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Subject: : Warm Water & Salt Water Fly-Fishing

Topic: : Pennsylvania State Record Muskellunge - 1924

Re: Pennsylvania State Record Muskellunge - 1924

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URL:

I remember when the Ken Obrien 65lb fish was caught. This was in Georgian Bay sometime in the 1980s. It was a big story and I remember it being on the cover of one of the well known outdoor magazines at the time. Back then, the world record was still thought to have been the Art Lawton 69lb fish (later disqualified). There are certainly a good number of muskie historians who feel the Obrien fish is the true world record and larger than the grainy fish in the black and white photos from the 1940s-60s. Compare the pics posted above. What do you think? 😊

Whatever the case, looking at these old photos is an inspiration to muskie hunters.

I agree that the biggest fish are in deep water. Rivers like the St Lawrence that have this deep water produce monster fish but most of Pa's flowing water is shallow and great for producing fish in the 40" range, but to grow fish in the mid 50" range that are heavy usually takes depth. Nevertheless, there are exceptions and they can reach this size in PA rivers as Wagner's fish proves. Also back in the mid 80s there were a string of giant muskies in the mid 50" range that came from French Creek including a 57" if I remember correctly.... so it is possible. However, if we get a new muskie record here in PA I'd bet on Kinzua.

Wow.

Kudos to the PFBC for finally raising the size limit to 40" (personally, I'd rather see it even higher) - this was long overdue. Some of us nagged the PFBC for years with letters and petitions to do this and they finally came around. I believe that the old 2 fish 30" limit resulted in too many small muskies getting whacked by bass fishermen. I think once a muskie gets to 40" they are much less likely to get caught and killed by casual fishermen. I'd like to believe that the new 40" reg will really help improve the number of good sized fish in our state's rivers.