

Robert Hust  
Department of Energy & Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse  
79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut, 06106-5127

Frank DeLeo  
19 Newton Road  
Woodbridge, CT.06525  
August 14,2015

RE:  
Stream Flow Segment ID 104001161

Dear Robert;

This letter is in reference to the stream segment of the West River between Lake Dawson and Konolds Pond. Specifically, the segment from Clark Road south to Konolds Pond designated class 3. Reviewing comments on the map, the category for Brook Trout was marked none. This stream segment consists of at least two deep pools and riffles. I have personally caught and released many native Brook Trout in this area. I have included a letter from Kevin Fuller of Trout Unlimited confirming the population of Brook Trout existing in this area. I understand that there is automatic Class 3 classification below dam outlets, however the ecological benefits of preserving this pristine habitat may be a consideration for adequate stream flow. Many stakeholders are involved the restoration of the West River. The West River Watershed Coalition, Conn. Fund for the Environment, and CT. Deep have just completed the final draft of the West River Watershed Management Plan. Many other organizations are involved in this effort. Our concern is warmer water from less flow could stress the healthy trout population. Is it possible to extend Class I classification from Konolds pond north to Clark road? This area is connected to West Rock Deep management properties. There is the potential for a fine fishery along this section of the West River. Also there are recreational opportunities for hiking and biking since there is an effort underway to extend the Woodbridge Greenway trails south into this area. Thank you for any help or advice your office can provide.  
E- Mail [metd1@optonline.net](mailto:metd1@optonline.net)

Respectfully,

Chair: West River Restoration and Flood Mitigation Committee  
Frank DeLeo

*Frank De Leo*



Kevin Fuller  
President of Hammonasset Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
45 Birchwood Drive  
Middletown, CT 06457  
860-632-2171

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LAND REUSE  
PLANNING & STANDARDS DIVISION  
AUG 19 2015

April 24, 2010

Mr. Frank Deleo  
West River Restoration and Flood Mitigation Committee  
19 Newton Road  
Woodbridge, CT 06525

**Subject: Pond Lily Dam removal feasibility and design project.**

Dear Mr. Deleo:

I am writing today as President of the Hammonasset Chapter of Trout Unlimited (HCTU), to express my our strong support for the above project. Ever since Trout Unlimited (TU) was founded in 1959, on-the-ground restoration of streams, watersheds, and fisheries has been our hallmark. Our chapter area covers the south-central portion of Connecticut. We believe that removing the Pond Lily Dam would be an important step towards restoring the West River to a more vital and sustainable condition.

Removing the dam would allow migratory fish to move up and down the river more easily. This would be particularly important to sea-run fish that need to spawn in fresh water such as alewife and blueback herring. In addition, reducing the pond impounded by the dam along with gradual reforestation for shade would contribute to cooler water temperatures downstream, improving and expanding habitat for the brook and brown trout which are already in these waters.

I can personally confirm that the West River above Pond Lily has excellent trout habitat and I believe that the native stocks of brook trout could populate any restored riverbeds that might be created where the pond is today.

Our TU chapter has particular strengths in organizing community youth education and conservation efforts. Please consider our membership as a resource for your committee as you move forward. Good luck and please keep us informed of your progress.

Sincerely,

Kevin Fuller  
President HCTU