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Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Acid Rain and Un-surveyed streams

Re: Acid Rain and Un-surveyed streams

Author: : troutbert

Date: : 2013/8/19 9:21:40

URL:

Quote:

FarmerDave wrote:

It is pretty hard to ignore when the PH of a stream is CONSIDERABLY lower than the average PH of precipitation in the area.

I noticed that too. He says the pH of the rainfall in the area is about 5.0 and the ph of those streams is 4.7-4.8.

That is something that requires explanation.

I think he is simply wrong on his data about the pH of the rainfall.

<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputa ... acidrain/report/tab12.pdf>

According to the DEP info for 2005, the state mean was pH 4.46, and for Kane, the closest monitoring site to these streams, the pH was 4.4.

So the rainfall is coming down at around pH 4.4. Because the geology is very infertile, it gets just a little buffering, which brings the stream water up to pH 4.7-4.8.

On other acid precipitation affected streams in the state, pH 4.7 - 4.8 is not unusual. And this includes areas with no history of coal mining or natural gas production.