

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : NO MORE STOCKING!!!!

Re: NO MORE STOCKING!!!!

Author: : Fishidiot

Date: : 2013/4/5 8:18:26

URL:

Quote:

Peterm wrote:

Wouldn't more attention to water quality naturally generate better habitat for the fish thereby giving us more and a better quality fisherie???? I just think if the focus was more on habitat it would make for a better day

Frequently not.

Stream and habitat improvement projects have their place (I'm involved in many of them) but the fact of the matter is that the capability of a stream to hold wild trout is often a product of temperature rather than cover, bank stability, sediment control etc. Here in my neck of the woods in Adams County, we have a bunch of stocked trout streams and almost all of them don't hold fish after mid summer. These are tree covered, shaded streams that simply just get too warm. In fact, my local fly fishing only stream has had more improvement work than any other stream I'm familiar with - I have personally pounded a lot of rebar there - but in spite of all this work this section will never hold wild trout because it gets over 80 degrees in summer with no thermal refuge. All the habitat work will never get wild trout if a stream just simply gets too warm.

I realize that you're making the assumption that we're talking about habitat work on streams with good quality cold water. However, since your thread is caps and exclamation points one tends to assume you mean to stop all stocking. It's worth remembering that many of our state's stocked stream sections have very few, if any, wild trout due to warm water. Removing them from the stocking list would simply result in no trout fishing on these streams and bigger crowds elsewhere.