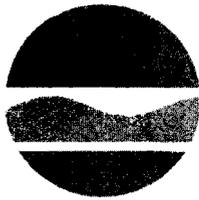


**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources, Region 5
Bureau of Fisheries**

1115 NYS Route 86, PO Box 296, Ray Brook, New York 12977

Phone: (518) 897-1333 · **FAX:** (518) 897-1347

Website: www.dec.ny.gov



Alexander B. Grannis
Commissioner

October 1, 2009

Ms. Cynthia Browning, Executive Director
Batten Kill Watershed Alliance of New York and Vermont
279 Route 313 West
Arlington, Vermont 05250-8915
E:Mail exdir@battenkillalliance.org

Dear Ms. Browning:

I am writing to express the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (NYSDEC) support for the proposed Batten Kill stream restoration and enhancement project near Eagleville, New York. The proposed work would enhance the fish resources, and the associated recreational opportunities, in this renowned river.

The Batten Kill currently supports brook and brown trout. However, the river's habitat can be substantially improved in several locations with techniques such as strategically located J-hooks and large woody debris in combination with vegetating exposed streambanks. The goals and objectives of your project support several NYSDEC goals including the restoration and enhancement of stream habitats, and increasing fishing opportunities.

The restoration of habitat near Eagleville will augment other restoration efforts upstream and downstream of the project site and restore degraded reaches. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact me at (518) 897-1339 or e-mail me at bx Schoch@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Schoch".

Bill Schoch
Regional Fisheries Manager

pc: Martha Naley, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Martha_Naley@fws.gov