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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : big brown in a small freestone

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This past sunday my brother and i planned to fish a small brookie/brown stream but managed to forget our map book and ended up fishing the wrong stream by accident. we caught some stockies along with a few natives and wild browns before deciding to head over to one of our favorite freestoners. it is a decent sized brookie/brown stream(not stocked). we have fished it many times before and have caught some nice fish out of it, but there is one big hole that we had never seen a trout in before sunday. It's about 4 feet deep, has a huge dead tree laying overtop, lots of brush piled up in front of the tree, a run forced under the brush(basically a food funnel), and tons of additional cover. it has everything that a big brown needs to thrive. After fishing it, my brother went and stood on the log to try the upper end above the brush in front of the log, and the brown just mosied out from under all the cover into the lower part of the hole below the log. my brother looked like he just saw a ghost when he spotted it and i came over and got a really good look at an honest 20" brown(maybe bigger). i know the stream pretty well, and highly doubt it was a stockie. We have seen several wild browns in the 15-16" range in this stream, but this thing was colossal for such a small stream. I've been trying to think of the best way to get him/her, and came up with a couple options:

Wait for a good hatch of something big in spring(green of dark green drakes maybe) and try for him then, or go after a rain or at night and try a huge streamer with something like 0x tippet. either way i know he's gonna take me under the log and into the brush if i hook him, so im gonna have to really muscle him to keep that from happening.

Anybody have any other possible strategies you think could work?

Thanks, Evan