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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : PGC Maps - Remote Small Stream Wild Trout Fishing/Watershed Size

Re: PGC Maps - Remote Small Stream Wild Trout Fishing/Watershed Size

Author: : k-bob

Date: : 2013/11/14 9:12:16

URL:

OP mentions elevation. Makes big difference when trying to guess pool size on streams with small drainage areas, imho.

I fish very small brookie streams.

I look at the gradient of small streams over a half mile, and then look at the steepest 60ft gradient section within those half mile stretches. (Using a garmin 1:24k topo.)

I look at half miles because that's a fishing section I might try. I also look at the steepest 60ft fall in elevation because that might be a waterfall or tough bit of climbing.

I like steeper streams - up to a point.

For streams with small drainage areas, say 1-1.5 sq mi, 7% gradient over a half mile section seems to lead to small plunges, 5ft, with pools below. 9% over half a mile, and there may be a 5-10ft waterfall in there. 10 or 11% gradient seems to lead to some combination of plunges and waterfalls, maybe a waterfall of more than 10 ft. And some climbing.

Of course some streams with only 3% gradient per half mile have waterfalls, too. But most 3% streams don't have falls, while any stream I can think of with 9% or more grade/ half mi does have a waterfall and some bigger pools.

(15% gradient over a 60 ft drop is probably a waterfall.)

There are some very nice tiny brookie streams with 5-7% gradient per half mile, and only 1-2 square mile drainage areas.