



The Edey Foundation
c/o Beatrice Phear
P.O. Box 1029
West Tisbury, MA, 02575-1029

January 10, 2013

Dear Bea,

Attached you will find our application to the Edey Foundation for a grant in the amount of \$3,229 to fund a water temperature study of Mill Brook.

Such a comprehensive temperature study of Mill Brook has never been done, and is essential to developing an objectively informed assessment of the Mill Brook watershed.

The resulting data will inform the ongoing discussion taking place in the town of West Tisbury about the Mill Pond, and the possibility of restoration of the lower Mill Brook.

We appreciate your consideration, and look forward to hearing from you.

Please don't hesitate to call with any questions.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Prudy Burt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Prudy Burt

Board member,
Sea Run Brook Trout Coalition
P.O. Box 1044
West Tisbury, MA, 02575
prudyburt@gmail.com
508-696-3836



Summary

The Sea Run Brook Trout Coalition (SRBTC) is a science-based, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of river and stream habitat capable of supporting populations of native sea-run brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*), also known as 'salters.'

In recent years, federal and state funding for dam removal has made it economically feasible for towns and private landowners to consider dam removal and stream restoration projects, rather than continuing to pay for maintenance of dams. Mill Brook is one of several watersheds on Martha's Vineyard capable of supporting 'salters' that could benefit from restoration. However, to fully assess the habitat and opportunity for restoration, information from this unique stream system must be acquired.

SRBTC seeks \$3,229 in funding from the Edey Foundation to fund a water temperature study of the four mile long Mill Brook system across multiple years. Pending a successful application, ten water temperature loggers (Hobos) will be purchased and deployed in ten locations for up to five years, the life of the non-replaceable batteries. Data from this study will be made available for the forthcoming watershed study by the town of West Tisbury, as well as to other interested parties, to further understand possible options for habitat restoration for a variety of species.

Sea-run brook trout are a life history variation of brook trout inhabiting coastal streams from Long Island, New York, to the Canadian Maritimes and the Hudson Bay area. Our native New England brook trout migrate down coastal streams to spend part of the year in the estuarine environment (hence the nickname 'salter'), feeding and growing, then go back up the brooks to spawn in cool, oxygen-rich fresh water. Formerly prolific in hundreds of coastal streams along the northeastern seaboard, salters no longer inhabit most of those streams due to the effects of dams, which restrict passage, and cause destructive thermal pollution and sedimentation of suitable spawning habitat.

Crucial factors for brook trout survival include cold water temperatures and stream connectivity. Sea-run trout depend on stream connectivity without which they cannot traverse between the estuaries and salt waters and safe spawning and nursery grounds in the fresh water upper reaches. And brook trout of any type cannot tolerate water temperatures above seventy degrees Fahrenheit. Conditions which create suitable sea-run brook trout habitat are also beneficial for American eel, smelt, and river herring, all important forage species. This past summer, SRBTC was able to obtain two free Hobos for Mill Brook. These tiny units, about the size of a stack of 10 quarter-sized coins, record the water temperature every fifteen minutes, twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. One was deployed above Mill Pond, at Scotchman's Bridge Lane, and the other just below the spillway at Mill Pond. These were in the water from July 20 - October 10, 2012.

While these two loggers provided a snapshot of that small section of Mill Brook, it was only for a very short time span. Initial findings suggested that more information is needed, both for a longer amount of time, and from additional data points within the brook.



Statement of Need

In order to gain a better understanding of habitat conditions in Mill Brook, and to inform the ongoing discussion in the town of West Tisbury about Mill Pond and possible restoration of Mill Brook, comprehensive baseline temperature data of the whole system is needed. Temperature data such as this will show how the water temperature of Mill Brook is affected by the six impoundments along its length, before flowing into Town Cove of Tisbury Great Pond. It will show temperature fluctuations between night and day, as well as where groundwater influences or storm water runoff result in cooler or warmer water temperatures spanning multiple years.

Water temperature directly correlates with the amount of dissolved oxygen present in the water column, essential to all aquatic life; as the water temperature rises, the amount of dissolved oxygen decreases. As the last impoundment on Mill Brook before Tisbury Great Pond, the Mill Pond has the potential to profoundly affect water quality in the brook and in Town Cove, and to compromise the rich biodiversity that they support.

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has designated Mill Brook as a cold-water fisheries resource (CFR). This designation is given to high quality cold water streams capable of supporting native species, such as eastern brook trout. From their website, the CFR list is a "useful tool for highlighting environmentally sensitive areas. Conservation commissions, planning commissions, land trusts, consultants and town open space committees may find this information useful for conservation planning."

Use of Funds

Temperature loggers are to be purchased and deployed by SRBTC board member Prudy Burt at ten locations along Mill Brook in March of 2013. (See Map, Page 7, with small black numbers showing locations) Final locations will be selected by SRBTC in conjunction with consulting engineers working with the Division of Ecological Restoration. Care will be taken to choose locations that mitigate loss, theft or vandalism of the devices. While four of the proposed sites are located within a public road layout, property owner permission has been fully granted for the installation and monitoring of the other six units.

Photo monitoring of the chosen sites will record conditions of the individual sites and provide a visual record of the project.

Data will be downloaded from the Hobos on a monthly basis, via a USB data shuttle to a computer. Luanne Johnson, director/wildlife biologist of Biodiversity Works, has offered technical assistance in downloading and managing data. Luanne has also offered to coordinate with high school science teacher, Elliot Bennett, and her students, making this an educational and collaborative effort. We look forward to working with Luanne and high school students on this project.



Plans for Continuation of Program

SRBTC is excited about the possibility of restoring suitable anadromous fish and sea-run brook trout habitat to the lower Mill Brook. Salters have historically been present in this section as recently as the 1950s, as were smelt. As recently as 2000, the American brook lamprey, a state-listed threatened species, was found in Mill Brook during surveys by Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

In September of 2012, Steve Hurley, Southeast District Fisheries Manager for Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, came to the island with his crew and sampled (through the use of electrofishing) the entire length of Mill Brook. Brook trout were found throughout the upper portions of the brook, to a point about one mile north of the Mill Pond, just southeast of State Road. Multiple ages and sizes of trout were found, indicating that isolated populations unable to run to the sea do survive and breed in those upper sections where more suitable habitat conditions are found.

While SRBTC's ultimate interest is in restoring stream connectivity and habitat for the imperiled sea-run brook trout and restoring optimal conditions for other species, water temperature data is critical input to many forms of management or mitigation discussions. In addition to dam removal, stream temperature data can inform culvert, road crossing or stormwater runoff issues along the entire stream, as well as management of vegetation.

Data from the two Hobos deployed above and below the Mill Pond in 2012 indicates that the temperatures below Mill Pond (averaging roughly seven degrees warmer than temperatures above Mill Pond) represent the difference between trout surviving above Mill Pond, and certain death in the water temperatures below Mill Pond. No brook trout were found between Mill Pond and Tisbury Great Pond.

Temperature data will be used to identify, protect and to help plan for the restoration of remnant brook trout habitat in Mill Brook. A long-term goal involving dissemination of data obtained from temperature monitoring is to build a consensus for the restoration of Mill Brook, and protection of its brook trout habitat. Information gained from Mill Brook will be used to build public support for efforts to protect and restore other Vineyard streams as well.

Hobos deployed in March of 2013 have a battery life of up to 5 years. This will provide an in-depth baseline of water temperatures for the brook over the course of multiple years, the first step in understanding the Mill Brook watershed. While our funding request for this first year, 2013, represents all of the capital costs associated with this project, we anticipate future modest requests to the Edey Foundation for ongoing expenses associated with data management, travel and mileage costs associated with this project. Substantial volunteer labor and technical knowledge provided by SRBTC will help leverage Edey Foundation funding and ensure this project is a success.



Qualifications of Applicant

For over twenty years, SRBTC board members have been involved with stream restoration efforts on both Red Brook in Wareham, and the Quashnet River in Falmouth. More recently, they have become key partners in numerous projects providing outreach, funding and technical assistance to new and ongoing projects in Connecticut, Long Island and Maine.

SRBTC has supported restoration efforts in a variety of ways, including volunteering their personal time; partnering with agencies such as Trout Unlimited, Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game, U.S Fish and Wildlife, The Coalition for Buzzard's Bay and the Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration; and obtaining grant funding to pay for tagging devices to monitor movements of fish, both before and after dams were removed.

Scientific advisory board members of SRBTC include staff from University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game, and the Silvio O. Conte Anadromous Fish Research Lab in Turners Falls, Massachusetts.

In recognition of this work, SRBTC was recently invited to fill the last seat of the 25-member steering committee of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture, a collaboration of state and federal agencies, academic institutions and private sector conservation organizations working toward protecting and restoring brook trout populations and their habitats across their native range.

Over the last two years, SRBTC has been actively involved in efforts to gather baseline data on Mill Brook, in order to help inform the ongoing discussion in West Tisbury about Mill Pond.

To date, those efforts have culminated in several important pieces of information, all obtained at no cost to SRBTC, or to the town of West Tisbury:

1. An engineering assessment and estimated cost of dam removal at Mill Pond, June 2011.
2. A connectivity report on several of the stream/road crossings of Mill Brook, which assessed areas of concern for road runoff contamination into Mill Brook, as well as wildlife and fish passage problem areas, August 2012.
3. Initial data collection from two Hobos, July - October 2012
4. A fish survey of the entire length of Mill Brook by state fisheries biologist Steve Hurley, Sept 2012.
5. An assessment of fish passage issues on both the Mill Brook and the Tiasquam River by state diadromous fisheries biologist, Brad Chase, November 2012. Brad came to the island to meet on site with several interested landowners, including the Trustees of Reservations, a private landowner, and John Hoy, Herring Warden for the town of West Tisbury.

These reports are available on the town website at <www.westtisbury-ma.gov/>or via a hard copy at the offices of both the selectmen and the conservation commission.



Budget

Ten Hobo water temperature loggers	@ \$133 each	\$1,330	
(10) Boots for Water Temp Pro Loggers	@ \$ 18.60 each	\$ 186	
(1) Hobo waterproof shuttle (U-DTWI)		\$ 237	
(1) Hoboware PROBHW Pro CD software		\$ 99	
Data management and technical support from Biodiversity Works, 20 hours @ \$35 per hour		\$ 700	
(This labor will be matched by at least an equal number of volunteer hours by SRBTC board member Prudy Burt and others).			
Travel Expenses- 2 vehicle Steamship authority trips for SRBTC staff/scientists to come to Martha's Vineyard, @ \$137 each			\$ 274
Mileage - twice monthly monitoring of Hobos over 1 year Est 200 miles @ .55 cents a mile			\$ 110
Water Temperature monitoring 2013 field season total			\$ 2,936
Indirect Costs 10%			\$ 293

=====

Total Requested \$ 3,229



**Sea Run Brook Trout Coalition
Board of Directors**

Michael Hopper – President
6 Puddlers Lane, Falls Village, CT 06031

Geoffrey Day – Clerk / Secretary
18 Orange St., Newburyport, MA 01950

Prudence Burt – Martha’s Vineyard Director
P.O. Box 1044, West Tisbury, MA, 02575

Doug Swesty – Long Island Director
PMB #58, 248 Route 25A, East Setauket, NY 11733

Warren Winders – *Ex Officio*
599 Randolph St., Abington, MA 02351

Scientific Advisory Board

Andy J. Danylchuk PhD - Assistant Professor of Fish Conservation, DNRC, U Mass Amherst
Amherst, MA 01003

Andrew Whiteley PhD -Assistant Professor of Fish Conservation, DNRC, U Mass Amherst
Amherst, MA 01003

Ben Letcher PhD - Fish Population Ecologist Conte Anadromous Fish Research Center, USGS/BRD
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Brendan Annett MS VP, Coalition for Buzzards Bay
620 Belleville Ave
New Bedford, MA 02745

Steve Hurley MS Southeast District Fisheries Manager, Massachusetts DFG
195 Bournedale Road
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532

Tim Purinton MS - Acting Director Division of Ecological Restoration
Massachusetts DFG
251 Causeway St.
Boston, MA 02114





IRS Letter of Acceptance

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: JUL 24 2009

SEA RUN BROOK TROUT COALITION CORP
20 HAMPDEN DR STE 2R
SOUTH EASTON, MA 02375

Employer Identification Number:
27-4568873
DIN:
17053040325041
Contact Person:
JACOB A MCDONALD ID# 31649
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990 Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
November 5, 2009
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.

Please see enclosed Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lois G. Lerner".

Lois G. Lerner
Director, Exempt Organizations



Letter of Support



DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Division of
Ecological
Restoration

Tim Purinton, Director



Deval Patrick
Governor
Timothy P. Murray
Lieutenant Governor
Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.
Secretary
Mary B. Griffin
Commissioner

January 8, 2013

The Edey Foundation
c/o Beatrice Phear
P.O. Box 1029
West Tisbury, Ma., 02575-1029

Re: Mill Brook Monitoring Study – West Tisbury, MA

Dear Reviewers:

The Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) is proud to support the Sea-Run Brook Trout Coalition (SRBTC) in its application to the Edey Foundation. Our Division sponsored a reconnaissance engineering assessment of restoration options in the Mill Pond reach and coordinated with West Tisbury officials including Prudy Burt on subsequent study of fish passage barriers in the Mill Brook system.

Despite the bucolic landscape through which it flows, Mill Brook exhibits many of the stresses on coldwater ecosystems that are seen in streams across New England. Multiple dams block fish passage, inhibit the natural flow of sediment, and impair water quality. Runoff from road and agricultural operations contribute sediment, nutrient, and temperature stress.

As a result, this historic coldwater fishery has been drastically reduced from its former vitality and water quality impairments have been quantified at many locations. Accordingly, the water temperature data collected by the SRBTC as described in this application will provide site-specific indicators of water quality impairments that can be translated into clearly defined restoration actions. Stream temperature has a documented link to other impairments such as low dissolved oxygen. The collection of real-time stream temperature data using automated loggers is a cost-effective way to characterize the health of a stream and to help develop targets for habitat improvement.

With their strong local ties and intimate knowledge of the Mill brook system, Prudy Burt and her SRBTC colleagues are well-positioned to implement this study. We strongly encourage the Edey Foundation to help support this effort to set in motion real restoration opportunity for Mill Brook.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Purinton".

Tim Purinton
Director



Form 990-EZ **Short Form**
Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
 Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code
 (except those organizations that have been granted a special ruling by the IRS to be exempt from this form)
 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service
 (The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.)

OMB No. 1545-0045
2011
 Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2011 calendar year, or tax year beginning and ending

B Check if applicable:
 Addition change
 Name change
 Initial return
 Termination
 Reorganization
 Splitting entity

C Name of organization: **SEA-RUN BROOK TROUT COALITION, CORP.**

D Employer identification number: **27-4568873**

E Telephone number: **617-413-0989**

F Group Exemption Number: **None**

G Accounting method: Cash Accrual Other (specify) _____

H Check if the organization is not required to attach Schedule D (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

I Website: **HTTP://WWW.SEARUNBROOKIE.ORG**

J Tax-exempt status (check only one): 501(c)(3) 501(c) _____ 4947(a)(1) or 527

K Check if the organization is not a section 509(a)(2) supporting organization or a section 527 organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$50,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required though Form 990-N (e-postcard) may be required (see instructions). Don't file the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II), line 21, column (D) balance are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. **1,748.**

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	300.
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	
	3	Membership dues and assessments	3	298.
	4	Investment income	4	
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
	5b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
	5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	
	6	Gaming and fundraising events		
	a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule C if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule C if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b	1,250.	
c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	358.	
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	892.	
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a		
7b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b		
7c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c		
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8		
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	1,390.	
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	
	11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	125.
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	SEE SCHEDULE O 3,191.
17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	3,316.	
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	-1,926.
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 21, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	3,480.
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	0.
	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	1,554.

LHA For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions. Form 990-EZ (2011)

