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Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Cold Water Streams vs Warm Water Streams

Re: Cold Water Streams vs Warm Water Streams

Author: : Maurice

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URL:

Under the chapter 93 of the PA Bulletin there is a classification of stream designations of protection ranging from:

WWF = warm water fishes

TSF = trout stocked fishery

CWF = Cold water fishes

HQ-CWF = High Quality Cold Water Fishes

EV-CWF = Exceptional Value Cold Water Fishes

So basically you have streams capable of supporting warm water species and you have streams capable of supporting cold water species of fish and other organisms.

TSF is really a WWF that stays cold enough in the spring to provide a recreational fishery for trout.

Each of the classifications under CWF are a notch better than the previous and warrant increased protection from environmental impacts of industry.

Trout are a cold water species and if present during warm months of the year can elevate the stream status and subsequent protections. Trout reproduction and biomass levels of trout populations elevate the status even greater to HQ or EV CWF.

Once the PF&BC surveys or local group or municipality recognizes these features of a stream, they petition the Environmental Quality Board (EQB), a leg of the DEP, who evaluates the request to elevate the status of a said stream and makes a determination usually based on the scientific data found by the PF&BC in addition to the evaluations and public comment during the review process.