

## RECONNECTING & RESTORING COMSTOCK BROOK WATERSHED



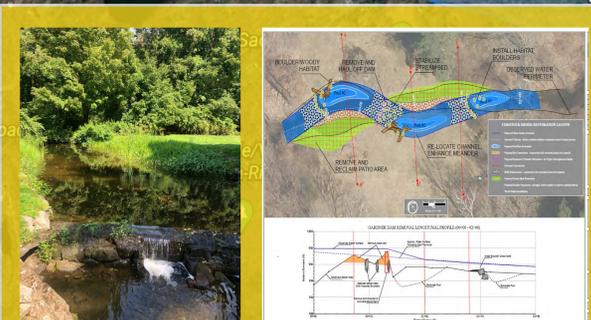
Removing dams, building better habitat, reducing stormwater runoff and combatting climate change to protect native Brook Trout



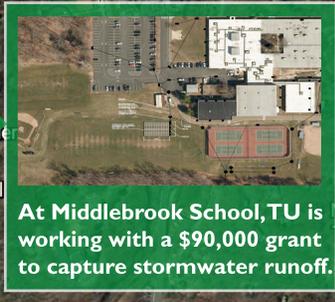
More than a dozen dams, most of them small, dot the upper reaches of the Comstock watershed.



South Norwalk Electric & Water's dam at Middlebrook Farm Road will need fish passage work vs. removal.



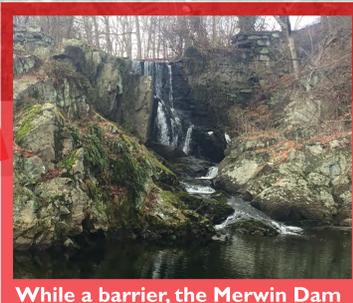
Engineering is complete for the removal of this small stone and concrete dam off Ridgefield Road in 2022. Three more private dams located above it must be removed to re-open passage to the stronghold area.



At Middlebrook School, TU is working with a \$90,000 grant to capture stormwater runoff.



Permits are approved to tear out this old concrete dam in fall 2021.



While a barrier, the Merwin Dam also prevents invasive species from migrating up Comstock Brook.

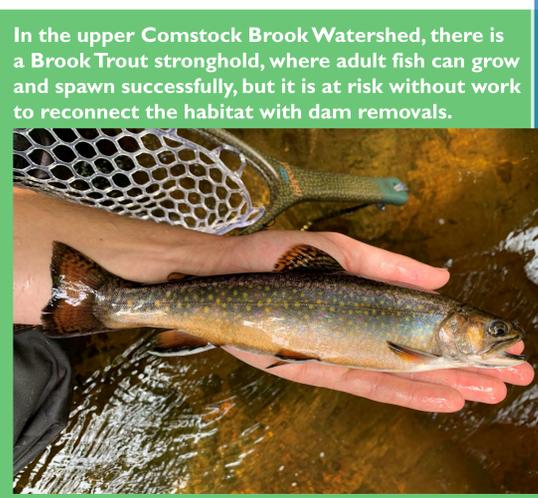
# DAMS THREATEN OUR NATIVE BROOK TROUT

## There Are Currently 25 Dams in the Comstock Brook Watershed

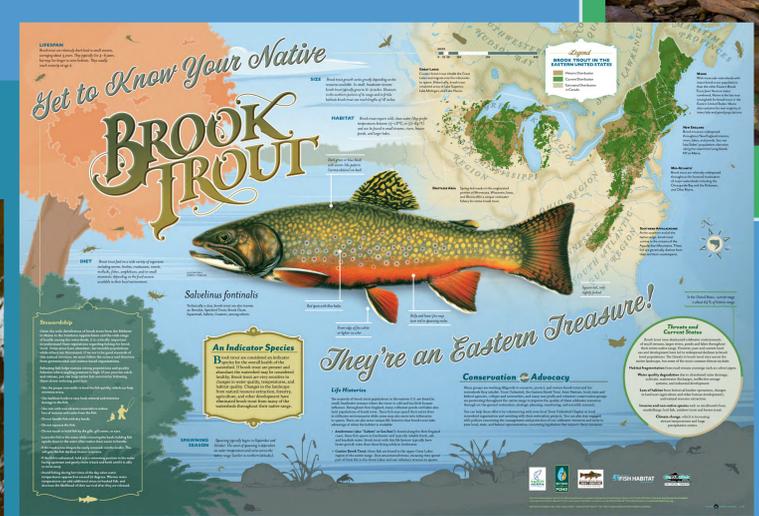
Connecticut's landscape is dotted with more than 4,000 dams, most long since abandoned and serving no use. Many of these dams are small stone or concrete structures, less than five feet high, but to a small native trout they might as well be 50 feet high. They pose an impassable barrier and prevent Brook Trout and other species from moving up and down the river to spawn and grow. Our work in the coming years is to remove these deadbeat dams and reconnect the full watershed to allow Brook Trout to thrive again in Comstock Brook!



Brook Trout require the coldest, cleanest waters to survive.



In the upper Comstock Brook Watershed, there is a Brook Trout stronghold, where adult fish can grow and spawn successfully, but it is at risk without work to reconnect the habitat with dam removals.



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