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Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : could we, would we and should we?

Re: could we, would we and should we?

Author: : TimMurphy

Date: : 2006/12/2 11:37:51

URL:

Dear afishinado,

Check out the Doc Fritchey Trout Unlimited website for their success story with a limestone diversion well on Rausch Creek which is a tributary of Stony Creek here in Dauphin County.

<http://www.dftu.org/>

In the summer of 2005 I was involved renting equipment to a contractor who was putting in a huge limestone diversion system at the mine portal source of Catawissa Creek on the Luzerne/Schuylkill county border. If you are unfamiliar with Catawissa Creek it is one of the most beautiful streams in the State but unfortunately it's headwaters are horribly polluted by AMD. Cold clear and sterile water abounds, and hopefully this limestone system will mitigate the acid drainage and allow the stream to become a viable trout fishery.

Likewise it was recently announced that a similar limestone diversion system will be placed on Bear Creek which is a cold water tributary of Wiconisco Creek here in Dauphin county. It too flows full and clear with water draining from long abandoned underground coal mines. There is no shortage of water and again the ultimate goal is return the stream to being a trout fishery.

Both of the systems I mentioned in the second and third paragraphs are very much like the system on Rausch Creek only on a much larger scale. No doubt the hard work by the TU members and the demonstrated success of their project has made limestone treatment a valuable option in restoring acid mine drainage impacted waters.

Regards,

Tim Murphy 