Subject: : Beginner Forum
Topic: : Question abt Stocking Locations
Re: Question abt Stocking Locations
Author: : Fishidiot
Date: : 2013/3/4 22:40:44
URL:

Quote:

> Stagger_Lee wrote:
> When stocked how far do they travel the 1st week, (up and down) and do they travel further as they get acclimated to their new environment.

Most stocked trout in most PA streams will stick close to where they're stocked for some time afterwards (they might move 30 feet into the next riffle or something, but usually not far).

This is why it is a good thing when a stream is "float stocked" - that is to say, the fish are spread over a length of stream by pulling floating fish baskets downstream and unloading fish incrementally so that they're dispersed naturally like a wild population. The folks doing the float stocking (usually TU or club volunteers) will usually put a lot of fish in popular fishing spots or bridge pools but also further from the road in good cover. Unfortunately, the PFBC stocking lists usually don't indicate whether a section is float stocked. Oftentimes, they just dump hundreds of fish right at the bridge access with maybe some hand carried downstream a short distance in buckets.

With respect to movement, in some streams - for some reason, often unknown - trout will not stay but will migrate downstream. These streams will usually be stocked right before season so the fish can be caught before they migrate. Even in streams where the fish stay where they were stocked (which is most streams) there's always a few fish that head downstream anyway and don't stop for miles until they are in the Susquehanna or Delaware Rivers. I catch some stocked trout every spring in the big bass rivers and this is often many miles from the nearest stocked tributary.