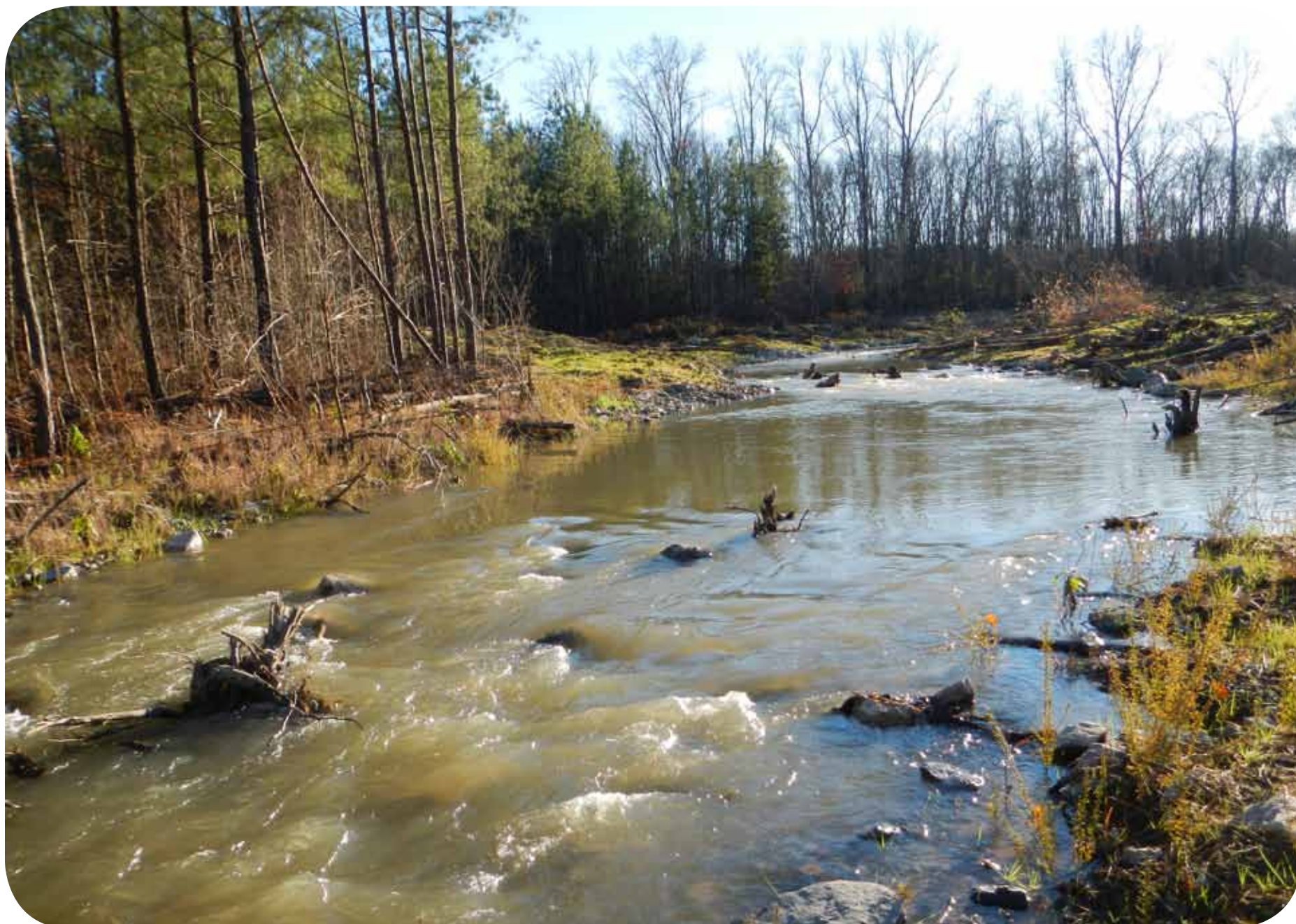


HATCHERY CREEK

A stream designed for trout



Rainbow Trout



A HEALTHY STREAM

What creates a healthy stream? A clean watershed feeding it. Trees and plants along the banks to prevent erosion. Stable riffles. Nearby wetlands to filter surface water runoff. All contribute to the stream's ecosystem.

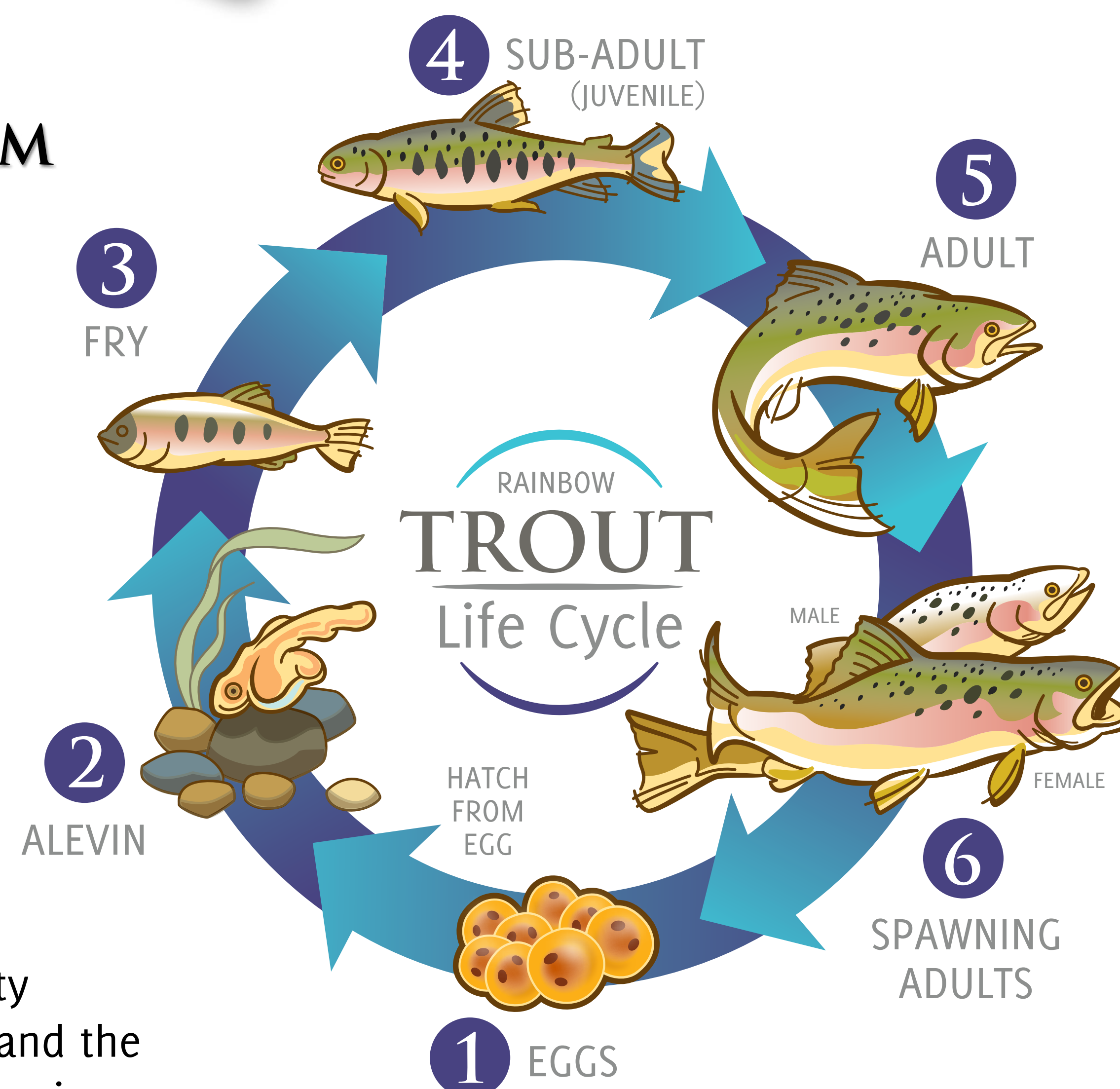


Engineers and biologists designed Hatchery Creek's course with pools, riffles and graveled areas to provide plenty of oxygenated water for fish – and the insects living on the bottom. Erosion can fill in the spaces between rocks where insects hide. Silt can cover the gravel that trout need to lay their eggs. Hatchery Creek is designed to prevent erosion and the problems it causes.

Insects such as mayflies, stoneflies and caddisflies are called macroinvertebrates. The healthiest streams have the greatest variety of them. Macroinvertebrates are an important part of the stream's food web. Anglers using fly fishing gear mimic these insects, such as the caddisfly (right), to catch trout.



Photo © Jason Remington



CUSTOMIZED FOR TROUT

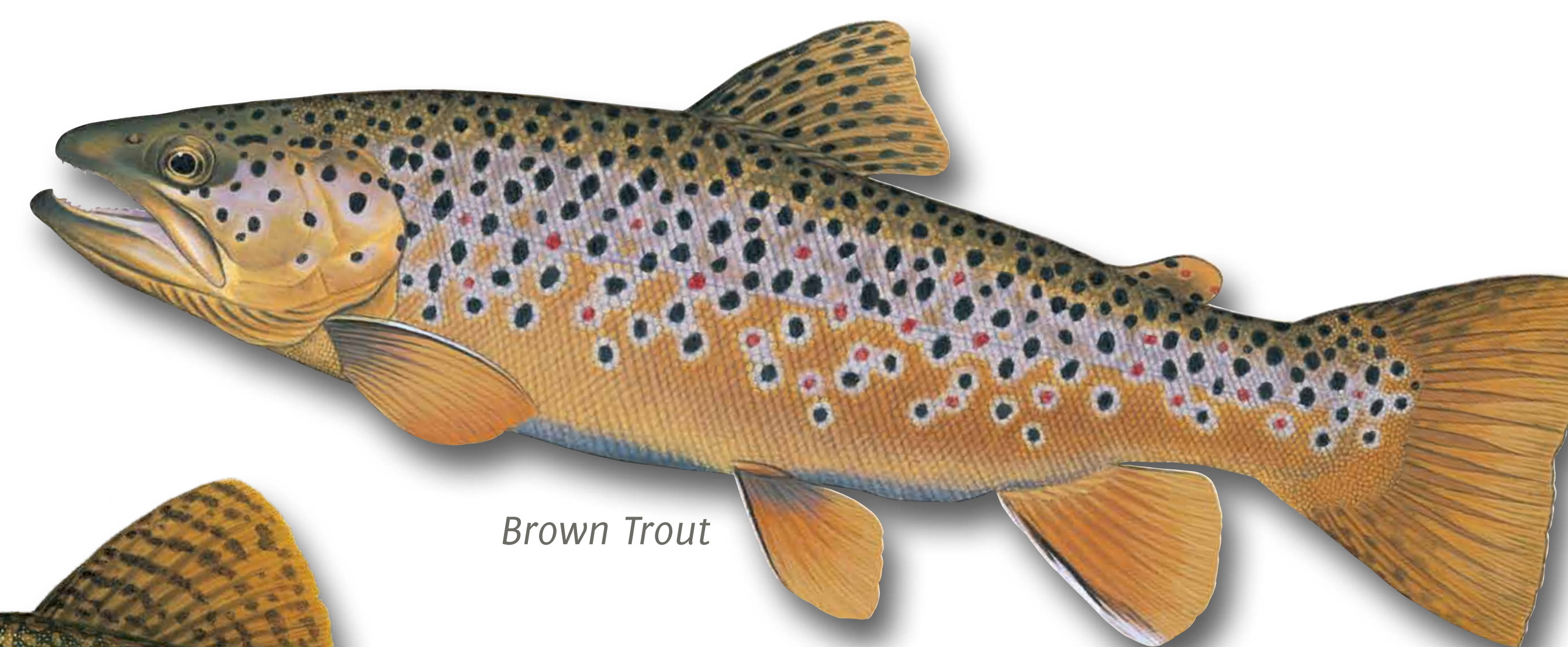
Streams must have the right mix of cold water, stable flows and clean, rocky bottoms for trout to spawn successfully. This combination is rare in Kentucky. Hatchery Creek is designed to provide the habitat diversity that trout need at all stages of their lives.



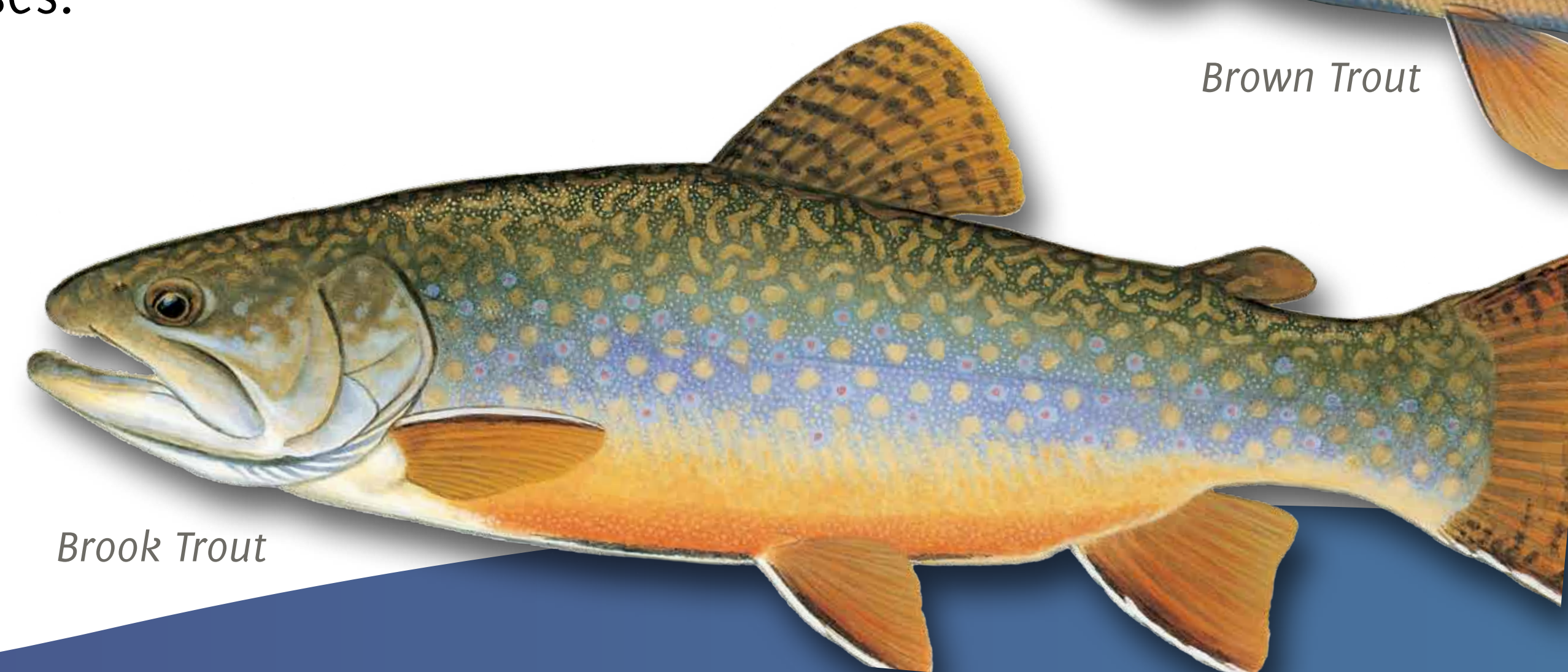
Trout need pea- to penny-sized pebbles to lay their eggs. Hatchery Creek includes gravel of this size in its glides and riffles. Brook, rainbow and brown trout all can use it for spawning.



Shallow shorelines and wetlands can serve as nurseries, offering young trout protection from predators. Hatchery Creek's boulder-strewn riffles and deep pools provide feeding, resting and refuge areas for larger fish.



Brown Trout



Brook Trout

CREEK FUN FACTS

The Hatchery Creek project required 50 million pounds of rock – that's more than 310,000 deer.

Creek banks include 6,000 newly-planted trees.

Each boulder used in the step pools weighed 4,000 pounds. It took 150 boulders to build this feature.

You could bury a football field 16 feet deep with the amount of dirt removed for the step pool section.

Contractors used 3.6 million pounds of gravel to build spawning areas – roughly the weight of 720 full-size pickup trucks.

About 18 million gallons of water flow through Hatchery Creek in 24 hours. That's enough water to fill 27 Olympic-sized swimming pools. The creek could fill one pool in just 55 minutes.

Trout migrated into Hatchery Creek from the Cumberland River just four days after the water began flowing.

Hatchery Creek is 6,060 feet long. That's about 1,000 fishing poles laid end to end.

Hatchery Creek drops six stories from its outflow to the Cumberland River.