

Lindsay Brook Biological Survey # 521046  
 Tom Shanahan, Region 5 Fisheries

4/5/2022

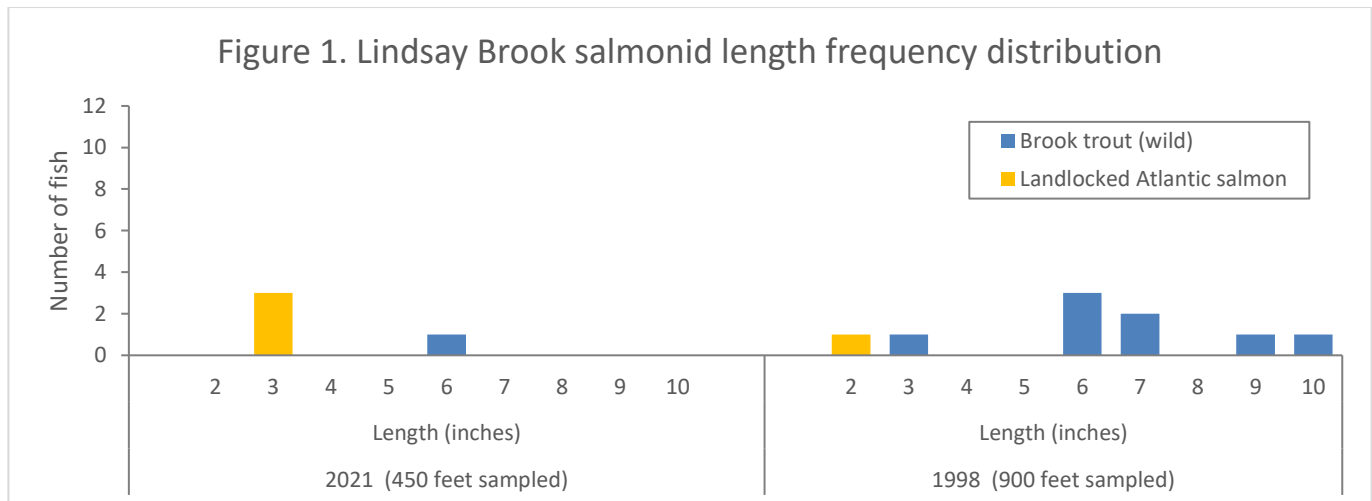
Lindsay Brook (H-391-67) is in the Town of North Hudson in Essex County and is part of the Upper Hudson watershed. The brook emanates from the Dix Range and empties into the Schroon River. The majority of the brook is in the High Peaks Wilderness; the lowest reach is in the Hammond Pond Wild Forest. The brook is not stocked, other than receiving Atlantic salmon fry as part of the larger Schroon Lake stocking. Lindsay Brook was last surveyed in 1998, so the survey purpose was to assess the current salmonid populations.

A single site was sampled, near Sharp Bridge campground, with a backpack electrofishing unit in July 2021. A total of nine fish species were captured in a 450-foot section (Table 1). The sampled section is a low gradient area about 800 feet from the Schroon River. It lacked the boulders and pocket water of higher elevation streams, but numerous downed trees and logs afforded good instream cover. The salmonid catch rate was low, but similar to an earlier survey (1998) at the same location that covered twice the stream length (Figure 1).

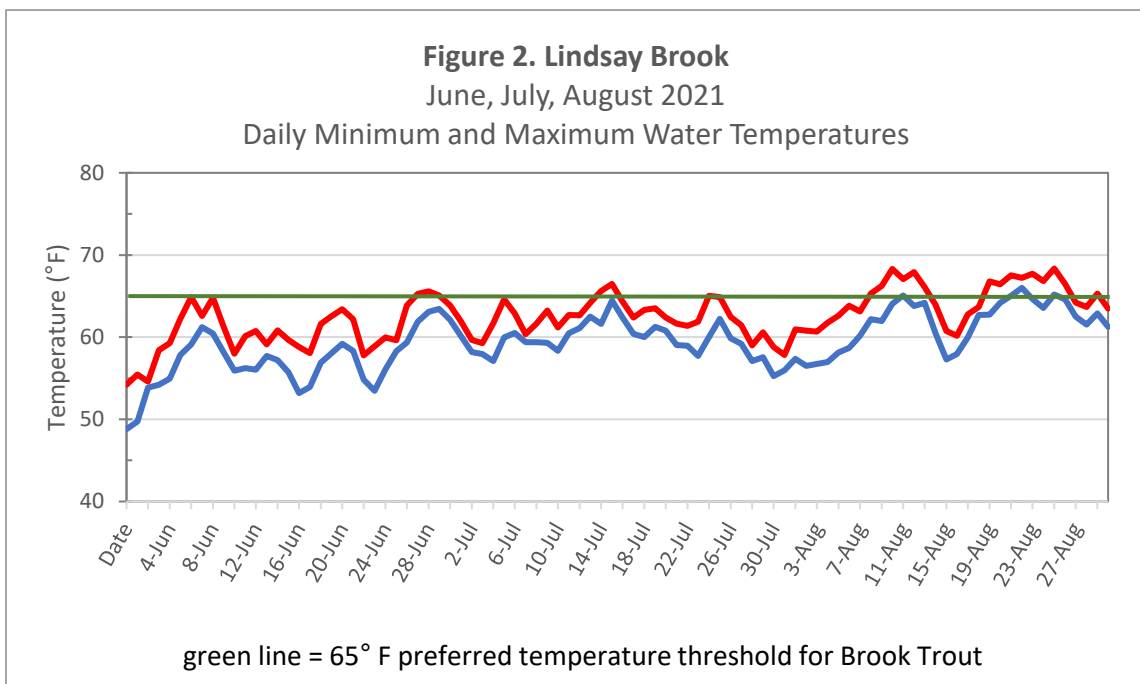
Table 1. Numbers caught and size ranges of fish from Lindsay Brook in 2021.

Species	Number caught	Length range (inches)
Brook trout	1	5.5
Atlantic salmon	3	2.6 - 2.9
Chain pickerel	1	6.6
Cutlips minnow	1	4.0
Common shiner	2	2.0 - 2.1
Eastern blacknose dace	22	1.3 - 3.1
Longnose dace	3	2.6 - 3.0
Creek chub	4	2.4 - 2.9
Slimy sculpin	37	1.6 - 3.8

Figure 1. Lindsay Brook salmonid length frequency distribution



There was a water temperature recorder in place in Lindsay Brook, near the sampling site, during the summer of 2021 (Figure 2). With an elevation under 1000 feet, the sampling site was lower than many of the best brook trout streams. Despite this, water temperatures were very respectable and never exceeded 70 °F.



Lindsay Brook has suitable habitat and water temperatures for supporting wild brook trout but has more fish species, and more competitive pressure, than the smaller mountain streams. This is because fish can easily move into the brook from the nearby Schroon River. Evidence of that can be seen in the capture of a chain pickerel, a warmwater species and potential predator. Management recommendation is to maintain the status quo but conduct additional surveys upstream to assess the wild brook trout population. Lindsay Brook is governed by statewide angling regulations.