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| <b>Presenter</b> | Todd Miller<br>Canaan Valley Institute   |
| <b>Type</b>      | oral presentation  |
| <b>Category</b>  | <b>Innovative Watershed and Stream Restoration Approaches/Methods</b>  |
| <b>Title</b>     | <i>Prioritizing Streams for Brook Trout Restoration and Remediation of Acid Mine Drainage in the Casselman River Watershed of Maryland: Maximizing Benefits While Minimizing Costs.</i>  |
| <b>Abstract</b>  | <p>In 2007, the Youghiogheny River Watershed Association contracted Canaan Valley Institute (CVI) to work with MD Department of Environment-Bureau of Mines (MDE) and MD Department of Natural Resources-Inland Fisheries (DNR) to prioritize among sub-watersheds and also among project sites for acid mine drainage (AMD) and brook trout restoration in the Casselman River Watershed. Funding was provided by the Chesapeake Bay Trust. CVI created a Geographic Information System (GIS) using AMD data from MDE as well as brook trout and habitat data from DNR. Using an excel-based restoration template and the GIS, CVI first created a sub-watershed prioritization. Based on discussions with MDE and DNR, it was determined that individual streams would provide a more appropriate scale for prioritization. And to avoid potential difficulties in dealing with multiple, private landowners, project partners decided to focus on streams within the Savage River State Forest. With long-term budgetary constraints in mind, partners also decided to focus on potential project sites that were easily accessible for depositing limestone fines, building limestone leach beds, or other low-cost, low-maintenance AMD remediation systems. Using the GIS, project partners then identified, visited and ranked potential remediation and restoration sites. MDE has incorporated these results into a Watershed-Based Plan and plans to begin implementation in 2009.</p> |