



Rondout Reservoir, September 2009

**RONDOUT/NEVERSINK
STREAM MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
ACTION PLAN May 2010 – May 2012**



Neversink River, April 2010

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Section 1: Rondout and Neversink Stream Management Planning Program
Action Plan 2010-2012

A. Stream Management Plans

Stream Management Plan tasks address these General Recommendations:

6.1.1 Annual Action Plans

6.1.5 Advisory Committees General

6.1.7 Town Adoption of Management Plan

6.1.10 Future Update and Revision of Chestnut Creek Management Plan

Year 1: 2010-2011

Program staff will host Watershed Advisory Group meetings in May and January to orient the group to the work of the Field Office, exchange information among agency staff, and gather input on recommendations for the Rondout Stream Management Plan. The goals for May include presenting the results of the Rondout Stream Assessment, reviewing and revising General Recommendations for the Rondout Stream Management Plan, finalizing the Plan based on public comment, and identifying Project Committees to assist and advise implementation of the 2-year Action Plan for the Rondout & Neversink Basins.

The Rondout Stream Management Plan will be presented for adoption by the Towns of Neversink and Denning during this year. A Master's Candidate in Public Administration from SUNY Binghamton will join the program as a summer intern to scope out the criteria for updating the Chestnut Creek Stream Management Plan as an addendum to this 2004 plan so that it can be presented to the Town of Neversink for adoption in 2011.

May: WAG Meeting May 6; Finalize Action Plan; Neversink Assessment Kick-off Meeting

June: Prioritize Recommendations for Implementation Plan

June: Public Meeting Rondout SMP

June-September: Town Adoption of Rondout SMP & Principles; Neversink Focus Group Fisheries/E&O

July-August: Town Officials Site Tour

September: Distribute Rondout SMP; Identify Project Committee members

Oct-Dec: WAG subcommittee meetings

November: Neversink MU mailing ; WAG Meeting; Prioritize Recommendations for Neversink Implementation Plan

December: Neversink Neighborhood Meetings; Annual Report

Year 2: 2011-2012

Neversink landowners will receive information on the stream assessment including their property at meetings late in 2010. Their comments will be incorporated into the draft Stream Management Plan for the Neversink River before a public meeting on the Plan in spring. Adopted Plans will be distributed to the public.

Watershed Advisory Group meetings are planned for May and January. The town adoption process will begin for the Neversink and Chestnut Creek Stream Management Plans. Adopted Plans will be distributed to the public.

Feb: Neversink SMP Draft

Mar: Draft Action Plan

April: Public Meeting Neversink SMP; WAG Meeting: Finalize Action Plan

June-August: Town Adoption of Neversink SMP

September: Chestnut SMP Update
Sept-November: Revise Chestnut Creek SMP Plan Document
October: Chestnut SMP Public Meeting
Oct-Dec: Chestnut SMP Town Adoption (final)
December: Annual Report; WAG Meeting

B. Stream Assessment

Stream Assessment tasks address these General Recommendations:

- 6.2.1 Identify Locations of Water Quality Impairment
- 6.2.8 Highway Activities
- 6.3.12 Documentation of Eroding Banks

Year 1: 2010-2011

Visits are being made with Denning and Neversink Highway Superintendents to identify their highest priorities for stream bank/stream channel issues relating to roads. Together with SWCD staff, the Highway Depts have identified 2 sites in Neversink and 3 in Denning for a test of critical area hydroseeding. Visits are planned with DEP to assess sewer crossings on Chestnut Creek for potential instability and possible solutions. Stream Feature Inventory will begin on the East and West Branches of the Neversink River this year.

May: Neversink Highway Site Visits; Chestnut Creek sewer crossings
June- September: Neversink Stream Feature Inventory
June-July: Chestnut Creek Summary and Update Scope
August: Identify Neversink Restoration Project

Year 2: 2011-2012

An update of the Stream Feature Inventory will be carried out for the Chestnut Creek. A determination of which tributaries require study will be made.

May: Demo Projects As-built
June: Chestnut Update Assessment

C. Demonstration Project

Demonstration tasks address these General Recommendations:

- 6.1.3 Debris Management
- 6.2.4 Critical Area Seeding Program
- 6.2.8 Highway Activities
- 6.2.9 Stream Stability Restoration
- 6.5.4 Habitat Improvement Project

Year 1: 2010-2011

Project planning is underway to meet NYC DEP's DOH/EPA deliverable of completing a major stream restoration on the Rondout Creek this year. Denning and Neversink highway departments identified locations for critical area seeding with SC SWCD's hydroseeder (completed 4/28 Denning and 4/29 Neversink). Program staff is exploring the question of best management practices for assisting Towns and landowners with extensive woody debris with the potential to threaten public infrastructure and private property.

May: Rondout Restoration Planning; Critical Area Seeding Pilot
June: Rondout Restoration Final Design

August-September: Rondout Restoration

October: Neversink Restoration RFP for Archeology, Wetlands and Survey

November: Rondout Restoration Project As-built; Neversink Restoration RFP for Engineering

Year 2: 2011-2012

A demonstration project due as a NYC DEP deliverable to DOH/EPA in 2011 will be chosen for the Neversink basin based on the findings of the stream assessment. As demonstration pilots are completed, an annual cycle of funding and implementation of stream management projects in the Rondout & Neversink Basins will evolve based on the annual 2-year Action Plan for the program.

February: Neversink Restoration Final Design

March: Neversink Restoration Permitting

May: Rondout Demonstration Project Report

June: Neversink Restoration Construction Begins

November: Neversink Restoration As-built

D. CSBI (Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative)

CSBI tasks address these General Recommendations:

6.3.1 Riparian Vegetation Mapping

6.3.5 Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative

6.3.6 Knotweed Eradication

6.3.7 Invasive Species-Free Area and Spread Prevention

6.3.9 Participate in CRISP

Year 1: 2010-2011

Riparian Corridor Management Plans will be written for 6 streamside landowners in the program area this year. From that group, it is estimated that three pilot planting projects will be planned and implemented by fall for the first round. Applications for the second round are due October and will be planned for implementation in Spring 2011. Conversations have begun to explore the possibility of arranging a partnership with Frost Valley YMCA to provide services to map the vegetation for the Neversink River. Program staff plan to continue maintaining the knotweed eradication project at sites on the Chestnut Creek.

May-September: Develop RCMPs (6); Vegetation Mapping for Neversink

July - October CSBI Project Planning and Implementation

October: Quarterly Meeting; CSBI Round 2 Applications Due

November: CSBI Project Planning for Spring 2011

January: Quarterly Meeting

April: Quarterly Meeting

Year 2: 2011-2012

May- September: CSBI Project Implementation Round 2;Vegetation mapping for Chestnut Creek

July: Quarterly Meeting

October: CSBI Round 3 Applications Due, Quarterly Meeting

November: CSBI Planning 2012

January: Quarterly Meeting

April: Quarterly Meeting

E. Education & Outreach

Education & Outreach tasks address these General Recommendations:

6.1.4 *Watershed Association Upper Rondout*
6.3.4 *Watershed Forestry Program*
6.3.8 *Early Detection & Rapid Response to Invasives*
6.6.1 *Education & Outreach Working Group Strategy*
6.6.2 *Educational Workshops*
6.6.3 *Training of Stream Program Staff*
6.6.4 *Volunteer Opportunities*
6.6.5 *Web-based Outreach*
6.6.6 *Stream Management Publications*
6.6.7 *News Media Outreach*
6.6.8 *Training Opportunities*
6.5.5 *Wildlife and Biodiversity Assessments*
6.7 *Public Recreation*

Year 1: 2010-2011

A two-year Education & Outreach plan is in the process of being finalized to direct the efforts to develop communication materials and outlets for the Rondout & Neversink Stream Management Field Office. The educational publication *Catskill Streams and You* will be mailed to streamside landowners on the Neversink River along with a notification letter about the Stream Feature Inventory taking place this summer. A kick-off presentation is planned for the same audience in late May; a follow-up presentation will be given in September to the Neversink Association. A contract to assist the Field Office in graphic design and web services will be in place during May; with a bi-annual newsletter planned for June mailing; and web launch winter 2011.

A field exercise/training will be hosted in October at the Rondout stream restoration project site for all West of Hudson Watershed staff under contract with NYC DEP in stream management planning. This is the second part to the Bioengineering classroom workshop held in April 2010 in Claryville, taught by Chris Hoag of Hoag Riparian and Wetland Design and Jon Fripp, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The Rondout & Neversink Stream Program will partner with Time & the Valleys Museum by providing information tables at its stream-related events: the Neversink Public History Talk in June; Old Time Fair in July. A public talk on bioengineering techniques for stream bank stabilization is planned for October. A landowner workshop is planned for spring 2011. Program staff will continue Rosgen training to increase knowledge in stream classification and morphology.

Focus Group Meetings will be held for Neversink stakeholder groups. The first for fishermen will be June 19 at Frost Valley Flyfishing Day; and a second on Education and Outreach to be scheduled. A stream cleanup is tentatively planned as a group-building activity in the Upper Rondout for fall.

May: E&O Plan; CSY Landowner Mailing; Outreach Design Firm Hired; Identify Database Needs
Neversink Stream Study Informational Meeting

June: Newsletter #1 Mailed; Neversink Assessment Kick-off at Neversink History Public Talk (Stream History Day); Frost Valley Flyfishing Day (Angler's Focus Group)

July: Old Time Fair

September: Neversink Association Members Presentation

October: Bioengineering Training Part 2; Bioengineering Public Talk; Fall Festival

November: Rosgen Training; Rondout Stream Cleanup Day

December: Newsletter #2 Mailed; Annual Report

Year 2: 2011-2012

Bi-annual newsletters and web updates continue. An annual landowner event about stream buffers is developed for the pre-planting season. Assess needs for supporting the creation of an Upper Rondout Watershed Association.

March: Web Launch

April: Landowner Workshop with Carolyn Summers

May: E&O Plan

June: Newsletter #3 Mailed

July: "*Old Time Fair, Grahamsville*"

September: Distribute Neversink SMP; Tri Valley Envirothon Team

December: Mail Newsletter #4; Annual Report

April: Landowner Workshop

Program Team:

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Karen Rauter SC SWCD

Bobby Taylor SC SWCD

Mark Vian NYC DEP

Jenn Grieser NYC DEP

Brent Gotsch, 2010 Summer Intern, Binghamton University MPA candidate

**Section 2: Rondout Neversink Stream Management Planning Program
Action Plan 2010-2011**

	May	June	July	August	September	October
SMPs	WAG Meeting 5/6 Define Project Committees	Public Meeting Rondout SMP Prioritize Recommendations For Implementation Plan SMP Intern Starts (8 weeks)	Town Adoption Rondout SMP Neversink Focus Group Mtg Fishermen/TU Neversink Focus Group E&O	Town Adoption Rondout SMP Town Officials Site Tour ID Project Committee Members	Town Adoption Rondout SMP Distribute Rondout SMP ID Project Committee Members	WAG Subcommittee Meetings
Assessment	Neversink Highway Site Visits Chestnut Creek Sewer Crossings ID Database Needs	Neversink Stream Feature Inventory Begins Chestnut Creek Summary & Update Scope		ID Nev Restoration Project		
Demonstration Project	Ron Restoration Planning (issue & award engineering rfp) Critical Area Seeding Pilot	Ron Restoration Final Design		Ron Restoration Construction Begins		Issue rfps for Neversink project (archeology, wetlands, survey)
CSBI	6 RCMPs Vegetation Mapping Neversink		CSBI Pilot Project Planning Quarterly Meeting			CSBI Project Implementation Quarterly Meeting
E&O	Education/Outreach Plan CSY Landowner Mailing Outreach Design Firm Hired	Newsletter #1 Neversink Assessment Kick-off Neversink History Public Talk (Stream History Day)	Old Time Fair Grahamsville		Neversink Association Presentation	Fall Festival Grahamsville Bioengineering Training Part II Bioengineering Public Talk

	November	December	January	February	March	April
SMPs	Neversink MU Mailing WAG Subcommittee Meetings	Neversink Neighborhood Meetings WAG Subcommittee Meetings Annual Report	WAG Meeting Prioritize Recommendations for Implementation Plan	Neversink SMP Draft	Draft Action Plan	Public Meeting Neversink SMP WAG Meeting: Finalize Action Plan
Assessment						
Demonstration Projects	Rondout Project As-built Nev Restoration Planning (issue & award engineering rfp)			Nev Restoration Final Design	Nev Restoration Permitting	
CSBI	CSBI Planning for Spring 2011		Quarterly Meeting			Quarterly Meeting
E&O	Rosgen Training - KR	Mail Newsletter #2 (Annual Report)			Web Launch	Landowner Workshop with Carolyn Summers

**Rondout Neversink Stream Management Planning Program
Action Plan 2011-2012**

	May	June	July	August	September	October
SMPs		Town Adoption Neversink SMP	Town Adoption Neversink SMP	Town Adoption Neversink SMP	Chestnut SMP Update	
Assessment	Demo Projects As-Built	Chestnut Update Assessment				Chestnut SMP Public Meeting
Demonstration Project	Rondout Demo Project Report	Nev Restoration Construction Begins				
CSBI	CSBI Project Implementation Round 2 Vegetation Mapping Chestnut		Quarterly Meeting			CSBI Round 3 Applications Due Quarterly Meeting
E&O	Education & Outreach Plan	Mail Newsletter #3	Old Time Fair Grahamsville		Distribute Neversink SMP Tri Valley Envirothon Team	Fall Festival Grahamsville

	November	December	January	February	March	April
SMPs	Town Adoption Chestnut SMP	Town Adoption Chestnut SMP Mail Newsletter #4 (Annual Report) WAG Meeting	Annual Report			
Assessment						
Demonstration Projects	Neversink Restoration As-built Chestnut Restoration Planning					
CSBI	CSBI Planning 2012		Quarterly Meeting			Quarterly Meeting
E&O		Mail Newsletter #4 (Annual Report)				Landowner Workshop