

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Large (Dead) Brookies

Re: Large (Dead) Brookies

Author: : troutbert

Date: : 2013/4/29 17:00:54

URL:

Even without knowing the stream, I think that its very unlikely that anyone caught a "few" native brook trout over 12 inches in the same day in that region.

They were probably stocked brook trout. Many of the trout stocked by the coop hatcheries look far better than the typical PFBC hatchery trout.

There are differences in appearance between those coop stocked brookies and native brookies, but those differences are subtle, and the great majority of fishermen wouldn't notice.

One clue: Catching a surprisingly large number of surprisingly large brook trout should put you on alert.

Also, the names of the streams stocked by the coop hatcheries are not published. The regs booklet shows only streams stocked by the PFBC. Any stream accessible by road in "Big Woods Country" has a pretty good chance of having some fish put in by the coop hatcheries. And I've seen hatchery trout in streams not near any roads, also, as in at least 1 1/2 miles from the nearest forest road. They must have been brought in by ATVs.

Native brook trout 12 inches and over exist in PA, but they are quite rare.

Regarding the larger question of whether native brookies are cropped hard, significantly affecting the populations, the answer is yes.