

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Brook Trout Management Study in Western Maryland

Re: Brook Trout Management Study in Western Maryland

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URL:

Interesting that WBTEP was initiated at least in part over angler concerns that fisherman cropping was reducing the size of brookies in small freestone streams... (Maurice's comments above, and Mike on this thread: WBTEP was at least in part a response to "an angler-perceived problem with harvest.")

Still, PFBC surveys like these, with 600 brookies, none > 9", found in 3 small freestone streams with no other fish present...

http://fishandboat.com/images/fisheri...6/5x10_23lehigh_tribs.htm

suggest to me that the brookies are small because the streams are so infertile. There isn't enough in-water bug life to support dace or other bait fish with mouths too small for terrestrials. Without aquatic bugs or baitfish, the brookies survive on inconstent supply of terrestrials, so they will be small, even without fish cropping.

Don't worry, go dry-fly fishing??