

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Who owns the trout?

Re: Who owns the trout?

Author: : SpottedCharr

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URL:

Well, just in case anyone is still listening, I'll continue.

The state's track record...the state partnered with the loggers to turn trees into money. When they had finished creating the "Pennsylvania desert" they bought the land back from the loggers with money extorted from the people, er...I mean taxes collected from the residents. Who benefited? The **LOGGERS!** You and I didn't benefit until the fires went out and the trees grew back, which would have happened no matter who "owned" the land. And by the way, did the state remember to secure the mineral rights when they bought the land "for us"?

To appease the little people, they began stocking our streams with "invasive species". They failed massively to protect our native charr in the habitat where they best thrived. With their annual stocking of the streams, they created artificial fisheries and a host of childlike fisherman who find sport in capturing starved, farmed imitations of nature. How can we encourage conservation when large trout magically appear in degraded streams every spring? How can small wild trout compete with big, plentiful, government trout for the affection of the masses?

The state creates corporations. They grant "limited liability" so investors don't fear reprisal for the crimes of the corporation. The state exists for the benefit of the few, the moneyed class. That's why the trout weren't and aren't protected from the ravages of big mining, big logging, big farming, big highways, mass roads, mass access and so on.

Today we have relative stability in our wild fisheries, but this has more to do with nature than the artificial "state". But I feel little security with the state as protector of wild trout. Indeed it could all be swept away far more quickly than in the past because of the more massive commercial infrastructure in place today.

I certainly feel no security with the state as protector of private rights. Indeed we have no "right to fish" in the eyes of the state. (Rights can't be taxed or regulated.) And sooner or later some who "love trout" more than we do, will persuade the public that "catch and release" is cruel and can no longer be tolerated in a progressive society. Then we may all come to regret our trust in this artifice we call "The Commonwealth"