Brook Trout

Salvelinus fontinalis



Common Names: Speckled trout

Description: Brook trout are members of the char family. They exhibit a wide range of colors. They are olive to blue-gray on the top portion and white on the belly. Red spots with bluish halos are present on the sides. Light wavy marks on the back are a distinguishing feature. Another feature is white then black stripes along the forward edge of each of the lower fins. The caudal fin is usually square.

Feeding: Brook Trout feed on invertebrates, insects, larvae, zooplankton, and small fish.

Range: Brook Trout are native to eastern United States and Canada. Introductions have occurred all throughout the states and Canada.

Habitat: Brook Trout require clear cold water. They will typically inhabit pocket waters and undercuts in streams. They live in ponds and lakes as well, preferring moderate aquatic vegetation.

Typical Size: Brook Trout typically range from 6 to 13" attaining weights up to one pound. In larger bodies of water these trout can grow to 30" and obtain weights up to five pounds. The average life span for stream living trout is 3 years. In larger bodies of water such as large rivers, lakes and ponds Brook trout can live 4 to 6 years.

New York State Record: 6 pounds, 0 ounces caught in Silver Lake Wilderness (5/16/13)

World Record: 14 pounds, 8ounces caught in Nipigon River, Canada (7/1/1916)