
Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : NO MORE STOCKING!!!!

Re: NO MORE STOCKING!!!!

Author: : The_Sasquatch

Date: : 2013/4/4 8:27:45

URL:

Mine went:lakes-->rivers and streams for bass, carp, catties, etc.---->stockies in the spring (tolerated), rivers and streams for smallies in the summer--->introduce fly fishing, stockies in the spring, smallies on rivers in the summer, stockies in the summer on vacation (Kettle, Pine)--->introduced to native and wild trout-game over. Now its wild trout year round, pre-spawn smallies and smallies in the summer, sometimes carp just for fun! I love fly fishing. I really don't care anymore what I'm targeting. The summer is my favorite time because the bassing is good and the trout is good. Some days my moods are different and I can do whatever I want!

All this to say that just because stocked trout wouldn't be in the picture doesn't mean you can't teach kids about fishing and get them into the sport. I was 12 years old before I caught my first trout, but I was 2 or 3 when I first picked up a fishing rod (Zebco 33, I still have it!)

Jack's right. The commission exists, not only for conservation, but also for recreation. Recreation shouldn't come at the expense of conservation though, and I think that's where some of us get a little squirmish with stocking over wild populations. It's certainly a tricky balance. The stream I keep thinking of here in Lancaster is our most popular ATW. It's strong w/ natives, a few wild browns, but it gets pounded for a few weeks in April. It's bigger water and although it lacks structure, it has great hatches, an ample supply of bait fish, it's spring fed up at the head waters, and I can't help but wonder how big some of those natives and wilds could get if they survive the harvesting. The PFBC has stopped stocking browns now, based on the numbers of natives that have turned up in recent surveys (I think that's what Mike said, anyway), so now its stocked w/ bows. That at least shows that the commission is considering the native population there, but they also have to deal w/ the fact that its such a popular ATW. I can see how its a tricky balancing act.