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Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : good article on brookie restoration (w/ image of WVA brookie, big as a largemouth)

Re: good article on brookie restoration (w/ image of WVA brookie, big as a largemouth)

Author: : Fishidiot

Date: : 2013/2/21 11:25:26

URL:

Quote:

troutbert wrote:

I think the really large brookies were caught in streams in remote places, before the streams were stocked.

It's very likely the really large brookies were gone even long before the streams were stocked. Probably as soon as there was much access or a few settlers in the area, the really large brookies disappeared.

In PA, there was a really large logging boom in the 1880s, when logging locomotives became available and logging railroads were extended all out through the big woods.

My guess is that there were still some large brookies being caught in NC PA into the 1880s, while there was still some remote places left, but that was the era when the big woods was getting removed at a rapid rate, so that's probably around the time when the era of the really big brookies was also coming to an end.

Agreed.

It's worth remembering that, by about 1900 as Troutbert points out, much of the forest was gone and there had been a generation of anglers pounding the streams and stocking was prevalent, all made possible by railroads. Although I'd like to believe this is a wild fish and that they were still prevalent in this size a century ago.... there's a good chance it's just a big stockie much like those one can see nowadays in any small town PA newspaper early in the trout season.