

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : why stock over wild trout

Re: why stock over wild trout

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URL:

The Bellefonte and Oswayo hatcheries will raise fish for next year's trout season (2014) then they will close.

So, the big reductions in number of stocked trout will come in the 2015 season. So, the decisions about re-allocations will have to be made before that time.

I think the PFBC biologists and managers and most of the commissioners would be happy to move a lot of hatchery fish away from wild trout streams to stock in non-wild trout streams, such as Loyalsock, Lycoming, Pine, Kettle, First Fork, Driftwood Br, Oil Creek, as well as stockie dependent streams closer to the big cities.

And maybe even the Bennett Branch. There has been a lot of progress in the acid mine drainage cleanup, and it may now be suitable for stocking. It's big water and runs a long way through scenic country.

The main roadblock will be the legislators. If we want to see progress, I think that at the right time, we should organize and try to get everyone who agrees with moving more of the hatchery trout away from the wild trout streams to the other streams, to express their views, by contacting their legislators.

That's the way things work. In the past the wild trout advocates have mainly contacted the PFBC.

While those supporting continuation of stocking over native brookies and wild browns have had a lot of influence over fishery decisions by contacting their legislators.

Although the PFBC is supposedly an "independent" agency, in reality it isn't. The legislators are the "deciders." We've seen this in practice numerous times.