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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Class A stocking proposal by the PFBC

Re: Class A stocking proposal by the PFBC

Author: : afishinado

Date: : 2013/10/7 9:33:46

URL:

Quote:

pcray1231 wrote:

I personally would stop stocking them.

All of the above are "destination" streams, though on several, I assume the sections in question are outside of the "destination" area. What better opportunity to highlight wild trout fishing in PA than to have a stream reach the point where it no longer needs to be stocked? If the goal is to highlight wild trout fishing, and slowly chip away at the meat hunter philosophy, well, here's exhibit A.

Don't get me wrong, if they are listed class A and stocking ceased, I support keeping a close eye on the populations there, and setting up some sort of standard like "below class A for 2 consecutive seasons, then stocking resumes". The reverse should likewise be true while stocked (if reaches class A for 2 consecutive seasons, then stocking ceases). Takes some work. But they are heavily used, "destination" streams. You gotta do what's right for the fish and the people, so you can't let the fishery die under any circumstances.

I can't support stocking good wild trout waters. From either perspective. Either potentially harming a wild trout fishery or wasting good stockers where they aren't needed. Stocking numbers have been declining over the years on the true put and take fisheries, and we want to waste them on good streams?

Agreed. A lot of good points made by Pat.

Let's face it, stocking is becoming too expensive for the FBC to continue at the current levels. Hard decisions must be made as to where and how to cut back. Why not cut back on the streams that have a good population of fish without stocking?

A stream reaching the Class A status should be hailed by the PFBC and viewed by PA anglers as a great *achievement* that wild trout are thriving and a fishery has become self-sustaining!

There are thousands of miles of water that cannot sustain coldwater fish in PA. Like I wrote earlier, use the fish stocked in Class A's to stock streams that are deemed suitable to add to the stocking list and increase stocking numbers and/or frequency in some of the current ATWs. Fishing success and satisfaction would increase in those streams since we would have more fish in the streams and/or more miles of streams to fish.

We had some discussion of this earlier, but heck I would cease stocking Class B's and put them in the "Pcray program" where if they achieve Class A population status in (say) two years, they will remain unstocked. If they fail to achieve Class A status, stocking can be resumed. That would insure, when you put on your boots and string up your rod, every PA trout stream will either be stocked or have a decent population of wild trout.