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Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Fishing Creek at Tylersville Hatchery

Re: Fishing Creek at Tylersville Hatchery

Author: : Chooch

Date: : 2013/3/12 22:55:24

URL:

Quote:

Heritage-Angler wrote:

Contacting the PFBC about what is happening here is a bit like having the fox guard the henhouse.

I'd suggest contacting DEP and DCNR about this - and take pictures to back up the report. Maybe a call to the local newspaper would call attention to it too.

The more the public is made aware of any potential problem, the greater the likelihood something will get done about it.

Twenty years might be a stretch, but close. I think Fishing Creek started to go downhill around '96 or '97. I think it was '95 when the upper hatchery(Tylersville) flooded. It was the same year the half of the walking bridge in Harrisburg got wiped out. There was some damage and repairs needed at the hatchery. Prior to '95 the hatchery was pulling 50% of the water from the spring head and diverting it into the hatchery. That meant 50% of the pure spring water went directly into the stream. While repairing the hatchery they decided to pull 100% of the spring water into the hatchery which I assume was to boost production. So, when you decrease pure, cold, clean water going into the stream to zero and add more waste from increase trout production you get the Fishing Creek of today. Prior to the flood Fishing Creek rivaled Spring Creek in trout quantity. It far surpassed it in hatches. In essence, it was the perfect stream. The hatches were reliable and heavy and the fish fed freely on them. Nymphing was unbelievably productive. Just a year or two after the flood I started to notice a change. The first thing was the slimy green algae in the summer that made nymphing nearly impossible. Then the hatches started to decrease. The first I noticed was the summer blue quills. I spent one fourth of July with my brother catching beautiful fat wild trout all afternoon as the quills popped off. They migrate to the banks to hatch and the trout would line up there picking them off. It was almost criminal the number of fish we caught. They are almost nonexistent now and the remaining population get off the water with ease. I used to fish there all the time and now I go maybe once or twice a year just to see if things have improved. They haven't. The sad thing is it could so easily be fixed.