

Little Juniata River Association Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2017

Our speaker was Stacia-Fe Gillen, Watershed Specialist for Huntingdon County Conservation District

Water Quality-

Stacia-Fe shared the HCCD plans and projects with an emphasis on the tributaries in the Spruce Creek watershed, including projects on Warriors Mark Run and Half Moon Run. There are many miles of stream in these watersheds that are degraded by farming practice including bank erosion from cattle and warming due to the lack of stream bank canopy. LJRA will cooperate with HCCD, Clearwater Conservancy and others on these efforts.

River Controls and gauges

LJRA and HCCD are combining resources to create a complete set of water quality measurements on the Little j. These will be placed on the river near Green Hills Campground. The only measure we currently have is the USGS Flow gauge upstream from Spruce Creek. The added controls will be :

- Water Temperature
- Flow and height
- pH
- Conductivity
- Turbidity
- Dissolved Oxygen

Readings from the controls will be made available real time/on-line on the LJRA website when they are installed. Funding for this program will come from LJRA donations and grant sources.

Brown trout telemetry study 2017 – Dennis Johnson, Juniata College

We will continue the effort to understand where our trout go when the water gets too warm in 2017. New transmitters with a smaller form factor will be surgically implanted in the June thru September timeframe. A full report on our trout study thus far will be presented by Juniata College at the April LJRA meeting.

Little Bald Eagle Creek- Juniata College and Western Pa Conservancy have conducted a study of the bugs, fish and chemistry of this stream . They found a wild brown trout population throughout and it is likely Class A in biomas of wild trout.

Kelso Run brook trout habitat project- Bill Anderson and Bob Decker

Nearly a half mile of Kelso Run a tributary to Bells Gap Run, a “j” tributary, will be improved to provide better habitat for its resident Brook Trout population. The plan is completed and an application for the

DEP permit is being prepared by Phil Thomas, PATU Habitat Mgr. A grant for funding has been written and submitted to Foundation For Pa. Watersheds. We expect to execute this project in summer 2017. Volunteers will be needed at that time.