
Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : The future of fly-fishing

Re: The future of fly-fishing

Author: : TroutBoomer

Date: : 2010/2/14 11:01:12

URL:

One answer to what to do about increased privatization and/or posting of our best trout streams, is to lease the water for the public...forever!

The Little Juniata River Association in conjunction with the PFBC is doing just that. We offer landowners on the "j" and any of its tribs, a one time payment for granting a Public Fishing Lease. We have applied for and received funds from the fine pools gathered by DEP and PFBC. We have also received a matching grant from the state for a total of \$200,000 for this purpose. It has been a lengthy process but we finally received approval from PFBC at their January meeting for our first of many Public Fishing Easements, on the "j"! In this case, the landowner has agreed to permanently grant the public great access to over 1000 feet of stream bank below the Green Hills Camp. We are also in negotiations with 4 other landowners.

We believe this is one answer... i.e. compete with the private interests by paying the stream bank owners just compensation for permanent public access. The PFBC intends to step and repeat this program throughout the commonwealth. It is patterned after the Erie Steelhead program but does not rely on a special stamp as it does. When the initial money is used up, as it will shurely be, the LJRA will seek other funds, including contributions from fishers and equipment manufacturers, to extend this program throughout the upper Juniata drainage.

Maybe other non-profit groups will do the same? If you are aware of any "j" bank owner who may be interested, or you are a streambank owner in the upper Juniata, or you just want to know more about this program, contact us at bjuniata@verizon.net.

Bill Anderson
LJRA President