

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Big Springs Need help

Re: Big Springs Need help

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URL:

We should be able to give our opinions about the future management of this stream without resorting to personal attacks.

I sent my views to the PFBC. For what it's worth:

I think they should manage the upper end for brook trout. Whether that means from Nealy Rd up, or some shorter distance, I don't know.

I think they should put in a barrier. It shouldn't be so difficult to design a barrier that works. And if they come up with a good design, it would be a contribution to fisheries management.

Even if a few fish get past it, they could electrofish it once every year or two and remove the non-brookies. It's not necessary to have zero non-brookies, just to keep their numbers low, so the brookies can thrive.

And I recommended that they extend wild trout management (no stocking, no kill or low kill) further downstream. It's a limestone spring creek. Comparing it with other PA limestone spring creeks makes it evident that it should be able to support a good wild trout population for miles downstream. With the right management I think it would.

Below the barrier, the fishery could be managed for whatever wild trout do best, which would probably end up being a mix of rainbows and browns.

So, you'd have the brookie population in the upper end, and big rainbows and browns further down.