

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Stocked vs. Wild

Re: Stocked vs. Wild

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Quote:

IMO, a better and more equitable way to fund the PFBC would be to add a small sales tax (1%) on all fishing and boating equipment, similar to the Pittman-Robertson act for hunting. I would be happy to spend a dollar for every \$100 of fishing equipment I purchase, if it were spent to enhance wild trout or lease/purchase public fishing areas.

There already is such a tax on fishing tackle. I hope someone can give the full details. But my understanding is that is a federal tax of 10 percent applied at the wholesale level.

The PFBC used some of this federal money for the Spring Creek lands purchases, I believe. And I think they get some to help support their stream assessment work. And I think some goes to hatcheries and boat ramps etc.

But I wish someone would do a study of these monies and how they have been used over the last 20 years or so. It must be a fair amount of money.

A good percentage of this money each year should be used to purchase land along streams for both access and conservation (riparian buffer) purposes.

The Spring Creek land purchases were good, but that was a one shot deal. Their last major purchase of that type was on Penns Creek way back in the 1960s. And there have been no such major "stream real estate" purchases since the Spring Creek properties.