

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : How often are trout caught & released

Re: How often are trout caught & released

Author: : sarce

Date: : 2013/6/23 23:10:07

URL:

As long as the fish are caught when the water is cold enough for them to recover properly, I don't think there is any effect.

My best example would be a large native brook trout I've caught twice. I first caught this fish in a limestone stream in early november. the limestoner does not have brookies, but a tributary a mile or two upstream from where I was has an excellent brookie population. When I caught this fish it had clearly spawned/laid eggs recently. I would guess right around the time a big flood hit the area. In its weakened state it got washed out of the tributary in the high water and a mile downstream to where I eventually caught it. After a quick picture I released the fish and it could barely hold in position against the current. I thought me catching the fish was going to be the final straw and there was no way the fish would survive the coming winter, if it even lasted another day. Then in March I caught the same fish, still in the limestoner and healthy as could be. Not only did it survive the winter, it grew nearly an inch in that time and it was an old fish to begin with.

I think they are tougher than we give them credit for, but as PatrickC said you have to respect their limitations in warm water.