



BRASSnews

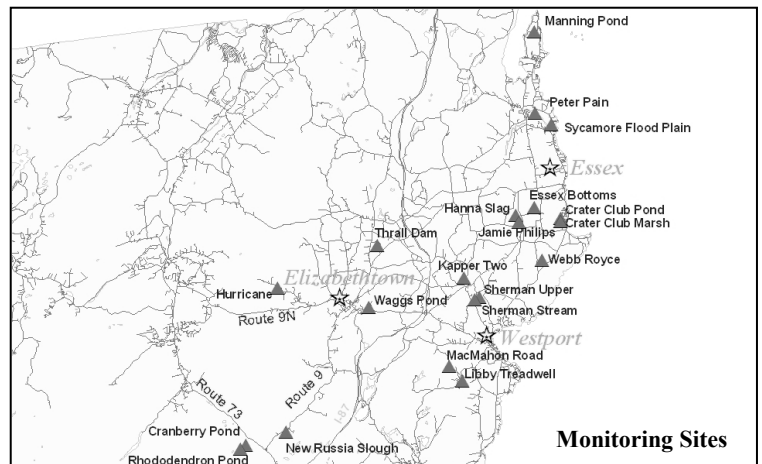
Newsletter of the Boquet River Association, Inc. | Spring 2011 Issue

BRASS Awarded Two LCBP Grants

The Boquet River Association (BRASS) was awarded a \$14,018 *Aquatic Invasive Species Spread Prevention* grant through the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP). The wetland monitoring program, with an emphasis on invasive species in the Boquet River watershed, was initiated in 2005. Initially, a hydrologic and vegetation survey of 40 wetlands was conducted in 2005. Of these, 20 wetlands were selected for long-term monitoring and a hydrologic and vegetation survey was conducted again in 2006. Funding constraints allowed a vegetation survey on one of the wetlands in 2007 and 2008. In 2010, BRASS funded a vegetation survey of 10 of the 20 wetlands. With LCBP funding, a vegetation survey of the remaining 10 wetlands will be conducted in 2011. The data, which includes information on aquatic invasives such as *Lythrum salicaria* (purple loosestrife), will be analyzed for possible trends that will facilitate watershed wetland invasive species management planning and provide recommendations in the Boquet River Watershed Management Plan.

Dr. Dennis Kalma will survey 10 wetlands in 2011 and, once complete, a final report summarizing data and possible trends gathered on 20 wetlands monitored since 2005 will be prepared. BRASS will also create a poster presentation to display at local libraries and the 2012 Adirondack and Lake Champlain Research Consortium's annual conferences.

The Boquet River Association does not have the manpower or resources to monitor and manage invasive species throughout the 280 square miles of the Boquet River watershed. Therefore, focusing our invasive species management efforts on our most sensitive and diverse wetlands is a more feasible approach at this time.



BRASS was also awarded a \$23,928 *Pollution Prevention* grant through the LCBP. This project seeks to document and demonstrate the effectiveness of an economical approach to the tertiary treatment of effluent from the Willsboro sewage treatment plant utilizing wollastonite tailings (a locally-produced mining waste) as the substrate in a constructed wetland. Grant funds will allow us to test the wetland's effluent levels of phosphorus, nitrogen and Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) for a period of one year. The samples will be delivered to, and analyzed by Endyne Lab in Plattsburgh. Wetland plants will also be purchased and planted in the pretreatment and treatment cells and a sign will be designed and erected at the popular boat launch site explaining what visitors see, how it works and why utilizing a locally-produced mining waste benefits the environment and the economy.

Over the last decade, point sources of phosphorus loading have been reduced to approximately 10 percent of the current total loading within the Lake Champlain Basin. Further reduction may be possible using wollastonite tailings in constructed wetlands, especially at some industrial and municipal sites. The constructed wetland pilot project was completed in the summer of 2010 and, prior to wetland planting, initial constructed wetland effluent samples indicate phosphorus reduction of 95 percent from the secondary plant's treated effluent (from

(Continued on page 6)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(as of 3/21/2011)

- Bryan Burke, *President*
- Anita Deming, *Vice President*
- Schelling McKinley, *Treasurer*
- AJ Longware, *Secretary*
- Tom Clark
- Jay Fiegl
- Matt Foley
- Jeff Kelly
- Bob McGoldrick
- Vic Putman

TOWN REPRESENTATIVES
(APPOINTED)

- Anita Deming - Elizabethtown
Open - Essex
- Kathy Linker - Lewis
- Dawn St. Louis - Westport
- Doug Ferris - Willsboro

STAFF

- Julie A. Martin
Executive Director

BRASS Board Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. Members are invited to attend. Call to confirm dates and location.

Our Mission

BRASS is dedicated to enhancing the quality of water and life in the Boquet River watershed.

The newsletter is prepared by BRASS staff with written contributions from the Board and others. All pictures were taken by BRASS unless otherwise noted.

Boquet River Association

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info@boquetrivier.org

2010 Annual Meeting

The Boquet River Association held its Annual Meeting on Monday, January 10 at the Whallonsburg Grange Hall in Essex. Although there was a save-the-date reminder of the meeting in our fall 2010 newsletter, the printing of the newsletter was behind schedule and was not in mailboxes until after the meeting. Fortunately for us we still had one of our most well attended meetings - thanks to local newspapers and BRASS' email list.

The regular business meeting began at 7:00 pm. Members approved the reelection of at-large board members Jay Fiegl of Essex, Matt Foley of Wadhams, Vic Putman of Willsboro and Anita Deming of New Russia. At the following board meeting, the Executive Committee was approved: President Bryan Burke of Essex, Vice President Anita Deming of New Russia, Treasurer Schelling McKinley of Lewis, and Secretary AJ Longware of Lewis. Also, new to the board is Kathy Linker. Kathy lives on the North Branch of the Boquet and was appointed in November by the Lewis Town Board to serve as BRASS' Lewis Town Representative. The Town Representatives serve as liaisons between BRASS and their respective town. Welcome aboard, Kathy!

Executive Director, Julie Martin, gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting BRASS' 2010 accomplishments and plans for 2011. Some 2010 accomplishments included the adoption of an updated Strategic Plan, the re-launching of the wetland monitoring program and the hosting of a native plant sale at the Elizabethtown Farmers' Market. BRASS also provided funds toward the new septic system at the Grange Hall and the bank stabilization project at Footbridge Lane Park in Elizabethtown. In addition, BRASS helped to create the Boquet Land Trust, volunteers planted 800 trees and shrubs along the river in Willsboro and we teamed up with Paul Smith's College's Adirondack Watershed Institute to advance the watershed management planning process. And, last but not least, BRASS was awarded two LCBP grants for two very important data collection projects in 2011.



Footbridge Lane Park, Elizabethtown

Like 2010, 2011 is going to be full of activity. The LCBP grants will be implemented, funds will be sought for replacement of high priority culverts and the watershed management planning process will be underway. BRASS and volunteers will plant vegetation along the river and clean up a section of the watershed. We also look forward to working with Fiddlehead Creek Farm and Native Plant Nursery to host another native plant sale on June 24.

It was a cold January evening and we are so appreciative to those who came out to show their support of our efforts. Thank you to BRASS board members who provided delicious refreshments. Like the renovations at the Grange Hall could not have been done without the support of the community and help of volunteers, BRASS cannot grow and move forward without them, either.

RIVER WALKS

A recent morning walk along the Boquet felt like spring, with richly-colored high water, green shoots at water's edge and tiny buds on the stream bank trees. A few hours later it was winter once again. Spring is playing its usual tricks on us, showing up for a day then going back into hiding behind wind and snow. But the river is being more forthright; the ice is gone, runoff is proceeding, and water temperatures are rising. The Boquet is reassuring us that spring is on its way.

In the coming days, before the leaves come out, the Boquet will make itself more visible and reveal its memory. Despite its modest size, the Boquet has much to remember. Its configuration from headwaters to Lake Champlain includes all of the primary geomorphic stream classifications. The river remains true to those classifications, returning to familiar patterns through changing weather, rising and falling water and the activities of its human neighbors in the watershed.

This year BRASS is facilitating the process to update a Watershed Management Plan, not for the river (It knows what to do!), but for all of us who live in the watershed, the Boquet River's Community. It's a process of learning what the River can teach us and how we can create a comfortable and sustainable relationship with it. So please join us, tell us what you know about the river and how to enhance our watershed community with the Boquet River as its centerpiece.

Bryan Burke

President, BRASS Board of Directors

BRASS' New Lewis Town Representative



Kathy Linker has lived on the Trout Pond Road in Lewis with her dog Gulliver for the past 7 years. She moved to Lewis after a 25 year career as a Planner for IBM in downstate, N.Y. She lived in Poughkeepsie on the Hudson River for over 40 years and brought with her a love of the river life.

The North Branch of the Boquet River follows her road from Trout Pond in Chesterfield for 5 miles to Deerhead in Lewis, winding its way through a wide variety of habitat including softwood and hardwood forests, wetlands and mountain cliffs.

Kathy walks, bikes and paddles this part of the river regularly which gives her wonderful observations of fisher, deer, turkey, grouse, peregrine, bobcat, song birds, heron, beaver, coyote, fox, otter, mink, ermine and much more. She even comes across the occasional moose tracks. She hikes, birds, paddles, snowshoes, identifies wildlife tracks in the winter and monitors birds in the summer. She tends vegetable and flower gardens on her property and around her town. Last summer her 4 year old nephew caught his first fish on the North Branch of the Boquet.

Kathy volunteers for the Lewis Congregational Church, the E-Town Thrift Shop, the New York State Bluebird Society, The Great Adirondack Birding Celebration, the VIC in Paul Smiths and belongs to the Elizabethtown-Westport Garden Club. She monitors 60 Bluebird boxes each summer, offers educational programs on Bluebirds, plant crafts, backyard birding and leads walks identifying woodland plants and animals.

Her favorite activities on the Boquet River include paddling where the Boquet flows into Lake Champlain in Willsboro, fishing and quiet evenings observing the beaver families feeding and chatting across the street from her house. She hopes her term on the BRASS Board helps to expand the education of the Boquet River in her hometown of Lewis.

Bountiful Fall Salmon Run on the Boquet

By Bob McGoldrick



Bob is an at-large board member who resides in Wadhams. He serves as the Chair of BRASS' Nominating Committee. He is also a member of the Development and Personnel Committees.

This past year's fall salmon run on the Boquet River was one of the best in recent memory. Fifty one (51) salmon swam up the fish ladder to the containment area at the Willsboro dam where they were weighed and measured and then released to spawn upstream. The average salmon weight was 4.4 pounds and the largest fish tipped in at 7.4 pounds, according to Stephen J. Smith, the New York liaison fisheries biologist at the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in Vermont. Mr. Smith stated that this was the largest fish count since 1987, when there were 98, several years after the fish ladder was installed in 1982. He said that there was a steady decline through the early 90's, when the numbers dwindled to zero. It rose again to a peak of 49 in 2000 and had not topped 20 until this past year. He adds that the average fish weight was a slight increase from previous years.



The fish ladder in Willsboro.

Another positive aspect of this fall's salmon run was the low lamprey wound rate. Mr. Smith said the lamprey wound rate was the lowest since the lamprey control program was instituted in 1990. He attributes this in large part to the ongoing lamprey control programs on both sides of Lake Champlain and its tributaries. Mr. Smith says this appears to be a very encouraging development as the salmon are most susceptible to lamprey attacks because they are smaller than the lake trout which the lamprey also favor as targets.



Bob McShane, BRASS Member and avid salmon fisherman, with his prized catch in 2010. (Photo provided)

In talking to fishermen on the Boquet this fall there was a consensus that this had been a very good year. Bob McShane has been a regular on the Boquet River since he retired in 1986. He states he has been fly-fishing solely for salmon up to three times a day during the fall and the spring (or false) salmon run, "God and my wife allowing." He notes that the salmon fisherman tends to be more dedicated because the salmon is a much more difficult fish to catch. He referred to the salmon as the "fish of a thousand casts – and on the Boquet it seems to be five thousand." He adds that "you have to be a little bit of a nut to do this."

Mr. McShane states that this has been one of the best years he has experienced for both quality and quantity of salmon; although he observed that there were still many lamprey wounds on the larger salmon. Mr. McShane said that he caught thirty (30) salmon this year; the largest a 10 and a quarter pound monster over 30 inches long. He said that this was the largest salmon he had ever caught and it had put up a battle commensurate with its size and strength. Mr. McShane remembers the fish jumping six times and "putting up a terrific fight." (He said that the fish's size actually made it easier for him to land

it by tailing it. He recalls that since he had one arm in a cast, the size of the salmon's tail allowed him a better grip with his one good hand.)

Mr. McShane attributes this year's bountiful run to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) efforts in supporting the salmon fishery through its stocking program. He said he hopes that they will continue these efforts and would also like to have them put more emphasis on promoting the Boquet River as a salmon fishery. He believes the revenue from salmon fishermen could be a significant boost to the local economy.

Another fisherman who frequented the Boquet River this past fall, Ray Matteau, declared that the salmon were plentiful and biting well during the early part of the fall run. He said that they seemed to become more selective as the season progressed. He states his largest fish was about 6 pounds. He also thought the salmon were larger on the whole and saw fewer lamprey scars on the salmon that he had caught. He credits the increase in size and decrease in lamprey attacks to the lamprey control program. He also felt that the recent introduction of alewives to Lake Champlain may have had a positive consequence in accounting for the size increase in the salmon. Mr. Matteau said his most memorable moment was when his wife, Nina, had landed a salmon on her first salmon fishing trip early in the fall.

In all it has been a bountiful salmon run and hopefully there will be many more such salmon runs to follow.

BRASS' Strategic Plan

Having passed the 25-year mark, the Boquet River Association felt it was an important time for staff and board members to re-group and formulate a clear organizational direction. This included identifying long-term goals and measurable objectives on how to move toward BRASS' most effective strategic position.

The strategic planning process is an important tool for organizations operating in a rapidly changing environment. The process has strengthened BRASS by encouraging the board and staff to analyze the organization's internal strengths and weaknesses, and its external opportunities and threats. By doing so, staff and board members have a better, more unified understanding of where BRASS needs to improve and what opportunities it should pursue.

The BRASS Board of Directors adopted the updated Strategic Plan on 11/11/10. The Plan promotes six (6) major goals which are listed below along with a couple of examples of how BRASS is moving toward them.

Educating Residents and Visitors through outreach events and presentations, newsletters, informational brochures and BRASS' website (the website is currently under construction).

Preventing Pollution by coordinating with partners to implement bank stabilization and sediment control projects, as well as planting thousands of trees and shrubs along the river to reduce erosion.

Promoting Public Participation by working with our dedicated volunteers to perform annual clean-ups, planting projects and encouraging community involvement in watershed management planning.

Reducing Flood Damage by pursuing funds to replace culverts that are too small and block fish passage.

Protecting Biodiversity via BRASS' long-term wetland monitoring program, as well as its efforts to reconnect the river to improve fish habitat through culvert improvement projects.

Promoting Public Access by creating the Boquet Land Trust to provide landowners an opportunity to donate their riverfront property for public use.

A Message from the Director...



It is hard to believe that I have been the director of BRASS for three years. It seems like only yesterday that I was commuting to Willsboro from Glens Falls. Today, I am even more appreciative of what the organization represents. BRASS' mission is unique. It is dedicated to enhancing the quality of water and life in the watershed. Those who founded BRASS more than 26 years ago understood the interconnectedness of nature and people.

The river is what weaves us together and BRASS works to improve its quality, as well as the quality of life of those who live within its boundaries.

When accepting this position three years ago, strengthening BRASS' foundation was one of my first goals. I am working to streamline our administrative processes which I think is an important cost-effective measure. BRASS has reorganized its board committee structure, developed organizational policies and updated its strategic plan. The association has also assessed fish passage barriers in the watershed, provided funding toward the new septic system at the Whallonsburg Grange Hall and worked with partners to stabilize a section of The Branch in Elizabethtown. We continue to host our annual events and have planted thousands of trees and shrubs along the river with volunteers. BRASS' board treasurer, Schell McKinley, was instrumental in creating the Boquet Land Trust to promote public access to the river.

In March, the final paperwork was submitted to close out BRASS' Empire State Development Corporation grant. BRASS is currently managing grants to update the Boquet River watershed management plan, continue its wetland monitoring program and do additional water quality testing at the Willsboro constructed wetland. These are some really exciting projects. Although I am proud of what we have accomplished so far, I know there is so much more to do.

I have to admit that when I feel overwhelmed with the responsibility of running this non-profit organization efficiently and effectively, I think of our members, donors and volunteers who believe in BRASS' mission. It is you and the next generation I am working for. I received an email a short time ago that said, "It is people like you who my kids will be thanking 40 years from now when they still have a place up north to enjoy." This is what it is all about. Thank you all for your continued support of our efforts.

(Continued from page 1)



The pretreatment cell, which will be planted with wetland vegetation.

3.2 mg/L to 0.16 mg/L). BOD was reduced approximately 69 percent (from 7.8 mg/L to < 2.4 mg/L) and Total Suspended Solids was reduced 86 percent (from 7.8 mg/L to 1.1 mg/L). If these preliminary test results are sustained, the tertiary treatment pilot project would serve as a functioning model for upgrades at other point sources in the Basin.

Dr. Larry Geohring (Cornell University) was involved with the original 1999 LCBP-funded study, "Cost-Effective Phosphorus Removal from Secondary Wastewater Effluent through Mineral Adsorption." He will serve as the principal investigator on the project and will help develop the testing protocol and prepare the final project report analyzing and summarizing the data collected. Water quality samples will be collected weekly and delivered to the lab by BRASS and a BRASS volunteer.

The next step, for both grants, is to develop a quality assurance project plan, which needs to be approved by the Lake Champlain Basin Program before any monitoring or sampling can be done.

BOQUET LAND TRUST

By Schell McKinley



Schell is an at-large board member who resides in Lewis. He serves on the Executive Committee as Board Treasurer and chairs the Personnel Committee. He is also a member of BRASS' Finance Committee.

More than two years ago Arthur Dodge approached BRASS with an offer to give BRASS a parcel of land on the Boquet River. The parcel was a four acre site which contains a swimming hole and beach which has been used for many years by residents of Eggleston Road and Coonrod Road, Meadowmount students, and by many local and visiting families with small children. The swimming hole is upstream from any farms but downstream from long stretches of slow moving water which warms it significantly in the summer. This combination of warmth and cleanliness makes the water in this swimming hole inviting to all. The beach provides a gentle slope to deeper water which is suited to swimmers and waders of all ages, including toddlers under the watchful eyes of their minders.

Arthur Dodge, being well aware of the history of this swimming hole, approached the owners, Shirley Forests, a timber management company, and purchased the parcel from them with the intent to give it to someone who would preserve it in its historical use. He was unable to find an existing land trust or similar organization to take the land and the town of Lewis was similarly unwilling to take the parcel. BRASS was concerned with liability issues and consulted with Amy Smith, a local attorney with experience in land trusts and easements. Amy informed us that there is a law in New York which exempts individuals and organizations from liability if they open their land to public use and do not charge a fee for this. Thus people who have hiking and skiing trails through their properties do so without incurring liability from actions or mishaps of the public users. There is a long list of specific activities as well as general use. Unfortunately swimming is not included as one of the specific uses in the statute. It has never been excluded from the benefits of the statute in an actual court decision but the liability issue for BRASS and its board was still a problem. Because of this the BRASS board decided to put seed money into the formation of a separate organization, the Boquet Land Trust, which could take possession of this property and other similar properties if the opportunity arose. One of BRASS' strategic goals is to encourage public access to the Boquet River and this is also one of the stated purposes in the Boquet Land Trust charter.



This fall the Boquet Land Trust received recognition by the IRS as a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, and this winter took possession of the swimming hole parcel. The public is welcome to continue its use of the swimming hole and encouraged to maintain the property as if it is their own. BRASS and the Boquet Land Trust will work to maintain the property, which mainly means keeping it clean and available to users. BRASS and the Boquet Land Trust thank Arthur Dodge and Amy Smith for their efforts in preserving a spot that has provided fun and recreation to generations of people in the Boquet River watershed.

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*The **Boquet River Association (BRASS)** is a membership-based, volunteer-oriented organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of water and life in the Boquet River watershed. Formed in 1984, BRASS uses a collaborative, non-regulatory approach to watershed management.*

Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol: A Success Story?

By Gary Chilson



Gary lives in Elizabethtown and is a BRASS member and volunteer. He serves on BRASS' Strategic Planning Committee.

Since the Boquet River and its valley first emerged from beneath the glacial ice about 9,000 years ago, successive waves of different plants and animals have settled in and made this their home. Sometimes a newcomer was so aggressive they took over and dominated the landscape, reshaping the ecological community in their image for thousands of years. Yet they, too, eventually succumbed to the next wave of plant and animal immigrants as the habitat and/or climate changed. This natural process, however, was very slow. It normally takes thousands of years to change from one type of community to the next, giving the displaced organisms time to move.

Since settlement of the valley by humans, the most aggressive invasive species ever to reshape the landscape of the Boquet valley, the existing native community has almost completely disappeared. Our early farmers, for example, grew wheat, and other non-native crop species that replaced native forest species. We also converted thousands of acres to pasture our cattle, another non-native species. The list of species we introduced could go on and on but now that these initial, massive changes have happened, we have come to think of the remaining native species as important to save. We are trying not to lose anymore. Unfortunately, global commerce and climate change are introducing more undesirable newcomers, some of which seem nearly as aggressive as we are in changing the environment.

The truth of the matter is, in short, everything that can live here will live here, eventually. In the meantime, our long-term ecological goal is to prevent the continued loss of biodiversity as much as possible. Our only reasonable short-term objective is to slow down the most aggressive newcomers, like purple loosestrife, *Lythrum salicaria*, in the richest, most biologically diverse remaining environments, like in our wetlands. Slowing the rate of invasion as much as possible enables nature to adapt over time. With help from us, natural healing and defense mechanisms can do their work. One way to help nature is to deliberately import the natural enemies of the invasive species.

Purple loosestrife is a hardy, herbaceous perennial that thrives in marshes or ditches. It can grow 8 ft. tall and has lance-shaped leaves and striking, magenta flowers that bloom throughout the summer.

In 2002, BRASS surveyed invasive species infestations in our watershed and found that purple loosestrife had both the greatest square yard coverage and the greatest single abundance found at any one location of all the invading species. This beautiful, but extremely prolific plant has a wide tolerance for soil moisture and temperature, and nothing in North America normally eats it. Without intervention, massive stands of nothing but purple loosestrife are inevitable. The remaining native wetland species, both plant and animal, would be destined for extirpation.

A mature purple loosestrife plant can produce more than 2.5 million seeds annually, and the seeds stay viable in the soil for many years.

Under the direction of Robin Ulmer, BRASS mobilized its volunteers to begin the management of purple loosestrife the next year. Direct efforts, however, such as pulling out individual plants, repeated mowing, plastic coverings, deliberate flooding, and even applying herbicides, have all been tried elsewhere and all have failed. Only nature's way of controlling the abundance of a single species could possibly succeed. Fortunately, the New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Cornell University had

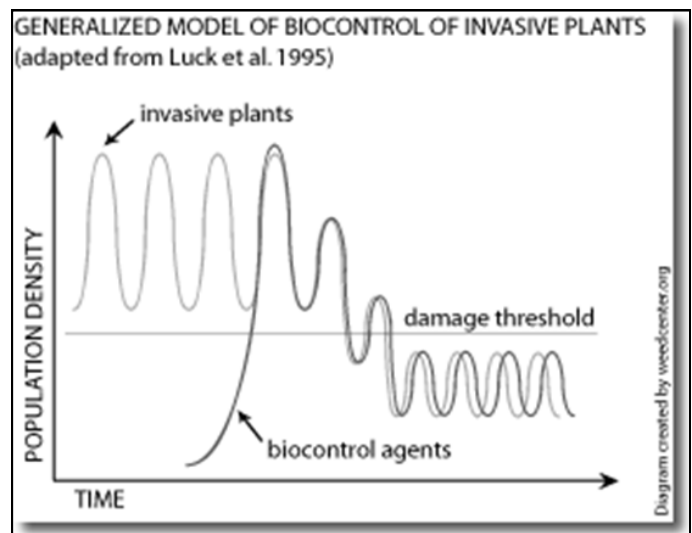
repeated mowing, plastic coverings, deliberate flooding, and even applying herbicides, have all been tried elsewhere and all have failed. Only nature's way of controlling the abundance of a single species could possibly succeed. Fortunately, the New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Cornell University had

been working on a biological control approach using insects that naturally feed on and control loosestrife in Europe, its native habitat.

Two loosestrife beetles, *Galerucella pusilla* and *Galerucella californiensis*, were found to feed and breed almost exclusively on purple loosestrife. By 1995, Cornell had developed methods for breeding, releasing, and monitoring the impacts of these insects and started releasing them in wetlands across America. In 2003, BRASS joined the national effort to control loosestrife and arranged with the Essex County Master Gardeners to breed a sufficient number of loosestrife beetles to release the following year on two wetlands in the watershed, one in Willsboro and one in Westport.

In the summer of 2004, approximately 800 loosestrife beetles were released. Since then, BRASS Loosestrife Monitors, John Oliver (Willsboro Central School), Jay Fiegl (Westport Central School), Becky Bosley (Elizabethtown-Lewis Central School) and their students have monitored the loosestrife colonies in the two wetlands to determine if the beetles survived and prospered. We can tell, indirectly, how well the beetles are doing by how badly eaten the loosestrife becomes. Based on Cornell's experience, it usually takes ten or more years for the introduced beetles to establish themselves successfully. Once the beetles are established, the loosestrife in the wetland becomes significantly reduced in terms of the number of plants, their height, and reproductive strength. At some of the earliest release sites Cornell has studied, the beetles have reduced purple loosestrife stands by as much as 95 percent.

The beetles voraciously eat the leaves of the purple loosestrife, which allows more light to penetrate to the ground for other plants, hopefully native, to grow. As the loosestrife weakens further, it devotes more and more of its energy away from growing tall and seed production to simple survival. Shorter loosestrife stalks also allows more light to reach the ground for other plants to grow and fewer seeds helps slow the spread of loosestrife. As the beetles' food supply of loosestrife declines, so too, do the number of beetles in the wetland, as shown in the figure. The surplus beetles fly off as much as three miles away to find other dense stands of loosestrife to colonize.



Although it has only been six years since their introduction, and too soon to tell for sure, anecdotal evidence suggests that the beetles are thriving and already doing their job. Becky Bosley has been monitoring the Westport wetland with her students. She reports seeing widespread damage to the loosestrife, "it was a sea of purple and now it is more scattered." John Oliver reminds us, however, that the beetles "will slow the explosion of the purple loosestrife and limit the overall coverage, but not eradicate the plant." He also noted that he has seen the beetles at several locations quite a distance from the initial release site.

As we learn more about the results from monitoring these two wetlands we might decide to expand our program and introduce more beetles into our upland wetlands. BRASS' long term wetland monitoring program, funded this year through a LCBP grant, will help us determine which wetlands need more attention.

Exactly how well native wetland plants will return to the wetland following the decline of loosestrife is still under study. In some instances, other invasive species, such as the common reed, take over from the damaged loosestrife. Nevertheless, the introduction of biocontrol agents to control invasive species shows considerable promise and deserves serious attention. Perhaps we'll find a bug to eat Japanese knotweed next!

BRASS MEMBERS & DONORS 2010-2011

Membership Year: June 1, 2010 - May 31, 2011 (*as of 03/30/2011*)

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 Peter S. Paine, Jr.
 Jeanne Fallon & John W. Pangburn
 Edward & Meredith Parsons
 Brad & Bobbi Paye
 Scott & Louise Phinney

Alan Hipps & Jane Preston
 Seymour Preston, Jr.
 Victor & Vickie Putman
 Patricia Quinn
 Clay & Sue Reaser
 David & Margaret Reuther
 James Parker & Mona Rice
 Peggy Rising & Family
 Raymond Roberts
 James A. Rosenberg
 Chuck, Pam & Sophie Samul
 Mr. & Mrs. Arthur V. Savage
 Denise Scheinberg
 Peter & Mary Anne Schultz
 Tom Duca & Catherine Seidenberg
 Glenn Shafer
 Shirley Bacot Shamel
 John J. Sheldrake
 Steve & Melissa Shepstone
 Jerrold & Deborah Sherman
 Dr. Frank C. Shirley
 Bob & Roberta Silliman
 Elinor M. Siner
 Marc Skarshinski & Suzanne Skidmore
 Rolf Skoglund
 Mr. Gerald Smith
 Jeff Kelly & Linda Smyth
 Donna Sonnett - *Cupola House Gallery*
 Megan Murphy & Eric Teed
 Dr. Robert & Mary Lou Thall
 Kip & Delia Thompson
 Sylvia Thorn
 Betsy & David Tisdale
 Sandy & Libby Treadwell
 Newman & Frances Tryon
 Robin & Al Ulmer
 Nadine Lemmon & Phil Underdown
 Jim & Colleen Van Hoven
 June & Steve Van Nort
 Dorothy Voorhis
 Nancy Wilson & Bob Wagner
 Gene E. Webster
 Candace King Weir
 Bill Wellman
 Peter & Polly White
 Juliana Koenig & Don Wulbrecht
 Mark & Pola Yolles

 Adirondack Council
 Champlain Valley Property Service, LLC
 Essex County Adirondack Garden Club
 Fiddlehead Creek Farm & Native Plant Nursery
 Har veNahal Fund
 Integrated Mailing Systems
 International Paper
 Missisquoi River Basin Association
 MGV Associates
 NYCO Minerals, Inc.
 Park Motor Inn
 Patagonia
 Rogers-Carroll Family Foundation
 The Mountaineer
 Upstate Agency, Inc.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

√ Check, Clean & Dry √

Didymo (aka Rock Snot) is an invasive algae that forms thick brown mats on streambeds. It smothers organisms that live there, which can affect the fishery. It has been found in NY & VT rivers & it spreads easily.

**If you move gear between waterways, please
Check, Clean & Dry to protect your river.**

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/54244.html>

2010 Annual Appeal Update

The Annual Appeal is very important to the well being of BRASS. It helps to cover administrative expenses that are generally not covered by grants. As of 3/31/11, BRASS received \$5,520 toward our Annual Appeal. Thank you so much to all the individuals, families and businesses who contributed. Your support is crucial to our success.

Mark Your Calendar!

- Sat., May 7 -
River Clean Up
time/location TBA

- Sat., June 18 -
Great Adirondack Trail Run
The Mountaineer in Keene Valley
(A fundraiser for BRASS & the Ausable River Assoc.)

- Fri., June 24 -
Native Plant Sale, E'town Farmers' Market
Plants provided by
Fiddlehead Creek Farm & Native Plant Nursery
(A fundraiser for BRASS)

Our apologies for the late Fall 2010 newsletter.

Please make checks payable to the Boquet River Association. In most instances, your membership is fully tax-deductible as a charitable contribution.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

CIRCLE ONE:

New member

Renewed member

Updated information

Name _____

Local Address _____

Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Local Phone _____ Winter Phone _____

Winter Address _____

_____ Atlantic Salmon \$50 _____ Speckled Trout \$25

Winter City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ Brown Trout \$35 _____ Minnow \$10

Please complete and return this form to:

Boquet River Association

P.O. Box 782, Willsboro, NY 12996.

Updated information may also be emailed to:

info@boquetriver.org



BRASS

Boquet River Association, Inc.
3743 Main Street
P.O. Box 782
Willsboro, NY 12996

Newsletter of the Boquet River Association, Inc. | Spring 2011 Issue

BRASS is a grassroots non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of water and life in the Boquet River watershed.

What's Inside?

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<i>Annual Meeting & Board Updates</i>	pages 2-3
<i>Bountiful Fall Salmon Run on the Boquet</i>	pages 4-5
<i>BRASS' Strategic Plan</i>	page 5
<i>A Message from the Director</i>	page 6
<i>Boquet Land Trust</i>	page 7
<i>Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol: A Success Story?</i>	pages 8-9
<i>BRASS Members & Donors</i>	page 10
<i>Membership Form</i>	page 11

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www.boquetrivier.org

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