

Communicating about Brook Trout genetics



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[We do not have all the answers]



But we want your feedback!

Approach

1. Short presentation

- Importance

- Challenges

- Opportunities

2. Panel discussion (Rash, Kulp, Rummel, White)

3. Mentimeter Survey

4. Discussion of results

Administrators



Researchers



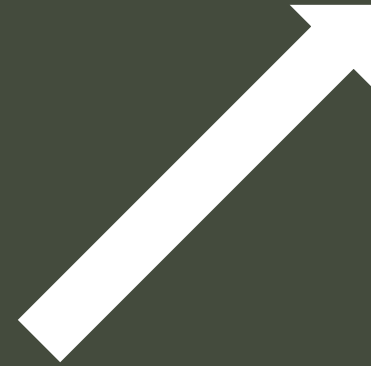
Managers



Public



Conservation Practitioners



Importance of communication

Convey the significance of genetics in Brook Trout conservation

The roles that genetics can play in supporting fisheries management is not widely appreciated

Challenges

Highly technical

Rapidly changing field

Uncertainty

Can be overwhelming!



Challenges

Difficult to access information

Misinformation

Lack of appreciation of role of genetics

- Perception that genetics is only important over very long time scales

- Perception that other threats are more important

Consequences

Missed opportunities to use genetics to support management

Potential for less durable outcomes without consideration of genetics (genetic drift, evolutionary adaptive potential, etc.)

Pressure to stock hatchery brook trout over wild populations

We want to maximize impact towards brook trout conservation.

Brook Trout Genetics Workshop



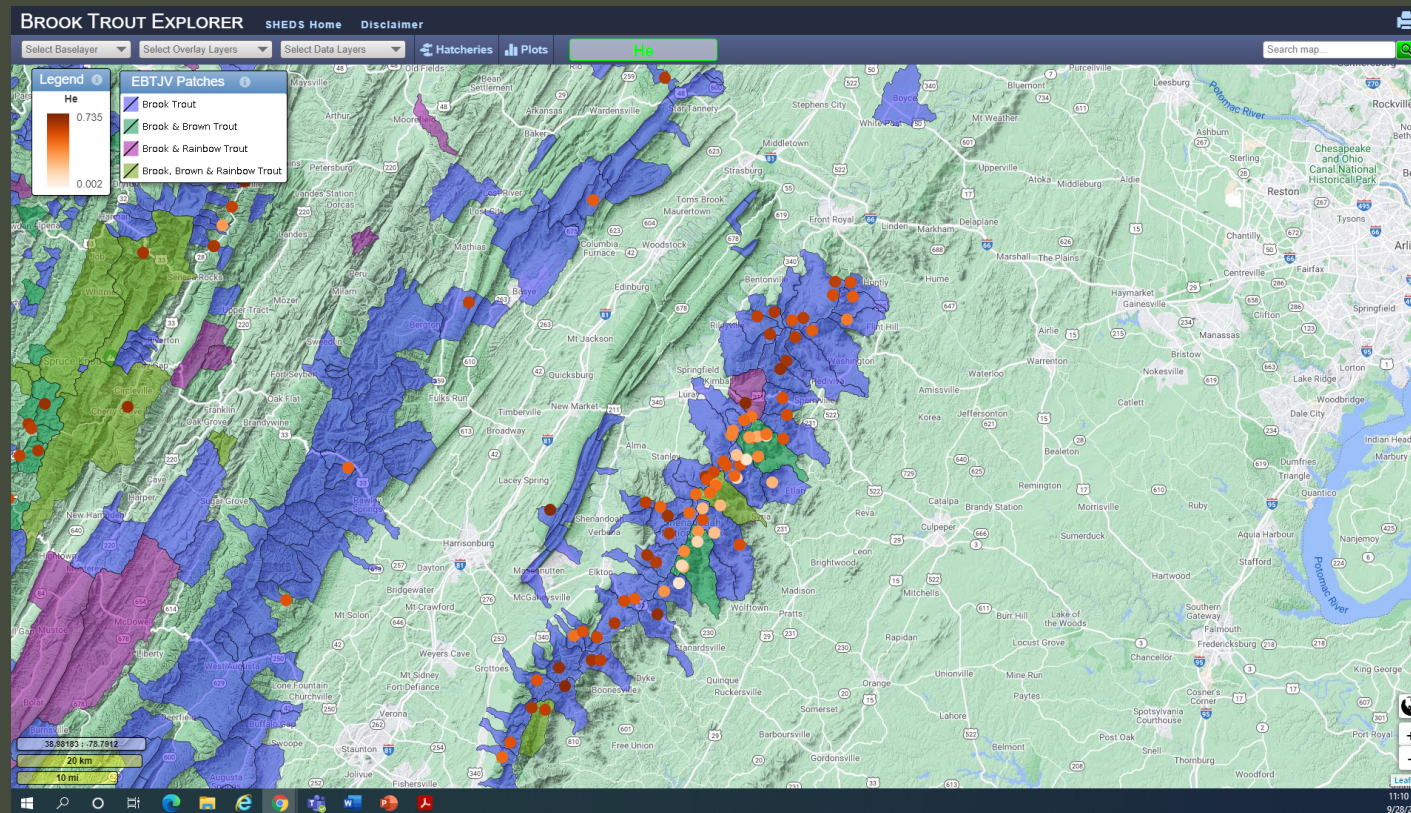
Welcome!

**Understanding Genetics for Successful
Conservation and Restoration of Resilient
Chesapeake Bay Brook Trout Populations**



Brook Trout Explorer

Online interactive portal



Participatory science

Researchers engage with managers and practitioners throughout study

Helps to ensure alignment of science with management needs, and increases buy-in from managers

Potential opportunities for engagement:

Evaluation of reintroduction activities or genetic rescue

Development of an eDNA approach for monitoring

Opportunities

Publication library

Publication alerts in EBTJV newsletter? Need commitment from researchers.

Contact list of geneticists

Glossary of terminology

Links to online training resources

Training opportunities

Opportunities

Recorded non-technical talks

Short document or brochure (importance of genetics)

Public lecture

Story map

Web site

Panel discussion

(1) What has worked well for you in communicating Brook Trout genetic information? Who was the audience?

(2) What challenges have you faced?

(3) What ideas do you have for improving communication? Do you have specific suggestions?