

Subject: : Fly Fishing Locations

Topic: : Tully Water Temp

Re: Tully Water Temp

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URL:

Pcray. You are largely spot on with this. It is splitting hairs, but your last paragraph, and the topic therein, is something I have been watching fairly closely for over thirty years. I usually tell people that BM runs out of cold water between July 22 and July 28. If I recall correctly, it was around Aug 2 or so last year, which surprised me. This has been pretty consistent over the years except when a major storm forced BM to dump a lot of water earlier in the summer. In contrast, the cold water has lasted longer when we have had enough summer rain during June or early July to nearly completely replace the lake's volume of water with "new" water. I have not noticed that max summer temps have been getting higher over time, but they may be as you say. I have not paid as much attention to that. Years ago the summer max would be about 76 degrees, but it may be higher now. By the way, water temps are taken by the gage sta. near the water authority. You are correct that water temps are probably warmer downstream and always have been except near the confluences of Plum and Cacoosing Cks. Worse now, however, is that the stream is wider and therefore shallower under the same flows when compared to years ago. As a result, fish habitat is worse too and fish are more vulnerable to avian predators. Time marches on.

Finally, to add to what you said above, the bottom releases are started when the 8 am water temp hits 68 degrees three mornings in a row. I set this up with the Army Corps Of Engineers Back in about 1982 or 1983 after we experimented with various tail race water temp trigger values and release schedules for a few summers. It was frustrating to see how warm we had to let the stream get to extend the cool water temps through only part of the summer and we would still run out of cold water in the reservoir.