove  
 Bill and Anita Wemple  
 Glenn Kuhles  
 Bill Donato  
 Chris Franchini  
 Sue Pasquini  
 Richard Atkinson  
 Gene Webster  
 Bart Chabot

Hagen's  
 Umpqua  
 Regal Engineering  
 Randy's Tire and Service Center  
 Brown's Archery  
 Capital Repertory Theatre  
 Troy Savings Bank Music Hall  
 Proctors  
 Faddegon's Nursery  
 Illium Café  
 DeVoe's Rainbow Orchards



Bob Mead  
Ron and Kathy Dorn  
Ed Andrejko  
Matthew Richardson  
Savage Family  
Don and Kathy Kiefer  
Scott and Maya Parker  
Mike and Kim Walchko  
Heath Clayson  
Jessica Galasso  
Sharon and Tony Galasso  
Doug Howard  
Robert Olsen  
Art Coleman  
James Davis  
Geri Murray  
Richard Hermida  
Kimberly and Alexander Easterling  
Kate Easterling  
Walt Susko  
Robin Hill  
George Kass  
Bill Newcomb  
Catskill Fly Tyers Guild  
Fishpond  
Cortland  
Olde Saratoga Brewing  
Clearview Bag Company  
Angler's Book Supply  
Venu Reddy  
Deco Granites  
FarBank Enterprises  
Hungry Trout Resort  
Dr Slick  
Adirondack Life  
Fly Rod and Reel  
American Museum of Fly Fishin  
Oasis Fly Tying Benches  
Kristina Agresta

All Seasons Equipment  
Fo' Castle Farm  
Home Style Pizza  
Katie O'Byrnes  
Adirondack Paddle n Pole  
Michaels Shoe Service  
Ted's Fish Fry  
Freeman's Bridge Wine and Liquor  
Clement Frame Shop and Art Gallery  
Gershon's Deli  
Van Dyck Lounge  
Popeye's Chicken Louisiana Kitchen  
Hyde's RV and Boats  
Back Yard Birds  
Niskayuna Co-op  
The Waters Edge Lighthouse  
Fred the Butcher  
Open Door Bookstore  
Maurice's Sandwich Shop  
Canali's Restaurant  
Villa Italia  
Ferrari's Ristorante  
SHE Electric Inc  
Marino's Pizza and Restaurant  
The Boathouse Canoes  
TOPS American Grill  
Salty's Pub and Bistro  
Reel Seafood  
LT's Grill  
Yono's Restaurant  
Straight Line Industries  
Orvis  
UNI  
Fullers Printing  
Century House  
Hornbeck Boats  
The Outdoor News Publications  
Bulldogs Camps  
No Nonsense Fly Fishing Guidebooks

## [Geyser Brook Update](#)

The Daily Gazette **Morgan Lyle** Thursday, March 5, 2015 <http://www.dailygazette.com/>

Geyser Brook updated for fly-fishing Saratoga Spa State Park is a great place to do a lot of things: enjoy a concert, go on a picnic, cross-country ski, take a mineral bath. Can we soon add fly-fishing — “real” fly-fishing — to the list? Maybe so. There's always been a fishing opportunity in the park, of course, in Geyser Brook, the charming spring-fed stream that rises in Greenfield, flows under the pedestrian bridge to Saratoga Performing Arts Center and winds through the park's picnic area en route to its confluence with Kayaderosseras Creek. Geyser is stocked with about 1,400 browns a year, many of them by elementary school students in a popular springtime ritual. But the fishing opportunities have always been limited by the stream's lack of depth and structure; the stocked trout tend to migrate to more suitable water, and those that stayed weren't likely to survive the summer. This summer, Geyser Brook should be more fish-friendly, thanks to a \$35,000 grant from Saratoga Springs and plenty of volunteer elbow grease by the Adirondack and Clearwater chapters of Trout Unlimited. With the help of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stream expert Carl Schwartz, last summer the chapters dug five deep pools and three under-bank structures, and built boulder clusters and other places for trout to feed, hide and rest. It's hoped the improved stream will retain trout better than it used to. “What was previously a largely barren and shallow stream now bubbles over boulders and plunges into knee- to thigh- deep pools,” wrote Greg Cuda of Clearwater and John Braico of Adirondack in a report on the project. “The stream

has been nudged into a narrower and deeper shape which results in faster currents and cleaner bed, a much better habitat for trout and other aquatic wildlife. "The Geyser Brook Project will help park visitors, adults and children alike, understand the importance of aquatic habitat when they again stock the stream next spring," Braico and Cuda wrote. "They will be able to fish the rest of the season with a healthier population of surviving trout. Some day, they may even be able to catch trout that were born wild right in Geyser Brook." That would give the Spa City yet another quality-of-life amenity — wild trout within the city limits. You don't find that just anywhere.



**Fish Stocking Geyser Brook 2015**

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## **State Helicopters Assist in DEC Project to Reintroduce Brook Trout to Remote Adirondack Pond**

### **Transport of Lime Part of Effort to Mitigate Effects of Acid Rain and Create Hospitable Habitat for Brook Trout in Bear Pond**

As part a collaborative effort to mitigate the impact of acid rain and restore brook trout to the Adirondacks, state helicopters delivered 80 tons of lime to an acidified pond in the Five Ponds Wilderness Area in the town of Webb, Herkimer County, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Regional Director Judy Drabicki announced.

On March 10, 12 and 13, approximately 40 DEC staff and New York State Police helicopter crews conducted the liming operation, which included 120 helicopter flights to transport 160,000 pounds of lime from a staging area near the boat launch at Stillwater Reservoir to Bear Pond. Crews deposited the lime on the ice at the pond and later spread it across the frozen surface. The liming of acidic lakes or ponds is a management tool used to neutralize the water's acidity and create water quality that is more favorable for fish and aquatic life. When the pond thaws this spring, the lime will enter the water and reduce its acidity level.

"Each year, fisheries staff selects an Adirondack pond for liming to reintroduce brook trout in the Adirondacks," Regional Director Drabicki said. "This effort involves months of planning and coordination with DEC operations staff, forest rangers and forestry staff, along with State police helicopters, pilots and crews. This joint effort is critical to reclaim waters impaired by acid rain and restore native habitats to these Adirondack waters." DEC fishery staff is optimistic that these operations will successfully return brook trout to some large Adirondack ponds and lakes. Larger water bodies in the Adirondacks maintain a deep cold water layer right through the summer (referred to as stratification), unlike the smaller ponds where water layers mix, which results in warmer water temperatures that are not as suitable for brook trout.

For additional information on DEC's liming program or a list of Adirondack trout ponds, contact the Watertown fisheries office at [315-785-2263](tel:315-785-2263).

Governor Cuomo's NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative is an effort to improve recreational opportunities for sportsmen and women and to boost tourism activities throughout the state. This includes streamlining fishing and hunting licenses, reducing license fees, improving access for fishing and

increasing hunting opportunities in New York State. In support of this initiative, \$10 million in NY Works funding has been dedicated to fish hatchery repairs and 50 new land and water access projects such as boat launches, hunting blinds, trails and parking areas.

Under the initiative, the 2015-16 Executive Budget proposes an additional \$8 million for state land access projects and an additional \$4 million for the state's hatcheries in NY Works funding. The Budget also proposes to create a new capital account which along with federal Pittman-Robertson funds will be used to manage, protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat, and to improve and develop public access for fish and wildlife-related recreation.

*Editor's Note – I believe it costs about \$1000 per hour to fly these helicopters – 120 trips at an average (rough estimate) of one hour per trip equals a lot of money and this is for one pond! Let's hope after all this it gets fished and no one dumps bass into it!*

## **Fly of the Month:** Abbey Wet Fly

This fly is credited to Mr Charles Abbey of Abbey & Imbrie, a New York City based fishing gear dealer. I make it as the fly of the month as this time of the year we find ourselves aiming our offerings toward brook trout and this fly makes a few of the lists of top brook trout flies. Tied wet fly style it gives the tier a chance to practice a style of flies not seen as much now as 100 years ago. Hook: wet fly 8-12; Thread: 6/0 black; Tag: gold tinsel; Tail: golden pheasant tippet; Rib: gold tinsel; Body: red floss; Hackle: brown hackle; Wing: gray mallard. Mount the hook and tie in the tag. Move the thread a short distance forward and after a few wraps of tinsel tie it off, but don't cut it. Tie in the tail and then the body. Wrap the body forward stopping just before the eye. Once done wrap the tinsel over the body for the rib and tie and cut off. Tie in the hackle and give it a few wraps. Make the hackle so that it only can be seen below or off to the sides of the hook by cutting it away from the top of the hook or wetting it and pushing it down and tying it off. Tie in the gray mallard for the wings and tie off. See <http://globalflyfisher.com/patterns/bergman.html> and <http://stenstromflies.blogspot.com/2012/05/abbey-traditional-wet-fly-tied-dry.html> for more information.

