Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum
Topic: : why stock over wild trout
Re: why stock over wild trout
Author: : afishinado
Date: : 2013/3/8 7:24:27
URL:

Quote:

pcray1231 wrote:
Quote:

destroying most of the habitat that had held larger fish. It slid to a high Class C. I still would not stock it.

Would be interested in the latest surveys. I never knew what "class" that stream was, but I like it, and IMo it has good numbers and some with size. Only been fishing it for 4 or 5 years, though, so I don't know what it all went through before that.

Even aside from the wild trout thing, **I would favor removing streams from the list in preference to reduced numbers per stream. Especially for the bigger waters like Pine, Oil, Yellow Breeches, Kettle, 1st Fork, etc. etc. IMO those make the backbone of the stocked trout fishery. They have seen considerably reduced numbers over the years. And the reduced numbers have had an effect on the fishing. These streams can take a large number of anglers with plenty of elbow room. And the fish spread out allowing this. It's an enjoyable experience for all. But the fishing is very much dependent on having a lot of fish.**

And then you drive over a little 10 foot wide stream which gets stocked at the bridge hole, and fish are stacked like cordwood in that pool and the one below it. In those two pools are 10 guys fighting for position to snag em, and at any given time, 3 of them are covering 80 fish while the remainder are looking for a straggler or two, and basically waiting in line to get at the "hotspot". And you just have to ask yourself "why" is this encouraged? Would it make a difference if there were 30 in that pool instead of 80? And if you just walk a quarter mile from the bridge it's a fair wild fishery in much more pleasant surroundings.

Now, when you do actual numbers, even if they're stacked in that bridge hole, ultimately, there aren't many fish there, and their addition would be a drop in the bucket on the big streams. But I think this is where a lot of people are coming from. We see places that are stocked which encourage the worst behavior, and frankly just don't make any sense to stock. And then we see declining stocking numbers on the streams that do make sense.

~~Part of it is the long held impression of PFBC policy that an "unharvested fish is a wasted fish". I very~~ much disagree with that kind of a view. All it does is concentrate the fish in places where it's easy to surround them. i.e. it encourages "combat fishing", which gets old real quick. And may have a lot to do with declining license sales. **To me the goal should be to spread the fish and the anglers out and create more acres of decent trout fishing water. You are trying to add additional sporting opportunities, not replace the grocery stores.**

Very good point (above) by Pcray.