

Notes from the Field – Spring 2015

As the winter winds blow outside, it seems like spring may never arrive. Nonetheless, our brook trout staff are hard at work on all of the brook trout data collected during 2014, as well as preparing for the upcoming field season in 2015.

During the 2014 sampling season, DNR Fisheries staff conducted brook trout population monitoring at 74 locations across Maryland. This monitoring is part of a 5 year sampling design aimed at sampling every historical brook trout population in the state by the year 2018. This effort will show us where brook trout persist in Maryland and assist us in our future management efforts. Currently, there are 82 sites scheduled to be sampled during the 2015 field season.



Starting in 2015 the Brook Trout Program is kicking off a voluntary creel diary program for anyone fishing for brook trout in Maryland. Participants will be asked to record some basic trip information as well as some information about their gear and the size of their catch. The information generated will allow us to look at catch and harvest rates, catch size distributions, and angler preferences – all valuable information for the management of our only native salmonid. The creel diary form will be available on the Brook Trout Program home page. If you are interested in participating or have questions about the creel diary program, please contact Alan Heft at Alan.Heft@Maryland.gov or Matt Sell at Matt.Sell@Maryland.gov

