



## **Thames River Basin Partnership**

### **October 15, 2013**

### **Meeting notes**

**Attendance:** Jean Pillo, ECCD; Eric Thomas, DEEP; Anne Roberts Pierson, Avalonia Land Conservancy; Bev Thornton, Brooklyn CC; Jason Vakoun, UCONN; Jean Cass; Kasey Pregler, UCONN; Jean Hixson, US ACE, Rick Canavan, CME  
Meeting notes for July 16, 2013 were approved by group consensus.

#### **Special Presentation**

This quarter's special presentation was given by UCONN Graduate Student, Kasey Pregler. Her presentation was on comparing methods for evaluating bridled shiner populations. Bridled shiner are a small bait fish listed as Special Concern species in Connecticut. The preferred habitat for this fish is water with low flow and abundant emergent plants. Most modern fish surveys use electrofishing technology to stun the fish temporarily and catch them with nets in order to get species diversity and quantity data. Under guidance from her advisor, Jason Vakoun and DEEP Fisheries Biologist Neal Hagstrom, Kasey visited 80 locations where bridled shiner has previously been located but thought to be extirpated. Using an old fashion fish seine, Ms. Pregler demonstrated the presence of bridge shiner at 10 of these locations. Her hypothesis is that electrofishing in the preferred habitat of the bridled shiner is not as an effective means to determine bridled shiner population statistics. Further study will be required before the bridled shiner can be delisted as a Special Concern species.

#### **TRBP Financial Report**

We started the quarter with \$2269.88 in the TRBP account. J. Pillo was reimbursed \$8.59 for Floating Workshop related expenses. The final balance in the account is \$2261.29. Additional charges related to upkeep of the TRBP website and domain name registration \$72.33 will be deducted from the account prior to the next quarterly meeting.

The financial report was approved by consensus.

#### **TRBP Coordinator's Report**

TRBP website project update: no new information to report. TLGV has an active RFP to hire a web designer to update their website. They will inquire if it is possible to absorb the TRBP website as part of that project and if it will be possible for multiple people to have access to it for updating purposes.

TRPB Partners presented updates on their activities compatible with the TRBP Plan of Work. These activities were compiled in a separate Fall 2013 TRBP Partners in Action Report. Ideas for the 2014 Floating Workshop were discussed. General consensus was to look into means to feature the Patchaug River watershed for next year's event.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2014. Meeting location has not been determined.

Meeting notes prepared by Jean Pillo, Watershed Conservation Coordinator, ECCD