

Subject: : Fly Fishing Locations

Topic: : Spring Creek Allegheny NF Fishing Info

Re: Spring Creek Allegheny NF Fishing Info

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URL:

That area of the state is funny like that. There's no signifant AMD or anything of that nature. But some streams are just bad, despite consistently cold water and what appears to my untrained eye to be excellent habitat. And some of these, once fish are stocked, have very low residency, while other one's they stay in. And it's common for streams to have fish in their headwaters, down to a point of a "dead" tributary. Definitely leads me towards water chemistry questions.

And it's definitely location specific. There lots of systems where the streams which flow from one direction are pretty bad, but the ones coming from another are generally good. I've gone as far as collecting some geologic maps and trying to correlate it to certain features/surface layers. And there's enough there that I think there's something to it. I think it's geologic, not point pollution. But I need to do more work, I certainly have no proof or smoking gun. Need to get more specific with it and maybe run some stats or something.

And when I say geologic, that doesn't mean man doesn't play a part. Acid rain deposition, for instance, is something that would be pretty similar over a large area, and other pollutants could be the same. But perhaps something natural and more location specific could make a stream more or less resistant.

And with acid rain, you're not gonna learn much by taking pH measurements at random times. It's not a constant measurement. It's seasonal, and even within a season, pretty inconsistent with spikes and so forth. A high water, snowmelt event in the spring will likely give you the most acidic conditions. Or better yet, take alkalinity, not pH. Would be a decent measure of how wildly the pH will swing with a runoff event.