

Talk Wild Trout 2018

Location: Howqua River

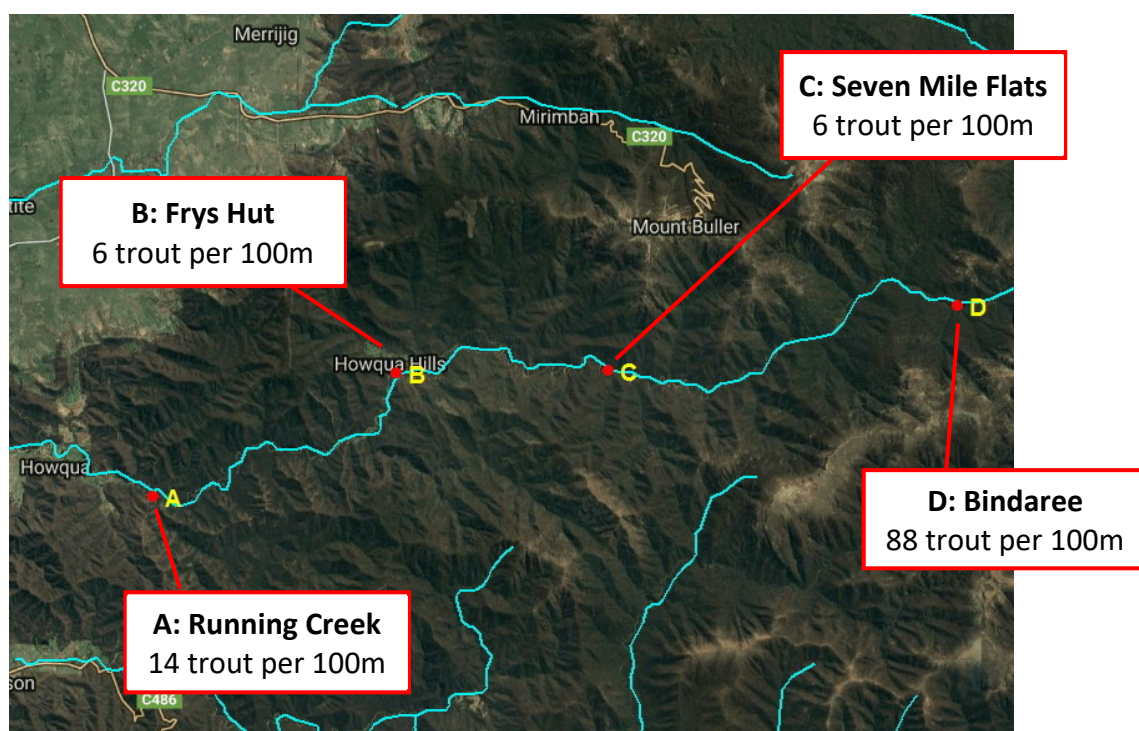
Surveyed: 22 Jan. – 1 Feb. 2018

- Site A: Running Creek (230 m stretch)
- Site B: Frys Hut on the Howqua River (180 m stretch)
- Site C: Seven Mile Flats on the Howqua River (200 m stretch)
- Site D: Bindaree on the Howqua River (200 m stretch)

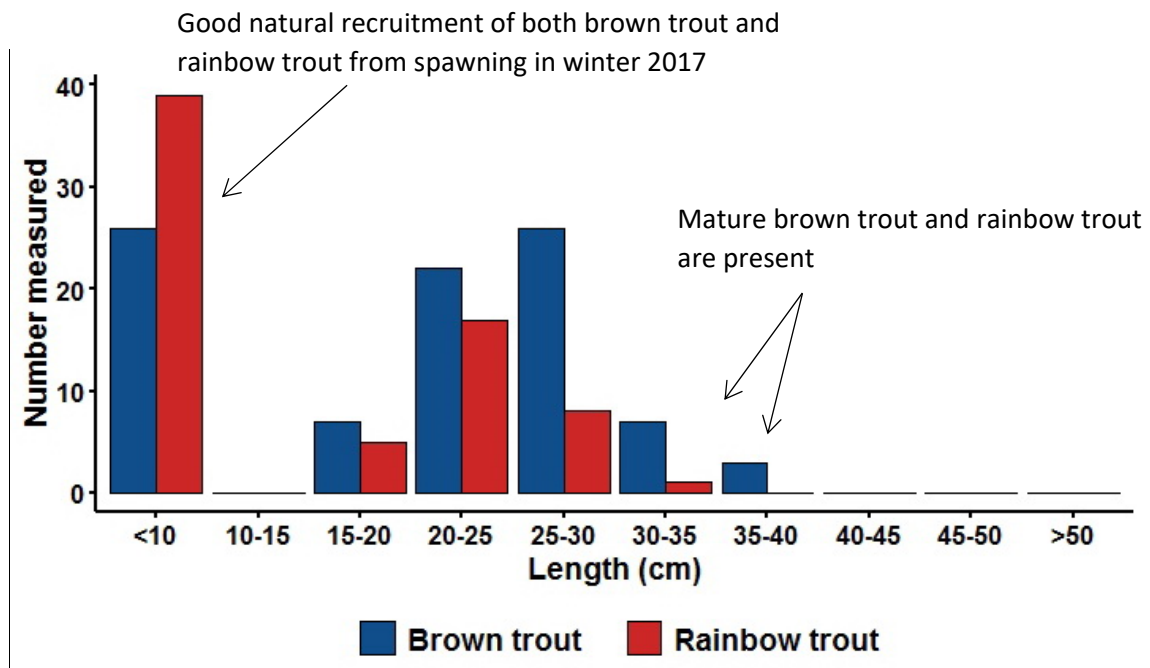
Key health indicators

<u>Abundance</u>	↑
<u>Recent recruitment</u>	✓
<u>Multiple size classes</u>	✓
<u>Mature fish</u>	✓
<u>Overall rating</u>	Excellent

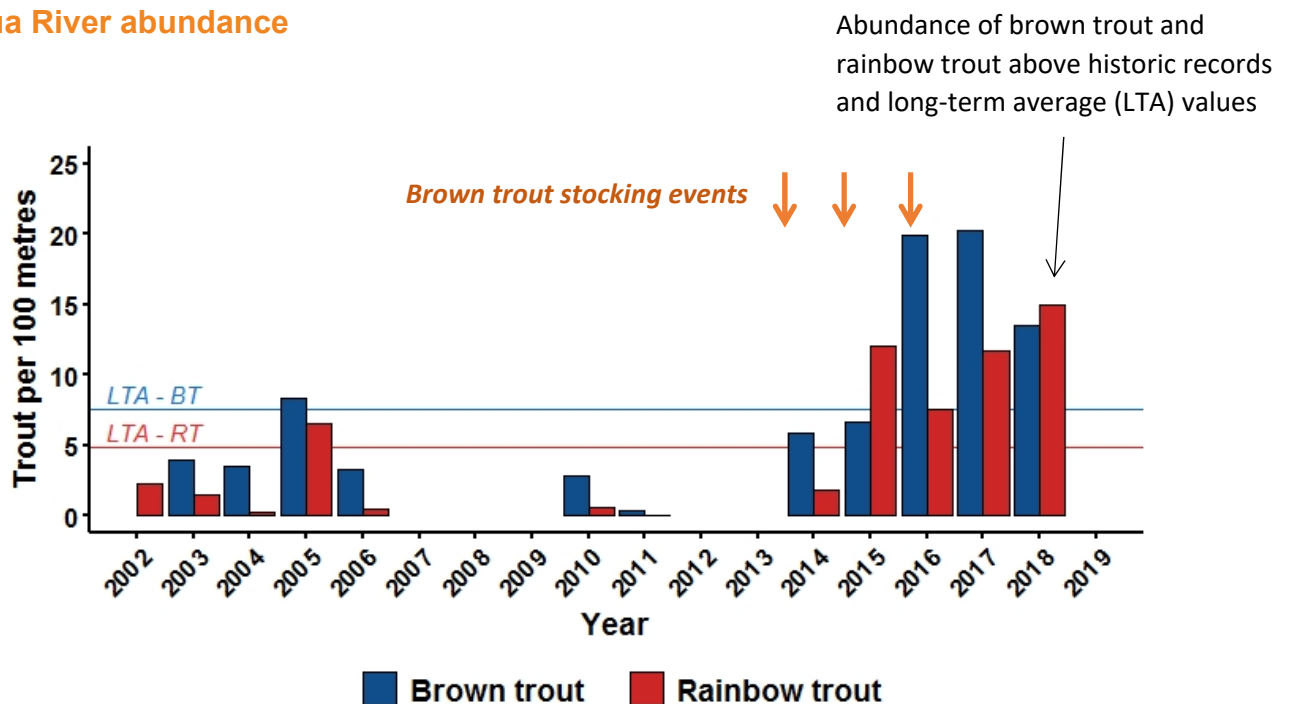
Monitoring results		Brown trout	Rainbow trout	ALL TROUT
Total number of fish caught in 810 m of river		110	121	231
Mean fish abundance (fish per 100 m)		13.5	15	28.5
Largest fish	Weight	0.7 kg (1.6 lb)	0.2 kg (0.5 lb)	0.7 kg (1.6 lb)
	Length	34 cm (13.5 ")	27 cm (11 ")	34 cm (13.5 ")
% of catchable (20 cm +) fish		37 %	12 %	26 %
Average size of catchable fish (20 cm +)		23 cm (9 ")	22 cm (9 ")	23 cm (9 ")
Abundance of catchable fish per 100 m		5	1.8	6.8
Other species present:	2-spined blackfish, common carp, galaxiid minnows, Murray spiny crayfish, redfin perch, roach and yabbies			



Howqua River size range in 2018



Howqua River abundance



The 2018 survey suggests the Howqua River continues to support good numbers of small and medium sized brown trout and rainbow trout. Abundance of trout is above historic records and long-term average (LTA) values. There is good evidence of recent natural recruitment, and mature fish capable of spawning are present.