

Subject: : Fly Fishing Locations

Topic: : Spring Creek Allegheny NF Fishing Info

Re: Spring Creek Allegheny NF Fishing Info

Author: : troutbert

Date: : 2013/2/15 12:51:07

URL:

Quote:

salmonoid wrote:

Quote:

bearfisherman wrote:

The Hilton is one of those places that everyone should experience at least once.

Spring has gone downhill in the last decade or so. It used to be one of my favorites creeks since our camp is very close, but the fishing has been very poor. It has an acid problem and fish just don't seem to hold very well, as is true of most of the streams in that area. It used to hold a ton of wild brownies from the entire length, but those have seemingly disappeared in the last few years.

I would love to see this creek taken off the stocking list entirely, and a fingerling stocking program started here. Fish that grow up in the stream might stay a little longer - might be an interesting experiment for streams that have an acid problem.

I see many posts that such and such a stream has an acid problem. Have you taken a pH reading from the stream, or read literature that indicates this is the case? I'm not saying it doesn't have an acid problem - just that I see this issue cited a lot with X stream and wonder what the factual basis is for it. My experience with ANF streams over the past decade (but mostly farther north than Spring Creek) parallels yours, in that I've seen a decline in the fisheries there. I can't draw a 100% linkage to the explosion of the oil and gas industry there but the amount of roads that now honeycomb the hillsides, the increase in well sites, and the huge sediment loads in otherwise high quality, cold water tribs leads me to believe that the industry has at least some part to do with the decline. And these were my observations pre-Marcellus.

This website has water quality data from Spring Creek and a few other area streams.

<http://ironfurnacetu.net/>

It gives the Spring Creek pH as 6.85. That's not bad.

Also, there are stream stretches in the headwaters that hold wild brown trout. So it's unlikely that stretches downstream from there are "acid rain victims."