

Fly of the Month

Clouser Deep Minnow



Hook: Mustad 3665A size 10 streamer hook tied with point facing up
Thread: Olive
Eyes: 3/32 dumbbell eyes
Wing: Brown bucktail over 2-3 strands of root beer Krystal Flash over olive bucktail.

Comment:

The Clouser Minnow can be sized to represent a wide variety of species. The above version is effective on smaller streams like the Niss and the Squannacook.

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Chapter Website: www.squanatissit.org

Upcoming Events

November Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, November 27th, Chapter Elections
Rick Southgate “ Estuary Fishing for Striped Bass and Bluefish

December Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, December 18th

January Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, January 22nd

February Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, February 26th

Trout Unlimited - Core Value #1 Healthy Watersheds & Clean Water

We are committed to ensuring quantities of cold, clean water sufficient to sustain healthy fish populations and to watershed restoration and wise fisheries management.

Monthly Meeting

The Squan-a-Tissit Chapter of Trout Unlimited holds monthly meetings for chapter members and guests on the fourth Tuesday of the month (Sept. through May) at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Hall, Route 113 & Leighton Street, Pepperell, MA. **Meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m.**, however members and guests are encouraged to arrive earlier and participate in informal fly-tying. Bring your own vice and materials.

Directions:

From Rt. 3: Take the Rt. 113 Exit (Tyngsboro, Dunstable) and proceed west on Rt. 113, 6.5 miles, through Dunstable and into Pepperell. The VFW Hall will be located on the left side of Rt. 113, opposite a small center island with a stone monument and three flagpoles.

From Rt. 495: Take the Rt. 119 Exit (Littleton Common) and proceed west on Rt. 119, 9 miles, through Groton and into Pepperell. Turn right onto Rt. 111, and proceed 2.7 miles to a rotary. Turn right onto Rt. 113, and proceed 1.5 miles. The VFW hall will be located on the right side of Rt. 113, opposite a small center island with a stone monument and three flagpoles.

From Rt. 2: Take the Rt. 111 Exit (Ayer, Harvard, Clinton) and proceed north on Rt. 111, approximately 12 miles (total, to the Pepperell rotary), through Ayer and Groton to Pepperell. Route 111 merges with Rt. 119 in Groton. Once in Pepperell, Rt. 111 bears to the right (off of Rt. 119). Turn right onto Rt. 111 and proceed 2.7 miles to a rotary. Turn right onto Rt. 113, and proceed 1.5 miles. The VFW hall will be located on the right side of Rt. 113, opposite a small center island with a stone monument and three flagpoles.



Squan-a-Tissit Chapter of Trout Unlimited
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Pepperell, MA 01463

Please Mail To:

Squan -a- Tissit NEWS



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NOVEMBER 15, 2007

The newsletter for the Trout Unlimited chapter that champions sport and conservation on two northeastern Massachusetts trout rivers: The Squannacook & The Nissitissit.

November Meeting

Tuesday the 27th at 7:00 pm

Featuring

Rick Southgate

presenting

Estuary Fishing

for

Striped Bass and Bluefish

Visitors Welcome!

Chapter Elections!

Nominations were heard at the October member's meeting. We will continue to operate with the BOD running the chapter as a committee. Two additional one year board positions will be maintained in lieu of the president's and vice president's offices. Elections will be held at the December meeting, none of the positions are contested.



Officers:

President	none
Vice President	none
Treasurer	Jim Lewis
Secretary	Russell Schott

Board of Directors:

Director, 1 yr. (Elect 5)	Dave Armstrong Walter Crissey Joe D'Alessio Win Duke Paul White
Membership Chairman	Charles Shadan

Featured Speaker for November

Capt. Rick Southgate will speak on estuary fishing for Striped Bass and Bluefish. His presentation will include a study of the seasons, baitfish and their imitations, along with methods for fishing each type. Special attention is paid to times, tides and structure.



Capt. Southgate has guided on the Essex River and surrounding waters for 10 years and has been fishing them for 40 years. He has developed numerous salt water flies. Many of these will be featured in his presentation.

Squan-a-Tissit Brook Trout Initiative

The following is taken from "Brook Trout Initiative, The Report on the Nissitissit River Watershed including Gulf and Sucker Brook"

by
Dave Armstrong, Michael Rosser & Russ Schott

The tributary headwaters of the Nissitissit in New Hampshire and Massachusetts contain native brook trout. Lands adjacent to the mainstem of the Nissitissit are well protected by the Nissitissit Wildlife Management area and several parcels of conservation land. Increasing development pressures within the basin, however, have increasingly fragmented the larger blocks of forest in the watershed along the tributaries. The cumulative effects of



increased development such as runoff from impervious surfaces, changes in water quality from suburban land-use, and increased ground-water withdrawals, threaten the quality of the Nissitissit River and its tributaries.

As part of the Trout Unlimited Brook Trout Initiative, the Squan-a-Tissit chapter is currently conducting an assessment of the Nissitissit River and its tributaries to identify areas where restoration or protection efforts would most help protect the native brook trout populations. This assessment includes a reconnaissance survey of tributaries to identify reaches with native brook trout, a temperature survey of the Nissitissit and its tributaries, and an assessment of the connectivity of the tributaries to the mainstem.

Chapter members have begun an assessment of reaches and habitats of the Nissitissit and its tributaries that support native brook trout. To date, this effort has focused on Sucker Brook and Gulf Brook and Nissitissit River in the Henry Columbo area. Activities include:

Stream Reconnaissance - walking streams, including snowshoe hikes in the winter, to become familiar with tributaries and to identify areas of potential seeps.

Temperature Measurements - using probes and data loggers to identify springs and seeps and record temperatures.

Snorkeling and Diving - to assess habitat and identify springs and seeps in mainstem.

Fish Sampling - the Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife has conducted fish community surveys at Gulf, Sucker, Stewart, and Mine Brooks, and plans to resample the brooks in October.

Several cold springs and seeps have been identified in some reaches of Gulf Brook, Sucker Brook, and the Nissitissit that potentially could be used by brook trout to survive during warm periods in summer. A few of these were in areas where trout have been observed during warm weather in previous years. Native Brook trout were identified in both Sucker and Gulf Brooks.

A total of 21 temperature data loggers have been placed in the river and its tributaries as part of the temperature



survey. In addition, stream flow data and air temperature data are being obtained from the U.S. Geological Survey. Data collection sites include 8 sites on the mainstem Nissitissit; 8 sites on tributary streams (Mine Brook, Sucker Brook, Beaver Brook, Gulf Brook, and Rocky Pond Brook); and 5 sites in springs and seeps. Four of the sites on the mainstem are established in pairs to identify temperature differences between riffles and adjacent deep pools. Preliminary results from the data loggers indicate that ground-water discharge from springs is very important for cooling the river, and that discharge from some tributaries are warmer than the Nissitissit.

Although this assessment effort has just begun, it has already identified several areas for potential restoration efforts. These include:

- Two beaver deceiver culverts that do not have fish passage, located where two tributary



streams, Gulf Brook and Beaver Brook, cross an abandoned railroad that parallels the Nissitissit River.

- Two newly replaced road culverts, Brookline Street over Sucker Brook, and East Street over Unquety Brook, where the culverts do not provide fish passage at low flows.
- Several old abandoned impoundments, on Sucker Brook and other tributaries, that interrupt connectivity between headwaters of tributary streams and the mainstem Nissitissit River.
- Localized areas along Sucker Brook, Gulf Brook, and two unnamed tributaries to the Nissitissit where multiple crossing of tributaries by four-wheelers have extensively degraded stream banks and beds.
- New wells for public water supply or increased water withdrawals from public water supply wells at the Bemis well field.

The next steps are to plan how to involve other chapter members, to prioritize potential projects and activities, and to begin grant writing to bring in money to assist with restoration projects.

The full report is available from the chapter BOD and will soon be posted on the chapter website.

