

# Bond Brook Watershed Planning & Salmonid Protection Project

## #2006R-11

Waterbody Name: Bond Brook

Location: Augusta, Manchester – Kennebec County

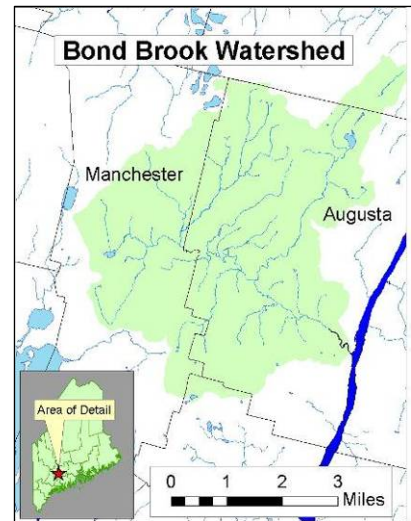
Waterbody Status: NPS Priority Watershed, Urban Impaired Stream (one tributary)

Project Grantee: Trout Unlimited

Project Duration: April 2006 – April 2009

319 Grant Amount: \$49,450

Local Match: \$22,000



### PROBLEM:

The Bond Brook watershed covers about 21 square miles and includes Stone Brook, Spring Brook, Tanning Brook, Rockwood Brook and several unnamed tributaries. It is located primarily in the Town of Manchester and City of Augusta, and is a tributary to the Kennebec River. The upper sections of the watershed include woodlands, undeveloped fields, farms and low density residential development. The lower section is more intensely developed with high density residential and commercial development.

Despite urban development in the lower part of the brook, Bond Brook and most of its tributaries remain in overall good condition. The brook supports naturally-reproducing populations of salmonids and anadromous fishes and meets Class B water quality standards in most areas. However, recent monitoring indicates the stream is being stressed and water quality may be deteriorating. One unnamed tributary fails to meet aquatic life standards and has a watershed impervious area close to 27%.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The primary goals of this project were to increase public awareness, build long term stakeholder support and develop a watershed management plan for Bond Brook. The project was managed by staff from Trout Unlimited and Kennebec County SWCD. A technical advisory committee met three times to guide the development of a report of existing stream data. In 2006 and 2007 volunteers conducted stream corridor surveys in the lower part of the brook and gathered additional information on stream conditions and problems. The Project Manager collected information by walking about half of the upper watershed, and a geomorphologist was hired to complete a survey on the lower part of Bond Brook.

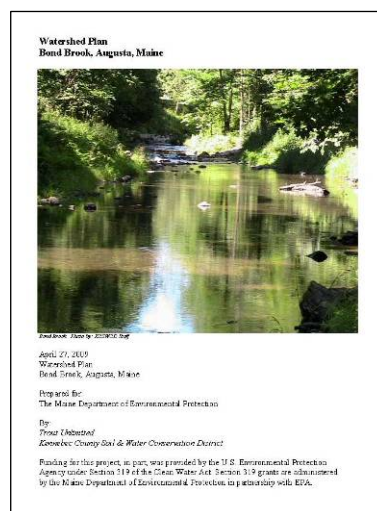
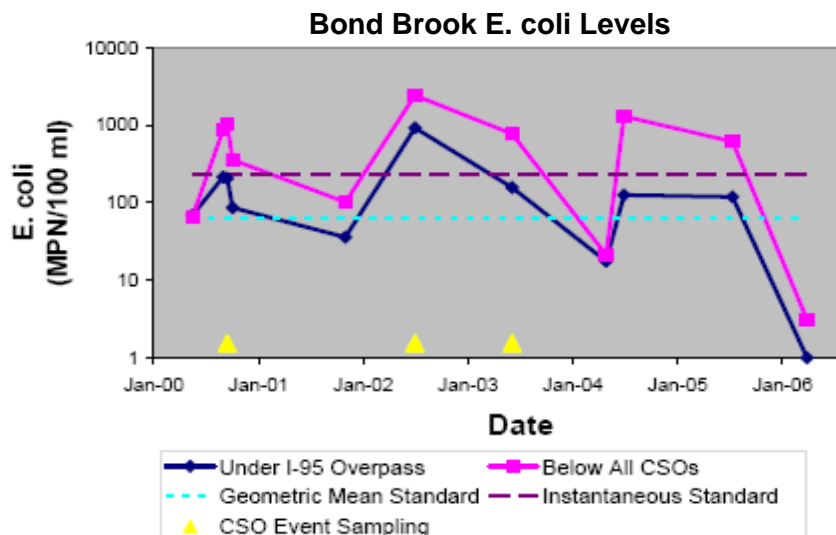


Severe bank erosion along brook

Public education and awareness was increased through tours of the brook with the local newspaper, editorials and slideshows. The Watershed Planning Committee met two times, and two public meetings were held to provide input on the plan. The *Management Plan – Bond Brook, Augusta, Maine* was finalized in March, 2009.

## PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- A comprehensive report, *Review of Existing Information and Data on the Present Condition of Bond Brook and its Watershed*, was completed.
- Additional information was gathered about the stream through stream walks, Stream Corridor Surveys, and a geomorphologic survey.
- Local support and interest was generated in Bond Brook. Next steps will involve working with recreational interests around adjacent City property which is being developed for trails and skiing, and possibly connecting this with the upper watershed.
- The *Management Plan-Bond Brook, Augusta, Maine* was completed in March 2009. The plan includes the following components: description of condition of the brook and watershed; discussion of threats, stressors and impairment; tools for protecting and improving the brook; and action plan.



## PROJECT PARTNERS:

Kennebec County SWCD  
 City of Augusta  
 Greater Augusta Utility District  
 Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife  
 Maine Department of Marine Resources  
 Atlantic Salmon Commission

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Suggested Citation:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection (2010) “Nonpoint Source Management Program 2009 Annual Report,” Document# DEPLW-1159 2010. Augusta: MDEP.