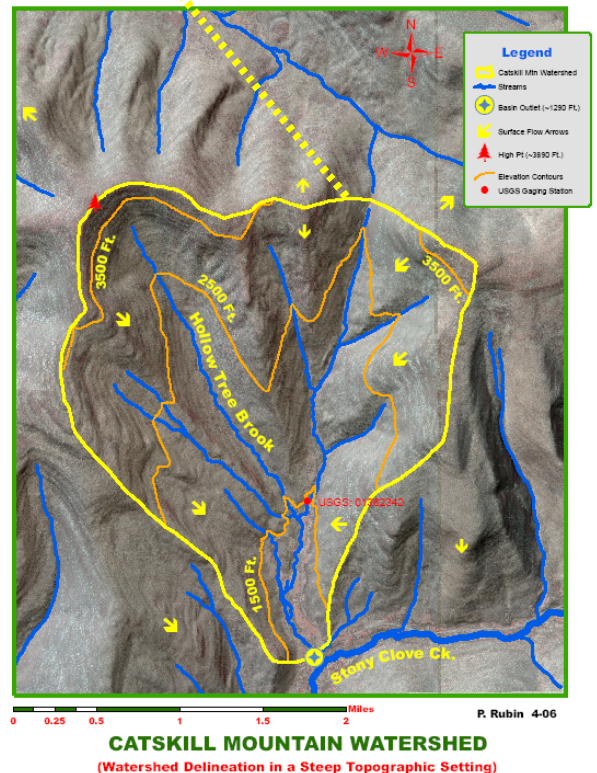


The Stony Clove Creek basin near Phoenicia, New York provides an excellent comparative example that educators may use with their classes when studying the Black Creek and other watersheds. The U.S. Geological Survey actively maintains two stream gaging stations on the Stony Clove that operate dynamically in response to significant rainfall and snowmelt events. These two Stony Clove basins are geologically and topographically different from the Black Creek, but are of a similar size and are also not influenced by man-made diversions, dams, and massive water withdrawals. The larger Stony Clove Creek basin (31.5 mi.²) is USGS number 01362380 and the smaller upstream Hollow Tree Brook basin (1.95 mi.²) is USGS station number 01362342. Daily and annual Stony Clove Creek data may be reviewed at the USGS web site: <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ny/nwis/current/?type=flow> where both data and stream hydrographs are available.

Students may, for regional rain and snowmelt events, compare Black Creek stream stage elevations with the rise and fall of Stony Clove Creek water levels and discharge to learn of the dynamic nature of streams. The Rail Trail watershed to where you are standing is some 15.8 mi.², as compared to the whole of the Black Creek watershed that is 34 mi.² in areal extent. Crude flow measurements here on 1/18/06 indicate that the approximate flow or discharge at a staff plate reading of 2.69 feet is on the order of 73,000 gallons per minute (gpm) or 164 cubic feet per minute (cfs). Similarly, a staff plate reading here of 2.18 feet on 1/22/06 indicates a crudely measured flow of about 40,000 gpm or 89 cfs.



Stony Clove Creek Watersheds Provide Two Small Watersheds for Comparison with the Black Creek Rail Trail Watershed