

Subject: : Warm Water & Salt Water Fly-Fishing

Topic: : Muskies!?!

Re: Muskies!?!

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I grew up in the heart of that portion of PA that has both naturally occurring muskellunge populations as well as the tigers that the Commission works with. This was back when natural reproduction of the indigenous muskies was sufficient to support a modest fishery, if not pretty good at times.

In all the natural lakes we fished, which included but were not limited to: LeBoeuf, Edinboro, Canadohta, Sugar, Conneaut, Presque Isle Bay and several others, I've never heard of either panfish or bass populations being suppressed by muskie predation.

The reason I say natural lakes is that, if I remember correctly, in their natural range, muskies occur at pretty low density. Maybe low enough that despite their large size and equally large appetite, their presence may not matter all that much in this way.

But I have no idea how many fry/fingerling the Commission plants when it wants to establish a tiger muskie pop. in an impoundment.

If it's a lot and survival is good, maybe that would be different in terms of predation impact on other species.

But even this doesn't quite ring right to me...

All I know for sure is that I've never heard of such a thing with Muskies at any rate.