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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: : pcray1231

Date: : 2013/11/14 9:20:57

URL:

Very very cool.

I have always estimated watershed size using maps. And yeah, for freestoners it's almost a perfect predictor of stream size. But I've always eyeballed it and never got down to brass tacks like this. One thing it misses is that streams sometimes seem smaller than they actually are, especially in rock rubble where a good % of the flow is underground. But you could say it's a better estimate of size, as it shows you what the flow really is rather than just what it looks like at a glance. i.e. if it's a decent sized stream but most of it is underground, then there's likely to be pools and such where it ISN'T underground.

It probably works very well for limestoners too, though it would be much more difficult to determine what areas are in what watershed, as most of the flow is subsurface. You have a number of situations where the surface water flows one way and the groundwater another, as well.

Gradient, I think, is much less reliable, but still very useful. There are high gradient streams with poor habitat and low gradient ones with good habitat. I think a lot of that has to do with the type of rocks present, types of tree, history of land use (it may be forest now but may not always have been), etc. But still, there is some correlation there, with higher gradient in general being more likely to produce good habitat. Especially if compared to nearby streams which are likely to be similar in geology, flora, and historical land use.