

2021 Mussel Monitoring

Reports By: Aubrey Nycz, AIS Lead Project Assistant, Oneida Co.

July 20, 2021: Bearskin Creek

Field Crew: Stephanie Boismenu, JoAnne Lund, Aubrey Nycz

Stephanie, JoAnne, and I monitored the Bearskin Creek in the town of Cassian for a combined total of two hours. To access this creek, we parked at the County Highway L wayside, and waded in the water. In order to assist us with seeing in the water, JoAnne and I used aquascopes, and Stephanie snorkeled. The conditions of this location were fair. The water was cold and slow moving. The substrate of the creek was mainly sand, with a few sections that were rocky. Unfortunately, we did not find many mussels. We suspected that the water was too cold.

Species found:

To be added once JoAnne has updated the mussel monitoring spreadsheet.

July 20, 2021: Rocky Run Creek

Field Crew: Stephanie Boismenu, JoAnne Lund, Aubrey Nycz

Stephanie, JoAnne, and I monitored Rocky Run Creek, a trout stream located in the towns of Hazelhurst and Cassian. We had originally planned to access this creek near the dam, however a fast moving current and large rocks in deep water made this access point unsafe. Instead, we accessed the creek on Rocky Run Road. To assist us with seeing in the water, JoAnne and I used aquascopes, and Stephanie used a small net for sifting through the sediment. This waterbody had fast moving and warm water, making it more suitable for mussels. Rocky Run Creek is narrow, so our team only needed to monitor for a combined total of one hour. We had more luck monitoring at this site than at the Bearskin Creek. The majority of the mussels that we found were buried in the sediment. The net that Stephanie had was best on this creek, so we plan to bring more nets like hers when we monitor in the future.

Species found:

To be added once JoAnne has updated the mussel monitoring spreadsheet.

July 27, 2021: Little Rice Creek

Field Crew: Stephanie Boismenu, JoAnne Lund, Aubrey Nycz

Stephanie, JoAnne, and I monitored the Little Rice Creek, located in the town of Woodboro. We accessed this stream on County N. Little Rice Creek is a rocky and fast moving stream with warm water. In order to help with seeing in the water, our team used aquascopes and nets for sifting through sediment. We spent a combined total of one hour monitoring for mussels at this site, and found approximately 75 mussels. When we were finished with monitoring, we decontaminated our supplies so that we were ready to monitor a second site in the afternoon.

Species found:

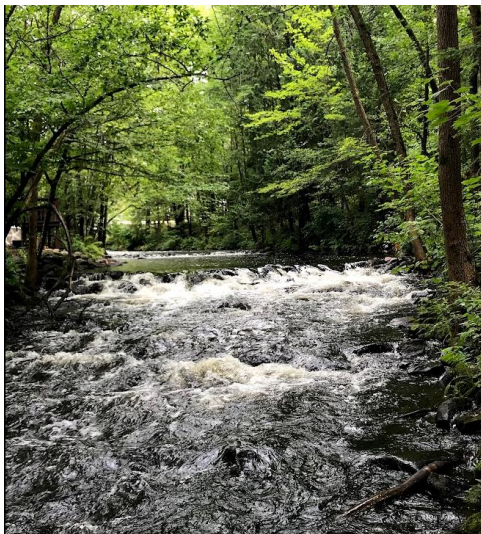
Fat Mucket Mussel

Spike Mussel

Wabash Pigtoe

Fingernail Mussel

Photos from the field:



July 27, 2021: Kaubashine Creek

Field Crew: Stephanie Boismenu, JoAnne Lund, Aubrey Nycz

Kaubashine Creek is located in the town of Hazelhurst at the Balsam Park Boulevard crossing. This creek had shallow, slow moving water, and the substrate was a combination of rock and sand. Our team used aquascopes and nets to assist us with seeing in the water and sifting through sediment. We monitored for a combined total of one hour, but unfortunately, we did not find any mussels. There were many rusty crayfish in the creek though, so we wondered if the rusty crayfish had an impact on the mussel populations.

Species found:

No species were found.

