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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : PFBC Quarterly Meeting

PFBC Quarterly Meeting

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Quick Summery:

Added to the list of wild trout streams 47 new waters in Adams, Cambria, Cameron, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Forest, Franklin, Huntingdon, Jefferson, Lycoming and Sullivan counties.

Added to the list of Class A wild trout streams 18 waters in Cambria, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Fayette, Tioga, Warren and Westmoreland counties.

Proposed a change to its policy statement on managing Class A wild trout populations which adds categories for mixed wild brook and rainbow trout fisheries and for mixed wild brown and rainbow trout fisheries. The proposal also adds a statement noting that no water will be removed from the Class A designation unless the causes leading to the reduction in the wild trout population have been clearly identified and the PFBC has determined that the water is beyond remediation to reestablish the Class A population. If adopted at a subsequent meeting, the change would go into effect once published in the PA Bulletin.

Adopted a final rulemaking establishing a harvest slot limit on Section 03 of Penns Creek, which stretches from the confluence with Elk Creek downstream seven miles to 650 yards downstream of Swift Run. Under the regulation, anglers can harvest two trout per day provided the trout are at least seven inches but less than 12 inches in length.

“Penns Creek provides a unique opportunity to evaluate a new special regulation on a productive limestone stream,” said Dave Miko, chief of the PFBC Division of Fisheries Management. “The new regulation will direct limited harvest to intermediate-sized fish while protecting larger fish in the population. The regulation strives to meet the biological objectives for the fishery as well as the preferences of anglers and landowners.”

The regulation will take effect Jan. 1, 2014, for a seven-year period ending Dec. 31, 2020. The regulation will apply from opening day of trout season through Labor Day, with catch and release for the remainder of the year. All tackle is permitted. During the seven-year period, the trout population will be monitored to determine the effectiveness of the regulation at meeting biological and social objectives for the Penns Creek fishery.