
Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Big Springs Need help

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Just received this the other day. If you love Big Springs then you need to act now.

" BIG SPRING CONTROVERSY

In September of 2010 a habitat improvement project somewhat over 2,000 feet long was completed on a stretch of Big Spring Creek, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Partners in the project were the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, Big Spring Watershed Association, and Cumberland Valley Chapter, Trout Unlimited. Stated and agreed upon goal of Partners was to enhance the existing wild trout fishery consisting primarily of brook and rainbow trout, with an attempt to favor brook trout. By most standards the project is considered to be hugely successful, brook trout numbers in the project reach having more than doubled in only eleven months.

Now a very small but vocal group wants to have all stream-bred rainbow trout in Big Spring removed in favor of a brook trout population that is quite likely not even the pure native strain. New fishery management options have been forwarded to the Executive Director, PF&BC, who is reportedly seriously considering them. There is but a very short time to make your feelings on management of Big Spring known! Write to Mr. John Arway, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission 1601 Elmerton Ave. P.O. Box 67000 Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000. E-mail Mr. Arway at jarway@pa.gov."