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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: : Maurice

Date: : 2013/10/7 20:38:38

URL:

This is a "door opener" policy designed to Rationalize or Justify the current conundrum of the Commish stocking over Existing Class A streams. On its surface you may see it a rational to continue a common practice that is currently against the very rules they have in place. If enacted in Jan '14 not only these streams will be covered under the rulemaking. But future streams as well.

The F&BC has been on a surveying push and have been finding streams capable of reaching class A status while currently being stocked. I presume they find it precarious to designate them as Class A (which they want to do for the protections) when it will cause them to have to quit stocking them. I know of a few in my area that are being "held up" because if it goes A it will cause public outrage when the white trucks stop coming.

This "door opener" will if passed will find a rush of Class A's being added in 2014 that can continue to be stocked based on the language of the rulemaking.

This is where I think its going. And it will go through. The only restrictions will be those "Certain Criteria". This way they can just change stocking frequencies from preseason/inseason to just preseason. It will reduce inseason stockings currently taking place. So there is that. You will basically have the opening weekend slaughter and then a dieoff of pressure due to the lack of inseason stockings.

Here is the proposal again for those coming in late.

*Proposed a change to the stocking policy for Class A wild trout which would permit stocking to continue on certain Class A waters that meet specific conditions. Currently, stocking is prohibited on all Class A waters, which represent the best of the naturally reproducing trout fisheries. The PFBC has identified nine waters which meet Class A standards, but are currently stocked and receive heavy angler use.*

*The proposed policy amendment would allow stream sections which are designated as Class A after 2013 to remain eligible for fingerling stocking or preseason-only stocking of adult trout by the PFBC or cooperative nurseries as long as certain conditions are met. The stream section must have been stocked during the year immediately prior to its Class A designation, and angler use in the stream section must equal or exceed the 75th percentile, statewide, of angler use for the opening weekend of trout season as documented by PFBC staff.*

*The PFBC is soliciting public comment on the proposal for 90 days. If adopted, the amended statement of policy would go into effect on Jan. 1, 2015.*

Pay particular attention to the language in the second paragraph.

I find the language in the first paragraph to be a violation of the PA Code and should be addressed legally if

necessary to rectify the current violation of Pennsylvania law.