Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum
Topic: : Class A stocking proposal by the PFBC
Re: Class A stocking proposal by the PFBC
Author: : Heritage-Angler
Date: : 2013/10/7 10:38:57
URL:

As much as we'd like to see these streams listed as Class A, and not be stocked, we have to be realistic about it.

Let's use the Little Lehigh as an example. It has had the biomass to EASILY be classified as Class A for heck, forever. So why isn't it designated as such?

Simple. If it was designated as such, and not stocked, the public uproar would be heard in Harrisburg with the naked ear. The Lehigh Valley is the third largest metropolitan area in PA, and it's growing by leaps and bounds. Take away two of the 4 major limestoners here (LL & Monocacy) from the stocking list, and the potential for lost license revenue becomes obvious.

In simpler terms, designating them as Class A and eliminating the stocking isn't going to happen. Period. Wishful thinking, but unrealistic.

However, designating them Class A, and making an exception to allow stocking DOES have some benefits to the streams.

1 - They'll be eligible for the higher water quality standards protection that Class A designation affords. The Little Lehigh could REALLY use that!

2 - Elimination of the extended/reduced harvest season after Labor Day of a Class A designation would protect the spawning fish.

So realistically, while allowing an exception to the Class A designation to allow stocking isn't perfect in a lot of our member's opinions, it's better than nothing, IMO.