

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

FIBI088 - Raritan River South Branch



1. Stream Name: Raritan River South Branch

2. Sampling Date:09-15-20043. Sampling Location:Arch Street4. MunicipalityHigh Bridge5. County:Hunterdon

6. Watershed Management Area:

7. Contributing Drainage Area:
8. Electrofishing Gear:
9. FIBI Score and Rating:
10. Habitat Score and Rating:
142- Sub-Optimal

11. Fishable Species Present: Yes

12. Relevant AMNET¹ Station Data:

Proximity of FIBI station to AMNET station: 3.1 mi. upstream AN0322

AMNET Rating: Round 1 – Non-impaired Round 2 – Non-impaired Round 3 – Non-impaired

13. Stream Chemistries:

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Dissolved Oxygen} & 9.26 \ \mbox{mg/L} \\ \mbox{Temperature.} & 19.2 \ \mbox{^{0}C} \\ \mbox{pH} & 7.70 \end{array}$

Conductivity 313 µmhos/cm

14. Number of Fish With Anomalies:

15. Length of Stream Segment Sampled150 Meters16. Water Clarity: Slightly Turbid

17. Average Forest Open Canopy: 38.5%
18. Discharge: 184.8 ft.³/sec

19. Substrate: 5% Gravel and Sand, 70% Cobble, 25% Boulder

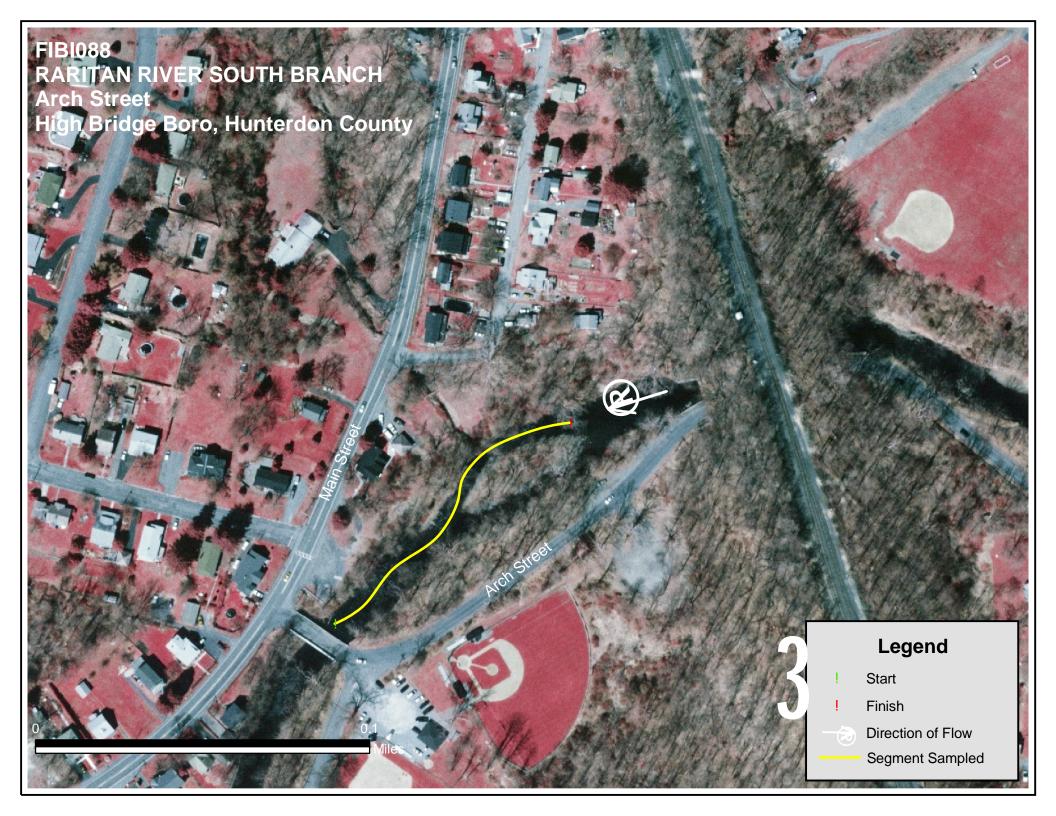
20. Habitat: 85% Riffle, 10% Run, 5% Pool

21. SnagsYes22. PeriphytonModerate23. Submerged Aquatic VegetationYes

24. Other observations:

25. Number of Fish Species Identified:26. Total Number of Fish Collected:289

¹ AMNET is the acronym for the DEP's ambient benthic macroinvertebrate monitoring network – a series of 820 monitoring stations located throughout the state's waterways that collects data on the health of bottom dwelling stream fauna which in turn is used to assess general water quality.



FIBI088- @ Raritan River South Branch Date Sampled - 9/15/2004	Excellent Good	Fair	Poor
# of Fish Species		Score 5]
# of Benthic Insectivorous Species (BI)		5]
# of Trout and Centrarchid Species (trout, ba	ass, sunfish, crappie)	3]
# of Intolerant Species (IS)		5]
Proportion of Individuals as White Suckers		5]
Proportion of Individuals as Generalists (carp, creek chub, banded killifish,			
goldfish, fathead minnow, green sunfish) Proportion of Individuals as Insectivorous Cy	prinids (I and BI)	5]
Proportion of Individuals as Trout OR	*whichever gives better score		
Proportion of Individuals as Piscivores (Excl	uding American Eel)*	3]
Number of Individuals in Sample		5]
Proportion of Individuals w/disease/anomalie	es (excluding blackspot)	5]
Total		46]

Stream Rating

45-50 Excellent 37-44 Good 29-36 Fair 10-28 Poor

HABITAT ASSESSMENT FOR HIGH GRADIENT STREAMS

Raritan River (FIBI088) – 9/15/04

		Condition	Category	
	Optimal	Suboptimal	Marginal	Poor
1. Epifaunal Substrate /Available Cover	Greater than 70% of substrate favorable for epifaunal colonization and fish cover; mix of snags, submerged logs, undercut banks, cobble or other stable habitat and at stage to allow full colonization potential (i.e., logs/snags that are not new fall and not transient).	40-70% mix of stable habitat; well-suited for full colonization potential; adequate habitat for maintenance of populations; presence of additional substrate in the form of newfall, but not yet prepared for colonization (may rate at high end of scale).	20-40% mix of stable habitat; habitat availability less than desirable; substrate frequently disturbed or removed.	Less than 20% stable habitat; lack of habitat is obvious; substrate unstable or lacking.
SCORE 17	20 19 18 17 16	15 14 13 12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1 0
2. Embeddedness	Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles are 0-25% surrounded by fine sediment. Layering of cobble provides diversity of niche space	Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles are 25-50% surrounded by fine sediment.	Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles are 50-75% surrounded by fine sediment.	Gravel, cobble, and boulder particles are more than 75% surrounded by fine sediment.
SCORE 19	20 19 18 17 16	15 14 13 12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1 0
3. Velocity/Depth Regimes	All 4 velocity/depth regimes present (slow-deep, slow-shallow, fast-deep, fast-shallow). (slow is <0.3 m/s, deep is >0.5 m)	Only 3 of the 4 regimes present (if fast-shallow is missing, score lower than if missing other regimes).	Only 2 of the 4 habitat regimes present (if fast-shallow or slow-shallow are missing, score low).	Dominated by 1 velocity / depth regime (usually slow-deep).
SCORE 15	20 19 18 17 16	15 14 13 12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1 0
4. Sediment Deposition	Little or no enlargement of islands or point bars and less than 5% (<20% for low-gradient streams) of the bottom affected by sediment deposition.	Some new increase in bar formation, mostly from gravel, sand or fine sediment; 5-30% (20-50% for low-gradient) of the bottom affected; slight deposition in pools.	Moderate deposition of new gravel, sand or fine sediment on old and new bars; 30-50% (50-80% for low-gradient) of the bottom affected; sediment deposits at obstructions, constrictions, and bends; moderate deposition of pools prevalent.	Heavy deposits of fine material, increased bar development; more than 50% (80% for low-gradient) of the bottom changing frequently; pools almost absent due to substantial sediment deposition.
SCORE 9	20 19 18 17 16	15 14 13 12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1 0
5. Channel Flow Status	Water reaches base of both lower banks, and minimal amount of channel substrate is exposed.	Water fills >75% of the available channel; or <25% of channel substrate is exposed.	Water fills 25-75% of the available channel, and/or riffle substrates are mostly exposed.	Very little water in channel and mostly present as standing pools.
SCORE 18	20 19 18 17 16	15 14 13 12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1 0
6. Channel Alteration	Channelization or dredging absent or minimal; stream with normal pattern.	Some channelization present, usually in areas of bridge abutments; evidence of past channelization, i.e., dredging, (greater than past 20 yr) may be present, but recent channelization	Channelization may be extensive; embankments or shoring structures present on both banks; and 40 to 80% of stream reach channelized and disrupted.	Banks shored with gabion or cement; over 80% of the stream reach channelized and disrupted. In stream habitat greatly altered or removed entirely.
SCORE 11	20 19 18 17 16	is not present. 15 14 13 12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1 0
7. Frequency of Riffles (or bends)	Occurrence of riffles relatively frequent; ratio of distance between riffles divided by width of the stream <7:1 (generally 5 to 7); variety of habitat is key. In streams where riffles are continuous, placement of boulders or other large, natural obstruction is important.	Occurrence of riffles infrequent; distance between riffles divided by the width of the stream is between 7 to 15.	Occasional riffle or bend; bottom contours provide some habitat; distance between riffles divided by the width of the stream is between 15 to 25.	Generally all flat water or shallow riffles; poor habitat; distance between riffles divided by the width of the stream is a ratio of >25.
SCORE 19	20 19 18 17 16	15 14 13 12 11	10 9 8 7 6	5 4 3 2 1 0
8. Bank Stability (score each bank) Note: determine left or right side by facing downstream.	Banks stable; evidence of erosion or bank failure absent or minimal; little potential for future problems. <5% of bank affected.	Moderately stable; infrequent, small areas of erosion mostly healed over. 5-30% of bank in reach has areas of erosion.	Moderately unstable; 30-60% of bank in reach has areas of erosion; high erosion potential during floods.	Unstable; many eroded areas; "raw" areas frequent along straight sections and bends; obvious bank sloughing; 60- 100% of bank has erosional scars.
SCORE9 (LB) SCORE6 (RB)	Left 10 9 Right 10 9	8 7 6 8 7 6	5 4 3 5 4 3	2 1 0 2 1 0
9. Bank Vegetative Protection (score each bank)	More than 90% of the streambank surfaces and immediate riparian zone covered by native vegetation, including trees, under story shrubs, or nonwoody macrophytes; vegetative disruption through grazing or mowing minimal or not evident; almost all plants allowed to grow naturally.	70-90% of the streambank surfaces covered by native vegetation, but one class of plants is not well-represented; disruption evident but not affecting full plant growth potential to any great extent; more than one-half of the potential plant stubble height remaining.	50-70% of the streambank surfaces covered by vegetation; disruption obvious; patches of bare soil or closely cropped vegetation common; less than one-half of the potential plant stubble height remaining.	Less than 50% of the streambank surfaces covered by vegetation; disruption of streambank vegetation is very high; vegetation has been removed to 5 centimeters or less in average stubble height.
SCORE8 (LB) SCORE8 (RB)	Left 10 9 Right 10 9	8 7 6 8 7 6	5 4 3 5 4 3	2 1 0 2 1 0
10. Riparian Vegetative Zone Width (score each bank riparian zone)	Width of riparian zone >18 meters; human activities (i.e., parking lots, roadbeds, clear-cuts, lawns, or crops) have not impacted zone.	Width of riparian zone 12-18 meters; human activities have impacted zone only minimally.	Width of riparian zone 6-12 meters; human activities have impacted zone a great deal.	Width of riparian zone <6 meters: little or no riparian vegetation due to human activities.
SCORE1 (LB)	Left 10 9	8 7 6	5 4 3	2 1 0
SCORE (RB)	Right 10 9	8 7 6	5 4 3	2 1 0

HABITAT SCORE

142

HABITAT SCORES	VALUE
OPTIMAL	160 - 200
SUB-OPTIMAL	110 - 159
MARGINAL	60 - 109
POOR	< 60

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Raritan River South Branch

LISTED IN ORDER OF ABUNDANCE

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	# FOUND	SIZE RANGE (INCHES)
Longnose Dace	Rhinichthys cataractae	118	
Tessellated Darter	Etheostoma olmstedi	73	
American Eel	Anguilla rostrata	46	
Blacknose Dace	Rhinichthys atratulus	22	
White Sucker	Catostomus commersoni	7	
Brown Trout	Salmo trutta	5	8.7 – 11.6
Redbreast Sunfish	Lepomis auritus	4	3.7 - 4.3
Smallmouth Bass	Micropterus dolomieu	4	3.2 - 5.7
Margined Madtom	Noturus insignis	3	
Spottail Shiner	Notropis hudsonius	3	
Cutlips Minnow	Exoglossum maxillingua	2	
Redfin Pickerel	Esox americanus americanus	1	8.7
Rock Bass	Ambloplites rupestris	1	7.9

Species Identified at Raritan River S.B. (FIBI088)

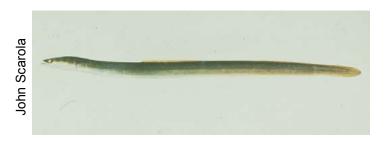
(Not to Scale)



John Scarola

Longnose Dace

Tessellated Darter





American Eel

Blacknose Dace





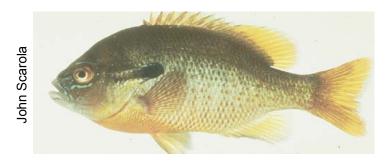
White Sucker

Brown Trout

Species Identified at Raritan River S.B. (FIBI088)

(Not to Scale)

John Scarola



Redbreast Sunfish

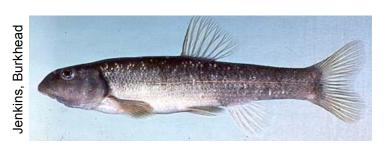
Smallmouth Bass





Margined Madtom

Spottail Shiner



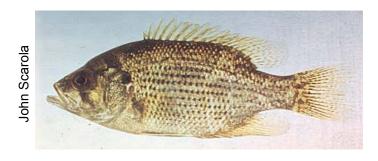


Cutlips Minnow

Redfin Pickerel

Species Identified at Raritan River S.B. (FIBI088)

(Not to Scale)



Rockbass